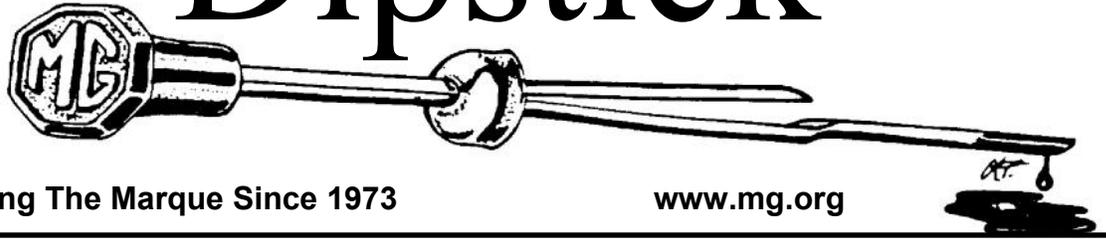




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume XXX, Issue 9

September 2012



FROM THE PREZ

Marque Time

Greetings fellow MG enthusiasts and Dipstick readers, here are more ramblings from your president. Here it is September and fall is close approaching and I'm sure some terrific top down weather to boot. Don't misread I love riding top down in the summer but it gets downright hot when you're sitting at a light or stuck in traffic. Looking

at the calendar I see this fall brings with it the 50th anniversary of the MGB, wow to think the lovable little B is turning 50.

Mine will be 40 next year; maybe I should treat her to a makeover. Nothing too serious no plastic surgery, no major transplants although if I can find a reasonably priced overdrive or five speed

(Continued on page 2)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check www.mg.org for the latest info! (TMGC Activities are in **bold**)

- Sep. 5 **Wednesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach**
Hosted by Paul and Carmen Thiergardt
- Sep. 8 AOH Car Show - Virginia Beach
For Info – jaxops1@verizon.net
- Sep. 14-16 British Invasion – Stowe, VT
www.BritishInvasion.com
- Sep. 16 Classics on the Green – New Kent Winery
www.ClassicsontheGreen.com
- Sep. 23 **Sunday - MGB 50th Anniversary Day-Trip to Manteo, Roanoke Island, Wright Memorial and more... See The Dipstick for Details**
- Sep. 29 Wings & Wheels, Pungo, VA
Tidewater Region AACA
Local.aaca.org/tidewater/
- Oct. 2 – **Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach**
Hosted by Bill & Renee Olcheski
- Oct. 5-7 SVBCC British Car Festival – Waynesboro— www.svbcc.net
- Oct. 6 Shine & Show Before the Snow
Khedive Temple, Chesapeake, VA
For info – LandLB@cox.net
- Nov. 3 **Saturday - Magical Mystery Tour – Scavenger Hunt - Tidewater**



BARKSDALE THEATER RUN— Tad provides another GrrrrrEAT time for all! See the story on page 4.

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September Membership Report

By Bill Yoshida

Membership: As of 24 August, the paid membership number for 2013 stands at 87. There are also 13 “Promises “ to renew memberships that are yet to come in the mail. In late July, e-mails were sent to all delinquent members as a reminder to send in dues. Phone contact was attempted in August to those that had not responded to the e-mails.

It is not too late to renew your membership for 2013. However, it is imperative that you let me know by e-mail or phone if you do intend to renew your membership so that your data is contained in the TMGC Annual Directory for 2013.

If there are no changes to your previous year’s data, then all you need to do is to send \$20.00 in cash or check (written to TMGC) and I will move your 2012 data sheet to the 2013 file.

My e-mail address is: williamryoshida@verizon.net. My phone number is (757) 554-0402 and my mailing address for membership renewal is:

TMGC
 c/o Bill Yoshida
 4732 Little John Rd.
 Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Dues: I turned over \$40.00 in cash and \$180.00 in checks to Jim Villers at the 19 August Tech Session. As of 24 August I am currently holding \$50.00 in checks for turnover to Jim.

Cars: Total cars – 172 (If all members from 2012 renew for 2013)

Cars & Types: 172 of the following types of MGs:

MGA: 21, A- Coupe: 2, MGB: 77, MGB-GT: 14, MGC: 2, MGC-GT: 2, MG TC: 9, MG TD: 24, MG TF: 5, Midget: 11, Other/Various MGs: 6 (1-Cooper MG// 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB).

2013 Annual Directory. I have begun to assemble the 2013 TMGC Directory and plan to provide it to the printer later in September. If you have a new photo that you would like to be included, please submit the photo by e-mail to williamryoshida@verizon.net. I will try my best to use it.

Per the TMGC Club’s By-Laws, Article IV Section 2: “Failure to pay (dues) by the end of August shall terminate membership”. If you have let your membership lapse you will not be listed in the 2013 TMGC Directory, and you will not receive a copy when it is printed.

MARQUE TIME
 (Continued from page 1)

transmission I might have to make an exception for drivability sake. Mostly I'm thinking just a little blemish and tattoo removal, you know those things you thought looked cool in your twenties but now approaching middle age don't hold the same appeal. In my B's case I'm talking about scars of previous body repairs that weren't done well or are just showing their age. Of course after that she will need a new outfit and accessories, read a new coat of paint and new upholstery. Lastly she'll need a new hat to finish off the makeover, which would be a hood to those of you that understand the English terminology, a convertible top to the American English readers.

I might just have to write in to Eleanor on her behalf before I begin and get her advice from one wise English lady to another not so wise one, but one filled with youthful enthusiasm.

Russ Ripp
 President

Safety Fast

TMGC Officers

President	Russ Ripp	393-9908
Vice President	Steve LaPaugh	593-5927
Secretary	Michele Peters	482-1012
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editor	Bob Stein	588-6200
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Activities	Tad Carter	496-9847
Historian	Susan Bond	482-5222
Technical	Mark Childers	432-9155
Regalia	Mitzi LaPaugh	344-7887
Clubs	Mike Ash	495-0307
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net



No one had anything to ‘Ask Eleanor’ - she hopes to return next month.



September Activity Report

By Tad Carter

These are the Dog Days! As I write this, it is in the low. It looks like we made it through August none the worse for wear. For those who disregarded the weather forecast, we managed to stay dry throughout the August club meeting.

I'm not certain the same can be said for the ride home, but I can't control all of the weather. And after a cloudy start, our trip to the Barksdale Theatre featured perhaps the best weather of the season. Photos are posted at www.MG.org and a write-up of the theatre and the side-trip should be forthcoming.

Much of the heat of summer is behind us, and many are looking forward to Show Season and cooler Autumn driving days. For all of you, after Labor Day, every weekend in September has something going on. Check out the Dipstick calendar for a full list.

I will ask you to make note of our local MGB-50th Anniversary Celebration – Surround the Sound on Sunday, September 23rd. We've mapped out a pleasant drive starting at the Wawa at 101 Hillcrest Parkway in Chesapeake (Edinburgh area). 8:30am gathering time, 8:45am departure. From there, we'll travel a combination of US-17 and back roads into Manteo and lunch at the Full Moon Brewery and Café. Brewer and owner, Paul Charron, should be on hand to answer questions about their local brew process and share minutia to delight the beer geeks among us.

We then have a Pick-2. We can visit the museum at Roanoke Island (site of the first English colony), the Wright Memorial in Kill Devil Hills, and then on the cruise back home, those interested can return to the Virginia Beach area via the Knott's Island Ferry. It should be a full day. If you know in advance that you will join in on the drive, please let me know.

I'd like to give a little advanced warning to our hosts at Full Moon. However, if you decide to join at the last minute, just show up at Wawa, ready to roll at 8:30am on the 23rd.

The next weekend, Saturday, September 29th, is Wings and Wheels in beautiful, sunny Pungo, sponsored by Tidewater AACA. This is probably the best local show, with a wide variety of antique cars, rods, mods, planes and vintage tractors. If that isn't enough, check out the vendor

encampment for that one last part you need for your restoration. Vehicle pre-registration is only \$20, or if you are coming out as a spectator, \$10 will cover the entry for a carload for both the Car Show and the Aviation Museum. Talk about a deal!

Another favorite show comes up the first weekend in October and the 31st SVBCC British Car Festival in Waynesboro. The typical field includes over 200 British cars, and local participation in this show has always been pretty good.

You can probably hook in with a convoy from Tidewater, whether you are heading out early Friday or making a mad dash west on Saturday morning. Pre-register for only \$20, or add an Abe for same-day registration.

Other Dates:

November 3rd – Magical Mystery Tour in Virginia Beach. Check out October's Dipstick for details on the penultimate driving adventure for 2012. I hope you'll join in on the Scavenger Hunt through Southside Tidewater as we celebrate the 45th anniversary of the release of the Magical Mystery Tour album and Ringo's 50th year as a Beatle. Hint – bring your Ticket to Ride for one bonus point in the hunt.

November 7th – November Meeting / Chili Cook-Off in Newport News. Who among us is prepared to dethrone Pete Olsen and his Tail-Pipe Backfire Chile versions 1 & 2? There is still time to perfect your recipe.

Now jumping way ahead, I want to get you thinking about a multi-day road trip. We are looking at the fall of 2013 for a 4-day circumnavigation of the Chesapeake Bay. There are a number of possible points of interest along the way including NASA's Wallops Island facility, the Chincoteague Lighthouse, the Underground Railway Historic Road, Baltimore's Inner Harbor, Camden Yards, Mount Vernon, Quantico, and Washington's birthplace.

In addition, there are historic bayside villages, wineries, breweries and fine dining. It is very early in the planning process, but if you are interested, let me know. I'll be happy to keep you up to date with details. Tentative dates are September 20–23 or October 18-21, 2013.

Now back to the nearer future. We are still on the lookout for a host site for our December meeting/holiday party. If you are able to accommodate this wonderful

bunch, please let me know. With the possible exception of your dear old Activities Coordinator, we are a reasonably well-behaved group. On behalf of all club members, I thank you for your hospitality.



TMGC Barksdale Theater Run

By Jim Villers (photos by Donald Ladd)

Tad always plans interesting events and the Barksdale Theater event stood out. As the group gathered at Lake Wright, we were "inoculated" from further mechanical failure as Donald Ladd's MGB leaked brake fluid onto the tarmac and awaited a tow truck (only one issue is allowed per event).



With Don riding shotgun with Russ Ripp, we headed up I-64 to the far edge of our congested area. The first break was at a BP station on US-60 past Williamsburg. This station displayed a large tiger statue which raised the question of whether it was the Exxon "Tiger in the Tank" or Kellogg's Tony the Tiger "GREAT" (unresolved).



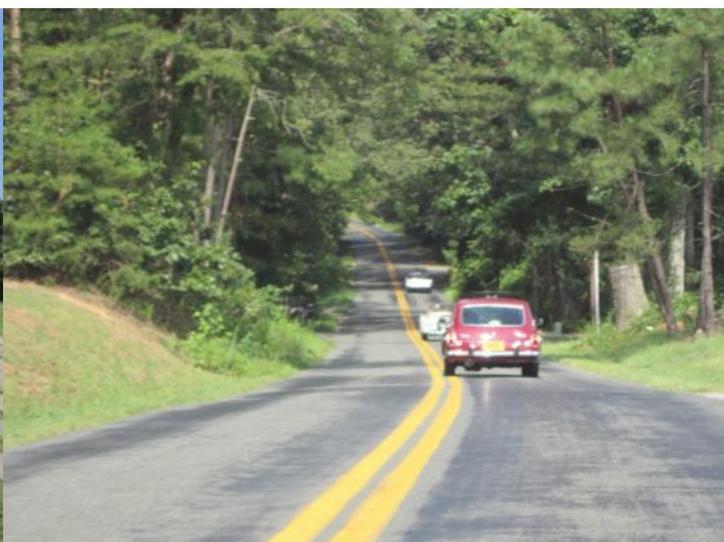
Transitioning to country roads, winding through the wooded areas and fields of parched corn, the road went from a generous width with well marked lanes to a perfect MG road with a tree canopy over an unmarked ribbon of asphalt. Wonderful! Has anyone ever heard about the Polegreen Church? Tad found it; Polegreen, built in 1747 was one of four "reading houses" that split from the Anglican Church. Polegreen became a center of religious emancipation from England and the founding point of religious freedom in this country. In 1864,

the brick Church was located between the Union and Confederate lines and was destroyed in an artillery crossfire. The church structure was not rebuilt and the current memorial contains a white steel frame that outlines the original church shape and a timeline brick path that highlights significant events in the evolution of religious freedom from Roman times to the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom in 1786 and the First Amendment of the US Constitution in 1789.



Hanover Tavern even predated the Polegreen Church, first opening in 1743 and is one of the few remaining revolutionary taverns. We ate in the dimly lit basement pub under hewn timbers. The Menu included a fried green tomato appetizer, eggs Benedict with asparagus, and a "blue light special" of meatloaf with mashed potatoes.

The Barksdale Theater, located in the lower level of the Hanover Tavern, is a very professional theater supported by the National Endowment of the Arts. The production of "Good People Dancing to gGod Country Music" contained a creative transforming set, strong dynamic acting and a creative witty script. What fun. The group included Tad and Karen Carter, Jim and Betty Villers, Terry and Susan Bond, Andy Wallace and Cynthia Faschini, Russ Rip and Don Ladd. Alan, Becky and Collin Watson Joined us at the church.



Barksdale Theater Run

photos by Donald Ladd

TMGC Summer Tech Session!

By David Kinsey (photos by Donald Ladd)

Despite the forecast, the Freeh front yard was a popular spot for British cars on Sunday morning, even the roadsters. We had two members return to the “ownership” fold with Mark Davidoski in his newly acquired, but club-historied 1974 ½ MGB-GT and Bob Vann showing up in his 1972 MGB he purchased from an owner in Charlotte.



During Bob’s return trip from Charlotte, he had noticed an occasional “thunk”, which was diagnosed

to be an unsecured battery. Other than that, he has a very nice find and a welcome addition to the club’s stable of



cars. Both gents have been searching for some time and were deservedly proud of their excellent purchases. Congrats, guys! I will leave off the tales of acquisition so you can regale us all at the next meeting. They both look to be in excellent



condition and ready for a road trip – such as the 50th Anniversary drive to Manteo in September!



We were also treated to a surprise visit by Bob Ross and his 2005 Lotus Super 7 (Super Sprint), built by Caterham to the vintage Lotus specs. When I drove up, there were several torsos bent over the engine compartment ooh-ing and ah-ing. It’s 5-speed powered by a Ford 1700cc crossflow engine. Great looking and sounding car, Bob. Thanks for risking the rain and bringing her by.



Also in attendance at some point during the day were (in order of observing them while standing in the garage with Tad): Tad Carter, Susan & Terry Bond, Donald Ladd, Craig Puryear, Pete Olsen, David Ford, Jim Villers, El Presidente Russ, Roy



Wiley, Steven Daniel, Bill Yoshida, and of course, Linda & Jim. It was a great turnout!

Both the Bonds and I got right down to business. Susan was installing a new-fangled radio in her GT and hoping for some electrical inspiration to be passed to her from the crowd (or the lightning show outside). Me, I run for cover when anyone mentions electrical stuff.

Susan and Terry kept calling out for another tool and another installation tip and fussing about old wiring that had been cut, but they got 'er in there as the photo with the glowing display panel proves. They have some speaker work to accomplish, and an antenna to figure out, but the toughest, tightest part got done and the scowls turned into smiles.



Meanwhile Jim Villers was schooling me in the art of dynamic timing. At first Jim and I were puzzled by a seemingly way too high timing reading when

revved to 3000-4000. It reached to over 40 degrees! So we went to square one and I learned a lesson in determining TDC by removing plug #1 and turning the engine 'til the piston was at the top.

The marks on the timing teeth and the damper pulley did line up so we removed and plugged the vacuum line and, with three people combined to hold the engine at a steady 3500 rpm, hold the timing light, and double-verify what we were seeing, noted the proper 32 degrees BTDC reading after a slight twist to the distributor. Excellent, thanks, Jim!



Since it was raining, and a few guys were sitting around finding fault with my bonnet alignment, and Donald Ladd had bumper removal experience, we also straightened and shifted both the rubber bumper and the bonnet. Goes much faster now, of course.

There were great tales of a couple of Jim Freeh's other cars – the '64 Lincoln Continental convertible with suicide doors in which Jim took Linda on their first date and the red & white '55 Fairlane they used on their wedding day, and there was delicious pulled-pork barbecue and frosty adult beverages (even a Fresca) to while away the couple of rainy hours. The Outer Banks seemed to be catching the worst of the weather according to the radar on TV out in the garage where we were trapped. A few cars high-tailed it prior to the rain but around 3pm there was a lull and I made my getaway and I think most others followed suit. Thanks again to our gracious hosts.

TMGC AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by TMGC Secretary Michele Peters



We began our August 2012 meeting on the 8th at 7:22 pm, after a 6:08 pm start for our picnic at Great Neck Park in Virginia Beach. It was rainy, but the rain held off for us, and we were able to enjoy Tad and Jane's expert grilling of



hamburgers, hot dogs, sausage, and other delectables.

Karen, the evening's designated "sherpa" (NOT my designation!) did a wonderful job making sure the cooks had everything they needed, and we, the consumers of the delectables, had what we needed to thoroughly enjoy ourselves and fill our bellies with goodies and sweets. Those s'mores and ice cream sundaes were AWESOME!

New Members and Guests: None

Treasurer: Jim gave us the skinny on our treasury balance, which wasn't a whole lot, but then again, many people haven't turned in their dues for this new year yet, so....

Activities: Tad relayed his usual, awesome plans for



us. See his report elsewhere in The Dipstick.

History: Susan brought no albums this month...she SAID it was because of the weather, but I suspect she was actually was much more interested in eating! Grilled food just smells and tastes SO good!

Newsletter: Bob Stein continues to ask for folks to submit articles for The Dipstick by the 20th of the month. He continues to look for stories about our first MGs.

Membership: Bill was not present, so no report.

Technical: Mark told us that in order to assist your emergency brake, put your foot on the brake pedal before setting the parking brake. It helps....never knew that (so what else is new??)

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Marque Time: Mark D. mentioned that Richard Hall recommended the Portsmouth Maaco for painting. He had them paint an old SUV of his and it turned out fantastic for very little cost. That Maaco is at 264 and Portsmouth Blvd.

Raffle and Regalia: David was running the Regalia for Mitzi. We gave stuff away really good stuff like GB Olympics stickers, key rings from London, a freeze plug, button for the middle of the steering wheel, pad set for the bonnet, brake pads, and more, to the raffle winners. Please remember to bring in things for the raffle.

We adjourned at 7:55 pm. We had an extra-short meeting, I think, because unlike most monthly gatherings, we had already filled our bellies with all that great food before our meeting. You know how tired and lazy you feel after you eat well, right? And it was so nice to be out in the fresh air, eating that grilled food and spending time with friends, talking about a favorite pastime.

Isn't that what life is supposed to be about (at least part of it)? If you feel the need to disagree with your Secretary, think about it again...and just don't, if you know what's good for you!

Don't forget that I am writing this column NEXT month, too. You could be featured in next month's minutes, and if you make me unhappy, not in a good way!! Remember, if the Secretary is happy, everybody is happy!



August Cookout Photos

photos by Susan Bond



11th Annual Lee Hall Car Show August 11, 2012

Story by Donald Ladd, photos by Donald and Rose Ladd

Rose and I left Virginia Beach Saturday morning at 8 a.m. with the top down and an overcast sky. Got out to Hampton with no incidents and it started to rain so we pulled over and put the top up (Still determined to get to the show!).



Drove another 5/6 miles and we hit the I64 parking lot, yes as usual nothing could be seen as a problem and "511" kept giving us information on Route 1. When we finally got up to the problem (of course an accident on the opposite side) it was 9:30 and we still had 10 miles to go. Finally arrived at Lee Hall and was able to get set up on the field, met up with Craig Cummings and his beautiful MGC-GT, Roy Gavigan and his pretty MGB, and Doug Wilson with his outstanding Green MGTD.

Cars at the show ranged from the early Fords to a 2011 Camero, Customs, Racing/track, and Antique restore, American and European. Something for everyone with the proceeds benefiting the continued restoration of Lee Hall Mansion.

Half way thru the show it started to rain and all the tops went up for about 15 minutes, then back down again.



Everything was going fine with both Rose and Craig winning raffle prizes (Craftsman Floor Mats), right up to 1:30 p.m. Then the sky got dark and it was decided that the trophies would be given out at 2 p.m vice 2:30.



At the start of the presentation the sky opened up and from that point on it was raining, cats and dogs, chevys and fords, mgs and triumphs. Ok you get the picture it was hard. They started calling out the winners for the Classes (of course we were really interested in Class I). When Class I came up Doug won 1st place for his MGTD.

The show, as usual, was a good time and is close enough for a nice Saturday drive with friends and family. Also it does support Lee Hall Mansion which in itself is worth the time. Plus you never can tell you may get a trophy as Doug did this year for 1st place (Congrats Doug). See you all at the next meeting.

P.S. It rained so hard on the way home that it was coming thru the firewall and I was only doing 40 mph on 64. Rose and Bridget were not happy.



I remember growing up in England in the 60's and riding my bike to school, everyday passing a MGB-GT on the road between Elmsthorpe and Earl Shilton. As a youngster I admired the car but when we moved to the states in 1970 (7th grade for me) my attention shifted to American V-8's. My first car in high school (actually, my only car in high school) was a 1968 Plymouth Barracuda.

jubilee badge had been put on in the late '75 model year cars. Incidentally, there is no mention of the SCCA badge in Clausager's Original MGB).

After a few minutes of trying to start the MG we give up, threw the suitcase in the Firebird trunk and the three of us go off in the Firebird to the airport.

Once again fast forward, this time to 1992. My

My First MG

by Alan Watson

After high school I enlisted in the navy and went looking for a new car. I must admit that I visited both the MG and Triumph showrooms but ended up with a new Pontiac Firebird, yet another American V-8.

Fast forward about 3 years to 1978. I am now married to Beckey and we have been transferred from San Diego to Norfolk. My parents, Rob and Olive, are now living in Texas and Beckey and I are going to fly out to meet them.

One of my shipmates, Mark, agreed to drive us to the airport and he showed up in his "new" car, a Silver 1976 MGB with tan interior. Mark had just purchased this two year old used car, which should have been an indication to us that there is probably a reason someone would trade in a car that was only two years old.

We strapped our suitcase to the luggage rack, I climbed in, Beckey sat on my lap, we fastened our seat belt and waited... and waited whilst Mark tried to start the MG. While we were sitting there I noticed an interesting badge to the right of the glove compartment.

It was an octagon badge stating the MGB was the SCCA Sports Car of the year. (I was later to find out that this badge was only put on the early '76 models, and actually was used to fill in the spot on the dash board where the

parents are now living in Emporia, Beckey and I are civilians living at the old farmhouse in Pungo and I get a phone call from my Dad. "Do you have any interest in restoring an MGB?"

A friend of his at work had purchased one that had thrown a big end and had decided to move on to a different project, and offered to sell it to us for what he had in it. We got it towed to my parent's house and I went over to look at it. It looked somewhat familiar.

It was a '76, the same as Mark's, it was silver in color with tan interior, the same as Mark's. It had an expired enlisted sticker on the windshield just like Mark's (except his wasn't expired the last time I saw it), and it had an unusual emblem next to the glove compartment...the SCCA Sports Car of the year badge.

I will never know if my first MG was my friend Marks or not. We have lost track of each other over the years. The car was later parted out, the body sold to a gentleman in Smithfield, and the rebuilt engine proudly pulls our '72 B on all the wine tours, whilst the '72's engine waits patiently for me to rebuild it one of these days.

It is fun to think of though, that my first MG I owned, might be the very same one that played tricks on Beckey and I way back when. The ironic thing is, if it is the same car, we never did get it going,

The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics
Bob Stein -Editor
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Norfolk VA 23505

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS

Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 5th
Paul & Carmen Thiergardt
5232 Fairfield Blvd
Virginia Beach
497-0455

7:30 - 8:00 pm - Kick Tyres
8:00 Meeting