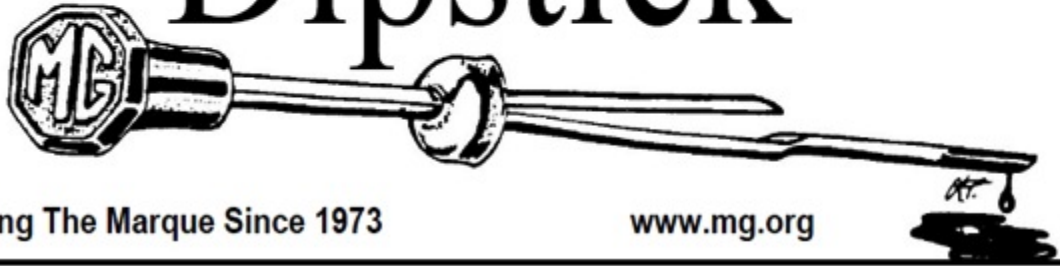




# The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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

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Spring Tech Session Quicklook – see page 6  
for details. In this photo, interested  
attendees take in a visiting Morris Minor.

## May Activities

Way back in February, we started the celebration for our anniversary cars. We have celebrated the '56 A, the '66 Midget and B, and finally we come to the '76 B. As was stated then, age before beauty. To quote Edna St. Vincent Millay, "Beauty is whatever gives you joy?" and I'm a rubber bumper fan. Or to quote Conrad Hall, "There is a kind of beauty in imperfection."



Newton's Third Law of Motion: For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. Or the law of unintended consequences. So it was for the MGBs of the rubber-bumper era - take your pick. In an effort to meet US safety standards, many modifications were made to the MGB beginning in mid-74 - the Rubber Bumper era. Subsequent years saw adjustments to counteract previous "improvements". The anti-roll bar was removed in 1975 to reduce weight, and it was added back in 1976 to regain stability and handling. Impact-resistant bumpers were added in 1974.5, and some felt the cosmetics suffered. Starting in 1976, the front valance was painted satin black rather than body color, with the intent to mask the bumper's appearance. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and there are those that prefer chrome to rubber. But it can't be all bad if you get caught in '76 B in a rainstorm with Kris Monroe (Cheryl Ladd) in an episode of Charlie's Angels. And who else will you see around town in a '76 B? How about Michele Peters, Pete Olson, Bill Milholen, Ken Johnson and Doug Wilson. If that group doesn't scream good taste, nothing does.

**Idle Thought #1** - I had the opportunity to travel to the DC area over Easter weekend. Although Saturday was a little chilly, it was clear and definitely a top-down day. Driving between Tappahannock and Fredericksburg, I was reminded of what I love about these cars - the feel of the road, the hum of the engine, and getting from point A to point B away from the congestion of the highway.

So what do we have going on? We start the month with our **May Meeting on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup>** at Cynthia and Andy's home in Norfolk. And we end the month with **British Car Week** - Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> - Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>. I think all week-long celebrations of Little British Cars should all last 9 days!

Locally, we will have our mid-week **Dessert Drives**. On Wednesday, **June 1<sup>st</sup>**, we'll depart from the old Yorktown Battlefield Visitors Center. I don't know where we are going or when we will get there. Come on out and join me in the surprise.



And the following night, **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**, we'll do it all again, this time from the Harris Teeter parking lot (Nimmo Parkway by the Virginia Beach city offices). And just so you don't think I am playing favorites, I have no idea where we are going this night either. Rest assured, it will not be Handel's for ice cream.

**Idle thought #2** – I was passing through the I-64 construction zone this week. The electronic sign board greeted me with “PLEASE SLOW DOWN – YOU ARE SPEEDING”. Now I know this couldn't possibly have been directed at me ☺, but it made me appreciate the kinder, gentler VDOT. And it made me think about speed far more than any speed limit sign. Well done!

**MG-2016** is only 6 weeks away. I do hope those of you going on that trip are making every effort to have your car road-ready by the 12<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot of ground to cover on our travel days and a lot of stuff on the schedule for the rest days. I've seen the route – it should be fun, with mostly tertiary roads to avoid traffic and stop lights as much as possible. You will want to have your cameras ready late on day one.

The **Norfolk Tides** had their season opener earlier this week, and the bats are coming alive. We still have a few seats available for Turn-Back-the-Clock Night on Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup>. Come on out and enjoy cheap eats, great seats and baseball as it was meant to be played. I'll need your final ticket requests by June 6<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$12.

And last, but not least, sign-up is under way for our annual trip to Hanover Tavern and the **Virginia Repertory Theatre**. This year's trip is on **Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** for a performance of Neil Simon's Brighton Beach Memoirs. Set in the 1930's, the story is Simon's semi-biographical story of growing up in Brooklyn. As Jack (the father) says, “If you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here.” Tickets are \$29. We have 10 seats remaining.

**Idle thought #3** – I saw a quote the other day – “Give an Englishman a car and he'll make it leak.”

Enjoy the ride!

*Tad Carter*



Spring Tech Session – open for business!

# Marque Time

I'm still getting the hang of writing these monthly submissions. Yes, I know that it doesn't take much to tax my brain (which is something that will be agreed to by many, I'm sure) but in between the time I write these literary gems and the time that they are published a lot of things can happen. In particular, this month I'll be writing this before the annual TMGC Wine Tour, but it will be published after the Wine Tour.

So I will go out on a limb, and tell you how incredibly wonderful the 14th edition of the TMGC Wine Tour was, even before it has happened. I will use my amazing powers of foretelling the future and report that everyone who went along agreed that Alan and Beckey Watson have once again outdone themselves and put together an even better Wine Tour than last year. Thank you both.

I will also predict that my entire Wine Tour experience was certainly better than expected, mainly because of the fact that I was able to drive a car that made it there and back without producing toxic fumes. Thanks to the generous offer of a club member, I was able to drive a very fine MGB this year, instead of my mosquito-repellant-producing MGB.

I'm sure that the person would prefer to let his generosity go without fanfare, and without me making a big fuss about it, so I will only identify him by his initials, B.E.R.N.I.E. I.M.D.A.H.L.

I can assure you that anyone that had to be anywhere near my car on the Wine Tour last year (or in any other drive) also appreciated not having to pass through the blue-gray fog of my car. Thank you again B.E.R.N.I.E.

And after we get back on Sunday, we will be able to relive the memories of that weekend when we all meet together again on Wednesday, May 4 at the home of Cynthia and Andy for our monthly TMGC meeting. Whether you were able to join us on the Wine Tour or not, I hope to see you there. Until then,

*Safety Fast,*  
Robert



Williamsburg Show

TMGCC Meeting Minutes  
April 5, 2016  
*Recorded by Bruce Easley*

The group was gathered and in anticipation. At 8:07 PM our President, Robert Perrone, stood up. He first warmed up the crowd with some Aruba trip jokes, then displayed the “cheat sheet” prompter given him by former President Russ Ripp to try to keep him on track. Could be a long night.

He first asked whether any new members or guests were present and, finding the answer was no, he then recognized Alan and Becky Watson, who had made the long trek down from beautiful Beaverdam, VA. For official business, the minutes of the March meeting were voted and approved. Robert then turned the meeting over to the Vice Prez, Tad Carter.

Tad offered a “welcome back” to “all the officers who skipped last month’s meeting”, and noted that the present gathering was already larger. Treasurer Jim Villers then reported on the club’s funds: we started with \$1,631.96 and after hosting and posting, our present balance is \$1,506.96. Andy Wallach queried whether there had ever been an audit of the treasury, and Jim responded “no, but you are welcome to do one”. Andy demurred, and the crowd voiced a unanimous vote of confidence in Mr. V.

Sue Bond announced she had brought two albums of history with her for everyone’s viewing pleasure, and pictures of the 2015 Holiday party were included. Bill Yoshida then reported on membership: we had 121 paid memberships, with 3 “promises”, and...(drum roll)... a new member – Chris Hannes of West Point, VA, bringing our car total to 185. Bill also reminded the group that **dues are due in June**.

Tad then brought us up to date on activities. We had a good turnout for the End of Time Brewery Tour (see last month’s dipstick). Now April brings the annual Williamsburg antique auto show the weekend of April 9, our biennial Tech Session April 24 at the home of Frank and Deb Linse, and our annual Wine Tour April 29 through May 1. He asked people to please sign up for activities in advance so that trip leaders know how many people to expect. As of this meeting date, 11 cars from our club are signed up for the trip to the June 12-18 MG2016 car extravaganza in Louisville, KY. The group will take a two-day drive out and a two-day drive back to enjoy the festivities.

Moving on, Robert asked if there was any old business – no; any new business? No. Then on to Mark Davidoski, our Dipstick newsletter Editor. He reminded everyone that articles are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, and he thanked last month’s contributors. Then Marque Tyme – on Saturday April 16 there will be a walk in Virginia Beach to raise money and awareness for ALS disease. This has a special meaning for our club, as our members Bill and Renee Olcheski’s daughter is dealing with the illness. Anyone planning to walk in the event can contact Mitzi LaPaugh to get information on our team and for the raffle. Bill Olcheski noted that the response has been great, and that they are at double the fundraiser goal at this time.

Bob Stein announced he just acquired a 1958 MGA Roadster, and so will be adding another car to the roster. Alan Watson said his father’s 1974 MGB Roadster is for sale, and is in excellent condition, and that if you look at it on the coming weekend, the Beaverdam Wine Fest will be underway. Tad mentioned there is now another opening for the April Wine Tour, as he was notified by Craig Cummins that Craig must withdraw due to a serious injury. Please send Craig your condolences.

## Spring Tech Session – Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at Frank & Deb Linse’s Garage/Lunchroom

The Spring Tech Session was a busy one, with dozens of TMGC members and quite a few guests making an appearance. Frank Linse was at his MG Expert Mechanic best for the entire session as he rendered assistance to several of his loyal customers/friends. The weather was cooperative, which helped with the turnout of vehicles. The usual selection of MGBs was evident, plus a few MGAs, a Morris Minor ragtop, a sporty 1963 Anglia, and even Dr. Fee’s new executive ride: a 1988 Rolls Silver Spur!

Frank was seen adjusting a few carburetors as well as consulting with numerous other MG owners. Andy Wallach brought his TF and spent a few hours making its chrome shine like it was 1954 all over again. At noon it was Deb’s turn to impress. She laid out a repast that included fried chicken, beans, slaw and rolls – delicious! (Frank’s shop-based refrigerator also provided icy adult beverages to those so inclined.)

The session wound down by mid-afternoon as the LBCs made their varied ways home. Thanks to Frank and Deb for providing us yet another opportunity to fix, adjust, and talk about MGs while enjoying TMGC camaraderie on a beautiful Spring Sunday.



Yup, there’s definitely an engine  
in there!



Consulting with Mr. Linse



Andy makes his TF shine

## Dipstick May 2016

**2016 Memberships:** As of 20 April 2016, there are 121 paid memberships with an additional 3 “Promised” renewals.

**2017 Membership:** June is the month for membership renewal for the year. In May I will send an e-mail to members that have paid in advance letting them know that they have already paid for 2017. If you don’t receive one of these e-mails with a subject line “**TMGC Dues - Paid in Advance**”, then your 2017 payment will come due in June. Annual Renewal forms are found on line at [www.mg.org](http://www.mg.org). Copies will also be provided in the June edition of “The Dipstick”.

### **New Memberships:**

Chris Hannes  
West Point, VA 23181-1624  
1969 MGC-GT

**Cars:** Total cars – 185

**Cars & Types:** 178 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe TD TF	B Midget	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC
28	2	83	16	1	4	7
	21 4	12				

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

**Dues:** I have turned over a \$20 dues check to Jim Villers at the April meeting. I do not currently hold any funds.

*Cheers, Bill Yoshida*



## Dipstick Calendar – May, 2016

Saturdays – Cars & Coffee  
Classic Motor Museum  
102 E Marengo St, St. Michaels, MD  
9am-11am

**May 4 – Wednesday – Monthly Meeting  
Hosted by Cynthia and Andy in  
Norfolk**

May 28 – June 5 – British Car Week

**June 1 – Dessert Drive – Peninsula**

**June 2 – Dessert Drive – Southside**

**June 7 – Tuesday – Monthly Meeting in VB  
Hosted by Issie and Bill Yoshida  
Membership Renewal Meeting**

June 12-18 – MG2016 - All Registers  
Louisville, KY  
(Includes our travel dates)

**June 21 – Tuesday – Norfolk Tides – 7:05 1<sup>st</sup>  
Pitch**

**Turn-Back-The-Clock Night**  
(tickets available up to 6/6/16 @ \$12)

**July Meeting – Date and Location – TBD**

**Aug. 2 – Tuesday – Monthly Meeting  
Hosted by Jayne and Bruce Easley in  
Seaford**

**Aug. 7 – Summer Tech Session in Chesapeake  
Hosted by Jim Freeh**

**Aug. 21 – Sunday – Barksdale Theatre  
Neil Simon’s *Brighton Beach Memoirs*  
(10 seats available @ \$29/)**

**Sep. 7 - Wednesday – Monthly Meeting  
Ocean View Fishing Pier**

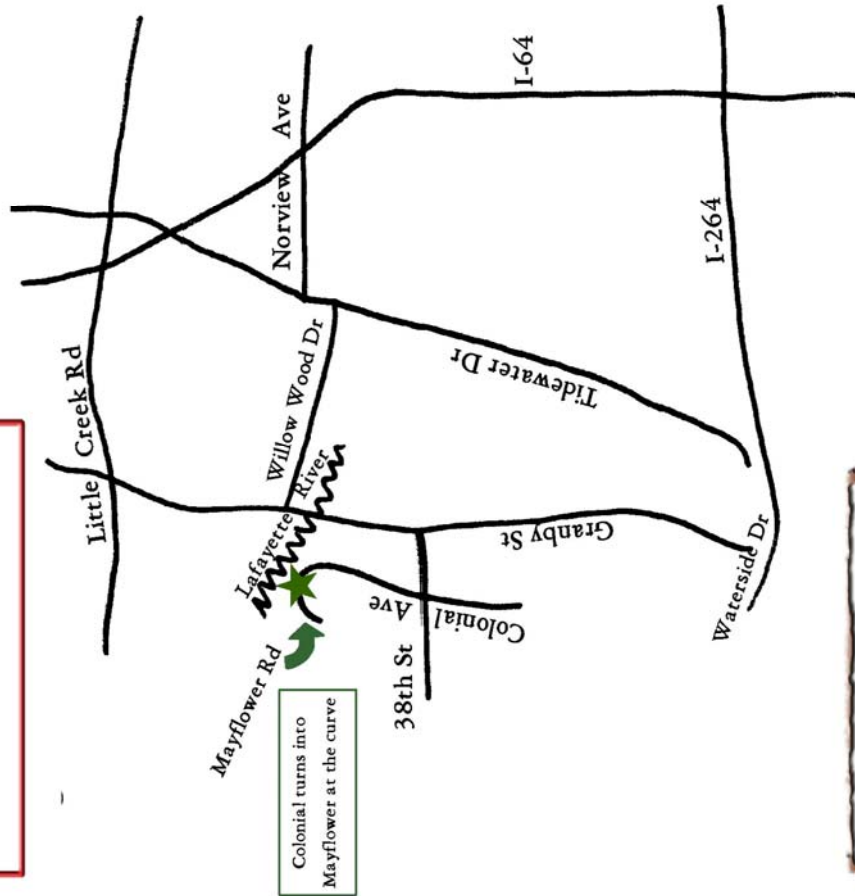
**Sep. 15 – 18 – Drive the Crooked Road Fall  
Tour**

Sep. 24 – AACA Wings and Wheels, Pungo Airfiled

**Oct. 4 – Tuesday - Monthly Meeting  
Hosted by Renee and Bill Olcheski**



Monthly Meeting  
 Wednesday, May 4th  
 Cynthia & Andy  
 545 Mayflower Rd.  
 Norfolk, VA  
 622-8315



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



**Tidewater MG Classics**

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski  
 4705 Little John Road  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
 davidoskicrew@cox.net

*Affiliated with*



North American MGB Register

**FIRST CLASS**