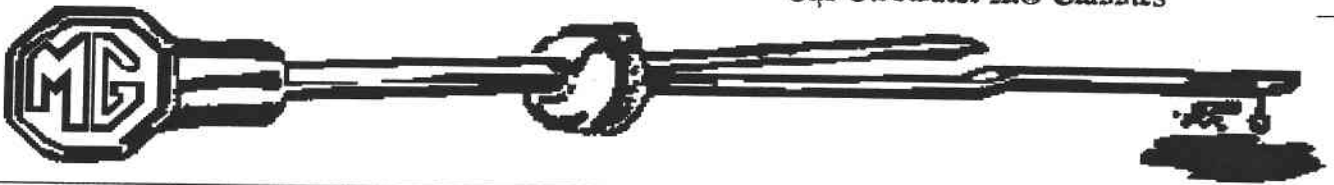


The Dipstick

The Tidewater MG Classics



August 1995

Volume XXXI Issue 7

Marque Time

Thanks to Rolf and Maria Graeber for hosting our July meeting. The weather forecaster cooperated even if the U. S. Postal Service did not. My apologies to anyone who did not receive their July DIPSTICK in time for the meeting. Mine arrived on Friday, several days after the meeting. We had a superb evening for kicking tires, sampling some very good German beer, and just talking MGs. The actual meeting lasted longer than any in recent memory...everyone kept talking MGs. The meeting is Rolf and Maria's last MG Club event as they will soon depart on a trip through the US, and then it's back to Germany. Rolf paid their 1996 dues for continued membership and will be sending us an address once they are settled in Germany. Besides the great little cars, we sure do get to meet some nice folks from all over the world. Maybe it is because of the cars?

Speaking of nice folks... The Hollington-Sawyers have packed up and returned to Canada. Tom resurrected some very nice MGs during his stay while stationed at the NATO Headquarters Command. He even took a few MGs north with him. Of the cars that Tom and Andrea once owned, Rolf is taking an MGB back to Germany, one or more are going to return to England, and the 67 MGB that Pam and I used to drive now belongs to another Canadian. We will miss Tom's good cheer and his willingness to lend a hand or a part to anyone in need.

Speaking of nice folks again...John Harvey, another of our club members stationed at NATO, is sailing a moderate-sized sailing boat back to England. At the July meeting, Robert Davis had a little "Bon Voyage" ceremony to wish John a safe trip.

John assured us that he will return for several more months before he transfers back to England.

Mark your calendars - Sunday, August 20th- see the map inside for the August Picnic at Munden Point Park. This informal affair is being held almost as far as you can go in Virginia Beach and still be in Virginia. Think of the drive out to the picnic as a tune-up run prior to driving to Berkeley Plantation for the September 17th British Car Day. Pack a lunch and exercise your MG.

August Meeting at the Keelers! Bill has promised to have the MGB that he has been working on so diligently on, at the meeting. It could be likened to a coming out party except the meeting is at Bill's home. We'll still get in some of the first tire kicks anyway and hope to see his "new" MGB at Berkely. Map is inside.

Early Fall Tech Session.... October 1st at Tidewater MG Center in Newport News...This will be a great opportunity to meet our peninsula club members.

Safety First!
Bob

Bob McClaren
President

The Dipstick is the official newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| President | Bob McClaren |
| Vice-President | Frank Linse |
| Secretary | Doug Kennedy |
| Treasurer | Bob Miller |
| Dipstick Editor | Doug Squires |



The Tidewater MG Classics is a club dedicated to the preservation, appreciation and maintenance of the MG Automobile, and the fellowship of the club members.



Got a Question, problem,
complaint, comment, or anything
for *The Dipstick*, call
Doug Squires at:
(804) 484-8028

Need a Change of Address?
Contact Mark Childers,
the Membership Chairman at:
(804) 473-1757



Meeting Minutes

Jul, 1995

Bob called the meeting to order promptly at 8:08. He thanked Rolf and Maria Graeber for their hospitality and willingness to open their lovely Virginia Beach home to the Tidewater MG Classics. Bob also welcomed Tracy to the meeting. Tracy is Al & Sue Ellinwood's daughter. No new members were present. Minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's report:

Old Balance = 253.17
Receipts = 939.03
Disbursements = 176.24
Balance = 1015.96

Old Business: August Tech. Session on the Peninsula if possible. Late October Drive-out to the Ashes on the Eastern Shore.

Newsletter: The people who were printing and distributing the Dipstick have closed and departed. We are presently looking for a new printer.

Regalia: Not here tonite.

Spares: John Harvey was presented with a farewell card and some rag time cassette tapes. John and a fellow crewman are sailing his 37 foot sailboat to England. The trip will take about 5 weeks.

Activities: 20 August Picnic at Munden Point Shelter #1. Bring your own food, Barbeques available.

Marque Time: The Ashes went to the MG Gathering in Tahoe. It was a small group, about 75 cars. Chesapeake Scottish Festival was lots of fun. Lots to do too. Robert Davis went to Bowie. Not as many participants at flea market as previous years. Future British Car Days will not be held at Allen Pond Park. John Jones says Redmill Park is available for activities. Bill Keeler had his car painted, and is having his engine rebuilt by Bobby Johnson's (Florida Av) in Norfolk. Don't forget British Car Day 17th of Sept at Berkeley Plantation. The Richmond Club has social events the day before. Keep track of your miles.

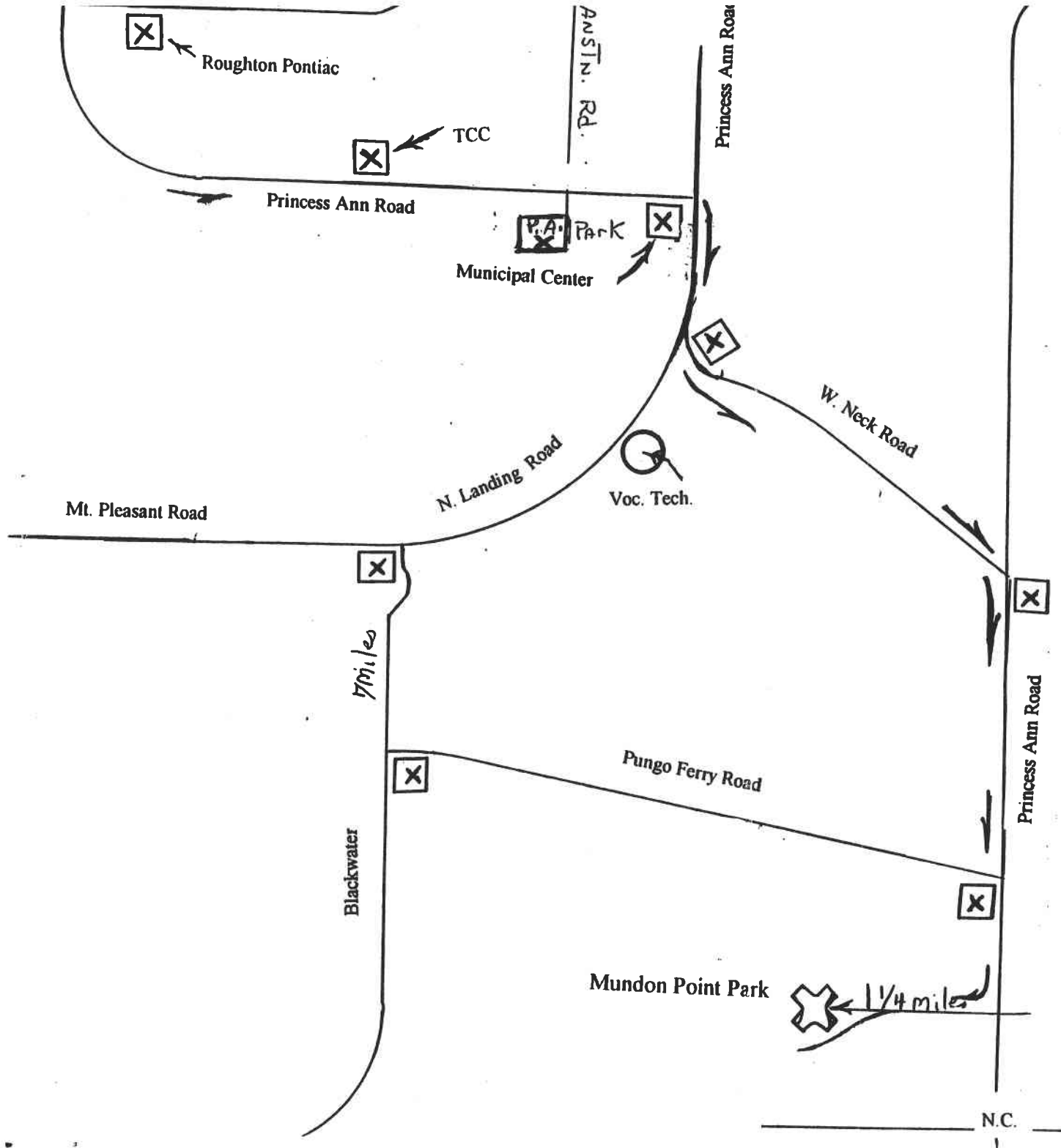
Here's the latest list of activities. Call Peggy(464-0543) to sign up for any of the ones still needing a sponsor.

| | | | |
|------|------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Aug. | 20 | PICNIC | Sponsor: Chris & Shelly Holcomb |
| Sep | 24 | PIG ROAST/CAR SHOW | Sponsor: _____ |
| Oct. | Late | DRIVEOUT | Sponsor: Chuck & Judy Hudson |
| Dec | 9 | CHRISTMAS PARTY | |

Meetings

Wed Sep. 6 Doug & Betsy Kennedy
Tue Oct. 3 Jim Villers
Wed Nov. 1 Chuck & Judy Hudson

Sep 16-17 Richmond British Car Days
Sep 30 MG on the Rocks, Rock State Park, MD



PICNIC

When: ~~22~~ ²⁰ August
 Where: Mundon Point Park

Noon until.....

Bring your own food and drinks.

Club will provide the Shelter.

BBQ Grilles available.

Rain or Shine

Bring your MG... Bring your Kids too!

Hope to see you there.

Membership Notes

Mark Childers & Debbie Goodwin
 5013 Carnation Av
 Virginia Beach, VA 23462
 473-1757 or Dig Pgr 626-9686

The 1995-96 membership drive is off to a good start with 32 replies received to date, not including 10 recent new members who had already paid dues thru 1996. Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed application form.

New members include Brister and Mark Thomas of Virginia Beach. Brister is the Youth Minister at Haygood United Methodist, and Mark is in the Navy. She's had her red '70 roadster for 10 years. It's currently in my shed having the cobwebs and hornets nests cleared out of every nook and cranny. A Newport News Vet, Dr R. Andrew Murphie is among our newest members. He owns a very nice 58 MGA roadster.

Coastal Head & Engine Exchange at 116 Jersey Ave (Cleveland St/Witchduck Rd area of VA Beach) did an excellent job for a very fair price on a head which should have been tied to the end of an anchor line.

Meeting attendance is improving with the advent of warmer weather, but it would be nice to see a few more of us braving the downpours in those all-weather MG's....

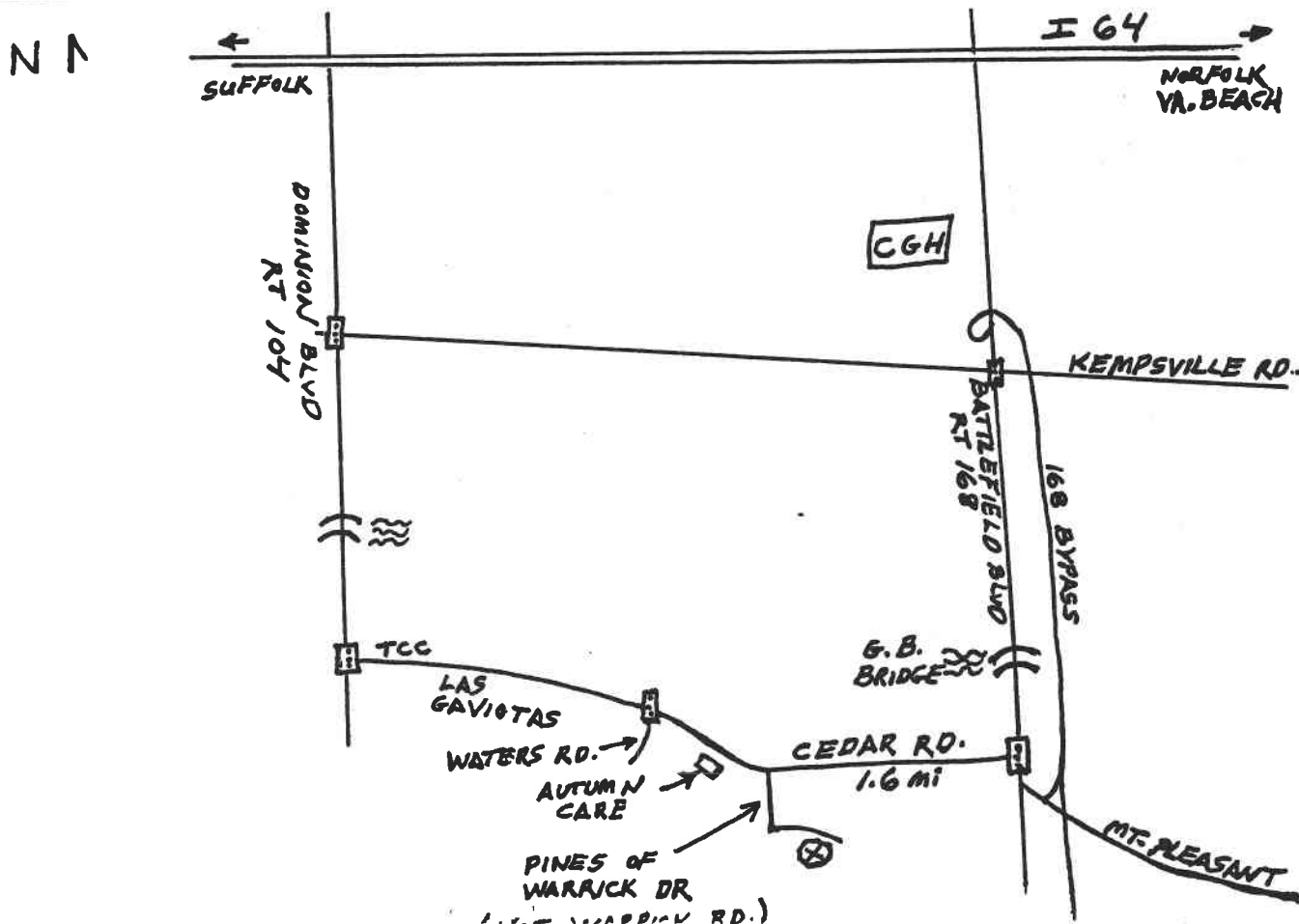


Name tags are available for sale. Price is \$5.00 per tag. Order at next meeting or send check or money order to: Doug Squires 4909 Orleans Dr. Portsmouth, VA 23703.

Tags ordered at a meeting will be ready for pick-up at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

Tues Aug 1, 1995 Kick Tyres: 7:30 PM. Business Meeting: 8:00 PM.
 Hosted by: Bill & Libby Keeler 636 Montebello Cir, Chesapeake, VA 23320 547-270.



Eleventh Annual Richmond British Car Days

Presented By: The Central Virginia MG Classics, Ltd.

Dates: September 16 & 17, 1995
Rain or Shine

Saturday September 16:

Schedule:

| | |
|--|---|
| Arrive Sheraton Inn - Richmond Airport | registration open |
| noon-6pm | hospitality room |
| noon-6pm | vendor display |
| noon-6pm | welcome reception and dance at the Aviation Museum featuring music by <i>The Kings of Swing</i> |
| 7pm-10pm | hospitality room continues |
| 10pm | |

Sunday September 17:

Show Location: Historic Berkeley Plantation
Route 5, Charles City, VA

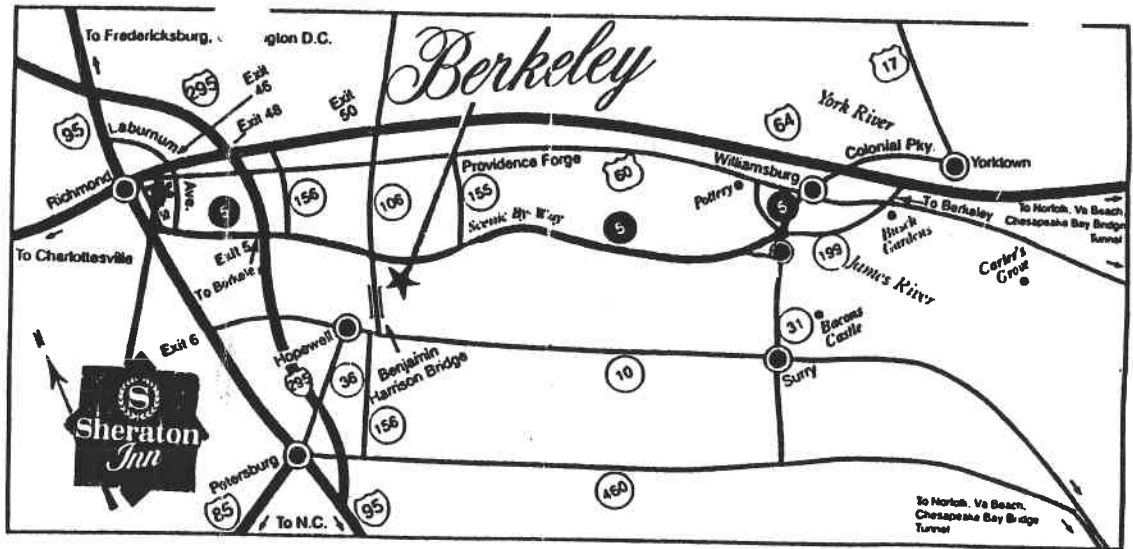
Class Awards: Classes and Awards are based on pre-registration
Judging by registrants

Special Awards:- Best of Show
- Berkeley Award (most unique British vehicle as chosen by Plantation Owner)
- Most Opportunity for Improvement
- Oldest Car
- Longest Distance Driven

Lunch:
- Food and soft drinks provided by professional catering service
- Coach House Tavern Restaurant on location
- Picnics, tailgating welcome.
- No alcoholic drinks are permitted

Schedule:

| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| 9:00 AM | Registration and Field Opens |
| 12:30 PM | Registration Closes |
| 2:00 PM | Judging Ends |
| 3:30 PM | Presentation of Awards |



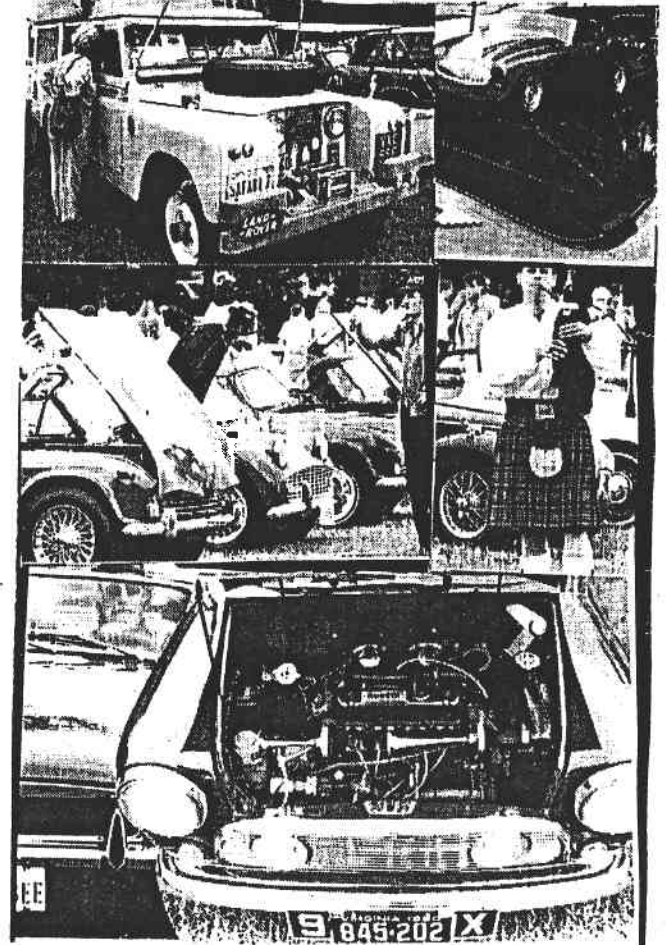
Hotel Reservations

RICHMOND BRITISH CAR DAYS
September 16 - 17, 1995

Special group rates for your visit have been arranged at \$55 for up to four people per room per night.

Reservations must be received by August 31, 1995.

Sheraton Inn Richmond Airport
4700 South Laburnum Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23231
Telephone (804) 226-4300
Fax (804) 226-6516
TOLL-FREE 1-800-628-7601

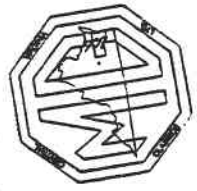


Dear British Car Enthusiast:

Members of the Central Virginia MG Classics, Ltd. invite you to participate in the Eleventh Annual Richmond British Car Days to be held in historic Richmond, VA. This two day event will include activities on Saturday at the plush Airport Sheraton Inn, and on Sunday at historic Berkeley Plantation located along the James River. Berkeley Plantation provides a perfect setting for the show on Sunday. Last year's event attracted over 300 cars and 3,000 spectators.

All types of British cars and motorcycles will be featured in a special display, and the mighty Austin Healey will be featured in a special reflections exhibit. Please pre-register by September 1st to ensure a class for your make of car or motorcycle. New for this year, will be activities on Saturday for the whole family. The Airport Sheraton Inn, with its indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, exercise gym, and group rates will certainly please everyone. There will be a special guarded parking area for all British cars, with vendors and old friends in the goods for all British cars. Meet new and old friends in the hospitality room sponsored by the Central Virginia MG Classics. You will certainly want to participate in Saturday evening's casual welcome reception and dance at the nearby Virginia Aviation Museum. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served while you dance to the sounds of the Eleventh restored vintage aircraft!

You will certainly want to participate in Saturday evening's casual welcome reception and dance at the nearby Virginia Aviation Museum. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served while you dance to the sounds of the Eleventh restored vintage aircraft! plan now to be a part of the festivities in the Eleventh Annual Richmond British Car Days, Virginia's finest all-British car show!



Sincerely,
Bruce Woodson
Bruce Woodson
1995 British Car Day Chairman,
Central Virginia MG Classics, Ltd.

Make check payable to Central Virginia MG Classics, Ltd. and send to:
Bruce F. Woodson, Jr.
12554 Woodstock Rd..
Glen Allen, VA 23059
(804) 749-3262

- No. of Tickets for Sat. Reception @ \$15.00 _____
- Children under 12 FREE _____
- No. of Vehicles for Pre-registration @ \$10.00 _____
- Vehicles (After September 1st) @ \$15.00 _____
- Vendor Pre-registration @ \$20.00 _____
- Vendor (After September 1st) @ \$25.00 _____
- No. of Vehicles for Sale @ \$15.00 _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make _____ Model _____ Year _____ Series _____

Make _____ Model _____ Year _____ Series _____

Local Car Club _____
WAIVER OF LIABILITY must be signed to enter show. Neither I nor my heirs will hold the Central Virginia MG Classics or Berkeley Plantation liable for any injury, death, or damages occurring while engaged in, or traveling to or from this event.

Signature _____ A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity.

The Run-On Control Valve

By: Mark Childers

Many MGB owners remove or disable the Run-On Control, thinking that it's part of the horsepower-robbing smog system. In fact, it aids performance by eliminating undue wear on internal components, and excessive carbon buildup caused by dieseling.

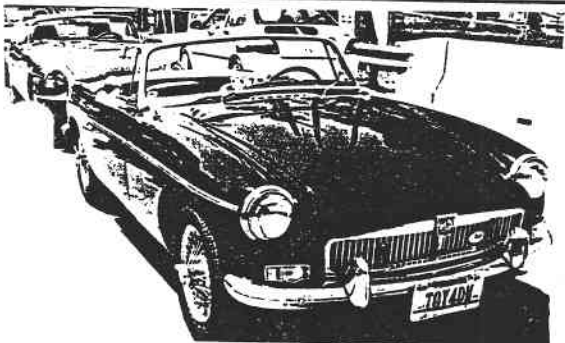
The system is comprised of a solenoid operated, normally closed vacuum valve connected directly to the intake manifold via rubber hose. An oil pressure sensing switch provides a ground above 8psi, and removes the ground below 8psi. Power is supplied by a contact in the ignition switch which provides 12vdc only when the ignition switch is in the "off" position. The wiring colors are Slate (S), Slate-Yellow(SY), and Slate-Purple(SP). A small line fuse is installed adjacent to the fuseblock to protect the system in the event of a short without disabling the ignition system. The oil pressure switch is located on the firewall close to the right side of the heater box, and the solenoid valve is located on the RH fenderwell.

When a running engine is shut down, power to the ignition system is disrupted, causing engine rpm to decay. Fuel continues to enter combustion chambers, and when exposed to superheated valves or carbon deposits, dieseling begins, and the engine may continue to run - in either direction - as each firing cycle draws a fresh charge of fuel. The run-on control valve in the MGB effectively eliminates dieseling by automatically introducing a massive vacuum leak, leaning the mixture to a point where combustion cannot be maintained. When this process takes place in conjunction with normal shut down, there is little or no noticeable run-on.

When a properly fitted MGB is shut down, and the ignition switch is moved to the off position, 12vdc is routed via S to the in-line fuse, out the fuse via SP to the "hot" side of the run-on valve solenoid. From the "ground" side of the solenoid to the oil pressure sensing switch, 12vdc is routed via SY. The oil pressure sense switch provides a path to ground and the solenoid opens the vacuum valve, allowing atmospheric pressure to enter the intake manifold. As the engine spools down, and oil pressure falls below 8 psi, the oil pressure sense switch opens the path to ground, releasing the solenoid, and thus returning the vacuum switch to the closed position. The system is now reset and ready for the next start-stop cycle.

Troubleshooting the system With ignition ON check for 0vdc at the SP wire on the valve; 12 vdc indicates a bad ign switch. With ign OFF, check for 12vdc. If not present, check in-line fuse and/or ign switch. If voltage is okay, unplug SY wire from oil pressure sense switch and with ignition switch ON ground the SY wire while listening for the sound of the solenoid. If okay, remove the run-on control vacuum line from the intake and gently blow into it while the SY wire is ungrounded. Line should be closed, then with SY grounded, line should be "open". Try removing the valve, and spraying carb cleaner through every port until you can hear the valve "rattle" when shaken. Repair any cracks in the plastic with super glue, as vacuum leaks can occur, causing hard starts, overheating and, yes, dieseling. Replace unit only when all else fails....

With SY wire removed from oil pressure switch, and vacuum line reconnected, clip a 12v test lamp to the oil pressure switch terminal, and connect the probe end to either end of the bottom fuse in the fusebox. When the engine is started, the test lamp should glow, and when the engine is shut down, it should go out just before the engine stops. If not, replace the switch.



SEND ME A PHOTO AND I'LL
PRINT IT !!!

← Doug Mueller's 66

Doug Squires' 77 →



Dipstick Editor

Doug Squires

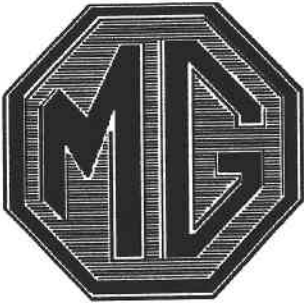
A Final Thought

Each month I arrive at our monthly meeting and run around from person to person like a squirrel gathering nuts.. (or something like that) to collect "the Stuff" this newsletter is made out of. I wind up getting lots of good stuff, some I steal for the newsletter, some I don't. I recently found something in one of the publications one of our members gave to me that really caught my attention:

MG - The Marque of Friendship!

Although I had never thought of an MG in quite those terms before, I pondered that phrase for a while (Old Senior Chief's like to sit and ponder). Then I said, "Wow, that's pretty good!" I realized that the phrase describes the Tidewater MG Classics and it's people, better than any other phrase I've heard.

I even went to Webster, (Yes, contrary to popular belief, I do own a dictionary) who told me that friendship is "the quality or state of being friendly". Well, I guess that fits pretty darn good. I can't think of a friendlier bunch, especially when there's some tire kicking or bonnet peeking to be done.... Hug an MG owner - They probably need it!



The Dipstick

The Tidewater MG Classics



Doug Squires
4909 Orleans Dr.
Portsmouth, VA 23703



First Class Mail