



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

THE DIPSTICK

AUGUST 1981

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Hi all--

Many thanks to all who contributed to this month's Dipstick-- apart from the regular Banvard and Wallach contributions, we have a report from Brenda Banvard on the drive-out to Boswells' and correspondence from Hank Giffin, Mike West, and Bob Salvin.

GOF Mk. XXXIII is approaching--Jennifer says they're already receiving registrations. There is a registration form on page 7 of this issue, in case you missed the one in the June TSO.

Don't forget--dues are still due for those of you who haven't paid yet!

FROM OLDE NUMBER 2400, 7085, 4270, 7662, & VM199:

The month of July almost hasn't existed MG wise for your president. The meeting at the Wileys' was the only event that I was able to participate in. It was extremely well attended with new membership represented and old membership revisited.

The meeting, conducted on the Wileys' back porch was unruly as usual but unusually pleasant because of the heavy attendance. Thanks, Wileys, for your hospitality.

The outing to the Boswells' will be covered separately elsewhere in this issue. It was apparently lightly attended, but extremely pleasant for all those in attendance.

I shall see you all at the August meeting in order to get caught up on MG events.

Keep on "T"ing,
Jim

JULY MEETING: SECRETARY'S MINUTES:

About 40 people thronged to the July meeting held on the shores of Lake Conrad at the home of Roy and Marilyn Wiley. In attendance were prospective member Fred Paddock, new members John and Robin Sams, and John German, and returning from the sea, members Herschel Smith and Levi Parr.

The exquisitely written, accurate June meeting minutes met with resounding approval and Treasurer Hall announced that the coffer,

brimming with dues, held \$1,102.15. Jim Banvard had to interrupt the interruptions: "Jennifer, will you please stop engaging the new members in conversation." To which Jennifer lied, "I'll snut up."

Vince Groover reviewed the past and upcoming activities. The June drive-out rallye and picnic were good, and the July drive-out is to the Boswells' in Huntingtown, Md. August activities include meeting at Banwards' and dinner at Chi Chi's.

Elsie Farr, Regalia Czarina: "There seems to be a problem with too much money in the treasury. Time to restock T-shirts." Roy Wiley: "Got to have a Y-type." Elsie presented a new T-shirt design which was enthusiastically approved. Levi Farr pointed out that there was no MGA in the design. Jim Banvard: "This meeting has lost control of itself." Elsie also got approval to purchase tote bags for resale.

Under new business, someone mentioned that there is a local person who can make "T" wood as long as you provide a pattern. A flyer on a new MG magazine was passed around.

Under old business, there was nothing mentioned until Mike and Jennifer Ash were asked about GOF Mk. XXXII. Mike said he had "a lot of fun with the bunnies." Also that there are attempts under way to put a Y register together. Hank Giffin won first place in the Y-types. Mike then briefly went over the planning for the fall Virginia Beach GOF.

Mary Thompson thanked Roy Wiley and his committee for the Battlefield Bivouac Mini-GOF.

Thanks to Marilyn, Roy, and the ducks for a fine evening.

UPCOMING EVENTS

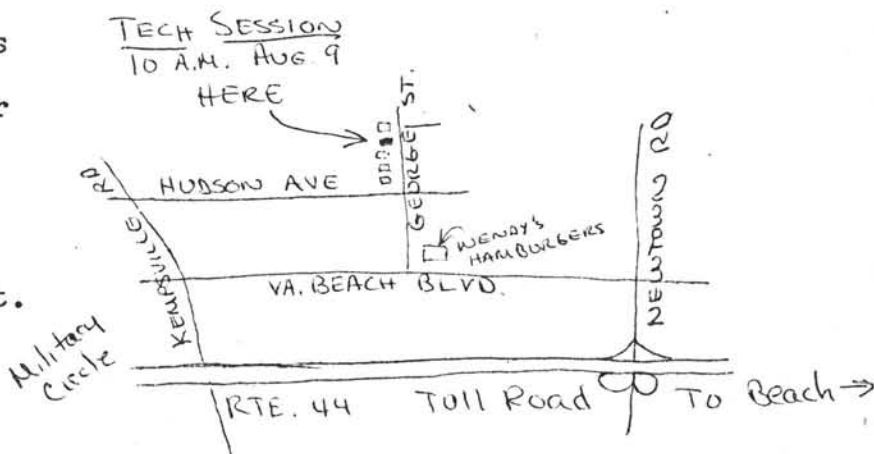
August Meeting - Wednesday, August 5th at the Banwards'. (Map on last page.)

Tech Session - Sunday, August 9th at Elsie Farr's, 1117 George St., Norfolk, 461-0188.

August 16th - Dinner at Chi Chi's Mexican Restaurant, 5 PM. Call Thompsons (495-0085) or Groovers (497-6904) by the 14th if you plan to go. (Chi Chi's is at 1050 N. Military Hwy. at Janaf)

September Meeting - Tuesday, Sept. 1 at the Groovers.

GOF Mk. XXXIII - Sept. 24-27, The Cavalier, Va. Beach.



THE JULY 18th OUTING OR THE BOSWELL BASH, A MINI-MINI GOF

It all started Saturday at 6:45 AM with me (Brenda) and son Michael frantically racing about 3633 trying to tie an overnight bag on the back of the TF, arranging the Kalenchoe to be in the best position to

avoid damage during the trip, and trying to keep three cats inside the house.

We're off--a quick stop at Hardee's for breakfast biscuits and on to the Groovers', where we observed Vince and Pam decorate the rear of the TD with 2 sleeping bags, a cooler and a suitcase (amazingly enough I could still see the brakelights) and cram an assortment of Conklin products, another suitcase, an attache case, Pam's current handcraft project (a hooked rug), and two people inside.

I think we made it off by 7:30 AM with the admonition that we were to meet Rafael and son Chris on the far side of the Harry Nice Bridge across the Potomac at 11 AM. (In case any of you are wondering why we haven't seen anything of Diane, she's been working very hard, so Rafael takes Chris out to give her a break.) So off the TD and FF went - down highways 64, 17, 3/14, 200, 360, more of 3, and back onto 301 near Dahlgren where the Harry Nice Bridge spans the Potomac. Drivers may cross for a mere \$.75. A pittance compared to an \$8.00 Chesapeake Bay Bridge Toll. We were late - although Vince had already turned back his watch an hour to pretend we were early, and no Rafael in his Scout. We checked inside and opted to wait a few when we spied the Scout tearing across the intersection.

Vince outlined our route to the Boswells' and off we went - 301 to 234, and left on 232 (a lovely highway.) Actually it's a one lane road with a stripe down the middle. If you drive in the middle, you bottom out and if you drive on one side or the other you are in danger of falling off. Then onto 231 to Hwy 4 and left to Huntingtown. The Bosy's have a really neat set up. Lot of acreage, a huge tobacco barn with room for at least 50 MG's, and a spacious house. Susie and Dan have done great things with redecorating the interior. We are led to believe the original color scheme inside was overwhelming. Anyway, when we arrived, Susie's good friend from college was there with her new husband. A few moments later Marian Holton, my friend whom many of you have met, arrived. Then Ron and Rosemary Eaton and then, our long lost member Gary Cook. He is now at Bethesda receiving further peridental training. He has restored his FF and, with the help of an 80% car in Hawaii, has made it a "1500." I never thought it needed anything done to it before he left - now it's impeccable.

Susie set out a gorgeous buffet luncheon with fresh tomatoes and fresh cucumbers in sour cream - oh yes - ham and rolls and potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, etc. For dessert she had made cupcakes and some kind of cream cheese concoction which disappeared very rapidly. Since you missed it in Huntingtown, you might like to try it from your own kitchen. (Actually this recipe is for Pam's, Rosemary's, Gary's, Rafael's and my primary benefits.)

CHESS BARS

1 (18½ oz) yellow cake mix
1 stick of butter or margarine, melted
1 egg
1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese
1 (16 oz) box powdered sugar, sifted
2 eggs

Mix cake mix, melted butter and 1 egg with mixer. Press in greased and floured 13" x 9" pan. Beat cream cheese, 2 eggs, and powdered sugar until smooth. Pour on top of cake mixture. Bake at 325 degrees for 25-30 min. Cool. Cut into bars.

After stuffing ourselves, we took tours of house, garden, asparagus

patch, barn, trees, etc. and spent the afternoon chatting and drinking beer, coffee and iced tea. Dan's vast store of games kept Chris and Michael well occupied. We did uncover one well-kept secret - when Dan drinks beer he develops a foot fetish - Sisters of MG's BEWARE! Our "Banquet" was at the Chesapeake Beach, Maryland. Now - following someone in daylight is extremely different than trying to find one's way back in the dark by yourself. What an experience! Marian had been honored with a ride over in Gary's TF but as he was leaving directly from the restaurant, I gave her a ride back to the Boswells'. We were still trying to open the door when the rest of the gang descended upon us. Seems they had torn up all those roads coming back with Rafael bringing up the rear in his Scout. Just before you have to turn onto Hwy 4 on the return trip, there's a crest in the road and - wnammo - the stop sign. Rafael recounted later that he had visions of wiping out the "P's" in front of him. The Chesapeake Crossroads is highly recommended and the rest of you out there missed a fun weekend - so there!!

I can only say two things about the trip back - Rafael, Chris, Michael and I had a very pleasant lunch at Lowery's (where else?) and the drive back was HOT!!

Brenda

REGALIA - Special of the Month!

Battlefield Bivouac 1981 Mini-GOF - Badges and Dash Plaques - \$1.00each
 Colonial Clutch 1978 Mini-GOF - Badges and Dash Plaques still available-
 (supply limited) - \$1.00 each.

REGALIA NOW AVAILABLE BY MAIL!

Orders shipped via UPS \$1.50 per order within 300 miles of Norfolk.

Regalia available:

- Club T-shirts.....\$4.50
- Club Cloth Jacket Patches..... 2.50
- Leather Checkbook Covers.....10.00
- Leather Visors..... 5.00

Send orders to:

Elsie Parr
 1117 George St.
 Norfolk, VA 23502

461-0188

Make check payable to:

Tidewater MGT Classics

The following is a note from Mike West:

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Tidewater P's (and Roy Wiley),

It was awfully nice of you all to send a card wishing me well and I thank you. The witch doctors haven't yet decided on a diagnosis, but I'd settle for chronic creeping crud of the cranium if they'd let me out of here!

Your emissaries, J. and M. Ash certainly brightened my day by dropping by the other day, and Giffin added to the joy of their visit by not being there!!!

I still hope to attend the September GOF in my YB and bring a TC buddy with me as well as our unfinesses!

Thanks again for being so thoughtful. Best to you all.

Mike

And now a word from Hank Giffin:

Dear Tidewaterers,

During April and May I was in Va. Beach while my ship was being repaired. I regret I was unable to attend the full Battlefield Bivouac, but at least was able to sample the keg a bit.

My reason for writing this is to thank each of you who helped make my stay ~~fun~~ ~~enjoyable~~ bearable. While being away from my family and 'T's wasn't the greatest, you certainly made it as positive a few months as possible under the circumstances. (Stevie reads these too, you know!)

In particular I'd like to thank Brenda and Jim Banvard, who opened their home to me and made me feel part of their family. (It's not true that they only needed someone around to polish cars!) A mine sweeper gets mighty small after a few weeks, and I took refuge in their garage/back porch to get away from the disappointments of an engineering breakdown and a delayed repair job. Try as I did, I just couldn't get Jim to tear apart any more engines or start another rebuild, although I did get him to break out an old rusty can of wax and actually polish a car or two (I have witnesses).

Again, I'd like to thank all of you who made me feel so welcome. I hope to see you all in Sept at the GOF, and then again in about two years for my next sea tour.

Warm regards,

HANK

ps: I knew I was in Va. Beach too long when:

At meetings President Jim forgot to introduce me as an out-of town member....

I knew Banvard's tool chest better than my own....

Brenda automatically set a fourth place for dinner....

The Rosemont A&P express line cashier said "light night" when I only bought one six pack of Michelob....

Michael asked me if he could go out and play... and I asked him if he finished his homework....

The Banvard's neighbor asked if they'd bought a maroon GT...

I watched Mike Ash evolve from a dirty sweater in March to cutoffs in May....

After five years of inactivity I finally started to rebuild the TD MK II engine....

My crew ran out of a five inch high stack of Andy's Dairy Queen discount coupons....

Mary Thompson started to make sense...

Everyone at the last meeting got serious about 'in-town dues'.

And this is from Bob Salvin:

Dear Tidewater MG T Classics,

Enclosed are my out of town dues. I'm having a great time down here in Charlotte but I must truthfully say that the friendships I made and the fun that I had with each of you is what I miss the most from Virginia Beach. Down here, prestige is having an alligator tattooed on your chest so you're in style even when you go swimming. I've made some terrific friends down here, and have even dated the same young lady for 10 weeks in a row. The quality of the friendships within the Tidewater MG 'T's is what I miss the most. (I do have a feeling now that once my dates met you guys, it would be the last date for me.)

I miss Jennifer Ash's hand holding down at the blood bank along with Mike's late night telephone consulting on reassembly. I miss Jim Banvard's advice and engine noist and do I ever miss Brenda's cooking. I miss the Barrows' "museum" and the Boswells' beers on hot Saturday afternoons. I miss Robert Davis and the Fishers, although my life insurance premium went down due to my limited contact with them. There is no one down here who can tell stories like Vince Groover and I've yet to be offered a cup of hot tea like those at Ross and Ann's. I haven't even looked for someone like Richard Hall since they don't serve peanut butter and banana sandwiches in this part of North Carolina. There aren't any teachers down here with the charm of Bess Mann and Roosevelt Moseley and none of the dentists I've met has the taste in automobiles of Bob Pellerin or Jim Rudd. I thought I found one with a Model "A", but he was a pediatrician. I tried to describe to someone the personality behind a photograph of Levi Parr taken in Roy Wiley's back yard but gave up saying "You simply had to meet him." I've got my boat down here, but really haven't met anyone I enjoy sailing with as much as Roy Wiley. That applies to sailing in the winter in the bay or bumping over the crodiles in the lake behind Roy's house. What I really miss the most is not having had more of a chance to get to know some of the newer members a little better.

See you all at the GOF.

Fondly,



P.S. I almost forgot Andy and Carol Wallach who are two terrific people. My dad particularly remembers Andy's sundae one Sunday after a trip to Williamsburg commemorated by Ross Haines un-brake-a-ble driving.

There are two out of town events coming up this fall in which some of you might be interested:

The Southeastern MG T Register Fall GOF III at Stone Mountain Park, Georgia, October 9-11.

and

The Southeast Vintage Racing Association's 1981 MG "Safety Fast" Championship November 14 & 15.

More information on both of these will be available at the August meeting.