The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 39, No. 2 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club

March 2017

Photos from The February Club Meeting at The Brass Pointe

photos by Chris Gurnee

Recent New Member Greg Bogdanski

Another Recent New Member Mike Nestell (left)

Sherry Straley (left) with President Vicki Bade

Past President Ed Fleming (left) with Harry Mueller

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

Can Am Newsletter Editor, Dale Brown

Coming next month I will be adding a new feature to this page. As a result of some comments and recommendations from our Membership Survey, I'm going to add a column called "**Letters to the Editor**" So, feel free to send me any questions or comments regarding past articles in the newsletter or give some suggestions of what else you would like to see. Also, if you have any comments or questions about the Club or suggestions for events etc, send them along here too. (Because there are so many other avenues for info regarding technical aspects of your British Car, we'll leave those questions out for now.)
As editor, I'll search out answers to your questions and welcome your comments and suggestions. Send your letters to editor@wdmgc.com.

Celebrate Cecil Kimber's Birthday!

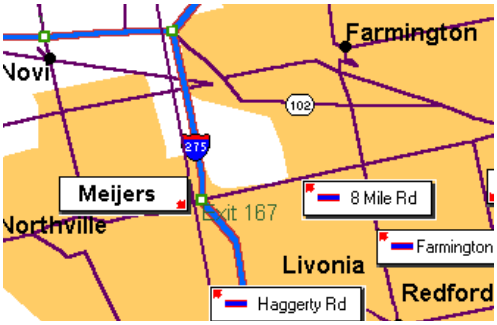
The Lansing Area MG Association will host the Kimber Birthday Party on Saturday April 8, 2017!

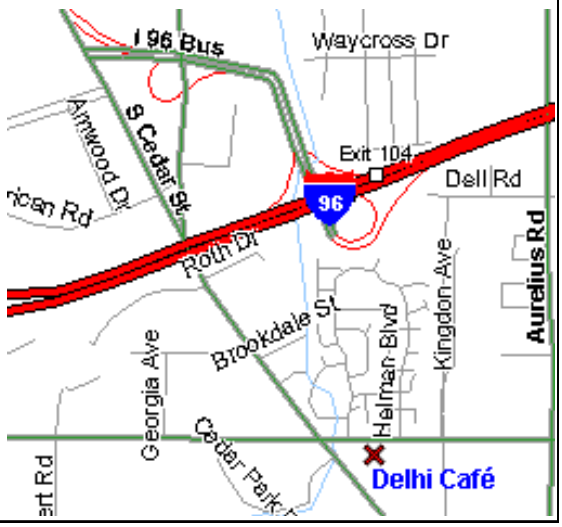
Once again we are planning a convoy on a scenic drive towards the Delhi Café in Holt Michigan where we will toast Cecil, enjoy the company of fellow enthusiasts, and treat ourselves to a bit of lunch and birthday cake. Ed Fleming has lined up our journey which is expected to take about 2 hours. Those who wish to participate, but cannot join the convoy, can meet us at the Delhi Café about 11:30am. Meeting place: Meijer's parking lot at 8 Mile and Haggerty. Drivers' Meeting at 9:15 AM.

First car out at 9:30 AM sharp! Allow yourself ample time for gassing up, etc.

Delhi Café
4625 E. Willoughby Rd
Holt, MI 48842

WDMGC will gather at Meijer in Northville (see map) in the morning and arrive at Holt around 11:30 AM and lunch at 12:00 Noon.





Presidentially speaking

Hello Fellow Club Members

Vicki Bade - Club President

Since this is my first full statement as your new president, let me share a little about mine and my husband's history with the club.

Our start in the world of the British sports car came in the form of a 1974 Midget (as many others have) that Matt bought from Dan Sokolowski. He also acquired an MGB LE that with the help of Otto Pope in 1997 he brought home from Bardstown KY. Then his dream car became available-a red 1972 chrome bumper MGB. The car had initially been restored from the ground up by our friend and then fellow club member Mike Derderian and was delivered with Matt's help to a gentleman in North Carolina who bought it from Mike. 3 years later the car appeared on the internet for sale by the same gentleman and Matt snatched it up. We had all 3 cars in our little driveway in Royal Oak for a brief period before the Midget and LE found other homes.

Matt and I joined the club in 1998 a few months before we were married and it has been a wonderful experience.

March is now upon us, which means cars will soon come out of hibernation from storage, spring training has commenced (Go Tigers!) and the actual spring season is not far behind-we hope.
For those of us not fortunate enough to be snowbirds it has been an interesting and somewhat mild winter, which I know is just fine with a lot of people. I think our dog Gracie is one of the few who miss the snow-she does love to play in it.

I am hoping we can add some nice driving trips and destination events to the usual suspects this year-so if anyone has an idea and would like to plan something please speak up. I would love to see some of our newest members out and about this year, so let's make this a great year for the club!

The Kimber Run is coming up April 8th and I will be keeping my fingers crossed for mild weather as I will be checking it out for the first time. Matt has said it is a really nice day and I know that Marcia Greiner has agreed to make her wonderful cake again this year.

I look forward to seeing old friends and new faces throughout this coming year!

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

Safety MG Fast!

Vicki

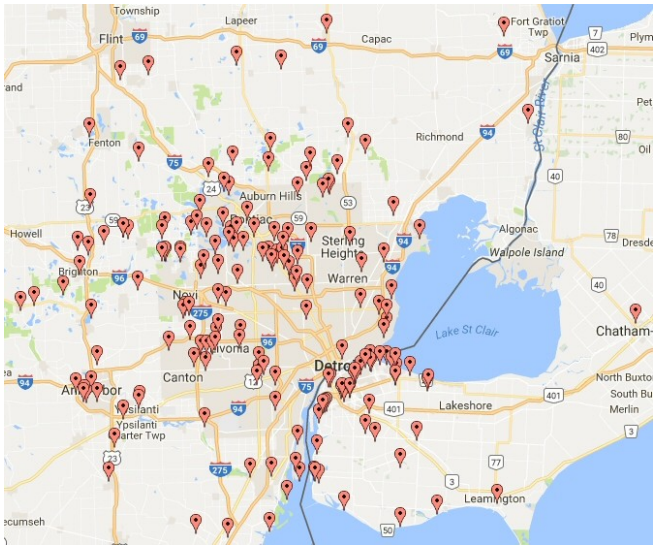
Where do we Live?

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club describes itself as:
The foremost club for British car owners in southeast Michigan and southwest Ontario.

We don't make that claim simply based on the number of members we have but also on the wide area from which they come.

The map below illustrates this, each marker representing a member's home.

E-newsletter readers can get a closer — and interactive look — by clicking on the map.



Congratulations!

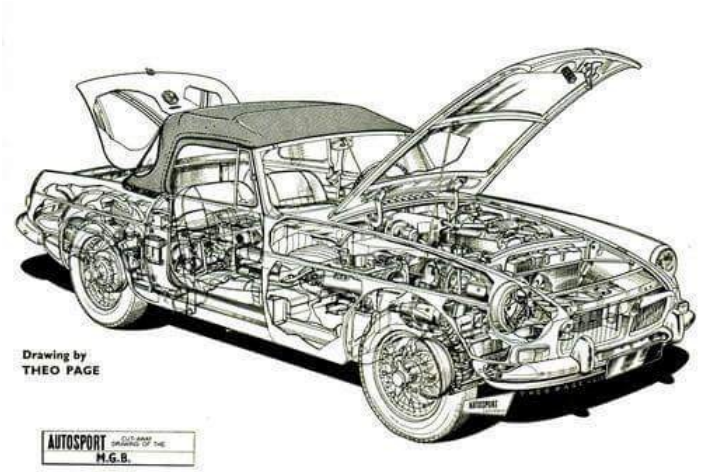
On Recent Membership Anniversaries

30 Years.....Fran Lewis of Waterford, MI

25 Years.....Chuck and Mary Beth Wiley of Monroe, MI

15 Years.....Tim and Joanne Burston of Amherstburg, ON

5 Years.....James Carr of Berkley, MI



On Saturday, June 17th. from 10:00 am till 4:00 pm, this first Annual British Car Show will take place on the Shores of Georgian Bay (part of Lake Huron) in the beautiful town of Bayfield at the Ashwood Inn. (There's lots of shopping and restaurants in the town too!). We have been invited to take part either staying over at the Inn or simply driving up for the day. Philip Wiltshire intends to bring the group by there for the show on the way to our Annual Trip to Stratford. Philip will be providing details for those travelling to Stratford as the date gets closer.

For those coming on your own or by Convoy from the Michigan side, it's not far up the coast line from the Port Huron/Sarnia border by way of the Blue Water Bridge.

From the Windsor Essex area it's about a two and a half to three hour drive down nice two lane highways.

As the time gets closer, keep an eye on our Facebook Page for other members who might wish to organize a convoy together. Let's all try and support any new British Car events when they are in our area.

Click our Facebook Page link above, Brits in Bayfield link above for more details and this The Ashwood Inn link for hotel details.

Hidden Dangers When Driving Classic Cars

by former Club Member, Rich Wagner

Greetings from Zephyrhills, Florida where Adrienne and I moved to three years ago. Not being 'water sports' people, we live far enough away from water to make the hot summers more bearable than the more famous humid coastal areas or even Tampa, just 30 miles south of here. Yes, we feel humidity in the morning, but once that tropical Sun rises, it quickly dries up, feeling more like summer in Las Vegas or Arizona. We had no air conditioning in our Michigan home so Florida summers are easy.

In Zephyrhills, I'm able to drive the MGB all year long down two lane, tree covered roads going most everywhere (even to Tampa). With the top up, the zip out rear window helps keep us reasonably comfortable during the hot summer months. This is country living around here with very little traffic.

Our MGB has a long history of strange problems mostly related to age. I've learned the hard way that flexible brake lines don't last forever, first with a car fire in Ohio, returning to Michigan from MG 2006 when the flexible line to the rear didn't allow the brakes to fully open, resulting in a wheel fire when brake fluid overheated.

I wasn't smart enough then to replace the other flexible brake lines to the front wheels because everything seemed to be working fine. I drove the car all the way down to Florida without incident, but soon afterward, my front brake pads were already worn out again! The cause? Same as before, the original equipment flexible hose to the right front wheel didn't allow the disc pads to fully release. This time, I replaced them both.

When I bought our MGB in 1991, I purchased a brand new set of tires never thinking I'd need to buy tires again. That's 25 years ago now. Those 1991 tires still looked good when I drove the freeway from Michigan down to here in 2013 but they were already more than 20 years old! Not long afterward in 2014, Adrienne and I had to abandon plans to cook chicken kabobs at a nearby park when the car began to shake ferociously. Suddenly, those tires were out of round and we were bouncing up and down in the car on what felt like square tires. Simple job, replacing the older tires, but I should have done it years earlier.

Our Florida British Car Club has most all their events up in the Weekie Wachee area so even attending the monthly club breakfast is a round trip of 100 miles down tree covered roads. The MG continues to perform well, but like problems we've had before, we can never tell when something will happen.

Just a week before the Fourth of July, when I tried to start the car, gasoline poured out onto the garage floor! This was no small drip; with the ignition on, gasoline was leaking from somewhere, but it wasn't coming from either the fuel line or where the carburetors were. Instead, it was pouring out the overflow near where the distributor is, on the other side of the engine.

I'm fortunate to have a foreign car repair shop nearby where the owner has lots of experience working on MGs. As soon as I described the problem, he told me that very likely, the needle in the fuel bowl had stuck open (these are HIF carbs). I called Hagerty Insurance to have the car towed from my garage to his shop. He called later, telling me he'd found a small piece of black rubber inside the carburetor's fuel bowl. He planned on replacing the fuel lines between the filter and carburetors, when rebuilding the fuel bowls since they've likely been damaged by ethanol which unfortunately is always present wherever we buy gas today. When rebuilding the carburetors he discovered another unexpected problem; one of the plastic floats wasn't working properly. Somehow, a small amount of liquid had gotten inside and it was no longer shutting off the fuel (strange since the car had run fine just two days earlier).

Two weeks later, I picked up the MGB expecting to have a hefty repair bill for the labor. It was only $228.00 which even at $60/hr is less than four hours labor!

Like my broken drive-shaft from 2006, I've added a pair of fuel floats in my collection of things that only seem to happen to me.

Sunday, May 21, 2017, 11am – 4pm

Camp Dearborn

1700 General Motors Road, Milford, MI 48380

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club is proud to sponsor the fifth annual Spring British Car Gathering & Picnic at Camp Dearborn in Milford, MI.

No registration, no formal car show or class parking, and no awards; just an opportunity to share our passion with fellow British car owners and clubs, and to get to know one another.

We have reserved a large, well shaded area that is to the right just inside the entrance, behind and down the hill from the office (the "Pony" area A1 on the website map, it is not the BOTB area). Cars will be parked on pavement so not to worry about wet or soft ground. We have use of a picnic shelter and nearby restrooms.

A large grill will be fired-up for anyone to use. BYO picnic, something to throw on the grill, beverages, etc.

The park entrance fee is $7.00 per car.

BOOT SALE

Have some spare parts, tools, etc. that are cluttering your garage? Bring them along and offer them for sale from the boot of your car. We are not looking to host a full blown swap meet, so please no trailers full of stuff. Whatever you can get in your car or bring pictures of larger items that you want to sell.

For more information contact us at Board@WDMGC.com
or contact Steve Finch at (248)343-1614
The Camp Dearborn Web Site is www.campdearborn.com

"Guys and Dolls"

Friday / Saturday / Sunday June 16th, 17th & 18th 2017

Friday June 16th - We will be traveling to Stratford leaving the Detroit area mid-morning.
A second convoy can be arranged, 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 often have 2 convoys heading for Stratford that weekend. It depends on your plans!!

Saturday June 17th – "Guys and Dolls"- 8.00 pm performance at the Festival Theatre.

Guys and Dolls

The musical premiered Broadway at the 46th Street Theater on November 24, 1950. It won numerous Tony awards in 1951

About the Musical

Considered by many to be the perfect musical comedy, this dance spectacular travels from Times Square to Havana, Cuba – where all bets are off.

Featuring "Luck Be a Lady" and "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat."

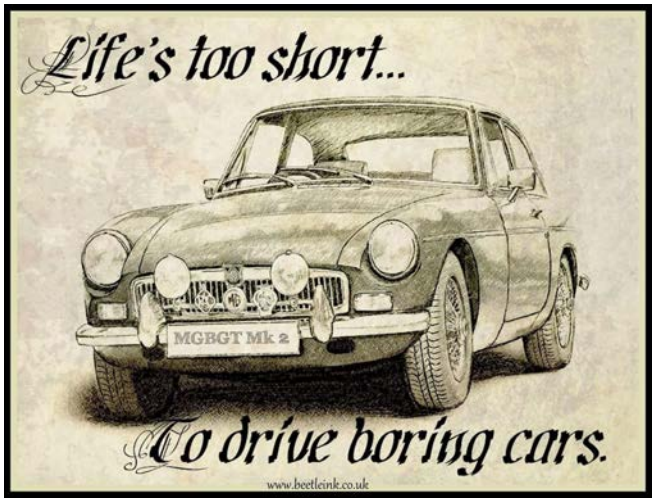
We have booked the Westover Inn Hotel once again (built 1867) at nearby St Mary's (15km from Stratford) for the Friday and Saturday evenings.

We will also be dining as a group at the Westover Inn prior to the evening performance of "Guys and Dolls" 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 **$78 US dollars <u>each</u>** 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 cell phone: 574 202 8919 E-Mail: pwiltshire@comcast.net



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Club Calendar

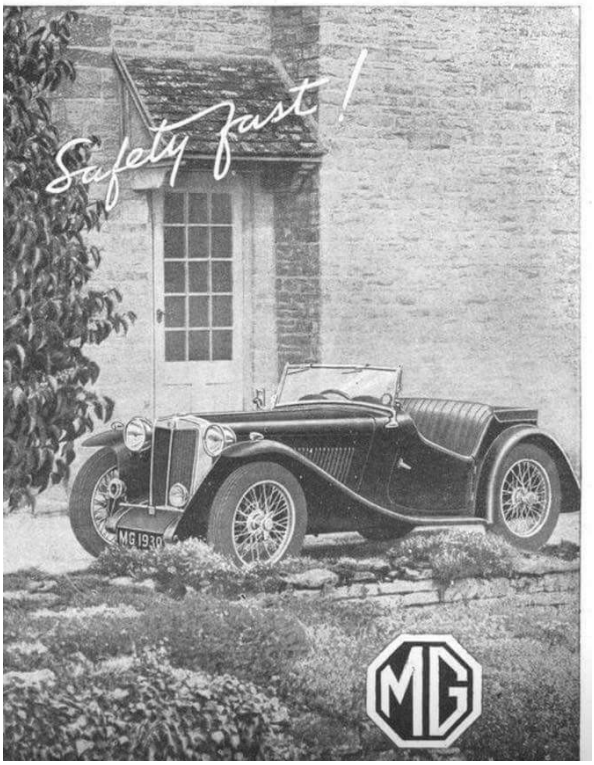
WDMGC event.
To be sure you are up-to-date with all events, times and meeting places, visit www.WDMGC.com

March 2016	
Wed. March 8	**WDMGC Club Meeting River's Edge Windsor, Ontario**
Sun. March 19	Chicagoland British Car Swap Meet 2017 8am to 2pm
April 2016	
Sat. April 8	Kimber Run & Birthday Bash 2017 9:30am to 3pm
Wed. April 12	**WDMGC Club Meeting**. Brass Pointe, Farmington Hills, MI
Sun. April 23	Ancaster British Car Flea Market and Car Show 2017 9:30am to 4pm

March Meeting at River's Edge Tap and Table

The March Club Meeting will be Wednesday March 8 at River's Edge in Windsor, Ontario. 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.

Some blasts from the past!



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Triumph TR 2-3-4-250
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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

Your contributuion's for this newsletter,.

You will be Well Rewarded

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

For Sale

1978 MGB Roadster. Good clean condition, needs some tender loving care. No rust, red (recent paint). Road style wheels, luggage rack. Recent engine rebuild with dual SU carbs. Car is located at Commerce Lake. Asking $4500 OBO. Can e-mail photos Call Jim at 248-705-8585.
New MGB camshaft and other MG and Triumph parts. Andy Noestheden 519-980-1946

1962 MGA 1600 MkII for Sale DTSC member Jim Kozlowicz has decided it is time to reluctantly part with his very nice 1962 MGA. It is a very late build car and has been completely restored. The car is painted Porsche Cherry Red and has tan soft top and tan leather interior and panels. Side curtains and all body panels are in good order. The car has 71,000 miles, and underneath inspections are welcomed. He is asking $33,000. If you are interested, please contact Jim for further information , or to look at the MGA. Jim is not online! Jim Kozlowicz: 248-546-5076 2018 Mortenson Blvd.Berkley, MI 48072

1953 TD The body is stock, with aftermarket wire wheels, repro bumpers. Color is Jaguar BRG. It is powered by a 1.8L 'B' engine. This beauty has a custom interior, including custom bucket seats and dash.
For more information or pictures, contact:
Pat Sand 248-640-7689
pat.sand@cccnetwork.com
MGB Hard top. Needs rear window $50
Passenger door in primer $50
Call William Matthews 517-672-6145
RMatt684@aol.com

1980 MGB
All Original Body, No Rust, No Body Work Top like new Summer Sunday Car, always garaged Electric Overdrive Engine runs perfectly, no smoke, new valve train 78,500 Original Miles. $6k Contact: Perry Burford p.burford1@sympatico.ca

1974 MG Midget. BRG. Purchased in 2002. Had been stored 10 years prior. All work done by English Motors until their closing. 33, 000 miles on odometer. New sound system and lock out switch installed. Driven during summer only, approximately100 miles. Body in good condition and tires are new. Asking $7000.00. bethmcclure1947@gmail.com.

1973 MG Midget parts "free to a good home": two rear springs (rusty); wind shield frame (includes glass which has delaminated); passenger side door (incomplete; quarter window missing). Any one interested can e-mail at : vdhoven@uwindsor.ca

Two MGB transmissions. 69 and 72 One rebuilt at John Twist Tech session. Make any reasonable offer. Dale at 519-258-5987 or dbrownmg @mnsi.net

MGB engine and gearbox.- As is. Production date stamp is May 6, 1968. Condition unknown but not seized. $1000 or best offer. 519-969-8910

1974 MGB roadster, red, chrome bumpers, garage kept. I've had it for 20 yrs. Runs no rust. Needs some love and care. 3500.00 obo. Won't take much to get it right. Call 248-689-9401. Ed Kazmierczak Troy MI

5 1968-1974 MGB Smith's Speedometers and 2 MGB Smith's tachometers. Also have two MGB/MG Midget fuel gauges, one temperature gauge, and one oil pressure gauge. Sell all for $120.00.or $40.00 each. Bob Dailey, Rochester Hills Contact ridailey@aol.com

1961 MGA 1600 Roadster Excellent condition, very reliable with many improvements and updates. Solid body without rust. Red with black top, black interior and trim. More details on club website

Priced at $18,500 Pictures available. Contact: Tom Newton at 313-407-7334 or newts2u@gmail.com

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2003 FORD EXCURSION EDDIE BAUER EDITION, NEW 6.0 DIESEL ENGINE WITH WARRANTY, NEW TIRES, GREAT VEHICLE AS WELL AS SUPER TOW VEHICLE. WITH WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION HITCH AND ANTI SWAY BAR. ALL CREATURE COMFORTS INCLUDING DVD PLAYER AND FRONT AND REAR AIR.
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EMAIL JZORN@MINDSPRING.COM

Wanted

I am looking for a used 15" steering wheel for MGA. Please email picture and price topernot10@gmail.com

Wanted: Radiator for a 1977-1980 MGB. Please email at Ross.Brunetti@gmail.com or call at 248-925-2523

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Windsor-Detroit MG Club
2094 Cliffside Drive
Wixom, MI 48393 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Car (&Bike) of the Month - March 2017

This is the 1969 MGB in British Racing Green owned by yours truly, Newsletter Editor Dale Brown. It has been under a restoration for several years and is just about ready to hit the road again this season. So it will be a choice between the Tartan Red 1972 MGB, this one or the 1973 British Raleigh Superbe in Forest Green.