

The Dipstick



“The Newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics Car Club”

www.mg.org

Volume XXXIV, Issue 1

Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

January 2007

MARQUE TIME

Many thanks to Betty and Jim for hosting the TMGC Holiday Party this year. The Holiday Party is always a nice way to meet new members and renew acquaintances from years past. Many members who cannot make the regular monthly meetings make an appearance at the Holiday Party.

I was remiss for not mentioning at the party about the outpouring of gifts that TMGC members donated to the families selected for the TMGC Holiday Charity this year. As always, TMGC outdid itself with an amazing quantity of gifts. I did remember, however, to recognize a TMGC Member for his contribution to the success of our club. Congratulations to Jim Villers for being presented with this year's TMGC Presidents Award. And whilst I am congratulating members, congratulations also go out to Peggy Craig and Susan Bond, our “Dipstick” staff. Our “Dipstick” was chosen to be NAMGBR's “Newsletter of the Year”. Thank you ladies for a job well done.

As I reflect on the year 2006, we had some great times together. We had a St. Patrick's Day Rallye on a beautiful Sunday in March. Our 4th annual overnight Winery Tour saw eleven cars participating, and included a wonderful private tasting and tour of Hummell Vineyards and estate. We had several Ice-cream Runs, tech sessions and monthly meetings. We visited the historical airplane collection in Pungo, had a Fall Poker Rallye, the Holiday Party, and we still have the Holiday Lights run at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. We have a dozen or so new members, a great web-site (that other clubs are trying to buy our domain name for), we learned a new way to open a MGB's trunk, watched a founding members granddaughter get his old TD on the road again, and saw my 'B rear-ended 50 miles into its planned 1200 mile trip. We saw Craig and Chuck get their respective 'C's on the road and saw Matt's '63 Midget under restoration. And on a sad note, we had to say goodbye to a couple of members.

We will miss you Mike and Jack.

2007 is just around the corner. Our first meeting will be at Frankie's Place for Ribs, which is starting to become a TMGC tradition for January. Plans are already in the making for the 5th annual Winery Tour, maybe even a two-night affair this year. (Can you say Warrenton?). I'm sure there will be a Spring rallye of some type, Ice-cream Runs to be resurrected, and I can see the Activities Coordinator's mind already in gear for other fun stuff. I do know she is still looking for people to sign up to host a couple of monthly meetings as well as the Holiday Party for next year. Also, if you have an idea for a rallye, ice-cream run or other activity, please step forward. As much as Beckey and I love to organize these events, we would also enjoy the opportunity to participate in one as a driver/navigator team.

I wish each and every one of you all the best for the New Year!

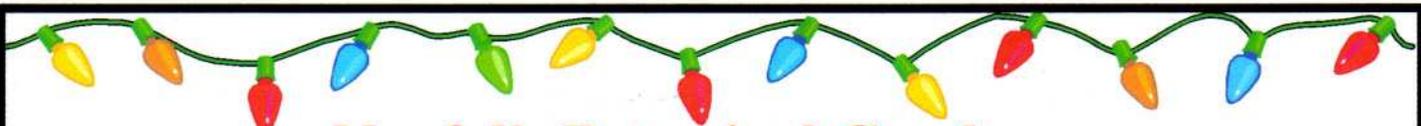
Safety Fast,
Alan

**Happy
New
Year!**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check www.mg.org for the latest info!

- Dec. 27** Holiday Light Tour (see page 2)
- Jan. 2** Tuesday meeting at Frankie's Place for Ribs (see map on back page)
- Jan. 12** Dipstick Deadline
- Feb. 7** Wednesday meeting at Tom & Marie Early's
- Feb. 12** Dipstick Deadline



Norfolk Botanical Gardens

Holiday Lights Drive-Out

Wednesday, December 27, 2006

Take an evening for one more treat before the holidays are over to drive through the Norfolk Botanical Garden of Lights
(off Azalea Garden Road, near the airport).

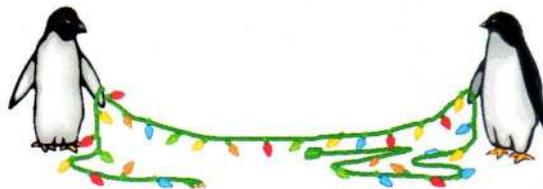
Meet at the Terrace Café at 6:00pm for dinner

(located inside the gardens, let the lot attendants know you are going to the cafe).

If you can't join us for dinner, meet at the Terrace Café at 7:00pm and we will caravan into the line to drive through the lighted gardens.

The cost is \$10 per car (no advance tickets needed).

Contact Beckey Watson: MGactivities@aol.com or 757-426-2600



Membership and New Members

Robin Watson

Total Membership 98

Membership for this month is now at 98. We have had a late renewal and if you wish to keep your Directory up to date, please add:

Doris & Roosevelt Moseley
3604 Van Buren Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Phone: (757) 340-5530
They have a 1953 TD and a '71 B

Welcome back Rosie and Doris! Rosie is one of our original members.

Officers and Committees

President	Alan Watson	426-2600
Vice President	J.D. Hawthorne	723-0630
Secretary	Michele Peters	482-1012
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editors	Peggy Craig	226-7755
	Susan Bond	482-5222
Membership	Robin Watson	721-9277
Activities	Beckey Watson	426-2600
Historian	Susan Bond	482-5222
Technical	Mark Childers	432-9155
Regalia	Becky Hassler	874-1477
Clubs	Mike Ash	495-0307
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikeh@whro.net

Thanks to All

Becky Watson

I want to thank everyone who brought a gift for this year's TMGC charity. The families were very needy, and the generosity of our club members continues to amaze me. Every one of the nineteen children on the list received at least two gifts, and each family had at least two gift cards. The gifts were delivered the day after the holiday party, and one mom burst into tears when she saw not only the wrapped gifts for her children, but the gift cards from several different stores so they can get some specific things they need as well. Club members also included gifts for the moms and dads, which I'm sure will be a surprise to them when they look at the packages closely. I already received one thank you note from a mom with two little ones who said she had really been struggling and was so grateful for the gifts. It's nice to know that the camaraderie and kindness of our members extends outside our club. Thank you so much!



Link of the Month

Submitted by Terry Bond

www.imcdb.org

This is a site someone is putting together that features cars used in movies. There is a whole list of cars plus some unknowns that need to be identified. There is a batch of MGs including 1100s and there are even a few pictures of Morris 8's. Its quite addictive and someone could easily spend hours looking through it. In some cases, it makes you want to check the movie, too. Some pretty obscure stuff there. Someone with too much time on their hands no doubt.

November Tech Session

Jim Villers

Photos by Jim Villers and Richard Hall



Standing: Chuck Hassler, Ron Struewing, Roy Wiley, Frank Linse, Jim Villers, Dennis Pieschke, Pete Olson
Seated: Vince Groover. Richard Hall took the picture.

When I asked Jim what all happened at the tech session at his house on November 19, this was his answer:

Basically, no one came with a project and we were just standing around. Pete Olson's car was smoking coming



in so I suggested that we do a compression test and see what we can figure out. Compression was excellent, front plugs



w e r e
ugly. Vince
tweaked his
SU cars to
richen the
mixture of his
rear carb. His
problem was
that someone
had mis-
plumbed his
breather hoses



Regalia!

and he was sucking engine oil into the intake mani-
fold. Bottom line, new plugs, correct hose connections
and as if by magic, no smoke and a smooth running
engine.



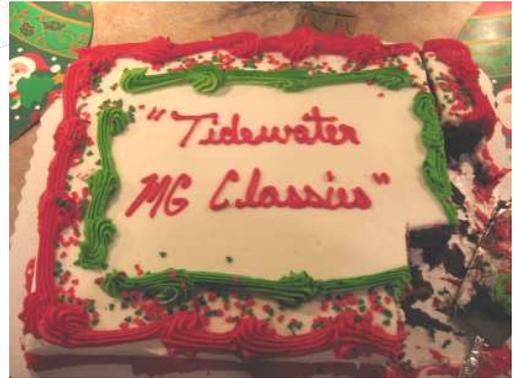
That's all the "work" that got done. Betty served chili
along with the left
over bar-
b-que.



Holiday Party

December 8, 2006

At the home of
Jim and Betty Villers



Dipstick Award

Once again, Robin Watson made contributions above and beyond, writing articles, taking pictures, and keeping us up-to-date on membership matters. He also ensured you got your copy in the mail each month.



Certificates of Appreciation for contributions made to the *Dipstick* this year were also handed out. We had 30 contributors, great participation! Here are pictures of some of the winners. If yours isn't here it's because either you or the camera moved!



Bob Ross



Mark Childers



John Terschak



Becky Watson



Becky Hassler



Jim Villers



Editors Susan Bond and Peggy Craig



Michele Peters, Robert Perrone, Lara Hawthorne



Richard and Sandy Hall



Presentation of the 2006 TMGC President's Award



The Tidewater MG Classics President's Award, instituted several years ago, recognizes those members whose contributions to the club are routinely "above and beyond." This year, we honor an individual who has contributed significantly to our club in numerous ways over the past several years.

Jim Villers first attended a TMGC meeting in February, 1989, and has been an active member since 1990. He served as Treasurer from 1991 to 1994, and then again continuously since 1998.

As Treasurer, Jim has been responsible for not only writing checks, but also making the deposits, balancing the books and reporting our monthly "State of the Club" to the membership. Additionally, on occasion, Jim has made recommendations to hold more raffles to increase the treasury as the balance approached his safety net. He has done a tremendous job maintaining our solvency!

Despite being an active member of another car club, Jim still attends nearly every monthly meeting, along with his wife Betty. He also hosts, with Betty's help, at least one meeting every year, as well as stepping in when needed, hosting last-minute tech sessions, or opening his beautiful home to the club for the Holiday Party. Jim and Betty have participated in every one of the TMGC Winery Weekends, as well as most of the ice-cream runs. Additionally, Jim has planned one of the ice-cream runs every year.

Jim once told me that when he was looking to join an additional car club he had spent quite some time attending meetings for the different marques, until he found a group that he liked. He then bought the car that fitted that marques' club. Jim, for all you do for TMGC, thanks for buying a MG.

8 DEC 2006



Honoree Jim and President Alan Watson



Our host and hostess, Jim and Betty Villers

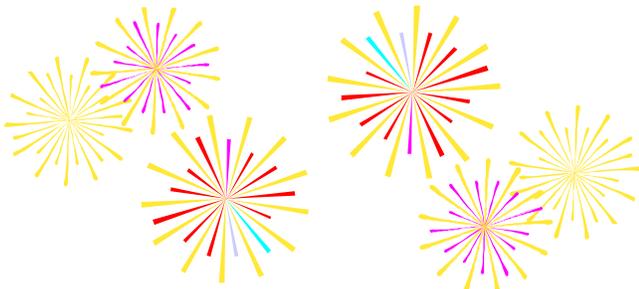


T'was the Night Before Christmas

Submitted by Geoff Wheatley

'Twas the night before Christmas, and out on the street
Sat my poor little TC, all covered with sleet.
The starter was frozen; the battery dead.
And clusters of icicles hung from the head.
Mama with the cables, and I with the crank
Were trying to start it, but drawing a blank.
The best we could raise was a weak little clatter,
And we couldn't determine just what was the matter.
When what did our wandering eyeballs perceive,
But a fat little man you just wouldn't believe.
His cap was made of a bundle of wire;
The tails of his coat were crackling with fire.
His eyes were like lightbulbs (and one didn't work);
A glowing face with an electrical smirk!
He was so badly wired that I knew in a wink
That this poor apparition was from Lucas, Inc.

He opened the bonnet and started to poke,
Thus causing a short and a cloud of blue smoke.
He crackled and sizzled, and giving a zap,
He fractured the god darn distributor cap.
He walked to the back, and giving a thump,
He boogered the points on my old fuel pump.
And laying a finger alongside of his nose,
He sizzled away, while the two of us froze.
He sprang to his car in a move oh-so-smart,
We almost expected the darn thing to start.
The starter turned over; the engine roared out,
And over the clatter we heard Lucas shout:
"Out, Healey, out Jaguar, out MG and Sprite,
Out Lucas Ignition, this cold winter's night!"
And we heard him exclaim, as skyward he roared:
"So long, crazy Yanks! I'm powered by Ford!"



Tin

Found on the Scions of Lucas website

Tin is the layman's general term for what the expert would call "metal". There are many different kinds of "tin".

BRASS is a very useful sort of Tin. It is mined in Yorkshire, and is said to occur wherever there is muck. Out of Brass we make Monkeys, Knobs and Money.

NICKEL is the sort of Tin used for making American money.

LEAD is a very heavy sort of Tin, used mainly for making the middle of pencils and poisonous paint for children's toys. It is also used for roofing churches which last for hundreds of years because the heavy Lead stops them blowing away.

STEEL is what people do to the Lead on church roofs.

ALUMINUM is a very light sort of Tin, often used for supporting chimneys. Specially shaped hooks called Aerials anchor the chimney to the sky and stop it blowing away. They also attract lightning which is made from electricity, which is what makes television work. Aluminum is obtained from milk where it floats to the surface forming a skin.

WIRE is a very thin sort of Tin. It is often used for making fences because it is so thin you can see right through it.

MERCURY is a very runny sort of Tin, often confused with water. It has the remarkable property of getting longer when it gets hot and is thus ideal for making thermometers. Scientists are trying to reverse this effect, i.e. making the Mercury get hot when it gets longer in order to solve the world's energy problems.

IRON is a very flat sort of Tin, used for taking small creases out of shirts and for putting big ones in. Another sort of Iron can be used for gluing bits of Wire together.

RUST is a very crumbly sort of tin, ideal for making Motor Cars.

CHROME is a very shiny sort of Tin, used for holding Rust together.

COPPER is a dark blue variety of Tin, used as an inert filler for Panda Cars and Football Stadiums (Stadia?).

TUNGSTON, SODIUM and STRONTIUM are light sorts of Tin. Tungston grows from bulbs, Sodium grows on long stalks at the side of the road. Strontium is not as light as Sodium and Tungsten and only glows feebly in the dark. Fitted to a wristwatch it enables you to tell what time the lights went out.

BARIUM is an edible sort of Tin, fed only to hospital patients suffering from transparency.

GOLD is a very soft sort of Tin, much too soft to be of any use.

MAGNET is a very attractive sort of Tin, which always points North. This special property makes it ideal for propelling ships.

URANIUM is a very hot sort of Tin containing little gadgets called Atoms. This unique property makes it suitable for manufacturing electricity and other kinds of explosives.

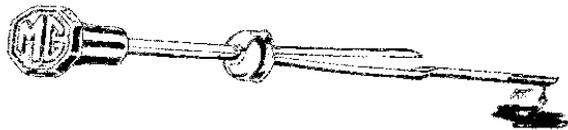
SILVER paper is an alloy of Tin and cardboard, widely used in the packaging industry.

PLATINUM and OSMIUM are sorts of Tin used for making pens, while **INDIUM** is a form of Tin used for making ink.

ZINC is a zort of Tin used for washing Potz and Panz.

TITANIUM is a very strong sort of Tin used to reinforce ladies undergarments.

The Dipstick



The Tidewater MG Classics

Susan Bond
541 Forest Road
Chesapeake, VA 23322

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS

