



1996



Tidewater MG Classics



1996

Calendar

3 January	*Meeting
14 January	Fentress Autocross
6 February	*Meeting
11 February	*Chili Cook-Off
25 February	Fentress Autocross
6 March	*Meeting
17 March	Richmond Chili Cook-Off
24 March	*Tech Session
2 April	*Meeting
14 April	Mel's Diner Drive Out
1 May	*Meeting
19 May	Stoney Point Show, Richmond
4 June	*Meeting
9 June	*Mel's Diner Drive Out
26-30 June	MG '96
22 June	Tidewater Scottish Festival
3 July	*Meeting
6 August	*Meeting
18 August	*Tech Session
4 September	*Meeting
14-15 September	Berkeley Show
29 September	*Pig Pickin'
1 October	*Meeting
4-6 October	Waynesboro Show
12 October	Fly-In & Car Show, Topping
20 October	*Martin Vineyards Drive Out
6 November	*Meeting
10 November	Fentress Autocross
24 November	*Tech Session
14 December	*Christmas Party



President	Frank Linse
Vice President	Chuck Hudson
Secretary	Doug Kennedy
Treasurer	Bob Miller
Editor	Gregg Coogan
Technical	Bob McClaren
Activities	Shelly Pelligrino
Clubs	Mike Ash
Membership	John Severin



* Denotes TMGC event



TSCC AUTOCROSS

January 14, 1996

Beat the Heat Autocross

Gregg Coogan



Sunday, January 14 was not one of your typical winter Sunday mornings for a goodly number of the TMGC members for they were out enjoying the heat wave that hit the region making it a beautiful day for autocrossing or just spectating. As is usual there was a field of about forty five cars and around sixty drivers. What was slightly different was the presence of two drivers from the TMGC, myself and Libby Keeler.

Libby had mentioned to me some time ago that she would really like to try autocrossing if she ever got the chance, and this proved to be that chance. Early in December we spoke of this event and I invited Libby to be my guest and use my trusty Midget to test her wings (if you can imagine a Midget that could go fast enough to have wings) and see if this was something she might enjoy. Being the gentleman that I am, I volunteered to run first so as to show Libby the ropes (which means I went right off-course on my initial run), more-so it seems what not to do than what to do.

An added bonus was the number of spectators/helpers from TMGC that showed up to enjoy the day: the Keeler clan, my sons, Colin and Scot, Dave Muth and his two sons (all the way from Carrollton), Doug Dewey and his wife Carline, George Ulrich and his daughter Gretchen. So if any of you out there wish to fire up your trusty MG (or Ford or Chevy or Honda) and give it a try, for a mere \$15.00 call me and I will be glad to give you all the specifics.

By the way, I believe I overheard Libby saying something to Bill about would a rollbar fit under the roof of that chrome bumper MG autocrosser he is building.

Chili Cook-Off

February 11, 1996
at Peggy Bradford's

"Chili, Chili Everywhere but not a drop left over!"

Gregg Coogan

A sunny warm clear day, good company and a front yard full of fifteen MG's. What more could anyone want? Chili — that's what! And we got it, nine different types, all of them good and accompanied by cornbreads, black beans and rice, salads and desserts. All so good that after our forty-plus guests were done there was almost nothing left to nibble on.

It was nice to have our friends from Richmond down for a visit once again and to share in the fun. Hopefully this coming March seventeenth a number of our Tidewater Chili cookers will be heading for Richmond to return the visit.

An added treat was the model car show which featured some really unique cars. Chuck Hudson brought a diorama of a TC made for him by Terry Bond which was knockout, and Dave Barrows, one of our charter members, sent a Rolls Royce he built seventy-eight years ago as a youth. The really unusual part about the Rolls was it was built from the covers of writing tablets. Thank you Dave for sharing your model with all of us.

Fifth Annual Chili Cook Off Final Tabulations

1st place	Doug Kennedy, Tidewater
2nd place	Jerry Andres, Richmond
3rd place	Libby Keeler, Tidewater



Second Annual Mini-British Car Day, 1996 Winners

Best-in-show	Chuck Hudson	MG TC
Most unusual	Dave Barrows	Rolls Royce

Kits

1st	Doug Kennedy	Quadzilla (4WD MG)
2nd	Gregg Coogan	MG TC
3rd	Doug Dewey	MG TC

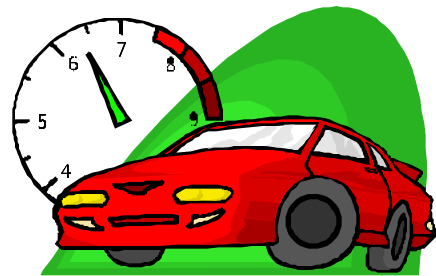
Pre-assembled

1st	Gregg Coogan	Jaguar XK120
2nd	Gregg Coogan	Jaguar XJ220
3rd	Peggy Bradford	MG TC



TSCC AUTOCROSS

February 25, 1996



A Final Thought

Gregg Coogan

Seventy plus degrees, clear and sunny, sounds like a typical June day, right? Well that was Sunday, February twenty-fifth and it was a great day for autocrossing. This was leg four, "February Freeze Out," of the "Winter Four Series" run every year by the Tidewater Sports Car Club, this time at Fentress Airfield.

Over ninety drivers turned out for this balmy Sunday of racing and socializing. Surprisingly there were thirteen people from the Tidewater Classics in attendance, seven of them competing. Chuck Hudson was there with his TC, Peggy Bradford with her TD, Scott Bradford and Nita Schoon shared the drivers seat of an '80 B. Libby Keeler and I shared my trusty little '66 Midget while Paul Weishaupp ran his pretty green '70 B. Doug Dewey and his family stopped by to spectate while Bill Keeler and his children, Jo and Greg, did pit duty.

Anyone with an interest should stop out at one of the local autocrosses and see how much fun you can have with any MG. If not, call me and I will bend your ear about how great autocrossing is.

Chili Cook-Off

March 17, 1996
in Richmond

Richmond's Chili Challenge

Scott Bradford

With a short trip on a cool, overcast day, we arrived in Richmond for the Chili Bowl V. The front lawn was bursting with color with as many as 15 various makes of British cars lined up to greet us. Red seemed to be the color of choice. It was very apparent there was as much interest in the "field of dreams" out back as there was out front. There were many fine British cars in various states of repair or decay — it was hard to tell — just waiting to spring back on the open road.

Once inside, the laughter and chat could be heard from all corners of this chili arena. The food was a chili lovers dream come true. With the final call for ballots, it was discovered that the Texas chili was, in fact, a two-part dish, and many took the opportunity to sample one last time. All in all the food was great, the cars beautiful and, of course, the people were warm and friendly as could be.

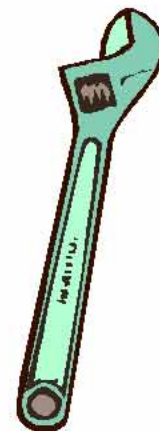
Thank you for a wonderful and fun time. We look forward to next year.



Tech Session

March 24, 1996

Held at the garage of Frank Linse



DRIVE OUT

to Mel's Diner, Grandy, NC

April 14, 1996



Meeting at Military Circle McDonalds



Paul Thiergardt

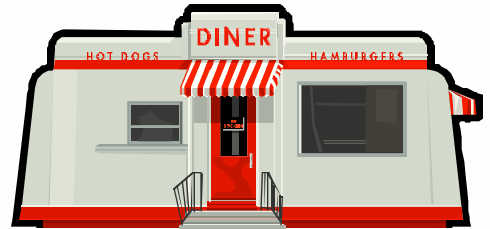


DRIVE OUT

April 14, 1996



Pam Groover, Barry Tyson, Doug Kennedy, John Jones, Vince Groover



Frank & Glo Linse, Pam & Bob McClaren



Shelley & Angelina Pellegrino,
Carmen Thiergardt



The drive-out to Grandy was great. Five MG's were present. Shelly did a fine job of leading the pack and no one got lost. Don Bierwerth from NC met us there with his very presentable TD.

Stoney Point

Organized by Richmond
Triumph Register

May 19, 1996



Bill Keeler's newly restored B



Stoney Point

May 19, 1996



Two Car Shows in One (Hot) Weekend

Susan Bond

I usually don't get to the Richmond Triumph Register's British Car Show at Stoney Point School because of competing events, but this year we managed it. What we hadn't counted on was the weather. Hot.

Terry and I left home early on Friday, 17 May, with Tidewater Region AACA members headed for Martinsville for the 44th Annual Old Dominion Meet. I drove the MGBGT oven and Terry drove the truck (no A/C) with the Triumph motorcycle in the back and the Model T Ford on the trailer. Hot trip. 220 miles later, we pulled into the hotel parking lot. Hot and tired. Because of rain the week before, I hadn't been able to wash the MG, so I did that in a hurry Saturday morning, and wiped all the dust off the dash when we got to the show field — quick jobs when you have a small car. Hot job. That evening at the awards banquet I was very glad I had taken the time. My GT won its very first trophy, a third place in the special interest class. What a SURPRISE!! I won't tell you how many other cars were in the class, but a car has to score a minimum of 240 points. Just wait till I get all that rust fixed!

Sunday morning we left Martinsville with some other British car owners we recruited — Ivie Lister and Margaret Hall with his '53 Bentley (you may have met him at our tech session), Jerry and Linda Swartz and their '77 Midget (potential members), and Ivan Joslin who owns a Jaguar and a TR3 but drove a Pontiac. Hot trip. We just beat the registration deadline, and since I was the only one preregistered, we tied up traffic on the one-lane road into the school while some very irate people were trying to get out. Hot wait. I guess they didn't like British cars. Hot people.

Gregg and Scot Googan were manning out TMGC tent and signing up new members. Hot job. I saw Frank Linse, Bob Miller, Barry Tyson, Mike Haag (sans MG), Carol and Don Finlay, and Bill and Greg Keeler, and Gregg Coogan said Howard Ling was there. Hot members. We applied sun screen and occasionally ventured out of the shade to look at cars. Hot day.

There was such a good turnout of MGB's at this Triumph show that they divided them into 3 classes, based on year of manufacture. This was the first time out for Bill Keeler's '73 B, which he has spent the last few years meticulously restoring. If you think his garage is clean, you should see this car! Many of the participants did and voted for it. Bill won FIRST PLACE!! All he needs is a radio. I'm sure this is only the first of many awards that car will take home. Congratulations Bill and Greg!

Our group was in no hurry to leave. We decided to sit out the heat in the shade and in the Fox and Hounds British Pub, and travel when it was cooler. If this weekend had happened in July, we wouldn't have griped about the heat so much. The temperature had dropped to the 30's earlier in the week and was in the high 90's the days of the shows. We just weren't used to it yet. But what a weekend! I just hope it's cooler when we do the same trip next year.

DRIVE OUT

to Mel's Diner, Grandy, NC

June 9, 1996

Back in Time — Mel's Diner

Susan Bond



The weather gremlins had decided to have fun with us on the 9th of June, the day we had scheduled for our run to Mel's Diner in Grandy, North Carolina. Lots of clouds, and a shower before I left home, but British cars are used to the rain, they may not be able to keep it out, but they are used to it. Four cars of people met at the Military Circle McDonalds: Mark Childers, Susan Bond, Doug and Eiko Wilson (all the way from Williamsburg) in MG's and Shelley and Angeline Pellegrino in a Trans Am. We finally decided that no one else was going to show up so we optimistically hit the road with tops down. Halfway down the Great Bridge bypass the skies opened so everyone pulled over to pessimistically put tops up. But once we got into North Carolina it was nice and sunny, and getting on towards hot.

We didn't have to wait long for a table at Mel's and the food was almost too much to eat in one meal. The decor and the poodle skirts on the waitresses made it feel like we'd been riding in time machines, not MG's. After checking out the gift shop, Mark led the way, and led, and led. He pulled into the rest area at Kitty Hawk where Shelley told us we were taking the ferry out of Currituck, not Nags Head. Back up the road we went, and made it to the ferry just in time. The water was little choppy and we could see rain all around us on the way over, but didn't have to drive through any till we were back in Virginia. It was a damp trip, but lots of fun. Thank you Shelley for organizing it!



Scottish Festival

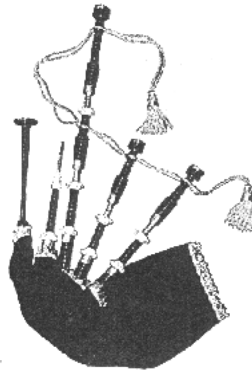
June 22, 1996
at Chesapeake City Park



Frank Linse's Jag, Bob McClaren's TC



Bob McClaren's TC



Mark Childers' B



Ed Meadors B



Scottish Festival

June 22, 1996



Susan Bond's B



Ed Meadors B



Lots of Scots
Susan Bond

The Tidewater Scottish Festival is a great place to spend the day. This year the cars were parked in the same place, under the pine trees, but

everything else had been rearranged. Across the road from us was the Highland Market Place. Had to go through it to get anywhere else and I just happened to see several great things to buy. We were close to the main ring and could hear the loud speakers so it was easy to run over to see the goings on that interested us. Actually, we didn't do much running. It was another scorching day, and we were thankful for the light breeze that cooled us off under the trees.

This year there were 3 pipe bands, quite a few individual pipers competing for prizes behind us, and a great rock/Celtic band later in the afternoon. The caber toss competitors seemed to be a bit more successful than last year, some of the throws were pretty good. I never did get to the Border Collie ring at the right time to see them run, but I did see the Scottish Country dancing, and the Highland dancing went on all day. It was also nice to just sit around in the shade and talk to friends about MG's! MG members in attendance were: Frank Linse, Bob McClaren, Russ Geister (prospective member), Ed Meadors and Maureen Banglely, Jerry and Linda Swartz, Mark Childers and Susan Bond.

Much as I enjoyed the day, I hope the organizers rethink the field layout for next year. We were originally supposed to be out in the sun, but Ed Kehrig said "No way!" and parked us in the shade. Unfortunately, the terrier dogs and their owners were also in the shade and didn't seem too happy to share it. When they started their show, some of the spectators demonstrated their lack of respect for antique cars and other people. I sure hate to rope the cars off to keep people off of them, but sometimes it can't be avoided. Most of the people really enjoyed seeing the cars and I think they really add to the day. (Of course, I may be a bit prejudiced. We took our car to many Highland games and county shows when we were in Scotland.) I'll keep in touch with Ed and let you know the plans for next year.

Berkeley



September 14-15, 1996 at Berkeley Plantation



Breakfast
stop at
Hardee's



Organized by Central Virginia MG Classics



Berkeley

September 14-15, 1996



Beautiful Berkeley!

Susan Bond

Barry Tyson's B

What a glorious day the 15th of September was — sunny and warm, perfect top-down weather!! For the trip up to Berkeley Plantation for the Central Virginia MG Classics British car show, seven cars from our club met at McDonalds at Military Circle and two more joined in at the Hampton Roads Airport. At a Hardees along the way we picked up two more members and somewhere between there and Berkeley, several strangers joined the cavalcade. When that crowd pulled up at the registration tables, the organizers were impressed. Obviously they were just as impressed when the prizes were awarded, our members walked off with quite a few:

Berkeley

September 14-15, 1996



Winners of the rally on Saturday	73 B	Bill and Greg Keeler
Second	48 TC	Chuck Hudson
Honorable mention	54 TF	Paul Thiergardt
Second	58 A	Frank Linse
Second	73 B	Bill and Greg Keeler
Honorable mention	75 B	Bob Miller
Honorable mention	68 BGT	Henry Christoff
Second	76 B	Doug and Eiko Wilson

Those who went up to Richmond on Saturday had a great time on the rally, a 47 mile run that one participant traveled 92 miles to complete. The course went through the battlefields around Richmond and Petersburg, so it was informative as well as fun. The dance Saturday night was almost as good as last year's, but there was a bit of complaining about the price the hotel wanted for drinks.

The featured marque this year was the Land Rover and many more than usual showed up. The most unusual one was a "Forward", a sort of cargo carrying Land Rover, and one I don't remember seeing before. It won best in its class.

The vendor area was well-populated and seemed to do a lot of business — I saw several members with purchases — and Gregg Coogan brought the canopy for the club. Unfortunately he had a major problem with his truck on the way home and, the last I heard, he was waiting for a tow truck.

We stopped at the Virginia Diner and a few antique shops (that's what happens when I let Terry drive) on the way home. It was a great day — perfect weather, friends to share it with, and lots of beautiful cars to look at. Can't wait till next year.

Members we saw at Berkeley:

Susan & Terry Bond	Mark Childers	Gregg Coogan
Henry Christoff	Robert, Faye & Tyler Davis	Don & Carol Finlay
Vince Groover	Mike & Jennifer Haag	J.D. Hawthorne
Chuck Hudson	Bill, Libby & Greg Keeler	Bob McClaren
Bob Miller	Shelley Pellegrino	Paul Thiergardt
Barry Tyson	George & Susan Ulrich	Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach
Leonard Sargeant	Mike & Sally Murphy	

Rallye and Pig Pickin'

September 29, 1996

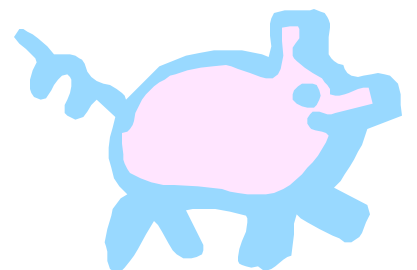
at the home of Chris and Shelly Holcomb

Pig Pickin'

Susan Bond

Our annual Pig Pickin' was held at the estate of Chris and Shelly Holcomb in southern Chesapeake on the 29th of September. The food is always great, and quite a few members bring their MG's, so we usually have quite a crowd in the corral.

Frank Linse volunteered to organize the car show, providing the ballots and plaques for the winners. It wasn't too hard to vote for the favorite car in any of the categories — Doug and Eiko Wilson brought their immaculate B roadster and took all the plaques home, except for best bicycle which went to Tyler Davis. Many thanks to Frank for the car show, and to Chris and Shelly for hosting this popular event again. Even tho the rain dampened thing for a while, we all had a great time.



WAYNESBORO

October 4-6, 1996



Pit stop at MacDonalDs on the way up: Don & Carol Finlay's TR6, Susan Bond's B, Barry Tyson's B

Car show organized by Shenandoah Valley British Car Club as part of the Waynesboro Fall Foliage Festival

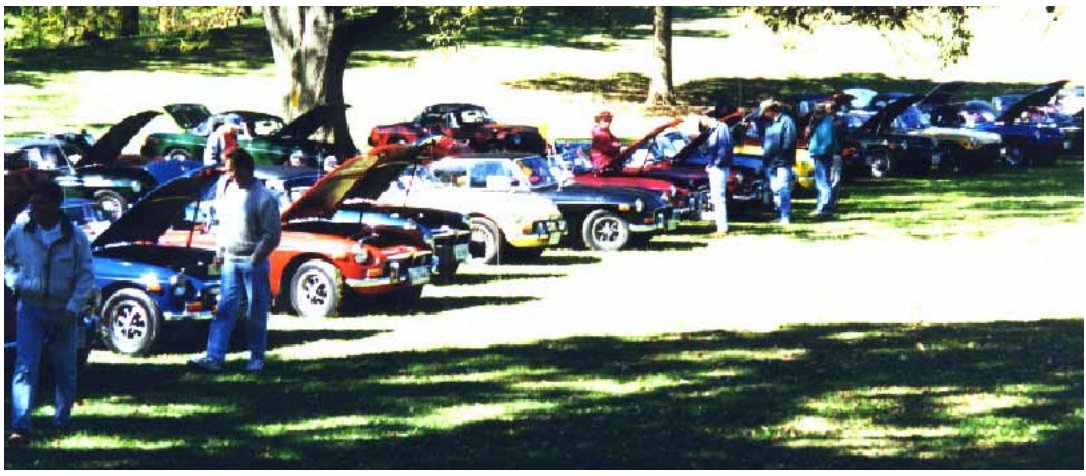


Doug Wilson's B



WAYNESBORO

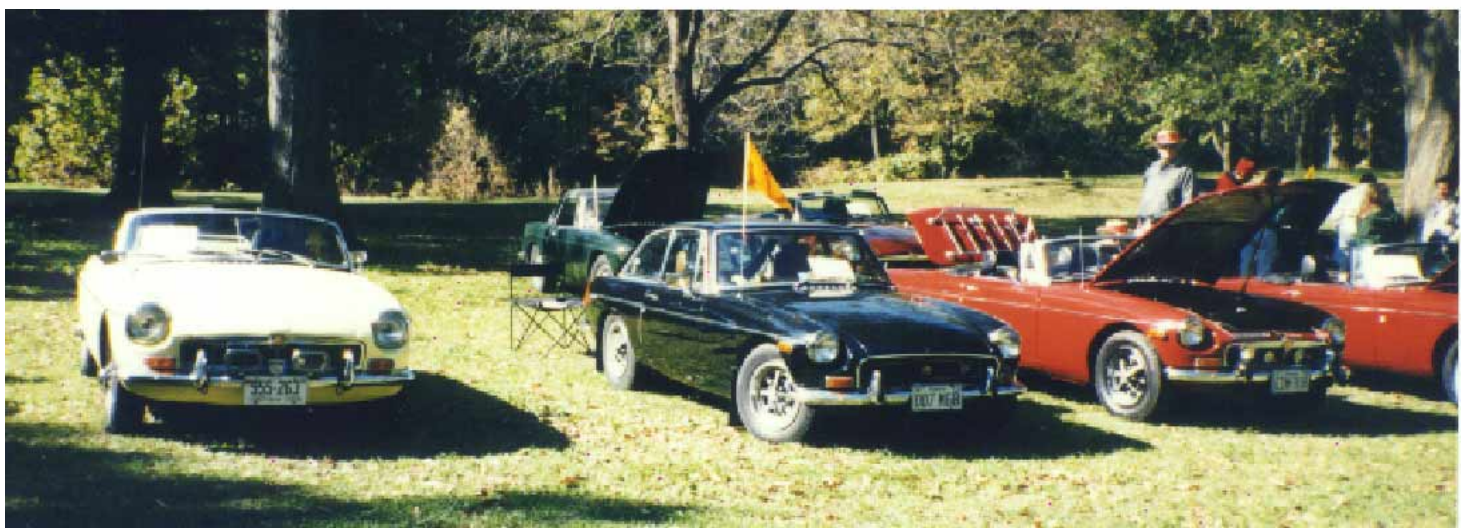
October 4-6, 1996



Frank Linse, Carol Finlay,
Susan Bond, John
Thompson



B's of Barry Tyson and
Susan Bond



WAYNESBORO

October 4-6, 1996



Libby & Bill Keeler, Don Finlay, Eiko & Doug Wilson, Frank Linse, Robert Lock, Hohn Thompson, Barry Tyson, Susan Bond, Greg & Jo Keeler

Robert Lock, Barry Tyson, Frank Linse, Susan Bond, Don Finlay, John Thompson



WAYNESBORO



October 4-6, 1996

Waynesboro British Car Show

Susan Bond

The Waynesboro British Car Festival was held on 4, 5, and 6 October. Barry Tyson, John Thompson and I met at Carol and Don Finlay's house on a beautiful Friday morning for a leisurely trip, mostly on back roads. When we checked in at the Ingleside Resort, Carol and I were assigned a room in the main building so we grabbed as much stuff as we could carry and took the elevator to the second floor. We found the room, but it was already full of people. They told us to come on in, there was plenty of room, but we declined, and I headed back to the desk. Yes, they had given us the keys to the wrong room, yes, they did have keys to the right room. So we loaded all the stuff back in the car (made a little harder because the hatch latch on the GT had just decided to not work from the outside, so I had to crawl in and unlock it from the inside each time) and drove down the hill to Building 1, where we found a room which was not occupied. Next on the agenda was washing the car. Last year they had provided buckets, sponges and soap for this job, but this year all we got was one bucket and one sponge. We took turns, and one lucky person had a wash mitt with soap already in it. Fortunately I had remembered to bring a chamois. Hopefully, next year I won't spend so much time before the show putting the car back together and will have time to wash it at home.

The Friday evening social featured a keg of beer provided by the Roadster Factory and huge barbecue sandwiches so big that Barry was the only one who could eat 2. The auction was brief, but anyone with a TR8 was in luck. Chuck Edwards, a former local member who now lives in Raleigh, Doug and Eiko Wilson, and Bill, Libby, Greg and Jo Keeler joined us, and we sat around talking until we realized we were the only ones in the room! So we wandered out to the parking lot and talked some more, looking at cars until we got cold. I guess everyone else wanted to get lots of sleep before the car show.

We got up early and found dew on the windows of the car, which froze when I tried to wipe it off. It's a good thing we listened to the weather forecasts and brought winter coats. It was chilly on the show field too, until the sun got above the trees. There were quite a few B's this year, divided into chrome bumper and rubber bumper classes, only 2 or 3 T's, and over 200 cars in all. The flea market was a pretty good mix of stuff, but 3 stalls had lots of MG stuff, one with used stuff, the other 2 with new. There were tours available to local outlet malls and a museum, and lots of raffle prizes. Actually, it was nice to just sit and watch other people do all the work.

Frank Linse and Robert Lock had joined us at the show and we all managed to sit together at the banquet. Our table was in the first group to be served, and the meat carver gave us huge chunks of beef (before being told to make the portions smaller) so we had a feast. The emcee was a real comedian who kept things moving right along. The best part was the first place trophy for the chrome bumper MG's. It went to Bill and Greg Keeler!! All those long hours in the garage restoring the B had paid off. In the rubber bumper class, Doug and Eiko Wilson took home the third place trophy. Again, we were among the last to leave, there was still beer in the keg and no one wanted it to go to waste.

Sunday morning there was a run to Monticello, but we decided to eat at the local Cracker Barrel and head home. Again, we took mostly back roads, wishing the leaves had turned, but enjoying the beautiful scenery anyway. Then you live in Tidewater, hills are impressive, and the MG's seem to love them.

WINGS & WHEELS



October 12, 1996

Hummel Airfield,
Topping Virginia



Frank Linse's A

Organized by Friends of
Hummel Field



Barry Tyson



Frank with O.D. Dawson



October 12, 1996

WINGS & WHEELS



Doug & Eiko Wilson



Ed Meadors explains something to Susan Bond



Susan Bond's B



October 12, 1996



Jennifer Beale & Ed Meadors

Fly-In

Susan Bond

The first ever Antique Aircraft Fly-In and British and European Car show was held the 12th of October at Hummel Field in Topping. I know why all these car shows are held in the fall, the weather was perfect!! I traveled up with Don and Carol Finlay and Ivie Lister and Margaret Hall, and met Barry Tyson, Frank Linse, John Trindle, Doug and Eiko Wilson and Ed Meadors and his daughter Jennifer Beale there. Barry and Frank talked to O.D. and Jonnye Dawson, who just happened to be visiting in the area all the way from Delaware, and Jerry and Barbara Andres from Richmond.

We had a great time looking at old cars we had never seen before, and looking at old airplanes. I never knew that airplane people did the same things car people do, travel great distances to look at each others vehicles and talk to each other, and then travel home. The vehicles are a lot alike too, except the airplanes cost more and there's no side of the road to pull over to if they decide not to work. One owner let us look inside his plane, and it was just like a car except the dashboard had dozens of gauges and switches. Some of the planes were fully restored and others were a lot like my B, they run great and the next step is doing the outside. There were even 3 "ultralight" planes that Ivie called "pushers" because the engines were behind the pilots. The cars were parked to one side of the runway, so we enjoyed watching the planes land and take off during the day. There were 2 trophies awarded by popular vote, to the best plane and best car, but we didn't know the winners. Most of the planes and cars left by about 3:00, so we had time for dinner and still made it home before dark.

Martin Vineyards

October 20, 1996

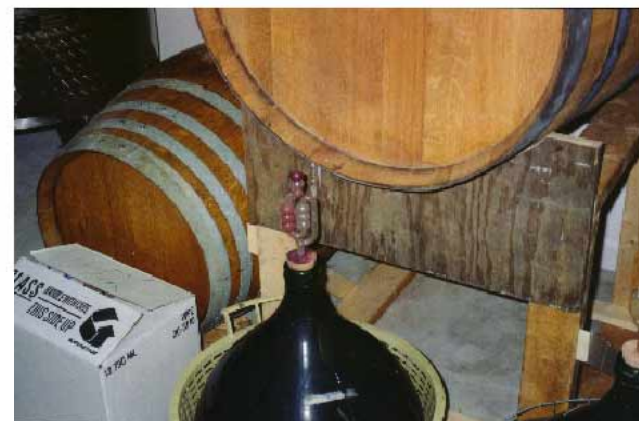
Knott's Island



Barry Tyson, Terry & Susan Bond, Frank Linse, Chuck Hudson



The tour



Martin Vineyards

October 20, 1996



The all-important tasting!
Chuck Hudson, Barry Tyson,
Frank Linse, Susan & Terry Bond



Martin Vineyards



October 20, 1996

Martin Vineyards Wine Tasting

Chuck Hudson, TC'less

We few, we very few, went off (finally) to taste grapes and, if necessary, stomp them. How few? 5, Frank Linse, Barry Tyson, Chuck Hudson and Susan and Terry Bond.

We left Princess Anne Park after the sun had passed over the yardarm so it was now socially acceptable to imbibe. Since we had no official leader, whose name should now be S.P. Anonymous, those with world maps researched them for the way to San Jose, no, no, Knotts Island. The Bonds seemed the most assured so we followed, A after B before B, if only there was a (T)C, getting onto Princess Anne Road and going forever. You know you're on the right road when there is only one and both sides are flanked by water and sawgrass. At the end of the causeway is beautiful Knotts Island. It's very pretty, very rural and, on this sunny Sunday, very quiet. I rode with Frank and his A is also very quiet. We searched for a sign with an arrow to Martin Vineyards. Not even a dog came out to bark. As we came to The T, the double yellows pull you around to the right and, alas, onto the ferry landing.

Questions and stretches. It had taken us about an hour to reach this dead end.

Let's go back. Let's ask those 2 men staring at us. Let's ask the kids who yelled "Blow your horn". We turned around, again with A following B, etc. and upon reaching The T the Bonds decided to go against the flow of the now left curving double yellows and went straight. Directly in front of us was a huge sign with arrow, Martin Vineyards. We must have been blinded by the serene charms of Knotts Island.

So, down their sandy lane we went, peach orchards on the left and grape vineyards to the right. Then through the gates and on to the tasting house. We were cordially greeted and offered a few tastings for free or all six for \$3. Knowing that we had to back track our route up the sandy lane, decision time at The T and the pleasantness of a sunny afternoon, we splurged. Between each tasting our cup was rinsed and home made bread was passed to help us keep our sense (of direction).

I believe we all agreed their reds were a bit harsh and muddy in color. The cabernet sauvignon was very pleasant and the two fruit wines were exceptional, if we could only have stayed all day. We 5 acted with decorum, trying to sound knowledgeable and appreciative of the Martins' efforts and representing our MG's pedigree properly.

We were given a tour of the vineyard's processing "facilities". From the picking of the grapes, removal of stems, seeds, skin, to their pressing all operations are hand done. And all with the same care as our MG's were made. They produced 6000 bottles this year, their first, from grapes harvested in 1994.

Barry documented our presence with his super mini remote controlled camera. We thanked the Martins again for their hospitality. Then out the sandy lane, now right at the T, over the only road and into traffic, noise and barking dogs.

TSCC AUTOCROSS

Fentress Airfield
November 10, 1996



Chuck Hudson ran his TC



Christmas Party 1996

Chuck Hudson

MG's and Christmas, what could be cheerier!
Good friendship, good food and some berrier.
Like last year and before it's at the Hudson's, high on the hill.
Bring your Jack or bring your Jill.
Santa's coming too, so you better be nice.
Hope again this year he doesn't slide on the ice.

For sure we ask you to *RSVP*,
So we won't have to listen and wait and then just see.

Foods are a must for this festive occasion.
We need veggies, desserts, pasta or even a fantasia.
The ham, like in years past,
Just wasn't enough, it didn't last.
So Hudson's on top of the hill
Are offering a turkey and fill(ing).
Please call Judy or Chuck
What and how much you would like to bring in your little red truck.
Again, please remember, if you think you'll be late,
Bring a (non)fattening, NOT!, yummy on a plate.

December 14, 1996

Christmas Party



This year our presents will be *very special*.
They are for children.
A sweater, shirt, socks, mittens,
For ages up to 12.
Toys for children are always fun,
But clothes can be enjoyed while they play and run.

Santa has said we will get presents too!
Look in your parts bin for something unique.
Clean it up, polish it, paint it red if you think.
Mount it as art if you wish,
Put some candy in a dish.
Don't wrap it up, just put on a bow.
We're going to have a contest about who's in the know.
What part is it,
What year.
What does it do?
There will be an award for the winner, You?

So now you've heard it all.
And Christmas attire is de rigueur.

We'll see you then.



Christmas Party 1996

Frank Linse

The MG Club annual Christmas party was held at the high point in Virginia Beach, Chuck and Judy Hudson's elevated home. To all who did not attend – you missed a fine time and an excellent dinner. The atmosphere of cheerfulness and good spirits prevailed throughout the evening.

Santa arrived after the meal and from his grab bag produced an assortment of MG bits and pieces. All interested persons were invited to try to determine the identity of each item. Needless to say, the technical wizard, Robert Davis, was the high scorer with Chris Holcomb and Mike Murphy close behind.

The many gifts of clothing for the needy children were also assembled with great thanks. Mike and Sally Murphy gathered these up and delivered them to the Salvation Army Angel Tree program the very next morning.

The Christmas party was our last club event for the year. Reflecting back over the year we can truly say that the MG marque continues to survive, not just locally but throughout the country.

Christmas Party

December 14, 1996

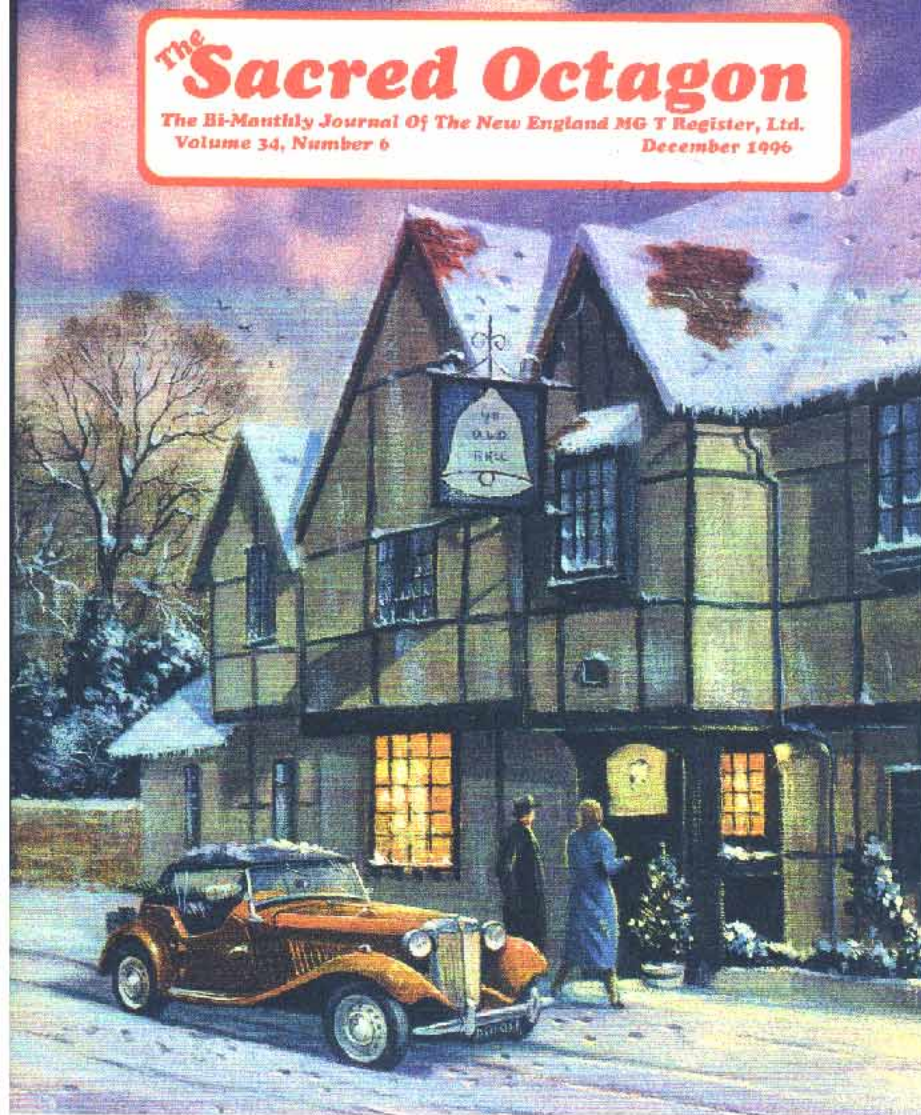
Sally and Mike Murphy would like to thank everyone in the club who donated to the Christmas clothing drive. Because of our efforts over thirty needy children received new clothes on Christmas Day. The clothes were delivered to the Salvation Army on Sunday, December 15th.

Our donation was done on behalf of the Angel Tree Program. Our gifts were used for any "Angels" taken from one of the Angel Trees but not returned. It is sad to say but this year 10,000, yes that's right, 10,000 Angels were not returned. So our donation helped in reducing that number a little. We are sure that somewhere on Christmas a child and parent will be thanking you for your generosity.

The Sacred Octagon

The Bi-Monthly Journal Of The New England MG T Register, Ltd.
Volume 34, Number 6

December 1996



Tidewater MG Classics

by Peggy Bradford #4748

It may be chilly this time of year but our members sure warm things up at our annual Chili Cookoff and British Model Car Contest which starts our year's activities with lots of enthusiasm. This year the weather cooperated superbly with freak February temperatures in the 70's so we not only had a car show inside, but we had a full scale car show outside with passersby stopping to admire the yard, filled with M.G.s that normally may have still been under cover. This year charter member, Dave Barrows, submitted a model of a Rolls Royce he built seventy-eight years ago as a youth. He constructed it from the covers of writing tablets and won First Place as Most Unique. Our good friends from Central Virginia MG Classics in Richmond always participate and provide friendly competition. They then invite us to a "chili challenge" a few months later. Everyone gets into the act. Even member's children have submitted winning chili entries.

Our monthly meetings have become wonderful social events. We still meet in members' homes, however our membership has become so large that we quite often overflow into the yard and street providing a neighborhood car show. We kick tires for a half hour before the meeting and then have a brief-as-possible business meeting, ending with "Marque Time" when members share their joys, tragedies, finds, hints, problems, questions and answers, after which we adjourn to do what we all do best -- EAT!

This year we enjoyed a spring drive-out to Mel's Diner in Grandy, NC, a 50's style diner. Member Don Bierwerth, from NC, who doesn't attend many club activities, met us there in his TD. It's always nice to see geographically scattered members on these excursions.

Several of our T's have shown up at local autocrosses this year providing a little different slant to the usual fare at these events. Chuck Hudson rekindled his love of this competition by showing up in his beautiful robin's egg blue TC. His timing was good but his door was timelier -- opening on almost every heat at the same curve, despite bungy cords. Peggy Bradford drove her TD -- slowly, and other members offered encouragement in their Bs and Midgets.

Members annually make the trek to British Car Day at Bowie. It's a great day to relax, show off cars, meet old friends, eat and find that special part we can't do without.

September gets things rolling after a lazy summer. Our annual combined Pig Pickin and Car show brings most members out in force. Chris and Shelly Holcomb provide a perfect country setting for this event -- complete with a horse ring turned into a "car corral" for the show. The youngsters also participate with their bicycle show. Everyone is encouraged to show their car no matter what condition, so we see cars in every conceivable condition. This year the Sun Gods did not see fit to join us, but despite the occasional drizzle we still had twelve cars in the "Corral" and 4 bicycles to vote on. Chris (as always) dished out scrumptious bar-b-que and in between the rain drops we all found time to admire the cars and bikes and cast our ballots.

We again joined our Richmond friends at their annual British Car Day each September, which has grown into a two day event, something we look forward to all year. Over 25 members made their way to Berkeley Plantation this year and walked off with quite a few of the prizes. Bill Keeler and son, Greg, won the rally on Saturday that took them through the Richmond and Petersburg battlefields. Chuck Hudson's TC took 2nd place and Paul Thiergardt's TF also placed.

Throughout the year we have four tech sessions which start on Sunday mornings and end "whenever" and we always look forward to our annual Sunday at Terry and Sue Bond's garage/museum where he has recreated a vintage automotive store on the second floor of his spacious garage. It's a treat to attend even if you don't have any problems to solve. Terry has a spark plug collection that is one of the best in the country. We also devour bar-b-que from the PigPickin -- another good reason to show up.

Susan Bond usually heads up the contingent to the Fall British Car Fest in Waynesboro. Friends from many makes join us in this fun-filled weekend. The Fall Foliage Festival in conjunction with this event provides activities of interest for everyone.

Our Annual Christmas party brings our year to a close. Chuck and Judy Hudson graciously invite us into their lovely home for this annual bash. Santa (Gregg Coogan) shows up at the appointed time with treats for those who have changed their oil on time and have driven their cars to meetings. What a wonderful way to end the year.

This year our president is Frank Linse, VP is Chuck Hudson, and our ever faithful secretary is Doug Kennedy. Bob Miller keeps and dispenses our money and Gregg Coogan tells all in our monthly newsletter, *The Dipstick*.

We are a somewhat transient community with the Navy and NATO bringing us British friends and many others from around the world. We welcome any MG enthusiast who is in the area a day, a year, or forever. Please look us up if you're in the area. We'll make you feel right at home.