

# The Dipstick



"The Newsletter of the Tidewater MG Classics Car Club"

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

Volume XXXIX, Issue 3

Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

March 2011

## MARQUE TIME

Greetings MG (and go-kart) enthusiasts. Thank you Tad for not only thinking of the location for our February meeting but also handling all of the logistics. American Indoor Karting was closed to the public on the night of February 1. All of the racers and spectators were members of TMGC. We are accustomed to small cars and felt right at home driving on a fast course with multiple turns. Most of us drove for two races and I, being the president, declared the second run to be the one that "counted". The winner of the second race was "the prez". It is not that I am bragging, well yes I am.

After the meeting my curiosity brought me to the brightly lit neighborhood behind Lynnhaven Mall. The TV show Extreme Home Makeover knocked down a house and was building a new one in its place. The entire project, which is all volunteer, is done for a deserving family. After seven days of 24/7 it is complete. As I think of all involved with plans, permits, supplies, crew, food.....It is beyond impressive. I wonder if the networks would have interest in an "Extreme MG Makeover"?

I hope that everyone is on track with their winter car projects. Spring is coming and the roads are waiting.

*Safety first!*  
*Bill*



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check [www.mg.org](http://www.mg.org) for the latest info!

- Mar. 2 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach**  
Hosted by Paul & Carmen Thiergardt
- Mar. 5 TRAACA Swap Meet – Chesapeake  
<http://local.aaca.org/tidewater/>
- Mar. 19 Moss Motors Drive – Petersburg, VA**
- Apr. 3 Williamsburg British Car Club Show  
Chickahominy Riverfront Park  
[www.wmbgbrit.com](http://www.wmbgbrit.com)
- Apr. 5 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach**  
Hosted by Bill & Renee Olcheski
- Apr. 8 – 11 GOF South Mk XLV  
Spring Hill, FL - [www.GOFSouth.com](http://www.GOFSouth.com)
- Apr. 17 Sunday - Spring Tech Session –Norfolk**  
Hosted by Frank & Deb Linse
- Apr. 29 – May 1 - Virginia Wine Tour –**  
Destination Shenandoah Valley  
Hosted by Alan & Becky Watson
- May 2 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Seaford**  
Hosted by Bruce & Jayne Easley
- May 28 – June 5 - British Car Week
- June 4 Church of the Ascension – Virginia Beach**  
Classic Car Show
- June 4 – 19 – Rallye-toReno – Ocean City, MD  
[www.rallyetoreno.com](http://www.rallyetoreno.com)
- June 5 The Original British Car Day – Adamstown, MD  
[www.ChesapeakeChapterMGTCclub.com](http://www.ChesapeakeChapterMGTCclub.com)

## Upcoming Activities (continued)

- June 7 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach**  
**Hosted by Bill & Issie Yoshida**
- June 12 Midget-50 – Stamford, England  
[www.midget50.com](http://www.midget50.com)
- June 13 – 17 – MG-2011 – Reno – Tahoe, NV
- July 6 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Norfolk**  
**Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach**
- July 19 Tides Baseball – Norfolk vs. Toledo Mud Hens**  
**First Pitch – 7:15**
- Aug. 2 Tuesday – Club Meeting / Picnic Dinner**
- Aug 19-21 - Brew Ridge Music Festival Drive**
- Aug. 27 Wings & Wheels – Pungo, VA  
Hosted by Tidewater AACA  
<http://local.aaca.org/tidewater/>
- Sep. 7 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Yorktown**  
**Hosted by Bruce & Lydie Foster**
- Sep. 18 Classics on the Green – New Kent, VA  
Hosted by CVBCC  
[www.cvbcc.com](http://www.cvbcc.com)
- Sept 25 Barksdale Theatre Drive-out – Hanover, VA**  
**Bad Dates – a comedy by Theresa Rebeck**
- Oct. 4 Tuesday – Club Meeting – Yorktown**  
**Hosted by Chuck & Becky Hassler (tentative)**
- Oct. 29 – Nov. 6 – Motoring Festival Week – Hilton Head Island, SC  
[www.HHIconcours.com](http://www.HHIconcours.com)
- Nov. 2 Wednesday – Club Meeting – Newport News**  
**Chili Cook-off**  
**Hosted by Steve & Mitzi LaPaugh**

**BOLD items are TMGC events**



## FEBRUARY MINUTES

Michele Peters

We began our February meeting at 8:00 PM at a new site: American Indoor Karts near the Lynnhaven Mall in Virginia Beach. Although yours truly was unable to attend or participate in the actual racing, I did hear that 18 of our members raced, of which 5 made the

circuit in 21 seconds or less on the track. Now, I am not sure where these “speedsters” got their experience, because from my own experience with MY little darling, MGs just don’t go very fast. On the other hand, we ARE talking go-karts here, so...Congratulations to Jim V for coming in third place, El Presidente for getting second place, and Stinger for being the fastest guy around! You all realize, I hope, that you had this success because your dear Secretary was not amongst the drivers...beware if we do this next year, that your titles may not stand! I am affectionately known as “Ol’ Lead Foot” among my friends...(and of course, I take umbrage with the term “Ol”)

**New Members and Guests:** We did have a “guest” with us, who is actually supposed to be a member, but apparently he keeps forgetting to P A Y his D U E S! You know who you are, Jimmy Watts (whoops!). We were happy to host your friend Amy Walton, and she can come back anytime (especially if she gets to you pay up!) Just kidding, guys – you know I don’t care whether you pay your dues like the rest of us do (but Bill Y gets a bit nervous about it all, poor thing!)

**Vice-President:** Russ wanted to save his report for later, but somehow, later never came....hmmmm, this seems to be a habit!

**Treasurer:** Jim V, whom we are pleased to congratulate as the new VP of The Antique Car Club (along with new President Bob Stein...Congrats, guys!!), advised us that we still have plenty of moolah (OK, when was the last time you heard THAT term?? And NO, it does NOT date me) for big parties (which is, after all, the only thing anyone cares about), although we are down nearly \$700 from last month due primarily to our previous party activities! Yeah!!

**Activities:** Tad, who we can thank for this meeting’s site, has lots of new activities for us planned – see his report elsewhere in this issue. Don’t forget to sign up for the Shirley Plantation Drive Out coming up on Feb 12. As always, Tad, you are doing a truly fabulous job! We all appreciate you!! And keep your Artist in Residence at the Central Library coming to all our meetings – Congrats to you, too, Karen!)

Our next MG Club meeting on March 2 is at Paul’s and Carmen’s home and you all know what that means - don’t eat for a week in anticipation... Carmen’s fare is not to be missed!

Ownership of the Holiday Party for 2011 is still open...

**Clubs:** Mike and Jennifer didn’t make it to this meeting, so no report. I suppose they are off to the Motherland again, without saying goodbye to us. Jennifer, I am still waiting for my tour book!

**History:** Susan was at the opposite end of a very long room, so I never heard what she had to say. Perhaps we need to invest in microphones (and I don’t

# Shamrock Run

*Drive-out to Moss O'Motors  
and the Legend Brewing Company*



Join in on our March 19th drive to Moss Motors in Petersburg. We'll have an opportunity to tour their facility and to pick up parts and accessories for your Spring projects at a discount. Save on freight, too!

Estimated time - 8:30am to 4:30pm

Click here to add your name to the list:

[TMGC\\_Activities@me.com](mailto:TMGC_Activities@me.com)

**MOSS MOTORS \* PETERSBURG, VA**

If way back in 1948 Al Moss had bought a Ford instead of an MG TC, things might have turned out very differently. Al was then a young man living in Los Angeles and the lure of the TC was irresistible. Al became an avid TC enthusiast, and after reading about the successful road rallies being held on the East Coast, in the summer of 1948 he decided to organize one himself. It was one of the first rallies to be held on the West Coast.

The rally, which ended in Santa Barbara (where we are now based), brought Al into contact with a bunch of fellow MG enthusiasts. He quickly discovered they all shared a common problem - service and parts for these cars were not widely available. Al saw the opportunity and opened an MG repair shop.

The rest, as they say, is history.



## Legend Brewing Co

Our lunch stop will be at Legend Brewing Company in Richmond. BC (isn't that clever of me) is a commercial microbrewery providing true premium beers to many of the best pubs and restaurants in Richmond and other areas of Virginia since January, 1994.

Their mission is to bring the finest and freshest brews as flavorful alternatives to mass-marketed mainstream products.

They're one of the few craft breweries in this region producing both lagers and ales, which require different yeasts and maturation conditions. All Legend beers are unpasteurized and made from only two-row and specialty barley malt, hops, water and yeast.

LBC  
321 W 7th St  
Richmond, VA

804-232-3446

[www.LegendBrewing.com](http://www.LegendBrewing.com)





# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual TMGC Winery Tour

## Weekend

by Tad Carter

DATES: Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, May 1, 2001

DESTINATION: Shenandoah Valley

### TOUR INFORMATION:

- Approximately 500 miles in your LBC
- Visit at least 5 wineries
- Drive the beautiful Skyline Drive
- Room cost of about \$100/night

Attendance is limited, due to group size restrictions of the wineries. A block of rooms has been reserved. Please contact Alan & Beckey Watson at [MGactivities@aol.com](mailto:MGactivities@aol.com) or call (804) 227-3807 for reservation information.



## Karting Night –

### February Meeting

by Rodney (as related to his human, Bob Stein)

I'd always thought the Wee Folk were the stuff of legend, but now we MGs know better. We found them at our most recent family gathering, held February 1<sup>st</sup> at American Indoor Karting in Virginia Beach.

I was lucky enough to be next to the white MGB who's human, Tad Carter, had planned the event as



Getting suited up



Getting strapped in

usual. It seems that Tad was working in conjunction with the Wee Folk, vehicles so small they made even the Midget in attendance feel like a London Double-decker. They were hiding within an abandoned movie theater, waiting to lure our humans into their clutches... or at least into their safety harnesses.



Ready to go!

Eighteen humans, including my own, chose to do battle. We could see them through the glass walls as



End of first race

they donned impressive-looking helmets and somehow managed to squeeze into the Wee Folk for races around a twisty, tire-lined track. A scoreboard showed placement, though the racing names selected by our humans made tracking them a bit harder. 'Posti' was my human's choice, joined by 'Light Horse', 'The Prez', 'Killer', and 'Dizzy Izzi'. There were also some really strange names, such as 'Jim', 'Bill', 'Ross', 'Andy', and 'Cynthia'.

My owner had the fastest time for the first race,

thoroughly humiliating 'The Prez' (Who saved his MGB the embarrassment by leaving it home). The second race and fastest lap of the evening went to the human of another converted rubber-bumper sibling – Frank "Stinger" Worrell. There is an unsubstantiated rumor that Bill "The Prez" Olcheski salvaged his honor by taking first in the final race.



The humans who did not race had their choice of entertainment – watching our humans wrestle with the Wee Folk, or a movie starring a red MGB. And of course there was plenty of fuel for the humans in the form of pizza, salad and cookies. It was obvious that the humans all enjoyed themselves, and most of the 18 racers sounded ready to take on the Wee Folk again.



See many more racing photographs on the web;

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



# Activities Report

by Tad Carter

Have you ever said something and regretted it as soon as the words came out of your mouth? It happened to me. In all seriousness, in seeking Ice Cream Drive leaders for this summer, I noted that there were a number of people in the audience that looked like they enjoyed their desserts. What I meant was - there is Jim who has led an Ice Cream Run in the past, and Andy and Cynthia whose drive was washed out by a flood. There are the Bonds, the Hasslers, Donald, Russ, Frank, Morris and others who have joined in on recent dessert drives. Like I said, a number of people who enjoy their desserts. I'll leave it to your imagination what those in attendance thought I meant.

Anyway, we are looking for interested parties to design and/or direct weekday evening drives to delectable destinations for deserving drivers during the dog days of summer.

Other than my little faux pas, we had a pretty good time at American Indoor Karting for our February meeting. In all, we had 18 racers in the group. Race # 1 went to Bob Stein. Race # 2 went to Frank Worrell, and Race #3 went to Bill Olcheski. Frank's lap of 20:075 was the fastest lap of the night by a slim margin, earning him the coveted Barney Oldfield greeting cards. Experience counts, as both Frank and Bill had been on this track previously.

Our 2010 visit to Moss Motors was the largest of our driving events last year. You can mark your calendar for a return visit on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> as we head back to Moss Motors in Petersburg. We'll depart early on the Southside for our westward journey, arriving at Moss mid-morning. In addition to touring the warehouse and upholstery shop, we'll have the opportunity to pick up parts and accessories at a discount for the next Tech Session or your own DIY project. You'll also save freight on whatever you can fit in your car for the trip home. At the time of this writing, we are undecided on a lunch spot, with Brickhouse Run in Petersburg and Legend Brewing Company in Richmond being considered. So in the future (at the time of writing) and in the past (at time of reading), information about this trip (will be / has been) made available through e-mail. I hope you will join in on this trip.

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, TMGC will have a table at the TRAACA Swap Meet at the Hickory Ruritan Clubhouse. Check it out at <http://local.aaca.org/tidewater/>.

Our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Virginia Wine Tour will run from April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will spend the weekend touring wineries in the Shenandoah Valley, enjoying Skyline Drive, and in general, being treated like British royalty by Alan & Becky. Due to space limitations at the wineries, we are limited to the first 12 cars. If you

are interested, please contact the Watsons for details.

British Car Week – May 28<sup>th</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup>. As noted above, we hope to have a couple of mid-week drives to celebrate our British heritage. Any volunteers?

On Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, Church of the Ascension in Virginia Beach will once again host an all-make, all-model Classic Car Show in conjunction with their annual festival. There will be great food, cold beverages, craft booths and cool cars. It's a fun way to spend the afternoon.

Also on June 4<sup>th</sup>, I am contemplating an early run up to Ocean City, MD to join in on the start of the Rallye-to-Reno trans-continental drive to the NAMGBR national convention. I don't know how many cars will be starting that morning from Ocean City, but I plan to make it there for the 9:00 kick-off. I'll drop out somewhere in northern Virginia, and head back toward Tidewater. You are welcome to continue as far as your car and your schedule will allow. More details will follow as they become available.

That should be enough to get us through the spring driving season. I can't wait to see what is on the schedule for summer. Stay tuned...



## Just a Note

Just a small comment; Morris is only 12 years old, but because of his build, was not noticed and was able to slide under the radar. According to the clerk after the race, under 16 must run the outer orange cars on a separate run from the over 16-Adult races. But I'm proud of his run, pulling a 5<sup>th</sup> place overall time, and he hasn't driven these carts in almost 2-years.

We both had a great time, Pizza was good, and so were the cookies. I'd like to see the club try and hold this event once a year..... as long as it has support ! It takes away- the anger of the day !!! ☺

Thanks, Frank Worrell

*Happy  
St. Patrick's Day*



# The Dipstick



## The Tidewater MG Classics

Ronald Struewing, Editor

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Virginia Beach, VA 23464-7732

## FIRST CLASS

Affiliated with



**Monthly Meeting**  
Wednesday, March 2nd  
Paul & Carmen Thiergardt  
5232 Fairfield Blvd  
Virginia Beach  
497-0455

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