



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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June 2014

Activities Report Submitted by Tad Carter

I can tell you right now, two weeks out as I write, that the Sno-ball in Williamsburg and the sundae in Virginia Beach were mighty tasty. Let's just say that the weather was memorable, leaving me some room for details once the facts are known.

If you joined us for Tides Baseball, you saw quite a game. Our Tides lived down to their early-season reputation by falling behind 8-0 before the first dog and suds were finished. Things turned around though, and the Tides broke the scoreboard, plating 11 runs in the bottom of the 5th (Bill O's least favorite inning). You'll find more details elsewhere in The Dipstick, but suffice it to say it was a beautiful and eventful evening. Thanks for playing along.

And now we have reached June. Some say this is the start of driving season with British Car Week (5/31 to 6/8), while others will park their cars until the return of cooler autumn temperatures. No matter where you stand on the issue, it is a busy time for shows, including MG90 in Silverstone, England, NAMGAR GT39 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, and NAMGBR MG-2014 in French Lick, Indiana. Sounds like a great road trip. I think we have writers for Dipstick articles for two of the three shows. If anyone is headed to Silverstone, just send a postcard. We'll publish it and count it as an article.

As for our drives, we are a little quiet for a few weeks due to these shows, a holiday weekend and a wedding (gaining a daughter-in-law!). Our next scheduled drive will be on Saturday, July 12th as we are all invited to Alan and Becky's home in Beaverdam for our July meeting. It will be an early departure from Tidewater for the road west. Once in the Ashland area, we'll be headed out on a mystery rallye organized by our meeting hosts. Those that survive the rallye will be treated to BBQ lunch at the Watsons before we turn for home. For planning considerations (food, roads and rallye clues), it will be important to sign up for this meeting. You can RSVP to me at June's meeting, by phone or by e-mail. Another reminder will be sent late in June. Thanks, A&B. We appreciate your hospitality!

We are getting close to locking in dates for August. We are set for Sunday the 10th for our Summer Tech Session. Once again, we'll be at the Freeh's home in Chesapeake. The time (5pm) and the place (Chatham Vineyards) has been set for the sixth annual *Dead on the Vine* concert, picnic, wine tasting, car wash, fish boil and home-a-rama (OK the last three are made up). All that is left to do is narrow it down to Saturday the 16th or 23rd. Be on the lookout for details in your July copy of The Dipstick

By now you should have received an email with an overview of our September Raid on Harpers Ferry. Space is limited due to the venues being visited, so if you are interested please let me know right away. The 2013 Tour-de-Bay closed within a matter of days.

Let's look a little farther ahead, for those who like to fill their calendar early. No details – just dates:

- Saturday, February 14, 2015 – Love/Nickel Beer Tour
- Saturday, June 6, 2015 – Moss Motors' Motor Fest in Petersburg
- June 8 – 12, 2015 – NAMGBR in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada
- June 13 – 17, 2016 – NAMGBR in Louisville, KY
- Monday, August 21, 2017 – Daytime Drive-out for Solar Eclipse viewing.

Sorry – that's all I've got. Until we meet again on the 3rd, enjoy the ride!

Tides Baseball!

by Robert Perrone

May 13 was "Turn Back The Clock Night" at Harbor Park as the Tides took on the Louisville Bats. Thanks to Tad we were able to enjoy another fine evening at a Tides game with the good people from our club. Between the beautiful weather and the bargain prices for hot dogs, soft drinks and popcorn, I was surprised to find that the announced attendance was only 5,517. What does it take to get people around here to attend a game? Cheerleaders in skimpy outfits? You know, I was just joking at first, but hey....it would be worth taking a look at. I know, another pathetic joke, sorry!

We had the usual TMGC fans on hand, but noticeably absent was Bill Yoshida, who was recovering at home from some recent surgery. But never fear Bill, we'll be invading your home soon for the June meeting.

The Tides may have heard some grumbling from the stands in the early innings (a certain redhead named Caroline was heard letting them know her sentiments) and started the bottom of the 5th inning behind 8-2. They quickly changed that with an amazing 11-run inning, scoring 9 of those runs with 2 outs. Amazing, and really fun to watch.

For any of those who may have missed Turn Back The Clock Night, there will be another on July 22. So you may still get the benefit of the cheap seats, but you won't have the benefit of our company. Your loss....and the way the Tides have played most of the season, their loss too!



In this month's issue of The Dipstick.....

Activities Report 1
 Tides Baseball 2
 2014 Activities Schedule..... 3
 Marque Time 3
 Williamsburg GOF 4
 Membership Update 6
 May Meeting Minutes..... 8
 Wine Tour XII 10

Dipstick Calendar – June 2014

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

June 14 - Rotary Club Classic Car Show
 ODU Foreman Field
www.NorfolkFleaMarket.com

June 21-22 – MG90, Silverstone, England
 Celebrating 90th Anniversary of MG

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

July 14-18 NAMGAR
 GT-39 – Ottawa, Ontario

July 15–19 NAMGBR – French Lick, IN

Aug. 5 - Tuesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach Hosted by Carmen and Paul (schedule change)

Aug. 10 – Sunday – Summer Tech Session - Chesapeake Hosted by Jim and Linda Freeh

Aug. 16 or 23 - TBD - Dead on the Vine – Machipongo, VA

Sep. 3 – Wednesday - Club Meeting – Ocean View Fishing Pier

Sep. 5-7 – Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen
 Featured Marque – MG

Sep. 13-14 - Classics on the Green – New Kent Winery

Sep. 19 – 22 TMGC Raid on Harpers Ferry

Sep. 27 – AACA-Tidewater

TMGC Officers

President	Stephen LaPaugh	593-5927
Vice President	Robert Perrone	574-3233
Secretary	Bruce Easley	570-2042
Treasurer	Jim Villers	481-6398
Editors	Kathy & Mark Davidoski	499-4647
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net
Regalia	David Kinsey	233-0029

Marque Time

The weather has finally stabilized and it's roadster weather for the foreseeable future! In the on going saga of the ol' '77, I just ordered the exhaust from Brit-Tek last week. Once installed the B should be road worthy barring any unforeseen repairs. It's only taken six years or so but when you buy a car that's been dormant for ten years you have to replace a lot of bits. Our baseball game was a real hit this year. The Tides amazing 11 run fifth inning was one run shy of the club record set in 1983! If you'd like to continue our winning streak meet us for the Dessert Drives on May 28th and 29th depending on your location. Peninsula version is first and south side is second. Don't forget British Car Week starts on the 24th through June first. So get ready to show off your British car and I'll see you at the Yoshida's for the June third meeting. Don't forget to bring your swim suit!

Safety Fast -- Steve

Williamsburg Mini-GOF

By Wildflower(TC5308) as dictated to her human (Bob Stein)

Any chance for an outing is welcome, but I was especially pleased to find out my human was taking me to a special family reunion in Williamsburg on May 3rd called a 'mini' Gathering Of the Faithful, or GOF. This particular family reunion was sponsored by the Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MG T Register, and old and honorable club for humans who love T-series MGs. (or at least the ones willing to pay dues – all humans of any breeding love T-series MGs.)

The organizers, Deborah and Dick Shepherd, planned a number of tours for the weekend, but my human regrettably had to work, so we could only attend the Saturday events. The first of these was a car display in the heart of Williamsburg, next to a shopping area called 'Merchant's Square'. According to the schedule, the show would start at 8:30 AM with arrival between 8 AM and 8:30 AM.

My human had gotten me properly cleaned and topped off with fluids the night before, and we rolled out bright and early for the 45-mile drive to Williamsburg. Happily, my human had the wisdom to rely on a modern GPS instead of his ability to read maps, and we arrived at the show location on Prince George Street precisely at 8:15 AM.



You can imagine my surprise to find no other MGs present! For the next half-hour, I was a one-car show for the many humans who visited the street. Granted, I am certainly a good representative for our family, but one does hate to hog all of the attention. One other TC showed up about 30 minutes later, but it lived locally and was not part of the main group from the hotel. As it turned out, the rest of the family had been held up by their slugabed humans, who decided the night before to sleep in an extra hour!

When the main group finally rolled in, I was very pleased to see my former garage-mate Eleanor (TC5624) being driven by her new humans Susan and Terry Bond. She looked wonderful, having received much care and attention. All-in-all, we ended up with 4 TCs, 4 TDs, 3 TFs, a YA tourer, and one upstart MGB-GT. A few distant relatives also crashed the event, but that always seems to be the case, doesn't it? It was nice to see the lovely Jaguar 120 coupe and Austin Healey 3000. There was also a quick visit from another local TC, but its human was only able to look around briefly before heading back home.

The show was quite pleasant, with many admirers taking photos and a procession of children and adults sitting behind my steering wheel (under the watchful eye of my human, of course). Our humans visited the local shops, and of course, found places to fuel themselves. Each of our humans also had the responsibility of selecting what they thought was the best vehicle in each class. I was happy to see some familiar faces among the spectators – Jack and Hilary Pavlidis showed up to provide moral support. The show ended about 1:30 PM, and the participants split off into two groups – one heading for local wineries, and the other rolling out for a nice drive along the Colonial Parkway. Myself, Eleanor, a third TC, a TD and a TF all opted for the Colonial Parkway, a wooded and stoplight-free road from Jamestown to Yorktown. We were joined by the MGB-GT later on, when it saw us stopped to admire a view of the James River.

Unfortunately, my owner discovered that I had developed an electrical short that took out my brake and turn signal lights. We detoured to a local supply shop for more fuses, but he was unable to identify the problem. The group took the Parkway back to the host hotel, where my human again attempted and failed repairs despite assistance by Eleanor's humans and other MG people. However, while this malfunction was a bit embarrassing for me, it did not keep us from enjoying the rest of the day.

I did not see my human for several hours, but found out later he had been attending an awards banquet inside the hotel. Another fuel stop – honestly, humans must get terrible mileage. However, he also accepted a lovely pewter plate for me – I had been selected as the best of the TC class. Eleanor tied for third place, but was spared the indignity of also being presented a book entitled 'Flaming Floorboards' – in recognition of my electrical fault.

The drive home was uneventful (a welcome change, as I got a nasty rock chip in my windshield during our previous Williamsburg excursion), and I understand Eleanor and her humans actually participated in another tour the next day! I was happy enough to be back in my private garage, though I am still waiting for my human to fix my brake lights!



Membership Update for June 2014

Compiled by Bill Yoshida

2014 Memberships: We received one new membership in May. This brings us up to 114 paid memberships with 204 individuals in the club.

New Membership:

Billy Stutz
Chesapeake, VA 23322
1971 MGB

Cars: Total cars – 177

Cars & Types: 168 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
23	2	81	17	1	2	8	20	4	11

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

Dues: I currently hold a dues check for \$20.00, and an additional \$40.00 in cash for turnover to Jim.

Parking for the June Meeting at the Yoshida's: Provided that it has not rained heavily the previous day, or that it is raining the day of the meeting, we will be parking cars in the back yard to hold "Kick Tyres". The meeting will be held poolside just as we have done in previous years. If the ground is too wet, please park your car on the street, and we will hold the meeting indoors. Regardless of the weather, Issie and I hope to see you here.

Membership Renewals for 2015: This month - June - is the month to renew your TMGC membership for 2015. ***Dues are still only \$20 per family for a year.*** There are six members that have paid their 2015 memberships in advance. By the June meeting I will send an e-mail notification to those folks indicating that they have already paid their 2015 dues. If you do not receive one of my e-mails, your membership needs to be renewed for 2015.

I've asked Mark Davidoski to include a copy of the TMGC Membership Renewal form in this issue, and also in the next few issues of the newsletter. Copies can also be found on line at the club's web site at www.mg.org. I will also have blank renewal forms available at the June meeting for your convenience. Please fill out a copy and send it along with cash, check or money order. Highlight any changes from last year's information. If you have no changes to the data you provided in the past you only need to submit the \$20 in dues, and I will transfer your prior data to the 2015 roster and use the same info for the Annual Directory.

As in the past, if I have not received your dues for the 2015 membership year by the July meeting, I will be sending "reminder" e-mails during July, August and September to any members that are delinquent. If anyone has decided ***to not renew*** their membership, please let me know by phone or e-mail and I will remove your name from the roster and the "delinquent" mailing list.

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 at the next meeting or mail to:

TMGC
c/o Bill Yoshida
4732 Little John Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455 (757) 554-0402, Cell (757) 633-8303
williamryoshida@verizon.net

Names: _____ & _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____ 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 National Auto Clubs? If yes, please list below:

"Save an Octagon"

TMGCC May 7, 2014 Meeting Notes

Recorded by Bruce Easley

After a good “kick tyres” and ogle session, the May meeting of the TMGCC was called to order at 7:30 by the Prez, Steve LaPaugh, with thanks to our hosts Jim and Betty Villers.

The assembly was queried as to whether there were any guests or new members. Bill Stutz fessed up to being at the meeting WITH an MG. He described it as “gray blue with a massive dent on the right fender”. He was immediately offered help by Bob Stein... who offered to make the left fender match the right one.

Bill Murphy was a guest of Richard Leal, and had come from the Eastern Shore to join in the MG ogling. Robert Perrone introduce his guest, Caroline; always nice to have a pretty face and an active mind join the party! Randy and Kathleen Semones introduced themselves as new members, and proud owners of a '79 B. “It took me 33 years to get this MGB” quoth Randy.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as written.

Tad Carter recapped the excellent wine tour that was coordinated by Alan and Beckey Watson; 22 people enjoyed the tour, and everyone made it home safely. A plethora of pictures are posted on the TMGCC website. He noted that there are 40 people signed up for the Tides “Roll Back the Clock” baseball night, and reminded folks that May 28 and 29 will be the dates for the north and the south-side Ice Cream Runs. Tad expounded on the many upcoming events, and it was brought up that there will be a “Stars and Cars” show in Chesapeake on June 7. Mark your calendars for the Harpers Ferry drive Sept. 19-22.

June 3 will be our next meeting at Bill and Issie Yoshida’s. Park MGs in the backyard IF WEATHER PERMITS (if the grounds are not soft due to recent rain). Bill was not present to give his membership update, due to recent surgery, but the figures are: 1 new car membership last month for a total of 113 paid memberships and 203 people in the club. Bill is making good progress and “should be 100% by the June meeting”.

Dipstick author Mark Davidoski lined up writers for upcoming events. Everybody please “belly up to the bar” and contribute articles regarding MG trips and events!!

Vice Presidential Poobah Robert Perrone spoke (and the crowd was suitably hushed). He actually had substantial information to report!! This is a whole new VP thing – comments at meetings instead of shrugs!! Can the club survive this kind of wanton mayhem? "Robert reported that John Terschak had prompted questions of liability for our club, including when members are involved in a club event. TMGC has liability insurance for the club as a whole, including D&Os (Directors and Officers) provided at no cost through the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR). However, the club must be an affiliate club of NAMGBR and there must be 10 members of TMGC that have active memberships NAMGBR in order for the club to have coverage under their insurance plan. The Secretary of the MGB Registry, Bruce Wyckoff, did not have updated information for TMGCC, so Robert updated it. We are now COVERED. The liability insurance is through JC Taylor – excellent coverage. The dues for NAMGBR are \$30/year per person for people signing up with them. There is also a “mutual aid” directory so MG owner contact information is available for those traveling with MGs. Rob offered NAMGBR membership forms and brochures for those present; contact him if you desire information.”

Pecuniary Poobah Jim Villers submitted his monthly fine-penciled accounting of club funds. Balance brought forward from April was \$948.29. After receipts and disbursements (details provided), our new balance is \$1,002.00. Jim's making money for us!



No regalia or technical report available for the May meeting. However, it was noted that some carbs, particularly H4s, do not come with seals in the carburetor float bowls – worth a check with Moss when ordering carbs. Bob Stein offered the use of a bubble balance for wire wheels if anyone needs it. He also reported on the mini-GOF (Gathering Of the Faithful) run in Williamsburg, VA. There was a drive to Sherwood Forest estate for a garden tour, and then the city of Williamsburg closed Prince George Street to allow the showing (and ogling) of classic cars. There was a lot of interest, and club

members took first and third placed in the TC group.

No old business. New business – Mike Ash had surgery on his left shoulder and cannot drive (a flimsy excuse for not attending the meeting and missing one of Virginia's premier May events). He is currently dependent upon the kindness of his wife Jennifer for transportation. Speaking of the Eastern Shore... the Tall Ships will be back on display at Cape Charles during the 14th through the 16th of June. Always a good time!

Meeting adjourned to more great food and drink!



Wine Tour XII...

...the TMGC driving and tasting saga continues!

(As reported by Mark, Robert and Bruce)



The 2014 Wine Tour began on a cheerful Spring Friday that later transitioned to some challenging weather conditions. Eight assorted MGs and crews gathered at the Lake Wright Inn for initial instructions from Tad, our steadfast Activities Director. Leg one participants included Susan and Terry Bond (B-GT), Russ Ripp (B), Mike and Denise Haag (B), Don Ladd (video camera-equipped B), Tad (B), Jim and Betty Villers (B), Mark and Kathy Davidoski (B-GT), as well as Andy and Cynthia in their TF. We were underway at 8:02 a.m. on our way to rendezvous with the Peninsula contingent, consisting of Missy and Bob in their red Bugeye Sprite and Bruce Easley, who was driving his red B. (Bruce had earlier picked up Robert Perrone, who was temporarily rendered “MGB-less” when his 1967 roadster developed starter problems just two days previous.) Ten LBC’s then proceeded via non-Interstate roads to a luncheon date at the Hanover Tavern, where we were met by the balance of the Wine Tour XII team: John and Leslie Terschak in their burgundy MGA and our intrepid Tour Directors, Beckey and Alan Watson in their B roadster. Our group also had the opportunity to catch up with Robin and Olive, who joined us for lunch.



During lunch, Alan and Beckey were presented with Wine Tour/LBC themed t-shirts, in case we had trouble identifying them during the upcoming events. Once suitably attired, they started us off with an enroute game of British trivia that was destined to amuse, confuse and confound many of the group over the next two days. Departing Hanover, we started on our way to the first stop: Glass House Winery in Free Union. In addition to miles of enjoyable winding roads, sites of interest along the way included a signpost that was adorned with dozens of pairs of cast off running shoes (Hanover) and an Inca Yellow TR-6 (Gordonsville.)

Despite Alan's admonition about impending rain, several of the group started out with soft tops stowed. As the rolling countryside gained in elevation, the skies got progressively darker. Coming into Louisa the raindrops forced several of us to dart for cover and raise the hood. After fueling on the western edge of town, we proceeded toward Crozet via Ruckersville. A succession of quick traffic lights crossing US 29 split us into two groups. The rain was steady as we entered some exciting S-turns on the final approach to Glass House. Fortunately for the second group, the official Mapquest printout proved accurate, because at least one country road sign had been turned 90 degrees. Ignoring the sign, we made it safely to Glass House with only a momentary hesitation and the temporary loss of John and Leslie, who were briefly spit out of formation when Mark turned at the last possible instant onto Advance Mills Road while peering through the rain with outdated eyeglasses.

Glass House offered a unique atrium tasting room, with tables sprinkled among giant banana trees and other lush greenery. The all glass structure was the ideal place to enjoy the thunderstorm and downpour that started soon after we arrived. After sampling some excellent vintages followed by flavored chocolates produced on site, the rain ended just prior to our departure for our hotel in north Charlottesville. The route to the hotel took us past the Foxfield Races site, which was setting up for a major event the next day. (Alan had re-arranged our routing for the next day, which proved to be an excellent decision. The Foxfield Races later appeared to attract many persons of recently legal drinking age in Virginia, including every member of the UVA student body!)

After freshening up with some tea and cookies at the English Inn of Charlottesville ("Where English Tradition meets Southern Hospitality") it was up the street to Lord Hardwicke's. True to Alan's promotional announcements, Guinness was indeed available on tap, along with excellent fare and fellowship with our group of 22 and a few additions from the adjoining bar. After settling our dinner charges, we were momentarily stumped by the disappearance of Robert's credit card. As we rose from the table, it suddenly reappeared beneath an unsuspecting TMGC member.

Friday ended with a rain-free stroll back to the hotel, the promise of fair skies on the morrow, and a good night's rest.



Day 2 (as remembered by Robert Perrone)

Well, I should have no excuse if I wasn't paying attention this year. I didn't have to drive, and I got to ride Shotgun on the wine tour for the first time ever. Thanks to Bruce Easley for offering to drive his very fine '79 B. The original plan was for Bruce to ride with me, but my '67 decided to eat its own starter for lunch on the Wednesday afternoon before the tour. So Bruce and I wisely decided that it would be better to take a car that we didn't have to push all weekend.

Weather was great.....again. I have always enjoyed the drives on these weekends, but it was really different to be able to appreciate the scenery without having to look at the road.

I should note that Bruce did offer to let me drive his car on a couple of the drives between wineries, but they were too short. (and no Beckey, that is not directed at you!) I only had a few minutes to try Bruce's car. And, for some reason, he decided to take the wheel again after I ground the gears on his B a few times. Sorry Bruce, I have no excuse. After all, I've only been driving a stick shift since I was 16.

Our first winery stop on Saturday was Stinson Vineyards. A beautiful view, and many of us enjoyed Relaxing while basking in the sun outside the tasting room. I think that the morning wine tasting had an effect on me, because the next thing I knew I was being nudged to get back in the car to go to our next stop. So much for your on-the-job reporter.

We travelled to our next destination and enjoyed our lunch *al fresco* at White Hall Vineyards. We had a chance to chat with our guide who was a retired university professor. He said that he actually has nothing to do with the winery itself, but just works there part-time because he enjoys people. After talking to him for a bit more we also learned that he is actually out of the house on orders from his wife. Smart man.

We then went off to Mountfair Vineyards, where the choices consisted of red, red, red and red. Still, somehow it turned out that Betty's favorite was a white: water. One of the wines we sampled was "Bonfire" which was bottled the night before. Another wine, "Fusion", was aged twice as long. It was bottled two nights before.

After tasting we all stepped outside where yours truly took the panoramic photo that has been on our web page for the past few weeks. If you haven't seen it, take a look if you can spot what is unique about the photo. It should be available on our mg.org home page or in the wine tour photo gallery (unless Mark includes it with this article.)

In the evening we gathered for pizza, beer and a lot of fun. Thanks again to Alan and Beckey for everything that they do, even right down to the games and party favors. That night during conversations some of us shared stories of our first dates. For those of you who were there I had one more bit to add to my story of my first date with my girlfriend when I was 17. It will be completely misunderstood by anyone who was not there, but, oh well.....

Epilogue: My dates' mother ran out on the porch to find out why here 16 year old daughter was yelling "eww, eww, get it out, get it out!"

Everyone who heard the first part of the story will probably be laughing right about now. Anyone who was not there will probably thinking something totally inappropriate about your esteemed VP. Shame, shame. My mother raised me better than that. Not much better, mind you, but at least a little bit.

And, although I am not writing about Friday's fun & games, I would like to make one more note about my AutoCorrect issues that I shared Friday night at dinner. For the record, I never had either one. That should get the rest of you wondering...

Andy complained about the beer, or general lack of quantity and selection after we ran out. As a result, he was unanimously elected as the 2015 Wine Tour Beer Chairman. See what happens when you pipe up around here? (I think that may be how I got the VP job, but I'm not exactly sure.

Well, that wraps up the Saturday Report for the 2014 Wine Tour. Now on to Sunday.....



Wine Tour – Life’s Good!

Spring 2014 Wine Tour

Day 3

by Bruce Easley

Sunday, Day 3 of the famous MG wine tour, started just a few minutes late; “the vicar was a little long-winded” was the comment. But... no complaints! We got to sleep late, got a good breakfast, and were ready for the heady challenges of wine tasting. Unfortunately we were decreased by one vehicle when Bob and Missy McKenna found a pool of brake fluid under a wheel due to a broken brake line. They headed home earlier in the morning to avoid the traffic buildup. Followup news found that they made it back OK, but completely lost hydraulics on their last interstate exit. So that’s why they put in the mechanical “emergency brake”!

Our first stop – the Kilauren Winery. Two notable sayings here, their motto “We are in the wine business for the wine, not for the business”, and a welcoming sign advising “Wine a bit, you’ll feel better”.

Our docent had a history with LBCs (owned MGB, Triumph, and non-Brit Karman Ghia), and so was duly impressed with our presence, understanding that it was amazing that so many had actually made the trip successfully from Tidewater. He gave us a little history of the winery, which had been started around 1980. After retirement, the owner couple had discussed two options appropriate for the land: option one was to grow Christmas trees, but the wife did not want to be busy around Christmas. They settled on option two – the winery.



At that time there were only about 70 wineries in Virginia, as compared to about 300 today, so it was a learning experience. The property is beautiful, with a bit more mountain to it than most of the wineries we visited. We were invited to take the unpaved road to the top of Daniel Mountain as we left, to get the view, which several of the MGs decided to do.

In regard to wine production, our guide explained that the shoots that come out this year will bear grapes next year, so they must prune the vines accordingly. Also, they have to remove “suckers”, or non-producing shoots each year, and look for volunteers to help with that. Sign up today before the rush!! Their rose’ is fermented like a red wine – with all grapes in a vat for 2-3 weeks, so the color gets darker and the alcohol goes up. It has the “hue of a beautiful sunset”... not quite a pink, but with an orangish tinge. It is a single grape rose’ made from a cabernet franq grape. The tasting here was delightful, with their “Bonfire” selection being a favorite.

Then off to lunch! We ate from a special MG menu at the Lafayette Tavern, which had a long history and had been used as a hospital during the “Recent Unpleasantness“ (aka the Civil War). They had a very good brew and wine selection and, it being Sunday, Russ Ripp decided to “go to Jesus” and got the Sweet Baby Jesus beer. He pronounced it to be “soul-saving” after a long dry drive. We lost a few more to the road after lunch, as some drivers opted to head home, or to Charlottesville, or to other destinations.

After getting our tummies full so the passengers could be drowsy, we headed out for a 2-hour thrill ride. The trip was just long enough that at least one passenger exited the

After getting our tummies full so the passengers could be drowsy we headed out for a 2-hour thrill ride. The trip was just long enough that at least one passenger exited the vehicle and headed for the WC before the vehicle stopped rolling! (The effect of lunch brews at work.) We headed in to the COTU (Center of the Universe) Brewing Company in Asheville, and got ready to check out the indoor and the outdoor brewing. Some partakers got sample flights of the variety of brews on tap, but by-the-glass and growlers were also available.

Protective eyewear was required for a tour of the vat room, due to the pressure vessels; check out the pictures on our website to see who looks geekiest. The information was shared that one of the brother owners had played for the Baltimore Orioles, including the 2010 World Series with the Giants. One of their specialty beers is "Home Front IPA", which is made with Louisville Slugger baseball bats in the vat, to give it a maple flavor. The brothers had started "back in the day" with 5 gallon jugs of home brew and have graduated to 2,000 gallon tanks at COTU. They get their brew water from the North Anna River, and use a variety of barleys for different flavors and alcohol contents, including smoked and roasted barleys. By law, beer must contain water, malted barley, yeast and hops. Long ago it was found that hops have an antibacterial property, so beer brewed for shipping to far away locations was brewed longer with more hops for preservation. (Free factoid!)

The opinion of the brewers at COTU is that cans are superior to bottles for containing beer. Cans today have better liners, preventing any metallic taste, and all light and oxygen are kept out. Okay, who cares... just set 'em up barkeep. One last call before the ride back home.

So, 2014 was another grand success for a wild, waggery, well-planned and wonderful wine weekend! THANK YOU Beckey and Alan for all the preparation, hard work, and attention to detail that you put forth in order that we other "wine tourists" might have so much fun and once again whet our wine wisdom!



Shore Drive

Northampton Blvd

Wesleyan Drive

Virginia Beach Blvd

I-64

I-264

Independence Blvd

Haygood

Little John Rd

Crossborough Rd

Wesleyan Dr

Haygood Joint Rd

Red Coat Rd

Five Forks Rd

Witchduck Rd

Aragona Blvd

Ferry Plantation Rd

Truman Ln

Priscilla Ln

Copperfield Ave

Ewell Rd

0611/2

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, June 3rd

Issie & Bill Yoshida

4732 Little John Rd.

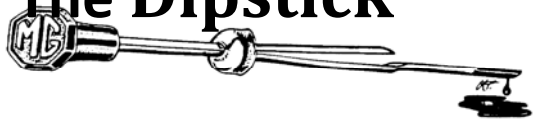
Virginia Beach

554-0402

7:30 - 8:00 pm - Kick Tyres

8:00 Meeting

The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski

4705 Little John Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS