#### VOL. XLIII NUMBER 4 • MINNESOTA TRIUMPHS SPORTS CAR CLUB NEWSLETTER • APRIL 2023









"Call for entries"...four over-the-winter projects from Bill C, Roger K, Greg T and Terry M.

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#### Tech Session Scheduled for April 15 - see page 12.

Please note the new location for the Club Meeting below - Lucky's 13 in Roseville.

## About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs formed in 1975 when our club was first given a Charter with the Triumphs Sports Owners Association.



Since then, the club has grown to more than 150 members from throughout the Midwest.

Our activities include:

- Monthly meetings
- Social gatherings
- Tech sessions
- Road rallies
- Regional and national events

We welcome all Triumph enthusiasts, whether you own a concours winning showpiece, are restoring a diamond in the rough, are searching for just the right addition to your garage or just appreciate the marque.

Together we can locate those hard-to-find parts and assist one another in keeping our vehicles on the road. But most of all, the club offers opportunities to explore some of the best roads in the region with others who enjoy the Triumph experience.

## **Monthly Meetings**

Membership meetings are the SECOND THURSDAY of the month January through October. **Our next meeting is April 13** at the **Lucky's 13 in Roseville**. The address is 2480 Fairview Ave N Roseville MN 55113. It's north of Rosedale Mall. **For membership information visit our website at** www.mntriumphs.org

Minnesota Triumphs is a charter member of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR). For VTR Membership information visit

## www.vtr.org



## PREZ RELEASE

Hello friends,

As I write this we are putting a close to March and looking ahead to spring. I hope you all are doing well.

It has been a long winter and I am happy to see it draw to an end. Not only to fill my soul with sunshine and new energy, but to also get on the road. I have gotten my motorcycle in order as well as a carb build out (Thanks to Larry Berg) and a water pump replacement

for the TR in the month of April. I can't wait for Mother Nature to wash our roads free of salt and for the city to do their part and fill in all of the pot holes.

I'm not sure how much I want to drive at least in the metro area. It's pretty treacherous in a lot of areas!

Thanks to all that have made their way out to the new meeting location, Lucky's 13. Attendance has been great and we have had many new faces, whether new members or folks that find the location a little easier to get to come in for a visit. It's different but nice. The food is great and the room is amazing. We need to work through some details but I feel like it is improving every time. I'll be curious to see how the snow melt and the closing of Bed, Bath and Beyond helps our parking situation when car weather is better.

I'm still amazed at how many new members we draw every year. I ran into Mark from Quality Coaches last Friday at lunch and he mentioned that he just recommended our club to some new folks that just got a Triumph. I love how large our network is.

We have plenty of events to participate in this year. I'm excited about Spring Kick Off, my first Rendezvous, the summer picnic, Hastings Rivertown Days and mornings at the Keg and Coffee event. I also love the fact that a group of folks are meeting monthly for lunches. It is fantastic to see our community self organize events to get together. I need to retire so I can come join you for lunch.

I sure would love to work with someone to figure out the high tea event. If there is someone I can connect with I'd like to figure out how to make that one happen this year. There hasn't been one since I've joined and it sounds like a a fun tradition to pick up again.

Finally, one of the reasons I became a Triumph fan is because I bought a Stag and wanted to connect with Triumph lovers. I am so proud to be a member of such a generous and giving group of people. I'd love to hear from you on what you're excited about for this year or things that I could be doing to help our club be greater than it already is. (If that is even possible)

Until then...

Cheers! David



## March 2023 Meeting Minutes - Jill Davenport

3/9/2023 Meeting Minutes Lucky 13, Roseville, MN

Call to order 7:01 29 in attendance, 33 degrees, snowing. No triumphs in the parking lot New Members: Jordan Freitag and Kendra Tillberry, 1975 TR6; Jeff and Nancy Senn 1958 TR3; Steve Schwister, TR3; Joan Ostenson, TR8. Previous Meeting Notes approved. New location update - Lucky 13. There was a little snafu with food and beverage checks being created by table, so

Reports

Treasurer - Brandon Baker, absent. David reported on his behalf.

someone will talk to management before the next meeting.

Membership - Mike Smith, 108 online and in the mail so far, but that still leaves many to renew by March 31.

Newsletter - Greg and Carol Thompson, the deadline for the April newsletter is March 15 - please submit any reports on projects on your car. New members are invited to tell their stories!

Events Coordinator - Bill Connell. Spring Shake Down cruise May 6. Spring kick-off May 20 - in Osseo, volunteers needed. Our club is hosting the car show in Hastings again on July 23rd. The summer picnic will be on August 5, same park as last year. Our club is hosting the Internarque picnic on July 27, Cherokee Park. VTR in the fall. We still need a volunteer to host the Fall Colors tour and the High Tea in November.

Tech Sessions - Frank Weber, absent. Bill reports all tech sessions are available. Claim one for your car!

VTR Liaison - Greg Thompson, we still have a long time to get ready for September.

Intermarque Liaison - Glen Wilson, no report. VTR insurance needs to be paid.

Webmaster - Bill Connell & Fred Olson, no report.

Historian - Bill Nelson. Fun facts on Triumph cars in America: 3,000 TR2s manufactured from 1952-55; 6,481 TR3s manufactured from 1955-57; 49,673 TR3As manufactured from 1957-62; 3,263 TR3Bs manufactured from 1962-63. He brought a picture of a California Triumphfest gathering at Sacramento in 1993 - two boxes were provided to each attendee to put under their car so they wouldn't leak on the Capitol drive!

Vice President - Doug Foster, no report

Regalia - Dan Booth. Order anything through Dan via email.

Past President/Member-at-large - Chip Lederer, no report.

Ongoing Club Business Rendezvous update - Pat Holt, absent. Rendezvous event June 8-10. 90 rooms booked. 30 registrations so far.

New Business

Wayne has pictures tonight to share from pre-2000. Terry Mackey wants to know who has the banners. Maybe Pat Holt? Bill has pricing for Triumph Club Flag Banners to use for car shows and suggests we buy one, plus the stand. Door Prizes: lots of numbers drawn for books from the Gelhar museum collection.

Adjourn 7:42

# Website - Bill Connell

The MN Triumphs club website is: <u>https://</u> www.mntriumphs.org

We've added a Drives and Tours page to the club website with some of our favorite driving routes and destinations. Send your routes

to <u>webmaster@mntriumphs.org</u> to add them to the list!

If you want to have your car featured on the site, send the story about your car and a photo or two, and I'll add it. Or, just send a photo and it can be in the rotating photos on the home page.

Please email your car photos and stories <u>webmaster@mntriumphs.org</u>, or if you see anything missing, not working right, or if you have other ideas for new things to add.



Scan the QR code to go to the website listed above.

# Regalia - Dan Booth

Minnesota Triumphs Club logo apparel is available on demand in many different styles, for men and women, with different logos and colors.

Contact our apparel coordinator Dan Booth to start an order, he can get you the item and logo you're looking for. Text or call 651-208-9355 or email <u>dbooth41@gmail.com</u>

See samples of Dan's work: <u>Mag-</u> <u>nolia Screen</u> <u>Printing Ink on</u> <u>Facebook ; Mag-</u> <u>nolia Screen</u> <u>Printing Ink on</u> <u>Instagram</u>



# Membership - Mike Smith



# Membership Renewals

The 2023 membership Drive is now complete and I will send the 2023 Club Roster out on Groups.io email messaging by April 15th.

It is great to see many new faces in the club. In 2022 we welcomed approximately 25 new members and we already have 8 new registrations in 2023! Let's all try to connect with some new members this year!

If you still wish to join or renew **please pay electronically** through PayPal on our website's "membership" page. This is the easiest method for all involved. **Follow this link to register** <u>https://www.mntriumphs.org/about-the-minnesota-triumphs-sports-car-club/membership/</u>.

Mike Smith, Membership Chairperson membership@mntriumphs.org

The MN Triumphs welcomes the following new members in the first 3 months of 2023:

Geoff and Nancy Senn '58 TR3 Steve and Kathy Schwister '59 TR3 Jordan Freitag and Kendra Tillberry '75 TR6 Tom Kroeten '71 TR6 Brett Schneider '75 TR6 Mark Bergmeier 75 TR6 Michael Dobbins '72 GT6 Joan Ostensen TR8

# Clubs, Groups, Et al.

While at a dinner event for the group I just joined, my wife was chatting with a former member of our club, (MN TR's) and they both are members of needlework groups. That got me thinking when I was counting sheep last night, as I am part of the "can't go to sleep club", how many groups, free or for a fee am I part of? Your numbers and variety may vary but be truthful now!

I very seldom post anything on Facebook but my groups list there is 27! Yes, and I was surprised too. Mostly Triumph related but a few racing groups, a couple of German car pages and a high school class page. For me it's a way to keep an ear on what's happening in the greater car world through the eyes of real people. Magazines are great but the editors pick and choose what to write about so you are at the whim of their desire any given day whereas posts that pop up on chat boards are things that people want to explore right now.

Greg



Most any day you can find information on electric fuel pumps, seat upholstery, tire size, six ways to add a I have joined yet another club and by the end of the summer, I will be a member of 3 race groups alone. relay to your headlight and on and on. If what you want to know is not in a quick google search, you can post it on a chat board on a number of sites and most times will have an answer in minutes or at most hours. Sometimes they may be laced with opinions you may or may not want to heed but there are a lot of good folks with a lot of knowledge more than willing to share.





The 2023 Vintage SportsCar Rendezvous will be having an early bird drawing for everyone who registered before May 1st for reimbursement of their registration fee.(\$130 value) Registration is by mail or online @ <u>https://www.mntriumphs.org/2023-rendezvous-online-registration/</u>

I'm happy to say that with both hotels reporting that our block of rooms is almost gone, The Cobblestone Inn will expand the number of rooms available at the discounted rate. For both hotels, be sure to mention that you're with the Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous event, otherwise you will be told they're full and you won't get a room. The <u>Cobblestone Inn and Suites</u> (715-682-5066) <u>The Chequamegon Hotel</u>, 715-682-9095 When both these hotels fill up, the town of Ashland still offers a wide range of accommodation up and down the price scale. <u>https://www.visitashland.com/plan-your-visit/lodging/</u>

The schedule of driving events and activities planned are shaping up, and we'll keep adding updates to our website as they're available. Thursday registration will open at 1.pm at the Chequamegon with a funkhana going on in the parking lot across the street followed by a Meet & Greet, deck party with drawings from 6 till 9.pm

On Friday the Madeline Island trip by ferry will leave at 9.am. <u>https://www.madelineisland.com/</u> This year's ferry pricing is \$31 for a car plus \$17 per person. For those who want to sleep in, other tours will be run on a more leisurely start of 10:30.

Saturday will be busy with a morning Car Show and an afternoon Autocross and finishing the day with another party/banquet on the deck at The Chequamegon Hotel.

The team of volunteers from the Minnesota Triumph Club invites everyone to come and enjoy the beautiful roads and meet the great people that make this get together such a success every year.

Patrick Holt MnTr's

Register now at https://www.mntriumphs.org/2023-rendezvous-online-registration/

## **Roger Kraemer**

My 80 TR7 engine compartment getting ready to paint before I install a GM 3800 fuel injected V6 with a 4L60E OD transmission.

The front brakes will be the slotted rotors and calipers from my TR8. That car is getting a Willwood brake set up.

The TR7 is also getting electric PS, custom dash and gauges and my special touches on the interior.

As usual, as much chrome as I have cash for.







### Greg Thompson - Race Car Upgrades



Although the bones of my race car are good, there are many things that were not done the way I would have done them. The sway bar link was improperly attached (left) to the lower spring pan so the geometry was not correct and the bar was binding.

I also wanted to add an 02 sensor so I can properly tune the carbs for max power without being too lean or too rich.

The windscreen was made from thin plexiglass and just bent into place, not heat formed. It was also cracking at all the holes.

Last but not least, the transmission is a completely stock TR4 unit. I will upgrade to the later steel bushed gears with a close ratio gear set. This is achieved by changing the input gearing to rotate the counter shaft faster increasing the speed in 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> relative to 4th. You then change the 3<sup>rd</sup> gear pair to get an end result of 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> being closer together.



## **Bill Connell**

## Home-built TR6 steering wheel

The original 1969 steering wheel was a unique design for that year, with a different center hub than later years, featuring a series of holes similar to racing cars and Jaguars of the period. Here's my original wheel with a black leather cover and some excellent patina.

The problem, for a tall driver like me, is that the original wheel is also huge. It's 15" across, and while I love the proportions of the wheel I don't love that my right leg is constantly against it while I'm driving.

There are plenty of replacement wheels available, but they're expensive and require replacing the center hub. I like the unique look of the center pad, and since it's a simple bolt-on design I liked the idea of only replacing the wheel, so I decided to just make my own.

I made a CAD drawing of the critical dimensions to replicate the center structure of the wheel and laid it out on a piece of 3/16" (7 gauge) 6061 aluminum. I got the plate from a local metal supplier as a cutoff for \$24. It's just a little thicker than the original wheel material.



Original steering wheel fit



New Steering Wheel Layout

I laid out the critical measurements on the metal with a protractor and caliper, then started drilling out access for a jig saw. With the rough cuts done I started drilling out the spoke holes. I used a large bit for

access for a jig saw. With the rough cuts done I started drilling out the spoke holes the smaller ones then switched to a step drill for the rest.

I decided to do a quick test fit to make sure I was on the right track before getting too far into shaping. So far so good, but still feels a bit dangerous for a test drive.

Then the filing work began in earnest. I made quite a pile of aluminum bits of much filing. This is when I seriously wondered why I didn't look for a water jet or laser cutter to make a cleaner blank earlier. I gradually worked my way down to a decent shape, with a lot of measuring along the way to keep things symmetrical.





The original wheel is slightly dished, which helps a bit with the leg room. Since I'm making this from a single piece it seems difficult (and maybe risky) to form this 6061 aluminum into a dish without cracks. To help account for that, I made a spacer to help bring the wheel forward a bit.

The spacer required a small side job to get a new set of longer mounting bolts, and filing the new nuts to fit in the hub, since the hub holds the nuts from turning. It took a few thousandths of filing before the nuts fit perfectly.



Fitting the spacer and new mounting bolts

#### **Bill Connell - continued**



I mounted the wheel with some temporary foam grip for a test drive, and I could immediately tell the difference in space around the wheel - there's a gap above my legs, and the difference in steering effort seems negligible. It helped to have the wheel in place and see where I needed to refine the shape. After some more filing I called it done and painted it black.

I thought for a while on what to do about making a grip for the rim. Most similar steering wheels use a wood rim, but I'm planning to use a leather cover on the wheel like the original, so it doesn't seem worth the trouble to make one in wood. I looked at several options for different foams, but nothing seemed like a good fit or easy to work with.

In the end, I was inspired by the cork grips on one of my bicycles. It's a good density, fairly durable, and easy to work with. I got a roll of 4mm sheet cork from the craft store, cut out some arc shapes then glued them on with high-strength adhesive spray.

I trimmed away the big pieces with a utility knife and started sanding with 50 grit paper. I protected the paint with some masking tape. The cork sands easily, so I focused mostly on making good curves and bringing the size down close to the (new) thickness of the rim, making a lot of cork dust in the process.





It's hard to tell whether the shape is right on the workbench, so I installed the wheel at this point and drove it for a few days to get a feel for it and fine-tune the shape. I had the wheel on and off the car several times to fine-tune the curves before it felt right.

The cork looks and feels great, and I was tempted to leave it bare, but I know how grimy cork bike grips get over time, so I ordered a black leather cover from Wheelskins, made to my measurements. The cover about doubled the cost of the project, to about \$120 total, including metal, cork, and new bolts.

It was a lot of work, but I'm happy with it, and love that it looks like it could be original to the car, and the horn still works fine with the original center cover and hardware.

## **Terry Mackey**

TR4!/LTC:

Using a quart of oil every 600 miles warranted investigation. "The Triumph Clinic" (Larry B./Joe D.) and I found that some upper engine work was due. While the head was removed we noticed the tappets were pitted and cam was worn. New valves, guides, seals, tappets, and cam were installed. Now for a good engine break-in...

With the car still on jack stands, Wayne M. and I replaced the transmission /overdirv e with a Greg T. rebuild.

Now it's ready for this year's Rendezvous, VTR and other great club events.





# April 15 Tech Session

Hello fellow Club members.

We have a Tech Session scheduled to start at **10:00 a.m on April 15, 2023**. The event will take place at Brett Schneider's home. Address and phone number will be provided through Groups.io.

If all goes as planned we will be installing a "Magic Clutch kit " from the Roadster Factory into a "original" 1975 TR6 with factory overdrive transmission.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the event.

Happy Motoring. Frank Weber

We look forward to seeing you there.











If not, pick 'em up at the next club meeting or club event. Or contact membership chair at <membership@mntriumphs.org>

#### **Minnesota Triumphs Tech Specialists**



As a service to fellow members, club members with an expertise in a particular model of Triumph have volunteered to act as tech specialists for that model. They don't know everything but they do know a lot. So, if you have a question, give them a call. TR2-3B -

TR4 - John Myers (507-633-2017)

TR4A - Larry Sanderson (507-775-6940)

TR250/TR6 - Orrin McGill (763-755-7765)

- TR7 Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)
- TR8 Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)

Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)

GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)

Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)



# 2023 NORTH AMERICAN TRIUMPH CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2023 DILLARD, GA

The **Georgia Triumph Association** and **British Auto Owners of Middle Georgia** are proud to host the 2023 North American Triumph Challenge (as it's correctly known), scheduled for September 27 – October 1, in Dillard, Georgia!

Triumphs & Tribulations is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club. It is published monthly except for November and December. Deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All the opinions expressed in the articles, columns and other materials are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of MTSCC. MTSSC is not responsible for any technical advise which may appear in these pages. Classified ads in the Triumph Trader are free to MTSCC members and to members of other Triumph clubs. Submissions should be sent to the editor. Non-member and commercial notices are published for \$5.00 per month.

# TRIUMPH TRADER

#### For Sale

The Gelhar family has decided that it is time to part with Greg's TR6. Nancy has asked that I post this notice first with the Minnesota Triumphs Club in hopes that it will remain associated with the club. Being familiar with the car and its history I will be happy to field any questions. This well maintained 1973 TR6 shows only 58,xxx miles and is ready for the road. Asking \$18,500. The attached photo speaks for its overall condition.

Nancy Gelhar (763) 670-5346 ; Larry Berg (763) 228-0072 lsbergdtm@gmail.com





For Sale I have many parts for all Triumphs. I have motors, frames, wheels and most other parts.

Email me at wmorris11134@yahoo.com or call me at 612-723-4602 or text. - Wayne Morris



#### For Sale

Rare, authentic Ansa exhaust for 1972-1976 TR6 (Ansa part# TR0840). Twin down pipe, two mufflers/two resonators with 2 3/8" slash cut, chrome plated quad exhaust pipes. These are one of the last sets acquired before Ansa discontinued production (again) a couple of years ago. Less than 500 miles, like-new condition. They will fit fine over rear sway bars. Note they are significantly louder than stock, but these were attached to a high performance motor with aftermarket, free flowing, ceramic coated headers. They won't be as loud with a stock motor/exhaust manifold, but will still be louder than an OEM muffler. \$450 firm. **Contact Steve Greenstein @ 651-494-7214** 



### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

If you'd like to host an event think about a favorite antiques stop or day trip you like to take and let's make a club outing of it! Contact Bill Connell to get it added to the calendar.

Please see the events page on MN Triumphs website for more information about our different events and a google calendar with the events for the year. <u>http://www.mntriumphs.org/events.shtm</u> Or scan the QR code to go to the website.

## April

13 Club Meeting

**15** Tech Session, replacing a clutch in Brett Schneider's 1975 TR6

#### May

6 Spring Shakedown Tour, Bob Lee & Dave Phillips hosting

11 Club Meeting

13 Tech Session - OPEN

20 InterMarque Spring Kick- Off, Osseo

#### June

8 Club Meeting
10 Tech Session - OPEN
8 -10 Rendezvous - Ashland, WI
23-25 MSRA Back to the 50s
25 Intermarque picnic - Cherokee Park

## July

6-8 Iola Car show - <u>https://www.iolaoldcarshow.com</u>
8 Tech Session - OPEN
13 Club meeting
14-16 Kastner Cup at Road America
23 MN Triumphs host Rivertown Days car show in Hastings
30 Intermarque Picnic - Cherokee Park

## August

5 MN Triumphs Club Summer Picnic! Spring Lake Park Reserve, Hastings10 Club Meeting

12 Tech Session - OPEN

12 Britfest - Hudson, Wisconsin

**17-20** Rendezvous in the Black Hills - contact Bob Arnio at rendezvousintheblackhills@gmail.com.

**27** MN Triumphs host the Intermarque Picnic - Cherokee Park

#### September

9 Tech Session - OPEN
9 Wheels & Wings, Osceola, WI
14 Club meeting
24 Waumandee Time Trials - open to cars at least 20 years old
24 Intermarque Picnic - Cherokee Park
27-Oct 1 VTR National in Dillard, GA

#### October

8 BMC Open House, Isanti, MN
12 Club Meeting
14 Tech Session - OPEN
TBD - 14 or 15 - Fall Color Tour - Need a Host

#### November

TBD High Tea - Need a Host

**Every Saturday:** Intermarque breakfast: currently meeting at Elsie's at 9am - 729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis, 55413 - See Intermarque calendar at <u>http://intermarque.org/index.php/event-calendar/</u>



# **2022 OFFICERS**

President - David Anderson	Tech Session - Frank Weber
President@mntriumphs.org	Techsessions@mntriumphs.org
Vice President - Doug Foster	Intermarque Liaison - Glenn Wilson
VicePresident@mntriumphs.org	Intermarqueliaison@mntriumphs.org
<u> Treasurer</u> - Brandon Baker	VTR Liaison - Greg Thompson
Treasurer@mntriumphs.org	VTR Liasion@mntriumphs.org
Secretary Jill Davenport	Event Coordinator - Bill Connell
Secretary@mntriumphs.org	Events@mntriumphs.org
<u>Membership</u> - Mike Smith	<u>Webmaster</u> - Bill Connell
Membership@mntriumphs.org	Webmaster@mntriumphs.org
Newsletter - Greg & Carol Thompson	<u>Regalia</u> - Dan Booth
Newsletter@mntriumphs.org	Regalia@mntriumphs.org
Newsletter Cover Submissions - Terry Mackey	<u>Historian</u> - Bill Nelson
Mackey421@gmail.com	Historian@mntriumphs.org
	Past President
	Chip Lederer

A Look In The Rearview Mirror Submitted by Bill Nelson - Historian



5 years ago

April 2018

- From the minutes of the March meeting. 36 members gathered for the March meeting. Welcome to new member Joe Alexander who lives in Iowa.
- There are color photos credited to Bob Peterson of the winter party. There are also color photos of the Dan Booth tech session.
- From the Triumph Trader. Give away. GT6 transmission cover, original fiber type. Dave.

10 years ago

April 2013

- From the minutes of the March 14, 2013 meeting. Welcome to new members Linda Nelson and her son Alex with their recently acquired 1968 Spitfire.
- Triumphest 2013 and VTR National Convention in the greater San Francisco Bay area. October 2 through 6, 2013.
- New member Carla Herling had a nice introductory 3 page story of her life and love of cars.
- There was to be a Do-It-Yourself auto paint seminar at Welle Auto Supply.



# March Informal Lunch



**Triumphs & Tribulations** c/o Greg & Carol Thompson, Editors 1528 Haller Ct S Maplewood, Minnesota 55119