

Established
1977



www.wptriumph.org

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Zōos Nūz

April, 2003

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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

I'm sitting here putting together my article for the newsletter and I've just noticed that we have four events in the next month before our next newsletter. We have one of every kind, a meeting, a tech session, a fun rally and the tune up clinic. What a great month! I'm a little disappointed that I'll miss the first two. Sherry and I have booked a week off at our favorite vacation spot, Sanibel Island Florida, so I'll be toasting everyone with a few cold ones while the Gulf waters wash up over my feet. It's a tough life but someone has to do it. I'll be back for the Schweitzer's run and Doug's Tune up Clinic.

Looking at our 2003 calendar in general, there shouldn't be any complaints this year about there not being enough WPTA sponsored things to do. Your Vice President, Gary Fredo has done a great job this year of asking, harassing, bugging, begging, pleading, promising, arm-twisting, and threatening members to plan and sponsor events. This summer should be one of our best ever, thanks Gary. I can't wait!

Before I get too far ahead of myself, last month we had our spring thaw event, the Church Brew Works on March 15th. This event is always an event that our membership turns out for and this year was no exception. A special thanks to Dexter Stoltz for sponsoring and planning the event. This is always a great event to find out what everyone has been doing over the winter. Most of the usual suspects showed up and several new people came out to join the fun. We even spotted several Triumphs in the parking lot. It was a very nice day with friends, I hope everyone had a great time, I did.

As I stated earlier we have four events planned for this month, the first being a General Business Meeting on April 11th. Due to the current political situation the 911th Air Wing Club will not be available so we have had to find a new meeting location and I think we might have found the right place. Don Accamando did some research and found a restaurant that might work. It's called the Sharp Edge on Route 60 in Crafton just past the Thornburg Bridge as you head towards Pittsburgh. See Don's article inside for details but it sounds like our kind of place, thanks Don for your help. Also, as I stated earlier, I'll miss the meeting but your VP, Gary Fredo, will bring the membership up to date. Let me know how it turns out.

Next on our schedule, April 12th, Bud Osbourne is sponsoring our second Tech Session of the year. In February, Jim Shaw showed us how to make sure we can stop our cars; this month Bud will show us how to make our cars go faster. Bud, along with his lovely assistants, Ed and Bruce, will discuss the finer points of carburetor rebuilds. See Bud's article inside for all the details. This is another I'll miss, but drink one for me.

Third on the list is a rally put together by Wil and Linda Schweitzer for April 26th. Wil has filled me in, and this one sounds great. See Wil's description on the web page, we'll be home from Florida for this one, see you there. Thanks Wil.

Last up, while it is in early May it won't make it in our next

newsletter due to publishing dates so I'm counting it as an April event. Our annual Tune Up Clinic is scheduled for May 3rd. Doug Foyle is our sponsor again this year, thanks Doug. If you're a regular you know how this works if not show up and find out. If you are planning a project on your car that you

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April 12 Tech Session

by Bud Osbourne

On Saturday, April 12 at 10 AM, there will be a tech session, on SU and Zenith-Stromberg carburetors at Bud Osbourne's, near Hickory. Join Bud, along with Professors Stutzman and Woods for an in-depth look at the inner workings of those frequently cursed (but, in reality, usually blameless) SU and Zenith-Stromberg carburetors.

We'll start out with a talk on the theory and operation of said units, followed by step by step trouble-shooting, disassembly, cleaning, reconditioning, reassembly, installation and tuning of these fascinating devices. Lunch will be served. Beer and other liquid refreshments are left up to the attendees (beware: Bud's garage cats will attempt to drink unattended beer). Members of the Greater Pittsburgh MG Club are also invited. There may even be a spy or two from the Porsche 356 group, trying to learn why SUs work much better than whatever Porsche was using during the same period.

So, bring your curiosity, questions and appetite to Bud's on April 12 and the above mentioned, esteemed professors will attempt to solve your carburetor problems or thoroughly confuse you, depending on how much beer we give them. Also, in the event of cold weather, the garage is heated (translation: weather is no excuse - BE THERE).

Schweitzer For President Campaign To Visit West Virginia

April 26, 2003

Wil invites members and friends to join him on a tour to the fringe of the territory. Departure is at 10:00 A.M. from the Sunoco station on Rt. 50, just west of the I-79 interchange at Bridgeville. Others may join at 10:30 A.M. in Hickory, at the Cherry Hill Grill on Rt. 50. We will drive our foreign toys over back roads to Moundsville, where we will examine some smaller American toys at The Marx Toy Museum, and tour The Former West Virginia Penitentiary. Return will be via I-70 to Super Gourmet, a restaurant approximately one mile north of Washington, PA., for dinner, at about 6 P.M. For any wanting to join the tour only at dinner, the Super Gourmet is located at the shopping center at the third traffic light north of I-70 exit 19, Murtland Ave., Route 19 North.

Meeting moved to a new location

by Don Accamando

Change is good! This credo is often echoed in the halls of business, but its' application to the WPTA applies here as well. With the current world situation, and the war with Iraq ongoing, our standard meeting location, the 911th Air base in Coraopolis, is off limits. With that in mind, it was necessary to secure an alternate site for the April club meeting.

A few months back, during the cold Christmas shopping season, I stumbled quite accidentally upon a great pub in Crafton. This is not your average shot and a beer joint mind you. I say this because it took me almost 30 minutes to determine which imported beer to sample first. The Sharp Edge, located at the confluence of Steubenville Pike, and Steuben Street, (formerly the location of Maggie Mae's Creek House) has been voted the best Belgium beer bar in the United States. Once my cold "UAB", an English lager, was in hand, I took a few moments to check the rest of the joint out.

The menu is excellent, and as mentioned earlier, the on tap beer selection is outstanding, with at least 30 imported beers. After enjoying a Stella Artois, and a burger, I asked if there was a room to conduct a meeting. I was escorted downstairs where I found an average sized room with a large oak table that would seat 20 comfortably. It was the managements feeling that we could conduct business there, while enjoying a few ales and food entrees after. It was even hinted that a few spots might be lined up for vintage Triumph iron.

So come and meet with us at "The Sharp Edge Creekhouse", 288 West Steuben Street, Thornburg Bridge, (412) 922-8118, on April 11th. Bring the appetite and room for some quality hops. See you there.

So You Wanna Run A WPTA Event

By Ed Major

Over the history of the club I have attended many well run WPTA events. Most events become memorable when a lot of club members come out and bring their cars along. So in the interest of helping to gain participation at club sponsored events, I have put together this list of what I have observed over the past 25 years.

I guess you start with planning, choose the routes (if a driving event) carefully and try to stay off unpaved or overcrowded roads. Also remember that our members come from all over Western PA so the more central a location you start the event, the more likely they are to come out, make sure the places you go to or stop at are informed that there is the possibility of a group being at their place. Always check the route close to the date of the event, I always tell the story of when Fred and Doug had Penn Dot remove a detour the day of a rallye and everyone got lost. Good driving directions with plenty of landmarks or mileage points is another item, this will add to everyone's comfort level during the event, nothing is worse than being lost in a strange place.

Next you need to advertise, advertise, advertise, at least two Dzus Dnuz articles before the event. Make sure your writing answers the questions of who, what, where, when and even why. Even the best ideas never succeed without good advertising. You also want to talk up the event at club meetings; check with a few members to see if your ideas will be well received. And, if you plan to repeat the event the following year, it helps for everyone to see it one more time with a wrap up article in the Dnuz and even a picture or two.

These steps won't guarantee a successful meeting or event but I'm sure they will definitely help.

Carlisle Reminder

May 16, 17 & 18, 2003.

By Ed Major

I checked with the Best Western Inn in Carlisle and found only two reservations made for the big event. At this point I would like to remind all to make their reservations ASAP to insure a room. I already heard from another club asking if we had any extra rooms as there usual place was booked, so get on the stick and call the Inn at 717-243-5411 and tell them you are with the W. Pa Triumphs and that we have a block of rooms reserved. Rooms are available for \$75/night, that means if you hook up with someone you can stay for a cost effective \$37.50 per night, as all rooms will have two double beds.

Reservations must be made before 5-1-03, as they will release any unreserved rooms on that date. Jim Shaw will be coordinating the space for parts sales so give him a ring at 412-262-3878. Come on out and help me celebrate my Anniversary

Triumphantune

By Doug

Saturday, May 3rd 8:00AM at Roy Miller's garage in Sharpsburg is when and where the driving season begins with the WPTA Tune Up Clinic.

John Swauger from The Roadster Factory will be there with a wide assortment of tune up pieces. There will be discounts on all parts sold at the clinic. If you place an order in advance of the event, notify the sales person that it is for the Tune Up clinic and John will deliver it to the garage at no charge.

Scott Schober has very kindly donated a barrel of 20w-50 for oil changes.

Every one should plan to attend. All those planning to work on a car should notify Doug Foyle at (724)452-5218.

So stop by and prepare your car for the driving season; have lunch and meet new members.

Hope to see you there.

Take a Look at the New TRA!

There is a new enthusiasm within TRA. We are committed to delivering to our members a quality newsletter, 4 issues in one calendar year.

To join, send \$25 to:
Ron Hartley
28342 Lake Logan Road
Logan, OH 43138

Don't miss the next TRA newsletter, rejoin today!

The First Triumph TR2

Membership Forms available at: www.triumphregister.com

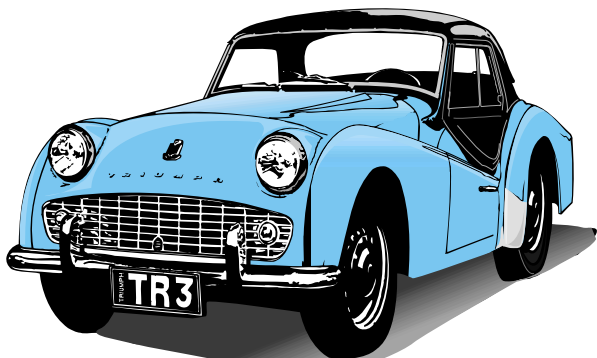
On The Mark *continued from page one*

want some advice or think you might need some help, please contact Doug. He can answer questions about what is required for your planned repairs, and he will make sure you have the help you need. I need to thank several members that are lending a helping hand. First, a special thank you to Roy Miller for letting us use his place of business, Roy Miller and Son Plumbing, as our garage for the day, also thank you to John Swauger from the Roadster Factory who will be there to supply the parts you will need, and lastly, thank you to Scott Schober for donating the barrel of Castrol 20W50. We'll see you there.

While not this month, there is an event that you have to mark on the calendar, our annual trek to Mecca. That's right; Import Carlisle is just around the corner, May 15 through the 18th. This is the weekend where the best Triumph stories are made, repeated and embellished over a few brews and then retold again with no shred of truth in them. Stories that with a simple phrase are sometimes unfortunately relived, phrases like, the lightning storm, Ed stranded in Bruce's car with a case of beer and a state trooper, Gary buys a new truck, I wish it would stop raining, the wife comes to Carlisle, Mark, how much money do you have on you, Dan either sell something or polish something, Ed where's Bruce, Bruce where's Ed, Corn soup and a ham sandwich, anybody got a quarter, I know where there is a barn full of Triumphs, Tommy put your shirt on, pizza night, the Indian Motel, a pint of Eddy's double Dutch chocolate ice cream for breakfast, Harv if we give the part away we'd be further ahead and Wil, you paid how much for the part. Come on out for a day or the entire week and find out the story behind these phrases.

Well lastly, with all this club activity I guess it's about time to get a car running. Last year most of you know the problems I'd been having with the TR6. Well I'm hoping that is all behind me now but I haven't had the opportunity to start the car yet this year. Also, at the end of last year I discovered several issues with the clutch hydraulic system, which required me to remove the slave, master and pedal box to realign the components this winter. I am thinking what might have happened when I put the car back together three years ago was that I might not have tightened all the components sufficiently, and over the past three years things have become misaligned and caused excessive wear, and not giving me the total throw of the clutch. The Roadster Factory box showed up last week and I'm hoping in a week or two I'll have the TR6 out for it's first drive of the year. As far as work on Sherry's TR4, it is slow going. I have to find a job that does not interfere with my hobby, or maybe I'll just hit the Power Ball.

See ya soon.



~WPTA~ Calendar of Events

- April 11** **Monthly Meeting at The Sharp Edge**
See article in this issue
- April 12** **April Tech Session, Carbs,**
Bud Osbourne 724-356-4464
- Apr 26** **WV Campaign Tour**
Wil Schweitzer 724-356-7341
- Apr 21** **Newsletter Meeting,**
5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar
- May 3** **Tune Up Clinic**
Douge Foyle 724-452-5218
- May 15-18** **WPTA at Import Carlisle**
Ed Major for rooms 412-488-1600 X207
Jim Shaw to sell parts 412-262-3878
- May 24** **Butler County Tour**
Don Harkus 724-284-9172
- June 7** **Quaker Steak & Lube**
Jim Underwood 412-929-8187
- July 12** **Washington County Tour**
Bud Osbourne 724-356-4464
- July 19** **British Car Day at Schenley Park**
Mark Phillips 412-561-5972
- July 19-20** **Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix**
- Aug 8-10** **The Roadster Factory Summer Party**
- Sept 13** **Anniversary Run**
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- Sept 20** **Dogs with Fogs Mk III**
Ed Woods 412-486-4294
or Harvey Woods 412-486-2549
- Oct 18-19** **Fall Leaf Tour**
Don Harkus 724-284-9172

~ Events Of Other Interest ~

- May 3-4** **British Swap Meet & Car Show**
Independence Oh, Ken Hiller 216-701-5640
www.northeastohioaustinhealey.com
- May 25-31** **Drive Your British Car**
Unofficial National
Drive Your British Car week
- June 19-21** **TRA National Meet**
- June 20-22** **Vintage Races, Mid Ohio**
- June 27-29** **International Triumph Challenge**
Mosport Ontario, Triumph featured marque
- July 12** **Arthritis Cruise In & Classic Car Show**
Dublin OH, www.arthritisautoshow.org
Special British area
- Aug 7-10** **VTR National Meet**
In conjunction with
The Roadster Factory Summer Party
- Sept 5-7** **US Vintage Gran Prix, Watkins Glen,**
- Sept 6** **British Car Festival, Altoona**
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
or Will Schweitzer 724-356-7341
- Sept 20** **British Cars at Hartwood**
Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh

Ohio Car Cruise

by Bill Blake

Hi, I am on the show committee for the Arthritis Cruise In and Classic Car Show to be held July 12, 2003 in Dublin, Oh www.arthritisautoshow.org.

We have a separate area for British cars hosted by the Jaguar Club and Triumph club. It is a great fun event and most of the cars are on grass! Entertainment is a live band with dancing and food and icy cold draft beer all day. Please check our web site and list us if you would. I will do the same for your show the weekend after in Schenley!



On the left, Ed Major and Bill McDougall ----- and on the right, Ed Woods and Dexter Stoltz

The photo at right, some of the “hefty” tools needed to do a TR3 front end job. This job is not for the faint at heart!

McDougall's Front End

by Bruce Stutzman

Dexter Stoltz, Ed Woods, Ed Major and I dropped by Bill McDougall's garage the other day to check out the front suspension and steering on his TR3A, keeping in mind that the front suspension and steering on any TR3 that hasn't been rebuilt needs to be rebuilt. No different with Bill's car, so we got to it.

Bill rewarded us with Penn Pilsner and pizza. I guess it doesn't take much to keep us working.

When we left the front apron was even off the car (necessary to remove the steering box) and Bill looked a little green.

But, as Bill later said, “I am still in a state of shock but am looking forward to the final product- a car that can be driven safely.”



Thr Triumph Chronicles

Seat Belt Replacements

by Mort Binstock

I believe in seat belts! I believe that seat belts provide an important layer of safety. Therefore I became quite concerned when my 30 year old TR-6's seat belt webbing became worn. The webbing fabric was faded, tattered at its edges, and looked thin. It just looked worn, no better way to describe it.

Digressing before providing solutions, I would like to believe that the TR-6 is a safe vehicle. Several incidents support my belief. In TR-6's heyday, I knew 3 youthful drivers who pushed TRs to their limits often with bad wrecks. In all of these occasions they fortunately survived unscathed.

I also remember years ago reading a National Safety Council accident report concerning a woman who hit a tree head on at 50 mph demolishing her TR-6. She was unhurt.

I wondered why, on a clear dry day with a superb handling automobile, she lost control and hit the tree. So did the police. She responded to their question, “I was trying to commit suicide”. The police responded, “Then why did you wear your seat belt”?

As a '73 TR-6 owner I immediately knew the answer. “I

could not stand the noise of the seat belt warning buzzer”, she responded. A buzzer sounds in gear if the belt is not fastened.

She sounded like a born loser to me. She couldn't do anything right. She also wasted a perfectly good TR-6!

I did some research into my worn belt problem. The Roadster Factory (TRF) sells belts. Their belts are functionally similar to my original belts but not identical in color nor in function. The drivers right hand coupling on the original belt is a part of the car, the replacement belt provides a loose belt.

I liked the original integrated belt better therefore opted to get my belts re-webbed. I had the work done by Ssnake-Oyl ProductsTM. I just received my belts back. They did a most excellent job of re-webbing them. They also disassembled the reels and cleaned their internals. The reels now work well, the webbing is fresh and strong.

I strongly recommend that you check out your belts and if they are worn that you either replace them with belts from TRF or have Ssnake-Oyl ProductsTM re-web them. Ssnake-Oyl ProductsTM can be contacted at:

Ssnake-Oyl ProductsTM , 114 N Glenwood Blvd, Tyler TX 75702 1-800-284-7777, www.ssnake-oyl.com

e-mail: questions@ssnake-oyl.com

Until next time, enjoy driving your Triumph!

Mort

Editor's warning: In his comments which follow, Jim Underwood divulges some of the most closely held secrets of the club and its' members. For some of us if Jim's article falls in the wrong hands, i.e. our wives', we could be in serious "do do". I strongly suggest that all copies of this issue be immediately destroyed after reading. I seriously considered printing this issue on rice paper so it could be quickly ingested before falling into the wrong hands but it would not have survived the sorting machines at the post office. It is certainly a good thing that Jim has not been entrusted with any of our national secrets: he's clearly a sucker for a pretty face.

Triumph Wife, Another Perspective...

By Jim Underwood

Erin, first of all, congrats on becoming Mrs. Scott Permar and a "New Triumph Wife". Nancy and I got a chuckle out of your article however you missed an important facet of this wife thing. You see several WPTA members, myself included, have actually acquired an additional Triumph or two because the wife most certainly needs at least one of her own. These are frequently referred to as (insert wife's name here)'s car.

This is actually a thinly disguised means to get her to agree to more than one Triumph in the stable. It's sort of like buying her a big screen TV for your anniversary that he and his buddies watch sports on.

Some have been so successful at this strategy that they now possess an entire fleet of Brit iron. Others have carried the concept even farther by supposedly buying cars for their children. A particular advantage to this angle is that large monetary expenditures on said vehicle are now easier to justify since after all, "it's for YOUR car honey". The downside is that if you ever decide to liquidate the missus's car, she will have to agree to the sale. Not likely! I think someone once said that if he ever sells his daughter's Sprite, she threatens not to place him in a good rest home.

The last paragraph in your article also mentions letting "her" touch the car and tools??? I for one am somewhat perplexed by the notion that this is something that she would want to do in the first place. I can assure you that Nancy, along with a lot of other WPTA wives that come to mind, have absolutely no desire to touch any of our tools or wash, wax, clean or do any work on any of our cars. The few times I have enlisted her aid have usually ended up in some sort of unpleasant rile. It sounds to me that Scott is one very lucky fellow to have found someone actually interested in the work side of the hobby. It would be just perfect if you also owned a pub or perhaps a beer distributor! Just kidding and please don't sic the National Organization for Women on me.

By the way, I have just moved "Nancy's" TR8 back into the shop to continue with the collision repairs as well as install some performance upgrades that I'm sure she will be thrilled with. Wink-Wink.

Church Brew House



Established
1977



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

2348 Weston Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15241

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**April, 2003
Issue of the
Dzus Dnuz**

April 11th - Monthly Meeting at the Sharp Edge
April 12th - Carburator Clinic at Bud Osbournes
April 26th - Moundsville WV Tour

April 11th Monthly Meeting at The SharpEdge Crafton

See WPTA Web Page for exact Directions

April 12 Tech Session at Bud Osbournes's Starts at 10 AM

See WPTA Web Page for exact Directions

April 26 WV Tour by Wil Schweitzer Starts at 10 AM

See WPTA Web Page or article for exact Directions

