# checkpoints

#### VIRGINIA MOTOR SPORT CLUB



VOL. I No. 8

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MARCH, 1957

## "LOCO RALLYE"

Charlie Armstrong and Bill Pettit staged their LCCO Rallye in Louisa on February 10th. Originally it was 1/3 dirt roads, but after many days of constant rain, it was decided to take out the dirt roads. Somehow, in re-constructing the instructions, they managed to get a little confusing and many of the 27 cars fell by the wayside. But those who didn't fall finished as follows:

- 1. Mayo & Mayo (the honeymooners)
- 2. Rennie & Rennie
- 3. Patteson & Winslow
- 4. Boehling & Donger
- 5. Pendleton & Pendleton
- 6. W. Norton & Walker
- 7. Fine & Harding (well!)
- 8. Pearlman & Transheban
- 9. V. Harding & Baylor
- 10. Branner & Kessler
- 11. Crenshaw & Crenshaw

The next day, the Times-Dispatch came out with an article headed: "LOUD NOISE HEARD IN LOUISA....POSSIBLY JET." It went on to say the noise, which sounded like an explosion, was heard throughout Louisa County and in parts of Orange County Sunday afternoon.

Harold Applewhite suggested it was Kesslers
TR-3 looking for the second Checkpoint.

Others speculated that JET should have been spelled with two T's!!

## NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS ANNOUNCED

The regular meeting was held February 21st at First and Merchants Bank. Sixty members and twelve guests were present and among the business discussed was the Chesapeake Trophy Rallye in which two VMSC sponsored teams will participate.

The following nominations for the year 1957-58 for officers of the Virginia Motor Sport Club have been submitted by your nominating committee, Bill Harding, Chairman:

For President - Jack Lewis
For Ex. Vice Pres. - Robert Walker
For Vice Pres. Activities - Madison
McClintic

For Secretary - Caroline Crenshaw
For Treasurer - Charles Armstrong
For Editor Checkpoints - John Kessler

Election of new officers will be held at the Annual Meeting, Wednesday, March 21st, 7:30 PM, at the First and Merchants Bank, Robinson and Broad.

After the business session, Bob Mayo showed numerous reels of color films including some excellent shots of the Nassau Races, Marge, the Loco Rallye, Marge, their honeymoon and Marge. Many thanks to the Mayos for the movies.

They were really good!

#### SPORTS CARS SUBJECT OF NEW TV SHOW

Virginia Motor Sport Club is to participate in what is believed to be one of the first regularly scheduled TV sports car programs.

On March 22nd, Friday evening, 7:15 PM, on WRVA-TV, Frank Lewis Inc., your Dunlop Tire Dealer and Mooers Motor Car Company will co-sponsor a 15 minute television program once each week entitled "Motor Sports Review". The program will be emseed by our President Jack Lewis, who will interview club members, discuss and display their cars, show sports car films and report club news of interest to our membership as well

as the general public. Since this will be quite an undertaking to gather interesting news of automobile activities, we urgently ask each of you to give your support to help stimulate interest and acceptance of our club by supplying Jack with any and all materials and news you may have. And please accept any invitations to appear personally on the program; our club has a splendid opportunity now to better familiarize the general public with sports cars and sports car activities; let's get behind the program and help out whenever possible.

CHECKPOINTS is published monthly by the 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.

1956 TR-3 Radio, Hard and Soft Top,
Wire Wheels, 5500 miles, MINT -\$2395.00

1955 TR-2 - -\$1695.00

1954 MG-TF 1500 cc - -\$1395.00

1950 AUSTIN A-90 Atlantic Convertible -\$295.00

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## REMICK LOSES IT ... but good!

Ed Remick and his co-workers looked out the window of their office at a ridiculous sight---a man stood in the alley, in the rain, reading a book!

The stranger tucked the book under his arm, picked up his suitcase and departed, and as he left, took a long look at Remick's Porsche Speedster parked at the curb, then continued on his way. Remick and his coworkers went back to work.

It was then that Ed became the victim of one of the most spectacular car thefts that we can remember!

The book was the <u>Porsche Operator's Handbook</u>. After familiarizing himself with the gears and operation of the car, the thief jumped in and roared away!

Ed was notified by the shop owner next door. Police were called and sports car dealers on U. S. 1 North and South were alerted. Minutes later the white Speedster was spotted, calmly moving north at 3. S. 1.

State Troopers took chase near Ashland and the sporty thief, wearing a suede jacket and driving gloves poured on the fuel. A combination of dusk, rain and snow made visibility treacherous.

Porsche and Police went into a turn at 90 mph and only the Police came out. The stranger hadn't read far enough into the book to learn to corner. He swapped ends, hit a concrete curbing broadside, flipped in mid-air, took down numerous filling station signs, landed on the wheels (the two that were left), slithered through a fence and into a field.

The impact would have killed an honest man. The officer and filling station attendant dashed to the demolished Porsche, but the "sport" had fled to the woods!

Remick arrived at the scene with some friends, and along with the Police, sifted through the thief's belongings that he had left behind in his smashed suitcase.

The only clue was a girl's photo with the inscription: "To Charley - Luck and happiness to a wonderful guy. All my love always, Charlotte." The picture folder bore the name of the studio. Charley, according to a Florida hotel receipt found in the car, was named Charles Morgan.

Charley Morgan is still running - which is more than can be said for the Porsche. Remick now drives a white VW Convert while waiting for delivery on a new Speedster.

POINTS will be awarded any Club member apprehending this "cotton-pickin' Porsche picker".

### GHASSIFIED

Send your ad to CHECKPOINTS along with 50¢ for first 25 words. Add 5¢ for each word over 25.

CROSLEY SPECIAL tubular chassis with spare engine and miscellaneous parts. Ready to run - \$325.00. Call 4-9490 - Ed Cahen. Can be seen at Thompson and Broad.

PEN AND INK SKETCHES of your favorite sports cars!. 8x10 prints suitable for framing. Decorate your Den with the MG-TC, TD, TF &A, 300SL, Porsche Coupe, D-Jag, Ferrari, XK-140, AH100-S, TR-3 and VW. Complete set of 12, \$5.00. Any four, \$2.00. No C.O.D.'s. Ed Wood, 8310 Hood Drive, Richmond, Virginia

### THE PAJAMA GAME RALLYE ...

PENDLETON TRIUMPHANT IN "ENDURANCE RUN!"

Tom Pendleton, navigated by Bill Cook, emerged victorious on the all-nite "Pajama Game" Rallye Saturday and Sunday, February 23 and 24.

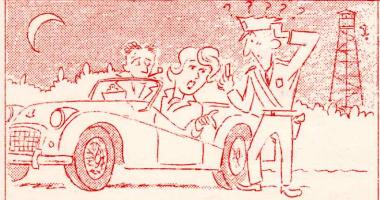
Robert Walker lost all his customers and Jack Lewis lost all his votes for President when they laid out this rallye! Rallyists got so scrambled up over latitude, longitude and compass readings that many never showed up at the finish.

The rallye was scheduled to end at the Glass House Restaurant on the Petersburg Pike around 7 a.m., but participants were still straggling in tired, sleepy and beaten at 10 a.m. All had been lost at least once during the night.

Imagine climbing to the top of a lookout tower in search of a checkpoint only to find it hidden in a garage way back down on the ground! Another checker was concealed beneath a bridge!.

The cars that got back finished in the following order (it is reported that some cars are still cruising the streets of Blackstone!):

- 1 Pendleton and Bill Cook
- 2 Fine and Harding
- 3 Patteson and Winslow
- 4 Branner and Kessler
- 5 Gallant and Baylor
- 6 Larus and Augustine
- 7 Duncan and Rolston
- 8 Armstrong and Cox
- 9 Baggett and Baggett
- 10 Melita Clark and Stan Clark
- 11 Gardner and Scott
- 12 E. Jett and C. Jett
- 13 Alice Patterson and W. Patterson



"BUT OFFICER...IN ENGLAND WE WOULD HONOR A LOUISIANA DRIVERS LICENSE!"

#### How to RUN'EM and WIN 'EM

(This column is dedicated to your rallye enjoyment, with the hope that you, too, may win a rallye...occasionally! Without your comments and contributions, it could be the first and last column...so send in any helpful tips you care to disclose; both in running and planning rallies.)

Ol' hedge-lip, Bob Walker, on his recent vacation in England, found some deluxe stop watches. They have a stiff price, but are the ultimate in legibility and accuracy. He has photographs, prices, etc. and will arrange your purchase.

Red or blue interior lighting on nite rallies will help the eyes when switching from the odometer to the sign post.

The Club's stopwatches are being installed in illuminated cases, so...all checkers should make extra sure they do not drop these beautiful timers and keep their grubby fingers off the working parts and even learn to read the correct time!

Fire extinguishers, first aid kits, two ropes, extra fuses, fan belt, bulbs..can be essential rally equipment..anything you can add to this list will help us all.

Don't forget when setting up your rallye to give instructions aimed at eliminating unnecessary conversation at the volume. The checkers have to get the correct time and car number and maybe give a new average speed.

After the "Pajama Game" Rallye, we'll all know to carry a pocket compass!!

Be careful in buying one of the larger Blackwell calculaters...it's very useful for races and not so hot on rallies. The others are excellent...One at about \$8 is of Mercedes quality.

If you don't have 10ths on your odometer, try determining the number of seconds it takes to complete one tenth at the av.sp. Then the stop watch will give a very accurate count on where the next turn should have been!!!

Keep the rally fees down! They've been climbing and don't seem to have much relation to the cost. After the trophies are paid for and a small amount taken for the treasury, stop.

Be careful of the backlash in resetting your trip odometer to zero. Some will fail to register the first tenth or take too long to get there.

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### CLUTCH-CHATTER

Red rallye-board lights are excellent for non-glare. But what do you do, Bill, when the instructions are printed in red??

Overheard from the woodshed - Bob Moore atop the fire tower calling, "Ted - I've climbed all the way to the top and there's no one here!"

SEEN AROUND - Virginia Harding and Judy Baylor touring Louisa County looking for the Bears Den...Fred and Marilyn Johnson eyeing a red Porsche Speedster in Washington.

Bob Bower test driving a Black Alfa.

NOT SEEN AROUND - Bob and Marge Mayo, who won the Loco Rallye, haven't been seen since the start of the Pajama Game Rallye - could have been that SSWNE turn that did it!



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LOCAL CITIZEN CONDEMNS SPORTS CAR DRIVERS

The following letter (condensed here)
appeared recently on the editorial page of
a Richmond newspaper under the heading:
"'Midget Menaces' Seen as Highway Hazard":
"After observing the antics of the smallauto drivers and sports-car-nuts, it's
clear that 95% of these drivers either
belong in a psychopathic ward or need
schooling about laws and courtesy of the
highway.

"What are they trying to prove: (A) that they can out-maneuver any car on the road, (B) that they can drive faster than anyone else, (C) that people should look up to them, and not down upon them?

down upon them?

"Every day these midget-menaces race past everything on the road, snow, sleet, on curves, driven by their overwhelming ego, at the risk of everyone's life. The invincible midget.

"Wouldn't it be nice if this group of goons could be bundled together and shipped to the plains of Texas, where they could race their fool heads off, bang and smash together, and the rest of us could be safer?

T. L. Lindsey."

Before VMSC could reply, one enthusiast answered under the pen-name of Gale Richmond, and discussed the "Asinine Characteristics of U. S. Cars".

Then VMSC took up the issue with this letter (also condensed).

"It is not the intention of this letter in any way to criticize. However, our club feels the letter from Mr. T. L. Lindsey should not go unanswered.

"At the present time our membership numbers well over 100 persons, men and women; doctors, lawyers, architects, artists, salesmen and even housewives, all with one common interest---sports cars.

"Our gatherings and meetings are organized by gentlemen and sometimes we even race on a track! The events we stage are always reported to the police. The greatest hazard any sports car owner faces today is that few drivers of standard size cars can resist the urge to outrun any foreign car they see.

"We feel we are adult ladies and gentlemen, interested in the preservation of owning an automobile for enjoyment and the "fun" of driving. May I take this opportunity to invite any individual to attend any of our regular monthly meetings. This invitation I would like especially to direct to Mr. Lindsey, for I feel he would then realize the tremendous injustice he has done to 95 per cent of all sports car owners.

Jack D. Lewis, President."

It was a good fight, Ma, but who won!

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# TODD 20 . 1957 POINT STANDINGS ...

The following point standings were compiled through the Pajama Game Rallye, February 23rd:

.1	(Tie)	Allen Fine	415.5
		Bill Harding	415.5
2	(Tie)	George Patteson	316
		Lin Winslow	316
3		Allen Rennie	307.5
4		Jack Lewis	267
5		Mary Byrd Tignor	260
6		Tom Pendleton	258.5
7		Marge Mayo	253.5
8		Bob Mayo	225.5
9		Judy Baylor	220
10		Bill Pettit	208
11		Keith Gallant	192.5
12	(Tie)	John Kessler	175
		Robert Walker	175
13		Bill Cook	172.5
14		Suzanne Branner	168
15		Madison McClintic	161.5
16		Gerry Boehling	155
17		Virginia Harding	146
18		Gayle Wray	140
19		Frances Norton	134.5
20		Charlie Armstrong	127.5

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.

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