



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

28 MAY 1978

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Secretary: Tom Lund (480-3090)
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JUNE NEWSLETTER

Hello T-lovers--

The Colonial Clutch was a whopping success and the publicity netted us eight new names and four more clubs to correspond with, which put us over 100 newsletters for the first time. It's dues time again which is just as well, since postal rates have gone up. And 'the faithful' have been immortalized in Car and Driver, all of which is further elaborated on in these pages.

THE MAY MEETING was held at the home of Roy and Marilyn Wiley. There were 26 participants including guests Perry and Jean Dilworth from Fishkill, N.Y. The Dilworths were down here for a golfing holiday, happened to see Dave and Helen Barrows' TD in front of their house, stopped by to find out who owned the TD and were invited to attend the meeting. Perry and Jean are some of the early T-Register members as owners of #217. Dan and I were especially glad to be able to renew our acquaintance with the Dilworths whom we ate dinner with one night at GOF MK XXV in Enfield last October.

Business transacted included the announcement by Treasurer Don Moore that only \$84 lies between us and financial ruin. But not to worry. We hope to clear a tidy sum from the Colonial Clutch and you all will have the opportunity to contribute to a worthy cause since it is dues time again.

Roy Wiley read a letter from the Vintage Touring Association in Salisbury, Rhodesia, requesting a car badge for its public collection. We've had several such requests in the past and at \$10 a throw, plus postage, it gets a mite expensive (and money is one thing we do not have in abundance). So Regalia Chairman Levi Tarr will write the Rhodesian organization, offering to sell them a badge for cost plus postage and if Rhodesia is still there when the letter arrives, they can contact us if they're interested. I believe this will be the policy concerning future requests for badges. Some clubs make you become a member, before selling you a badge. Levi also announced the availability of brass knock-off hammers for \$15 to club members (\$20 to non-members).

There was considerable discussion about the Colonial Clutch and then the meeting adjourned so we could stuff ourselves on Marilyn's goodies. The JUNE MEETING will be at DON and BARBARA MOORE'S on TUESDAY, JUNE 6, at 8:00.

DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE 11 (SUNDAY)--FUNKHANA and PICNIC--This will be held in Robert Davis' back yard, commencing at 1:00 pm. Richard Hall and Robert promise to have the grass mowed by then. Only they know what feats of derring-do we will be required to perform--remember last year's "musical cucumbers"? (Who could forget?) Bring lawn chairs since there's a nice shady area for drowsing, and also bring a picnic lunch so we can revive ourselves after the ordeal. For map to Robert's house, see next page.

JUNE 25 (SUNDAY)--TECH SESSION--I left this off last month's calendar

swim. Mike Ash wasn't so prepared, which led Don Moore to later honorably dub him our "wash-'n-wear" swimmer. Then followed the usual recounting of old GOF tales, led by Len and Ruth Kenkenberger, and Jim Hoskins (of the Tennessee group) till the wee hours. Sunday morning we all trooped over to the Cascades for a whopping breakfast before setting out for home.

THE WINNERS OF THE PEWTER:

TF: 1st Dan Boswell*
2nd Gary & Sue Woodyard*
3rd Ron Naida

TC: 1st Kelly Surface
2nd Don Bills
3rd Pete Ross

Honorable mention:
Everett Bowman
Ralph Cattaneo

VARIANT: 1st Vince & Pam Groover*
2nd Les & Sue Polgar

TD: 1st Dale Lindsay
2nd Dick & Sandy Suffredini
3rd Bob Handrock
4th Grady Cook
5th Bill Ludtke

VINTAGE: 1st Carl Fisher*
2nd Gil Coshland
Honorable mention:
Jim & Helen Lawson

Honorable mention:
Mac Spears
Carl, Peg, Mark, Mike
Karla VanBibber

PREMIER: 1st Hank Giffin*
2nd Ruth Renkenberger
3rd Bill Porter

DISTANCE AWARD:

1st Pete Ross (Canada 700+ miles)
2nd Bob & Lyn Thibou (Canada 700+ miles)

MODEL:

1st Mike & Lucy Hughes
2nd Grady Cook

RALLYE: 1st Tadd Spicer & Bob Handrock
2nd Jim & Brenda Banvard*
3rd Carroll & Trudy Davis*

SLIDES:

1st Gary Woodyard*
2nd Les & Sue Polgar

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOS:

1st Dick & Sandy Suffredini
2nd Hank Giffin*

COLOR PHOTOS:

1st Dick & Sandy Suffredini
2nd Don Bills

*Denotes Tidewater Chapter members

A PARTING NOTE FROM CO-CHAIRMAN JIM BANVARD:

I sincerely hope that all who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the Colonial Clutch (Hank affectionately refers to it as the Colonial Choke!). Those who did owe a vote of thanks to those selfless individuals who devoted their time and energies toward making the event a success. I will not attempt to reiterate the names of all the committee-members, but a special thanks goes to Helen Barrows who recorded the last minute requests for pink bedspreads and the like along with all of the legitimate registration requirements. This task took many, many hours and created not a few aggravations. She took it all in stride and came out smiling. Thanks, Helen! (Ed. note: Thanks also, Helen).

No GOF can be a success without the participants. I especially appreciate those who drove so far in their beautiful 'Ts', to attend our event. A special thanks to our Canadian attendees. We look forward to your company next year.

Hank Giffin and I have one message to those who follow us. We made a pact never to chair such an event unless we do it together. When preparing for a GOF, it is never too early to get started.

P.S.--There was one casualty, Gary and Sue Woodyard, out-of-town members from North Carolina, who blew a bearing on Sunday in Newport News. They contacted Gary Cole who called Mike and Jennifer Ash who trekked back over to Newport News with a tow bar so Gary could tow his TF to a friend's house

where he stored it until he got home and could come back for it. Thanks to the Good Samaritans who came to his aid.

Also, a pewter mug engraved with the inscription "3rd UNRESTORED, MK XXV" (the Enfield GOF) was lost sometime during the Colonial Clutch. If anyone found it, please return it to Jim Banvard or me or send it to Les & Sue Polgar, 8322 Blowing Rock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309. I know they'd appreciate the effort.

DUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUESDUES

It's that time again and not a moment too soon. You all have your application which I urge you to send on to Don Moore along with your contribution (or give it to him at a meeting). PLEASE, include names of both spouses and all T-Register numbers. Those not paying their dues by September 1 will not receive their September newsletter. So do it NOW!!

SUCH A DEAL FOR 10 GREENBACKS!!

SOMETHING ELSE TO DO--For those of you who like old airplanes as well as old cars, the Chesapeake Chapter is trying to interest us in attending the 11th Annual Fredericksburg Air Show at Shannon Field on Rt. 3, three miles southeast of Fredericksburg on June 17 and 18 starting about 11 am. to be followed in the evening by a banquet with band and dancing at the Sheraton Motor Inn. For a flat fee of \$50 per day, we can put as many T's as we want on the field. The fee will be divided among the participants, so the more cars that attend, the cheaper the fee will be per car. We must decided on either Saturday or Sunday. Dan and I and Tom Lund are considering going on Saturday and would like to get a caravan to go up. It's about a 3 hour drive. (P.S. Take a picnic lunch). If interested, call me before June 10. We will also discuss this at the meeting. This is limited to classic MGs.

DUES--NO PAYEE, NO NEWSY!! (SHE'S DESPERATE)

ODDS 'N ENDS: NEW MEMBERS--Welcome to John Walter, 2429 Herring Ditch Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23323 (487-9294). John's had his '53 TD for 8½ years and is pleased to finally have it on the road after a lengthy and extensive restoration. Some of you may have seen his bronze beauty (officially, fire mist bronze) at the Spring Rallye. John works for VEPCO, but is a nice guy in spite of it.

Welcome also to Herschel and Pam Smith, 5125 Earlstone Lane, Va Beach, VA 23462 (467-0135). Herschel's had his '52 TD four years. Two years ago he drove it from San Diego to Washington, D.C. to his home in Georgia in five days, without a top! That was in his young and foolish bachelor days as he and Pam have only been married four months. As an F-4 fighter pilot, Herschel will be busy hopping on and off carrier flight decks, but we hope that doesn't deter Pam from joining us whenever Herschel is gone.



NEW ARRIVALS--Doug and Connie Hand announce a new addition of the non-vehicular type, their first child, a girl, 8 lbs. 13 oz., born at 7:00 AM on May 29, still unnamed as I type this. Congratulations!

The Boswells wish to announce the arrival of boxes full of MG parts which when assembled are purported to resemble a 1953 TD. Wish us luck!

This is not an MG, but it's so unique that I thought I'd mention it. Carroll and Trudy Davis from Richmond came to the Colonial Clutch in their recently acquired 1964 Austin FX-4 Diesel, which for the uninitiated is an old London taxi cab. It seats seven and is monstrous, almost as classy as an old Rolls or Bentley.

SUCH A DEAL--FOR SALE: TD-TF muffler and tail pipe. Used but solid.
\$15. Call Dan Boswell. 486-1293.

Jim Banvard has offered to write an occasional technical article but he'd like to know what subjects you members are interested in, so think about it and give us your ideas at the meeting.

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB--PAY YOUR DUES!!

BOSWELL'S FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS--Among the extraneous publications acquired with our new TD was a copy of an article dated Nov. 15, 1973 in THE BEACON, from which I take the following: "I'm going to take it apart this winter, rebuild the whole car, take off the chassis," says the red-headed Britisher" in reference to his "red '55 TF 1500, with the right-hand drive." Sometimes your words return to haunt you. (Ed. note: Sorry, Mike Ash, I couldn't resist the temptation.)

DUES--ONLY 10 LITTLE SMACKEROOS!!

A while back the suggestion was made that I run an occasional recipe from one of the members, preferably something already sampled at the Annual Wicker Basket Affair or at a meeting (such as Louann's fudge which we devoured at Ted Hughes' house). It would save me a lot of time and effort if you ladies would send me those recipes you've served us in the past (such as Elsie Tarr's Shrimp Macaroni Salad, Peggy Pellerin's Quiche Lorraine, or Carol Wallach's Lemon Cake--to name a few I remember). So how about it, ladies. There's only one thing in this club we do more than talk and that's eat!

FUDGE from the kitchen of LOUANN MERTON:

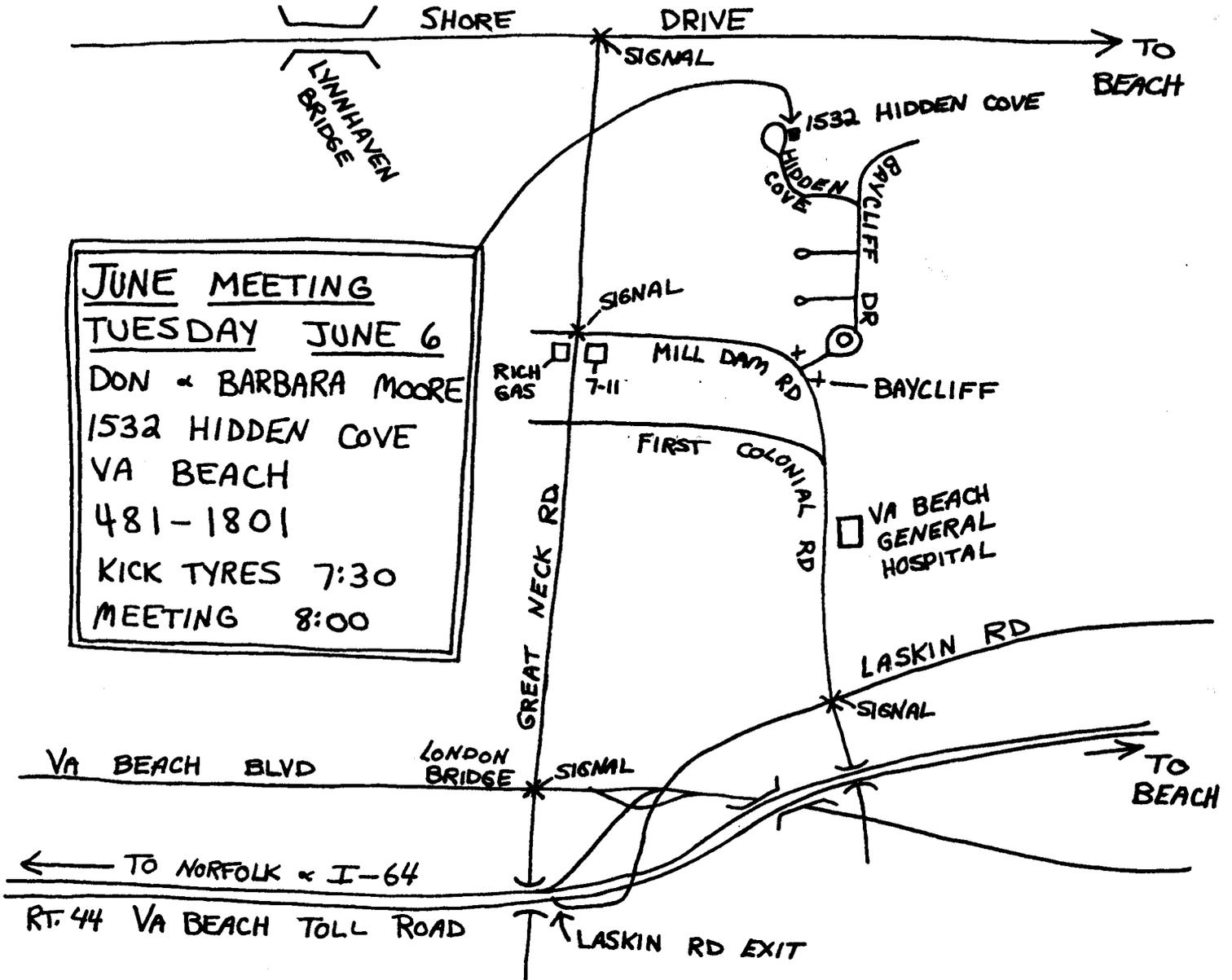
In a large saucepan, mix together 3 c. sugar, 2/3 c. cocoa and 1/2 tsp salt. Add 1 1/2 c. canned milk and 3 tbl light Karo syrup. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil, lower heat and continue stirring until small amount of fudge dropped in cold water forms a ball (235°F on candy thermometer). Remove from heat. Add 1/4 c. margarine and 1 tsp vanilla. Let stand 20 minutes, then beat until it thickens. Add nuts if desired. Pour into greased 8" square pan.

DUES--A BARGAIN AT TWICE THE PRICE!!

AND FINALLY--One of the major topics of conversation at the Colonial Clutch was Leon Mandel's article in the June issue of Car and Driver which attempts to describe and/or compare 'T' owners and Mini-Cooper owners. The prevailing opinion of the article was that it was insulting and one comment was, "I'd cancel my subscription to Car and Driver, if I had one." So I bought the magazine and read the article, quite prepared to be insulted and outraged. But to the contrary, I found the article pleasantly complimentary. After all, what's wrong with being described as "America talking, and the best of it at that." I do think, though that Mr. Mandel tends to romanticize and idealize us and yes, make us sound stuffy. If he could see the way SOME of us (no names, please) squeal our tires around funkhana pylons and careen around corners and bounce over dirt roads at rallyes, he might reconsider his assessment of us as "solid, respectable and serene" and withdraw his "innocence revisited" epithet. His description of the Mini-Coop owners sounds more like the 'T' people I know: "having fun, staying loose, slouching a lot, wearing a different T-shirt about every ten minutes, sloshing with beer when they walk, and standing around talking about the world." My major complaint is that while the article described last summer's GOF in Olympia, Wash., all the pictures were of last October's MK XXV in Enfield, including one of club members Hank Giffin and Ron Henry running the funkhana and one of the rear end of the Ashes' TD.

"And somewhere...this summer, T owners and Mini cuckoos are gathering again to stroke the flanks of their ancient, square cars or burst four-wheels first into the buffet line, front tires squealing madly.
"Whose is the finest madness?"

Because your editor will be at the Toronto GOF, deadline for the JULY news-
letter is June 25. The JULY meeting is not until July 12.



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