The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 45, No. 11 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club **November 2023**

In this issue: The Twisty Bits Fall Drive!

Plus: Find out about our upcoming Toys-for-Tots and canned-goods drives for our holiday party. Flyer on page 8!

At right: Sign of the impending Apocalypse: your fearless editor's FUN MG is back on the road after a mere six months in his garage. Be sure to check your emergency supplies and have your haz-mat suits handy. This may mean the end of civilization as we know it.

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

Driving season is just beginning, right?

Can-Am Editor, John Magee

One of the things I hoped to accomplish when I bought my MGB a dozen years ago was to learn more about how these little cars work. I'm grateful that the ol' FUN MG gave me so many opportunities to learn this year.

Or so I tell myself. So very many opportunities to learn.

But even if it's just for a few weeks here at the end of the driving season, I'm glad to be buzzing around a few of my favorite drives before the snow falls. And I did learn quite a bit this year as I persisted through a series of mostly overdue repairs to my ignition system, water pump, and radiator. Frankly, I'm amazed it ran as well as it did the last few years.

As we bid farewell to the MG driving season here in Michigan and Ontario I'm going to need more content for the newsletter. It's easy enough to fill pages with pictures of pretty cars driving here and there. Pictures of cars under cover in a garage are less popular. So if you have an idea for a technical column, or a memory of drives gone by, or … well, anything about MGs, really ... drop me a line. I'm sure we can find space for it. I'll also be looking through Can-Am Connections of the past to bring back some classic columns. Let me know if you remember one you'd like to see again.

This is your newsletter, folks, so the more of you that are in it, the better!

John Magee, Editor
Can-Am@WDMGC.com

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Welcome to our Newest Members and Anniversaries!

New Members

- No new members in October

Anniversaries

- 15 yrs - Tim and Nancy Shaw of Milan, MI

Membership count: 159 (39 Canada, 120 United States)

Membership note: Please be sure Mick Gedeon has your current email address for distribution of announcements and the newsletter.

Presidentially speaking

Hello Everyone,

Vicki Bade - Club President

We had a little bit of what we used to call Indian Summer last week-hope you all got out to enjoy some of it. Now reality sets in and after seeing snow on Halloween and the Christmas decorations coming out looks like the driving season is done-so sad.

The Twisty bits tour lead by Philip seems to be the last event for the season and it was a good one (other than the cold). Great day for a drive, really good crowd from both the Jaguar and WDMGC clubs and a lovely section of roads that provided the twisty bits and a splash of color. Thank you to Philip for organizing and running the event-not always easy when you don't even live in the state (terrific job as always) and thank you to those that were able to join us. Fun day!!

Sorry we were not able to get an extra fall tour/cider mill adventure in also-John did try hard to make it happen, it just didn't work out. I will say that some of the colors were beautiful this year-the trees in my neighborhood alone were fabulous.

G. Georges restaurant worked out for the October meeting, so we will be using their location for the winter season. They do have 2 separate rooms, which is helpful and the staff did a good job and were very nice. It is a little tough getting to the parking lot from Orchard Lake Rd, so you may want to try coming west down Northwestern Hwy, if possible to make a right at the entrance.

We will be doing the Toys for Tots and non-perishable food goods donations for charity again for the December US meeting. It has worked very well the last few years and with the restaurant closing at 8:00pm we just don't have the time to do a gift exchange. The flyer should be in this NL and December's, so put a note on your calendars to pick up a toy or two and put aside some cans or boxes to bring with you in December.

I hope our Canadian friends all had a wonderful Thanksgiving Oct. 9th and Happy Thanksgiving to our U.S. members coming up November 23rd. Be safe and enjoy time with friends and family along with some good food!

If you can get those cars out for another ride or two before it is hibernation time-go for it and have fun! Come enjoy the US meeting Nov 8th and/or the Canadian Natter & Noggin Nov 15th.

—Vicki

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

Safety MG Fast!

Vicki

Club Business

Treasurer's Report for October
Submitted by Vince Lacroix, Treasurer, WDMGC

Brief report: Our overall bank balance remains around $2,500 after a quiet month.

Right: Twisty Bits fans rooting us on from the roadside.

Below: The rewards for a nice polish and a shiny hood on the Twisty Bits Drive: a reflected view of the sky!

Twisty Bits Fall Drive — Sunday, October 15

Report by Philip Wiltshire and Phil Crutchfield from the Jaguar Associates Group of Michigan

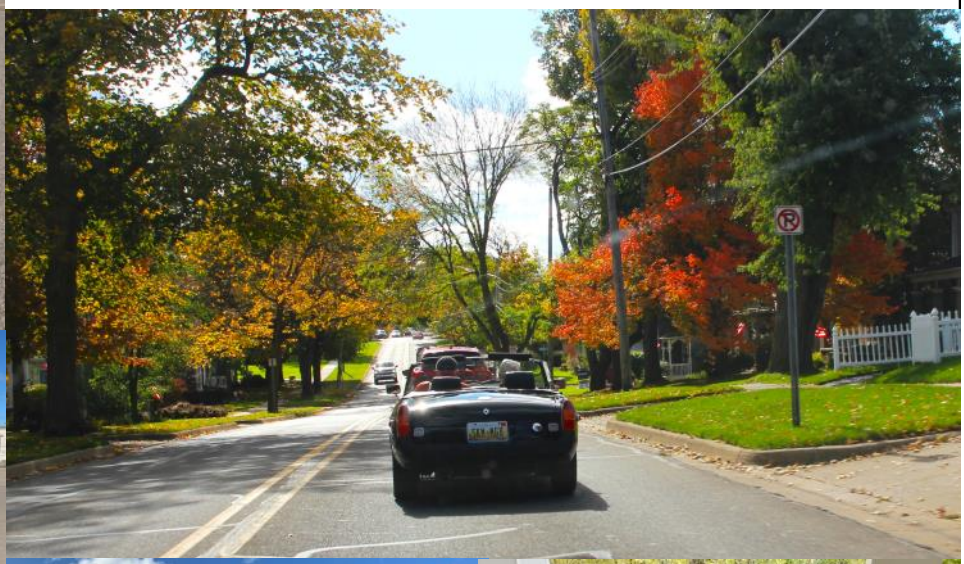
On Sunday, October 15th twenty-five people met at the northwest corner of the Meijer parking lot in Ann Arbor. For those who arrived a bit early, there was a Starbucks and Meijer's rest rooms just a short walk away.

We had fifteen cars on the Twisty Bits drive. Six were Jaguars and nine were non-Jaguars, including a 60s era P-1800 Volvo, MGs, Fiat, Fit and a Jeep. A good mix from the JAGM and WDMGC clubs. Two of our drivers were the President of the WDMGC (all MG) and Chairman of the Rowdies (MGA's)

I had been watching the weather forecast and our changing fortunes for days before the event. I was very glad Sunday morning, to jump into the Jag and head from Indiana to Ann Arbor into a beautiful sunrise!

With temperatures hovering in the 50s and scattered clouds and blue skies we sat off on an approximate 100-mile figure eight drive on two lane backroads with a stop about midway at the historic Sharon Mills County Park near Manchester.

This is the third time I have run this tour, going back 15 years or so. The route has not needed to be changed over the years except there are one or two more sets of traffic lights rather than 4-way stops now.



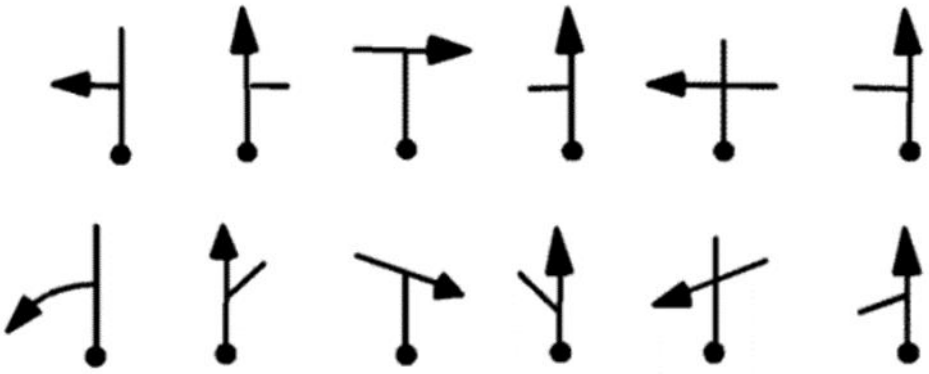
Twisty Bits Fall Drive (Continued)

The driving instructions included turn-by-turn tulip directions (see screen shot below for examples), text regarding the course direction, and the cumulative milage at the change. A word about tulip instructions. The name came from the Tulip Rally, which first used them in the 1950s. They are a popular way to more completely communicate the change ahead. However, one of the references brought a few questions as our driving map author is better versed in such references than many of us were. The one element on the map that generated the same question from four drivers was what is a “blind brow”. The term “brow” means the crest of a hill, and the use of “blind” means that you might not see the turn until you are on top of the change. Useful information to be sure.

Everyone managed the tour in style and after about an hour we stopped at the Mill. They had nice restrooms and a large pavilion where we sat and ate our picnic lunches. It was a bit brisk, but a very enjoyable break.

During the course of the tour 2 other clubs with Porches, Triumphs and Austin Healey’s ran past us in the opposite direction. The day was very popular for imported car runs.

The return trip to Meijer went well. The roads overall were surprisingly smooth with only a short distance containing bumpy pavement. The Twisty Bits tour lived up to its name with plenty of curves and undulations to negotiate. MG’s being all manual transmissions had fun with plenty of shifting required. I don’t think we had any manual Jaguars on the tour.
As is typical, the group took about a half hour to dissipate after the drive as some catching up was still occurring. Everyone had a good time, even if the color change was not quite at its peak yet.



Example of Tulip Driving Instructions. The ball is oriented at the bottom of the change, or where you currently are located.

Twisty Bits Fall Drive (More Pictures)

For our December 13th, 2023 U.S. Meeting
Toys for Tots & C.A.R.E.S.

Looking Forward to Another Meeting Filled With Generosity

Last year, for the December meeting, instead of the usual gift exchange, we collected for the Toys for Tots organization. The generosity of our members far exceeded all expectations, so this year we are going to repeat it, and in addition, we will be collecting non-perishable goods for the C.A.R.E.S., a local charity that helps food-insecure families.

For the December meeting please bring for Toys for Tots an unwrapped toy suitable for a child 1 to 16 years old.

CARES

C.A.R.E.S.

Community. Action. Resources. Empowerment. Services.

For CARES please bring non-perishable food goods.

All items collected will be given to the appropriate organization well in time for the holidays.

We know that members will have their own favorite charities and demands on them at this time of year, so please be assured you are welcome at the meeting whether or not you choose to take part in this drive.

A great big "Thank you" to the members of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club for your big heartedness in the past and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our most fun meeting of the year.

U.S. Side Meetings

October

Above: Parking lot photos from our October meeting at G. George's. Three of these are from Lisa Zebarah-Spears. And there she is in the bottom right photobombing my own attempt to take a picture of the two MGs that made it to our meeting. Lisa crushed the October meeting photos.

November

Join us at G. George's in West Bloomfield in October! The restaurant is located on the northwest corner of Northwestern Highway and Orchard Lake Rd. The driveway is accessed from the north side of Norrthwestern Highway, so that's your best bet.

Wednesday, Nov. 8
Dinner 6 pm, Meeting 7 pm

Location
G. George's Restaurant
33080 Northwestern Hwy,
West Bloomfield Township, MI 48322

December

We'll be at G. George's again. Let us know if there's another place we should try.

Canadian Side WDMGC Club Natter and Noggin

Club VP Dale Brown reports growing attendance for the Natter and Noggin. Looking for all the action in Windsor? Or just a bit of nattering? Either way, come join us this month!

Next: **Wednesday Nov. 15 , 2023, 6 pm**

10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5

Click Here for Restaurant Menu

Below: Kurt III continues to progress with his restoration, now in primer!

This month's MG Logic Problem by Jim MacArthur

LOGIC PROBLEM – OLD CARS AND OLD PLANES

Classic cars and vintage aircraft. Put them together and you have a terrific photo op. A group of historic fighter planes from World War I is making a cross country tour of America, flying from Maine to California. They're stopping at different airports along the way, and our WDMGC member Heide, who is the public relations representative for the Yankee Air Museum, persuaded the group to stop at Willow Run airport in Ypsilanti. She thought it would be a great opportunity to have some of our classic cars line up in front of these rare vintage airplanes for a photo shoot. Five of our members brought their cars to the airport, and even the Nitwitness TV News crew showed up to record the event. What a sight! The cars and aircraft definitely belonged together, and everyone had a great time, looking at the latest technology of 100 years ago. Times sure have changed!

From the information below, can you identify which member brought which car, which car was parked in front of which plane, and in which order they were lined up?

(1) Nina lined up first, while another member parked their MG TC in front of the Sopwith.
(2) The third car was the Morgan, which was not Audrey's car (that was parked in front of the Nieuport).
(3) The Avro, which did not have the MGPA in front of it, was not paired with Nina's car.
(4) At least one other car lined up after Wayne parked his MG PA.
(5) The Austin was parked at least two places sooner than the MG TC.
(6) Brett was parked neither third nor fifth.
(7) Nina did not park in front of the SPAD.

This chart will help you record information from the clues as well as the facts that you deduce by combining information from different clues. I suggest using an "X" for a "no" and a dot for a "yes". Remember, once you place a definite "yes" (dot), place a "no" (X) in all the rest of the boxes in each row and column that contains a dot.

		Member					Car					Airplane				
		Audrey	Brett	Danny	Nina	Wayne	Austin	MG PA	MG TC	Morgan	Morris	Avro	Fokker	Nieuport	Sopwith	SPAD
Order	First															
	Second															
	Third															
	Fourth															
	Fifth															
Airplane	Avro															
	Fokker															
	Nieuport															
	Sopwith															
	SPAD															
Car	Austin															
	MG PA															
	MG TC															
	Morgan															
	Morris															

Member Classified Ads

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

1980 MGB, $9,500

Purchased the car April 2021 from 2nd owner for $7,700. I have spent approximately $5 k in seals, gaskets, brakes, muffler, starter, water pump, thermostat, etc. About the only area that i have not addressed is the convertible top, it has a couple of small tears, but very functional and looks great. Car is currently in Charlevoix at our summer place, as I only drove it up here, & kept it in a heated garage during winter months. If we find someone willing to buy, I will trailer it down to the Detroit area. Asking for no less than $9500. Contact Bob Wiedmaier, cell: 734-355-5356 or at wiedmaierrobert@gmail.com (July 2023)

1980 MG LE, $6,500

1980 MG LE (Limited Edition), current Mileage, ~40,000. As-Is Price: $6500. Purchased car from private owner in 2009. One Mechanic. Maintenance overhaul every April. Additional details: 2010 - Rebuilt clutch, engine overhaul, brakes; 2012/2015 - New paint job; 2014 - New tires. Also, GPS, updated radio, kill switch installed

Contact: Maxcine Jackson, 248-318-4482 (July 2023)

Cleaning out old parts? Looking for something unusual? Just trying to make a buck? Help us to help you! Send along those classified ads!

1980 MGB-LE (LIMITED EDITION) Asking $5000.00

NEW!

~76,00 miles. Replaced engine in 2019, with used a 1978 MGB engine 26,000 miles; downdraft Weber carb; Under 600 miles on tires; new brake Master Cylinder and tubing with new brake fluid tank; new clutch Master Cylinder & Slave Cylinder with new copper tubing; brown replacement seats; new steering wheel, ignition switch, electrical system master switch.

EXTRA PARTS: L.H. Door (to replace existing door with bondo); new windshield glass with new seals and extra frame to be installed; set of LE Special side silver decals; halogen headlight system (mounted only) on RH fender under hood; front fender metal patch panel for lower right front; new side chrome mouldings; rear deck lid; new clutch disk; extra loud horn; premium car cover.

Tom Newton 313-407-7334, Dearborn, MI (Nov. 2023)

1975 MG Midget, $5,100

I have a 1975 MG Midget with approximately 42,000 miles on it. Purchased about 20 years ago. Driven for several years (just around town) but has been in our garage for the last several years. Recently put new rear brakes and clutch cylinders on. However it has not been started in nearly 2 years (so probably needs a tune up/ engine work). The car itself is in great condition. Please reach out with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

John and Karen Koerber
johnkoerber1@yahoo.com
Berkley, Michigan (Aug 2023)

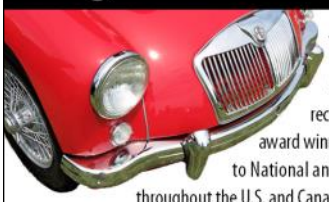
Member Classified Ads (Continued)

Tonneau Cover and Windbreaker

One Tonneau cover for an MGB. In excellent condition $100. One MGB Wind Deflector with Storage case also in very good condition $100 . Previously used on a 1970 MGB.

Connie Flynn, 734-812-7936, (October 2023)

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



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Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48103

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Vintage Motors, Ltd.
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String back, full or half finger styles.
Half finger $30 per pair
Full finger $35 per pair

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Large selection of LED bulbs for your Classic Cars in 6 and 12 volt negative and positive ground at affordable prices. For Instruments, Brake/Tail, Indicator lights and more. Longer life, lower power draw and lower temperature than incandescent or halogen bulbs.

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Personalize your LBC. Available for MGB, MGA, Midget, Sprite, TR3, TR6, TR7/8, Triumph Stag and Lotus Elan.
Prices from $110 w/logo.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

Moto-Lita Steering Wheels | *Petronix Ignition Systems* | *Moss Distributor for your LBC parts needs at DISCOUNT prices.* | *Gunson Tools* | *Tops & Tonneaus Made in UK*

Local MG Services

Here are some local garages, mechanics, and services that are familiar with MGs, as recommended by members. Know any local specialists who are good with MGs? Send 'em to editor@wdmgc.com and we'll include them!

Auto Europe (Repairs)
677 S Eton Street
Birmingham, MI
248-645-6300
autoeuropeservicesales.com
(from Bob Gibbs)

Bill Case (Mobile mechanic)
313-554-5105
Billcase222@yahoo.Com
(from Jeff Zorn)

Bob's Speedometer (Speedos/ Smiths gauges)
Howell, MI
Phone: 810-632-0400
bobsspeedometer.com
(from Dan Urson)

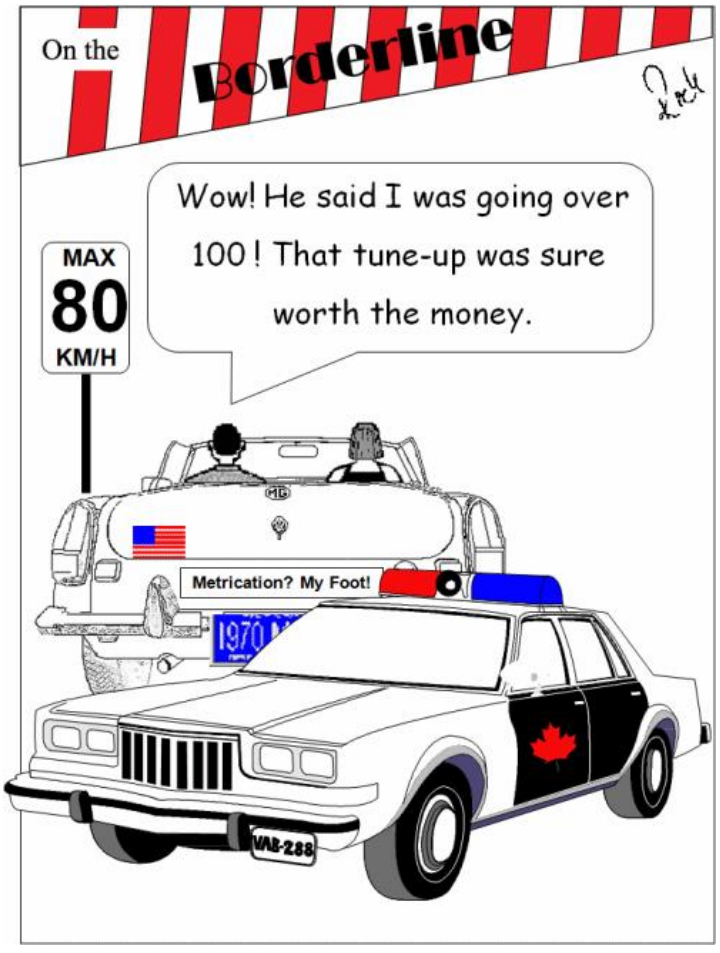
Detroit Hot Rod (ask for Ben)
730 Junction St.
Plymouth, MI
248-722-1696
(from David Marquis)

Guy's Garage (Repairs)
1520 Scio Church Road
Ann Arbor, MI
248-349-3649
guystjohn@comcast.net
(from multiple)

Little British Car Co. (Parts)
29311 Aranel
Farmington Hills, MI
LBCarCo.com
LBCarCo@LBCarCo.com
248-489-0022
(from multiple)

Muffler Man of Michigan (Exhaust)
14335 Telegraph
Taylor MI
Ask for Joe or AJ
734-287-8200
mufflermanofmichigan.com
(from Dan Urson)

Stuart Rigler (mobile mechanic)
7897 33 Mile
Romeo, MI
586-381-6317
(from Fran Lewis)



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

Solution to this month's MG Logic Problem by Jim MacArthur

LOGIC PROBLEM SOLUTION – OLD CARS AND OLD PLANES

Nina lined up first (clue 1). Wayne drove the MG PA (clue 4). The Morgan was third, but it wasn't Audrey's (clue 2) or Brett's (clue 6), so it was Danny's. Neither Wayne (clue 4) nor Brett was fifth (clue 6), so Audrey was fifth, parked in front of the Nieuport (clue 2). The MG TC was parked in front of the Sopwith, but wasn't first (clue 1) or second (clue 5), so it was fourth. Wayne was second and, by elimination, Brett drove the MG TC. Audrey didn't drive the Austin (clue 5), so Nina did, and by elimination, Audrey drove the Morris. Neither the MG PA nor the Austin was parked in front of the Avro (clue 3), so it was the Morgan. Nina didn't park in front of the SPAD, (clue 7), so Wayne did, and, by elimination, Nina Parked in front of the Fokker.

		Member					Car					Airplane				
		Audrey	Brett	Danny	Nina	Wayne	Austin	MG PA	MG TC	Morgan	Morris	Avro	Fokker	Nieuport	Sopwith	SPAD
Order	First	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	X	X
	Second	X	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	.
	Third	X	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X	X	X
	Fourth	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X
	Fifth	.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	X	.	X	X
Airplane	Avro	X	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X					
	Fokker	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X	X	X					
	Nieuport	.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	.					
	Sopwith	X	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	X					
	SPAD	X	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X	X					
Car	Austin	X	X	X	.	X										
	MG PA	X	X	X	X	.										
	MG TC	X	.	X	X	X										
	Morgan	X	X	.	X	X										
	Morris	.	X	X	X	X										

Member	Order	Car	Airplane
Audrey	Fifth	Morris	Nieuport
Brett	Fourth	MG TC	Sopwith
Danny	Third	Morgan	Avro
Nina	First	Austin	Fokker
Wayne	Second	MG PA	SPAD

Club Calendar

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

November 2023

Wed., Nov. 8	**WDMGC Club Meeting**. G. George's Restaurant, 33080 Northwestern Hwy, West Bloomfield Township, MI 48322 Dinner at 6 pm, Meeting at 7 pm
Wed., Nov. 15	**WDMGC Natter & Noggin,** 6 pm Riverside Sportsmen Club 10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5

December 2023

Wed., Dec. 13	**WDMGC Club Meeting**. G. George's Restaurant, 33080 Northwestern Hwy, West Bloomfield Township, MI 48322 Dinner at 6 pm, Meeting at 7 pm
Wed., Dec. 20	**WDMGC Natter & Noggin,** 6 pm Riverside Sportsmen Club 10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5

Enjoying our events? Not enjoying our events and want to see better events? Either way, we're looking for a new events coordinator to make our driving fun even better in 2024! Please contact Vicki Bade if you'd like to help out.

Below: After years of parking next to giants, an MG-sized pickup truck!

US Side Nov. 8 Meeting: G. George's Restaurant

Our Wednesday, Nov. 8, U.S.-side meeting will be at:
G. George's Restaurant
33080 Northwestern Hwy,
West Bloomfield Township, MI 48322
Dinner 6 pm, Meeting 7 pm

Next meeting on Dec. 13. We hope to see you there!

Canadian Side Natter & Noggin at The Riverside Sportsmen Club

Wednesday Nov. 15, 6 pm.

Riverside Sportsmen Club
10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5