



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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April Activity Report

This is going to be a different activity report than you are accustomed to. Yes, there are activities, but first some news. Karen & I will be moving over the next several months into a new home we are purchasing in the Charlotte, NC area. We are in the preparation phase right now and will begin moving once we close on the property in early May. The speed at which we are able to sell our current home will influence the pace at which we complete the move, but we plan to be fully situated in our new home by the end of June.

Therefore, my decade+ at the head of the line of touring MGs must come to an end. From the first Mathews County Artist Studio Tour to the most recent Horrible Idea Tour, I have appreciated your friendship, your company, and your technical know-how as we have explored the mid-Atlantic. In addition to much of VA, we have traveled to SC, NC, TN, WV, KY, PA, DE, MD and DC. We've been weathered out only a handful of times (Sylvan Heights Bird Park). I truly thought it would be too much Corona that would cause us to miss a drive, not a virus.



We've been through break-downs and break-ups, U-turns and unexpected changes in plans. We have traveled a few more miles than most of us anticipated when we bought these cars. We have shared spare parts and spare tires. We have explored unfamiliar venues, driven roads without lines, sipped some good and not-so-good wines, and enjoyed a variety of local restaurants along the way. Our trips have varied from a group of 18 cars (whew!) to only 2 (thank you, Michele and Don for joining us at that Wine & Art Festival in Walkerton).

Continued.....

My favorites? If I were to pick, I would say that our trips around the Chesapeake Bay (2013) and to Harper's Ferry (2014) are at the top of my list. The single most memorable stop along the way had to be the total eclipse in 2017. But the most satisfying of all has been looking in my rear-view mirror at a string of MGs stretched out as far as I could see. I thank you for coming along for the ride.

For now, though, we have activities, *all of which are tentative* due to COVID-19 concerns:

The **Williamsburg British Car Show** is currently scheduled for Saturday, April 18. A decision is due about April 1st on whether to postpone the show until post-COVID-19. Details should be available through the website – www.wmbgbrit.com.

Our **Spring Tech Session** is scheduled for Sunday, April 26, hosted by Deb & Frank Linse in Norfolk.

The **Spring Tour** is set for May 1-3. Several of the intended stops along the way are currently closed, and A&B are waiting for decisions on their plans for reopening. *(late note: rolling this to 2021)*

I expect there are similar concerns for the **NEMGTR GOF** in Virginia Beach on May 1-3. Please refer to their website for potential changes in those plans.

As I write this, it feels like the whole world is on lock-down. *The decision has been made to cancel our April 1st meeting, originally scheduled for Vino Italian Bistro in Virginia Beach.* Therefore, the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6th at Betty and Jim Villers' home in Virginia Beach.

Until we meet again, enjoy the ride!

Tad



Dipstick Calendar – April 2020

Apr 1 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting – Norfolk - CANCELLED

Apr 18 - Williamsburg British Car Club – British & European Car Show
CANCELLED – See you in 2021

Apr 26 – Spring Tech Session - Norfolk
Hosted by Deb and Frank

May 1-3 – Spring Tour – Central VA
Hosted by Beckey and Alan
Rescheduled to 2021

May 1-3 – GOF Virginia Beach
Hosted by NEMGTR - For info – HankGiffin@cox.net

May 6 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting – VA Beach
Hosted by Betty and Jim
DATE CHANGE

May 27 (Wed) – Dessert Drive – Peninsula

May 28 (Thu) – Dessert Drive – Southside

May 31 – June 4 – GT-45 – NAMGAR – Colorado Springs

June 6 (Sat) – Monthly Meeting – Beaverdam
Hosted by Beckey and Alan

June 28 – July 1 – MG-2020 – Calgary, Canada

July 7 (Tue) – Monthly Meeting - TBA

Summer Tech Session – TBA

Aug 5 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting - Hampton
Hosted by Faith and PJ

Sep 1 (Tue) – Monthly Meeting – Ocean View Fishing Pier

Sep 19 – Wings & Wheels – TRAACA - Pungo

Oct 1 – 4 – Fall Tour (Tentative)

Oct 7 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting / Elections
Hosted by Renee and Bill

Fall Tech Session – TBA



Marque Time



Last month, in my little contribution to this journal of automotive excellence, I quoted the “wisdom” of Yogi Berra, which I think might be appropriate again here. When he was asked by a reporter about an upcoming season he said *“The future ain't what it used to be.”*

Or maybe this memorable quote: *“My mama always said, ‘Life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re gonna get.’”* – Forrest Gump

And so here we are, dealing with life events that none of us could have foreseen just a few weeks before. With all that is happening, and with almost everyone in this world affected in one way or another, even our little club has been directly impacted.

As everyone knows by now, we made the decision to cancel our monthly meeting of TMGC. As far as I can recall in the 15 or so years that I have been a member of this club, other than one weather-related cancellation, this has never happened before. Other events have been canceled, such as the Barksdale theater drive, and others may face the same fate by the time this is published.

But these are fairly trivial issues, and I’m sure that most of us have much more important things to deal with at present.

Still, I’m sure that most of us look forward to having things return, as much as can be, to the way they were before, including getting together with our TMGC friends.

And so I hope that this finds all of you, your families and your friends well and safe.

Until then,

Safety Fast,
Robert

TMGC Officers and Committees

President	Robert Perrone	574-3233
Vice President	Mike Haag	Mikehmg@cox.net
Secretary	Mark Davidoski	831-4196
Treasurer	Jim Villers	822-9182
Editors	Mark and Kathy Davidoski	831-4196
Membership	Tad Carter	496-9847
Webmaster	Mike Haag	Mikehmg@cox.net
Historian	Susan Bond	403-1169
Technical	Terry Bond	403-4614
Activities	Tad Carter	496-9847
Clubs	Mike Ash	678-0963
Regalia	Rose Ladd	737-2468

TMGC March Minutes

March 3, 2020 at New Realm Brewing in Virginia Beach

1923: President Perrone called the meeting to order, with a vocal assist from Bill Olcheski.

February minutes approved.

Tad delivered his club activities update. Thanks to Mike Haag for writing up the recent Horrible Idea Tour. Name change for next year to "Pour Decisions" as we seem to visit many adult beverage venues.

Upcoming events include Hanover Theater on March 22nd, Williamsburg Carshow on April 18th, Spring Tech Session on 26 April hosted by Frank & Deb. Spring Tour runs 1-3 May and heads to the Lexington area. Further events are covered in the Activities Update section of the Dipstick. *(late update: Williamsburg cnx'd. Spring Tour rolls to 2021.)*

Next month's meeting is at Vino Italian Bistro, which is located at the former Frankie's Ribs site in Virginia Beach. *(late update – meeting cancelled due to the current statewide lockdown.)*

TRAACA's Wings & Wheels is in September and will feature display areas for clubs. Looking for a big turnout of MGs!

New members include David & Joanna Beach, as well as Pete Douglas who is a "new, old" member of the club.

The VP reports all meeting dates are now set.

Treasurer's Report reflects a balance of \$1656.91

Marque Time included a report from Terry Bond and why it's not such a good idea to attempt to lift a small car engine with a pair of 2 X 4's over the lifting team's shoulders. Pete displayed the ancient clutch pedal that Tino replaced for him. A discussion ensued about where to get the best prices for MG parts. It pays to shop, as sometimes Victoria British and Moss have widely different prices for the same items. Another member recommended checking with UK-based companies like Rimmer Brothers. The exchange rates frequently work in our favor, resulting in good price points.



The raffle featured such items as a copy of Lindsay Porter's MGB book and a multimeter. The 50/50 was graciously donated back the treasury by this month's winner.

New or old business – none.

Motion to adjourn at 7:39 pm.

Tech Tips from Robert MacPherson

I found an ad in the Sacred Octagon (NEMGTR), for 'Great Knobs' from Pennsbury Manor and had a number of brown and cruddy looking knobs in my cars, so I thought it was worth a try. I believe the vendor developed it for antique fountain pens, and it was reasonably expensive with the shipping, probably close to \$20. I neglected to take 'before' photos, but the 'after' photos show that it's effective. It's pretty easy to use, I cleaned my knobs (lightly) with 0000 steel wool, painted the product on, allowed it to dry overnight, then buffed it and filled in the



engraved letter(s) with white paint. They are not as shiny as brand new, but look pretty good, much better than with no treatment.



I just finished installing trunk carpet and a new tire cover in my MGA. I also re-painted the spare tire hold down clamp and added stock/original style straps and Jack storage bag. Probably took about 4 hours.



Due to the COVID-19
lockdown, the April
meeting is cancelled.
We'll try again in May,
conditions permitting!



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