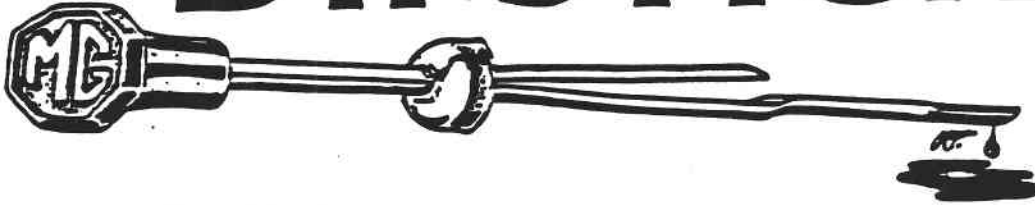


THE DIPSTICK



President.....Ken Bingham
 Vice President...Bob McClaren

Secretary.....Cynthia Faschini
 Treasurer.....Jim Villers

Editor....Chris Holcomb

Vol XX No. 6

July 1993

MARQUE TIME:

I'd like to thank Pam and Bob McClaren for hosting the June meeting. Pam whipped up some really great food! It was a beautiful "MG" night. I counted 15 MG's, a TC, TD, GT, C-GT, and lots of B's. We also had lots of Guests and New Members too! Thanks Pam and Bob for a wonderful evening.

I'd also like to thank everyone who made the Anniversary Dinner a huge success, and that's everyone who came!!! For those of you who left "early", you missed out on the dancing, and the disco demonstration performed by "Fred" Wallach and "Ginger" Bradford! For those of you who might have missed it, included in this issue is a reprint of the Beacon's write-up of our club. Thanks to Daryl Bishop for getting the gift certificate from Sports & Classics. Again, a special thanks to Carol, Paula and Scooby for all their help! (we have 14 souvenir wine glasses left for sale)

A very special thanks to Jennifer and Mike Ash for planning and hosting the Tailgate Picnic at NAS Oceana. The weather was overcast but luckily, no rain! We had a really good turnout of MG's and of course lots of food! Jennifer did a superb job in planning some great games for all of us to play and enjoy! Winners got prizes too! The grand finale was the judging of the Picnic Lunches!!! Tom Rosendale even had a battery operated blender in his basket! Thanks to everyone who came and enjoyed a really good time and another wonderful MG day!

While I'm thanking people I'd like to include a recent new member who went out and made "TICKETS" for us to handout. Thanks to Doug Kennedy for coming up with that idea and being enthusiastic enough to get the tickets made! Thanks Doug!

I'm sorry I missed the Pyles from Australia and their TC! Thanks to Paula and Armand Escobio for hosting them in my absence. I hope some of the Club got out to meet Harry and Deidre and can share with me tales of their trip.

"Retirement" - Bob/George would like to retire as Regalia Chairperson. He has had the job for over two years. We need a volunteer for this very important Job! If interested please call me.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting! Don't forget to pay your Club dues!!! Till then . . .



Safety first!
 Ken
 Ken Bingham

MINUTES OF THE MGT CLASSICS MEETING HELD 01 JUNE 80

Ken Bingham called the meeting to order and commented on the super turnout of MG's; in fact there were 16 present. Karl Herbert was up and moving. Ned Koons introduced many new members including Jack and Sandra Racine; Betsy Kennedy; Mikel Moor; Carlos Rosende; Mark Vosler and Elaine Ferguson and Richard Allan Lantz. Also present as a guest was Ronnie Winters.

Treasurer's Report - Balance of \$928.46. Just a reminder that dues are due.

Activities - As usual there are many events coming up so mark your calendar. June 13 is the Grand Prix hosted by Mike and Jennifer Ash. Prizes will be awarded for the best picnic basket. It takes place in Oceana Park #3 and begins at 1:00. The Miller's will be hosting the Pool and picnic party July 11 at 3:00. In case of rain July 18 will be the rescheduled date. Robert Davis will have the tech session at his place either July or August or both. The meeting in July will be at the Jim Viller's. If you are interested in going to Bowie and need information; call Bill at 703-323-1260.

Membership - The Kennedy's idea of the big tickets really look great. Several members took a few and will disburse them in hopes of attracting new members. What a good idea.

Newsletter - Nothing to report.

Technical - Mike Ash was not present.

Spares - Robert Davis with TC in one hand and a Dash Switch Tool in the other instructed us on the importance of owning one of these. The cost is approximately \$17. This tool can save your hand in replacing a switch. Special tools for special people.

Old Business - Bill Keeler commented on what a wonderful job the Bingham's did on the Anniversary dinner. Everyone applauded. Carol Bingham provided excellent center pieces.

New Business - Karl Herbert informed the club that Miniature cars such as MGA's Bug eye Austin etc. were available at the England Dolls and Toys store located in Great Bridge. The cost was around \$6.

Marque Time - Bill Keeler's car keeps getting smaller and smaller after he gets rid of parts as he is working on it. Ned Koons TC from Hawaii should be arriving the 17. or 18 of June. John drove his MGA for the first time to the meeting. Twin B has Master Break cylinders for MGB's for \$49. This includes a lifetime warranty.

WE RECEIVED A VERY NICE LETTER FROM AN MG OWNER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. HIS NAME IS KELVIN FAGAN. HE OWNS A 1986 MG MONTEGO TURBO, IS MARRIED (LINDA), HAS TWO YOUNG BOYS, AND IS INTERESTED IN CORRESPONDING WITH MG OWNERS HERE IN THE STATES. ANYONE WHO WISHES TO DROP HIM A NOTE CAN DO SO AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

KELVIN FAGAN
43 NICHOLSON WAY
CAMBRIDGE
CAMBS CB4 2RR
UK

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The June meeting brought a bonanza of new members and visitors. Betsy Kennedy attended her first meeting with husband Doug. They just acquired a primrose 69 B. Ronnie Winters was a visitor with his 66 Triumph TR4. Please add the following new members to your membership roster.

Richard Allan Lantz
1025 Cuervo Court
Chesapeake, VA 23320
(804) 436-4245
72 B (White)

Richard is President of NORVA Marine Service, Inc. and drives a sharp looking white 72 B.

Mike & Terri Moor
603 Mill Landing Road
Chesapeake, VA 23320
(804) 548-8261
78 B (Red)

Mike is an A/C Technician who has a red 78 B. He hopes to attend the Bowie Car Show.

Jacques & Sandra Racine
1787 Greensward Quay
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
(804) 481-6171
73 B-GT (Orange)

An officer in the Canadian Army, "Jack" is a communications specialist with SAACLANT. He has an orange 73 B-GT.

Carlos Rosende
3928 Kalona Road
Portsmouth, VA 23703
(804) 483-4662
70 B (Damask Red)

Carlos is a former member who just rejoined. A Commander in Navy Medical Corps, he drives a BMW but has a Damask red 70 B.

H. Keith & Mary Henry
118 Lake One Drive
Hampton, VA 23666
(804) 826-8916
79 MIDGET

Keith and Mary sent in their membership to Bob McClaren. Hope to see them in July.

Doug & Betsy Kennedy brought a plentiful supply of yellow "TICKETS" which can be placed on windshields to invite other MG drivers to join our group. If you didn't pick up some in June, we'll have them at the July meeting.

We've had a good initial response to our 1993 membership campaign as 33 applications (and dues) have been received to date. Hank Giffin sent his from Naples with extra reimbursement for the high cost of postage overseas. The funds will be turned over to Jim Villers. Our annual membership dues are payable on 1 July 1993. Enclosed at some part of this DIPSTICK is a 1993 Membership Application/Renewal form. Please plan to return the form with payment at the July meeting or send it to me in the mail. The "price is right" so please plan to renew your membership promptly. Thanks, Ned Kuhns (804) 552-0292



THE TIDEWATER MG CLASSICS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL - 1993

Annual membership dues are payable on July 1, 1993. The fee for local residents (Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Hampton, Newport News and Williamsburg) is \$15.00 per year. For those joining after January 1994, the fee is \$7.50. The fee for out-of-area residents is \$10.00 per year.

Please complete all of the following information so that we may maintain up-to-date membership records. Please include the first name of each member.

NAME(s): _____

OCCUPATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (W) _____

MGs OWNED:	<u>MODEL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COLOR</u>
Car #1	_____	_____	_____
Car #2	_____	_____	_____
Car #3	_____	_____	_____
Car #4	_____	_____	_____
Car #5	_____	_____	_____

MG REGISTER MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS:

T-Register (NEMGTR) _____ MGB Register (NAMGBR) _____
 MGA Register (NAMGAR) _____ MGC Register (AMGCR) _____
 MGB Register (AMGBR) _____

Please remit payment by check or cash. Checks should be made payable to "Tidewater MG Classics". Forward with this form to:

Ned Kuhns, Membership Chairman
 4695 Haygood Point Court
 Virginia Beach, VA 23455
 804-552-0292

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Amt. Rcvd.	_____
Date:	_____
Initial:	_____



Mike Ash, left, a founder of the MG club, and Ken Bingham, the group's president, stand next to their MGs.

11 by PAM STARR

Club's members are seriously in love with their classic MGs

"The poor man's sports car" is the big draw at this "mutual support" group's meetings.

By Pam Starr
Staff writer

They don't mind if other British sports car owners hang out with them.

But if you show up at one of the Tidewater MG Classics club parties in a Triumph or an Austin Healy, be prepared for abuse.

It's not personal. But nothing compares to owning an MG, club members say. And once the MG bug hits you, you're hooked.

"It's like eating potato chips — you can't stop at one," said Mike Ash, a club founder. He owns eight MGs. "It's the poor man's sports car . . . they were always for the common man and still are."

Twenty years have passed since Ash and seven other men met in the Pembroke Mall parking lot to show off their MG (which stands for Morris Garages) cars. Back then the club was only for "T" series owners, but over the years the members decided to allow everyone who owned an MG to belong. In fact, the club's name used to be MG "T" Classics, but since the last of the "T" series rolled off the line in 1955, members figured there weren't enough of those owners around.

"It's a mutual support group," said Ash, a past president. "We

want to preserve and maintain the car. They're very good handling cars and very good value."

More than 80 people in Hampton Roads agree with Ash enough to pay \$15 a year to belong to the club. Last Saturday night they and their guests celebrated the 20th anniversary of the club with a fancy dinner at the Shifting Sands club at the Fleet Combat Training Center at Dam Neck.

Members arrived in their gleaming MG roadsters, sedans and hardtops, of course, and admired each other's vehicles from the balcony of the Shifting Sands, which overlooks a long stretch of unspoiled beach. MGs, especially the convertibles, look like the ultimate cruising cars with their sleek lines and low carriages, and every owner remembers his or her first one.

"I bought my 1958 Magnet sedan for \$3,000 in 1979," said member Robert Davis. "And I worked on it for seven years, putting in air conditioning, power disc brakes, overdrive.

"I've owned MGs for 99 percent of my adult life. I love the cars."

Peggy Bradford owns a 1952 MG TD in "British racing green" and says that owning an MG is like belonging to a clique.

"If you have an MG you're a friend," she said. "MG owners will honk and wave to each other on the road. I've put a little note on an MG in a parking lot if I see one."

More than 1 million MGs were made in Britain between 1936 and 1980, when the original manufac-

turer ceased production. (The "T" series stopped in 1955.) The series included the TA, TB, TC, TD, TF, B, and A and were very popular with American servicemen after World War II. Prices of the MGs when new ranged from \$1,800 to \$8,000; now a good one will cost between \$10,000 and \$20,000, according to Ash, but a restoration can cost anywhere from \$5,000 to \$30,000.

"It's an investment car," he said. "They're harder to find now."

Ken Bingham, president of the club, said that most owners bought their cars in college and that the height of popularity for the cars was 1973.

"'Love Story' had one and anything on PBS will have an MG," he said. "You don't even need to own an MG to be in the club — just some interest."

The club meets monthly to socialize but members just don't stand around and talk about their cars. They have road rallies, chili cook-offs (in January) and summer pool parties, along with a yearly best-of-show contest for each series of cars. Sunday "tech sessions" help owners learn ways to restore their classic vehicles. Carol Bingham, Ken's wife, said that MG owners are "immediately friendly" with each other and that the cars are almost incidental.

"There is a real camaraderie when we get together and meet other people," she said. "Everyone's here because they love the cars . . . it doesn't matter who you are or what you do — the common bond is the car."

"THE TIDEWATER 'MG' CLASSICS"

"1993"

ACTIVITIES

SAT JAN 30	CHILI COOK-OFF	BINGHAMS/ASHES
SAT FEB 20	SPAGHETTI WAREHOUSE	PEGGY BRADFORD
SAT MAR 13	BOWLING PARTY	CAROL BINGHAM
SUN APR 25	CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH	ANDY & CYNTHIA
SAT MAY 22	20TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER	COMMITTEE
SUN JUN 13	GRAND PRIX TAILGATE PARTY (FUNKHANA/PICNIC)	ASHES
SUN JUL 11	POOL PARTY/POTLUCK	MILLERS
SUN AUG 15	GET-TOGETHER WITH RICHMOND CHAPTER	BINGHAM/ANDRES
SEP _____	PIG ROAST/CAR SHOW	HOLCOMBS
OCT _____		
NOV _____	TURKEY SHOOT	
SAT DEC 4	CHRISTMAS PARTY	

TECH SESSIONS

SUN FEB 28	FRANK LINSE
SUN MAY 16	PAM & VINCE GROOVER
SUN AUG 29	ROBERT DAVIS
SUN NOV 7	TERRY & SUE BOND AND FRANK LINSE

MEETINGS

WED JAN 6	ASHES
TUE FEB 2	DAVIS
WED MAR 3	ESCOBIOS
TUE APR 6	KUHNS
WED MAY 5	BINGHAMS
TUE JUN 1	McCLARENS
WED JUL 7	VILLERS
TUE AUG 3	KEELERS
WED SEP 1	WALLACH/FASCHINI
TUE OCT 5	ULRICHS
WED NOV 3	KENNEDYS

TO HOST OR HELP HOST AN ACTIVITY

PLEASE CALL PEGGY BRADFORD (427-3365) OR CAROL BINGHAM (481-3635)

OTHER CLUB ACTIVITIES

MAY 13-16	CARLISLE, PA FLEA MARKET & CAR SHOW
JUN 23-28	GOF MK 56 PORTLAND, ME.
JUN 27	BRITISH CAR DAY BOWIE, MD.
JUL 30-AUG 1	CARLISLE, PA FLEA MARKET & CAR SHOW
??	LIME ROCK, CT. RACING
SEP 19	RICHMOND BRITISH CAR DAY, BERKLEY PLANTATION
SEP 25	MGs ON THE ROCKS, MGs OF BALTIMORE, LTD.
SEP 29-OCT 2	GOF MK 57 BURLINGTON, VT.
SEP 30-OCT 3	CARLISLE, PA FLEA MARKET & CAR SHOW
OCT 2	WAYNESBORO BRITISH CAR FESTIVAL
OCT 1-3	VINTAGE CAR RACES, SUMMIT POINT, WEST VA.
OCT 7-9	HERSHEY, PA FLEA MARKET & CAR SHOW

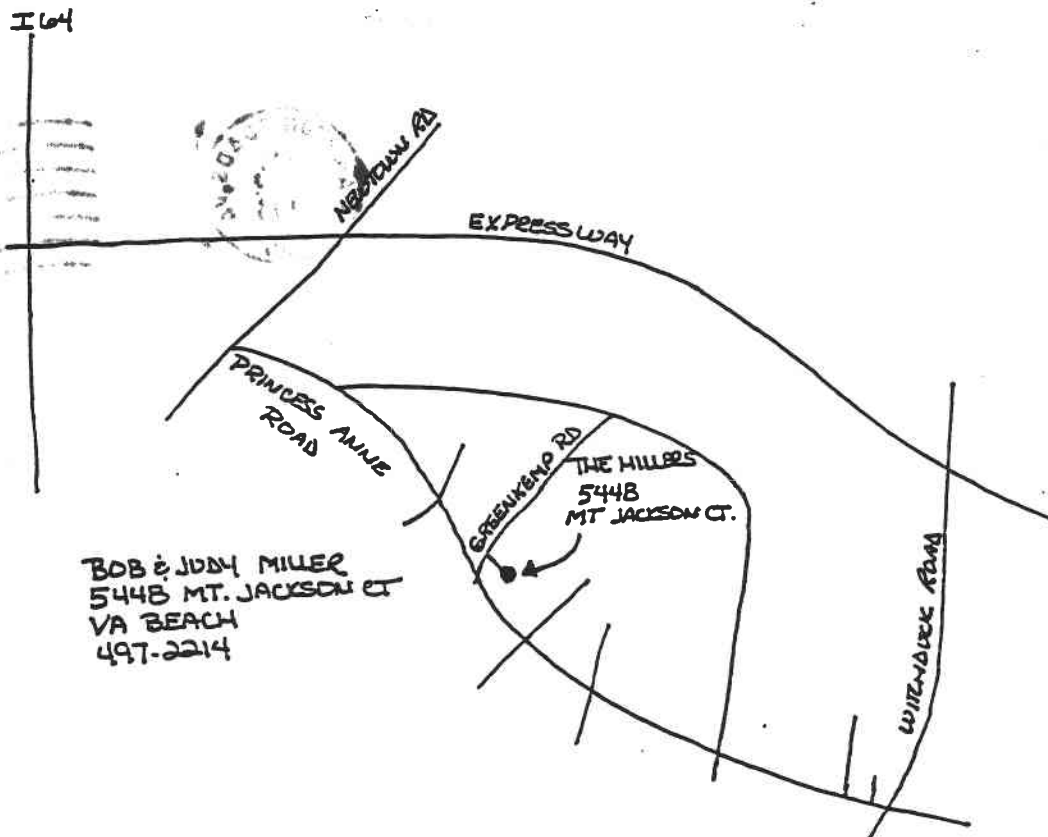
MG FUN IN THE SUN
WE HOPE!

POOL PARTY

SUNDAY JULY 11TH 3:00 PM
RAIN DATE JULY 18TH

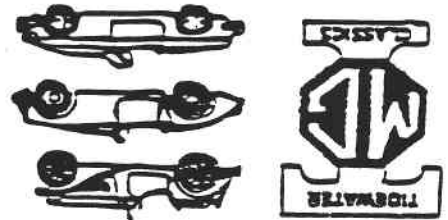
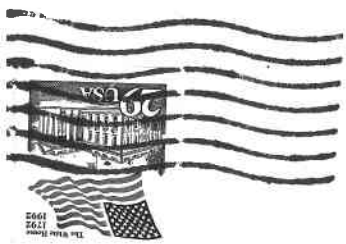
BRING YOUR MG, CHAIR, TOWEL
COOKINGS AND A SIDE DISH
REFRESHMENTS AND GRILL PROVIDED

RSVP: BOB & JUDY MILLER 497-2214

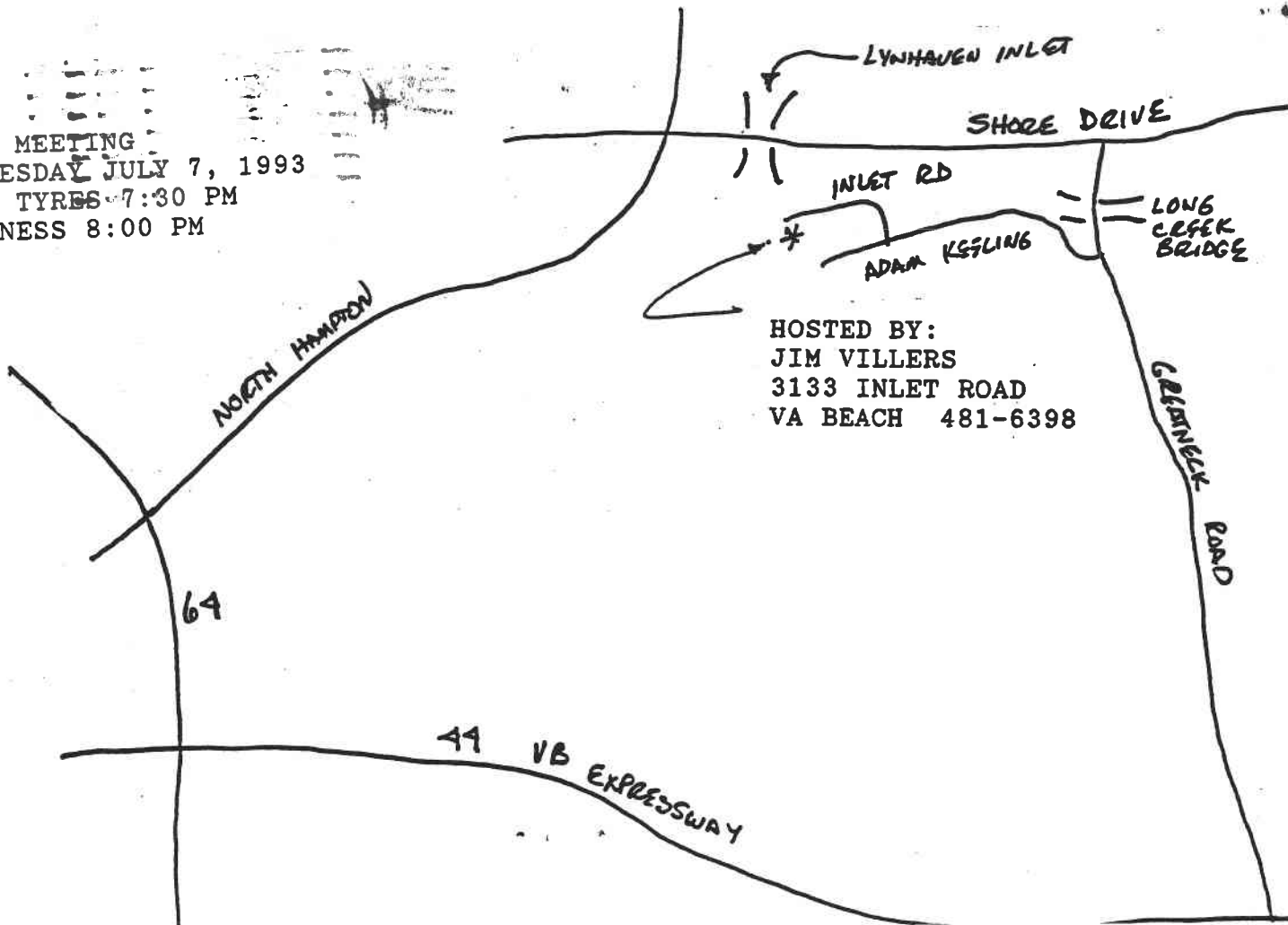


FIRST CLASS

THE HOLCOMBS
601 HEAD OF RIVER ROAD
CHESAPEAKE, VA 23322



JULY MEETING
WEDNESDAY JULY 7, 1993
KICK TYRES 7:30 PM
BUSINESS 8:00 PM



HOSTED BY:
JIM VILLERS
3133 INLET ROAD
VA BEACH 481-6398