## checkpoints

#### VIRGINIA MOTOR SPORT CLUB



VOL. I No. 7

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY, 1957

# AUTO SHOW NETS \$1400

With all the publicity given the "Power for Polio" Auto Show (held January 22nd at the Arena) by radio, TV and newspaper, there is little left to be reported here-except that VMSC can be very proud to have staged such a successful show for this worthy cause.

Tremendous assistance was given to us by some VMSCers through other organizations to which they belong. Bruce Woodson arranged for the antiques of the Richmond Region, Antique Automobile Club of America, and "Happy" Batcheller, Pres. of the Road Saints, lined up the hot rods from his and other hot rod clubs. Buck Starbuck went a long way toward arranging for the 1957 Detroit cars.

The newspaper announced that an estimated \$2400 was taken in, but after the actual count, this proved to be about a thousand dollars too high. Nevertheless, \$1400 is a big step in the fight against polio!

To name all the members who had a hand in the show would fill more space than we have. But we can all rest assured we've done something really worthwhile and at the same time raised our club several notches in the public esteem!

#### MEETINGS get new location!

On January 17th, the "group" congregated at Tran-Sport for the regular January meeting. Among other things discussed, results of Keith Gallant's "Valley Rallye" were announced, along with the point standings.

Name tags were issued to all members. These will be kept by Madison McClintic at the meeting place and worn by the members at each meeting.

Last minute preparations were made for the auto show and the night was topped off with a movie on the 1955 Sebring races.

The next regular meeting will be held at 7:30 Thursday, February 21, at FIRST & MERCHANTS CONFERENCE ROCM ... ROBINSON AND BROAD, RICHMOND.

## "THE VALLEY RALLYE" (or the Legend of 609)

Early Sunday while the sky was still grey, From North Boulevard we all tore away. Each little car headed toward the valley... Would we ever get back???

Gallant planned this rallye!!

It seemed so simple, and all was just fine,

'Til we tried to locate Route 609.

Some found it easy and went on their way,
While others less fortunate wound up astray!

The Checkers were hidden so no one could see

(In dormitories, mud holes, or high in a tree!)

The roads were so rough that making up time
Was as hard as getting this poem to rhyme!
But the scenery and roads were prettier
by far

Than any we've seen from our sports car.

High on the mountain by the Skyline Drive, Sat two lonely Checkers, barely alive. They had gone there expecting a busy day, But no one managed to come their way! But they earned their points, we report

with glee, By sitting all day in a blown MG!

We arrived at the Inn for a much needed rest,

And sank our teeth in a fat Turkey breast. The rest rooms there were as hard to find As the 'fore-mentioned route number 609!

We said farewell to the T. J. Inn
And waited for the second leg to begin.
The directions back could have been worse;
They were the first leg instructions
in reverse!

So homeward bound came the tiny machines
Past Checkers in Alfas and black Dauphines.
Natives lined up along the fences
Thought that these 'tourists' had
lost their senses!

It finished right back where it began...
One of the best rallies we ever ran!!

---Henry Wadsworth Longwheelbase

Virginia Motor Sport Club, mailed free to paid members. Subscription rates to non-members, \$1.50 per year. Communications and articles should be addressed to:
Ed Remick, 107 North 1st Street, Richmond, Virginia. MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT 1st & MERCHANTS, ROBINSON & BROAD, Richmond, each 3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise announced.

#### MODERS MOTOR CAR CO

~ PACKARD CLIPPER~

Also authorized dealer for Mercedes-Benz Jaguar Alfa Romeo Porsche Austin of England Morris Austin-Healey Volvo

1114 North Boulevard - Phone 5-2873

Borgward

#### CLUTCH-CHATTER

Will member who found Ed Remick's left thumb in a copy of CHECKPOINTS please return it. It was stapled to January issue. Our apologies for blood-stained CHECKPOINTS.

...what young lady of VMSC goes sleigh riding and winds up in the middle of a creek??? Some navigator!!

...seen around town: Lord Beverly Bentley making a TV debut with Sir Robert Walker. Seems there was also an "Italian Porschia" on the show!

Wright now holds the record for losing it... 6 times in 3 hours!! Nothing like this new game of Grand Prix!

...TR-3 seen in middle of Monument Avenue with hood up (steam-cleaning WILL dampen distributors!!)

What's with the Nortons and the Clarks trading partners on the Valley Rallye??

...Bob Snyder's 300 SL was the hit of the Auto Show...or was it the model who stood alongside??? Many thanks, Bob, for bringing your car all the way from Martinsville!

REMEMBER NEW MEETING LOCATION....
FIRST & MERCHANTS (upstairs)
ROBINSON AND BROAD

#### · VALLEY RALLYE RESULTS

Herewith, the results of the 'Valley Rallye' of January 13th:

- 1 Fine & Harding (again???)
- 2 Patteson & Winslow
- 3 Tignor & Lewis
- 4 Pettit & Wray
- 5 F. Norton & S. Clark
- 6 Baggett & Baggett
- 7 D. Rucker & M. Rucker
- 8 Crenshaw & Applewhite
- 9 Lonesome Bob Walker
- 10 Branner & Kessler
- 11 Cox & Weaver
- 12 Graves & L. Clark
- 13 Pendleton & Pendleton
- 14 W. Norton & M. Clark
- 15 Schiff & Cohen
- 16 Jett II & "Trink"

#### GGASSIGIGO

Send your ad to CHECKPOINTS along with 50¢ for first 25 words. Add 5¢ for each word over 25. (If you think this is high, our nearest competitor, "Saturday Evening Post" charges \$33.68 for just one line!)

SIGNAL-SEEKING RADIO neatly custom-tailored to fit any sports car. 9-tube radio in luggage compartment, electronic control panel in dash. Excellent reception & tone. 17th STREET AUTO SUPPLY, 714 N. 17th St., Phone 3-0126

MG-TD BLACK PLASTIC HARD-TOP, SIDE CURTAINS Fine shape, cost \$200, now \$50. FREE: 2 rusty early model VMSC badges with purchase! GERRY BOEHLING, 5-3592

FOR SALE CHEAP: One VMSC monthly publication, unless you members start submitting a few ads, articles or items for "Clutch Chatter". (We can't pick on Harold all the time!)

THIE EGG-HEAD BAILTYE" sponsored by the Jaguar Owners of Va. SUNDAY MAR. 10th-1:30 p.m.

Starts at corner of Azalea and Old Brook Road, Richmond (by Pine Camp Hospital)

#### IF YOUR BADGE BAR IS BARE-Take Note!

Membership is now open for:

SCPS - Society for the Conservation of Parking Space.

CATF - Council to Abolish Tail Fins
000000A - Organization for Ostracising
Oversized, Overpriced, Overpowered
and Overchromed Automobiles

AEPI - Association for Elimination of Pedestrian Impalers

Direct your inquiries to:

SPPSE - Society for the Preservation of
Pint-Sized Engines.

#### RADIOS for SPORT CARS

In case you missed their stand at the Auto Show, the 17th Street Auto Supply had a pretty nifty custom radio set available for sports cars. These sets are made using name brand parts and diagrams and use the GM signal-seeking device.

The styling has that "Hallicrafters" look and should go well with the interiors of all sports cars.

## BATCHELLERS CORNER

by "Hap"

Speedometer needle "jerk" is caused by a worn or inefficient cable. If your speedometer needle jerks, unscrew the cable from the back of the speedometer and attempt to twist the square end with your fingers. If you can twist at all, that is the cause. There is no method of overcoming this and the cable will have to be replaced from time to time. We have found that U.S. replacement will stand up better than the English cable supplied with a lot of cars. See your speedometer service shop. (Badge Bar Journal)

Chuck Jett reports that '55 Chevvie or Buick Thermostat can replace the one in the Austin-Healey. Also for the Healey, Federal LS12 and MS 8 bearings replace the inner and outer front wheel bearings respectively.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S BRAINTWISTER: The bystander said, "Change cars!"

We've been running so fast
That we only have time to say:

Best Vishes to a Very Fine Publication!

#### TRAN-SPORT Sales & Service

1010 North Boulevard - Phone 5-1775

### ODDS É ENDS

(borrowed from Badge Bar)

Total importations of Volkswagen in the U.S. for 1956 reached a figure of 50,000. This makes us wonder how Detroit could possibly overlook this market.

The newest sports car to intrigue us is the "Volvo Sport" convertible which is now in production in Sweden. This is to be a plastic bodied, roll-up-window type, possibly the car that Britain should have produced a year or more ago.

Mounted on a tubular steel chassis frame, the 1420cc, 4-cylinder 1.h.v. engine gives 70 b.h.p. at 5,500 rpm, and has a compression ratio of 7.8 to 1. The gear box has 5 speeds with synchromesh, top gear is 1 to 1. Suspension by helical springs and wish bones at the front, helical springs and torque arms at the rear. The body is of glass fiber reinforced plastic, combining low weight with strength. Heating equipment is fitted as standard, and a fuel consumption of 30-35 mpg is predicted.

Could this be the car to give the Porsche a bad time on a road course?

Gas turbine cars will be eligible for next year's 24-hour Le Mans race, which will take place June 22-23. A special prize of \$2,500 is being offered for the "jet" car covering a minimum distance of 2,250 miles, which represents an average speed of slightly under 94 mph.

An interesting switch on the "race-in-Europe" kick is the fact that Sterling Moss wants to come to the penniless shores of the U. S. to race.

"I'd like to race at Road America (Elkhart Lake) for instance," he said. "Just for the fun of it."

Moss is a member of the Sports Car Club of America, Great Britain Region.

# TO(2) 520) - 1957 POINT STANDINGS

The following new point standings, as described in last month's CHECKPOINTS, were compiled through the "Valley Rallye", of January 13th (and include 5 points for attending the "Power for Polio" Auto Show January 22nd.)

1	(Tie)	Allen Fine	245
		Bill Harding	245
2		Jack Lewis	153
3		Madison McClintic	151
3 4		Mary Byrd Tignor	146
5	(Tie)	George Patteson	141.5
		Lin Winslow	141.5
6		Bill Pettit	137
7	(Tie)	Virginia Harding	130
		Judy Baylor	130
8	(Tie)	Allen Rennie	128.5
		Keith Gallant	128.5
9		Frances Norton	121
10		Bob Mayo	102
11		Ed Remick	98.5
12	(Tie)	Gerry Boehling	95
		Margaret Mayo	95
13		Doug Rucker	92
14		Marilyn Johnson	85
15		John Kessler	73

In order to participate in the 1957 Point Standings, each person must be a member in good standing of VMSC with dues paid in full. Trophy Awards for the "Rallye Year" will be individual...ties must be broken by the end of the year.

Germany's Fabulous

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VIRGINIA SPORTS CAIRS

1603 Petersburg Pile - Phone 83-3492

