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Business and/or social meetings are held monthly close to the middle of the month. Please refer to newsletter for the time and location.

## On The Mark

How's the saying go? "April showers bring May flowers". How about some warm sunny days and a little less rain? I know they say that we are still in a drought condition but please; can we string a few nice days together over a weekend? We had those few nice days a few weeks ago and now I'm spoiled. The other morning we had a frost and I had to dig the scraper out of the garage. I had already put it away for the year. Well, April is over now so maybe we'll finally dry out. As far as April for the WPTA, it was a busy and productive April. Let me recap for a minute.

First, thanks to Fred Williams for his help to get the Church Brew Works Event done. It was actually more like a rescue. We had a very nice turnout March 30th. We must have had at least 25 people come out and some even showed up in a Triumph. The food was good, the beer home grown and interesting, and the conversation centered around cars, my favorite way to spend an afternoon. I had thought that we might have a meeting but everyone was having so much fun I did not want to drag the day down with a meeting. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. Maybe next year we will go back and try it again.

We did actually have a meeting a few weeks later. We met again at the 911th Club in Moon Township. We had one of our better turnouts. Maybe it was just the weeknight that kept people away. It was very nice to see as many people that did come out. That also gave us the opportunity to finally get some business done.

Firstly, I'm proud to say that again the WPTA will be a sponsor of the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. The membership approved a \$4,000 contribution for our sponsorship this year. Also, we talked about, voted on and passed making an additional contribution to the Grand Prix charities. We have been making money from this event for several years and now that we have enough in reserve to still be a sponsor in a lean year, it is time to give some money back. The membership voted and passed a motion to make an additional \$2,000 contribution to the Vintage Grand Prix Charities. It's a good thing we do and I'm proud of the effort our group puts into this. Everybody should be very proud.

Last at the meeting, Ken Nelson made a presentation to the membership on a proposed Web page for the WPTA. Thanks Ken for volunteering to do this research and also being our Webmaster for at least the next two years. Everyone seemed very excited about being able to get up to date information about the WPTA over the Web. The membership voted and passed a motion for the design and setup of our very own Web page. The membership authorized an expenditure of up to \$2,000 for design, setup, and first year's subscription on the web. We have an address now, it is [wptriumph.org](http://wptriumph.org), there is not very much information on it right now, but soon we hope to get information about British Car Day listed and maybe a downloadable British Car Day registration flyer. So bookmark the site

and check back often. That was about it for the meeting. It was very productive and thanks to everyone who showed interest and came out. If anyone has any concerns or comments please feel free to give me a call or drop me an email. I'm always available to talk about the club. Well, that is about it for last month. Lets talk about this month.

May is going to be busy for our group. First off, historically, is our tune up clinic. Many thanks to Doug Foyle for his help with this every year and special thanks to Roy Miller, who lets us come out and make a mess in his place of business, and Scott Schober for his donation of a 55 gallon drum of 20w50. If you haven't contacted Doug about your project yet, it's too late. By the time you read this, except for those who receive their copy via email, this event will be over. If you are reading your emailed copy, hope to see you this Saturday May 4th at Roy Miller's shop in Sharpsburg.

There is also a General Business Meeting scheduled for Friday, May 10th and again, it is at the 911th Air Wing Club. I am not sure what business we have right now. We are about out of money for the rest of the year. We will begin talking about the summer events and maybe spend some time talking about British Car Day. It will be here before you know it. If we don't have any business we just may have to retire to the bar and have a beer.

Lastly, planned for this month is our yearly trek to Mecca. That's right ladies; your hubbies will be gone for a few days. I know how this breaks your heart. I know my wife actually packs the car and holds the door for me. It's time for our annual beer drinking, pizza eating, story telling, parts buying weekend. That's right; Import Carlisle is here. It's hard to believe that it's Carlisle weekend again. I hope everyone has a room and a roommate by now. If not, you may be too late, but you can try to still get a room by calling 717-243-5411 X146. If rooms are available make sure you mention you are from the WPTA. I can't wait, but my wings have been somewhat clipped this year. My vacation schedule has not turned out as I hoped, so I won't make it out till Saturday morning. Save me a spot on the cooler.

As for next month it also is going to be extremely busy. It's funny how every year we try to cram 12 months of activities into 5 months of nice weather. Maybe it's time to move out west and just forget winter. First, we have scheduled a General Business Meeting schedule for June 7th at the 911th Club. Also in June is TRA National on the 11th-13th, and the Vintage Races at Mid Ohio June 14th-16th, celebrating 50 years of Triumph, a weekend not to be missed. This summer is heating up.

As for my projects, I have the TR6 back together. The new bushing and front-end work has really made a difference. I have not had the opportunity to sit behind the wheel for an extended drive but the little I have been able to drive, it feels like night and day. The problem I'm having now is an annoying miss fire at speed. It is not quite running right and I'm looking forward to the tune up clinic to be able to spend some time under the hood. See ya there.

# MEANDER to MARIETTA

Saturday, June 1 (returning on June 2)

by Bud Osbourne

If a long, summer morning drive over lightly traveled, winding, enchanted country roads featuring breath-taking vistas, punctuated by quaint old farms and villages, and ending by lunch time in a beautiful, old river town featuring antique shops, museums, restaurants and a micro-brewery appeals to you (pause here for breath); then don't miss our (possibly) annual-but-certainly-once-every-five-years whether-we-need-it-or-not: Meander to Marietta!

We'll meet at the Village Grill Restaurant, on route 18, 1 mile south of Hickory, for breakfast around 8AM and start driving by no later than 9AM. Detailed route instructions and a map will be provided and we'll travel in groups of 3 or 4 cars. You will have a few route options tailored to your driving tastes and endurance. The Express (also known as the Little Old Ladies route) route will get you to downtown Marietta in an easy 3 hours. The Scenic (also known as the Driver's route) route will take somewhat longer; but if you are into driving your TR (or Porsche 356 or MG or Healey) on the kind of roads God and the engineers had in mind when they designed our cars; I recommend the Scenic route. Or, if you wish, you can easily jump from the Scenic to the Express route (or visa-versa). The Scenic route puts the Washington County Tour to shame while the Express route will also provide you with some beautiful scenery as it runs along the Ohio River.

Marietta is the oldest city in Ohio and is about the size of Washington, PA. However, unlike Washington, they've managed to keep the historic, downtown business and residential areas alive and in good repair. If you enjoy streets lined with big, old shade trees and big, late 19th century, American style architecture, you'll love Marietta. Best part is that virtually everything (including the Marietta Brewery and Restaurant) is within walking distance of the Lafayette Hotel, which is a prominent feature of the Historic District. Some featured attractions in or near Marietta are: The Henry Fearing House, The Castle, Henderson Hall, The Fenton Glass Factory, The Ohio River Museum (highly recommended by Bud the Barge Man), Campus Martius Museum, Historic Harmar Village, Harmar Station Historic Model Railroad Museum, and.... The Marietta Brewing Company. New for this year is an antique tool shop.

While you will be only 3 hours from Dahntahn Pittsburgh at the end of the day and could easily drive home by dark, you may wish to spend the night in Marietta at one of the many lodging places (including B&Bs). Therefore I've included a list of lodgings and telephone numbers so that you can call for reservations. The ideal place to stay is the Lafayette. (But, unless your name is Debbie Mooney, you'll need to book a room for two nights. We'll try to get them to relent and let us reserve a block of rooms for Saturday night, only). So please join us on June 1st for a relaxed, fun getaway.

## Marietta Hotels & Motels

Econo Lodge, 702 Pike St. 740-374-8481  
Hampton Inn, 508 Pike St. 740-373-5353  
Holiday Inn, 701 Pike St. 740-374-9660  
Knights Inn, 506 Pike St. 740-373-7373  
Lafayette Hotel, 101 Front St. 740-373-5522 or 800-331-9336  
Super 8 Motel, 46 Acme St. 740-374-8888 or 800-800-8000

## Bed & Breakfast

Buckley House, 332 Front St. 740-373-3080  
House on Harmar Hill, 300 Bellevue St. 740-374-5451

All of the motels on Pike St. are within a mile of the Lafayette. In fact, Pike St. ends at the intersection of Front St., on the corner upon which the Lafayette is located. Seems to me that some from our group stayed at The Buckley House the last time we did this event and found it to their liking.



## 50 YEARS OF TRIUMPH RACING

Jerry Van Vlack / jerryvv@att.net

Greetings, I missed writing last month's article, sorry if I disappointed anyone! To those of you who were not disappointed go on to the next article, or better yet write an article to replace this one, now there's a challenge.

Speaking of Challenges, I challenge everyone to travel to Mid-Ohio Race Course on June 14, 15 or 16 to see some great Triumph Racing History from both the past and present day unfold before your eyes. There have been several references to the event in various popular magazines and the planning continues as I write this article. In the last few years I met and have come to know the prime mover; Joe Alexander, and a few of his close associates who are the backbone of this event. These guys and a few gals have worked hard to make this a very memorable event and one that should not be missed.

WPTA will be well represented and we are hosting a tent in the Paddock, where racers and participants can gather for some conversation and maybe coffee and rolls in the morning if that can be arranged with the Mid-Ohio officials. We are hoping that it will be a place for the racers from England to gather. It will also be the Inaugural Gathering of the worldwide FOG members. Some have dubbed it FOG Stock - 1. Will there be more?

Another advantage of the tent is that it will be a great spot to congregate if it rains. Rain, is always a possibility but the mention of it will hopefully keep it away. With all of the racecars and spectators planning to be at Mid-Ohio, there is a further concern that the EPA will declare the paddock an environmental hazard at the end of the race weekend. At least the dust will be kept to a minimum.

If you are planning to participate in the TRA National, they have conveniently scheduled their event to be during the week prior to Mid-Ohio. The TRA National will be in Wadsworth, Ohio just to the west of Akron, OH and close to I-71 that will take you right to Mid-Ohio in about an hour's drive. Easy stuff.

More information about the weekend can be found at the Friends of Triumph web site [www.fot-racing.com](http://www.fot-racing.com). The site shows close to 80 Triumph racecars signed up for the race. Check out their web site, there are a lot of interesting information pieces and some great photos and stories. Directions and lodging information can be found at Mid-Ohio's web site, [www.midohio.com](http://www.midohio.com). Tickets can be purchased on line and there may be a discount if purchased early. Check out the web sites for more information.

I should also mention that the racing is not limited to Triumphs. Over the course of the weekend you will see all forms of vintage racecars that have ever raced. There is something for everyone, from small-bore open wheel cars, the whole range of SCCA Production racecars, LeMans cars, and even historic NASCAR Winston Cup cars. Don't forget too that the Pits and Paddock areas are open to all spectators and you can freely roam from the spectator areas to the pits and paddock on a single admission ticket. Walk up to the drivers and crews and ask questions. Most of them will be more than happy to tell you all about their piece of history. There are lots of stories to be heard about the past glory days of LeMans, Sebring, Riverside, Watkins Glen, and other tracks where these cars have pounded the pavement.

Be there even if you're not a race fan. I guarantee you will have a great time.

# Res TR ations

by Ken Nelson

One of the most recent restorations by WPTA members belongs to Dave and Joyce Parks. Some of you may recall the Park's TR3A, that yellow "driver" with the black racing stripe. You are in for a real treat when you see that car now, after a concours quality, full frame off restoration.

Back around 1995 Dave surprised Joyce with the '58 TR3, commissioned as TS41003. The car was yellow, which was Joyce's favorite color. After a quick suspension rebuild, it became Joyce's daily driver to work (there's a spouse that is into LBC's). During the first winter, Dave completed a total engine and transmission rebuild. After several years of motoring to many triumph events, the decision was made, go for the full restoration to concours standards.

Except for a few months off to build a new garage, the next three years were spent totally rebuilding and restoring this TR3 to the beautiful condition of today. The car was an original Pennsylvania car; Dave bought it in Hershey, and believes it was sold new from a dealer in Hazelton, PA. Original snapshots came with the car, showing it in stock condition till about 1967. After that came years of racing on the SCCA circuit, more photos show her in race competition at Bridgehampton Long Island and Summit Point,



WV. Next, this 3A became a hill climber.

When Dave bought the car, it had been converted back to street legal. However, a good bit of the restoration involved removing frame modifications from her racing days. Several of the bonus touches were added after the Parks vacationed in the UK; under the bonnet is a vintage Trico glass washer bottle, the near impossible to find correct fan belt and original Champion ignition wire set. Finally, the project was completed with a fresh layer of PPG Deltron in a pale yellow color and a completely new interior in buckskin tan. Knock off 60 spoke Dayton wire wheels finish off this head turning car. All work, with the exception of chrome, was completed in the Parks' garage.

Dave chuckles as he calls this car the "thrasher". Anyone who has ever completed such a detailed restoration will understand why at times he felt thrashed. But both Dave and Joyce talk more about the people that helped in this restoration than about the car itself. Dave said without Dan Green's countless hours of work, this would have not been possible. The bodywork and paint job was also a group effort, with Jim and Joni Shaw, Dan and Linda Green and Mark and Sherry Phillips all pitching in.

If you see a shiny, pale yellow TR3A at British Car Day, Hartwood or the Summer Party, you are likely to see Dave and Joyce standing next to it. This is a beautiful example of a completely restored Triumph. Congratulations to Dave and Joyce, we are proud to have your car in the WPTA livery.



## ~ Events Of Other Interest ~

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>May 4-5</b>    | <b>British Swap Meet &amp; Car Show</b><br>Wadsworth OH, Jack Akers 1800-334-6566<br>Email: lynn@ahaleay.com<br>Web: www.ahbugeye.com/neoahc |
| <b>June 11-13</b> | <b>Triumph Register of America National</b><br>(In conjunction with Mid Ohio Races)  |
| <b>June 14-16</b> | <b>Vintage Races, Mid Ohio</b><br>Celebrating 50 Years of "Triumph"  |
| <b>Sept 6-8</b>   | <b>US Vintage Gran Prix, Watkins Glen, NY</b>  |
| <b>Sept 15</b>    | <b>British Cars at Hartwood</b><br>Jaguar Cars of Pittsburgh   |
| <b>Sept 22</b>    | <b>Metting of the Marques 2002</b><br>Boiling Springs PA 717-259-0180  |

## Classified

FOR SALE: 74 TR-6 parts car, TR-4 transmission, extra TR-6 doors, trunk lid, rear-end, engine, blue seats, etc. Bill Flasche 724-935-0872 or jflasche@juno.com

## -APOLOGY

by the Editor

I apologize to Duggie for my comment in the April issue of this newsletter. As you know Doug is the event chairman for the annual tune up clinic at Roy Miller's garage. As is customary, Doug wrote an informative article in the March issue and was to have written a follow up article for the April issue. However, there was no article, I thought, when we put the April issue to bed. So I reprinted his March article and made an editorial comment.

It turns out that Doug had actually sent his April article to me by e mail the day before the deadline and I failed to notice it. So, hopefully, nobody mistoke my comments as suggesting that Doug is a procrastinator, unreliable, undependable, or otherwise would postpone, put off, stall or delay his obligations until the last minute.



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1977



## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

647 Royce Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15243

A CHAPTER OF THE VINTAGE TRIUMPH REGISTER  
A CENTER OF THE TRIUMPH REGISTER OF AMERICA

**May, 2002  
Issue of the  
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## **Import Carlisle, May 17, 18 & 19th May Meeting, Friday the 10th**

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### **~WPTA~ Calendar of Events**

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|-------------------|---|
| <b>May 10</b>     | <b>General Business Meeting at the 911th</b><br>8 pm Mark Phillips 412-561-5972                               |
| <b>May 17-19</b>  | <b>WPTA at Import Carlisle</b><br>Ed Major for rooms 412-488-1600 X207<br>Jim Shaw to sell parts 412-262-3878 |
| <b>May 28</b>     | <b>Newsletter Meeting,</b><br>5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar   |
| <b>June 1-2</b>   | <b>Meander to Marietta (Overnight Run)</b><br>Bud Osbourne 724-356-4464                                       |
| <b>June 7</b>     | <b>General Business Meeting at the 911th</b><br>8 pm Mark Phillips 412-561-5972                               |
| <b>June 24</b>    | <b>Newsletter Meeting,</b><br>5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar   |
| <b>July 13</b>    | <b>356burgh Washington County Tour</b><br>Bud Osbourne 724-356-4464   |
| <b>July 20</b>    | <b>British Car Day at Schenley Park</b><br>Mark Phillips 412-561-5972   |
| <b>July 20-21</b> | <b>Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix</b>   |
| <b>July 30</b>    | <b>Newsletter Meeting, (Tuesday)</b><br>5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar                                 |
| <b>Aug 9-11</b>   | <b>The Roadster Factory Summer Party</b>  |
| <b>Aug 26</b>     | <b>Newsletter Meeting,</b><br>5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar   |
| <b>Sept 15</b>    | <b>Dogs with the Fogs</b>   |
| <b>Sept 21</b>    | <b>Anniversary Run</b><br>Richard Dick  |
| <b>Sept 30</b>    | <b>Newsletter Meeting,</b>  |

## **May Meeting**

**Friday, May 10, 2002 at the  
911th Air Group Club**

The Club is located in Building 110 on the 911th air base. The base is adjacent to the airport off the Parkway West. Meeting starts at 8 PM. Arrive earlier for dinner.

