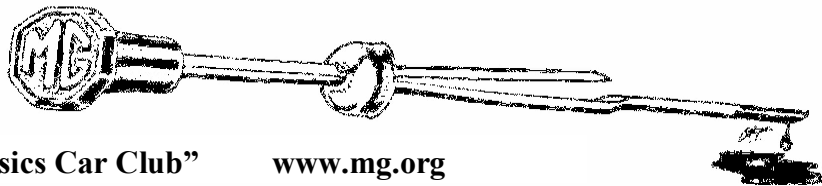


The Dipstick



“The Newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics Car Club”

www.mg.org

Volume XXXIV, Issue 10

Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

October 2007

MARQUE TIME

As always, I like to start out by expressing my gratitude to our hosts for the last meeting. Many thanks go to Lara and J.D. Hawthorne for having us over to their wonderful home in Hampton. It was a beautiful evening, and I must admit I lost count of how many MGs were there. Rumor has it that even Bernie showed up for a few minutes. Beckey and I drove Colin's MG over -- it needed to stretch its legs. This resulted in an impromptu tech session once we arrived at J.D.'s as the temperature gauge was getting uncomfortably high when the car was not in forward motion. This was due to a bad electrical connection to the electrical fan. An emergency jumper made for a quick fix until we got home.

On the subject of thanks, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Andy Wallach for his service to the club in the role of nominating committee this year. Not only did he convince Michelle and Jim to run for re-election, but he recruited two fine candidates for President and VP: Mark Davidoski and Bill Olcheski, respectively. The election will be held at the October meeting at Chuck and Becky Hassler's. While on the subject of elections, I also want to mention that I consider it an honor to have been President of such a wonderful club these past two years. Thank you to all the people who have assisted me, especially the club officers and committee chairs: J.D., Jim, Michele, Doug, Beckey, Becky, Robin, Mike, Mike, Peggy-Sue, and Mark. I couldn't have done it without you. OK, one last thanks, this time to Ron Struewing, who has agreed to take over as publisher of the *Dipstick*, allowing Sue to take a well-deserved rest. Peggy has agreed to continue on as Editor.

As I write this I am eagerly awaiting the Browns Island “Classics on the James” show this weekend and Waynesboro in a couple of week's time. The humidity seems to have gone (finally!) and it is beautiful “top down” weather. Browns Island will be the first show Beckey and I have been to in almost two years with our restored-dented-restored-totaled-restored 'B.

“MGs and Investment.” I must admit when I mentioned to Beckey those two words in the same sentence she laughed hysterically. Truth is, I was reading my November issue of “Classic Motorsports” and sure enough under the title of “Better Buy it Now” was the suggestion that now is the time to buy a MG-C. Their the-

ory being that you can still get them for a bargain between \$10-\$15K, and you will have purchased what is likely to be the “last, affordable British six-cylinder grand touring car” that will surely increase in value. Who knew?

Safety Fast,
Alan

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check www.mg.org for the latest info!

Oct. 3 Wednesday meeting at Chuck and Becky Hassler's (see back page)

Oct. 5-7 Waynesboro BCS
www.svbcc.net

Oct. 12 Dipstick Deadline

Oct. 12-14 MG Vintage Racers Focus Event,
Lexington OH, www.mgvr.org

Oct. 14 Hunt Country Classic, Middleburg,
VA, mgcarclubdc.com

Oct. 19-20 Euro Auto Festival at BMW plant,
Spartanburg NC,
www.euroautofestival.com

Oct. 26-28 Virginia Fall Classic, Newport
News, www.vafallclassic.org

Oct 27 SCCA TSD, Autumn's Fire, Rich-
mond, VA, www.odr-scca.org

Driver Days will not be held this year
www.driverva.com

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Activities (continued)

Nov. 6 Tuesday meeting at Mark and Kathy Davidoski's

Nov. 12 Dipstick Deadline

Nov 17 SCCA TSD, 9th Month Madness, Richmond, VA
www.odr-scca.org

Nov. 11 Tech session at Susan and Terry Bond's

SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Michele Peters

Before I begin with my witty repartee and my interesting and informative discourse, I thought I would take a moment to thank Cynthia Faschini, who acted as your Secretary while Yours Truly was away on holiday. Thank you, Cynthia, for the fine job you did. I'm sure I speak for all of my loyal fans when I say your efforts were greatly appreciated.

We began our September meeting at 8:07 PM at J.D. and Lara Hawthorne's home in Hampton. Everyone at the meeting who had been to J.D. and Lara's house before remembered quite vividly that delicious chicken, dips and other delectables that make us want to add an officer to the slate going up for election in October: *TMGC Chef*...how 'bout it, Lara?

A motion was made to approve the Minutes, and it passed.

New Members and Guests: Uhm, yes, there were some. New member Don Ladd, who has a '78 Midget, joined at the last ice ream run in Virginia Beach. Mike Taylor joined at the last meeting. He has a red '70 B. Then there was Russ Ripp who attended the last Ice Cream Social and the Tech Session, and has a '73 B. We also had a guest by the name of Scott Emerson who is proudly owned by a '73 ½ B. We welcome them all. For all you new folks, just make sure to wear your nametags if you wish to be correctly identified. Otherwise, there's no telling what I may call you....

Vice-President: Our out-going El Vice-Presidente welcomed all of us to his and Lara's home and our out-going El Presidente noted that it was especially nice to have a fine beer selection, including a Hampton brew.

(Oh my gosh, I'm feeling very sad, here...Alan and J.D. really *are* out-going officers...but I don't want them to be out-going, I don't wanna, I don't wanna.....)

Treasurer: Jim Villers provided the following information: Balance forward from April was \$2,071.67. Receipts included \$40 from Raffle and Regalia and \$460 from dues (whoa!). Disbursements were \$50.00 to Alan Watson as our host of the last

month's meeting. Our current balance is \$2,521.67

Activities: Brown's Island car show is Sept 16 this year. The featured marquee is the Ferrari. Mike Haag will write.

"Wings and Wheels" is September 29 in Toppling, VA, showcasing vintage cars and airplanes. Bob Ross will write.

Also on Sept. 29 is the Lee Hall Classic Car Show, which will benefit the restoration of Lee Hall. There may be a discount available.

OK, well, September 29 is a big day. You could also choose to go to Wings and Wheels first, then the Scottish Festival in Jamestown. Meet at Cosmos at 8 AM if you want to go with Susan.

Our next MG Club meeting is at Chuck and Becky Hassler's home in Yorktown on Oct. 3. Oh get ready for that awesome apple pie!

The Waynesboro Show is October 6-7 this year, Becky Hassler or J.D. will write.

Rendezvous 2007 is in Tallahassee, FL on October 12-14. To encourage our membership, the creators and promoters of this even have thoughtfully provided an "MG Rescue Squad," the members of which have created an "MG Parts List" available at local retailers, and a veritable feast of local tow trucks and flat bed outfits available for our use, should we need them and break down within 100 miles of the show.

Is anyone interested in hosting a Pig Roast this year? I know Alan and Beckey's success last year would be very hard to beat, but, nevertheless, we should try...

Clubs: Mike reported that the "T" register is in Cape May is September 20th.

History: Susan reported that we have it. She has lots of pictures.

Newsletter: Ron Struewing has volunteered to help with the newsletter in Susan's place. However, he will be out of town part of this month, so Susan will continue to help out on the November *Dipstick*. Ron is apparently very computer savvy. Peggy will continue to man the rag.

Membership: Robin reported that we now have 93 members. We've lost 13 members, some of whom have sold their cars (and even to new members). Alan noted that he was pleased with the number of renewals that we got because he thought a number of folks might not pay dues because they could get *The Dipstick* online now.

Technical: Mark was absent.

Old Business: None

New Business: Andy Wallach presented the slate of candidates for our club for the 2007-08 year. They are as follows: President: Mark Davidoski, Vice-President; Bill Olcheski, Secretary; Yours truly, Treasurer; Jim Villers again. We sure will miss Alan and J.D. as the leaders of our pack; they have done an abso-

lutely fantastic job, but I am sure that the new officers will do us proud, too. Well, of course, I am *already* doing us proud, and Jim does a tolerable job. So I guess that just means that we have to worry about Mark and Bill, or whoever else might get nominated in October at the meeting. So, don't forget, elections next month! I'll be preparing my candidate's speech....and I promise, it won't be longer than a few pages....

Marque Time: Sue and Terry Bond have taken their red GT apart and are wrestling with shock absorbers and king pins. George reported having seen the new MG on a recent trip to England. The new MGs are scheduled to make their appearance in late 2008.

Chuck Hassler pulled out the cross member to body bushings polyurethane – 8 bushings that cushion the cross member to body for front end suspension jobs. So be careful. The coil springs out and front suspension is easy.... Yep, you read that correctly; it's exactly what my notes say. And if you can figure out what it means, more power to ya. Would you mind telling me?

Sorry, Chuck, but I did try.... (now I realize that I sort of failed on this section of the Minutes... I am truly sorry, but I will take responsibility for it. And remember that next month we are voting on new officers for the Club, so if you are really tired of the fact that I never seem to know what I'm talking about... I mean reporting about.... then you can always vote for *someone else* as your MG Club Secretary.... Of course, I won't mind that all my hard work and dedication to my job is going unappreciated and unrecognized by disloyal and ungrateful readers who I used to call fans...) Did you know that the vote next month on officers is NOT SECRET????

Terry reported that the Tidewater Annual Regional Antique Auto Club is having a "to do" at Chesapeake City Park on September 22. There will be all kinds of original cars there, no kits. Judging is on originality, special prizes are awarded, and Terry assures that it is a really good show.

Also note that the DMV is now mailing out the rest of the letters to owners of cars with antique plate registrations. You must fill out the form, get it notarized, and send it back to the DMV. You must swear that you own another vehicle that you drive to work and that your antique vehicle has working safety features available at the time the car was manufactured. Beckey Watson is a notary and will bring her seal next time if anyone needs it.

Matt Gresalfi, who has been restoring a '63 Midget on a rotisserie that he rescued from a junkyard finally made his test drive. He has put a lot of money into the car, but it looks great.

Robin has put a second windshield in his B. He bought this windshield from Victoria British and there is an undercut in the glass on each end. He was

able to take care of this by pushing the glass lower in the frame. Terry mentioned that there had been a lot of discussion about windshields and leaks, and that it had been the topic of conversation at the tech session recently. I think I heard that Moss recommends putting silicone sealer on the rubber before putting the windshield in the frame. The suggested order of putting the whole thing together is: Glass in bottom; put in the sides; and put the top of the frame in last.

Jim talked about leaking rear wheel cylinders. Rather than rebuilding them, he bought new ones. The new ones cost \$20, while the re-built cylinders cost \$7, but he just didn't feel like using re-built. Robert noted that we should vote on Jim's expulsion from the Club.

Raffle and Regalia: Becky H. reminded us that if we want clothing or anything for the holidays embroidered, we need to have our orders in by the October meeting. Mike Taylor won a small box with gold coins in it from England, Bill Olcheski won first in line (he always wins), Sue won the mystery gift (which was an upper and lower radiator hose...gosh, we have the BEST prizes!). Don Ladd won the MG magazines (beginner's luck), Peggy won the MG stamp and Mike won the postcard from England, which proudly stated "You can Do It in an MG." Do what? Huh? Would someone please explain this to me? Really, I'm not kidding, do what? What are they talking about? Oh, never mind!

Upon a Motion to Eat (which is vastly superior to a Motion to Rehear), the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 and we sallied forth into Lara's awesome feast. Except for the Motion for Summary Judgment that the evening was a roaring success, on the basis of Lara's great spread and the excellence of our leadership, there were no further motions or arguments, but there was a great deal of chewing, gulping, and smacking of lips. Ah, the sounds of contentment and satisfaction.... What's that? You have an issue with my rendition of the evening's festivities? Go ahead, you know - sue me.

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
	Ron Struewing	479-0084
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	mikehmg@cox.net

Membership and New Members

Robin Watson

Total Membership 89

It is now in the third month of our 2007-2008 year so I have taken account of actual membership. With 16 members not renewed from last year we now have 89 members with four more that have said they intend to renew.

Tidewater MG Classics Slate of Officers for 2008

Submitted by Andy Wallach

President: Mark Davidoski
Vice-President: Bill Olcheski
Secretary: Michele Peters
Treasurer: Jim Villers

DMV Forms

Beckey Watson

Many of you have antique license plates on your car, and have received a letter in the mail from DMV with a form called "Antique License Plate Applicant Certification" that needs to be notarized. I am a Notary for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and will bring my seal to the October meeting. If you bring your form with you, I will be available to notarize it.

Judy Hudson, 1948, A Good Year for a TC

Not a car girl then, but now it's 2007 and
Judy was turning the corner to automobile appreciation. Breezes ruffling her hair. An almost smile with the sunshine.
Judy was taking baby steps forward. Wanting to go for a drive, longer than just a ride, in the TC.

When I came upon Judy, 'on the side of the road' so to speak, she had the most beautiful bouquet of flowers in her hand. Yet she drove a gray on gray Corolla. She could chef up a masterful dinner. Yet there was that gray on gray Corolla.

She learned more and more about French cooking and its presentation and understood more and more that automobiles and I were inseparable.
Our garage became a haven for some interesting cars

but none of these were like whisks and spatulas and terrines and cuisinarts.

She'd beat eggs to a fluff, yet never needed to whisk away from a traffic light.

There's a turbo cooker in the cabinet, but what's a turbocharger?

Judy could shred anything, coarse or fine, except a road.

So here comes this VeryLBC TC and she says, 'You didn't tell me it was so small'.

With Claire stashed behind the seats we were off to find berries down in Pungo, Halloween spooks and Christmas lights on the boardwalk.

The TC turned her head. Convertible. Cute. Nice color. Leather seats. It had been built the same year she was born.

But....So close to the road. Too fast around corners. So finicky. Or was it iffy. If we went out would we be back.

So the TC was fine for me. Judy enjoyed everyone coming for meetings. Creative cheffing.

The Christmas parties were her forte. Planning, decorating, cooking and hosting. MG's were in the driveway and her domain was in the kitchen. Her comfort zone.

Now Claire has gone from home and we could go for a drive. Anytime.

But the breezes will never catch her hair. The sun to light her smile. And I won't be able to show off a quick corner.

Claire and I so appreciate all your prayers and words of peace.

Chuck



Tech Session at Freeh's Home

By Robin Watson

What a good turnout for the Tech Session at Linda & Jim's home, and although very little work was carried out it was great company and MG talk. Thank you Linda for the morning break and lunch goodies. We had 11 MGs there and all running well. Stephen Daniel, Chuck Hassler, John Terschak, Al Swenson, Susan & Terry Bond (with two MGB-GTs) Vince Groover, Bob Ross, Donald Ladd who talked about a over-heating problem on his Midget and what he had done to it, even flushing the system a few times that did

not help. The only thing I could think for Donald to try before having the radiator checked over was to use a flush. I told him that I had a similar problem with my B about 3 years ago and used Zerex Radiator Super Cleaner, NOT ZEREX Super Flush that I purchased from Advance Auto and cured my problem. The difference between Flush and Cleaner is that you flush the radiator out 10 minutes after putting the Flush in but with the Cleaner it needs to be left in and the car driven for 3 to 6 hours. The cleaner is supposed to move harder blockages and it worked for me.



Jim Villers hooked up a sensing device to his tail pipe to show us the Air to Fuel ratio and could also be read while driving the car. Mark Childers gave me a good tip, I told him that I had just put a new wind-



screen in my B. He looked at how the doors were closing on the new seals and explained that they were OK but if the doors were out of adjustment then it could help to crack the door panel just behind and below the window guide rail. He told me it would be a good idea to lubricate the seal surface that comes into contact with the door. Well Mark, I was almost thinking of climbing over the door to get in so that I did not have to open and close the door. On Tuesday while I was

checking the screen work for water leaks ready for the trip to Browns Island on Sept. 16th, I found just the thing to lubricate the door to windscreen seal. I had a



small sample jar of electricians wire pulling lubricant. Oh, by the way, I did find a couple of leaks while using the water hose and Mark, one of them was right where you told me at the bottom of the windscreen end rails by the bottom frame seal. I used some black rubber seal that even though we don't want rain for the show; I feel my legs will be dryer if it does rain.

Russ Ripp, a possible new member, was also there with his 73 B and of course Linda had her 68 B lined up with the MGs. Jim you did not have far to go when the thunder started did you? About mid-afternoon it started to thunder and I felt a few spots of rain so a few of us put our tops up. When I left it was dry but I came into a heavy shower just after 4 miles, so out came my two-foot square of shower curtain to put over my legs and I am glad I did.

Thanks again, Linda and Jim, and don't be discouraged with the lack of work being done, it can change (remember last year). I hope that other members there at the session got some good tips from all the talking, I did.



Speeding Problems and all that Stuff

Geoff Wheatley

A lot of uncomplimentary things have been said and written about the French and their international policy over the years but I have to admit that they have one domestic policy that I rather like. If a French driver gets a speeding ticket and loses a few points off his driving license no big deal. All he has to do is go on line and buy a few license points on the internet from French non-drivers! Any none driver can sell his points, they start off with a credit of twelve, so when the official speeding notice arrives in the mail after the car has been recorded by the speeding cameras, the non-driver simply puts his or her name in the blank space that reads: "Who was the Driver". The culprit then sends off the form complete with the necessary cash and the points are deducted in the normal manner not from the actual driver but from the allocated points of the non-driver who also gets a few extra Euros for his trouble. However, In addition the French drivers have taken offense to the speeding cameras and when ever possible smash them or even remove them! However, there is one further French policy that I do not embrace. The French media reports that the national non-smoking ban introduced about a year ago is a complete failure. Very few smokers accept this law neither do the eating places or the shopping malls in fact the sale of cigarettes has increased since the ban went into place. I wonder if they also use their cell phones whilst driving!



Doing it All in an MG!

Susan Bond

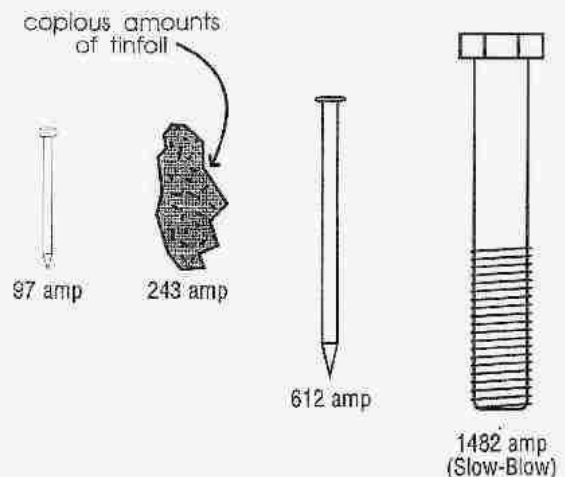
Not long after the last *Dipstick* hit the web site, I received the *Virginia Rally News* e-mail newsletter (September 12, 2007, Volume 2 Number 16). I always read them, even though I haven't participated in a rally since I drove for Dan Kirby several years ago. This one was special – it had a picture that made me realize I could combine my 2 current motorized hobbies, MGs and 4-wheeling. All I need is the right equipment and I could do it in an MG! Maybe there is a future for the parts car behind the barn.



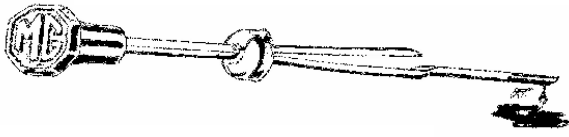
FUSE REPLACEMENT GUIDE

If you ever find yourself in the middle of nowhere and in need of a new fuse, here is a nifty idea that you can use from things you may find around you.. All you need to do is select the correct “fuse” from the chart below and match it with your amperage requirements. This will get you up and running in no time. Good luck!

Guide to Fuse Replacement



The Dipstick



The Tidewater MG Classics

Susan Bond
541 Forest Road
Chesapeake, VA 23322

Affiliated with




North American MGB Register

North American MGB Register
"Newsletter of the Year"

FIRST CLASS

Monthly Meeting
Wed, Oct 3rd
Chuck & Becky Hassler
125 Aberfeldy Way
Yorktown, VA
757-874-1477



7:30 - Kick Tyres
8:00 - Meeting

Driving Directions
I-64 W to Victory Blvd
Left on Kiln Creek Pkwy
(2nd Kiln Creek left)
Right on Aberfeldy Way

To Hampton Roads
Bridge-Tunnel
Norfolk & Va Beach