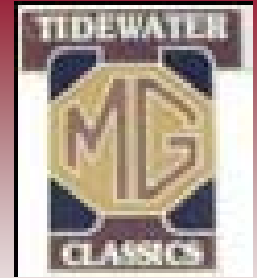


The Dipstick



DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE MARQUE SINCE 1973 www.mg.org

MARQUE TIME

Volume XXIX, Issue 10

Inside this issue:

Greetings, MG enthusiasts!

Thank you to Betty and Jim Villers for hosting the September meeting of TMGC. It is always a pleasure to visit the Viller hacienda. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend. My heart was with you; however, my other body parts and MG were far away. I have been told that our Vice President, Russ Rip, ran the meeting like a fine-tuned MG. With election time approaching, there might be a new hat waiting for you Russ!

As I leave the house through the garage on these beautiful soon-to-be Fall days, the MG seems to be asking to go for a drive. I have made a solid commitment to get out and drive as much as possible before the cold weather sets in. I hope to see you on the roadways.

The first lady and I will be hosting the October meeting and look forward to seeing many of you then.

THE DIPSTICK HAS A NEW CO-EDITOR

It's a pleasure to serve as your new Co-editor for our award-winning newsletter, *The Dipstick*! Though I'm new to the position, I'm not-so new to TMGC, and I am fairly savvy with MS Publisher. That said... it should be a relatively smooth transition.

As always, your invaluable submissions are due to Anita Edwards by the 12th of every month. If you need to send me pictures, art or articles, please use ilovemgas@gmail.com. Thanks, everyone! I look forward to seeing you all at the Olcheski residence. Don't forget to bring money to participate in our club raffle. \$1/ticket or 6 for \$5!

- Mitzi LaPaugh

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SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

by Michele Peters

We began our September meeting at 8:10 pm at Jim and Betty Villers' home on the water in Virginia Beach, directed by none other than our famously verbose (kidding!) El-Vice Presidente, Russ Ripp, because our Presidente was nowhere to be found (maybe Russ knew where he was but he didn't clue ME in on the mystery!) Not surprisingly, El Vice-Presidente didn't use a lot of words to get us through the meeting, but I must say he did a good job of it, so here's to you, El Presidente-in-training!

As always, Jim (but Jim reports, mostly Betty) did a wonderful job creating a fun, relaxed and scrumptious atmosphere out on the back deck and inside the house for our mob of members who made the meeting (wow...that was an awesome alliteration of sorts...*mob of members who made the meeting...* Your secretary is just so talented, and I'm *sure* all my gentle readers would say the same thing, so just saying out loud what is generally acknowledged ...)

New Members and Guests: We had one guest: John Fobian, who *used* to have an MG—actually his very first car (now *that* was a while ago, eh, John?...jk...yeah, I know Bill, I shouldn't scare 'em off before they actually join and pay dues....)

Vice-President: Since our El Vice-Presidente was working as El Toppo Doggo tonight, he had “nada” to add in his official capac-

ity as El Vice-Pres. And I must say, that even with the potential for TWO bully pulpits from which to speak, he STILL was rather taciturn. But you know what they say: You gotta love the one you're with, so we got him and we're gonna love him, just the way he is!

Treasurer: Jim Villers, Treasurer extraordinaire, is now taking after our History Mistress Susan (uhm... gosh... that kind of sounds, well, naughty!) and relayed that “We continue to *have money*.” See, though, Jim's statement is more immediately meaningful than Susan's “*We have history*,” since whether we have money or not, is probably more related to whether “*we have fun*” than simply having history (seeing as we are all party animals), so thanks for the comforting words, Jim!!

Activities: Tad ...I think I have laid every accolade possible at this man's feet, so what else can I continue to say here? Just that he continues to do an admirable, amazing, astonishing, astounding, awe-inspiring, awesome, brilliant, cool, divine, dynamite, enjoyable, excellent, fabulous, fantastic, fine, groovy, incredible, magnificent, marvelous, miraculous, outstanding, peachy, phenomenal, pleasant, pleasing, prime, remarkable, sensational, something else, staggering, startling, stupendous, super, superb, surprising, swell, terrific, too much, tremendous, unheard-of, and wondrous job as Activities Director... get the picture? And if you *really* want to understand how great he is,

join us for some of our activities, then, you will be left speechless with delight! See his Activities section in another part of this newsletter for details of our planned group drives and outings - you will be awe-inspired!

Clubs: Mike and Jennifer joined us (oh happy day!) but unfortunately I hardly heard a thing either one of them said, so sorry my dear readers, but you understand your secretary's limitations (I *meant* regarding hearing!) I think I did pick up something about slots being open for the MGB Regional NAMGAR...check out the website.

History: Susan brought two albums to peruse, and they were fantastic. What a wonderful job Sue has continued to do for our club for *all* these years (well, OK, maybe not *that* many years...I was not suggesting that she was *old* or anything – just that she has worked tirelessly from time immemorial to do all kinds of things for the club...oh wait, I didn't mean immemorial, exactly, because of course, she hasn't been around *that* long since she isn't that *old*...I just meant she's helped out with so many aspects of the club forever, I mean long-standing, ah, I mean of yore, olden, prehistoric (no NOT prehistoric), primeval (oh gosh, not *that* either), rooted, time-honored, traditional... oh heck...she's done a lot of work for A WHILE now!) Thanks, Sue!!



SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES... CONT'D

Newsletter: Mitzi is brand-spankin' new in the middle of producing this little missive for us and has stepped in seamlessly to replace Ron in that capacity; Anita continues as co-editor but is also seeking replacement. So Mitzi now reminds us about the submissions deadline, which is, as always, the 12th of the month. She also asks us to keep those submissions coming. Of course, all this information was relayed telepathically between her and me (I keep telling you all your secretary has talents you know not of) because she was not at the meeting (come now—isn't that way more interesting than telling you that Steve took her place on meeting night...true, but boring...telepathy is oh so much more fantastical, and makes for a *much* better read, IMHO = in my humble opinion (there I go again, always trying to do my readers right by providing instruction wherever I can)).

Membership: Bill reported that we have received 111 *paid* renewals (a total of 203 individuals) including... drum roll, please!...your very own secretary! Yeah! Whoopee! We now have a total of 170 cars in the club. Bill passed around a draft of the 2012 TMGC Directory for final review by the membership, but it somehow failed to make its way to your secretary...humph! How can I possibly report on the quality of the draft if I never even saw it? Oh well, reporting on things I don't know anything about never stopped me...the draft is GREAT! I hear that there are just a few of you who *might* want to re-check those photos

Bill is using...just sayin'!

Technical: Mark—were you with us, Mark? There were so many people milling about, I can't remember if I heard you or saw your face...I think I did, but it could have been just a dream...needless to say I have *no idea* what you said or even *if* you were actually at the meeting...(ok, ok, I know I might have sort of pushed the outside of the envelope this time in the *mea culpa* department, but I'm just so adorable nobody wants to FIRE me or anything do they? Whimper....)

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Marque Time: Chuck Hassler will have a 5 x 8 roofless utility trailer available after September as he and Becky head out for...sniff, sniff....Colorado Springs. They are planning to close on their Yorktown house on Sept 26 (*party there on the 27th!*). I must now take this opportunity to make a few comments (because I have the bully pulpit and I can) on C & B: See if you can figure out which adjectives belong to which person: Irreverent (?), Sweet (?), Annoying (?), Helpful (?), Smart-Aleck (?), Great apple pies (?), Cheeky (?), Dedicated (?), Crusty (?), Pleasant (?), Insolent (?), Cheerful (?), Sassy (?), Polite (?), Impertinent (?), Respectful (?), Tongue-in-Cheek (?), Plain-Spoken (?), Flip (?), Sincere (?), Cocky (?), Nice (?), Stand-around-drinking-beer (?), work hard to put together

Raffle and Regalia (?) Did you figure out the pattern here? No, actually I was kidding about Chuck (well, except, of course, with relation to me!). No really, they have both been so fantastically great and so helpful to everyone in the club, a real JOY to have counted as friends to all of us...you guys have NO IDEA how much we will miss you both (yes, Chuck, I did say 'both'!) You are super-great people and we are all the better for having known you and had the pleasure of your time and friendship. We will miss your humor and helpfulness so much. Please take care on your trip to your new home, and let us know how you are doing just this side of the Great Divide. And don't forget the friends you are leaving behind (especially, don't forget me...they DO have skiing in Colorado Springs, right?)

Susan also wanted us to know how to install a heat shield (that they got from Moss Motors in Petersburg): Do not follow the directions and take the brackets off the transmission and the transmission supports — oh NO!—MGers *always* have a better way! Just loosen the bolts...uh, I'm not sure *which* bolts you are supposed to "just loosen," but you'll probably figure it out on your own...And the heat shield DID make a big difference in driving comfort (of course, it *would* to folks who didn't know any better than to own a GT—see, the roadsters have it in oh, so *many* ways over the GTs (uh oh...I think I may have just created the start of a roadster-GT war...)).

...Cont'd on Pg 4



SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES... CONT'D

Sue also took 10 laps around the Bristol track!! Whoop! She had to stay behind a sluggish TR 6 that was hitting the brakes at every corner, but besides that, had a great time racing. Daytona, here she comes!

And speaking of track time, she reports that the Gold Cup Races give you time to actually go fast since the Pace car will sometimes leave the track...all you wanna-be's...take note.

Andy W. wanted to acknowledge the help he received from Frank Linse on his "A," which had a bad starter just like his "D". He noted that he wants to use this vehicle as a driver, now that he's older and prefers durability to looks...wait a minute, someone just suggested he wasn't talking about the "A," but I *know* he wasn't referring to Cynthia! And just as someone else was noting that it was a good thing his wife didn't attend the MG Club meetings with him, we all seemed to notice Cynthia with a smile (or was that a smirk?) on her face...[There you go, buddy, pay-back for the absurd reporting you did on the Tides game outing and remarks that I could eat more than anyone else in the club...Remember, dear readers, it does not go well for you when you publically diss your secretary...]

Check out the website "Auto Tops Direct" – you may be able to purchase a new top for your vehicle for a big discount over what you would pay from Moss Motors (does paying \$400 instead of \$625 sound good to you?). Membership reports good quality merchandise from this supplier.

Raffle and Regalia: Regalia Queen Steve ran the raffle for the night and I'm not sure but I think there was some hanky-panky going on, since he was having multiple people read the same tickets and who knows what numbers were *supposed* to be read?...let's just say we will be glad to have Mitzi back as manager of the Raffle...

We adjourned at 8:52, happy to dive into Betty's delicious-looking evening fare, but at the same time bitter-sweet, knowing that this might be the last time we see

Chuck and Becky. I will close my Minutes by paraphrasing from Chuck's farewell remarks. After noting that he and Becky would miss all of us and the opportunities for friendship and camaraderie that they had come to look forward to so much, centered around such fun and challenging little cars, Chuck recalled something that our dear friend Vince had said to him once, long ago: This club is not about the cars—it's about the people. No finer, or truer, words were ever spoke. God speed, Chuck and Becky!

HE SAID, SHE SAID: TOP 10 CHICK MAGNET COLLECTOR CARS

By: Jeff Sabatini,
as read in Haggerty Insurance News, August 29, 2011



#3

1955-1962 MGA

He said: A tweed cap, string back leather driving gloves and an MGA form an irresistible trio for motor-ing. Never mind the eccentricities of MG's first post-war design, like the absence of external door handles and it's not-quite-watertight cabin, as they just contribute to the experience. While it's BMC-B-Series four-cylinder engine displaces only 1489cc (in later series cars, it was expanded to 1588cc and 1622cc), the MGA offers superior handling that outreaches its powerplant. Few other cars offer such a feeling of being connected to the road than an MGA.

She said: Is that Sherlock Holmes hat supposed to protect you from the rain? Because it doesn't look like those flimsy side curtains thingies will.



MEMBERSHIP

by Bill Yoshida

Memberships: As of 12 September, 111 memberships have renewed or have promised to renew memberships for 2012. There are currently 203 individual members in the club.

Of the 130 memberships in June 2011, 17 previous members have indicated they did not desire to renew and 2 members failed to respond at all to multiple e-mails and phone calls.

New Memberships:

Christine and Soenke Marahrens of Virginia Beach joined during publication. They own a 1978 MGB. Welcome Christine and Soenke!

Dues: On 28 August I sent \$80.00 in cash and \$260 in checks to Jim Villers via the "Ex-El Presidente Courier Service" (Thanks-Mark Davidoski). An additional \$80 in checks was turned over to Jim Villers at the September meeting (\$40 of which were collected that evening). I am expecting an additional \$60 in dues from the 3 remaining members that have *promised* to renew.

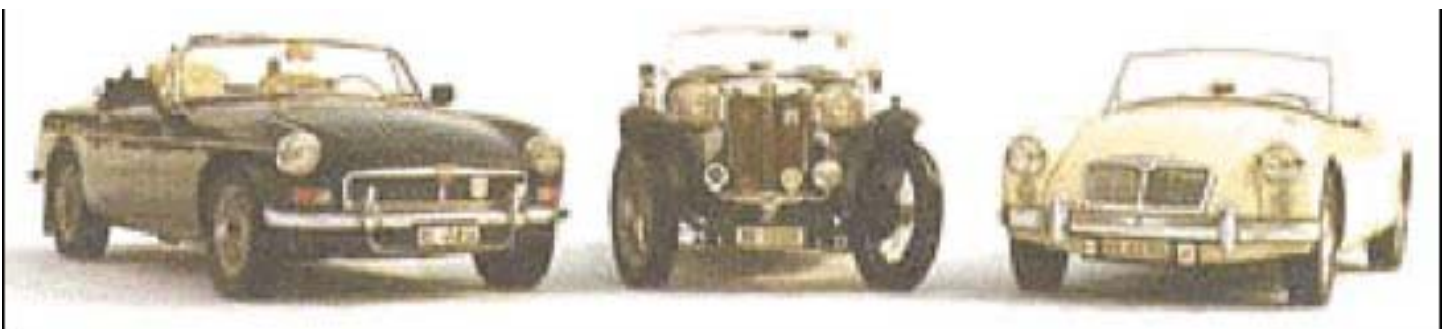
TMGC Annual Directory: A proof copy of the 2012 TMGC Directory was made available for review by members in attendance at the September meeting. Revisions will be made and the copy will be returned to the printer for final printing. It is hoped that the 2012 Directory will be ready for distribution to the general membership by the October meeting.

Cars: Total cars - 170

MGA	A-Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
19	2	78	15	2	2	6	22	5	13

Cars & Types: 170 of the following types of MGs:

Other/Various MGs - 6 (1-Cooper MG/ 1-MGNA/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB)





ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

2011

Apr. - Oct. Saturday Night Classic Car Cruise-In
Virginia Beach Farmer's Market
5:00pm to 9:00pm

Oct. 4 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Bill & Renee Olcheski

Oct. 15 Rescheduled from 8/28/11
Wings & Wheels – Pungo, VA
Hosted by Tidewater AACA
Check out *Wildflower*, the show cover-girl.
local.aaca.org/tidewater

Oct. 29 – Nov. 6 – Motoring Festival Week – Hilton
Head Island, SC
www.HHICconcours.com

**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 – Hold the Date
Details due shortly

Dec. 15 Thursday - Holiday Lights – Norfolk Botanical Gardens

2012

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

Apr. 15- Magical Mystery Tour
Celebrating 45 years since the release of
this Beatles' album
Mystery Event – details to be discovered.

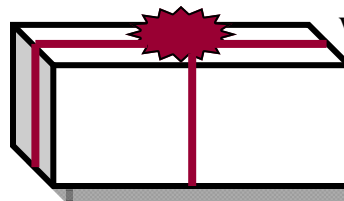
May 26 – June 3 British Car Week

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

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

BOLD items are TMGC events

A NOTE FROM YOUR REGALIA QUEEN...



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 October and November meetings for your holiday gift needs.



ACTIVITIES REPORT

First of all, a quick reminder for those of you who read The Dipstick upon receipt. You should already be packed and ready to head out toward Waynesboro for the Shenandoah Valley British Car Festival. Have a safe trip, and enjoy some great roads. In recent years, that show has offered beautiful fall days, crisp nights, and occasional rain. But most of all, past attendees have had a lot of fun. For those who remain in Tidewater, you can look forward to pictures and stories from out in the Valley.

Our October meeting comes up just a few days later. We'll be back at the Beach with the Olcheski's on **Tuesday the 4th**. With the cooler nights of fall upon us, porch seating for the meeting will be at a premium. Pick out your chair early for prime meeting viewing.

Remember to check out the Wings and Wheels at the Pungo Airfield – rescheduled for **October 15th** after losing the original date to our friend, Irene. This AACA event should have over 250 cars, plus many antique airplanes to view. If you are just going to see the show (not exhibit), look for the club parking area. We'll try to stake out a spot where we can all get together.

On **November 2**, our meeting site will once again be at the LaPaugh's in Newport News. You have a month to polish up your best dish to enter in the Chili Cook-off. 2010 Top Chef Pete Olsen has a new spin on his Tail Pipe Back Fire Chili, so

the rest of you will have to bring your "A" game if you hope to take home the title for 2011. Steve and Mitzi will provide an assortment of beverages and other dishes, but Chili is the order of the day.

There is a lot of buzz going around about the other AACA event on the calendar. The weekend of **November 4-6** is the Heacock Classic Gold Cup Historic Races and Car Show out at VIR out between South Boston and Danville. 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.

Our holiday season is starting to take shape. I's and T's have been neither dotted nor crossed, but you can pencil a couple of dates on your calendars. We are holding the evening of **Saturday, December 10th** for the holiday party. As this is being written, details are being ironed out. By the time you read this, more will definitely be known, and further information will be sent.

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. 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. Additional details will be forthcoming.

That pretty much wraps up 2011, but I know there are some of you who can't wait for the 2012 schedule. Check out the calendar for a few hints of things to come.

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 a few days ago, and either they are already sold out or they are holding rooms in reserve.

And that, my friends, is all I have for this month. Mitzi was good enough to hold open some space while I got this far into the holiday plans. More to follow...

NOTE:
**THE 2ND ANNUAL
 CHILI COOK-OFF
 WILL BE HELD @
 THE HOME OF STEVE
 LAPAUGH'S
 PARENTS. HOPE
 YOU'VE BEEN
 GEARING UP FOR
 THIS EVENT! IF YOU
 LEAVE HUNGRY, IT'S
 YOUR OWN FAULT!**



BROKEN SPRING ON IGNITION SWITCH... DANG

By Roy Gavilan

I just experienced some very serious problems on my 65B due to a broken return spring on the ignition switch. I was driving home and heard a strange noise. I stopped because I thought a stick was dragging underneath the car. I checked and continued on my trip home and heard the noise again. I was close so I went home. I smelled electrical burning and thought the generator had finally given out. I tried to start the car and all I heard was a wiz, wiz and the engine did not turn over. I removed the starter and found that all the teeth on the starter gear and on the flywheel ring gear were ground down to a nub. Apparently the ignition switch had stayed in the start position and continued to run while I was driving.....I was bummed out. The guys in the Williamsburg British Car club helped me pull the engine and get everything back together. I appreciate all of their help and encouragement. I had to replace the ring gear on the flywheel and buy a new starter. I also bought a new clutch kit and ignition switch. All I had to do was look at the key and return it to the run position and I would have avoided all these problems and expenses.....SHOULD HAVE!!!!

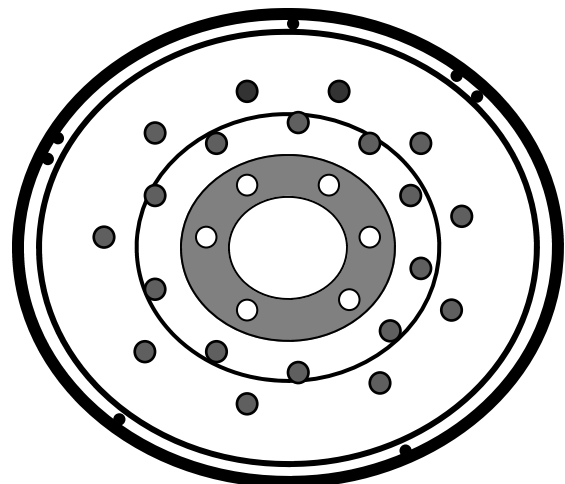
I got everything back together and was filling the radiator and it started leaking. I have never had a leak but upon checking I had to buy a new radiator. I then installed my new ignition switch and wasted about four hours trying to get it to work. My old switch was a three position switch and the Moss replacement switch is a four position switch (old switch is NA in catalog). I called Moss and found out that +12V is connected to switch position #1 not #3 per all MGB wiring diagrams. I also discovered that the solenoid red and white lead connects to switch position #4 not to #1 per the MGB wiring diagram. I then installed my new hi-torque starter from Brit-tek and I got it in but it fit very tightly against the body of the car. When I got everything finished and started the car it was shaking a whole lot. The starter was transferring the engine vibrations to the car body. Now I have ordered a new Moss Hi-Torque starter and sent the Brit-tek starter back for a refund. Brit-tek said that no one has ever sent one back for this reason...go figure. The Moss starter is about 1/4" smaller from the mounting hole to the edge of the starter. I am awaiting the new starter and hope everything works OK.....WHEW.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A NEW MOVIE...

By Mitzi LaPaugh

Consider picking up a copy of *Flywheel* @ your local Food Lion, in the bargain DVD bin for \$9.99. *Flywheel* was the first film made by the now famous Sherwood Baptist Church or Sherwood Pictures, makers of *Facing the Giants* and *Fireproof*. The main character is a shady used-car salesman, who buys a Triumph with an engine in need of a new flywheel. As it turns out, he figures out his heart needs a new flywheel of its own, and thus the story unfolds.

It's hard to find quality entertainment these days; and while the cast and crew are quite obviously not made of seasoned professionals (it was their first film on a \$20,000 budget!), it's a family-friendly movie that doesn't need the use of colorful metaphors to entertain.



SPRINGS ARE HERE

(or 'We Don't Need No Stinkin' New Springs', By Don Gatheman

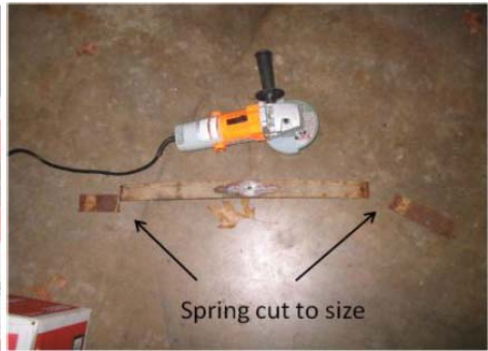
Well, a few years ago, like about seven, John Mangles replaced the clutch on my 1970 Midget. When I picked it up from his shop, he mentioned I had a broken leaf in one of my rear springs. I figured I'd get around to it sometime- this December I finally did!

So, I had several possible plans of attack. The first was to just buy new springs, but I keep reading about the poor fit of after market leaf springs for Midgets and Bs; usually resulting in the rear end of the car sitting up way too high. I thought a pair of originals might be better, and as luck would have it, three years ago I purchased a parts car and kept the springs from it. I figured I'd replace the pair to keep them as a matched set. When I finally got around to pulling them from the garage shelf, I noticed one of the springs had a broken leaf- the exact leaf that was broken on my car! A new plan formed in my brain...



I took the broken replacement spring to my workbench. I thought I'd see how hard it would be to take the leaves apart- it was actually very easy! After soaking the middle bolt holding the leaves together in WD-40 and oil, the bolt came out, and so did the leaves. The next problem was what to do for the needed replacement leaf. I had two options: take apart the "good" spare spring and use the appropriate leaf, or use a longer leaf and cut it down. Curiosity made me choose the second option.

The next decision of course was getting it on the car. Since the spare came apart easily, I figured the one on the car would too. In this case, it was actually true- I jacked up the car, took off the wheel, disconnected the shock, and things came apart easily. I took out the affected leaf, cut the donor leaf to size, and put everything back. The biggest problem was to ensure lining up the bolts and putting the leaf brackets back on. Rather than describe in detail, I'll let the pictures do the rest.





NEW KENT SHOW PHOTOS

by Don Ladd



**SMOKIN'
HOT!**



**"OH, WELL, A TOUCH OF GREY KINDA
SUITS ME ANYWAY..." - Grateful Dead**



**DOES THIS REMIND ANYONE ELSE
OF A GATORADE COOLER?**





TWO MILLENNIA TOUR PHOTOS

by Don Ladd

**ROANOKE RIVER LIGHTHOUSE
PLYMOUTH, NC**



WINE TASTING



HISTORICAL HOUSE



TEAMWORK!

The Dipstick



The Tidewater MG Classics

Mitzi LaPaugh, Co-Editor

809 Pine Tree Ct.

Newport News, VA 23608

FIRST CLASS

Affiliated with



MG

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, Oct 4th
Bill & Renee Olchieski
1409 Edgartown Court
Virginia Beach
467-4046

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

1-264
1-64

Kempsville/Witchduck Roads
Indian River Rd
Fertell Pkwy
Princess Anne Rd
Blvd
Independence
So Plaza
Holladay Rd
Lynnhaven Pkwy
Salem Rd
Light Rd

Turn onto Roundhill at traffic light.
Right at 3rd street (Clemsford).
Right at 2nd street (Edgartown Ct).

Edgartown Ct
Lynnhaven Pkwy
Roundhill Dr
Clemsford Dr