



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

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Activities Report,

December 2023

Happy New Year!! We had a fun 2023, wrapping up with the traditional Holiday Lights dinner and drive and the Holiday Brunch at the Princess Anne County Club (are we drivers or foodies? ...drivers, foodies, AND sippers). At the Brunch we collected \$425 in cash and cards, plus various sundry necessities, to be donated to the H.E.R.S. charity in memory of Deb Linse. At this time activities for the first few months include our regular meeting on Tuesday January 9 at Gus and George's restaurant at 4312 Virginia Beach Blvd. in VB. Be there at 6 PM (or at 18:00) if you want to order dinner. We'll "test drive" our new Prez and VP! The February meeting will be a Saturday breakfast at the home of Scott and Michelle Parker, starting at 09:30. Come hungry – it was a great event last year with plenty of yummy. In addition to the March meeting, we have an invitation to join other car clubs at a Cars and Coffee event in Williamsburg, thanks to member Eric Fee and the Rolls Royce Owners' Club. The event will start at 08:30 at the Topsy Beans Café in the Shops at High Street, 1430 High Street in Williamsburg, VA. More info to come. And remember...

Safety fast. (as always), Bruce Easley

Coming Events

TMGC Events

2024 TMGC Meetings

Jan 9 - Gus & Georges

Feb 3 - Parker's

Mar 6 - Kamp's

Apr ? - Huovinen's

May 7 - Mac Pherson's

Jun 8 - Watson's

July 9 - Wallach's

Aug 10 - Peterson's

Sep 10 - OV Pier/Fee

Oct 9 - Olcheski's

Nov 5 - Davidoski's

Dec 14 - Holiday Brunch



Marque

Time!

President's Message

Happy Holidays! Wishing the TMGC family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I'm sure 2024 will be another banner year for the club and I'm very much looking forward to a new year of fun with the club. We had a great turnout for the annual Holiday Party held at the Princess Anne Country Club in Va Beach. A huge THANK YOU to Mark Davidoski, Mike Haag, Rose Ladd and Jim Villers for heading up and supporting this special event. I also want to thank Bruce Easley for setting up a delightful dinner at Joe & Mimma's Pizza followed by the Holiday Lights drive in Newport News earlier this month. Michelle and I thoroughly enjoyed dinner and the pleasant drive through the holiday lights.

I want to take a moment to congratulate our 2023 awardees this year. Terry and Sue Bond were honored with the coveted "President's Award" for their over 30 years of service to the club. Terry is the club's Technical Chair writing many interesting and informative technical articles on all aspects of MG maintenance and he and Sue have hosted Fall Tech Sessions at their home in Chesapeake for several years. In addition, Sue serves as the clubs Historian and crafted scrapbooks highlighting club events and this year, working with Jim Villers, she digitized all the scrapbooks and posted them on the club's website. Robert Perrone took home the 2023 Dipstick Award for his generous and often hilarious contributions to the monthly newsletter and he even served as the club's standby secretary for several months when Michelle and I were out of town.

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Deb Linse, long-time member and wife of Frank Linse. Deb passed away in her sleep on December 15th. Please keep the Linse family in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season. To honor Deb's legacy, donations gathered during the Holiday Party supporting H.E.R. (Help and Emergency Response) shelter will be made in memory of Deb and the Linse family. Deb's funeral arrangements and contribution wishes will be provided as they become available.

As we flip the calendar to 2024, we'll have our first club meeting on Jan 9th at the usual Gus and George's in Va Beach for some good food, fun and fellowship. We also are starting to plan events for the upcoming year, so stay tuned...it'll be a busy and fun Spring. Well folks, that's all from the cheap seats here at the Parker ranch. Have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

Safety first.

TMGC Offices and Committees

President	Scott Parker	swparker619@gmail.com
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Holiday Lights Drive 2023 by Bruce Easley

Our traditional Holiday Lights drive for 2023 was a cruise through the fabulous Newport News Park light display. Of course we first had to fortify ourselves for the cold, so hearty dinners of pizzas, subs, and other Italian specialties and beverages were tucked away at Joe and Mimmas in Yorktown before heading out for the spectacular views. Although there was a steady line of cars motoring through the display, we had very little waiting to enter the park. The lighted scenes this year included a huge profile of the USS Newport News ship, Santa, snow people, igloos, skiers, Christmas trees (of course), nautical scenes, and a forest of “dripping” icicle lights. The lights reflected on the ponds in the park were particularly beautiful, and this is a great tradition to get you in the spirit of the season. Congratulations to the “southside” folk who made it unscathed to the event and back home through the HRBT.





2023 Holiday Brunch at the Princess Anne CC

We wrapped up another year of TMGC activities with our Holiday Brunch at the Virginia Beach oceanfront on December 17th. The morning weather was sunny and brisk – perfect for displaying a large selection of MGs at the sweeping entrance to the Princess Anne County Club.

The brunch fare was delicious and wide ranging, with plenty of hot coffee or appropriate adult beverages. The conversations were buzzing all morning, as we reviewed another year of MG-inspired driving, dining, and camaraderie.



Sue and Terry Bond receiving the President's Award



Scott Parker was sworn in as the Club President



Robert Perrone receives the Dipstick Award



Allan & Becky Watson with Robin Watson



Jack Pavlidis with Hilary Pavlidis



Al Jackson & Ann Young



Bill & Renee Olcheski



Mathieu & Rachel Huovinen.



Mike & Jennifer Ash



Scott Parker & Rob MacPherson



Linda Lathan & Fred McCall



Bill & Issie Yoshida



Terry & Susan Bond



Harry & Tammy Park



Phyllis & Tim Hund



Jayne & Bruce Easley



Kiz & Frank Worrell



Mike & Denise Haag



Bob Stein



Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach



Robert Perrone



Kathy & Mark Davidoski



Donald & Rose Ladd

LED Bulb Change-Out by Bruce Easley

I finally decided to change out my old incandescent turn signal, running light and brake light bulbs (1157 and 1156) for LEDs, after getting a good recommendation for a bulb source from member Alan Hazlett. I ordered a partial set originally, to see how well they worked out before I did a complete changeover. They worked OK, so I ordered the rest. After a complete changeover, nothing worked. Hmmm. Then I put the two front signal bulbs back in, and presto – they worked and flashed again. A little research explained the reason. (Side note: some LED lights are made with no glass bulb. Order ones with the glass for cars.)

Incandescent bulb flashers work by heat input, much like a bimetallic strip thermometer. When current is passed through the system, a metal strip heats and bends enough to break contact, then cools again to create the on-and-off flashing (or so my Google search tells me). LED bulbs draw so much less current that the metal strip doesn't heat up enough to initiate the flashing cycle. So when I had re-inserted the two incandescent bulbs along with the other LEDs, that was enough to activate the old flasher. By "old" flasher, I mean a modern round part that had been replaced in my system. By contrast, the LED-compatible flashers have small circuit board inside the flasher box, so heat isn't required.

The other difference is that the LED flasher requires a ground for the circuit board to operate. My old two prong flasher had no ground, so I simply fabricated a ground wire with a ring terminal on one end to fit on a screw where the original square flashers had been installed, split into two wires (you'll understand why as you read on) with spade terminals on the other ends to go on the flashers. That's really all it takes. However, in my case whoever had previously owned or worked on the car had run both the hazard flashers and the signals through the one two prong flasher unit with no ground. Examining the wiring diagram, I realized that the hazards and turn signals were originally designed to each have their own dedicated flasher unit. So, back to the car parts store to get the second flasher. (Side note: LED flashers come with several different variations with different numbers of output pins, apparently to accommodate additional lights such as trailers; some had five pins on the flasher. I only needed the three.)

Now, there were differences in the wire pin designations on the old flasher compared to the LED one. The old had an X terminal and an L terminal. X is positive/power input and L is load out to the power receiving item. The new LED flasher had a B, an L, and an E terminal. B for battery is the same as the X; E is for earth or ground. By reading the wiring diagram, I realized that the hazard flasher actually got the B "hot" wire from a battery source via the starter system, but the turn signals pick up the B source from the hazard switch.

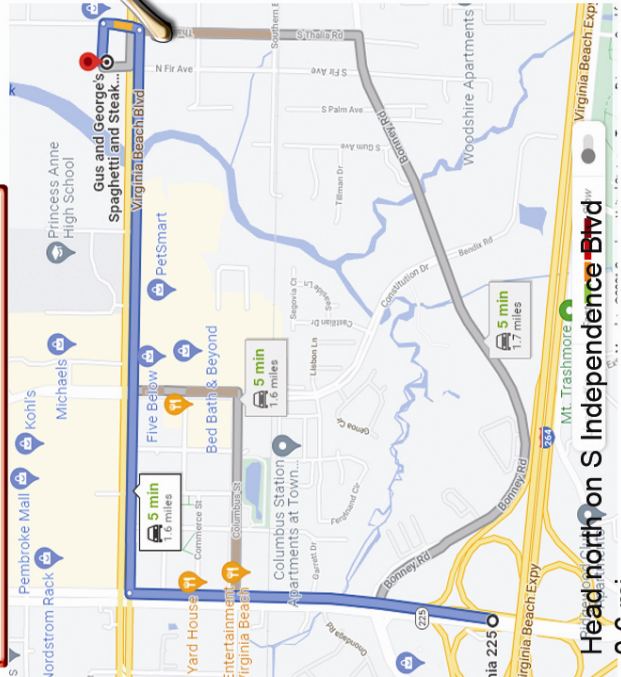
Got it all wired up correctly and finally, everything working, with much brighter lights! Ain't electricity fun?



The Dipstick



Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, Jan 9th
Gus & George's
Restaurant
4312 V. Beach Blvd
Virginia Beach

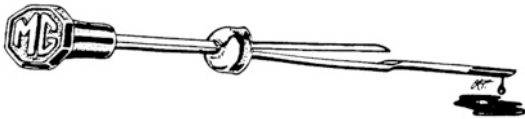



6:00 if you are eating Dinner
Meeting to follow

Turn right after Taco Bell (on the right)
 Pass by IHOP (on the right in 0.5 mi)
 0.9 mi

Turn left onto Thalia Rd
 318 ft

Turn left
 Destination will be on the left



First Class

The Dipstick

Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Jim Villers

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Virginia Beach, VA 23454

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