

Volume XXXVII, Issue 6

**Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973** 

**June 2010** 

## **MARQUE TIME**

Once again, in the words of the late Jackie Gleason, how sweet it is! MG Season has arrived! The May meeting was great. It is always fun to host such a vibrant crowd. The first lady outdid herself in putting it all together. Thank you Renee.

My simple repair at the tech session turned out to be a major surprise. I arrived early, confident that by changing the u-joint on my steering column I would no longer have to contend with the car shaking at 60 MPH. After quite a workout the old u-joint was removed and appeared to be in good shape. Having good shocks and balanced tires, desperation set in. Then, the crack team of technical experts from TMGC discovered something that no one present had ever seen. The two brackets holding the steering rack to the body had four cracks. In a moment of panic, I realized that I could not risk driving home. Had I passed all of my knowledge on to Russ? Suppose he had to take over the presidency? No.

The car could not be driven. Luckily we were at Frank Linse's fully-equipped garage. Professional welder and proud TMGC member, Craig Puryear was present and willing to operate Frank's spark machine. Within an hour, the brackets were welded and stronger than new. In all of MG history there has never been a time when so many MG owners were checking the brackets on their steering racks. The total project took most of the day and I offer my sincere thanks to all who helped.

Weather permitting, we will all once again be parking on the lawn for the June meeting at Yoshida acres. I hope that many will be able to make it to the June 5 Cruz-in at the Church of the Ascension.

Safety Fast, Bill

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check www.mg.org for the latest info!

May 29 – June 6 - Drive your British Car Week

- Jun. 1 Tuesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Issie & Bill Yoshida
- Jun. 2 Wednesday TMGC Drive Sno-to-Go in Williamsburg 6:30PM Departure from Yorktown Battlefield
- Jun. 3 Thursday TMGC Drive Doumar's in Norfolk 6:30PM Departure from Community Beach Park in Ocean View
- Jun. 5 Church of the Ascension Classic Car "Cruise-In" 1:00PM 4853 Princess Anne Rd, Virginia Beach
- Jun. 12 Dipstick inputs due.
- Jun. 22 Tuesday Norfolk Tides Baseball Turn Back The Clock Night Ballgame starts at 7:15PM
- Jun. 23-27 MG 2010 Belleville, Ontario www.mg2010.com
- Jul. 1-3 GOF Huron, OH <u>www.gofcentral.com</u> Hosted by the Ohio Chapter - NEMGTR
- Jul. 7 Wednesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Betty & Jim Villers
- Jul. 10 Saturday Eastern Shore Treasure Hunt (Rain Date
   Sunday, July 11) Hosted by Richard Leal & Mike Ash.
- Jul. 17 Saturday TMGC Garage Sale 4708 Overman Ave, Virginia Beach

**Upcoming Activities** (continued)

- Aug. 3 Tuesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Karen & Tad Carter
- Aug. 7 Saturday TMGC 2-State Driving Tour VA/NC
   Hosted by Richard Hall See July Dipstick for details
- Aug. 7 Classics at Lee Hall Contact Clay Drnec 804-824-9198
- Aug. 15 Sunday Summer Tech Session Chesapeake Hosted by Linda & Jim Freeh
- Sep. 1 Wednesday Club Meeting Virginia Beach Hosted by Anita Edwards-Struewing & Ron Struewing
- Sep. 24-26 Southeast British Car Festival, Dillard, GA, www.PeachtreeMG.com
- Sep. 26 Sunday -TMGC Drive-out to the Barksdale Theater

   Hanover, VA 2PM performance of *Smoke on the Mountain Homecoming*
- Oct. 5 Tuesday Club Meeting Yorktown Hosted by Becky & Chuck Hassler
- Fall Tech Session Chesapeake Date & Time TBD Hosted by Susan & Terry Bond
- Nov. 3 Wednesday Club Meeting Newport News Hosted by Mitzi & Steve LaPaugh Chili Cook-off
- TBD Holiday Party Norfolk Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach.



#### **MAY MINUTES**

Michele Peters

We began our May meeting at 8:02 PM with a large crowd and several cats at El Presidente and La Mujer Primera Renee's lovely home in Virginia Beach.

**New Members and Guests**: I believe we had a guest and I heard the name Meade Folks, who bought Vince's red Morgan from Pam. Good to know Vince's cars are being driven. I kind of think that is how he would like it.

**Vice-President**: Russ muttered something, but it was muffled and sounded confused, and so I just ignored him.

**Treasurer:** Jim V. was SUPPOSED to go next, but for some reason El Presidente kept ignoring him and me, who were desperately trying to remind him of Jim's place in the program...I don't know if he heard us and ignored us or if he didn't hear us, but he just kept going, and poor Jim had to wait and wait and wait until the very end of the meeting for his report. Well, when he was FINALLY allowed to give it, he reported that we are indeed in the black.

**Activities**: Please see Tad's Activities section for a complete run-down. I didn't think anyone could ever replace Beckey, but Tad, you are doing a very fine impression, and I believe you are carving out your own very special place in all of our hearts!

**Membership:** Bill was not present but provided his report for printing in this issue.

**Newsletter**: Ron and Anita continue to ask for writers for our events and for *Dipstick* submissions to be sent it no later than the 12<sup>th</sup> of every month. We always need writers and photos.

**Clubs**: Mike and Jennifer were absent.

**History:** Susan had an album with her and a very fine album it was!

**Technical**: Mark showed up! Yay! Mark did, indeed, have something to say, but I don't think I was paying attention at the time...sorry, Mark. And, well, if you have a problem with that, you know what to do...

Old Business: The brackets that hold the steering rack in place on El President's car were cracked! Either that, or Andy had been in there cutting...Anyhow, it was discovered before any harm came to either The Prez or his MG, so we are thankful for all that. I guess it goes to show you that a very thorough examination of our cars, even the parts that aren't exactly giving us any problems, is often in order. Andy reminded everyone about the draft revisions to the By-laws he submitted for everyone's review. He mentioned that some members had already submitted comments and welcomed others to do the same before the next meeting so we can vote on them.

**New Business**: None was mentioned, at least that I heard.

**Marque Time**: Anita noted with glee that her new seatbelt holders were installed on her car – with minimal effort to do so. Terry and Sue were the big-name marquee personalities on the cover and in the feature

story of the "Antique Autos of America." I was thinking, "Wow, what did Terry and Sue do to get that kind of coverage?" and then, I turned to page 3 and saw a letter from the President of the AAA – none other than Terry Bond himself! That sly old dog! But hey, Terry works hard at Pres of that organization...he deserves some accolades!

Raffle and Regalia: Russ won 20 business cards, Bruce won the folding cup (or was that a SAMPLE cup?), Robert won a refrigerator magnet, Jim won a gleaming side mirror WITH gasket, Sue won a metal grill badge WITH mounting hardware, Ron won Firstin-Line for the feeding frenzy, Anita took a rain-check on a license plate holder, as did Don.

We happily adjourned at 8:47 and made a bee-line to the feeding area...I mean the kitchen and dining room where Renee had laid out a magnificent feast. And so, we enjoyed even more time with our friends as we ate everything in sight and drank little tiny bottles of beer. If I didn't accurately record everything that occurred that evening (and yes, Andy, I am feeling beneficent and you are therefore spared my acerbic wit...this time!) I am so apologetic to my gentle and faithful readers. And to all those others who are neither gentle, nor faithful, I say....well, you know!



#### **Membership and New Members**

Bill Yoshida

**Memberships:** As of 10 May 2010, the membership count stands at 115 paid members. Two new memberships have been added since last newsletter.

**New Memberships**: The new memberships received in late April and early May respectively are:

Meade & Susie Fowlkes Virginia Beach 23455 Red 1952 MG TD II

and

Thomas C. Keiningham Jr.
Virginia Beach 23453
1962 Midget, 1971 MGB, 1978 MGB
(project car)

Thomas also owns a 1969 Sprite, so Robert Perrone's '61 Bug Eye will now have company.

**Membership Renewal:** June is TMGC's annual membership renewal month. Dues are only \$20.00 for the

year for current members including those members who joined the club in January or later and chose the \$10.00 fee (1/2 year fee). Members that recently joined and paid a full year's dues of \$20.00 are good through June 2011. I will contact, by e-mail or phone, members who are currently paid through June 2011 to let them know that their dues are already paid. I look forward to all 115 current members renewing their membership for the 2011 year. Renewal forms can be found online at <a href="www.mg.org">www.mg.org</a>. A copy is also included on page 11. Please fill out a form and either bring it to an upcoming meeting, or send it in the mail, along with the dues.

Annual Directory: I intend to begin building the Tidewater MG Classics 2011 Directory upon closure of the registration period on 30 June. If you have a new photo that you would like to be included in this year's directory please e-mail it to me at: williamryoshida@verizon.net. I will do my best to include it. No promises. Members who have not renewed their 2011 membership by the end of July are not guaranteed to appear in the Annual Directory when it is published. I received a recommendation to include Cellular/mobile phone numbers in addition to home phone numbers in this year's directory. I plan to include these numbers for any member who cares to provide the information.

P.S. Issie and I hope to see you at the 1 June meeting at our home. As in the past, we will be parking MGs in the yard behind our house if the ground hasn't been saturated by a recent rain. Just drive on down the long drive way (look out for pot holes) and we'll find you a space to park. The pool is open for anyone who brings a bathing suit and a towel...or at least a towel.

Safety Fast,



#### **Officers and Committees**

President	Bill Olcheski	467-4046
Vice President	Russ Ripp	393-9908
Secretary	Michele Peters	439-8050
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editors	Ron Struewing	479-0084
	Anita Edwards-Struewing	479-0084
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Activities	Tad Carter	496-9847
Historian	Susan Bond	482-5222
Technical	Mark Childers	432-9155
Regalia	Becky Hassler	874-1477
Clubs	Mike Ash	495-0307
Webmaster	Mike Haag <u>mikehmg@c</u>	ox.net

### **Activities**

June starts out in the heart of British Car Week. In addition to our Tuesday meeting, we will have several opportunities to get our cars on the road.

On Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, we'll have our first club outing of British Car Week. There will be a 6:30 PM departure from the parking area at the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor's Center. We will cruise Colonial Parkway into Williamsburg and a stop for New Orleans SnoBalls at Sno-to-Go on Rte 60.

On Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, our Ice Cream Run will move to the Southside. We will depart at 6:30 PM from Community Beach Park on Ocean View Drive in Norfolk and head to Doumar's on Monticello. The actual route is under consideration as this is being written.

Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> will be the first-ever Cruise-In at the Ascension Church Festival. Bill O has promised an afternoon for great food and fun. Please see the flyer on <a href="www.MG.org">www.MG.org</a> (also e-mailed) for details of all British Car Week events.

On Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Norfolk Tides will be playing the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs at Harbor Park on Turn Back the Clock night. The first pitch is at 7:15 PM. We have reserved a block of 30 seats for those who are interested.

Reserved box seats are \$10 each. While we won't be able to take advantage of the "buy one, get one free" promotion from Kraft Foods (general admission - game -day only), we can still enjoy \$0.50 dogs, popcorn and Cokes.

Our Eastern Shore drive on July 10<sup>th</sup> is coming up quickly. As of this writing, the actual timing for all of the events has not been finalized, but you can anticipate a departure time of 9:30 AM from the Virginia Beach side of the CBBT for our trip to the Eastern Shore. In order to have things ready for our arrival, please let me know if you are planning to attend. An e-mail request for sign-up will be out shortly, or you can just give me a call if you are not on the e-mail distribution list.

FIRST NOTIFICATION – Also in July –Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> – Pam Groover will be holding a Garage Sale featuring parts and other items from Vince's collection. Who knows what hidden gems we'll find in the garage. We'll find out, starting at 9:00 AM on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Other Calendar Alerts –

August 7<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Two-State tour, hosted by Richard Hall. Details will follow, but this will be a Saturday afternoon drive and dinner, similar to last year's Two-Light Tour. I know Richard has a great course set out for this event.

On August 15<sup>th</sup>, Linda and Jim Freeh will host our Summer Tech session. This is a great time to take care of any issues than may have come up during the early summer drives.

On Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, we'll make another run out to Hanover for an afternoon at the Barksdale Theatre. We will depart the Southside around at 9:30 AM, with a brief stop on the Peninsula to meet any travelers joining us there. After an 11:30 Brunch stop in New Kent, we'll head into Hanover for a 2:00 performance of Smoke on the Mountain Homecoming. ETA back in Tidewater will depend on the collective need for refreshments following the theatre. Theatre tickets are \$32. Those who joined us last year will remember that this is a very small venue. I have reserved a block of seats at the theatre, but we will need to commit to a final quantity by late June. Be on the lookout for a sign-up request in early June.



## **Annual Wine Tour 2010**

April 30 – May 2, 2010 by Mark Davidoski photographs by Robert Perrone, Jim Villers, and Beckey Watson

The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of what has become a TMGC tradition kicked off with a Friday morning rendezvous at the Lake Wright Conference Center in Virginia Beach. Led by Jim and Betty Villers, six MGBs, one Bugeye and one TF, in company with Michele's "TTTSV" (TMGC Toyota Tactical Support Vehicle) departed promptly at 8:15. As the convoy approached the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, we were treated to the comparatively rare sight of three Nimitz-class aircraft carriers in port at the same time. We ducked off of I-64 at J. Clyde Morris Boulevard to pick up Russ Ripp in his MGB. Back on the highway after a running rendezvous, we made a short rest stop at the VDOT facility in New Kent County (Thank you Governor McDonnell for keeping those rest stops open!). Continuing



along I-64 West, we swung northward onto the I-295 Richmond bypass and continued to the Sheetz filling station on US 1 in Ashland. There we were greeted by Wine Tour organizers Alan and Beckey Watson, along with Barb Taychert and Mike Knepler. Robin and Olive Watson also came out to greet old friends.

Refueled and refreshed, our convoy (which had now grown to 10 LBCs, plus logistical support SUV) commenced the real fun with an enjoyable run on the country roads leading to Culpepper, via Lake Anna. (Great job on constructing that road course, Alan!) We parked in an open lot in Culpepper and enjoyed lunch at Thyme Market Deli. The day was almost ruined by mass parking citations, but the police let us slide be-



cause they liked our (No cars. one saw the "Restricted Parking" signage until it was time leave!) to Continuing our country road rally,

we pulled into our first tasting site – Swedenburg Estate Winery, just east of Middleburg, VA. This operation is run by the family of a true American heroine – Juanita Swedenburg. At the age of 80, Ms. Swedenburg took on the state of New York and won a U. S. Supreme Court case that legalized interstate mail order wine sales. The Swedenburg tasting house was worth



Betty's barrel

the trip, and not only for the delicious beverage offerings. Betty was able to purchase a surplus oaken wine barrel for eventual conversion into a table. But wait, wine barrels don't fit on MGBs very well, even those with luggage racks. Enter Michelle with her SUV, which had plenty of room. But first, we had to find her keys, which went adrift during the tasting episode.

On to our hotel in Leesburg: the Holiday Inn at historic Carradoc Hall. Carradoc Hall takes its name from a local "farm beverage" of 90% alcohol that the locals used to make for personal use. After resting up on the shady veranda, we were off to dinner as a group in the hotel restaurant. Most were feeling the effects of a full day in gear, and turned in fairly early in preparation for the wine tasting to come.

Day two began with a delicious buffet break-



fast, then off at 9:45 a.m. for the Bluemont Winery, nestled on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge at 951' elevation. The approach to Bluemont included a steep run in low gear up a gravel and dirt path to their picturesque winery and tasting room. Robert Perrone and his buddy Carl did a fine job of making the climb, despite the need to stop in order to engage first gear. (Hill



Bob of Bluemont Winery explains it all

climbing is not so easy with a non-synchro gearbox!) Bob, the winemaker and part-owner of Bluemont, gave us a personalized tour, a relaxed tasting session and lunch overlooking the vineyard followed. We could almost see the Washington Monument, located some 43 miles due east. After lunch we were off to historic Waterford, VA and the Village Continued on page 8













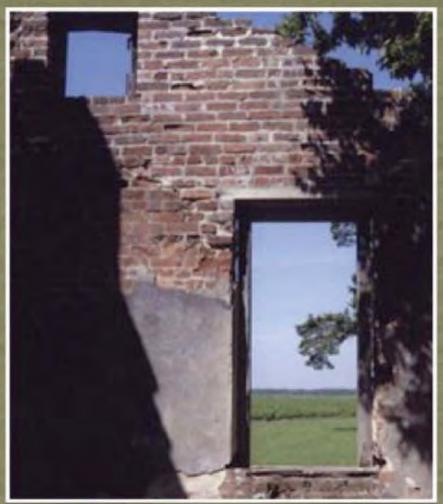


# EASTERN SHORE TOUR

Save the Date - Saturday, July 10th Join us for a day of fun on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Our hosts, Richard Leal and Mike Ash are making plans for a great day, including a tour of the Eastern Shore, a driving skills challenge, an afternoon by the pool and a picnic lunch. BYOB and a picnic dish to share. Hot dogs, burgers, etc. will be supplied by the club. An assortment of prizes will be awarded for the best picnic basket, most unique picnic dish, as well as for success in the driving skills challenge.

Stay tuned to The Dipstick for details!



#### July 10th Schedule

We will have several stops during our Eastern Shore tour, culminating in a cookout at the Bay Ridge Community Center.

8:30 - 8:45AM - Meet at empty service station on Shore Drive at Northampton. (Exit Northampton at Shore. Turn right then immediate left.)

9:00 Departure for Eastern Shore via Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (\$17 round-trip toll on CBBT)

9:30 Arrival at Visitors' Center on Eastern Shore

9:45 Departure from Visitors' Center for tour of Eastern Shore.

1:00 PM Arrival a Bay Ridge Community

Departure for home will be at your discretion.

Enjoy the day!









# EYRE HALL GARDENS

## One of the most photographed properties in the Mid-Atlantic region

One of our stops on our Eastern Shore tour, Eyre Hall is one of Virginia's finest and best-preserved colonial homes. Approached by a long, cedar-lined lane, the house overlooks Cherrystone Creek. Thomas Eyre landed at Jamestown in 1622 to take up patented land on the Eastern Shore in 1623. Since then, Eyre descendants have owned land in the lower portion of Northampton County continuously for 12 generations. Littleton Eyre (great-grandson of Thomas) purchased the present site of Eyre Hall and in 1760 built the original gambrel-roofed portion. The gardens are among the oldest in the country, circa 1800. Ancient boxwood and gnarled crape myrtles tower over the traditional swept paths, all enclosed by a wall of brick brought as ballast from England. On the sunny side, English-style mixed borders add color and opposite is the family graveyard and romantic orangery ruin from 1819.



Winery, owned by Kent Marrs. Waterford is a unique place and looks pretty much like it did in the late-19<sup>th</sup> century. The tasting room was in a converted cattle runin shed and the offerings were very popular with the



Busy bridge crossing - not!

TMGC wine experts and rookies alike.

As the temperature rose into the mid-90s, we were off to Lost Creek Winery and the adjacent Hidden Brook Winery. These two are owned by two generations of the same family and include such amenities as live acoustic guitar music, mood lighting, and substantial gift shops. Many tour buses and limos were in attendance, letting us know that we were getting closer to the Washington, DC area. Many of us decided to walk the "short distance" between these two wineries. What seemed to be a short jaunt turned into a one-mile slog in the summer-like heat. Not a problem for our stal-



TMGC takes over Carradoc Hall, Leesburg, VA

warts – nothing a few more tastes of vino couldn't cure!

Back at the hotel, we ended up on the breezy veranda again. This time we ordered pizza and picked up plenty of cold beers – the perfect meal after a day in the sun. Bernie and Nancy showed up at 5:00 P.M., which completed our team. They joined Barb and Mike for dinner in town while the rest of us relaxed and told tales of Wine Tours Past. We started to disband a little



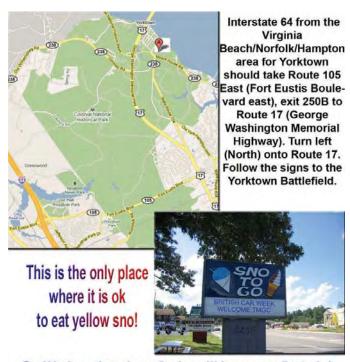
Bernie uncorked!

after 9:00 P.M., in preparation for Day Three. On Sunday, I was up early and decided to walk the parking lot to check on our cars. A passing shower had blown a few car covers about, but Andy and Cynthia's tonneau held up very well, as did Russ's improvised cockpit cover - his

old poncho. Tom and Marie Early's MGB had suffered a flat tire overnight, but Tom squared that away later in



Quattro Goombas Winery



On Wednesday, June 2nd, we'll have our first club outing of British Car Week. There will be a 6:30 PM departure from the parking area at the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor's Center. We will cruise Colonial Parkway into Williamsburg and a stop for New Orleans SnoBalls at Sno-to-Go on Rte 60.

the morning. After breakfast we were off again for our next stop, Quattro Goombas Winery in Aldie, VA. This turned out to be the most fun yet, with an enthusiastic group of owners in the tasting room, including one who owns a Jaguar. Quattro Goombas had some really ex-



Belly up to the bar

cellent wines, we finished off the tasting with the hit of the day – Frappe Vino Slushies. Now that's a treat for any palate when it's 90 degrees in the shade!

Now we were on to Middleburg for lunch at Market Salamander and some window shopping. A large motorcycle club arrived soon after we did and took over the Red Fox Inn, across the street from our



On Thursday, June 3rd, our Ice Cream Run will move to the Southside. We will depart at 6:30 PM from Community Beach Park on Ocean View Drive in Norfolk and head to Doumar's on Monticello.





Lunch at Market Salamander



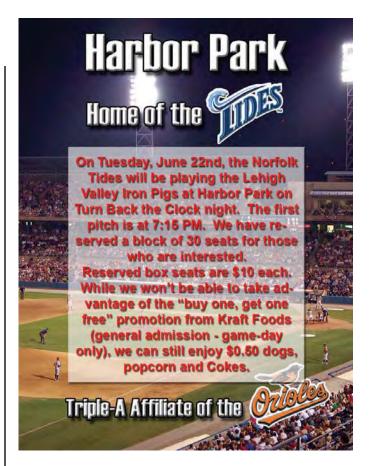
Three unsavory looking characters lurking around!

luncheon spot. The Sunday shoppers were quite impressed with the noisy bikes, which blended in as best they could with the luxuriously-appointed Range Rovers and their well-attired occupants.

After lunch it was time to split up and begin to say our farewells. One group headed down to the Culpepper area for an encore visit to the Old House Winery, a favorite from last year's tour. The other group headed generally south toward US 17 and Tidewater. Kathy and I managed to lose the group somewhere before Falmouth, but we ended up in company with Mike and Denise for the rest of the trip. After about 30 miles of solid potholes on I-95, we escaped for a pit stop in Doswell. From there it was an uneventful run down VA 30, which is a relaxing alternative to I -64 between Kings Dominion and Tidewater. Past the



Pamunkey-Mattaponi Indian Reservations, through the cardboard plant in West Point, over the bridge, and back onto I-64 near Lightfoot, fatigue was just starting to come into play. But the cool ocean breezes near the HRBT revived us before we waved goodbye to Mike and Denise on Northampton Boulevard. We made it home at 6:15 P.M. The ignition warning lamp was illu-



minated for the last hour of the trip, but otherwise the old MGB was none the worse for wear. (A spare generator from Doug Wilson has since been installed.)

Alan and Beckey did a truly amazing job organizing and leading Wine Tour 2010. Their many hours of preparation and advance reconnaissance paid off with a flawless three day weekend of fun and memories. In all, our eleven LBCs made the entire 600+ mile tour without a single breakdown. Of course, some of us were nervously eyeing our temperature gauges in the Culpepper and Leesburg traffic. Other than losing Marie's hat in the middle of nowhere and having Don's and Rose's loose dipstick throw some oil around their engine compartment, we escaped unscathed – quite a testament to the way we care for our British cars!

In closing, I wanted to share my personal accounting for the tour:

20 gallons of high test: \$60.00 One quart of 20W50: \$3.00

Mass quantities of Virginia wine: (\$\$\$ undisclosed!)

Spending time with TMGC friends: PRICELESS



# TMGC ANNUAL RENEWAL

Please fill out the form below and return it to Bill Yoshida with a check made out to TMGC for \$20.00 and mail to:

TMGC c/o Bill Yoshida	
4732 Little John Rd. Virginia Beach, VA. 2345 (757) 554-0402 or Cell (757) 633-8303 williamryoshida@verizon.net	
Name's &	
Name's &	
Address	
	•
Home Phone # & Cell Phone # E-mail	
Do we have your permission to publish your home phone and e-mail address in a member's directory for club use only?	
MG's owned?	
Are you affiliated with any other National Car Club? If yes please list	
"Save an Octagon"	

# The Dipstick





#### The Tidewater MG Classics

Ronald Struewing, Editor 5483 Doon St. Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7732

# **FIRST CLASS**

Affiliated with



