The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 30, No. 02 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club March 2008

AND THE OSCAR GOES TO....

We all know the actors in these movies, but can you tell from the MG's, what movie it was?

The cars help to make these movies great!

A MGTD 1967 Movie

B TF1500 1959 Movie

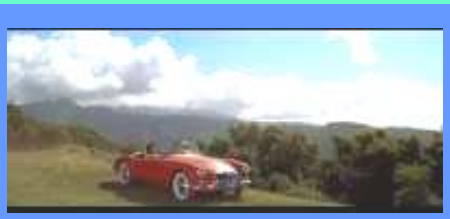
C MGTC 1970 Movie

D MGB GT 1981 Movie

E MGB GT 1974 Movie

F MGA 1993 Movie

G MGTC 1981 Movie



H MGA 1961 Movie

I MGTD 1956 Movie

J MG MAGNETTE 2007

K MGTF 1988 Movie

L MGTF 1995 Movie

ANSWERS INSIDE

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MGTF 1977 Movie

M

MGTD 1952 Movie

N

MGB 2007 Movie

O

MGF 1998 Movie

P

MG MIDGET MKII 1988 Movie

Q

MG PA 1986 Movie

R

MGB 1983 Movie

S

MGTD 1958 Movie

T

THE END

ANSWERS TO MOVIE TRIVIA

A-Two for the Road, **B**-Pillow Talk, **C**-Love Story, **D**-American Werewolf in London, **E**-Blazing Saddles, **F**-Cool Running, **G**-Eye of the Needle, **H**-Blue Hawaii, **I**-The Killing, **J**-Heartbeat, **K**-Funny Farm, **L**-I.Q., **M**-For the Love of Benji, **N**-Monkey Business, **O**-Norbit, **P**-My Giant, **Q**-Return of the Killer Tomatoes, **R**-Ferris Bueller's Day Off, **S**-Breathless, **T**-Pelic Family Movies

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Submissions must arrive by the 15th of the month to ensure publication in the next issue.

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club

Presidentially Speaking

By Jeff Zorn — Club President

By the time you read this issue of Can-AM Connection the Hibernation Party may be history for 2008. I am sure it was another great time and the weather was perfect. I bet some of you even drove your MG's (well we all know Dale did).

The meeting in February was well attended and we even signed up one or two new members. Rick gave his membership report for the month and there were several members that still have not paid their dues and will be dropped from the roster this month. If you happen to be one of these folks, please get your dues in, we really would hate to lose you as members.

A couple of items of note, the date for the Kimber Birthday Party was announced and will be April 19th. There should be some info on this elsewhere in this issue. Also if you take the bridge to or from the meetings, please make sure you check any updates on construction. It promise to be a real mess for the next two years or so.

Jan and I had two events already in February as our show season has stated for 2008. We were in Boca Raton, FL for the Gold Coast British Car Club event. This year it was a new location, which actually was a really nice spot, but attendance was down by about 100 cars.

We also had our annual trek the last week-end in February to Chicago for the annual Chicagoland MG Club indoor swap meet.

Spring is almost here, thank goodness, and very soon we will be out and about in our Little British Cars. I can't wait to get back in the MGA and drive it a little more than I did last year. Maybe I'll even use more than one tank of fuel this year in the A!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Gary Trepanier
325 Burdick Crescent
Tecumseh, ON N8N 2E9 Canada
519-735-5854
1975 Triumph TR6 White

Max Kenney
22508 Blackburn Street
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
586-498-9726
1953 TD Dark Blue

Tony and Kathy Kaluzny
14216 Ramblewood Street
Livonia, MI 48154
734-421-1347
1979 MGB Red

David and Pamela Barton
37782 Jefferson Avenue
Harrison Township, MI 48045
586-948-9180
1972 MGB White (still back home in Australia)

Bob and Cathy Green
14370 Doster
Plainwell, MI 48080
(269) 664-5161
1979 MG Midget Blue/Yellow

Lee and Karen Jacobsen
865 South Highland Street
Dearborn, MI 48124
(313) 277-5138
1937 MGSA Tickford Foursom Ivory
1938 MGSA Tickford Foursom Green
1938 MGSA Tickford Foursom Blue
1939 MGSA Tickford Foursom Green
1939 MGSA Tickford Coupe Blue
1946 MGTC Ivory
1952 MGTD Green
1952 Jaguar XK120 Blue
1953 Jaguar XK120 Green
1953 MGTD Green
1955 MGTF Green

CLUB MEETINGS

March Meeting
Wednesday, March 12,

The Dominion House Tavern
3140 Sandwich Street
Windsor, Ontario

Coming from Canada it is pretty much normal. You can get to I-75 and I-96, but not the Lodge directly. Just follow the signs when coming off the bridge to these two roads.

Getting back to Canada is pretty easy too, but the normal bridge exit is closed, so one must continue to the Clark St. exit and then take the turn around and come back via the service drive. It will end at the back entrance to the bridge to cross over. (I think this may also be the duty free gas area as well, but not sure.)

There are supposed to be more closings so this will have to be watched on a regular basis. Jeff Zorn

April Meeting
Wednesday, April 9 2008

Brass Pointe Restaurant
24234 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

1972 MGB Parts, call for details. Chuck Wiley at (734) 461-9384 or e-mail at ctwiley@lkqcorp.com.

1980 MGB, Red with tan interior, wonderful shape. Purchased from original owner, 30,100 mile. All original, comes with original window stickers and documentation on parts and repairs, also two tops. Needs carpeting on drivers side and glove box lock. You can have this vehicle for the same price it was purchased for back in 1980—$8100.00. Contact Chuck Ghawi at (734) 668-6659 for more details.

MARCH
CLUB MEMBERS ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Kathy Derderain	20 years	Harry & Dorothy MacLean	7 years
Guy St John	19 years	Tom & Jean Parent	6 years
Jim & Diane Zielinski	14 years	Bryan & Bonnie Brown	4 years
Edward & Alma Pavella	10 years	Bob & Cindy Quinn	4 years
Ted & Susan Hight	10 years	Lawrence , Debbie & Toder Reinhold	3 years
Stephan & Ruth Swarin	9 years	Darrell & Jayne Sampson	3 years
Marty & Sue Hunt	9 years	Bob Adams	3 years
Malcolm & Maria Collum	7 years	Gary, Lorie & David Dietz	2 years

PROFIT & LOSS PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISON
January through December 2007

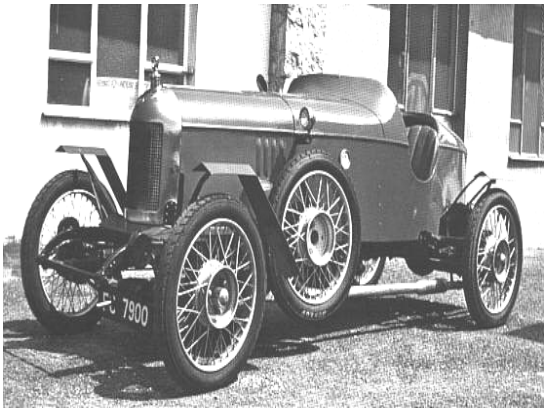
	Jan-Dec '07	Jan-Dec '06	$ Change	% Change
Income				
Advertising	189.43	204.08	-14.65	-7.2%
Hibernation Party Receipts	1,418.60	2,425.53	-1,006.93	-41.5%
Membership Fees	5,284.84	5,562.20	-277.36	-5.0%
Other Business Income	320.00	96.00	224.00	233.3%
Regalia Sales	495.00	1,050.50	-555.50	-52.9%
Uncategorized Income	957.33	1,057.00	-99.67	-9.4%
Total Income	8,665.20	10,395.31	-1,730.11	-16.6%
Expenses				
Bank Charge	28.00	0.00	28.00	100.0%
Can-Am Connection				
Handling	15.05	0.00	15.05	100.0%
Miscellaneous	0.00	130.00	-130.00	-100.0%
Postage	1,367.13	1,096.78	270.35	24.7%
Printing	2,240.80	2,243.55	-2.75	-0.1%
Can-Am Connection-Other	0.00	140.01	-140.01	-100.0%
Total Can-Am Connection	3,622.98	3,610.34	12.64	0.4%
Gift Expenses	127.50	99.27	28.23	28.4%
Groceries	84.93	50.89	34.04	66.9%
Hibernation Party				
Awards	29.00	0.00	29.00	100.0%
* Dining-Food	2,156.85	3,751.77	-1,594.92	-42.5%
Entertainment	450.00	500.00	-50.00	-10.0%
Miscellaneous	342.22	426.01	-83.79	-19.7%
Prizes	117.40	0.00	117.40	100.0%
Total Hibernation Party	3,095.47	4,677.78	-1,582.31	-33.8%
Meals & Entertainment	50.00	0.00	50.00	100.0%
Meeting Expenses	384.57	0.00	384.57	100.0%
Name Tags	202.66	245.31	-42.65	-17.4%
Postage & Delivery Expenses	20.65	73.25	-52.60	-71.8%
Printing & Repro. Expense	250.43	255.43	-5.00	-2.0%
Regalia	0.00	358.46	-358.46	-100.0%
Business Travel Expense	20.00	0.00	20.00	100.0%
Uncategorized Expenses	900.00	1,050.00	-150.00	-14.3%
Total Expense	8,787.19	10,420.73	-1,633.54	-15.7%
Net Income	-121.99	-25.42	-96.57	-379.9%

* Note: $600.00 deposit made in Nov. '06 for the March '07 party.

BALANCE SHEET PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISON
As of December 31, 2007

	Dec 31,'07	Dec 31,'06	$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
Windsor-Detroit MG Car Club	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%
Total Checking/Savings	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%
Total Current Assets	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%
TOTAL ASSETS	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
Opening Balance Equity	2,030.60	2,030.60	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	4,340.92	4,366.34	-25.42	-0.6%
Net Income	-121.99	-25.42	-96.57	-379.9%
Total Equity	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	6,249.53	6,371.52	-121.99	-1.9%

KIMBER BIRTHDAY BASH



Each year the WDMGC joins other area British car clubs to celebrate the birthday of MG's founding father, Cecil Kimber, who was born in London on April 12, 1888.

This year's celebration, which marks Cecil's 120th birthday will take place on Saturday **April 19th, 2007.**

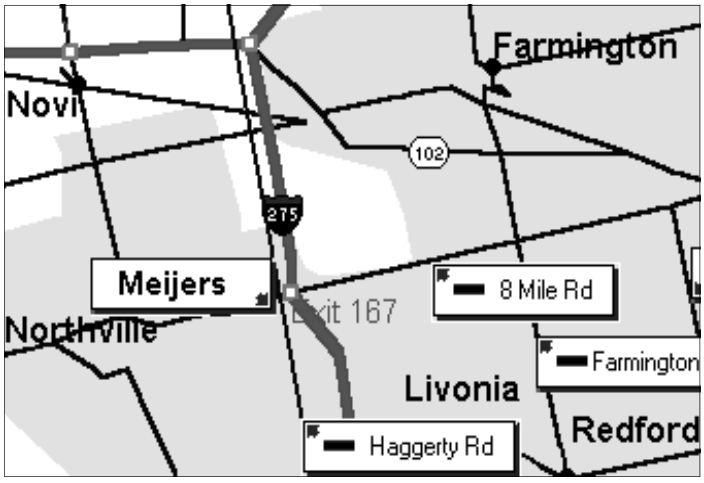
We will form a convoy for a scenic drive towards the Delhi Cafe in Holt Michigan where we will toast Cecil, enjoy the company of fellow enthusiasts, and treat ourselves to a bit of lunch and birthday cake. The journey is expected to take about two hours, so those who wish to participate but cannot join the convoy can meet us at the Delhi around noon.

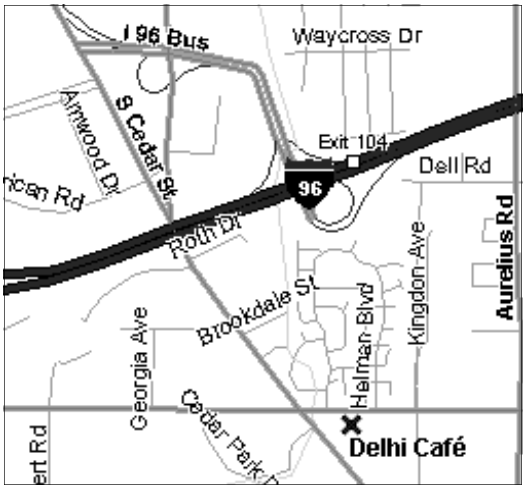
Meeting Place: Meijer, 20401 Haggerty Road, Northville, Michigan (parking lot at 8 Mile and Haggerty)

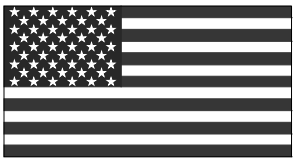
Departure Time: 10:00 am sharp, but try to be there by 9:30 am to leave time for the drivers' meeting, gassing up, powdering noses, etc.

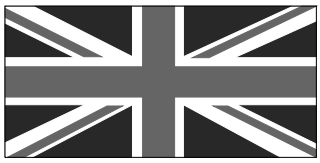
Destination: Delhi Cafe, 4625 Willoughby Road, Holt Michigan, 48842, telephone 517-694-8655.

Hope to see all the running MG's in the club there!









THE CAR THAT GOT AWAY

A couple of us were talking about all those cars in our lives that got away. Cars we should have bought and ones we did buy but should have kept rather than selling. If there are 200 plus members in the club, there are probably 200 plus stories like mine. I'll start off with my Ferrari Story:

Seeing Red When I Should Have Been Seeing Green

By Ed Fleming

In March of 1970 I was racing my Z-28 Camero at the 12 Hours of Sebring. Rear engine sports cars were the new idea and all the old front engine cars were now obsolete. At a drivers meeting, I just happened to sit next to Luigi Chinetti, the head of NART the North American arm for Ferrari racing. We got talking about the Ferrari 250 GTO which was on its way out. I told him I loved that car. Beautiful design, great Columbo V-12 engine, wire wheels, etc. Great looks, great sound (from the exhaust), great handling. The perfect car.

Chinetti offered to sell me the team GTO for $7,000.00. Remember this was 1970. I had recently bought a new '69 Porsche 911 for $4,000.00. So, this used, beat up Ferrari race car was almost twice the price of a brand new Porsche.

No problem, Edna and I had just saved up $10,000.00 to buy a new house. When I returned from Sebring, I told Edna my plan to buy the Ferrari (we could put $3,000.00 down on the house instead of $10,000.00, everyone would be happy). Edna put her foot down and said we should put our money in a good investment. Property, not a car (and a used one at that). I pleaded with her (picture John Belushi pleading his case to Carrie Fischer in the Blues Brothers), "If you're a sports car junkie you have to have a Ferrari once in your life. Please, please, please." Edna reminded me that that was pretty much what I said when I bought the Porsche. "I'll sell the Porsche" I pleaded, "please, please, oh please!"

I'm still living in the house.

Fast forward to 2000. Edna and I are getting divorced. I'm out in California visiting family for Christmas. My sister has a surprise for me. She takes me to a friend of hers named Ernie. Nice guy and he has a lot of interesting cars.

We go out to the garage (4 double doors wide with about 30 cars inside). As we walk inside I see a 1962 Ferrari Berlinetta and tell Ernie about the Ferrari I almost bought. Ernie asks a few questions about which GTO (there were 39 made). Turns out he and a friend bought "my" Ferrari for $6,500.00. Ernie was a mechanic for the Briggs Cunningham Museum and knew how to fix any car to museum quality. Ernie and his friend fixed the GTO up and in 1988 sold it for 16 millions dollars! That's 16 followed by three zeros, a comma, three more zeros, a decimal point and two more zeros.

Today my house is worth about $200,000.00.

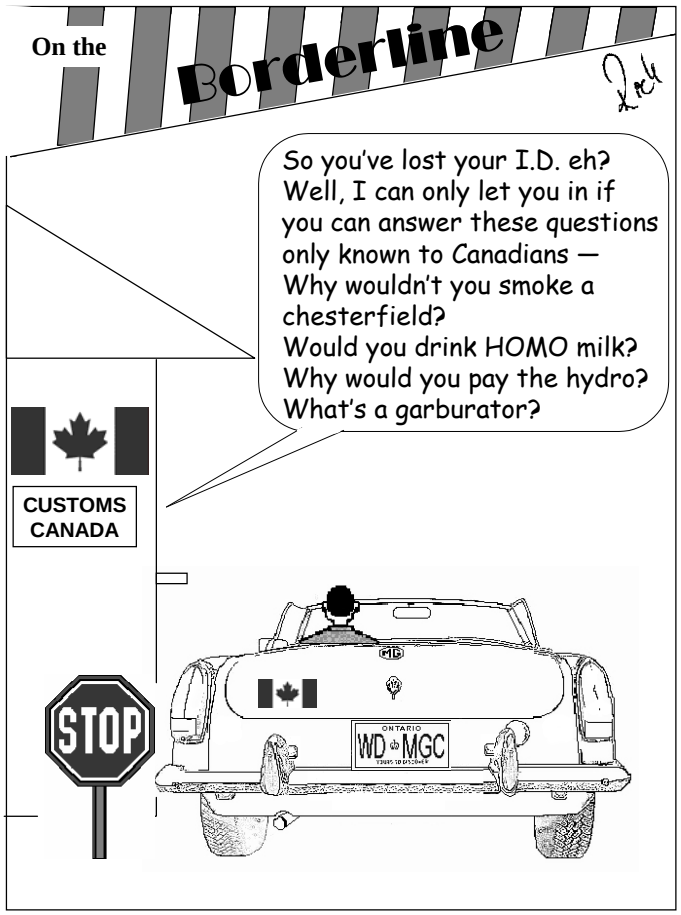
Edna had moved out, but was still coming by the house to get her mail. During this time there was an article in the Detroit Free Press about a Ferrari GTO being auctioned at Christie's where it was expected to fetch $10,000,000.00. I cut the article out attached a sticky note that said "See. If you would have let me buy the Ferrari half of this could have been yours" and left it with her mail. That made me feel a little better for a while.

Of course I would have felt a lot better if she had let me buy the GTO in the first place. Then again, she always said I probably would have killed myself in it. It would go 195 m.p.h.

I would have died happy.

Or rich.

If you too have a car story like the one above, please forward it to editors@mgc.com and your story could appear in one of the Can Am Connections upcoming issues.



The Young & the Reckless

Who is this cool dude from 1974?

Hint: This was taken the day after he and Kathi were married and about to set off in his MGB on their sweet honeymoon!

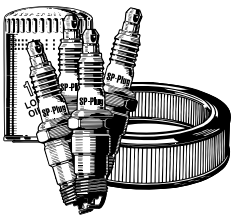
Yep, you guessed it, Ralph Poupard!

1977 MGB RESTORATION

Hi Everyone,

As you know, I am currently having my 1977 MGB restored at the Oakland County Tech Campus in Wixom. Under the watchful eye of David Hollinger, I hope to have it looking like new for the spring. David and I would like to make this a learning experience for the students and the club as well. At the December club meeting, David came to meet many of you and set the stage for several articles to appear in the Can Am Connection. Last week, Rick Astley helped me deliver some pizzas and tour the campus (I think he was impressed). Rick, Guy St. John and I have agreed to speak to the students about the "MG" experience. If you care to contribute to this project, please feel free to contact me on my cell at (248) 872-6677, your suggestions are most welcomed.

Bob Fougere



WHY SHOULD I CARE?

I've written once before about this and it seems it needs repeating. It is about keeping your value of your car up and showing it off.
I'd guess it is also about club participation. I have personally ran an event where you just show up usually at a restaurant or one nearby and park your car and chit chat with other members or whomever is there. I have done this for the past 2 years. I usually ran it for 5:00 P.M. until 8:30 or dusk. I did change locations the 2nd year due to the first restaurant closing. The reason I did this was to give members a place to go to where it didn't cast a lot of money, you could get there and leave whenever you wanted, and tried to make it a fun event and tire kicking session. Where you could learn more about your car if you wanted to delve information to another person as to what you did to fix this or that. Also if so inclined to marvel at what other people had done to their vehicles. I also did this so as to make the PUBLIC aware that these little cars still do survive today very nicely.
I have mentioned this before at meetings as well. At least the ones that I've attended. The one thing that people HAVE to understand is that in order to INCREASE and KEEP your car's value, the PUBLIC has to know about it. Sure a lot of cars are driven to events like club meetings, but usually by the time people get to the cars to be around them, it is dark and public people that are in the restaurant usually leave and don't bother coming out to chat. Take a look at the Muscle Cars and Street Rods. There is usually some kind of event or meet going on for them. The restaurant owners appreciate it because it brings them extra business as it draws a large amount of people there. If you look at Muscle Car prices 5 years ago you could get one in the $5000 range and not in too bad of shape. Today you'll have to pay about $15,000 range and it won't be in as good a shape as one 5 years ago. These vehicles have tripled in price TRIPLED. Has an MG or other British Car? No, matter of fact you can almost buy them for the same price as you did 5 years ago. Yes you will find a few that are asking a high price but I don't think that they are being sold or if they are the price is dropped. A lot of the Brit Cars are actually in better shape unfortunately you can't get it due to PUBLIC ignorance, or just plain not wanting these cars. By no means do I think our LBC's are not in the latter category, but they may fall into it if you the club member do not show them off. Am I envious of the Muscle Car/Street Car set? Hell yes. I have even gone to those park/profile events with my Brit Car and have not been asked one question. Yes it's not the nicest one around but it's a great driver. I have done this for 2 years and both times I invited the Triumph and MG clubs to these. That is over 350 members so probably at least 250 cars I'll guess. The turnout over those 2 years has averaged 5 cars each month. Yes there have been an occasional month where I got 11-14 cars but those were very few and far between. That included having my own car there so that means an average of 4 cars a month. That is pathetic. Am I mad? Absolutely not, Disgusted maybe yes and very disappointed as well. I realize people have their own lives to lead and have other activities. But how much lethargic can things get? You cannot expect to go to a Brit Car show once a year and think that is what I need to do. I've had a lot of people see my car and tell me how they used to own one and the kids under 30 have no idea what they are as a lot of them were not in use when they were able to recognize cars for what they were. This is the second time that I've belonged to this club. The first time I belonged Guy St. John was president then. I left in 1995 when I sold my first MG. The club is alit larger now and a lot better organized due to the computer and newsletter, and the people doing the work to keep this stuff going on for US the club members. Which brings us back to SHOULD I CARE? The answer is an astounding yes. Make 1, 2, 3 or even 4 events a year if nothing more. The PUBLIC loves our LBC's even if it's to look at. Think of it, when was the last time someone said where did you get that piece of crap? No it's usually what a cute little car. They don't know the half of it. Get out and drive. Of course this is my opinion and I may be wrong. **Harry MacLean**

What's Right With This Picture?

Besides being a beautiful example of a1972 MGB, having some unusual foam air-cleaners and reminding us what sunshine looks like, David Barton's car has the battery right up front, under the bonnet, just where it should be.

David recently joined the club while on assignment in Michigan from the Australian military. His car is still in Australia and is a right-hand drive, as is the norm there.

There are lots of advantages to having the battery under the bonnet rather than way in the back as per the standard MGB. The cable lengths to the starter motor are far shorter and so deliver a higher cranking voltage. The battery gets warmer so that the electro-chemistry works more efficiently allowing it to both deliver energy and receive charge more rapidly. Finally, it's a much more convenient place to access the battery, for charging and using a cut-off switch — like that David as fitted — when servicing the car.

Obviously, when swapping the MGB to LHD, MG didn't make a total mirror imaged car. The space freed up on the right of the car, where the pedal box was, still carries some electrical components and later model cars are cluttered with emissions paraphernalia.

I think that my 1970 LHD roadster could take this conversion and would benefit from the even closer proximity of an under-bonnet mounted battery to the right-side mounted starter motor. It's certainly something I'll investigate when I wake the car from its winter hibernation.

Rick Astley

ROAD TO CLUB EVENTS

MARCH

12th-Wed, Monthly Meeting, Dominion House, Windsor, ON

APRIL

5th-Sat, Obsolete Automotive Spring Garage Sale, Pointe Edward, ON

9th-Wed, Monthly Meeting, Brass Pointe, Farmington Hills, MI

11th-13th, Silver Springs, FL, Suncoast Classic MG Club, see http://www.britishcarclub.net for more information

16th-Wed, Summer British Knights, West Side, Brann's Steakhouse

19th - Sat, Kimber Birthday Bash, Lansing, MI

20th-Sun, Ancaster All-British Flee Market, Ancaster, ON

MAY

4th-Sun, Northeast Ohio Austin Healey Club Spring Car Show & Swap Meet

14th-Wed, Monthly meeting, Dominion House, Windsor, ON

21st-Summer British Knights, West Side, Brann's Steakhouse

31st-Sat, London Classic British Car Show, London, ON

31st-**June 8th**-British Car Week, Drive your British Car to Work

JUNE

1st-Sun, The British Return to Fort Meigs, Perrysburg, OH

1st-Sun, Orphan Car Show, Ypsilanti, MI

8th-Sun, 15th Annual Spring Fun On Wheels & Auto Flea Market, Canadian Trans Museum, Essex, ON

11th-Wed, Monthly Meeting, Brass Pointe, Farmington Hills, MI

14th-15th-Stratford Festival Tour, Stratford, ON

14th-15th-Motor Muster, Henry Ford Greenfield Village, Dearborn, MI

18th-Wed, Summer British Knights, West Side, Brann's Steakhouse

21st-22nd-Howell Balloon Fest Car Show, Howell, MI

25th-29th-MG2008 NAMGBR Annual Meeting, Declare Your Independence, Valley

EnjoyClassicCars.com

A Regional Website for the Classic Car Enthusiast

If you have access to the Internet, check out this web site and become part of the circle. The site is run by MG and Italian car enthusiast Peter Pleitner who is a professor in the vehicle restoration portion of Washtenaw Community College and who facilitates our annual trip to Rivertech.

English Motors, Inc.

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