

THE DIPSTICK



MARCH 1990

President.....Dave Bowling

Vice President..Don Jones

Editor....Chris Holcomb

Secretary.....Bryan Massy

Treasurer.....Frank Benson

Marque Time:

Some 23 of us gathered at Peggy Bradford's house for the February meeting and the annual viewing of the club sewing machine. Club business was minimal but the many personal accounts of how great problems are being solved to keep our MG cars on the road was both lively and entertaining. And Peggy served great refreshments! Thanks!

Bryan Massy graciously agreed to fill in as club secretary - at least until he gets orders possibly by early summer!

From time to time, members have suggested all sorts of things we might purchase to improve the club. These have varied from our own garage, a club trailer to a large reserve of spare parts. These ideas all have merit, but most are too expensive and most would benefit only a few members. Let's not get carried away by our current high bank balance. Most of this will be needed to cover newsletter printing and postage expenses between now and June.

The club sewing machine is still available. Let Peggy know if you'd like to borrow it or help store it.

The February tech session was a roaring success. Banvard's garage was ideal for the large participation and well supported by the best of the club's technical experts. Thanks to our hosts Brenda Banvard and Jim Villars! Til next month stay

Safety fast,

Dave



DEADLINE FOR APRIL DIPSTICK: MONDAY MARCH 26, 1990
WE PRINT ANYTHING - EVEN THE STUFF NATIONAL ENQUIRER TURNS DOWN-
SO IF YOU HAVE A HOT NEWS ITEM SEND IT IN !



Minutes for 6 February 1990 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. at the home of Peggy Bradford. Last month's minutes were approved as published. Club members welcomed TD owner Bill Hodges.

Peggy Bradford gave Frank Benson's treasurer's report. The beginning balance was \$1,318.53 and the ending balance came to \$1,407.03.

Jennifer Ash gave the activities report which included a reminder of the extra technical session March 11 at the Bell's - next meeting will be at Ash's on the 7th. She also reminded members of March 25 champagne brunch at the Giffin's.

Mike Ash had no technical report. He asked that members planning to attend the next tech session have what tools they'll need for anticipated repair work. He offered what tools he owns to help with the work. Mike also requested members to call him with ideas for future technical report subjects.

For his regalia report, Butch Ballback announced a T-shirt special only for the night of the meeting. Key fobs were also on sale for \$2.25 each. He said he is still trying to get a firm price for rugby shirts for the club but the vendor hasn't responded.

During margue time, Dan Boswell told of his anticipated move to Florida and of the Y-model and parts he has for sale. Paul Speaks said his wife was having to move to Texas to take care of family. Andy Wallach said Don Sams had a 1952 TD for sale at \$12,500, but that the price was negotiable. Dave Bowling told of his recent TD clutch failure. Paul Thiegardt is replacing all the wood in his TF. Vince Groover said that he's looking to buy a 1961 MGA. Fred McCall described the breakdown of his MGA engine last year. He's arranged to get a new crank shaft from Scotland, where the original engine was built. He said Moss agreed to bear the cost of repairs. Ira Cantin said he'd had good luck, with Midway Radiator on 25th Street in Norfolk, particularly with a man named Moon. Jim Villers had good service as well at Bert's Alignment. Anita McGrigor told of several mechanical problems with her MGB and how Mike Ash has rescued her more than once.

Robert David's report on spares included comments on a new high-output fan for MGB's, a two-speed heater motor now available from Seven-Enterprises, and a servo brake kit that improves MG braking power. He said he had more information for anyone interested in any of these items.

The raffle drawing was won by Susan Bond and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Other attendees included Bryan Massy, Ken Bond, Ed Haggard, John and Janet Wessel, Jock McGrigor, Cynthia Faschini, Craig Barber and Don Jones.



ACTIVITIES

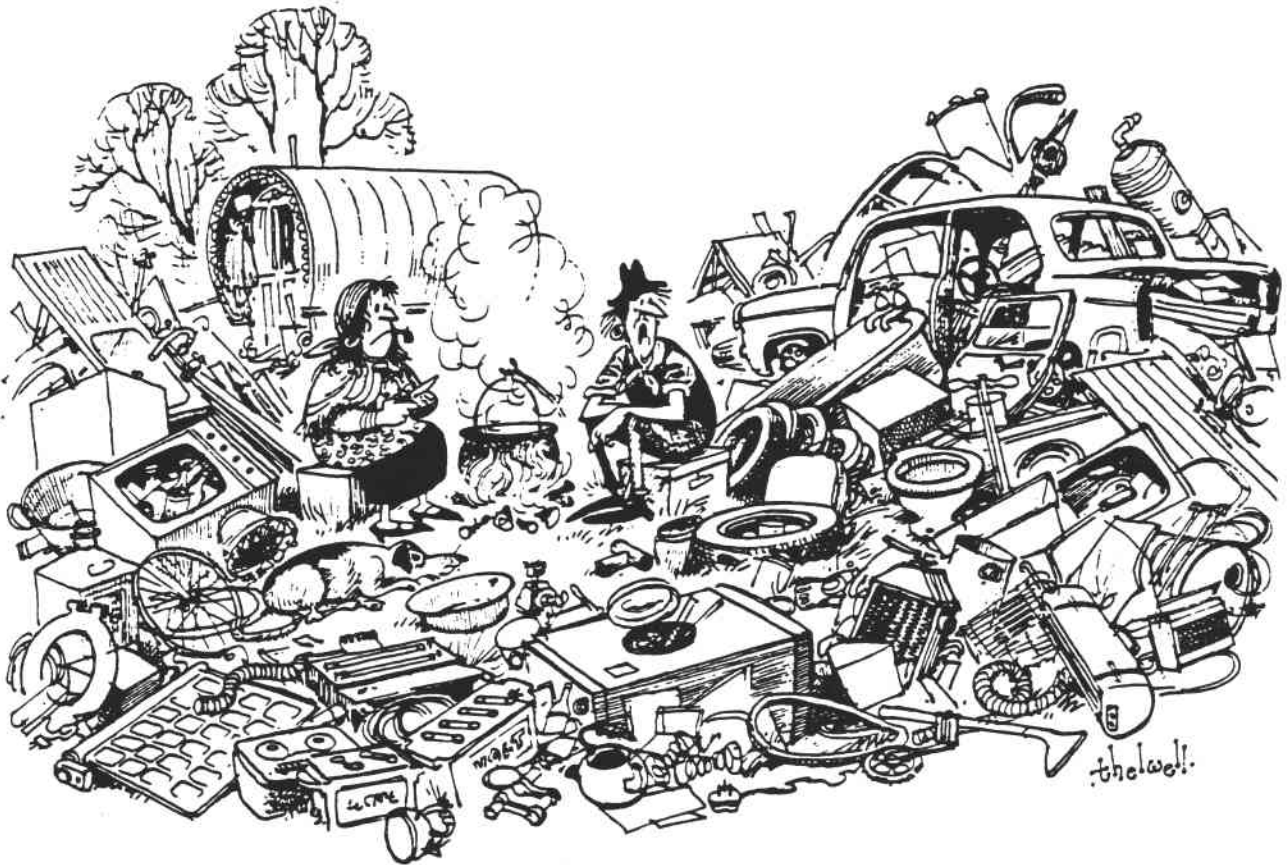
MARCH MEETING - - Wednesday 7th at the MIKE & JENNIFER ASH (see map)
7:30 p.m./kick tyres - 8:00 p.m./meeting
TECH. SESSION - - - Sunday 11th at BOB & KAY BELL's (see same map)
CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH - - Sunday 25th at HANK & STEVE GIFFIN's - 1:00 p.m.
to 4:00 p.m. (see flyer for directions) PLEASE
R.S.V.P. by Sunday, March 18th - otherwise there
will not be enough food and champagne for all!!
This will be between \$15-\$20 per COUPLE. (The more
people respond - the less it will be!!)

APRIL MEETING Tuesday, 3rd at Andy & Cynthia WALLACH/FASCHINI
APRIL TECH. SESSION Sunday, 22nd at Dan & Francine BOONE's

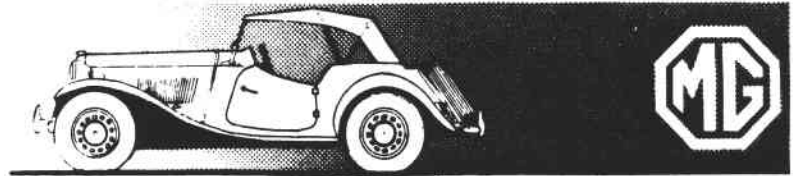
Note: ** The ORIGINAL BRITISH CAR DAY - BOWIE, MD. will be on
Sunday, June 24th this year.

** NAMGAR members! Don't forget to register for GT-15 in
Williamsburg (July 19-22) There are over 150 rooms
already booked for this event. If you've never been to
a national gathering of MGA's before, now is your
golden opportunity to meet new people and see a lot of
beautiful machinery!

Stolen from LANCIANA, Newsletter of the American Lancia Club. Jan. '79



"It's astonishing how personal possessions accumulate!"



TECH SESSION - by Mike Ash

We had a productive Tech Session at Brenda Banvard's on Sunday, 18 March. Since I haven't thought up any topics for my Technical Corner, I thought I would write a report on the Tech Session. When I arrived there, the big surprise was to find Butch Ballback's TD already in the garage, with the engine running! Yes, folks, Butch really does have a TD, and he had driven it over to Brenda's a few days earlier for the occasion. Butch did a little tweaking and peaking on the engine and he and Vince took it out for a short drive to check out the progress. Apparently it runs just fine but, because it has not been used in so long, could probably benefit from some new ignition components. Jim Villers was in the back garage, working on the new wood body pieces for Brenda's TF 1500. Jim has embarked on quite an undertaking to replace all of the wood and both front and rear quarters on the TF body.

Anita McGrigor brought the purple MGB and very proudly changed the valve cover gasket herself. At the same time, I replaced her driver's side window with one that was still attached to the mechanism. I had finished stripping my parts MGB the weekend before and had found that removal and replacement of the window was not a big job. Plus the parts car was also the donor of a window for Anita. Mel arrived with his white MGB with brake lights that would not come on and back-up lights that would not go off. Both problems were diagnosed as faulty switches, in spite of the fact that Mel had put in a new \$40 brake light switch a few weeks earlier. On the earlier MGBs with the brake light switch on the cover, it is quite easy to re-thread the hole and use a much less expensive and longer lasting Japanese switch. But with the later cars with the power boosters on the brakes, the switch goes in behind the pedals and is much harder to get to.

Brian Massey brought his yellow MGB and added oil to the steering rack. On the later MGBs this is not quite as easily done as I described last month because the cardboard "cover" below the radiator must be removed for access to the steering rack cover. Brian also did a few other odds and ends on his car, including finding a bad connection that was preventing his tachometer from working. Kenny Bond brought his maroon MGB-GT for a carb tune, and was assisted in that endeavor by Vince. Fred McCall brought his Triumph and did some minor work.

Robert Davis brought his Blue MGB-GT and changed the brake master cylinder, and replaced the line to the rear brakes. The brake master cylinder was a bit of a struggle to get the mounting bolts and nuts in place, but Roy Wiley and Paul Thiergardt developed some ingenious techniques to hold nuts in inaccessible places, and managed finally to get the unit secured.

Ira Cantin came for a while to look over our MGA Coupe and make notes for the re-assembly of his roadster. His "complete" car is not quite as complete as advertised! Others who came to lend a hand and socialize were Sue and Terry Bond, Bill Keeler, Dave Bowling, Dan Boone, Bill Hodges, Paul Speakes and Andy Wallach. Roosevelt Mosley drove by and waved from his P1800 Volvo, but did not stop. Overall, a very enjoyable day complete with Brenda's usual excellent refreshments!

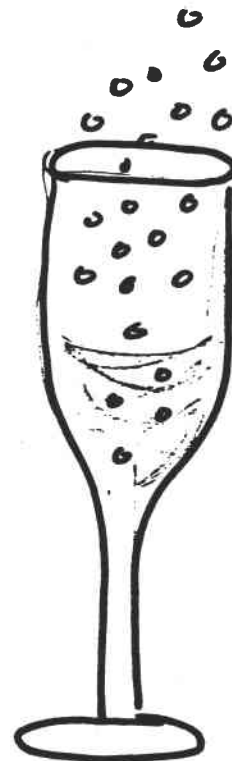
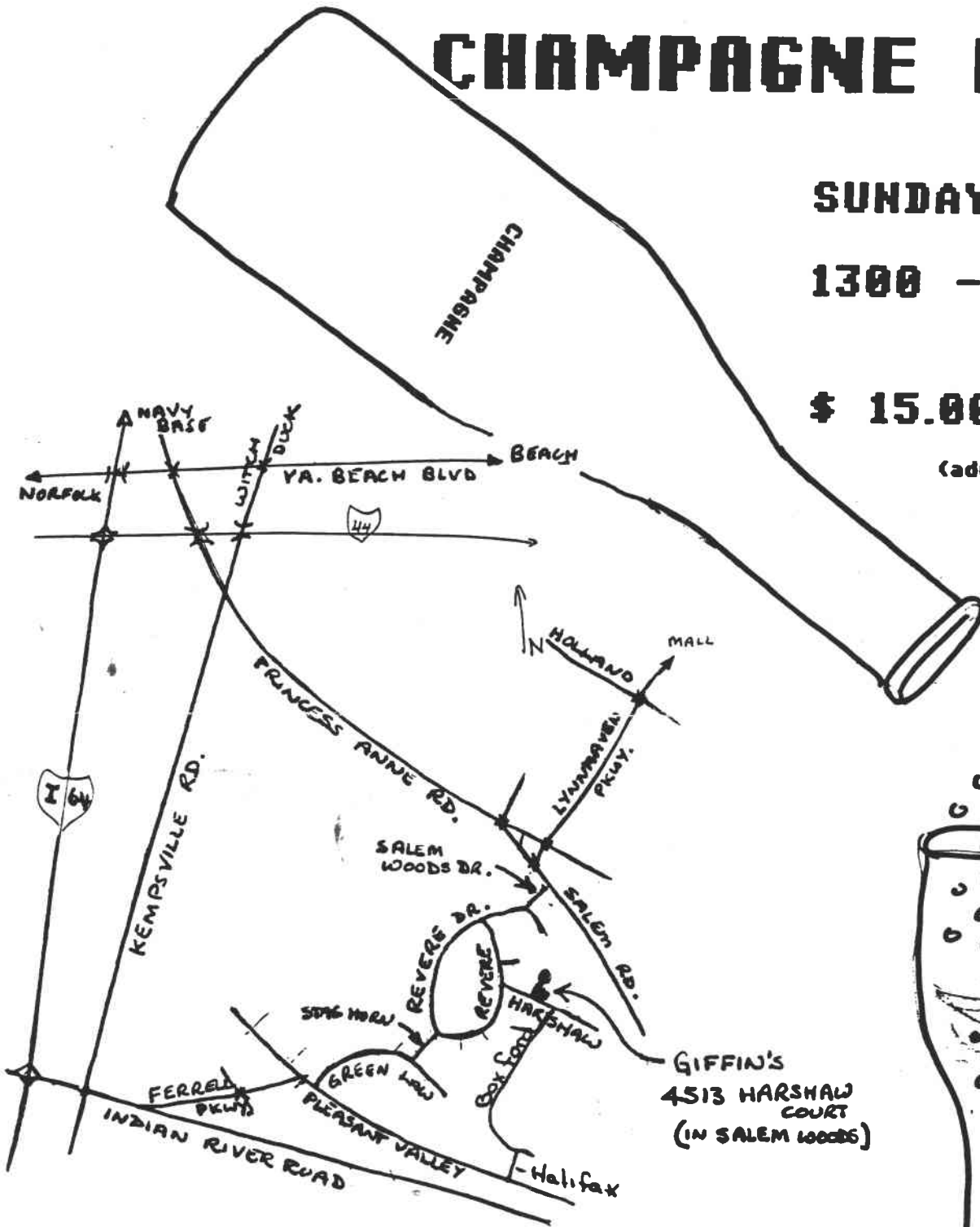
CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

1300 - 1600

\$ 15.00 / COUPLE

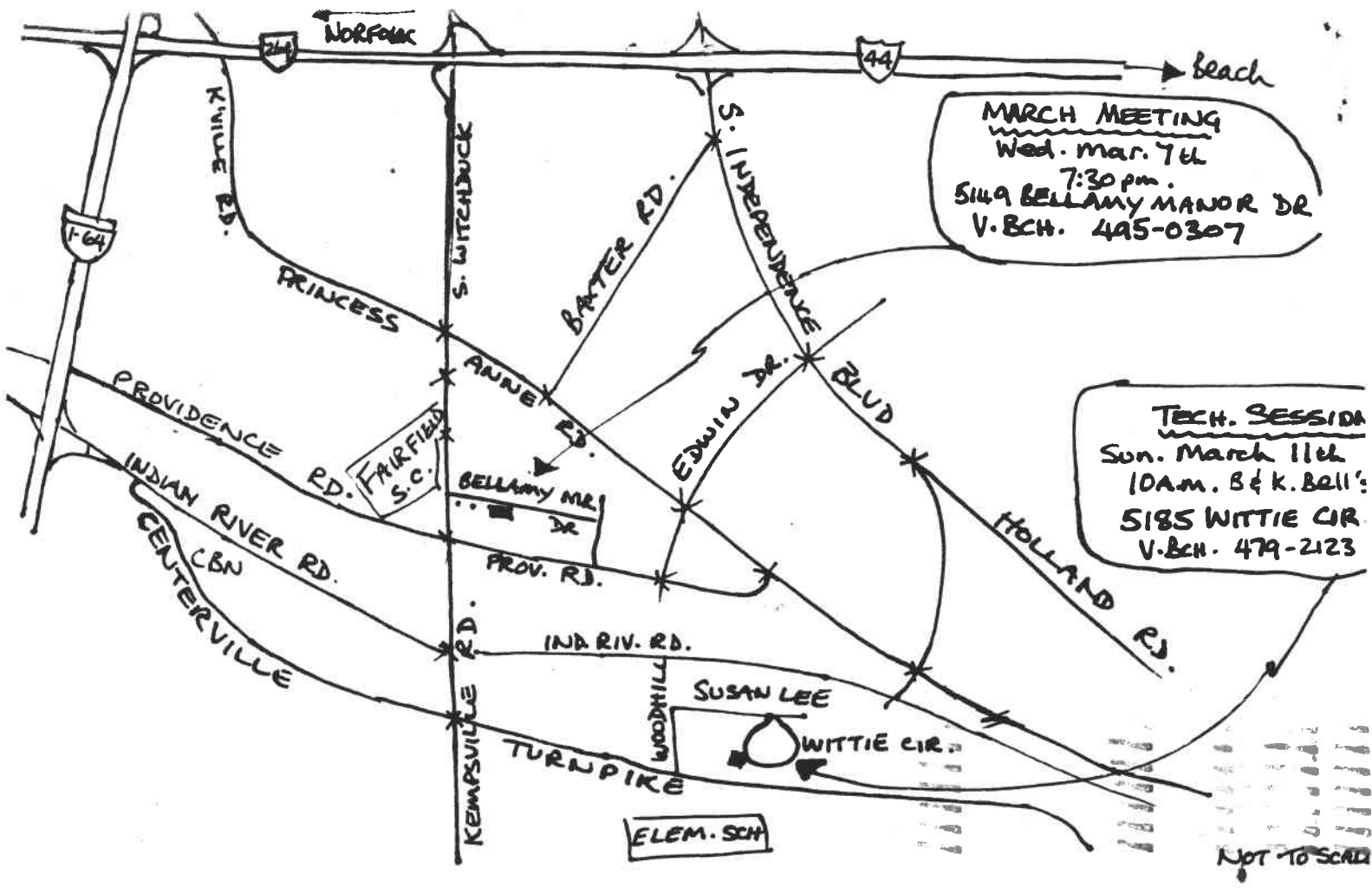
(adults only, please)



HANK & STEVIE GIFFIN

RSUP BY 18 MARCH

474-2585



TIDEWATER MG CLASSICS
 % 1305 N. SCHOONER LA.
 VA. BEACH, VA. 23454

BRUNCH:
R.S.V.P. by MAR. 18 !!



FIRST CLASS MAIL