

# THE DIPSTICK



SEPTEMBER, 1983

PRESIDENT: Ross Haines  
VICE-PRES: Vince Groover  
SECRETARY: Mary Thompson  
TREASURER: Sandy Hall

EDITOR: Jennifer Ash

All of a sudden summer is coming to an end and the children are returning to school. It came and went rather too quickly for my liking!

As you can see, Mike and I have invested in a computer and have decided to go the whole hog and get a printer so we can do the newsletter and labels on it too. It is really fun trying to figure it all out... Mike keeps telling me how much fun it is - after spending all evening trying to work out a program - when he sits me down to show me what I have to do; I just do as I'm told!

There seems to be a lot going on in September for MG enthusiasts, not only in the Tidewater club, but around the country also. See "Up-coming Events" section for more information.

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## MINUTES OF AUGUST MEETING: Mary Thompson

These minutes should be a gem as it was difficult to take notes with the thirty different conversations going on..but never let it be said that an attempt wasn't made! The meeting began with a silencing cry from me. Ross had everyone introduce their guests - guess my Mom was the only guest! The subject of the GOF in Baltimore was raised and it seems there was some mention of Vince Groover stirring his drink with a beach umbrella. Remember I only take down information I hear - I cannot verify that any of this is true. (It is, because I have photos!..Ed.)

Treasurer, Sandy Hall couldn't be at the meeting but reported that as of July 31, our balance was \$408.01. Income from dues and the "Norfolk Rover" trip brought the balance to \$733.01, approximately. There will be a firm report at the September meeting.

Jennifer Ash suggested that we contribute a small amount of money to some community charities. President Ross Haines, and several others felt this was not the purpose of our club,, and the money should be

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kept for either a Mini GOF or other function. Membership felt that expenses might increase if we had to continue paying for the printing of the newsletter. Jennifer said that we once again had a source of free printing. Andy Wallach suggested we be obligated to "promote good times and MGs". Jim Nolan thought we should buy an engine puller. Discussion was ended and membership decided not to donate any money at this time.

Events chairman, Jim Banvard turned his report to Roy Wiley to discuss the Clambake/Picnic. He mentioned the good deal he got on polluted clams! (This will be history by the time this is printed, and a report will be found further on in the newsletter) The August 28th Tech Session was also discussed, and this also will be history by the time you read this. The Road Atlanta Racing was also brought to the attention of the club, and details will be found in "Events" section. Overnight trip to the Williamsburg plantations was discussed. Jennifer wanted to know our thoughts on a schedule for the weekend, but the membership voted to allow her to make all the decisions, then print it. Mike's comment was let's "spend the night, not a fortune!" With this in mind, I know Jennifer will do a good job. A mention was made about us getting cheap accommodations in the Navy's "Cheatham Annex Lodge" and Marc Ostertag, our host, will look into it. (Robert wanted to know how he would get onto the base, and he was told to get his hair cut!

Regalia report: In Elsie's absence, a new item was introduced - Red-Neck Belt Buckles! These are available through our "Japan Connection", Walt Thompson. It was suggested that Walt set up communications with someone in Japan and that we purchase approximately \$200 worth of these little goodies. Walt and I and Elsie will work on this as soon as possible. Jim Nolan said if they didn't sell, we could take them to a GOF as people will even buy wet matches at those things!

Parts Chairman, Robert Davis reported that Phase One have fuel pumps for \$55, either pos. or neg. (Wish I knew what I was writing about!) The famous Laystall head, mentioned in the last newsletter will be on display at the next meeting, at the Pellerins', but don't hold your breath!

Roy Wiley reported on a small chrome shop in Pittsburgh where the family still does quality chrome work. He had some done by them 18 to 20 years ago and it is still in excellent condition. The family would be interested in doing work with us, and more info. will appear in another part of this "Dipstick"

The Nominating Committee is hard at work and is almost ready to present the new slate of officers. It seems that Mike Ash and Roy Wiley are anxious to be on this committee each year as it seems that this way they never get to hold an office. (It was suggested that a new committee be formed next year - someone should stick it to Mike and Roy!) Remember, I only type what I hear. It was suggested that

At this point in the meeting, Ross was swearing - you read it correctly - the meeting was definitely out of order! A substitute secretary will be needed for September and October as we Thompsons are now going to be out-of-town members - \$6 annual dues - hurrah!!

here followed a long discussion over a Mini-GOF; is the club interested? What is the purpose? It was felt that it was to get club members together, primarily in clubs that are unable to have monthly meetings. Someone mentioned that money was lost the last time we held one - too many trophies. Ross felt that 9 months' planning was needed and that we should see about co-ordinating with the Chesapeake Chapter. It was suggested that we open this discussion at the next meeting - should we have a Mini-GOF or just a Fall Outing?

On that thought, the meeting was adjourned, and all rushed out to partake of Marcia's delicious snacks - we hope you did well on the exam you were studying for that night, Marcia. Many thanks to Marc and Marcia for hosting the meeting in their lovely home.

FROM OLDE # 6733: President Ross.

Before I get into the Trivia Quiz results for last month, I'd like to say a personal farewell and thank you to our Secretary, Mary Thompson.

For those who may have forgotten, Mary and Walt are moving to North Carolina and therefore will become out-of-town members. Mary's done a super job as secretary and I, as I'm sure the rest of the club does, hate to see her go. We'll miss you Mary!

Now for the Quiz results...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AUGUST SCORE</u>	<u>CUMULATIVE SCORE</u>
Peggy Bradford	10/10 10/10	69/70 79/80
Hank Giffin	9/10 10/10	67/70 77/80
Jim Banvard	10/10 10/10	65/70 75/80
Mike Ash	- -	52/60 ✓
Ron Henry	- -	46/60 55/70 **
Bob Beauter	4/10 1/10	24/50 25/60
Charlie Dixon	6/10* -	22/40 ✓
Vince Groover	- 8/10*	19/20 27/30
Bill Gordon	- -	14/30

\*Monthly winner \*\* INCLUDES AUGUST SCORE

*From a reader -  
attached to his  
membership renewal!*

Dear Tidewaterers,

7/12/83

Enclosed is my exorbitant contribution to your inflated treasury. I trust you will be able to hold your debaucherous parties, eat-fests, and intemperate soirees to a level such that we out-of-towners may continue to receive the DIPSTICK on a regular basis.

Best regards,

*Wank*

## ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ No. 17 - AUGUST, 1983

161. How many SA's were built between late 1935 and 1938? **2738, ISO, April 1980, p. 19**
162. Which MG Type (e.g. J, K, etc.) was the first of the Midgets? **M Type, MG Magazine, Summer 1982, p. 44**
163. T or F - TF's were available with disc wheels as standard equipment. **True, ISO, October 1980, p. 4**
164. Almost all MG's prior to the TF started their chassis numbering system with what number? **251, ISO, October 1980, p. 11**
165. The XPEG engine had an actual displacement of **1466 cc's. ISO, October 1980, p. 11**
166. On what month and day was Roy Wiley born? **August 28, Club Newsletter, June 1978, p. 2**
167. The American Branch of the MG Car Club was established in what year? **1937, ISO, December 1980, p. 46**
168. K3 number K3019 is best known as the **Cacchinni** car. **ISO, June 1983, p. 19**
169. Cecil Kimber, the father of the MG Car Company, died in a freak **train** accident in 1945. **ISO, June 1979, p. 8**
170. What was the month and year of the first local club meeting that Ross and Ann Haines attended? **June 1978, Club Newsletter, July 1978, p.1**

WILEY'S PICNIC & CLAMBAKE: by Brenda Banvard

The cool weather may <sup>have</sup> been causing turbulence and rip-tides at the Beach, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the picnickers. I think twenty-four, if I counted everyone, ate Marilyn's famous grilled hamburgers, tried out Dave Barrows' kayak, and drank box-wine and assorted beers. Even Mary Thompson and Sandy Hall successfully navigated the body of water behind Roy's house, landing unscathed and dry. No-one capsized, although when Mike Banvard took Aisha Fisher for a ride in a rowboat, several adults were holding their breaths.

A family of ducks visited, Bill Gordon made ice cream, and several of the male picnickers tried to keep helping Fay, Robert's date, in and out of the kayak.

It was fun and, like most of our MG events, filling! Tough break for all of you who missed it.

This is the name of the chrome-plating company Roy so highly recommends, and wants to share with US  
He has known them many years.

Mance Plating Co.  
PLATING - PRODUCTION POLISHING

THOMAS F. MANCE

255 MAIN ST.  
IMPERIAL, PA. 15126  
412-695-0550

Continuing...THE EVERYDAY MG SCENE IN ENGLAND; Ron Henry

The MG-1100/1300 is even more of a rust-bucket, so even though they once enjoyed great popularity (a total amounting to four times greater than any other MG saloon was produced), they have become quite a rare sight on the roads. The ZA/ZB continue in use as everyday transport by a very few people. Unfortunately, they too succumbed very badly to the rust-bug and are a fairly daunting prospect to restore. An even smaller number of people use Y-types for their daily transport.

All the pre-MGB sports models have been elevated to "classic car" status which in English English apparently indicates to virtually all of their owners that they can be driven only to car meetings in summer! ZA/ZB's and Y's now tend to come into this class, too. Somewhere there must be a few MGA's and T's which are used almost daily, even if only in summer, but I don't know of any. However, a visit to almost any car show or country fair will provide one or two T's and maybe an MGA or a Y amongst the cars on show.

All of the foregoing said, the fact is that, to the benefit of the UK economy, MG exported the vast majority of their post-war production to the USA. So now that One Pound Sterling = \$1.5, please don't come to England expecting to find an MG - other than a B or a Midget - at a very reasonable price in every used-car dealer's showroom!

almost forgot the brand new MG Maestro. This is said to be selling so well that it has created a waiting list. So far, it is a very rare sight (I have seen two), though the rest of the Maestro range is around in relatively large numbers considering that they appeared only four months ago. Motoring press reports have praised the MG Maestro, but its fairly high price (about \$9,900, I think) will probably prevent it becoming an everyday sight on English roads.

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Last, and to me, least, almost - the MGC. About 60% of this ill-starred model were exported, leaving 3,434 sold in UK. They suffer from the same rust problems as the B, and because of the bad press reports on their handling, it was some years before they gained their small group of enthusiasts. In the meantime, quite a few were scrapped, so it is a fairly rare sight now. Apparently, it is a good high-speed cruising car (but at 55mph. has not got into its stride!) but there are various and growing spares problems, so in case any of you think of owning one, my advice is - don't!

RON HENRY

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**UP-COMING EVENTS;**

WED. SEPT. 7 - MONTHLY MEETING at the home of Bob & Linda Pellerin. 7:30pm. See map for directions.

SEPT. 9-11 (non-club event) ROAD ATLANTA. For further information call Ross Haines or Mike Ash.

SEPT. 16-18 GOF Mk. XXXVII, COOPERSTOWN, NY. (T-Register event)

SEPT. 24-25. JAMES RIVER PLANTATIONS & WILLIAMSBURG WEEKEND. Meet at 8:30am in parking lot of Holiday Inn, Willoughby Spit. Depart 9:00am sharp. We will distribute a schedule and maps and directions to all participants at the outset in case we get separated by traffic. We will be visiting four plantations, two of which are not open except by appointment; this means we must be on time and we have to give them a deposit in advance (they have to get a hostess in advance). We will be staying at EconoLodge II (the cheapest place that could accommodate us) and will have to pay in advance, so I will need a check for \$39.95 + Tax (\$42.88) by the next meeting. I have reserved 10 rooms. Saturday lunch will be at Berkeley, about 1:30 (light lunch). Dinner will be at Christiana Campbell's at 7:45, and we will be seated together. (menu available at the meeting). Sunday, we will ferry across the James River and have an early lunch at The Surry House at 11am, after which we will go to Chippokes Plantation - a freebie at last! - then on home. If you plan on taking this tour, please let me know by the night of the next meeting, SEPT. 7th or call me at home - 495-0307 - if you have any questions. By my reckoning, food (2 lunches & dinner) and lodging will be less than \$100 for a couple; plantation admissions extra, and they range from free to \$6.50. These prices will be on the schedule you will receive.

TUE. OCTOBER 4 - MONTHLY MEETING at the Spillmans.

SAT. OCTOBER 15 - BUSCH BREWERY/GARDENS TOUR. Andy Wallach is arranging this, and we may get special parking for antique cars! Don't forget there is free beer in the brewery, and they also serve good pizza there, so once again you could spend a day, not a fortune! More on this next month.

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TRIVIA QUIZ No. 18 - SEPTEMBER, 1983

171. Our local club Treasurer is obligated to provide the club with financial statements at least \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Monthly
- b. Bimonthly
- c. Quarterly

172. In April, 1968 the membership of the NEMGT Register totaled \_\_\_\_\_.

173. The name given to the award presented to the person who accumulates the most points by participation at a GOF is the \_\_\_\_\_ award.

174. When was Tanelle Moseley born? \_\_\_\_\_

175. Who is credited as the person most responsible for the closing of the MG plant? \_\_\_\_\_

176. T or F - The J4 was produced as a supercharged Magnette. \_\_\_\_

177. The Twentieth Anniversary GOF will be held where? \_\_\_\_\_

178. Which local club member won first place in the Premier class at the Colonial Clutch Mini-GOF? \_\_\_\_\_

179. The NEMGT Register is dedicated to the Maintenance, Preservation and \_\_\_\_\_ of T-Series and Vintage MGs.

180. Who is currently our local club's Chapter Communicator? \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

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**Mr. Ross Haines**

**633 Pine Tree Drive**

**Virginia Beach, Va. 23452**

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**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT;**

This year all elected offices of the club are up for renewal. Ross Jaines (President) and Vince Groover (Vice President) have both served two years in their respective positions. Mary Thompson (Secretary) and Sandy Hall (Treasurer) have served one year in their respective positions, and do not wish to serve a second year. Nominations received so far for each of these positions for the coming two years - starting 1 November, 1983 - are:

- President - Vince Groover
- Vice-President - Peggy Bradford
- Secretary - Carolyn McHugh
- Treasurer - Elsie Tarr

As required by the club by-laws, names of nominees will be announced at the September meeting. So if you have any other nominations for the four elected offices, give them to Roy Wiley or Mike Ash before or at the September meeting. Nominations will be closed at the September meeting, and elections held at the October meeting

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS;**

Had a letter from out-of-town members, Jim and Jackie Suter, who are now moving closer to the area and will be able to participate in club functions. They have bought a business in Williamsburg, so please change their address on your roster:

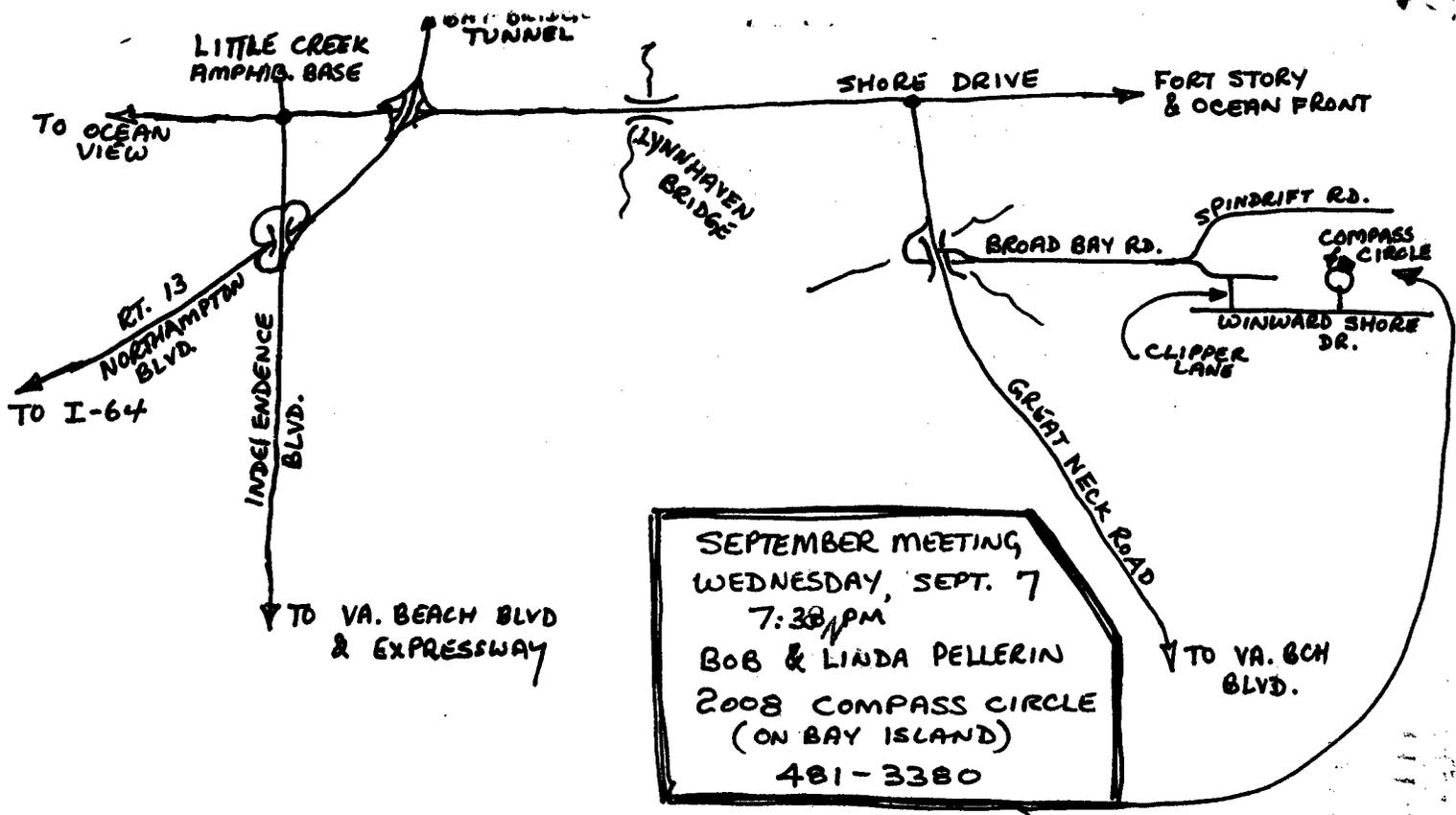
Jim & Jackie Suter  
 107 Whitehall Ct.  
 Williamsburg, VA. 23185      Ph; 565-0007

We hope you both will join us when we are in Williamsburg for our tour.

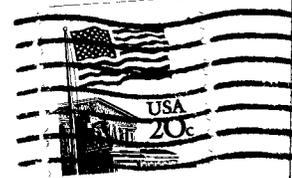
Official "expecting" announcement! PHIL & VICKY TOPCIK, now living in Richmond, are expecting twin baby girls for Christmas. Good luck and congratulations to you all!

**TRANSPO '83 at WATERSIDE;**

Our club was asked to provide two cars to show at Town Point Park for this Transportation Festival (1st annual), and at such short notice Ross was able to rustle up Jim Nolan's TD and Mike's TF, and several "car sitters" to watch the cars in two-hour shifts all day. Jim and Mike really appreciated the Gordons and the Bradfords and the Groovers for helping out. We all thank Ross for providing refreshments for the day; we even managed to sell a couple of T-shirts! The car show ended with a beer and hot-dog bash at one of the piers further down the waterfront. A very pleasant day; perhaps next year we may be able to show more cars - there was certainly room for more - but two was all we were allowed this time.



TIDEWATER MG'T CLASSICS  
 5149 BELLAMY MANOR DR.  
 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23464



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