



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 42, Issue 5

May 2015

Activity Report – May 2015

(submitted by Tad Carter)

Finally! Spring has sprung, the clocks have moved ahead and we are seeing LBCs back out on the road. We had a good turnout at Frank & Deb's for the first Tech Session of the year. Everyone must be ready for driving season, as it appeared to only be minor issues needing repair – you know, things like headlights and leaking valves.

By the time you read this, a team of intrepid travelers will have returned from Virginia Wine Tour XIII to south central Virginia. I'm sure Becky and Alan have it all planned and the en route games will be a challenge. Tales from the road will be forthcoming.

For the rest of us, here is what is on the docket...

Our May meeting will be another drive-out to Watson's in Beaverdam on Saturday, May 16th. The other weekends were 1) too close to the Wine Tour, and 2) Mother's Day weekend. Here's the plan. Those leaving from the Southside will depart from Lake Wright at 10:00. We'll meet up with the Peninsula contingent at New Kent Winery at 11:30. Weather permitting, we can use their outdoor picnic area. A prize will be given for the best picnic spread. If the weather is threatening, we can use their covered patio, but we will have to order meat and cheese trays from them. Keep an eye on your email as we get closer to the date. Becky and Alan are planning light refreshments once we arrive. Our trip back to Tidewater puts us in the Williamsburg area about 5:00pm. It will help to get an RSVP so that we don't miss anyone at the starting line. You know how to reach me.

Later in the month, we celebrate British Car Week with Dessert Drives on the Peninsula (5/27) and on the Southside (5/28). On 5/27, we depart from the old Yorktown Battlefield parking area (not the new museum) at 6:30, head out Colonial Parkway and make our usual stop at Sno-to-Go. On 5/28, we depart from Harris Teeter by the Virginia Beach Court Complex at 6:30. The destination may be Handel's, or we might sneak in a surprise. You have to show up to find out. Not really. Give me a call if you plan on meeting us at the destination – I'll give you the address.

As for the rest of British Car Week, this is a nation-wide celebration of our car heritage. Get out and drive!

(continued next page)

Turn Back The Clock Night at Harbor Park is set for Monday, June 15th. The Tides (currently 2nd place in their division) will host the Columbus Clippers, who finished 1st in the International League West Division in 2014. Tickets are \$11pp – cheap eats and great seats! I’m not sure if anyone signed up at the April meeting, so with 30 seats to fill, we have some catch-up to do. Please let me know my phone, e-mail or at any of the upcoming events if you would like me to hold seats for you. Harbor Park is a family-friendly atmosphere – I look forward to seeing you there.

**Next Meeting – Saturday, May 16th
Hosted by Becky and Alan Watson**

“In this month’s issue of The Dipstick.....

Activities Report.....	1
Dipstick Calendar.....	2
Marque Time	3
Membership Update.....	4
April Meeting Minutes	5
MG Mugshot.....	8
Wine Tour XIII (initial report).....	11



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	davidoskicrew@cox.net
Membership	Bill Yoshida	554-0402
Webmaster	Mike Haag	mikehmg@cox.net
Regalia	David Kinsey	233-0029

**Dipstick Calendar –
May 2015**

**May 16 – Saturday - Club Meeting in Beaverdam
Hosted by Beckey& Alan Watson**

May 23-31 – British Car Week

May 27 - Wednesday – Peninsula Dessert Drive

May 28 - Thursday – Southside Dessert Drive

**June 2 – Tuesday – Club Meeting in VB
Hosted by Issie& Bill Yoshida**

June 5-6– Moss Motor Fest – Petersburg

June 8-12 – NAMGBR – Niagara Falls, Ontario

**June 15 – Monday – Tides Baseball – 7:05pm
Turn-Back-The-Clock – Tides vs. Clippers**

June 15-19 – NAMGAR – Frankenmuth, MI

July 1 – Wednesday – Club Meeting – TBD

July 12 – British Invade Gettysburg, PA
www.lancomgclub.com

**Aug. TBD – Summer Tech Session – Chesapeak
Hosted by Linda & Jim Freeh**

**Aug. 4 – Tuesday Club Meeting
Hosted by Betty & Jim Villers**

Marque Time

Marque Time

I would like to thank Andy and Cynthia for hosting last month's meeting on Andy's short notice! As usual the food was great and weather was a welcome change from the rain we have been getting. With the weather getting better, keep an eye out for upcoming activities. That being said as I write this the annual Wine Tour is only days away, Those of you not attending you might plan to attend the Eastern Division Spring Meet hosted by the Tidewater Region A.A.C.A. April 30-May 2. I have it on good authority the cars in attendance will be awesome and don't forget the vintage aircraft! Our next meeting is May 16 (Sat) hosted by Alan & Becky in Beaverdam, VA. Last year there was a rally to their house which was great fun! Keep your tank full and tires inflated, spring has sprung!

Safety Fast..... Steve LaPaugh



Williamsburg Car Show. (Check out the TMGC website for lots of great pix!

2015 May Dipstick- Membership

compiled by Bill Yoshida

2015 Memberships: As of 20 April we have 121 paid memberships with 211 individual members.

New Membership:

Paula & Dennis Hennessey
Virginia Beach 234578
1977 MGB

Welcome Back - Stephen Daniel attended the April Tech Session and renewed his membership.

Cars: Total cars – 186

Cars & Types: 179 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
27	2	83	18	1	3	7	21	4	13

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

Dues: I currently hold one \$20 check and \$60 in cash for turnover to Jim Villers.

2016 Memberships: The 2016 membership year begins on 1 July. Per the TMGC Club By-Laws, dues are to be paid *in advance* by July 1st. Dues are only \$20 annually. I will be available at the June meeting to receive dues and update memberships. A number of members have paid their 2016 dues in advance. I will send an e-mail to those members prior to the June meeting to remind them that membership is paid through June of 2016. If you are not in receipt of one of these e-mails your 2016 membership is due.



Expert tech support – just one of the many benefits of TMGC membership!

TMGCC 7 April 2015 Minutes

With his typical solemn and focused demeanor, our illustrious President, Steve LaPaugh, opened our April 7, 2015 meeting at the appointed hour of 8:00 p.m. He called for review of the minutes of the March meeting, and a motion to approve them was made, seconded and passed.

The President of Vice, Robert Perrone, reported that the Activities Director, Tad Carter, was absent due to his mother's death. Robert gave a summary of upcoming activities, which are detailed elsewhere in this issue. They included the Williamsburg Antique Car Show April 11, Phantomworks Wounded Wheels event April 18, our semiannual Tech Session April 19, and the annual wine tour April 24-26. Later in the season, we'll have our annual Tides Baseball outing on "Turn Back the Clock" night, and May includes a driveout on the 16th in addition to our regular meeting.

Bond, Susan Bond, of 007 MGB-GT car fame, offered two of her many club scrapbooks for those interested in club history and general MG picture enjoyment. Our club has lots of history, so there are a lot of scrapbooks available. Just ask Susan!

Our Membership Chairman, Bill "Bring 'em in" Yoshida, reported that we currently have 119 paid memberships, with 208 individual members and 184 total cars in our organization. He also announced he has name tags to award for those who have ordered them. Tag him to get yours.

The Pecuniary Poobah (aka "the Trez"), Jim Villers reported that we have \$1,456.97 in our treasure chest, after typical meeting and mailing expenses. Feel free to accost Jim for a detailed accounting.

"Dipstick Daddy" Davidoski (aka "Mark") informed the group that the deadline for articles for the next issue is April 20. Writers are requested for special events, special project reports, or just that fun article you've been wanting to write. Please make your suggestion for the next Dipstick "Mug Shot" look at the murky life of your Member of Interest about whom you'd like to know more.

The King of Regalia, David Kinsey, reminded the group that there are always specialty items such as clothing, blankets, mugs, etc. available, with the MG logo, and he also has a special Brit factory logo monogram template available. Please contact him to find out what's currently in stock or to order that special something you've been wanting.

The Prez called for any Technical Tidbits. David Kinsey described a project on which he'd been working, in which he installed an air intake plenum in the forward compartment to get more clean air available to the carburetor. He mentioned that there seems to be mixed opinions in the literature regarding the significance of the impact of cleaner, colder air on engine performance, but he feels "more is better" in this case. Catch up with him to discuss details.

At this point the assembly became somewhat rowdy and boisterous with verbal and animated discussions of the pros and cons of this and other such modifications, and the group's MG fervor had to be reined back in by the President, who wielded his gavel in an authoritative manner.

Once reined in, the “Marque Time open discussion forum” was announced. Jim Villers mentioned that a national judged meet would be held at the Military Aviation Museum in Pungo on May second, strictly for properly restored cars. Expected entries include a Stanley Steamer, original Packards, and other antiques. Russ Ripp described a GPS-related application for smartphones called “WAZE” which may be particularly useful for determining the proximity of friends and for relaying road information during club drives. David Kinsey polled the group to see if anyone else was going to the raceway in Danville during the upcoming weekend; three other members planned to attend.

Then... Raffle Time! The raffle prizes included the classic 50/50 cash split for the raffle fund intake, a set of LED turn signal bulbs donated by PJ Peterson, materials for re-doing late a MGB windshield washer system given by David Kinsey, plus he announced that he would be giving away to a lucky winner the **LAST TMGCC LICENSE PLATE HOLDER**. The end of an era! Too late for all you less-than-luckies who did not win one of these highly coveted items over the past few years. Richard Leal gave the windshield kit he won to another needy member, and Mathieu Huovinen was the winner of the 50/50 cash, which he then donated back to the club, since he'd already had a couple of brews and was feeling loose. Bill Yoshida's ticket was drawn as a prize winner, but he declined, saying “he has all he needs”. Nonetheless, his other ticket was drawn yet again, so he graciously accepted the award of being First in Line for the sumptuous repast provided by our hosts.

A motion was made to adjourn, and the group headed either back to the libation table or to the dinner table to sample the epicurean delights provided by our hosts, Andy Wallach and Cynthia Faschini.

Faithfully recorded by the Secretary, Bruce “Big Deal” Easley, April 7, 2015.





More views from the monthly meeting at the home of Cynthia and Andy



MG Mug Shot

By Ruth Johnson

This month our MG Mugshot focuses on a self made MG mechanic, **Frank Linse** .

About Frank's MG s.....

Q: What MG (s) do you own?

A: I currently own a 1958 MGA Coupe which I restored in 1993. I have owned an MGBGT and an MGB Roadster.

Q: How long have you belonged to the Tidewater MG Club?

A: I have belonged to the Club since 1990. My first meeting was at Dave Bowling's house, and I was driving a 1974 "B" which I bought for \$450.

Q: What attracted you to the MG?

A: I have always liked the body style and have learned to appreciate the simplicity of the mechanics. MGs are easy to keep on the road.

Q: What is the greatest distance you have traveled in your MG?

A: The greatest distance I have traveled in an MG was a round trip from Chicago to Boston in 1986. I wished I had driven my Cadillac on that trip!

Q: What is a memorable trip you had in your MG?

A: Vince Groover and I drove my 71 MGBGT to Ottawa, Ontario and back. We sure had a fun time with Canadian Customs.

Q: What is a memorable experience you had in repairing your MG?

A: The restoration of my 58 A Coupe was the "mother of all restorations". Removing the body from the chassis was probably the most exciting.

Q: What advice do you have for a new MG car owner?

A: Drive the car as often as you can, keep a close eye on fluid levels, and join the MG club so you will know who to see when problems arise.

Q: What are you most proud of regarding your MG?

A: Since I did almost all the restoration on my A Coupe, I was able to reduce the cost by about a third. It looks pretty good as well.

Q: What have you gained by belonging to the MG club:

A: Well, I met my wife, Deb, who lived down the street from me. She happened to own a pretty 76 MGB. I'd guess that is why we became friendly. I have many good and close friends who have come into my life all because of this little British car. I also noticed while working on MGs, I pray more and curse a lot less.

On the personal side...

Q: What do you enjoy doing when you are not working or traveling in your MG?

A: I spend a lot of time at my church doing maintenance and repairs. I also spend my leisure time goofing off in my garage.

Q: What is/was your career?

A: I made the Navy my career then worked for a government contractor a few more years until MG s took over my life.

Q: What do you like most about the Tidewater area?

A: I like the weather and the convenience of everything.

And here is the best part!!!!

Frank says, "I'm always happy to see an MG arriving at my garage in need of help, however, I get a little nervous if it is on a trailer."



Spring Tech Session at the Linse's



3000 Steps to VIR (or Why the @#&^\$@ Would You DO That?) *(by Tad Carter)*

This year marked the 13th edition of the Virginia Wine Tour. Due to other commitments, our participation in this event was questionable. But the schedules cleared (not the skies, just the schedules), and Karen and I made the trek out to VIR on Saturday to join Becky and Alan and company. So between Saturday at 7:30am and Sunday at 3:30pm, we traveled 556 miles, and according to FitBit, took about 6000 steps. (As has been noted in an earlier Dipstick offering, the gentle ride of an MGB can sometimes confuse a FitBit into thinking that the wearer is out for a nice stroll.) Hence the title of this article and the question, “Why the @#&^\$@ would you do that?” Why would you want to bounce around for hours on end, just to end up at home 32 hours later?

Let’s consider the possibilities. Was it the destination? VIR has been an intriguing destination for several years. It is a great place to whet your appetite for speed, to see everything from the roots of racing on up to the top levels of the sport. And this ain’t TV, folks. Running the bases at Wrigley Field? Inside the ropes at the Masters? Out on the course at America’s Cup? I think not. But for a few miles we were there, on the track running where the big dogs run. Cutting the corners, screaming (or was that sputtering?) down the backstretch and downshifting into Oak Tree Turn and feeling not unlike Barney Oldfield.

Was it the lodging? I’ll tread lightly here. It isn’t every day you get upgraded to the owner’s suite for the night. And you don’t often get a hotel room where you can invite 30 friends in for a drink and still have room to move around. Since the upgrade was simply due to the late opportunity to join in for the weekend, as the activities wonk, I just cannot condone late sign-up for these events. Thank you Alan and Becky for allowing my unpredictable schedule.

Was it the wine and the food? Have you ever had a hot dog at the ballpark? Stale bread, steamed dogs and mustard that should have gone out long ago, but nothing tastes better. Now take that to the track and enjoy your hot dog in the cold rain with engines roaring in the background and the smell of gasoline wafting through the air. You get the picture – You’re darn right it was about the food. And the wine was pretty good and mighty plentiful, too.

Was it the search for architectural octagons? Certainly - our route took us through South Boston, passing the Grace Baptist Church with its MG-logo roof. These are always interesting “finds” and add a little fun to the trip, and they are a far more pleasant site than the plethora of stop signs in Tidewater.

Was it the roads? OK, you can keep 58 between Tidewater and South Hill – dead straight and plenty of speed traps. After that, though, the road flexes its muscles, bends a little, and you start to feel your car again. And then, you get off the main road and you remember why you bought that LBC to begin with. Twisty roads and no traffic, other than 14 other MGs with you. Dogwood blooms providing the backdrop to a landscape filled with cows, barns, and dogs. Could you really want to be anywhere else?

Was it the Moss Motoring Challenge Points? Ahh the chase for points - a lofty goal for sure. While this trip certainly would have provided photo ops for Alton, Brodnax, Clarksville, Danville, Emporia and all the way through Zuni, that was not the intent. So at least for this Challenger, we were on hiatus from the hunt for points, with the focus on enjoying the ride.

So mostly the answers to the above are “yes”. But the real answer to the original question is quite simply “the people”. What an enjoyable bunch to hang around with. We were regaled with stories and games. We fed off the shared knowledge of what can and will go wrong on the road, and how to fix it, although there was no hands-on demonstration this time around. And I know of very few situations you can get in over any given three-day period where no one cares if things are a little off. Slow service at the restaurant – have another drink! Wine not to your liking – use the dump bucket and go on to the next one. Rain – so what? Cooler than normal temps – zip up, button up, top up, but really, no one cares.

So thank you again to Becky and Alan for all the work you do in putting these events together. We just enjoyed 9,795 miles with you and every one was a pleasure.

Look for more Wine Tour coverage in next month’s Dipstick...



May Meeting!

Saturday May 16th
Hosted by Beckey and Alan Watson
17312 Tiswood Drive
Beaverdam, VA 23015

Pls see this month's Activities Report on page 1 for details.



Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski

4705 Little John Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register

FIRST CLASS