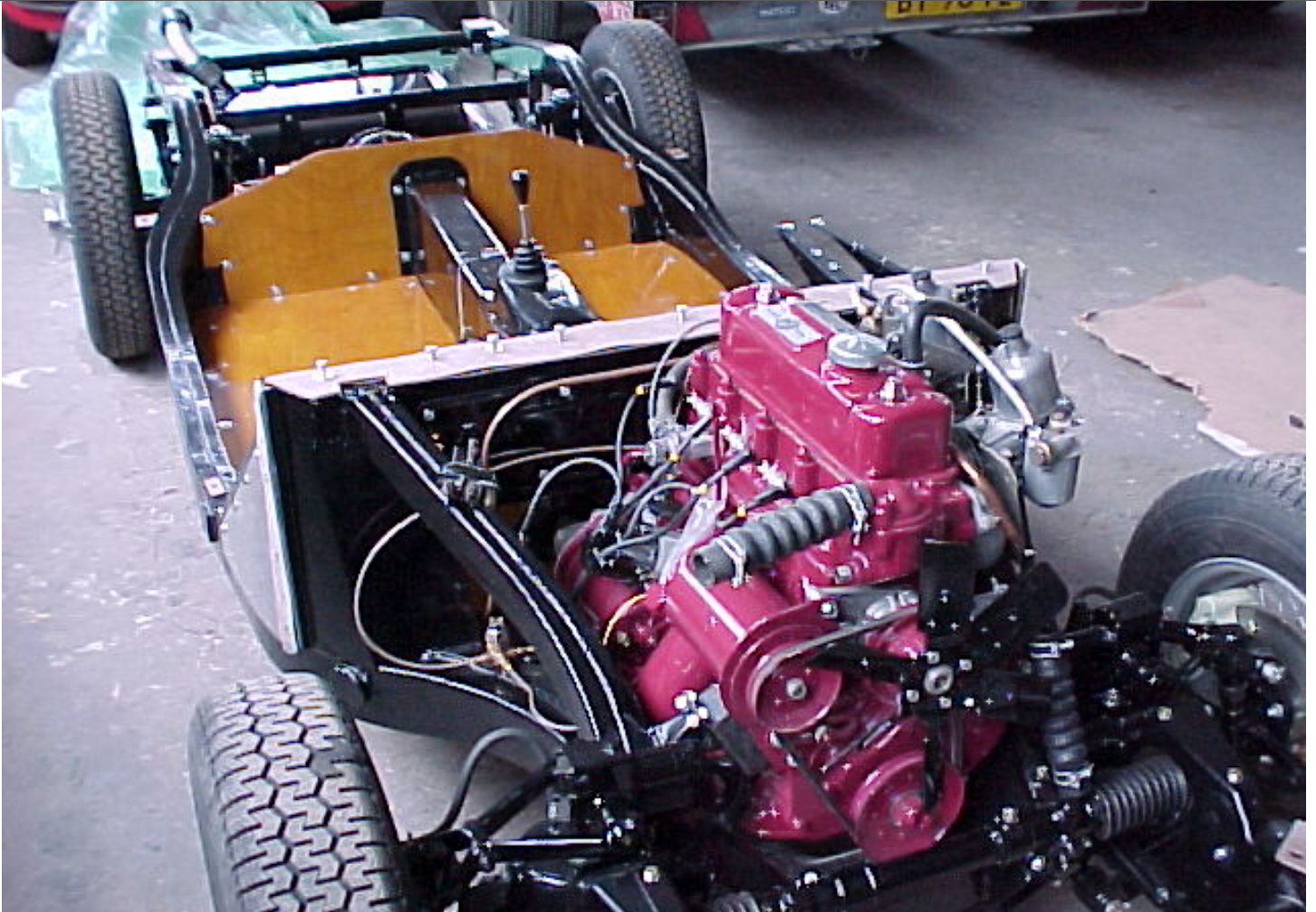




A - Antics



*Rowdies Business Meeting
Photos*

Kimber Party, April 19

Michigan Chapter of North American MGA Register

ROWDIES SITE www.mgcars.org.uk/michiganrowdies
MG WEB SITE www.mgcars.org.uk
NAMGAR WEB SITE www.namgar.com

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A-ANTICS Published every other month. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily of NAMGAR or the Chapter. Every effort is made to use appropriate material. The editor reserves the right to edit material for length and appropriateness. No placement is guaranteed. The entire contents are copyrighted, Michigan Chapter. Permission to use is granted, provided you give credit to both the writer and the club. **HISTORY** The Chapter was established August 14, 1976. It was the NAMGAR's first chapter. We are a low-key club, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of our MGA's. Anyone is welcome to join our chapter and they are asked to join NAMGAR too.

CHAPTER DUES \$20 annually (\$25 for printed newsletter)

NICKNAME Rowdies

MOTTO People First!

PAST CHAPTER CHAIRMEN
1976-1980 Bruce Nichols
1981-1982 Tom Latta
1983-1984 Dick Feight
1985-1988 Dave Smith
1989-1990 Dave Quinn
1991-1994 Mark Barnhart
1995-1995 Herb Maier
1996-1996 Tom Knoy
1997-1998 Neil Griffin
1999-2002 Bruce Nichols
2003-2004 Bob Sutton
2005-2008 Gordie Bird



Rowdies Calendar of Upcoming Events



March 29, 2008

Day in the Garage, Livonia, MI
Dave & Phyllis Goeddeke host

April 19, 2008 Kimber Birthday Party, Holt, MI
Delhi Café, all Michigan MG & British Car Clubs host

May 4, 2008

British Swap Meet & Car Show, Solon OH
www.NortheastOhioAustinHealey.com

May 17, 2008

Day In the Garage, Holt, MI
Dave & Chari Smith host

June 1, 2008

Orphan Car Show, Ypsilanti, MI

June 13-15 2008

Stratford Festival, Stratford, Ontario CA
Windsor-Detroit MG Club hosts
www.mgcars.org.uk/wdmgoc

July 14-18, 2008

NAMGAR GT-33, Seven Springs, PA
www.gt-33.com

August 2, 2008

Rowdies Birthday Party, Jackson, MI
Dave & Donna Quinn host

August 16, 2008

Brewery Tour, Webberville, MI
Dick & Diana Grucz host

Deadline for submitting material for the next issue is: April 20th

Calendar of Events, cont.

September 6, 2008

Canoe Trip, Somewhere, MI
Details TBD

October 11, 2008

Color Tour, Somewhere else, MI
Herb & Carlene Maier host (cont.)

December 6, 2008

Christmas Party, Somewhere central, MI
Details TBD

February 2, 2009

Rowdies Business Meeting, Clarkston, MI
Matt & Lisa Wigent host

Win \$50

The Rowdies will have a drawing at each meet for a gift certificate worth \$50 in merchandise from Jeff Zorn's Little British Car Co.

We hope to see some new faces at our meets and encourage you to bring a friend to join. All

Members Page

Rowdies Website

Steve Mazurek, Webmaster

URL: <http://www.mgcars.org.uk/michiganrowdies/>

Mac McDonnells Database Report

No new members since January 1, 2008.
70 Active and paid-up members.

New Member Information

Please welcome our newest member:

E-mail & address corrections:

Please help us keep our e-mails up to date.

Classified Ads

Personal for sale or wanted classified ads are free to all paid-up members. Commercial ad rates: Full page \$40 issue/200 year; 1/2 page \$25/135; 1/4 page \$20/110; Bus Card \$10/55.

Total ads may not exceed 12-1/2% (2 pgs of 16); ads accepted on first come, first served bases.





Chairman's Chatter

by Gordie
Bird

Spring is nearly here! I know this because of the well attended, productive business meeting on February 9. For those of you who couldn't make it to the business meeting, please check your calendar and you too will realize that spring is almost here. Another sure sign of spring is our first Day in the Garage in March. Not sure what we are going to be doing, but given the state of (dis)assembly of Dave Goeddeke's car, it could be just about anything. It was decided at the meeting that we would give a single page calendar a try. You may even have yours by the time you read this. I think that the printer did a good job of assembling a variety of pictures. If your picture didn't make it this year, there's always next year.

Spring also brings blooming of greenery and a variety of newness. Something to begin thinking about this spring is new officers for your club. The current crop is in the autumn of their term and will need replaced before they wither completely. None of the positions take a lot of time, so you'll still have time to work on your car and attend events. We need the following positions, webmaster, newsletter editor, events chairman, treasurer, and chairman. Please seriously consider giving something back to the club and running for the position of your choice.

We will also be giving you the option of receiving a paper or an electronic newsletter. We've still got some details to work out,

but when you receive your renewal letter, you'll need to make the choice of receiving your A-Antics electronically or in paper via USPS. If you choose the electronic version, your dues will be reduced to reflect the savings over the paper newsletter.

For those of you who have never received your nametags, or have lost them like yours truly, please email Jeff Zorn at jzorn@mgcars.org.uk. We have our source and will get the nametags to you in short order. Please state how you would like your nametag to read in the email.

With the 2008 driving season nearly upon us now is the time to plan to attend one or more of the many Rowdies events that are planned. Whether you need some work done on your car at one of our Days in the Garage, or just want to go for a ride, we have an event that you will enjoy.

Looking forward to seeing you on the road.

Safety Fast!
Gordie



Michigan Rowdies Annual Business Meeting

February 9, 2008

Meeting came to order approx. 3:15 PM

Treasurer's report was given by Jeff Zorn. Balance sheet handed out. Total liabilities & equity 6,562.51. For more details, E-mail Jeff Zorn.

Regalia report given by Brian Beery. Brian will buy as things run out. About 100 cozies left to sell. Deals are best found around Feb. & March. We will want to vend regalia at GT 33. Will ask Bruce Woodson if we can. Members express interest in a lapel pin for the M Rowdies. Jeff Zorn volunteered to look into getting these made.

Membership report given by Mike McDonnell. 71 members to date.

Old Business:

We are still looking for a new web master. Steve Mazurek said he would keep doing it for as long as we need him, but we need a new Webmaster to take over. We will keep the ad in A-Antics to ask for one to come forward. Matt Wigent, with prodding from wife Lisa, will get a tech tips manual on ebay, once more are printed.

New Business:

Mentioned that mid Michigan British Motor Club has a profile on Facebook.com where members can chat, view calendar and newsletters. Dave Quinn volunteered to look into setting up a Rowdies Facebook area. Will be useful mostly for events, newsletter & officer changes to be listed.

Club calendar was discussed and was decided by majority vote to go with a single page calendar this year for a trial run. All those who would like to see their pictures on this calendar are urged to send in their photos. One free calendar will still go to each member.

Tech Tips Manual was discussed, and 100 copies will be newly printed and sold for \$30.00 each, this will have a CD that goes along with it. Shipping was set at \$5.00 domestic and \$11.00 international. (*Ed. Note: Later revised due to reduced mailing cost.*)

The Christmas party was discussed and was decided that an out of home venue would be looked into. Dave Quinn & Dave Goeddeke volunteered to co-chair this event.

Electronic newsletter was discussed and a vote passed for all members still wanting a hard copy of A-Antics will pay dues of \$25.00 and those members who will only require E-mail newsletter will pay \$20.00 dues each year.

We are looking for a new **editor for the A-Antics**. Dave Goeddeke will continue to do it until one is found. He also volunteered to remain on as photo editor for the newsletter when new editor is found.

A new **Rowdies chairman** will be needed for next year as well. Dave Smith & Gordie Bird volunteered to head up nominating committee for next year.

Events report given by Steve Holliday

See A-Antics for upcoming events discussed at meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately, 5 PM.

Business Meeting Photos

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Clockwise above: 1. Cathy Holiday lends a hand to hostess Denise Cote' to prepare the excellent repast the Rowdies . 2. Phil Wiltshire and Stephanie Smith enjoy a happy thought. 3. Steve Holiday, Gordie Bird, Brian Beery and Curt Smith hang out in Rob Cote's chop shop. 4. Jeff Zorn, Dick Gruzic and Neil Griffin discuss some ideas for Rowdie meets during the coming year as Traci Bird and Jan Zorn relax in the background. 5. Donna Quinn explains the way it is to Mac McDonnell.

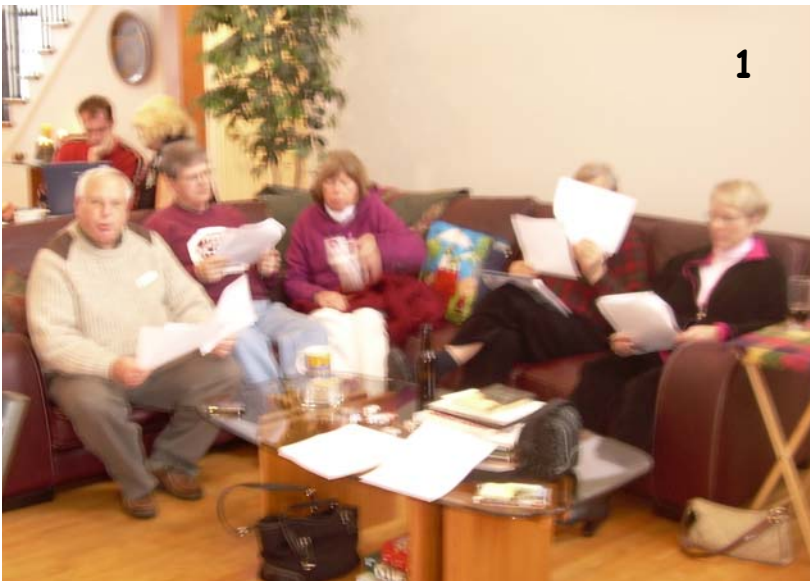
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4



1. Jeff Zorn, Ken Nelson, Kathy Nelson, Dick Grucz and Jayne Pollion review and discuss the proposed events calendar. 2. Steve Holiday and Gordie Bird conduct the meeting effectively and efficiently. 3. The desert bar. Mmm! 4. Dave Quinn, Ken & Kathy Nelson make their travel plans after the meeting adjourns. 5. Jayne Pollion, Donna Quinn and Thelma Griffin pause for the camera before heading home. 6. Dave Quinn admires host Rob Cote's handiwork on his custom Ford coupe. It looks like Rob's almost ready for a road trial. Only a few more months....



Has that MG got a Hemi.....? No an all-aluminum Fireball V8!!!!...

By Phil Wiltshire

Recently, the Society of Automobile Engineers arranged a visit to the GM Heritage Center in Sterling Heights. I had heard about this kind of skunk works where a great many cars and items of automotive interest are stored in a factory unit. Visitation is limited. The Center is located just 2 miles from my plant, so I signed Ted Hight and myself up for the visit.

Once signed in at the Center, it was clear that this facility is much more than just a storage depot. Basically it's an 80,000 square foot box factory unit containing a broad selection of mainstream and not-so-mainstream GM vehicles. There is a revolving collection of 200+ GM vehicles there at anytime, and it's pure luck to see something that might be a personal favorite for you.

This is how it was for me. I'm always interested in any automotive history, but we turned a corner in the collection and came face to face with an Oldsmobile Jetfire sedan. In my 18 years in the US, I had never seen one before and was happy to see a production vehicle whose engine was the forefather of the MGB GT V8.

It is well documented how Buick/Oldsmobile Engineering designed and then introduced an all aluminium (Reynolds 356 silicon aluminium alloy) engine in the 1961 Olds F85 and Buick Special (with significant tweaks to differentiate the engine between the marques). Following on from this, the Olds Jetfire (1963) I saw at the GM Heritage Center, was introduced with an all-aluminum Fireball V8 Turbo Rocket engine. It's name sure sounds hunkier than a Hemi... This was America's first production car with a fluid-injected, turbo-charged V8 engine.

Anyway, after 750,000 units were produced, America and GM went back to cast iron; the muscle car era was upon us and engine internal strength was an issue. Plus, the advanced coolants that are standard in today's cars and auto stores were, in the early sixties, expen-

sive and only to be found at GM dealerships. So folk filled them up with water, releasing aluminium-silicone oxide from the metal, which quickly clogged the radiator leading to massive engine overheating.

The legend has it that in 1963 William Martin-Hurst (the Managing Director of Rover in the UK) saw the small V8 engine at Mercury Marine. He had it shipped back to Rover as a possible unit that could re-energize Rover's fortunes as a "middle-class" range of up-market vehicles. A license was agreed with GM and much extra work to the engines' design carried out to make it more robust to manufacture and more reliable.

After the engine debuted in Rover vehicles, British tuner shops got the unit and tried it in various English sport cars. The first Rover V8 launch (The Rover 3.5 Litre P5B) coincided with the introduction of the 6 cylinder MGC and MGC GT and this was MG's focus in the late sixties.

Ken Costello had one such tuner shop. In 1970/71, he dropped the V8 first into an MGB then a BGT. He made many Costello conversions (in 1986, I had the offer of one and turned it down - what an idiot!!!) MG eventually dropped the MGC and in an effort to refresh the very old B model, offered a V8 version from August 1973. They modified the body shells of MGB GT's, only made right hand drive cars and only marketed them in the UK. Between 1973 and 1976, just 2591 production MGB GT V8's were manufactured.

Of course, there is a thriving market for V8 conversions; we have some fine examples in our club. Nearly all conversions are made to B Roadsters; why MG never exported them to the US is beyond me. I often speculate about the fortunes of MG if V8's had been exported to the US.....

So, yeah, it's not a Hemi; that thing's got an all-aluminum Fireball V8!



Goeddeke's Day in the Garage

Saturday, March 29th

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

We'll be doing some serious body repair on the old roadster on this day. I hope to attract one or two experienced welders, and maybe I can finally get the new rocker panels put onto the MG.

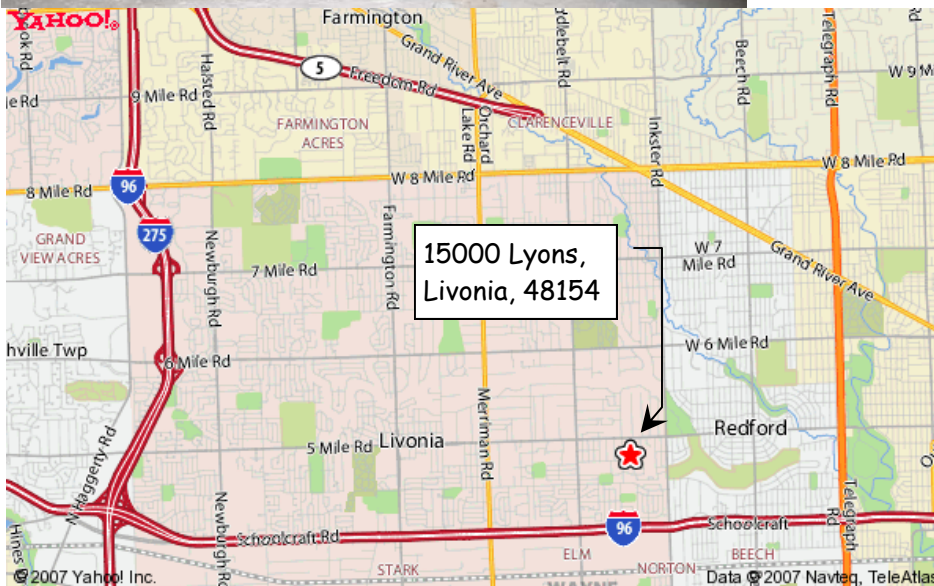
Besides holding welding class, I would like to inspect, clean and re-lube the rear axle for the first time in 58 years. There's about twenty other things that could be done if the weather is decent and we get enough people.



C'mon over for a beer, a free lunch, a few restoration tips, and an opportunity to feel good about your own overdue car project.

15000 Lyons, Livonia, MI 48154

734-425-5254



Exit I-96 at Middlebelt Rd. in Livonia and proceed North on Middlebelt one mile to Five Mile Rd. Turn right onto Five Mile and proceed East one half mile to Lyons St. (1 block west of traffic signal at Harrison). Turn right on Lyons and proceed South about 10 houses to 15000 Lyons on the East side of the street.

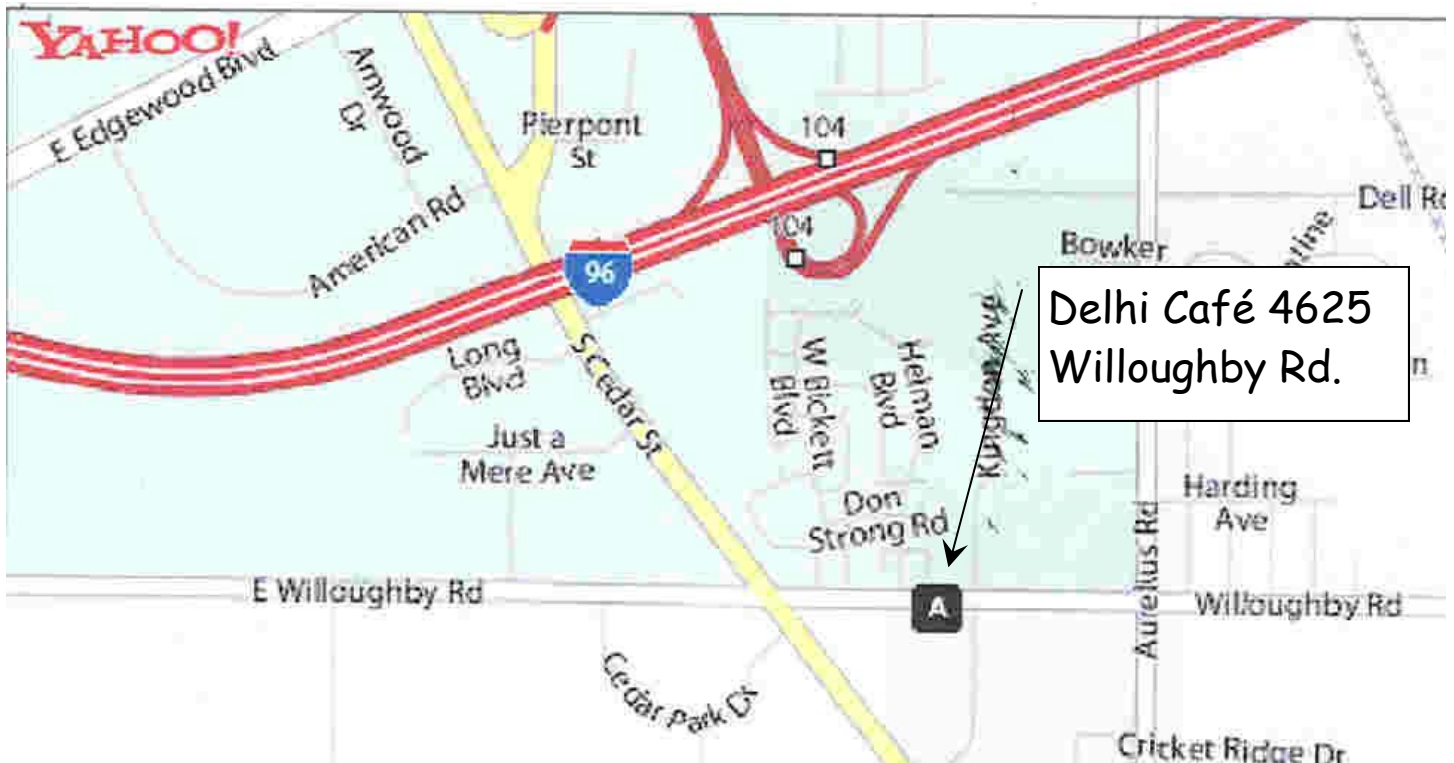
Cecil Kimber's 120th Birthday Party

Saturday April 19, 2007

12:00 Noon

Delhi Café, 4625 Willoughby Road, Holt, MI (517) 694-8655

Get that MG out of the garage and join the Rowdies, the Speckled Hens, the Lansing Area MG Club, the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, and the British Motoring Club in the first get-together of the year. Arrive at noon to have lunch and socialize with a wide variety of British Car enthusiasts at this annual warm-up to our driving season. We all order from the menu and pay for our own, and then hang out in the parking lot for a while afterward to kick the tires. The Windsor - Detroit MG club brings the Birthday Cake, but you have to come and get it.



If you are coming from the East, you may want to rally with the Windsor-Detroit MG Club for the Kimber Run.

The departure time is **10:00 a.m. sharp** from the Meijer parking lot at **8 Mile and Haggerty Rd.**, in Novi, MI. It is a well planned route on scenic two lane roads and will take about two hours. *Get there early, they leave on time!*

ROWDIE DAY IN THE GARAGE

May 17, 2008, Saturday 10:30 AM and until the last car leaves.

A Day in the garage for your MGA.

Focus will be on Power Bleeding your brake and clutch system.

DOT 3 & 4 will be provided. Bring your own Silicon to ensure compatibility. Gordy has a MG compatible power bleeder, so this should be as easy as possible.

Remember to put a high quality penetrant on your nipples as soon as possible. Give them at least one more shot before the event. Remember that British nipples are very small and can be damaged when we apply Big American torque. If you do not know where your nipples are located, please look in your Rowdie Tech Manual under Body Parts.

Other tasks, such as new points, SU tuning etc will be considered. Please bring whatever parts you want to install.

Where:

Rowdie Racing Garage
2401 Pine Tree Rd
Holt MI 48842

RSVP/Questions:

Dave Smith
517-694-4856

mgarace@sbcglobal.net



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Farmington Hills, MI 48334-2815

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national, Includes shipping

A gang of Rowdie guys (past & present) pose at the University Motors Annual Birthday Party and fundraiser for Myasthenia Gravis. From left to right, ex-member #1, Dave Smith, Todd Binsz, Lloyd Herring, Mark Barnhart, Dave Quinn, Doug Kniff, ex member #2, Rich Pollion. (Sorry guys, you should have kept up your dues, I could have picked your name out of the the membership roster.)

