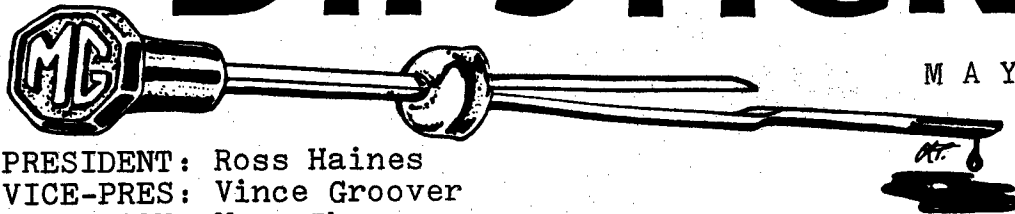


# THE DIPSTICK



MAY, 1983

PRESIDENT: Ross Haines  
 VICE-PRES: Vince Groover  
 SECRETARY: Mary Thompson  
 TREASURER: Sandy Hall

EDITOR: Jennifer Ash

## WHERE IS SPRING, "T"-LOVERS??

Here we are at the end of April with a week of sleet, snow, rain and more rain and record-breaking low temperatures; will we ever get out in our little cars with the tops down?

The April meeting was held at the home of Jim Nolan and the following minutes were recorded by Robert Davis in the absence of secretary Mary.

MINUTES OF APRIL, 1983, MEETING: President Ross asks Richard Hall to be sgt.-at-arms in the talkative corner. New member, Ron Stoops, is introduced. He has a green 1952 TD. Ross said that two members almost deserved to be introduced as guests, they haven't been to a meeting in so long - me (Robert Davis) and Dave Barrows.

Minutes of March meeting are approved. Treasurer reported a balance of \$452.48 - Elsie Tarr's regalia sales brought in \$25.50 and the March newsletter had cost \$70.45, which membership thought too high. (We now have a new "arrangement" with a club member which is very advantageous to us....Ed.)

Jim Banvard pointed out an error in the answer to Trivia Quiz 12, question no. 111; the answer should have read 379, not 397. (This was an error on your editor's part - sorry!..Ed.)

Next event, the Gimmick Rally was discussed (I regret I shall miss it as I have to be in Jamaica at that time) (Ed. note: Our hearts bleed for you, Robert!). Bill tried to explain some of the points of the rally, but it was difficult to explain, and even more difficult to understand over the undercurrent of several conversations. However, if drivers and navigators have a history of getting at each other's throats in the excitement of it all, make like Cale Yarborough and Donny Allison, brothers, and wear your boxing gloves! (Jim, being the excellent host that he is keeps asking if anyone needs more beer.)

Next monthly meeting at the home of Bill & Sue Gordon, May 4th (Wed.)

Invitations will be sent to old members and friends of the club, inviting them to our 10th Anniversary Dinner on May 14th (see enclosure).

Announcement of deadline for reservations for Chesapeake Chapter mini-GOF at end of April; contact your local agent!

Andy Wallach walked in at 8:36 after his dog-obedience class; Andy is coming along very well and sat on command!

Regalia chairman Elsie reported that she was open for business after the meeting, and distributed 1983 calendars from Colonial Chevrolet with old cars on it. (A few months late, and short on MG's, but thanks Else!..Ed.)

Dave Barrows asked if someone would take over the position of librarian, historian. Mike Ash said he would if all back issues of club newsletter came with the job, as he needs them for the Trivia Quiz!!

Jennifer Ash read excerpts from a letter from Mike West, in which he mentioned, among other things, that he would soon be visiting Egypt and the Pyramids (made famous by Dolly Parton) and on to Turkey (birth-place of Robert Davis, and many others!). Mike's ship is cruising somewhere in the region of Beirut. (More from Mike later in the Dipstick. It's nice to get contributions from members..... Ed.)

Phil Topcik agreed to do a write-up on the Gimmick Rally and says he'll tape-record all arguments with Vicky.

President Ross reminded those who participated in the mass order to Moss Motors to obtain the 25% discount should be thinking about all the items they want to order at 25% off, before September; the offer is for those members who participated in the original mass order. Start making lists, guys!

A ballot had to be drawn to determine the winner of the Trivia Quiz No. 12; there was a tie between Giffin, Banvard & Ash. Young Jennifer Haines drew the name from the hat - it was out-of-towner, Giffin - at which there were cries of "Fix", "Try again", etc.

There was no new business, and the meeting was adjourned to attach Jim's delicious snacks. Many thanks, Jim, for your hospitality.

WE'RE TEN YEARS OLD.... WE'RE TEN YEARS OLD..... WE'RE TEN YEARS OLD.....

FROM OLD NUMBER 6733: Here's the latest update on the Trivia Quiz:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Month's Score</u>	<u>Cumulative Score</u>
Peggy Bradford	10/10	30/30
Hank Giffin	10/10	30/30
Jim Banvard	10/10*	30/30
Mike Ash	8/10	27/30
Ron Henry	-	18/20
Bob Beauter	3/10	15/30
Vince Groover	-	9/10
Bill Gordon	-	9/20
Charlie Dixon	7/10	7/10

\* This month's winner (April)

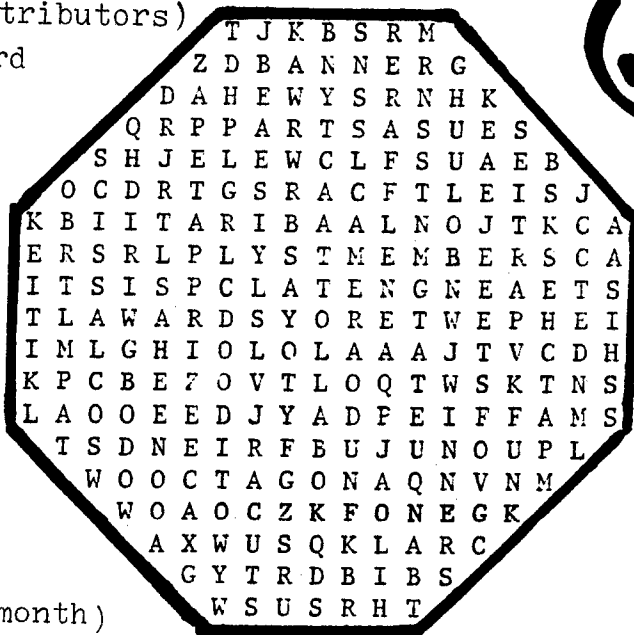
COME TO OUR CELEBRATION.... COME TO OUR CELEBRATION.....COME TO OUR CELE

**FUN-TIME CORNER** (many thanks to contributors)

G-O-F Word Search - by Peggy Bradford

Can you find all the following items that are to be found at a GOF? They may read Up, Down, Forwards, Backwards or Diagonally

- |          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| CARS     | AWARDS       |
| MG       | PARTIES      |
| PARTS    | PRIZE        |
| FUN      | RAFFLE       |
| BANQUET  | CAMERA       |
| RALLY    | BALLOT       |
| WINNERS  | REGISTRATION |
| MEMBERS  | OCTAGON      |
| CONCOURS | PATCHES      |
| PEWTER   | BANNER       |
| FRIENDS  | REGALIA      |
| CLASSICS |              |



(Answers next month)



June 7 (Tues)

June 12 (Sun)

June 15 - 19

June 26 (Sun)

MONTHLY MEETING at Richard & Sandy Hall's - 7:30pm.

TECH. SESSION - to prepare for trip to GOF XXXVI, or  
or to fix any problems on your car.  
HOST & LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED.

GOF, MK. XXXVI, Baltimore, Maryland. This is a  
T-Register event and registration  
form is to be found in The Sacred  
Octagon. The location is north of  
Baltimore, about 5½ hrs. from here.

BRITISH CAR DAY - sponsored by the Chesapeake  
Chapter. Hank & Stevie Giffin are  
the Chairmen of this event, which  
is held somewhere between Baltimore  
and Washington, D.C. Details  
available in next Dipstick.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR DIPSTICK -- SUNDAY MAY 15th -- DUE TO OUR VACATION....

Sure, it's a dumb little car, but . . .

(Contributed  
by Bob Beauter)

# It runs — now and then

When I bought my MG Midget, everybody told me I was making a mistake. MG Midgets are stupid little cars, they said. MG Midgets never start in the winter, they said. You'll be sorry, they said.

My friends told me I'd be sorry. My neighbors told me I'd be sorry. People who had refused to talk to me in years called up to tell me I'd be sorry. None of that really bothered me. Although I do have to admit that I was a little concerned when the MG Midget salesman told me I'd be sorry.

But I bought the car anyway and, as it turned out, all those people were wrong. I didn't have any trouble starting my MG Midget in the winter. I had trouble starting my MG Midget in the summer.

Each time the temperature got over 80 degrees, the car refused to start. Not only did I have a stupid little car, I had a stupid, confused little car.

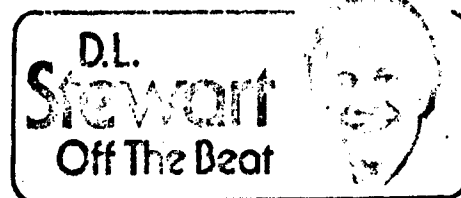
But, after four years of confusion, I finally have things straightend out. Now my MG Midget won't run in the winter, either.

**THE FIRST TIME** it starts acting like a normal MG Midget is a couple of weeks ago when the temperature slides down into the teens. The car has been sitting all day at a parking meter. When I come out after work and try to start it, the engine makes a lot of grinding noises, but fails to turn over. I try again. More grinding noises. I try a third time. This time the grinding noises are quieter, but deeper in tone. I keep trying. When the engine starts to sound like Jerome Hines with a cold, I am convinced that it will not start.

"I'll give you a jump from my battery," says a co-worker who happens by.

"Great, Thank you."

"I'll get my car into position and you get out



your jumper cables," he says.

"Jumper cables?"

"Don't tell me you drive an MG Midget in the winter without jumper cables."

I hang my head in embarrassment.

"Well, never mind," he says. "I'll give you a push to get you started"

He maneuvers his Pontiac into position behind my Midget.

"How does it line up?" he calls from his car.

"Not real great." I call back.

"What's the problem?"

"Well, your bumper is even with my rear window."

**DESPITE THIS** inconvenience, we decide to give it a try. While he pushes my car with his, I concentrate on all the things I have to do: Turn on the key, shift into second, pop the clutch. It is not easy to concentrate when you have a license plate pressed against your rear window.

But the push is successful and my car starts. I drive home and park it in my warm garage. The next morning it will not start.

**AT THIS POINT**, I have three options. I can take the new station wagon that belongs to the woman who promised to love, honor and clean my plugs. I can take the old Buick that belongs to the 16-year-old. I can wait for spring.

Of the three, taking the new station wagon is the least desirable. Every time I use her car she gets upset.

"If I don't have a car, I'm stuck in the house all day," she points out.

"So? Why do you need to go out?"

"Something important might come up."

"Like what?"

"Like, maybe there'll be a one-day-only at J. C. Penney's. Without a car I wouldn't be able to get there."

"If J.C. Penney's has a sale and you don't show up, they'll send a limousine for you. And J.C. himself will be driving it."

**RATHER THAN GO** through all that hassle, I take the 16-year-old's 12-year-old Buick. The only thing wrong with her car is that it doesn't have a radio. Then again, it has about a million holes in the muffler, so it really doesn't matter.

I start the car. It roars to life with enough noise to register on the Richter Scale. I check the gas gauge. It is about half full. It's a five-mile drive to work. It'll be close.

For the next four days I drive to work in a car that's louder than Jerry Lewis and thirstier than Dean Martin. On my way home on the fifth day I hear a noise that is even louder than the muffler. A few miles later steam begins to surge out of the front end of the car.

Between the noise from the muffler and the steam from the engine, it is like driving Mt St. Helens. The problem, I discover when I arrive home, is that there is a hole in a radiator hose.

**SO NOW I** have an old car in the driveway with a hole in the radiator hose. A small car in the repair shop with an allergy to winter and summer. A new car in the garage with keys hidden where I never will find them.

In spite of it all, I am not really disencha with my MG Midget. With all of its problems, it's still a fun car to drive. But, only during the second week in May.

TRIVIA QUIZ No. 14 - MAY, 1983:

131. According to Margot Summerhill, what does M.G. stand for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
132. Morris Garage was opened in what year? \_\_\_\_\_
133. The first meeting of the MG Car Club was held on what date?  
\_\_\_\_\_
134. What was the name of the first American M.G. Centre? \_\_\_\_\_
135. Who was Vice-President of our local club in July, 1978? \_\_\_\_\_
136. In what year was the SA introduced? \_\_\_\_\_
137. In 1948, the standard color for the XPAG engine became \_\_\_\_\_
138. What was the phone number of the Abingdon M.G. factory? \_\_\_\_\_
139. Who was the star Q-Type driver? \_\_\_\_\_
140. Who preceded Roy Mercer as the "T-Register's" local chapter chairman?  
\_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

---

STAMP

ROSS HAINES  
633 PINETREE DR  
VIRGINIA BEACH  
VA. 23452

---

121. How many Q-Type Midgets were manufactured? 8; (TSO, Dec. '81, p.5)
122. TRUE or FALSE. The J-4 and J-5 Midgets had a 1½ gallon reserve fuel tank. FALSE - It was a 2-gal. reserve (TSO; June '81, p.17)
123. The Tidewater MG "T" Classics car club is dedicated to the preservation, appreciation and MAINTENANCE of the "T"-series and earlier models of the MG car and to the fellowship of the club members. (By-laws of The Tidewater MG "T" Classics, p.1)
124. TRUE or FALSE. The TF 1250 was priced at \$2250 in 1954. The TF 1500 was priced at \$1995 in 1955. TRUE (The Dipstick; July '80, p.5)
125. How many J-2's were built? b, 2083; (TSO, April '81, p.41)
- a. 1973  
b. 2083  
 c. 2126  
 d. 2341  
 e. 2602
126. Who is credited with the best driving performances in the K-3? Eddie Hall (TSO, Dec. '81, p.6)
127. TRUE or FALSE. The TD required a different facia panel for the left-hand and right-hand drive models. The TF. used the same facia panel for both left-hand and right-hand drive models. TRUE (TSO, Oct. '80, p.12)
128. TRUE or FALSE. The TF was the last of the T-series models. TRUE (TSO, Apr. '80, p.30)
129. In what month and year was the "Colonial Clutch mini-GOF held? MAY, 1978, (Club Newsletter, June '78, p.2)
130. At how many major GOF's a year is an auction held? ONE (TSO, June '81, p.41)

DEADLINE FOR JUNE "DIPSTICK" - SUNDAY, MAY 15th - KEEP YOUR CARDS & LETT

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: Welcome to new member:

Ron Stoops  
 1253 Linnwood Dr.  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23452

1952 TD  
 340-9775

Bill & Sue Gordon's  
 address is incorrect in  
 the roster. Should read  
1409 Poplar Pt. Ct.

Please amend your roster to reflect these.

Just a word of thanks to all of you who contributed to this issue; it has my job so much easier and pleasurable. In May, Mike and I are taking a 2-week vacation around the Great Lakes, travelling into Ontario around two of the lakes to attend a GOOF (Gathering of the Ontario Faithful). This is the reason for the May 15 deadline. I will type the Dipstick the day after our return! (To heck with the laundry!!)

JENNIFER ASH

Lynnhaven Bridge

SHORE DRIVE

To Beach →

MAY MEETING

Wednesday, May 4th  
Bill & Sue Gordon  
1409 Poplar Point Ct.  
Va. Beach 481-7108

7:30 Kick Tyres  
8:00 Meeting

Poplar Pt. Ct.  
Poplar Pt. Rd.

GREAT NECK ROAD

MILL DAM RD.

FIRST COLONIAL RD.

□ Va. Beach  
General Hospital

LASKIN RD.

VA. BEACH BLVD

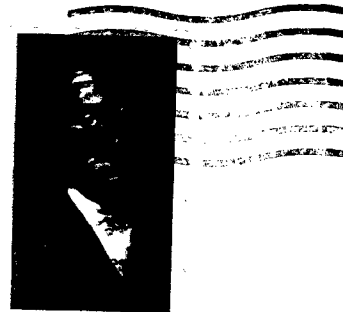
RT. 44 VA. BEACH TOLL RD

London  
Bridge

Laskin Rd. Exit

To Beach →

Tidewater MG "T" Classics  
c/o M.G. Ash  
5149 Bellamy Manor Drive  
Virginia Beach, Va. 23464



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



(Tom Lund)  
John Brophy

5/4/83

- ✓ 1 - Guests & new members
- ✓ 2 - Secretary's report
- ✓ 3 - Treasurer's report
- ✓ 4 - Events
- ✓ 5 - Regalia
- ✓ 6 - Parts
- ✓ 7 - Historian
- ✓ 8 - Editor 15<sup>th</sup> deadline

### Old Business

- 1 - Colley

### New Business

- ✓ 1 - Trivia Quiz reunion - Jim Sanford
- ✓ 2 - May in Memphis - BSEC - 5/26-29
- ✓ 3 - MiniCon East - MGCC - 7/7-10
- ✓ 4 - Miscellaneous parts - Roy Mercer
- ✓ 5 - Bluegrass Bash - 5/20-22

5/5/82

- 1- Guests & New members
- ✓ 2- Secretary's report — \$156.00 should be \$119.56
- ✓ 3- Treasurer's report

need written reports for months of February,  
March and April

- |                        |                               |   |        |                    |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------|--------------------|
| ✓ 4- Events            | Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> rally | 5 <sup>th</sup> <sup>1 hour</sup> Tech Sem                                  | 26 Feb | 904.50             |
| ✓ 5- Regalia           | 53.50 sales last month        | 20 <sup>th</sup> <sup>20<sup>th</sup> driving out</sup> <sup>picknick</sup> | 31 Mar | 899.16             |
| ✓ 6- Parts             | early TD Dist. restaurants    |   | 30 Apr | 779.60             |
| HA ✓ 7- Tech Librarian |                               |   |        | (also as of today) |
| ✓ 8- Editor            | Gran peak in                  |   |        |                    |

### Old Business

- ✓ 1- Fifth Annual British Car Days South - May 21-23  
New "Triumph Owners of Tidewater" club is planning  
a caravan. Anyone interested please call Keith  
Edwards (4661931).

Flier attached

### New Business

- 1- British Car Day - Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>; Bowie, Md.; Sponsored  
by NEMGT Register & The Chesapeake Chapter; Flier attached

✓ 2- Winner of Trivia Quiz # 3 - Ron Eaton; Give certificate to Bess to sign then to Mary to mail.

✓ 3- Lead Dyna-Tech Systems / Lisa

4- Need Backup site for picnic on 16<sup>th</sup> - worms!

✓ 5 GOF WEST umbrella will be provided  
By members.

first annual inch worm barbeque at  
Hanna.

P.S. Please return "T" SERIES owners manual to Bill Gordon

File sitting under Roy Witey

✓ I'm going with Richard Hall tomorrow to map  
out Kelley for 16<sup>th</sup> (3)