



# The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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

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**May 2019**

## *Kimber Festival, 2019*

*By Terry Bond*

Every car marque has its iconic individuals and, for MG enthusiasts, Cecil Kimber is known as “the Father of the MG.” Several years ago, the New England MG T Register honored him by creating the “Kimber Society.” It is a club-within-a-club existing to carry out and share research and history about MGs. Every aspect from design and manufacture to racing heritage and even today’s collector interest is a focus.

Once each year, close to Kimber's birthday on April 12, a special event is held to honor him. Enthusiasts get together to share information about the Marque. **For 2019, the Kimber Festival was held at the famous Simeone Museum in Philadelphia,** and Susan and I attended for the first time.

Beginning on Friday with registration, a small flea market and a chance to visit the Simeone Museum collection at a leisurely pace was a great introduction. Getting to meet MG enthusiasts and such knowledgeable historians from all over the country was a treat. It quickly became obvious we were in special company!

Susan stuck gold in the small flea market and added several great MG models to her collection. Lots of literature and some early parts were available also. Alas, no rare spark plugs were available for me, but we had a wonderful chance to browse and learn.



MG K Magnette – 85 years young!

That evening, we were treated to a great dinner at the Museum and sat with noted MG guru John Twist, and MG Classics magazine editor Larry Santana and his wife. We met others, and listened to great stories of rare MGs rescued, restored and raced.



Saturday was a full day at the Museum. Seminars were presented on historic cars, racing, documentation, and even a humorous look at the “tech-speak” contained in some of the workshop manuals. Such expressions as “reassembly is the reverse of disassembly” don’t really make much sense when hammers and cold chisels are involved to remove rusted bits and pieces!

Chatting up Dr. Simeone

One of our favorite seminars was presented by Brenda Benzar, who displayed her rare 1934 MG N Type at the Museum. That car was once owned and raced by Doreen Evans, a noted early British lady race driver. Brenda kept us at the edge of our seats as she described the history of the car and its restoration. She actually drove the car in the 1000 mile Mille Miglia endurance run through Italy. The car was subsequently stolen, recovered and re-restored and was a winner at the Amelia Island Concourse.

Naturally, museum founder Dr. Fred Simeone was on the agenda and gave us a history of the Simeone Foundation, the Museum and its wonderful collection of historic race cars, all displayed in their natural setting and in “as-raced” condition. Part of the thrill of the weekend was seeing his rare 1934 MG K Magnette outside in the sun, actually being driven. The car has a wonderful LeMans race history and Dr. Simeone’s tales about how the remains of the car were rescued kept us spellbound. It was a thrill to meet him and personally talk about the great cars in his collection.



Kimber Festival Flea Market

No doubt about it, the Simeone Museum needs to be on your “bucket list.” Kimber Festival concluded Saturday evening with another opportunity to over-indulge at the buffet dinner, and with a late night visiting with new MG friends back at our nearby hotel. It was a great MG weekend and we’re already excited about attending next year’s event.



## Marque Time

Greetings MG Enthusiasts,

Thank you to Betty and Jim for hosting the April meeting. It is always a treat to visit the Villers hacienda. Rain may have kept some LBC's home but not our members or friends from across the pond.

I am submitting my column a little bit late this month. I am not sure but I think that the days are going by faster. It could be age, incorrect calendars, global warming... who knows?

It is Easter weekend and time to remove my hardtop. This winter I did not do my annual oil change, but the days were going faster. For some an oil change is an ongoing process periodically adding quarts. For me it is a once a year winter project or about every 1300 miles. Aside from the low street clearance, I have never owned a car that was easier to change the oil. The position of the oil filter with its drain on the bottom makes for a clean process.

As per Mark and Kathy, Dipstick editor and chief (I am not sure which is which), please share your MG stories with the club. We want to hear them. One time we had a guy soliciting for free petrol at the Christmas Lights drive....Please write up your stories and send them to the Dipstick.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the May meeting which will be at Cynthia and Andy's.

Safety Fast!  
BillO

## Dipstick Calendar – May 2019

**May 1 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Norfolk**  
Hosted by Cynthia & Andy

May 4 – British & European Car Show  
Hosted by Williamsburg British Car Club  
[www.WMBGBRIT.com](http://www.WMBGBRIT.com)

**May 19 - Spring Tech Session – Norfolk**  
Hosted by Debi & Frank Linse

**May 29 – Peninsula Dessert Drive**  
6:30pm departure from Yorktown Visitors Center

**May 30 – Southside Dessert Drive**  
6:30pm departure from Harris Teeter - VB City Hall

**June 4 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – Seaford**  
Hosted by Jayne & Brice Easley

June 7-8 – Moss MotorFest 2019 – Petersburg, VA  
[www.MossMotors.com/Motorfest](http://www.MossMotors.com/Motorfest)

**June 24 – Tides Baseball – Norfolk - Harbor Park**  
Tides vs. Strippers – First Pitch – 7:05PM

June 23 – 26 – NAMGBR – Traverse City, MI

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

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

**Sept 3 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – Norfolk**  
Ocean View Fishing Pier

Sept 28 – Wings & Wheels – Virginia Beach

Oct 4-5 – British Car Festival – Waynesboro  
[www.SVBCC.net](http://www.SVBCC.net)

**Oct 10 – Monthly Meeting – Virginia Beach**  
Hosted by Renee & Bill Olcheski

**Activity Report – May 2019**

*submitted by Tad*

There are certain dates and deadlines that we should always remember – birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine’s Day, April 15<sup>th</sup>, the First Saturday in May (Kentucky Derby, in case you forgot), the 19<sup>th</sup> of every month, and of course, the Last Weekend in April – the Spring Tour. As many of you are reading this edition of The Dipstick, there will be a 16-car convoy heading out for California, MD. Beckey and Alan, along with Missy and Bob, have created a route and a group of stops for a weekend full of memories. I look forward to sharing in this drive, and to reliving those memories when we get the recap in June’s Dipstick.

There are still things to do, even if you are unable to make this trip. We have our **Spring Tech Session on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** at Frank & Debi Linse’s home in Norfolk. For those who haven’t been with us before, this is a time to get lots of good advice and expert hands for your project. If you can get your car there, we can probably take care of it. Or if you are among the fortunate few with a perfectly running LBC, come on out, sit around and tell stories, or pitch in and help someone else. BYO Parts. The garage opens at 10am.

At the end of May, we have our **Dessert Drives**. Come out and celebrate the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual British Car Week. On Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup>, we’ll meet at the Yorktown Battlefield Visitors Center parking lot for a 6:30pm departure, and a drive out Colonial Parkway into Williamsburg. We have a new destination in mind.

The following evening, we’ll meet at the Harris Teeter on Nimmo Parkway at Princess Anne in Virginia Beach. Again, we’ll shoot for a 6:30pm departure, and again, we have a new destination in mind.



Chewing the fat in Jim’s well-equipped garage

Sign-up began at the April meeting for **Tides Baseball and Turn-Back-the Clock Night on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**. At this writing, 20 seats out of our block have been reserved. There is still time to sign up, and more tickets are almost always available. It is a fun evening, and great viewing from behind home plate. We are also conveniently located to cold beer, hot dogs, and just about any other ballpark delicacy you have seen – deep-fried Twinkies, anyone? I hope you will join us.

We also began sign-up for the **July 28<sup>th</sup> drive to Hanover** for the matinee presentation of Forever Plaid. At the moment, 19 of our 20 seats have been reserved. This venue always sells out, so our one extra seat may be the only one available this side of Skyline Drive. If you have signed up, and your plans have changed, please let me know as early as possible so we can make those seats available to someone else.

The **Williamsburg British Car Club** is holding their 20<sup>th</sup> annual **British & European Car Show on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**. This show has been at several different venues, but with the success of the 2018 event, they will be back at the same venue for 2019. Lots of covered parking, and many food choices for your dining pleasure. Pre-registration ends on 4/26, but there is open registration on the day of the show. And if that isn't enough, this show benefits Arc of Greater Williamsburg. Look it up – you'll want to help out.



Betty's Buffet : before the assembled horde descended upon it!



Betty tickling the ivories



Moss Motors is hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> **MotorFest** at their Petersburg facility on June 7-8. Registration is through the Moss website. You'll see all sorts of LBCs on the show field. Due to the overwhelming response for the Friday night event, it has been moved to the Moss warehouse. The original venue, Pamplin Historic Park, couldn't handle the crowd. However, if you are going out on Friday, this would be an interesting historical stop. It is also possible to go for just the show on Saturday, either with an entered vehicle or as a spectator. It's an easy drive out 460 from Tidewater, and a chance to pick up some parts you may need for your next project.

And the national shows are coming in June (**MG-2019 – NAMGBR in Traverse City, MI**) and July (**GT-44 – NAMGAR in Dubuque, IA**). Club member John Terschak, now living in Ohio, has offered some points of interest if you will be passing through his area on your way to either show. Among the possibilities are the Shawshank Prison, Schoepfle Gardens, Covered Bridges of Ashtabula County, and a speakeasy where Al Capone kept company with friends. If you are part of a convoy, get hooked up with John and he can provide a little more detail.

Faith is correct - we still have one open slot for a meeting host. The **November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting** is usually our Chili Cook-off, so much of the pressure is off of the hosts. If you are able to help, please contact Faith Peterson. Thank you!

Thank you to Betty and Jim for hosting our April meeting. Our **May 1st meeting** will be hosted by Cynthia Faschini and Andy Wallach at their home in Norfolk. I look forward to seeing you there.

Until we meet again, enjoy the ride!



## **April 2, 2019 TMGC Meeting Minutes**

*Recorded by Cynthia Faschini*

President Olcheski called the meeting to order at 8:05 on a rainy evening. He thanked Betty and Jim Villars for hosting the meeting. Jim responded that Betty is the brains behind this operation. We had several guests present. Phil Knight has a 73 Midget and is here in the United States visiting from the United Kingdom. Bob Parish, National Director, Antique Automobile Club of America was also in attendance and was showing Phil the sights in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Outer Banks and Williamsburg. Phil did mention to me that he can't believe how many cars individuals have in our club. There was a motion to approve the March minutes

Vice President: Faith Peterson indicated that the November meeting is wide open. This is a chili cook-off. That means that the host would have the food brought in and preparation on their part would be minimal.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Villars indicates that we have a balance of \$994.64

Dipstick: Once again Mark Davidoski urges members to submit articles to enhance the leading British automotive newsletter in Hampton Roads. Articles are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Historian: Sue Bond had nothing to report. On a large screen TV there was a continuous feed of activities members of this club have participated in. I even saw my sweet face appear numerous times. Totally enjoyed that.

Activities: Tad Carter stated that questions concerning the California, Maryland spring tour being held 26-28 April 2019 should contact Alan Watson. Tech session will be in mid May at Frank's house. Several amazing events will be upcoming including the turn back the clock night at the Tides baseball game June 24, July 28 Hanover Theater. Breaking news.... Beginning April 1, 2019 Doumars will have an evening car show every Wednesday weather permitting. The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Williamsburg car show will be held 4 May with the Morgan as featured car. MG 2019 Traverse City Michigan June 23-26. If you are interested John Tershack (past member of our club) will be a good source of information.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Technical: Jim Villers found a magical instrument for your cars. It is a drill driver that goes zip zip and you're done. Mark Childers is stepping down from technical. We are taking applications. Don Ladd has a way to make putting rubber gadgets in the windshield a breeze. Take a putty knife and it rolls right in.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Hank Giffin has a boat load of vintage racing magazine that he is donating.

Marque Time: Bill Olcheski reminded us that the walk for ALS is on May 18, 2019 at Waterside. Also MG 3 blades or 2 Blades that are 10 inches can be purchased at Advanced Auto. They snap right in.

Regalia: Rose Ladd managed to pick 3 numbers all belonging to our guest from the United Kingdom who will go home \$28 richer.

Motion to adjourn.



*Working our table at the recent TRAACA swap met*

### **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

## *Late model MG spotted in Panama!*



Bob Pellerin recently encountered a current production example of an MG 5 down in Panama. These are built by SAIC (Shanghai Automotive Industries Company) which is one of the original “Big Five” of the former Red China. In operation since 1958, they started out producing license built Polish sedans. The MG 5 sedan is offered with your choice of 1.4L gas engine or a sporty 1.5L turbo version. There has been recent press mention of a new MG roadster in the works!





## More of the action from the April meeting



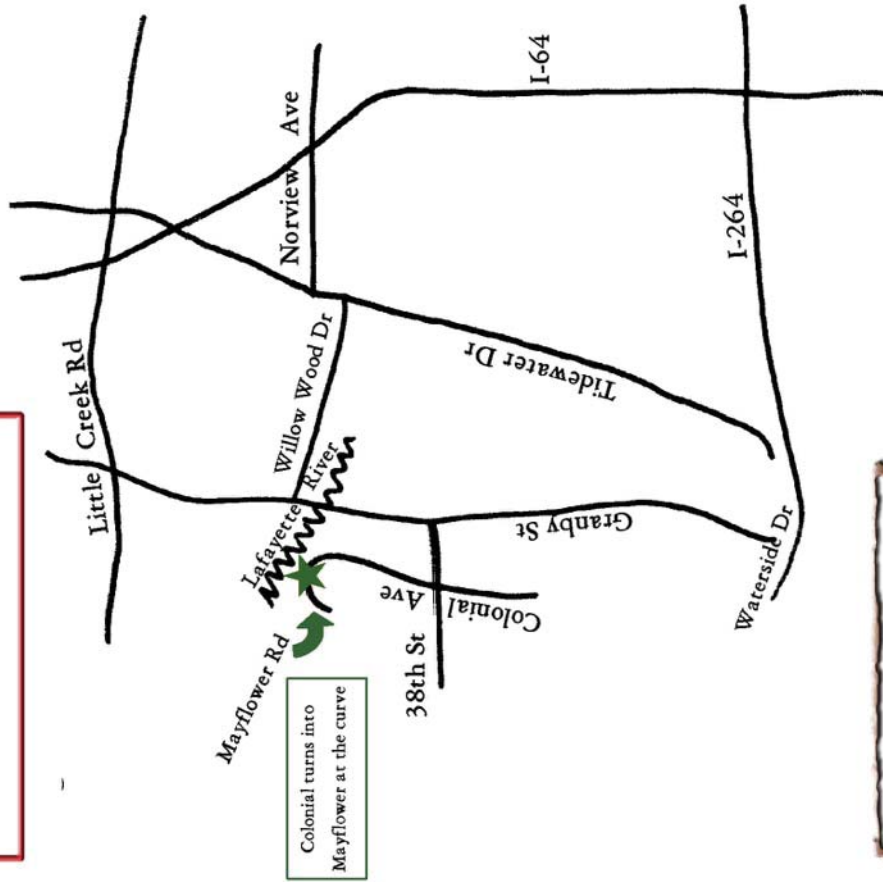
Talkin' MGs with a beer in hand – can things get any better?



Talkin' in the kitchen with wine in hand – ditto!



**Monthly Meeting**  
 Wednesday, May 1st  
 Cynthia & Andy  
 545 Mayflower Rd.  
 Norfolk, VA  
 622-8315



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



## The Dipstick

Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski

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Virginia Beach, VA 23455

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*Affiliated with*



North American MGB Register

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