MARQUE TIME

Greetings TMGC members and best wishes for a happy and healthy month. Thank you to Joyce and Craig Cummings for hosting the February extravaganza. Thank you also to Russ for taking over the presidential duties in my absence. It can be a rough crowd. According to reports, I missed a great meeting. While the club was enjoying the friendly atmosphere of the Cummings’ home, I was in Dallas at a business meeting. On my limited excursions to the outdoors, I was exposed to a cold and rainy climate. This year, winter is everywhere.

On my return flight I pondered the meaning of the letters MG. Could it be Morris Garage, ‘ might go’ or ‘mighty good”? I will leave the true and creative interpretations to those more insightful than I. I will however share the meaning of some other familiar acronyms:

BMW: Bring My Wallet, Bavarian Money Waster
Dodge: Darn Old Gas Eater
Fiat: Found In A Trashcan
FORD: backwards....Driver Returns On Foot
GM: General Misery
GTO: Getyour Tools Out
Honda: Had One Never Did Again
Jeep: Just Empty Every Pocket
Kia: Keep It Away
Pontiac: Plan On Numerous Trips In Another Car
Porsche: Proof Only Rich Snobby Children Have Everything
Saab: Swedish Automobiles Always Break Down
Toyota: This One You Oughta Tow Away
VW: Very Weird

Now, aren’t you glad that you own an MG?

Safety Fast,
Bill

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Check www.mg.org for the latest info!

Mar. 3 Wednesday - Club Meeting – Norfolk
Hosted by Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach

Mar. 13 Saturday - Moss Motors Drive-out – Petersburg, VA

Apr. 6 Tuesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Renee & Bill Olcheski

Apr. 9-11 GOF South – Jekyll Island, GA
www.MGclassics.org

Apr. 18 Spring Tech Session – Norfolk
Hosted by Debbie & Frank Linse

Apr. 30 – May 2 - 2010 Wine Tour to Loudon County, VA

May 5 Wednesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Kathy & Mark Davidoski

May 29 – June 6 - Drive your British Car Week

June 1 Tuesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Issie & Bill Yoshida

June 23-27 MG 2010 – Belleville, Ontario
www.mg2010.com

July 7 Wednesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Betty & Jim Villers

July 14 Wednesday - Ice Cream Drive. In honor of Bastille Day, French Vanilla Ice Cream will be featured.

Aug. 3 Tuesday - Club Meeting – Virginia Beach
Hosted by Karen & Tad Carter

Aug. 15 Summer Tech Session – Chesapeake Hosted by
FEBRUARY MINUTES
by Becky Hassler

First, I need to make a brief announcement: tonight, the part of the secretary is being played by Becky Hassler. Thank you.

Imitating the sound of a gavel, our most excellent Vice President, Russ Ripp, opened the meeting with the click of his boot heels right around 8pm. He thanked our wonderful hosts, Joyce and Craig Cummings, for having us on a night that could have gone either way, weather-wise.

We had one new guest tonight: Roy Gavalin, who has a 1965 MGB. He also became a new member.

Treasurer’s report: We started with $2,808.83, paid out $50 for raffle and regalia and dues, disbursed $198.74 for various stuff, ending with $2,660.09

For the activities, Tad reported that he had found hosts for all the meetings this year. Beckey and Allan Watson are planning their annual wine tour for the weekend of April 30 – May 3rd through Loudon County, Virginia. Due to the accommodations, they will have to limit the participation to 24 people. So sign up soon. The Moss Motors tour is scheduled for March 13th. Tad will put out an email with the specifics for those who signed up.

No report for clubs.

Susan Bond brought in a great album that she put together for 2009. Many of us enjoyed looking through it. It takes a lot of work to put the photos together. We appreciate the work you do. Membership is up to 111 dues-paying members.

Ron Struwing reported on the Dipstick and let us all know that Peggy has stepped down as the co-editor. He extended a warm thanks to his lovely wife Anita Edwards-Struweing for graciously “volunteering” to fill her shoes.

Mark Childers didn’t have anything specific for the technical portion of our meeting but did answer a question about when oil pressure gauges transitioned from mechanical to electrical.

No old business to report.

For marque time, it was brought to our attention that the March 2010 issue of Classic Motorsports magazine had an article on 21 best ever timeless designs featuring older MG models.

The raffle was held and our newest member was the lucky winner of a license plate holder, while others won a patch, a hat, and first in line for the Cumings’ fine fare.

The meeting was adjourned so we could taste the delicious chili and corn bread our hosts had prepared for us.

Membership and New Members
by Bill Yoshida

Memberships: As of 06 February 2010, the membership count stands at 112 paid members. Since the February report we have one new membership.

The new membership mailed in after the February meeting is:

Roy & Janice Gavilan
Williamsburg, VA
1965 MGB

Roy attended the February meeting and was welcomed as a guest. As a club member we hope to see you at many future meetings and events.

Dues: All dues received prior to the February meeting have been turned over to Jim Villers for deposit.
Activities
by Tad Carter

We are closing in on our first event of the 2010 season, with our visit to Moss Motors in just 2 weeks. As I write this, registration has reached 30 participants! To all who will be joining this tour, I hope you enjoy the day, the meal and a return to warm weather (I hope, I hope). Keep in mind the upcoming Spring Tech Session when you get to Moss. They may have just the thing to finish off your latest project.

Speaking of the Tech Session, we will be hosted by Frank and Debbie Linse on Sunday, April 18th at their home in Norfolk. This is a BYOP event - Parts, Projects or Problems. There will be a host of qualified technical minds on hand to solve almost anything. The doors will open for the first project at 10:00AM.

The Spring Wine Tour will run April 30 – May 2. Beckey and Alan Watson will lead us through the Lou- don County wine country, with several stops along the way to visit assorted points of interest. Please check with the Watsons if you are interested. Parking spots are limited on this tour.

There is a late addition to this year’s Dipstick calendar. The 14th annual Drive Your British Car Week is May 29th through June 6th. This is a great time to get our cars on the streets and have some fun.

That’s all for now. See you on the 3rd at Andy & Cynthia’s.

 Officers and Committees

President        Bill Olcheski        467-4046
Vice President   Russ Ripp          393-9908
Secretary        Michele Peters      482-1012
Treasurer        Jim Villers        481-6398
Editors          Ron Strueweg        479-0084
Anita Edwards-Strueweg 479-0084
Membership       Bill Yoshida        554-0402
Activities       Tad Carter          496-9847
Historian        Susan Bond          482-5222
Technical        Mark Childers       432-9155
Regalia          Becky Hassler       874-1477
Clubs            Mike Ash            495-0307
Webmaster        Mike Haag           mikehmg@cox.net
The MGC
by Mark Saylor
Editor, American MGC Register

The MGC - a car that to this day evokes more emotion and debate than any other model that left the gates at Abingdon. Doomed by poor planning and execution, underdevelopment during its brief production run, internal politics, bad relations with the motoring press, and almost no marketing, it lasted only 2 years with a production run of a mere 9002 cars.

The MGC was compared to two great cars of that era – the Austin-Healey 3000 and the MGB – and was found to be lacking. It didn’t have the performance of the former, and lacked the “sportiness” of the latter. But one only needs to look at the two factory MGC GT “Sebring” aluminum-alloy bodied race cars, “Mabel” and “Romeo”, otherwise known by their English registration numbers MBL 546E and RMO 699F (see above), to see the true potential of the MGC. They were more than a match for anything in their class and proudly represented the MG marque at such legendary venues as the Targa Florio, Nurburgring and Sebring. One can only imagine what they would have been able to do if they had raced at Le Mans.

Fast forward to today. The MGC enjoys a “cult” status among the MG fraternity. Owners and enthusiasts are able to look past its initial shortcomings and see a superb grand-touring car that with a few modifications, like those done by the Downton (who’s “Stage 3”, or in Downton-speak the “Triple Carburetor Con-
available now than ever before. Also, MGC owners tend to be a tight-knit bunch who will go out of their way to help someone else put or keep their MGC on the road, whether that means help restoring the car, sourcing a part or providing invaluable technical advice.

The MGC also enjoys tremendous club support, whether it is Ginny and Barrie Cartmell in the UK with the MGC Register of the MG Car Club, or Keith Sanders and Mark Saylor of the American MGC Register.

Admit it – now you want an MGC! Well, find a Register member or MGC owner at a show near you! Chances are he or she will know where one is. Or simply contact any of the above.

To paraphrase the slogan for Morland’s Old Speckled Hen beer, the MGC is a “Most Gratifying Car”!

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**FOR SALE**

One of our members, Nancy O’Neal, is selling her 1979 MGB. If anyone is interested please contact her directly at (757) 477-7700 or nancyo@pinn.net.