



# The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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

Volume 44, Issue 9

September 2017



The weather was perfect for the Summer Tech Session, held at Jim and Linda Freeh's place in rural Chesapeake. Several cars received needed attention over the course of the morning, but by lunch time (featuring Linda's signature BBQ with assorted delicious side dishes) the talk had turned to relaxed banter under the shade of the old growth oaks in the front yard. There were as many as 12 MGs on the scene as participants came and went.

Much discussion dealt with preparations for the solar eclipse trip to Santee, SC. Attendees included a broad swath of TMGC members, including appearances by none other than Roy Wiley and Roosevelt Moseley.

Three technical efforts were observed in the service bays of the Freeh's detached garage. First on deck was a brakelight issue on Rich Hildreth's MGA. After much electrical troubleshooting, Frank Linse lent a hand in determining the fault was in the brakelight switch itself. Parts are on order!

Tad Carter brought his MGB in for a look at his clutch, which was slowly losing hydraulic fluid. The assembled helpers could not determine the source of the leak, so Tad continued to drive it "as is" with periodic top ups. (More on that sore subject can be found in Tad's Activities Report in this issue!)



Finally, Russ Ripp was able to fashion a custom mounting for a third brake light on his MGB's luggage rack. Russ displayed his usual ingenuity by using a piece of scrap metal that fit the bill.

The crowd had started to thin by 2 PM, but everyone had a great time relaxing, observing the abovementioned mechanical work, and enjoying a great lunch. Thanks again to Linda and Jim for hosting another memorable Tech Session!  
*by Mark Davidoski*





## Marque Time



Well, the response from our members to run for the offices of TMGC has been underwhelming, to say the least. I'll have to admit that I have been surprised at the lack of response, as well as the number of members that declined to run when they were asked to do so by the Membership Committee.

Of course, I realize that there are many other ways that members do their part in our club, and several members that were asked to run *already* have done their fair share, and more. We all understand that, aside from holding an office or serving on any of our committees, many of our members graciously offer their homes for meetings, tech sessions or other functions that support the club overall, or by assisting individual members of our club. There is no doubt that everyone in TMGC appreciates those contributions and we are thankful for all that you do as well.

I apologize if I offend anyone, but I am a bit disturbed to see that, year after year, the same 15 to 20 people seem to end up doing 99% of the work, particularly in a club comprised of well over 100 members. I truly believe that this would be a better, stronger club if everyone that enjoyed being a club member did their part along the way and helped out by doing some of the work instead of just simply enjoying the benefits.

But after several months of diligent work, our Membership Committee has only had one person step up and offer to run for one of the 3 soon-to-be vacant offices of our club.

Thank you to Faith Peterson for your offer to run for the office of Vice President. We all appreciate your willingness to help keep the club moving forward. I'm sure that you will do a fine job and I know that you will have the support of all of us at any time.

Once again, Jim Villers is willing to run as Treasurer of the club and continue serving us for another two years. Thank you, Jim. Again and again...

And although it is somewhat late in the process, I'm sure everyone in the club would appreciate it if anyone else would offer to fill the role of either President or Secretary of TMGC. I realize that the roster of candidates should appear in this issue of the Dipstick, but as long as any candidate's name is made available to the club before the October meeting, they should be able to run for either of those offices.

The specific descriptions of each officer may be found in ARTICLE VII of the TMGC By-Laws and are published in the TMGC directory each year, but the basic duties of the President and Secretary are simple. The President presides at monthly meetings. The Secretary takes minutes of the monthly meetings and submits these for publication in the Dipstick. Whenever the President or Secretary is unavailable, someone else fills in.

So, one last time I will ask that anyone who enjoys the club and all that it has to offer, please step up to fill one of these offices. And once again, thank you to all of the members that support our club year after year.

Safety Fast,  
Robert

# TMGC Meeting Minutes

## August 2017

Since President Robert was out of town, VP Tad Carter chaired the August meeting of the Tidewater MG group. The first order of business was to thank Faith and PJ for sharing their home with us, followed by a “Thanks” from Tad to those who helped to clean up after the July picnic meeting. Asking if there were any new members or guests, we found that Ross and Ann Ames are returning “new” members. Great!

The minutes from the July meeting were approved, and then Tad led the group in a group shrug – afterward advising us all that we were all then qualified to act as Vice President. Treasurer Jim Villers gave a detailed financial report, with the bottom line being that there was \$1840.72 in our account. Membership guru Bill Yoshida reported we have 198 cars and 77 paid memberships; dues were “overdue” as of the meeting. Scott Hancox and Caroline Remeika have also recently joined the club as new members.

Dipstick co-editor Mark Davidoski thanked the several members who contributed great stories to the latest issue of The Dipstick, including Donald Ladd who sent in a technical article, Jim Villers who reported on the Harbor Park baseball outing, and Alan and Beckey Watson for the story on their MG trip to Florida. Historian Susan Bond advised the group that she has history albums, which now include the Spring Tour pictures, and has a historical folder from the Petersburg battlefield tour.



In his capacity as Activities Director, Tad updated us on the upcoming August 6 Tech Session at the Freeh’s, the Santee S.C. Eclipse tour, Wings and Wheels extravaganza at Pungo on Sept. 23, the MGC Register meet in Abingdon, and the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Shenandoah Valley car show this Fall. Lots going on! Our September meeting will be 6:30 pm on Sept. 6 at the Ocean View Fishing Pier for dinner and a meeting. Note: sunset is at 7:24 that evening.

Technical: Bruce Easley reported that he had recently reupholstered his seats, and added a lumbar support as described in an article shared by Chuck Hassler – a huge improvement in comfort. Donald Ladd noted that he had found new Saturn alternators with pulleys on eBay for \$109 with free shipping. Jim Villers commented that he has replaced his dash lights with \$10 LED bulbs from Amazon with very good results. Rose Ladd showed a T shirt with a beautiful embroidered TMGCCC emblem, which is available to club members for \$25.

No regalia for this meeting. Motions approved to adjourn to the feasting table!! See you next month.

*Recorded by Bruce Easley*



# Activity Report – September 2017

Thank you to Linda and Jim Freeh for hosting the Summer Tech Session. While I was only able to be there for a short while, I received sage advice regarding my leaking clutch slave cylinder: “For now, just keep filling it up with fluid. It will either get better or worse.” Well, they were right. It got worse. Fortunately, I was near Lynnhaven Mall when I first heard the hissing and pulled into an empty lot. A few pumps on the clutch pedal, and I was marking my territory all over the pavement. AAA arrived rather quickly with a flat-bed and I was safely home and in the garage within 90 minutes of the initial call. Parts are on order – due in on Tuesday – and with luck and great technical assistance, I plan to be on the road to the Syzygy 2017 drive by the time this article is due. For those that are counting, this will be clutch #2 since 8/2014, plus a rebuild.

On a cheerier note, have you noticed a lot of MGs showing up as either eye-candy or the primary subject of recent non-MG ads? Other people are recognizing what we have known all along – these cars are classics. For a while, a nice red rubber-bumper graced the tourism website for Goldsboro, NC. And then there was this beautiful orange MGB used to promote Virginia’s Blue Ridge Parkway. It sure makes me want to go for a drive.



I have more, and maybe you do too. Send them to the editors and they’ll be used to dress up future editions of The Dipstick!

Show Season is Back! With the weather cooling off a little, many car enthusiasts are marking their calendars and mapping out routes to some of the local shows. And if I know MG drivers, there are probably a few side trips to explore en route to these shows.

An old favorite won’t be on the schedule this year. Due to circumstances beyond the control of the organizers, Classics on the Green will be on hiatus for the 2017 season. However, expect them to be back bigger and better than ever in 2018. This has always been a good show. We look forward to its return.

More locally, **Wings and Wheels** returns to Pungo in late September. Slated for 9/23, this show may be the best deal around. Your registration fee or your visitor’s admission includes admission to the Military Aviation Museum and the Jerrassic Dinosaur Park- old cars, old planes and old critters, right here in Virginia Beach!

That same weekend, you can check out the **Concoursd’Elegance at the Inn at Perry Cabin** in St. Michaels, MD. While you are there, plan on stopping at the new **Classic Motor Museum** in St. Michaels. Or visit the museum on any Saturday for **Cars & Coffee from 9-11am**.

The **American MGC Register Association** is hosting an event the weekend of **9/29 – 10/2** in Abingdon, VA. All British cars are welcome. In addition to the show, events include a road trip to Hungry Mother State Park, an evening at the Barter Theatre (*Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem*), a trip to the Bristol Motor Speedway and a tour of the Birth of Country Music Museum. If your Dipstick editors have room, you may find info in this edition. Otherwise, check out the AMGCR website.

And the **Shenandoah Valley British Car Club** is hosting their 36<sup>th</sup> annual show the weekend of October 6-7 in Waynesboro. They expect over 150 cars from all over the mid-Atlantic region. And you can take in both Skyline Drive and the Blue Ridge Parkway while you are there. Please see the SVBCC website car show page at <http://svbcc.net/carshow.html> for more information about the festival and how to register for this wonderful event.

Our September meeting will be held on **Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> at Ocean View Fishing Pier**. Weather permitting, we will be on the top deck. Plan on arriving between 6:00 and 6:30 if you will be joining us for dinner, and order whenever you are ready. Staggered ordering will allow the kitchen staff to get meals delivered in a more even flow. The meeting will follow, interrupted only by a 7:24 sunset.

Until then, enjoy the ride!

*Tad Carter*

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## Dipstick Calendar

### September 2017

**Sep. 6 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting**  
**Ocean View Fishing Pier**  
**6:00 – 6:30 Arrival for Dinner**

~~Sep 16-17 – Classics on the Green – canceled for 2017~~

Sep 22 – 24 Concourse d'Elegance  
The Inn at Perry Cabin, St. Michaels, MD  
[www.smcde.org](http://www.smcde.org)

Sep. 23 – Wings and Wheels - Pungo, VA  
Military Aviation Museum

Sep 29 – Oct 2 – AMGCR – CBA XXXVII – Abingdon, VA  
[www.mg-cars.org.uk/amgcr/](http://www.mg-cars.org.uk/amgcr/)

Oct. 6-7 – Shenandoah Valley British Car Festival – Waynesboro  
[www.SVBCC.net](http://www.SVBCC.net)

**Oct. 3 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting in VB**  
**Hosted by Renee and Bill Olcheski**

**Nov. 1 – (Wed) Monthly Meeting – in VB**  
**Chili Cook-off Hosted by Pete Olson**

**Dec. TBD – Holiday Party**  
**Hosted by Betty and Jim Villers**

**Dec. 12 – (Tue) Holiday Lights**

## 2018 Calendar

June 13-17 NAMGAR GT-43 – Richmond, VA

June 17 – 22 - MG2018 – Gettysburg, PA  
[www.MG2018.namgbr.org](http://www.MG2018.namgbr.org)

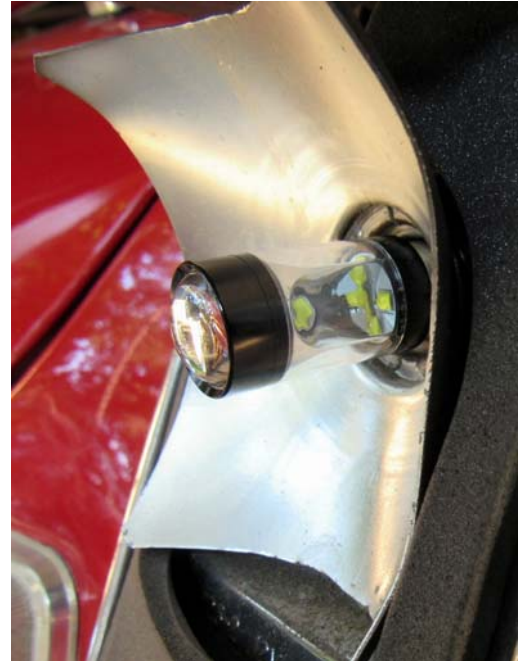
**Bold-Faced Items are TMGC Events**

# LED Lights for an MGB

*By Jim Villers*

LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights have evolved greatly over the past few years. The current generation of bulbs is not only bright but well designed to be utilized in vintage vehicles. LED bulbs use less electrical current while providing brighter illumination and less heat than the original tungsten bulbs. I have tested a variety of bulbs and I will provide comments on each type of bulb. These LED bulbs are designed for negative ground cars so if you have an early positive ground vehicle, these bulbs do not apply and may "smoke". The bulbs are cheap so I always bought extras.

The size of the LED element have been reduced significantly and generally, the smaller the element is, the brighter the light that it produces. LED elements are manufactured worldwide and they have been fabricated into bulbs by Chinese companies and then market them under numerous names. I have not found a dominate brand but have found that essentially similar bulbs are packaged under multiple brands so don't get obsessed with my particular choices. The "Cree XP" element is very bright and produces excellent bulbs. Likewise, the CSP elements are utilized in the headlight bulbs with the best beam patterns.



Courtesy light 39mm festoon blub. I have successfully used a couple of bulbs in this location and all have been satisfactory. My recommendation is to utilize a one direction, medium bright bulb. One of my bulbs was so bright as to be distracting.

Dash light E10 screw-in base bulb. I have installed white, single level, high intensity E10 base bulbs in my dash and I am very happy with the result. I have tested other bulb colors (blue, red and green), each of which had their own appeal but I preferred the white light as providing the best gauge illumination.

Brake, turn signal and tail light bulbs. The development of LED lights has made great improvements to these types of bulbs. The first generation bulbs just provided light in one direction, the second generation provided light in all directions while the third generation provides a very bright light from the end of the bulb and smaller bright lights



around the parameter to utilize the reflector, fully illuminating the plastic lens. I retained the original front turn signal/parking light bulbs so that I would not need to change the turn signal flasher switch to a timer based switch compatible with LED bulbs.



Headlight Bulbs. This is the area of greatest progress. The current generation of H-4 headlight bulbs provides twice the light of the H-4 halogen bulb that it replaces while providing the same beam pattern as the halogen bulb. This is possible because the current generation of CSP LED element is very small and can be placed in the identical location within the light as the halogen element. While most LED headlight bulbs contain a small cooling fan, the recommended Beamtech bulb does not have a fan. The conversion to the LED bulbs will require the purchase of a 7 inch round lens-reflector kit that is designed for the H-4 headlight bulb. I have found that the very small CSP elements that are used in the bulbs produce the best beam pattern.

Recommended bulbs (all were available from Amazon when I wrote this handout):

Festoon: Autosaver88 6-SMD 3030 39mm

Dash light: 100Lighting E10 100Lm 5050SMD White

Brake/Tail: CCIYU White 60W 6000LM 6000K Ultra 1157 BAY15D Cree LED 15 SMD Bulb 12V

Front Turn Signal light: I retained the original 1157 bulb

Rear Turn Signal: CCIYU White Super Bright High Power 6smd CREE Light 1156 LED Bulb

Headlight Bulb: Headlight Bulb: BEAMTECH H4 LED Headlight Bulb, 50W 6500K 8000Lumens

Headlight lens-reflector kit: CWC-7006 7" Round Conversion Headlight





## The Case of the Mysterious Burning 'B

*By Alan Watson*

It was a beautiful Saturday in Beaverdam, the sun was shining brightly, temperature pushing 90, but humidity was low. It seemed like the perfect day to pull our '72 MGB out of the garage and give it a thorough wash after our recent trip to the Florida Keys. I put the top up and got to work.

After a thorough cleaning, and waiting for an hour for the top to dry in the sun, I decided it was time to put the top down and put the car back in the garage. I folded down the top, carefully folded in the side windows, rolled it up and tied it in place. Then I installed the tonneau rails and started to snap on the half tonneau. As I was working on the passenger side I noticed a wisp of smoke rising from the padded trim on the top of the passenger door. The thin wisp of smoke rose about 10" in the air, wafting in the breeze. A quick examination of the trim piece revealed two burnt areas and about an inch-long melted vinyl area. I quickly put out the "fire" with my hands and proceeded to look for the source.

The source was immediately evident. Ten years ago when we did the restoration I never bolted my sun visors in place. It is far easier when putting the top up and down to simply remove the sun visors and toss them on the seat rather than swing them out of the way of the latches. Then you just slide the inboard end into the rubber holder and the outboard pin drops into the hinge bracket and they work just fine. And that is exactly what I had done, the sun visors were laying on the passenger seat. However, the "courtesy mirror" on the passenger sun visor was face up, and the sun was shining directly into the mirror and was reflected onto the vinyl trim causing a hot spot. All in less than 5 minutes.

I am extremely lucky that I was not called away for even a few minutes from putting the top up. That would have been hard to explain to Hagerty!



The unexpected ignition source



The mysterious hot spot

# Membership Update - September 2017

**2018 Membership:** As of 20 August there are 98 paid memberships, with a “promises” of renewal from 3 additional members. There are still 11 members that have not yet responded to my last e-mail “Delinquency reminder”. I will be sending one more “Final Notice” e-mail and then make phone calls in early to each of these stragglers. I have received notification of 10 non-renewals from the following members:

- Ryan Dixon lacks time to participate due to College commitments.
- Woody Cohen and Janis have sold their MGB.
- Ron & Tina Pack sold their MG.
- Richard & Joan Leal sold their MG.
- Barb Taychert have all sold their MGs.
- Steve Boslet has simply sent an e-mail asking to be removed from the roster.
- George McQuain has is going to take a “Leave of Absence” until next year when he hopes to clear his busy schedule.
- John Terschak moved to Ohio.
- Matt and Susan Foley have a busy schedule; may rejoin next year after Matt’s retirement.
- Ian Campbell is not renewing – no specific reason provided.

Note: I plan to keep McQuain and Foley in the 2018 Directory in hope that they will be renewing next year.

**New Memberships:**

None since the August meeting report.

**Cars:** Total cars – 195 (if all remaining members from 2017 renew).

**Cars & Types:** 165 of the following types of MGs:

MGA	A- Coupe	B	B-GT	C	C-GT	TC	TD	TF	Midget
27	2	73	19	1	4	7	20	4	8

Other/Variou MGs – 30 (1-Cooper MG/ 2-VA/ 1-YB/ 1-ZB/ 2 ELVA Courier, plus 23 still unknown model/yr MGs owned by Tino)

**Dues:** I turned over \$705 in cash and checks to Jim Villers at the August meeting. As of 20 August I hold \$380 in checks and \$40 in cash for turnover to Jim the next time I see him..

**2018 Annual Directory:** I plan to have the new Directory available at the October meeting. A digital copy of the 2018 Directory will be sent to each member by e-mail when it is published. A limited number of paper copies are available “by request”. If you received a paper copy last year we already have you marked to receive one again this year. If you no longer desire to receive a paper copy, or if you want to be added to the list to receive a paper copy of the Directory, send me an e-mail.

*Compiled by Bill Yoshida*

**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"*



**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Wednesday Sept 6th**  
**Ocean View**  
**Fishing**  
**Pier**  
**Upper Deck**

- Take I-64 (toward RICHMOND/HAMPTON if coming from Beach or Chesapeake, toward HAMPTON/NORFOLK if coming from Hampton)
- Take 4TH View St. exit - 273 - toward OCEAN VIEW
- Turn RIGHT (if coming from Beach or Chesapeake ), turn LEFT (if coming from Hampton ) onto 4TH View ST. Ocean View Fishing Pier is straight ahead.



# The Dipstick



Tidewater MG Classics  
 C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski  
 4705 Little John Road  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
[davidoskicrew@cox.net](mailto:davidoskicrew@cox.net)

*Affiliated with*



North American MGB Register

**FIRST CLASS**