



Don's

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Zōōs Nūz

September, 2011

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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.

The Crack Of Don

Holy smoke, August has gone by. Last month there was Richard's golf outing on July 30th. Then in the middle, there was The Roadster Factory Summer Party; I had to work on Saturday so I didn't get there, what a shame. The dirty four letter word that all of us hate (r__n), held out till late. Then on PJ's Half Day Run there were a few of the fast group that just didn't get to the first stop. Fred's TR4 spun a wheel bearing. Bruce to the rescue he had one in his bag of goodies. The only problem was the threads were a little messed up on the spindle so not wanting to take a chance, out came the gold AAA card, an hour later the truck showed up. With Fred in the tow truck and Cathy and I in my TR3, we started home. Driving north on 79 just past Mt Nebo traffic just stopped. Who can tell me what happens to a TR3 in 5 miles of stop and go traffic in 80 degree temps? I can.

Next month there is the run to Erie with the MG club on the 17-18. Of course there is Watkins Glen on 9th thru the 11th for most of the guys. For the wives and guys there is Altoona on the 10th & 11th.

Then on the 25th there is Hartwood Show so read my article on that on page 3. Then the Anniversary Run on the Oct. 1st. Hope to see you someplace next month.

Don

Anniversary Run

by Ray Stockdale

Fall is fast approaching and the need to drive our cars as much as possible before old man winter sets in is mandatory. Join me and as many other WPTA members as possible

Saturday, October 1, 2011 for the Anniversary Run. You will see beautiful countryside while driving some the nicest county roads available. Long straight stretches, S turns up hills and down, while all the time enjoying the sun breaking through the leaves with a hint of fall in the air. What could sound better than British cars touring the countryside?

We will meet starting at 9:00AM at Long John Silvers, Crown Center Mall, Washington Pa, which is located off route 70 exit 15 on the western side of town where route 40 crosses. That exit is but a stones throw from where the Washington Wild Things Play.

We will form up and be off and running by 9:30. Route 18 south will be the first half of the tour. We will pass through Nineveh, Sycamore, with our break at the Sheetz in Waynesburg, Pa. From there we will drive the scenic route 188 through Jefferson, Dry Tavern heading towards the Mon River. We will end at a surprise eatery overlooking the river.

Get that British Car ready because a nice time will be had by all. We should have lunch around 12:30; the rest of the day will be yours to shift those gears home.

September -

Something for Everybody

by Bruce Stutzman

I know, I know, summer is waning and you don't like it! Cheer up. There are several very popular British car events in September and the anticipation should keep your spirits up.

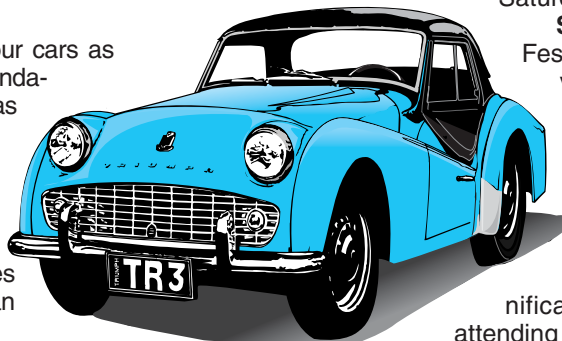
Sept. 8-11 Grand Prix Festival and vintage races at Watkins Glen. This is a four day celebration of vintage sports cars. If you are one of the many enthusiasts who are into the competition part of the hobby, you don't want to miss this. The first ever road race in the USA was held in Watkins Glen in 1948; it was held on public roads including Franklin Street, the main street in the village. Franklin Street is closed on Friday, the vintage sports cars come down from the track and reenact the original race. The race cars are in place on Franklin street for about an hour so you can see them up close and talk to their drivers. There is also an invitation only concours and the village is one big party into the night. Like us, once you have experienced this, you'll be back every year. 10 or 12 of us make this pilgrimage every year. Bud has already mapped out a new back roads route to travel.

This event is a 2-fer, the festival in the village on Friday and the vintage races at the track all weekend. With a huge Saturday car show thrown in.

Sept. 10&11 British Car Festival, Altoona, Pa. This is a very popular event that is sponsored by the Central PA British Car Club. It includes a funkana, pig roast, car show and seminars all for a mere \$25. A lot of club members and spouses/significant others have been attending this event for years.

Sept. 25 British Cars at Hartwood.

A very nice car show in an absolutely stunning setting sponsored by the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh. The mansion is open for tours during the show. Judging is popular vote. The pre-registration fee is \$20. Donny Harkus has plans for a club picnic at the show; read his column for details. Another very popular event for WPTA members.



Don's Alfa

Those of us who get Vintage Motorsport Magazine were delighted to find a great action photo of Don Wannagat's Alfa Romeo GTV at Mid Ohio in the Sep/Oct 2011 issue. Not three wheeling but close. Don can make that Alfa fly.

What A Delightful Weekend!

by Bud Osbourne

Just returned from TRF Summer Party a short time ago. I've lost count of how many times I've attended, but this must be close to 20 years of attendance for me.

The weekend started out for me on Thursday afternoon, when I jumped into my trusty MG Midget for my "tradition" of an all back roads journey to Indiana. As usual, the car ran like a top and I had a virtually "clear" run (no "crawlers" to slow me down) up PA routes 381 and 259, on an absolutely gorgeous afternoon.

Arriving in Indiana feeling totally invigorated, yet relaxed after such a great run in an open, classic British sports car, I checked into my room at an Indiana hotel and headed over to meet some of the other WPTA members at Jim Antis' house. Jim and his lovely wife, Chris, had very kindly invited the WPTA Thursday arrivals to their home for beer & bar-b-que that evening, plus some good story telling and tire-kicking in Jim's garage, while looking over the latest additions to the Antis stable.

During dinner, we established a schedule to determine which one of us would be responsible for keeping Bruce out of trouble. Jerry Van Vlack had the Thursday duty, Ed Woods had the Friday job and Bud had Saturday's responsibility. I can't report (sworn to secrecy) on how well we did, but the fact that Bruce AND his TR4 made it home un-scathed and under their own power is a pretty good indication of our success.

Friday morning saw Ed and Bud up early and heading to Armagh, to check-in and pick up our registration packets at TRF on a beautiful, crisp, clear day. What a GREAT day for driving classic British sports cars! After a suitable delay to allow for Bruce's distaste for early mornings, Bruce and Jerry managed to straggle in to TRF, where they found Bud and Ed reading over the route instructions for this year's Mountain Road Tour. Pat Davis, with his stunning, black TR2, was waiting for an urgently needed part to be "picked" from the shelves, and urged us to go on without him (he arrived in Ligonier not long after we did). We all agreed that we would like to stop for lunch in Ligonier and, given the hour of morning, it was decided to substitute our own route instructions for the very well thought-out and clearly stated ones from TRF. With Ed riding shotgun in Jerry's beautifully restored TR4A and Bruce pulling on the passenger seat of the Midget (you don't really ride in an MG Midget....you WEAR it!), off we went at a somewhat gentlemanly pace, taking what should be included in an upcoming WPTA Leaf Tour.

At Ligonier, Bruce performed his assigned duties (beer scout) with impressive efficiency, directing us to parking spaces right outside a very good tavern, where the patrons very kindly cleared a spot at the bar for us (Bruce threatened them? BRUCE????). Following a delicious lunch, washed down with a nice, cool summer lager, we headed back to TRF, taking a more direct route featuring significantly less G-loading and suspension travel.

A very relaxed, pleasant afternoon was spent at TRF looking at, and talking about cars and our life's experiences with same. There sure are a lot of nice folks who attend Summer Party each year!

After waiting a suitable amount of time in the shade of the big tent at TRF, reasoning that there would be NO shade at the drive-in theater, we hit the road for the 30 mile, back roads journey to the Carrolltown Drive-In. The roads had a fair amount of Friday evening traffic to deal with, but it was still a very pleasant, relaxing run with several slow-downs and pull-overs to allow a "survivor" TR3 (who tucked himself into our

group behind Bud's Midget, but ahead of Jerry's, Ed's and Doug Foyle's cars. We suspect the guy may have been a "flat-lander" and was petrified by the (for us) leisurely pace along the winding, plunging mountain roads. While we had some misgivings about the advertised "Ploughman's Lunch" that was to be served to us, we found that Charles and the TRF staff, once again, had out-done themselves and provided us with a very enjoyable feed in the parking lot of that somewhat rustic drive-in. Having no interest in trying to watch the movie, those from our group staying in Indiana departed Carrolltown just before sunset.

With a full moon rising in the clear, evening sky and virtually no traffic on the roads, our group had a great ride back to Indiana (nothing like the sound of a British sports car...or a group of British sports cars....accelerating out of a second gear corner in that crisp, cool night air!), where we stopped at the Coventry Inn for a night-cap. In the immortal words of Ed Major (respectfully borrowed from a beer commercial, of course): "guys, it doesn't get any better than this!"

At least one of us was feeling a bit sluggish on Saturday morning, but Bruce still managed to post fastest time in his class at the autocross. Naturally, this called for a bit of celebrating, so we headed over to the Coney for lunch and a beer, picking up our old WPTA friend Dave Jerman along the way.

After lunch, and a short rest, our group once again headed for TRF for the annual concours, dinner and award ceremonies, along with plenty of "tire-kicking", tall tale telling, and renewing old friendships among the Summer Party attendees, many of who travelled way over 1,000 miles just for this event. Dinner, as is now traditional, was delicious: pork, chicken or beef shishkabob, corn on the cob (REALLY good, fresh corn on the cob!), a veggie medley, etc. This is always a high point of a weekend event featuring plenty of high points.

Following the awards ceremony, Pat Davis won his class as usual and a bit of listening to a really decent, two man "band", our intrepid group headed back to their respective lodging, in Indiana (Doug Foyle and Jeff Lee continue to be the adventurous ones and still camp-out at TRF).

Sunday morning dawned cloudy and definitely rainy. Yuck! No big deal, however, as Ed pulled his TR3A under the hotel portico and we put the top up. Following a relaxed breakfast and coffee, we said our good-byes and headed to our respective homes.

Re-tracing my route from Thursday, I enjoyed a great ride home as the rain slackened, then stopped entirely. It should be highlighted, for those of you who seem to have become a bit "nerdy" about driving your Triumphs (or MGs....we know you are out there) farther than around your own neighborhoods: our group enjoyed an absolutely flawless performance from our cars (with the exception of one member doing an endurance test.....10 years!!!..... on a top radiator hose).

This event (TRF Summer Party) won't go on forever. We're all getting older and, one year, it will be no more. Better make plans to attend next year, while you still can!

Other WPTA members in attendance were Eric Stoltz, Jim Keenan and Rich Roenigk.

Thursday night at Jim Antis'



Picnic at Hartwood

by Don Harkus

This year I am bringing a small grill to British Cars at Hartwood, **Sept 25th**. So this is an invitation to all club members. I will have some dogs and buns for grilling and sharing. If you are going to come, and if you would like to join in some good company of friends, bring what you want and share what you like. That is what makes a good picnic and great time remembered. If you have never gone to the Hartwood Show this is a great low keyed relaxed time, because we are not working, we are just enjoying the cars and people. See you there.

Classified

FOR SALE: New, MGB Tonneau cover with headrest, with snaps (but not affixed), \$150. MGB Grill badge with housing, new, \$20. Misc. carpet pieces, black \$10. Grab-bag with other MGB misc. parts \$10. Ed Major, 412-965-1722. email: ejmajortr3a@comcast.net



Photo by Bruce Stutzman

Summer Party Candid



Photos by Eric Stoltz



Erie Trip

by Bob Affleck

September 17 & 18. We will be meeting at the Park & Ride off I-79 exit 83 (Evans City) at 9:00am on Saturday September 17th. Please join us for a leisurely drive up to Erie PA for lunch followed by a visit to the Erie Maritime Museum, (\$7 group rate) and the U.S. Flag Ship "Niagara". We then go on to the winery tour. The owner is a car enthusiast and is doing a small reception for us.

Overnight accommodation are at the Holiday Inn Express, North East (\$110 special rate), at Exit 41 on I-90. Phone #814-725-4400 and reference the Pittsburgh MG Club to get this rate. We have plans for dinner at a local family style restaurant once we are all checked in.

Sunday after breakfast (included) we go to Titusville and the Drake Well Museum, (\$5, but doesn't open till noon), and then head for home. Queries? Bob Affleck 724-935-4951 or George Kress, 724-625-7264

Fall Leaf Tour

by Don Harkus

This year our tour on **October 15th** will go scenic back roads. I am hopeful we have a beautiful late autumn day. We should see some perfect colored leaves and maybe even a Bald Eagle that nests off the river. We will be departing from Wendy's off of Route old 28 junctions of Route 910 and the turnpike at 10:30. We will drive somewhat along the Allegheny River to our heading of the Allegheny Grill in Foxburg. We should arrive around 1:30 for a late lunch. We will have a few pit stops along the way.

~ Calendar of Events ~

- Sept 17-18 MG Club Erie Tour**
Bob Affleck 724-935-4951
or raffleck@connecttime.net
- Sep 19 Cars & Coffee**
Rick Brown 724-969-0118
- Sep 20 Bud's Beer & Bull**
6 pm at Ferguson's Pub, Cuddy, PA
Bud Osbourne 724-356-4464
- Sep 26 Dzus Druz Meeting, 6:00 PM**
Primanti's I-79 Exit 60
- Oct 1 Anniversary Run,**
Ray Stockdale 724-627-7422
- Oct 15 WPTA Fall Leaf Tour**
Don Harkus 724-486-2023
- Oct 23 MG Club Fall Leaf Tour**
Chuck Kellor
- Nov 5 Guy Fawkes Day**
With MG Club
- Nov 12 Election Meeting,**
King's at I-79 Wexford exit
- Dec 10 No Meeting, Meeting,**
Gary Fredo 724-378-9610
- Jan ??, 2011 Holiday Party,**
Ken Mikos 412-400-9293

~ Events Of Other Interest ~

- Sept 8-11 Vintage Races, Watkins Glen**
- Sept 10-11 British Car Festival, Altoona**
- Sept 16-18 British Invasion, Stowe VT**
- Sept 25 British Cars at Hartwood**

Established
1977



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION

2348 Weston Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15241

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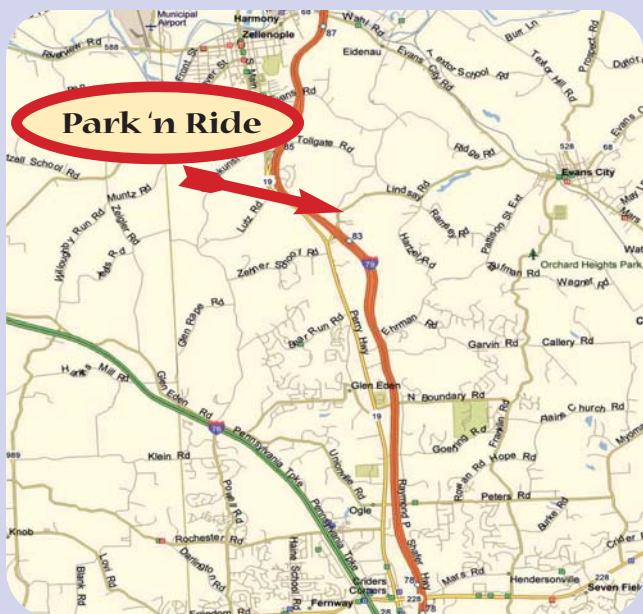
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*September, 2011
Issue of the
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Sept. 20, Beer & Bull - Sept. 19 Cars & Coffee
Sept. 17-18 MG Club Erie Tour
October 1, WPTA Anniversary Run

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TRF Summer Party Photos



Photo by Bruce Stutzman

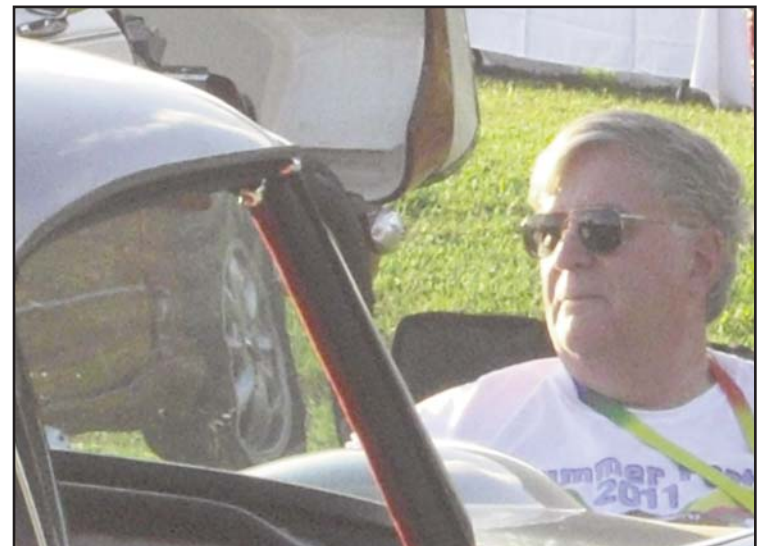


Photo by Eric Stoltz