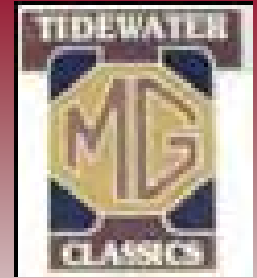


The Dipstick



DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE MARQUE SINCE 1973 www.mg.org Volume XXIX, Issue 11

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2011-2012

Nov. 2 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Newport News
Chili Cook-off -
Hosted by Steve & Mitzi LaPaugh

Nov. 4-6 Antique & Vintage Car Day at VIR
www.VIRNow.com

Nov. 20 Fall Tech Session – Chesapeake
Hosted by Terry & Susan Bond

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

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!**

Sep. 23 MGB 50th Anniversary – Events being planned
www.mgb50.com

Oct. 7-9 SVBCC British Car Festival - Waynesboro

BOLD items are TMGC events



MARQUE TIME

Greetings to my fellow MG enthusiasts! It was great to see many of you at the presidential quarters for our October meeting. My thanks to the first lady, Renee, who as I'm sure you suspected did most of the preparation.

The time has come according to our organizational by-laws to solicit nominations and vote in a new President and Vice President. My two years as Vice President and two years as President have flown by. The board and club members have been extraordinary! It has been a joyful experience that I will always remember. Please, between now and the November meeting if you have some one that you are interested in nominating, or are yourself interested in running, make one of the board members aware. In the past it has been tradition that the Vice President moves into the presidency and a new Vice President is elected. In keeping with tradition, I nominate Russ Ripp for President. How bout it, Russ?

On behalf of the club I wish all of the best to Becky and Chuck Hassler as they pursue their new life in Monument, Colorado. You are part of the Tidewater MG Classics family and will be missed. Please keep in touch.

I hope to see many of you at the second annual great chili cook-off and MG meeting in November.

*Safety First!
Bill*





OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

by Bob Stein, Acting Secretary

The October 2011 meeting of the Tidewater MG Classics club was called to order in the home of and by President Bill Olcheski at 8:06 PM on October 4th.

NEW MEMBERS

Mark Stoops introduced himself—he has a 1952 MG TD that has been in storage for a few years. He is planning to get it going again and be active in club events.

MINUTES/TREASURER'S REPORT

The minutes were approved as published in the *Dipstick*. Jim Villers gave the Treasurer's report, noting a net gain in club finances.

CLUBS

There was no club activity reported by Mike Ashe.

HISTORY

Sue Bond reported we DID have a history – club scrapbooks are being updated with current event photos.

MEMBERSHIP

Bill Yoshida announced that the club had 109 paid memberships with 3 expected to pay during the meeting, for a total of 212 members. When questioned on the extra hundred, he noted that the job description never mentioned math skills. He also announced that the Annual Club Directory was available for pickup after the meeting. TMGC has a total of 205 individual members with 171 cars. Bill also reported new members Christine and Soenke Marahrens of Virginia Beach. They purchased Mike Lalli's 1978 MGB roadster.

NEWSLETTER

Co-editor Mitzi LaPaugh requested that all submissions to the *Dipstick* be sent to Anita Edwards for editing and formatting. She also asked for a writer to cover the upcoming Wings and Wheels event (Bob Stein volunteered).

REGALIA

Switching hats, Mitzi noted that she had some TMGC name tags that had not been picked up. Jim Villers said he

would check to see if they had been paid for, and if so, we could mail them out. Mitzi then announced the evening's raffle prizes: a glass mug with the MG logo, an MG TC Owner's manual reprint, one of the treasured TMGC license plate frames and a clip-on safety flasher.

NEW BUSINESS

Next month's meeting will be the annual Chili Cookoff on November 2nd at Steve LaPaugh's parents' home in Newport News. This is a Wednesday night meeting.

MARQUE TIME

Bob Stein announced that his 1949 MG TC *Wildflower* is featured in a new hardcover book Me and My TC being released in England. Sue Bond noted that she was driving her MGB-GT to Hershey, PA for the big swap meet and car show by herself the next morning.

ACTIVITIES

Tad Carter went over upcoming activities. The Tidewater Region AACA Wings and Wheels Show was rescheduled for Oct. 15th and has club parking available for groups. The Heritage races at Virginia International Raceway will be held November 4th–6th and have registration for \$5 per car until October 15th. Registration includes laps of the raceway track. The Fall Tech Session will be held November 20th at the home of Terry and Sue Bond.

Tad also noted that he will have company for the Thanksgiving weekend and will not be doing a Black Friday run after Thanksgiving. He provided alternatives for those interested: the Eastern Shore Artist's Guild will be having the Open House again this year and the Whalehead Club in Corolla, NC will be holding a porch sale.

Due to the growth of the club, TMGC doesn't fit in anyone's house any more. Because of this, Tad announced that the Holiday Event will be held December 10th at the Broad Bay Country Club. The last event planned for the year is our annual Holiday Lights run on December 15th, with early dinner at Franco's and then the drive to Norfolk's Azalea Gardens.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM



MEMBERSHIP

by Bill Yoshida

Memberships: As of 06 October, we have 111 paid memberships with 2 additional ?promises? to renew their memberships for 2012. This will make 207 individual members in the club.

New Memberships: Two new membership have joined since the September ?Dipstick? was published.

Christine & Soenke Marahrens

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

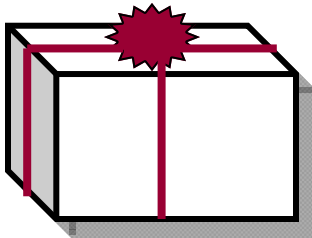
1978 MGB

Mark & Beth Stoops

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

1952 MG TD

Dues: On 04 October I gave \$40.00 in checks in checks to Jim Villers. I am expecting an additional \$40 in dues from the 2 remaining members that have ?promised? to renew.



Wouldn't it be nice to give the gift of MG regalia during the holidays? I have an assortment of tees, polos, hats, blankets, wall clocks, license plate frames... The Regalia Store will be open @ both our November meeting for your holiday gift needs.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

by Tad Carter

On **November 2**, our Chili Cook-off / meeting site will once again be back in Newport News. Check the map in this issue of The Dipstick for directions to the LaPaugh home (Steve's parents). We must have behaved ourselves reasonably well last year, as they invited us back. If you are bringing a Chili Dish to enter in the competition, you are asked to notify Mitzi at ILoveMGAs@gmail.com so she can save room on the table. Steve and Mitzi will provide an assortment of beverages and other dishes, but Chili is the order of the day.

Then, on the weekend of **November 4-6**, it is off to VIR (between South Boston and Danville) for the Heacock Classic Gold Cup Historic Races and Car Show. In addition to the races and the show, there will be the opportunity to take your car out on the track for parade laps. Details and ticket information are available at www.VIRNow.com. There will probably be a group heading out from Tidewater for the weekend. Join in on the convoy, if you are so inclined.

I am making a wild assumption that some of you have driven your cars over the summer. If your car has developed a few aches and pains from all that running around, come on out to the Fall Tech Session on **Sunday, November 20th** at the Bond's home in Chesapeake. Tech Support and willing hands will be in great supply, but plan on bringing your own parts. As always, the doors open at 10:00.

On to December - We are planning our holiday celebration for the evening of **Saturday, December 10th**, with a buffet dinner and general good time at Broad Bay Country Club in the Great Neck area of Virginia Beach. With support from the club treasury, we are able to keep the cost of this event to \$25 per person, including appetizers, buffet dinner and dessert. Plan on a cash bar. To help in our final plans, please, please, please let me know if you will be attending and how many will be in your party. You can send your reservations to: TMGC_Activities@me.com Thanks!

Then on the following **Thursday, December 15th**, you can bundle up for our annual Holiday Lights drive through Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Many have enjoyed an early dinner prior to the drive. Once again, we'll reserve 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, plan on an 8:00 departure from the restaurant

Our 2012 calendar is starting to take shape. We've already penciled in several meeting hosts, but we are looking for more. If you are able to host a monthly meeting or a Tech Session, please let me know. For the most part, we are a pretty well-behaved crowd – even housebroken!

Early on the calendar are drives on March 17th and April 15th. Details are very sketchy. I have no idea what the Activities Tsar (or Car Czar if you prefer) has planned. He isn't clueing me in on those plans quite yet. Similarly, Wine Tour X, slated for the last weekend in April, is only a placeholder on the calendar. Alan & Becky have only shared a Central Virginia destination to whet the appetite.

If you are considering attending the NAMGBR Annual Convention in Dillard, GA (June 6-10), you should be looking for hotel accommodations early. I checked with the host hotel website recently, and either they are already sold out or they are holding rooms in reserve.

That's it for activities, but read on.....

Black Friday

In recent years, we have gone for a Black Friday drive, for those disinterested in fighting the Mall crowd the morning after Thanksgiving. I am anticipating a full house that weekend, so I have not planned an outing. For those seeking refuge from the Mall, there are a couple of drives worth considering:

The Eastern Shore Artisans' Guild is hosting their 9th annual Open Studio and Vineyard Tour on 11/25, 26 and 27. With 11 studios and 2 wineries, there is something for everyone on this drive. Studios are open from Cape Charles to Chincoteague Island, so you can extend this drive as far as you wish. A tour map and details are available at www.esartisansguild.com. In addition, if you are venturing out on Saturday the 26th, head into Cape Charles for their 13th annual Oyster Roast to benefit the Cape Charles Museum. Ticket prices are \$30 for adults and \$10 for children ages 7-12.

Across the bay in Mathews County, you will find many more artists' studios. Although there is little information available at this moment, this Studio Tour has been a favorite for peninsula dwellers for a number of years. For more information, check out www.visitmathews.com. White Dog Café and the Family Restaurant & Ice Cream Shop in Mathews offer up dining options. If you are considering White Dog, make a reservation to assure prompt seating.

Lastly, for those who prefer a southern route, Black Friday on the Outer Banks means the Porch Sale at the Whalehead Club in Corolla. In addition to touring this 1920's era Art Nouveau mansion, replete with Tiffany light fixtures and Majorelle furnishings, you can take advantage of the once-a-year savings on the Whalehead Club's Copper Collection. While in Corolla, there are several restaurants in the Currituck Heritage Park area to fuel you up for the ride home. For details, check out www.whaleheadclub.org.

Each of these drives is within a few hours of Tidewater and can be completed on less than a tank of gas (Assuming proper vehicle maintenance – see November 20th Tech Session for help).

Charity Giving

On Thursday, October 6th, friends James & Ann welcomed a daughter into the world, 7 weeks early and facing numerous physical challenges. Within moments of the emergency delivery, a team of doctors and nurses from Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk took over care of the baby. While still facing significant challenges, this baby is in the most capable hands in the country. All of us are familiar with the fine work of CHKD, and many in our club have had first-hand experience with the hospital.

With your indulgence, I would like to nominate Children's Hospital again this year as the recipient of our annual holiday donations.

For newer members, we adopt a local charity each year, and anyone wanting to make a gift donation or a financial contribution is welcome to do so. We'll gather the donations at the Holiday Party, and get them delivered to the charity so they can be included in their holiday celebration. At the end of this issue of *The Dipstick*, you will find CHKD's gift-giving guidelines, as well as a wish list of potential donations.



CHKD WISHLIST



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.



BARKSDALE THEATER DRIVE OUT

By Michele Peters

A small group of us, including Donald and Michele, Terry and Sue, Andy and Cynthia and Tad and Karen, started out on a slightly rainy, cloudy Sunday from Lake Wright at 9:15, arriving at the Starbucks on Victory Blvd about 10:00. The bad weather didn't seem to faze some of us (who shall remain nameless, Donald) from some questionable driving practices (like running red lights). Colonial Parkway was beautiful, even under the gray skies, winding around the tree-lined, curving two lanes that follow the water in our LBCs. Old Stage Road was filled with homesteads and rolling hills, with very little traffic, and we passed soybean fields, as the road became New Kent Highway. Andy was able to keep up the pace, for a change, since he was driving his newly acquired A for the first time on a club activity.

By the time we reached Route 249W, a designated Virginia byway, about 11:00, it was spitting rain again. We passed roads with names like *Crooks Mill*, *Shooter Run*, and *Spirit Woods* which made me think that at some time in the past, these backwoods were full of folks doing things that might not have been exactly legal.

We arrived at the Rose & Crown in New Kent County at 11:15 (the original building having been built in 1810) and met Alan, Beckey, Robin and Olive for lunch. The chef and assistant chef came out to greet us before serving Mimosas, Bloody Marys and we lunched on delicious omelettes, French toast, eggs, sandwiches and salads. Cynthia was able to get some cornhole practice in before we said good-bye to Robin and Olive about 1:00 and started on the rest of our journey to the Barksdale Theater.

It began raining again just before we reached Hanover County. We passed an unusual house with pink shutters and pink porch furniture, and saw quite a few homes and properties for sale, stand-alone fireplaces from old homesteads, old walled-off cemeteries, \$4 hay bales for sale and other typical sights that you can see in the Virginia countryside, before arriving at the Hanover Tavern at 1:50.

The Hanover Tavern is part of the Hanover Courthouse Historic District and is listed on the Virginia and National Registers of Historic Places as a rare surviving example of county government sets once common in Virginia. IT is one of the

oldest taverns in the US, having opened in 1733. The present building dates back to 1791 and became the first dinner theater in the US in 1953.

The play we saw, *Becky's New Car*, was a comedy which portrayed an unexpected and inventive way to escape the midlife doldrums. I don't know if any of us would choose the path taken by Becky, but it was an entertaining production in two audience-interactive acts.

We headed for home about 4:15 in sprinkling rain, following Route 605; the Washington/Rochambeau Route passed old corn fields, old houses, blue-tick hounds in the yards, grazing horses, red-roofed barns and farm equipment left out in the field, awaiting the sun. On Old River Road, a one-lane road, we saw large trees down, remnants of our recent hurricane Irene, and as we continued down Old Church Road we passed yellow and white wildflowers blooming in large arrays. It was as if we had gone back in time, and entered a Virginia that no longer existed...except that it did! What a wonderful way to spend a Sunday!



CLASSICS ON THE JAMES SHOW (NEW KENT)

SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

by Eleanor (TC5624) as dictated to her human, Bob Stein

Although my human is always attentive, I knew something was up in September when he started paying unusual attention to my appearance. Scrapes, nicks and blemishes I have gathered over many years of rallies, racing and tours were all touched up. I got a very thorough cleaning, and my special 'Midge' radiator ornament came out of storage. We were going to the Classics on the Green import car show in New Kent, VA, some 80 miles distant, a show my older sister Wildflower has been trailered to the previous two years.

I have never been much for frills and fuss—my previous humans drove me everywhere, and my current human has thankfully continued that practice. So on Sunday, September 18th, despite a 30% chance of rain that turned into 100%, he, an equally large friend and I rolled up Interstate 64. I was able to keep them both relatively dry with my folding hood and wind wings, and we received many waves and smiles from the few cars that passed us. I may be old, but I am still rather spry, and we probably surprised more than a few Yank Tanks as we passed them in the rain.

The rain eased up as we got close, and stopped completely by the time we arrived at the New Kent Winery. We were guided to a lovely spot overlooking a rolling green landscape. I later discovered the area was used by humans to practice hitting small balls with metal clubs in hopes of losing them in holes in the ground. Our owners never cease to amaze me.

We had arrived a bit early, allowing me to visit for a short time with a sibling TC whose human was a member of the local club. He was quite friendly, but I have to admit a bit of relief when I saw a familiar gray 1962 MGA roadster from Tidewater MG Classics park close by with her humans, Andy Wallach and Cynthia Faschini. The poor dear had lost her dynamo belt on the trip up, but had bravely motored on and made the show regardless. Stiff upper lip, and all that. A spare belt was quickly located, and she was good to go in short order.

The field began to fill up quickly, with a total of more than 230 lovely vehicles from Mother England and the Continent. We were spread out quite a bit, but my hill-top vantage point allowed me to spot the other TMGC members and their humans as they arrived. An orange

MGB roadster carried Allen Hazlett, the cute little blue Midget brought its human couple Donald and Rose Ladd, a red MGB came with the human it has had since new, Doug Wilson, and a white MGB roadster brought its human Mike Haag.

There were other humans who looked familiar as well, though it appeared that their MGs were unwilling to be seen with them. Bob and Linda Pellerin arrived in a red Volvo P1800ES that at least vaguely resembled an MGB-GT, but Mike and Jennifer Ashe were spectators only.

By that time, we TCs had been joined on the hilltop by a sparkling red TD and a lovely blue TD, both of which had arrived by trailer. Given the 80-mile drive in the rain and an admitted *patina* that 15 years of use bestows, any thoughts of awards were put aside. I was content to provide entertainment for a parade of small humans who sat inside me and took great delight in pushing my horn button.

Towards the end of the day, my human and his friend were readying me for the trip home when a human connected with the event arrived to collect the Vintage MG class winner for the awards ceremony. To the surprise of both TDs and myself, he was there for me! Even better, the Midget had won first in its class, and the 1976 MGB received a special award for having its original owner, Doug Wilson (Quite a feat, actually. Humans require constant maintenance and parts are impossible to find.)

We motored happily home despite a return of rain, and I understand all of my TMGC friends made it home without incident. I have to admit much of my good cheer was prompted by the anticipation of showing my first place award to sister Wildflower. You see, despite the trailer last year, she came in second.



NAMGAR REGIONAL GT (GET-TOGETHER)

SEPTEMBER 28 — OCTOBER 2, 2011

by Jennifer Ash

About twenty-five cars—1 Magnette, 2 coupes and about 20 roadsters, representing 9 states—gathered at the Hilton Garden Inn at Solomon's, ready for a weekend of fresh air and fun. The first evening was spent meeting-'n-greeting at Vera's Beach Club on the Patuxent River, which had opened especially for our group of about 30 early arrivals—loads of food and beverages to start the weekend out right!

On Thursday morning, we caravanned to the Calvert County Maritime Museum to board a buy-boat for a tour around the marinas and points of interest on the Patuxent River. A buy-boat was used in the earlier days of commercial oyster-harvesting because the Skipjacks used for *tonging* and were strictly sailboats, were not permitted into the harbors, so buy-boats would go out into the Chesapeake Bay to take the catch to shore for market. These boats were 9-log hulled and were also used for hauling other materials up and down the Bay until the nineteen-fifties. Now they are being restored—some for recreational use and some to be kept in museums. After touring the museum we explored the town and found lunch. On Friday evening, there was a caravan run to Capt'n Billy's Crab House, way across St. Mary's County, on the Potomac River — which we didn't do. (been there, done that!) We ended up eating at the Hotel and getting 500 Hilton points to put on our frequent flyer account!

During spare time there was an on-going tech. session in the car-park; Mark Michalak who drove from Michigan in a coupe and towing a little trailer, had broken down outside the WHITE HOUSE (of all places!) and was immediately surrounded by Secret Service Agents. After they ascertained that he was on the up-and-up, he was able to get a flat-bed to take the car and trailer to Solomon's. After several different diagnoses, it was determined (as he thought—but nobody thought possible) that the differential had disintegrated. He got one overnight-shipped from home, and the car was up and running by Friday evening. Mark and Cindy got th *Hard-luck Award* needless to say.

On Friday, the group was led to historic Leonardtown, where we for lunch and shopping. Then, at the winery those folks who felt energetic enough went on a kayaking trip down some "Run" (I forget the name!), ending up in the Leonardtown Wharf (I say "in", because some

did). I think Mike and I paddled twice as far as the rest, because we didn't steer too well. We were taken back to the Winery—a local co-op of five vineyards—for tastings. Then we returned to get dried out (clothes, silly!) and ready to hit the bar and the restaurant, conveniently just over the parking lot of the hotel.

Overnight, the weather had turned decidedly colder (nice to have a coupe). After breakfast, we were led on a tour to the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum—very interesting—and then to St. George's Island at the junction of the River and the Chesapeake Bay, where we had more great seafood with great friends. There are several neat lighthouses around the area, some in use and some in museums, which we also toured. There was no car-show at this Regional, so we could spend the time touring the area and look at cars every day in the parking lot. Saturday night, as is ritual, we had a banquet—no raffle, auction or awards (b-o-o-oring!)—and partied both before and after.

Sunday morning, in even colder temperatures, everyone bundled up, said their farewells until the next time, and all agreed it had been another great weekend with old friends and new ones. Mike and I stayed another night, as some old MG friends live in that area—one-time members of our Tidewater MG Club some of you may remember over 30 years ago—Gene and Carolyn McHugh. We got together and caught up with each others' news; Gene had come to Norfolk with his TD in pieces, and carried it from place to place while on active duty and from home to home wherever he was working since, and it is STILL in boxes!! He promises to retire next year and get it back together—isn't that what they all say?



TORQUE WRENCH TIPS

by Steve LaPaugh

Torque wrenches are precision tools, so here's some information to help you take better care of them so they'll last a lifetime. This article will focus on click type torque wrenches; however, some of the information will also pertain to beam and dial indicating type wrenches as well.

Torque wrenches measure the tension placed on threaded fasteners during tightening. This measurement is important in that it indicates that the correct tension has been set between two mating surfaces. These bolted surfaces are often critical to the safe operation of your pride and joy, such as lug nuts and cylinder heads.

The importance of these torque settings and your vehicle is well understood; however, the care and feeding of the tools that provide this information are often overlooked. The following is a general guideline for the maintenance and handling of torque wrenches.



Many torque wrenches come from the manufacturer with a certificate of calibration. This certificate is to inform you that the wrench is reliable.

In some cases you can return the wrench to the manufacturer for calibration in the event of damage. You may also have the wrench recalibrated locally. More on that later.

Use

Pick a torque wrench that is appropriate for the task at hand. The torque value you want should be within 20 percent of the wrench's top and bottom scale. For example, to apply 50 lb-ft torque, a 20-250 lb-ft wrench would be better choice than a 50-150 lb-ft wrench. Also make sure the wrench is appropriate for the job. This is due to the upper and lower 20 percent of the wrench does not give reliable readings. Try to stay within this middle range if possible. If you have access to different types of torque wrenches, you could substitute inch pounds for foot pounds and visa versa, given the ranges are compatible simply multiply or divide by 12. If you were trying to torque your drain plug to 25lbft, you could also use a 150-1000 in-lb torque wrench set to 300 in-lb.

Torque values can be either dry or wet. Wet torque means the threads are lubricated. This is true for head bolt torque values. For example, look at A.R.P.s website. Fortunately, most manufactures list both dry and wet values. However, unless otherwise stated torque values are dry. For dry torque, insure the fastener is dry and free of debris. In the case of wet torque, lightly oil the fastener with the specified oil then apply torque.

Torquing

When applying torque, slowly and steadily turn the wrench to get an accurate torque. Stop when you get a click, or the pointer indicates your desired setting. Remember torque is normally applied to the nut, not the bolt. Never use cheater bars as this will result in an incorrect torque value, damage or even injury should the bar slip.

If you're not sure you've got a good reading, back off the nut with a standard wrench (Remember torque wrenches are only for torquing) and re-torque. Using the torque wrench for loosening can damage the wrench, thus effecting its calibration. Also, resist the temptation to use the torque wrench as a standard ratchet. Torque wrenches are designed to work under a load which doesn't normally happen when you first screw in your fastener.



Storage

Leaving your 125 lb-ft torque wrench set to the lug nut setting puts tension on the internal spring, and thus affects the accuracy of the wrench. You don't want to *wonder* whether or not your head bolts are really torqued to the correct value because you didn't take care of your wrench! Likewise, do not leave your wrench set on its minimum setting as this applies no tension to the spring, again throwing it out of calibration. Set your click-type torque wrenches to between 10 and 20 percent of their maximum value before storing. Your wrench should be stored in a temperature controlled environment. No excessive heat or moisture as this will lead to corrosion. Do not force the handle below the lowest setting.

Keep the wrench clean and dry. The wrench should not need oiling unless stated by the manufacturer. Make sure to store the wrench in the box so it doesn't rattle around with other tools and get inadvertently damaged.

Recalibration and the DIY approach

If you take good care of your torque wrench, there should be no need for recalibration. However, if it's dropped from a height of four feet or higher it's a good idea to have it calibrated. Sudden shocks can damage the wrench. Check your local listings for calibration services.

Jim Villers', approach to home calibration is to acquire a calibrated wrench and use a 17mm socket and 17mm Allen socket to connect the wrenches and then pull one against the other. Inside the bottom of the handle is an adjustment bolt. After adjusting one wrench, calibrate your other wrenches. Jim states that you can also use this method to check one wrench against another.

All torque wrenches have a 'sweet spot'. This normally means the upper and lower 10% of the wrench are not consistently reliable. For example if you need to torque a bolt to 200 in-lbs then a 150-1000 in-lb torque wrench is the best choice, not the 40-200 in-lbs where you would be using the wrenches highest setting.

Torque Wrench Attachments

When using a crow's foot or torque adapter or an extension to apply torque use the following methods to insure the correct torque is applied.





Virginia International Raceway, Alton, Virginia November 5, 2011

Please join us for an antique car show hosted by Virginia Old Dominion Meet Association and North Carolina Region at Virginia International Raceway for the Heacock Classic Gold Cup Historic Races & Antique Car Show. Registration will include entry to the Gold Cup Vintage race event, trackside parking, entry to the pits and optional parade laps around the race track. We hope to have an AACA Judging School. Trailer parking will also be available at the track.

Registration is \$5.00 per person in advance only. They cannot offer discounts the day of the event at the gate and I am not sure of the cost if you wish to pay at the gate. Children 15 and younger are admitted free. There will be plaques for the first 150 registrations. To register, please call 434-822-7700 ext. 117 and use the promo code GCAACA11 for the discount. The promo code will be active through October 15. I just called and made our reservations and it went smoothly. If you want them to mail the tickets to you, it is \$6.00. If you wait and pick them up at the gate, there is no extra charge.

Bring out your antique car and sit back and relax while watching Gold Cup drivers race their restored race cars. This will be a nonjudged "fun" antique car show where everyone is able to socialize with their friends without the stress of a judged event.

There will be food vendors at the track or you can bring a picnic lunch, but NO glass bottles are allowed at the track. Also, please remember to bring your folding chairs.

If you are also a member of another car club, please feel free to forward this information to other clubs and invite friends or members. The only requirement is that the car be 25 years or older.

The hotels that I can find on Hotels.com are as follows:

Danville

Super8 - \$49/night

Holiday Inn Express - Danville - \$85/night

Hampton Inn - Danville - \$104/night

South Boston:

Fairfield Inn & Suites - \$89/night

Super 8 - \$65/night

Holiday Inn Express - \$81/night

VIR is within about fifteen to twenty minutes of either South Boston or Danville.

Please plan to attend the first of what we hope will be an annual event at Virginia International Raceway. Additional information will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 757-482-2821 (home).

We look forward to seeing you on November 5.

Sandy Hall

Waynesboro Pictures

by Don Ladd & Susan Bond



The Dipstick



The Tidewater MG Classics

Mitzi LaPaugh, Co-Editor

809 Pine Tree Ct.

Newport News, VA 23608

FIRST CLASS

Affiliated with



Once on Tulip Dr.
(Rt turn after 7-11)
go to Grissom Way
(@ Fire Station) and turn Left,
continue on past the Police
Station, Library and into the
Jehovah's Witness Parking
Lot. You must park at the
farthest end and enter the
backyard through the fence gate,
"we'll leave a light on for you".

Monthly Meeting

Wed., November 2nd
Steve & Mitzi LaPaugh
345 Green Meadows Dr.

Newport News
593-5927

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

