



# A-Antics



Rowdies Christmas Party Photos

*Business Meeting, March 10*

Bosal Tech Day, January 20

University Motors Birthday Party Jan. 20

## Michigan Chapter of North American MGA Register

ROWDIES SITE [www.mgcars.org.uk/michiganrowdies](http://www.mgcars.org.uk/michiganrowdies)  
MG WEB SITE [www.mgcars.org.uk](http://www.mgcars.org.uk)  
NAMGAR WEB SITE [www.namgar.com](http://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 \$18 annually  
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 Kroy*  
1997-1998 *Neil Griffin*  
1999-2002 *Bruce Nichols*  
2003-2004 *Bob Sutton*  
2005-2006 *Gordie Bird*



## Rowdies Calendar of Up Coming Events



### January 20, 2007

University Motors Birthday Party, Ada MI  
John Twist hosts

### January 20, 2007

BosalTech Day, Warren MI  
Bosal Exhaust Engineering & Phil Wiltshire host  
[pwiltshire@comcast.net](mailto:pwiltshire@comcast.net)

### March 10, 2007 (Note: Date changed!)

Rowdie Business Meeting: Rockford, MI  
Mac & Joni McDonnell host

### March 14-17, 2007

Sebring SVRA Races/MGA Reunion  
Rowdie Racing will be there!  
[www.svra.com](http://www.svra.com)

### July 7, 2007

British Car Rally: Kalamazoo, MI  
[twlane@net-link.net](mailto:twlane@net-link.net) or [www.maddogsandenglishmen.org](http://www.maddogsandenglishmen.org)

### July 8, 2007

Mad Dogs & Englishmen XVII British Car Show  
Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI  
[maddogsandenglishmen.org](http://maddogsandenglishmen.org)

### July 23-27, 2007

NAMGAR GT-32: Whistler, BC, Canada  
[gt32@shaw.ca](mailto:gt32@shaw.ca)

Cover Photo: Philip & Jan Wiltshire graciously host the Rowdies Christmas party at their beautiful home near Milford.

Dave Goeddeke photo

Deadline for submitting material for the next issue is: February 28

# Letters & e-mails

November 1, 2006

Holt, MI

Here is the draft schedule for Sebring 2007. Rowdie Racing is committed to be in this event. It is the 50th Anniversary of the first MGA to run at this track. The chance to be in the same paddock with the best racers in the world is not too shabby either. Makes us Walter Mitty types feel like one of the big boys. The MG Vintage racers will have a very respectable turnout of MGA and MGB, hopefully the T types will also attend, but that 4,000 foot straightaway is a challenge.

I am still quite giddy about being the recipient of the Collier Cup. This award for a vintage racer is the pinnacle of an amateur racing career.

Mark Barnhart let me know that Rowdie Racing has the first two hits on Google.

If you would like to know more about vintage racing, it is a cool site. (<http://www.svra.com/>)

More to come

Dave & Chari Smith

November 14, 2006

Jackson, MI

The past two issues of the Columbia Gorge MGA Club's newsletter (Oct.'06 & Nov.'06) have featured a lengthy report by Keith Ansell, owner of Foreign Parts Positively, [www.foreignpartspositively.com](http://www.foreignpartspositively.com). Keith has done intensive research on the above subject following a 900 mile camshaft failure. He has been in contact with camshaft suppliers like Crane, oil mfg's like Castrol & Redline, car mfg's like GM, and numerous engine rebuilder trade people like Comp Cam, EPWI, Clevite, DeltaCam, etc. All of them agree that the new oils are killing our old cars!

What's happened to new modern API approved oils? A reduction of zinc dithiophosphate (ZDDP) in an effort to minimize damage to catalytic converters on new cars.

What happens if used in older flat tappet engines? Early destruction of cams and followers.

His report is very long and I am sure you will hear more on this in the months to come. I will sum up his latest conclusions: Castrol 20W-50 GTX is best for older broken-in engines. Castrol HD 30 is best for a break in oil in a new engine for the first 3,000 miles.

Redline 10W-40 or 10W-30 Synthetic is best for new engines after break-in and fairly low mileage engines. I recommend we spread the word and pass this note to the Rowdies mailing list.

Dave Quinn

November 14, 2006

Three Rivers, MI

I have been looking at all the oil company web sites the last two months including their contact people looking for the info on the subject of additives for wear etc. As soon as I get time I'll put it together for an article in our newsletter. In the meantime I have found that those oils that have the highest % of ZDDP (a zinc additive) also have the highest ash content, can you say valve wear and valve regression. If we go with the high ZDDP to keep cam and lifter wear down we increase our valve wear. The oils with the highest ZDDP are Castrol 15-40 and Shell Rottella 15-40. These also have a reasonable ash content of .1% and 1.2% respectively. This is not far above Castrol 20-50 (.075% ZDDP and 0.85% ash). There are additives that contain ZDDP, STP and A Kmart product. Perhaps a higher ZDDP and doing a valve job is cheaper than replacing the cam and lifters. Of course, as a nutty chemist I find doing this fun.

Bruce Nichols

*Ed. Note: Thanks guys. Also, Rowdies please see Bruce's article in this issue, and feel free to add your salient comments on this topic.*



December 15, 2006

Holt, MI

I am in need of a crack free 1800 three main crankshaft. My last two units flunked the crack test, and I need to freshen my 1622 for Sebring 2007. The nose must not have metal transfer or scratches. The center thrust surface equally clean. The main journals fairly irrelevant and the rod journals capable of cleaning up at .010 under.

Call me with your possibles. 517-694-4856

Dave Smith

Rowdie Racing



## Chairman's Chatter

by Gordie  
Bird

Happy New  
Year! With

2006 in the record books we're looking forward to 2007 and the events that are now in the planning stages.

Looking back for a moment, '06 was one for the books. Rowdies hosted and/or participated in local driving events in parking lots and back-yards alike, road trips to Torch Lake, Toronto, Tennessee, Key West, and more; country drives with tea, and all sorts of MGA disassembly and assembly. We've crewed, raced, or cheered for our favorite Rowdie Racing team, and socialized at birthday and holiday parties. Yes, it was a good year, but, now's the time to be thinking of what we can do to make 2007 even better. It won't be long until March is here and we're thinking of the driving season and the Rowdies Business Meeting on March 10; hosted by Mac & Joni McDonnell in Rockford. Please plan on attending. Not only do we have several new agenda items to discuss (how would you like your car featured on a calendar?), but it is an election year as well. Election is held for the positions of Chairman, Events Chairman, and Treasurer or you may want to help out in one of the other non-elected positions. But we need members too, so please plan on attending the business meeting and some of the many events we'll have during the year. Due to the Sebring Reunion, we'll excuse Rowdie Racing from the business meeting. Hopefully we'll be able to get a full report on the event. Yes, 2006 was a good year and 2007 will be even better.

*Safety Fast*

Gordie

## Treasurer's Report 2006 Profit & Loss Statement

	Jan - Dec 06	Jan - Dec 05
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Advertising	0.00	20.00
Auction	659.50	498.00
GT 30 Income	0.00	2,713.06
Membership Dues	1,060.17	1,244.00
Regalia Sales	0.00	1,316.00
Tech Manual - A-Antics	303.00	81.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,022.67</b>	<b>5,872.56</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
<b>A-Antics Newsletter</b>		
Misc	75.53	37.62
Postage	282.35	375.85
Printing	622.22	540.60
<b>Total A-Antics Newsletter</b>	<b>980.10</b>	<b>954.07</b>
Bank Charge	0.00	0.00
Meeting Expense	379.69	0.00
Membership Directory Printing	0.00	129.32
Membership Supplies	0.00	44.31
Miscellaneous	13.70	0.00
Office Supplies	0.00	33.01
Postage and Delivery	369.71	0.00
Regalia	45.30	1,143.74
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,788.50</b>	<b>2,304.45</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>234.17</b>	<b>3,568.11</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>234.17</b>	<b>3,568.11</b>

## 2006 Summary Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 06
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/ Savings	7,192.82
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>7,192.82</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>7,192.82</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	7,192.82
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>7,192.82</b>

# Rowdies Business Meeting

March 10, 2007 at 1 p.m.

At Mac & Joni McDonnell's

275 South Main St. Rockford, MI

**Bring a dish to share and your own beverages.**

**From East** take I-96 to exit 38. Go North about 10 miles to 10 Mile Rd. The road changes name but just continue North. At 10 Mile Rd., go West (Michigan left turn) through two lights to Main Street. Head South (right) for three blocks and the street ends at Mac's house.

**From North or West**, take US-131 to 10 Mile Rd., go East for three miles to Main Street and again, head South (right) for three blocks and the street still ends at Mac's house.

Please call Mac or Joni McDonnell at 616-866-8847 for more details.

## Rowdie Ramblings

*By Steve Holliday*

Well, here I sit on New Year's Day, slightly ragged around the edges from bidding farewell to 2006 and welcoming 2007. I don't think I'll much miss 2006. Good road trip to Gatlinburg, but I prefer the GT's with NAMGAR. The nationals are just too big to get a handle on. As is custom, I tend to look forward to the new year with some enthusiasm and optimism. As I get older, I'm a little more leery and less optimistic than I used to be, but you've got to look forward to something. I have a number of jobs to do on the cars in the next few months and I'm envious of Ken's (Nelson) new hoist. I wish I had put the heater in the garage that we talked about, but I didn't.

Enough rambling. What I want to have everyone do is think about events that you can host for the club this year. With the national too far away for anyone that still has a job to drive to, we'll all be around this summer. John Twist is doing his Summer Party this year. We're on our own for other parties and entertainment. Driving events are always welcome. Let's try and come up with some new ideas and different things to do. A good road rally would be entertaining. At any rate, toss the idea around for any new events or hosting any running events (the Summer Party, Christmas Party, etc)

Enough begging. I hope everyone has a healthy, prosperous and well-driven year. Make sure to attend the Business Meeting or you could be the new chairman. See everyone there. **Happy New Year!**



# Rowdies Christmas Party



1. Joni McDonnell returns with her gift while Rob Cote' keeps an eye on the Christmas tree.
2. Steve Holliday, Brian Beery, Bruce Nichols, Pat Schwartz, and Gordie Bird enjoy the entertainment as someone selects an opened gift from the previous recipient.
3. Curt Smith selects a vintage car poster, one of the most frequently selected items, while host Philip Wiltshire stands ready to help.
4. Diana & Dick Grucz relax after dinner and desserts prepared by Jan Wiltshire all the Rowdies in attendance .
5. Mac McDonnell, Rob Cote', Cathy Holliday, and Joni McDonnell share a laugh after one of the many unsolicited comments from the peanut gallery.







1. Thelma Griffin Donna Quinn and Stephanie Smith enjoy a few stories with Jon Burchwell and Curt Smith in the foreground.  
 2. Ken Nelson smiles as wife Kathy gets a bag of nuts after having her wine re-gifted.  
 3. Dave Quinn and Neil Griffen wait their turn to pick a gift from under the Christmas tree while Kathy Nelson explains to Neil the proper method for stepping off of a ladder.



4. Donna Quinn is probably thinking that the Rowdies haven't seen the last of this "Sachmo" singing statuette.  
 5. Denise Cote' encourages her son Ryan to pick a good number for the gift exchange as Tracey Bird and Phyllis Goeddeke observe the fun.



# Viscosity

*By Bruce Nichols*

The subject of automobile oil has been a subject of debate for as long as cars have been on the road. Brands of oil and their merits are the subject of many conversations as everyone has their favorite and it is better than yours. A few months ago there were several e-mails going around that had articles about oil and the technical specifications of a number of brands. After reading these I was concerned that some of the information was outdated or perhaps not correct and I decided to do my own research into the technical specifications of some of the more popular brands.



Bruce Nichols extols the benefits of zinc dialkyl dithiophosphate to Bill Weakley and Mike Goeddeke.

The following is not intended to promote any brand or make recommendation for a brand but only as a source of information. NAMGAR the Michigan Chapter or myself are not responsible for any erroneous information supplied by the references used.

I checked with most of the major oil companies and requested their product data sheets. These sheets show about a dozen tests that they use to monitor their products. They add pour point depressants, anti-foam additives, oxidation inhibitors, corrosion and rust inhibitors, anti wear and anti-scurf additives, detergent and dispersant additives, viscosity index improvers and friction modifiers. Although they all are

important it is beyond the scope of this article to cover all of them, however there are a few that as owners of older cars we should be concerned about.

Viscosity is a measurement of an oil's ability to flow and is measured at 40 degrees Celsius and 100 degrees Celsius. If viscosity is too high, oil won't flow well and may not lubricate all surfaces. If too low, the oil film may shear and cause metal wear.

So let's look at viscosity index (VI). This is a relation between the viscosity at 40 and 100 degrees. A low number indicates a large change in viscosity and a high number indicates a small change in viscosity. Multi-viscosity oils have polymers added that prevent thinning of the

oil as the temperature increases. The polymers are coiled (short) at low temps allowing the oil to flow but uncoil into long chains at higher temps. preventing the oil from thinning. We should be looking for a VI for a multi-vis oil that is 135 to 150 which is about the average published in the data sheets from the oil companies. Another test we should be concerned about is the percent sulfated ash. Sulfated ash is the amount of solids after the oil burns. Ash tends to form sludge and cause valve wear.

The additive zinc dialkyl dithiophosphate (ZDDP) reacts with the iron in the cam and lifters creating a coating that separates the metal surfaces helping to

Cont. on page 9



Viscosity, cont.

reduce wear.

The above four tests are the tests we should take into consideration when choosing a brand of oil. A high ZDDP content is desirable but as the Zinc goes up so does the ash content and valve wear. ZDDP has been reduced from past years as it has a deleterious effect on catalytic converters. Newer cars (after 1984) have roller lifters and the amount of ZDDP is not as critical as it is for our cars, hence cam and lifter wear in older cars as ZDDP is reduced.

Where does that leave us? We could harden our cams and lifters, fit the engine with roller lifters which would require machining of the block and a search for correct push rods, or pick oils with a high ZDDP content and watch for valve wear. As we don't drive our MGAs as much as our Detroit tanks, the latter is probably the route most will take. Most oils for diesel engines or racing oils contain the highest amounts of ZDDP but with diesel engines requiring catalytic converters in 2007 these oils may be reformulated. Then what? Additives?

In the next issue (part II of this article) I will have the data sheets from many of the oils we use and the scoop on additives.

*Ed. Note Alright Rowdies, study up. There will be a test. Also, your official opinions and comments are welcome, so please send them to us. The November/December 2006 issue of MGA! I included an alarming article by Keith Ansell (Oil is Killing Our Cars) and a measured response from Mike Ash, the MGA! Technical Editor. Another relevant article titled "The Evolution of Motor Oil" is available at [www.newenglandclassics.org](http://www.newenglandclassics.org)*

## Members Page

Rowdies Website

Steve Mazurek, Webmaster

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

Mac McDonnells Database Report

2 new members since January 1, 2006.

77 Active and paid-up members.

74 % NAMGAR members.

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.*



# MICHIGAN CHAPTER NAMGAR BYLAWS

## Article 1. Name and Purpose

Section A. Club Name: Officially we are "The Michigan Chapter of NAMGAR". However our more common name is "The Michigan Rowdies". This depicts our large turnouts at events and sometimes our general behavior.

Section B. Club Purpose: The preservation and enjoyment of our MGA'S. We strive to maintain a low key relaxed group for the whole family and everything should be done in the spirit of Fun.

## Article 2. Membership

Section A. Joining Requirements: The only requirement for Michigan Chapter membership is an interest in or love of preserving, restoring, driving, showing, or admiring the MGA and its variants. The chapter will also strongly encourage all chapter members to also join the NORTH AMERICAN MGA REGISTER.

Section B. Member Privileges: All membership privileges shall automatically cease if a members dues are unpaid. The board of the chapter may expel any member for conduct which threatens the purpose or goals of the club.

## Article 3. Dues

Section A. Chapter Dues: Annual dues of \$18.00 are due and payable on your individual anniversary date. All members including officers pay dues.

Section B. Lifetime Memberships (No Dues): Lifetime memberships have been given to NAMGAR's first chairman Mac Spears, Michigan's first chairman Bruce Nichols, and Michigan's second chairman Tom Latta. No additional lifetime memberships will be awarded.

## Article 4. Officers

Section A. Elective Officers: There are three elective offices; the chapter chairman, the meets chairman, and the treasurer. This group is the CHAPTER BOARD.

Section B. Volunteer officers: The volunteer offices are the "A-Antics" editor, regalia chairman, membership chairman, and the British Sports Car Council Representative.

## Article 5. Duties of the Officers

Section A. Chapter Chairman: The key is to maintain a spirit of fun. The Chairman may lead, follow, or get out of the way, usually there is a time and place for each. The Chairman oversees club activities as deemed necessary. A column, "Chairman's Chatter" will be submitted to the A-Antics editor for each issue.

- Section B. Meets Chairman: Gets specific meet details “nailed down” and sent to the A-Antics editor in sufficient time for a detailed flyer to be included in the issue prior to the meet. The Meets Chairman serves as the Chapter Chairman in his absence.
- Section C. Treasurer: The Treasurer is the only member authorized to collect chapter dues. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping an accurate and up to date record of club finances. A treasury report will be made at each annual business meeting. A club checking account will be maintained. The Chairman must be notified in advance of any anticipated or intended liability of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or more. The only exception to this rule is the cost of editing, printing, and postage for the A-Antics. All records are subject to chapter audit as deemed appropriate.
- Section D. A-Antics Editor: Members should enjoy receiving specific meet details with enough lead time to allow planning, tech tips to aid in restorations and maintenance, and stories and articles concerning the enjoyment of our club and cars. An assistant editor may be recruited to help as the editor deems necessary. All printing, Collating stapling, and postage costs will be paid by the treasurer through an advance. The chapter bylaws and a membership list will be published annually.
- Section E. Regalia Chairman: The Regalia Chairman is responsible for overseeing all regalia sales. Club regalia may be ordered after consultation with the chapter board. Regalia sales records will be kept and a report made at each annual business meeting.
- Section F. Membership Chairman: The Membership Chairman, through consultation with the Treasurer, insures that the membership list is up to date at all times. The Membership Chairman will provide the A-Antics editor with the specifics on new members. The Membership Chairman sends all new members a welcome letter and membership packet.

#### Article 6. Chapter News Letter

- Section A. The name of the chapter news letter will be “A-Antics”. A-Antics will be produced every other month in the odd numbered months. Advertising (for sale or wanted) is free to members. Commercial advertising, no matter if a member or someone outside the club will be at prevailing rates published in A-Antics. The editor maintains final editorial rights on all material submitted.

#### Article 7. Bylaws

- Section A. The bylaws may be amended or changed only by the Chapter Board by unanimous vote, with all three Chapter Board members in attendance.



# Michigan Chapter NAMGAR Ballot

**Elected Offices:** *Incumbent*  
Chairperson *Gordie Bird*

**Nominees:**  
Gordie Bird

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Treasurer *Jeff Zorn*

Jeff Zorn

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Meets Chairperson *Steve Holliday*

Steve Holliday

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## **Volunteer Officers:**

Newsletter Editor *Dave Goeddeke*

Dave Goeddeke

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Membership Chairperson *Bruce Nichols*

Bruce Nichols

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Regalia Chairperson *Brian Beery*

Brian Beery

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## **Discussion Topics:**

2007 Events and Hosts

Rowdies Cars photo calendars

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