



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

President: Cathy Dowrick
423-1873

Secretary: Jennifer Ash
424-1660

7-31-76

JULY NEWSLETTER

Howdy Folks!!

This newsletter is a week late - because the August meeting is also going to be a week late - due to the fact that the mother of our host, Mrs. Moseley, is on vacation this week; and since nobody will go to a meeting at Roosevelt's house unless they can have some of his mother's reknowned potato salad, he asked us to postpone the meeting for a week. It will be held NEXT WEDNESDAY, August 11th at 7.30 p.m. (details on last page of letter)

The July meeting was held at the home of Robert Davis; 26 members were there in 11 T's - a very good turn-out. We were pleased to welcome a new member, Jim Hatcher, who has a 47 TC.

The matters that came under discussion were:

- In order to hold club events, such as the Funkhana, on city property (such as the parking lot at Miller's), the club would have to purchase large amounts of insurance, premium for which would run about \$50 for a one-day shot. This was considered out of the question. We also brought up the question - should the club affiliate with the Tidewater Sports Car Club in order to benefit from their insurance? The general concensus of opinion on this was a resounding NO.
- We were left with the problem - where to hold the funkhana? Robert's parents, Dr. & Mrs. Cocke, generously offered us the use of their huge back yard which had ample space for all events. (A report on this follows later)
- We asked for signs of interest in the October Rally/Tour of Virginia's Historyland Trail (Rt. 13 from Fredericksburg to Tappahannock, and points either side). This will be a weekend event and will not be difficult; it will also allow plenty of time for touring in any of the places we pass through, if you so desire. We must have some rough idea of interest in order to make overnight reservations in time. So far we have 7 cars showing interest; if anyone not present at the July meeting would be interested, please call me at 424-1660, after 1:00 p.m. any day.
- We asked for suggestions for the site of the projected Mini-GoF to be held in conjunction with the Chesapeake Chapter of the T-Register. So far we have The Tides Inn (Rappahannock area), Mountain Lake (Blacksburg) and Westmorland State Park.
- We finalized the arrangements for manning the checkpoints for the Bicentennial Rally of the Colonial capitals. Dave Parsons to help Mike and me in Roanoke Rapids, N.C; Jim Banvard and Robert Davis to man the checkpoint at William & Mary College, and as many members as possible to be at the Ramada Inn, Newport News to help time the tyre-changing contest at the 2nd-night stopover. Jim Banvard would help Mike and me clock the rally-runners out on the 3rd leg of the rally. (Rally report later on)

That was all the business and the meeting adjourned. After the business meeting, we were treated to a slide show by Mr. Ira Brown, a friend of Dave Barrows. Ira used to own a TC, which he bought new - then sold a few years ago. He took his TC to many U.S. and European race meets, and these meets were the essence of the slide show - old racing cars. The cars were all shapes, sizes and ages - one was the Healey that Dave Barrows now owns; they sure don't build cars like those anymore. Everyone there agreed that it was a very interesting show and commentary that Ira gave us. We extend a big thank you to him for joining us that evening and we all thank Dave for introducing him to us all.

I am enclosing an up-to-date roster of members as of July 31. If your name isn't there, we don't have your dues for 76/77 (This time, there's no goof-up on my part!) The August letter will be mailed to paid-up members only!!

This ends my ramblings, as I now have to write a little bit about our July activities, just to keep members up to date. I think I'm going to delegate some of these write-ups on local activities, in the future; if one person would write a couple of paragraphs about what went on it would help me out tremendously, so... Suzy, Camille, Brenda maybe I could call upon you at some time to write about an event you attend? (Or if anyone else would volunteer, I'll gladly accept - so will Suzy, Camille and Brenda !!!).

So long - see you on Wednesday 11th (see map).

JENNIFER

NEWS FROM OUT OF TOWN:

There is a sea-sick, love-sick sailor writing to us, from Naples this time. The gist of his letter is that he is spending the time eating pizza, drinking beer and pretending to understand the natives! He sent us a cartoon with a TC in it, but it was too obscene to put (even) in our newsletter!! He also send a clipping from the National Geographic of the poor TD that has been turned into a salad bar in Houston, Texas - you've all seen it, haven't you? (I'll have it at the next meeting) Anyway, our crazy salor says he'll "... lead the lynching mob of Tidewater T members as soon as I get back in October. Grease your old wheel-chairs and fall in behind that green MGA for a raid on the whole state of Texas!!"

Of course, Mike West is the sailor, and we look forward to his return in October (Maybe the Activities Committee would like to make that October event a rally/tour to Texas instead!).

SAD NEWS:

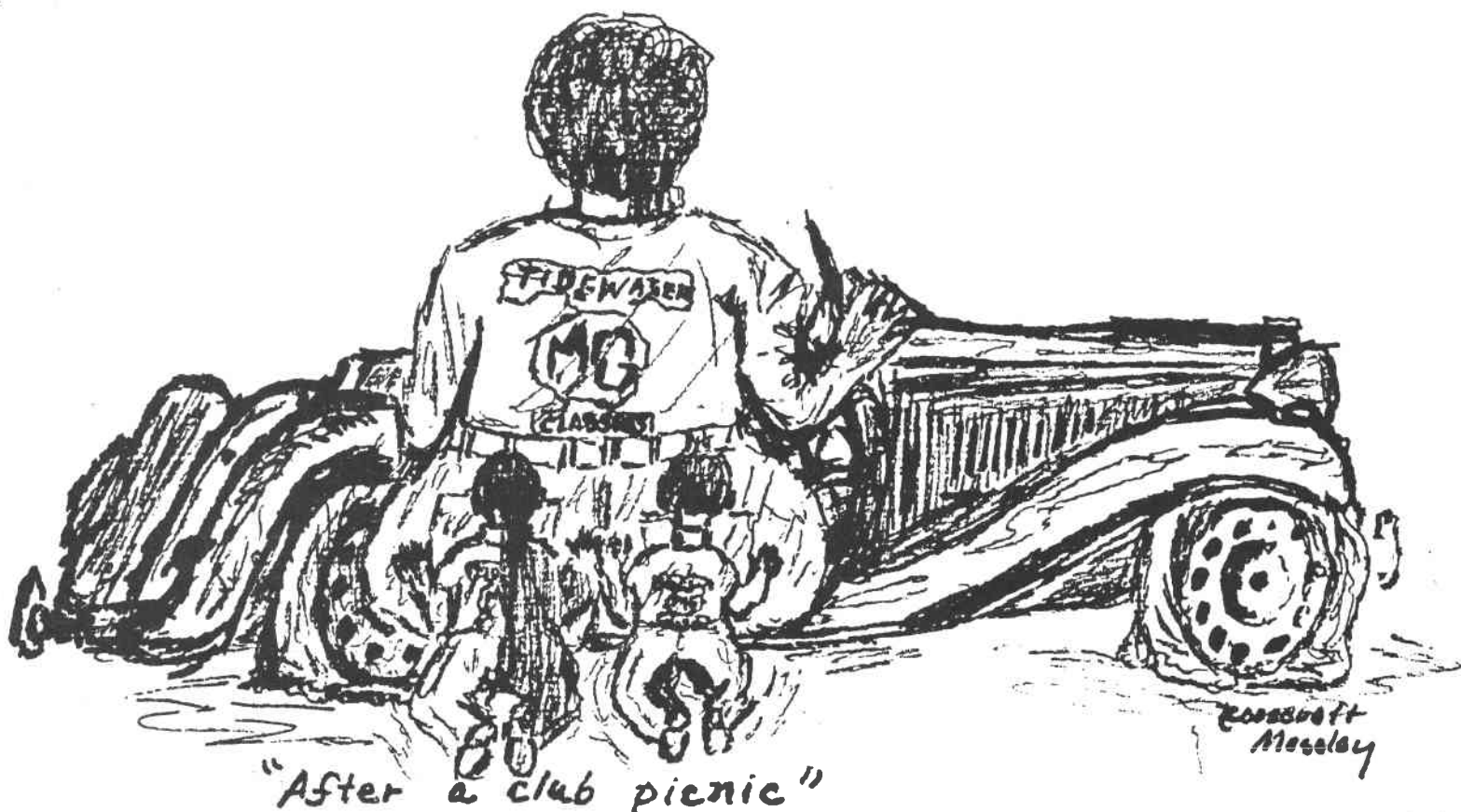
Many of you who have stopped by Dave Barrows' garage from time to time will no doubt have met his father, Rufus Barrows. We are sorry to report that "Poppa" Barrows passed away a few weeks ago, at the grand age of 98. The club gave Dave and Helen a gardenia bush in memory of Mr. Barrows. Dave and Helen wish to express their gratitude for this thought, and want us to know the gardenia is Dave's favorite of all flowers and will bring memories of his father and all their friends in this club with each bloom.

JULY TECH. SESSION:

This was held in Mike Ash's garage and was pretty well attended; 7 cars and 11 members showed up - in spite of the heavy rain, early on in the day. A lot of odd jobs were done

on the cars and Ken Bartlett brought along his TD transmission for assistance on a re-build.

CARTOON CORNER



FIRST ANNUAL FUNKHANA:

This was held at the home of Robert Davis' parents, as mentioned previously, and before I go any further, I'd better say - We didn't really mean to plow up the grass; we'll bring seeds to plant next time (if there IS a next time!) Seriously, though, we do hope the lawn is back to normal shape, and we did appreciate Dr. & Mrs. Cocke's letting us use their home.

Robert and Dave Barrows put a lot of effort into making the afternoon a success. The events were varied - some recommended for adults, and other that the children could join in - which they did with great enthusiasm. The adult-only event was where the driver was blindfolded and was led to various spots by navigator's directions (No, Anne, hand signals won't get him there!!).

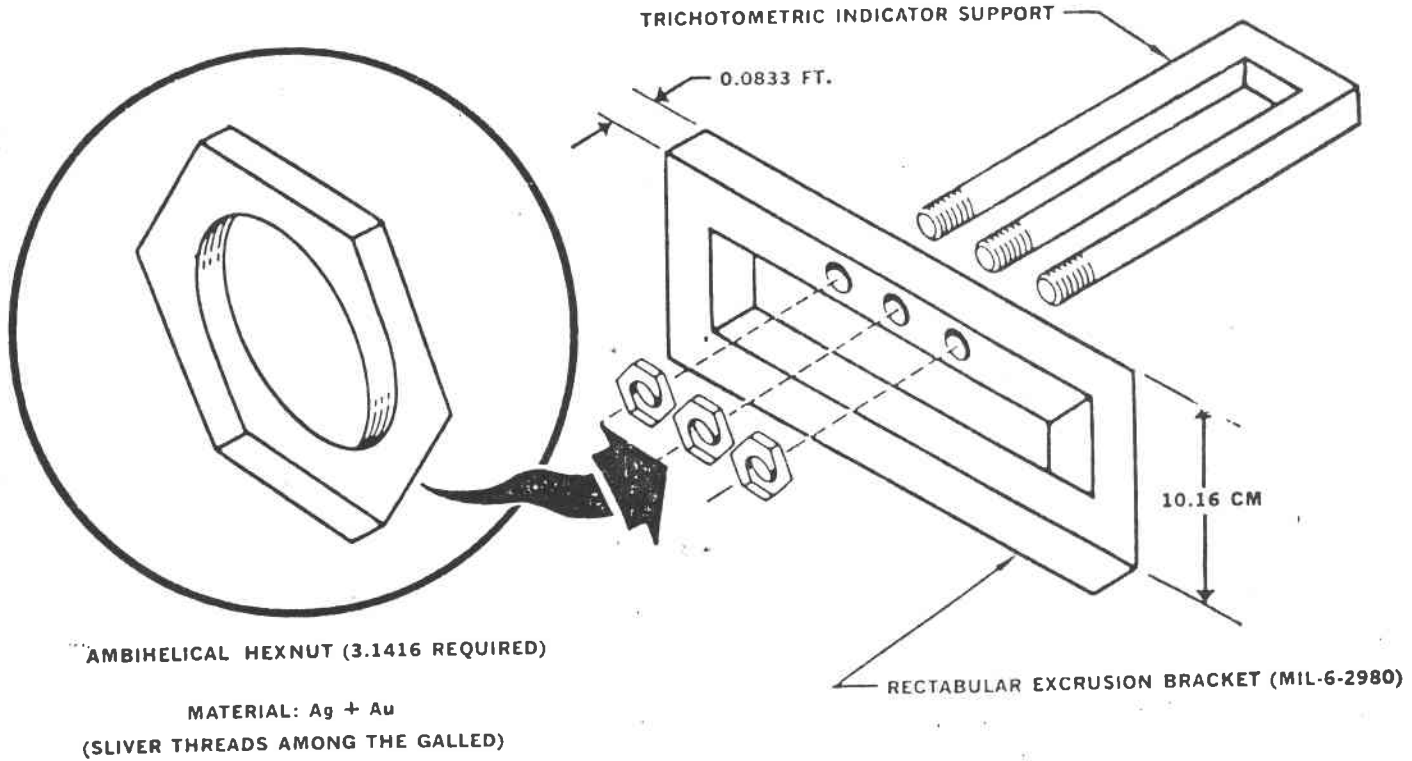
This activity was probably the best-attended one we have ever had; there were 12 T's, 1 Y-type, 1 Morgan and 1 Sprite. There were three guests along - Mr. & Mrs. Cook, Gary's parents, and the owner of the Sprite, Robert Hall. We were so glad they all joined us; we must have done something right because Robert Hall has joined the club!

The Funkhana events were scored on a point system, and then the day's scores were totalled for each participant to find the 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize-winners, who were:

Dan & Suzy Boswell	FIRST	Tune-Up Kit
Roy Wiley	SECOND	Spark Plugs
Gary Cook	THIRD	Brake-Master Cylinder Kit

Again, many thanks to the organizers and hosts.

The following is some information that Abingdon Spares put out at the last GOF at Buck Hill, and we thought you would like to know about it.



Inquiries concerning the mounting of the Trichotometric Indicator Support indicate that some difficulty is being experienced with the brackets which attach the support.

As an aid toward fabricating the support brackets, the accompanying illustration is provided to show the type of material as well as the dimensional data needed.

It will be noted that in attaching the bracket to the support, a special ambihelical hexnut is used. The application of this nut is unique in that any attempt to remove it in the conventional manner only tightens it. Because of this design, the nut must be fully screwed on before it can be screwed off.



BI-CENTENNIAL RALLY:

You all know by now that this was run by the T-Register and British Leyland, and that the course ran through each of the original capitals of the original 13 colonies. Not all over-night stops could be in a capital for various reasons - i.e. Halifax, N.C. doesn't possess a hotel, and Williamsburg didn't want to know about a block booking of 40 rooms for one night in the middle of July (not back in March they didn't) but now I think they could have used the business!! 37 MG's started out on the rally. Everything went according to plan, except that on the first night in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., 2 cars came limping in, and were begging for some spares. We called Dave Barrows, who chased the necessary parts, and arranged for Jim Banvard and Robert Davis to bring them down that night. The hurting cars were all prepared, engine dismantled in one case, ready to drop in the new part and re-assemble for the next day's ride. The parts arrived at 2 a.m. and by about 4 a.m. everything was together again. The car that had lost

a wheel and needed new brake shoes went on to take 2nd place at the finish!

The second day went according to plan, except that our Y-type ran a bearing just as we got into Chesapeake. (We went too fast for the poor old car) We were rescued by Chuck Botwright who came out and fetched us back home - we left the Y in a gas station - where we hopped into my TD and just got up to the hotel in Newport News with about 45 minutes to spare before the first car was due to clock in. As arranged, a contingent from the club arrived at the hotel ready to officiate at the tyre-change speed contest - Cathy Dowrick, Roy Wiley and Richard & Sandy Hall; then Jim Banvard, who joined us from his checkpoint at William & Mary in Williamsburg. With all that assistance, we whizzed through that contest.

Third day: Dick Knudson, Chairman of the T-Register, clocked out the rallyers and put odometer readings into their log books while Mike and I ran an odometer check 15 miles down the road, in order to obtain a correction factor to bring all mileages into the same ratio. We finally got them all out of our territory safely! Back at the hotel to clear up our signs and octagons, Dick Knudson asked Mike and me if we could possibly get up to Philadelphia to see the end of the rally and join them all at the awards banquet; he wanted some of the chapter workers to be able to participate at the end. So...we ended up driving up to Philadelphia for the weekend - an exciting end to a busy week. The millionth car from Abingdon was won by a TC from New York driven by Brad Wladis and navigator Chapman. Len Renkenberger (Chesapeake Chapter) and Tony Roth (Classic MG Club of Florida) - a team in a red, white & blue TD - came in second place.

It was a wonderful experience for both of us, and I'm sure the other club members who participated will want to join in more T-Register activities in the future. We had a letter from Dick Knudson this morning, thanking us all for the help we gave; also many, many times the teams running the rally asked us to pass on their thanks to the people who sent parts and the guys who drove them to the hotel, and to Chuck Botwright for the use of his facilities which he offered to the J-2 when it was in trouble in Newport News and needed a part making in the middle of the night! A hectic week - but I'd do it all again next week, if need be, wouldn't you?

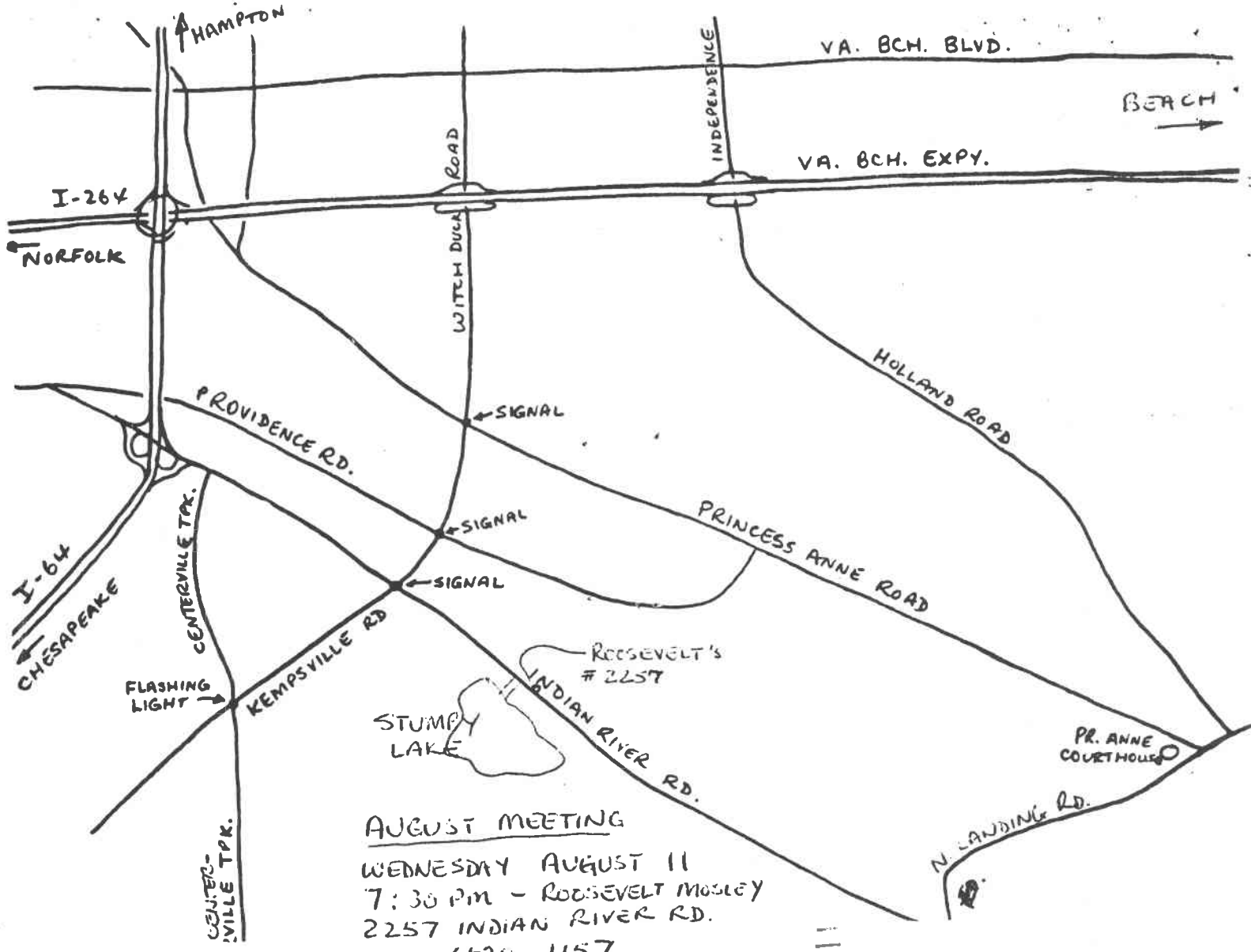
USEFUL INFORMATION:

We have come across a hobby-shop garage called Inde-Mech, situated on Princess Ann Rd. in Kempsville, next door to the Vet's office. This guy has all manner of tools and heavy equipment - hydraulic press, cleaning bath, engine lifter, etc. - just go over there and visit and take a look around sometime; you might be able to make use of his facilities - he charges 3.50 an hour for garage space, and he has carpeted space for the use of classic and antique car hobbyists. * A couple of doors south of the Fire House.

FUTURE EVENTS: (Please mark your calendars and keep interesting dates free!)

October 23-24 Rally/tour of Historyland Trail
 September 26 Dismal Swamp boatripe and picnic. If the water is still low in the lake, it will be a country-lane drive-out and picnic.
 August 29 Tech. Session at Mike Ash's - 10 a.m. to 5-ish. (Call 424-1660 for directions to his house.)
 August 15 Brunch at Fort Monroe Officers Club; tour of War Museum in Hampton; drive home via James River Bridge and country lanes. MEET 10.30 a.m. in parking lot of HOLIDAY INN, Ocean View Drive (Willoughby Spit). Members who live on the other side of the river - meet us in the Officer's Club parking lot between 11 and 11:15 a.m. (Remember, the Officer's Club were really hospitable to us the last time, and the food is really good; please try to come!)

NEXT MEETING: ROOSEVELT MOSELEY's, 2257 Indian River Rd. AUGUST 11th, 7.30. See map for directions



AUGUST MEETING
 WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11
 7:30 PM - ROOSEVELT MOSLEY
 2257 INDIAN RIVER RD.
 420-1157

TIDEWATER M. G. "T" CLASSICS
 5149 BELLAMY MANOR DRIVE
 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23462



DAVE & HELEN BARRAWS
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