

Volume 45 Issue 8

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MG 2018 – On the road again (with apologies to Willie Nelson!)

We're off again for another of Tad's adventures, exploring the finest back-roads available. This time, our destination(s) were an overnighter in historic Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, and eventually Gettysburg, PA for the much anticipated MG 2018. This gathering of the MGB faithful had been in the planning for several years and did not disappoint! But first, the journey!

The small contingent of Tidewater MG's met across the water at Coliseum Mall in Hampton. It was already in the 80's and the forecast was for the heat to climb during the day. We were anxious to get on the road and get some air moving. Tad and Karen led the way, with PJ and Faith Peterson, and Susan and I in between. Gee --the cars were redwhite and blue. How patriotic!

After smoothly navigating a little further north, we turned on to back roads beyond Richmond, where we were treated to several miles of tree-shaded trails through the cool, quiet countryside. With hardly another vehicle in sight, we straightened out some interesting pathways. Where does Tad find these roads?

Our first stop was to top off the petrol tanks, then on the Frost Café in historic Culpepper, Va. Just the thought of a café named "Frost" dropped our temperature ten degrees, and although the sign on the corner bank now read 92, we were all still fairly comfortable. There was more wonderful scenery in store as we ambled on towards our next stop – the Barrel Oak Winery, Brewery and family friendly fun place at Delaplane. Yup, it was all of the above! There was a beautiful building nestled



on the side of a hill surrounded by vineyards. There were picnic tables, fire-pits (for much colder weather), play areas for kids, a brick-oven pizzeria outside, and food trucks parked nearby.

Inside was quite a surprise – we were personally greeted by the owner and quickly observed families sitting around visiting, reading, playing games and just enjoying themselves over a glass of wine (or a bottle). There were children playing, and even the family dog was welcome here. What a cool place! The other side of the wine tasting area was a brewery with an antique tractor on a platform above the tasting bar. Some enjoyed a glass of vino, but we elected to try the flight of beers – all delicious. We spent time at a table on the patio listening to live music, enjoying a nice cooling breeze. I'd say we managed to keep the day pretty cool!



Although we could have spent the entire afternoon there, we still had mileage to unwind on the way to Harper's Ferry.

Again, there were more Tad Carter certified winding, cool roads through more mountainous areas. The Hotel was a Holiday Inn Express, fairly new and in a very nice location – only a short distance from the evening's meal and much deserved cold beverage.

The Anvil restaurant in Harper's Ferry was an old historic inn that we literally had all to ourselves. The atmosphere was so right for this ancient old city, and it was really a fine evening with MG friends. We all elected to turn in early and tour historic Harpers Ferry the next morning before the heat of the day really developed.

After a breakfast at the hotel, we motored on a short distance to the historic part of town. The air-conditioned shuttle bus was welcome as the temp quickly climbed into the mid 90s, and reached near 100 by the time we had our lunch break.

Susan chose to make the climb to the top of the city. Climbing the Appalachian Trail Staircase led to the ruins of St. John's Church and Jefferson Rock, with amazing views of the city and surrounding area.



Hotel Reception with '65 B roadster!



This used to be Harry Watson's car.

Now owned by Larry Norton,

NAMGBR Secretary

Several of us stayed down in the town proper to tour through the historic buildings. I particularly enjoyed the air-conditioned 1800's country store. Time spent on the front porch of the gift shop was also quite restful – a bit of shade on an extremely hot day.

Lunch was in a well air-conditioned basement café – "The Cannon-Ball." After soaking up a bit more history, we were on towards Gettysburg. Less than two hours later, we pulled into the hotel just at the intersection of Routes 15 and 30, the historic Lincoln Highway. The sights and sounds of MGs were music to our ears. A blue pull-handle 1965 MGB Roadster was parked in the hotel lobby as a welcome. There were MGs parked everywhere and the place was buzzing with activity.

After checking in, we discovered that on the campus of the two major hotels, there was also a nice restaurant and brewpub. What a perfect place for dinner!

We made it this far – cars and people all seemed to have survived the heat.

So now, the handoff to the next contributors for the rest of the story of this great week of total MG immersion!

submitted by Terry Bond

National Car Show - Day Three - by Faith and PJ Peterson

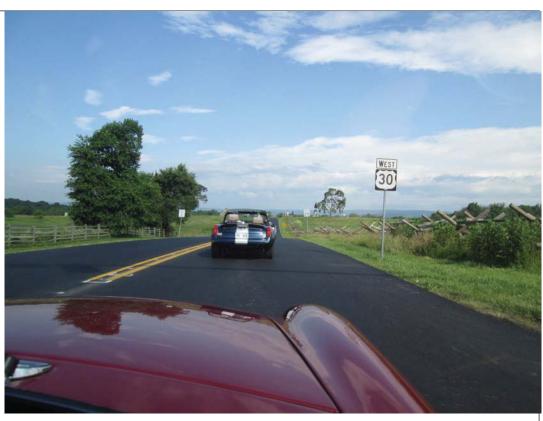
Our first morning at the car show with a very tough decision that needed to be made first thing in the morning. Breakfast at the hotel for \$15 per person or McDonald's where two can eat for the price of one. No brainer, but I think it was karma that led us to McDonald's that morning. Just as we are pulling into the parking space PJ noticed an MG parking along side a van and then the guy starts to take apart the back of the car. Immediately PJ springs to the trunk, pulls out the jump start thingamabob and heads over to stop the dismantling of the MG. The owner of the van, with the dead battery, was skeptical about the jump pack and inquired as to how long it would take to charge his battery as he was taking his daughter to college and they needed to be there within two hours. PJ proceeded to jump start the van on the first try, unfortunately, the college student thought her dad said turn it off, which she promptly did. Take 2, reset the jump pack, jump the car, thank everyone and head off for college. All this before breakfast.

Luckily, we made it back to the hotel in time to leave on the covered bridge tour. Of course, just a few miles down the road and we run into road construction, to be precise, road repaving. As PJ ran two red lights to keep up with Tad, the other two cars in our group were not as lucky. As we waited on the other side of the construction zone the line of cars headed east started to make their way down the one lane road, except for one car, which just sat there in front of us. About five or six car horns later, with no response from the stopped car, the other vehicles started going around it. I mused that maybe he was dead or something. Once again, PJ jumped from the MG, dodged upset drivers trying to get around the car and proceeded to bang on this guy's window. No, luckily he wasn't dead, he had just been dead asleep. What are the odds of two jump starts in one day. The guy didn't look very thankful and proceeded about three car lengths from his previous position only to be stopped once again in traffic. We didn't stick around to see if he stayed awake as the rest of the group was making its way towards us and we were once again off on our covered bridge tour. For those who are counting, two jump starts but no covered bridges as of yet.



A quick stop for fuel and then off again only this time we ran into a very dark cloud that decided it had been holding in the water for too long and so it proceeded to rain. We kept going until we found a place to stop but by then the storm had passed and we didn't need to put the tops up on the MGs.

So, now we are finally to the point of the whole story. The covered bridge tour. With not one, not two, but five covered bridges.



Cruising the Lincoln Highway in style

We slowly proceeded over each bridge trying not to go too fast so we could take pictures. Each was a little different but they all had that beautiful charm you are looking for in a covered bridge and not one looked like it was going to fall down on top of us as we went under it. Success.

Final stop of the tour, LUNCH, at the Boiling Springs Tavern, with a wonderful view of the creek. The food was very good and after lunch we went out to view a few of the springs and watch some ducks and two swans in the river. We ended up back at the hotel in time for nap.



Wednesday was a day of rest and relaxation. At the recommendation of Tad, Mike and Denise headed over to the Gettysburg Family Diner for breakfast. Apparently so did many other folks at MG 2018, since there were quite a few MGs in the parking lot, and many folks sporting MG clothing in the diner. After waiting a bit, we were seated and were joined a little later by Susan and Terry. Tad was right, good food at a good price. After returning to the Wyndham, Mike was able to catch the last part of the "Paint Restoration & Detailing Tips" tech session being held under the side portico. The presenter said that only cars with their bonnets open get votes, so you might as well clean up your engine compartment. He went on to say that the maroon engine paint commonly used has undergone changes in formula over the years, and in his opinion, is no longer a true representation of the original color used. One of the participants, a concours judge, mentioned that Duplicolor Deep Canyon Red paint is spot-on accurate to the original color and is also resistant to chemicals. After the tech session several members were seen doing some MG shopping at the various vendors. Shopping was a little disappointing, as there didn't seem to be as many vendors at this convention as in previous ones.

There were two tech sessions I wanted to attend in the afternoon, but unfortunately they were at the same time. Susan and Terry, along with Denise, attended Kelvin Dodd's talk on "Why Did They Do That?", a look at parts sources, manufacturing, and other topics that tried to explain why MG did certain things. Mike went to the "Post Abingdon Talking Tour" on the side portico, where the MG Club of Toronto showed two MGFs and one MGTF. One MGF was discussed in detail, from the front to the rear, pointing out many unique features while talking about its development and history. The owner of the 2nd MGF talked about the LHD conversion performed in Canada on his RHD drive import from the UK. Finally, the

2004 MGTF was shown and discussed, my favorite. The car had SC plates, and I had a chance to discuss its history in a little more detail with the owner. Originally bought in Mexico, it was imported through the port of Miami, and registered in FL, a state with no inspections. Later bought by the current owner, it was registered in SC, another state with no inspection. The key here seems to be to own property in a state with no car inspections, and get it titled in that state! Although it may be legal in that particular state, the federal government still takes a dim view on the legality of these "grey market" vehicles. Kind of like smoking pot, it may be legal in some states, but the feds still consider it illegal. Those lucky Canadians, they can import foreign cars after only 15 years, where we in the states are still limited to 25 years or older. A law that needs changing! After this tech session ended, I caught the last 20 minutes or so of Kelvin's presentation, and by that time he was discussing mostly distributors and associated wiring.



Karen's Happy Place!

Tad and Karen headed west on Route 30 Wednesday to Big Ed's Elephant Museum & Candy Emporium and the Sew'n Place, two businesses we passed by on Tuesday's Covered Bridges Tour. At the Sew'n Place, the owner took a picture of Tad's MGB and posted it on her Facebook page, see the accompanying picture.

Later that afternoon, Denise and I headed down to the bar for a drink, where we met up with Larry Norton, the NAMBGR Secretary. Larry had helped me last summer clearing up a renewal and MG Driver problem, and I thanked him again. Larry bought the MGB GT of former TMGC member Harry Watson, and drove it to the show. Still looks as beautiful as when Harry had it restored. We also ran into the owner of the MGTF I had talked to earlier, and he told me more tales of his car, which I won't repeat here. He mentioned that he is importing an MG RV8, due to arrive later this summer. These early RV8's are now legal to import into the US, having been first available in 1993.

Tad & Karen joined the group for dinner at, yes you guessed it, the Appalachian Brewing Company brewpub next to the hotel for the 3rd night in a row eating there. Well, why not? With many different excellent beers to choose from, a good food selection, and stumbling distance back to the hotel, what could be better? After dinner, many of us held another parking lot party next to Susan & Terry's MGB GT. A little drizzle earlier on drove the music and many of the crowd inside, but by the time we got there, the weather cooperated. Along with the usual talk of MG stuff, PJ regaled us with tales of his time in the Army and the many parachute jumps he took, along with some of the broken bones he suffered during his career. Ouch!

Thursday, June 21st

There was some overnight and early morning rain, but thankfully that stopped in time for the show on Thursday in a large field at Gateway Gettysburg, near the hotel and theater complex. Since we didn't have a car to show, Denise and I headed back to the Gettysburg Family Diner for breakfast. While waiting in line we chatted with two older gentlemen ahead of us. When they were seated, they motioned for us to join them.



Part of the MG 2018 Show Field

We discovered they were brothers from MD, and the older brother had an MG Magnette at the show. After talking about MGs for a while, we learned they had both served in Vietnam, although not at the same time. The older brother was an Army medic serving on the front lines for most of his tour. The younger brother drove a truck for most of his tour, ferrying supplies to the various outposts.

After some interesting discussions, we all finished and headed over to the show. By then it was somewhat overcast, but thankfully the skies cleared and it was nice the rest of the day. The show field was divided in half by a dirt road, with the early cars towards the front working back on the left side, then shifting over to the right side continuing towards the front as the cars got newer. At least that's how it appeared to be set up for the most part, with some minor variations. There was quite a few V8 MGBs at the show, along with a spattering of MGAs, T-series MGs, and a couple of Magnettes to keep things interesting. We saw fellow TMGC members Doug & Eiko Wilson showing their '76 MGB, it was good seeing them there. Towards the end of the show I went over to the black Magnette of the older brother we had breakfast with. I saw an Austria sticker on the back, and asked the younger brother about it. He confided that they were born in Austria, and their family emigrated to the US in 1955. He became a naturalized citizen in 1968 and two months later got his draft notice! Tad & Karen skipped the show and instead toured the Gettysburg Battlefield in a double-decker bus. It may not have been a British doubledecker bus, but close enough. Go to our club website to see pictures from the show, where you can see a link to a drone video of the show as well. Also, go to the MG 2018 web site for more pictures and videos. After the show it was time to walk around the parking lot again for one last look at any MGs you missed or wanted to get another look at. We all met at the reception area for drinks before the banquet. There we met former TMGC member Tom Sawyer, who moved back to Canada and is a member of the Ottawa MG club. When the doors to the banquet room finally opened, there was a mad rush to get in and claim tables. By the time we got in, there were no empty tables left for us to sit at. So, it was every couple for themselves! I did spot Susan & Terry a couple of tables away, and PJ & Faith near the front center. I did not see Doug & Eiko, hopefully they found a place. After dinner and the usual speeches, the awards were handed out. Susan took a 3rd place for her 1974 MGB GT, congratulations!



Susan's 3rd place winner with brethren

Eiko and Doug's gorgeous B

Friday Morning, June 22nd

Friday morning came too quickly, and it was time for everyone to leave, all taking different routes. Tad & Karen headed down to Alexandria, VA to visit family before heading home. PJ & Faith headed over to the Skyline Drive before heading home. Susan & Terry drove down Routes 15 and 17 to avoid the traffic around DC. Mike and Denise stayed in Gettysburg through the weekend, although in a different hotel. Mike's brother and sister-in-law drove down from Rochester to spend the weekend together. On Saturday we visited several wineries (of course!) and on Sunday we toured the battlefield. On Monday we also drove down Routes 15 & 17 to get around DC and NOVA. All in all, a great week spent with friends and the cars we enjoy in a lovely and historic part of our country.



Marque Time

Greetings MG Enthusiasts,

The word must have gotten out on Tuesday, July 10. A former and current president, both with inflated visions of self importance, would be traveling the roads.

The tunnel was clear and traffic flowed freely as the red MG Roadster carried the delusional celebrities to the July meeting. When we arrived at Bruce and Jayne's waterfront retreat we were greeted with minimal fanfare. Both Robert and I appreciated the group controlling their excitement.

Wait a minute. I think that I was daydreaming...

Thank you to Bruce and Jayne for hosting the July meeting. We were missing some of our regulars but managed to have a great evening. As usual, the food, drinks, people and ambiance were fantastic.

Our wonderful vice president, Faith will be absent at the next few meetings. PJ and Faith will be joining the Morgan Club as they cross the country. One of their stops will be a paratroopers reunion in Reno. Summer in Reno in a MG Convertible, yeah our people are tough. We hope to get reports as they progress on the pilgrimage. We may need someone to fill in with the ever so important Vice Presidents Reports. Our best wishes go with you.

Please remember to attend the August 5 tech session at the Freehs' home. If you haven't been to a tech session you have missed a great opportunity for repairs, learning and fun.

I hope to see many of you at our August 7 cookout/MG meeting.

Safety Fast,

RillO

Dipstick Calendar – Aug 2018

Aug. 5 - Summer Tech Session Hosted by Linda & Jim Freeh

Aug. 7 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – VB 6:30PM - Picnic in Great Neck

Park

Sep. 5 - (Wed) Monthly Meeting -Norfolk

6:00 - 6:30 arrival - Ocean View Fishing Pier

Sep. 21-24 - Straight Back to the Crooked Road

Sep. 22 - TRAACA Wings and Wheels -Pungo

Sep. 28-30 – America's British Reliability Run - Leesburg, VA

www.DCBritishReliability.org

Sep. 29 - MGs on the Rocks British Car Show

Jarrettsville. MD

Oct. 2 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – VB Hosted by Renee & Bill

Oct 5-6 - SVBCC British Car Festival -Waynesboro

Oct 6 - Road Rallye - Rotary Club of **Hampton Roads**

https://www.rotaryhamptonroad

Oct. 7 - Hunt Country Classic, Middleburg,

Nov. TBA - Fall Tech Session

Nov. 7 - (Wed) Monthly Meeting -Hampton

Hosted by Faith & PJ

Dec. 16 – 45th Anniversary Celebration **Brunch at Princess Anne Country**

Club

s.org

Bold-Faced Items are TMGC Events

Activity Report – August 2018

After a number of adventures in June (GT-43, MG-2018, Tides Baseball doubleheader), July was reserved for repairs and BD #242. But now it's time to start up again. Our Summer Tech Session is scheduled for Sunday, August 5th at Linda and Jim Freeh's home in Chesapeake. There will be room in the garage for most projects, and a big ol' shade tree in the yard for spinning tales and sipping on a cool beverage. Come on out and enjoy the day, along with good food and good company.

Two nights later (8/7), we have our monthly meeting and picnic dinner at Great Neck Park. We'll start the fires at 5:45, and have food coming off the grill by 6:30. The menu includes burgers, brats, dogs, and an assortment of chips and condiments. But you'll have to wait until you get home for an adult beverage. If you are so inclined, you are invited to bring a dish to share. I hope to see you there.

Also on the calendar is our End-of-Summer meeting on Wednesday, September 5th at Ocean View Fishing Pier. We'll have space reserved on the top deck (weather permitting), with staggered arrivals between 6:00 and 6:30 so that we don't overwhelm the kitchen at one time.

That takes care of meetings. Let's see what is on the agenda for shows. The Tidewater Region AACA is hosting their show at the Military Aviation Museum in Pungo on Saturday, September 22. I haven't seen registration information yet for this event. (Editor's note: see TRAACA's website for details)

The Shenandoah Valley British Car Club is hosting their 37th British Car Festival on October 5th and 6th in Waynesboro. Registration information is available at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-37th-svbcc-british-car-festival-tickets-45250368069. According to the site, pre-registration pricing expires on Monday, October 8th, two days after the show. That may be a glitch in the set-up, so get your registration in early.

Other events within a reasonable driving distance include *MGs on the Rocks* (9/29 – Jarrettsville, MD), the *British Reliability Run* (9/28-30 – Leesburg, VA) and *Hunt Country Classic* (10/7 – Middleburg, VA). Check the respective websites for details and registration information. And no, a "British Reliability Run" is not an oxymoron.

In September, we are going back to the Crooked Road in southwest VA. Reservations have been made, roads are being paved as we speak, and a good time is anticipated by all.

Also, we have been invited to join in a charity Road Rallye hosted by the Rotary Club of Hampton Roads on October 6th. Funds raised during this event will support the Hampton Roads Foodbank. Check out their website for details and registration.

Two-three other events for you to consider. Chatham Vineyards hosts Wine & Oyster Pairings on special weekends in the fall. It is a fun and casual day on the road. A Flash Drive perhaps, on a crisp fall morning? Stay tuned to your email. Also, on Saturday November 10th, Chatham Vineyards will host their Merroir & Terroir Oyster Extravaganza. This looks like the big brother of the casual wine & oyster pairing. Your \$55 ticket for this event will include a raw bar,

steamed clams, roasted oysters, Eastern Shore-style clam chowder, a glass of wine, and live music. Seating is limited, so if this sounds like fun, go to the events page on Chatham Vineyard's website and reserve your spot.

And finally, the destination for MG-2019 has been announced. Enjoy the Cherry Capital of the World, the beautiful Leelanau Peninsula, Quash & Nosh at Chateau Chantal, and numerous wineries as you venture to Traverse City, MI. Depending on the route, expect about 1000 miles each way, with side trips to Fallingwater, the NFL Hall of Fame, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Or maybe a day-trip up the coast for dinner at the Weathervane Inn on Round Lake in Charlevoix, for only-place-in-the world stones in Petoskey or a boat trip out to Mackinac Island. What the heck, let's make this an international incident with a cross-border invasion of Canada. Details should be available on the NAMGBR website in Q4'18.

Until we meet again, enjoy the ride!

Tad Carter



A portion of the field at GT-43 in Richmond (see next page)

NAMGAR GT-43 – Richmond. Va. by Mike Ash

The annual GT (Get Together) for the North American MGA Register (NAMGAR) was held this year at the Virginia Crossings Hotel in Richmond on June 13-17. Jennifer and I were there, taking our 1957 MG ZB Magnette on its "maiden voyage". With 15 other Magnettes present, we did not bring home a trophy. TMGC member Bob Mason was there with his newly acquired V8-powered Magnette which he thought, maybe hoped, would tick everyone off, but he succeeded in securing first place in the Altered Class! Andy and Cynthia came up on the Saturday in their 1962 Palladian Silver MGA 1600 Mk II Roadster and secured third place in the MK II Class. Other than Bob, and Andy and Cynthia, the only other Tidewater members present were Bruce Woodson and John Terschak from Ohio.

The GT was packed with the usual schedule of activities. We were still recovering from our month-long trip in May so preferred the opportunity to relax and enjoy the amenities. We did attend the First-Timers Reception, Welcome Dinner, Magnette Breakfast, Board and Staff Reception, Chapter Contacts Breakfast, Car Show and Awards Banquet; all of which were well organized and gave us plenty of opportunities to socialize with old friends, as did happy hours, hospitality rooms and the hotel bar.

The featured marque was the MGA Coupe. Had we taken our Coupe instead of the Magnette, we might have participated in the MGA Coupe enthusiasts drive and luncheon at the Richmond Auto Museum. Also, had we had the energy, we might have participated in the tour of Richmond Road Rally with lunch at Maymont Park. I did go to several of the tech sessions in air-conditioned rooms which, as always, provided something new, as did John Twist's rolling tech sessions held in the shade.

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of NAMGAR and the Central Virginia British Car Club did a fantastic joint effort in organizing the event – it's a lot of work! Next year, GT-44 will be in Dubuque, lowa, in July.



Yup, that's an MG!

July 10, 2018 TMGC Meeting Minutes

recorded by Cynthia Faschini

President Olcheski opened the meeting and welcomed Ralph and Sue Dunlap who recently moved from out west to next door to Jayne and Bruce Easley who were hosting the meeting. Once again it was a beautiful evening with several MG's being displayed in front of their lovely home. Attendance was around 30 members. There were no new members and the minutes were approved having been written by the past president Robert Perrone.



Vice President indicated that she would not be here for the next three months.

Treasurer's report indicates that we have a balance of \$1,512.00

Membership has now officially been turned over to Andy Wallach. Stayed tuned we may be going all online in the near future. Tad was not there and he was sorely missed. The president passed on from Tad that turn-back-the-clock-night was a success. Sue Bond was the lucky recipient of a baseball which bounced right into her hand.

A reminder that the next tech session will be at Linda and Jim Freeh's home located in Chesapeake, VA.

The next meeting will be a picnic at Great Neck Park where no alcohol is permitted. A brief discussion followed with the President stating that you can still have fun and Alan Watson chimed in that this occurrence hasn't happened since middle school. Laughter ensued.

Dipstick representative was not present.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

Marque Time: Alan Watson mentioned that England hasn't won the World Cup in soccer since 1966 and they are playing Croatia. We now know the results and looks as though England will have to wait a little longer. Terry Bond was hearing a clunk in the back of the B presumably in the trunk. He replaced the rubber bushings and now they have a quiet B and can even hear the radio. Success!!

The Raffle was held by Rose and Mitzi was first in line and she also won the hand made candle holder by Susan Bond. Cynthia Faschini won the 50/50 raffle.

For those of you, who have never had the pleasure of owning a British car, but want to know what it's like: Next big rainstorm, wait till dark, roll down all windows, leave off lights & heater & wipers and go for a drive. Stop at every intersection and throw out a twenty dollar bill. It's not exactly the same, but it's real close.

- Mike Nash



2018 August Dipstick Membership

2018 Membership: 113 paid memberships.

2019 Membership: 58 paid memberships.

New Memberships: Joseph R. Beck, 1978 MGB Roadster

Dues: 2019 Dues are due! Annual Renewal Forms are found on line at www.mg.org. Please fill out a copy and bring it to a meeting or mail it along with cash, check or money order. If you have no changes to the data, you provided in the past, you only need to submit the \$20 in dues. I do not need a form if there are no changes. Note new mailing address.

New Membership Chair: Andrew Wallach, 545 Mayflower Rd., Norfolk, VA 23508. 757 408-4497.



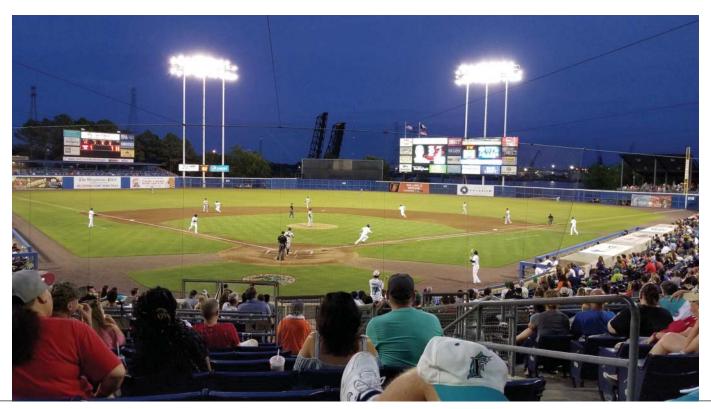
"Ran when parked"



Turn Back the Clock Night at Harbor Park...... Our name in lights!



Lots of hitting under the stars





The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics

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