



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS

3-23-76

MARCH NEWSLETTER

President: Cathy Dowrick
423-1873
Secretary: Jennifer Ash
424-1660

HI, GANG!

Another active month gone by... It really is good to see more and more people turning out for club events; let's hope the summer months will bring even more members out. The Activities Committee has compiled a calendar of events to take us up to Christmas. We try to suit all tastes, but fully realize that we "can't please ALL the people ALL of the time." As always, if anyone has a suggestion for a "fun" activity, get in touch with Camille Atwood at 423-1873.

We had another superbly-attended tech. session at Jim Banvard's on February 29th; (Jim knows it was well-attended by the number of new oil patches on his driveway!) There were 11 T's - 17 members and one prospective member in attendance. All cars present were tuned up in readiness for the Spring Rally on March 14th. We all want to thank Brenda for the refreshments.

The March meeting was held at our house on Tuesday the 2nd. There were 24 members in 5 TD's, 2 TF's 1 Y and assorted latter-day cars. We also welcomed a guest, Buck Lampton, who was so impressed with us (?) he joined the club the very next week! The matters which came under discussion at the meeting are as follows:

- Let's brunch at Fort Monroe again - we like it.
- The deadline for reservations for the Mini-GOF at Strasburg, Pa. is April 30. See the T.S.O. or call Mike Ash or Jim Banvard for details, or if you want to ride up there in a group.
- At future tech. sessions, a coffee can will be placed in a conspicuous place so that all in attendance can make a small contribution to cover oil, brake fluid, or any materials used to put your car in order and, in part, to defray the cost of coffee and snacks - but mostly to replenish the host's garage supplies we use. The contribution is entirely up to the individual, but we would suggest a minimum of 50¢.
- Bob Tindall has suggested compiling a photo album of cars and their owners. Brenda Banvard has a lot of photos herself and has agreed to undertake this project. Please, especially the members who are now out-of-town members, let us have a photo of you and your car when you were here in Tidewater; if you only have a negative, please send it to Brenda - she promises to return it to you - at 3633 Van Buren Dr. Va. Beach, Va., 23452. Present members, just come to a meeting or an event and Brenda will be there with her trusty camera, ready to catch you looking your very windswept worst!
- We are buying some embroidered club emblems, exactly the same as the car badges, for sewing to ski jackets, hats, etc., and it was unanimously agreed to sell these for \$2.25 each, of which 65¢ will be profit to the club.
- The "T" Register is holding a Bi-Centennial Rally, July 26 through 31, which will run through every original capital of each of the 13 original colonies. The rally will start in Savannah, Ga. and the first night will be spent in Halifax, N.C. and the 2nd night at Williamsburg (or a bit further north). There will be 76 cars admitted to the rally, over half of which will be MGA's, MGB's, etc; the rest will be T's and any vintages who wish to try it. The grand prize will be Abingdon's

1,000,000th car - a brand new MGB! Our club has been asked to help make accommodations and possibly man some checkpoints, and generally act as hosts at the motels for those two nights. It was agreed by majority vote to support this event, and volunteers were Dave Parsons, Dave Barrows, Mike and myself for Halifax, and Roy Wiley, Richard Hall, Jim Banvard and Mike and I for Williamsburg - that's if Mike and I decide not enter the rally, which we would dearly love to do, but we don't know if either of the cars would take it. Anyone who is interested in entering this rally, please call Mike for details on obtaining the information kit, etc.

The meeting then adjourned to drink more beer, etc.

The Spring Rally was held on Sunday, March 14, a brisk sunny day. There were 11 cars running the rally - 1 TC, 1 TF, 4 TD's and 1 Y. The other participants had their T's off the road for one reason or another, and Roy's daughter and her friend came in the bug-eyed Sprite. One of our newer members - Tom Connelie, whose TC is laid up temporarily - came to see us off at the Courthouse; we hope to see him and his TC and his wife at a meeting very soon. (The TC and the wife aren't prerequisites for attending meetings though, Tom - just bring yourself and meet some more of us!) The rally was very enjoyable and took us around the countryside and little communities and past dairy herds that we would never see normally because most of us would be lost, lost, lost! Thank you Richard and Bob for laying it out. The rally ended up at the Village Inn Pizza place where we ate pizza, drank beer and distributed the prizes. Dan & Suzy Boswell won a pewter cup as first prize (best time) and Wayne Nunnally and John Ray won a small pewter cup for coming home second; Pam Wiley won a genuine Mickey Mouse glass as a beebby (oops!) consolation prize. (Get Dad to buy you a "T", Pam; you might get pewter next time!).

It has been talked about a few times, and finally we are going to do it - go out for a mid-week dinner at Blue Pete's. We will do this next Tuesday, March 30, and details as to where to meet and how to get there are on the attached flier. On Tuesdays they do have a "special" - All You Can Eat Shrimp for \$5.75. Some of us went there last fall and had a great time; please come again, and those who missed it last time, come and find out what good food you missed. And, please RSVP to me if possible, just so I can give the restaurant an idea of how many of us to expect.

Thanks to all the members who have contributed to this newsletter; I hope you will continue to help me out and encourage other members to do the same.

Be 'T'-ing you,

JENNIFER

ACTIVITIES FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR:

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| April 3 | Tech Session - "Spring Tune-Up, No. 2 - At Jim Banvard's |
| April 24/25 | Meet at Willoughby Holiday Inn 9.30 a.m. on 24th for coffee; caravan to Williamsburg and disperse to do your own thing - it is the beginning of "Garden Week" in Colonial Williamsburg; the James River Plantations open that weekend; then there is the Pottery Factory and a host of other things to do. Those wishing to stay overnight must make their own reservations, or failing that, join us for brunch 10 am Sunday at the Cascades, (fabulous brunch), and caravan around Jamestown Island, cross the river by the Jamestown Ferry and possibly stop at the Surry House for coffee before returning home. |
| May 23. | Mini-GOF in Strasburg, Pa. |
| May 23 | Tour of Hermitage House - \$.50 per person, and a picnic in the grounds. Must be at the House by 1.00 p.m. (Call Sandy Hall for details - 482-2821) |
| July 11 | Tech Session - Mike Ash's garage (for a change) |

July 15 Funkhana and Picnic (Dave Barrows and Robert Davis for details)
 August 15 Fort Monroe Brunch and tour of War Memorial Museum; home by way
 of James River Bridge.
 August 29 Tech Session - Jim Banvard
 September ?? Together with the Chesapeake Chapter - Round Robin Tour (weekend)
 October ? Dismal Swamp - Boat Ride and Picnic (Richard Hall)
 November 14 Tour of Petersburg Battlefields and lunch at Virginia House
 December 5 Tech Session
 December ?? Christmas Party

ODE TO AN M.G. by Susan Boswell
 (apologies to John Keats)

Little MG, with lines so sleek,
 I'll drive you out and we can seek
 Distant roads and balmy climes.
 Why we can have some terrific times.

Fate took me to the shore that day,
 To the house by the sea where you lay
 Rusting away in the salty air.
 Was there no one left to care?

It ravaged my soul to see you neglected,
 Unloved, unwanted, forlorn, rejected.
 I'll hire out my wife, for your restoration,
 I'll mortgage my house, I'll suffer starvation.

Wire wheels, headlights, windscreen and chrome,
 Knock-offs, sidecurtains, a new canvas dome.
 I sand and I strip, I prime and I paint.
 I daresay the Church will declare you saint.

I tune your engine 'til you purr like a kitten,
 Enfold you at night in your own little mitten.
 People stare as we drive down the street.
 "I like your car," are the words they repeat.

The wind and the rain seep in through your holes,
 But what do I care, we're the world's staunchest souls.
 For there are others like me, I am quick to learn.
 "The faithful," we're called, other cars we do spurn.

Oh little MG. so sleek and so fair,
 Adventures we find in the brisk open air.
 There's none other but you, sacred octagon.
 Four followers are legion, your glory lives on.

FOR SALE

2 Front Brake Drums - \$20 each
 1 TD/TF Center Bearing for
 transmission (brand new from
 Moss) \$10.00
 1. Front Girling Shock - works
 good, no leaks. Best Offer.

All above: Robert Davis 423-2705

WANTS

Any kind of T that is driveable,
 up to \$2,500. (NEED one to drive
 while doing restoration!) Call
 BOB BROWN - (616) 429-8750

Fairly complete chassis for TC,
 or a frame, front end, steering,
 rear end and wheels. Contact
 Bob Hardiman (President, Texas
 Chapter, who is building TC from
 scratch) 4018 Copeland Rd. Tyler,
 Texas 75701

LITERATURE EVERYONE MUST HAVE!!

MG World/75 (\$9.95 + 75¢ shipping)
 500 Highgate Terr.
 Silver Spring, Md. 20904

MINI-GOF - Mid-Tenn.T's - Rites of Spring MK. II - May 7, 8 & 9, 1976, at Lake Malone
 Inn, Dunmor, Kentucky. This looks as if it would be an interesting weekend.
 Call Jennifer Ash if you want further details and prices, etc. We also have
 a registration form. That would be a lovely drive that time of year; pity it
 is so close to the Pa. mini-GOF.

T - TIPS: This is shared with us by Dave Barrows.

REPLACEMENT LENS FOR PARKING LAMP:

Do you have a broken or missing lens in your parking lamp? If so, a replacement can be made from a 1-gallon WHITE PLASTIC MILK BOTTLE!

Take something about 2" in diameter, place it on one of the top corners of the bottle, and move it about until you have the best fit, then draw around it. Cut it out. It is better to have a larger circle than one that is too small.

Take the chrome rim of the parking light and open the flange with a small screwdriver. Be careful not to open more than necessary.

Trim curved plastic disc until it fits in rim. Tap edge with hammer to close the rim and keep the two pieces from coming apart.

The roundest end of a L'EGGS (hosiery) container has a better curve, but will not pass as much light through.

I GOOFED!

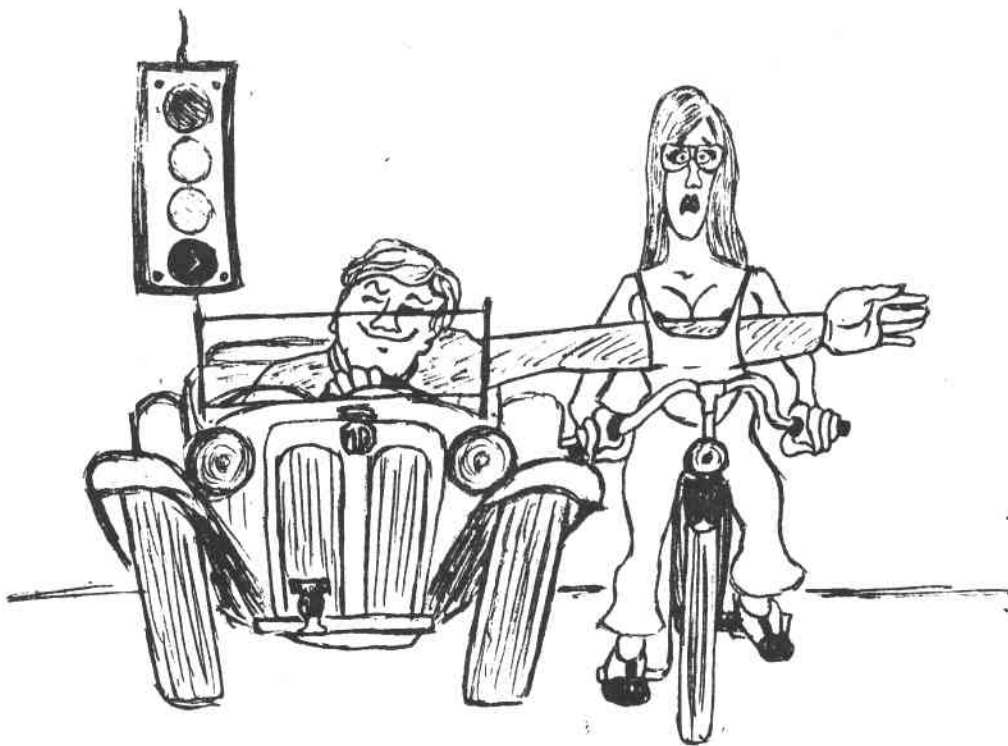
Diagram - April

Fit the 2" diameter glass or cup against this corner and get best fit. Mark round it, cut out and trim to fit rim.

NEWS FROM OUT-of-TOWN: We just received a card announcing the arrival of Midget Giffin, Mk. II, Born Feb 16th, a daughter, Ryan Collins. Congratulations Hank and Stevie!

APRIL MEETING: At the home of FRED AND JANE D'ANTONIO, on Wednesday, April 7th, at 7.30 p.m. See map at back for directions. Please come. Any of you who have not yet received your club badge, they will be at the meeting; postage costs are getting too high to mail such a heavy item; besides we want to meet our new members, and not just have a name on a list - we like People and M.G's.

CARTOON CORNER - BY BRENDA BANVARD



(BRENDA'S (AND OUR'S) APOLOGIES TO ROAD & TRACK)