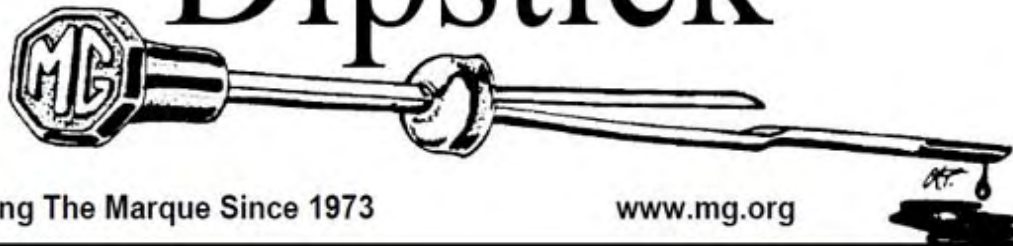




The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

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July 2026

July Activities Report

TMGC Coming Events

Jun 27 - Suffolk BBQ Cruise-In

Jul 7 - Meeting at Kampe's

There is no doubt summer is upon us, but we got a very nice day to visit the Museum of the Albermarle on 13 June, which was enjoyed by all who drove down. We had about 10 MGs in the caravan, plus a few members who drove in luxury. Look for the article from Shayne describing the highlights of the day.

An outing to the Currituck Maritime Museum is being planned for mid-July or early August, but the seasonal hours do not appear to have started, so a Saturday visit is still in the works. As soon as details can be worked out, they will be passed on to all by Rob. There seems to be some interest in a trip to Petersburg to visit the Moss Motors showroom. Unfortunately, if we drive down on a Saturday, the showroom will be open, but not the retail. More to follow on both of those! If you have ideas for a club outing, please let Shayne know.

Steve Charles informed Shayne recently, that in Eclipse (an area of Suffolk) there is a big Fourth of July parade with other activities as well. The parade goes through Crittendon and Eclipse, which are areas in Suffolk. If you know where Decoys is near Bridge Road in Suffolk, you are in the right area. It normally starts about 10 and runs about an hour or so. There are fire trucks, marching bands, old cars, kids on bicycles, golf carts, etc. It's apparently a pretty big deal in the neighborhood! People line the streets and a lot of the folks in the parade throw candy to the kids. If there is any interest in participating, let Shayne know and he'll get the specific details from Steve. There will be a fireworks show in the evening, and remember, this area has a small town feel, unlike Va Beach / Chesapeake fireworks.

Lastly, please also put in your calendars the MG International 2026 in Sandusky, Ohio, at the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky from 23-27 August 2026. MG International hopes to get at least 1000 MGs to attend. If interested in going, here is the link to the website: <https://mginternational2026.regfox.com/register>

27 Jun 26 - Suffolk BBQ CO Cruise-In at the airport. 12 PM – 4 PM. 1200 Gene Bolton Dr, Suffolk.

4 Jul 26 – Parade in Eclipse / Crittendon area of Suffolk. MTF.

7 July 26 - (Tue) Meeting hosted by Anita & Scott Kampe at 449 Thistley Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322. Kick tyres at 5:30, meeting to follow.



Marque Time!

President's Message

from
Rob MacPherson

Greetings LBC Crew!

So I'm writing this on Juneteenth and we're finally getting some of the rain they've been predicting for weeks...we sure need it! I'm hoping to get out to the Norfolk waterside to see some of the tall ships and fireworks this weekend, hope you have plans too.

We had a good turnout for the drive down to Elizabeth City, and great weather. Please keep an eye out for more events and participate if you can.

I'm hoping to complete the minor carburetor rebuild on my MGA soon so I can take advantage of the good days.

See you at the Kampe's for the July meeting,

Safety Fast. Rob

TMGC Officers and Committees

President	Rob MacPherson	TMGCPres@mg.org
Vice President	Russ Murphy	TMGCV@mg.org
Secretary	Terry Walburn	Secretary@mg.org
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

TMGC Membership

As of June 19th we now have 101 paid memberships. As always, if you have any questions about your membership or have any changes in your information please contact me at membership@mg.org. We have had one new member join in June:

Jesse Clark, Norfolk VA, 1973 MGB

Safety fast. Mike Haag

TMGC June 2026 Meeting Minutesby Robert Perrone

As Yogi Berra famously said, "It's like déjà vu all over again." Yes, I'm back.

Once again, I was asked to fill in and serve as Secretary for another TMGC meeting. Yes, our esteemed president, Rob MacPherson was obviously not thinking clearly.

I'm not actually certain where our Secretary, Terry Walburn, was that night, but when Rob said that I was taking the minutes again, I swear that I heard someone outside in the bushes mutter "chump!" and start to laugh. It sure sounded like Terry, but I can't be certain.



Kicking the tyres prior to the meeting.



Socializing on the deck prior to the meeting.

we approved the minutes from last month. Rob then noted that we had guests that evening, courtesy of Frank Linse.

One of Frank's guests was Madison, a neighborhood friend of his. Some of you may remember Madison and her mom when they were guests of Frank at our holiday brunch.



Betty Villers and Cynthia Faschini in the kitchen.

Frank also brought an old friend of his, Flip, someone he has known for about 65 years. Flip still lives in the Boston area, where Frank grew up, and was visiting Frank for the week. It was great to meet him, and he was certainly a very likable gentleman. I would also note that he won two prizes during the raffle, including the 50-50. Good for you, Flip!

But first, I would like to thank Cynthia and Andy for opening up their beautiful home to us for yet another meeting. We had a very good turnout, which always seems to be the case whenever the TMGC meetings are held at their home.

Rob called the meeting to order (or something close to order...) and



President Rob MacPherson calls the meeting to order.



Roosevelt Mosley in attendance.

Vice-President's Report: Russ provided details about upcoming meetings, the next of which will be on Tuesday July 7, 2026 at the home of Anita & Scott Kampe at 449 Thistley Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322. Kick tyres at 5:30, meeting to follow.

Treasurer: Mark gave his report, which I somehow missed because I have the attention span of a squirrel. However, someone told me that Mark reported a balance of over \$2000, so no worries there.

Activities: Shayne noted a number of upcoming activities for the weeks and months ahead. I can personally report that Shayne's most recent event, a Saturday drive to the Museum of The Albermarle in Elizabeth City, was very enjoyable, and attended by more than a dozen members. So, if you're looking for something fun to do over the next few weeks, check Shayne's Activities article here in the Dipstick for more details.

Dipstick: Jim once again noted that 20th was the deadline for submissions to the Dipstick. So, if you're interested in being published in the finest automotive journal since the invention of the printing press, send your articles to Jim, and bask in the glory.



Shayne McKean discusses activities

Membership: Mike was in Vermont, but provided the info for a membership report. We currently have 100 members, so we have officially reached triple digits!



Cynthia's dinner spread was wonderful as always .

It did not appear that anyone had anything to say regarding new business, old business, technical or history.

There were just a few things mentioned during Marque Time, one being that Rob's cars are both currently out of commission, but hopefully the MGA will be up and running as soon as Rob finishes his carburetor rebuild.

Someone also mentioned that Bob McClaren still has two cars for sale, a 74 1/2 and 63 MGB. Check the Classified section of our website, www.mg.org or the weekly "Oil Spot" email for more information.

As I noted above, Frank's friend, Flip, won two of the prizes from the raffle. Sorry to say that, once again, I wasn't paying enough attention to note who else won, but I can assure you that it was not yours truly.

At that point a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and we went on doing what we do best... eating, drinking, and enjoying the fellowship of our TMGC friends.

Museum of the Albermarle Tour – Jun 13 by Shayne McKean

About 20 members enjoyed a beautiful day of driving for a visit to the Museum of the Albermarle this month! We met at the Suffolk Welcome Center and began our trip taking the back roads around the Great Dismal Swamp. Travelling down Carolina Road, we had a very uneventful and traffic-free drive, enjoying the views of the Dismal Swamp and winding roads with trees lining both sides! We had originally planned a stop at the Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center, but Shayne's GPS changed the plans when it failed to route him north on 17 to the Welcome Center, so we continued on 17 South instead. By the time we realized we had passed the exit for the Canal Welcome Center, we were already in Elizabeth City! Oh well!



Lunch at the Hoppin' Johnz.

Elizabeth City was much busier than anticipated, as the Bass Masters Elite competition was being held on the Pasquotank River. It didn't stop us from getting some lunch at Hoppin' Johnz though. Although we had to be split into two groups, we had some great food and a few cold beers, enjoying the company and talking shop. Hoppin Johnz is one of the Pailin's Alley collective near the water front and had a fantastic "southern" menu ranging from burgers to crab cakes to custom salads. The portion sizes were larger than most could handle, but hey, you gotta leave room for beer, right?

Leaving the restaurant, we had just a short walk to the Museum, where we greeted warmly by the staff. And it was air conditioned! The museum had two levels, but the majority of the displays were on the second floor. As we walked up the stairs, we had the opportunity to admire a North Carolina Shad Boat, which is the official State Historic Boat of North Carolina. This particular one was built in 1900 by renowned boat builder and decoy carver, Alvirah Wright. After reaching the second floor, the exhibits started with tools and artifacts from 8000 B.C.! As we wound around the exhibits, we were introduced to the history of the Albermarle and the people who lived there. One of the most impressive exhibits was the actual home belonging



The North Carolina Shad Boat.

to Daniel Jackson and his wife Elizabeth, built in Pasquetank County around 1755. From the furnishings inside to the tools that they used to farm, it was a fascinating glimpse into the lives of the local settlers. There were also artifacts from The James Adams Floating Theater, which was the inspiration for Edna Ferbers book, "Showboat". It was a wonderful day of history and appreciation for the life and struggles of the people of the Albermarle.

After leaving the museum, most of the club members went on their way back to Virginia, but a few brave souls ventured into Ghost Harbor brewery. After a round or two of cold beers and some great conversation, the last of us headed back north.

Project Cheapskate climbs a hill, meets a celebrity, sinks a float, and takes in a show by Doug Kennedy

Project Cheapskate (now named Sterling), a recently restored 1962 MGA MKII is now residing in a garage in Rockport Maine. This summer calls for a few events that will allow it to stretch its legs. Newly registered with the Vintage Sports Car Club of America, the first stop was the Wilbraham Hillclimb in Wilbraham Massachusetts. This hillclimb, the oldest in the US, traces its roots to 1908 when 72 cars raced up the several mile long street and sections at a 23% grade. What was a test of endurance in 1908 is now a time trial on a closed road during what's a large community day with a car show, food trucks, and crafters. Unfortunately, this event also featured the arch-nemesis of a bare metal vintage racer; constant rain showers! Unloading my car in the "paddock" area my low-budget U-Haul trailer surrounded by a bevy of several dozen enclosed trailers I stood back, just a bit, intimidated by one gorgeous vintage racer after another. A Porsche 356 Coupe was next to an Aston Martin and that was next to a bare bones Model T with a race-prepped engine! Happily, the owners were all a friendly lot and the doughnuts and coffee plentiful at the driver's meeting. Shortly after, Sterling was in line waiting to start his run. Ahead the flagger was sending cars off at five minute intervals to make sure everyone had reached the



Sterling ready for the Wilbraham Hillclimb .

top. The start also saw Steve Magnante doing commentary over the PA. He's the guy down on the floor at the Barret-Jackson auctions commenting on each car crossing the block and he is incredibly knowledgeable. As I crept closer to the start a friend who made the trip with me leaned in to yell over the din, and so I could hear him under my helmet, "UH, YOU'VE GOT A BIG PUDDLE OF OIL UNDER YOUR CAR!" This wasn't good news and never means a quick fix. Key switched off, jumping out of the car, and the bonnet lifted, I saw the seeping flood headed downhill from my engine bay BUT accompanied by a rainbow sheen; GASOLINE. The road was newly paved and the gas was lifting the oil out of it. The problem was quickly diagnosed when I saw gas pouring out of the carb bowl overflow tube when Sterling was started. An adjustable wrench appeared from a spectator and I discovered a slightly larger problem, one of the 64-year old brass floats had a crack and was sinking, not allowing the needle valve to close fully. Pulling it out and shaking it furiously to drain it I looked over to see Wayne Carini, host of "Chasing Classic Cars", standing next to me and offering a hand. I declined, tossed the float back in, buttoned up the float bowl, and declared the problem solved, temporarily. Wayne was encouraging and commented "That's why I love MGs. You

just get them running and enjoy them. Nothing is ever too serious or won't bankrupt you. Go flog it and have fun!" Flog it I did. When the green flag dropped I coaxed it into second gear, avoiding a dreaded stall before the crowd in the stands at the start, pushed it upward into third, and looked for smoke or flames behind me! Seeing none and now hitting the steepest part of the hill I could tell the float had sunk because it felt like I was running on a carb and a half. Full throttle was best to pump gas into the carb, and atmosphere, so I stayed well into the 4,000RPM range before cresting the hill, tossing it into 4th for a few seconds, feeling a stall, and backing down into 3rd.

My run over the finish line flagger pointed me left and down a road closed to racers. Still coaxing my carb situation along I was okay until a short uphill to a stop sign where I stalled out completely, coasting to a point almost in the middle of an intersection, pointing uphill and no opportunity to bump start Sterling. Now I know you can bump start a car in reverse but a VW Microbus-sized boulder 10 feet behind me suggested that wasn't a good idea. Adding insult to injury, a woman in a minivan had now pulled up next to me and asked "Do



Sterling at the "British by the Sea" car show in Mystic CT .

you need some help?" Swallowing my pride I asked her to tell a race official at the bottom of the hill I could use a tow strap. As one racer after another passed me, empathy on their faces, I gave Sterling one last try at starting and...success! I didn't waste a second and got out of there with some semblance of pride intact, coasted downhill with Sterling in neutral and my foot on the gas, and got back to the Paddock, quitting while I was ahead. The hillclimb was won by an Austin Healey Sprite with a built race engine but Sterling had a race under his belt, a hillclimb sticker proudly displayed. Back in Maine, a green scrubby pad knocked down some surface rust and Sterling was re-oiled. New carb floats from Scarborough Faire installed, the next event was the "British by the Sea" car show in Mystic Connecticut a few weeks after. This was my wife Betsy's first chance to see the "Sterling effect" and all the thumbs-up he receives on the road. At the show we took our place in a line of 20 MGAs, all more stunning than the next with flawless paint and blinding chrome. Their owners looking at Sterling with a bit of disdain I was not prepared for what happened next. The response to Sterling was non-stop with people curious how I kept rust at bay or appreciative that someone showed up with a car that didn't live under a padded cover in the dark. It was also really heart-warming to speak with the number of people who now felt better undertaking their own restoration knowing some idiot like me could get it done in a one-car garage. The day ended surprisingly with Sterling winning 2nd place in the MGA division, losing to an incredibly well-deserved blue MGA that received a six-figure restoration. Next up for Sterling is the Mt. Equinox hillclimb in Vermont. This is a VSCCA event with a five mile hillclimb on a closed road ascending 3,200 feet. New carb floats are in place, 7/16" wrench on standby for 90% of all repairs, Sterling is ready. I think.

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, July 7th
Scott & Anita
Kampe

449 Thistley Lane
Chesapeake, VA

