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Zōos Nūz

November, 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

Fall is certainly here. Earlier in the day, while trying to gather leaves, I encountered snow flurries. I gave up a little sooner than I intended. It was just too darn cold on my tractor. I guess that the top down season has ended. Come to think of it, it wasn't very warm or dry for the Anniversary Run, which had a nice turnout, for the weather, of fourteen cars. Rich and Judy mapped out an excellent run, tied into an interesting stop at Fort Necessity. I missed the part into West Virginia on Mud Pike Road, due to an electrical problem that delayed my starting with the rest of the group, but I understand that it was a great ride. Thanks, Rich and Judy, for organizing another outstanding event. I missed the Fall Leaf Tour due to a scheduling conflict with our fall vacation in Cape May. I did hear from a few members that the turnout was exceptional (27 cars) and that the tour was very good and well planned. Thanks, Don, for all your work in organizing the tour.

The tours and runs are finished for this year so we switch to monthly meetings. Our November meeting is a breakfast get-together at King's Restaurant in Wexford on Saturday, the 18th. Weather permitting, I and other members will drive their Triumphs to the meeting, and maybe take a little ride after the meeting. This is the meeting at which our officers are elected. If you would like to run for an office, make your interest known and get a fellow member to nominate you at this meeting. We need a quorum to make the elections official, so try to attend the meeting.

Wil

Anniversary Run Update

by Richard Dick

There were 14 cars on the run and probably 14 other cars out there that "chickened" out of going because of the weather. It was a tolerable day with some light drizzle and a few glimpses of sunshine. Most of the roads were dry to damp. We had two members with minor problems, Don Stewart had to do some rewiring and Wil had generator problems but they caught up with the rest of us and had a fun day. If you have not been to Fort Necessity recently, maybe you should go for a visit. They have a new building, a truly great 20 minute film and their displays are awesome. Lastly the stop at the Summit Inn ended our driving day of great roads and wonderful countryside. If you want a copy of the run to do sometime, email me at britcarnuts@comcast.net.

New members

Rich Wendell
Mitchell Dugan
Gary Moschetta

No Meeting, Meeting December 16, 2006 – 1:30PM

Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube

It's that time of year again when the WPTA gets to take over the bar area of the Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube. Come one and all for some bench racing, wings and cold refreshments (not necessarily in that order). This is a great way to end a morning of holiday shopping or have your spouse drop you off while they do some holiday shopping. This non-meeting is timed to miss both the lunch and dinner crowd so we can (and do) literally take over the bar, rearranging furniture as needed. Questions? Call Gary at 724-378-9610.

November Election Meeting Saturday November 18th at Kings Restaurant, Route 910 in Wexford

Read Wil's article! To avoid being elected it is recommended that you show up for this meeting!



Fall Leaf Tour

From Membership

by Richard Dick

We are fast approaching the holiday seasons, the end of the year and the time for WPTA renewal for some. Check your label and if it has "Expires Dec. '06" think about renewing your membership now and not worry about doing it later. Please make the check payable to WPTA and mail it to me: Richard Dick, 106 Cypress Ave., Monongahela, PA 15063.

Also, my new email address is britcarnuts@comcast.net. Please send me any changes in email, address, etc. and in this way I can keep our records up to date and I will forward the new information to Dexter and Ed Major.

Understanding your Ignition System

Part 6 - Ballast Resistors

by Bruce Stutzman

Ballast resistance is designed into the primary circuit of all points type ignition systems. Its purpose is to extend the life of the points. Without this resistance the points would burn fairly quickly.

This resistance reduces the 12 volts from the battery to 9 or 10 volts when it flows thru the points and makes it easier for the condenser to do its job. When the points open, the current flowing thru them wants to arc across the points gap. The condenser creates a clean cut off of current flow by providing an alternate path for the current to flow (into the condenser).

This primary circuit resistance can be in 3 different forms:

- A ceramic ballast resistor between the ignition switch and the coil.
- A resistor wire between the ignition switch and the coil.
- Low voltage coil.

Except for late TR6s (CF commission numbers), our Lucas ignition systems use low voltage coils to supply the required 3 ohms of resistance. Both the standard Lucas coil and the Sports coil provide this 3 ohms of resistance.

The term "low voltage coil" refers to the primary circuit voltage only not to the secondary circuit voltage output. The Lucas Sports Coil, for example, provides a very high voltage output thru the secondary circuit to the spark plugs.

If, as many of us have, you replaced your points with an electronic module, you still need this 3 ohms of primary circuit resistance. Both the Crane XR700 and the Pertronix Ignitor require this resistance; therefore, Lucas coils are compatible with these systems. You don't have to change your coil when you install them.

Coils that do not have this resistance built in are called ballast resistor coils. With these coils you must put an external ballast resistor in the primary circuit.

1973 thru 1976 TR6s, Spitfire MK4 and 1500 (with Delco distributors), GT6+ and MK3 (with Delco distributors) use a resistor wire in the wiring harness to provide resistance. For optimum performance, these cars should use a ballast resistor coil not a low voltage coil.

It is easy to test your coil to determine if it is low voltage or not. Put your multi-meter on lo-ohms; attach the clips to the positive and negative terminals. If it reads 3 ohms it is a low voltage coil. If it reads between 0 and 1.5 ohms it is a ballast resistor coil.

More about coils in Part 7.



Classified

FOR SALE: 1966 TR4A IRS frame off restoration, Beautiful red paint, black interior, big bore kit. Car in York, PA \$9800 firm, Rich Roenigk (WPTA member) 717-487-1795 cell.

FOR SALE: TR3 parts, Set of 4 knock off's and splinned hub adapters for wire wheels, temperature gauge, used brake cylinders, hand crank, other miscellaneous parts. Call Gary Hartford at 412-351-3826.

Watkins Glen

by Ken Mikos

I wanted to share some pictures with you from our recent trip to Watkins Glen where we attended the Zippo Vintage Grand Prix Races and the Vintage Fall Festival.

An early morning start driving through the mountains northeast of Pittsburgh in the fog with temperatures hovering in the high 40's can be challenging. Bernie Clark, Mike Yurko and I bravely took on those elements driving top down without any issues in our vintage Triumph's, a Black 1957 TR3 and a racy sounding Yellow 1965 TR4; note the ice in Mike's mustache pictured below.

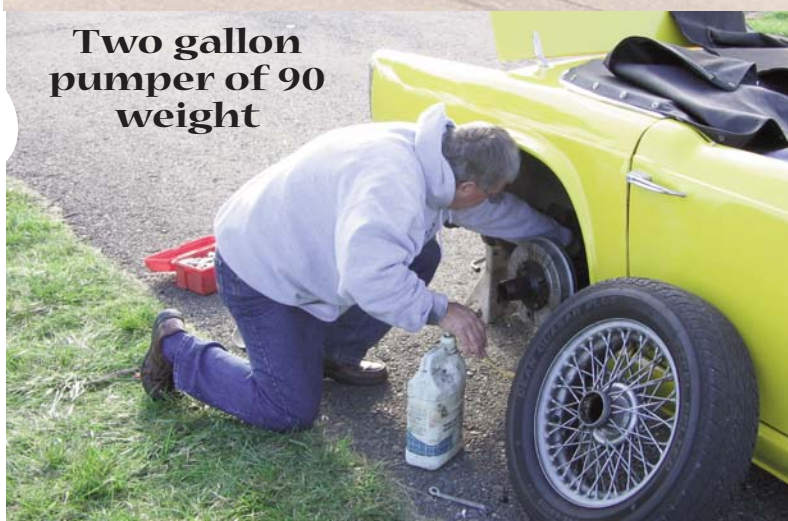
Once at the Glen, we ran into the usual WPTA members, Ed Majors, Jim Shaw, Bruce Stutzman and Dan Green. As you would expect, the beverages and food were abundant. Historic landmarks like Seneca Lodge and the Montour Falls Pub where great gathering places for all types of vintage automobiles

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to visit the Glen, I can assure you that this place is great although some of us seem to enjoy the drive as much as the races. We always find stunning roads that are seldom traveled by others allowing us to exercise our cars in a spirited fashion. Last year, Bruce Stutzman mapped out our return trip which took 12 hours and included a tour of the state (average trip time is 5 hours).

We have made this historic race an annual trip and we hope to see you there in the future.



More Fall Leaf Tour



Two gallon pumper of 90 weight



Why there are so few photos of Fort Necessity



Lunch buffet on Bernie's car

Pat Davis Best Of Show at the Euro Festival

We Just received this at press time but though it was a must for the newsletter! It appears that WPTA member Pat Davis has walked away with Best Of Show at the Euro Festival in Spartanburg SC with His Black TR2! Pat is one fine gentleman and his TR2 is Excellent. Pat is a member of WPTA, TRA and VTR. He has served as a VTR Judge for Concours. He has won the VTR Ken Richardson Award at the TRF/VTR. WPTA congratulates Pat for his latest accomplishment.

Calendar of Events

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|--------|--|
| Nov 18 | General Meeting,
King's on Route 910 in Wexford
At 10 am |
| Dec 16 | No Meeting, Meeting,
Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube
Gary Fredo 724-378-9610 |
| Jan | Holiday Party,
Jim & Diane Bastone, 412-486-7335 |

Established
1977



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

2348 Weston Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15241

A CHAPTER OF THE VINTAGE TRIUMPH REGISTER
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www.wptriumph.org

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

November 18th, Business Meeting Kings in Wexford



Spot



Stick



Wire



Rolled

Nov. 18 General Meeting Kings on Rt 910

We will be meeting at 10:00 at
the Kings,
I-79 and 910.

