



THE DIPSTICK

APRIL 1982

PRESIDENT: Ross Haines (486-1496)
VICE PRES: Vince Groover (497-6904)
SECRETARY: Mary Thompson (495-0085)
TREASURER: Bess Mann (340-4011)
EDITOR: Carol Wallach (587-2464)

Hi, everyone--

Spring is here--time to dust off the 'T' and get it ready for the warmer weather ahead. The Chesapeake Chapter Mini-GOF is fast approaching--send in your registration soon, if you haven't already done so.

I don't have an article on the tech session at Banvard's, but Roy Wiley called to say that everything had gone smoothly and, on behalf of the participants, to thank Jim for his technical assistance and Brenda for her culinary delights.

MARCH MEETING - SECRETARY'S MINUTES:

The evening began with a tour of the Bolen's garage. Rumor has it that Dick isn't really building a "Rolls" but in actuality is building an arc. Look out, Noah!! The meeting began, and once again we had a trivial correction to the minutes. Jennifer wanted it on record that "she was not easy." The secretary then asked, "What or how did she want to be referenced?" A roar was heard and once again the group was out of order. Richard Hall did a magnificent job keeping everyone in order... Ha! Ha! Finally the minutes were approved!!

The treasurer was late but did manage to balance her checkbook. Our balance is presently \$905.41 and climbing. The last newsletter made reference to "fungus"--well, it must have frightened someone because Jim Pomerene paid the money he owed.

Jim Banvard will be hosting the next Tech Session on March 28th--he wanted all to know that the hours would be from 10-2. Jim will be leaving for D.C. and will need to be on the highway by 3:00 P.M. Hope to see a nice turnout...Brenda makes such great treats!

Roy passed around a menu from Cisco's--the March 20th Event. By the time the "Dipstick" is delivered the event will be history.

Please note a change in the April Meeting. It has been changed from the Thompsons' home to the Nolans' home. Details on last page.

The Chesapeake Chapter Mini-GOF is off to a grand beginning. The Pasadena is already booked and the overflow will go to the other nearby motels. Rumor has it that food and lodging will be included at all the hotels. We should have a firm answer on the status by the next meeting.

A SALE!!! Yes, you read it correctly--a sale. The Regalia Chairman announced it in her report--we have an overabundance of old "T" shirts. So now all old "T" shirts will be \$3.50--stock up now!

The "Sacred Octagon" issue...it seems after a report from Jim that time was a major factor. Jim put our feelings into a very impressive letter...may I quote..."a reduction in frequency would strike two joyful days from our calendar"...could bring tears to anyone's eyes...from laughter perhaps! Actually the rest of the letter was impressive and perhaps the frequency of the TSO won't be reduced. He must have done a good as he requested they print a roster and we now have them!

A detailed investigation and discussion was held over the Bulk Rate for the "T" Classics. After many calculations it was decided we were not able to qualify due to the number of pieces needed to mail...the time factor...and most of all the lack of monetary benefits. So----.

A motion was passed that the Honorable Events Chairman see to it that all events are to be written up. We only had one person who opposed the motion...guess who???

GOF Central will be held on July 15-18 in Battendorf, Iowa--anyone interested in attending please see Ross for an application.

The Trivia Quiz - we had 4 members who submitted entries. Three of those members (clever as they are) had perfect scores. An extensive discussion went on as to how the awards should be awarded in the event of a tie. Well knowing our group it went on and on and on...until an absolutely miraculous idea and motion was presented. The motion went something like this...in the event of a tie all winners names would be placed in a hat and a winner drawn at a meeting. Early postal dates were mentioned; but in all fairness to the out of town members we had to regroup. See we do keep you in mind! It was a unanimous decision to draw a name and so we did...Jim Banvard was the winner. Richard Hall drew the name and I, Mary Thompson, wrote the three names on the three identical peices of paper. It was fair...keep those entries coming!

The meeting was adjourned and we all feasted on the goodies. Thanks Bolens for a terrific meeting.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY DIPSTICK IS APRIL 23

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April Meeting--Tuesday, April 6 at the Nolans'. (Map on last page.)
- Chesapeake Chapter Mini-GOF--April 30-May 2 in Royal Oak, Maryland
- May Meeting--Wednesday, May 5.

BRUNCH AT FORT STORY on FEBRUARY 21

A motley assortment of vehicles, old and new, MG and non-MG, met at the Old Cavalier Hotel parking lot. (It was a lot colder and more winter than the last time we had gathered there for our GOF last fall). We took off in caravan, more or less on time, for once! Dave picked up the line from his driveway on Atlantic Ave., and we arrived at Fort Story Officers' Club where they had reserved a great long table for us with a view of the

Chesapeake Bay meeting the Atlantic Ocean. There were about 40 or so in our party - how this club loves to eat! The brunch was an excellent assortment of foods and salads and desserts and was enjoyed by all - especially the very reasonable price that one rarely finds on the civilian market these days. (God Bless Uncle Sam). We ate, chatted and left for home and the various things that keep us busy on Sunday afternoons.

DINNER AT CISCO'S

On Saturday evening, March 20th, a group of about 20 or so MG-lovers converged on this new Mexican eatery in town. (We have to visit the new establishments, because a lot of the old ones don't want us visiting them a second time!) We took up a whole room to ourselves, so we assume we didn't disturb the other patrons too much. We had an old friend visiting with us that night - Ray Holtzapple, from the Philadelphia area, who had been a member of our club some years ago whilst stationed here in the Navy. He was here for two weeks doing his Reserve Duty, and managed to look up some old friends at the same time; it was good to have him with us. The food was good, but I think a lot of us stuffed on those chippy-things-with-hot-spicy-sauces-to-dip-in before dinner came; I am not speaking for everyone, but I know a lot who were stuffed up to here before the main course arrived. There were a lot of laughs and some of us decided to party on afterwards at President and Mrs. Haines' establishment. At the Haines' we had a reading (not poetry, my friends - hardly that!) of out-of-town member Griffin's letter of complaint (does he ever write to us unless it is to complain? No, he does not!) regarding the judging of our monthly contest. (The letter will appear elsewhere in this rag newsletter, I think, or else it will be publicly read at the next meeting - I don't know; nobody ever tells me anything). Anyway, we all had a good laugh at the Complaining Commander, and decided that he'll get his... On the way to Ross and Anne's someone stopped at the grocery store to get chocolate and vanilla ice cream and pony-size Buds and some of the folks had some of all that lot - on top of Mexican food and chippy-things and I'm sure they all threw up when they got home. And it they didn't they deserved to! It was a great evening, as are all evenings spent with this bunch of whackos.

Jennifer Ash

FROM OLDE NUMBER 6733:

Before I give you the results of the second trivia quiz, I'd like to pass along a development which has resulted from the first quiz. As you may remember, there was a three way tie for first place last month between our in-town member and two out-of-town members. A drawing was held at the March meeting and the in-town member was selected as the winner of the first trivia quiz.

The selection of the sole in-town member prompted a bitter response from one of the non-selected out-of-town (or is that in-town-out-of-town?) members. (A copy of the letter is enclosed elsewhere in this newsletter.) The "meat" of the response was that the drawing held at the last meeting must have been fixed proving once again the blatant discrimination which the out-of-town members are subjected to at the hands of the in-town contingent.

An impromptu meeting was held at the president's home following the club's dinner at Cisco's in order to discuss this most serious allegation. Heated debate continued for what seemed to be hours. Beer, wine and even ice cream (!) were used to try to cool down those in attendance, but to no avail. Finally a motion was made to limit monthly winners to those in attendance at the succeeding monthly meeting. In order to save the club from further embarrassment which could result from voting on such a significant issue at an unscheduled meeting, the group coolly, but reluctantly, agreed to delay voting on the motion until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Since representation by the out-of-town members at the April meeting is expected to be non-existent (as it usually is), passage of the motion is virtually assured.

With this in mind, I offer the following current, but tentative, results of the trivia quiz:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>This Month</u> | <u>Overall</u> |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Hank Giffin | 10/10 | 20/20 |
| Jim Banvard | 9/10 | 19/20 |
| Ron Eaton | 9/10 | 19/20 |
| Andy Wallach | - | 9/10 |

(The "out-of-town" member's letter appears on the next to last page. ED.)

Questions and Answers - Trivia Quiz #2

11. In what year was the New England MG T Register formed?

A. 1964. "It hardly seems possible that fifteen years have elapsed since that June morning in 1964 when I received a letter from a chap named Dick Knudson of Mechanic Falls, Maine. He had seen a photo of my TD in Safety Fast and wrote me with an idea he had been mulling over for some time, the formation of a Tri-State T Register much like the T Register of the MG Car Club in England. It sounded like a neat idea to me, and I suggested we consider New England rather than limiting it to Maine, N.H. and Vermont, feeling that a New England-wide organization might better be of interest to enthusiasts in New York and northern New Jersey who might wish to become involved. We thought we might eventually have as many as 200 or 250 members and in an early letter to Dick concerning membership cards, I remarked that 100 would probably last us several years. That was the start of it fifteen years ago--and you know the rest." (TSO, August 1979, p. 24 (Frank Churchill))

12. Who coined the term "Gathering of the Faithful"?

A. Frank Churchill. "Gathering of the Faithful: This is a term coined by Frank Churchill in 1965. It refers to two meetings the New England MG T Register Ltd. holds each year. Other MG groups are now using the term but add "South", "West", or "Central" afterwards to avoid confusion. The emphasis is usually social rather than competitive. These are not local group events." (TSO, June 1981, p. 41)

13. In pounds/shillings, what was the showroom price of the MG-J2?

A. a. 199/10. "At a showroom price of (199/10), it was never an aristocratic car. Some bought it because it presented a cheap way of going about a motor sporting programme. J2 owners had a fair degree of success as we have seen but, as it is today, there is nothing as out-of-date as last year's competition car, so it was then. After a year or two most of these people moved on to a later model (the P type could be guaranteed)

or to a bigger and more ambitious class. Those who bought it as part sporty means of everyday transport were mostly young men who soon needed to graduate to something with more seats. Thus, very few first owners kept their cars for long. By 1936 one could buy a second-hand J2 for about one third of its original cost." (TSO, April 1981, p. 12)

14. T or F--MG TD's were exported from England to the United States in both left hand and right hand drive models.

A. True. "The export market codes used for cars intended for the United States were slightly different. There is some indication that the first few TD's exported to the States carried the EXL code, and it would seem logical to assume that these were EXL/M versions of the General Export model. The next few cars for the States used the code EXU, obviously standing for EXport United EXU, States. The first TD/EXU was TD 0443 EXU, manufactured on January 12, 1950. Note that there is no indication whether this car was left or right hand drive. Then, in March 1950, the code for U.S. export cars was changed to EXLU or EXRU, depending on whether the car in question was right or left hand drive." (TSO, April 1980, p. 41)

15. In what year was the one millionth car manufactured at Abingdon?

A. 1975. "In September of this year, MG will be celebrating fifty years at Abingdon. During this time a good many motorcars have been produced there. While the millionth car manufactured at Abingdon was marked in 1975, it appears that the out-and out millionth MG ever made slipped by without any notice being made of it." (TSO, Aug. 1979, p. 44)

16. What is unique about the MG TF radiator cap?

A. It's a fake. "Someone has defined an MG as a car with a radiator cap you could pour water through. TF lovers would argue, I'm sure, with that definition. True, the radiator cap in a TF is fake." (TSO, Oct. 1979, p. 6)

17. T or F--MG TE's were manufactured for only several months before being replaced by the TF.

A. False. "While a prototype of the streamlined MGA waited for a corporate go-ahead, Abingdon came out with the TF in October, 1953. (There was never a TE. Perhaps the company felt that it sounded too much like "tee hee", but more plausible is the theory that the letter "E" was traditionally reserved for experimental or racing cars.)" (TSO, Apr. 1981, p. 30)

18. In what month and year did the Abingdon MG factory close?

A. October 1980. "October 24, 1980, was a notable day for all MG enthusiasts with the closing of the MG factory at Abingdon, England." (TSO, April 1981, p. 2)

19. Who was the owner of the first MG to win a National First Place at the Hershey Auto Show?

A. Clyde Horst. "We would like to congratulate Clyde Horst whose TC was the first MG ever to win a National First Place at the Hershey Auto Show this past October." (TSO, Dec. 1978, p. 7)

20. What club member was dubbed our "wash 'n' wear" swimmer?

A. Mike Ash. "About half way through awards part of the banquet, the announcement was made that the deluge had come and a few sheepish T-owners had to sneak out and put tops up and side curtains in, though by then it was probably too late. The announcement of winners was followed by the raffle (with an overabundance of Naval Jelly) and movies and then all went out into the night to await the midnight arrival of Boschman, who did not disappoint. He did his usual "could not walk on water" routine, then was joined by Jim Banvard and Hank Giffin for a planned swim. Mike Ash wasn't so prepared, which led Don Moore to later honorably dub him our "wash 'n' wear" swimmer."

3/9/82

DEAR TIDEWATERERS,

The purpose of this letter is to vent the feelings of one "out of town" member who feels it necessary to express his feelings at the blatant discrimination "out of town" members are subject to in the TIDEWATER Chapter.

The latest example of this discrimination is the supposed "fair draw" held at the March monthly meeting whereby ex-president Banvard was chosen as winner of the first monthly trivia contest. The fact that two of the three perfect entries were by "out of town" members speaks for the obvious knowledge, dedication, and sincerity of the "out of town" group, and the obvious indifference of the majority of Tidewater members. Yet in an effort to save face a supposed "fair Draw" was held, whereby the one "in town" entrant was picked as the winner. SURPRIZE! SURPRIZE!

There is rumor among "out of town" members that there may even have been advance information provided a certain ex-officer of the Tidewater chapter to insure at least one representative of the "locals" would be competitive in the trivia contest. (It is further rumored that the fourth place finisher-also an in town member- was given this info....and still got one wrong!!)

Furthermore, it is understood that the originator of the supposed "fair draw" was none other than a newly elected officer who interpreted a written remark by this out of town member as less than complimentary, however truthful that remark may have been.

It's not enough that we out of towners support your beer drinking fests and other social activities with the exorbitant dues that we pay, while you squander our money on the likes of Christmas Parties, Halloween Parties, brunches, tech sessions, monthly meetings, etc. While your treasury bulges at the seams, you as a group made a conscious effort to take care of the "in town" boy at the expense of us, the loyal out of towners who keep your chapter fiscally afloat.

To eliminate further abuse of the loyal "out of town" minority who are the backbone of the Tidewater Chapter, I propose the following measures:

- 1) Out of town members will be consulted on all chapter wide votes and will be given full voting membership.
- 2) Out of town members who have been loyal and dedicated "in town" as well as "out of town" members, and occasionally an "in town out of town member" for over eight years should be given full life membership to make up for the hardships we've been subject to, and the blatant discrimination we've suffered.
- 3) A representative of the "out of town" minority must be present at all Chapter monthly meetings and events. Out of town members will be chosen on a random volunteer basis to attend these functions, with round trip expenses for transportation and lodging provided by the Tidewater treasury. I, of course, would be willing to undertake these arduous journeys for the sake of my fellow "out of towners."

Denny L. Duffin
3102

DIPSTICK TRIVIA QUIZ #3 - APRIL 1982

21. What was the nickname given to the very first meeting of the MG Car Club? _____
22. T or F - All MG TF's were equipped with turn signals. _____
23. Who was the driver of the "fastest ever" MG?
a. Jim Banvard
b. Mario Andretti
c. Robert Davis
d. Phil Hill
e. George Edward Thomas Eyston'
f. Bobby Allison
g. Teddy Roosevelt
24. The Ed Roy Trophy is presented annually by the Veteran Motor Car Club of America for the best restored car of foreign make. What MG owner won the award for 1978? _____
25. Who is the club member who made a "U-turn across eight lanes of traffic, through a red light into three lanes of oncoming traffic" in Toronto, Canada? _____
26. In what T-series MG did the first 1250cc engine appear? _____
27. Approximately what percentage of MG TD's was exported?
a. 75
b. 80
c. 85
d. 90
e. 95
f. 100
28. T or F - MG TF's were produced in both right and left hand drive configuration. _____
29. What is the name of the award given to the person who accumulated the most points by participation at a GOF? _____
30. What was done with the last MG manufactured at Abingdon? _____
- _____

Your name: _____

1968 APR 10 10 10 AM

1000

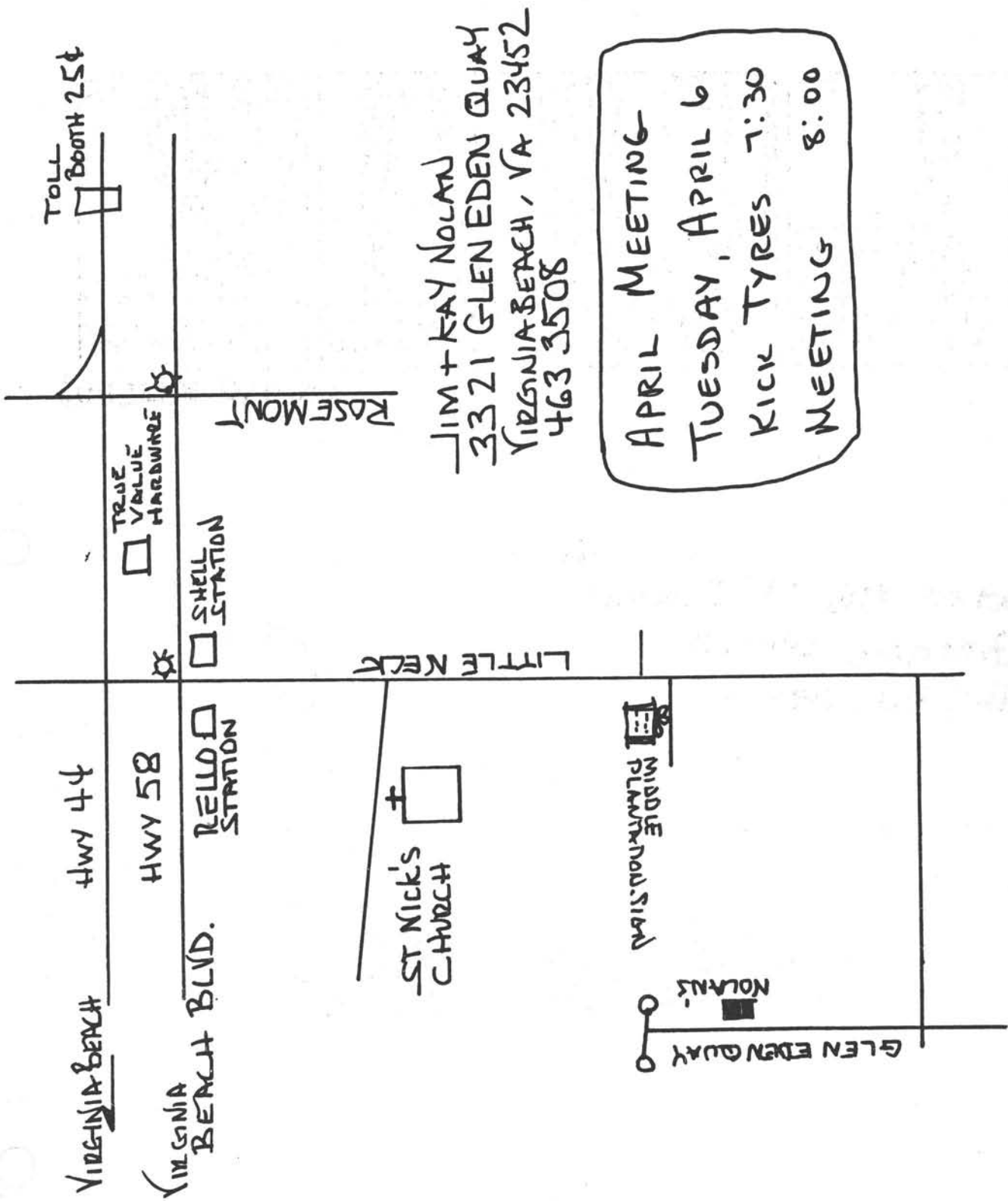
TO: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FBI
Washington, D.C.
FROM: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FBI
Washington, D.C.

(Fold)

Place
Stamp
Here

Ross Haines
633 Pinetree Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

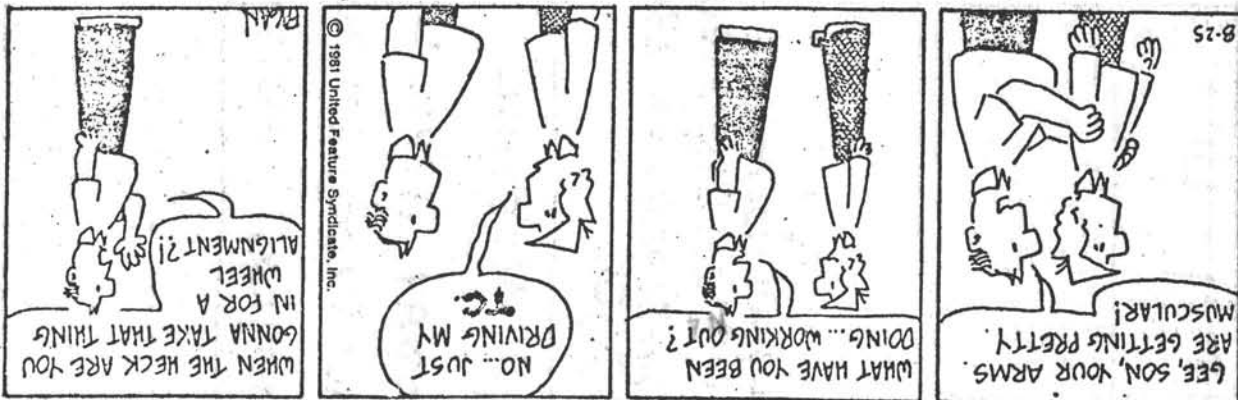
(Fold)



JIM + KAY NOLAN
 3321 GLEN EDEN QUAY
 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452
 463 3508

APRIL MEETING
 TUESDAY, APRIL 6
 KICK TYRES 7:30
 MEETING 8:00

(from "The Square Bigger")



PORTER'S FATHER

Tidewater MG 'T' Classics
7704 Bergen Street
Norfolk, Va. 23518



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

4/6/82

- x 1 - Guests & New Members
- ✓ 2 - Secretary's Report (Mary Thompson)
- ✓ 3 - Treasurer's Report
 - a. Need March report (written) - (\$905.41)
 - b. " April report (") (\$905.41 - \$156)
- ✓ 4 - Events (Ray Wiley) - 3:30 FRIDAY
- ✓ 5 - Regalia (Elaine Tarr)
- ✓ 6 - Parts (Robert Davis)
- x 7 - Tech Librarian (Dave Barrows)
- ✓ 8 - Editor (Carol Wallach) - April 23rd

Old Business

- ✓ 1 - Mini GOF in Md. - \$2 late regis fee after Friday - Have forms

New Business

- ✓ 1 - 1951 VT for sale - Ray Wolff, Milwaukee, Wis. (mint cond.)
- ✓ 2 - 15" wire wheels for sale:
 - \$109 - \$129 ea painted
 - \$179 - \$199 ea chromed
- ✓ 3 - Fifth Annual British Car Days South, May 21-23, Charlotte N.C.
- ✓ 4 - Winner of Trivia Quiz #2 - Hank Giffin (the Complaining Commander - by Jennifer)

- ✓5- Sandblast MG - \$150 - Admiralty Sandblasting
- ✓6- New parts supplier - Mary Thompson
- ✓7- MG Models, etc. - Mike Ashe