

The Dipstick

The Newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics Car Club



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

Volume XXVI, Issue 4

April 1999

Marque Time

Peggy Bradford truly came to the rescue early this month by hosting the February meeting *and* the Wicker Basket/March Meeting. Thanks a million, Peggy. As always, she did a marvelous job putting the whole affair together. What a great time, with an incredible spread of culinary delights, and a good turnout of cars, too, considering the weather forecast. We were lucky, indeed, that the hailstorm which blew through Chesapeake at 70 mph didn't drift a few miles northward. Again, thanks to Peggy for inviting Hank and Betty Rippert. Hank, the New England MG T Register Chairman, is in the process of restoring an early GT (67?).

Terry Bond has been a driving force in the quest to keep collector cars off the Endangered/Extinct Species' List, and on the road. Some legislators, under the spell of new car dealer lobbyists and other single-minded factions across the country, are doing their best to get old cars off the road, without regard to historic or economic value. It's far easier to sacrifice ten thousand "old cars" in exchange for "industrial smog credits" which are semantically interchangeable with "soft money" than it is to go after the gross polluters who provide all that soft money.

Getting a group of lawmakers to agree on anything is a tough task even for experienced lobbyists, yet Terry is doing a great job getting legislators to support well-reasoned DMV rules changes which are beneficial to nearly everyone. Without his intervention, the Clunker Law may well have passed every hurdle, and who knows what impact that may have had on the future of TMGC. Also, thanks to his efforts, we will soon be able to take our antique-tagged vehicles on a Sunday drive without having to make up a cockamamie story - about being out on a test drive - for the nice officer... Several years ago, he lobbied for the successful elimination of property taxes for antique cars.

If we don't do our part to support his efforts, the battle will eventually be for naught. It's our responsibility to keep our end of the bargain: rebuild the smoke-belchers, and inspect your exempted cars annually - either at home, or at a tech session. That way, you are helping to preserve the privilege of driving a classic or antique car. Next time you see Terry, give him your thanks, and a vote of support.

Safety fast!

Mark

Upcoming Club Activities

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| April 7 | Wed Meeting at Paul Thiergardt |
| April 23-25 | Race at the Base |
| May 4 | Tues Meeting at Dave Sheppard's |
| May | Hopehaven Drive-out and Road Rallye |
| May 23 | Sun 7th Annual British Car Classic Car Meet Boulders, Richmond |
| May 29,30 | Soap Box Derby Races |
| June 2 | Wed Meeting at Andy and Cynthia's |
| July 6 | Tues Meeting at Richard and Debbie Cilley's |

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March Meeting Minutes

Mark called the meeting to order at 4:25 PM after having to physically pry several members away from the hors d'oeuvre table. Vince was afforded a measure of due respect, up front, and Peggy was thanked profusely for having twice saved the day in the same month.

New members and guests included Suzette and Tom Keenan, who are moving to the area, and Kevin Walsh. The Robbins' from Ohio, who have a summer home at the beach, were in town this weekend. Our special guests, Hank and Betty Rippert of Charlotte, were treated to an unexpected reunion with Derek and Beth Straw (of MGF fame) who had flown in for the weekend from across the pond. Hank is the chairman of the New England T Register. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted in absentia, as they were omitted from the Dipstick due to a miscommunication.

Treasurer's Report: \$1,026.25 on hand last month; \$147 proceeds from raffle, dues, etc; \$95 expended for postage, last meeting, etc; \$1,079.25 brought forward. Again, our thanks to Ridgway's Printing Service on Cleveland St for footing the print costs for the Dipstick. PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SUPPORTERS.

Dipstick: Our new editor is Ed Kehrig (497-8073). Until the transfer is complete, please E-mail submissions to Mark at IFIXMGS@AOL.COM THANKS, ED.

Publicity and upcoming events include a March 21 TECH SESSION at Frank Linse's, a CHILI COOKOFF at the Richmond Club (Mar 14th); the annual SOAP BOX DERBY at the end of May (drivers wanted); the RACE AT THE BASE (23-25 Apr); REDWING PARK CAR SHOW (May 22nd) and a drive-out to Hope Haven when Spring is in bloom... PAUL THIERGARDT has graciously volunteered to host the April meeting. A rally is in the offing, but the name of the volunteer/perpetrator escaped the secretary... It was noted that Greg Coogan's name appeared in the Jan Dipstick minutes adjacent to the words "Poker Rally" but since he wasn't here to defend himself, and since he had already disavowed any claims to said rally, we'll give him the benefit of the doubt. Maybe next year, Greg....

Old business: Antique Tag Law is changing to allow local casual driving, and changes are also afoot for the Vintage tags. To be posted in sections in the Dipstick. Possibility of a Brit Car Day in conjunction with the Suffolk Peanut/Balloon Fest (Apr99) is not to be, at least this year.

New Business: The planners of the Oceanview St Paddy's Day Parade have issued an edict... clubs shall send only their 10 best cars... We, along with the rest of the HRCCC are begging off.

Marque time: If you are interested in a late model parts Midget (totaled - right rear) call Sue Bond. Mark did the survey on the car - powertrain and front suspension appear to be okay. Diff is bent. Various and sundry comments regarding used parts, progress, and delays on projects were held in abeyance until the meeting was adjourned and the grazers were herded back to the buffet....

Dear Mark:

How nice to visit with you and the Tidewater Chapter this past Sunday. You guys sure know how to throw a party! Just wish we could have spent more time with so many old and new friends but the ride back to Charlotte loomed in front of us.

It was great fun Mark and it's obvious that your membership enjoys the fellowship of likeminded M.G. enthusiasts.

Kindest personal regards,



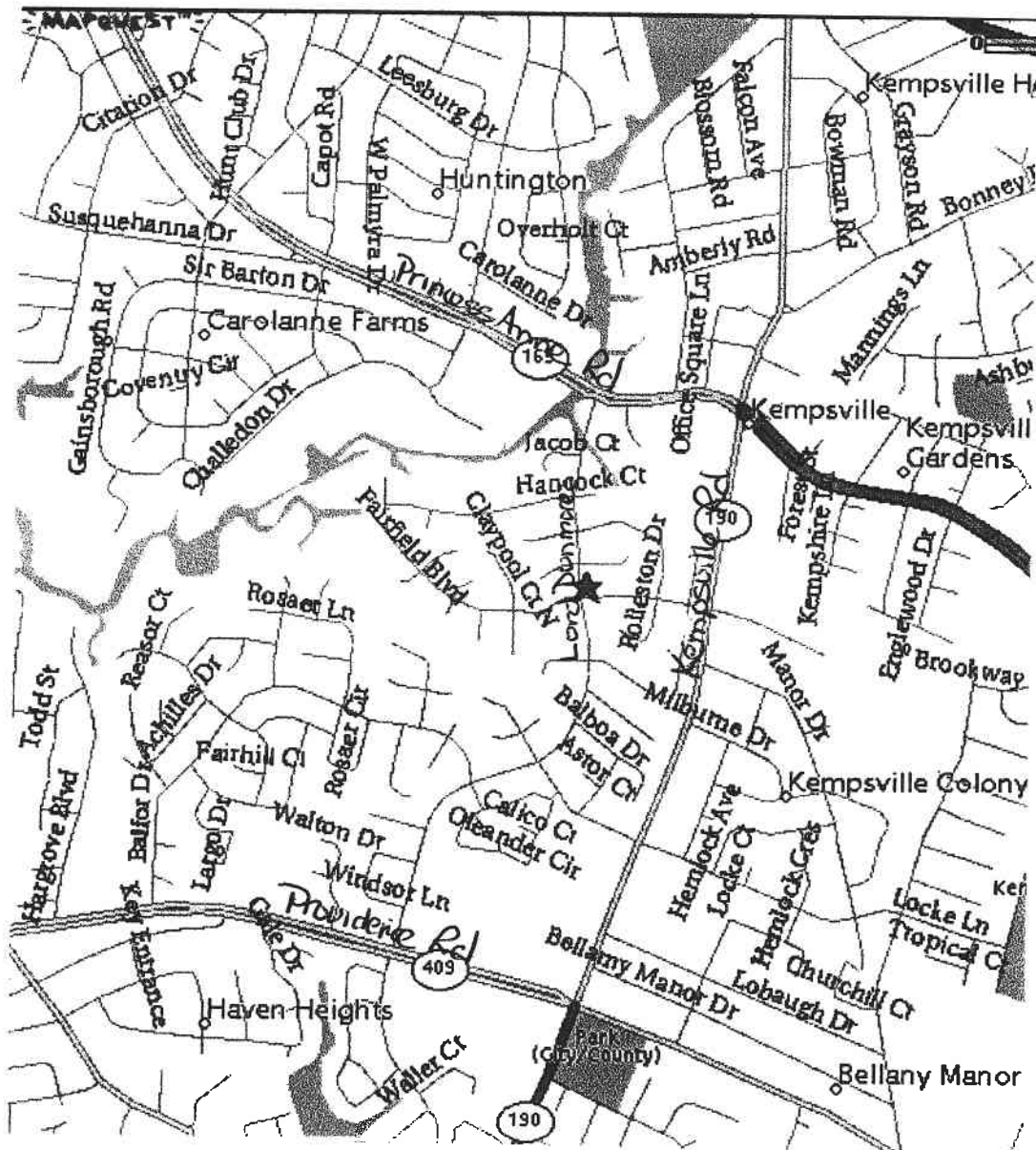
3 March 99

MEETING NOTICE
APRIL 7, 1999

KICK TYRES 7:30

MEETING 8:00

PAUL THIERGARDT
5232 FAIRFIELD BLVD, VA BEACH
497-0455



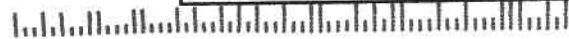
The Tidewater MG Classics

Bob Miller
5448 Mt. Jackson Ct.
Va. Beach, VA 23462



FIRST CLASS

2332274326



DON'T FORGET THE RACE AT THE BASE

| Officers and Committees | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| President | Mark Childers | 473-1757 |
| V. President | Barry Tyson | 488-7304 |
| Secretary | Doug Kennedy | 460-5037 |
| Treasurer | Jim Villers | 481-6398 |
| Editor | Bob Miller | 497-2214 |
| Membership | Bob McClaren | 490-2114 |
| Activities | Chuck Hudson | 425-6882 |
| Technical | Volunteer Needed | |
| Clubs | Mike Ash | 495-0307 |

NEXT MEETING

PAUL THIERGARDT

7:30 KICK TIRES

APRIL 7th