

TIDEWATER



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

THE DIPSTICK

APRIL 1980

PRESIDENT: Jim Banvard (340-6737)
VICE PRES: Don Moore (481-1801)
SECRETARY: Andy Wallach (583-9387)
TREASURER: Sandy Hall (482-2821)
EDITOR: Susan Boswell (486-1293)

Greetings T-types--

I think we'll skip the preliminaries this month and get right to the main event.

FROM OLD NUMBER 2400, 4270, 7085, and VML99--

As a starter I guess I owe the club an apology for my absence at the March meeting. You must forgive me for I was "stuck" in Bermuda following a very productive exercise with my reserve squadron. It was frightful to have missed the "Blizzard of '80," but somehow Brenda and I will get over it. (Andy and Carol Wallach were there too.) My thanks to Don Moore for handling the meeting in his routinely outstanding fashion. Since I wasn't at the meeting I'll not attempt to recount the events.

As the weather improves I detect a subtle change in the members that I have seen recently. Vince Groover talks of Y restoration completion and even is able to get Pam to drive with him in the TD. Dan Boswell's garage is a flurry of activity. Richard Hall continues his TD restoration after a long winter's nap. Robert Davis, while recovering from surgery, is planning his MG activities, including an intended purchase of a MG Magnette. Unfortunately, little appears to be taking place on Van Buren Dr., except at the Banvards'. Roosevelt Moseley is so wrapped up in his Toyota transmission job that his TD and Morgan languish. Tsk, tsk, Rosie.

It is with great pleasure that I noted the return of "MG Fever" by Robert Davis. He tells me that there is more to come even though the latest events took place in 1979. Look elsewhere in this issue for the latest and greatest in his MG life.

This month seems to be dedicated to Bob Salvin since he has hosted both the meeting and event. Thanks, Bob, for your home and hospitality.

Spring has sprung and I look forward to seeing more of you in your 'T's at our forthcoming events.. Keep on T-ing.

Jim

AH, THE JOYS OF T-ING IN THE SPRING!!

THE MARCH MEETING suffered mightily from the Great March Blizzard which kept all but 13 hardy souls from venturing out. Our President and Secretary were "stuck" in Bermuda (likely story) and even our host, Bob Salvin, couldn't make it. Gremlins (who looked suspiciously like Mike and Jennifer Ash) built us a hearty fire and served up the goodies Bob had provided for the occasion. Vice president Don Moore presided over the following business:

TREASURER'S REPORT--We have \$994.97 in the treasury. With the mention of this sum, visiting out-of-town member Hank Giffin leaped from his chair like some frenzied dealer on the floor of the commodities exchange and shouted, "Buy gold!" A motion was made that all visiting out-of-town members with beards who own TAs and live in New Jersey be prohibited from commenting on the treasury.

EVENTS--Committee person Bess Mann reported on the upcoming events and expressed the committee's disappointment at the poor turnout for the Duck Pin Bowling Tournament, especially after all the trouble Ross and Ann Haines went to planning it. We promise to do better next time. Our committee is to be commended for the work they have put and are putting into the events and they deserve our support.

OLD BUSINESS--Name Tags--Don Moore brought enough permanent name tags for the entire club. Unfortunately we will all henceforth be referred to as Don Moore, D. Moore, Cdr. Moore, or variations thereof. Don is checking further on the cost of these engraved name tags. An alternate suggestion is to fit the club business card into those clear plastic holders we've used at Christmas parties. Tune into this spot for details.

NEW BUSINESS--Anyone interested in watching John Sheally III set out for California in a 3-wheeled Morgan may gather at the Collector Car Corporation on Shore Dr. at 10:00 a.m. on April 1. No, this is not an April Fool's joke.

Jennifer Ash announced that the first meeting of the Committee for the GOF in September, 1981, will be held at the Ashes' on Thursday, April 10, at 7:00 in the evening. Don't wait to be called. If you haven't volunteered yet, just show up and I'm sure they'll find something for you to do.

The Ashes also reported on their trip to that most beautiful of all cities, Charleston, S.C., and conveyed greetings from Mike and Nita West and Bob and Ethel Walker.

That's all, folks. Thanks to our in absentia host, Bob Salvin. We loved hissing at your stereo, Bob.

THE APRIL MEETING IS TUESDAY, APRIL 1, at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Mike and Jennifer Ash.

***** ANYONE FOR A TRIP SOUTH? JOIN ASHES AND BANVARDS! *****

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 13 (SUN)--Tech Session to commence at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Mike and Jennifer Ash (see meeting map for directions). This is the de-winterize your T and get her ready for the open road tech session so come on over.

APRIL 20 (SUN)--Drive-out and brunch at The Cascades in Williamsburg. There is a chance we can get reservations, so please call Carol Wallach at 583-9387 by April 13. If you do not let her know by then, you will not be guaranteed a seat. We will meet at Pembroke Mall (in front of Sears) at 8:30 a.m., then stop by the Ocean View Holiday Inn about 9:00 a.m. to pick up anyone who would like to wait there, then proceed to the Ramada Inn at the junction of I-64 and U.S. 17 about 9:30 for the New port News people (and other north of the river T-folk).

APRIL 17-20 (THURS-SUN)--GOF SOUTH MK XIV, Daytona Beach. Join the Banvards and Ashes for a drive around the Daytona Speedway and other fun and frolicking. I have applications. It's almost never too late to drop in on these affairs.

MAY 2-4 (FRI-SUN)--A W. VA. HI MINI-GOF in Berkeley Springs, W. Va. sponsored by the Chesapeake Chapter. Reservations are due April 15 so you must hurry. Your editor has applications for this one also.

MAY 17 (SAT)--Scavenger Hunt and Bring your own Bottle Party.

***** THE T-TYPES THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING, TRA-LA!! *****

WHAT FUN Y'ALL MISSED--THE CASINO PARTY

Bob Salvin's empty living room was the perfect site for a mini-Vegas night of crap shooting and blackjack and whatever those other games were that we all indulged in. The cops didn't raid us, everyone had a good time (or seemed to if one can judge by the number of \$10,000 bets floating around the crap table)

and Sandy Hall has obviously missed her calling. She should be a blackjack dealer in Vegas.

Everyone started with a free \$900 bankroll which once gone, could be replenished by a \$1.00 donation to the club. Only Dan Boswell and Andy Wallach had to cough up a couple of dollars more to keep on feeding their fantasies. Prizes were \$25, \$15, and \$5 gift certificates from Phase I (supplied by the club) and for the booby prize, a free small ice cream cone from the Dairy Queen on the corner of Shore Dr. and Little Creek Rd. (Now I wonder where that came from). Winners of the "big" money were Doug McKay (president of the Austin Healey Club who with his wife Judy came with Dave Barrows and the Fishers)--Doug parlayed his measly \$900 into a whopping \$45,000 (those dice were hot). Second place went to Dan Boswell who needed two money transfusions to get started but finished the night with \$33,000, and third to Bob Salvin with \$10,000. Don't know who got the ice cream cone.

To top off the evening, Doug McKay presented Dave Barrows with the Healey Club's "Member of the Year" award which included a nice trophy (topped by an unusual looking MG). Doug said their club organization was haphazard at best and he wasn't sure if or when they would ever have another meeting. Congratulations, Dave.

Ross and Ann Haines wanted special thanks to go out to all who helped, which includes of course Bob Salvin for the use of his house, and the various croupiers (complete with eye shades and garters) Andy and Carol Wallach, Carl Fisher, Sandy Hall, and Bess Mann, and Dave Barrows who was the banker. (Ed. note: I drew up that list of workers myself, so if anyone helped and was left out, I'm to blame and do apologize.) I do think this is an event we might wish to repeat.

P.S. Special greetings to Robert Davis who was out of the hospital for the last time (we hope) and to Ted and Vicki Spilman who could only stop by to say hello. Ted's home from sea for a month and Vicki was celebrating her birthday.

***** THE YEAR'S AT THE SPRING! *****

MG FEVER--by Robert Davis

(When last we left our hero, he had just survived a roll in the YB.)

After the Dec. 28 wreck of the YB, all my efforts went toward careful disassembly. I used a dozen or so milk cartons and boxes, carefully labeling each with its prized contents. Large pieces were put away somewhere in the roof awaiting a time when reconstruction could begin.

Since I had no means of transportation, my efforts turned toward my TD. I had started the project some three years earlier without even knowing what I was getting into. A restoration is quite a project.

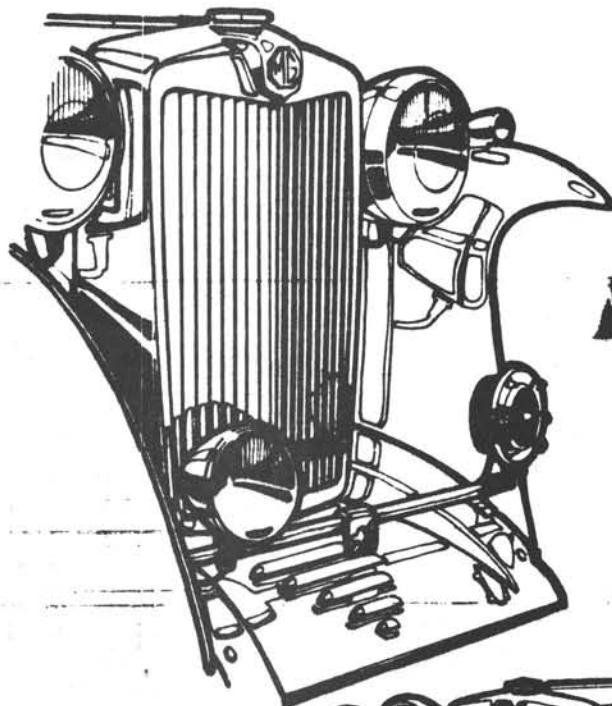
I had completed a total rebuild and installation of the engine and gearbox. I had decided to make a few changes. I used an MGA rear axle with a 4.55 ratio. Then I installed an MGA front end including disc brakes. Since I'd never driven a TD with a 4.55 ratio or disc brakes, I only assumed the changes would be positive ones. They both turned out to be quite satisfactory.

The body tub was assembled except the cowl was not installed and therefore the body wasn't lined up with the fire wall. After many hours of disassembly and reassembly, putting in a shim here and slotting out a piece of wood there, everything lined up nicely. The next day was a rather sad one. One of the doors didn't fit at all. It was about 3/8" too big. I found another suitable door in the attic and removed all the wood, then sent the metal shell over to Redi-strip. After the doors were fitted, I began the long hours of body work.

Ron Eaton painted the body tub for me. I was rather afraid of doing my own painting. He was a saint. He helped me break the ice and start on my own, giving me instructions and help.

I borrowed an air compressor from John Walter which allowed me to start painting. My painting was far from perfect, but met my own satisfaction.

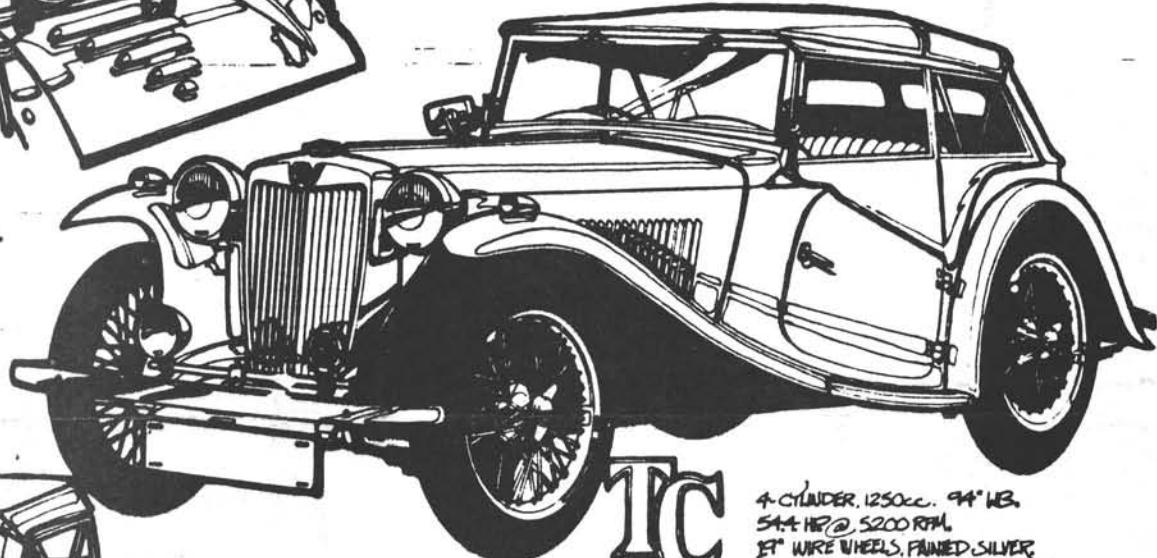
In early April the TD went for its first test drive. Doug Hand came over to inspect my car. He used a hot damp sponge and a inspection sticker from



EQUIPMENT INCLUDED
BADGE BAR W/FOGS
LAMP & VIBRATOR HORN.
POSITION OF LAMP IS
HORN REVERSED (IN
USA CARS. (ABOVE))
CHROMIUM-PLATED
HEADLAMPS &
FENDER LAMPS.

MG-TC, TD, and TF Spotter's Guide

by Jeff Godshall

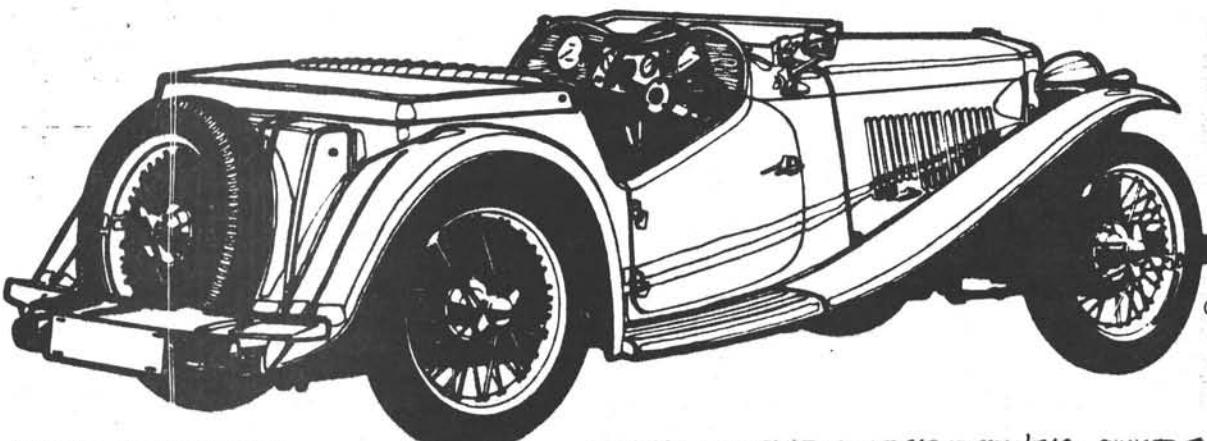
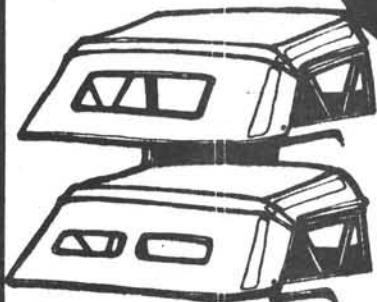


4-CYLINDER, 1250CC. 94" WB.
54.4 HP @ 5200 RPM.
15" WIRE WHEELS, PAINTED SILVER.

LATER CARS HAD
LARGER, SINGLE
REAR WINDOW.

EARLY CARS HAD
SMALL, TWIN
REAR WINDOWS.

MG 'TC' PRODUCED FROM NOV. 1945 THRU 1949—10,002 BUILT.
USA-SOLD CARS HAD SIMPLE, SINGLE-BAR BUMPERS FITTED FRONT & REAR.
EARLY CARS PAINTED BLACK ONLY; RED & GREEN ADDED SEPT. 1946—BLUE,
CREAM ADDED FAB. GRILLE LOUVRES USUALLY PAINTED TO MATCH UPHOLSTERY,
BUT SOMETIMES PAINTED BODY COLOR. TOPS WERE BEIGE OR TAU CANVAS.
RIGHT-HAND DRIVE ONLY!
PRICE—\$2258 (46)—\$2395 (49).



GODSHALL '78

LATER CARS HAD DUAL TAILLIGHTS.

DASH FACIA WOODGRAINED TO LATE '47 OR EARLY '48; CHANGED TO LEATHER CLOTH
TO MATCH UPHOLSTERY FOR '48-'49.

Sunbeam Arrow. We both made sure all the flashers and brake lights worked before putting on the sticker. There were only MGA test seats, no top, door latches, or interior. I considered all those items minor. The doors were tied shut. Since my wheels were at Redi-Strip, I used the only four wheels with inflatable tires; all four were snow tires. We had a blast. We drove to Richard Hall's, John's, and around the three mile, stopping off to talk to Ken. And finally back to the Centerville Tpk. mansion.

An eventful spring was just around the corner. I dreaded facing graduation and getting a job and house.

Does he graduate? Can he get a job? Does the TD make it out of the disco in Richmond? Tune in next month for:

A job and graduation--or, You look awful silly in the back field with all those car parts and a microwave oven--or still, Jack Lord is called in from Hawaii to seek out the disco vandals.

***** IN SPRING A PERSON'S FANCY LIGHTLY TURNS TO THOUGHTS OF TS!! *****

ODDS 'N ENDS--

Our sympathies to Dave and Helen Barrows on the death in March of Helen's brother.

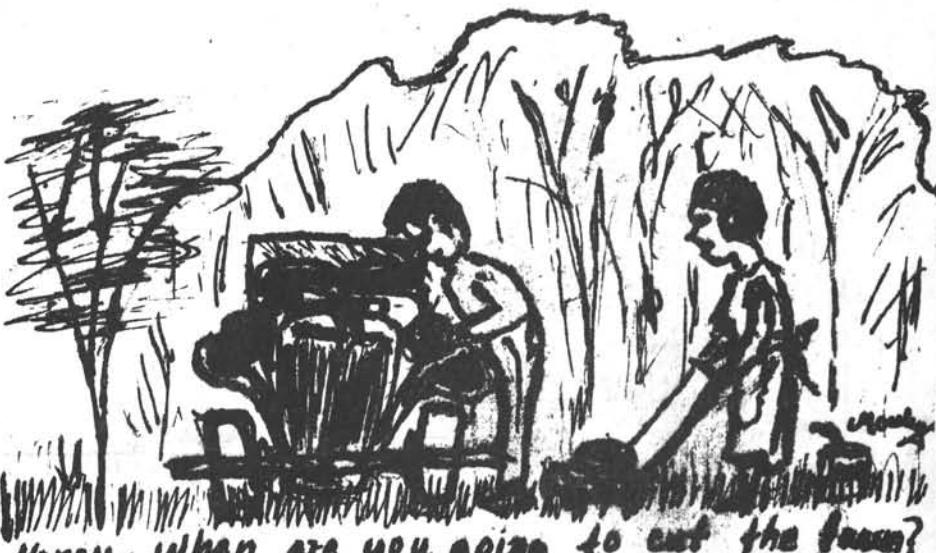
Congratulations to Ted Hughes and Louann Merton who have announced their engagement. They plan a May wedding. Best wishes for a happy life together.

The first meeting of the Committee for the Va Beach GOF in the fall of 1981 will be held at the home of Mike and Jennifer Ash on Thursday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m. If you haven't yet volunteered, come anyway and they'll find something for you to do.

FOR SALE--Rear end housing for TD-TF--\$45; transmission case, both halves, \$90; original TD glove box chrome, already rechromed, \$35. Dan Boswell, 486-1293.

***** THE DEADLINE FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER IS 26 APRIL 1980!! *****

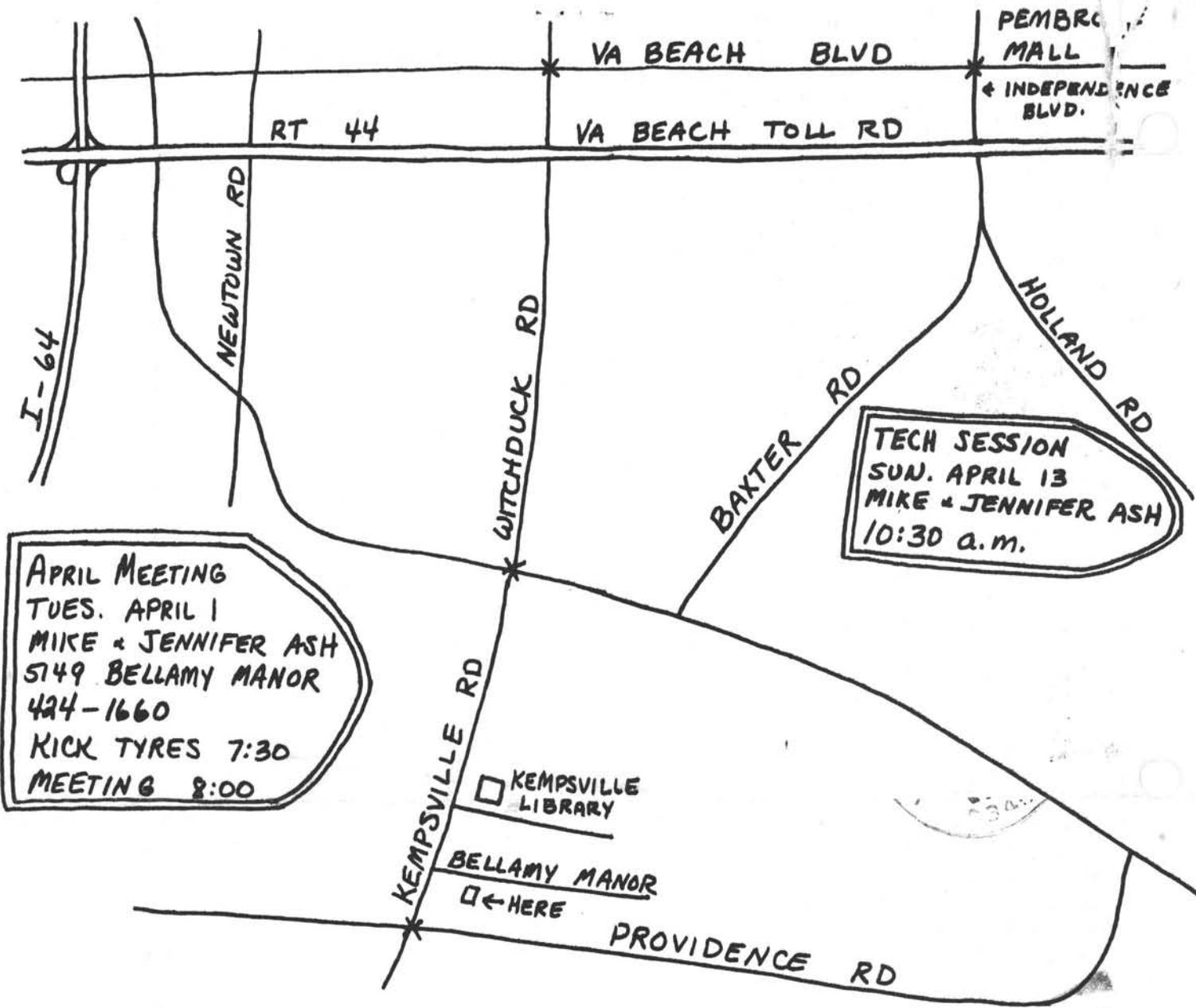
AND FINALLY--I still would appreciate some contributions from the troops!!



Honey, when are you going to eat the grass?
As soon as I overhaul the carburetor, set the valves,
put in new spark plugs.



A COMMENT ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD !!



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



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