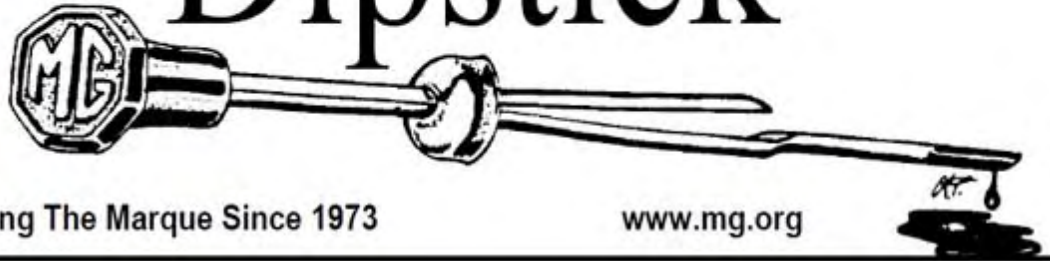




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 45 Issue 1

January 2018



2018

Happy New Year!





Marque Time



Greetings MG Enthusiasts,

It was a pleasure to see many of you at the TMGC Christmas/Holiday party.

The weather was bad and the roads to the Villers Estate were dark however 'dead reckoning, celestial navigation, and GPS enabled a fun loving group to meet and celebrate another year. Thank you Jim and Betty for an outstanding party. The game that we played involving the directional concept of right and left made it clear why many of us get lost.

Once again the club came through for a deserving charity. Donations enabled us to contribute multiple bags of toys and over \$300 cash to help homeless children have a better Christmas.

Looking back on 2017 I thank all of the club for the friendship and comradery. TMGC makes owning a MG even more special.

Best Wishes to all in 2018.

Safety Fast,
Bill O



Our Holiday Party Hosts!



Activity Report - January 2018

Well, there you have it. 2017 is in our rear-view mirror. One sixth of the new century is behind us. We saw everything from the humidity and triple-digit heat of SC in August to rain, sleet and snow, all in a matter of minutes, as we toured the Holiday Lights in December. We visited breweries, wineries, chip factories, museums, battlefields and street fairs. Our culinary travels took us to Cuba, Ireland, Philadelphia, Italy, Germany, the Mediterranean, as well as the back yards of America with burgers and hot dogs. We searched through antiques, traveled back in time to Colonial Williamsburg, Jefferson's Monticello and Woodstock. And we experienced the awe-inspiring total eclipse of the sun. Something for just about everyone. Thanks to all who joined us in our travels.

I know there are a few number junkies out there, so here's the wrap-up. Collectively, we traveled 32,595 car miles, and 54,750 passenger miles. We welcomed 44 different families at various events over the year, and 220 participants. A single person, participating in every event would have covered 2,667 miles. We had four families traveling over 4000 passenger miles, with our top travelers at 5,304 miles. Here's how that stacks up in a single trip: Leave Virginia Beach and travel to Sault Ste. Marie via Pittsburg and Detroit. Turn east and travel through Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and across the ferry to the Cabo Spear Lighthouse in St. John's Newfoundland - the eastern-most point in North America. Then turn around and head south, stopping for lobster in Maine, baked beans in Boston, a sandwich in Philly and then take a nap as you cross the Lewes-Cape May Ferry. Drive down the Eastern Shore and home to Virginia Beach. And that still leaves you 32 miles for side-trips. According to GoogleMaps, that is a 100-hour and 31-minute drive. Who's up for a road trip? And the winner of our 2017 Traveler Award is.....going to be announced at our January meeting.

☺

If you were at the Holiday Party (THANK YOU TO JIM & BETTY for hosting!!!), you should have received the 2018 event schedule. I'll have them with me again throughout 2018, so let me know if you need a copy. Meetings are mostly scheduled, but we still have two openings - **Wednesday, March 7 and Tuesday, April 3**. Please raise your hand if you can host a meeting. Part of the unique character of this club is kicking tyres in the driveway prior to our monthly meetings. That is a little less personal in a restaurant parking lot.

We do, however, have certain traditions which we will continue. Our first meeting of 2018 will be on **January 3rd at Frankie's Place for Ribs** in Virginia Beach. A long-time favorite, we are set to enjoy some great BBQ as we kick off the new year. If you are planning to eat dinner, shoot for a 6:00-6:30 arrival. The meeting will follow under the steady hand of President Olcheski.



There are two events planned for February. A TMGC event, we start with the appropriately named **Horrible Idea Tour on Saturday the 17th**. For those who still remember things, you will recall that the February drive has been our Brew Cruise for several years. For those who can't remember much, let me introduce you to the Brew Cruise. However, this is where we veer from tradition, and therefore, the source of the name. We will mix our beverages, starting with wine and moving on to beer and distilled spirits. It will be a mid-morning start from Waffle House (4800 Portsmouth Blvd, Chesapeake). For further info, I encourage you to renew your subscription to the Dipstick and check out the February edition.

The following weekend on **Saturday the 24th**, we have been invited to participate in the Central VA British Car Club Somewhat Annual **Snowball Run**. They are making a weekend of it, and we are invited to join in whenever and wherever we choose. Unless you make other plans, the starting point for us will be a late morning drive to Smithfield for lunch. The CVBCC convoy should arrive at about 11:30. Several restaurants, including Smithfield Station, Wharf Hill and Taste of Smithfield, are expecting participants, but you are free to do as



you wish and tour the town at your leisure. We'll depart Smithfield by 1:30 for a yet-to-be-determined route into Tidewater and the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach. Our group will be the first hosted by the hotel following its post-renovation reopening. (Many from Richmond will be staying overnight at the hotel. A special room rate of \$159 is available for those wishing to stay.) The theme of the night will be **The Great Gatsby**, and there is a photo-shoot planned in front of the hotel. Period-appropriate attire is encouraged for the evening. There will be a cocktail reception from 5-6pm, followed by dinner in the dining room. I expect it will be dining from the menu, so your costs for the evening depend on your choices. If you are interested, please let me know so that I can share the headcount with our hosts.

The rest of 2018 should continue to offer a variety of excursions. We have an afternoon at the theatre in Hanover in March, Beckey and Alan's Spring Tour in April, Dessert Drives in May, national shows in June and the Crooked Road in September, all leading to our 45th anniversary celebration late in the year. There will be Tech Sessions, and possibly a Flash Drive or two to occupy the few remaining free moments you may have. As always, we are open to suggestions for destinations, and especially for new backroads that you discover on your own.

I look forward to seeing you on the roads in 2018. Until we meet again, enjoy the ride. **Tad**

Dipstick Calendar – January 2018

Jan. 3 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting - VB
Frankie’s Place for Ribs 6:00 – 6:30 (for dinner)
Meeting to follow

Feb. 6 (Tue) – Monthly Meeting - Hampton
Oozlefinch Brewery – 6:30 – 9:00pm

Feb. 17 (Sat) – Horrible Idea Tour

Feb. 24 (Sat) Snowball Run – Meet-up with Central Virginia BCC
 Cavalier Hotel – Virginia Beach

Mar. 7 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – TBA

Mar. 25 (Sun) – At Wit’s End
Hanover, VA Barksdale Theatre

Apr. TBA – Spring Tech Session

Apr. 3 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – TBA

Apr. 27 – 29 – Spring VA Tour

May 2 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Norfolk
Hosted by Cynthia & Andy

May 30 – 31 – Dessert Drives

June 13-17 NAMGAR GT-43 – Richmond, VA
 Registration site not available as of 11-19-17

June 17-22 - MG2018 – Gettysburg, PA
www.MG2018.namgbr.org

July 10 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – Seaford
Hosted by Jayne & Bruce

Aug. TBA – Summer Tech Session

Aug. 7 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – VB
Picnic in Great Neck Park

Sep. 5 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Norfolk
Ocean View Fishing Pier

Sep. 20-23 (tentative)
Crooked Road Fall Tour

Oct. 2 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – VB
Hosted by Renee & Bill

Nov. TBA – Fall Tech Session

Nov. 7 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Hampton
Hosted by Faith & PJ

Dec. TBA – 45th Anniversary Celebration

Bold-Faced Items are TMGC Events

Membership for January 2018

2018 Membership: As of 20 December we have 111 paid memberships.

New Memberships: None

Cars: Total cars – 174

Cars & Types: 167 of the following types of MGs:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------|----|------|---|------|----|----|----|--------|
| MGA | A- Coupe | B | B-GT | C | C-GT | TC | TD | TF | Midget |
| 26 | 2 | 74 | 20 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 4 | 7 |

Other/Variou MGs – 7 (1-Cooper MG/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB/ 2 ELVA Courier)

Dues: I provided a \$25 dues check to Mark Davidoski to deliver to Jim Villers at the 12 December Holiday Party. I came down with a Virus that afternoon that I couldn’t shake in time for that evening’s festivities. Thanks to Mark for being there when I needed him.

2018 Annual Directory: A digital copy was sent to all members with an e-mail address on file on 5 December. On 11 December I mailed paper copies to all “New” members that joined last year and had not previously received a copy of the 2017 edition. Additionally, I mailed copies to those members that had previous requests on file. In order to save mailing costs, printed copies were distributed at the Holiday Party to members in attendance that had requested a copy. If you requested a printed copy and have not yet received one please send me an e-mail. *Bill Yoshida*

Wings and Wheels 2017 *Revisited*

A beautiful sunny day sure brings out great old cars – and planes too! This years Wings and Wheels show hosted by Tidewater Region Antique Automobile Club of America at the Virginia Beach Aviation Museum in Pungo was well attended, and a lot of MGs helped fill the show field.



The nice day enabled a lot of the vintage airplanes to get airborne too, adding to the excitement. From the 1920s to the present there were cars of all kinds. A special section of modified cars and street rods provided additional attraction, if you are interested in those types of vehicles. For restored or original cars however, the main show field was filled and was the main attraction.

There were some great muscle cars of the sixties present as well as such novelties as a VW camper bus and an early GMC Suburban Woody surf wagon. Lots of nicely restored real antique cars you just don't see everyday really made it a nice event. The weather was a bonus.

This year I was treated to a golf cart ride thanks to Jim Villers, who had his great early Jeep proudly on display (and got an award too!). It was great to be able to enjoy the event even with my broken leg and current inability to navigate normally on both feet.

Winners from TMGC who showed their British hardware are:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|--|
| Susan Bond | 1948 MG TC | 1st (also Merritt Horne trophy) |
| Allen Hazlett | 1966 MGB | 3rd |
| Patrick Smith | 1963 MGB | 2nd |
| Patrick Smith | 1966 MGB | 2nd |
| Dennis Hennessey | 1977 MGB | 1 st (also Best British car sponsored by Abacus racing) |
| David Ford | 1972 MGB | 3rd |
| Billy Stutz | 1971 MGB | 2nd |
| Richard & Sandy Hall | 1973 MGB GT | 1st |

reported by Terry Bond

BIG

One cold rainy day during a lapse in patients, the thought crossed my mind that I needed a BIG car. I have plenty of 2 & 4 wheel vehicles but none carry more than 2 people. And, the entry/exit of my current machines was similar to a physical therapy session.

Well, I like the folks in the Tidewater MG club. Plus, my 1980 MGB has been a joy. Ah ha. Surely, the British make a bigger driving machine...Rolls Royce.



Where do you find a gently used vintage Rolls Royce in good cosmetic & mechanical condition at a fair price? Ebay and Florida of course!

In less than 24 hours I found the solution to my small car dilemma – a 1984 Rolls Royce Silver Spur. A consult with Frank Linse assured me this was a sound decision. Suddenly she was mine for the “Buy It Now Price”. I became the 4th owner of this Mark I Spur with 53,000 miles (6,240 were produced from 1980-1988).

She is a BIG lady at 5,011 pounds dry weight. A 16 valve, 6.75 liter, 329 horsepower V8 engine propels her down the road (like an aircraft carrier). At 8 miles per gallon in the city she requires a 30 gallon fuel tank! 8 quarts of oil lubricate the engine while the self-leveling suspension/braking system utilizes a special mineral oil.

The Rolls Royce floats silently over the pavement. The handmade engine and radiator grille are spectacular making every hood ornament unique (“Spirit of Ecstasy”). Her look is timeless appealing to young and old alike. I always allow extra time at the pump for “Sir, do you mind if I take a Selfie with your car”.

I enjoy all my vehicles. The new friendships each has spurred are priceless. However, there is a special place in my heart for the most expensive (\$109,000 MRSP) driving machine that I will ever purchase for the least amount of money.

“I have only one regret” said Royce as he lay dying, “That I have not worked harder”.

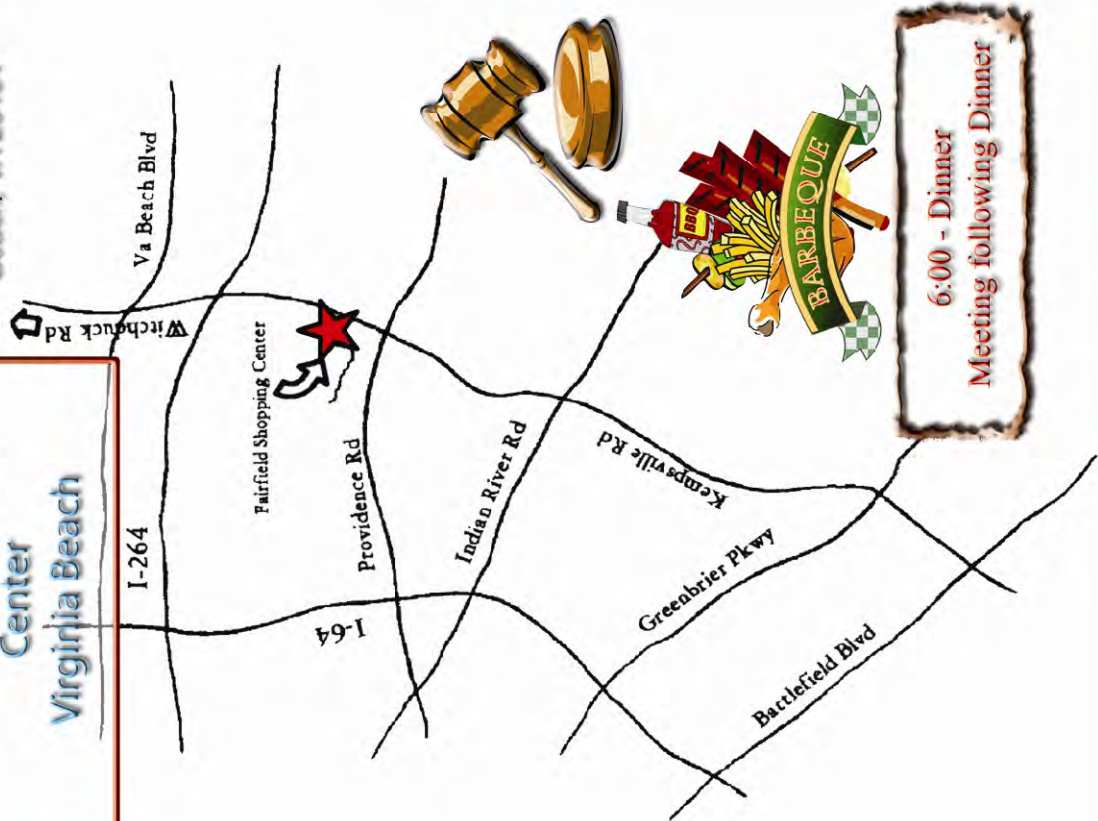
byEric Fee





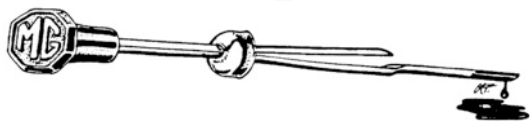
5200 Kempsville and
Providence Road, Virginia
Beach, VA 23464

Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 3rd
Frankie's
Place for Ribs
Fairfield Shopping
Center
Virginia Beach



6:00 - Dinner
Meeting following Dinner

The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski

4705 Little John Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

davidoskicrew@cox.net

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS