

Established
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Dzus Druz T

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Zōōs Nūz

November, 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

Hello all, A couple observations from the latest issue of The Vintage Triumph. Its pages include a great article by Paul Richardson about the development of the TR wet liner engine. Editor Mike Cook observed, "The TR four-cylinder engine was not conceived as a tractor engine! It was designed for the standard Vanguard as a car engine and was later adapted for tractor use and as a diesel. Now let's not hear anything more about 'TR stands for tractor'. Has everybody got that?"

Also, Pat Davis (TR2) and Fred Segal (Stag) made the awards page at the 2008 VTR Convention. Congrats to both.

Ken Mikos' Fall Leaf Tour to The Roadster Factory was most excellent. More about it next issue.

A few items of interest going on in the club: Jim Shaw's TR6 has been reborn into a road going beast with it's rebuilt engine, including an Isky cam, boost in compression, recurved dizzy and rejetted carburetors. Bernie's anal emission issues (TR4) have been effectively dealt with at my garage over the weekend. People will again be willing to drive behind Bernie thanks to worker bees, Jim Shaw, PJ Wright, and Ed Major. also at my place Bruce finally got his new windshield installed. Jim Antis' TR3 got an Ed Woods rebuilt overdrive gearbox and Bruce Stutzman rebuild Dizzy and carburetors at Ed's house a week ago. Jim and the TR3 drove home to Indiana happy campers.

See you all for breakfast at Kings, Route 910, at 10 am on Nov. 15. Good news - the current officers have all agreed to carry on for another year. And Wil will be taking over the chairmanship of British Car Day from Roy. Thanks Roy for all your hard work in keeping BCD the great event it has always been.

Don

Treasure's report . . . "We have money"!



No Meeting, Meeting,

by Gary Fredo

Is it really that close to Christmas already! Plan to join the WPTA at 1:00 pm on December 13 at the Cranberry Quaker Steak & Lube for our version of Christmas shopping.....wings and your favorite beverage. More information in next months newsletter.

Beer & Bull Session

by Bud Osbourne

Since the W. PA driving season is just about over, I spoke with Geno from Geno's Restaurant and Big Belly Deli in Lawrenceville, 5147 Butler Street, and have arranged to meet there on the second Tuesday of each month, at 6 PM, for "Beer & Bull Session". All WPTA members are invited to attend. There will be no band playing, and Geno says it's a pretty quiet evening.....all the better for being able to discuss our favorite cars without having to shout to be heard.

Yer Dzues are Due

by Richard Dick

I realize that we are currently in an economic downturn, but it is that time of year for some of us to re-up. If your Dzus Druz 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.

ELECTIONS, ELECTIONS, ELECTIONS

by Gary Fredo

Who will be elected President? Obama? McCain? Harkus? To determine the answer to this question you will need to attend the WPTA election meeting that will be held at King's Restaurant at 10AM on November 15. This is the King's on Rt 910 just off the Wexford exit on I79N. We will be in the same room as last year which is straight back from the cash register. If you're not sure where the room is located then just ask for the room reserved for WPTA. Bring a hearty appetite as you can order a late breakfast or early lunch off King's menu. Similar to last year there is a pretty good chance that there will be an after meeting get together at the bar at Carmody's which is on the other side of I79 from King's.

British Cars at Hartwood and Dogs with Hogs

by Bruce Stutzman

September 27 was a double wammy day for WPTA members. A car show at a beautiful venue followed by a free picnic in the park. Can't get any better than that. Or at least you would think so.

WPTA members won a lot of awards at Hartwood. The ones that I am aware of:

1st in class TR7-TR8 - Jim Underwood

1st in class TR6 - Mike Yurko

2nd in class TR6 - Harvey Woods

1st in class TR4-4A - Jim Stoffel

2nd in class TR4-4A - Keith Lark

If you live in Lower Slubovia, I can understand you not knowing that WPTA pays for Dogs with Hogs. It is that once a year that the club treats the members. You would think everybody would be there; at least everybody who was at Hartwood, but not so. It is specifically timed so those of us who go to Hartwood can then drive straight to North Park for the picnic.

Our chefs are Donny (the Prez) and Sandy Harkus and Fred (Special Assistant to the Prez) Williams and Kathy Van Dyke.

The bill of fare this year included:

grilled hot dogs and sausages

pierogies

corn on the cob

several different salads

several different deserts

Much of it, unfortunately, went uneaten.



Mike Yurko' and Rossi with his first place winning TR6



Jim Stoffel with his winning TR4A



Jim Underwood with his beautiful TR8



Above, Jim and Lori & Ken and Dana at Dogs with Hogs
Below, club haberdasher, Will Schweitzer peddling his goods





Anniversary Run recap

by Gary Fitzgerald

Thanks to everyone that attended the Anniversary Run. The weather wasn't all that bad with only a few showers toward the end of the day. I hope everyone had a good time. The Old Hanna's Town tour was very educational and reminded us how life was over 200 years ago here in western Pa. They had little need for lawyers as Fred found out first hand. Hope to see everyone next year.

Classified

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: Used parts as follows - Five TR-2/3/4 steel wheels; TR-3A gearbox (no first gear); TR-4 steering wheel. Cleaning out the garage. Jack Sutherland, 412-221-0682.

WANTED: Original set of TR3 seat rails, all 8 or a partial set. Must be in good, useable condition. Ed Woods 412.486.4294

WANTED: TR3A hood or bonnet in nice condition. It is for a 1959 (early) TR3A with flat hinge mounts. Please call Bill at 724.548.7435 or send an e-Mail to bill@zmax.us

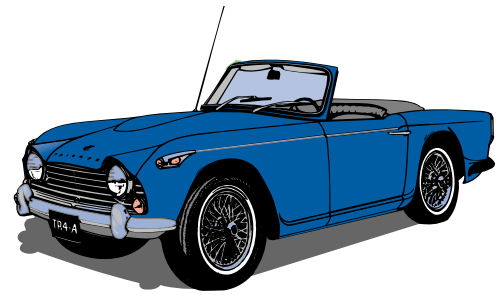


Gift Idea Special

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.

All the name badge blanks from the last batch have been used. Since it took 3 years to use the last batch, I ordered only 35 blanks. Due to increased cost of the blanks and postage, the new price will be \$6.00 each, including postage. I also have a load of embroidered patches for \$1.00



Thoughts on Driving Yesterday and Today

Opinion by Bud Osbourne

I wrote the following in response to a post on "I like to drive fast":

1.) Sadly, urban sprawl is rapidly surrounding too many "driving roads". Case in point: I drove the 14.7 mile route I used to drive, every day, to high school (mid-'60s), then, less frequently as I grew older.

Tight, twisty, hilly, unevenly surfaced (which 356's just EAT UP), with a couple of 100 MPH straights. All of it, except for the final mile or so, was out in the "sticks". Nobody around, almost never any traffic. My best time was 13.5 minutes, in a '59 356A, with the 60 horsepower, 1600 Normal engine (hey, we're only young, stupid and immortal at the same time ONCE, right?).

The "normal" transit time was about 21 minutes. As I grew more experienced and smoother (and older & wiser), the normal transit time dropped to the 17-19 minute bracket, with MUCH less drama.

Fast forward to last week: New houses everywhere. Driveways lurking over the brow of most hills. SUVs bumbling around as only SUVs can, on twisty roads. Speed limit signs (40 MPH) everywhere. This is "Progress", boys. Not sure just where we're progressing to, but, I have a feeling I don't wanna go there. Drove within 5 MPH of the speed limit (plus or minus) the whole way, feeling kinda sad the whole way. Oh, well. At least the section of pasture fence, which I came to "own" one rainy night, in the summer of '65, was still standing.

2.) We spend entirely too much money on cars which have performance potential we can NEVER responsibly use and that we really don't need in the first place. Hell, even some of today's "econo-boxes" have enough engine to get the novice in over his head in a hurry.

3.) Only a miniscule percentage of American drivers have even a clue as to what they are doing behind the wheel. If you don't believe me, go to where it snows a lot and watch people drive. Sadly (dangerously, too), a whole lot of those came, clueless drivers seem to be under the illusion that they know what they're doing behind the wheel.

4.) I used to believe that being able to drive quickly AND safely, over narrow, plunging country roads was something that that anyone could learn to do. I've recently come to believe that it's not quite that simple. Either you can or you can't. If you can, you are blessed. If you can't, you never will be able to and you'll only scare/hurt yourself (or worse) trying to learn.

5.) One of the most important things for a driver to learn and accept is the "limit" of his driving ability. Most drivers never learn. For many of those who do learn, it's their last, conscious act on this earth.

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WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

2348 Weston Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15241

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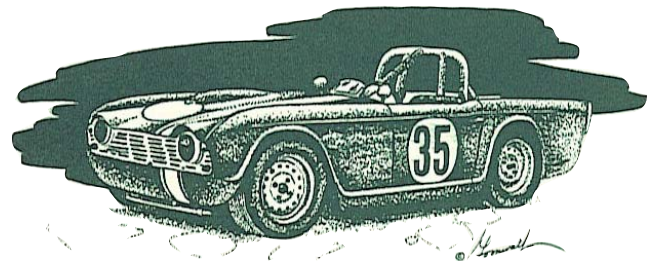
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November, 2008
Issue of the
Dzus Dnuz

November 11th, Beer & Bull Session
November 15th, Election Meeting

November 15th Election Meeting

WPTA election meeting will be held at King's Restaurant at 10AM on November 15. This is the King's on Rt 910 just off the Wexford exit on I79N.



Calendar of Events

- Nov 11 Beer & Bull Session**
6 pm at Geno's in Lawrenceville
5147 Butler Street
- Nov 15 Election Meeting,**
King's on Rt 910 at I-79
- Dec 13 No Meeting, Meeting,**
Gary Fredo 724-378-9610
- Jan 3, 2009 Holiday Party,**
Ken Mikos 412-795-8248



The line-up at Hartwood Acres



Dogs With Hogs 2008



Cars And Coffee in October



Some of the ladies at Dogs With Hogs



On the road back from the Glen