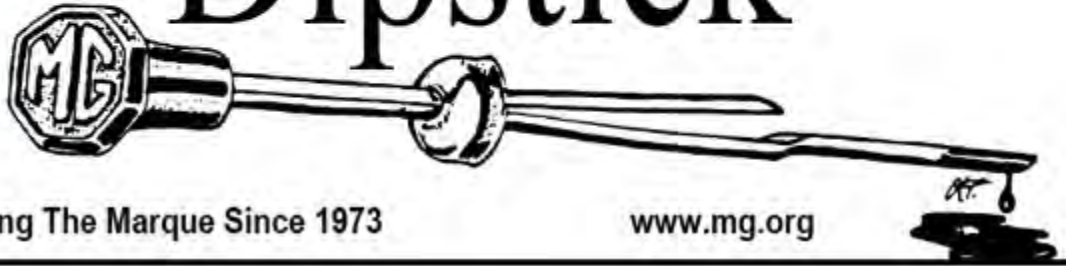




# The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

[www.mg.org](http://www.mg.org)

Volume 42, Issue 11

November 2015

## **Activity Report** – *compiled by Tad Carter*

Most of the 2015 activity schedule is behind us, but don't put your car up quite yet. Our Fall Tech Session is at the Bond's home in Chesapeake on the 1<sup>st</sup>. For those who have not been to a Tech Session, the amount of work that can get done in a short time by capable hands is amazing. If you have a project in mind, come on out. For those who have been with us before, you know the drill – show up, help out, drink up and pig out.

On November 7 & 8, we have a group headed to Lynchburg to view a private, classic-car collection. It will be a quick out-and-back trip, but along the way, we will visit a winery, enjoy some good food, travel some back roads, and perhaps learn a thing or two. If you missed the announcement on this one and are interested, please get in touch with me quickly. We may be able to squeeze you in. Thank you to new member Bill Cochran for making the arrangements for our visit in Lynchburg. As always, suggestions on events are welcome and encouraged.

Our annual Holiday Lights Drive through the Botanical Gardens is set for Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. We have reservations for dinner at Franco's starting at 6pm, and will leave for the gardens at about 7:30. At this point, we have reservations for 30. If you know you will be joining us, please let me know so I can expand our reservation if necessary.

Between these events and our November meeting (11/4 at the Vann's home in VB) and December Holiday Party (12/11 at the Villers' home in VB), the end of the year is pretty full. I hope you will join us as your schedule permits. **(Note: For the November meeting, please plan to park on nearby Wilder Road, in the event that your MG does not fit in Bob's driveway. Lakeside Drive is a bit narrow.)**

Looking forward to 2016, the calendar is starting to take shape. We are set for most of our meeting sites, but there is still time if you are interested in hosting in March (maybe), October or November.

Weather permitting, we will have drives on February 12<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>. We don't want our cars to get too comfortable in storage. February is still a work in progress. March will be our annual microbrewery tour. Alan and Becky are hard at work on the Virginia Wine Tour in April. Can you believe this will be the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of this great trip?

We are waiting for the Tides to announce their 2016 schedule, but we look forward to being back out at Harbor Park next season. Also on the schedule are the Dessert Drives during British Car Week – June 1<sup>st</sup> on the Peninsula and June 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Southside. With Handel’s closed, we need to find a new destination.

If you enjoy cars, car shows, driving or bourbon, mark your calendar for the week of June 13-17. The all-register national MG show is in Louisville, KY, home of the Slugger, Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. We are waiting on final schedules for the show, but travel plans are being developed to partake in the sights to and from the show. If you are going to the show and interested in traveling in a convoy, check back here in early 2016.

For you theatre buffs, it looks like August 21<sup>st</sup> is the date for our next outing to Hanover. And the very tentative dates for our Fall Tour are September 15-18. As stated earlier, the 2016 schedule is just starting to take shape. Dates could change and there could be additions to the schedule – perhaps another spur-of-the-moment outing. Stay tuned to upcoming issues of the Dipstick for further details.

Enjoy the ride!

### ***Marque Time***

I would like to thank the Bill & Renee for hosting the October meeting. As usual the block captain had things squared away and was a gracious host. The frosty beverages in the mini fridge behind the bar didn’t hurt either! At any rate, I’d like to thank the TMGC officers who have helped to make the club better and have helped make my job easier. I have enjoyed steering the club for the past two years and I know Robert will make a great president. As one of the most vocal vice presidents in recent memory Robert will uphold the standards TMGC has come to expect. Mitzi and I now join an elite group of ex-presidents and first ladies and also have fun ditching our protection detail. **Safety Fast!***Steve*

### ***TMGC Officers(2014-2015)***

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	<a href="mailto:davidoskicrew@cox.net">davidoskicrew@cox.net</a>
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Webmaster	Mike Haag	<a href="mailto:mikehmg@cox.net">mikehmg@cox.net</a>
Regalia	David Kinsey	233-0029

## Dipstick Calendar – 2015

Nov. 1 - Sunday – Fall Tech Session – Chesapeake  
Hosted by Susan & Terry Bond

Nov. 4 – Wednesday – Club Meeting in VB  
Hosted by Jenny Windsor and Bob Vann

Nov. 7-8 – Drive-out to Lynchburg, VA

Dec. 11 – Friday - Holiday Party in VB  
Hosted by Betty and Jim Villers

Dec. 15 - Tuesday – Holiday Lights Drive

## 2016

Jan. 6 - Wednesday - Monthly Meeting  
Frankie’s Place for Ribs – VB  
6:00PM Dinner followed by Meeting

Feb. 2 – Tuesday - Monthly Meeting –  
Brickhouse Tavern – Port Warwick in Newport News  
6:00PM Dinner followed by Meeting

Feb. 12 – Saturday - Wine Barrel Odyssey or For The Birds - TBD

Mar. 2 – Wednesday – Monthly Meeting - TBA

Mar. 12 – End-of-Time Brewery Tour

Apr. - Spring Tech Session – TBA

Apr. 5 – Tuesday – Monthly Meeting –  
Hosted by Faith and PJ Peterson in Hampton

Apr. 9 – Williamsburg British

## TMGC October Meeting Minutes

*Courtesy of Bruce Easley*

The monthly meeting of the Tidewater MG Classics car club convened at the home of Bill and Renee Olcheski on October 13, 2015. After a good time of examining various cars, quaffing cold beverages and snackies, the meeting was kicked off by President Steve LaPaugh.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved, and the upcoming slate of officers was announced. After a brief discussion, the election of the following officers was unanimously approved:

President: Robert Perrone

Vice President/ Activities Chairman: Tad Carter

Treasurer: Jim Villers

Secretary: Bruce Easley

Historian: Susan Bond

Membership Chairman: Bill Yoshida

Since Tad was supposedly away at a business meeting, Robert P gave Tad's activity report. This coming Saturday will be our driveout to the famous Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, VA, with a guided tour of the many interesting monuments and interments. November 1 will be our Fall Tech Session at the Bonds'. 24 people are signed up for the Nov. 7 and 8 trip to Lynchburg to visit a private car collection arranged by member Bill Cochran. If you haven't already made motel reservations, do so since the member rate is only available through this Thursday. Great news... our annual Holiday Party will again be at the home of Jim and Betty Villers, this year on Dec. 11, and don't forget the annual gathering at Franco's Restaurant followed by the topless drive (except for GTs) through the Norfolk Botanical Gardens Holiday Lights on Dec. 15.

Robert announced that the venues for July and November meetings were still open, and the November meeting was quickly spoken for. If you're interested in hosting the July meeting, contact Tad or Robert.

"Money Meister" Jim Villers reported that after dues and regalia income minus expenses for meetings, Tech Session, and the Directory, the club has \$2,562.22 on hand.

Bill "Yank 'em In" Yoshida gave an update on memberships, stating that we have 117 paid members plus 3 "promises", and our roster includes 183 cars. Chat with him about more detail of the various models. The annual Directory update has been mailed out, and please note that Woody Cohen's name was misspelled as "Gohen"; correct your copy accordingly.

Susan Bond had brought plenty of picture albums full of club history, on display tonight for your viewing and perusing pleasure. Mark Davidoski announced that articles and information for the monthly Dipstick newsletter are due Nov. 20, and Mark elicited volunteer writers to report on the upcoming events.



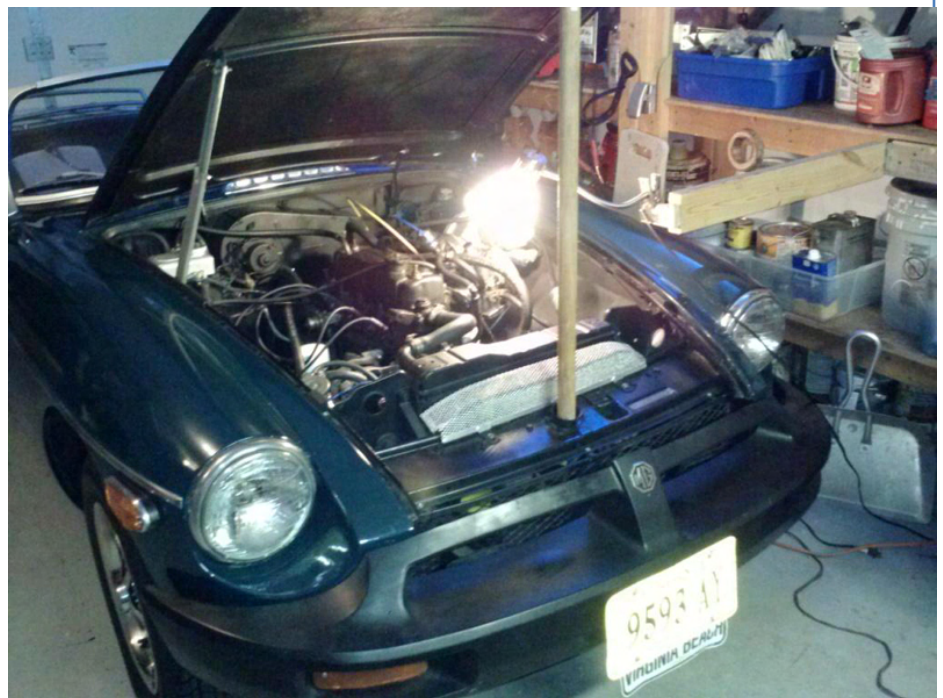
Presidential Candidate,  
begging for your vote!

Member Mark Childers is in DePaul hospital for surgery on a badly broken ankle suffered from a ladder mishap. The group tried to call his number to cheer him up (or depress him, depending on your point of view), but found his number busy, probably from other well-wishers. Also, member Stephen Daniel is in ill health; please keep him in your thoughts.

Raffle and Regalia: David Kinsey announced that he has TMGC logo hats and T-shirts in stock, and that special orders for other items such as jackets, mugs, etc. can be made. Caroline Remeika handled the sale of raffle tickets and advised us that half the 50/50 raffle proceeds would amount to \$52.00 for the lucky winner. Other prizes included British airplanes (small flying models), club fridge magnets and decals, and kamikaze headbands (???). Terry Bond took home the big bucks.

Then it was time to adjourn to the fabulous fare of roast beef, sandwiches, special sausages, veggies, cheeses, plus dessert delights courtesy of Bill and Renee. See you in November!

Bill's sweet MGB





## TMGC Mugshot by Ruth Cooper

(An interview with Bob Vann)

Bob Vann, a four year member of the Tidewater MG Club, has owned three MGs over the years. At one time he had a 1957 MGA, he once owned a 1961 MGA and he currently owns a 1972 MGB, a car he has had for 3 years. Bob was attracted to the styling and performance of the MG and has since come to value the benefits of the MG Club.

Bob has driven his MGB on a road trip of 300 miles, and one of his favorite memorable trips was the Beer Tour earlier this year with the MG Club in the Tidewater area.

Bob and JimVillers put a new exhaust system on his MGB. Apart from that, his car has not required much maintenance, although Bob takes pride in keeping the car's appearance clean and looking good.

Bob's advice for a new MG car owner is to first join a club. He says, "People in the club know everything about MGs. They can guide you in what to look for and help you make a more intelligent purchase." Bob values the friendships he has made with the MG club. He has appreciated the assistance the club has provided in maintaining his car and has also had fun with the club's activities.

Bob has put a new top on his MGB, in addition to a new steering wheel and a gearshift knob.

On the personal side:

Bob likes to travel and has been in at least 25 countries. Other hobbies include hiking, locally at First Landing State Park, biking, and reading.

In the past Bob was a stockbroker for Merrill Lynch for 25 years. Prior to that he worked as a factory representative for the Chrysler Corporation.

Bob's wife, Jenny Windsor, is an artist, painting in oils. She is active with area art galleries and participates in many art events.

Bob and Jenny like the climate of the Tidewater area and find plenty to do. They particularly enjoy the theater, symphony, opera and the restaurants the area offers. Jenny's artwork can be viewed at [jennywindsor@cox.net](mailto:jennywindsor@cox.net)



## **Convoy Etiquette** *(Helpful hints from an experienced convoy guide....)*

Over the last few years, there have been several conversations about tips for traveling as part of a convoy. As we begin traveling again as a group, whether to shows or on our club tours, I offer for your consideration the following tips for travelers. These suggestions are amassed from the collective wisdom of multiple car clubs, as well as TMGC members, with the intent of improving the travel experience for all. Thank you to all who have offered their suggestions.

### **Prior to and at the Start:**

(To the Organizer)

- 1) Advise prospective attendees of the date, time, gathering point, destination and potential costs of the event.
- 2) Prepare route information to distribute among the participants. ETAs for each stop along the way can help participants gauge their fuel and rest-stop needs.
- 3) Provide contact information for the lead car, other participants and destination addresses, as possible.
- 4) Have your phone charged and ready (with ringer set on loud) and accessible. Pre-program with contact information for participants, especially the Sweeper car, and the destinations (in case you need to alter arrival times).
- 5) A GPS other than your smart phone is advised. That leaves the phone available for other uses.
- 6) If possible, let the business owner at the starting point know that you will be meeting there and see if there is a convenient place to assemble without disrupting their business.
- 7) The starting line is the easiest place to lose someone, which can set off a chain of events that can spoil the day.

(To the participants)

- 1) Let the event organizer know if you plan to join in the drive. This allows you to be included in emails with any special instructions or late changes, and lets the organizer delay a planned departure for late arrivals (if possible).
- 2) If your plans change, let the organizer know so that reservations can be changed and the drive is not delayed waiting for a no-show.
- 3) If you are delayed, let the organizer know so that a start can be delayed or other routing can be arranged.
- 4) Prepare your vehicle for the intended travel, checking fluids, tires, and general road-worthiness.
- 5) Show up with a full tank and an empty bladder.
- 6) Have your phone charged, ready (with ringer set on loud) and accessible. Pre-program with lead car contact information.

### **On the Road:**

(To the Lead Car)

- 1) Maintain a safe and proper speed. This is not a race.
- 2) Unless necessary, keep in the right lane, allowing faster vehicles to pass safely.
- 3) Use turn signals early. This is especially true with lane changes and left exits. Lane changes are not always easy and a 12-15 car convoy can stretch ½ mile or more.
- 4) When approaching a traffic light, SLOW DOWN and close up the convoy. If we get caught by the light, as least most of us will be together.

- 5) Keep an eye on the road ahead and the car immediately following you. Your travel companions will let you know if there is trouble beyond that.
- 6) If a vehicle has trouble, they will pull off the road when possible to make necessary repairs. You, on the other hand, are responsible for the safety of every other vehicle. If you must stop, get all who follow you to a spot where they can get safely off the roadway. A pack of cars along a highway shoulder is an added danger and creates a difficult situation for merging back on the roadway once repairs are complete. Obviously, this is just a guideline. Travel with the safety of the group in mind.
- 7) When pulling into a parking area, pull in as far as you can before parking. If you stop at the first spot and then back your car in, it takes lots of time and the tail end of the convoy is still in the roadway with traffic.
- 8) Know your Sweeper car.

(To the participants)

- 1) Keep pace with the vehicle ahead of you, while maintaining a safe interval between cars. As we will be traveling in the right lane, modern iron may need to merge onto or exit from the road (highway). The same holds true for 2-lane roads, allowing faster vehicles an opportunity to pass safely.
- 2) Lights on. This lets other vehicles (including your travel companions) know you are part of the convoy.
- 3) Maintain your position in line, if possible. If you like being up front, start up front. If you prefer being toward the back of the line, hold back as other vehicles depart. If you don't want to drive behind Robert, I understand.
- 4) Use turn signals early. This is especially true with lane changes and left exits.
- 5) When approaching traffic lights, SPEED UP. Close up the convoy. We want to maximize our chances of getting through the light together.
- 6) When a light changes to green, be ready to go. Maybe everyone can get through in one cycle.
- 7) You are responsible for the car immediately behind you. At a turn or a light, make sure they stay with you. If they fall back, slow down and let them catch up. They, in turn are responsible for the car behind them.
- 8) Be ready for a call from the lead car. You may be asked to lead the chase pack to catch back up to the peloton (sorry – Tour de France is on).
- 9) 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.

(To everyone)

- 1) Have Fun!
- 2) Safety First and Safety Fast!

There are plenty of other articles discussing what parts and supplies to carry on the road. We'll save that for another time.

## **Hollywood Cemetery Drive** *submitted by President-Elect Perrone*

I have to tell you that when Tad first told me of his plans to visit a cemetery for one of our club drives, I was wondering if he was feeling all right. But since I know that he has never failed us, I assumed he must know something that I didn't. And he did. Everyone that I talked to really enjoyed the entire day. Hats off to you once again, Mr. Carter.

In case I missed anyone with introductions, I was riding with my "old" buddy Kerry Brunner who was visiting with his wife Amy from Gloversville, NY, my old home town. I've known Kerry since we were 16; a long, *long, long* time. And yes, I can kid him about his age since we were born the same year, about three months apart. In case anyone is curious, I'm the older one.

Although we were riding in Kerry's Jaguar, and not an MG, at least it was a British car. And it was kind of nice to have my own driver. Maybe I should take the advice I was given by some people on that drive, and sit in the back after all. If I do, I'll have to work on my "presidential" wave.

We did our customary drive through the tunnel and up I-64 to Williamsburg and our first stop. Apparently fast food doesn't agree with Donald's car. Right after we left that McDonald's the Midget started having a little "exhaust" problem. (So did I, but that's another story) After a brief, unscheduled stop at the Williamsburg Community Chapel we were on our way again.

If it wasn't enough that we spent the day in perfect weather with good friends under beautiful blue skies, the tour of the Hollywood Cemetery was fascinating. And so was our tour guide, LuAnn. When we first started the tour some of us thought it would be a slow and leisurely pace considering the apparent age of our guide, but boy, were we wrong! She said she was a teacher, but I think before that she must've worked as a Sherpa guide in the Himalayas.



*Country convoy routing*



In addition to finding out the reason for the name "Hollywood Cemetery" (hint, it's the trees, not movie stars or anything glamorous), we had a superb tour filled with fascinating facts about several points of interest such as the Iron Dog, the Monument to the Confederate War Dead, Davis Circle and the tombs of President James Monroe and John Tyler.



*Group shot. That's Upstate NY Carl, 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left....*

After we concluded the tour, it was off to one of our favorite places, Brickhouse Run, for lunch. For anyone who has never had the pleasure of a meal there (or a pint, for that matter), it is worth the drive to Petersburg. Kerry and I enjoyed a black and tan (or half-and-half, if you're Irish) and Shepherd's Pie.

There are those who might have passed up the opportunity of going with us on this drive, thinking that a tour of a cemetery was not the way to spend a Saturday. Well, don't be put off by something just because it is different or unusual. You just can't go wrong when you spend a day with the folks in our club. See you next time!





*Donald with notable forebears*



Approaching Brickhouse Run – just the place to recover from a grueling cemetery tour.....



## Membership Update for November 2015

From Bill Yoshida

**2016 Memberships:** As of 24 October there are 117 paid memberships with an additional 3 “Promised” renewals. I’ve removed 2 previous 2015 memberships from this year’s files, one due to non-response to numerous e-mails and phone messages; the second due to the inability to contact the member by either phone/cell phone or by e-mail.

**New Memberships:** We have no new memberships to report for October.

**Cars:** Total cars – 183

**Cars & Types:** 176 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
28	2	82	16	1	3	7	21	4	12

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

**Dues:** I turned over the following to Jim Villers: \$150 in checks and \$60 in cash on 28 September, an additional \$40 in checks along with \$20 in cash at the meeting on 12 October.

Jim also reported receiving one check for \$20 directly from a member on October 5<sup>th</sup>. I do not currently hold any money.

**2016 Annual Directory:** A digital copy of the 2016 Directory was sent to each TMGC Club member with a valid e-mail address prior to the September meeting. At the October meeting, I had paper copies of the Directory available for pick-up by members that had previously requested one. A few other members requested, and were provided, a paper copy at the meeting. Paper copies that were not picked up at the meeting were mailed on 16 September. A very limited number of paper copies are still available “by request”.

## Is Your Car in Need of a Tech Session?



Bring it to Susan & Terry's Garage  
Sunday, November 1st starting at 10 a.m.

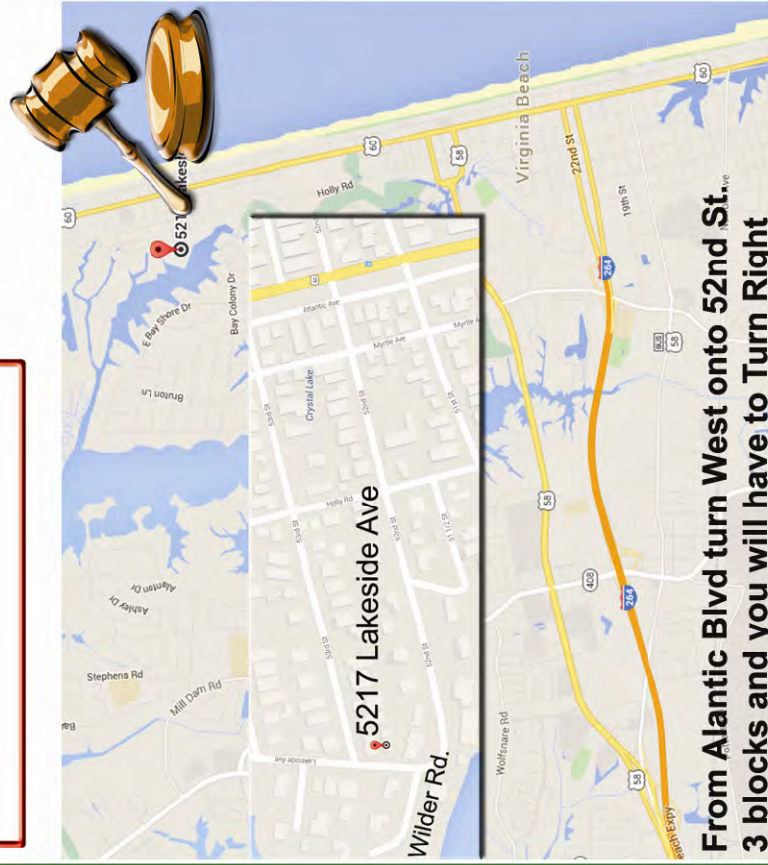


541 Forest Rd.  
Chesapeake, VA.  
482-5222



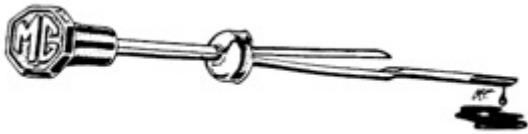


**Monthly Meeting**  
**Wednesday, Nov 4th**  
**Bob Vann**  
**5217 Lakeside Ave**  
**Virginia Beach**  
**757 620-6674**



**From Atlantic Blvd turn West onto 52nd St.  
 3 blocks and you will have to Turn Right  
 onto Lakeside Ave  
 then take the immediate  
 Left onto Wilder were you  
 can park. The House is on  
 Lakeside Ave. Gray in color  
 with a Blue Door.**

**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

*Affiliated with*



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