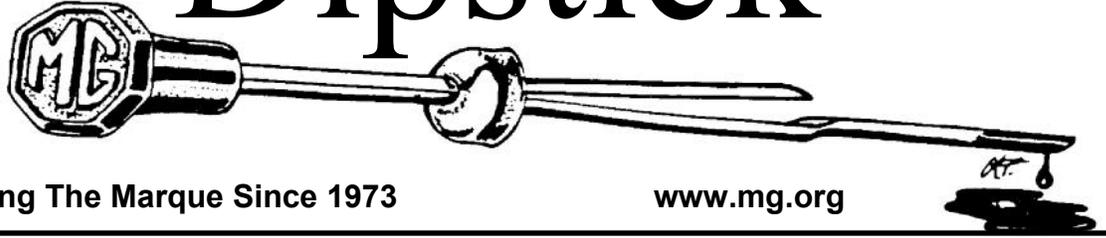




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 40, Issue 4

April 2013



Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, I wonder where these TCs is? TMGC's vintage MG contingent took advantage of a warm day in March to explore back roads in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach. From left to right are Bob Stein (49 TC), Sandy and Richard Hall (48 TC), and Susan and Terry Bond (48 TC).

APRIL ACTIVITIES

This Month in the TMGC

Perhaps it is wishful thinking to suggest that the weather will have improved by the time you read this report. While the groundhog may have predicted an early Spring, ideal driving days have been a rarity thus far into the year.

We did, however, manage to have a pleasant, although chilly drive to Agecroft Hall on the 23rd and enjoyed a tour of the mansion and gardens and a tasty lunch in Carytown. We were

grateful to be in small cars as we passed a tractor-trailer wedged under a railroad bridge on our way into Richmond on Route 5. That certainly could spoil a day.

As a club, we crossed the 4,000 passenger-mile mark for 2013 in March, and we're just getting started. We have several things coming up in the next few months – a little something for everyone.

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ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

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

- Apr. 2 – Tuesday – Club Meeting – Norfolk**
Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach. (See map on back page)
- Apr. 6 – Saturday – Spring Tech Session - Norfolk**
Hosted by Frank & Deb Linse.
301 E. McGinnis Circle in Norfolk. 10 Am until ?
- Apr. 6 – Virginia Chevy Lovers Spring Dust-Off Show— Benefit for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
Landstown Commons, Virginia Beach (Across from Farmer's Market)
- Apr. 13 – Williamsburg British Car Club
14th Annual British & European Car Show. Chickahominy Riverfront Park.
www.wmbgbrit.com
- Apr. 19-21 – GOF South MK XLVII,
Ocala, FL
For Info: Jim Hall @ 904-282-1658 or JimnDeeHall@att.net
- Apr. 26 – 28 – Virginia Wine Tour - Staunton**
Hosted by Alan & Beckey Watson

February Memberships

By Bill Yoshida

2013 Memberships: As of 27 March we have 110 memberships for 2013, with 203 individuals in the club. The current number is a result of two new and one renewed membership, and the elimination of three memberships that had not followed up on their commitment to renew their membership from last year.

New Memberships:

Nick & Barbara Perriello
Chesapeake, VA 23322
1977, 1976, and 1973 MGBs

Shawn & Jenny Scharf
Virginia Beach 23453
1979 MGB

Jody & Lisa Dudley renewed their membership with Susan Bond at the TRAA Swap Meet.

I've not heard from the owner of the British Racing Green MG Midget with Tennessee plates that I spotted in the neighborhood last month...but I haven't yet given up.

Cars: Total cars – 173

Cars & Types: 165 of the following types of MGs:
MGA -22, A-Coupe - 2, B - 82, B-GT - 14, C - 2, C-GT - 2, TC - 9, TD - 21, TF - 5, Midget - 9

Other/Various MGs – 5 (1-Cooper MG/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB)

Dues: I turned over \$10 in dues to Jim Villers at the club meeting on 6 March. Susan Bond turned over \$30 in dues to Jim for the registrations she received at the TRAACA Swap meet. I currently hold \$20.00 in dues for turn over to Jim.

TMGC Officers

President	Russ Ripp	393-9908
Vice President	Steve LaPaugh	593-5927
Secretary	Michele Peters	439-8050
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editor	Bob Stein	588-6200
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net



FROM THE PREZ

Marke Time

Ah spring, time to put the Top down on our MG's—well it would be if I had ever put it up—feel the wind in our hair, and the sun on our faces. Okay anyone of my readers have an in with Mother Nature? Something just isn't right; we are in Norfolk VA right, not Norfolk MA? The temperature outside and the dreary sky makes me think of New England not Virginia, we are supposed to be suffering through global warming, funny I don't feel any, and the rain, or should I say snow in Virginia after the first day of spring, really.

I remember the saying "April showers bring May flowers" but I looked on the internet, and we know everything on the internet is true. It indicated April is historically Virginia's driest month. It doesn't look like it's starting out that way, however, if it is our driest month we are in for a wet rest of the driving season. Tad has as usual outdone himself with activities; I certainly hope he's bribed Mother Nature. You all know how I hate to put my top up. I didn't buy a roadster to ride with the Top up after all.

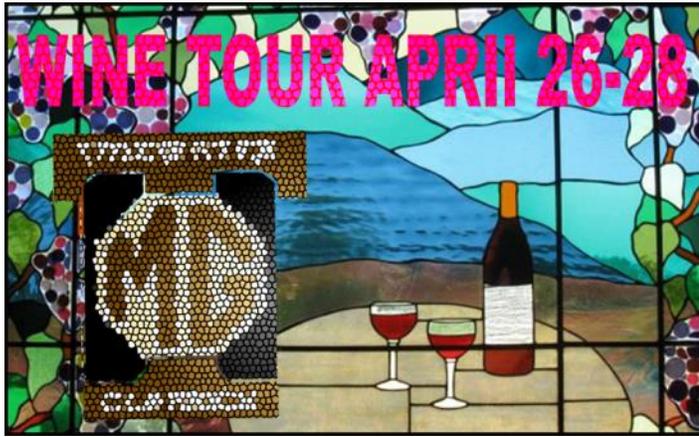
Also coming at the end of April is the 11th Annual TMGC Wine Tour. Let me give a shout out to Alan and Beckey before it even starts as they always come up with some great wineries, eateries and roads to travel. I am so looking forward to three days of fun in the sun, do you hear me Mother Nature, driving the winding hilly and yes even gravel, sorry Sue, roads.

After I get my B repainted I may join Sue in her detest for gravel roads but for now send them my way. Mark your calendars for May first, it will be our 40th Anniversary celebration, at Smithfield Station. Tad is finalizing all the arrangements but I believe he will need an RSVP and head count to get everything set up. Can anyone see a common theme here? I've had enough of this dreary wintery weather I'm ready to get out of the house and enjoy the outdoors. Anyone with me?

As always,

Safety Fast

Russ Ripp
President



TMGC Activities

(Continued from page 1)

The first big announcement is regarding our **May 1st Meeting / 40th Anniversary Celebration**. We will be at Smithfield Station for a buffet dinner, along with a beverage or two, and share stories from “back in the day”. The cost of the dinner is \$40 per person, payable by cash or check to the club at the dinner. We’d love to have a big turnout for this event. **An RSVP by April 21st is greatly appreciated.**

Our first Tech Session of the year is on **Saturday, April 6th** at the Linse’s in Norfolk. They will open the doors at 10:00. Bring your own project and parts, or lend a hand to help someone else. There is a lot to learn and many capable teachers.

Show season begins on **Saturday, April 13th** with the 14th Annual British & European Car Show in Williamsburg. This is always a good show, and our friends in the Williamsburg club would appreciate our support. Information about the show is available at www.wmbgbrit.com.

At the end of April, a gaggle of MGs will head west for the 11th annual Virginia Wine Tour. Here’s hoping for long-winding roads on the journey and long-winded tales of the journey upon your safe return!

May brings three additional dates, in addition to our anniversary celebration. On **Tuesday, May 14th** it’s Turn-Back-The-Clock Night at Harbor Park. Our Norfolk Tides will again take on the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs as we enjoy cheap hot dogs, popcorn, and sodas (or pops – you choose). Beer, while not cheap, will be cold. Can you think of a better gift for Mother’s Day? I didn’t think so. Contact me to reserve your tickets.



Late in the month, we have British Car Week. We’ll celebrate locally with Dessert Drives on the Peninsula (**Wednesday, May 29th**) and the Southside (**Thursday, May 30th**). Join in for either or both. Details will be in the May Dipstick. No RSVP needed – just show and go!

Finally, back to the very near future. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, April 2nd** at Andy and Cynthia’s home in Norfolk. As usual, Tyre Kicking shall occur beginning at 7:30, followed promptly at 8:00 by our general meeting, the raffle and some good eats!

The schedule for the balance of the year is taking shape, but I’m always open to suggestions. I look forward to seeing each of you back on the roads!

Tad Carter

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Touring Tips

Susan and Terry Bond

Since we did most of the TMGC tours last year, and have a bit of experience on other tours, we decided to share a few ideas to make touring in groups a little more enjoyable -- and less stressful for the navigator.

1. **Keep the car behind you in your rear view mirror!** That way no one gets left behind. Don’t worry about keeping up with the car in front, it will be slowing down to keep you in sight. If necessary, the leader will pull over in a safe spot and wait.
2. Leave enough room between cars so modern iron can pass safely (on a 2-lane road) or merge from a ramp.
3. If you pull over – show thumbs up if you don’t need help, thumbs down if you want us to stop. If this doesn’t happen where all the cars can pull over safely, all but one or 2 can motor on to a safe place and pull over. Keep the leader informed.
4. Load phone numbers into your phone’s contacts ahead of time, and be sure to put the area code in for when we are out of town. Give the leader your cell number.
5. Enjoy the trip!

The DIPSTICK is the official newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics Club of Virginia. Published monthly.

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TMGC March Meeting

Photos by Donald Ladd and Susan Bond

An abbreviated gathering at the Park Lane Pub in Hampton. Lies were told, drinks were drunk, food was eaten, orders were taken... minutes were not. However, a fun time was had by all!





FOURTY YEARS AGO AT PEMBROKE MALL - The very first meeting of the Tidewater MG Classics Club in April of 1973!

Tidewater MG Classics

Come Celebrate our 40th Anniversary

Wednesday, May 1st.

Smithfield Station

415 S Church St

Smithfield, VA

6:30PM

Buffet Dinner and Cash Bar

\$40 per person

RSVP by Sunday April 21st to Tad Carter





TMGC Lineup - Donald Ladd's Midget, Terry and Susan Bond's MGB-GT, and Jim Villers' Mercedes (MB rhymes).

TRAACA Swap Meet

By Susan Bond

Tidewater Region AACA finally got a break in the weather March 2nd - swap meet day was dry! Antique car nuts from as far away as Richmond remedied cabin fever with a day of buying, selling and swapping old car parts and socializing after a long, wet winter kept most of the old cars in the garage.

TMGC always has a table at the swap meet, mostly as a place for us to gather and talk, but this year we signed up one returning member and one new member, besides talking to a few prospective members, and sold some regalia. We still haven't tracked down the TMGC banner so Donald Ladd printed a table runner promoting the club and took the early shift. By the time I got there (work sometimes gets in the way of having fun) the swap meet was in full swing with all the inside and outside spaces sold and throngs of people buying and selling.

The kitchen did a booming business and Jim Villers helped there most of the morning. Sam Kern and Jack Pavlidis parked cars, Steve LaPaugh manned his table and Terry Bond displayed his early automobilia. Sandy Hall and Linda Pellerin sold baked goodies. Bob Stein left early to keep us from getting the cold he woke up with and Allen Hazlett helped us sell regalia. Roy Wiley and Roosevelt Moseley had a look around and I was told that Bob and Sue Mason were there early on. I saw Richard Hall and Bob Pellerin several times, they seemed to keep moving.

As a cure for cabin fever, this was a great event. Some of us even found a few parts for our cars!



TMGC Spring Run Photos

Last weekend's Spring Run to Agecroft Hall in Richmond was a bit too close to our publication deadline to get a story in this issue, but here are a few photos to whet your appetite for the details coming in next month's issue! (Photos by Susan Bond and Donald Ladd)



Visit to Moss Motors

By Terry Bond (Photos by Donald Ladd)

This past Saturday (March 16), we made the trek to Petersburg for the Moss Motors open house. Donald Ladd joined us at the Hardees in Great Bridge for an early run up Rt 460 to raid their parts warehouse and take a look at some of the great cars we heard were now displayed in their showroom. Frank Linse was with us in spirit as we had an order for him to take along.

The weatherman was right on as it began raining heavily as soon as we hit 460. We drove modern, partly to have room in the van for parts coming home, and partly because we didn't want to endure the cold, wet weather in the MGB.



As we pulled into Moss it was obvious there were a lot of others who did the same thing. But wait – Donald was ushered into the back where he had a nice dry indoor spot inside the warehouse. Still, there were only a handful of cars including a Jag XKE, a couple of newer Jags and a nice 74 MGBGT that is a regular driver.

The coffee and donuts were welcome, and the tour of the facility began right on time. Again, we were impressed with their efficiency and how really involved with the car hobby they are. Their upholstery room is quite impressive with its computer operated cutting table. The information about how they get their hides specially tanned and pattern stamped was fascinating.



The building now has a showroom and it's filled with a rotating display of fine British machinery. This trip we got to drool over a nicely restored MGTC and two ex-works Sebring race cars – both MGA coupes. A thrill was having the owner and race driver present to talk about the history, and a chance to look at all the signatures of famous race drivers who had autographed the inside door panel. Great cars! Also on display was the famed 100,000th MG, a wonderful gold-colored MGA. Such history -- right at our doorstep.

We visited, enjoyed the cars, and bought parts. The counter was open and we were the recipients of a special 10% discount in honor of the occasion.



When planning our trip we had decided to try a lunch at the Brickhouse Run Pub there in old town Petersburg. If you'd never been there, you're in for a treat as it's one of the most authentic English pubs this side of the pond. Alas – our computer indicated they'd recently changed owners and would not be open until Sunday (St. Patrick's Day). We were apparently a day too early and a pint short!

Wow, were we surprised when it was announced that Moss Motors had a special opening arranged for our group! We were treated to a wonderful and very traditional buffet luncheon and a pint of Old Speckled Hen (on tap of course)!

From there it was an easy run back down 460 via a couple of antique shops. The rain had stopped and the day turned out to be quite nice.

The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics
Bob Stein -Editor
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Norfolk VA 23505

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 2nd
Cynthia Faschini &
Andy Wallach
545 Mayflower Rd.
Norfolk, VA
622-8315

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