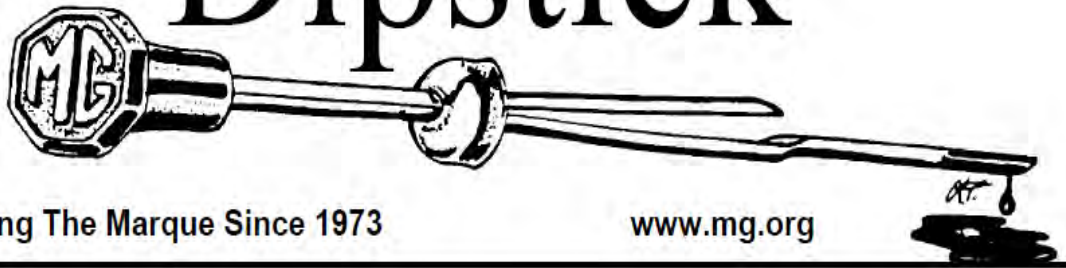




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

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April 2014

Activities Report

In a few days, as I write this, we will have officially passed through a very long winter. With limited opportunities to get out on the roads, it is good that some of the sunshine has been with us on weekends and we have been able to exercise our LBCs a little. For those who have ventured out, we've enjoyed trips to the Chrysler Glass Museum (rain & cold) and several Virginia Beach microbreweries (sunny & warm). It was good to see so many join us on the roads.

With the first quarter of our year behind us, here are the driving stats (we start counting with the Holiday Lights). Thirty different families and a total of 90 people have participated in the first 3 events. We've covered 1588 miles without leaving Tidewater. And we are just getting started...

Now it's time to get busy. Sunday, April 6th is our Spring Tech Session, hosted by Frank & Deb Linse. Two years ago, we watched as Andy began the tear-down of his "new" MGA. If you haven't seen the fruits of his labor, check it out. You are in for a treat. And in 2013, as was so thoroughly reported in The Dipstick, some other cars had some other stuff done to them. This is always a great time to get our cars ready for the Virginia Wine Tour. If you have a project, a question, or willing hands to share, come on out on the 6th. The garage opens at 10am.

Saturday, April 12th is the date for the first local show of the season. The Williamsburg British Car Club will host their 15th annual British & European Car Show at Chickahominy Riverfront Park on Route 5. You can pre-register up to 4/4/14 to be eligible for judging and to save \$5 toward your entry fee. Not wanting to detract from their event, our trip to Go Ape will be held over for another date. So keep your feet on the ground and enjoy the show in Williamsburg.

At the end of April, we head west for the Virginia Wine Tour XII. Alan and Beckey have put together another great weekend of sightseeing, good food, winding roads and sharing of stories. Oh yeah – there will be a few wineries thrown in for good measure. Thanks again to Team Watson for all the work they put into this annual event.

I'll refrain from looking too far into the future, but there are a couple of dates in early May you should be aware of. On the weekend of May 2-4, the Chesapeake Chapter of the New England "T" Register will hold their Mini-GOF event in Colonial Williamsburg. For early arrivers, Friday will include tours of the James River Plantations and an evening Ghost Tour. The latest info indicates that the organizers are still negotiating to hold the car show in the Merchants Square. The show, wherever it is held, will be open to all MGs. You can contact Bob Stein for registration information.

Are you ready for some BASEBALL? Turn-Back-the-Clock Night is coming up on Tuesday, May 13th, with our Norfolk Tides hosting the Louisville Bats. What could be better than baseball and \$.50 dogs, popcorn and soft drinks? As we have done in the past, we'll have a block of reserved seating tickets at \$11 per person. Please let me know how many tickets you will need (phone, e-mail or sign up at the next meeting). You'll receive an e-mail reminder in early April. PLEASE NOTE: Game time is 6:35pm, which is much earlier than in prior years. It is a tough time with rush-hour traffic. We'll need to target a 6:00 arrival at Harbor Park to meet and pass out the tickets. Make your travel plans accordingly.

OK – that takes care of upcoming activities. Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, April 1st at Andy and Cynthia's home in Norfolk. I look forward to seeing you there.

Tad Carter

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**2014 Activities
Schedule**

Apr. 1 – Tuesday – Club Meeting – Norfolk
 Hosted by Cynthia and Andy

Apr. 6 – Sunday - Spring Tech Session – Norfolk
 Hosted by Deb and Frank

Apr. 12 – Saturday – Go Ape – Williamsburg

Apr. 12 - Williamsburg British Car Club Car Show www.wmbgbrit.com

Apr. 25 – 27 - Virginia Wine Tour XII

May 2 – 4 - Chesapeake Chapter (Baltimore -DC) New England “T” Register GOF in Colonial Williamsburg – Details to follow

May 7 - Wednesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
 Hosted by Betty and Jim

May 13 – Norfolk Tides – First Pitch – 6:35PM
 Turn-Back-The-Clock Night

May 24 – June 1 – British Car Week

May 28 – Wednesday - Dessert Drive – Peninsula Edition

May 29 – Thursday - Dessert Drive – Southside Edition

June 3 – Tuesday – Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
 Hosted by Issie and Bill

July 12 – Saturday – Club Meeting – Beaverdam
 Hosted by Becky and Alan

TMGC Officers

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Secretary	Bruce Easley	570-2042
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Marque Time

Cheers! Our first annual brew tour was a success! Thanks to all who came out and enjoyed good weather, excellent beers and a great drive. The smell of gas and oil was in the air again as our MGs went cruising over the rural roads of Virginia Beach. Thanks to Tad there are a few new breweries to frequent. The calendar is getting busy as the antique car season starts up again. With all the snow I'm sure we're ready to get out of the garage and into some sun and fun! April 1st is the next meeting at Andy and Cynthia's. The spring tech session is April 6 at Frank and Debbie's at 10:00 and April 15th is the annual Williamsburg British Car show held at Chickahominy Riverfront Park off route 5 in Williamsburg. That is always a beautiful drive and you have an opportunity to stop at Pierce's Pitt Barbeque on the way back.

Safety Fast!

Steve LaPaugh

Beers Ahoy! 2014 Brew Tour

By Steve LaPaugh

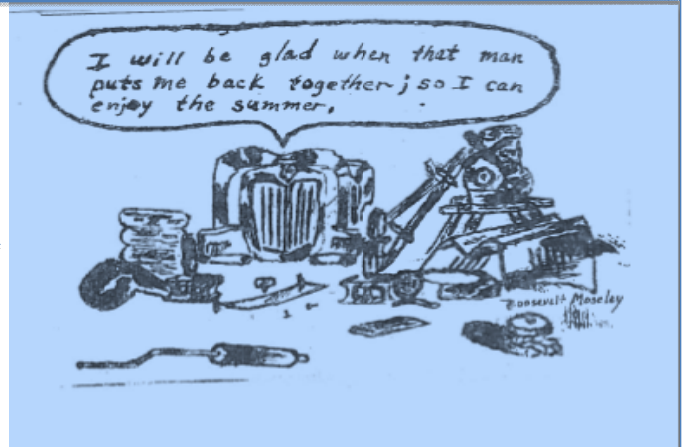
Club members gathered at Hardees with their MGs in anticipation of the 10:15 departure. We left with a total of 15 vehicles: 10 Bs, one GT, one TF, one TC, one A and a Harley and the Asian Invasion Tacoma driven by El Presidente bringing up the rear, so that makes 16. One of Russ Ripp's friends on a Harley joined the group. Five minutes later Andy stopped and put the bonnet up. Apparently the distributor hold down clamp got loose and wanted to argue with the ignition system. With the issue fixed, we wound our way around tree-lined roads. With temperatures in the 60s, it was a welcome break from the winter wonderland as the smell of gas and oil filed the air.

Upon arrival at Beach Brewing, I noticed that on the parking ties there were spaces labeled 'Visitor' and one labeled 'MG'. They obviously knew we were coming! The tasting room had six beers on tap that ranged from wheat beer to "We don't make wimpy beer" territory with hop monsters such as Hoptopus Double IPA at 8.8% ABV and 108 IBUs (International Bitterness Units). In other words, they don't make low gravity beers! The Seadevil Imperial Stout was my favorite. At 10% alcohol and 75 IBUs the dark-roasted malty goodness was perfectly balanced. The Brussels lace clung to the plastic tasting glass. Okay, enough beer lingo. Beach Brewing had TMGC members discussing the finer points of automotive history. I learned about a 1911 E.M.F. from the ever-knowledgeable Terry Bond and Mitzi discussed penguin pullovers with Barbra, which seemed appropriate given last months weather

We left at 11:47 with our I.B.U. meters pegged. From Beach Brewing, Tad led us towards Beach Bully BBQ for lunch. Again the drive wound around rural Virginia Beach, past horse pastures and, at times, gravel went flying into unguarded drainage ditches as exhaust notes faded over the horizon. After navigating Shamrock runners, we arrived at Beach Bully for a well-deserved break and BBQ. We finished lunch at 1:40 and headed out to Young Veterans Brewing. During the attempt to dodge marathoners, traffic and suicidal bike riders I lost Pete. We were navigating blindly until we called on our trusty Lucas G.P.S. and in a cloud of smoke we were on our way to the next brewery.

We met at Young Veterans brewery at 3:15 and found there were several tasting tour buses ahead of us. This meant that the place was mobbed and Andy and I had to thread our way through to belly up to the tap. We went out the back of the brewery where there was a picnic table and a lot fewer people. I had a round of the Pineapple Grenade Wheat. Although a good beer I didn't detect much pineapple. I assume they either used a different hop or a combination of hops to get the flavor, steeped pineapple into the mash or it was just advertising. Interesting concept, I once brewed an orange wheat that was quite tasty. We sampled beers and talked about how much we enjoyed the drive out. I was tasked with planning next years' brew cruise. I know St. George's will be on the list! If you missed this years brew tour mark your calendars for next spring as round two for the peninsula is in the works! Cheers!

See you at the Spring Tech Session at Frank & Deb's garage. Especially if your MG looks like this one depicted in this [Roosevelt Moseley cartoon](#), taken from the Dipstick archives!



2014 Brave Cruise



Gathering for Departure



Sample Flight at Beach Brewing



Fair skies, good friends at
Young Vets Brewing Company

Membership Update

by Bill Yoshida

2014 Memberships: As of 22 March we have 112 paid memberships. There are 201 individuals in the club. I sent out an e-mail in early March to all members that contained a word document with the names and information of new members that have joined the club since the Annual Directory was published in October.

New Memberships:

No new memberships in March.

Cars: Total cars – 174

Cars & Types: 167 of the following types of MGs:

A	A-Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT
23	2	79	17	2	2
TC	TD	TF	Midget		
8	20	4	11		

Other/Variou MGs – 7 (1-Cooper MG/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB/ 2 ELVA Courier)

The Dipstick is the official publication of Tidewater MG Classics (TMGC). Our members operate (or plan to operate) over 160 MGs ranging in vintage from pre-war through 1980. For more information, please contact the editors at:
(757) 831-4196 or davidoskicrew@cox.net

The Unauthorized, 100% Unofficial Minutes for Wednesday, March 5th, 2014

The meeting was called to order promptly at 8:00pm. Our president being absent, someone accidentally bumped into a table, we assumed it to be the gavel, and the meeting began.

No new members or guests were recognized, although there could have been new members, had we actually held the meeting. We have recently added:

Ralph Fulp ('77B)

Sue & Gary Schafran ('59A)

Randy Semones ('79B)

Please welcome them and any new members that may have been overlooked.

Sadly, we say goodbye (or bid a happy remote membership) to Gina & Mike Christian ('73B), who have headed south to a longer driving season.

First, to anyone who actually showed up at Bayside Rec Center, please accept our apologies for the late cancellation. The weather was not conducive to bringing our cars out on the roads, and wet roads combined with falling temperatures do not lend themselves to a Safety Fast motto. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event or meeting.

Minutes from the February meeting had not been adequately reviewed, so their approval will wait for the next formal meeting.

In lieu of our Vice-President's report (he is on a world tour searching for new vices), the collective membership gathered for a group shrug. All is good.

The Membership report, give or take the new members listed above, can be viewed in The Dipstick past and future editions. Bill Yoshida is a wonderful guy, and had he been here, he would have offered to continue to be your friend for the small \$20 dues payment that will be due beginning with the June meeting. Your dues support 12 meetings per year (OK, 11), plus NAMGBR membership (think event insurance), many of our local activities, website costs and Bill's everlasting friendship. It is a heck of a deal at twice the price. Get in on the deal before Bill comes to his senses.

The Treasurer would have probably reported that we remain solvent. And the likelihood of that being correct increases the more we all comply with the Membership Coordinator's request.

It can safely be reported that the Historian would like to report that this winter's weather is history. Sadly, as evidenced by the lack of a March meeting, that is not yet a fact. One very safe aspect of the historian's job is that we will always have history, regardless of anything else that happens. The historian did note that, had we actually held a meeting tonight, there is a non-zero chance this could have been the largest turnout ever for a Tidewater MG Classics Car Club meeting. Let the record show that she would have been correct.

The Dipstick editors are looking for a writer for the upcoming Tidewater Brew Cruise. If no one volunteers tonight, a designated writer will be appointed on the 15th. (**Late entry: Thanks to Steve LaPaugh for stepping up!**) In looking forward to future events, writers are in demand for the April Tech Session, the Williamsburg Brit Car Show, GoApe (if anyone survives) and the Virginia Wine Tour. **Also, for anyone having input to The Dipstick, please have it submitted by the 20th of the month.** The editors appreciate your support.

The Regalia Coordinator had nothing new to report other than to announce the prizes for tonight's raffle. The list of prizes follows: (or not!)

The Activities Coordinator once again said far too much to record, so please refer to that report elsewhere in The Dipstick.

All Technical discussions involved ice scrapers, salt removal, sand abrasions and other unsavory topics. Given the rarity of this weather pattern, we refuse to waste ink on such trivial matters.

Old Business, New Business, Marque Time – none. Is that great anticipation of the raffle? Alas, no. Our time at the Bayside Rec Center has come to a close. A motion for adjournment was offered by the Rec Center Security team and passed without discussion. Therefore, we will delay the raffle until next meeting and we stand adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, President, Vice-President, Secretary, and all other offices –in absentia.

More Brew Cruise pictures, in lieu of our cancelled meeting....



Race Grid Spring 2014

(submitted by David Kinsey)

I wanted to start a new, ongoing feature of the TMGC newsletter for anyone interested in vintage racing. I will stick to amateur, vintage racing in the geographic range of a one day drive from Hampton Roads or this would mushroom beyond control. So, here goes...

April 11-13 – The Wild Hare race at VIR near Danville, VA (4 hrs). This is not a big spectator event but you can get tickets. Put on by VRG and VDCA, it should have about 100 cars and a few hundred people. VIR has been completely repaved and drivers are looking to really have some fun. I will go as a spectator, not a racer, probably Friday night through Sunday noon, and pick up a set of race tires for the Lola while there. <http://www.vintagedrive.com/VIR%20Prelim%20Race%20Schedule%202014.pdf> and <http://virnow.com/>

April 25-27 – The Mitty race at Road Atlanta, near Braselton, GA (8 hrs). This is a large, spectator event at a nationally known and popular track. Should be packed with some really cool cars, vendors, and a good crowd. There are track driving sessions during lunch times for anyone with \$40. This year they are celebrating Formula cars (such as mine). I opted not to go at all as the race fee is \$600 and gas to trailer back and forth is another \$300, then there's food and lodging..... !!!
<http://classicmotorsports.net/events/2014-classic-motorsports-mitty/> and <http://www.roadatlanta.com/>

May 11 – Gripfest at NCCAR in Garysburg, NC (1.5 hrs). This is a private, club event but anyone who wants to drive their own car on a track can sign up to do so. Bring an approved helmet and \$150 for 10 timed laps (one at a time) on a real, 2 mile road racing circuit. Lots of autocrossers show up but some racers as well and also just people out for a thrill. I may go to do a "shakedown"; get the bugs out session before my May race. <http://www.gripsyndicate.com/upcomingevents.html> and http://myautoevents.com/pls/mae/frmEventDetail.Show?psevent_id=14704

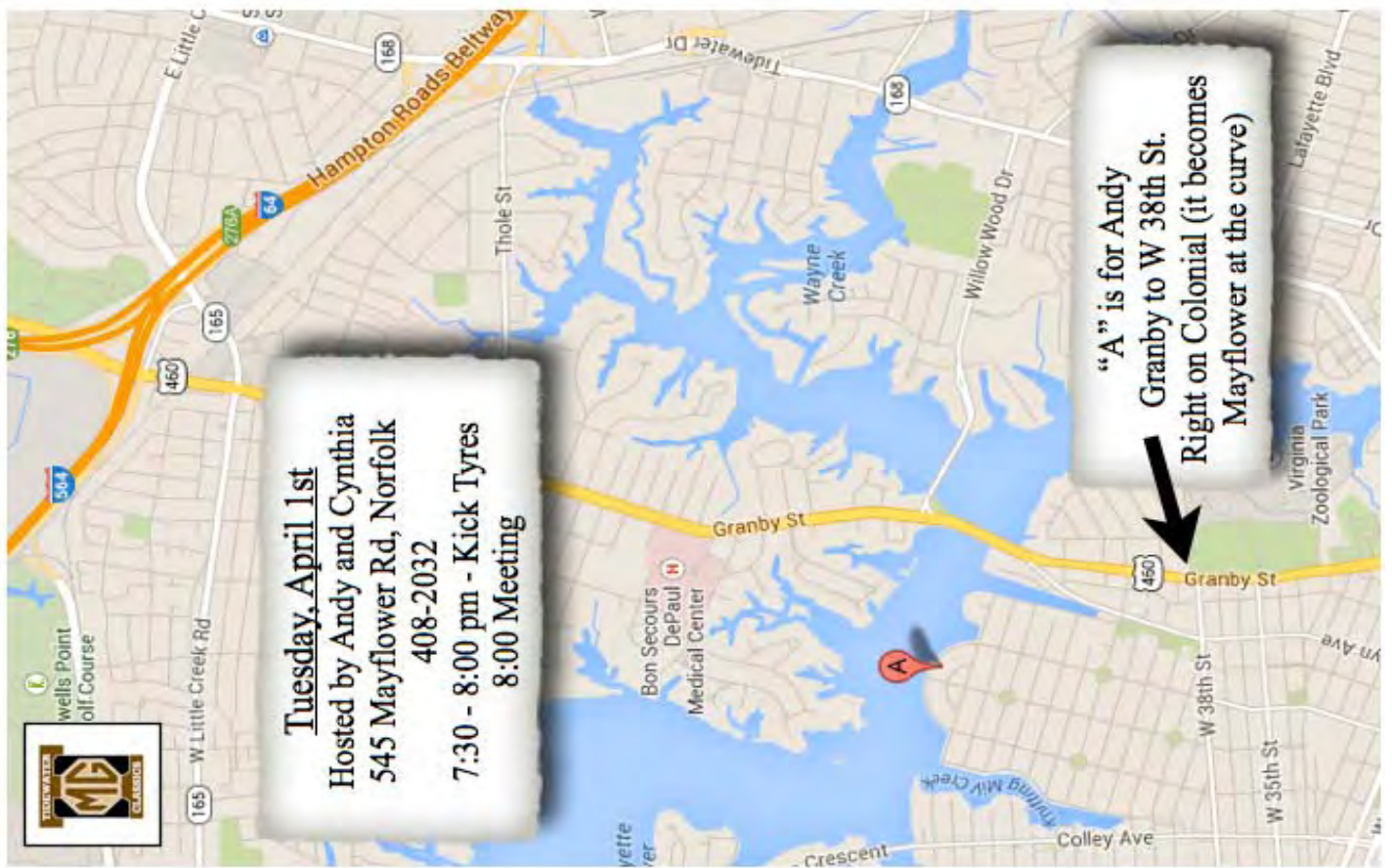
May 16-18 – The Jefferson 500 at Summit Point Raceway, WV, near Winchester, VA (4.5 hrs). This is a moderately sized event with as many as 100 cars, a few hundred people, and the setting is more rustic than VIR or Road Atlanta. It's put on by VRG and VDCA again. This is over the Armed Forces Day weekend. It is excellent racing at a fun track but there's a fair amount of walking involved to spectate. I am going and will also take the two-day driving school on May 14-15, so a big weekend for me.
<http://www.vrgonline.org/events/> and <http://summitpoint-raceway.com/programs/jefferson-500/>

That's all for Spring 2014 for right now! Stay tuned for updates throughout the year.....

TRAACA Swap Meet

TMGC was well represented at TRAACA's annual swap meet, held on March 1st at the Ruritan Club. Attendees included Al & Laurel Swenson, Jim Villers, Sam Kern, Stephen Daniel, Jack Pavlidis, James Bettis, Pete Olsen, John Terschak, Richard & Sandy Hall, Roy Wiley, Roosevelt Moseley, and Sue & Terry Bond.





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