

Established  
1977



www.wptriumph.org

# Dzus Druz T

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Zōos Nūz

May, 2006

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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.

## Where There's A Wil

The busy event season has begun, with three events this month. First is the always popular gathering at the Coventry Inn on Saturday, May 6th. The following Saturday, May 13th, is the WPTA Flea Market and the weekend after that is Import Carlisle. June has five interesting events, including one on June 4th, the last day of British Car Week. Instead of a picnic, I decided that British Car Week should be celebrated with a driving event. For more information see the individual articles for each event.

I was very pleased with the turnout for the tune-up clinic, on such a damp day. There were about twenty-five WPTA members present and about twenty of them drove their Triumph cars to the event. I was especially pleased to see Cathy Fisher with her Spitfire 1500. Cathy is a longtime member of WPTA and the original owner of her car. Women who buy Triumphs seem to keep them for a long time. My wife Linda is also the original owner of her Spitfire. Many thanks to Roy Miller for the use of his building and to Doug Foyle for arranging the clinic.

WPTA is a Center of the Triumph Register of America, a national Triumph organization that is having it's annual meeting from June 14th to 18th, in southeastern Ohio. Many of us remember the good times that we had at prior national meetings, including some that WPTA hosted. I was hoping to attend, but family obligations have ruled that out. I suggest that you visit the Triumph Register of America at [www.triumphregister.com](http://www.triumphregister.com) to see the itinerary. Registration deadline is May 15th, so act now.

Club identity items are available. I will have grill badges (\$40.00), patches (\$1.00), and denim shirts (\$25.00) for sale at the Coventry Inn gathering. I will also be taking orders for name badges (\$5.00 each), or send me a check for faster delivery.

*Wil*

## Mini Carlisle

Once again WPTA will hold it's "Mini-Carlisle" down on the South Side of Pittsburgh on **May 13th**. It will run from 8 am until noon. We will then retire to one of the many local Pubs for lunch. Bring your parts, bring some money.

## Import Carlisle

By Ed Major

**May 19, 20 and 21, 2006.** I have reserved 14 rooms at the Howard Johnson for WPTA members, just a bit north of the Turnpike exit at \$85 per night (discount coupons given for breakfast). If you split with a friend it's a mere \$43. The Inn has a good restaurant and a great bar! The hotel will hold available rooms until **May 4th**; the rooms are reserved for Friday and Saturday nights.

You can reserve your room by calling 717-243-5411 and telling them you are with the Western Pa Triumph Association.

## Coventry Inn Gathering

WPTA Members Are Invited to The Coventry Inn

All WPTA Members are cordially invited to a party at The Coventry Inn on Saturday, May 6th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Drinks and snacks will be served. Likely it will be appetizers, salad, pizza, beer and wine.

The Coventry Inn will reopen in the autumn of this year, and we have spent some time painting and fixing up this winter. This event is a thank you from Charles and Staff at The Roadster Factory for WPTA's past, present, and future assistance during Summer Party.

We hope that all of you can attend and bring your sports cars!

Charles A. Runyan  
April 17, 2006

P.S. In case you haven't been to The Coventry Inn, it is located at 11 North Sixth Street, Indiana, Penna. Note that the sign is down for repainting, but Coventry is the only black and white English Tudor building on the block.

## British Car Week Event

by Wil Schweitzer

British Car Week, May 27th to June 4th, has become an annual tradition that occurs during the last week of May. This special week is intended for all British car owners to get their British cars out on the roads in their little corner of the world, and give them the exposure they so rightly deserve. To commemorate the wonderful British automobiles of the past I have planned a scenic drive on Sunday, June 4th, to one of my favorite destinations, Oglebay Park.

The drive will leave from my home in Hickory at 2 P.M. Hickory is on Route 50, twelve miles west of the Bridgeville exit of I-79. It is also twelve miles north of Washington via Route 18. From Route 50 turn onto McCarrell Road, across from the Mt. Pleasant Fire Company and then take the first left, which is Grandview Avenue. My home is the fourth on the left, number 20. Remember your name tag.

## BCD Workers

By Jim Stoffel

I would like to remind all members of the need for workers for British Car Day. In the past we have had a great turnout to help set up the field on Friday and park cars on Saturday. As Field Marshall this year I would like to have a list of people I can count on for certain assignments. We will need more people on Saturday because of the new entrance to the field. Setting up the tent and laying out the field is also a fun time on Friday the 14th, with the club supplying pizza. Please contact me at [jsma@connecttime.net](mailto:jsma@connecttime.net) or at 724-443-6695 if you can help.

# Membership

by Richard Dick

Welcome back to the club David and Lenore Angelo from St. Benedict, PA. They have a '70 Spitfire in good condition and an '80 Spitfire in poor condition. We are so glad you decided to rejoin us. Welcome John and Caron Viglianco from Lakewood, OH who have a '76 TR6 in good condition and they are the original owners. As I understand this membership is a birthday gift to John from Caron. Our VP, Gary Fredo, and John are old friends reacquainted as a result of this membership. Welcome to Tracey Smart and Wayne Camper from Allison Park, PA who have a '60 TR3. We are so glad you have joined us and hope you do come to the events this year.

# Clueless Rally

by Richard Dick

This is a reminder to mark your calendars for this first ever in this area clueless rally on Saturday June 10th. You can pick up your badge, nom de plume, and general instructions anytime between 12:00 noon and 1:00 PM in the parking lot of Kings Family Restaurant, located on Route 19 South at the corner of McClelland Road, Washington County. Kings is located approximately 2 miles south of McMurray Road (Donaldson's Crossroads), and two miles north of Route 519. You can use Map Quest to plot your route to the starting point by entering the intersection and the zip code 15317. A drivers' meeting will be held at 12:50 PM to answer questions. First cars will leave at 1:00 PM, but if you are a little late, you can catch up. Please see page 2 of the April Dzus Dnuz for the complete article.

# National Pike Festival

by Richard Dick

If you are not going to Carlisle and are looking for something to do on May 20th in the afternoon, I have the solution. The National Pike Festival in Brownsville will have an area for us to show our cars from 1 to 5 pm along the river and all are invited to come. I will be at the Sheetz Gas Station on Main Street in Monongahela at 12 noon to lead a group of Triumphs and MGs down to Brownsville, or you can just drive directly there. The Castle will be open for all to see. Come and enjoy the afternoon. For more information or questions contact me at rdick@midmon.com or 724.379.5172.



# Accurate Tool Definitions

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, splattering it against that freshly painted part you were drying.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar calluses in about the time it takes you to say, "SH\*\*!!!"

**ELECTRIC HAND DRILL:** Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

**PLIERS:** Used to round off hexagonal bolt heads.

**HACKSAW:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle: It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence

its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**WISE GRIP PLIERS:** Used to round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH:** Used almost entirely for setting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside a wheel hub you're trying to get the bearing race out of.

**WHITWORTH SOCKETS:** Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16 or 1/2 socket you've been searching for the last 15 minutes.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new disk brake pads, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**EIGHT-FOOT LONG DOUGLAS FIR 4X4:** Used to attempt to lever an automobile upward off a hydraulic jack handle.

**TWEEZERS:** A tool for removing splinters of wood, especially Douglas fir.

**TELEPHONE:** Tool for calling your neighbor to see if he has another hydraulic floor jack.

**SNAP-ON GASKET SCRAPER:** Theoretically useful as a sandwich tool for spreading mayonnaise; used mainly for removing dog feces from your boots.

**E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR:** A tool that snaps off in bolt holes and is ten times harder than any known drill bit.

**TWO-TON HYDRAULIC ENGINE HOIST:** A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of bolts and fuel lines you forgot to disconnect.

**CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 16-INCH SCREWDRIVER:** A large motor mount prying tool that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end without the handle.

**AVIATION METAL SNIPS:** See hacksaw.

**TROUBLE LIGHT:** The home builder's own tanning booth. Sometimes called drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin," which is not otherwise found under cars at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105-mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More

often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the lids of old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and squirt oil on your shirt; can also be used, as the name implies, to round off the interiors of Phillips screw heads.

**AIR COMPRESSOR:** A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to an Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 70 years ago by someone at Ford, and rounds them off.

**PRY BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to cut hoses 1/2 inch too short.

**HAMMER:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer now-a-days is used as a kind of divining rod to locate expensive parts not far from the object we are trying to hit.

**MECHANIC'S KNIFE:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on boxes containing upholstered items, chrome-plated metal, plastic parts and the other hand not holding the knife.

# Changing To An Alternator

by Bruce Stutzman

Triumphs built through 1967 were equipped with generators. They switched to the new technology of alternators in 1968.

Some of us who put a lot of miles on our early cars have switched to alternators. Why did we make the change? Should you? What are the benefits?

1. Alternators make more current than generators. Our Lucas generators put out 19 to 22 amps. Lucas alternators on the TR6 put out 28 to 36 amps. The General Motors alternator that some of us are using puts out 65 amps. Is more better? The obvious answer is - only if you need it. You will surely never need 65 amps. The reason we use that alternator is because it is cheap, readily available at any auto parts store and easily adapted to our cars.

Are you installing an electronic ignition, electric fuel pump, halogen headlights, electric fan, additional running lights, overdrive, etc? They use electricity, some more than others. If you have all these you need an alternator. One or two, depends on which ones. A hot sound system - yes.

2. Generator output goes down as engine RPMs go down. They don't generate much juice at low RPM, especially at idle. Your headlights dim at idle - no big deal. But, if your car has a lot of electricity consuming accessories, low RPMs can be a problem. This is not an issue with alternators.

The smaller the diameter of the pulley on your generator the faster the generator turns. So you could install a smaller pulley and generate more current at lower engine RPMs, up to the generator's maximum of course, which isn't very much. I don't know where you would find one of our prehistoric thick belts in a smaller length, however.

You could, of course, change all your pulleys to use a modern thin belt like I did. But that is a whole other issue. If you are interested call me.

3. Generators are longer than alternators. Consequently, on our cars, the end bracket is very close to the exhaust manifold and is exposed to considerable heat. The electrical wires attach at this end bracket, become quite brittle due to the heat and can easily break off. This has happened to me several times while on the highway and, of course, I burned my knuckles on the exhaust manifold while renewing the wire terminals.

There are other very important things in this hot end bracket like the brushes and their springs and the infamous porous bronze bearing bush. When this bush goes the generator almost falls apart. This has also happened to me on the highway. It turned out that my generator had been rebuilt by a shop that installed a dry brass bush. Needless to say it didn't last long. By the way, occasionally oil that bush.

If you are interested in making the switch contact Jerry VanVlack. He can talk you through it.

## Run John run.

Number two man at the Roadster Factory, WPTA Charter Member and FOG #17, John Swauger successfully ran and completed the Boston Marathon in competitive fashion. Congrat's to John. John's only comment was that you could buy every house on his street in Indiana for the cost of an average house in Boston.

"This naturally got us discussing our all-time favorite exhaust notes. I thought it over and said that mine would have to be my first TR3. It had a simple muffler and resonator on a single pipe, but it put out a resonant, throaty growl unlike anything I've owned since. It hummed deeply on the highway, with a crisp edge produced by a touch of the throttle. It was like listening to an old Vox AC-30 amp with just a touch of distortion; very rich and bluesy."

*Peter Egan Road & Track May 2006*

# Classified

For Sale 1978 Triumph - Spitfire. Under current ownership for last six years. Originally from Arizona, driven only in Top Down weather. 90% restored to original condition. New paint, complete new interior- dash, carpets, seats, all mechanicals in great shape, all instrumentation functional. Good top, tonneau cover and folded top cover. Has been driven for last five years; progressive restoration included new clutch, clutch master and slave cylinders, brake master cylinder, new shock absorbers, new trunnions, all bushings have been replaced with polyurethane bushings. Car is equipped with tubular header and comes with two sets of wheels and tires, original vintage Dunlop's, used one summer and 6 inch Sumitomo's on Cromodora Mags, currently on the car. \$6,500 drives it away. Call 410-518-6550 or 410-353-8115 for more information. <http://www.tracitd.org/Photos/Memphoto/JM/JohnM.html>

## Calendar of Events

- May 6** **Coventry Inn Gathering,**  
7 pm
- May 13** **WPTA Flea Market,**  
Ed Major 412-488-1600 X207
- May 19-21** **WPTA at Import Carlisle**  
Ed Major for rooms 412-488-1600 X207  
Jim Shaw to sell parts 412-262-3878
- May 29** **Newsletter Meeting,**  
5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar
- June 4** **British Car Week Drive**  
Wil Schweitzer 724-356-7341
- June 10** **Clue Run, with MG club**  
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- June 24** **Quaker Steak & Lube,**  
with stop at Scott Harper's  
PJ Wright, Fred Segal, Dick Gaier
- July 15** **British Car Day at Schenley Park**  
Roy Miller - Chairman 412-967-6483
- July 15-16** **Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix**  
<http://www.pvgp.org/>
- July 29** **Johnstown Run, with MG club**  
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- Aug 26** **Garage Tour,**  
Fred Segal
- Sept 17** **Dogs with Fogs**  
Ed Woods 412-486-4294 or  
Harvey Woods 412-486-2549
- Sept 30** **Anniversary Run,**  
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- Oct 14** **Fall Leaf Tour, with MG club**
- Nov** **General Meeting,**

## ~ Event Of Other Interest ~

- May 27** **The Brit's at Hope Lodge**  
Fort Washinton PA Info: 610-825-2617
- June 14-18** **TRA National Meet**  
<http://www.triumphregister.com/>
- June 17** **MG Club Solstice Run**
- July 8-9** **Vintage Races, Beaverun**  
<http://www.beaverun.com/>
- July 19-23** **VTR National Meet**  
Las Colinas Texas  
<http://vtr2006.com/>
- Aug 5** **MG Club Foxburg Run**
- Aug 11-13** **Summer Party, Roadster Factory**

Established  
1977



# WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

2348 Weston Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15241

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

[www.wptriumph.org](http://www.wptriumph.org)

**May, 2006  
Issue of the  
Dzus Dnuz**

**WPTA Flea Market  
Saturday May 13th**

**Import Carlisle  
May 19, 20 & 21**

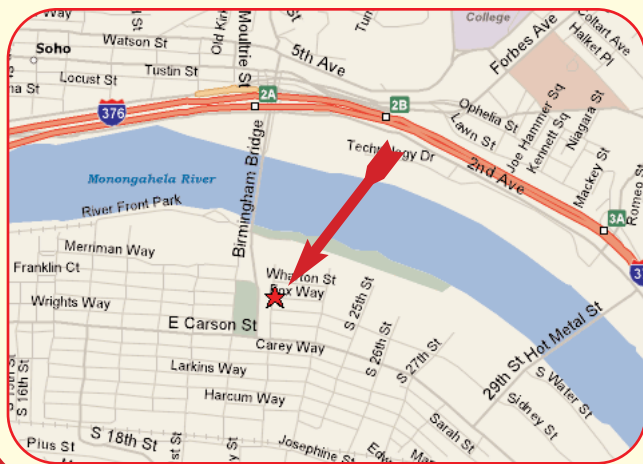
**Coventry Inn  
Saturday May 6th**

**British Car Week Run  
Sunday June 4th**

## **WPTA Flea Market Saturday May 13 at Typecraft's Parking Lot on the South Side**

Starts around 9 am or so!

45 South 23rd Street, turn toward the river off of  
Carson street. Just two blocks from Carson Street



## **British Car Week June 4th, Hickory PA**

The drive will leave from Hickory at 2 P.M. Hickory is on Route 50, twelve miles west of the Bridgeville exit of I-79. It is also twelve miles north of Washington via Route 18. From Route 50 turn onto McCarrell Road, across from the Mt. Pleasant Fire Company and then take the first left, which is Grandview Avenue. Fourth house on the left, number 20.

