

Established
1977



www.wptriumph.org

Dzus Dnuz T

Volume 32 Number 3

Zōōs Nūz

December, 2008

President Don Harkus 724-822-5447
Special Assistant to the Prez Fred Williams
Vice President Gary Fredo 724-378-9610
Special Assistant to the V Prez Ken Mikos

Treasurer Bruce Stutzman 412-831-8884
Rec. Sec./Web Master, Dex Stoltz dexter@stoltzhaus.com
Membership Chair, Richard Dick britcarnuts@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor, Bruce Stutzman stutzmans@comcast.net

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

Dusk Till Don

First, I want to thank Bruce for running the November meeting. I had an unexpected business matter come up and Gary was out of town.

The year is almost over which caused me to reflect on the state of the club. Very presidential of me wouldn't you say.

Well, anyway, the club looks to me to be in great shape; some of the reasons why.

1. The officers are doing a great job.
 - A. Gary is keeping a most excellent club calendar.
 - B. Bruce is keeping us in the black and has been doing so for years.
 - C. Dexter keeps a very professional website.
 - D. Richard has membership well in hand.

2. British Car Day continues in very capable hands. The transition from Roy to Wil will be smooth.

3. The membership is very active with lots of different members running events and great turnouts.

4. The Dzus Dnuz continues to be a reading delight.

This month we have Bud's new Beer & Bull Session at Gino's (maybe some of you don't know that Gino is a club member and a Spitfire owner) and the very popular No Meeting Meeting at the Cranberry Quaker Steak. See you there.

Don

Beer & Bull at Gino's

by Bud Osbourne

If you haven't already put it on your calendar, please join us at Gino's Bar & Big Belly Deli for a Beer & Bull session, at 6 PM, on the second Tuesday of each month. Gino and his lovely wife Lisa are WPTA members and operate a really neat bar & eatery, in the 5100 block of Butler Street, in Lawrenceville. If you have never been to Gino's, picture the classic, Pittsburgh neighborhood bar & restaurant, with a comfortable, cozy, relaxed atmosphere. The food is great, and very reasonably priced. Combine that with a very good selection of draft, as well as bottled beer (or wine or soft drinks or.....water), plus excellent service, and we have all of the necessary ingredients for a new WPTA Tradition.

Parking is never a problem, and you can bring your Triumph or MG (hey, this is Bud writing this), when the weather is fair. During our most recent meeting, in addition to solving some of the world's most perplexing problems, we brain stormed the fixing of several member's car problems, discussed some ideas for future club events, swapped "road warrior" tales and just had a very pleasant evening.

So, be there with us on Tuesday, December 9, or risk becoming another topic for conversation.

No Meeting, Meeting

It's that time of the year again when WPTA invades the Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube for the annual No Meeting, Meeting. We will meet at 1:00 pm on December 13th for some wings, beverages and BS. Again this year we will have the private room off to the right as you enter the Lube. If you don't see the room, then just ask for the WPTA. 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. Questions? Call Gary at 724-378-9610.

Holiday Party

by Ken Mikos

Well guy's, I have been told it's that time of year to give back to your better half for attending all those summer runs in cars that smell and sometimes can be painfully hot and uncomfortable to ride in (aggghhh). So hang up the work cloths, dust off your suit, polish those shoes and show that girl that you appreciate her support by taking her out for a wonderful evening that includes a fantastic meal, adult beverages and friends both new and old.

The WPTA Holiday Party will be held again at Pugliano's (Voted Areas Best Food) Saturday January 10 starting at 7:00pm. For the price of \$34 you will receive a gourmet meal that includes appetizers, salad, main course, desert with all tips and gratuity included. As usual with this group I have arranged a private cash bar which will be stocked with your favorite beverages.

So mark you calendars, I look forward seeing you then. Have happy holidays.

Please respond no later than January 5, 2009.

Name(s)	Selection
_____	# _____ Veal Parmigiana
_____	# _____ Prime Rib
_____	# _____ Crab Cakes
_____	# _____ English Scrod

TOTAL CHECK ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make all checks payable to WPTA and send them to me at the following:

Ken Mikos / WPTA, 156 Old Farm, Pgh., PA 15239



Kenny, our Fearless Tour leader at TRF

Fall Leaf Review

by Ken Mikos

What a great day and turnout we had for the fall leaf tour. With temperatures hovering in the 50's a variety of over 30 cars showed up to participate, some with tops down. Below are some of the highlights from the trip:

- Great roads, trees in full autumn color and no speeding tickets.
- The fast guys getting LOST. (Jerry, please note directions; "bear left before the bridge". In PA unlike OH we call a bridge and overpass by the same name).
- All other drivers including Bernie Clark, whose beautiful wife was navigating, not having issues with the directions or getting LOST.
- Gary Fredo often known to run with the "Fast Guys" driving slow enough on a seldom travelled two lane country road to cause what seemed like a back up on the Pittsburgh's Parkways during rush hour.
- Number of break downs:

MG's	0
Miatas	0
Triumph's	1

(Gary Fredo, again! For a six pack of Iron City, does anyone know the number of mechanical issues Gary has had on runs this year?).

- Doug Foyle not BREAKING DOWN (maybe he can offer Gary some mechanic advice).
- Many new members and old friends meeting for the first time
- A tour of the World Famous TRF with many taking advantage of the discounted pricing.
- A large contingency from the Cleveland Triumph Club joined us at TRF and the Coventry Inn.

Lastly, a quote that was overheard during the TRF stop, "I slowed down because it felt like the front wheel was wobbling".

Thanks to all who participated.

Jerry's Retort,

Dear Ken, I truly enjoyed the Fall Leaf Tour that you so graciously organized. It was a beautiful day and we did have a good turnout as you wrote in your article. Old and new friends did meet for the first time and Charles was his usual self, hosting a wonderful tour of TRF and a late lunch at the Coventry Inn. Fun stuff with fun friends.

But before you break your arm patting yourself on the back I do feel compelled to mention a few items that need some improvement.

1. In Ohio we know the difference between a Bridge and an Overpass so we don't have to call them the same name.

2. Also in Ohio we don't refer to routes that were long ago abandoned as Route 56 which are now named 3056 because they are now just old country roads. The old hayseed who we stopped and asked understood that the road was OLD 56.

In my defense, the real reason the slow group didn't get lost is just that; THEY WERE SLOW, and had time to actually anticipate the turns. When you are the Navigator for Hot Shoe Major with Madman Stutzman in close pursuit one has to be decisive or we would have two very lovely TR's trading paint.....I didn't want to be responsible for that. If you want a thrill, ride in Ed's TR250 at full song, what a car!

Thanks to Bob Wyner's GPS we were not lost for long. We did make a few turns which got us misdirected for a few minutes due to my having to make decisions faster than a Pentium 4 Computer. I will say we arrived before the SLOW group even after having handicapped ourselves for a Beer along the way. Quite an accomplishment in reflection.

So my vote is for you to keep running Fall Leaf tours until you get them right. I'll do my best to make sure you never get it right so you don't lose your esteemed position. Try the fast group next year.

Thanks

by Gary Fredo

As some of you may be aware, I had some mechanical problems on the Fall Leaf Tour. The driver's side wheel bearing decided it was time to throw in the towel. I was able to limp to The Roadster Factory but not until I had done some serious damage. Several of the guys from the club helped me to attempt to get everything apart but unfortunately part of the wheel bearing had decided to weld itself to the wheel spindle. I decided to head for home (thanks for the ride Bud) and pick up some spare parts and tools so I could finish the job on Sunday.

Much to my surprise; Albert, Tom and Dave from The Roadster Factory were waiting to help me out when I arrived. They really made a huge difference in getting everything apart and back together again with a minimal of fuss. Tom was really great and really knows his stuff. Eric Stoltz also showed up with some spare parts & helped me wrench everything back together.

Last but not least Ken Mikos showed up and drank all of the beer. I want to thank everyone for helping me out. The day after the Fall Leaf Tour would have been considerably longer and probably not much fun without these helping hands.

ED NOTE:

Actually knowing these guys, it does not surprise me that they would show up on a Sunday to get Gary on the road again.



WPTA members "pack" TRF



The Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and out in the shed
Sat a tired old Triumph, its battery dead.

Its fenders were rusted, the floorpan had holes
The seats and the carpets had been eaten by voles

The tires had dry-rot, the gas tank was leaking
A turn of the wheel sent tie rods a-creaking.

So I put on my coat with a weight on my heart,
And went out to the shed to get it to start.

The engine turned over—there arose such a clatter!
I knew from the sound it was timing chain chatter.

From under the dashboard there came a bright flash:
The wiring harness had just turned to ash!

"I've had it with Spitfires!" I finally swore
"Enough is too much! I can't take any more!"

When what to my red, teary eyes should appear
But a little Englishman (hey, I might need a beer!)

"Good Day," I heard, as he tapped my shoulder.
"I'm Joe Lucas" he said as the car continued to smolder.

"This one can be saved; there's no reason to grieve.
All you need is some faith—Man, you've got to believe!

"A hammer! Some duct tape! Get me more tools!
When you work on these cars, just make up the rules!
We'll get her cranked over - no way that she'll stall
(But stand over there with your back to the wall.)"

A cough and a sputter, the cacophony stunning—
I couldn't believe it! The damn thing was running!

The ghost winked at me and said, kicking a tire,
"Whatever you do, DO NOT TOUCH THIS WIRE!"

The old man then vanished amid sneezes and farts
But when the smoke cleared he had left me some parts.

So I opened the shed door and let the top down
Put pedal to metal and went out on the town.

And I thought to myself as I missed second gear
Merry Christmas to All and a Happy New Year!

Merry Christmas everyone!

Gift Idea Special

by Wil Schweitzer

WPTA has grill badges for \$40.00 each. These attractive badges can be mounted on various parts of your British car. During November and December, 2008, there will be FREE shipping. Send a check, payable to WPTA, for \$40.00 per badge to: Wil Schweitzer, 20 Grandview Ave., Hickory, PA. Include the shipping address.

Name badge \$6.00 each, including postage. I also have of load of embroidered patches for \$1.00



Photo by Chuck Chappas

Wil, Woody and Roy at the November meeting.

Wil Schweitzer is New British Car Day Chairman

by Bruce Stutzman

Wil has agreed to take over the chair of BCD that is being vacated by Roy Miller after his second very successful tour of duty as our BCD leader.

Woody McVicker, BCD Chairman Emeritis in perpetuity, and Roy will be supporting Wil's efforts as will Jim Stoffel, Dexter Stoltz and Dan McGowan (members of Roy's BCD staff who will continue to serve).

Wil's leadership and organizational ability are well known to us; he recently served 4 years as WPTA president.

BCD is far and away the most important and most meaningful activity of WPTA; Woody and Roy are forever linked to it. If you want to help give Wil a call.

On Getting Published

by the Editor

Mission #1 for the DZUS DNUZ is informing the members about club activities. In doing so we print the club calendar, maintained by Gary Fredo; print pre-event information articles written by the event chairmen and print their post-event articles (hopefully with photos). Now that we are doing a 5th page on our club website, just for photos, we are able to use more of the photos sent to us.

As space permits within our usual 4 pages we then print technical articles and articles of general interest to the members. The subject, of course, always being about us and our TRs. We on occasion expand to 6 and even 8 pages when the need arises; the BCD issue is an example.

A few basic guidelines for submitting your articles and photos.

1. Type it on MSWord (preferred!) or Word Perfect and send it as an email attachment. Don't just type it in the body of an email unless it is only 1 or 2 lines.

2. Send photos digitally (jpeg preferred); minimum 300kb file size, attached to an email (for you Techo's this is min. 300dpi @ 4" wide).

3. The most interesting photos are of members with their cars and of members at club events doing something. Lines of parked cars, a bunch of people sitting at a table or the backs of peoples' heads and butts make boring photos. Hopefully, the photo presents a flattering likeness of the photoee.

4. Limit it to 1/2 to 3/4 of a DZUS DNUZ page if possible, approximately 600 words (Tech Tip: in MSWord, >file, >properties, >statistics, will give you number of words in your file).

5. Email them to Ed Major at ejmajor3a@comcast.net and to me at stutzmans@comcast.net

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

December, 2008 Issue of the Dzus Dnuz

2nd Notice:

Yer Dzues are Due

by Richard Dick

If your Dzus Dnuz label says "expires Dec 08" you need to ante up for 09. A mere \$20; check or money order payable to WPTA. Send it to me, your humble membership chairman, at 106 Cypress Avenue, Monongahela, PA 15063.

December 9th, Beer & Bull Session
December 13th, No Meeting, Meeting

December 9th Beer & Bull

6 pm at Geno's in Lawrenceville, 5147 Butler Street.

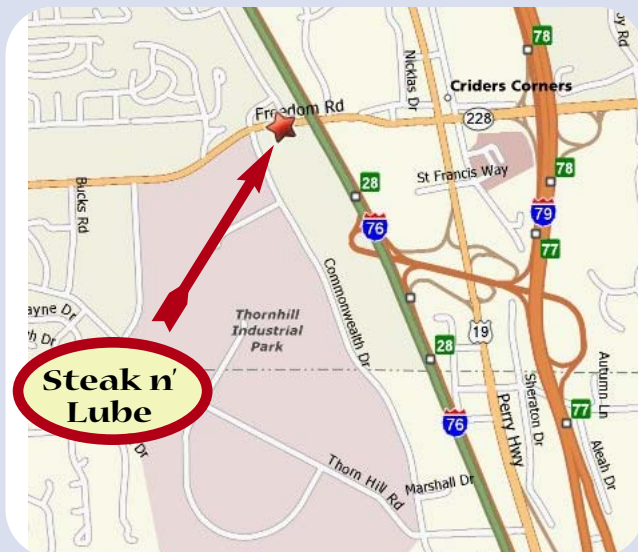


Calendar of Events

- Dec 9 Beer & Bull Session**
6 pm at Geno's in Lawrenceville
5147 Butler Street
- Dec 13 No Meeting, Meeting,**
Gary Fredo 724-378-9610
- Jan 10, 2009 Holiday Party,**
Ken Mikos 412-795-8248
- Jan 24 Planning Meeting, at Geno's, 11 AM**
Gary Fredo 724-378-9610

December 13th No Meeting, Meeting

We will meet at 1:00 pm on Dec. 13th for some wings, beverages and BS. Again this year we will have the private room off to the right as you enter the Lube.



The Coventry Inn after the Fall Leaf Tour



Work Session at Don's



Bruce and Don chasing Fred's mysterious "miss"



Jim Shaw working or should I say attacking the diff seal



Ed, Doug and Bernie taking a break



You gotta ask Bruce about this one!

Photo by Bruce Stutzman

Meeting at King's



Photo by Chuck Chappas

