

Established
1977



www.wptriumph.org

Dzus Dnuz T

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Zōōs Nūz

February, 2007

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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

SEX!!! Now that I have your attention, please note the change of location for the February meeting. The meeting will be held at King's, due to a rebellion by the women of our club. They seem to dislike "Excuses". I guess there is something more important than beer.

On the subject of food and drink, both were excellent at our Holiday Party. Thirty-three of our members gathered at Rico's for a most enjoyable evening, thanks to Jim and Diane Bastone. There were door prizes, some gathered by Jim and some donated by Charles Runyan. The 2006 drivers award was presented to Don Harkus for attending the most WPTA events in his Triumph. Ed Major presented Bruce Stutzman and me each with a very nice hardbound book of the past three years of the Dzus Dnuz, for our contribution in producing the newsletter. Thank you, Jim and Diane for hosting a wonderful party.

We had a successful planning meeting a few weeks ago, filling every month of the calendar with at least one event. There is an extra special event. We are fortunate to have the national meeting of TheVintage Triumph Register in our state this year. This gathering for all models of Triumphs meets in a different area of the country every year. The 2007 meeting will take place in Valley Forge, from July 17th to 20th, the week following British Car Day. The four days will be filled with Triumph related activities. A Funkhanna, autocross, fun rally, TSD rally, bus tours, tech sessions, car shows, caravans to interesting places, and more are planned. Visit the website www.VTR2007.com for more information. Watch for plans to caravan to the meeting in future issues of the Dzus Dnuz.

Wil

From Membership

This is the RED STAR issue. If you have a red star on your label, this is your last issue of Dzus Dnuz unless you pay your dues of \$20 for '07. Multiple years are always accepted. Be advised also that Feb 24th is the last day for dues before the new roster is prepared. Dues must be in my hands no later than February 24, 2007. No exceptions! Sorry. So if you have not yet paid the dues for '07, make out the check for \$20 made payable to WPTA and get it in the mail ASAP. Mail to Richard Dick, 106 Cypress Ave., Monongahela, PA 15063. On a more personal note, I thank all of you who have paid your dues and been so cooperative with me over the past year as your membership chairperson. If you do need to contact me, call or email me at britcarnuts@comcast.net.

Rich

Planning Meeting Follow Up

The 2007 calendar is set! Thanks to everyone that came to the Planning meeting and volunteered to coordinate an event this year as well as thanks to those that couldn't make the meeting, but contacted me with an interest in coordinating an event. The calendar is pretty full, but if anyone is interested in planning an event this year, but couldn't make the meeting: then give me a call as there are several dates that are still open.

During the meeting there was a discussion about creating Event Guidelines that will help out anyone that is considering planning an event. I want to emphasize that these would be guidelines and not rules. I am going to put together a draft copy of these guidelines and then email them out to any member interested in making comments on the guidelines. I will try to incorporate any comments into a final draft that will be sent to the club officers for approval. The final Event Guidelines will be published in the newsletter and made available to any future members that are interested in planning an event. If you are interest in getting a copy of the draft guidelines for possible comments, send me your email address. I will only be distributing the draft copy by email and I expect to have the draft prepared to be sent by the end of February. My email address is garyfredo@yahoo.com.

Gary



Holiday Party Candids

Your Wire Wheels

by Bruce Stutzman

If you are one of the shrinking group of TR owners still running wires, as I am, (we just lost Ed Major) here is some good info that you may or may not know. British Wire Wheel in Santa Cruz, CA has a 2 page information sheet about balancing, installation and spline wear. Herewith is some of that info in a very condensed form.



Balancing - to be properly balanced, the wheels must be centered on their seating surfaces like they are on your car. Most shops can't do this with their fancy computer spin bal-

ancers although they think they can. Look for a shop that still has their old bubble balancer.

Installation - the best hammer to use is a soft lead 4-5 pound hammer. "The knock off should be tightened while the wheel is off the ground. Tighten until the knock off does not move after being hit."

Spline wear - the splines at the rear most portion (about 3/8 in.) of the wheel don't wear because they don't mesh with the splines on the adaptor, making it easy to compare them with the larger portion that does mesh and does wear. Just clean off the grease and slide your finger along the splines to feel the ridge at the point where wear starts and compare it with this illustration.



More Wire Wheel Stuff

Wire wheels are made with 48, 60 or 72 spokes. Obviously, the more spokes the stronger the wheel. Also, and equally as important, the wider the wheel.

| # of spokes | Width |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 48 | 4 in. |
| 60 | 4 1/2 in. |
| 72 | 5 - 5 1/2 - 6 in. |

48 spoke wheels, in my opinion, are good for trailer queens only. There is really no good reason to use them on a TR. 60 spoke wheels are a lot stronger, are perfectly capable of prolonged road use and will last the life of your car if taken care of. They were, after all, originally developed for competition use and were fitted to all factory race and rally cars thru 1962.

The largest tire size you can put on a 60 spoke wheel, however, is 165mm and the selection is extremely limited.

72 spoke wheels are very strong and can take whatever punishment you hand out. And I should know; they are on my TR4. Also they are wide enough to take tire sizes up to 205mm. This gives you a large selection of tires to choose from. Probably the most popular updated sizes are as follows:

| | |
|-----|-----------|
| TR3 | 185/65-15 |
| TR4 | 195/60-15 |
| TR6 | 205/60-15 |

If you drive a Spitfire or GT6 you don't have the option of 72 spoke 13 inch wire wheels. They don't exist, so you are stuck with 165 - 13 tires. Larger 13 inch tire sizes exist but they don't fit your 60 spoke 4 1/2 inch wheels.

You can, however, go plus one to 14 inch or plus two to 15 inch wires. They are available with 72 spokes and, of course, are wider so they can be fitted with a wide selection of tire sizes. 185/65-14 and 195/55-15 are the same diameter as the stock 165-13 tires. Food for thought!

Remember - grease those splines.

This guy echoes my sentiments exactly!

submitted by Bud Osbourne

Ed Note - This had been slightly edited. Meyer is talking about Porsches, but it could be any vintage car. The Convertible D was built in 1959. Other than being very rare, the Continental Coupe, as Bud puts it, is just your garden variety 356 coupe.

\$100,000 Restoration...or Scrapy Old Car??

by Eric Meyer (from the internet)

We sold our 1955 Continental Coupe for just north of \$100,000 several months ago. An excellent Victor Miles course restoration with Craig Smith engine and transmission. Totally sorted out and 3 times best in show winner... excellent magazine feature... blah blah blah. But it scared the hell out of me to drive such a perfect car... just waiting for that first rock chip.

So, what I had done is build myself a garage queen... which was fun while still a resto... but after I finished... well, I am just not a garage queen type of guy. Fortunately, I never sold the scrapy old Convertible D that I have owned for years which I was intending on selling once the coupe was done. The D may not be worth as much... but, after the experience with restoring the coupe, I discovered that the un-restored scrapy car is of greater value to me. The D has chipped and worn 40 year old paint, a scratched back window plastic, various rattles, assorted door dings, crusty knobs, original seats, it puffs a bit of blue now and than... but, I was there when most of those flaws were created... and I remember them. I remember the rock chip in the windshield from that trip to Utah... I remember the small bumper dent from the tree I smacked after a particularly sideways slide on 155s (I've upgraded to 165s and a camber compensator!) I remember all the little things... it is like a scrap book.

I'm not afraid to do anything in it. I can roar down long dusty roads. I can park in parking lots. I can go to Home Depot with the top down and haul lumber home in the laid back passenger seat. I had my weed-wacker tied on the engine lid rack a while back and my 356 buddies were all making fun of me as I was going over to a friends house to help him out. But, I can actually use the car without being worried about it.

Yes... our restored car was worth a lot... but after having done the resto thing down to the KAMAX silver cad plated and heat treated 14mm bolt... well, I am convinced that the real value is in the fun of driving our old car whose flaws I know by heart... without a care in the world about whether it gains or loses value. The restored car was nice... but, I had carefully erased all the memories from the car. Kind of sad in retrospect.

It took a lot longer to wear out our D than it did to restore our '55 coupe and it was far less expensive and far more fun... and truly... over time I am prouder of wearing the D out than I am of making the '55 coupe perfect. Anyone can restore a car... but, it is only old once.

Photo circa 1980 with Woody McVicker, Miss Olde Frothingslosh, Bruce Stutzman and Jerry Van Vlack's TR4A at the Iron City Brewery



Calendar of Events

- Feb 10 Brunch Meeting, at Kings, Route 910 Wexford,**
10am Breakfast,
- Feb 26 Newsletter Meeting,**
5pm-Typecraft/6pm-Michael's Pizza Bar
- Mar 10 Church Brew Works,**
Dexter Stoltz 412-865-1201
- Apr 14 General Meeting,**
at Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube,
Approx 1pm exact time to be determined
- April/May Tune-up Clinic**
Date & location to be determined,
Doug Foyle 724-452-5218
- ???? Northeast Ohio Car Show**
Dick Gaier 412-371-7731
and Fred Segal 412-421-8602
- May 12 WPTA Flea Market, Mini Carlisle**
Ed Major 412-488-1600 X207
- May 17-20 WPTA at Import Carlisle**
Ed Major for rooms 412-488-1600 X207
Jim Shaw to sell parts 412-262-3878
- Jun 2 Ohio Adventure**
Bob Twaddle 740-768-2190
- Jun 10 Cemetery Run, with MG club**
Rick Brown 412-818-1433
- Jun 30 Quaker Steak & Lube,**
with stop at Scott Harper's
PJ Wright 412-833-4142
- Jul 14 British Car Day at Schenley Park**
- Jul 14-15 Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix**
- Jul 14-15 Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix**
- Jul 20-22 TRF Summer Party**
- Jul 28 Johnstown Run, with MG club**
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- Aug 11 Driving Event, Location to be determined**
PJ Wright 412-833-4142
- Aug 25 Driving Event, Location to be determined**
Don Harkus 724-284-9172
- Sep 23 Dogs with Hogs**
Fred Williams 724-789-7476
or Don Harkus 724-284-9172
- Sep 29 Anniversary Run,**
Richard Dick 724-379-5172
- Oct 20 Fall Leaf Tour**
Don Harkus 724-284-9172
- Nov 17 Election Meeting,**
Location to be determined
- Dec 15 No Meeting, Meeting,**
Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube
- Jan ?? 2008 Holiday Party,**

~ Event Of Other Interest ~

- Mar 24 MG Lunch**
- Jun 12-16 TRA National Meet**
- Jun 23 MG Club Solstice Run**
- Jul 7-8 Vintage Races, Beaverun**
- Jul 17-21 VTR National Meet**
- Aug 5 MG Club Leechburg Run**
- Sep 7-9 Vintage Races, Watkins Glen**
- Sep 7-9 Degrosso Car Show, Altoona**
- Set 23 British Cars at Hartwood**
- Oct 13 MG Club Fall Leaf Tour**

Classified

FOR SALE: 1970 Spitfire MkIII, 26000 original miles (as far as I can tell). Good runner, a real fun drive. Asking \$2500 OBO. Contact Rich @ richkath@connecttime.net or call 412-884-5757



FOR SALE: 1. TR3 factory hardtop, needs back glass \$100 or offer. 2. Rebuilt transmission with 'J' type overdrive. Fits late TR6 directly or TR3 thru early TR6 with modified rear mount. \$1200 outright. 412.486.4294

FOR SALE: 1972 TR6, fresh burgundy paint, new interior (not installed), runs good, but needs some minor mechanical fix up to be a great driver. A little TLC and this would be a great car, \$7900 OBO. Ed Major at 412-488-1600 x207 (weekdays) or Sheila Lowery at 724-744-7128

HELP NEEDED -- TR7 PI: Over the holidays I picked up a neglected TR7. Already in the process of a nut and bolt restoration of an MGB, I wanted an LBC that I could drive and restore later. Here it is.

I'm a (MG) member, although not really active since my car is in pieces, of the Greater Pittsburgh MG Club, and was wondering what the process of joining your Triumph club was. I'm mailing the application and check this weekend.

I'm going to need some help with this beast. It's an 81 with fuel injection - unfortunately the FI system was in the trunk. So, with limited diagrams and catalog pictures, I'm trying to bring it to life.

I know that our MG club members are very helpful and eager to lend a hand, and was wondering if the same was true about the Triumph Club.

Maybe once I get the membership info in, I can make a call out for help! LOL Having one of these to look at would probably make the job actually bearable. IF you could share this email with anyone who would be interested in an afternoon of food and beverage that could assist in the rebuilding of the fuel injection system, I'd greatly appreciate it.

Thanks for reading! Tim Nagy, morSpeed Performance Products (412)736-3993
tim@morSpeedPerformance.com



Our good friend Bo Southerlin,s TR6 in storage, after the fire.

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

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Dzus Dnuz

**February 10, General Meeting,
10 AM at King's in Wexford**

**Saturday,
February 10, 2007
10 AM Breakfast
Meeting at Kings**



Western Pennsylvania Triumph Association

Photo of the Month
"The Joy of Six"

Calendar of Events
(See Events for full list)

| Date | Event |
|---------|---|
| Sep 19 | Dogs with Fogs Ed Woods 412-486-4294 or Harvey Woods 412-486-2549 |
| Sept 20 | Newsletter Meeting 5 pm - Typecraft. Click for online map 6pm - Michael's Pizza Bar. Click for online map |
| Oct 2 | Anniversary Run Richard Dick 379-5172 |
| Oct 8 | General Business Meeting |

HOT DOG
Oscar Mayer

Set your homepage to the WPTA web site to keep up with the latest club info!