

THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

PRESIDENT: Ron Eaton (420-2405)
VICE PRES: Jim Banvard (340-6737)
SECRETARY: Tom Lund (480-3090)
TREASURER: Helen Barrows (428-3250)
EDITOR: Susan Boswell (486-1293)

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Greetings and salutations--

We have survived February and now can look forward to the arrival of spring when the birds return home, the flowers begin peeking above ground and the 'T's are brought out of hibernation. Speaking of homecomings, Mike and Nita West are returning from London just about now. We wish them bon voyage and hope to get to see them soon in Charleston. Hank Giffin will also be spending most of March in our company while Vince Groover is between sea voyages. Flack Logan and Larry Diddlemeyer have also returned from deployment, so faces can finally be put to these new names. Welcome all!

FROM OLD NUMBER 5078--Bad weather did not put a damper on some spirited discussions of the by-laws and the proposed changes. Of course the main attraction is the proposed change to the Associate Membership rule. As the by-laws stand now, Associate Members (AM) have full membership rights with the exception of voting for club officers and holding office. The intent of the proposed change is to do away with these two restrictions, thus granting full member status to all in-town members. When the club was formed, the voting and office holding restrictions were put in the by-laws to prevent the club from being taken over by other than those "dedicated to the maintenance, preservation and enjoyment of T-Series and Vintage MGs." At the meeting it was pretty well agreed that this is not a problem. The other by-law changes concern how we should or do handle our business.

New topic: Oil. I had a talk with a man at work who had a lubrication problem with his Pinto (that is a Ford product). It seems that if the correct oil is not used, there is not sufficient lubrication of the cam shaft to prevent excessive wear of the cam shaft lobes. He had a letter from the Ford company explaining the problem and a peel decal to put on the top of his air cleaner which said, "Caution: To give your engine the best protection against wear, use only oils with the API marking on the container of SE, SESD, SESDSC or SF where available. DO NOT use any oil showing CC or CD on the container, including SECC or SECD." I don't know if it would be harmful to MGs but I thought it worth mentioning. The April 1977 issue of TSO addressed the subject of the use of racing motor oil and the article said at the end to be sure the oil you buy has SE somewhere on the can.

Ron

(Ed. note--Originally Ron closed his message with a paragraph encouraging everyone to attend the Chesapeake Chapter's Bay Bash Mini-GOF, May 4-6. He has since learned that the Great Oak Resort, site of the mini-GOF, is already booked solid and that the overflow motel has only eight rooms still available (as of 26 Feb. 1979). So anyone really interested in going had better get with it. Ron is now interested in attending the Charleston GOF which falls the following weekend (May 11-13). Ashes, Banvards and Boswells, and Bob and Ethel Walker are going, and Mike and Nita West will be living down there and if Mike's deployment schedule permits, will probably attend. Charleston is only three hours farther than the Chesapeake site and the cost is about the same. Plus you have the added attraction of a truly beautiful Southern city, "with 300 years of history unimpeded by progress" (as Dan is fond of saying. I like it that way). The Holy City on the peninsula will be resplendent with spring flora--roses, camellias, cape jessamine, honeysuckle, crape myrtle, and oleander. Our hosts are allowing ample time for independent and organized

sight-seeing, with tours to Ft. Sumter, the local plantations, and the city's many antebellum mansions which are open to the public. The Saturday festivities will end, not with the usual stuffy, semi-formal awards banquet, but with a casual romp on the beach and a shrimp and hamburger cook-out on the Isle of Palms, one of the barrier islands (and the place where we bought our first 'T'). The dress at all times is casual; the ambience--MGs and the Old South. The hosts warn that Charleston is a tourist city and the hotels fill up fast. So make your hotel reservations now. Separate registration for the GOF can be made at a later time (but please, no later than April 15). I've included application forms for both GOFs at the end of this newsletter.)

 MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE MINI-GOF OF YOUR CHOICE!!

THE LAST MEETING--Winter finally hit Tidewater on the day of the February meeting at the home of Ron and Rosemary Eaton. Still we had a respectable showing of 19 people, enticed out into the slush and cold by the prospect of heated debate over the proposed changes in the by-laws. Surprisingly, the discussion was relatively muted and it appears that the revisions will go through without too many feathers being ruffled. Jim Banvard's progress report can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Although the bulk of the meeting was devoted to the 'amended unpublished by-laws,' we did have some other business.

TREASURER'S REPORT by proxy--We took in \$70 for the Wicker Basket Affair and that plus new memberships brings our total to \$701.45.

TOOLS--The Snap-On Tools representative will give club members a 10% discount for orders up to \$200 and a 15% discount above \$200. Call Dan Boswell if interested.

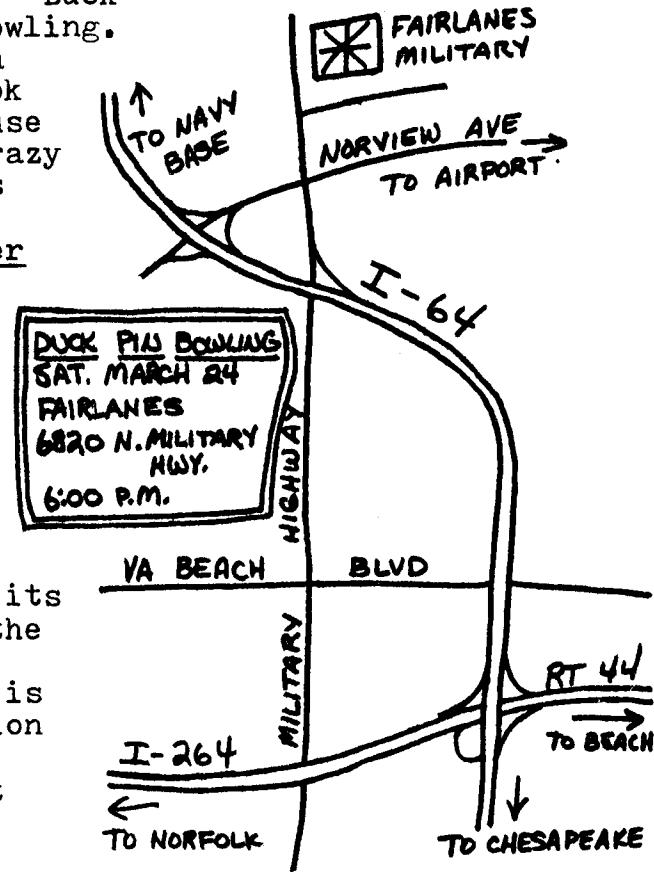
Thanks to Rosemary for the gorp and other goodies. THE MARCH MEETING will be TUESDAY, MARCH 6, commencing at 8:00 p.m. at the home of DON and BARBARA MOORE.

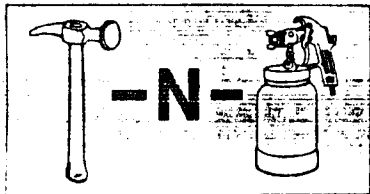
 THINK SPRING!!

UPCOMING EVENTS--

MARCH 24 (SAT)--Daffy Duck Pin Bowling Tournament, Fairlanes, 6820 N. Military Highway. We will meet at the bowling alley at 6 p.m., then round out the evening at Milton's Pizza. Duck pin bowling is really nothing like regular bowling. You use a solid wood ball about the size of a softball and throw at half-pint pins that look like fat, waddling ducks. Kids love it because the balls are light weight and the pins do crazy spin-outs when hit. And believe me, skill is not a requirement. So come and laugh a lot. Ross and Ann Haines need a head count no later than March 20 so call them evenings and weekends at 486-1496. A lane will be set aside for the kids. Cost is 90¢ per game plus 52¢ rental for shoes. It's traditional to bowl a three game set so cost will be about \$3.20 per person plus whatever you want for refreshments.

APRIL 1 (SUN)--Tech Session at the home of Mike and Jennifer Ash, 10:30 a.m. Break the 'T' out of the garage and your spirit out of its winter doldrums and tool on over for one of the Tidewater 'T' Classics infamous technical sessions. You can learn something and there is always something good to eat. A \$1.00 donation is requested to help defray the cost of food, coffee and automotove supplies. See map, next page.



PLASTIC FILLERS

Fillers are probably the most abused of all repair materials. It is a lot easier to use fillers than to take the effort to pound out a dent. Generally speaking, fillers used in great amounts are nothing more than a disguise for poor workmanship and/or lack of experience. That is not to say fillers should not be used, but they should always be used with good judgment and only when and where the situation dictates.

The terms plastic and fiberglass are often used synonymously however, they are not the same. Fiberglass is spun glass mat that looks much like a heavy course cloth. It is used mainly to manufacture and repair fiberglass boats, cars, etc., but will adhere equally as well to metal. Fiberglass kits will generally include three elements, mat or cloth, resin, and catalyst. Plastic fillers are basically a substitute for lead. Plastic filler kits include the filler and a hardener. The filler will remain soft and pliable over an extended period of time, but once the filler and hardener are mixed the filler will set up in about 30 minutes (set up time will vary with amount of hardener used). Today's plastic fillers are good performers that can be relied upon to give a hard finish, will not shrink or crack with age and, will adhere to metal under extreme temperature changes. All of this, of course, is dependent upon the way the metal is prepared prior to using the filler.

Metal cannot be worked after applying plastic filler, so it is of great importance to drive down all high spots before filler is applied. The filled area must be free of rust, paint, oil and wax. Grind the area with a #24 grit disc to rough up the surface. Always clean an area larger than the one to be repaired. Featheredge the paint immediately surrounding the area. This will allow for proper build up of the plastic. Do not spread fillers over the paint, they will end up peeling later.

When mixing plastic fillers, carefully follow the directions shown on the container and never mix more than can be used immediately. A good mixing board for plastics is a piece of safety glass or a piece of plexiglass. Both can easily cleaned before mixing the next batch. Plastic fillers can be applied with a putty knife, rubber squeege, or any other straight flexible tool. The best one to use is the rubber squeege because it will bend the contour of the area being filled. When spreading the filler, care must be taken to remove all trapped air bubbles. This can be accomplished by using a downward-sideways motion of the squeege when applying the filler. Areas over 1/4" deep should be built up in thin layers. Ensure that each layer is dry before applying the next one.

Finishing plastics can be fairly easy or very difficult, depending on the amount of drying time allowed before the finishing process begins. Fillers worked at the right time can easily be smoothed, shaped and brought down to the desired height with a body file known as a "cheese-grater", however, fillers that have set too long will normally have to be worked with a grinder. "Cheese-graters" come in a variety of shapes and sizes and should be part of every bodyman's tool kit.

A light touch should always be used when shaping, molding or leveling filler with a "cheese-grater". When the plastic is leveled to just about the right height, let it harden for just a while longer. Then hit it with #180 grit sandpaper. Final sanding should be done with a sanding block and #220 grit wet/dry sandpaper.

Never use plastic fillers where strength is needed or the body is liable to flex. Plastics should also never be used to bridge a gap or as an edge or lip. These are jobs for metal or fiberglass.

A very important word of caution when working with any type of filler - use protective masks and goggles. Plastics create a lot of dust that injure the eyes, or cause serious damage to the lungs. They're all you have so be careful. * * * * *

DOESN'T THAT INSPIRE YOU TO GET CRACKIN'!!!

ODDS 'N ENDS--NEW MEMBERS--One of our two newest members is really an old member, Steve Campbell, who let his membership lapse while his car was being restored at Matty's. Now with his '54 TF almost ready for the road, Steve and family have happily returned to the fold. Our other newest members are Al and Ginger Alvarez. Some of you met Al at the January meeting and met Ginger as well at Adam's. They are the proud owners of two MGAs and a very nice '55 MGZA Magnette. Al is a former Nimitz shipmate of our illustrious president, who hounded him for two years to give the club a try. Meanwhile a few months ago, Dan and I started seeing the Magnette at the Little Creek Bowling Alley on Tuesday nights where Al and Ginger also bowl, though not in our league. A note on Al's windshield rekindled their interest in the club.



The NEW ENGLAND 'T' REGISTER, LTD.

THE CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER cordially invites you to A BAY BASH MINI-GOLF Chestertown, Maryland May 4-5-6, 1979

Location: On Maryland's eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay, near Chestertown. Chestertown is a quaint old community where Washington College, a small liberal arts institution, was founded in the late 1700's. Antique buffs will find an assortment of many interesting and unique shops.

Accommodations: Great Oak resort, which is a 10-15 minute drive from Chestertown, features a 9 hole golf course, mini-golf, swimming pool, fishing, air strip and a magnificent setting. Only 36 rooms are available here and will be assigned on a first come first serve basis, so reserve early. All overflow will be booked into the Foxley Manor which is a nice motel in nearby Chestertown.

Registration/Banquet Reservations

Registrations must be received by 15 April 1979

Mail directly to: Michelle Cattaneo 5219 West North Avenue Baltimore, MD. 21207. Roast Beef Dinner Saturday Night Banquet \$5 per person \$10 per family \$2 in spirit \$5 Age 10 & below

Banquet price includes 5% tax and 15% gratuity. Total amount enclosed \$

Name Address City State Zip

Motel Reservation Form May 4-5

Mail directly to: Miss Walbert Great Oak Chestertown, MD. 21620. Deposit for 1 night is required. Single occupancy \$22 Double occupancy \$26 Child 13 and up \$2 Child 12 and under free Total in party Total amount enclosed \$

Enclosed is my deposit check. Please bill Master Charge Visa American Express

Card no. Expiration date

Name Address City State Zip Phone

Please reserve lodging for one night two nights We will arrive on Date

Detach and mail to: SANDLAPPER 'T' REGISTER, Michael T. Finch 1221 Gadsden St., Columbia, S.C. 29201

Your time of arrival: Thursday night Saturday morning Friday morning Saturday afternoon Friday afternoon Saturday evening Friday evening

Beach cook-out will consist of grilled hamburgers with all the trimmings, pickles and chips or boiled shrimp, cole slaw and dip. Please indicate the number of servings each needed for your family.

Hamburger # Shrimp #

Will you require any special extras: medical, baby sitter, etc? EXPLAIN

***** Don't forget to enclose your check for early registration! *****

NAME: *****

Detach and mail to: Holiday Inn Of Charleston-Riverview US 17 at Ashley river, Charleston, S.C. 29407

Special Reservation Request--MG Registry

NAME

REPRESENTING FIRM

I WILL ARRIVE IN (CITY), 12, AND DESIRE

THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS FROM TO date date

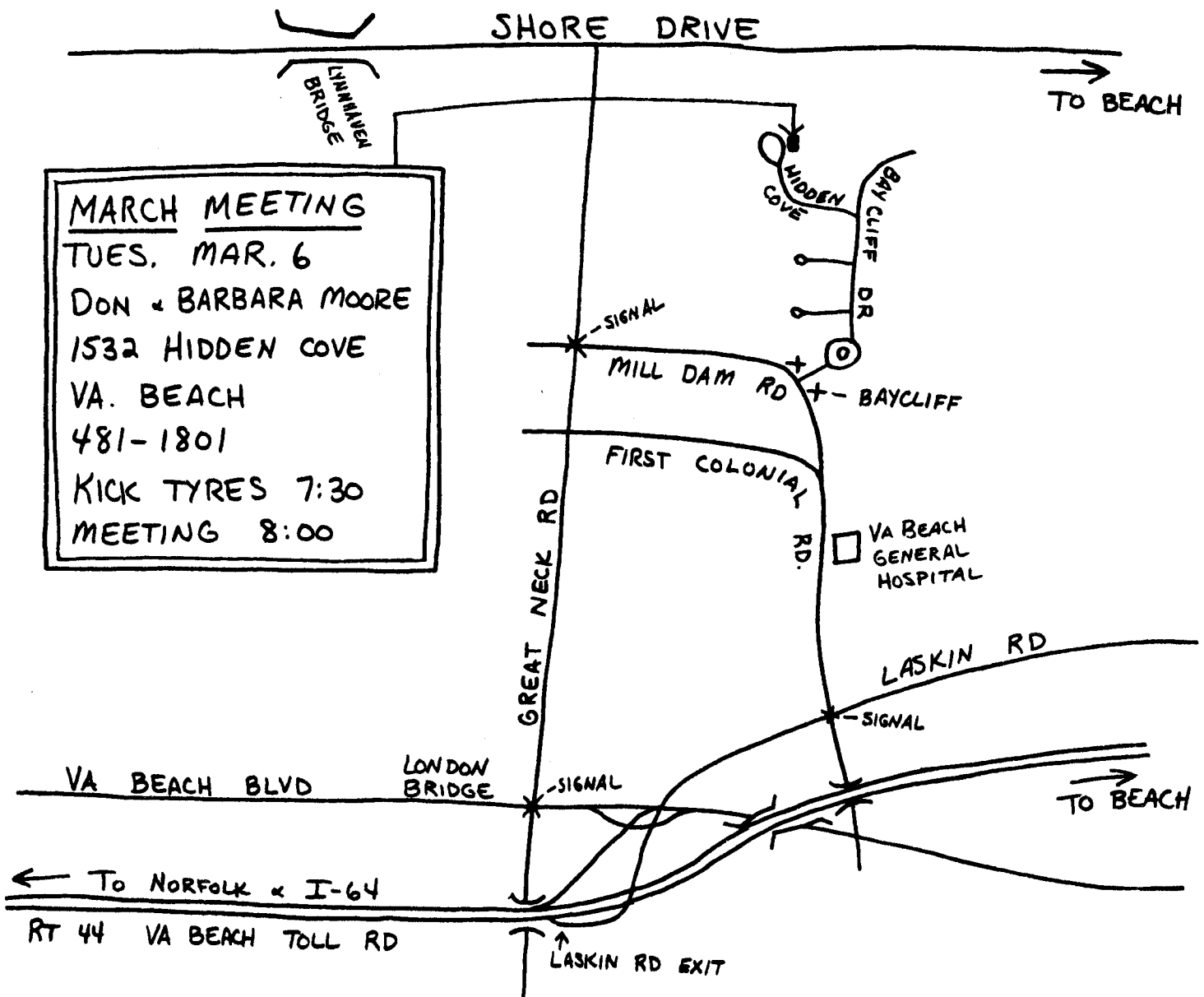
1 PERSON-DOUBLE BED 2 PERSONS-2 DOUBLE BEDS 2 PERSONS-1 DOUBLE BED TV OTHER

I understand this reservation will be held for me until 6P.M. of day of arrival shown above.

SIGNED

***** YOUR ESTIMATED EXPENCES ARE AS FOLLOWS :

- 1. Pre-registration \$ 10.00
2. Walk-in registration \$ 12.50
3. Single room per day \$ 21.50 \$4/person each extra
4. Double room per day \$ 28.00 \$4/person each extra
5. Optional Port Sunter Tour \$ 3.50 adult -12 \$ 2.00
6. Casual Taste Luncheon \$ FREE
7. Optional LOS YORRTOWN \$ 2.00 adult 6-11 \$ 1.00
8. Raffle tickets \$ 1.00 each ticket
9. Cook-out Saturday evening \$ 8.00 each plate
10. Home Hall drive through \$.50 each person
Home Hall complete tour \$ 2.00 adult 50¢ child
11. Optional Middleton Place tour SUNDAY ONLY \$ 4.00 - 6.00 adult 4-12 \$



TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS
 636 ROYAL PALM DR
 VA BEACH, VA 23452

ROSS & ANN HAINES
 633 PINE TREE DR
 VA BEACH VA 23452