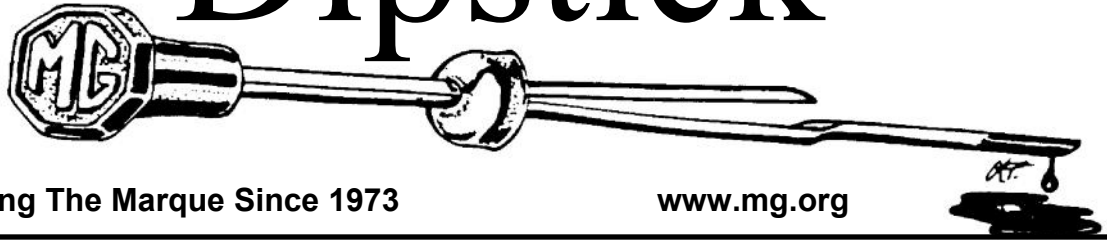




The Dipstick

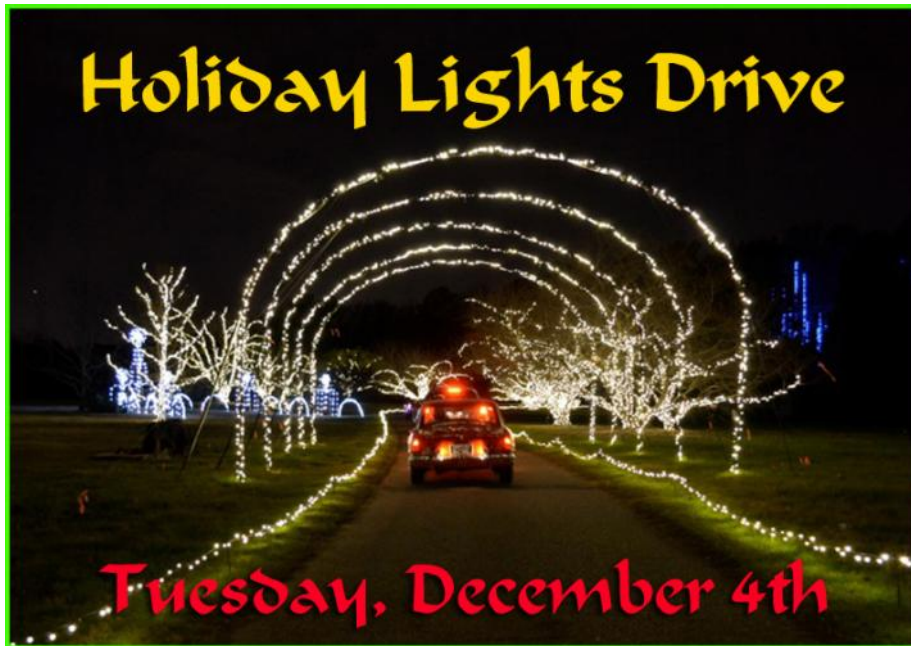


Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 39, Issue 12

December 2012



Holiday Lights Drive

Tuesday, December 4th

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

This Month in the TMGC

By Tad Carter

As we reach this last Dipstick issue of 2012, there are only a few events to promote.

On **Tuesday, December 4th**, we will head out for our annual **Holiday Lights Drive** through the Norfolk Botanical Garden. This is the 18th year for the light display, and possibly the best ever with over a million lights spread over the 2 mile road.

We have 6:30 dinner reservations for 25 at Franco's Italian Restaurant for those interested in a little pre-gaming. Come for dinner

or show up for the drive. Be ready to roll at 7:45.

On **Saturday, December 8th**, Eric Fee and Cindy Lee Hall will host our **Holiday Party** at their home in Norfolk. As always, this is a potluck affair. If you have a favorite dish, bring it along.

Whether we have a dozen variations on Swedish Meatballs, or eight kinds of brownies, it will be a wonderful evening with friends. The festivities begin at 6:30 with a hors d'oeuvres and perhaps a beverage or two.

Continued on Page 3

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Check www.mg.org for the latest info!
(TMGC Activities are in **bold**)

2012

- Dec. 4 Tuesday - Holiday Lights Drive**
– Pre-gaming at Franco's Italian Ristorante at 6:30
Depart for Norfolk Botanical Gardens at 8:00
- Dec. 8 Saturday - Holiday Party** –
Norfolk, VA. Hosted by Eric Fee and Cindy Lee Hall.

2013

- Jan. 9 Wednesday – Club Meeting –**
6:30 Dinner – 8:00 Meeting
Frankie's Place for Ribs
5200 Fairfield Shopping Centre, VB
- Feb. 5 – Tuesday – Club Meeting - TBD**
- Feb. 16 – Saturday – Valentine's Day Drive - Norfolk**
DRS Fantom Works tour,
followed by lunch and Wine Tasting at Mermaid Winery
- Mar. 6 – Wednesday – Club Meeting – TBD**
- Mar. 30 - Saturday – Spring Drive (tentative date)**

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November TMGC Membership Report

By Bill Yashida

2013 Memberships: As of 24 November, we have 103 paid memberships and 7 “promises” to renew for 2013. Combined, there will now be 110 memberships with 202 individuals in the club. I’ve periodically sent reminder e-mails to the remaining list of “Promise to Renew” members.

New Memberships:

Roy & Janice Gavilan (Roy decided to rejoin the club for the 2nd half of the year)
Williamsburg, VA 23185
1965 MGB and 1974 MGB

Cars: Total cars – 170

Cars & Types: 165 of the following types of MGs:
MGA: 21, A- Coupe: 2, MGB: 77, MGB-GT: 14, MGC: 2, MGC-GT: 2, MG TC: 9, MG TD: 23 MG TF: 5, Midget: 10, Other/Various MGs: 5 (1-Cooper MG// 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB).

Dues: I turned over \$20 in dues to Jim Villers on 6 November. I also turned over an envelope with \$33.00 in Regalia money. I currently hold \$60 in dues checks for turnover to Jim.

2013 Annual Directory: Copies of the 2013 TMGC Annual Directory were provided to members in attendance at the November meeting. Jim Villers mailed the remaining directories to members that were not able to attend the meeting.



Happy Holidays
From Bob,
Wildflower,
Eleanor, and
Rodney!



FROM THE PREZ

Marque Time

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Tidewater MG Classics members! As I write this the holidays are fast approaching; we have the Holiday Lights ride on the 4th and the Christmas Party on the 8th. Then, alas, we have no excuses to drive our cars until the January meeting.

I hope to see all of you at Franco's and then at the Botanical Gardens, it's always a highlight of the season for me, something about driving through the lights with the top down is simply beautiful. Then we are off to Ocean View for the Christmas party—I can't wait.

As I sit and reflect on 2012, I think we had a drive or two scheduled just about every month. And if we didn't, then there was some other event like Wings and Wheels in Pungo, the Waynesboro show, New Kent Classics... the list goes on and on, wow.

Between what Tad puts together, and all the other events in the area, there is never a shortage of excuses to drive our MG's, or just meet up and talk about or look at MG's and other Marques.

If you look elsewhere in the Dipstick you will see 2013 is shaping up to be as good as or better than 2012, at least as far as opportunities to drive our MG's.

Twenty thirteen also marks the 40th Anniversary of TMGC— let's make it memorable.

As always,

Safety Fast

Russ Ripp
President

December Activities

(Continued from page 1)

Dinner, dessert, stories and awards will follow. I do hope you will be able to join us.

As is our custom, we have adopted a charity during the holiday season. This year, we have selected The Dwelling Place in Norfolk. Their mission is to provide a safe and secure emergency shelter for families in crisis and to assist them in achieving self-sufficiency.

Denise Haag recommended The Dwelling Place as our 2012 charity and Mark Childers offered his endorsement of the organization at the October meeting. They are a worthy charity and offer a much-needed service in our community.

If you are interested in making a contribution, their Wish List is included below. You may bring your contribution (or cash) to our Holiday Party. I will make arrangements for delivery later in the week.

I'll dispense with any further event announcements, but will take whatever additional space our dear Dipstick Editor allows to extend my thanks.

First, to our meeting hosts who have opened their homes to the club throughout the year – thank you for adding to the character of the club. While we enjoy an occasional foray to a public venue, sharing your homes makes each meeting special. Your hospitality is greatly appreciated.

Next, to the hosts of our Tech Sessions – thanks to you, we have completed another year on the roads with only minor disruption to the travel schedule. The projects we complete under your watchful eye and with your tools and resources keep us all rolling.

And finally, to all of you who have joined in a meeting, a Tech Session, or any of the drives we have had



throughout the year – thank you. It is all of you who make this special.

Thanks for giving me an excuse to get out and drive!

I look forward to seeing you as we kick off 2013 on **January 9th at Frankie's Place for Ribs in Virginia Beach.**

Happy holidays to all!

Tad Carter

Wish List for the Dwelling Place Ecumenical Family Shelter

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Baby Diapers- Size 3,4 and 5 | 16. Laminate Wood Floor Cleaner |
| 2. Child Pull-ups- Size 5 | 17. Glass/Window Cleaner |
| 3. Letter-Sized Printer/ Copy Paper | 18. All-Purpose Cleaner |
| 4. Medical Chart Folder | 19. Basin/Tub/Tile Bathroom Cleaner |
| 5. Dish-Washing Soap | 20. Several Sponges |
| 6. Hand Soap | 21. Dusting Solution and Dusters |
| 7. Bathroom Tissue | 22. Laundry Detergent |
| 8. Paper towels | 23. Dryer Sheets |
| 9. Facial Tissue | 24. Toilet Bowl Cleaner |
| 10. Disposable Rubber Gloves | 25. Several Toilet Scrub Brushes |
| 11. Cleaning Wipes | 26. Mini-Blinds for Windows |
| 12. Two (2) Mops with changeable heads- one for each shelter | 27. Curtains for Windows |
| 13. Two (2) Brooms with dust pans- one for each shelter | 28. Shower Curtains |
| 14. Light Bulbs | 29. Hand Sanitizer |
| 15. Tile Floor Cleaner | |

TMGC November Meeting Minutes

Submitted by TMGC Idiot—Um, Acting Secretary Robert Perrone (Photos by Sue Bond and Bob Stein)



I've learned a few things in life. Some lessons were grasped early in life, but I find that I still have a lot to learn. For example, I recently learned that you should not mention that you have a pen at a TMGC monthly club meeting when no one else offers to take the minutes.

My apology to Bob Stein for getting this in late. I have a habit of putting things off, but the good thing about procrastination is that you always have something planned for tomorrow. (You may have to read that twice; I know that I did, and I wrote it)



This is my first time doing this, so please forgive any errors or omissions. I also hope that any typos that I make are corrected before this goes in the Dipstick. Even correct punctuation is important. For example, there is quite a difference between writing "Let's eat, Grandpa!" and "Let's eat Grandpa!" Just sayin'...

Now we return to our regularly scheduled programming...

Our November meeting was hosted by Steve and Mitzi LaPaugh (in the home of gracious parents) and featured

another round of the chili cook-off. I don't have the results of the contest, but I can personally attest that all of the entries (yes, I tried them all) were first-rate.

Thanks to all of the cooks (or some of you may prefer the term Chef, but that doesn't seem to fit with chili) and also thanks again to our hosts Steve and Mitzi. It was a perfect crisp, cool fall night for chili, and I hope that was not a problem if anyone on the drive back to the Southside had to roll down the windows due to any unfortunate side-effects of too much chili. And once again I digress...

The meeting was called to order (or as much as can be expected from us) by our President, Russ Ripp. Despite the fact that Russ did his usual fine job of leading us through our meeting, my report may not reflect that at all. And if you think this is confusing, just think of what it would have been like if I had a couple of beers before I started taking notes.



Future member Adam Sassi, owner of a 1972 MGB. Adam was one of only two people who drove an MG to the meeting!

New Members and Guests: This month we had at least 2 people visiting that were brave enough to tell us their names. If I have this down right (I give the odds at 50-50) they were Bonnie Fischer (guest of Pete Olson) and Adam Sassi, owner of a 1972 MGB. That's all I know about these people. I hope that we didn't scare them away.

Vice-President's Report: Steve had nothing, not even the famed "Olcheski shrug" for us. He may use his hosting duties as an excuse, but we all suspect that Mitzi put that night together for us all. We expect great things from you in January, Steve.

Treasurer: Jim Villers gave his usual report. We have money, but I have been sworn to secrecy. All that I can tell you is that the total had some numbers in it like 7, 6, 2, 1, 8, and others. It's up to you to guess the sequence.

Activities: Tad has so many great events planned that he needs his own article in each Dipstick. So please read it (after you finish this drivel, in case I say anything that you want to



know, which is doubtful). Since I was asked to write this (which many surely regret by now),

I'll take this opportunity to repeat what I said to some after our Magical Mystery Tour drive. I was able to give Tad a bit of help with planning that drive, but he did all of the heavy lifting. It takes much more time and effort to organize these drives like than most may realize, and I now have a much greater appreciation for what Tad does for us.

I think we can all agree that we're fortunate to have him as our Activities Director.

History: Susan performed double duty; she supplied both the history album and my secretary's desk. OK, they were the same thing, but it was amazing how quickly she gave that to me when I protested that I couldn't take the minutes because I had nothing to write on.



Membership: Bill Yoshida said we had 100 paid memberships and some new members, although I have no idea who they really are. They claim to be Mike & Gina Christian, but we should do a background check before we teach them the secret handshake. Bill also gave out the Annual Club Directory to members that were present. Otherwise you must pick yours up in person at his house, but only if you know the handshake. OK fine, he'll mail them to you.

Newsletter: Bob Stein said we'd have an earlier deadline than usual. I even wrote it down, but if you were

paying attention earlier you will know that I heeded that in much the same way that drivers around here observe red lights. Bob also mentioned that he needed writers for upcoming events, and I believe that Mark Davidoski, Jim Villers and Alan Watson volunteered.

Technical / Marque Time / New and Old Business:

This was where things really started to unravel. It may be because I felt compelled to join in and warn my fellow club members of the perils of water condensation in your fuel, and with that report of my own break down, my notes broke down.



Mark Davidoski told everyone about a Pierce-Arrow Christmas tree ornament, but you should call Mark to find out the details. Bob Stein said that there was an MG YT for sale, which I believe he described as "like a 4-seater TD", but that may just be just a bunch of gibberish from me. Once again, call Bob.

Russ has a trunk issue. I assume that he was referring to the boot (in proper parlance), although he may have recently purchased an elephant. Who knows, I obviously wasn't listening carefully enough.

Regalia: Mitzi sold tickets. People bought tickets. Some people won stuff like oyster opener thingies (I think Russ and Jim Villers) and Bruce Easley took one for the team and chose the license plate frame. (Now we only have about 412,672 left.) We laughed, we cried (mostly us losers) and then we adjourned to chili.

I don't know who made any motions or seconded. If that kind of thing is important to you then you should not rely on people like me to take the minutes of this esteemed group and you should attend the meeting in person. But hey, I tried. So if you call on me to do this again, I will gladly do so, but remember these words of wisdom: "Fool me once shame on you, fool me twice shame on you *again*, but please stop picking on me because I'm clearly an idiot"





by the Paperback Writer

Dear Prudence,

It was 45 years ago today that the Beatles issued their *'Magical Mystery Tour'* album and in honor of that, Tad Carter dreamed up his own imaginative version.



He suggested that we all *'Come Together'* at the Hardees on Battlefield Boulevard with our *'Ticket to Ride'*, where CD jewel cases, containing a map and instructions were handed out to each car team. The participating teams were: Susan & Terry Boyd, Tad Carter (our intrepid leader), Mike & Geri Carter, Mike & Denise Haag, Lesley & Rich Hildreth, Dan & Beth Kirby, Steve & Mitzi LaPaugh, Robert Perrone with his son Chris, Michelle Peters and her



guest, Steve, Bob Vann & Jenny Windsor, Andy Wallach & Cynthia Faschini and Donald & Rose Ladd.

Some were quicker than others in putting together what we were meant to be doing and the more observant of the group started filling in their extra credit sheet 'Tell Me What You See' column with 'salt & pepper shakers = *'Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band'* (we missed that one entirely!)



'All Together Now', we set off, like a gaggle of *'Day Trippers'*. The first point of interest was Psychic & Tarot Card Reading (*'Do You Want to Know a Secret'*), followed by a USPS (*'Please Mister Postman'*) - 'Oh, I thought, this is going to be so easy.' but as we got to clue C & D 'I-64 Interchange', *'I Should Have Known Better'*; we had no idea.



In hind sight, it made sense as we got on to I-64 and then exited on to Battlefield Boulevard (*'When I'm 64'* (groan) and *'Get Back'*). *'Help!'* was obvious as we went past the Fire & Rescue Station on Lenore Trail, and by the time we passed Rita's Italian Ice (*'Lovely Rita'*) on Kempsville Road, we had found our groove. The Golf Course (Honeybee = *'Honey Don't'*) was followed by Elbow Road at Indian River - once again we were at a



loss - did the construction give us *'Slow Down'*, *'Dig It'* or *'Wait'*?

We had already used *'Fixing a Hole'* as an extra credit for the road construction at the intersection of Salem Road and Dam Neck. As we passed Sterling Meadow Farm, it was obviously *'I Dig a Pony'*. Working for extra credit points, we were looked *'Here, There and Everywhere'*, at *'Every Little Thing'*, trying to pair things we saw with songs we knew; oh, that dead raccoon in the middle of the road? It started us singing *'Rocky Raccoon'* and passing a fitness center set of a slightly off-key rendition of *'I Want You (She so Heavy)*. Princess Anne Road was *'The Long and Winding Road'* but for the next 30 minutes, every road seemed to be a long and winding one. By the time we had reached Pungo, we were singing *'Strawberry Fields Forever'* in anticipation of the Strawberry Festival sign.

As we drove down Culver Road, the only signs we saw were street names and after the first two composers, we realized that what we were looking for was the clue for *'Roll Over, Beethoven'*. At this point we were wondering precisely how many hours Tad had put into coming up with our quest?

When we saw that our next destination was Liberty Tax, we filled in *'Taxman'* before we even got there. We were looking for Nancy's Nook - surely this must be a sewing and notions store . . . but as we passed the signs that said 'sex mischief' and 'lingerie', it became obvious that perhaps it was something more along the lines of *'Can't Buy Me Love'*.

Motor World surely must be *'Drive my Car'*, but as we are not tennis players, it wasn't so obvious that the Owl Creek Tennis Center was the hint for *'All You Need is Love'*. Ocean Breeze Water Park's gigantic ape, with his sun glasses and swimming trunks nailed *'Everybody's Got Something to Hide Except Me and My Monkey'*, quickly followed up by the *'Octopus's Garden'* at the Virginia Aquarium.

By the time we got to the Rudee Inlet Bridge we knew that *'It Won't Be Long'* before the end with only 1.4 miles to go. Il Giardino Restaurant was a hint for the observant as the address is 910 Atlantic Avenue - perfect for the song, *'One After 909'*.

By the time we got to the Raven, with its' big, iconic *'Blackbird'* sign, it was just *'Getting Better'* and better, and before we knew it, we had finished our *'Magical Mystery Tour'* and had arrived at *'Abbey Road'* for lunch. Donald & Rose Ladd certainly were the most creative with their various and assorted Beatles paraphernalia which included *'Maxwell's Silver Hammer'* and a *'Yellow Submarine'*.

The prize for the most points went to Lesley & Rich Hildreth, who didn't have the foresight to dig out any Beatle albums or items, but went at it by tying in as many passing business and landmarks to song titles. The reward? An Abbey Road mug and the challenge to be the *'Paperback Writer'* for the article. Try as she might, Lesley was never able to find a gun store to link the song *'Happiness is a Warm Gun'*.



Kudos to Tad for putting in the hours and coming up with such a great outing - just like *'A Day in the Life'* of the Beatles.

Tomorrow Never Knows what it will bring, so *Good Night*,

With Love From Me to You,

Eleanor Rigby

Don't Bother Me tomorrow, but put on your calendar the 4th of December - *Christmas Time (Is Here Again)* and that means the Annual MG Festival of Lights Drive!

The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics
Bob Stein -Editor
7500 Pennington Road
Norfolk VA 23505

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS



Saturday, Dec 8th
Eric Fee and
Cindy Lee Hall
464 W Ocean View Ave
Norfolk
876-5148

From 64 take exit 273
onto 4th View St
turn Left at W. Ocean View

