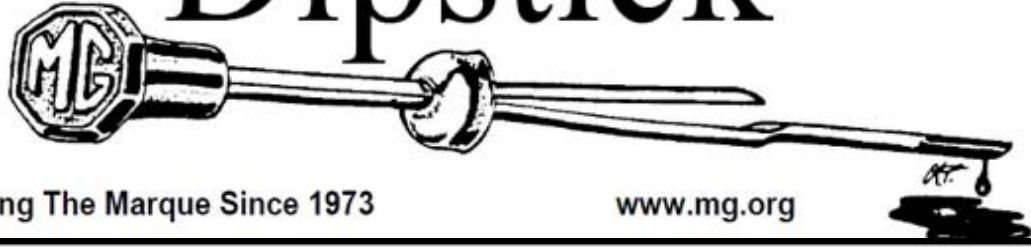




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 49 Issue 11

November 2022

Activities

Nov MG Activities Report 10-19-22

The year may be winding down to its conclusion, but there’s still good driving to be had. The leaf colors will be hitting their peak, and we likely won’t be wishing for A/C, so we should get out on the road whenever we can! Rob McPherson will be leading a driving tour to Elizabeth City this coming Saturday, October 22, to tour the Museum of the Albemarle, check out the eateries, and the Camden, NC museum. Weather looks good at the time of writing this. Our last event for October will be coming up on October 30, with “Trunk or Treat” at Big Ugly Brewing at 845 S. Battlefield Rd.; their website <https://biguglybrewing.com/> gives details for the event taking place from noon to 5 pm. Get yourself a few bags of candy to give away, spend the afternoon, and maybe even have a “cold delicious” with friends.

The world famous TMGC Chili Cook-Off is back this year, and will be held at the home of Mark and Kathy Davidoski at our regular meeting on November 2. Tyre kicking starts at 7:30 and the meeting begins at 8. Be there for chili and you may not have to turn your heater on for the ride home! Terry and Sue Bond will host the Fall Tech Session on November 13, starting at noon. Start assembling parts for installations and gathering those nagging questions that you want to ask our local experts. While we had hoped to set up a Barksdale Theater event this Fall, we never did hear back about whether they had put together a play for our usual location, so maybe next year.

Our December Holiday get-together will be a brunch on December 18 at the Princess Anne Country Club. Jim Villers has set up this great venue for us; more details will be forthcoming at the November meeting. A holiday lights drive is still a possibility for December 6. Since the Norfolk Arboretum’s lights are a “walking only” event, that leaves the Virginia Beach boardwalk lights or

Coming Events

TMGC Events

- Nov 2: Meeting; Chili Cook-off at Davidoski’s
- Nov 13: Fall Tech Session
- Dec 6: Holiday Lights
- Dec 18: Holiday Brunch at Princess Anne

Other Events



Marque Time!

President's Message

Since November is the month of Thanksgiving, this column is all about giving thanks. Thanks to all on Veteran's Day who served our country. When we gather with family and friends on Thanksgiving Day and eat too much turkey we can be grateful for all that we have in this great country of ours. Closer to home, I want to thank all those who give their time in support of our club.

First off, thanks to Renee and Bill Olcheski for hosting the October meeting. It has become somewhat of a club tradition these past few years to meet there for the October meeting and it was good to be back again. Thanks to all members who have hosted meetings or tech sessions this year. Having meetings in member's homes has been the norm since the beginning and I am glad we can still continue this important tradition.

I want to thank Jim Villers for stepping up and taking over as the new editor of the Dipstick. It is in very good hands. I want to thank Mark & Kathy Davidoski for tirelessly working as co-editors for over eight years, culminating in our own Dipstick being voted as Newsletter of the Year for 2021 by the New England MG T Register. I think they have been editors for longer than anyone else, and they deserve a break. Of course, Mark won't be taking much of a break as he agreed to work as club Treasurer.

I want to thank all the officers for stepping up and volunteering to serve the club this year. I especially want to thank out-going VP Paul Fuqua for stepping up last year when asked to take over that role. Under Paul's efforts we had enjoyable meetings every month and he helped to organize the Spring Tech Session and the July visit to Dwight Schaubach's car collection, a real treat.

I want to thank all of the committee chairpersons for continuing in those roles and working hard to keep our club active and vibrant. Lastly, I want to thank all the members who renewed their memberships, who attend meetings, and who participate in the drives and other events because, really, it is you all who make this a club we want to belong to and just a fun group to be with!

Safety Fast –
Mike

Activities Continued: the Newport News Celebration in Lights as other options. The VB event is advance-ticket only at \$25/car with three time slots to choose from. NN is \$12/car with tickets available at the gate. As per tradition, we'd meet for dinner somewhere close by to queue up and head to the event. Plan to be ready with comments at the November meeting so plans can be laid.

Happy Holiday Driving!

If it's November - IT's A TECH SESSION –

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13th,

NOON to whenever...

Terry and Susan Bond's Home/Museum

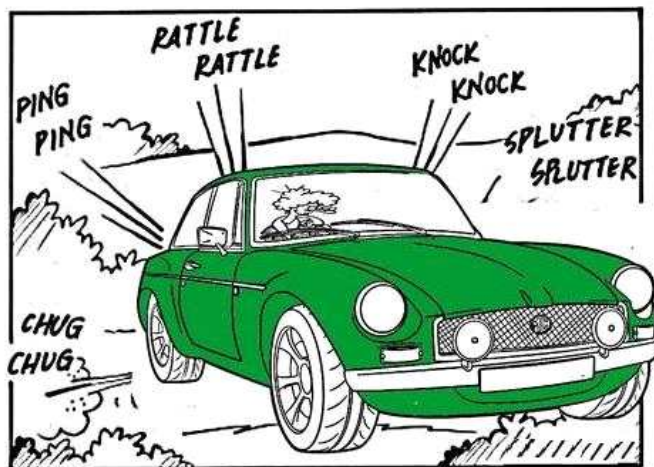
541 Forest Road, Chesapeake, VA 23322

Coffee and donuts for early arrivals or those needing caffeine or sugar doses before commencing any work on your MG.

NOTE-we will not be serving a full lunch but there will be plenty of snackies, desserts, and adult beverages. Plenty of room to park and tinker with your MG, or just come to socialize, and watch the experts

twist spanners. Any bits and pieces left behind when you are finished will be considered as donations to the museum. Please bring your own spare parts, special tools, supplies or equipment needed.

Free (guided) tours of the antique auto parts store museum and collection of early motoring objects. Come for the fun and fix something!



" since it's last service the MG seemed to be running perfectly"



TMGC Holiday Brunch,

10:30 Sunday, Dec 18, 2022

Our Holiday Brunch will be at the Princess Anne Country Club, 3800 Pacific Ave, Virginia Beach. The brunch will be on Sunday morning, December 18, 2022. Doors open at 10:00 and Festivities will begin at 10:30am; we will eat after a period of socialization. The extensive brunch buffet will include an extensive breakfast fare, omelet station, fruit, lunch and desert selections.

The cost will be \$25 per person and will be payable at the door. RSVP to Jim Villers; 190SLJim@cox.net or (757) 481-6390 by Tuesday December 13 so we can provide an accurate attendance count.

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022

Everyone ventured out to the screened in porch. They have a hanging swing chair which I quickly sat. Being one who tends to move my leg, wiggle, or rock, this was the best surprise as the chair would allow me to do most of that!

8:10 pm: President Mike called the meeting to order. According to him, it has always been a tradition to hold the October meetings at Bill and Renee’s home. I’m glad it has returned as it is a great place to relax and mingle.

There was a call for new members. No new members were identified except for the guy with no mustache (Rob!). He decided to shave that sucker off recently because he was tired to it. I do concur that it is a drastic change after living with it for so many years.

The VP announcements were few. “I’m glad I’m losing this job!”, he announced. Best of luck to the new guy (Steve?). November 13, the meeting will be at the Bonds’ home. Before that the chili cookoff event will take place on November 2nd at the Davidoski’s home. I’m excited about that because who does not like a good chili. AND there will be different versions to try? A dream come true.

The Christmas meeting will be near the Villers home at the Princess Anne Country Club. No date was identified (or maybe I missed it...been a little preoccupied this meeting).

A reminder to all members to consider attending and participating in the Veteran’s Parade. We have a slot reserved. If you do decide to participate, please provide a short narrative of you and your service along with your automobile. Veteran’s and non-veterans are welcome. Each car will be assigned a number. One gentleman did it with his 31 Chevrolet last year and was able to drive the Governor Elect in the back of his car. You have to be there early in the morning in order to stage your car and yourself! There will be food available next to the area where the parade will take place. MGs need to be well represented. Those who decide to participate can get set up three abreast due to the small size of the MGs. To all, there is a symbiotic relationship between the GIs coming home with the MGs they fell in love with while in Europe.

Regalia: Bill announced that Rose Ladd had called to share that Don was picking up someone from the airport for a funeral. She is still taking it easy, so no regalia tonight. If money has been given for tonight, too bad.

Dipstick: The deadline for submissions to the Dipstick is the 20th. This gives enough time to get the copies out to those members who like to receive them in the mail before the meeting.

Treasurer: This is Jim’s final treasury report after 30 years. There is more money than there has ever been in the bank, so Mark will be taking over in the black! Andy announced, “I think they should pay a dividend!”

Activities: Bruce was here! It’s always good to see him and Jane. They appear to be VERY busy during the fall.

The Tidewater Automotive Model Society (TAMS) 30th annual car contest and swap meet will be October 15th in anyone is interested. The annual Trunk or Treat will be held Sunday, October 30th at Big Ugly Brewing. All those who want to participate should show up at 12:30 to get a good spot. The event will last until 3:30 pm. Tickets will be provided for those participating to get two free brews. If there is a need to have another, Hank shared that his daughter may have extra tickets. That got Bruce’s attention. His eyes lite up and there was the hint of a smile hidden behind that beard/mustache combo!

It’s crazy that these craft beer places have made these into family events! Big Ugly was the small business of the year this past year due to their involvement in the community and their sponsoring of local teams. They have also won a lot of awards for their beers.

For those participating and providing treats to the kids, it was suggested you get an Advanced Auto or Auto Zone bucket and fill it with candy. Last year, dads and moms were seen drinking beer while the kids ran around picking up candy. Folks should plan to get there around noon to get a good spot for staging your car! Bring A LOT of candy. If it rains, bring a pop-up tent.

TMGC Offices and Committees

President	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net
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Historian	Sue Bond	susanbond@cox.net
Regalia	Rose Ladd	twfrog@hotmail.com
Technical	Terry Bond	terryaaca@cox.net

Bruce reminded members of the child cookoff on November 2nd at the Davidoski's home. Pete used to always win that event. He will be greatly missed this year.

Bonds' event will start at 12 noon. So be there ready to go!

Jim has a spot for the holiday party at the Princess Ann Country Club on December 18th. (Thank you, Bruce, for repeating that!)

During this last weekend's tour, Bruce shared that Jim was a big help to him navigate the big trucks.

The Botanical Garden's Holiday Lights display is no longer a drive through event. Now they only allow people to walk through. The group talked about other light displays in the area. Virginia Beach still has the boardwalk of lights. They do them in time frames. If anyone is interested, we can go to dinner close by, get there at around 7 pm and get in line for the boardwalk. Unfortunately for Jim, this event does not get his engine running.

Newport News also has one and Jim has heard it is very good. The later we go, the better. Bruce will be happy to pull together the information and share it with the group. The target date is December 6th so he can get the time period, dates, and cost. If it is late enough it may not be bad for the south side MGs to get through the bridge tunnel to get to the Newport News lights!

During the fall and spring, Bruce and Jane are touring for their art business. Due to this, they don't get the opportunity to be involved in many of the events. Bruce does have the plans for the Elizabeth City trip set up, but they are not able to do it. The weekend of the 15th was what Bruce was shooting for. However, Rob volunteered to lead it. October 15 or 22 were up for grabs but no takers tonight. If there are no takers for the fall, it can be revisited in the spring.

Bruce shared it was killing him not to drive and he was feeling guilty (no worries, Bruce! Drives for the winter and summer will need to be scheduled so you both can be there.)

Fall tour was this past weekend. If you missed it, sorry. A good time was had by all and the weather was great. The agenda was wonderful as there were many interesting events. A trip up the Eastern Shore would be great to see the Dupont House. Typically, weekend trips start on Thursday or Friday morning. For those who can't start the trip with the group are always welcome to join up Friday night or Saturday morning.

Membership: Mike and Jennifer were not here. TMGC has 81 renewals and Jim sent out reminders. There will be a date designated to get the roster together.

No technical or history tonight. Both Terry and Sue were otherwise disposed.

Old business: The emblems for the cars and a file of the pictures for the emblems was to be sent out for the group to review. Mike was doing it and has a good design. All that is needed is a way to get them done. Everyone is interested in just a badge, but want the design to include studs on the back to allow for easier mounting. Mick found one at a garage sale for \$10. People he bought it from had never owned an MG so no idea how they had it. Lucky find!

Bob's sister, Betty has a farm out in Suffolk and asked him if he wanted to go see the cars and there was a 1931 Chevrolet. Frank bought it and now they have a brother and sister 31 Chevrolet show!

New business: Election of leaders – all those in favor of approving the election – resounding Aye!

Mark Time: Hank is looking for an interior roof and side panels for his MGB GT interior for overhead. Let him know if you come across one. His car is harvest gold and it would be nice to find something that would match.

Rob warned the group to beware on some sites as you can get someone who is trolling to rip you off but also someone who may help you off. He shared his experience of seeking a replacement phalange and finally found someone who was reputable on the MG Experience. There are different forums depending on the type of car you have. You can click on their name and see how long they have been members of the site. "It is more fun to drive a slow car fast," Bill.

Regalia: No Rose or Don (we miss you!)

Motion to adjourn!

Drive like there's no tomorrow (and for some of these cars...it sounds like there may not be!)

If you see an MG on the side of the road, look for the driver.

Fall Tour Thursday 9/22

by **Robert Perone**

Once again, many of the usual suspects gathered together to embark on a mini-adventure on one of our classic drives. For those of you who've never joined us, you don't know what you're missing!

We were to meet at the parking lot adjacent to the toll booth at Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Yes, we were supposed to be there for departure time of 8:20. So what if I arrived at 8:19? Was anyone really surprised at that?

Maybe I was late because of some deeply-rooted psychological issue with the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. After all, my prior experience there in the MGB was not exactly pleasant.

We took off with a group consisting of 6 cars and 12 people, including the "Odd Couple" of Don and Russ. I'm still not sure which one is supposed to be Felix, or which one is Oscar, but I suppose they worked that out themselves.



But it was a perfect day for a drive with blue skies and plenty of sun. The first stop, other than a quick meet up at Royal Farms on Route 13, was lunch at the Globe Restaurant in Berlin, MD.

Apparently, the people there have no self-image issues, as they refer to Berlin as "America's Coolest Small Town." Still, I can't necessarily disagree. After all, where else can you park your car and have a mermaid blowing bubbles from a second story window onto the street below?

Well, we were supposed to eat at the Globe, but we were escorted through the restaurant and asked to have lunch out back at "Tiki Tim's" which seem to work out fine. The food we had at our table was very good, and the local draft beer was excellent. Of course, anyone that knows me would understand that, as long as the beer is good, everything else is fine with me!

After we left the restaurant the sky turned a bit overcast. Most of us had already put our tops up in anticipation of some rain, and when we arrived at our next destination I was amazed to find that even PJ had put his top up. I don't think I've ever seen that before.

By the time we arrived at Marvel Carriage Museum the rain had arrived in force. But I was surprised to find that there were actually several museums on the grounds with various themes, aside from the carriage museum



itself. I think they had a little bit of everything there, including a giant frying pan capable of cooking 800 chicken quarters at the same time. Will wonders never cease.

We toured the Lynch Building which, according to their website, is "...the perfect place to have your special event." Well, one thing is for certain, they have plenty of antiques and other interesting memorabilia in that building.



Aside from the Marvel Carriage Museum and Lynch Building we also visited a blacksmith shop, replica Western Auto Store, a church and the Delaware Telephone Museum. There was a map on the telephone museum wall, dated 1891, and it showed existing lines and circuit connections. To my amazement, my old hometown of Gloversville was actually listed. Apparently somebody in good old G'ville had a lot of money in 1891. I know one thing for sure, it wasn't anyone in my family.

Back to the cars and on to the fabulous accommodations at the Micro-Tel. I noticed that at the hotel no one could ever get lost because Betty conveniently left a trail of candy bars on the floor, just in case. Follow the chocolate and find your way back...

Now to dinner at a place called JD Shuckers. Wait, JD Shuckers, not CP Shuckers as in Virginia Beach? Did the Shuckers brothers have a fight? Kind of makes you wonder. Well, maybe not you, but it does to some of us with weaker minds.

At dinner we overheard part of a story having to do with a stolen Volvo and Terry Bond.

Yes, Bond, Terry Bond. A man of mystery, and a man with friends in high places.

Well, a few of us came downstairs at the hotel after dinner and enjoyed some wonderful scotch provided by Terry, but we also heard some fascinating stories. Aside from the one dealing with Terry's involvement in the police recovery of the 1937 Volvo, we also heard a few tales of Terry's time "across the pond" as some might say.

I won't spoil the stories in case Terry ever shares them with anyone else. But I will tell you of Terry's rubbing elbows with some interesting gentleman while there. Among others was the famed racing driver Stirling Moss and another gentleman that Terry just refers to as "good old Chuck." You may know him better as Prince... oh, excuse me, King Charles of England.

Terry, after all the years I've known you, you never cease to amaze me with your tales... and your scotch!

Fall Tour Friday 9/23. . (aka Delaware Drive)

by Mark Davidoski

The weather had cleared out overnight as we departed Georgetown, DE for Dover Air Force Base. Our target was the Air Mobility Command Museum, which is accessible from an off-base gate on a country lane. We cruised through soybeans, corn and even some hops as we made our way along relaxing secondary roads. High water caution signs guided us through the marshy terrain until we missed the gate and made our first (and highly-obligatory) U-turn of the trip. We parked as a group and leaned into a stiff breeze as we walked to the hangar.

Our assigned docent, Scott Kapes, USAF retired had flown several of the aircraft that we were about to see. His presentation was both witty and insightful – no bored tourists in our group! The museum had an excellent indoor display of Army Air Force equipment from the Second World War. This included authentic examples of Stearman and Vultee training aircraft, as well as a Douglas C-47 Dakota that delivered paratroops (twice in one day) to the D-Day skies over Normandy in 1944. The C-47 interior tour was great fun for everyone, especially PJ, our resident paratrooper! It's a steep walk uphill when you make your way to the cockpit in those taildragger airplanes.



Also on display was a B-17G Flying Fortress in all its glory, including original nose art. Our docent regaled us with tales of crewmembers who flew the Flying Forts against Nazi Germany in 1943-1945. The ball turret gunner display was astonishing – to see how a gunner had to squirm into that tiny compartment was an eye opener for us all.



Outside we saw a huge assortment of static display aircraft that covered the history of Army and Air Force transport, fighter, and attack planes from the 1940's through the present day. The tour included the interior of a C-130 cargo plane, which turned out to be one of PJ's former hangouts during his paratrooper days. We also toured a C-9 executive transport, which was used as Air Force Two for many years. The plush interior had hosted many Vice Presidents (and hangers on) over the years.

Departing the parking lot, we saw that another car club was visiting -- a good number of Shelby Cobras had lined up near our much more desirable LBCs. Our route continued to please with plenty of curves and limited traffic. Our luncheon stop was the historic Cantwell Tavern in beautiful Odessa, DE. The

Tavern dates from the early 19th Century, when Odessa was competing to be a major railway stop. The upstairs room was filled with period details and the menu was superb. (Personal opinion here – best crab-cake EVER!)



After filling ourselves on good grub and a few refreshing beverages, it was off to the Nemours Estate in Wilmington, DE. Our group got a bit fragmented during the late stages of the drive (which included a bonus U-turn) but we all managed to reunite in the correct parking lot, which is adjacent to a huge hospital complex adjoining the estate.

Much of the tour was self-guided, which was perfect for strolling through the huge grounds on a picture-perfect Fall day. The home is a stunning example of an American Gilded Age Country Estate. (Think of the Biltmore Mansion as a comparable property.)

The DuPont's brought everything imaginable from Europe in order to furnish their main home. 16th Century tapestries adorned many of the main floor walls, and paintings by many Masters could be enjoyed throughout the house. Of course, as an MG club we HAD to see the chauffer's garage in detail. Here we saw, among other classics, Mr. DuPont's 1960 Rolls Royce Phantom V. The late queen owned #1 of 10 ever produced. DuPont owned #2. Elton John had one as well.



Perhaps the most amazing feature of the Nemours Estate is the surrounding gardens. Part of our group took advantage of a scheduled garden tour, which was tailor made for the Master Gardeners among us! The views of the estate were unforgettable – the sort of images you see in “Wedding Venues of the Rich and Famous.”

Our next leg led us to the Holiday Inn Express just a few miles away. We gathered for some pre-supper refreshments before strolling just across the street to a TGI Friday's that was very happy to host a large party from out of town. Stomachs were filled once again as we closed out a thoroughly enjoyable day of driving, learning, and camaraderie.

Elizabeth City Drive-Out - October 22, 2022

Rob MacPherson organized our drive to Elizabeth City on Saturday, October 22, 2022 and it was a surprisingly interesting drive. Attending were Robert Perrone with Caroline Remeika, Jim Villers, Russ Ripp, Donald Ladd, Tom Keiningham, and Rob MacPherson. In Elizabeth City, we met up with Rich Lodge, a North Carolina member with a very attractive 1953 TD.



The Camden County Museum, a small county museum run by volunteers is what made this drive special. We were met by Alex Leary, the county Historian who showed us around the one room museum and jail. Alex was very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and wove the story of Camden County history into the frame-

work of the nation's history in an opinionated and captive way. We all learned something from him; that Abraham Lincoln being a somewhat wealthy railroad lawyer to President Polk expanded the country more than Thomas Jefferson (he added the Republic of Texas, the Oregon Territory and the Mexican Concession which included California).



After hearing the history, we toured the old jail. Again, something I have never seen before. The brick building was built in 1910 and on the second floor was a modular

four heavily bared, riveted steel cells of the jail manufactured by the Stewart Jail Company of Cincinnati, OH and assembled in place as the building was built.

After a short drive we arrived in Elizabeth City and the Museum of the Albemarle, our primary destination. This state sponsored museum also interpreted the local history of northeastern North Carolina but its exhibits were designed for elementary school tours. The exception was a nice "High on the Hog" exhibit tracing hog farming in North Carolina.

Every drive needs a good lunch stop and Hopppn' John's surpassed expectations.



Tech Stuff GPS Speedometer by Jim Villers

I have gotten spoiled by my constant use of digital speedometers in my modern cars and I am now accustomed to having an accurate digital speedometer in my MG.

Amazon of course is the source for my Acecar Digital GPS Speedometer; it cost only \$24 and was delivered the day after I ordered it. There many other GPS speedometer options available from Amazon and other suppliers but I chose this model because of its simple display and the goose-neck holder.



The unit receives 5V power from a USB plug. I used an adapter from my cigarette lighter which is very convenient on the console of my MG.



[Rotary Suction Cup Holder]


The Speedometer comes with very obscure instructions which describe its options which can be accessed by pushing its “wave function” button on the top. The first adjustment is to set the displayed speed adjustment. The default is 107 which displays a speed about 7% high (about 4 mph at 60 mph). I adjusted mine to 101 and it now matches my Garmin GPS. The other adjustments are “over speed alarm”; “fatigue

driver alarm”; brightness adjustment; and “decretive “e-lamp”.

I used the suction cup holder to install my GPS Speedometer on my steering column. The suction cup of course would not stick to the plastic and I chose not to try the sticky smooth thing that came in the box but I just taped it on with black electrical tape. It is centered behind the steering wheel so it appears to be in the center of the instrument cluster and is perfect for checking my speed.



The Dipstick

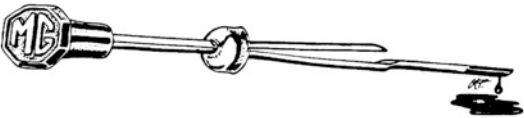


Chili

COOK OFF

Monthly Meeting
 Wednesday, Nov 2nd
 Mark & Kathy
 Davidoski
 4705 Little John Rd.
 Virginia Beach
 499-4647

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



First Class

The Dipstick

Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Jim Villers
 3133 Inlet Road
 Virginia Beach, VA 23454

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