The Can Am MG CONNECTION

Vol. 33, No. 1 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club January/February 2011

Gift Exchange

It appears that the December club meeting was extremely well attended and that Santa made an early delivery to reward all the good girls and boys.

At table from left: Barry Jones, Susan Gucfa, Ruth Swarin, Steve Finch, Barbara Jones

Mimi Sokolowski and Bob Fougere

Night at the Races

Anne Astley organized another great night at Northville Downs. I don't think any of us hit the trifecta but we sure had fun trying.

From left: Fran Lewis, Ruth and Steve Swarin, Guy St John and friend.

From left: Bob Quinn showing a lucky ticket perhaps, Doug Pohlod and Carolynn Cox (Marlis LaFevre and Cindy Quinn in foreground.)

The Can-Am Connection
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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Lise Brown - Editor

I certainly hope you enjoyed a good holiday season. For Dale and I it was the first time since we've been married that we did not travel to Ottawa. Though I did miss being with my family over Christmas it was nice to not have to deal with the long drive there and back. So as we rang the new year in at home I reflected on how much things will change now that Dale has retired. First thing on the agenda will be massive renovations to the house. Not sure when they will start and even less certain when they will end but one thing is sure: this will be one messy and chaotic household in 2011.

For this and other personal reasons, I may not be able to continue as editor of the newsletter and hope that one of you will step up and volunteer for the position. Please contact any board member if you're interested in helping out.

Lise

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

Presidentially speaking

Rick Astley - Club President

Happy New Year!

I was recently fortunate enough to come into possession of some of the very early club newsletters, and they make interesting reading. As you'll read in an upcoming edition of the newsletter, Dave Hornby, one of the club's founders and its first president, writes about how the club was formed and, after reading his article, I think everyone who now enjoys belonging the Windsor-Detroit MG Club would agree, we're thankful to Dave and his fellow founders and we want to celebrate their efforts of 30 years ago. Yes, 30 years, but did we miss the actual birthday? Perhaps, but in discussing it with Dave he agreed that the club, like a child, had a conception and a gestation period during which it grew to viability — but with something as intangible as a club, it's harder to nail down an actual birthday when it can be said to be alive and kicking.

In the October 1981 newsletter, Dave writes, *"It's been a year now since Ron, Jim, Mark and I began sticking flyers on every MG in sight, and I must say that I never anticipated that your enthusiasm would have been as great as it has been, although it was a long lonely winter for those few of us."* With that in mind, it seems that the club became a real entity sometime in 1981, so it seems reasonable to call this our 30th birthday year.

The mastheads over these early editions simply called the publication the Windsor-Detroit MG Club Newsletter. In the same issue, there's a *Name the Newsletter* contest. Some of the numerous suggestions that came in over the next months included: British Bunk, Grease Drippings, Empty Headers, Topless Times, Bridge Crossings, Tunnel Vision, Tailpipe of Two Cities and finally the chosen name proposed by John Chatley, The Can-Am Connection, which was announced at the Christmas dinner party and in the January/February 1982 newsletter.

CAN AM CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR-DETROIT MG CLUB

It has served us well. The new masthead appeared in March 1982, and although it's been changed several times over the years, if you compare the reproduction shown here with the current one on the front page, you'll see that some common elements still remain.

Although we had some very frigid days in December, the cold weather was late starting, so like many other club members, I drove one of my MGBs (the GT) well into November, only stopping when the first salt trucks hit the road. When finally preparing the cars for their hibernation, as usual, I connected a float charger to each battery to prevent their sulphation; that's the crusting that forms on an inactive battery's plates and leads to its eventual demise. After taking the same precaution last year, I was naturally disappointed when the battery of the roadster let me down in the spring, but I think I may have learned why. This year I checked the voltage output from the budget Harbor Freight float chargers and it turns out that one of them was only producing 11-Volts instead of the expected 13-Volts or so. 11-Volts is, obviously, below the 12.4-Volts of a fully charged battery, so the battery was discharging into the charger — exactly the opposite of what is supposed to happen! Needless to say, the culprit charger went in the trash and a new one was fitted. I've just checked them again and, so-far-so-good. Since I know a lot of members use these less than $10 chargers, (they were once a popular Christmas Gift Exchange item), let's hope mine was a rare rogue one.

Float Charger

Safety MG Fast

Rick

Special Invitation

WDMGC Board Meeting
January 18th, 7:00 pm
Brass Pointe, Farmington Hills

Although any club member is always welcome to attend the Board meetings, they are generally boring procedural affairs, which don't warrant much attention. However, we'd very much like to encourage general membership input and comments at this one at which we'll be discussing our 2011 Events Calendar as well as some important budget issues.

Adam Gucfa unwrapping his gift at the December meeting - nice hat Adam!

Christie, our server at the Brass Pointe with Rick Astley. Thank you Christie, you are the best!

New Members

The WDMGC welcomes
its newest members

Adrian & Monica Van den Hoven - Windsor, ON
1948 Austin Devon (Rusty)
1969 Alfa Romeo, Blue

The 2011 W-DMGC Hibernation Party

February 26th, 2011
Dearborn Hills Golf Course & Banquet Facility
1300 S. Telegraph Road
Dearborn, MI 48124
Phone: 313.563-4653

6:00 pm -7:00 pm Cocktails
7:00 pm Dinner
8:00 pm approx. Awards, elections and raffle.
9:00 pm approx. Dancing

Join us for a night of fine food, music, dancing, raffle prizes and other fun at the 2011 Hibernation Party. We have again chosen the Dearborn Golf and Country club for its convenient location (just a short drive for our Canadian members) and excellent food.

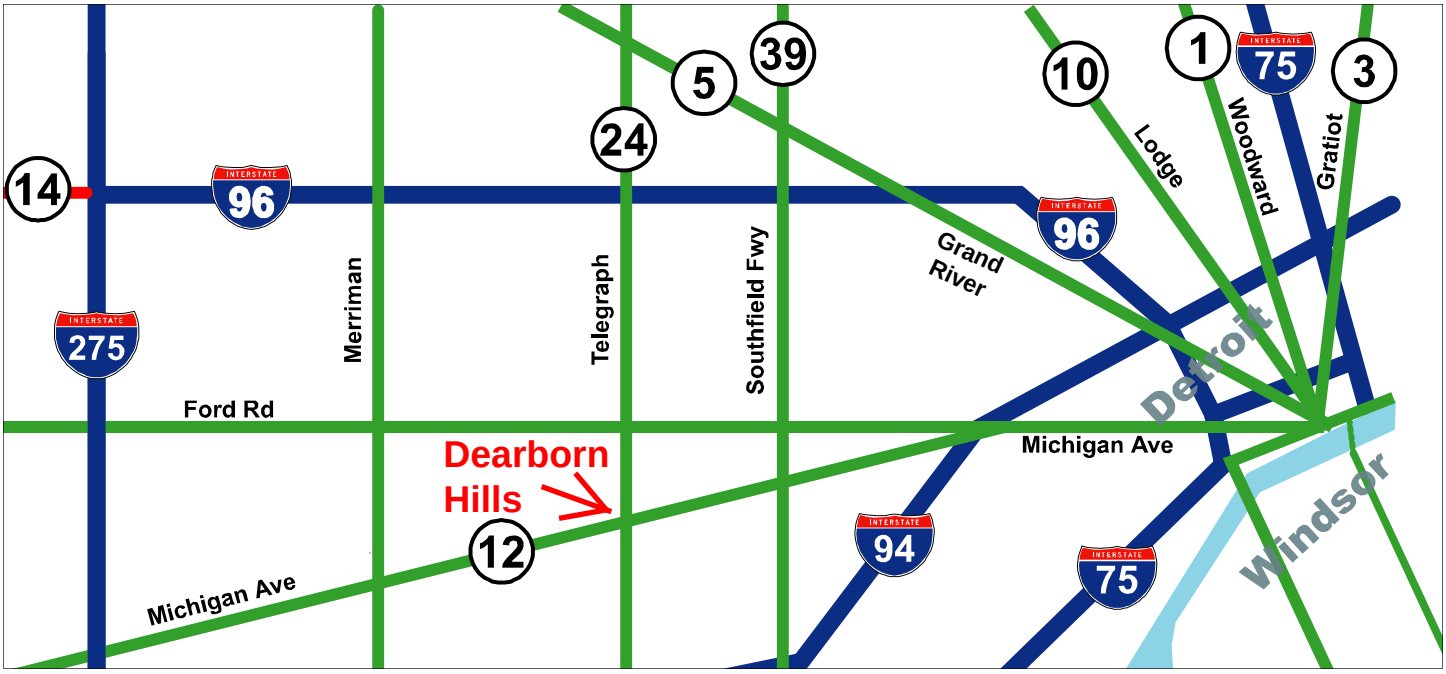
Menu

- Michigan theme salad
- A choice of entrée:
  - 🍽 **Champagne Chicken** . Boneless breast of chicken sautéed in champagne with Swiss mushroom sauce.
  - 🍽 **New York Strip Steak**.
  - 🍽 **Encrusted Tilapia .** Baked and served with tartar sauce and lemon.
- All entrées are served with vegetables and baby white potatoes with butter and parsley.
- Walnut torte.
- Tea or coffee

🍸 A cash bar will be available for those desiring cocktails, beer or wine.

Location & Map

The Dearborn Hills Golf Course & Banquet Facility is located on the west side of Telegraph Rd, just north of Michigan Avenue. Note that the facility can only be entered from the north and the exit only goes south, so Michigan U-turns may be needed.



Directions

From the Ambassador Bridge.

I-96 W / JEFFRIES FWY toward LANSING.	Travel 1.8 mi / 2.9 km
Merge onto I-94 W via EXIT 190A toward CHICAGO.	Travel 11.3 mi / 18.2 km
Merge onto TELEGRAPH RD / US-24 N via EXIT 202 toward DEARBORN HTS.	Travel 3 mi / 4.8 km
Make a U-TURN onto S TELEGRAPH RD / US-24 S.	Travel 0.2 mi / 0.3 km

The club will be found on the right.

From the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel:

Exit customs and turn RIGHT onto JEFFERSON AVE E.	Travel 0.1 mi / 0.2 km
Stay STRAIGHT to go onto I-375 N / CHRYSLER FWY.	Travel 0.9 mi / 1.4 km
Merge onto I-75 S toward TOLEDO.	Travel 2.4 mi / 3.9 km
Merge onto I-96 W / JEFFRIES FWY via EXIT 48 toward LANSING.	Travel 1.3 mi / 2.1 km

Merge onto I-94 W via EXIT 190A toward CHICAGO and follow directions above for the Ambassador Bridge route.

Dress code

None, but please leave your garage coveralls at home!

Entertainment

A blend of DJ and live entertainment will be provided by Dino and Marie Moceri, including a live performance during dinner, all types of music for dancing with a fantastic lighting system.

Raffle Prizes

The donation of raffle prizes from members is always appreciated. If you can help, please contact Anne Astley, Lise Brown or any board member. Contact details may be found on page 2 of the newsletter .

Please make sure that your form and payment reach us by February 14th. Checks received later will be returned.

Prices per person: Members partner members and up to 2 guests $25 (US or Canadian currency)

If a special meal — such as vegetarian — is required, please indicate “Other” in the meal column . Please also add a note regarding the nature of the meal required. Any questions? Please call Anne Astley (see below).

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

_____

Please return forms to:

Anne Astley
28404 South Harwich Drive,
Farmington Hills, MI 48334-4281
Phone: 248-737-1978
or
Lise Brown
1970 Loraine Ave.
Windsor, Ontario N8W 1P4

	Name	Steak, Chicken or Fish	Price US & Cdn
Member			$25.00
Partner			$25.00
Guest 1			$25.00
Guest 2			$25.00
Total value and currency of check (payable to WDMGC) enclosed			$

Elections 2011

By Dale Brown - Club Secretary

A reminder to all that in accordance with article 16 of the WDMGC by-laws, elections must be held every year for the following elected positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

"*The term of office for any elected position shall be one year. The maximum number of consecutive terms a member may hold in an office effective January 1, 1995 is three (3). A member who has served three consecutive one-year terms in an office may run again for the same office after a one-year term break. That member may run immediately for a different elected office."*

The elections will take place at our Annual General Meeting, held in conjunction with the Hibernation Party planned for February or March 2011.

If you would like to participate in some other capacity, remember that volunteers are always needed for existing committees, offices or duties. Let any board member know if you are available; any help will be welcome and much appreciated. Please forward nominations as soon as possible to a board member by e-mail, phone, or post (refer to club directory for details), or submit them by hand at the next club meeting or at election time.

Office	**Incumbent *(terms served)***	**Running for another term**
President	Rick Astley *(2 years)*	No
Vice-President	Scott Turner (*2 year)*	Yes
Treasurer	Donna Finch *(3 years)*	No
Secretary	Dale Brown *(3 years)*	No

Nominations should be formulated as follows:

I nominate:_____ for the office of:_____

Nominated by: _____

Seconded by:_____

Club Awards

By Dale Brown - Club Secretary

All right folks, the time has come for you to help determine this year's recipients of our coveted club awards. Please review the awards criteria at right and nominate the member or members you believe are most deserving of an award and why - just a few words are fine, but a funny or compelling anecdote would be even better.

You can submit your nominations to any club board member by phone, email, post or in person at the next club meeting. Board member names and contact details can be found on page 2. **The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2011**.

As always, the awards will be presented at the Hibernation Party, which will be held on the US side in February or March 2011. Details will be published on the website as soon as they become available and in the January/February edition of the newsletter.

We sincerely hope you have enjoyed the numerous events that were on our calendar in 2010, and that you kept your eyes and ears open for possible candidates for this year's awards.

Founders Award: Given to the member who has contributed the most to the club over the past year. This person or persons are the most valuable members of the club. They have contributed above and beyond anyone else in the club.

Rookie of the Year: Given to the new member who has contributed the most to the club over the past year. "New member" shall be defined as having joined the club since September 1 of the previous year.

Navigator of the Year: Given to the "Travelling Companion" or "Navigator" who has contributed the most to the club over the past year.

Hard Luck Award: Given to the member who has had the most problems with his/her British car during the past year (or suffered a notable loss or hardship in that regard.)

Lucky Lucas Award: Given to the member who has had the most electrical problems with his/her British car during the past year (or a combination of electrical and general malfunction.)

Club calendar

■ - WDMGC event
☐ - Organized participation by WDMGC members

January

■	Wed. 12	**Monthly meeting, Dominion House** - Windsor, ON
■	Tues. 18	**Board Meeting, Brass Pointe** - Farmington Hills, MI

February

■	Wed. 9	**Monthly meeting, Brass Pointe** - Farmington Hills, MI
■	Sat. 26	**Hibernation Party and AGM, Dearborn Hill Golf Club** - Dearborn, MI

January Meeting at the DH

Our next club meeting will be Wednesday January 12 at the DH in Windsor, Ontario. The meeting will start around 7:30 pm followed by our gift exchange. Join us earlier if you plan on having dinner. Most people start arriving at around 6:00 pm.

February Meeting at the Brass Pointe

Our December meeting and Holiday Gift Exchange will take place Wednesday February 9 at the Brass Pointe Restaurant in Farmington Hills, Michigan. The meeting will start around 7:30 but join us earlier if you plan on having dinner. Most people start arriving at around 6:00 pm.

Advertisements

Classified ads

Please let us know if for any reason you don't want your ad to run in future issues. If your ad has been running for 3 months and you want it continue to appear, please let us know as it may otherwise be removed to make room for later entries.

For Sale

MGA 1959 convertible. Good engine. Complete car for restoration. Engine runs but needs bodywork and general restoration. $3,950. Phone 586-337-5166. Located in Michigan

1980 MGB Good condition. Includes new carpet and a soft top. Has a battery cut off switch in the rear package tray which makes for a great security device. Has a radiator from another vehicle of unknown origin and works just fine. Have original radiator but needs to be re-cored, and electric cooling fans that will go with the car. Some rust in the front fenders and dog legs and car could use a coat of paint. Good candidate to do a rebuild or rolling restoration. Located in Ann Arbor, MI Asking $3,000. Rick Eisele, 734-761-1877, HAN5L778@comcast.net.

1980 MGB Very nice car, needs some work. Factory hard top, and over drive transmission. 10,171 original miles and have all paperwork from when it was sold new in Wisconsin. Car sat for 13 -14 years without being driven or started. Was undercoated when new so very little rust, only right side dog leg shows rust through and the underside has some surface rust and scale. Have a replacement dog leg that will be included. Have not tried to start the car because I have no idea what might be in the gas tank or lines, but I did change the old oil and the motor does turn over by hand. $3,500 firm. Located in Ann Arbor, MI. Rick Eisele, 734-761-1877, HAN5L778@comcast.net.

Four wire wheels with tires $100. Tires are Michelin radial 165SR14 with good tread. Call John at 734-427-1345 or email at flynnjay69@att.net.

1977 MG Midget project or parts car. Rough condition. Engine never started since I have had it. Some extras included such as right wing. $900 OBO. Located in Milford, MI. 734-546-1946

MG parts Never been on a car. Non headrest Tonneau cover, light blue. Size is 471/2" L x 50" W $200. Non headrest Tonneau cover, black. Size is 50" Lx 51" W $100 Good condition. Body parts for MGB all in primer - Bonnet, Fender (has sidelight opening), Door with or without glass and regulator and Fiberglass Hardtop. Bob 517-672-6145 or rmatt684@aol.com

MGB luggage rack complete all parts included. Good condition $65.00 plus shipping. One ribcage trans with 948 engine hooked on up front. (pick-up only) running $75.00. Couple sets of SU carbs need work. $45.00 each No shipping. Tel: 1-800-743-1025 or thomasheckman@att.net

69 MGB-GT and 68' MGB Parts Cars. Call 519 -791-5502.

1979 White MGB I have owned it for the last 21 years and it has been kept in a garage it's entire lifetime. It has less than 50,000 actual miles on it. This is a project car and is located in Rochester Hills Michigan. It is currently not running but will take a small effort to change that. The fuel pump is the immediate issue and the contacts most likely just need to be cleaned. I did have it running last summer. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. brant_veilleux@yahoo.com

1979 MGB carmine red, dual SU's, O/D, 83,000 miles. always pampered. $7000.00. mgbv8542@yahoo.com

69 MGC GT Purchased in S.Carolina 1992 and all info logged since then. Rust-free and running well at 92k miles. Overdrive, SS exhaust, leather seats etc. No dents, scratches or other damage. Recent repaint in original Tartan Red. Lots of pics available. Contact Adrian 613-258-0234 near Ottawa ON. Adriansawyer@cogeco.ca

MG midget hard top for $300 call scott 586-484-7173

1974 MGB Beautiful chrome bumper MGB. Restoration over 90% complete. Please contact Joe 734-658-9268

66 MGB-GT dark blue, 1.8 L, with overdrive, everything works fine, no rust, solid frame, good Michelin tires on new spoke wheels, been under John Swift's care once for a complete "overhaul". I drive it to work when weather is good, store it in winter, in my third (heated) garage. Asking $6,500 (been told it is worth more...), or best offer, for the right buyer. Contact Rodolfo rasche@med.umich.edu

Wanted

1968 to 1973 MGB in great shape. I live in Windsor Ont. Contact jcunnin@cogeco.ca

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E-Mail me at: modjunkie@wowway.com
St. Clair Shores

Mar 10

CARS WANTED

Very serious *buyer* for:
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Triumph TR 2-3-4-250
Mercedes 190-220-230-250-280 SL
All open cars Porsche 356-911-914
Austin Healey, Riley, Alpha-Romeo, Singer
1964-67 Ford Mustang, Models T & A

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Mar 10

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Jeff Zorn ● 29311 Aranel Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Phone: 248-489-0022 ● Toll-free: 800-637-9640
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Saturday By Appointment

624 Carpenter Avenue
Northville, Michigan, 48147

Mar 10

A-1 Collision
John Cipparone
1380 Crawford Avenue
Windsor, Ontario
N8X 2A6
(519) 252-1197

Mar 10

WANTED

Dead or Driveable

Your Car Picture

Let us have a picture of your car and some anecdotal information so that we can feature it in *Can-Am Connection* and the club web-site gallery.

Also Wanted

Pictures of members with their "ride" in their childhood or as young adults for our **The Young and the Reckless** feature.

You will be Well Rewarded

Club Regalia

Do you want to look as good as your car this summer? If your club hat and shirt have seen better days, be sure to contact Elvin Davis or Roli Sylvestre, our regalia reps in the US and Canada respectively, for some new gear. And if you don't already have one, how about a grill badge for your car or a licence plate surround? Call them today or check out the stock at the next club meeting.

Windsor-Detroit MG Club
28404 South Harwich Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Car of the month, January/February 2011 - Larry Williams' 1980 MGB-LE