



THE DIPSTICK

MARCH 1980

PRESIDENT: Jim Banvard (340-6737)
VICE PRES: Don Moore (481-1801)
SECRETARY: Andy Wallach (583-9387)
TREASURER: Sandy Hall (482-2821)
EDITOR: Susan Boswell (486-1293)

Hello, T-Lovers--

It appears that winter is back for a second run, though not by popular demand. During that brief burst of spring, Dan did manage to wash the TF free of a winter's supply of dust and little cat tracks. For a car that has been sheltered in a closed garage since November, it managed to acquire an amazing overabundance of both.

Back for a continuing run by popular acclaim is our own personal auto opera, MG FEVER. Creator Robert Davis has been out of commission for a while recuperating from a couple of operations designed to rearrange his anatomy and has passed the hours with pen in hand. I have been promised months of episodes to keep everybody happy.

Speaking of Robert, he's not through being hacked at and is scheduled for more surgery the week of March 3 at Chesapeake General Hospital. Bob Salvin has volunteered to host the March meeting in Robert's absence. In fact, Bob is doing double duty this month since he's also hosting the casino party (is that why Bob was buying garters and a green eye shade). See Upcoming Events for details and the map on page 8 for directions to both events.

FROM OLD NUMBER 2400, 4270, 7085, and VM199--

Each month when it is time to provide this article to the editor, it seems as if I have to steal the time from some other requirement. This month is even harder. Today (Saturday, Feb. 23) is our first beautiful weekend day of the year and I could just as well be driving the TF to the beach. Ah, yes, there will be time for that later. I hope that the majority of those who read this did some little 'T' thing this day--what a day for it!

At the last meeting, due to many considerations, we cancelled our plans for a GOF in August. We now have two on the calendar for next year. This will require a great deal of effort on the part of many. In June of next year we will be putting on an event in Williamsburg just prior to a Yorktown Bicentennial event which will coincide with an antique car show. The winners at the mini-GOF will go on to the antique car show on Sunday which is a part of the Bicentennial celebration. In the fall, GOF XXXIII will be held here in Virginia Beach.

My thanks are extended to Ira Brown who put on a most interesting slide show at the February meeting at the Bradfords'. His presentation was filled with not only good pictures but with Ira's personal experiences with the interesting cars of the late 40's and early 50's. (Ed. note: Ira owned a TC for 22 years.)

The Banvards are still looking for companionship going to the GOF in Daytona Beach, Fla. April 17-21. Bess Mann and the Groovers have expressed interest but we still have no firm commitments for the long trip. Wind in your hair, anyone? On this subject, Richard Gross from Jacksonville called and inquired if I would like to be in the party of Concours judges for this event. I said certainly, so perhaps I'll have this pleasurable tack to perform while in the South land.

Andy Wallach's TF now resides at home and there is room for the 'B' in the garage. I think the 'B' really likes it.

During the next two weeks starting February 24, Hank Giffin will be amongst us while his ship undergoes some repair work. Those who bowled on the 24th

will have had the opportunity to enjoy his company and humor.
We'll see you all at the March meeting at Bob Salvin's.

Jim

YOUR DIE IS CAST AT THE CASINO PARTY!!

SECRETARY'S REPORT--from the pen of Andy Wallach

Brad and Peggy Bradford hosted sixteen members and guest speaker Ira Brown at the February meeting. You can all ask what Jennifer, Bob, Sandy, and Susan had in common while sitting on the hearth. (Ed. note: Warm a---s.)

Tongue-tied President Jim managed to get the meeting started. Secretary Andy proposed that the January meeting minutes as they appeared in THE DIP-STICK be approved and they were. Treasurer Sandy reported a balance of \$1024.80 with \$85 being made on the Wicker Basket Affair. (Ed. note: What's this rumor I hear about the President, Secretary and spouses spending a weekend in Bermuda?). Events Ross stated that disposable name tags will be available. Vince Groover got Vice President Don to agree to research the price of laminated plastic name tags. The blueprint plaques and prices are somewhat elusive but hopefully something will be found out soon. Jennifer Ash solicited presents, that is...for her birthday which coincides with the March meeting. The Ashes volunteered for the April meeting and the Wallachs tentatively for August. It was reported that the Cascades Restaurant, site of the April activity, does not take reservations. It was proposed and approved that the club pay for the mixers at the March 22 Casino Party. A long discussion was held concerning the mini-GOF in August. After several votes, a new site selection committee was formed...but read on. Regalia Elsie stated that she has lots of goodies and that shirts should be in shortly. Jennifer related that Parts Robert, not present due to medical operations, asks us to support Phase I. (Ed. note: Robert reports further that Phase I has a load of TD parts it's ordered over the last few months for this club and they have yet to be picked up and paid for. So if Phase I has a part for you, go get it.) Bess, Elsie and Peggy reported that they met and held their own tech session. So if you are interested in joining "WMGMG" for a powder puff tech session, contact one of them.

Under New Business, it was reported that there will be a British--American car show at Kings-Mill-on-the-James in May or June 1981. It was decided to move the August 1980 mini-GOF to May 1981 to be held in conjunction with the car show. Don Moore mentioned the Hostage Crisis Center whose purpose is to maintain an awareness of the Iranian hostages. Those interested should call Mike Christian at the White Heron restaurant.

Jennifer and Mike Ash requested assistance for GOF XXXIII in the fall of 1981. Anyone interested should call Jennifer at 424-1660.

After the official part of the meeting, Ira Brown presented a slide show covering his experiences and the cars which raced at Watkins Glen, Monaco, and Brands Hatch during the early 1950's. The slides were beautiful. Thanks to Ira and the Bradfords for a very pleasant evening.

The MARCH MEETING will be WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Bob Salvin.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! THE CASINO PARTY IS COMING!!

UPCOMING EVENTS--

MARCH 22 (SAT)--The Casino Party, 8:00 p.m. at Bob Salvin's, 4157 Edinburgh Dr. Va. Beach. Come win a prize while satisfying that daring gambler's urge that lurks in the hearts of all of us. Bring a snack (dip, cheese ball, hors d'oeuvre--whatever suits your fancy) and your own beer, wine or liquor. The club will supply the mixes. So we know ahead of time how many one-armed bandits we need, call Ross and Ann Haines at 486-1496 no later than March 15. See the map on page 8 for Bob's house.

APRIL 20 (SUN)--Brunch at the Cascades in Williamsburg.

WHAT A LOT OF US MISSED--The Daffy Duck Pin Bowling Tournament

A few of the Faithful showed up for our second annual Daffy Duck Pin Bowling Tournament which was followed by a trip to Milton's for pizza. The winning bowlers--

- Hi Series (Teen)--Elsie Tarr (the Younger)
- Hi Series (Women)--Beth Riffle (her second consecutive championship)
- Hi Series (Men)--Al Alvarez (his second consecutive championship)
- Hi Game--Ross Haines

Others in attendance included Elsie Tarr and both daughters, Hank Giffin and Michael Banvard, and the Lasters, friends of Al and Ginger Alvarez, and of course the spouses of our winners.

WIN-WIN-WIN AT THE CASINO PARTY!!



FROM "THE OCTAGON," NEWSLETTER OF THE CLASSIC MG CLUB OF FLORIDA

MG FEVER IS BACK!!

MG FEVER RETURNS--by Robert Davis

Well gang, it's been months since I've sent in a chapter of my MG FEVER. With the big move into my new house and two operations behind me, I am ready to start up my column again. I feel Suzy does a great job with our newsletter and it's up to all the members to contribute as it is up to all the members to attend. After all, it's our club and our newsletter and we make both what they are. So everyone try and attend events and send in something now and then. Those of you who have talked to me on the phone know I can ramble on, so enough of this muttering and on with this rather eventful change in my life.

The last installment left me in the YB headed down General Booth Blvd. with a phantom driver about to pass me on the right shoulder. I had had not less than eight beers and not more than 20 and was on the way back to the Center-ville Turnpike mansion on a mild December night. The phantom drove a Chevy built sometime in the early seventies. The road was one lane separated by a large median strip. The right shoulder was paved and partially covered with sand and gravel and ended with a telephone pole. Instead of letting the passing car go by me, I tried to race him, of all things. The phantom cut in more and more until two of my wheels were in the median. I think he hit me as I went off into the median, but one can't be too sure of those things under the prevailing conditions. The YB was going about 50 mph. She flipped grill first, landing on her top, and then began to roll. On the second roll, I was thrown against the sun roof. The sun roof would occasionally come open when I would hit a bump. This was quite good for me because I went through the sun roof and landed some 30 feet from the car. Since it was in the mid-forties, the ground wasn't frozen. I landed in a big mud puddle. It was soft and how good it felt. I could still hear the car turn over once more. The Y had flipped once and rolled three or four times. I got up and quickly ran over to the car. It was ruined. Both right doors and the entire door post were torn off the car. The roof was knocked in more than two feet. At first I blamed the other driver. Then I thought...You could have been killed so easily. Why

didn't you let the crazy fool by? You can't blame him; you should have let him pass. It's your fault!! You've ruined the love of your life.

I walked about a mile the wrong way down the road, occasionally stopping to knock on someone's door. Never any answer. After all, it was only about 3 a.m. Some dogs chased me as I passed a yard. I even had on my blue bla; with the King of the Road buttons. The back must have snagged on the roof because the back was ripped out of the coat. Tears went down my cheeks as I flagged down a car. They gave me a ride up to the 7-11 and I called the police, then home. I was only about a mile or so from Levi and Elsie Tarr's, but I was too embarrassed to call. The police came some hour and a half later. The officer was very nice. He gave me a hard time for drinking so much and found traces of the other vehicle, but didn't think he had hit me. He decided not to arrest me since I had done enough damage to my favorite car and ego.

I was the first one in church on Sunday. Roy Wiley and Richard Hall stopped by to see the car, and so did Mike Ash. Mike said I could use the body from the new black YB to restore my car. We had talked about me using the black body earlier because it probably was not as badly rusted as my Y body. I turned my efforts towards the TD hoping to put it on the road soon, as I didn't have a car to drive.

Can he put the TD together? Will the YB ever appear again? Will Mike's Y body save the day? Can he graduate and get a job? Tune in next month for: No TD on the road for you--or, Painting with different colors isn't fun.

COME CASINO IN STYLE!!

TECHNICAL SECTION--Borrowing again from Bob Grunau in the TRILLUIM NEWS, news-letter of the Ontario MG 'T' Register.

MAINTENANCE OF BRAKING SYSTEMS

This article will briefly review the maintenance of braking systems on the series MG. The braking system should be regularly inspected and any defects repaired immediately. To do this, read the brake section in the appropriate manual for your car, Section C in TA/TB instruction manual; Section D in the TC instruction manual or Section M in the TD/TF workshop manual. Once you understand the factory information you will be able to carry out the following checks:

1. Remove brake drums on all four wheels. The TD/TF will require a 3 stud wheel puller to remove the front and rear hubs. The TD/TF rear axle nuts are right hand thread on both sides of the car, a 1 1/4" Canadian socket is required to remove these nuts. The front hub nut is right hand thread on the right side but is left hand thread on the left (i.e., you "tighten" it to take it off).
2. Inspect (A) the brake linings--lining depth should be approximately 1/8" remaining on bonded shoes, on riveted shoes the minimum lining depth over the rivets should be approximately 1/16". In addition, oil soaked linings must be replaced or cleaned of all oil.
 - (B) The wheel cylinders--any sign of brake fluid leakage must be corrected by replacing or rebuilding the wheel cylinder.
 - (C) Oil seals--any evidence of oil or grease leaking into the brake drums must be corrected. TA, TB and TC rear brakes are particularly hard to seal unless the axle, hub, bearing and oil seals are in perfect condition.
 - (D) Hydraulic lines and hoses--check for mechanical damage and ensure the hoses do not touch anything through complete suspension movement. If removing or replacing hoses, follow the manual method to avoid twisting the hoses. Check steel (or copper) brake pipes to ensure no excessive rusting, chafing or

kinking. Replace the hose or pipe if questionable, a 7/16" size "flare nut" wrench will avoid rounding off the corners of the steel pipe nipples.

(E) Master cylinder--check for leakage and if evident, replace or rebuild. Master cylinders or wheel cylinders should only be rebuilt if the boxes are near perfect. A light honing of the boxes should only be necessary to remove any imperfections. Deep gouges or rust pits indicate the cylinder needs the more professional work of reboring and sleeving or replacement.

(F) Brake fluid--normal fluid is hygroscopic, that is to say, it absorbs water from the atmosphere. Over a long period of time, this moisture in the system can corrode the brake cylinders; therefore, it is important to periodically flush out the old fluid and replace with fresh fluid. Silicone brake fluids are currently on the market. These fluids are not hygroscopic and therefore, an improvement over the regular brake fluid as internal corrosion is virtually eliminated.

3. Recommended brake service:

- Every 1000 miles check the brake fluid level.
- Every 12,000 miles or 12 months carry out a general inspection of linings, cylinders, hoses, brake pipes, etc. Do this work in winter to allow enough time to obtain any required parts before spring motoring.
- Every 24,000 miles or 24 months, replace the fluid (unless silicone brake fluid is used. This will last indefinitely).

4. Bleeding the brakes:

This will be necessary if any part of the hydraulic system has been disturbed. Follow the manual but start on the wheel cylinder the farthest away from the master cylinder, then the second farthest, third farthest (or second nearest) and finally the nearest. Remember to refill the master cylinder after each 3 or 4 strokes of the pedal, better to refill too often than to draw air into a bled system. Do not reuse old fluid.

5. Adjusting the brakes:

Adjust the brakes as indicated in the manual, After a few hundred miles, new linings will have to be re-adjusted as the high spots will have worn off and excessive brake pedal travel will be evident. On the TD and TF, only one micram adjuster is fitted to each rear brake. I have found that even with new shoes installed (and worn drums?) the adjustment is not sufficient for the rear wheels. My solution to this problem is to install a 1/8" shim under the rear wheel cylinder. This shim must be securely locked into position. This problem does not occur on the front wheels as two micram adjusters are provided for the two leading shoes.

6. Road test:

Finally road test the car at about 30 mph. Hands off the steering wheel (but ready to get it) and press the brake pedal hard. The car should stop in a straight line without veering to either side. Any panic grabbing of the steering wheel to keep on the road indicates more brake work is required.

 COME ONE, COME ALL, TO THE CASINO PARTY!!

 ODDS 'N ENDS--First of all, if you have TD parts at Phase I, GO GET THEM!!

Secondly, Roosevelt and Doris Moseley have a new phone number--340-5530.

NEWEST MEMBERS--WELCOME

Russ and Cheryl Wyllie
 3608 Malibu Palm Dr. Apt. 103
 Va Beach, VA 23452
 340-1059

Don and Judy Midgett
 844 Lord Leighton Lane
 Va Beach, VA 23454
 481-2635

NEWEST ARRIVALS--In the better late than never category, congratulations to Randy and Brenda Colker on the birth of their son, Gabriel Creel Colker, born Nov. 5, 1979 (nobody ever tells me anything), weighing in at 7 lbs., 10½ oz., but undoubtedly much bigger now.



FOR SALE--1968 MCGGT, BRG; 37,000 miles; 15" wire wheels just rebuilt; AM-FM; 2.9 litre block from Land Rover; needs cosmetics, ricker panel repair, steering column bushing; best offer around \$2000. One of 800 imported that year. Sacrifice--must sell. Roger Miller, 404 33rd St., Va Beach, VA 428-3366.

WANTED--Articles, cartoons, technical articles, jokes, artwork, poems. Your editor needs you. Please give.

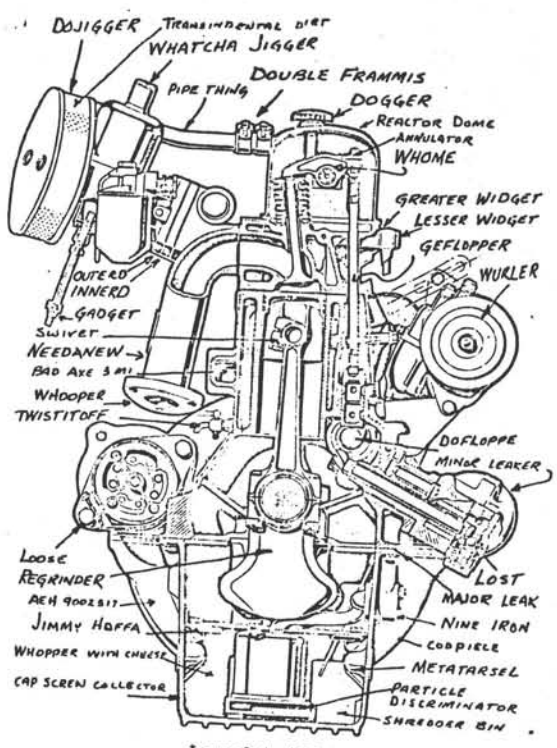
 GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--GIVE--

THE MG NUT
 From the Hawaii Newsletter

Who's the stranger, Mother dear?
 Look! He knows us; ain't he weird?
 Hush, my child, don't talk too wild,
 He's your father, dearest child.
 He's my father? No such thing!
 Father died away last spring.
 Father didn't die, you dub;
 Father joined an MG club.
 But now the snow has come, and so
 There's no place left for him to roam.
 (That is why he came back home.)
 Kiss him; he won't bite you, child.
 All the MG nuts look that wild.

 DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER IS 22 MARCH 1980. YOU MAY GIVE ME YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE CASINO PARTY!!

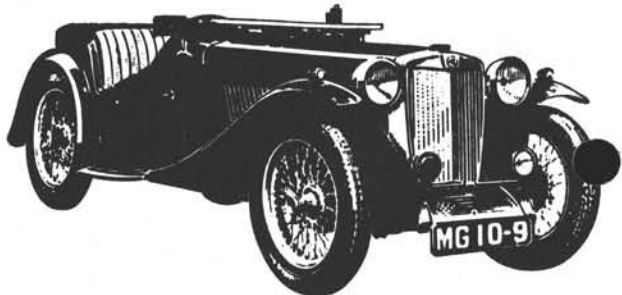
AND FINALLY--
 How about that hockey team?!



Transverse Section of TF Engine.
 "T" OWNERS! STUDY THIS DIAGRAM CAREFULLY-- THE NEXT TIME YOU OPEN YOUR HOOD YOU'LL KNOW A MOTOR FROM A NINE IRON!
 From P.B.Hart, Michigan Chapter, North American MGA Register
 IN THE SPARK RIGOR CHIPSWEAKE CHAPTER



Oil leaks cured -- Finally!!



NIFTY FIF-T'S

In honor of our "50's" cars, the theme of the G.O.F. will be the "Happy Days" of that era. So climb up in your attic and drag out those poodle skirts and pegged pants! We hope to see everyone dressed out in their favorite outfit of the good ole days when Elvis was KING and you were "All Shook Up" driving your MG Roadster. Don't forget this is the 50th Anniversary of the production of these beauties. Come celebrate with us; "Chances Are" you'll have a grand time!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 P.M.

Early Arrivals "Get Together"

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

ALL DAY

1:00 P.M. til 6:30 P.M.
6:30 P.M. til 7:30 P.M.
7:30 P.M. til 9:00 P.M.
9:00 P.M. til ? ?

Beach, Golf, Tennis, Swimming
Greeting Arrivals - Registration in Lobby
Cocktails Around the Pool - Cash Bar
Reserved Room at Valle's for dinner or on your own
SOX HOP and Special Slide & Music Production
50's Dress Contest, Hula Hoop Contest, Name That
Tune and Dancing to Your Favorite Old 45's

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Daylight til 10:00 A.M.

9:00 A.M. til 10:00 A.M.
10:00 A.M. til 12 Noon

Noon

1:00 P.M. til 2:30 P.M.
2:30 P.M. til 4:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M. til 6:00 P.M.
6:00 P.M. til 7:30 P.M.
7:30 P.M. til 9:00 P.M.

9:00 P.M.

Breakfast on your own
Spit and Polish Session With Your Car
Registration
Car-Photo-Model Display
Flea Market
Lunch on your own
Concours Judging AACA Form
Funkhana
Free time
Cocktails
Prom Night Dinner Buffet
Separate Supervised Youngster Dinner
Special Skit Entertainment
Awards - Raffle

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

Bloody Marys Around the Pool
Winning Cars Display
Caravan to Daytona International Speedway for
Lap and Pictures

MG FAREWELLS



GOF SOUTH MK XIV DAYTONA BEACH APRIL 18, 19, 20, 1980

Imagine driving your MG on the racetrack of the famous Daytona International Speedway! You'll have your chance because a special feature for registrants at the 1980 GOF will be a lap around the track in their MG's.

We have reserved one of Florida's most exciting resorts, THE INN AT INDIGO as our site for GOF South MK XIV. It is a completely self-contained family resort on the outskirts of Daytona Beach with an olympic pool, tennis courts, golf courses and an authentic English double-decker bus for your pleasure. A wide variety of accommodations will be available.

Call toll free 800-874-9918 for your reservations at THE INN. In Florida, call collect 904-258-6333 or you may write THE INN AT INDIGO, Golf and Tennis Resort, U.S. 92 at I-95, Daytona Beach, Fla. 32014. Get in the "Mood Indigo" and make your reservations early to insure a room "where the action is". Transportation is available courtesy of the hotel for those flying into Daytona.

GOF REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
First and last names for identification tags, please

Street _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ Miles from hometown to Daytona _____

Your MG Chapter name _____

Is this your first GOF South? _____ Will you enter the First Timers Car
Display Friday evening? _____

What cars are you bringing? (1) _____ (2) _____

How many children in your party? _____ Will you need a babysitter? _____

Pre-registration by Feb. 28, 1980 - One car \$10.00, Second Car \$8.00
Pre-registration by April 10, 1980 - One car \$12.00, Second Car \$10.00
Walk-in registration - All Cars \$18.00 each In Spirit Dash Plaques \$3.00
Awards Banquet Saturday Night \$12.00 per person.

GOF Registration..... \$ _____ Awards Banquet..... \$ _____

In Spirit Plaque..... \$ _____ Total Amt. Enclosed. \$ _____

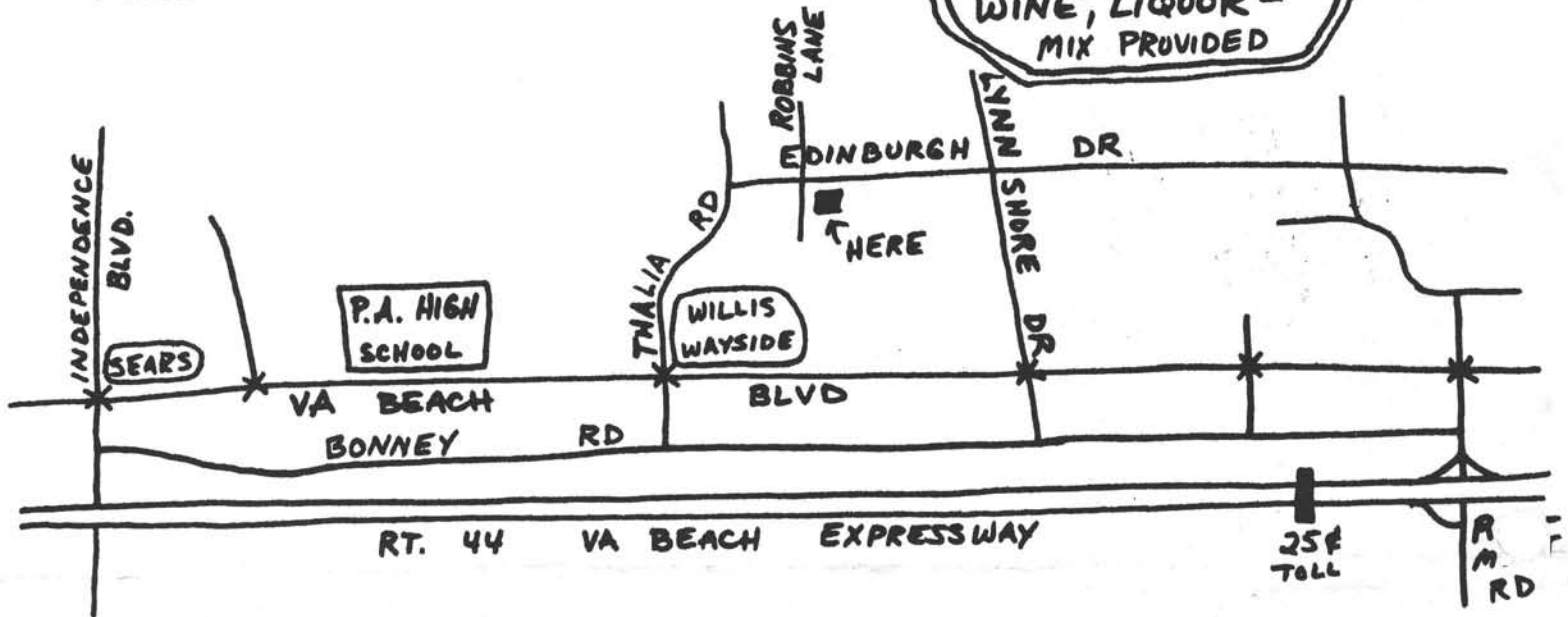
Make your check payable to "MG Classics of Jacksonville" and mail it with your GOF
Registration Form to: Raleigh Baker, 1336 Beach Ave., Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233.

COME HAVE FUN IN THE SUN !

THIS IS BOB SALVIN'S MONTH !!
4157 EDINBURGH DR.
VA BEACH, VA

MARCH MEETING
WED. MARCH 5
MEETING 8:00
KICK TYRES 7:30

CASINO PARTY
SAT. MARCH 22
8:00 P.M.
BRING A SNACK &
YOUR OWN BEER,
WINE, LIQUOR -
MIX PROVIDED



THE TIDEWATER MG 'T' CLASSICS
636 ROYAL PALM DR
VA BEACH, VA 23452



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