The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 35, No. 2 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club March 2013

WDMGC Annual Awards

Presented at the Hibernation Party February 23rd. (Party photos will appear in April Edition of the Can Am Connection)

Founders Award Winner Philip Wiltshire presented with The Heritage Plaque by President Steve Finch.

Matt Bade receiving his Lucky Lucas Award

Steve and Ruth Swarin with Ruth's Navigator of the Year Award.

Rick Astley (with Steve Finch and Philip Wiltshire) accepting The Dan Zebarah Memorial Newsletter Award for his excellence in producing 100 "On the Borderline" cartoons for the newsletter.

The Can-Am Connection
is published 10 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc.

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Dale Brown - Editor

The winter is almost over and we'll have our cars out in no time. (Kimber Run is just around the corner!) This month's edition of the Can Am Connection is the first of the monthly publications after the long hibernation. For our banquet pictures this year, I've chosen to include only the Award Winners so that you can make sure to congratulate them when you see them next. I'll include party pictures in the next edition. It was a wonderful party. As Steve Finch mentioned in his article this month, thanks to Anne Astley for her tireless work in putting on a great event. (Thanks to Rick as well as other volunteers.)

Thanks to many contributors this month. I'll have lots for our April edition as well.

You will notice a special notice about our new location for the Canadian side meetings. Our most recent venue had some issues with parking and with the season upon us already, we thought it important to find a place that was better for parking our cars. Thanks to Sue & Marty Hunt as well as Dave Hornby for making arrangements at the Maple Leaf Bar and Grill starting right away with the March meeting. I think you will find that the restaurant will be able to meet all our needs. (Maple Leaf is also a fitting name for our Canadian side meetings!)

Lots of things happening right away with our club, so make sure you keep the Can Am Connection handy and refer to the website often. Check your email frequently since Rick Astley posts updates on a regular basis.

Have a great driving season and we'll see you on the road.

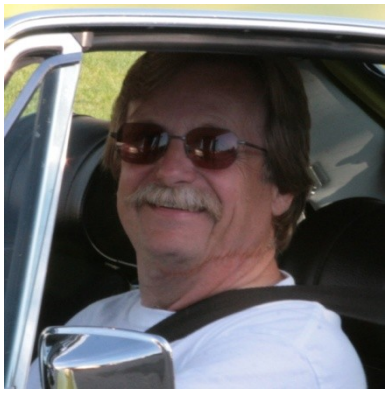
Hard Luck Award Winner Rich Wagner receiving his award in Florida (his new home) from Rick Astley

"Door Prize" lucky winner, Russ LaFevre with Matt Bade. (It was the luck of the draw!)

Presidentially speaking

Getting Ready for Spring?

Steve Finch - Club President



I sure am. I cannot wait for the return of the driving season. My cars are quietly sleeping right now but will be ready to go for the Kimber Run in April. It's good to have options. The MGA will be ready for a top down run and the MBG/GT will stand at the ready if the weather is not sufficiently cooperative.

For those who attended the Hibernation Party at the Dearborn Hills Golf and Banquet Facility, I hope that you had a great time. I thank Anne and Rick Astley for organizing and hosting the party for us. As always, the people make the party great and the facility and entertainment was very good. However, in an otherwise successful evening, the food was unfortunately not considered up to the standard we have come to expect from the DHGC. After registering our dissatisfaction, we have received a partial refund, which will be used as an event subsidy in the future.

I want to congratulate our award winners, Scott Olman (Rookie of the Year), Ruth Swarin (Navigator of the Year), Matt Bade (Lucky Lucas), Rich Wagner (Hard Luck), Philip Wiltshire (Founders' Award). I also want to recognize and congratulate a special award winner, Rick Astley (Zebarah Memorial Can-Am Connection Award) for authoring over 100 *On-The Borderline* cartoons; a regular feature of this publication. My thanks to all of them for their participation and dedication to the club.

The 2013 calendar has been posted to WDMGC.com. The Stratford Tour this year will feature *Tommy*, the rock opera from *The Who*. We will again be associated with the CTM & Heritage Village All British Car Show and the Battle of the Brits will return to the schedule at Camp Dearborn in Milford.

You may not get this newsletter in time to be notified about the March 9 Tech Session at the Milford Library. We have been broadcasting it in the club's email. I am sure that our panel will answer all our MG questions and that we will have some lively discussion. My thanks to Philip Wiltshire for organizing the event and to our *panel of experts* Rick Astley, George Barton, Doug Butcher, Graham Creswick, and Guy St. John.

The first driving event will be the Kimber Run on April 13. Each year the WDMGC joins with other M.G. and British car clubs to celebrate the birthday of M.G. Car Company founding father, Cecil Kimber, who was born in London on April 12, 1888. This year will be his 125th birthday celebration. Ed Fleming will once again lead the convoy on a scenic drive towards the Delhi Cafe in Holt where we will lift a glass to Cecil, enjoy the company of fellow M.G. enthusiasts, and treat ourselves to a bit of lunch and birthday cake.

There is still room on the calendar for other events. We welcome suggestions and volunteers to host an event, rallymaster a drive, or conduct a tech session or day in the garage. Please forward suggestions to me or any other board member.

Our next monthly meeting on Wednesday March 13 will be our Annual General Meeting and elections. This year we have separated the Annual General Meeting and elections from the Hibernation Party. Each year hereafter the AGM will rotate between the US (in February) and in Canada (in January), with the passing of the gavel and transition to the newly elected board occurring at the Hibernation Party. We are doing this to better comply with the Bylaws, to shorten the program at the Hibernation Party, and to provide a separate venue to concentrate on club business. Please come and participate in the AGM in Windsor.

Also, you might put a placeholder on your calendar for the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, May 25th, for a new event that we are trying to put together. If successful, the event will be modeled after last year's DTSC BOTB alternative informal gathering and picnic held a Camp Dearborn.

I hope you join us at meetings, events, and next spring for a drive in our MGs.

The foremost club for British car owners in southeast Michigan and southwest Ontario.

Safety MG Fast!

Steve

Photos from January and February Club Meetings

At the Brass Pointe and Cramdon's

Friday / Saturday / Sunday June 14th, 15th & 16th 2013- "Tommy"

Friday June 14th - We will be traveling to Stratford leaving the Detroit area mid-morning, or Saturday June 15th - A second convoy will be leaving on the Saturday morning from the M59 and I94 area and arriving at St Mary's early afternoon. It's your choice, as we normally have 2 convoys heading for Stratford that weekend.

Saturday June 15th – "Tommy"- 8.00 pm performance at the Avon Theatre.

" The Who's classic rock score powers the spectacular story of a traumatized child who becomes the "Pinball Wizard."

Synopsis:

Deprived of sight, hearing and speech by the shock of what he has witnessed as a child, young Tommy Walker seems lost to life – until he reveals an uncanny talent for the game of pinball. When his faculties are suddenly restored, Tommy is hailed as a living miracle – but will the fans who turn to him for enlightenment want to hear what he has to say?

Music and lyrics by Pete Townshend (The Who)

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 "Tommy" 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.

Please call me when you have made your hotel reservations. The costs are $105 each for the theatre tickets. If you have an e-mail address that you use regularly, then I would also like those details.

Philip Wiltshire, 3105 Exeter Drive, Milford, MI, 48380.
My new cell phone: 706 988 6206 – please note the new number.
E-Mail: pwiltshire@comcast.net

We regret to inform you of the passing of Tom Parent on Monday March 4. He had been in and out of the hospital numerous times over the past few months. Tom has been a member of WDMGC since March 2002 and was a proud owner of a very nice 1954 MG TF. Tom was a veteran who served in Germany.

Our hearts go out to his wife, Jean and his family. We are very sorry for their loss.

Tech. Session Held at The Milford Library — March 9, 2013

The Tech Session held at Milford Library was well attended by members of not only the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, but also members of the T club, Rowdies and Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club. A panel - formed by Doug Butcher (tires), George Barton (hoses), Graham Creswick (V8 conversions), Guy St. John (mechanical) and Rick Astley (electrical) - answered questions from the floor. However, the format was very loose and everybody was able to participate, sharing their own ideas and exchanging experiences based on real-world situations.

THE BORDER CITY Mini CLUB and ROUTE 42 DINER

present ***British Only*** cruise nights .

We would like to invite all British car or motorcycle owners for our 2013 British only cruise in nights at our new location, ROUTE 42 DINER 2825 County Rd 42 (across from Windsor airport) in Windsor on Monday May 27th, July 22nd and September 23rd 2013 from 5:30 until 8pm.

Hop in your British car, cruise on down and enjoy an evening of fun with awesome food, great cars, make some new friends, door prizes and 50-50 draw with proceeds to Transition 2 Betterness cancer research.

Less than 15 min from bridge or tunnel for our American friends.

Hope to see you all there.

Monthly Meeting and Annual General Meeting

March 13th

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE VENUE FOR THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO

The Maple Leaf Bar & Grill

5240 Tecumseh Rd E, Windsor

This year we've separated the Annual General Meeting and elections from the Hibernation Party and instead the business meeting and elections will be held at this separate Annual General Meeting in Windsor. Each year hereafter the AGM will rotate between the US and Canada. We are doing this to better comply with the Bylaws, to shorten the program at the Hibernation Party, and to provide a separate venue to concentrate on club business.

We are also excited about our new meeting venue in Windsor, which we are certain, will work much better for us. Come along and tell us what you think.

See: http://mapleleafeats.com/

Why in Britain, Do We Drive on the Left?

Submitted by Tim Burston

About a quarter of the world drives on the left, and the countries that do are mostly old British colonies.
Japan also drives on the left.
This strange quirk perplexes the rest of the world; however, there is a perfectly good reason.
Up to the late 1700's, everybody travelled on the left side of the road because it's the sensible option for feudal, violent societies of mostly right-handed people.
Jousting knights with their lances under their right arm naturally passed on each other's right, and if you passed a stranger on the road you walked on the left to ensure that your protective sword arm was between yourself and him.
Revolutionary France, however, overturned this practice as part of its sweeping social rethink. A change was carried out all over continental Europe by Napoleon. The reason it changed under Napoleon was because he was left handed his armies had to march on the right so he could keep his sword arm between him and any opponent.
From then on, any part of the world which was at some time part of the British Empire was thus left hand and any part colonized by the French was right hand.
In America, the French colonized the southern states (Louisiana for instance) and the Canadian east coast (Quebec)
.
The Dutch colonized New York (or New Amsterdam).
The Spanish and Portugese colonized the southern Americas. So The British were a minority in shaping the 'traffic'.
The drive-on-the-right policy was adopted by the USA, which was anxious to cast off all remaining links with its British colonial past.
Once America drove on the right, left-side driving was ultimately doomed.
If you wanted a good reliable vehicle, you bought American, for a period they only manufactured right-hand-drive cars.
From then on many countries changed out of necessity.
Today, the EC would like Britain to fall into line with the rest of Europe, but this is no longer possible. It would cost billions of pounds to change everything round.
The last European country to convert to driving on the right was Sweden in 1967. While everyone was getting used to the new system, they paid more attention and took more care, resulting in a reduction of the number of road accident casualties.
Since September 2009 Samoa drives on the left instead of the right.
The main reason for this is that they want to use right-hand-drive cars, for instance from Japan and New Zealand, which both drive on the left.

Countries that drive on the **LEFT** include:-

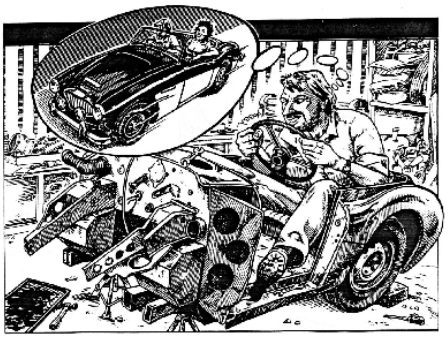
Anguilla	Channel Islands	Jamaica	Pakistan	Tanzania
Antigua & Barbuda	Cyprus	Japan	Papua New Guinea	Thailand
Australia	Dominica	Kenya	Samoa	Tonga
Bahamas	Eire-Ireland	Lesotho	Seychelles	Trinidad and Tobago
Bangladesh	England	Macau	Scotland	Turks and Caicos Islands
Barbados	Falkland Islands	Malawi	Singapore	Uganda
Bermuda	Fiji	Malaysia	Solomon Islands	US Virgin Islands
Bhutan	Grenada	Malta	South Africa	Zambia
Botswana	Guyana	Mauritius	Sri Lanka	Zimbabwe
British Virgin Islands	Hong Kong	Montserrat	St Kitts & Nevis	St. Vincent & Grenadines
Brunei	India	Mozambique	St. Helena	Wales
Cayman Islands	Indonesia	Namibia	St. Lucia	
	Isle of Man	Nepal	Surinam	
		New Zealand	Swaziland	
		Northern Ireland		

http://www.2pass.co.uk/goodluck.htm#.USv3xaKdGSq

32nd Annual
Sunday April 21, 2013
[2nd Last Sunday in April]

ANCASTER

British Car Flea Market & Car Show



ABC-FM Website: www.ancasterbritish.ca

Location:
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster ON L0R 1R0
Exit#55 on 403 at Hwy 52/Trinity
to Hwy 2/53/Wilson St.

Coordinates:
N – 43 degrees ..... 11.242 min
W – 80 degrees ..... 2.402 min

Hours – Public
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Admission: Adults $7.00
Youth under 18 Free

Vendors: Host Club Members $30.00
Others $35.00

Vendor Information: Greg Newton
519-583-1684
checkpointhi@hotmail.com

Host Clubs: British Sports Car Club-Hamilton www.bsccweb.com
Austin Healey Club Southern Ontario www.ahcso.com

Hibernation Party
Raffle Prize Donor List

We wish to thank all those members who generously donated gifts towards the Hibernations Party. (with apologies for those not included)

Rick & Anne Astley
Jeff & Jan Zorn
Donna & Steve Finch
Barry & Barb Jones
Sue & Adam Gucfa
Philip & Jan Wiltshire
Bob Fougere & Pat Boring
Jack & Isabelle Renaud
Fran Lewis
Ralph & Kathi Poupard
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Dale & Lise Brown

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Club Calendar

■ - WDMGC event
☐ - Organized participation by WDMGC members

March 2013

■	Wed. 13	**Monthly Meeting and Annual General Meeting & Elections, NEW LOCATION - Maple Leaf Bar & Grill** - Windsor, ON
☐	Sat. 16	**T-Club Valve Cover Racer Tech Session,** - Livonia, MI

April 2013

☐	Sat. 6	Obsolete Automotive Spring Garage Sale - Point Edward, ON
■	Wed. 10	**Monthly meeting, Brass Pointe -** Farmington Hills, MI
■	Sat. 13	**Kimber Run & Birthday Bash, Delhi Cafe** - Lansing, MI
☐	Mon 15—Fri 19	NAMGAR Spring Regional - Savannah, GA
☐	Sun. 21	Ancaster All-British Flea Market - Ancaster, ON
☐	Mon. 22 - Sat. 27	Key West British Car Club MG Conch Out, Mile 0 - Key West, FL
☐	Thu. 25 - Sun. 28	2013 Speedfest at the Classic Motorsports Mitty vintage races, MG is featured marque - Road Atlanta, GA

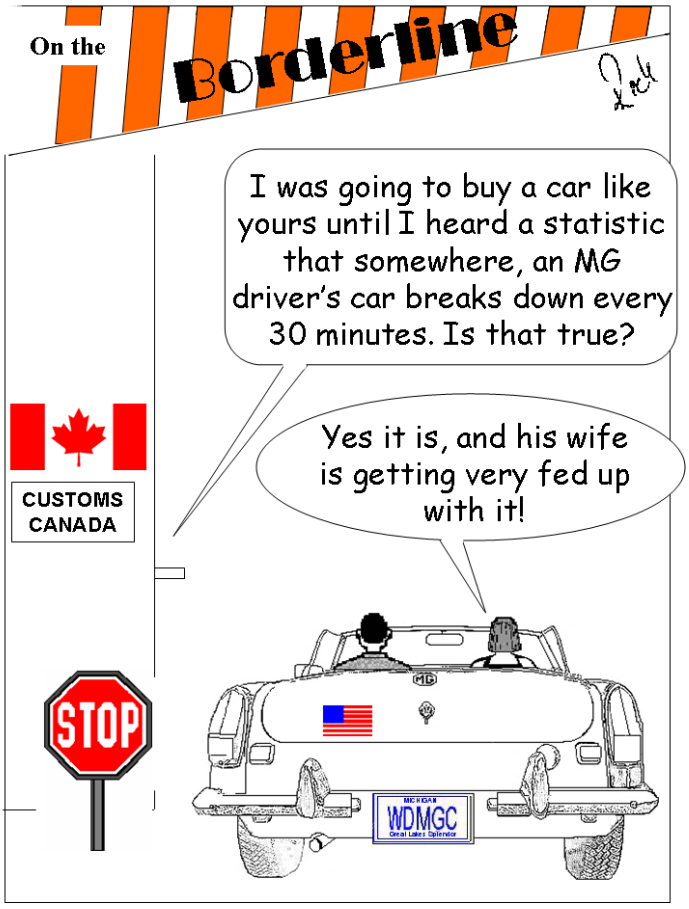
May 2013

☐	Sat. 4	NAMGAR "Drive Your MGA Day"
■	Wed. 8	**Monthly meeting, Maple Leaf Bar & Grill** - Windsor, ON

Check the club website for further calendar events

March Meeting at Maple Leaf

The March club meeting will be Wednesday March 13 at Maple Leaf Bar & Grill in Windsor. 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.
Note new location.



The Windsor-Detroit MG Club is a chapter of
The North American MGA Register & The North American MGB Register

Introducing one of our new advertisers

Manx Motors was founded in 2009 by Brian Sims following the retirement of Don Ensley and the closure of English Motors where he was employed. Those of you familiar with English Motors will feel right at home at Manx.
Named after the famous road races on The Isle Of Man in The Irish Sea, the shop is a throwback to the days when the cars were built in the classic manner and before computers were running them!
The intention at Manx Motors is to offer expert servicing of the great cars and bikes we all love.
Be it an MG, a Triumph, a Sunbeam, an Austin Healey or an old Jaguar, this is the place to have it repaired properly.
No one in the Detroit area knows British machines like Manx Motors!
A staff with a long background in English vehicles ensures that your car or bike will be repaired or modified right the first time.
Manx Motors specializes in classic pre-1987 models. Some tasks for the later cars might be available so feel free to contact Brian.
In addition to the repair and restoration of British cars Manx also services the two wheelers!
On any given day you'll find an amazing selection of British bikes to compliment the MGs and Triumphs in varyingStates of repair.
Currently, there are two full restorations being undertaken. An early MGTC and a Triumph TR6.
New and used parts are available for most English cars and bikes. New parts can be ordered at prices just over wholesale, saving your hard earned cash! Simply supply the shop with your needs and they'll reply quickly with very competitive pricing! Parts can be shipped directly to you!
With springtime approaching the calendar is getting booked up. If you are planning to get your car or bike back on the road and ready for the nice weather be sure to secure your appointment right away.
Call them at 248-475-4733 or e-mail them at manxmotors@sbcglobal.net .
As the winter gives way to spring Manx will be hosting open houses with details to be announced soon. These should be a great excuse for British car and motorcycle enthusiasts to get together before a nice country drive or ride. Coffee, Tea and doughnuts on the house!
So if you get a chance, stop by soon and check out the shop!
Manx is located just west of Opdyke Road in Auburn Hills, between University and Walton Blvd. (Just south of The Palace of Auburn Hills and easily accessible from I-75 and M-59.
The street address is 2142 Pontiac Road, Unit 101. Look for the familiar signs on the window!
Be sure to visit their Facebook page too! Look for Manx Motors there.

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Brian Sims 248.475.4733
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Please visit our website, www.manxmotors.com

Classified Advertising

Please contact the editor if you no longer want your ad to run. Ads will run in the newsletter for three months and then may be removed to make room for newer entries. Ads will run for six months on our website. The date following the ad is date of placement. See the Classified page at our website for more ads. www.wdmgc.com

Editor's Note: We have decided to purge most ads for this edition as some were extremely old. Please resubmit to email address above if you wish to continue advertising.

Wanted

4 MGB Limited Edition Road Wheels in good condition (page A30 Moss Motors) please contact Bob Fougere 248-872-6677 e-mail fougerebob at hotmail.com. Or if you have 4 OEM wheels in good condition please contact me.

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Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of MGA!, our full-color, award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just $37.50 per year (North America), or $52.50 (International). Got more information at http://www.namgar.com, or contact registrar@namgar.com.

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

CARS WANTED

Very serious *buyer* for:
Jaguar XK-XKE, MG T series, MGA
Triumph TR 2-3-4-250
Mercedes 190-220-230-250-280 SL
All open cars Porsche 356-911-914
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NEW REGALIA ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE

The WDMGC regalia vendor has economical capability to do small and special orders of WDMGC logo apparel and other products. There is an extensive catalog of items available, in many colors and in men, women and children sizes. If you have an idea for a regalia item or want something in particular for yourself, please send us an email request for

Windsor-Detroit MG Club
4058 Twin Lakes Crescent
Shelby Township, MI 48316-1460

FIRST CLASS MAIL

This is a photo of Tom Parent's 1954 MG-TD which won an award at a recent Battle of the Brits Car Show. We pay tribute to Tom in memoriam naming his car as Car of the Month.

Car of the month, March 2013

Is your car in the club's Gallery on our web site? If not, send one to our webmaster (see page 2) with a little anecdotal information, and not only will we feature it there, you never know, it may become a Car of the Month in the Newsletter too. If your car has already been in the Gallery a while, take a look at it and please check the picture. Some photos are not good enough for printing in the newsletter, but we're betting that you've upgraded your camera since and now have better pictures to send us. Check the story with it too, and update it if necessary.