

The Dipstick



DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE MARQUE SINCE 1973 www.mg.org Volume XXIX, Issue 12

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2011-2012

Dec. 10 Saturday - Holiday Party – Broad Bay Country Club, Virginia Beach – See *The Dipstick* for details

Dec. 15 Thursday - Holiday Lights – Norfolk Botanical Gardens
Dinner on own - Franco's Italian Restaurant
8:00 – Depart for drive thru Lights

2012

Jan. 4 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Frankie's Place for Ribs
6:30 - Dinner
8:00 – Meeting

Feb. 7 – Tuesday – Club Meeting – Destination TBA

Mar. 7 – Wednesday – Club Meeting – Destination TBA

Mar. 17 - St. Patrick's Day Drive –
Celebrating 250 Years of Dying Stuff Green
Destination TBA

April TBA – Spring Tech Session
Hosted by Becky & Alan Watson

Apr. 3 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Chesapeake
Hosted by Pete Olson

Apr. 15- MGB 50 Birthday Run – Destination TBD
Coinciding with the MG Car Club drive to
Heritage Centre at Gaydon

Apr. 27 – 29 – Wine Tour X – Central Virginia
Hosted by Becky & Alan Watson

May 2 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Seaford, VA
Hosted by Jayne & Bruce Easley

May 26 – June 3 British Car Week
Stay tuned to *The Dipstick* for a schedule of local events.

Jun. 5 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Issie & Bill Yoshida

June 6-10 NAMGBR – 2012, Dillard, GA
Hosted by Peachtree MG Registry -TMGC Road Trip!

June 19 Tuesday - Tides Baseball - Game Time 7:15
www.mgb50.com

BOLD items are TMGC events





MARQUE TIME

As I write this, Thanksgiving is just around the corner but will probably be past before we go to print; so let me say I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and gorged yourself if you wanted and showed restraint if you must. I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Party and the botanical gardens; get out your mittens for a beautiful top-down ride.

I want to thank you all for the vote of confidence electing me to be your President for the next two years. As I write that, I'm laughing too! I know Bill left some mighty big shoes to fill; I pledge to do my best to fill them. Now, where to start, I guess let me just say thanks to all of our past and present club officers and members who have made this club what it is and continue to make it in my opinion the best club around.

Last weekend found me in Alton, Virginia at VIR for the Gold Cup Historic Races; wow what a weekend! I think I can safely speak for all of us when I say we had a blast. Driving the track was kind of like Tidewater during rush hour but I can honestly say I drove my B on the racetrack. There will be more on that in a future issue as I believe David is writing for that event. Let me just make my plug, I already requested that TAD put it on the list for possible activities next year. It will be over Memorial Day weekend which usually corresponds with *Drive Your British Car Week*. Also, this past summer Tad was trying to arrange a camping trip; well VIR has camping and a hotel on the grounds.



Super fun!

Russ



**Pictures
from
the November Meeting
& 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off**



OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

by Michele Peters, Secretary

We began our November meeting at 8:03 pm within the enclosed outdoor porch of Mitzi and Steve LaPaugh. The simmering chili was just next door, so we were all rather distracted by the wonderful smells wafting from the next room. However, we managed to hold it together (well, sort of... our outgoing EI Presidente was more than a little distracted, as the first thing he had the nerve to ask for was whether a *note taker* was available, while he stared right at me!!)

New Members and Guests: We had guests from Germany with us, and Frank W's wife, Kiz, whom we were very glad to meet.

Vice-President: Our EI Vice-Presidente had "nada" to add tonight because he was soon to be crowned "EI Presidente." I think that is why our almost former Pres was distracted, since he seemed to be very anxious to transfer the gavel. He wanted to get right to the voting, before having asked for any of the officer reports. How out of order!!

Treasurer: Jim Villers, our fine treasurer, reported that we were still in the GREEN, looking good for the upcoming holiday party. More on that shortly.

Activities: Tad had a lot to say, as usual, and some things to report on for the upcoming new year (wow – can you believe it?!). Please see his separate section for his report. Tad also asked us to fill out a TMGC Activities survey, noting the things we enjoyed the most, not-so-much, and ideas we have to improve our social outings (as if!). Please email Tad for a survey, fill it out, and return it to him. He would really appreciate the feed-back.

Clubs: Mike and Jennifer didn't make it to the meeting, we assume because they were recuperating from their holiday to Spain! Oh, the hardships!

History: Susan brought a new album to peruse. She just never lets us down...what a woman!

Newsletter: Mitzi L. reported that Anita is looking for someone to take her editorial place since she has become extremely busy. Anyone looking to step up

to this plate should contact Mitzi L. Mitzi and Anita got a round of applause for their revamping of the look of *The Dipstick*—thanks, ladies! Looks good! And, as always, articles and other submissions are due by the 12th of the month.

Membership: Bill reported that we have 113 active memberships with a couple more than are "promised" memberships, including 209 individuals and 171 cars. I'd say we are doing quite well for ourselves.

Technical: Mark didn't join us but Steve L. noted that there are apparently \$3.00 LED lights that you can get that are battery-operated and will stick to the bottom of your bonnet (GEEZ – I don't think I want lights sticking to the bottom of MY bonnet!...oh, wait, I think he meant your CAR'S bonnet...). Anyway, please see Steve for more info on that.

Old Business: none

New Business: Elections! In less than two shakes of a lamb's tail, we called elections to order, asked for nominations from the floor, voted on them and concluded our annual foray into politics. Results are as follows, with all officers elected unanimously: President: Russ Ripp, Vice-President: Steve LaPaugh, Secretary: Yours Truly, Treasurer: Jim Villers. And although the position wasn't voted on, we did entreat young Tad to continue on in his efforts (and marvelous, they are!) as Activities Director. So with that line-up, you all ought to be confident in looking forward to another fabulous year with the MG Club.

The tenth annual Wine Tour is beginning to take shape in the heart and minds of its authors, Allen and Beckey, who were with us at the meeting. It was so great to see them, as we don't get to visit much anymore since they moved north of Richmond. Just something to start thinking about...reserve the some-time-near-the-end-of-April dates now.

November Mtg. Minutes, Cont'd...

Marque Time: Donald had show-and-tell for us. He brought a Dual car radio that is available from Amazon for about \$50 (and \$150 from LBC) that can handle your iPod and a memory card, and is small enough to fit into his Midget radio space (so you know it will fit in the Bs). He is pleased with it. Please see Donald for more information.

Miss Green B has emerged from George McQuain's paint catacombs transformed. She is now being re-assembled and in the able hands of Mr. Linse. Her journey will be available for all to read about and see shortly in these very pages. I know that you all are looking forward to reading about her transformation almost as much as I am anticipating actually driving her! She is going to require a bit of a moniker change... perhaps once you see her, you can make some suggestions....

David wore a beautiful Abingdon coat of arms that he had made and embroidered on a long-sleeved shirt. He has already paid for the creation of the emblem, so if you would like to have it embroidered on any of your clothing, get in touch with him.

Steve L. suggested that we have a club photo done at the holiday party. Good idea, Steve!

Susan and Terry reported that the Hershey, PA tour was fabulous with over 2,000 antique cars in attendance. We can always count on Susan and Terry to get to just about every car show nearby, and even those that aren't nearby!

Raffle and Regalia: There was Bondo and body butter (!), a hand-forged oyster knife, hats, and the coveted license plate holder for raffling and they all went to somebody (although we collectively concurred that some hocus pocus must have been going on with Steve-O since he kept calling numbers that nobody had) but I really didn't pay attention (again) to who got what. Actually, I don't want to make the people who never win feel badly (like yours truly).

We wound down and adjourned at 8:58 PM and then sped next door to sample and vote on the chili concoctions that were in the competition. The chili was hot on that very cold night and tasted oh, so delicious, along with the corn bread, cheese and crackers and brownies. My vote went to #5 which is a recipe I am going to have to get from Pete Olson...or else, Pete (and you know what the "else" is, after all this time)!

And just a little something from your secretary since this is the last Dipstick of 2011 and the year is coming to a close: Having been a member of TMGC for about 6-7 years now (I know that's peanuts compared to some of you!) I wanted to say that it has been a great pleasure to serve as your secretary and I am honored by your trust in me in electing me as your secretary for another year. It has been simply wonderful to get to know the many fantastic people that populate this club for these many years. Our members are, hands down, the most fun, most energetic, nicest, most helpful, and funniest group of folks one could ever hope to know. I have learned a lot from everyone but there is so much more to know. And right in our very midst, there are experts in their fields—people who know more about MGs than I will ever know there IS to know! I cannot say enough how gracious, kind, and more-than-willing everyone is to lend a hand, or a tool, or themselves, in the advancement of the friendship that comes only with a common interest in little British sports cars that are themselves, so fallible. Perhaps that fallibility is what draws us together in the first place...a knowing that none of us are perfect, and that we all need a little assist every now and then, be that with our cars or ourselves. The fact that we know that we have the ability to reach out to each other in this club and be assured of a friendly hand at every turn in the road is precious and, in my experience, unique. As the holiday season approaches then, as always, please accept my most sincere wishes for continued health and happiness for each and every one of you, for your families, and, of course, for your LBCs.





MEMBERSHIP

by Bill Yoshida

Memberships: As of 12 November, we have 113 paid memberships with one outstanding “promise” to re-new their memberships for 2012. This will make 209 individual members in the club.

New Memberships: One new membership has been added since the November *Dipstick* was published.

Charlie & Sandy Dawson
Virginia Beach, VA 23457
1969 MGB-GT

Dues: At the 2 November meeting I gave \$40.00 in checks to Jim Villers. I recently received the \$20 “IOU” for one membership that I will turn over to Jim. I am expecting an additional \$20 in dues from one remaining member that “promised” to renew.

Cars: Total cars – 171

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
19	2	77	16	2	2	7	23	5	12

Other/ MG types – 6 (1-Cooper MG/ 1-MGNA/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB)



ACTIVITIES REPORT

By Tad Carter

Our Holiday Party will be on the evening of **Saturday, December 10th**, and will be held at Broad Bay Country Club in the Great Neck area of Virginia Beach. Dinner will include appetizers, a buffet dinner (salmon, chicken and filet options), and desserts. The club is offsetting some of the cost of the evening so that we are able to keep the cost of this event to \$25 per person with a cash bar. If you are reading this for the first time and have not yet had a chance to RSVP, please let me know right away so that we can confirm an accurate attendance. Thanks!

As has been our tradition, we have adopted a local charity this holiday season. Once again, we have selected CHKD. There are few in the club who are not familiar with their work, either directly or through a close acquaintance. If you are able to share in this effort, you are invited to bring a gift or a financial contribution to the Holiday Party. If you are not able to be with us at the party but are interested in making a contribution, let me know and we can make other arrangements. Please look elsewhere in The Dipstick for CHKD's wish list. Thank you for your generosity.

On **Thursday, December 15th**, we'll have our annual Holiday Lights drive through Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Many have enjoyed an early dinner prior to the drive. Once again, we have reserved space at Franco's, starting at 6:00. Franco's is located on the northeast corner of Military Hwy and Norview Ave. As always, it will help to know who will be joining us for dinner so we can avoid delays at the restaurant. They are always crowded, but if we know in advance, they can save us a seat. For those coming just for the drive through the lights, you can plan on an 8:00 departure from the restaurant. Last year, tickets were not available in advance. I don't know yet what we'll find this year.

That's it for 2011, but 2012 is just around the corner. The schedule is starting to fill up with only February and September having open dates on the meeting calendar. As for the events, if you are already looking forward to the next driving season, take a look at the 2012 Event Preview. There are a few additional surprises in the works. As always, The Dipstick will be your best source for current information.

Once again, thanks for sharing in the fun in 2011. I wish you all a safe holiday season and many carefree miles in 2012.



CHKD - Child Life Wish List

Thank you so much for your interest in supporting the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters. Your generosity in providing donations of gifts and handmade items goes a long way towards brightening a patient's hospital stay. This list contains suggestions for gifts and for other items that are used during a child's hospitalization.

[Monetary donations](#) are also acceptable.

Toy Safety Guidelines

- All toys donated should be sturdy. We cannot accept toys made of glass or brittle plastic, or that have sharp edges or protrusions. We cannot accept toys with detachable or removable parts which can be swallowed or inhaled by small children.
- All toys must be new. We cannot accept used/old toys or used stuffed animals due to our infection control policies.
- We cannot accept any donations that include **food/candy**, candles, knives, razors, medicines or Latex balloons.
- We cannot accept toys or video games that depict violence in any way. No guns, swords, or fighting figures will be accepted.
- We cannot accept "R" rated movies or "M" rated games
- We cannot accept any toys or books with a religious message or of a religious nature.
- Only new, non-toxic paint, glue or craft supplies can be accepted.

Current Specific Needs

- Small boxes of crayons (4-8 crayons per pack)
- DVDs and PlayStation 2 games (new or used)
- 4"x 6" photo paper for printing digital pictures
- Craft supplies
- Groove-It and Bop-It
- Infant toys
- Infant crib mobiles – all plastic, no cloth parts
- Stain-glass paper for windows
- Birthday Gift Bags
- “Guess Who” Board Games
- Bubbles (small bottles)
- Only new, non-toxic paint, glue or craft supplies can be accepted.

Department Needs

- Snoezelen products
- White noise or other soothing noise machine
- Environment CDs
- Children's books on medical diagnosis or about the body
- Flash Drive
- Digital Camera
- Portable Printer for Digital Camera
- Disposable Cameras with flash
- Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)
- Mini containers of bubbles
- Small boxes of crayons (4-8 ct)
- Party Blowers
- Fun Toothbrushes
- Stickers
- View Finders
- “I Spy” Books

Infants (birth to 1 year)

- Baby Einstein DVD series
- Blankets
- Bath toys
- Bumble Balls
- Chubby books
- Baby gym
- Bibs & Bottles
- Busy Boxes
- Crib toys
- Fisher Price Bounce and Giggle Kitty or dog (other animals if available)
- Fisher Price Ocean Wonders Aquarium
- Leap Frog toys
- Light up toys
- Mobiles (all plastic, no cloth parts)
- Music CDs
- Musical toys
- Plastic infant toys
- Pop up/cause and effect toys
- Rain sticks
- Rattles
- Ring stacks
- Sassy toys
- Snap beads
- Squeak toys
- Star Stacking Toy (lights up and plays music when you stack the stars)

- Teethers
- V-tech toys
- Mirrors
- Toddlers (1 to 3 years)**
- Audio Books
- Balls
- Blocks
- Bubble blower
- Bubbles
- Bumble Ball
- Cars and trucks
- Character toys (Barney, Bob the Builder, Dora the Explorer, Blues' Clues, Sesame Street, Winnie the Pooh, etc.)
- Housekeeping toys
- Light up toys
- Musical toys
- Music CDs
- Pop-up books
- Push-pull toys
- See-n-Says
- Shape sorters
- Toddler Duplos
- Toy animals
- Toy phones
- Waffle blocks
- Wooden puzzles

Pre-schoolers (4 to 5 years)

- Action figures
- Barbie accessories
- Bubble tumblers (no spill)
- Card games
- Dress up accessories
- Hot Wheels
- Legos
- Lucky Ducks game
- Model Magic
- Playdoh and accessories
- Puppy Racers
- Rescue Heroes
- Scooby Doo accessories
- Thomas the Tank Engine or other train sets
- Audio Books
- Barbie and Ken dolls (all races)
- Building toys
- Character slippers
- Fisher Price games
- Lincoln Logs
- Memory
- Nerf balls
- Pretty Pretty Princess
- Puzzles (24 pieces)
- Rescue Rangers
- Sound books
- School Aged (6 to 12 years)**
- Action figures
- Barbie accessories
- Barbie and Ken dolls
- Battleship
- Body glitter
- Boggle
- Book bags, back packs, purses
- Books (e.g. Harry Potter, Goose-

- bumps)
- Bratz dolls
- Checkers
- Clue
- Connect 4
- Craft kits
- Groovy Girls
- Guess Who
- Hair accessories
- Hand held games
- Hello Kitty
- K'nex kits
- Lego kits
- Lip Smackers
- Mad Libs/puzzle books
- Make-up kits
- Mancala
- Monopoly Jr.
- Nail polish
- Nerf basketball sets
- Nerf sport sets
- Powerpuff Girls accessories
- Puzzles
- Scooby Doo accessories
- Simon
- Adolescents (12 years and older)**
- Bath gels
- Boxer shorts
- Card games
- CD's of current music
- Clue
- Craft kits
- Gift certificates (Blockbuster, Target, Old Navy)
- Hats/visors
- Journals
- Lotions
- Make-up
- Model sets (cars, etc.)
- Nail polish
- Picture frames
- Poster pictures to paint
- Scattergories
- Sport balls
- Stationary
- Uno
- Yahtzee
- Books
- Cameras -- regular or disposable
- Catch Phrase
- CD cases
- Cosmetic bags
- Cranium
- Gym bags
- Jewelry
- Key chains
- Mancala
- Manicure kits
- Monopoly
- Nerf basketball sets
- Phone cards
- Posters



Waynesboro 2011 by Mike Haag

The annual Fall British Car Festival held the first weekend in October in Waynesboro is a show that many of us look forward to attending every year. This show is a good chance to get out of the flat environs of Hampton Roads and all its traffic to a beautiful part of our state with many fine roads for MG driving. Those club members making the trek this year were Mike Haag, Susan Bond (with grandson Jack), Barry Tyson & BJ (with Bella), Tad Carter, Bruce Easley, Donald & Rose Ladd, Doug & Eiko Wilson, Craig & Joyce Cummings, Bob & Missy McKenna, Bob & Dana Risse and JD Hawthorne & son. If I left someone off, please forgive me, my CRS is getting worse.

In previous years some of us would drive up together, exploring back roads and interesting sites. I think the only ones to do that this year were Tad Carter and Donald & Rose Ladd, stopping by the Blue Ridge Brewery on the way up. For many of us, it was a long jaunt up I-64. That was my plan, but I think my car had other ideas. Before I got to the interstate, it died and wouldn't restart. Thankfully it had the good grace to do this next to the Lake Wright Driving range on Northampton Blvd., so I pushed it into the parking lot for some roadside repairs. After an hour of testing and tinkering, I replaced the aftermarket distributor (that had just been repaired under warranty) with the old one I had kept in the boot, just in case! She started right up, and I was on my way. Other than two traffic jams, one before the HRBT and one east of Williamsburg, it was an uneventful drive up to the host hotel. After checking in I made it down to the Friday night social where I met several other TMGC members for free beer and munchies. Keeping up our tradition, the TMGC table was the last to leave. Of course, after they wheel the beer away there isn't much incentive to stay!

Saturday morning was bright but cold, with the sound of little British engines idling on choke wafting through the air. Several of us went to Mrs. Rowes for breakfast, another tradition. We were surprised when we got a table for seven with no waiting. We noticed that they weren't as busy as

they usually are; hopefully business is still good for them. The sun helped to take the morning chill off when we arrived at the show field. Master of Ceremony Bill Krzastek was already manning the mic and we could hear the music of the *British Invasion* playing through the speakers. The cars were in their usual locations by class, and it appeared to be a good turnout, although my favorite class, British Open, seemed a little light this year. After lunch, the wind picked up and it got progressively cooler. By 2PM or so, many people were packing up and heading back to the hotel or other locations. Susan and grandson Jack headed to the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton. Barry, BJ and I headed over to Barren Ridge Winery for a tasting. After making our purchases, we decided to sit out on the patio and relax and enjoy a glass or two. Unfortunately, as soon as we sat down the clouds rolled in and it got even cooler out, so after one glass we packed it in and headed back to the host hotel. That warm room sure felt good!

For those of you who have attended the Saturday night banquet, you know how entertaining it is, with much joking and laughter. This year didn't disappoint. Emcee Bill Krzastek kept the show moving along and had us laughing as usual. About half way through though, Bill mysteriously left and Wes kept things going for a while. Well, we were in for a real treat, as soon thereafter, Austin Powers replaced Bill for the rest of the evening. Austin had his Shaguar car on display at the show, and I guess he decided to stick around for the banquet before flying back to England on yet another secret mission of some kind. Two of our members picked up awards, Doug Wilson for his late model B and Bob & Missy McKenna for their Austin Healey Bug Eye Sprite.

The speaker for the Sunday morning breakfast had to cancel, so several of us had breakfast together in the hotel dining room. Afterwards, most of us went our separate ways back home. Susan and grandson Jack went to the Richmond Children's museum. Donald & Rose were going to



Waynesboro 2011, Cont'd...

take some back roads home. Doug & Eiko were going to Gordonsville to visit a Civil War museum. I stopped by Pollak Vineyards off Rt. 250 for a tasting and purchases, and then jumped on I-64 for the long drive back. This year marked the 30th Anniversary of this show. That's quite a feat for any car show, and the Shenandoah British Car Club deserves a big Thank You for all the hard work they have done over the years putting on this event and making it such a great weekend for so many of us.

VIR Weekend

November 4-6, 2011

by David Kinsey

The picture was a bit ugly when we gathered Friday morning, 8am, at the Hardees in Suffolk – cold, rainy, windy. Tops were up, drivers and passengers were bundled, some concern was expressed but the intrepid group pressed on. We had some brake lights take a short vacation, a battery took a long vacation (but was replaced), and even a cell phone took a short vacation, and we pressed on. It was actually a nice drive, though a little far, along the Speaker A.L. Philpott Memorial Highway (Rt. 58) to the Virginia International Raceway (VIR). Susan and Terry Bond, Donald Ladd, Russ Ripp and David Kinsey made up one convoy. Richard and Sandy Hall (with TD in trailer), Jack and Linda Pavlidis and AACA friends Neil and Marty Sugarmeyer were in the other one. Michele Peters drove in on Saturday. Many were staying at the Super 8 and Holiday Inn in South Boston; My son, Jonathan, and I had reserved early at the Best Western in Danville and he met me there. (highly recommended if you can get a good rate – breakfast, indoor pool, larger rooms). When we arrived in Danville it was still rainy and cold and the wind was picking up. We decided



lunch and a nap were in order and the wet track could wait a bit. When we did get to the track, around 3pm-ish, the rain had stopped and practice was well underway. The Full Course at VIR is 3.27 miles long and has many great turns and two long straight-aways. The back straight, despite the uphill climb on a portion, is known to be the fastest stretch. It's a beautiful course on a Fall day. Paul Newman is quoted as saying, "If there's a heaven on earth, it's VIR."

Jonathan and I watched practice laps from the NASCAR and Left Hook turns (#3&4) and the balcony at the trackside Pagoda restaurant for a while, then wandered through the paddock to see friends from Abacus Racing and just to see the cars, smell the oil and gas, talk to racers and generally get psyched



VIR Weekend Cont'd...



for Saturday. The others were having dinner in South Boston but I had made reservations for Jonathan and me at the Tavern, a restored mansion on the VIR property, not far from the track. The house has been beautifully redone. The dining rooms are a little too spacious if the customers are sparse so we ate in the cozy bar and found the steak and golden beverage to be excellent. Lots of racing photos adorn the wall, as was expected. I noted that the older, black and white photos seemed to have more character and be more personal – racers and crew faces and different views of pits, paddock, cars and people. The newer, color photos seemed to be only of the cars in standard

poses. I obviously like the old photos better and took a personal note to take more along those lines, as did Jonathan.

Saturday dawned clear and bright. It was a little nippy and the wind would turn out to be the biggest weather factor of the day. Club members arrived at different times and because most stayed in South Boston that group parked at the car show area at the South Paddock, nearer the lodge. When we arrived at the track we drove past the large red barn on the hill and I noticed



two women at a table on the porch, all alone, no cars or people anywhere near. I said, "Jonathan, I'll bet they are waiting on car show participants." They were! We were the first to check-in and found ourselves quickly flanked by a Mustang, a Cobra and a Corvette – probably about 900-1000 horsepower total vs. my under-100. Hahahaha! We held our ground and made a decent effort. We did lots of walking and occasionally synched up with TMGC members but I will admit I defaulted to time with my son over time with the club. We found several MGB, Midget, Spitfire and Mini racers including a team from the Black Pelican Restaurant in Kitty Hawk, NC, one of my faves. Saturday morning was all qualifying practice so we saw fast and slow laps and some experimenting with

braking and corner angles but not too much passing or competition.

At noon we began to line up for the fan parade laps. I did not know exactly where the others were as they were parked with the AACA group, though we stayed in phone and walkie-talkie contact. Jonathan and I enjoyed four laps and my car ran and sounded great after the Abacus rebuild. Our only hitch was the BMW 3.0 CS in front of us whose driver seemed way more interested in some elaborate, hand-waving speech or explanation of something to his passenger than actually driving on a race course. We found ourselves going only 50 mph, in third gear, each time along the front straight. Yikes!! Eighty would have been easy and the two MGBs in front of this guy were long gone while he was talking a blue streak. A bit frustrating but we laughed it off (okay, for the most part we laughed it off, but we did have a few choice words for the guy!). You can see a video of our track laps at this YouTube site: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYNxix5u0RI>

We again caught up with the gang in the lunch line at the Pagoda where Susan waved me up to join them, bless her heart, as all three lines were huge and moving at a snail's pace. I did not detect excessive irritation





VIR Weekend Cont'd...

with the young couple I nudged in front of as they were too busy nudging each other. Hahaha. An interesting menu item was the peanut butter & jelly wrap or peanut butter and banana wrap at 2 for \$4. Great deal! They were doing a brisk business in coffee as well.

Afternoon qualifying races were excellent as the cool dry air increased horsepower output and the drivers were putting the pedal to the metal. There were more than a few cautions as the far right pedal was held just a little too long! In particular I enjoyed seeing a '59 Jaguar XK 150 giving a very strong performance and qualifying second in its heat – on wire wheels!. There were a couple of MGBs I would swear I saw racing 30 years ago at Summit Point. At the end of the day, on the drive back to the hotel, I was sorely bummed to see a TR3 being towed away with a severely punched-in nose. A whole lot of great chrome and sheet metal took a beating.

Sunday was a much nicer day, warmer and less windy but still cool and dry enough so horsepower did not suffer. We managed to catch a couple of the groups take off from the false grid and onto the track grid, which I thought was pretty cool. Here's a YouTube link to one of those starts, featuring several great British race cars. <http://youtu.be/5mEUWVvrU> There was unfortunately a bit of auto carnage out there as speeds were at a max and occasionally exceeded the skills of their drivers. No injuries that we heard of but a few cars got some ugly crunches.

A real crowd pleaser was the Pursuit Race – the slowest cars started first and were followed by the others at handicapped intervals. Hypothetically they would all finish at the same time! It was fun to see how many cars the red Mustang had passed each time it came around.



At lunch time there was a wonderful show of radio-controlled aircraft skill on the front straight. Three prop-driven planes and two actual jet aircraft in miniature wowed the crowd. These scale model aircraft have a 3-4 foot wingspan and weigh about 30-35 lbs. The prop planes maneuvered in more complex ways than the real McCoy and could hover in a vertical position. The jet aircraft were extremely fast (top speed over 230 mph I was told) and went straight up with ease. I asked, "What is the range of that little jet?" "As far as I can see," was the response, until the fellow next to him said with a laugh, "sometimes a little farther than we can see!" It was quite a show.

One of the highlights of the afternoon for me being joined by a high school friend I had not seen for years and then seeing my buds at Abacus take over first place in their race, driving a 1965 Lola. That thing is a beast and built an 11-second lead on the Ford GT 40s before it ran out of fuel on the last lap. Later Bill Thummels told me he was regularly exceeding 170 mph on the back straight. We watched most of that from the Oak Tree turn which allows you to see cars coming off the "esses", under the bridge, up the hill to Oak Tree, and most of the way down the back straight – a huge chunk of racetrack, lots of shifting and some good racing. Jonathan left for Charlottesville early and I reluctantly called it a day around 4pm and caught up with the TMGC gang at the Hardees in Emporia, where we had some dinner and cautioned a young sports car admirer with her Dad to NOT sell that cool sports car she's going to have in her 20s as the rest of us did! We maintained a good caravan through the night back to Hampton Roads and texted an "all is well" message to end a thoroughly enjoyable weekend of driving and racing and camaraderie.

TRAACA Wings and Wheels Show

by Wildflower (TC5308) as dictated to her human, Bob Stein

After weeks of hearing Eleanor (TC5624) prattle on about her first place award at Classics on the Green, it was a relief when my human chose to drive me to the 38th annual meet of the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America (TRAACA) on October 15th. I've heard quite enough about *trailer queens*, thank you very much. And I was especially pleased when so many members of the TMGC family turned out for the event as well.

We arrived very early at the event location—the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach. The sun was just coming up, glinting off the polished metal and striking colours of several World War II aircraft already on the tarmac. I just love a man in uniform and had no complaints when my human left me positioned with a clear view of the flight line.

I was somewhat astonished by the number and variety of guests arriving for the show, all greeted by humans in period costumes. One of the early arrivals was a very distinguished gentleman more than 100 years old! Clearly showing his horse-drawn wagon heritage, this amazingly spry 1909 International Harvester shamed even me by being mostly original!

I was soon joined by the tan MG TD of Richard and Sandy Hall, a plucky chap with quite a few miles under his beltline. After that, the floodgates seemed to open and we were quickly surrounded by family and friends on the show field. The cute little blue 1978 MG Midget brought its human Donald Ladd; the handsome 1958 MGA roadster had Frank Linse with it; an orange 1966 MGB roadster showed up with Alan Hazlett; the secret-agent pretender MGB-GT arrived with Terry and Sue Bond and the 1978 MGB roadster brought Frank Worrell and son.

In addition to familiar TMGC grilles, there were some MGs I hadn't met before. A *rubber bumper* 1974 MGB-GT arrived with its humans Robert and Kathy Langford, as well as a 1965 MGB roadster with humans Roy and Janice Gavilan. We were all outdone, however, by an MGB roadster that not only brought human Pete Olsen, but its very own aircraft on a trailer—the only wings AND wheels entry in the entire

show.

Not all of the TMGC vehicles wanted to be seen with their humans (I sometimes understand the sentiment). I easily recognized the lovely yellow 1965 Porsche 356 and its human Jim Villers. Sam Kern was brought by a stately 1925 Franklin; Bob and Linda Pellerin got rides with a 1966 Mustang convertible and a 1973 Volvo that could almost pass for a GT if you squinted your headlights. A 1962 International Scout carried in Al and Laurel Swenson, and Jody Dudley was invited by no less than three members of the Ford clan—a 1965 Mercury Comet, a 1972 F150 and a 1977 F350.

I did feel quite badly for those TMGC humans who could not coax even non-MGs to be seen with them on the show field. Craig & Kristi Puryear and family, Roy Wiley, Roosevelt Moseley, Mike Ash, and John Terschak all stopped by at different times during the day to offer support. Good lads (and lasses)!

Weather for the event was truly remarkable, clear and sunny, with a pleasant breeze and moderate temperatures. Hundreds of humans admired us throughout the day, including judges who would gather

around each car and write on clipboards. Due to our success in national shows, the Bond GT and I declined participation in normal awards, accepting preservation tags instead.

The awards ceremony proved to be quite exciting for our TMGC family, with almost all of our humans going forward to claim trophies. Special Awards were announced first, and I was quite flattered to be chosen as the Best British Car. Best Foreign Car went to the Porsche of Jim Villers. Then came the class judging results. Franke Linse, Allen Hazlett, Roy Gavilan, Jim Villers, Frank Worrell and Donald Ladd all collected first place awards, with second place trophies for Richard Hall and Bob Lankford.

All in all it was a lovely day and a wonderful outing with TMGC family members. Oh, did I mention that I was featured on the programs and dash plaques? I do hope that my human was able to pick up extras. Eleanor will surely want one for her wall.





Fall 2011 Tech Session

By Jim Villers

A crisp morning haze welcomed the early MG drivers heading to the Bond's garage/museum for the fall TMGC tech gathering on Sunday November 19. The haze quickly dissipated under a warm sun with a clear sky. Terry had invoked his magic once again by providing perfect weather for this late November gathering.

This gathering began as "green gathering"; not as in recycling or alternate fuels green but with four green MGBs in the primary work areas when the work began.

Dave Kinsey brought his newly refurbished green MGB with freshly rebuilt engine with a 9.5:1 aluminum head, Weber carburetor, electronic ignition and many other interesting components. The group helped Dave learn how to tune this wonderful engine by adjusting the idle mixture and marking the crank damper for setting the ignition retard.



Tommy Keiningham focused on repairing a brake issue by adjusting the rear brakes and thoroughly bleeding the brake system. Tom contacted us later and said he'd return the small wrench he borrowed to use on his brake nipples – he forgot to put it back into the tool box when finished. In fact, even forgot to remove it (that's how excited he was to have good brakes again)! Yes, it was still on the brake bleed nipple when he got home so it must have been the right size.

Stephen Daniel brought his headlight alignment tools and demonstrated the proper alignment method by aligning David's headlights. This was technically interesting and far more accurate than the normal "garage door" alignment method. Great job, bring your tools to future tech sessions so that we all might see better at night.

The final job was a teaching session on the installation of a Jeep hard top; successfully performed on the first try. Sue's Jeep is ready for winter.

While the work proceeded, Terry fired up the gas grill and served hot dogs and hamburgers from the grill to compliment the chips and beer. The food is always good at the Bonds. A wood camp fire was lit in an old truck rim for roasting marshmallows but that became a grandkid event as the MGers departed by mid afternoon.

Bob Stein was a later arrival, with Eleanor, the blue TC. Before the sun set we also got the chance to preview Michele's newly painted B. You'll all get to see it eventually, but we can assure you it isn't the same car it used to be. After a late afternoon photo session, we called it a day.

The following were attendees: Susan & Terry Bond, Tad Carter, Craig Cummings, Stephen Daniel, Charlie Dawson, David Ford, Allen Hazlett, Tommy Keiningham, David Kinsey, Donald Ladd, Frank Linse, Bob McKenna, Roosevelt Moseley, Bill Olcheski, Robert Perrone, Michele Peters, Bob Reisse, Bob Ross, John Terschak, Jim Villers, Robin Watson, Roy Wiley, Frank, Bill Yoshida & Kiz and Morris Worrell.

The Dipstick



The Tidewater MG Classics

Mitzi LaPaugh, Co-Editor

809 Pine Tree Ct.

Newport News, VA 23608

FIRST CLASS

Affiliated with



Christmas Party
Saturday, Dec 10th
Broad Bay
Country Club
2120 Lords Lndg
Virginia Beach, Va

The map shows the location of Broad Bay Country Club, marked with a red pin. The club is situated at the intersection of N. Great Neck Rd. and Lords Landings. Other nearby roads include Shore Dr, 1st Coastal Rd, N. Great Neck Rd., Virginia Beach Blvd, and Lynnhaven Blvd. Highway markers for 60, 58, and 264 are also visible.

7:30 - 8:00 pm - Mingle
8:00 Dinner