

Volume 43, Issue 8

August 2016



TMGCCC Meeting Minutes: July 6, 2016 at Great Neck Park, Virginia Beach, VA

We arrived at 6:35 PM to find Tad busy at the charcoal grill adjacent to Shelter #4. Burgers, dogs, brats, and sliced onions were already coming off the heat and onto the plates of eager diners. A variety of delicious sides and desserts were also available, along with soft drinks and bottled water. (Sadly, Virginia Beach City Parks are dry venues.)

President Perrone called the meeting to order at 7:48 PM and opened with a big "Thank You" to Karen and Tad for hauling all of the picnic gear to the park in Karen's trusty Subaru. Several guests were introduced, including Tony Kelly and Barney Gaylord, who came with John Terschak.

Tad reviewed recent activities such as the Ice Cream Runs (Peninsula and Southside editions) as well as MG 2016. The Louisville trek racked up about 1700 miles per participant and was a great success. We did have one unhappy incident, though, as Bob & Missy Mckenna had a mishap just as they were leaving for home. Thankfully, they are both OK, with some minor injuries, but minus one MGB.

The Treasurer's Report was delivered by Tad, who had the happy news that annual dues are flowing into club coffers again. Our bank balance rose from \$1273 to just over \$2388 in the last month! (Nice work Mr. Villers!)

Tad continued with his Activities Report by soliciting a site for the Christmas Party in December. So, if your estate/dacha/retreat is available, please let Tad know. Other upcoming events of note: Summer Tech Session on August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Freeh's; Barksdale Theater driveout is sold out. (This trip should prove interesting – Robert Perrone has been drafted as tour leader, due to the fact that the Carter family will be welcoming a new PhD to their clan on that date.)

The next meeting will be at Easley's on Wednesday, August 3rd, followed by Ocean View Pier (topside) in September. The Crooked Road Tour (September 15-18) has 19 participants so far, with some spots still available. Tad also reminded us that it's Show Season in this area, with New Kent and the Wings & Wheels shows highlighting the local offerings. Jennifer Ash mentioned another show in Hertford in October – details to follow.

Bill Yoshida reviewed membership status, with 74 renewals so far and only a few non-renewals, mostly due to people moving out of the area. New members include the Woolfords of Norfolk with a 1972 MGB-GT and Ryan Dixon, also of Norfolk, with a 1967 Midget. We operate 186 LBCs of all types, including 179 MGs.

Old business and new business were non-existent. For Marque Time, it was noted that Mark Childers is recovering well and is back at work. John Terschak announced his upcoming move back to Wakeman, OH, which is a town with lots of automobile credentials, including a British Car Club. John thanked everyone for their collected newspapers, which will assist with the packout. Fair Winds to the Terschaks! A motion to adjourn was quickly seconded at 8:05 PM, as the mosquitoes thickened and the Parks & Recreation minders arrived to secure the pavilion and close the park.

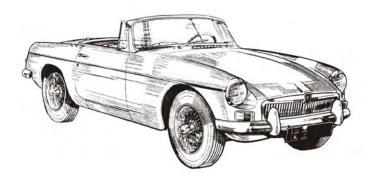
Reminder: next meeting is at the Easley Compound in idyllic Seaford, VA on August 3rd.







## Marque Time



After all the years I've enjoyed being a member of this club, sometimes I'm sometimes still surprised by how much enthusiasm there is from our members. I'm referring to the July meeting that we held at the Great Neck Park. Despite the fact that it was just 2 days after a long Independence Day weekend, and that there were some heavy thunderstorms in the area, we had a much larger turnout than expected.

Of course, many thanks for all the planning and preparation that went into that by Tad and Karen. Often many of us that have never hosted a meeting don't stop to think about what it takes to do that, much less what it takes to pull off a "picnic" meeting or a Holiday Party.

In order that we could enjoy our time together in July, Tad and Karen had to reserve the park, plan the menu, purchase all of the food, condiments, plates, utensils, napkins and so forth. Then they prepared and packed up everything, loaded up the car, went to the park, unpacked, set up and had it all ready, hours before any of us arrived. But they also cooked and served all of the food, took care of all of the members and guests that attended the meeting, then cleaned and packed up everything after the meeting. And all with smiles! Thank you both again.

I hope that we have another good turnout next month. Everyone from the Southside should have a nice ride when we travel to our August meeting hosted by Bruce and Jayne. In the meantime, enjoy the warm weather and make the most of the summer in your LBC!







# Activities

### By Tad Carter



Congratulations to all who braved the weather forecast and joined us at Great Neck Park for the July meeting. While parts of the Hampton Roads area were treated to some pretty significant downpours, our little corner of Tidewater remained dry throughout the evening. Thank you to Janice (key lime tarts), Kathy (brownies), Rose (pasta salad), PJ (potato salad), Cynthia (Caprese salad), Jennifer (cake) and Karen (an infinite amount of help in making sure everything was acquired and arrived on time). I missed the provider of the bean salad. Thanks to you, too. I hope I didn't miss anyone else. I'll let you in on a secret – the evening air felt almost cool after working the grill. I'm sure Robert and other grill masters can attest to that.

This coming Sunday (8/7) is the date of our Summer Tech Session. Hosted by Linda and Jim Freeh in Chesapeake, this is an ideal time to get hands-on assistance or great technical advice for just about any car problem. If you need hands-on help, you should bring your own parts. If it advice you seek, bring something with which and on which to write down the sage wisdom of our MG gurus. Things kick off at 10am and we are usually enjoying Linda's great cooking by about noon. This tech session often draws in a wider assortment of vehicles than our other events. Come on out for the show.

I think it was terribly inconsiderate of UVA to not consult with me prior to scheduling their graduation programs. While we will miss being with you on the 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be honored to join in celebration with family in Charlottesville. Thank you to Robert Perrone for volunteering (OK- he was voluntold) to head up the convoy out to Hanover for this year's play at the Barksdale Theatre. We will be seeing yet another Neil Simon favorite, "Brighton Beach Memoirs". Prior to that it is lunch on the road. I'm sure Cul and his crew will offer up some great food. And please remember, Robert is driving a rookie pace car. He is allowed at least one U-turn.

As I write this just after Independence Day, it is tough to think that we are approaching the end of the summer. Alas, it is so. We have celebrated at our September meeting at Ocean View Fishing Pier each of the last three years. We are set there once again on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. Weather permitting, we will be back on the top deck. Plan on arriving in the 6:00pm-6:30pm range. They will seat us and take orders as we arrive. If we stagger in, it eases things for the kitchen. If we stagger out, that's your problem. Please drive carefully.

And yes, this is the start of show season. There are several local shows highlighted on the calendar in The Dipstick with contact and registration information. Many of these shows are well attended by club members. Ask around. I'm sure you can find travel partners, if you prefer a convoy to solo flight.

Fall Tour Crooked Roaders – be on the lookout for an email outlining some of our travel plans.

Last February, some pretty tough winter weather (for Tidewater) forestalled our planned visit to Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck, VA. We're going to give it another try on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Pencil that one in. I'm still working with the park for our tour guide and with the restaurant in Edenton. Tour pricing remains the same - \$13 per person, \$11 for those of MG-TD age or better.

<u>Special Note</u> - Our next meeting is on <u>Wednesday, August 3rd</u>, rather than 8/2 as originally scheduled. We will be making a return visit to Jayne and Bruce Easley's home in Seaford. Thank you for having us back. We'll see you there at 7:30.

### Dipstick Calendar – August, 2016

Saturdays – Cars & Coffee
Classic Motor Museum
102 E Marengo St, St. Michaels, MD
9am-11am

#### **MEETING DATE CHANGE**

- Aug. 3 Wednesday Monthly Meeting
  Hosted by Jayne and Bruce Easley in Seaford
- Aug. 7 Summer Tech Session in Chesapeake Hosted by Linda & Jim Freeh
- Aug. 21 Sunday Barksdale Theatre

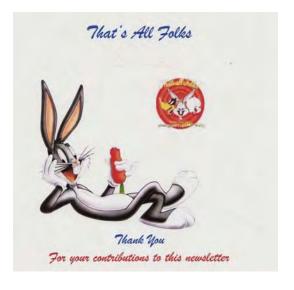
  Neil Simon's Brighton Beach Memoirs
- Sep. 7 Wednesday Monthly Meeting Ocean View Fishing Pier
- Sep. 3 4 VA Scottish Games, The Plains, VA
  British and Antique Car and Motorcycle Show
  www.VAScottishGames.org
- Sep. 9 11 Vintage Car Festival Watkins Glen
- Sep. 15 18 Drive the Crooked Road Fall Tour
- Sep. 16 18 CVBCC Classics on the Green New Kent Winery <u>www.BritishCarClub.com</u>
- Sep. 24 AACA Wings and Wheels, PungoAirfiled www.traaca.com
- Sep. 30 Oct. 1 SVBCC 35<sup>th</sup> Annual British Car Festival Waynesboro <u>www.svbcc.org</u>
- Oct. 4 Tuesday Monthly Meeting Hosted by Renee and Bill Olcheski
- Oct. 8 Sylvan Heights Bird Park Scotland Neck, NC and Edenton, NC for lunch (tentative date)
- Nov. Fall Tech Session TBD
- Nov. 2 Wednesday Monthly Meeting Hosted by Mathieu Huovinen
- Dec. 10 Holiday Party Hosted by Faith and PJ Peterson
- Dec. 13 Tuesday Holiday Lights Drive



Artist's conception of Bob and his MGA Barn Find after restoration (update on page 7)



Craig & Joyce Cummings' Silver Medalist at MG 2016



### **Bill's Membership Update for August 2016**

**2017** Membership: Registration for 2017 has slowed down in the past few weeks. As of 21 July there are 84 paid renewal and new memberships with 3additional "Promises" to renew. Renewal Forms may be found on line at www.mg.org. I've requested Mark& Kathy to continue to include a copy of the Renewal Form in this issue of "*The Dipstick*". If you haven't already sent in your renewal, please fill out a copy and send it to me along with \$20 in the form of cash, check or money order. Highlight any changes from last year's information. If you have no changes to the data you provided in the past you only need to submit the \$20 in dues, and I will transfer your prior data from last year's roster, and use the same info for the 2017 Annual Directory. If you do not desire to renew your membership for 2017, please let me know by e-mail - williamryoshida@verizon.net - or by phone (757) 554-0402, so I can remove you from the TMGC listings. I will send out another "Delinquency Notice" in early August to members that haven't yet renewed their 2017 membership. If you believe you've received one in error please let me know.

**2017 Non-Renewals:** I regret thatI received notification from Ali Calvert & Jason Miller that they have moved to CA and will not be renewing this year. The good news is that they hope to be back in Tidewater in about 5 years. Congrats to Dan Ray who is retiring from the Arm. He and Judith are moving to AZ. Tina Pittman and Ira Brice have put their MG Midget Project on hold for a while. We hope they rejoin in the future. Two members from 2016 - Jared Church and Cathy Demartino - had not renewed their memberships.

**New Memberships**: None since June.

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Cars: Total cars – 186 (If all remaining 2016 memberships renew for 2017)

**Cars & Types:** 179 of the following types of MGs:

MGA A- Coupe B B-GT C C-GT TC TD TF Midget 29 2 82 17 1 4 7 21 4 12

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

**Dues:** I was unable to turn over any dues money to Jim Villers at the July Meeting/Picnic since he was not in attendance. As of 21 July I hold \$380 in checks and \$20 in cash for turnover to Jim.



MGA in the Barn (Update 1 July 2016) By Bob Stein

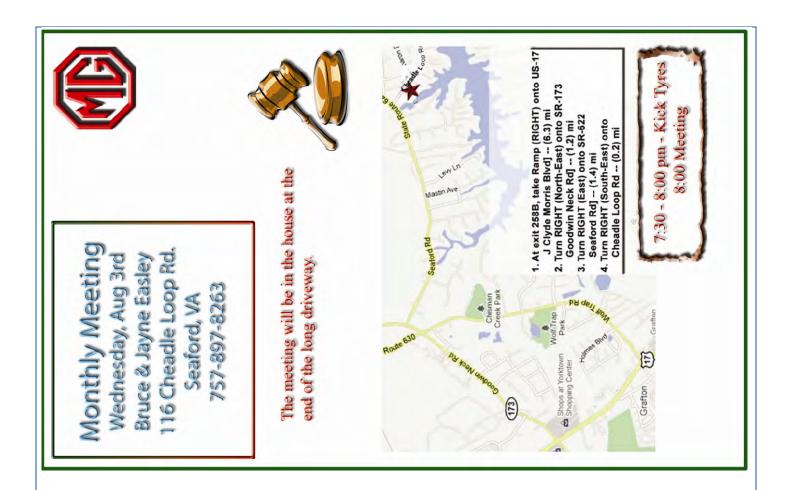
When we last left our hero... the MGA was running well and showed promise of being able to make it around the block. That promise was kept early in June, when I was able to drive the MGA around the neighborhood under its own power. The brakes pulled a bit, but were solid and effective. However, the clutch was slipping so badly it took about five seconds to start moving the car. Once we were moving, the engine pulled strong and sounded great.

The suspension felt tight, and there were no unusual noises from the transmission or rear axle. All good news. Some investigation revealed a bolt in place of the clevis pin that was supposed to be in the clutch fork. I had hopes that the clutch linkage was binding as a result, but the slipping continued after a new clevis pin was installed. I was getting full motion at the clutch fork, which meant the clutch pack itself had issues. Which further meant the engine had to come out.

I celebrated July 4<sup>th</sup> by liberating the MGA's engine – the job was straightforward, however, a small incident underlined the fact the car has been sitting for more than 30 years. The heater valve hose nipple broke off from internal corrosion. That prompted a hard look at plans to use the car as a driver. As a result, I sat down and ordered just about everything needed to rebuild the car's mechanicals: major suspension kit, clutch, new brake cylinders and shoes, radiator, seals, gaskets, and wiring harness. As usual, Moss delivered it all the next business day.

Pulling the 1500 engine also means that I will install the rebuilt MGB 1800 engine that came with the MGA. It is already set up for the MGA and ready to drop in with the exception of a 1500 MGA back plate to allow use of the original transmission. The back plate and flywheel are at Abacus Racing for machine work. In the meantime, I have cleaned 58 years of grease, oil, and dirt from the engine bay and am starting to sand and paint. Oh, as a side note, I am taking digital photos of everything as both a record and a reference for putting the car back together.





## The Dipstick



#### **Tidewater MG Classics**

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