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# Wings And Wheels 2017



## So Close...But Yet So Far

By Andy Wallach

As soon as you are finished restoring a car, it begins to fade. So, if you want your car judged, you should get it to an AACA (Antique Automobile Club of America) show as soon as possible. AACA judges cars on originality. Having almost finished my latest project, a red 1953 MG TD, I signed up for the Tidewater AACA show Wings and Wheels at the Military Aviation Museum on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Frank Linse helped me install the convertible top (hood in British) early in September and I just had a few more things to do. I installed the windshield wiper motor and wipers and a new turn signal flasher compatible with my led taillights. Only problem was the car was overheating...even on cool days. I had tested the thermostat prior to installing by putting it in very hot water and it opened fine. The radiator looked like it had been re-cored. (When you are in the process of restoring three TDs, one does not always remember where parts come from and what had been done to them). After consulting the internet, I decided to remove the thermostat and blocking the radiator by-pass. This is occurring the day before the show. Drain the radiator; remove the bonnet (hood in American) to gain access; remove hoses,

take off the thermostat housing. Then attempt to remove the two screws that hold the bypass elbow to the thermostat housing so I can install a solid gasket to block water flow. Both screws break off. No problem. Parts are parts. I have other housings. Find one that already has the elbow removed. Then found out that the thermostat is not removable from the housing. Solution, break off round disc that closes and opens depending on the temperature. This will allow increased water flow. Lets find some screws to attach the bypass elbow. These seem to work...uh oh, broke one off. So now drill out the broken screw end in the housing and tap out some new threads. Now wire brush off the rust and dirt on the replacement housing and spray paint. Install the bypass solid gasket and tighten screws very gingerly. Then installation. Refill radiator. Start it up and view the spray. The bypass elbow is leaking. Don't want to overtighten the screws. Drain the radiator, remove the bypass elbow, coat the gasket with Permatex, reinstall, fill the radiator, start the car, and there is still a leak. Tighten the screws a little more carefully and no leak. Let the car idle...temperature rises but doesn't over heat.



Success. Clean things up and call it a day. Will get up early the next day and get ready for the show.

What a beautiful day! About 70 degrees and sunny. My wife, Cynthia, helps me re-install the bonnet; I pack-up my supplies and tools; and set off to pick up Frank and go to the show. While the engine seemed to run warm, especially for a cool day, it did not over-heat. All is fine.

I pick up Frank and we enjoy wonderful top-down cruising down Virginia Beach roads toward Pungo. Then "bang". It sounds like the whole rear-end dropped out. We coast towards a farm house driveway while looking back to see if we left anything in the road. But the cars following us didn't swerve and there was nothing in the road. Felt the rear-end and it was very hot. AAA carried us home. I have placed an order for a replacement rear-end with a 4.3 conversion vice the MG TD normal 5.125. This is the ratio of the drive-shaft turns to rear wheel turns. For the normal TD, the drive-shaft turns 5.125 times to rotate the wheels once. The lower ratio rear-end allows one to travel at highway speeds at lower engine rotations (lower RPMs).

#### Maybe next year?





# Wings and Wheels TMGC Winners

#### Class Winners from TMGC include:

Susan Bond	1948 MG TC	1 <sup>st</sup>
Allen Hazlett	1966 MGB	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Patrick Smith	1963 MGB	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Patrick Smith	1966 MGB	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Dennis Hennessey	1977 MGB	1 <sup>st</sup>
David Ford	1972 MGB	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Billy Stutz	1971 MGB	2 <sup>nd</sup>



## Dipstick Calendar - November 2017

Nov. 1 - (Wed) Monthly Meeting - in VB Chili Cook-off Hosted by Pete Olson

Richard &Sandy Hall 1973 MGB GT

Nov. 11 - (Sat) Michie Tavern & Monticello Tour

Nov. 12 - (Sun) Fall Tech Session - Norfolk Hosted by Rachel & Mathieu Huovinen

Dec. 9 - (Sat) Holiday Party Hosted by Betty and Jim Villers

Dec. 12 - (Tue) Holiday Lights
Franco's Restaurant - 6:00pm
Depart for Norfolk Botanical Gardens - 7:30pm
(dopomangiato)

#### 2018 Calendar

Jan 3 (Wed) – Monthly Meeting in VB Frankie's Place for Ribs 6:00 – 6:30 (for dinner)

Meeting to follow.

Feb 6 (Tue) – Monthly Meeting in Hampton Oozlefinch Brewery – 6:30 – 9:00pm

Feb – TBD – Snowball Run – Meet-up with Central Virginia BCC

Mar. 7 - (Wed) Monthly Meeting - TBA

Mar. 25 (Sun) – *At Wit's End* Hanover, VA Barksdale Theatre

### **Activity Report - November 2017**

We finish off our review of MGs in print with one last image from Marks & Spencer, a London-based retailer of clothing and gift items. This still is from an advert aired earlier this year. The MGB still has great appeal!

If you are reading this in an early edition of The Dipstick, consider this one last alert that our November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is our annual Chili Cook-off. With the onset of cool evenings, it is a perfect time to bring out that favorite recipe and compete for the coveted title of Chili Chef of the Year. And if you are reading this in a late edition of The Dipstick, I hope you enjoyed the taste-test and found a new favorite to add to your repertoire.



For those in need of one more road trip, mark your calendar for **Saturday, November 11**<sup>th</sup>. The plan is for an early departure from Tidewater, arriving at Michie Tavern in Charlottesville for brunch and a tour (\$25.30pp). After that, it is a short hop over to Monticello, where we will tour the grounds and house, and get special sneak-peak up in the dome (\$20pp).

The following day, **Sunday, November 12**<sup>th</sup>, we have our final Tech Session of the year. We are hosted by Rachel and Mathieu Huovinen in Ocean View. In addition to working on your own projects, you will get a glimpse of his handiwork with the cars he has in process. Doors open at 10am. I hope to see you there.

On **Tuesday, December 12th**, we have our Holiday Lights drive. Dinner arrangements have been made at Franco's (6:00pm), after which we will parade into the Botanical Gardens to enjoy the lights. We have dinner seating for 25. If you know you will be there, please let me know in advance so that we can adjust our reservation. As always, we'll keep an eye on the weather and reschedule if advisable.

Our Holiday Party is scheduled for **Saturday, December 9**th at the home of Betty and Jim Villers in Virginia Beach. Check the December Dipstick for what you can add to the potluck dinner.

January and February meetings are all set, but we do have openings for hosting for many other months. Are you up for a visit from a reasonably well-behaved group of LBC fans? Let me know so that we can include you on the meeting schedule. Your hospitality is greatly appreciated.

We are working on a meet-up with the Central Virginia British Car Club in February as part of their Snow-Ball Run. Dates and destinations are still being planned. As a fall-back, plans are in the works for another tour of the burgeoning Spirits industry throughout Tidewater. Whether it is Chesapeake Bay Distillers and Green Flash Brewery in Virginia Beach, or Silver Hand Meadery and Eight Shires Distillery in Williamsburg, there is plenty to see, plenty to taste, and

some interesting roads on which to drive. Hmmm - we may just have to do this, regardless of any Snow-Ball event.

On **Sunday, March 25**th, we venture west once again, to Hanover Tavern, and an afternoon at the theatre. Join us as Erma Bombeck comes to life in *At Wit's End*. We have 18 seats reserved at this point, most of which are taken. If you want to be added to the list, please let me know early so that we can add to our reservation. This will be an all-day trip, departing from Tidewater, and stopping for lunch somewhere along the way. We'll wait a while to see which restaurants are still open before a final decision is made.

And looking a little farther into the year, you will see that both the NAMGAR (Richmond) and NAMGBR (Gettysburg) shows are in our time zone in June. While their registration sites are not yet available, it's never too early to check travel schedules.

Sorry – nothing else going on right now.

Tad Carter



## Marque Time



Fellow MG enthusiasts,

I am once again honored to serve as president of the fine organization. I am sure that before receiving the 100%+ support of the voting club members, the records were closely examined and the question asked, "What could possibly go wrong?" When comparing me to other elected leaders such as Fidel Castro, I am sure that I will exceed your expectations.

Thank you to Robert the president emeritus and all who have worked to make Tidewater MG Classics the success that it is. We are a warm, caring club with a wealth of MG information and ideas on how to make driving our collector cars more enjoyable. Please make it a point to reach out to new members and guests at meetings and events.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you and eating chili at the November meeting hosted by Pete.

Safety Fast!!!!

Bill

Club President

## TMGCCC October 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Our illustrious group gathered at the hallowed halls (and garage) of future President Bill Olcheski and his lovely future First Lady Renee, and due to Bill's alter ego as Block Captain we DID own the road. Prez Robert Perrone called the meeting to order and thanked the hosts, then called for comments or approval of the September minutes. The minutes were approved. Robert shared that our VP/ Activities Director Tad and his wife Karen were in Europe and wouldn't be joining us. However, Treasurer Jim Villers announced a December activity -he and Betty will be hosting the annual Christmas Party at their home on December 9 starting at 6:30 PM.

Bill Yoshida was delayed due to roofing at his home, and Susan Bond was not in attendance, so no History at the meeting. Dipstick Guru Mark Davidoski thanked PJ and Faith for their great report on the Syzygy Eclipse Tour, and reminded the group that articles are wanted and due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Treasurer Jim Villers reported that after receipts of \$557.00 for dues, etc. and disbursements of \$275.00 for activities and dipstick, the club has a balance of \$2,677.72

PrezPerrone discussed the nomination process for the candidates for election at the meeting, and particularly noted the challenges with getting "new blood" to step up and volunteer for offices. He also shared the rationale regarding potential candidates for President, in that the consensus of the Nominating Committee was that Tad Carter was a more valuable asset in the position as Activities Director, and club Bylaws prevent him filling that role as well as President at the same time. The slate of to be voted on was as follows:

President: Bill Olcheski

Vice President: Faith Peterson Secretary: Cynthia Faschini Treasurer: Jim Villers

Membership Chair: Bill Yoshida

Dipstick Editor: Mark & Kathy Davidoski

Activities Chair: Tad Carter

Jim Villers made a motion that the slate be approved as proposed by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded and a voice vote was requested. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business: MatthieuHuovinen had been contacted by Tad Carter to see if he and Rachael would consider hosting the next Tech Session, since the Bonds will have to "bow out" due to medical (broken leg) and other considerations. The Tech Sesh will be at the Huovinen's on Sunday November 12.

Bill Yoshida arrived and updated the assembly on memberships. We have 106 paid members and 177 cars. Bill also provided details on member activities such as change of address, etc. and stated that the new club Directory would be out after this meeting, to allow for inclusion of the names of new officers.

Old business – none; Marque Tyme – nada.

Recorded by Bruce Easley



## **Dipstick November 2018**

**2018 Membership:** As of 20 October there are 109 paid memberships, with a "promise" of renewal from 3 remaining members. Breaking news - I received a phone call tonight that a one member's check will be in the mail tomorrow. Another member is on an extended vacation and I anticipate a renewal check will be sent upon return from travel.

New Memberships: None

Cars: Total cars – 176

Cars & Types: 169 of the following types of MGs:

MGA A- Coupe B B-GT C C-GT TC TD TF Midget 27 2 73 19 1 4 7 20 4 8

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

Note: Tino has disposed of all his MG's.

**Dues:** I turned over \$40 in cash and \$60 in checks to Jim Villers at the October meeting. As of 20 September I hold \$60 in checks and no cash for turnover to Jim.

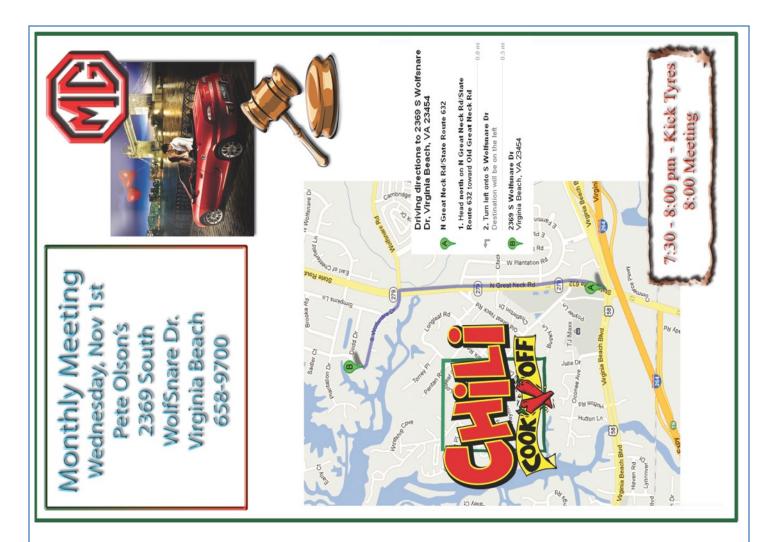
**2018 Annual Directory:** I regret that I've not been able to focus on assembling the 2018 Directory. Simply stated, it will not be ready for paper distribution by the November Meeting. A digital copy of the 2018 Directory will be sent to each member (that have provided an e-mail address) once it is completed and sent to the printer to prepare paper copies. A limited number of paper copies will be available "by request". If you received a paper copy last year we already have you marked to receive one again this year. If you no longer desire to receive a paper copy, or if you want to be added to the list to receive a paper copy of the Directory,

send me an e-mail.

I have hinted at meetings that I am looking for someone to replace me as Membership chair. I'm certain there is someone that is much more computer savvy than I am; someone who can master the Membership position with ease. Programs I currently use are Microsoft - Excel, Publisher and Word. I took the Membership position when I was a new member in the club 10 years ago. It is a great way to get involved and get to know all current and new members. Please let me know if you have any interest and I will provide you in with the all the details of the position.

Bill Yoshida





# The Dipstick



#### **Tidewater MG Classics**

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski 4705 Little John Road Virginia Beach, VA 23455 davidoskicrew@cox.net

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