



# The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 51 Issue 8

August 2024

## Membership Dues Due!

### *Activities* Report, July 19, 2024

We are into the heat! July is with us and August is right around the corner. Temps of 90 plus may not be so conducive to long drives in unconditioned cars, but there are still some opportunities for MG fun coming up soon.

A big “thanks” to Cynthia and Andy for hosting the July meeting at their home; always a wonderful spot with good times and good food. We got to see some of the progress with the recent landscaping and both hosts were in fine form.

By the time you read this, July will be nearly gone, so what’s in store for August? Join the crew for the August 10 monthly meeting at the home of Faith and PJ Peterson. This is a Saturday meeting with the traditional “kick tyres” gathering at 11:00 AM and a meeting and food to follow. Then the fourth weekend in August the Historic Virginia Peninsula Region of AACA will have their “Special Eastern Fall Nationals” at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton beginning August 22. Judging and show will be open to the public on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, and the informational brochure is available online.

In September the temperatures may moderate and we’ll have our usual Fall meeting at the Ocean View pier on September 10. Cross your fingers for nice weather so we can sit outside on the Upper Deck and enjoy a great sunset. Gathering and ordering for dinner starts at 6:00 PM. Then for those interested in a road trip and show, the British Car Club of Western North Carolina will hold the annual “Autumn in the Mountains” British and European car show September 21 at Mills River Brewing in Mills River, NC. Pre-registration opens July 26, and on line information can be accessed at <https://www.bccwnc.org/autumn-in-the-mountains-car-show/>. Should be some beautiful scenery and a fun time! My wife and I will be away during that weekend, so if anyone would like to take on organizing a road trip to the event, please step forward at the August meeting.

The drive to Shirley Vineyards that was originally planned by the Williamsburg British Car Club for June was postponed due to excessive heat. It currently is rescheduled for September 28, so reserve a spot on your calendar if you are interested. I’m sure there will be more details as we get closer to the date.

*Safety fast.* (as always), Bruce Easley



# **Marque Time!**

## **President's Message**

Hey folks, summertime is truly upon us and now we're sitting squarely in the middle of the summer doldrums. Those very hot and steamy days make it a little hard to take the MG out and enjoy the muggy weather during the heat of the day, but an evening outing in the little cars can be very enjoyable and manageable in the summer heat. We had a chance to enjoy a nice drive over to long time members and former El Presidente Andy Wallach and Cynthia Faschini's home for our monthly meeting at their wonderful house in the heart of

historic Norfolk.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to both Andy and Cynthia for hosting a simply incredible event. We had nearly 40 members attend the monthly meeting on a warm and sultry July evening that remained rain free allowing members to drive their prized MGs if they braved the heat and humidity. As usual,

Cynthia was a culinary maestro and provided a Top Chef quality buffet that we all enjoyed and boy did we clean house....I don't think there was even any leftovers! She also provided quite the assortment of adult beverages and even had some non-alcoholic IPA's that got rave reviews. Thanks Andy and Cynthia for a wonderful evening. It was also great to see everyone again and catch up on summertime vacations, learn about some of the challenges with our beloved, but aging cars, and mingle with folks we haven't seen in quite some time. We even learned that founding members Mike and Jennifer Ash are moving back to Virginia Beach this fall AND they're selling their beloved MG A Coupe. It'll be great to have them back in the local area and somebody is going to truly enjoy that very unique MG A.

I also want to take a moment to thank Robert Perrone for coordinating the annual Norfolk Tides "Turn Back the Clock" night. We had about 20 members come out to the ball park to enjoy food, fun and a very competitive baseball game. My crew of 9 including boyfriends and grandkids came out to enjoy the festivities. The weather was quite mild for a June evening and we learned lessons from previous years, so we came out early, bought food FIRST...taking full advantage of short lines for the prized \$.50 hot dogs, popcorn and drinks. This was the first year we actually stayed for the whole game and it even went into extra innings, but alas the Tides lost after an errant throw in the 10-inning sealed it for the opposing team. Oh well, we still had a great time and enjoyed the evening out supporting our 2023 Triple A Champion Tides.

For our next meeting, we'll take a jaunt across the Chesapeake Bay to Hampton and enjoy our get together on Saturday, Aug 10th, at PJ and Faith Peterson's home on located at 4 Applewood Drive, Hampton, VA 23666. Looking forward to seeing everyone next month!

Well folks, that's all from the cheap seats here at the Parker homestead.

*Safety fast.*

Scott

**TMGC Coming Events**

- Aug 10 - Meet: Peterson's
- Sep 10 - Meet: OV Pier/Fee
- Oct 9 - Meet: Olcheski's
- Nov 5 - Meet: Davidoski's
- Dec 14 - Holiday Brunch

# Meeting Minutes - July 9, 2024

 By Michelle Parker

This evening’s meeting was at the home of Andy and Cynthia. Always so good to meet at their place! It was wonderful to see a few faces there that we haven’t seen in a while.

President Scott Parker called the meeting to order, thanking our hosts for having us and for the tasty spread. We had one new member out to the meeting, Vince Valdez. His short intro about himself was interesting for sure, can’t wait for us all to get to know you better, it’s a pleasure to add you to the club! Last month’s minutes were then approved.

The Vice President’s Report was brought by Rob MacPherson, good to have you back with us. Next month’s meeting is at Faith and PJ’s on Saturday, August 10, at 11:00. The September meeting will be at the Ocean View Pier.

Activities Chair Bruce Easley was back with us again too, good to have you and Jayne with us again! For the Activities Report: he highlighted the North American MGA register get-together, GT 49, and the Autumn in the Mountains tour. See the calendar and the activities report for all the details on these events and more. He sadly announced that he will be stepping down from his post this Fall. Bruce, you have done an amazing job and it will be tough to find anyone to reach the bar you’ve set! Another member brought up the AACA show in August in the Hampton Roads Convention Center, see the website for details.

*President Scott Parker calls the meeting to order.*

Treasurer Mark Davidoski wasn’t with us, he and Cathy were missed! Scott gave the Treasurer’s Report in

### TMGC Offices and Committees

President	Scott Parker	TMGCPres@mg.org
Vice President	Rob MacPerson	TMGCVVP@mg.org
Secretary	Michelle Parker	
Treasurer	Mark Davidoski	Treasurer@mg.org
Dipstick Editor	Jim Villers	Editor@mg.org
Activities	Bruce Easley	Activities@mg.org
Webmaster	Mike Haag	Webmaster@mg.org
Historian	Sue Bond	
Regalia	Rose Ladd	
Technical	Terry Bond	
Membership	Mike Haag	Membership@mg.org

### TMGC Membership

We ended the club year with 97 memberships and 145 MGs in the club. The new club year starts in July so club dues are now due. As of July 20<sup>th</sup>, we have 52 paid memberships going into the new club year. Thanks to all who have renewed early and if you haven’t done so already, please consider renewing soon.

*Safety fast.* Mike Haag



## The Dipstick



*Activities Chairman Bruce Easley discusses future events..*

his absence: We have a balance of about \$1670 after depositing \$190 from renewals and name tag orders, and a check written to Andy and Cynthia for tonight's meeting.

Dipstick Editor, Jim Villers says, "By the 20th for your input!"

Mike Haag was also on vacation, so Scott also gave the Membership Report: Dues are due, if you haven't paid your dues, now's the time. You can even pay online! Only about 41 members have paid at this point.

Terry Bond gave the Technical Report: He expressed gratitude for the help with changing out the engine and shared how the car ran well on the tour they took it on. An article on good shop practices is in the works for an upcoming Dipstick based on lessons learned from the engine swap.

There wasn't any Old Business to discuss. As for New Business: Shayne has gathered the things he needs to replace his transmission. He is hoping to get it scheduled when the weather cools down a bit but would love to have help for this large task. He lives in Suffolk and word will go out when that is scheduled to take place, so keep an eye out for that. John Kovac talked about some tire troubles he's had recently. Be mindful of the age of your tires if you'll be taking a long tour. There was then quite a discussion about tires... if that sounds

like something of interest to you, check out the YouTube video. Bill brought up an MG for sale that he knows of, if anyone is interested, sounds like the person selling it may let it go cheap.





## The Dipstick

New business really rolled into Marque Time with all that tire talk, which is kind of appropriate for a car club. But here we switched to official Marque Time: Mike Ash had some magazines for anyone interested. He also announced that he and Jennifer are moving from the Eastern Shore to VA Beach, they are downsizing to a retirement community. They will have a garage and hope to keep 2 MGs but the MGA will be sold. Hopefully we will see them more often. Fred McCall has found a place to get the panels for side curtains replaced. They are inexpensive but good quality; only \$25 a piece, custom made from Lexan. Celia also told him about a product called Mothers you can buy at Walmart to restore the metal of the side curtain. Now Fred forgot the business card, and he's supposed to get it to Jim, but following his directions and using Google, I think he went to Kay



*PJ Peterson displays his British scarf that he won in the raffle.*



*Bill Olcheski opening the "mystery box" from the raffle.*

Gee Plastics.

Guess we'll see how good Fred is with giving directions and also

how good I am at following them, won't we.

Historian, Susan Bond, has all our history beautifully collected and on the website.

Regalia With-Fred and Rob.... Rose and Don are out-of-town. Rob said we have some fabulous prizes: Bill Olcheski won a Mystery Gift (which turned out to be an MG mug), PJ won a British flag scarf, Paul won a calculator, Terry won the T-register goody bag, and John Kovac won the \$28 50/50 but donated it back to the club. With the absence of the Treasurer, Scott took the money to be given to him later.

This meeting of Tidewater MG Classics was adjourned. If you'd like to see what you missed, check out the YouTube video of the meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/@TidewaterMGClassics>

I also have links for anything mentioned at this meeting there as well.



## TMGC at “Turn Back the Clock” Tides Game

A few TMGC members attended the June 25th Norfolk Tides game at Harbor Park and enjoyed the 30 minute line to purchase 50 cent hot dogs, popcorn and drinks. The 5 minute line was for the \$12 beer. It was a pedestrian game with few hits by the home team. A number of club members departed early to avoid the traffic. Of course, there was late inning action and the Tides lost in extra innings.



Members attending were: Frank Linse, Paul and Cori Fuqua, Scott and Michelle Parker (and other family members), Shayne McKean (and other family members), Bill and Issie Yoshida (and other family members), Tommy Keiningham, Robert, Jesse and Chris Perrone and Jim Villers.

There were a few other tickets purchased, but the buyers did not attend.

TRIPLE-A BASEBALL LATE TUESDAY

# Holliday back, but Tides still in funk

Turn Back the Clock promotion draws big crowd

By Jami Frankenberry  
Staff writer

NORFOLK — The return of top prospect Jackson Holliday and one of the biggest crowds of the season weren't enough to get the Norfolk Tides out of a recent funk.

The Charlotte Knights scored two runs in the bottom of the 10th inning and turned a game-ending double play to beat Norfolk 4-2 in front of an announced crowd of 7,818 fans on hand for Turn Back the Clock Night on Tuesday at Harbor Park.

The Tides (36-40) fell to 1-7 in their past eight games as the club opened a nine-game homestand.

Holliday, the top-rated prospect in the Baltimore Orioles organization and No. 2 overall in the major leagues, returned to the lineup for the first time since going on the injured list with right elbow inflammation. He batted leadoff as the designated hitter and went 1 for 2 with a double and two walks. The Orioles are limiting him to DH as part of his rehab progression.

The Tides hosted the first of two Turn Back the Clock Nights this season, with hot dogs, popcorn and sodas for 50 cents each. Fans



Fans wait in line for hot dogs before the Tides' game Tuesday night. It was Turn Back the Clock Night, which featured 50-cent hot dogs and sodas. PETER CASEY/FREELANCE PHOTOS

were lined up long before the gates opened at 5:30 p.m. for the 6:35 p.m. game, and concession stands were doing brisk business most of the night.

Numbers were not immediately available on Tuesday night, but the popular promotion last season over two dates drew more than 17,000

fans who consumed more than 25,000 hot dogs, 8,000 buckets of popcorn and 12,000 sodas.

The teams were tied 2-2 after nine innings Tuesday.

In the 10th, Wilmer Difo — who started on second per minor league extra-inning rules — scored when a throw from second baseman

Connor Norby hit him and skittered into left field. Oscar Colas added an RBI double.

Coby Mayo drove in both Norfolk runs with an RBI single in the third to score Holliday and a solo home run, his 15th, in the eighth.

Norfolk starter Chayce McDermott pitched 5.2 innings, allowing two runs on seven hits while walking two and striking out eight. McDermott, who entered the night leading the International League in strikeouts, has fanned at least eight batters in nine of his past 11 outings.



Jessi Anderson of Chesapeake holds a tray of hot dogs on Turn Back the Clock Night at Harbor Park.

The teams continue their series with a 6:35 p.m. game Wednesday. RHP Brandon Young (2-0, 3.63 ERA) is the Tides' scheduled starter against Charlotte RHP Touki Toussaint (1-2, 4.93).





## The Dipstick

As you take things apart label them. Plastic baggies, sticky labels, masking tape and a permanent marking pen are necessary. You can use string tags, wire tags, or whatever works for you. Just realize that greasy fingers don't make marking things any easier, and black greasy smudges can render your beautiful penmanship totally illegible when handled. Keep things clean and neat.



*Parts-cleaned, sorted, bagged and labeled – ready for reassembly when it's time.*

Be organized and stay organized while working. Plastic trays, even tin muffin pans can be used to hold nuts, bolts, and other small items. As you remove things, pause and clean them. It's always easier to reassemble clean parts. When you clean nuts and bolts reassemble them so you know which nut goes to which bolt. Install new washers as needed so they are ready to go.

As you store some items out of the way, be sure to keep similar assemblies together. Take as many good digital photos as you can. They can be helpful when you reassemble things later. Take good photos of any wiring that must be disconnected. Mark them! Even spark plug wires should be marked. Nothing is more frustrating than an engine that won't start because you have the wrong wires connected to a couple of spark plugs! Guaranteed you will not remember what went where later.

During our engine pull, I managed to add a new set of long heavy-duty pry bars, a couple of new Led flashlights, and some shop supplies that I'd depleted over the years, like fresh Permatex form-a-Gasket, and some anti-seize paste. A few extra small cans of WD-40 are always handy. Tip – brake cleaner is an awesome grease and dirt remover. Just be careful where you aim the spray can.

Cars can make a mess! Dirt, grease, oil, and road crap will end up all over. Keep several large pieces of cardboard handy. Slide them under the car in the area you are working on.



*Note the cardboard floor covering. Handy to keep the floor clean and retrieve dropped stuff.*



They make clean up a lot easier. Just slide them out and replace with fresh. Keeps your garage floor clean. Good clean cardboard is also nicer to lay on. If you drop something (nut or bolt, washer, a small tool, or your hearing aide), just slide out the cardboard and reclaim it.



*The Magnetic Velcro fastened wrist band.  
Things will always be handy!*

Small magnetic trays can be used to hold removed nuts and bolts while crawling around under a car or hunched over into an engine compartment. Susan gave me a nice stocking stuffer this year for Christmas – a Velcro wrist band with a magnetic top. I can actually keep things like washers and cotter pins handy when putting things back together.

Of course one of Newton's laws (not Issac Newton, Figg Newton!) anything dropped will automatically roll twice as far from where you think it landed. Some things you may never actually find again! The cardboard can help, but you should also have a long reach (or telescoping) magnetic "pick-up" tool. Just remember, they don't work on stainless steel or brass.

No matter how tired or thirsty you might be after a day's work, take time to clean up. Wipe things down, especially your tools. I know some of you keep your tools surgically clean and flawlessly arranged, but for most of us, a drawer full of miscellaneous sockets is the norm. Straighten them out and at the end of a work-day, put them back in their proper place. You want to be ready to start again the next day. Your best work will be done early while you are fresh and alert. You'll be glad your operating room was well prepared!

Plan of attack – Be thorough and know what you want to accomplish as each work session begins. I allowed an entire day to do nothing but clean the engine compartment once the engine was removed and we could get at everything. It took an extra half day when I decided to repaint some of the items I'd degreased, like the front cross member. Cleaning the steering rack was another unexpected item. Once you've exposed some of the inner workings on your car you might discover a leaking steering rack boot, or a broken something you'd not planned on. There will always be discoveries and sometimes you'll be "on-hold" awaiting parts you did not expect to need. Keep the project moving though. Clean some more. Touch up some paint. Continue making progress!

Interesting discoveries for us included an intake manifold with stripped threads for the throttle cable bracket and a leaking oil cooler. I made up a new manifold using pieces from two spares. My previous article explained the value of being part of this club and how we're here to help each other when we can.

Contrary to what it says in Chilton's or Hayne's manuals, "assembly is NOT always the opposite of disassembly. Be flexible!

Eventually you'll be finished. I recommend spending time to return your workspace to a neat, clean workspace once again. Don't be afraid to throw out parts that are no good. Most of what you need is easily obtainable. During our cleaning process, we discovered at least four alternators that did not work. The box of each was marked "no good." "Keep for core." No, fixing alternators is not a project I need to get involved with.

I think most of the things in our garage are now put away. We should be ready for the November tech session.

*Safety fast.* Terry

---

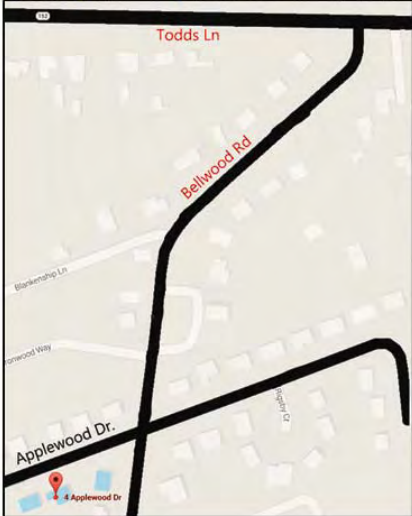
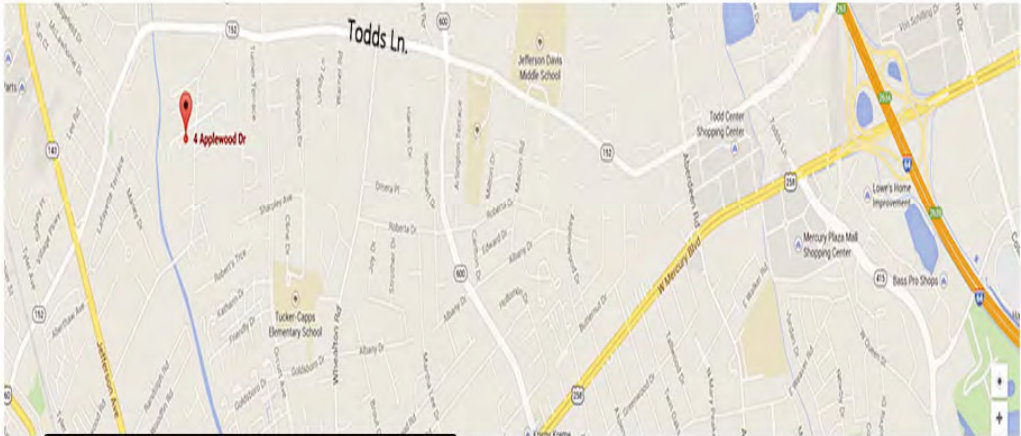
## *Fourth of July Parade*

Jim and Betty Villers lead the children's bicycle parade in their neighborhood. There were about 50 bicycles participating with a few golf carts, a motorized skate boards and a couple of scooters. The parade wound about two miles through the neighborhood and ended with a hot dogs and soda gathering.





Monthly Meeting  
Saturday, Aug 10th  
PJ & Faith Peterson  
4 Applewood Drive  
Hampton  
896-9606



11:00 - 11:30 am - Kick Tyres  
11:30 Meeting