The 30th Year Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 33, No. 3 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club April 2011

The Party's Over … at least until next year.

Some 80 members and friends attended our annual Hibernation Party and General Membership Meeting at the Dearborn Golf Course, February 26th. All enjoyed a great meal, fun entertainment from Dino and Marie Moceri, a raffle chock-full of great prizes and of course a chance to spend an evening with new friends and old.

The tables were beautifully appointed, thanks to our event organizer, Anne Astley.

We also gained some new (or at least recycled!) faces in some board positions. Notably, Steve Finch was elected Club President, his predecessor Rick Astley having decided not to serve for a 3rd term. Donna Finch, our Treasurer had come to the end of her 3-terms of duty and Matt Bade was elected to that post, Matt having served in that position immediately before Donna. Dale Brown had also reached his maximum term as Club Secretary and Rick Astley was elected in his stead. After 2-years as Vice President, Scott Turner again put his name forward and was duly reelected. The club thanks its retiring board members for their service and congratulates all those elected.

Jim Cox, Dale Brown and newly elected Club President, Steve Finch, share a few laughs by the bar.

The party is also the time when we present our annual awards.

- Founders' Award. This award goes to the member who contributed the most to the club over the past year and was presented to outgoing president Rick Astley; the board having managed to keep the fact of the award secret from him.
- Rookie of the Year. Awarded to Rich & Elaine Guinta, "for their stoicism in enduring the rigors of both a broken-down MG and being towed across the border on their first club event." Rich and Elaine were out of state and unable to attend the party, so their award will be presented at a later event.
- Navigator of the Year. This award normally goes to some poor lady who endured the curbside seat of an MG for much of the prior year. However, for a change, "for helping the rest of us navigate around countless event routes over the years," the award went to Ed Fleming. No single club member has put together more driving events, and with them route instructions, than Ed, so the award is well deserved.

(Continued on page 4)

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E-mail
wdmgc@wdmgc.com

Website
www.mgcars.org.uk/wdmgcc

President
Steve Finch
248-685-8488

Vice President
Scott Turner
519-254-9510

Treasurer
Matt Bade
248-683-1210

Secretary
Rick Astley
248-737-1978

Newsletter Editor
Lise Brown
519-258-5987
lise@wdmgc.com

Webmaster
Steve Finch

Membership
Rick Astley
28404 South Harwich Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-737-1978
Fax: 248-538-8339
rick@wdmgc.com

Video Librarian
Tom Newton
313-562-2377

Regalia
Canada: Roli Sylvestre
519-969-2739
U.S.A.: Donna Finch/Philip Wiltshire 248-685-8488

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Lise Brown - Editor

Happy spring everyone! Despite the cold temperatures out there, the calendar does say that spring has arrived and there's no turning back, warmer weather is on the way. Just in case I needed further confirmation: the crocuses have sprouted, the tree branches are budding, the robins have arrived and Dale has installed the convertible-top frame on the 69 B!

Whether or not we'll enjoy top-down driving weather for the first driving event of the season, the Kimber Birthday Bash, really doesn't matter as long as the roads are clear of the white stuff and the birthday cake makes its way to the Delhi Café safe and sound. Given the number of MG Car Clubs around the world, I wonder how many of them have similar events to mark Cecil's birthday? Much like the worldwide "Drive Your British Car to Work Week", could our little Kimber Birthday Bash be part of some global MG celebration? It would be an interesting thing to research (or *Google*, in current dialect.)

No research needed, however, to learn about past or upcoming club events such as the Hibernation Party, the February Tech Session or the Kimber Run - that information comes to you regularly via this very newsletter. No fruitless forays on the web required to read about extraordinary adventures, technical advice or helpful hints - fellow members share theirs here freely!

This newsletter is the backbone of the club and we need your contributions to keep it strong. PLEASE consider submitting just ONE piece this year:

- a photo with caption;
- a story about a recent or past event, trip, or experience (it can be as short as one paragraph or as long as it takes to tell);
- a joke or funny image for our caption contest;
- a picture of you in your "ride" for our Young and the Reckless feature;
- a recipe;
- a technical tip or enquiry;
- a quiz, crossword or other brain teaser;
- you name it, we'll find a place for it!

That said I'm still looking for an interim editor, someone who can take over the reins while I'm "sans computer" this summer. Though I put out the call this past winter both at club meetings and in my editorial no one has come forward yet. I know there are many well-seasoned members out there who could easily take this on … and by the way, if the thought of having to learn new publishing software scares you? Relax! I'm sure we can accommodate whatever software you're using.

Please contact me ASAP. The clock is ticking.

Lise

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

Presidentially speaking

Steve Finch - Club President

Hi. I'm Steve Finch, your new club president. I missed my first deadline causing the newsletter to be late. March has been a bad month for me but my busy season is over and I am looking forward to the MG driving season to come. By the time you read this we will have already had our first event, the annual Kimber Run and Birthday Bash. I am sure it was a good outing.

Look to our website for calendar updates. The club is on Facebook too. If you've joined us there you are getting event invitations from Randy Lioz, our Facebook administrator. We have a new club forum on the MG Experience Forum website. You can find our Facebook and MGE Forum pages by clicking the icons on the home page of the WDMGC.com website.

The club is *"Celebrating 30 Years"*. In 1980, two Canadians and two Americans saw the international border not as a barrier, but as a link for MG enthusiasts in southeast Michigan and southwest Ontario. This international camaraderie is what gives the WDMGC its unique character. It is possibly the only local club in North America to enjoy membership and events in two countries on a regular basis.

I have been in the club for five years and it has been a wonderful experience. Donna and I have found many new friends, enjoyed going to meetings in both Canada and the U.S. (the border is not that bad, take your passport, the tunnel is better). We have participated in most club events and activities. Being active has been a rewarding experience for us. I hope to find new ways to get more members to be more active. Life is very good with WDMGC.

I want to thank our past officers, Rick Astley, Dale Brown and my wife Donna for their service. And to Scott Turner, who continues as Vice President, Matt Bade, our new Treasurer and Rick Astley, back as Secretary.
I also thank Anne Astley and crew for a great AGM and Hibernation Party. If you went, I hope you had a good time. If you didn't, what would get you to the next one? Maybe bugs Beddow band?

I mention *"Celebrating 30 Years"* to mention our new club logo, our new regalia business plan, and your last chance to get a shirt with our heritage logo *"Celebrating 30 Years"*. The new logo looks like the one you are familiar with, because it is. The flags on either side were never "official" in the Bylaws. At the Annual General Meeting, the current logo became official. The old (heritage) logo did not have the flags. To celebrate the heritage logo one last time, the Regalia Committee has designed a shirt that will only be available as a limited edition for a limited time. Come to the next meeting or event to buy a shirt. See the website Regalia page for pictures and details.

The new regalia business plan is designed to stabilize and rebuild the club fund balance. You may have noticed the dues increase for a printed newsletter. We want to continue support for club events to promote more members to be more active. It's not about buying a shirt. It's about supporting the club and getting a shirt in the bargain.

I am looking forward to a great MG driving season. Come and join us for a drive.

Safety MG Fast

Steve

(Continued from page 1)

- Hard Luck Award. Presented to Tom Greiner, “for proving to the rest of us that you can’t get away with not maintaining your car forever”. Anyone who has seen Tom’s ’67 MGB will understand the significance of these words. Tom’s “hard luck” was sadly pictured in the May 2010 newsletter, his car ignominiously sitting on the back of a flat-bed truck.
- Lucky Lucas Award. This year the recipient was Jim George, “in sympathy for having to abandon a wine tour because of an electrical gremlin”. Jim’s travails were documented alongside those of Rich & Elaine’s in the October 2010 newsletter. Jim was unable to attend the party, so his award was presented at the March monthly meeting in Windsor.

A successful Hibernation Party doesn’t run itself and our thanks go especially to Anne Astley, who yet again organized the party, to Lise Brown for managing the reservations from Canadian members and to those who helped on the night: Susan Gucfa, Barbara Jones, Sue Hunt, Aileen Butcher and Jan Tucker. Thanks also to Elvin & Janet Davis for their quiz and of course the staff of the Dearborn Hills Golf Club who always look after us so well.

The generosity of members who donate raffle prizes each year is renowned, and this time was no exception. We received an eclectic mix of items, some unique and created by the artistic talents of members and all of them valued prizes. The raffle not only adds to the fun and popularity of the party, but the proceeds are an important source of club funds. If you brought a raffle gift and did not list your name on our donor list, then we thank you and are sorry not to be able to recognize your generosity by name. We can however thank, (in reverse alphabetical order for a change):
Jan & Jeff Zorn, Janice and Philip Wiltshire, Visibles Marketing, Jan & Colin Stafford, Guy St. John, Kathi & Ralph Poupard, Fran Lewis, Barbara & Barry Jones, Sue & Marty Hunt, Susan and Adam Gucfa, Lori & Mick Gedeon, Bob Fougere, Judith & Al Finch, Donna & Steve Finch, Elvin & Janet Davis, Nancy & Steve Brown, Lise & Dale Brown, Vicki & Matt Bade, Anne & Rick Astley, Micki & Mike Abrosimoff.

The next Hibernation Party is only 11 months away and will be in Canada, so we’re sure you just can’t wait for next winter to come! ■

Photos from top
- Founders Award presented to a most deserving recipient, Rick Asltey, by Dale Brown.
- Wanna-Be Axe Masters on the dance floor… Rock On!
- What are the odds of being stuck twice with the Door Prize? Kevin Wolfe can tell you!

Tech Session Wrap Up

By Philip Wiltshire

Later in January 2011, the Board decided to look for something interesting to stage for our membership during those dreary, cabin-fever months between Christmas, the Hibernation Party and the Kimber Birthday Party in early April.

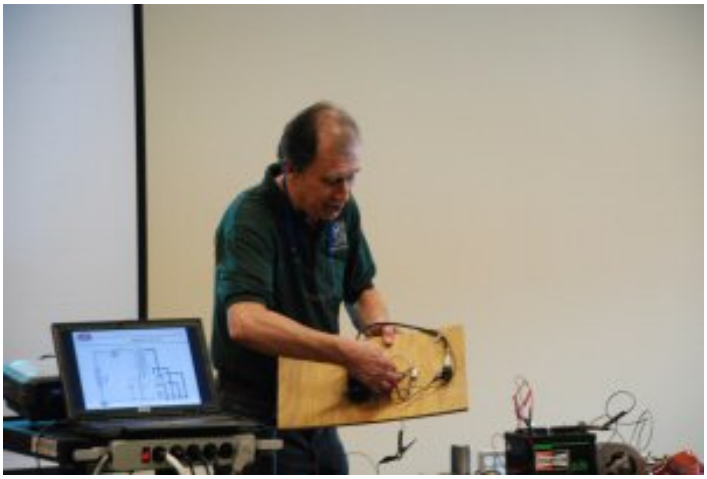
We decided to ask Rick Astley and Doug Butcher if they would repeat the presentations they made for the Michigan Rowdies (MGA) National Event at Mackinaw City back in 2006. At that event, both presentations were very well received and a new insight into Tyres from Doug and explanations of the way our MG's process electricity from Rick captivated everyone who attended. It always helps to have presenters who are passionate about their specialist subject matter.

Doug and Rick agreed to present and settled on March 5th; the venue chosen was our local (to me anyway) new Milford Public Library. We advertised it as much as possible, including Rick sending out e-blasts. We were concerned that the event was not well known to our membership in the short time from inception and that we would be left with 2 gallons of coffee and 60 doughnuts to eat by ourselves.

In true Michigan and WDMGC tradition, it was a total roll of the dice as to the weather for the event and the number of club members that would attend. Saturday dawned with torrential rain, but the snow was melting fast, so no complaints there. I began to relax until Rick called and told me that the map on the event flyer pinpointed the Milford library 3 miles from its real location – ooops. So he set up his truck with a Union Jack flag and new directions at that location. For the map he used in the flyer, I think Rick Googled "Milford Public Lavatory", not "Library"…

Next stop was to the "real" library location. Donna set up with our new 30 year anniversary shirts and other WDMGC regalia. Doug set up for the first presentation. We sat back and waited for Customers… By our 10.00 start we had 41 members present! This included several that Rick had re-directed from his parked truck on the main road into Town. The Milford Police Department also showed much interest and offered him a warm and dry place to stay overnight, but declined to attend the technical session. We were very happy to welcome a contingent from Canada. For them, this was quite a ride and we appreciated their efforts to attend. We also had two presidents in attendance; Steve Finch for the WDMGC and Dave Quinn for the Michigan Rowdies (MGA).

So, to a packed meeting room, Doug made his presentation on tyres and fielded dozens of questions during his 2 hours on his feet. Although I had seen the presentation before, Doug had updated it for 2011 and I



realized that I had forgotten how much technology goes into the design and manufacture of those black items at the four corners of our MG's.

Rick is well-known by the WDMGC and internationally for his electrical engineering prowess. Rick worked his way through every electrical aspect of our vehicles using a combination of a slide show and physical examples. I particularly enjoyed the ignition coil demonstration unit where Rick tossed it across the room as a result of giving himself an electrical shock. As I said earlier, our presenters threw themselves into their pet subjects with gusto…

We finished the presentations at about 3pm at which time the rain had turned to wet snow. The timing of the weather was still good, as it continued to snow for the rest of the evening, but everyone should have made it home before it accumulated.

My thanks to Rick and Doug for their presentations, Donna for the regalia sales and the rest of you for attending. Everyone who participated made the event a resounding success. ■

2011 WDMGC AGM Proceedings

By Rick Astley - Club Secretary

The club's annual Hibernation Party is also its General Membership Meeting, meaning that a little time always has to be given to elections, and this year to a Bylaw change too. The Meeting proceedings were managed by retiring club Secretary, Dale Brown.

Elected Offices

There are 4 elected offices for which the term is one year with a maximum of 3 consecutive years. This year, for each office, there was only one candidate already nominated and no further candidates came forward at the meeting. As a result, for all offices, election was by acclimation rather than ballot.

President - Rick Astley did not put his name forward for a 3rd term. Steve Finch was elected to the position.

Vice President - Scott Turner was nominated for a 3rd term. Scott was re-elected to the position.

Secretary - Dale Brown had reached the maximum number of terms allowed. Rick Astley was nominated and elected.

Treasurer - Donna Finch had reached the maximum number of terms allowed. Matt Bade was nominated and elected.

Bylaw Amendment

At the January 2011 club board meeting, it was proposed that the Bylaws be amended to have the informal change that was made to the club logo (properly called a symbol) in 2003, reflected in the Bylaws. It is required that any proposed change to the Bylaws be ratified by the General Membership.

Club Bylaw, Article 6 read:

> *The club logo is the Ambassador Bridge spanning the MG logo with the words "Windsor-Detroit"' printed below.*

The amended version put to the Meeting read:

> *The club symbol consists of the MG badge (the letters M and G inscribed in an octagon) in red on white atop a scroll representative of the Ambassador Bridge in blue on white bearing the words Windsor-Detroit in red on white. The badge is supported on the right by a waving Flag of Canada in red and white and on the left by a waving Flag of the United stated of America in red, white and blue.*

The effect of the change was to more properly describe the club logo or symbol and to officially change it to the version draped by flags. Images were displayed to the Meeting of the original and new versions:

Original

New

By show of hands, the Meeting overwhelmingly approved the amendment.

Now, removing my official Secretary's hat, you may note that the amended version of the Bylaw appears to reverse the actual position of the US and Canada flags. We were fortunate enough to have the wording framed by Lise Brown, who has considerable knowledge in these matters as a result of her work with the Canadian Government's federal symbols. Although the new version's description is longer than the original's, she actually dumbed it down for the rest of us, the true heraldic description being couched the quaint and now almost incomprehensible English spoken at the time of the crusades. You can imagine therefore, that with all her qualifications, she was not amused when I accused her of directional dyslexia.

Imagine this Pythonesque scene: the knights are marching forward holding their banner before them when an arrow, shot from the ramparts ahead of them, passes through it. "My liege", calls a foot soldier to his master, "they have pierced the left side of our symbol." "No we didn't", comes a cry from the enemy, "we pierced the right side of your logo".

According to Lise, and I won't dare to argue with her a second time, it is correct practice to nominate left and right of an heraldic symbol from the point of view of someone behind it. That is rather appropriate for a car club. If a police officer stands in front of your car and tells you that the left-hand headlamp is out, you'd be right to argue, as you sit in it, that it is in fact your right-hand lamp that is out. But then you'd be stupid too. ■

Kimber Birthday Bash

Saturday April 16, 2011

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 will mark Cecil's 123th birthday!

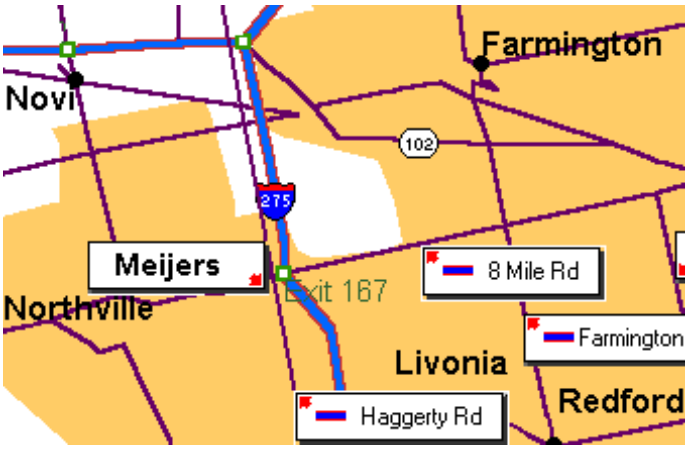
Ed Fleming will once again lead the convoy on a scenic drive towards the Delhi Cafe in Holt Michigan where we will toast Cecil, enjoy the company of fellow enthusiasts, and treat ourselves to a bit of lunch and birthday cake. The journey is expected to take about 2 hours, so those who wish to participate but cannot join the convoy can meet us at the Delhi Cafe around noon.

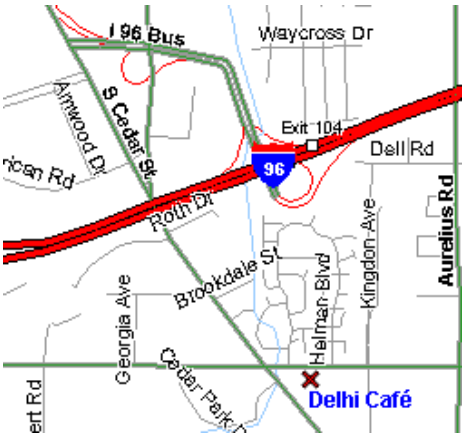
Meeting place and time
9 am at Meijer's parking lot at 8 Mile and Haggerty
(see map at right)

Departure time
9:45 am sharp, but try to be there by 9:30 to leave time for the drivers' meeting, gassing up, etc.

Destination
Delhi Cafe, 4625 Willoughby Road, Holt Michigan, 48842,
tel 517-694-8655 (see map at right)

For details contact Ed Fleming - efleming@gannett.com





Join us for our annual Stratford Festival Tour

Friday June 17 to Sunday 19, 2011

This year we will be enjoying the musical “Kiss Me Kate” playing at the Festival Theatre.

Friday June 17 - We will be traveling to Stratford leaving the Detroit area mid-morning. Or
Saturday June 18 - A second convoy will be leaving in the morning from the M59 and I94 area and arriving at St Mary’s early afternoon.
Saturday June 18 - “Jesus Christ Superstar”, 8.00 pm performance

Play synopsis: The zeal with which Christ’s followers are hailing him as the Son of God has become a source of dismay to his disciple Judas Iscariot. Fearing that this tide of religious fervor will provoke brutal repression by the occupying Romans. Judas must make his fateful choice between faith and betrayal.
Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice.

We have booked the Westover Inn Hotel once again (built 1867) at nearby St Mary’s for the Friday and Saturday evenings. We will also be dining as a group at the Westover Inn prior to the evening performance of “Jesus Christ Superstar” on the Saturday.

Many of the rooms for Friday and Saturday are already booked by us, so please call them (or your favourite Stratford / St. Mary’s Bed and Breakfast) and make your reservation under “MG Tours”. The Westover’s phone number is (519) 284 2977.

This year we have decided to offer the Festival Theatre “behind the scenes” tour once again. This is a most interesting tour and gives a great insight into the inner workings of the theatre. The tour takes place at the Festival Theatre on the Sunday at 9am. Please let me know if you are interested in participating.

Please call me when you have made your hotel reservations and let me know your preferences.
If you have an e-mail address that you use regularly, then I would also like those details. The costs are $91 each for the theatre tickets and $6 each for the “behind the scenes” tour. Please give me a call!

Philip Wiltshire
3105 Exeter Drive, Milford, MI, 48380.
Home phone: 248 676 0986
Cell phone: 586 354 8855
E-Mail: pwiltshire@comcast.net

Club calendar

■ - WDMGC event
☐ - Organized participation by WDMGC members

April

■	Wed. 13	**Monthly meeting, Brass Pointe** - Farmington Hills, MI
■	Sat. 16	**Kimber Run and Birthday Bash, Delhi Cafe**- Lansing, MI *(see p. 7)*
☐	Sun.. 17	Ancaster All-British Flea Market - Ancaster, ON
■	Wed. 27	**All Brit Car Cruise-in - Kona Grill** Troy, MI *(see p. 11)*

May

■	Wed. 11	**Monthly meeting, Dominion House** - Windsor, ON
■	Sat. 21 or Sun. 22	**Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum** - Auburn, IN *(more info to come)*
■	Wed. 25	**All Brit Car Cruise**-in - Kona Grill Troy, MI *(see p. 11)*

June

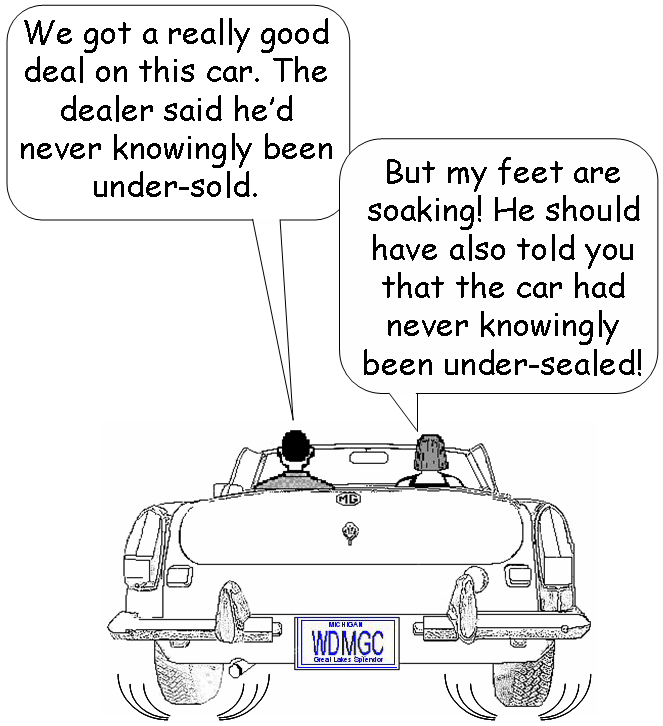
☐	Sun. 5	British Return to Fort Meigs - Perrysburg OH
■	Wed. 8	**Monthly meeting, Brass Pointe** - Farmington Hills, MI
☐	Mon. 13 Thurs. 16	MG 2011 All Register Convention - Reno, NV
■	Fri. 17 Sun. 19	**Stratford Festival Tour** - Stratford, ON *(see p. 7)*
■	Wed. 29	**All Brit Car Cruise-in - Kona Grill** Troy, MI *(see p. 11)*

July

☐	Sun. 10	Mad Dogs and Englishmen - Hickory Corners, MI
■	Wed. 13	**Monthly meeting, Dominion House** - Windsor, ON
■	Wed. 27	**All Brit Car Cruise-in - Kona Grill** Troy, MI *(see p. 11)*

April Meeting at Brass Pointe

Our next club meeting will be Wednesday April 13 at the Brass Pointe in Farmington Hills, Michigan. The meeting starts at around 7:30 pm but join us earlier if you plan on having dinner. Most people start arriving at around 6:00 pm.



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Classified ads

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1967 MGB Roadster with overdrive. White exterior, black leather interior w/ white piping. Only 8000 miles on a complete restoration of exterior, interior, engine, and drivetrain. Stainless steel spoke wire wheels, classic luggage rack, badge bar, fog lamps, and stainless exhaust system. This car needs nothing, it looks and drive great. Electrical system converted to negative ground. New top, top cover, and tonneau. Located in Rochester Hills, MI. $14,900 USD. For pictures & information. Contact Terry 248-650-9507 or email teschultz@comcast.net

MGB, MGB-GT exhaust system for 1963-67. This is a used exhaust system including a tubular header. The exhaust pipes and muffles have had little use and the paint and paper stickers are still intact. The header shows more heat affect, but appears in very good condition. Pipes and mufflers are welded together; the header bolts on with a flanged, gasketed joint. Pick-up only. $100. Contact Mike 734-416-3839 or jaguarinterests00@yahoo.com

4 used Dayton, 60 spoke, painted (gray), 14 X 5 wire wheels for an MGB or MGB-GT. These are in very good condition. Dayton use stainless steel spokes which are superior to other brands. The wheels look like the factory original, but are 0.5" wider. All 4 wheels for $385. Call Mike at 734-416-3839 or e-mail at jaguarinterests00@yahoo.com

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

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

Wanted

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

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St. Clair Shores

Mar 10

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Mar 10

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Phone: 248..349..3649
email: guystjohn@comcast.net

Hours: M – F 8:30 – 5:30
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

All Brit Car Cruise-in

Where: **Kona Grill**
30 E. Big Beaver
Troy, Michigan 48083
(1 mile East of I-75)

When: Wednesday April 27, 2011
Wednesday May 25, 2011
Wednesday June 29 2011
Wednesday July 27, 2011
Wednesday August 31, 2011

Time: 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Come join your fellow British car enthusiasts!

Your event host: Harry Mac Lean
hmac3002@yahoo.com

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 Donna Finch/Phillip Wiltshire 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, April 2011 - Fran Lewís' 1968 MGC-GT