

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE MARQUE SINCE 1973 <u>www.mg.org</u> Volume XXX,

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2012—BOLD items are TMGC events

- Feb. 7 Tuesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach American Indoor Karting @ Lynnhaven Mall 6:45 for Racing, 8:00 for Meeting & Pizza
- Feb. 18 Saturday President's Day tour of Berkeley Plantation & Lunch on the Road 8:30 Departure from Suffolk – See Pg. 4
- Mar. 7 Wednesday Club Meeting Norfolk Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach
- Mar. 17 Saturday St. Patrick's Day Drive Celebrating 250 Years of Dying Stuff Green Proffitt's Auto Museum & Captain Chuck-a-muck's Secret Hideout #2
- Apr. 3 Tuesday Club Meeting Chesapeake Hosted by Pete Olson
- Apr. 15 British and European Car Show Chicahominy Riverfront Park, Williamsburg <u>www.wmbgbrit.com</u>
- Apr.22 Sunday Spring Tech Session Hosted by Frank & Deb Linse
- Apr. 27 29 Wine Tour X Central Virginia Hosted by Beckey & Alan Watson
- May 2 Wednesday Club Meeting Seaford, VA Hosted by Jayne & Bruce Easley
- May 5 Drive Your MGA Day <u>www.namgar.com</u>
- May 26 June 3 British Car Week Stay tuned to *The Dipstick* for a schedule of local events.

- June 5 Tuesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Issie & Bill Yoshida
- June 6-12 NAMGBR 2012, Dillard, GA Hosted by Peachtree MG Registry -<u>www.MG2012.com</u> TMGC Road Trip!

June 19 Tuesday - Tides Baseball – Game Time 7:15

- July 9-13 NAMGAR GT-37 Dayton, OH 2012 marks the 50th Anniversary of the last MGA off the production line. <u>http://gt37.namgar.com</u>
- July 11 Wednesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Betty & Jim Villers
- Aug. TBA Summer Tech Session Hosted by Linda & Jim Freeh
- Aug. 7 Tuesday Club Meeting / Picnic Virginia Beach Early meeting time – 6:00
- Aug. 12 Barksdale Theatre Drive Hanover, VA "Relatively Speaking"
- Sep. 5 Wednesday Club Meeting Destination TBA
- Sep. 23 MGB 50th Anniversary Events being planned www.mgb50.com
- Oct. 2 Tuesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Bill & Renee Olcheski
- Oct. 5-7 SVBCC British Car Festival Waynesboro
- Nov. Fall Tech Session Date TBA Hosted by Susan & Terry Bond
- Nov. 3 Magical Mystery Tour Scavenger Hunt Tidewater
- Nov. 7 Wednesday Club Meeting Newport News Hosted by Mitzi & Steve LaPaugh



MARQUE TIME

Greetings, fellow MG enthusiasts! Well, the New Year is upon us. Christmas and New Years have passed; it's time to reflect on what's past and ponder what is in store for the New Year. I, for one, am looking forward to a glorious MG-filled-New Year; and if the turn out for the January meeting at Frankie's is any indication, we are off to a great start. If you have any doubts, then just look at the calendar of events Tad is already planning. You will be hard pressed not to find an event or two to your liking. There will be plenty of reasons to drive your MG this year. If you see me on the road honk, wave, or what the heck -chase me down. If you see me broken down, by all means, stop and lend a hand or at least a handkerchief. May this year bring you much joy and happiness; and that goes for your little



British car, as well, because I know yours likes to be driven as does mine.

Safety Fast

Russ



TIDEWATER MG CLASSICS - 2012 EVENT PREVIEW



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DRIVE

250 years ago today, someone decided that turning stuff green needed a name. Thus began St. Patrick's Day. We'll visit Proffitt's Antique Museum and then head to Cap't. Chuck-amuck's for green beer.

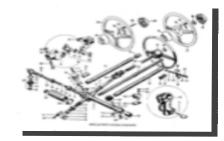
Date: Saturday, March 17th Time: 12:00 - 5:00



PAY THE TAXMAN ...

then head out on the roads. Today is the MG Car Club's opening drive of the 50th "B"irthday year. They are heading to the Heritage Motor Centre in Gaydon. Our destination is a little closer.

Date: Sunday, April 15th Destination: Williamsburg Brit Show



TMGC TECH SESSIONS

Get your car in top condition for the 2012 Driving Season. Technical support and extra hands will be provided. BYD Parts and Projects. Date: April, August and November Time: 10:00am until ???



WINE TOUR X - CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Join in on the 10th Annual tour of Virginia Wineries. Alan & Beckey are hard at work planning the perfect blend of classic cars and vintage wines. Dates: April 27th - 29th Hosted by: Alan & Beckey Watson



BRITISH CAR WEEK

Celebrate our British Car heritage with a variety of mid-week drives. It is a perfect week to have your car on the road. Dates: May 26th - June 3rd TMGC Events: TBA



TIDES BASEBALL

Cheer on the Tides at Harbor Park as they take on the Buffalo Bison. Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and MGs - an American tradition. **Date:** Tuesday, June 19th

Time: Game Time - 7:15



BARKSDALE THEATRE DRIVE

Join us for a leisurely drive to Hanover. We'll depart early from Tidewater, enjoy lunch along the way, followed by the comedy "Relatively Speaking". Date: Sunday, August 12th Time: 9:00 - 6:00

Details to follow in *The Dipstick*



 MGB SOTH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

 MG drivers from across the world will be out in force today, as

 we mark the 50th birthday of this iconic British sports car.

 All models are welcome. No gifts please!

 Date: Sunday, September 23rd

 Time & Destination: TBD



MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

Celebrate the 45th anniversary of this Beatles classic. Join in on a scavenger hunt through Tidewater, followed by lunch at the Beach. Date: Saturday, November 3rd Time: 10:00 - 2:00

www.mg.org



Activities Report – February 2012 by Tad Carter



Ladies & Gentlemen – Start your Engines!

On Tuesday, February 7th, our monthly meeting will be back at American Indoor Karting in Virginia Beach. For those that missed it last year, this is a chance to display your racing prowess on one of the finest indoor facilities in the country. For those that were with us in 2011, the track has been reconfigured for even more excitement! There will be a brief driver's meeting at 6:45, followed by racing for everyone interested. Remember – if you ain't rubbin', it ain't racin'. At 8:00, we'll hold our usual monthly meeting, with pizza, salad and soft drinks for dinner.

Keep your car warmed up, because we are heading back out on the Saturday the18th for a Presidents

Day weekend visit to Berkeley Plantation. This is the home to a signer of the Declaration of Independence (that was Harrison), the birthplace of #9 (that was another Harrison), and the ancestral home of #23 (let's go with Harrison for that one, too). This will be a morning departure from Tidewater, with a special presentation and guided tour of the plantation. The cost for the plantation tour is \$9.25/person. (Hey Andy – this is better than the senior discount!) It's a quick drive from Berkeley over to Cul's Courthouse Grille, where we will enjoy an assortment of tasty lunch options. I see a few additions to the menu. From there, it is back to Tidewater for a late afternoon arrival. By now, you should have received the e-mail sign-up for this event. If you are interested, please RSVP so we don't miss you at the starting line.

On March 17th, we are back on the road again as we celebrate the 250th St. Patrick's Day. We'll have a late morning departure from Tidewater and an early afternoon visit to Proffitt's Antique Museum in Windsor. We'll head from there over to beautiful Rescue, VA for a late lunch / early dinner at Captain Chuck-a-muck's Secret Hideaway #2. This restaurant was featured on Guy Fieri's Diners, Drive-ins and Dives and is known for its fresh seafood, tasty crab cakes and Jamaican Jet Fuel – highly recommended for passengers! We'll be back to Tidewater in time to hit your favorite Irish Pub.

Our first Tech Session will be on Sunday, April 22nd, and will be hosted by Frank and Deb Linse in Norfolk. We've seen a wide assortment of repairs in Frank's driveway including new glass, old brakes, and a disconnected steering column. I expect this year should be more of the same. Plan on being with us on the 22nd to get your car road-ready for 2012.

One last thing – many announcements about meetings and drives come out through e-mail. I know many spam filters catch group mailings. If you haven't been getting messages from TMGC_Activities@mac.com and would like to receive these announcements, please check your junk mail settings, or send me a message. We should be able to get that all cleared up.

That's it for now - gotta save something for next month.



Memberships: As of 11 January, we have 115 paid memberships with one outstanding "promise" to renew their memberships for 2012. This makes 212 individual members in the club.

New Memberships:

Gary Gandee Windsor, VA 23487 1976 MGB

Alan & Kim Hardesty Norfolk, VA 23505 1979 MGB (Moved back into the area - previous members in 2007)

Dues: I turned over \$30.00 in checks to Jim Villers at the January meeting.

Cars: Total cars – 173

Cars & Types: 173 of the following cars:

MGA	A- Coupe	В	B-GT	С	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
19	2	79	16	2	2	7	23	5	12



MG Enthusiasts,

I am a former club member, currently residing in Charleston, SC. We have decided to sell our MG B. It is a 1975 Silver Anniversary Edition. John Twist, (know back in business) rebuilt the engine and replaced the interior. The body panels have been 100% disassembled, refurbished and painted. It has the dual carb and cam improvement / conversion. Also has a \$2,000 stereo system, (including XM radio). Has 113,000 miles approx. Selling for best offer. Comparable models sell on E Bay for about \$15,000, I will accept any reasonable offer. If you are interested or know of any one who may be, please contact me.

Regards,

Dennis Pieschke dpieschke@hotmail.com



January 2012 Mtg Minutes by Michele Peters

We began our January 2012 meeting at 8:04 pm at Frankie's Place for Ribs in Virginia Beach, as we have been doing for the last few years. Hey, I don't mind! The food is great, but every January I DO seem to add some poundage. I'm thinking, that extra two pounds I gained after eating at Frankie's may be part of the problem!

El Presidente, Russ Ripp, was his dapper self and seems to be enjoying his new role (he actually has to TALK!), and not surprisingly, new El Vice-Presidente Steve LaPaugh didn't use a lot of words...I think he is definitely taking after Russ!

Everyone agreed that the holiday party had been grand, and a definite shout goes out to our one and only Tad, the Activities Director, or as we call him, "The Man," for setting that up for us. Everyone in attendance (unfortunately, NOT your secretary) had a wonderful time, and we made a great donation of money and gifts to CHKD.

New Members and Guests: We had two guests: One ex-member who had moved to Alabama, Greg Coogin (hope I got your name right!) with a '77 B and Gary Gandy (?) from Smithfield who has a '76B (just like mine!). !

Treasurer: Jim Villers, Treasurer extraordinaire, reported that our treasury has been depleted by about half, due mostly to expenses associated with the Xmas party and awards. We did take in quite a bit of money on our raffle and Xmas receipts last month, so we are STILL good to go!

Activities: See Tad's article elsewhere in The Dipstick...you won't regret it! Start marking down the dates on your calendar to keep them open for these many social and driving events The Man is planning for us in 2012....he's awesome!!!

Clubs: Mike and Jennifer joined us, and Mike had a surprise...he asked for a vote to abolish the Clubs section in our newsletter. Well, you know how accommodating everyone in this club is, and if Mike was asking to abolish his column, then by-jimminy we would do it! And we did, by a majority vote of the members present (hey, was that REALLY parliamentary, or what??). So from this day forward, no more clubs!

History: Susan brought two albums to peruse, and they were fantastic. What a wonderful job Sue has continued to do for our club...you know, most of these people....wait a minute...ALL of these people, are irreplaceable! Can you seriously imagine an MG Club WITHOUT Sue or Terry or the other many members who attend nearly every meeting, every activity, and are there, ALWAYS, to lend a helping hand? That is what I LOVE about this club - it is definitely the fantastic people who I have the joy and privilege to hang out with a few hours/month. You all are the BEST!! :)

Newsletter: Mitzi was feeling so motivated and excited about being a part of this club, that unfortunately, she thinks she got in a little bit over her head and is now looking for a replacement for her job as Raffle/Regalia Girl..Woman...Person. Do we have any takers? She promises it's not all that hard a job...c'mon, somebody step up and do some relief pitching (whoops, I guess I'm a little ahead of myself...April is still a few months away....can you tell I'm anxious??)

Membership: Bill reported that we have received 2 new paid renewals since December (a total of 212 individuals and 115 paid memberships). We now have a total of 173 cars in the club.

Technical: Mark wasn't with us in January, although Steve LaPaugh reminded us about the LED magnet light and how useful it could be. Check out the \$4.00 "Harbor Freight" light for under your bonnet....

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Marque Time: The Hampton Roads Auto Show happened at the convention center and we had our club represented by Terry Bond (Model T) and Bob Stein (TC). Winner got \$1,500.00.....hey Terry and Bob - did you



January 2012 Mtg Minutes, Cont'd by Michele Peters

win anything? Don, our photographer extraordinaire, passed out photos of everyone seated at the holiday party. What a great guy, right?

Raffle and Regalia: We had stuff and raffled it off, but most importantly, AI Hazlett got Betty's cookies (See photo below @ top left)!

We adjourned at 8:27 pm, another one of our short meetings - I think because everyone was feeling well stuffed from our meeting, and you know what happens a little while after you have a big meal....you start to get sleepy and S-L-O-W- D-O-W-N....And that's OK cuz it was really freezing out there. But this was the first event that my new and improved Miss B attended, and she was proud to get all the accolades, ooohs and ahhhhs. What IS that gorgeous red color, you ask? I need to ask George about that. But in the meantime, Miss Green B necessarily has a new name....and is trying to be "all that" and "with it" and a "now" girl, so she is going by only one name now, in the spirit of now, fresh, and cool: "Luscious." Actually her former owner Deb Linse suggested that name, and I thought it fit wonderfully. She likes it, too. So "Luscious" it is! And if anybody doesn't like her new name, well, I guess you all know what I can do on her behalf, right? Happy New Year!





Holiday Light Tour December 15, 2011 Susan Bond

Unseasonably warm weather made for a perfect top-down evening for the "Garden of Lights" at Norfolk Botanical Garden this year. TMGC members met at Franco's Restaurant for a great Italian dinner, and to celebrate Jim Villers' birthday – with a dessert and rather large candle lit by Russ Ripp. We dutifully sang "Happy Birthday" and wished him many more. Donald Ladd was on his way but phoned to say his B's battery (replaced on the VIR trip) had a meltdown, the post was a puddle of lead on the top, and he was waiting for a tow. We missed you, Donald.

The restaurant was super efficient that evening so decorated MGs and bundled-up people, joined by several more in the parking lot, departed promptly. Unfortunately Tad was not able to get tickets in advance so we all had to wait in line at the Garden to pay and a few modern cars got into our lineup – a bit hard to see around when you are in an MG. But the display was great as usual, with lights strung high in the trees and a wide variety of scenes. We had heard that music was being played on a radio station during the tour so we took our boombox (the radio still isn't hooked up in the car) and enjoyed the section where the lights blinked in time to the music by ELO and others. Even though the line moved very slowly (and the MGs complained about it), it was over too soon and we were on our way home. It's nice getting to be a kid again for an evening.

Rigging a Secondary Bonnet Release Steve LaPaugh

As is common with our LBCs, they were not perfect off the assembly line. This allows for the ingenuity of the owner to take over and improve our roadsters and GTs for the better. A common problem is the stuck bonnet. You know, you go to pull the bonnet release from the inside of the car and bang -- a whole lot of nothing!

Taking a cue from an internet site, I decided to rig up a secondary bonnet release as a precaution, but one that won't damage your radiator as will a misplaced poking from the common coat hanger or other stiff object as you attempt to push the hood release from the grill and miss! D'OH!

After looking at the release mechanism I figured you could pull it from the front, just as easily as you can pull it from the interior. Testing my theory, I unbolted the fan shroud to make accessing the area easer using a 7/16" socket. I then cut a piece of plastic coated cable about 5/64" diameter to a suitable length with plenty of slack so I could adjust the length and increase the ease of instillation. I looped one end above and around the hood release pin and release cable. I then crimped this end as close as possible around the pin using a pair of wire strippers. The remaining length was routed through the grill mesh. Make sure not to interfere with the radiator fan or any other moving components. To be safe, the cable should be held away from the fan with a small zip tie. I then closed the bonnet and tested the setup, and the bonnet released as it would have normally if released from the interior of the car. I then made another loop with the cable so that I could easily pull it forward through the opening in the rubber bumper. You can vary the length of the cable so that this modification is kept hidden. You don't want people to get weird ideas about our LBC's reliability now!

This secondary bonnet release is a certified one-beer project. In other words, it should take you no longer than one beer to complete. In addition, you won't be caught with your bonnet down should your primary release fail on our famous wine tour or in the 7-11 parking lot! Cheers.

The MGB Lives - 27 May 2011 Steve LaPaugh

Turning the key to run, the 18G turned over instantly and ran for the first time in 15 years on Friday! A big thank you to John Heimerl, Tidewater Region AACA member, offered his expertise and garage to help revive the MG.

We bought the MG in 2008 in Chesapeake with assistance from TMGC members Terry and Sue Bond, Jack Pavalidias, and Richard Hall. According to the previous owner it had not run in 10 years. The Zenith-Stromberg carburetor was in the trunk however the engine turned freely. The sheet metal was solid, having been restored several years before. I soon realized that getting the car running after sitting that long was only one step away from a full restoration.

I rebuilt the carburetor, installed new brake and clutch master cylinders, rebuilt the brakes and added stainless steel braided brake lines. I also rebuilt the fuel pump and replaced all the hoses and installed a new turn signal stalk.

John Heimerl offered to help revive the B, so two weeks ago the car was trailered to his garage and pushed onto the lift. Last Friday we took time off to work on the car with the goal of test driving it that evening. The first thing to tackle was the distributor. The B had the earlier 25D distributor in place of the stock unit which we removed and started rebuilding. John determined that the distributor had several shorts. With numerous spare distributors, we were able to correct the problem and soldered the connections in place. We then consulted the parts breakdown in the manual and realized there was an O-ring missing from the groove in the distributor shaft. With this part missing, the shaft would not seal around the clamp. An O-ring was installed, and we wiggled the clamp over the new O-ring and installed the distributor, insuring that the rotor was pointing towards number one cylinder. The firing order and static timing was checked. Points, condenser, wires and plugs having been replaced previously, it was time to start the car. The B started right up but stopped after sparks and a cloud of smoke. The short was tracked down to a loose battery cable that was loose in the connector. Once the connection was cleaned and reinstalled, the short problem went away.

On the next start, the car ran at about 1,500 r.p.m. and later started smoking from under the hood. While setting the idle speed, the valve cover gasket sprung a leak spraying oil all over the passenger side of the engine compartment. After tightening the valve cover the B developed a loud whistle and stopped. The idle mixture screw was adjusted; however, the steam whistle and subsequent shut down was not.

Baffled, we concentrated our efforts on vacuum leaks. Several leaks were blocked off, but the B would still whistle around the EGR block off plate and die. We made a gasket, installed it and tightened down the block off plate again. Same result. At one point John noted that the engine wasn't blowing smoke, which meant the rings were good. A definite plus! Again the block off plate whistled and the B stopped. We tried RTV and again the steam whistled from the ol' '77.

John investigated the lack of exhaust, figuring that since the EGR plate kept leaking the exhaust system may not be exhausting. After starting the car again, he put his hand over the tail pipe and felt very little exhaust. In fact, the tail pipe was cool to the touch after an entire day of diagnostics.

We raised the car on the lift and broke out the saws-all. We cut off the muffler, lowered the car and started it again. This time I kept close watch on the tail pipe for exhaust. After starting there was no change. The car was raised again and the resonator was cut off. The B was started again, and the E.G.R. plate stayed in place and the car ran easily and roared with open exhaust! We examined the mufflers and found they were clogged with 15 years of rust and debris. Now that the exhaust was free to exit the engine, the transmission did not want to shift into gear. John said that the clutch was probably frozen. We pushed the car into the driveway. John shifted into first and popped the clutch in an effort to free the clutch. After a few tries the clutch broke free. John was off down the road, and I could hear the B's open exhaust ringing through the country-side as he shifted through the gears. Awesome! The B was now running under its own power and will be on the road shortly after new tires, motor mount, fluids, belts, valve cover gasket, custom exhaust. Thanks to all TMGC & Tidewater Region AACA club members who've helped along the way!



Announcing the Tenth Annual TMGC Winery Tour by Tad Carter

Now is the time to make plans for the 10th Annual TMGC Winery Tour! This year we will be heading to the Lynchburg area of Virginia, departing Friday, April 27th and returning Sunday, April 29, 2012.

For those who have not participated in a previous winery tour weekend, here is some idea of what to expect: Plan for your LBC to do 400+ miles that weekend. A group will be led from the Southside area on Friday morning and will rendezvous with a second group on the Peninsula, if needed, then travel to a meeting spot in the Richmond area. There we will meet up with Alan & Beckey, along with any stragglers. The "goody bags" will be handed out, which will include detailed directions (in case you get separated from the group), phone numbers of participants and destinations, and a game or puzzle to do along the way. Some of the weekend activities will remain a mystery.

There will be a stop or two on Friday (often a winery and/or a historical site) on the way to our hotel, check in, then have dinner together. Saturday we will depart in the morning to visit a winery and then lunch together, before another stop or two in the afternoon. Saturday evening we usually have pizza or an informal dinner, then spend time together in a meeting room sharing refreshments and stories from the day. Sunday we will check out of the hotel, visit one or two wineries and/or historical or interesting sites, have lunch, then depart our separate ways for home.

FAQ's

Is there a limit on how many members can participate?

Alan & Beckey like to limit the number of cars to 12 for several reasons:

- It is hard to shepherd even 12 cars through traffic lights and left turns;

- Surprisingly enough, most wineries do not want large groups. They are not staffed for it, and often have small tasting rooms;

- Places for lunch, and dinner reservations for 24 are difficult to arrange in the small towns that we visit along the way.

How do you choose who attends?

It is first-come, first-served. It works out that usually about a dozen members/couples are willing and able to attend each year. The first people to call and reserve a hotel room are the ones who attend the weekend. To date, everyone who has wanted to come, has come along.

Are new attendees welcome?

Yes! With the exception of 2011, we have always had at least one "rookie participant."

What if I am not sure I can make it?

Please don't reserve a hotel room unless you are confident you will come along. Alan and Beckey sign a contract with the hotel committing to a certain number of rooms, and may be responsible for late cancellations or no-shows.

Can I bring a guest who is not a member of TMGC?

Of course! However, we will be making dinner reservations, ordering boxed lunches, planning tours and events along the way, so extra people can throw a wrench in things if it wasn't known they were coming ahead of time.

Please contact Alan or Beckey Watson at (804) 227-3807 or MGactivities@gmail.com if you have any other questions, or want to learn more about this year's winery tour weekend.



Brought to you by Center-Point Classics and World Mission Outreach to BENEFIT VETERANS

NEWS UPDATE

\$15 entry fee per vehicle. FREE 2-night, 3-day, Seize-the-Moment Travel Voucher for every owner who enters his/her car provided by International Marketing Incentives (**a \$250 value**). We have a heck of a car show event planned which includes our Vendor Village merchants selling antiques, collectibles, memorabilia, arts and crafts, and just about anything you'd expect to find at a Bazaar! The greatest entertainment you will find at any car show you visit.



Proceeds benefit Bristar Disabled Veterans and our North Carolina Living Military Museum Building Fund which is relocating the museum to larger quarters. The Tuskegee Airmen, VP Bob Dole, and thousands of our great veterans have visited the museum since it opened including those who wear the Medal of Honor, Silver Star, Purple Heart, and other badges of courage. The Museum is located in Mooresville, NC and has won such prestigious awards as the DAR Medal of Honor, the International Cartoon Art Foundation Beetle Bailey Award, and the State of North Carolina's highest award, Order of The Long Leaf Pine Citation (other recipients include, Billy Graham, Coretta Scott King, Michael Jordan, Rick Hendrick and others who have contributed greatly to the pride of North Carolina).

We need your support!

Location: The old Clayton-Marcus Furniture Factory now owned by World Mission Outreach

166 Teague Town Road (Bethlehem Township)

Hickory, NC 28601 (4 miles north of the Lake Hickory Overpass)

Contact: www.center-point classics.com

(630) 440-7912



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