

THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

THE DIPSTICK



SEPTEMBER 1986

President.....Mel Baker
Vice-President...Tony Perino
Secretary.....Andy Wallach
Treasurer.....Pat Beuter
Editor.....Brenda Banvard

* T * NOTES

Thanks to Brenda and Jim Banvard for hosting the August meeting. Love those spicey meatballs, Brenda!! (Ed. Note : Thanks)

Congratulations to Patrick and Ann Masterson on their recent marriage.

It appears that Judy and I will be going to Richmond for British Car Day, and to Waynesboro for the British Car Festival. If you have not attended a car show, please make plans now as time is short. This is a great opportunity to get away from the "rat race" and relax.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday September 2nd at the Perino's.

See you there.

Me1

UPCOMING EVENTS :

Sept 2 - Tuesday - Monthly meeting at Perino's
7:30 p.m. - Kick tyres
8:00 p.m. - Business meeting

September 7 - Sunday - British Car Day - Richmond
Maymont Park

Sept 18-21 - Thurs-Sun - GOF Mark XLIII - Albany NY

Sept 28 - Sunday - Pig Roast
Hosted by the German's

Oct 1 - Wednesday - Monthly meeting at Moore's

Oct 4 - Saturday - 5th Annual British Car Fest.
Waynesboro, Va.

Oct 12 - Tech Session - Lunds

AUGUST MINUTES

President Mel Baker brought the meeting to order at the Banwards' with "Quiet. It should be a short meeting." He recognized visitors Joe Dillard, who has owned a 70 MGB for twelve years, and Pam MacIntosh, Roy Wiley's daughter. Secretary Andy Wallach presented July's minutes; Jennifer Ash moved for approval; Mike Ash seconded; and the members approved the minutes. Treasurer Pat Beuter reported in abstencia receipts of \$53 from Regalia, \$128 from dues, and a balance of \$1506.25. Jennifer Ash reported that she had received \$138 in dues over the past month. Publicist Peggy Bradford reported that notice of the meeting had appeared in the previous Sunday's Beacon. Historian Mike Ash reported nothing and President Mel asked him about his promised Dipstick article on Guy Fawkes. It was promised for a future Dipstick edition. Andy Wallach defended his spelling "Grey Folks," in the August Dipstick attributing it to improper pronunciation by members with British upbringing.

Vice-President and Regalia Hawker Tony Perino stated that he only had badges and patches, having come right from work in the B with no room and no time to pick up the rest. President Mel stated that Tony takes checks and Visa. (Please the taking of Visa was only in jest.) Membership Chairwoman Jennifer Ash reported that member Pat Masterson and Anne got married. Also that there were quite a few people on temporary mailing and that they would be dropped if after three newsletters they did not join. As Activites Chairwoman, Jennifer reported that activities were as published in the Dipstick. Bob McClaren reminded the members about the tech session on Sunday the 10th. Jennifer also mentioned the Pig Roast scheduled for the German's in September. John German replied "Glad you mentioned it." President Mel noted Parts Man Robert Davis's absence and a discussion ensued. President Mel stated that the newsletter deadline is August 20th. Mel stated that he is still catching up with the source list.

Under new business President Mel said that he had applications for the New England MG T Register and the MG B Register. Jennifer Ash mentioned that the MG A's are having a gathering next year in Seattle - going up to Toronto and taking the autotrain, partying all-the-way. Robin Raphael stated that he had application forms for the MG Owners Club of Great Britain. He recommended the Club which has 60,000 members, stating that the Club magazine has good technical articles and the Club is a good parts source. Robin is offering manifold-SU carburetor sets for \$200 which are good for converting B's to non-emssion control equipped. President Mel tried to give away pool party remains of a pair of swim trunks and a little white shoe. He stated that he will have pool party photos at the next meeting.

Under T-Time, Roy Wiley offered to take chrome for replating to Mance Plating near Imperial Pennsylvania. "Little crummy shop but do things the right way; two month turn around; chrome done locally not worth it." Roy also asked if anyone had a MG B tow bar. Bob McClaren reported that he painted his C the week before, having to install adjustable shocks to compensate for the extra weight of 100 pounds of bondo. Also that he ran the C without putting on the radiator cap right and blew all the water out. He is looking for a 160-degree thermostat. Tom Hall reported that he hadn't done anything on his car. Tom Lund stated that his TD would be on the road tomorrow. He had received a half shaft with bad threads from Moss Motors but got it installed anyway. Mike Ash reported on the Toronto GOF. "Good time. Rained on the car show - didn't bother me but some other people weren't too happy. Ocean to Ocean T Tourist Trophy was reportedly a horrendous experience. GO-go-go. Everybody made it back. Moss Motors was very generous. Followed with a station wagon and covered trailer. Charged only for parts, no cost for

labor. Repairs included several motor rebuilds." Mike stated that following the GOF, He and Jennifer toured the 1000 Islands, went back to Watkins Glen (which they hit on the way up and highly recommend), and attended the MGB gathering at Lancaster Pennsylvania where they joined up with Lee Klein. A 10-foot by 2-foot photograph of the MGs at Lancaster is available for \$25. Mike said it was a nice vacation and that they had put 2,000 miles on the TF. Bob McClaren recommended an upholstery crew in Newport News - P & N Upholstery.

Mike Ash, after stating that "Richard Hall said that he was going to come" to the meeting, related Richard's experiences attending an Antique Car Club show in North Carolina. When refuelling in his Sunday best, he discovered that he had put four and a half gallons of diesel fuel in his TD. He proceeded to drain it, attempting to put the diesel fuel down a storm drain but got caught. Roy Wiley chimed in that Richard "then got his fender smashed" and also had some valve problems. Tony Perino said that the damage was not too bad. Joe Dillard reported that he had taken his MGB down to the frame and was now in the process of putting it back together. He did the engine two years ago.

Brenda Banvard determined that the swimsuit belonged to Dan Boswell and the members adjourned to partake in Brenda's smorgasbord of delicious edibles. Besides the personages mentioned above, Paul Thiergardt, Vince and Pam Groover, Michael Banvard, Sandy German, Pam McClaren, Christine and Simon Raphael, Barbara Perino, Dave Bowling, Lundy Sykes, and Don and Barbara Pryor attended the meeting.

 N O T E : Deadline for O C T O B E R newsletter is Sept 17

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

We have available at meetings application forms for other REGISTERS than the New England "T" Register — namely:

N.A.M.G.A.R. - N.American MGA Register
A.M.G.B.A. - American MGB Association
MGOwners' Club of Gt. Britain

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AN MG VACATION - by Mike Ash

This may now be old news for some of you as I intended to write this article in time for the last issue of the Dipstick. But time was not on my side; so, better late than never! Jennifer and I decided on the two-week vacation when we found that the New England MG 'T' Register "Gathering of the Faithful" (GOF) in Toronto and the American MGB Association "Mini-Con" in Lancaster, Pa., were on consecutive week-ends. This had previously occurred two years ago in North Conway, NH, and Pocono Mountain, Pa., and we had a great time touring the Adirondack Region of New York State in the TF.

Pressure of work and lack of vacation funds dictated that this vacation be less than two weeks, so it really started on the Wednesday (9 July) from Washington, DC. I had business in Dahlgren the day before, so we drove the TF up to Dahlgren in the morning and then on to Washington that afternoon to stay with out-of-town members, Ron and Rosemary Eaton. Ron and Rosemary were also attending the GOF and the Mini-Con, but our routes in between would be different. We set out Wednesday morning, about 9:30 am to miss the Washington commuters; we in our TF and the Eatons with their TD, destination Watkins Glen. Of course, we set out with the top down and managed to go about 10 miles before we encountered heavy rain! We headed up U.S. 15 to Harrisburg and Williamsport, Pa., and the on to Corning and Watkins Glen, NY. It rained on and off all day, so it was top up all the way. We stayed in a small motel with a view of Seneca Lake and, after a mediocre dinner in town went to the mediocre laser light-show at the Glen Gorge.

Thursday morning, we took a beautiful, daylight tour through the gorge. We cheated a bit by taking the shuttle bus to the top end to walk down the 823 steps on the mile-and-a-quarter walk through the gorge. It was all very impressive, and well worth the visit. We left Watkins Glen at about 11:00 am. We were heading directly to Toronto and the GOF, while the Eatons were heading to Buffalo to spend one night before going on to Toronto. We arrived at the Prince Hotel at about 5:30 pm, managing to keep just ahead of the downtown and waterfront rush-hour traffic. The Ocean-to-Ocean-Tourist-Trophy (OOTT) cars had arrived the day before, so there were plenty of T-series cars already there. We met up with out-of-town members, Fred and Nancy Emig and John and Barbara VanOver, who had arrived the day before in their TDs by travelling with the OOTT competitors from Kalamazoo, Mi.

We had a good time at the GOF, kicking tires, meeting old and new friends, partying, and enjoying good food. Roy Mercer and the Ontario Chapter did an outstanding job as organizers and hosts. Ron and Rosemary arrived Thursday, and Vince and Pam Groover showed up for the day on Saturday. Unfortunately the weather did not co-operate for the car show on the Saturday, and it rained for most of the day. There was some under-cover parking for the show, but the cars were packed in pretty tight. The Saturday night banquet was fun, with outstanding food. We did not bring home any awards, but Fred and Nancy Emig got the third-place distance award with about 1300 miles from Richmond to Toronto via Kalamazoo. We left the GOF on the Sunday morning; Jennifer and I to stay a couple more days in Toronto with my cousin, and Ron and Rosemary heading for Connecticut.

We spent a pleasant two more days in and around Toronto, including sight-seeing and a visit with Ontario Chapter friends, Bill and Norma Hirst. We left Toronto on the Tuesday morning, heading east along the north shore of Lake Ontario. On the way, we stopped at the under-construction, Peterborough nuclear power station for a personal guided tour by Bill Hirst. We arrived in Kingston, Ontario, mid-afternoon and took the ferries across the St. Lawrence Seaway to Cape Vincent, N.Y. There were two ferries: the first, from Kingston to Wolfe Island, held about 100 cars; the second, from Wolfe Island to Cape Vincent, held only 13 cars. The second ferry was quite a trip because it was loaded from the side and the only way to get the full load was to leave two cars hanging over each side! Fortunately, the TF wasn't one of them. We spent Tuesday night just outside Clayton, N.Y., right on the banks of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Wednesday we headed west on the Seaway Trail along the south shore of Lake Ontario, stopping at places of interest on the way. Just after Oswego, we turned south and headed for Watkins Glen. We

arrived just after noon and checked into another motel overlooking Lake Seneca. We spent the rest of the day touring the area, including a boat trip on Lake Seneca and a visit to a winery. We had allowed enough room for a case of wine when we packed the TF. Thursday morning we left for Lancaster, and arrived there at about 2:00 pm. There were already plenty of MGBs there and a few familiar faces. The Eatons arrived later in the afternoon, and it was party time again. Thanks to the Buffalo Octagon Association, the partying continued well into the early hours of the morning.

The MGB Min-Con is really a superb and well organized event. On Friday we participated in the rally, which took us all around the back roads of Pennsylvania Amish country. We even managed to place third out of the 50 or more participating cars. The rest of Friday was spent kicking tires and having a good time. Lee Kline showed up for a while as the only other representative of the Tidewater MG 'T' Classics. Lee had never seen so many MGs in one place at the same time, and thought he had died and gone to heaven! On Saturday, the car show was held on the grounds of the Gast Motor Museum in Strasburg, Pa. It was an outstanding location for a car show, with over 100 MGs on the field. We also had reduced rates at the museum, which was well worth the visit. The museum had the first and last MGs imported into the USA - an M-Type and a Limited Edition MGB, both from the Ford collection in Dearborn, Mi. - and a fairly decent TD. Saturday evening was the awards banquet where we collected our third place trophies for the rally plus another trophy for the highest placed T-series in the rally. Ron and Rosemary got the second place T-series trophy from the show for their TD.

Sunday, we left for Washington with the Eatons after attempting to visit the chocolate factory in Lititz. It was closed, but we found a excellent country style restaurant for a late breakfast. Our vacation really ended where it began, in Washington. We stayed over-night with the Eatons and returned home on Monday with another business trip to Dahlgren on the way. The TF was loaded down for the return with a number of MGB bargins from the auction at the Mini-Con and the case of wine with the remains of its contents. Overall it was a very enjoyable vacation. The TF never missed a beat in nearly 2,000 miles. A great way to go!

Membership News - cont'd ...

The October "DIPSTICK" will contain your up-to-date Membership Roster.

Anyone whose dues are not paid will be omitted from the roster for next year.

If there is a label* on this Dipstick, it means I have no record of your payment!

If you have some question on this, please call me - Jennifer Ash 495-0307.

* LAST MAILING

NEW MEMBERS - July & August (Addresses will be in new Roster, aforementioned.)

- Lee Kline
- Wiley Browning
- Lunchy Sykes - (re-joined)
- Jerry & JoAnn Goldman
- Terry & Mary Strom

REPORT ON TECH. SESSION

The August tech.session, held on Sunday 10th, was hosted by Barbara and Tony Perino. There was a good turn-out and some cars went home in better shape than in which they arrived, and some in worse shape! Hank Giffin tuned the carbs. on his TD, and Bob McClaren worked on the brake servos. of his MGC, and also worked on other items. Tom Lund brought a fuel-pump to work on and Mike Ash tightened a mirror and the sun-vizor on Jennifer's TD. Lookers, helpers and beer-drinkers were: Paul Thiergardt, Jim Banvard, Joe Dillard, Dave Bowling and Lee Kline. Robert Davis brought over someone else's MGA to check for oil-leaks. Bob McAlpin brought out his TF and we were all very impressed, while checking it over for things that needed attention. Tony worked on his MGB and Healey during slack periods. Our thanks to Tony for the use of his garage and driveway, and Barbara for the excellent snacks. A good time was had by all, and a smashing time was had by some!

THE STORY OF GUY FAWKES (as I remember it) - by Mike Ash

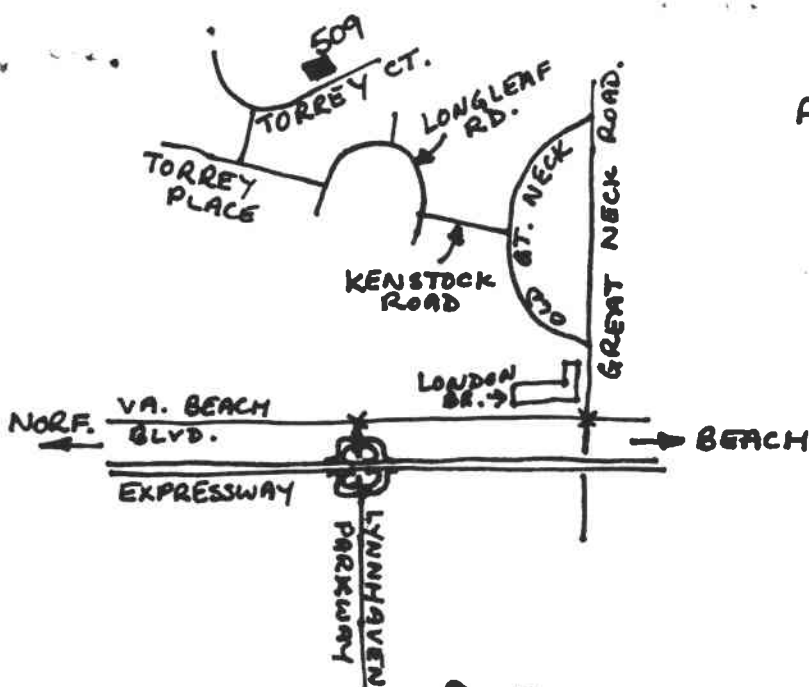
As I recall, there was this bloke wot lived in England about 300 years ago. 'is name was Guy Fawkes, and 'e was one of the anti-social types. Y' see, at the time, there was a bit of a barney going on between a bunch of blokes called the Roundheads and another bunch of blokes called the Cavaliers. The Roundheads were Protestants loyal to Parliament, and a bunch of skin-heads; the Cavaliers were Catholics loyal to King Charles; and a bunch of long hairs. The skin heads and the long hairs ended up in a prolonged dust-up called a civil war, over which King Charles sort of lost 'is 'ead; but that's another story. Anyway, Mister Fawkes was one of them long-haired Cavaliers.

As the story goes, Guy Fawkes and a bunch of 'is long-haired cronies were sitting around one day with nothing to do, when they came up with the dumb idea of blowin' up the Houses of Parliament when it was full of their favourite skin-heads. The more they talked (and drank), the easier it sounded; until they had convinced each other it'd be a piece of cake. All they had to do was fill the cellar under the Houses of Parliament with barrels of gun-powder, light the fuse, and run like h---. So, they drank a few more beers, loaded up all the gun-powder they could find, and set off for London. Anyway, to make a long story short, they had stashed the all the barrels under the Houses of Parliament and were sitting around on November the fifth waiting for the skin-heads to get together up above, when some one snitched and they were caught red-handed like. Every one in England was really ticked off at Mister Fawkes and 'is cronies, so they were given a fair trial and executed. This wasn't enough for the skin-heads, so they decided to make up a little rhyme so's their lucky escape wouldn't be forgot. I've already forgotten it, but it went something like this:

Remember, remember the fifth of November
Gunpowder, treason and plot
(something, something, something, something)
Should never be forgot.

As if this little rhyme wasn't memorable enough, they also decided that a little annual celebration of their deliverance was also called for. So, to this day, everyone in England celebrates "Guy Fawkes Day" on the fifth of November by burning poor old Mister Fawkes in effigy on a bonfire and letting off a bunch of fireworks in their backyard (or in the street if they don't have a backyard). To help the celebration along, and to combat the chill of an English November night, potatoes are baked in the ashes of the bonfire and eaten raw (because usually they are not there long enough to cook) and quantities of warm, alcoholic brew are consumed. To get everyone in the mood for the big day, they make their effigy (called a "guy") a couple of weeks beforehand by stuffing a bunch of a old clothes and fixing them together to look like a dummy! The kids then load the dummy on a "barrer" and trundle it down to the street corner to beg for money to buy fireworks. The little brats stand around rattling their tins and shouting "penny for the guy", although these days they probably won't settle for anything less than 'arf a quid!

So, as promised, that's the story. For the November meeting, our host will be those misplaced Englishfolk. ~~Michael & Leslie Doyle-Davidson~~ So that they don't miss their Guy Fawkes Day celebration, ~~Mike & Leslie~~ intend to combine it with the meeting. Be there for this bit of English madness.



AT:
 JOHN & SANDY GERMAN
 509 TORREY COURT
 VIRGINIA BEACH
 486-8212

ANNUAL PIG-ROAST



SUNDAY, SEPT. 28th at
 - 3:00p.m. -

ADULTS: \$3⁰⁰

CHILDREN: \$1⁵⁰

★ BEER, WINE, SOFT DRINKS PROVIDED ★

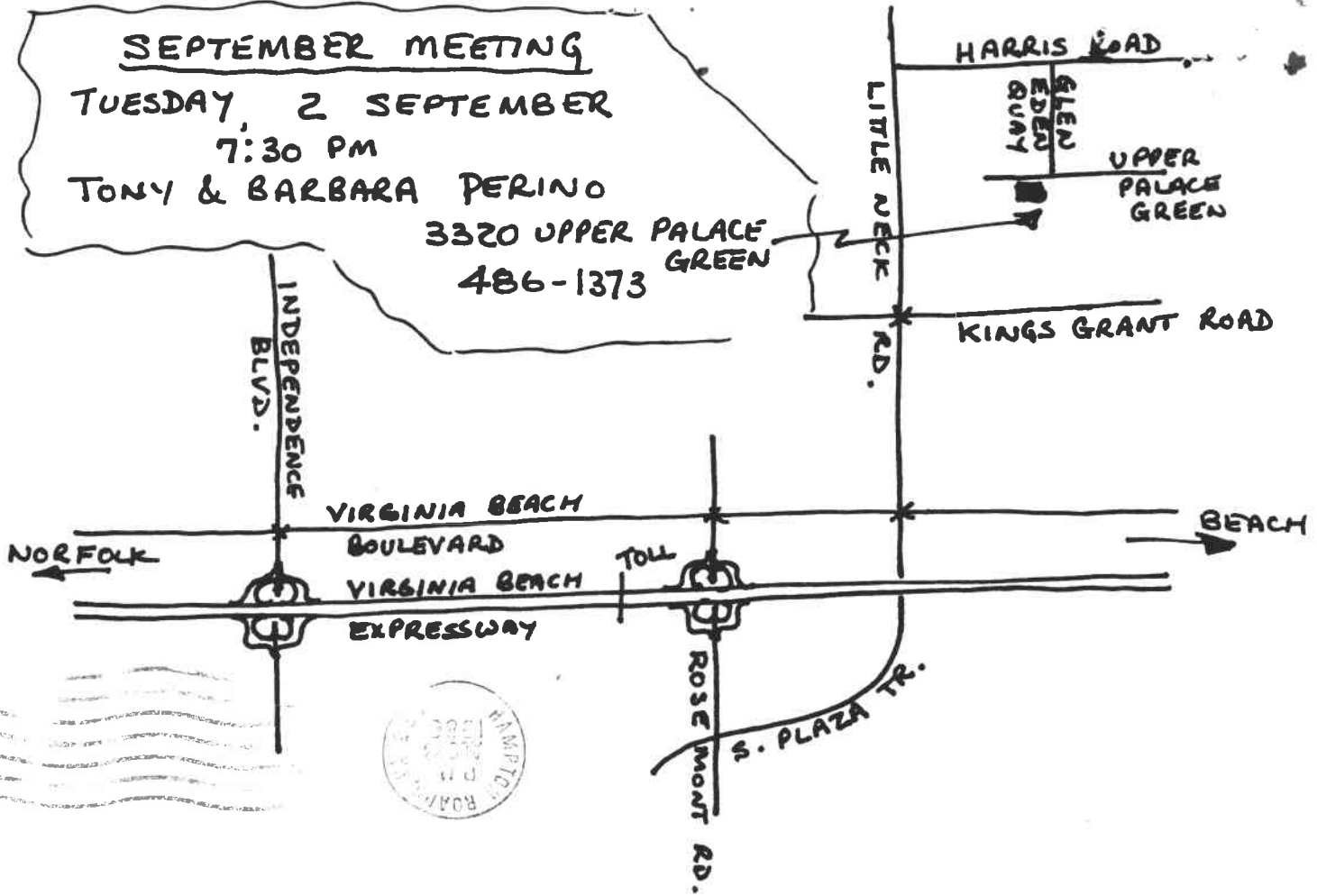
WANTED

- Baked beans
- Cole Slaw
- Brownies
- Chocolate-chip cookies

Please call Ashes-
 495-0307 and let us
 know what you're bringing
DEADLINE! Sept 25th



SEPTEMBER MEETING
TUESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER
7:30 PM
TONY & BARBARA PERINO
3320 UPPER PALACE GREEN
486-1373



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

