



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 51 Issue 12

December 2024



TMGC Coming Events

Dec 12 -Holliday Lights
Suffolk

Dec 15 - Holiday Brunch

TMGC Holiday Brunch,

10:30 Sunday, Dec 15, 2024

Our Holiday Brunch will be at the Princess Anne Country Club, 3800 Pacific Ave, Virginia Beach. The brunch will be on Sunday morning, December 15, 2024. Doors open at 10:00 and Festivities will begin at 10:30am; we will eat after a period of socializing. The extensive brunch buffet will include an extensive breakfast fare, omelet station, fruit, lunch and desert selections. The cost will be \$25 per person and will be payable at the door. RSVP to Jim Villers; 190SLJim@gmail.com or (757) 481-6390 by Tuesday December 10 so we can provide an accurate attendance count.



Marque Time!

President's Message from Scott Parker

Happy November everyone! The leaves are falling, temps are cool and those sunsets are pretty early these days, but it's a great time to get out there and drive our MGs! I heard the November meeting was a great time. Due to heavy snow in Denver, my flight to visit my dad in Dallas was changed, which forced me to miss our monthly affair at the wonderful home of Bill and Renee Olcheski. Lucky for me, my trusty VP, the esteemed and honorable Rob MacPherson, was gracious enough to run the meeting in my absence and by all accounts it was a huge success!! Thanks to Bill and Renee for hosting and Rob for honchoing the festivities this month!

It's been a busy couple weeks for the club, thanks to those who supported the annual Trunk or Treat at the Big Ugly Brewery. As always, the club turned out for this community outreach event and greeted the kids with decorated MGs and lots and lots of CANDY! And, a big thank you to our new and illustrious Activities Director, Shayne McKean, for leading the charge for the Veteran's Day parade festivities this month. We had 5 cars in the event this year, so thanks to Shayne McKean & Pam Morris, Rob MacPherson, Mike Haag, Scott Kampe and Tommy Keiningham for supporting the event and our Veterans!

A big shout out to Terry and Sue Bond for hosting our annual Fall Tech Session this month! Over 30 people attended this momentous event with even a couple new faces that visited our motley crew of MG aficionados for the first time and even toured the famed "Bond Museum". During the session, our MG motorheads successfully adjusted Mike August's carbs (thanks Frank!), assembled and installed Fred McCall's MGA windshield, and helped troubleshoot my frustrating electrical issue. All in all, everyone had a great time of food, fun, fellowship and troubleshooting. Thanks again Terry and Sue!

We've got some upcoming events that I'm very much looking forward to, first up on Dec 12th is dinner at Decoy's Seafood Restaurant followed by the Suffolk Christmas Lights at Sleep Hole Park. Thank you Shayne for setting this up! Then on Dec 15th we have our annual Holiday Party at the Princess Anne Country Club. It should be another amazing event and thanks Jim for locking this in. Please also look at your 2025 calendar, we're beginning to compose the meeting schedule for the upcoming year and are looking for a few good homes to host our monthly shindigs.

Well folks, that's all from the cheap seats here at the Parker ranch. Looking forward to serving you for another year and enjoying your friendship, hospitality and MG prowess!

Safety fast. Scott

TMGC Offices and Committees

President	Scott Parker	TMGCPres@mg.org
Vice President	Rob MacPerson	TMGCV@mg.org
Secretary	Michelle Parker	
Treasurer	Mark Davidoski	Treasurer@mg.org
Dipstick Editor	Jim Villers	Editor@mg.org
Activities	Shayne McKean & Pam Morris	Activities@mg.org
Webmaster	Mike Haag	Webmaster@mg.org
Historian	Sue Bond	
Regalia	Rose Ladd	
Technical	Terry Bond	
Membership	Mike Haag	Membership@mg.org



Meeting Minutes - November, 2024

By Michelle Parker

This month's meeting was at Bill and Renee Olcheski's house. It was a lovely day for a drive in the ole MG and what a nice time it was visiting with the club in their home. Thank you for having us!

President Scott Parker was out of town, so our VP, Rob MacPherson, had the reins today. He began by thanking our wonderful hosts. Then he recognized a new member present. Bucky and Debbie Tretler joined some time ago, but have been unable to attend a meeting until today. Debbie wasn't with us, but Bucky was

able to make it out. So good to have him, looking forward to meeting Debbie soon. Debbie owns a '51 MG TD. Susan cheered upon hearing of another woman in the club as primary owner of the MG. October's meeting minutes were then approved.

Shifting to the Vice President's report, Rob gave his hearty shrug. Then announced that he will be reaching out to folks for hosting meetings in the coming year.



Gathering in front of the garage before the meeting

Newly appointed Activities Director



Rob calls the meeting to order

suggestions of things you'd like to see us repeat or new ideas, so bring them to him if you have them. The reminder also went out for the upcoming Veteran's Day parade and the Tech Session. See the club calendar for complete details on all events.

Treasurer Mark Davidoski brought the Treasurer's Report: We're at an all-time high for funds on hand! We wrote no checks, but deposited \$180, bringing our new total to \$2713.49.

The Dipstick Editor Jim Villers said to get entries for the Dipstick to him by the 20th. He'll try to get it in there; the earlier you get it to him the better your chance to have it featured. He also asked for volunteers to write and take pictures for upcoming events. His "Pro Tip:" if you take more pictures you can write less words! No one stepped up for the Veteran's Day Parade, but I'm sure someone will come through. The Christmas Lights drive also came up empty, so he will be looking for a victim, I mean volunteer, at the dinner at Decoys that night.

The Membership Report was brought by Mike Haag. With the renewal of Debbie and Bucky, we are at 96 paid memberships. He has reached out to 7 or 8 long-standing members that still need to renew. The new directory will be out by the end of the month, pick up your hard copy at the Christmas Brunch.

Terry Bond gave the Technical Report. He brought a spanner with him for Show & Tell. He bought a long one at a good price at Harbor Freight. A wonderful tool to have on hand for working on your MG.

There was no Old Business to discuss. As for New Business: Jim brought up the Christmas Brunch ticket cost. It is \$35 per person. It was discussed and decided that tickets would again be offered at \$25 each for club members with the club picking up the other \$10. We will need a headcount. Jim volunteered to keep

Shayne McKean gave the Activities report: The Christmas Lights tour is upcoming on December 12, with dinner beforehand at Decoys. The Christmas Party brunch is on December 15 at Princess Anne Country Club. Shayne discovered the Hampton Roads Car Council and put forth the option for our club to join. He is volunteering to be our liaison. It's \$30 per club. It was put to vote and decide that we would join, the club will pay the fee, and Shayne will be our liaison.

He has some ideas for next year but is open to



Shayne presents his first Activities Report



The great food was enjoyed by all

you may need them and may want to change your casters. Doug updated us on his “Project Cheapskate” ... he said it is coming along. He’s been painting odds and ends, and apparently there is not a standard engine color; an article is coming. Shayne also updated us on his engine build. Just so many words that I don’t even know... sorry, y’all are just gonna have to go watch the video for this part. Jim also mentioned his V8 being converted to fuel injection and the hood is still able to close. He really loves the fuel injection upgrade, but he thinks he now has a blown head gasket. Lots of discussion after that ... once again, I’m plain lost.

Regalia With Rose! It was so good to have Rose and Don back with us! There are various badges that are still available for purchase if you’d like one. As for the raffle, the winners were: Scott Kampe won First in Line for lunch; Doug won a TMGC coffee mug; Shayne won a MGA model kit (which he traded with Doug for the coffee mug); Mike Haag won a Minnons London photo box; Ted won an TMGC water bottle; Doug won the dash panel cover donated by Bill, but since he didn’t need it he gave it to Shayne who might actually need it, so that’s cool; Don won the \$26 in the 50/50 which he donated to the club for a total of \$53 coming in.

This meeting of Tidewater MG Classics was adjourned. If you’d like to see what you missed, check out the YouTube video of the meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/@TidewaterMGClassics>

the count and relay that to the venue.

Marque Time: Okay, here’s where y’all lose me... it’s like you’re speaking English and yet I have no idea what you’re really saying... So, for all the details, and I know that some of you want them for they are interesting and relevant to you, check out the YouTube video. But here are the highlights of what was discussed: Jim brought us up to speed on his fuel injection conversion. They will be videoing the process and will share it when it’s finished. He also had a Show & Tell item: caster shims. He has some thoughts on why

TMGC Membership

As of November 22nd, we have a total of 100 paid memberships with two new memberships:

Russ & Denise Murphy

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

1977 MGB

Bruce Liles

Newport News, VA 23602

1972 MGB

Safety first. Mike Haag

Trunk or **TREAT**

Aubrey Austin
Junior Editor



The MG Club attended a Trunk or Treat at Big Ugly Brewing in Chesapeake, VA on October 27, 2024. There were over 1,500 trick-or-treaters who attended this event. The club members had fun decorating their cars and handing out candy.





Tidewater Veterans Day Parade – 2024 - by Mike Haag

This year was the second time our club participated in the annual Tidewater Veterans Day Parade in Virginia Beach. There was a threat of rain for Monday morning but what little rain we did get was very early in the morning and by the time we got there around 8AM the skies were clear and the temperature was warm. A great day for a parade. We were unit 83 and was supposed to line up on Atlantic Avenue between 9th and 10th streets, but when I got there all I could see were Corvettes. The officer directed me to turn left to meet up with the other MGs. So much for our assigned starting location, but it all worked out ok in the end. Only 5 cars showed up this year. Our club was grouped near the back of the pack and wait we did, kicking tires and enjoying the nice weather for about an hour or so. It was warm so most of us decided to go topless, the cars, that is. Much better to see and be seen in a parade that way.

When we finally got started, Rob MacPherson lead the group with the rest of us following behind, two abreast since our cars are small. Scott Kampe and Tommy Keiningham followed Rob in their maroon (ish) chrome bumper MGBs followed by Mike Haag and Shayne McKean & Pam Morris in their white, rubber bumper MGBs. The parade went up Atlantic Avenue, turned left on 17th street, then right on Baltic Avenue, then left on 19th street to the end at the Doubletree hotel. The parade took about 45 minutes, as we could drive no faster than the folks marching in front of us could walk. I was glad it wasn't any longer though, as my left leg was getting tired near the end and I'm sure my clutch was saying enough!

We saw lots of smiling faces of all ages cheering us on and I'm sure our cars are in many people's pictures and videos. I am glad we got to do this and play a small part in honoring our veterans. WTKR channel 3 broadcast the parade live from near the convention center and I heard them talking about our club as we drove by them. Shayne & Pam recorded a video of that which you can watch on the Veterans Day pictures page on the website at <https://www.mg.org/Gallery/2024%20Archive/Veterans%20Day/index.htm>. Also, you can watch the parade online by visiting the WTKR website at: <https://www.wtkr.com/news/watch-2024-tidewater-veterans-day-parade-virginia-beach>. Our club is shown at the 1:07:26 hour mark of the parade video.

Fall Tech Session at Bond's! - by Mark Davidoski

Our latest tech session was back at the familiar Bond compound in Chesapeake. We had a gorgeous Fall day that was perfect for football AND working on our MGs. By the time I had arrived at about 1210 PM, there was already a lot of activity underway.

Fred McCall was in the garage preparing for a windshield installation on his MGA. This took all day to accomplish, but was completed late in the afternoon with the help of several sets of hands courtesy of TMGC members.

Mike August brought his MGB-GT down from York County for a carburetor session with Frank Linse. It was a rough runner on arrival but headed home later in the day with its stock engine humming nicely.

Scott Parker had some helpers trying to figure out an electrical issue with his fog lamps. I don't think the problem was completely diagnosed, so this will be a future task for completion.

My own MGB-GT was already in top form, thanks again to the mobile tech support that we enjoyed during the Fall



Fred McCall and Donald Ladd working on installing Fred's windshield



Robert Perrone, Fred McCall and Rob MacPerson working on installing Fred's windshield



Working on Scott Parker's GT



Working on smoothing out the idle in Mike August's GT

Tour. Thank you Robert for the loaner distributor that is still under the bonnet!

In addition to the coffee and donuts on offer when the session began, Susan also provided a veritable feast of superior finger foods AND the usual amazing selection of beers!

Attendees included Scott Kampe, Pam Vos, Tommy Keinengham, Rob MacPherson, Robert Perrone, Russ Murphy, Terry Walburn, Mark Davidoski, Shayne Mckean, Pam Morris, Mike Haag, Steve Windsor, Bill Olcheski, Donald & Rose Ladd, Jack Dawson, Scott Parker, Michelle Parker, Fred McCall, Linda Lathan, Jim Villers, Dave Berquist, Meade Fowlkes, Mark Childers, Fred Bumann, Gabe Buman, and Barry Basnight.



Working late to complete installing Fred's windshield

A great turnout. Thank you Terry and Susan for a great TMGC gathering. We even got to see Terry's latest brass era headlamp acquisition in the upstairs automobile display.

A Happy Accident by Tad Carter



We recently took a trip into New England, a first visit for both Karen and I, in hopes of catching some cooler weather and the famous fall colors. In addition to a visit with some extended family, we also had several well-known museums and other touristy stops on our agenda. We started on the Maine's South coast... OK, I know nobody likes to hear/see someone else's vacation pics and videos, so I'll skip to the good part.



Concours 1909 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost

We were traveling from New Hampshire through Vermont to the town of Shelburne. With a little extra time available, we decided to take a side trip to the town of Stowe, where we planned on lunch and a day-hike in the mountains. As we drove into town, we noticed several British flags along the route. One or two might just indicate an international vacationer, but this seemed to be a few more Union Jacks than that. Arriving in town, we selected The Avocado Pit as our lunch stop and were greeted by a sign welcoming the British Invasion. This warranted further investigation.

After lunch, we spotted two gentlemen walking the streets of Stowe wearing British Invasion nametags. We asked what this was all about, and they shared that the 32nd British Invasion Car Show was happening "just down there", pointing behind a row of shops. They told us there were at least 600 cars (an exaggeration) on display, and at least 200 MGs (although MG was a featured marque, this count was also over stated).



With time on our hands, we followed their direction and found only a path "just down there". Now following the Stowe Recreation Path, we ended up a mile away at the Event Field. After paying our admission fees, we wandered the field and were treated to a lovely afternoon among a bevy of British cars. Along with MG, other featured marques were Austin-Healey, Rolls-Royce and Bentley. Most of the cars were from the New England area, with a few others crossing over from nearby Quebec. The weather was perfect for a show, and many owners were enjoying the afternoon by their cars, so we had plenty of time to visit, ask questions, and ooh and aah over the condition of the vehicles on display. We also got to enjoy the background music – British hits of the '60s.

Obviously, our preferred part of the show was the many MGs on the field. We were enticed by replacement

seats from Moss that looked like they would be especially comfortable on longer trips, and I spent a while with a fellow Original Owner of an '80B. There were, however, several others that caught our eye including the Concours winner, a 1909 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost.

All in all, it was an accidental, but wonderful afternoon, and with walking to/from the show and the time we spent on the field, we got in about as many steps as our intended hike in the mountains!

OK, now back to the travelogue... After leaving the show and Stowe, we continued our travel toward Shelburne, VT. How-

ever, we did have to make one more stop at the Ben & Jerry's factory for a little snack. (Pro Tip – if you can agree on a flavor to share, there was no line in the gift shop where they have pints ready to go. Otherwise, expect a rather long line at the by-the-scoop counter on a sunny Saturday afternoon.)

From there, we made the 30-minute drive into Shelburne. If you are ever in the area, the Shelburne Museum could be a day-long visit with a wonderful collection of American art, historic buildings, antique vehicles, and the last passenger steamship to sail on Lake Champlain. The stories of how these collections came about were all very interesting. This collection truly is the best of the best. Add an extra half day for Shelburne Farms. It, too, is worth the time, whether you take the Farms Tour, the House & Garden Tour, the Sun-to-Cheese Tour or just walk the grounds.



It looks like Robert has already blocked out late April for the 2025 Spring Tour. Anyone up for an extended tour of New England and the 33rd British Invasion next September? With a few extra stops (Harpers Ferry, WV, Watkins Glen, Cooperstown and Lake George, NY, Burlington, VT and more...), it's still well under 1000 miles to get to Stowe.

HOLIDAY



PARTY

Sunday Dec 15

Princess Anne
Country Club,
3800 Pacific Avenue,
Virginia Beach, VA



\$25 Per Person
Payable at the door

**Come on out
and join the PARTY.
Starting at 10:30 a.m.**