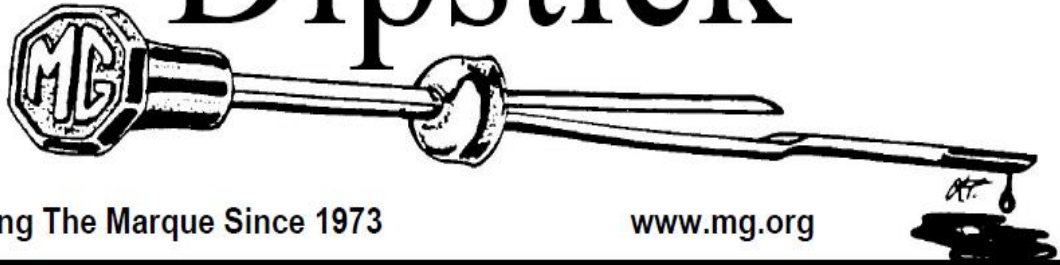




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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July 2019

MossFest 2019!

MOSS MOTORFEST 2019

By Terry and Susan Bond

Have you noticed that as the summer unfolds, the calendar gets seriously squeezed? When we registered for Moss MotorFest 2019 back in February, little did we realize that we might have to be in three places at the same time.

We registered two cars for the event in Petersburg, and then the date for one of our

traditional events was shifted to conflict directly. Imagine, trying to compete with a British car show of all things! So, we did not participate in the annual state-wide AACA show known as the Old Dominion Meet. Logistically, it was impossible to be in both Petersburg and Hampton at the same time. Then we learned our Grandson's graduation might be on Saturday – if there is one thing that would have taken precedence over a British car show, it would have been that. But the graduation was shifted to Sunday, so although we put a few miles on over the weekend, we at least would get to Moss MotorFest.

We reserved room at the HQ hotel for Friday night and planned to take in the BBQ and were hopeful we might also partake of the usual parking lot parties later that evening. Alas, the threat of rain kept numbers down all weekend, and literally dampened any attempt at parking lot tailgating. Because of the rain, we had elected to leave the TC home and enjoy the closed top GT instead.

The evening at Moss was at least inside, and the BBQ again was wonderful. A panel of speakers gave us the history of Moss, and explained how they bring new parts to the market and how some problems occur in manufacturing. It was an interesting discussion, but we soon tired of complaints that you can no longer buy mild steel exhaust systems, and why rubber gaskets and seals don't fit. Still, we gained a new appreciation for how difficult it is to predict the future when deciding which parts to





invest money in producing and, apparently, the Miata is the next hot thing. We expect that Moss will be increasing their focus on related products. Even John Twist and his famed rolling tech session were absent this year. I hear that in place they were going to put out a computer plug-in station so you could get a print out that automatically downloaded to the parts counter! The rain in Petersburg falls mainly at Moss! It sure did Friday night, and into Saturday morning, but by the time we arrived at the show there was only a little drizzle. The grass show field was roped off and cars were displayed on the blacktop parking

areas in front of the Moss building. There were no designated classes and cars were parked randomly in the order of their arrival.

Yes, like it not, the Miata is an up-and-coming sports car. So, there was a big focus on them this year. I'm sure the guest speaker (designer of the Miata) gave a wonderful talk on Saturday, but we chose to look at real British cars instead.

A few sprinkles during the day and a light breeze made for a decent but dreary day, but there were just too many no-shows for our liking. Still, there were some interesting cars – but just too many Miatas as far as I'm concerned. Perhaps it's the "antique auto" juices in my blood-stream but it just seemed the more modern stuff outnumbered the earlier cars 3-to-1. Disappointing, but hey, we left the TC home in the garage too. There was only one other TC on the field, although there was another one in the back of a U-Haul truck. It seemed the loading docks at Moss were too high for the lovely red TC to be unloaded, so it was displayed simply by opening the rear door of the truck. It stayed dry.

From Tidewater, only a few ventured out this year. Rob MacPherson brought out the pretty red TD, David Ford parked nearby with his pretty B roadster, and we had the GT (and were finally able to open the sunroof). We saw Robert and Caroline in line at the parts counter but they came modern, allegedly so there would be plenty of room for the parts they purchased.

It's always fun looking at the cars on display, and there were some great ones. The "Moss Museum" is always great to see, and the model collection was worth spending some time closely examining. Richard and Susan have nice collections, but there is a long-ways yet to go and bigger showcases will be required.

Our MGBGT received a nice 3rd place award -- an engraved glass tankard that holds an imperial pint of Old Speckled Hen.

We departed following the awards and discovered on the way home that the Virginia Diner was closed due to flooding the evening prior. An antique shop we wanted to stop at was similarly closed, and we learned the John Deere dealership next to it had been flooded and an entire row of tractors had been completely submerged. Good thing the water had receded and the roads were clear by the time we got there!

Hopefully the next edition of MotorFest will be dry and will return to its former sunny glory. We'll be there and will be pushing for good numbers from Tidewater.

Let's not let those other "furin cars" squeeze us out!

Terry



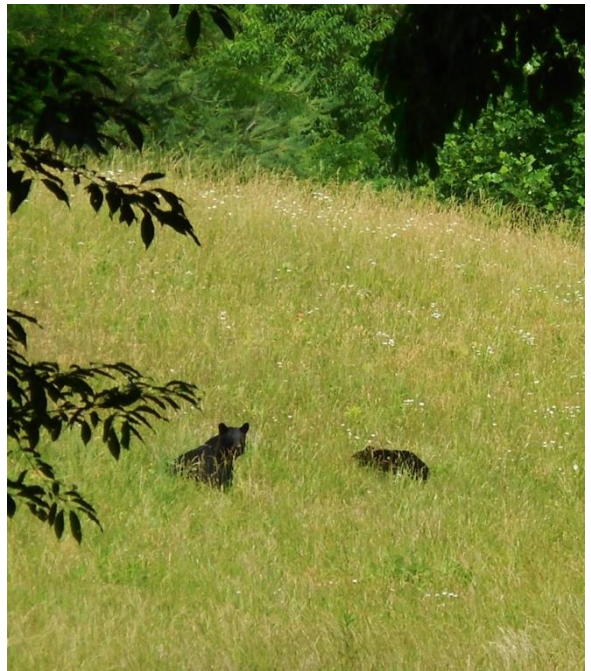
Parkway Drives

By Faith Peterson

Well we are just beary back from our three week drive and life is still so beary busy. I can't seem to bear being gone but also enjoy all the beary interesting scenery and activities of travel. Oh, sorry, I guess I have bears on the mind. Probably because we saw, not one, not two, not three, but four sets of mamma bears with two to four cubs along with one lone bear crossing the road right in front of the MG on Skyline Drive. So, on to the rest of the trip.

It was a beautiful Monday morning with the sun shining down as we departed Hampton Roads. Actually, the sun was out most days with 90 plus degrees, so much for traveling in the spring before it gets too hot. Just after lunch we started down the Blue Ridge Parkway. Thankfully, at the higher altitudes it was a bit cooler. We made our first overnight stop at the Peaks of Otter. Our plan was to tackle the walk up to the Johnson Farm the next morning but that never happened. PJ woke up with some very red (alright pink eyes) so our first stop was to find a doctor. Luckily, we were only a short distance to a Med Express in Roanoke. And, yes, the verdict was pink eye, (oh sorry, conjunctivitis). A trip to the local Walgreens for medicine and we were once again headed back to Peaks of Otter. We left the next morning, so no walk up to the farm. Our next stop was at Mabry Mills for lunch before heading into Blowing Rock, North Carolina for the evening. We found several of the Visitor's Centers are closing at the beginning of the week. The next day was very busy with visits to the Linn Cove Viaduct and Linville Falls with lunch at Little Switzerland, which we also returned there for lunch on the way back. Our first bear was sighted after lunch as we continued down the Blue Ridge. We finished up the Blue Ridge Parkway and headed west across the Great Smokey Mountain National Park into Tennessee.

Once we arrived outside of Nashville, we turned toward the south on the Natchez Trace Parkway. We discovered that our gas mileage increased significantly when traveling on very straight roads. We did see several deer and a gray fox on the Natchez Trace but no bear. A few of our favorite stops included the Cypress Swamp (yes, in 90 degree weather); the Sunken Trace and Emerald Mound. To get to the Emerald Mound the MG had to brave a dirt road. We then arrived in Natchez, Mississippi and had dinner along the Mississippi River which was overflowing its banks so the one way street along the river was now a two way street as the road at the bottom of the hill was flooded. Before leaving the next day we did visit the Melrose Mansion in Natchez which still had about 80 percent of the original furniture from the 1800's. We then reversed course to return north on the parkway to include two drives on the Old Trace (dirt roads). We stopped at a local Walmart in Tupelo and discovered that they had great snacks for sale, (like alligator bites). We settled for just regular sandwiches and energy drinks. (No, we are not that adventurous.) The MG was doing great on the trip and didn't seem to mind the dirt roads or speed bumps it encountered along the way. The heat was causing a few issues, as both the antenna and tire pressure gauge became unglued. Both are being repaired at this time with stronger glue.



Our travels through the Great Smokey Mountain National Park on the return trip involved seeing two sets of mama bears with cubs, a few elk, several deer and a wild turkey with baby chicks. We also visited the Cherokee Village in Cherokee, North Carolina.

As we again headed up the Blue Ridge Parkway it was my turn to throw a wrench in the plans. I pulled a muscle in my back and somehow came down with a 24 hour stomach virus. Luckily, the virus was short lived but the back took a few extra days before finely starting to feel better.



We arrived in Wytheville, Virginia, for the modified MG meet up on June 1 with most of the other cars arriving on the 2nd of June. There were several tech sessions that PJ attended which luckily did not result in any major plans for change in our MG. We also traveled on two loops in the area with the MG. The first day we drove the Bastion Loop and the second day we drove the Back of Dragon. The area is promoting several driving loops in the area both large and small.

The good news for our trip was that the MG handled very well and didn't break down. That was not the case for some of the other cars with us in Wytheville. At the banquet on our last night with the group we found out that a few of the drivers had run into some difficulties. One ran out of gas; one had a flat tire; one ran off the road with just some minor cosmetic damage. The winner of the big award that night was the Austin Healey that rearended another car in the group (which was from Canada and which was able to continue on its own power). The Healey wasn't as lucky -- it not only had to be towed but it received a nice ticket from the local sheriff's office. Congrats to the winning vehicle.

During the last few days we encountered more clouds and rain with the MG having to have its top up for the last three days. Before returning home we drove up and down Skyline Drive encountering our last two bear sightings along with several deer.

It was a wonderful drive and we put another 3500 miles on the MG. Next year the modified MG group will head out to St. Louis. This may be another drive for us. I may be getting use to living out of small suitcase for a few weeks.



Activity Report – July 2019

For the first time in several years, we managed to get both Desert Drives in without getting hit by rain, high water, or high temperatures. Our Wednesday drive on the Peninsula went off slightly behind schedule, as significant tunnel traffic delayed the arrival of the Activities Wonk, who happened to know the directions and the destination. Thank you to our peninsula contingent for waiting for me at the starting line. We arrived at Menchie's Frozen Yogurt shop in Williamsburg after a drive on Colonial Parkway, and were greeted by Phil the owner and the Menchie mascot. Menchie offers a wide selection of self-serve yogurt flavours, as well as numerous toppings. If you are in the area, it is worth a stop for a cool treat and a friendly welcome.



On Thursday, we were delayed by a traffic jam of crowds going to see Hootie & the Blowfish. Once on the road, we enjoyed a spirited drive through southern VB, and then back to the Vibe district and Lolly's Creamery. Having just opened a few days before, Lolly's was enjoying immediate success from local ice cream fans. Although there was a line at the window, we were served quickly and tried a little bit of everything – Orange Cream, Double Dark Chocolate, Root Beer float, and following the strategy of local wineries, a 4-scoop "flight". For all of you Southsiders, this one is also worth a visit.

Coming up in July, we set our sights to the west. After a lunch stop at Trojan Grill in New Kent, our next stop will be Hanover and an afternoon presentation of Forever Plaid. We our 20 allotted seats are spoken for, but if you are a theatre fan, look for this event again in 2020. Virginia Rep puts on very entertaining programs.

We're in the middle of driving season, with both regional and national events to enjoy. We look forward to reading about adventures from those who attended the early summer events – MossFest in Petersburg, NAMGBR in Traverse City, and NAMGAR in Dubuque.

Our Summer Tech Session is being scheduled for August. Look for a date in the next issue of the Dipstick. And believe it or not, it's already time to start planning for the Fall car shows. At this writing, we have confirmation of the dates for the 38th Annual British Car Festival in Waynesboro (October 4-5).

Due to the holiday week, our July meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 7/10. We will be hosted by Ashley and Billy Stutz at their home in Chesapeake. Thank you for having us back again! I look forward to seeing you there.

Until we meet again, enjoy the ride!

Tad Carter



Marque Time

Greetings MG Enthusiasts,

The First Lady and I have enjoyed the company of other club members twice since I last wrote, most recently at the Easley's river front retreat where they hosted the June meeting. Jayne, as always you are the perfect host and I am sure that Bruce probably helped.

May 30 was a hot day but it became comfortable as we cruised through the farmlands of Blackwater and Pungo on the Tidewater desert drive. The breeze felt great and we arrived at our ice cream destination just as dusk began to fall. Once again Tad has shown his talent for making the most of the MG experience.

On July 4 we are invited to participate in the Independence Day Parade in South Norfolk. This is the home of our deceased friend and club member Stephen Daniel. The parade has an old time small town feel with people lining the streets to greet the entourage. It would be really nice if we have a strong representation of MG's in the line-up. As I find out the details I will pass them along. Watch your e-mails.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the July meeting.

Safety Fast!

Bill O
El Presidente

Dipstick Calendar – July 2019

**July 10 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Chesapeake
Hosted by Ashley & Billy Stutz**

July 10 – 14 - NAMGAR – Dubuque, IA

**July 28 – Barksdale Theater – Hanover
Forever Plaid - 10am – 6pm**

**Aug 6 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Kathy & Mark Davidoski**

**Aug TBA – Summer Tech Session – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Rachel & Mathieu Huovinen**

Sept TBA – Wings & Wheels – Virginia Beach

**Sept 4 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Norfolk
Ocean View Fishing Pier**

**Oct 1 – Monthly Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Renee & Bill Olcheski**

Oct 4-5 – British Car Festival – Waynesboro
www.SVBCC.net

**Nov 6 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting –
Hosted by Jack Speight**

**Nov TBA – Fall Tech Session
Hosted by Susan & Terry Bond**

**Dec TBA – Holiday Party – Hampton
Hosted by Faith & PJ Peterson**

Bold-Faced Items are TMGC Events



June 4, 2019 TMGC Meeting Minutes *from Cynthia Faschini*

President Olcheski opened the meeting at 8:08pm after thanking Bruce and Jane Easley for hosting these evenings' events. The weather was perfect. Attendance was around 20 members. Everyone moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

New Members: Candy and Gregg Shelton were introduced. They have a 1978 Midget. They are the original owners by way of Ohio. They live in Smithfield and drove the Midget from Smithfield to Seaford without incident.

Vice President: Tad reported for Faith and he used the motion to indicate that there was nothing to report.

Treasurer: Report indicates that we have a balance of \$852.64.

Dipstick: Mark Davidoski was not present because he was waiting for a tow because his truck's clutch decided not to work. Believe it or not it was not an MG. Thank you to Robert for taking care of the minutes for May. Everyone declared they were absolutely fabulous. (editor's note: it was, in fact, the MGB-GT that ran out of clutch hydraulic fluid on the way home from work. Slave cylinder rebuild kit installed the next day – no worries.)

Activities: Tad had nothing but nice things to say about the Ice Cream drives. He recommended Lolly's as a worthwhile place to go to have a tasty treat. Currently there are 19 people signed up for the Tides baseball game. Meet Tad in left field entrance at 6:16pm. If you go to Traverse City Michigan you will be able to attend the MGB registry. Then for more excitement head to Dubuque Iowa in July for the MGA registry. The fun never stops.

Locally we have a sold out crowd going to Hanover Theater. Yeah. I have attended several of these and each and every one has been fantastic.

Membership: Andrew Wallach reported that we have four new members since the last meeting. They are: Sara Yeiser Red (1958 MGA Roadster), Patty Wooten (Blue 1957 MGA Roadster), Tim and Phyllis Hund (MG Wanabees) and Gregg and Candy Shelton (1978 Midget). Let it be known that Tad Carter handed Andy \$20 for his membership renewal.

Technical: Nothing.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Marque Time: Alan Watson shared that Bruce Woodson has a 1977 MGB on his lot that needs to be removed.

Basically, if I understood correctly, it has an overdrive transmission with some



parts attached. MGB LE maybe for sale. For further info please contact Alan Watson.

Motion to adjourn 8:25pm.



Editor's note: The June meeting was incognito in that no photos were taken. Not to worry though, we have this current shot of former members Chuck & Becky Hassler sitting pretty at ~11,000' elevation in one of their MGs! Chuck reports smooth running w/o any mixture adjustments required.



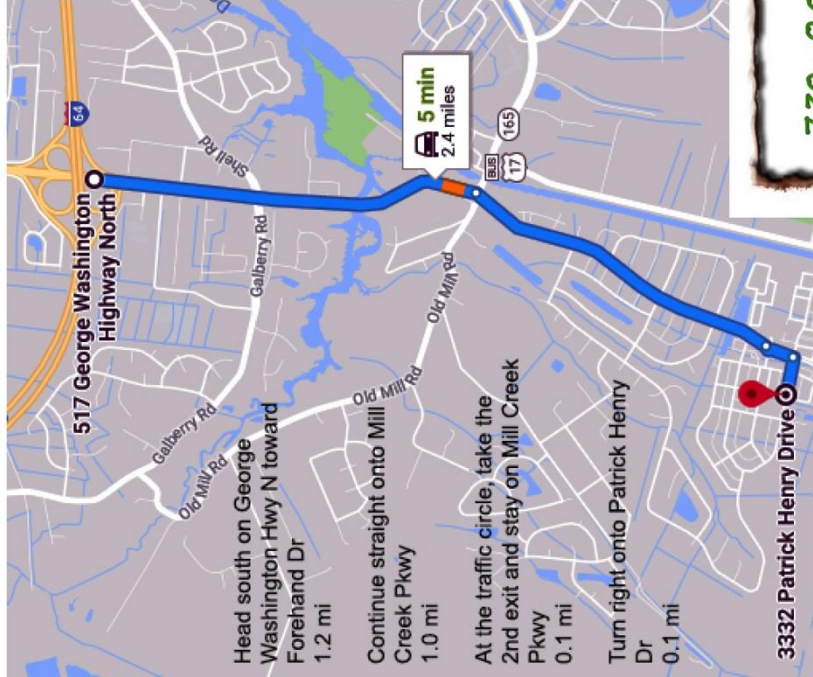
Do you remember your first MG?

Officers and Committees

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Bill Olcheski | 390-9354 |
| Vice President | Faith Peterson | 218-4026 |
| Secretary | Cynthia Faschini | 408-2032 |
| Treasurer | Jim Villers | 822-9182 |
| Editors | Mark and Kathy Davidoski | 499-4647 |
| Membership | Andy Wallach | 408-4497 |
| Webmaster | Mike Haag | Mikehmg@cox.net |
| Historian | Susan Bond | 403-1169 |
| Technical | Currently vacant | |
| Activities | Tad Carter | 496-9847 |
| Clubs | Mike Ash | 678-0963 |
| Regalia | David Kinsey | 233-0029 |



Monthly Meeting
 Wednesday, July 10th
 Ashley and Billy
 Stutz
 3332 Patrick Henry Dr.
 Chesapeake, VA



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



The Dipstick

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



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS