



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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Volume 46 Issue 10

October 2019



September on the Pier

September 4, 2019 TMGC Meeting Minutes

President Olcheski opened the meeting at 7:32pm. The meeting started early because we are on Ocean View time. There were approximately 46 people who attended the meeting at the Ocean View Pier. The weather was warm and humid but the views especially at sunset were breathtaking. Everyone moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

New Members: Vicky and John Bishop from Virginia Beach joined the club at the Tech Session. They have a 1978 MGB. Mark and Sherri Stein were visiting and they have a 1974 chrome MGB and reside in Chesapeake.

Vice President: Faith was present and she indicated it was because of the Governor of South Carolina direction due to hurricane Dorian.

Treasurer: Report indicates that we have a balance of \$1,721.64. Jim was in Colorado so Tad presented the report.

Dipstick: Rose Ladd is the Regalia Chair. In my humble opinion we couldn't have picked a better person. The club is still in need of a Tech Coordinator. Frank Linse would be an excellent choice but he is so busy fixing the members cars. If you are interested you can do research and send it in as technical information and that would also work. *(Late note from the editors: it appears that Terry Bond has assumed the Tech Coordination Mantle! Go Terry!!)*

Activities: Tad gave a big thanks to everyone who has hosted a meeting and hosted tech sessions and planned drive outs. A big thanks went out to the President. If you haven't volunteered the club would love to have new people take on these roles. Fall tour will be four days on the Eastern Shore. Still interested? You may still sign up. Waynesboro Show will be celebrating 35 years. Jennifer Ash shared information on the Parksley Golden Spike Railway Festival on October 5, 2019. Cars and trucks are welcome. Judging will be from pre 1955 to Present. This event will be held at St. Michael's MD. Upcoming events will be October 8, 2019 meeting at the Olcheski's, December 17, 2019 Holiday Lights, Additional fall drive November 9, 2019, Horrible Idea tour February 16 also Don Ladd's birthday. April 18, 2020 Williamsburg car show.



Membership: Andy Wallach reported 82 renewals, 5 non-renewals.

Technical: Nothing. But... Terry Bond may be the new advisor.

New Business: The President's position will be coming available.

Old Business: None

Regalia: Don Kaus won two times. First was an LED head lamp and second was a Multi-meter. The big winner of the 50/50 was the one and only Betty Villers for a grand total of \$41.00.

Recorded by Cynthia Faschini





Marque Time



Greetings MG Enthusiasts,

Once again, for the September meeting we were able to enjoy the beautiful rooftop beauty of Harrison's Fishing Pier. The stars lined up and the weather worked with us. The First Lady and I enjoyed the drive to the meeting with the top down (the car not hers) and listening to the sounds of the Platter's (you know them..., "under the boardwalk") I don't think that it gets much better.

As many of you know, my car seldom has a top. I have the frame with a rag top in storage. Years ago I decided that fighting with the shrunken top was not worth the trouble. I also have a hard top, in the shed, but for me a top takes a lot of the fun out of it. Maybe its old age but I have a new convertible top. Sometimes you just need one. For those of you debating a new top I have some indications listed when you may need one:

#10. Calling your convertible a "ragtop" is more reality than slang.

#9. You're cruising down the highway with the wind in your hair and the warm sun on your shoulders-- with THE TOP UP!

#8. You couldn't see or hear the police cruiser--you know, the one with flashing lights that's been behind you for the last 3 miles.

#7. The weather forecast inside your car is at least as bad as that for the outside world.

#6. Your spouse is getting suspicious because you keep a half dozen towels in your car.

#5. Your insurance company refuses to insure you against pneumonia.

#4. You would order a new top, but you can't tell what color the old one was.

#3. When it's raining, you avoid hitting the brakes because the puddle under the seat soaks your pant legs.

#2. Neighborhood cats won't walk on your top for fear of falling through.

And the #1 reason it's time for a new top: You're running out of duct tape!
Just food for thought.

By the time you read this you will have either attended or missed the Wings and Wheels. If you missed it, put in on the calendar for next year. ***It's always great.***

Presidente Bill O

Activity Report – October 2019

At press time, I will be on the road and unable to submit a report, so at the time of writing, I have little more to report than what was included for September. Here's the bit of fresh news:

It was announced at **MG-2019** that the 2020 show will be held in the eastern foothills of the Rockies, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Show dates are Sunday, June 28 – Wednesday, July 1. For those considering the trip, the short route is about a 42-hour drive, with stops in Louisville, Indianapolis, Des Moines, Mt. Rushmore, and Great Falls before arriving in Calgary. Upon arrival, if there isn't a side trip scheduled to Banff, we'll make our own. For a return trip, I'm thinking a little more scenic route, taking the Trans-Canada Highway through Moose Jaw, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, and either to Sault Ste Marie/Mackinac Island, or to Ottawa and down to the Finger Lakes region of New York, Watkins Glen and home. A week out, a week back, and four days at the show – heck, take the month off.

Local Scheduled Reminder #1 – Our 2019 driving season is being extended a little beyond the original plans. Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 9 for the **Mmmmm, Bacon Tour** (vegans welcome). You can check off several boxes – quiet country roads, wine tasting (\$13), good food, an historic stop (\$7), and maybe a surprise visit. We'll have a 10-ish departure from Waffle House (4800 Portsmouth Blvd, Chesapeake – just west of I-664) More details will be provided later. This is a show-n-go event. However, letting me know your plans in advance will allow better scheduling at each of our stops.

Local Scheduled Reminder #2 – Save the Date – Sunday, March 29, 2020. **The 39 Steps** at Hanover Theatre.

DATE CHANGE - Our October meeting is being hosted by out-going first lady and president, Renee and Bill Olcheski at their home in Virginia Beach on **Tuesday, 10/8**. As usual, they will allow us to hang out in the driveway and on the street at 7:30, but don't dare enter the home until 8:00. There is an attack cat on the prowl. Kidding, of course. Renee and Bill are the consummate hosts.

ALSO – Our November meeting will be the Chili Cook-off. Time to start thinking of what you will be bringing on November 6th. Can you wrest the title away from 2018 winner PJ Peterson, or the perennial favorite, Pete Olson?

Until we meet again, enjoy the ride!

Tad Carter



Dipstick Calendar – October 2019

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

Oct 8 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Renee & Bill Olcheski

Nov 3 – (Sun) Fall Tech Session
Hosted by Susan & Terry Bond

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

Nov 9 – (Sat) Mmmmm, Bacon Tour
10-ish departure from Waffle House, Chesapeake

Dec 14 – (Sat) Holiday Party – Hampton
Hosted by Faith & PJ Peterson

Dec 17 – (Tue) Holiday Lights – Norfolk
6:30 Dinner at Franco
(a little later start to see if we can miss some of the heavier Lights traffic)

2020 Schedule

Mar 29 – Theatre at Hanover Tavern – *The 39 Steps*

June 28 – July 1 – MG-2020 – Calgary, Canada

Bold-Faced Items are TMGC Events

Update from the VP

Update from the VP: Sorry everyone I had hoped to make the October meeting but with the change of dates we will hopefully be relaxing in Florida with no threats of hurricanes. We were able to attend the September gathering as Hurricane Dorian had us kicked out of Myrtle Beach by Sunday evening. We are now fast approaching the end of the year and, as I mentioned at the meeting, looking for hosts for our upcoming 2020 gatherings. So please check your calendars and email me at pj.peterson@verizon.net if you are interested in hosting a meeting next year. The months are: March 4, April 7, June 2, July 1, August 4 and November 4, 2020. Thank you to those who have already signed up to host for next year. We are looking forward to being able to catch up with everyone at the Chili Cook-Off in November.

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	Terry Bond	403-4614
Activities	Tad Carter	496-9847
Clubs	Mike Ash	678-0963
Regalia	Rose Ladd	373-2468

TECH STUFF – by Terry Bond

Did you hear that something unexpectedly happened at the Ocean View Fishing Pier during our last meeting? Just after I mentioned some struggles installing a new alternator on our 74 BGT, I was “volunteered” to be the new “Technical Chairman” of this prestigious group. I guess that’s better than having to buy a round. Susan whole-heartedly supported this decision perhaps thinking it means more work forthcoming on the car.

So, for the benefit of those who did not get the opportunity to “vote” on my election, my first attempt at something technical is herewith submitted.

If you were absent that evening and ever need to install a new alternator, be aware the newly manufactured units sold today by varied parts suppliers might be somewhat different than you expect. The old alternator on our GT was on its way further south of somewhere. We were experiencing some battery drain after long periods just sitting. (hint-drive your car more often!). Last time we came home after dark and pulled into the garage, we also noted flickering headlights. (hint - follow Joe Lucas’ thinking –“Gentlemen do not motor about after dark.”)

Well, if you follow this group, driving often, driving hard, and staying out late is routine practice – so off to Moss we went in search of a replacement alternator. They are available at any of the local auto parts suppliers, but I believe it’s important to support our major suppliers who do so much to keep us on the road (or along-side of it at least).

The new alternator sure was pretty. First step – install a fan and pulley assembly. Those are not included with the new one. Fortunately we had a spare “core” and I was able to salvage the needed pieces from it.

The pulley nut needs to come off with an air impact gun, but you’ll need a skinny spanner to hold onto the nut just behind the pulley, otherwise you’ll just spin the whole thing uselessly. An alternative is to simply stick a long shaft screw driver between fan blades, being careful not to bend them, hold on tight, and one pull of the trigger on my air gun and the nut buzzed right off.



That pulley and the fan below it are held in place on the alternator shaft by something called a woodruff key. That is a little half-moon shaped piece of metal, jammed into a slot on the shaft. It fits into a slot on the pulley and fan blade assembly to keep them from turning on the shaft. Quite clever, but be careful not to damage the pulley or fan when removing them, and if the little key comes out of the slot, don’t lose it or drop it back down into the alternator!

Forever the detail nut, I chose to check the fan to ensure the blades were straight and level, then bead-blasted and painted them using Rustoleum semi-gloss black. A couple of beers and a visit from the neighbor will provide ample drying time.

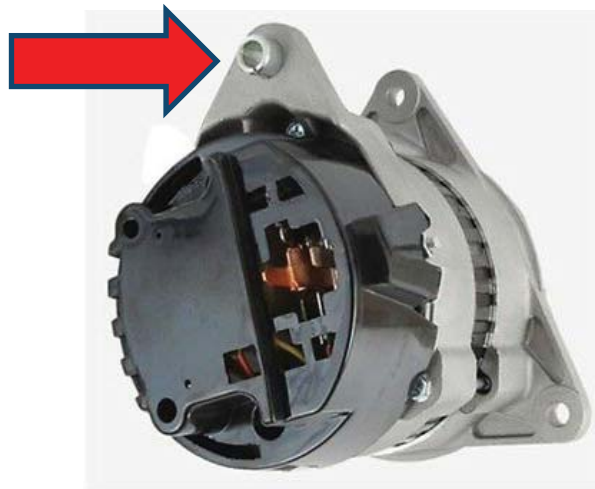
Before assembling those pieces to the alternator itself, I carefully masked off all except the aluminum casing, and gave it a coat of nice Rustoleum cast metal paint. It comes in several shades and the lightest color has the look of freshly bead blasted aluminum. You can spend more money and buy other specialty

The fan and pulley need to be put back on using the air impact gun. It's the easiest way to install those pieces.

Putting the alternator on the car should be simple. The MG manuals themselves often say that "reassembly is the opposite of disassembly." NOT!

I immediately noted the alternator would not fit between the bracket on the engine block and the bracket attached to the water pump. The reason was obvious when I compared the old and new Alternators. The new replacement has a thicker stator ring (those are the black discs in the middle of the two halves of the alternator). I believe the reason is the old one was a 45amp alternator and the new replacement is a 60 Amp unit. Of course it fits a number of cars in addition to the MGB.

Proper placement of the alternator between the two brackets is essential so the pulley maintains correct alignment with the fan pulley to keep the belt running straight and true.



It's easy to "shim" the front alternator casing bracket with washers if necessary. The rear alternator casing bracket can be easily adjusted. Note the metal "insert" shown above in the rear casing bracket. It's a press fit. To adjust it, just use a deep socket placed over one end of it and a small "C" clamp to squeeze it back and forth in the hole it's fitted into on the alternator casing. You can easily move it in or out until the alternator fits nicely between the engine block and water pump brackets. Install the adjusting arm to the lower Alternator casing bracket first. As you lower it into position slip on the fan belt and place the adjusting arm over the adjusting stud. Loosely tighten the adjusting nut.

Using clean new bolts and nuts, loosely install the top two alternator casing arms to the water pump and engine block brackets respectively. Then you can adjust belt tension, tighten the adjusting bracket nut firmly, then tighten up the two mounting bracket bolts.

Next, pay attention to the electrical plug at the rear of the Alternator. That's where the "Lucas Smoke" is released! That plastic plug may be difficult to remove and reinstall so be careful with it. There are three spade clips mounted in the plastic housing, held in by tiny plastic tabs. You can dismantle the plug easily with a small screw driver to clean it thoroughly. A small nail file works great to clean the clips. The spades on the rear of the alternator will need to slip into those clips. Having everything clean ensures good connections and makes reassembling the plug much easier.

A dab of dielectric grease will help ensure connectivity and helps prevent further corrosion.

I'll have the old Alternator rebuilt locally and carry it as a spare. It will already have the fan and pulley assembly installed for easy roadside replacement if ever needed, by us, or a fellow MG traveler.

And, as Willie Nelson sang – we're on the road again!

Terry

Wings & Wheels 2019

Tidewater Region AACA (TRAACA) held their 46th consecutive regional show at the Military Aircraft Museum in bucolic Pungo on September 28th. The weather promised to be perfect for ogling beautiful cars of every description, as well as local flying. The program got underway at 11 a.m. with the National Anthem, followed by several hours of auto and aeromotive enjoyment. With about 180 pre-registrants, plus a good number of “day of show” entries, there was something for every taste, including our favored British makes.

TMGC was well represented, despite having so many folks away on the Fall Tour. Among the attendees were Roy Wiley (Benz), Frank Linse (58 MGA coupe), Al Hazlett (66 MGB), Mark Davidoski (74 ½ BGT), Richard Hall (71 BGT), Eric Fee (MGA), Al Swenson (58 Morris Minor), Billy Stutz (71 MGB, Model A Ford, Cadillac Ambulance), Terry Bond (14 Model T Ford – Susan was on tour with the MG!), Chip Woolford (Spridget), and Bob Stein (86 ???). We also saw Kerry Wooten’s MGA along with a Camaro from Paul Fuqua. We even had an appearance from our outgoing President Bill Olcheski, who was busy campaigning for a replacement.

The Aircraft Museum had three of its residents in the air throughout the show, including the Navy N3N biplane and a Piper Pawnee banner tug. One of the banners was a marriage proposal delivered to a show attendee. The highlight of the aerial portion of Wings & Wheels was the demonstration of the Soviet Yak-3 fighter, examples of which saw service in WWII and the Korean Conflict.



Soviet Yak-3: What a flight demo!

The food trucks were busy all day, as were many of the flea market vendors on the sidelines. By the time that trophies were being awarded, everyone had sold out of cold drinks. Marion McAlpine and Barry Basnight, show co-hosts, coordinated the awards ceremony inside one of the hangars. Trophy winners from TMGC included Al Hazlett, Richard Hall, Mark Davidoski, Al Swenson, Billy Stutz, Chip Woolford and Bob Stein. Receiving AACA Awards were Terry Bond and Marion McAlpine. Terry was also recognized for "Best Brass Era Car." (Note: Frank requested that his car not be judged - he has no more room for trophies in his garage.)

The TRAACA team outdid themselves once again in pulling so many details together and delivering a superb car show. Mark your calendars now for late September 2020 – you need to bring YOUR MG to this show!



Frank observing the action



Just one of Billy's trophy winners

Terry's 1914 Model T beside the oldest car on site: the 1909 Rambler



A Colorado Apple Pie

By Jim Villers

(Dipstick Roving Reporter)

In early September, I had the opportunity to be the co-driver in a 1954 "Rocket 88" Oldsmobile in the Colorado Grand. This is a 1000 mile tour of the Colorado high country for high end sports and race cars built prior to 1960. By high end, there were 14 Mercedes 300SLs, 17 Ferraris, 6 Aston Martins, 6 Maseratis and 12 Bentleys from 1926-31 among the hundred participating cars.

The entries included two MGs, a 1935 K3/KN and a supercharged 1937 TA Roadster driven by "Team MG". This spirited group was outfitted in matching desert tan flight suits with a red embroidered "Team MG". Of course, I needed to check out the cars and chat with the MG guys. It didn't take long for Alan Magnuson and I to identify mutual friends. Alan is active with NAMGBR (North American MGB Registry) and knew members of our club including Mike Ash, Susan Bond and others.



Jim with the "Rocket 88" at Independence Pass

After chatting for a while, he asked if I knew Chuck and Beckey Hassler, members of his local club who had moved from Tidewater several years ago. Of course, I did and relayed some stories about them including about how Beckey was known for her excellent apple pies. With that, Alan called them and left a voice message on their answering machine about how he met someone from Tidewater who says that they owed five years of back membership dues and an apple pie. Alan received a text back from Beckey the next day saying that she knew exactly who he was talking with and described the Christmas Meetings they had enjoyed at the Villers'.

The 1937 supercharged MG TA Roadster with special motorcycle tires/wheels



After leaving Colorado, on our drive home, I received a text from Alan with a picture of him and his wife with Beckey and Chuck with the note "Look at the beautiful people who brought me a delicious apple pie today!"

Enjoy the journey; there are surprises and wonderful people down the road.



Beckey and Chuck Hassler with Alan Magnuson and his wife with Chuck's MGC



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



Turn onto Roundhill at traffic light.
Right at 3rd street (Clemensford).
Right at 2nd street (Edgartown Ct).

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, Oct 8th
Bill & Renee Olcheski
1409 Edgartown Ct.
Virginia Beach
467-4046

The Dipstick

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

Affiliated with



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