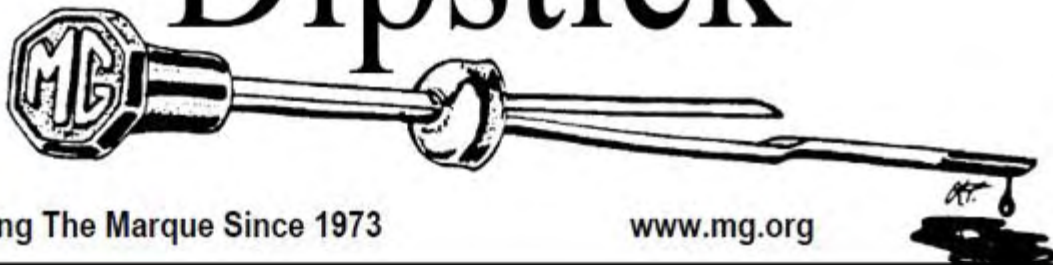




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 42, Issue 3

March 2015

Activity Report – March 2015 *(submitted by Tad Carter)*

The year is 1975. “Wheel of Fortune”, “The Jeffersons” and “Barney Miller” all premiere on TV, and #4 Bobby Orr plays his last game with the Boston Bruins. Muhammad Ali defeats Joe Frazier in the “Thrilla in Manila” and a partnership between Bill Gates and Paul Allen creates Microsoft. Bobby Fisher is stripped of his world chess title and the MGB, according to many, is stripped of its sportiness. 1975 is the first full production year in compliance with the updated US safety guidelines. Among the changes that came about with the 1974.5 model, are the steel-reinforced rubber bumpers, which replaced the much-heralded “Sabrina” over-riders from 1974. While opinions vary on this change, RBB becomes part of the lexicon. US regulations also call for a change in headlight height, so rather than redesigning the “B” body, the suspension is adjusted to raise the entire car by the requisite 1”.

In addition to these cosmetic changes, horsepower is reduced to 62.5hp (from 79hp or higher in earlier years) to help with fuel economy. And as a cost-saving measure, the front anti-roll bar is removed for 1975, leaving MG customers with a taller, heavier car with less power and poorer handling. With this “marketing strategy”, 1975 marks the nadir of MGB production for any full production year. On the positive side, 1975 also marks the 50th anniversary of the MG marquee. Late model ‘75s and early model ‘76s receive special badging to commemorate the occasion (gold trimmed MG front & rear, and Silver Edition dash badge inside). Several of these cars have survived in the club and we welcome their unique characteristics as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the cars of Tom & Marie Early and Al & Laurel Swenson.

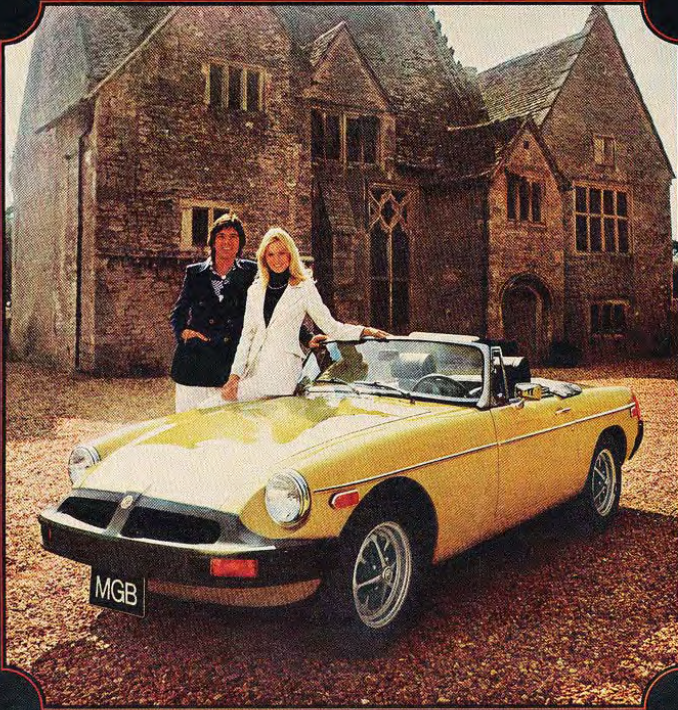
Fast forward to 2015 and join us on March 14th as we go way back in time to the dawn of our country and a visit to Point Comfort and Ft. Monroe. We’ll have a guided tour of the Casemate Museum and learn the history of the area, from Ft. Algernourne to Ft. Monroe, including the accommodations for Jefferson Davis. Keep your head down as you walk through the stone passageways. Cost of the tour is \$3pp. We head from there into Phoebus for a late lunch at The Point.

For Southsiders, our gathering point will be in the BB&T parking lot at the NE corner of Independence and VA Beach Blvd, where we will reenact the photo taken at the first club meeting in 1974. Please be there by 10am for the photo and a 10:18 departure.

In other news, our Spring Tech Session will be held on Sunday, April 19th at Frank Linse’s garage in Norfolk. This is a great chance to wake up a sleeping MG and get it ready for the summer driving season.

(continued next page)

**Introducing:
The Golden Anniversary MGB.**



Since 1925, MG has espoused a simple but unconventional philosophy: that driving can and should be enjoyed, not just endured.

And never has the MG philosophy been better exemplified than in our 1975 MGB. For this handsome machine is eloquent testimony that driving an honest sports car can be one of life's more stimulating experiences.

The experience begins as you sit in the MGB, in bucket seats that hold you firmly—but gently. Right before your

eyes is a businesslike array of sports car instrumentation (including, naturally, a tachometer) to measure vital engine functions.

And that engine is our well-known, race-bred 1798 cc four. The MG short-throw stick shift is linked up to our very nimble, four-speed, all-synchromesh transmission. You maneuver with the precision of direct rack and pinion steering, on radial-ply tires. You stop with the authority of front caliper disc brakes.

The 1975 MGBs, like their legendary ancestors, are strong sports machines pure and simple. We feel, with pride, that they're the most exciting cars we've ever built. And we invite you to drive these cars. After all, when was the last time you had fun behind the wheel?

For the MG Dealer nearest you, call these numbers toll free: (800) 447-4700 or, in Illinois, (800) 322-4400. BRITISH LEYLAND MOTORS INC. Leonia, New Jersey 07036



ELEGANT lines; steady road-holding; a top speed of 107.6 mph; 0-60 in 11.6 seconds;* and the sort of luggage space you need when you just want to get up and go—that's the MGB GT.

A worthy stable companion to cars like the Midget,



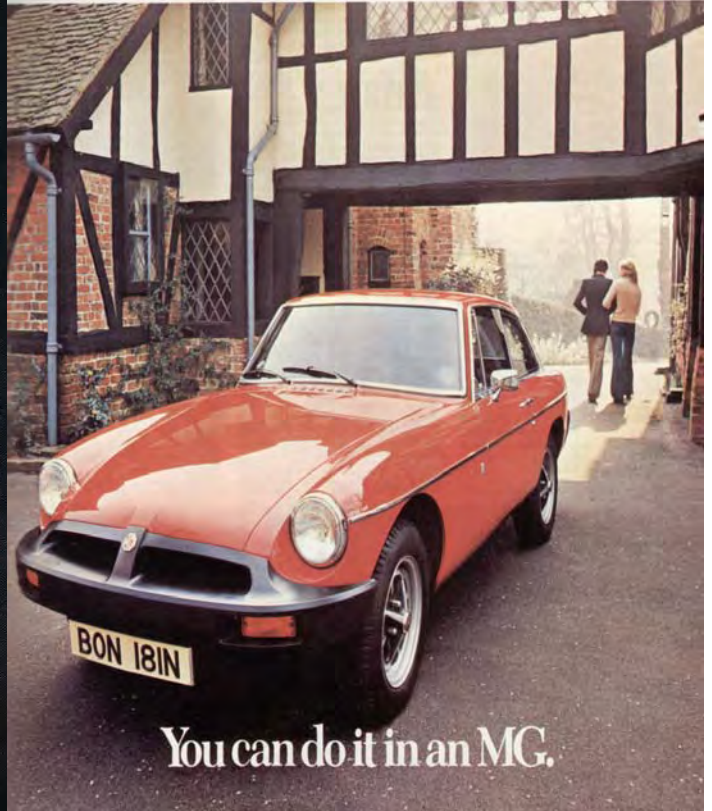
MGB and MGB GT V8.

Look out, too, for the 'limited edition' of 750 specially equipped MGB GTs, built to commemorate MG's fiftieth year.

When you're behind the wheel of an MG, you're driving a true thoroughbred.



*Source: Motor



MG advertising, vintage 1975

Other local events for April include the Williamsburg British & European Car Show on the 11th and Wounded Wheels in Norfolk on the 18th. Details are available at the websites highlighted in the calendar.

The Virginia Wine Tour XIII is April 24-26. At this point, that tour is full, but keep it in mind for future years. Alan & Becky put on a great trip!

Speaking of Alan & Becky, they have offered to host our May meeting. To accommodate the drive, this meeting will be held on Saturday, May 16th. Also in May, we celebrate British Car Week (23-31) with our Desert Drives. We'll be on the peninsula on Wednesday, 5/27 and on the Southside on Thursday, 5/28. Details for all of these events will follow, so stay tuned to The Dipstick.

A date change – tentatively advertised as a May date, Turn Back The Clock Night at Harbor Park will actually be held on Monday, June 15th. The Tides will host the Columbus Clippers, who finished 1st in the International League West Division in 2014. Tickets are \$11pp – cheap eats and great seats!

**Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 4th
Hosted by Faith & PJ Peterson in Hampton**

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TMGC Officers

President	Stephen LaPaugh	593-5927
Vice President	Robert Perrone	574-3233
Secretary	Bruce Easley	570-2042
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editors	Kathy & Mark Davidoski	499-4647
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net
Regalia	David Kinsey	233-0029

Marque Time

The recent snow has me longing for MG weather! Fortunately there's enough to do that I can work on before the driving season gets underway. The original wood garage door decided to rot away and leave me and the MG entombed inside a few months ago. We have one of those 1970s houses with large roof overhangs and no gutters. The constant water splashing rotted the bottom of the garage door away little by little over the last 38 years. Near the end of summer the door was getting more difficult to open and close. No worries, just pull harder the next time right? That tactic worked great until the guide wheel bound up on the track and catapulted across the garage never to be seen again. I suppose some sort of preventative maintenance would have stopped that from happening but when you're up to your butt in alligators, it's difficult to remind yourself that your main objective was to drain the swamp! Don't forget to join us on March 4th at P.J. & Faith Petersons for the next meeting. I hope snow plows will not be necessary!

Safety Fast! Steve Lapaugh

Dipstick Calendar – 2015

Mar. 4 – Wednesday – Club Meeting – Hampton
Hosted by PJ & Faith Peterson

Mar. 14 – Saturday – Ft. Monroe Tour and The Point at Phoebus

Apr. 7 – Tuesday – Club Meeting in Norfolk
Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach

Apr. 10-12 – New England MGT Register Kimber Festival
Norwich, CT
www.NEMGTR.ORG

April 10-12 – 13th Annual Wild Hare Run at VIR
Hosted by Vintage Drivers Club of America
www.VintageDrive.com

Apr. 11 – British & European Car Show – Williamsburg
www.WMBGBrit.com

Apr. 18 – Wounded Wheels Car Show - Norfolk
www.WoundedWheels.org

Apr. 19 – Sunday - Spring Tech Session
Hosted by Frank & Deb Linse

Apr. 24-26 – The Mitty – Vintage car racing
Road Atlanta, Braselton, GA
www.RoadAtlanta.com

Apr. 24-26 – Virginia Wine Tour – Lucky # 13

May 16 – Saturday - Club Meeting in Beaverdam
Hosted by Beckey & Alan Watson

2015 March Dipstick- Membership

(submitted by Bill Yoshida)

2015 Memberships: As of 24 February we have 119 paid memberships with 208 individual members.

New Membership:

Fred McCall
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
1956 MGA

Cars: Total cars – 184

Cars & Types: 177 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
27	2	81	18	1	3	7	21	4	13

Other/Variou s MGs – 7 (1-Cooper MG/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB/ 2 ELVA Courier)

Dues: I turned over \$40 to Jim Villers on 7 February. I currently do not hold any dues money.

TMGC Regalia – Current Inventory

(Pls contact David Kinsey)

3 - Windbreakers with TMGC embroidered: 1-Ladies small, blue;
1-Men's small, black; 1-Men's medium, blue
1 - Blanket with TMGC embroidered, royal blue
1 - Hat, military style, brown, MG
1 - Grille badge, TMGC
4 - Cloth patches, TMGC
1- 2XL, red T-shirt
1 - LG, blue T-shirt
6 - Med T-shirts: 2 blue, 2 tan, 1 gray, 1 light blue
1 - Ladies small T-shirt with large TMGC logo screened on back
2 - Canvas totes
5 - License plate frames (probably give these away at raffles, so maybe leave these off the print list)
10 - TMGC fridge magnets (ditto as above)
36 - 30 Year Plates - painted metal with adhesive back, 1973-2003
84 - Dipstick on CD, 1973-2008
10 - Club scrapbook on CD, 1991-2002

TMGCC Meeting Minutes

03 Feb. 2015

(recorded by Bruce Easley)

The February 3, 2015 meeting of the Tidewater MG Classics Car Club met at the beachfront home of Eric Fee. Our Prez, Steve LaPaugh called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm, with a big “thank you” to Eric and Cindy Lee, and an admonishment that there be no skinny dipping until after the meeting. Quoth he: “There might be more than one full moon out tonight.”

Steve next proposed that there be a move to make Groundhog Day a Federal Holiday, complete with time off. It’s time to give the ‘hog the recognition it deserves. Call your Congressman tomorrow and get the movement started!

In response to the query if there were any new members present, Fred McCall ‘fessed up, and shared that he is back to being local after 30 years overseas; he’s looking forward to more time in his ’56 MGA.

Meeting minutes from January were approved by the assembly. The Vice Prez, Robert Perrone, was called upon to give his report to which he responded “It’s the same report as last time – ‘I’ve got nothing’, but I’m good at it.” Further speech by him was interrupted by an “important” call on his phone. Bill O shared with the group that it was a 900 number that showed up on Robert’s phone. Our Treasurer, Jim Villers, gave a detailed report, with the bottom line being that after new dues income and paying expenses, we have a net of \$1,605.97.

Tad Carter, Activities Chairperson, listed the many and varied activities for the near future. Our Valentine’s Day “Love Beer” driveout is the next event. Word from Williamsburg Ale Works is that their kitchen construction is behind schedule, so they will not be on this itinerary, but will be hosting a tasting for us in the future. We’ll be visiting the St. George Brewery and the Brass Cannon, plus lunch on Feb. 14. Details for where to meet and the full schedule are forthcoming by email. Then March 14 will be a tour of the Ft. Monroe facility, with a lunch in beautiful downtown Phoebus. The group will reenact the original club meeting at the start. Other events with details elsewhere in this Dipstick, are the annual Williamsburg British Car Show, a tour of Phantomworks, Tides Baseball, and our semiannual Tech Session. The March 4 meeting will be at the home of PJ and Faith Peterson in Hampton, VA. Jennifer Ashe announced that on April 11 and 12, VIR will have vintage car racing with the MGA as the featured marque.

“There are plenty of opportunities to get out and enjoy your MG”, announced the Prez. There are also few excuses not to do so.

As to TMGCC History, our Historian, Susan Bond, was present, and it was noted that there was ongoing history in the video showing on the screen at the meeting. Nice! Membership news from Bill Yoshida was that there are 119 paid memberships as of the meeting. In addition to new member Fred McCall, Jason Miller and Ali Calvert joined with their TD, as did Ian Campbell with his Midget. Bill also noted that he was contacted by Tina Pagley, an original Club member who has been overseas, and sent her a copy of the directory so she can get in touch with friends.

For the Dipstick, Editor Mark Davidoski prompted members to write articles about the upcoming events, and asked that articles be submitted by Feb. 20. Share the fun with others who were unable to make it to an event! The Secretary, Bruce Easley, announced he would be out of town for the March meeting, and asked for a volunteer to take minutes. VP Robert P graciously volunteered.

The Prez asked if there were technical news or questions. He noted that there is a company called Rock Auto that is having a closeout on MGB parts, with some very good deals to be had. Another member asked for advice as to who would be a good source of information for working on HI4 carbs on a GT. The group agreed that Frank Linse is the go-to man for carb guidance. Bob Stein showed a cup holder custom made for an MGB console; they are available through Moss and others. March 7 will be the annual Hickory Ruritan Club Antique Automobile Swap Meet at their clubhouse in Chesapeake, VA. Contact Jim Villers for information. A proposal was made to get a club table for \$25.00 to get interest from people and possibly some new members. The motion passed. You can put out your parts for sale there, too.

The news was shared that Donald Ladd has been hospitalized twice recently. Please keep him and Rose in your thoughts and prayers. If you want to call them, call Rose's cell phone rather than the house phone, as the noise is painful to Don.



Marque Tyme sharing – Andy Wallach shared that he has 3 TDs in his garage “marking time”. He feels he needs instruction from the members who have perfected the art of parsing their cars out to various garages for work, and thereby avoiding storage costs. Bob Stein mentioned he had just done a complete rear brake rebuild on his TD, and found that one shoe was saturated with brake fluid and the adjusters were locked up. The moral – don't necessarily take someone else's word for the condition of important items. One member shared that at least two Williamsburg Club members had their cars painted at the Maaco near Abacus, and found that they did a good job.

David Kinsey held the 50/50 raffle, but first announced that he will be providing a list for the Dipstick of which regalia items he currently has in stock, to allow people to know and buy what's available. He will also describe some planned changes for holding raffles. Plus, see him if you want any monogrammed, custom, or general regalia items. Robert Perrone won the \$30 raffle payout with winning ticket #458161, and Mark Davidoski and PJ Peterson won T shirts. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. We feasted on pizza, wings, cheeses, great food, and exquisite desserts. Hit the Beach for the Polar Bear Plunge!



Changes in TMGC Regalia process

From David Kinsey

We all love to sport our MG octagon and, TMGC "T" – our colors as they say in the world of sports. But, buying and storing the vast array of sizes and colors and styles is expensive and impractical. We just aren't going to carry clothing stock like we used to. Some regalia items can be purchased from current stock at the monthly club meetings or a tech session. **(Please see page 4 of this issue for a current on hand inventory)** If you see something you want, contact me and we'll bring to an upcoming meeting.

Items are readily and easily available from our vendors who have the high-resolution graphics and our permission to use them. If we get a pre-paid group interest on engraved or silk-screened items, we will order for that group.

Stitchworks – www.stitchworks.org – for all hats, shirts, jackets, blankets, etc., call Randi at 757-631-0300 after perusing her catalog on the web site. This is for embroidery only and she can do one or two or however many you want. She also has the screen-print logo, but orders of 12 or more are required.

Ackiss Engraving – If you need a nametag, they cost about \$9, and you can call Doug directly at 757-588-0002 or let David know and he will order for you. Choose pin-back or magnet-back; same price. Doug also does our TMGC grille badges and can add threaded rods to the back if you want them. (we may do a bulk order of grille badges)

American Eagle Embroidery – Debbie at American Eagle does a very specific embroidery of the crest/logo of the town of Abingdon, England, where our MGs were born (shown below). The logo was legally purchased online and Debbie was paid to digitize it so she has the graphic design ready to embroider. Go to her web site - <http://americaneagleembroidery.com/> - or call her at 757-673-8337 and let her know what item you would like embroidered. (text color can be changed but town crest colors cannot)



For other, more general, MG regalia, such as belt buckles, pins, clothing, jewelry, etc., we suggest you look at the Moss Motors catalog. There are others, of course, but Moss has a warehouse in Petersburg, VA (just South of Richmond) and most items will arrive in a day for not very much shipping cost. See – www.mossmotors.com For some more interesting and specialized items, you might try the wonderful MG Owners Club in the UK - <http://www.mgownersclub.co.uk/mgoc-regalia-shopping> They also have a link to some parts ("Spares") you might not be able to find in the U.S.

Again, if enough pre-paid folks are interested in specific items (coffee or beer mugs, lapel pins, screened t-shirts, etc.), we can do a bulk order from any of these vendors.

Also, if you have an MG item you'd like to donate to the monthly raffle, bring it along!

Love/ Nickel Brew Tour

By Bob Vann

The Valentines day Love/Nickel Beer Tour began promptly at 10:07 Saturday Morning. Five MGs showed up with their intrepid occupants: Karen and Tad Carter, Kathy and Mark Davidoski, Missy and Bob McKenna, Robert Perrone and Caroline Remeika and Tom Keiningham. We all know MGs are cool, but when it is thirty degrees, they are really cool. That is why Frank and Kiz Worrell, Russ Ripp and Buffy and Jenny Windsor and Bob Vann showed up in non MGs.

We set out on the tour and were soon joined by Alan Watson in his 72 MGB who reported that it was twenty four degrees when he left his home.

Joining us at the St. George Brewing Company, Faith and PJ Peterson refused to be intimidated by the weather and drove their hot MG V8 with the top down.

As usual, Tad Carter did an outstanding job of organizing the tour. Not only did we have printed, very precise directions; there was even a brochure with several beer aps for your I phone.

Our targets were the St. George and Brass Cannon Brewing companies whose history and management were outlined in the brochure.

Billy Spence, the director of drinking operations of the St. George Brewing Company fascinated us with his colorful presentation. We don't know whether to call it history or comedy but we thoroughly enjoyed it and some great beers and pizza for over an hour.

After Robert Perrone was observed with his head in a fermenting tank, we were served lemon aid to make sure we were sober before we drove on to Yorktown and then to the Brass Cannon Brewing Company in Toano.

The drive along the colonial parkway was beautiful, followed by twisty scenic roads that MG drivers always enjoy.

Brass Cannon beers are the result on blending modern technology with traditional styles and we found the results very pleasing, some of us trying all six offerings.

To complete our tour we followed the back roads to the Jamestown-Scotland ferry. The ferry dates back to 1925 and today operates four vessels to make the 2.4 mile crossing.

After a brisk crossing, only marred by a few dive bombing sea gulls, we proceeded to Smithfield and home.

Don't miss the next tour because each one is just a Tad better than the last one.





The Dipstick is the official publication of Tidewater MG Classics (TMGC), preserving the Marque since 1973. For more information, please contact the editors at (757) 831-4196 or davidoskicrew@cox.net

2015 Vintage Racing Calendar

If you love seeing vintage cars get loud and proud and race around like a swarm of bees, here's a list of some of the premier vintage sports car races for 2015 within a day's drive of Virginia Beach. Not sure who may be going where, but I'll bet you see someone from Tidewater if you go.

April 24-26 – The Mitty at Road Atlanta – The Mitty is named after Walter Mitty, a creation of author James Thurber in 1939. Walter saw himself doing all sorts of exciting and heroic things as he lived out his "average Joe" life. Road Atlanta is in Braselton, GA, about 8.5 hours away. It's a really great race track and lots of vintage clubs show up to show off. Yes, if you get in line and pay the fee, you can drive your car on the track at lunchtime on Saturday or Sunday. This year's featured marquee is BMW. (poster is from 2012)



<http://www.roadatlanta.com/the-mitty>

<http://classicmotorsports.net/events/2015-classic-motorsports-mitty/>



May 15-17 – The Jefferson 500 at Summit Point, WV – A smaller, simpler venue, Summit Point, WV, is just across the state line from Winchester, VA, about a 4 hour drive from us. There are fewer vendors and clubs but you can wander the paddock area at will and get up close to the cars and the crew. Track amenities are a bit more rustic and lodging farther away, but the driving is just as earnest. Rumor has it one of our own members may be there racing, albeit with something other than an MG. Of note this year is the famous Kas Kastner Cup for Triumph competitors and Triumph is the featured marquee.

<http://summitpoint-raceway.com/programs/jefferson-500/>

<http://www.kaskastner.com/kastnercup.html>

July 24-26 – Watkins Glen Vintage Grand Prix – One of the most famous race tracks and vintage races in the world, and it's a day's drive (about 8.5 hours) through some interesting and beautiful parts of Pennsylvania and New York. Watkins Glen was the site of the first U.S. Grand Prix in 1948 and this race celebrates that heritage. Just about every vintage sports car you can imagine will be there. Most years there is an associated vintage festival, but due to track repaving the race moved from September to July and the festival will not be a part of the 2015 race. The town of Watkins Glen is quaint and picturesque with lots of racing history, lodging, restaurants and watering holes. It's one of the best events I've ever attended and always features the Collier Cup exclusively for MG race cars. This year's featured marquee is the Chevron race car. Last year was the MG, so here's the poster from last year.



<http://www.theglen.com/Tickets-Events/Events/2015/US-Vintage-Grand-Prix.aspx>

<http://www.svra.com/events/2015-glenora-wine-cellars-u-s-vintage-grand-prix/>

Sep 25-27 – The Heacock Gold Cup at VIR – VIR is Virginia International Raceway, near Danville, VA, less than 4 hours away. One of the most beautiful tracks and venues you'll find anywhere and recently repaved, VIR's racing history goes back to 1957. The current owners have really made the place blossom with amenities including first class lodging on-site, a great restaurant and excellent karting. There is a classic and vintage car show you can enter on Saturday. Not sure what marquee is featured this year but there is a 100 mile, big muscle Trans-Am race on Sunday. VIR is one of the tracks where you can see lots of racing from many vantage points. It's ideal for tailgating.



<http://virnow.com/events/heacock-classic-gold-cup/>

<http://www.svra.com/events/2015-heacock-classic-gold-cup/>

October 9-11 – The inaugural vintage race at Dominion Raceway – this Vintage Racer Group sponsored race does not yet have a name, but the racetrack is brand new and the closest one to us, just North of Richmond in Thornburg, VA, about 2.5 hours away. Similar to the racing you would see at Summit Point, but a nicer, more spectator-friendly track. Information and advertising is a bit sparse right now, just a listing on the VRG event calendar, but I will update this thread as more is available.

<http://www.vrgonline.org/events/>

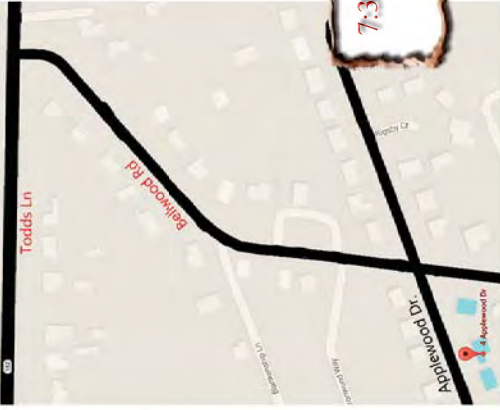
<http://cbcelite.com/dominion-raceway/>



Compiled by David Kinsey



Monthly Meeting
 Wednesday, March 4th
 PJ & Faith Peterson
 4 Applewood Drive
 Hampton
 896-9606



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



Tidewater MG Classics
 C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski
 4705 Little John Road
 Virginia Beach, VA 23455

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North American MGB Register

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