



# The Dipstick

The Newsletter of the  
Tidewater MG Classics Car Club

Volume XXVII, Issue 7

Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

July 1999

## MARQUE TIME

Andy and Cynthia must have bribed the WAVY weatherman this year. No opening of the skies, no floods, no arks on the Lafayette River as its years gone by... thanks so much for the lovely setting and gracious hospitality.

I was about to lament on the downward side - mechanically speaking - that my red B has been on of late. Drippy carbs, drippier seals and gaskets, a nonisy axel bearing, and a ball-style throwout baring that sounds like a cat was caught in the fanbelt, for starters. The dirver,s side floorpan is cracked under the seat from last year's squeeze play between Alan Watson's B and the hapless Mercedes, and three of the wheels are bent badly enough to need replacements.

Before I get too far into the list of real and perceived shortcomings, I need to gin up a mental dope-slap, and give it some credit... I drive the car like every trip is a leg in the Mille Miglia, and, quite literally, sell parts right off of it on a fairly regular basis.

The old beast may have 240,000 on the odo, but aside from a couple of screws and maybe a hubcap emblem, it ain't the same car I drove off the lot 25 years ago. It runs far better than it did when new, and rides, handles and stops better than most cars its age. And in spite of all the minor ailments it picked up from being rode hard and put away wet for the past twelve months, I could have simply continued to drive it till the wheels fell (wobbled?) off. I probably should, but then I wouldn't have anything to complain about.

Bring a youngster to the next meeting. Sooner or later we're all going to need help getting in and out of these marvelous machines... so get out there and drive 'em while you can.

Safety Fast !

Mark

## Upcoming Club Activities

- July 6      Tues Meeting at Jim & Betty Villers. 481-6398
- August 4    Wed Meeting at Richard & Debbie Cilley's. 481-5722
- August 29   Tech Session - Bob McClaren.
- Aug/Sep     Golf Outing - Dave Shepard.
- Sept 7      Tues Meeting at Bill & Leslie Seib's. 420-9523
- Sept         Berkely.
- Oct 6        Wed Meeting at Bill & Alice Goff 721-7620.
- Oct          Pig Pickin' at Alan & Becky Watson.
- Fall         Tech Session at Terry & Sue Bond's.

## June Meeting Minutes

It was a comfortable and darkening evening along the Lafayette River as Mark opened the meeting by tearing us away from the sunset at 8:15 with a hearty cry of "Let's spark this sucker off!" He thanked Cynthia and Andy for their hospitality as hosts.

Membership: Bruce Miller, Fred Foreman, and Vince Sava were welcomed as guests and new members. Pam McClaren was also welcomed after a long-time absence from our soirees.

Minutes: Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Receipts \$66, Disbursements \$83, Balance \$929.04

WARNING, WARNING, WARNING... DUES ARE DUE IN JULY. PAY UP.

Social Events: Hope Haven driveout has been postponed. Dan Kirby is working on a rally. Practice this weekend for the soapbox derby. There is also a tech session and competition this month (June) so by the time you read this it will be history. Still, it's fascinating information for us to put in our millennium time capsule which will be a 76 Midget that I plan to bury in a low spot in my back yard. 76 Midget donations and people willing to dig a pit may call the secretary. Anyway, Dan Kirby reported on his rally. It was a gimmick rally with clues. Some were hard, some were tough, some were misspelled! The rally ended in Chesapeake. Unfortunately there were only four cars present. Dan is undaunted so there will be more opportunities to participate. Please try to join the club so Dan's work is rewarded! Anyhow, the Villers car came in first and Paul Thiergardt completed the rally without a navigator! Many war stories were then told by the participants.

Pig Roast Update: Alan Watson mentioned that the pig roast will again be hosted at his ranch. We plan to invite the Triumph club.

Newsletter: Ed Kehrig was thanked for his editorial work. He also requested more submissions so get him your info at [ckehrig@axis.net](mailto:ckehrig@axis.net) if you have e-mail. Don't be shy. Cartoons, "borrowed" articles, tech info, hints, warnings, whatever. GET him some info!

President's Update: If you need to e-mail Mark you can do so at [ifixmgs@aol.com](mailto:ifixmgs@aol.com)

Web info: John Severin is working away at <http://www.mg.org>

Regalia: Frank Linse has license plate covers but they are with him and he isn't here. Get yours at the next meeting. Rumor has it from an elderly member who frequents Frank's garage (according to Mrs. Elderly Member) that Frank is also looking into some more shirts.

Spares: Vince has a ton of spares he is looking to get rid of. Call him at 497-6904. He wants to unload this stuff so call him! Mark has a half-ton of spares. Call him at 473-1757.

Clubs: Nada.

Old Business: Lots of fingers were pointed among the "Old Business" contingent.

New Business: Mark mentioned that we may want to increase the "host reimbursement" to offset the beverages and chow. Jim Villers weighed in that the raffle helps to offset \$40 meeting expenditure and we don't need to shell out more money. Since we are cheapskates it faded away without action.

Our Soapbox Derby driver Sean Bradford was greeted and encouraged with a round of applause.

Marque/Dark Time: Bowie Car show is coming up later in June. Berkely in September.

## June Meeting Minutes, continued:

Vince is finishing his TD while waiting on side curtains and a top.

Getting dark. Hard to see keys. Heishfd psaqhd ;lspe jhweop32 qwkdhpo qdhopoqwdi

Pam McClaren is now driving a 74 1/2 MG, but isn't sure of which half.

No raffle drawing tonight so no one was a loower. Everyone who attended gets an extra raffle ticket next meeting. We know who you are. Sort of.

The meeting as adjourned as we all moved indoors to chow down like fireflies flying to a neon McDonald's sign.

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**1999 Soap Box Derby Races . . .** "It was a dark and stormy night!" It was except it was daylight. The sky was ominous and the wind was more than a breeze, but the racers were undeterred. Especially our own Sean "*Goldie Gardner*" Bradford.

I came upon our intrepid driver fine tuning his car's paint with *SuperSlick*, a wax his dad, Gary, had just paid 549 bazillion somethings for. After that he was to fine tune the equalizer weights and then his own weight, but relieving...you know. His racer gleamed in the greyness. She was ready!

Forty-one entries had dwindled to 15, but it made no difference to Sean. He was here to be No.1 after each heat. The MaGic was his.

Heat 1: Sean vs. a girl, she had a deft touch but did she have *SuperSlick*? No!

Between Heats more *SuperSlick*!

Heat 2: Sean by 1.2 sec

The winner is determined by the differential between the 2 races/heat, and wheels from each racer are swapped so there can be no advantage from wheelbearing lubrications. Ah, but they don't swap bodies.

It's starting to mist. Real **heavy** mist, but *SuperSlick* goes on.

Heat 3: Sean's really got the touch.

The track is the old road that goes over the train tracks that used to take passengers to the Bay ferry. There are chinks between the cement sections, a dip on the bottom run of one lane, and the right lane has a curve which is a natural to drive instead of going straight, which is the shortest line. If you run straight, however, there is a better chance than not the timers stand and announcer will never work again. Ask Barry for the mathematical equation. he worked on it last year.

Heat 4: Sean aims for the announcer, garners the best time and is **The Winner** of the Winner's Bracket. **UnDefeated**... and with that the heavens opened up. The race is postponed for an hour, then 15 minutes more, then another 15 minutes, and then the consolation brackets must be run. His race's bearings are cooling down, *SuperSlick* needs attention, the tarp and umbrella have lifted, allowing in dreaded superheavy moisture, now she has put on weight. When you are timing in .001 of seconds ever nuance counts.

Finally, word comes from the NCO Club's television that the weather is going to lift. And so it does. The consolations are over and Sean is to meet Chris Sandeen, a high finisher from last year.

Finals Heat: Sean loses the Heat's 2 races by a total of .043 sec. But wait, our racer has never lost so he must get a consolation chance.

Finals Heat, again: Sean loses his first race by .673 sec., he must win this final race by .507 sec.

Alas, Sean's margin was shy 0.025 sec. *That's Racing of the finest!*

Sean Bradford, and dad Gary, you roundly deserve the Tidewater MG Classics praise! Next year! Right!

## The Tidewater MG Classics

**Rally Season** opened up with a beautiful drive through the country. The ralliests navigated through some very interesting roads, collecting answers to obscure questions, and ultimately ending with a lavish banquet in Great Bridge. The navigation and coarse-following were fairly straight-forward, while the clues and answers ranged from easy to nearly impossible.

Along with keeping track of such things as the number of railroad crossings, the competitors had questions to answer, such as to identify the church a minister is associated with, identify flags flying along the route, and give the rallymaster's mileage to the finishing point. There was no time limit for completion, and the restaurant was identified in the route instructions, just in case someone became miserably off-course (it happens to everybody once in a while).

The rally resulted in NO upset competitors, NO blood loss, NO divorces (yet) and MUCH good fun and good cheer. Our overall winners were the Villers with unbelievably sharp vision and riddle-unravling skills. mark "Woody" Vosler and Elaine were a close second, followed by Mark Childers and his daughter. The winner of the coveted Dead-Last-But-Finished award was XXXXX, whose enviable navigation and driving skills enabled him to follow the route to the finish without a navigator! Unfortunately, he was unable to answer many clues, however was able to update the rallymaster on the status of the bach erosion at Sandbridge (he shouldn't have been within five miles of there). We didn't have any mechanical difficulties on the rally, so the Hard Luck award went to mark Childers' wife who was unable to join us on the rally because she is recovering nicely from her recent surgery. Everyone seemed to enjoy their FABULOUS PRIZES, the economy of Taiwan thanks the club.

The rallymaster has several rallies planned, awaiting scheduling on the calendar. Come join us for some great fun with your MG or with whatever you're driving until your MG gets back on the road.

## MAZDA CHIEF RICHARD

**BEATTIE** took the wraps off the Miata 10th anniversary edition while fondly remembering his youthful affection for the lovable but spectacularly unreliable MGB: "We used to joke that MGB stood for 'Might Go Backwards.' Now they have an MGF, of course, which is encouraging.

**Editor's Note:** We are still looking for a person(s) to revive the Tech Information section. Some of you who live too far away to make the meetings - this is your chance to become part of 'your' newsletter. 2 or 3 people submitting a Tech Info article 2 to 3 times a year is all it'll take. Contact me e-mail, snail-mail, pony express, or whatever... even just a few people doing it once will help 'jump-start' the project!

## July 6th Tuesday Meeting

is at

**Jim & Betty Villers**

**3133 Inlet Road**

**Virginia Beach**

**481-6398**

**Kick Tires 7:30**

**Meeting at 8:00**





**The Southeastern Fall**

**"Gathering of the Faithful"**

**Mark X**

**Lake Chatuge Lodge**

**Hiawassee, Georgia**

**September 16 - 19, 1999**

**Celebrate the '30's - '40's Big Band Era**

**Hotel Rooms are Limited. To receive the discount rate of \$69.00 per night, you must register by August 25. To make reservations, Call 1 800 613-4349 before August 25th, and tell them you are with the MG Club.**

**Ellis Carlton, GOF Chairman; 770-457-4561**

**Cut Here and Mail to: Lyman Delk, 2609 Rangewood Court Atlanta, Ga. 30345-1509 Phone 770-938-8021**

**Registration: Southeastern Fall GOF MK X, Lake Chatuge Lodge, Hiawassee, GA**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ MG Club \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give you or your spouse's Favorite Expression \_\_\_\_\_**

1st MG Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_  
 2nd MG Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Date Recd.	_____
Car # 1	_____
Car # 2	_____

Registration: \$40 per family (\$5.00 discount before August 1st) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday Evening BBQ \$12.00 per person X \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday Banquet \$24.00 per Person X \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make check payable to The Southeastern MG T Register)  
**Mail to: Lyman Delk, 2609 Rangewood Court Atlanta, Ga. 30345-1509 Phone 770-938-8021**

THE SOUTHEASTERN FALL GOF MK X. LAKE CHATUGE LODGE, HIAWASSEE, GA

Lyman Delk, Registrar: 2609 Rangewood Court, Atlanta, GA. 30345-1509

Tel: 770-938-8021

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**THURSDAY:**

REGISTRATION DURING AFTERNOON  
DINNER AT DEER LODGE - (on your own)

**FRIDAY:**

REGISTRATION  
SELF GUIDED MOUNTAIN ROADS TOUR  
HOSPITALITY  
TECH SESSION  
HAPPY HOUR  
BBQ DINNER  
**BIG BAND ERA MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT  
(30'S & 40'S DANCES DEMONSTRATED)**

**SATURDAY:**

REGISTRATION  
CAR WASH  
CAR SHOW  
HOSPITALITY  
RALLY SCHOOL  
AFTERNOON RALLY  
(DIVORCE COUNSELING PROVIDED)  
BANQUET, AWARDS, RAFFLE

**DIRECTIONS**

Hiawassee is located in the North East  
Georgia mountains

**From Atlanta:**

Take 1-575 north to highway US-76 and follow  
the signs.

**From Florida:**

Take highway US-441 to Clayton, GA. turn  
left in Clayton on highway US-76 and follow  
the signs.

**HOTEL:**

Lake Chatuge Lodge  
Hiawassee, Georgia  
30546  
phone 1-800-613-4349

**(note: you Must Register by August 25 to  
receive the special GOF rate of \$69 per night)  
Tell them that you are with the MG Club**

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Dear Fellow MG Enthusiast,

Once again the cool mountain breezes of north Georgia beckon you to attend the **Southeastern Fall Gathering of the Faithful** at Hiawassee, Georgia, September 16-19, 1999. The SEMGTR has booked rooms at Lake Chatuge Lodge, a facility overlooking beautiful Lake Chatuge at Hiawassee, approximately two hours north of Atlanta. We welcome you to this tenth biennial meeting of MG enthusiasts from throughout the southeast. We have planned a weekend of relaxed car activities with plenty of time for touring this lovely part of Georgia.

Friday night will feature an entertaining experience of Big Band Era Music following a BBQ outdoors (weather permitting). Enjoy doing the dances you grew up with -- maybe demonstrating your favorite one. Nancy and Dennis McCaffrey will be leading this entertainment.

Please come and join us and be sure to complete the Registration Form and return as soon as possible to ensure the reduced rate for this weekend. After August 25th rate increases. Please pass this information along to other MG enthusiasts about our Gathering. We welcome all MG's from M to Z and A to L. If it runs - drive it! If it doesn't, tow it, or just come yourself. As your hosts, we look forward to serving you the weekend of September 16-19, and hope you will be able to join us for an MG weekend.

**"Come and enjoy the mountains in the Fall!"**

Hope to see you there!

Ellis Carlton, Chairman  
Southeastern Fall GOF  
Tel. 770-457-4561

Lyman Delk, Registrar, Fall GOF  
2609 Rangewood Ct.  
Atlanta, GA 30345-1509  
Tel: 770-938-8021

**Tidewater MG Classics**  
**Preserving the Marque since 1973**  
**1999-2000 Membership Application and Renewal Form**

Annual membership renewals are due on 1 July 1999. Information provided is for club use only. A social roster (containing information marked with an asterisk) will be distributed in Sept/Oct 1999 to all members. Except for the names and phone numbers of club officers and chairpersons, membership roster data is not released outside of the club.

**New Members:** Please fill in all pertinent data.

**Renewals:** Please fill in name and any changed information.

\*First Name \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

\* Last \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*City \_\_\_\_\_ \* State \_\_\_\_\_

\* Zip \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**\* MG Ownership and Registry Data:**

	*Year	*Model	National/International Register
Car #1	_____	_____	_____
Car #2	_____	_____	_____
Car #3	_____	_____	_____
Car #4	_____	_____	_____

Please send your completed application with a check payable to  
"Tidewater MG Classics" to:

**TMGC Membership Chairman**  
**c/o Bob McClaren**  
**5612 Susquehanna Drive**  
**Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4017**

**Dues Schedule**

**July 1-June 30 - \$20.00 Local / \$17.50 Out-of-Town**

New Members January 1 - June 30 - \$10.00 Local / \$ 8.75 Out-of-Town

Local: Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Hampton, Newport News,  
Suffolk, and Williamsburg.

Out-of-town: membership covers cost of mailing "The Dipstick."

## The Tidewater MG Classics

Ed Kehrig  
5524 Hill Gail Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
Fax: 499-7320  
email: ckehrig@exis.net



# FIRST CLASS

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## Monthly Meeting Tuesday July 6th at Jim & Betty Villers

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### 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	Ed Kehrig	497-8073
Membership	Bob McClaren	490-2114
Activities	Chuck Hudson	425-6882
Technical	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	
Clubs	Mike Ash	495-0307

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