



TRIUMPHS & TRIBULATIONS



Winter Projects and Luncheon

Work to be finished by the driving season?...sure. Another lunch gathering. Find our club logo?

About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club formed in 1975 when our club was first given a Charter with the Triumph 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
- Group drives
- 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 will be April 11th, 2024 at the Lucky's 13 in Roseville. The address is 2480 Fairview Ave N Roseville, MN 55113, just north of Rosedale Mall.

For membership information visit our website at www.mntriumphs.org

Minnesota Triumphs is a chartered chapter of the Triumph Sports Owners Association (TSOA) and a chartered chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR).

For VTR Membership information visit www.vtr.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)
TR7/8 - Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)
Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)
GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)
Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)

Triumphs & Tribulations is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club (MTSCC). It is published monthly except for December and January. Deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All of the opinions expressed in the articles, columns, and other materials are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the MTSCC. MTSCC is not responsible for any technical advice which may appear in these pages. Classified ads in the Triumph Trader are free to MTSCC members and to members of other Triumph clubs. Non-member and commercial notices are published for \$5 per month.

All submissions should be emailed to the editor: Newsletter@mntriumphs.org

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Back cover: Jill Davenport created her own Drive Your Triumph day, driving her Spitfire from Minneapolis to it's new garage in Northfield in late February (not quite top-down weather). "The first time starting it since October required some perseverance, but then it purred!"

Prez Release

Greetings fellow car enthusiasts!

I hope you have been well. I write to you today from Boston where we are having our companies annual sales kickoff.

Being a home office person I love this event because it gets everyone thinking about the year ahead and how we can position and sell new products but also refine and make our existing ones go the extra mile.

I feel like our cars are the same way. What parts are going to stay the course another year and which one am upgrading. I hope you are doing the same to keeps cars cars in the road.

Speaking of cars on the road I am thinking of how we get more connected with our new members and ensure they are getting the value out of the club. I

am looking to launch a welcoming event. If anyone wants to help let me know.

For now work on your list, and let's get motoring.

Cheers, David



February 2024 Meeting Notes

February 8, 2024 meeting minutes

Call to order 6:59

23 in attendance at Lucky's 13, Roseville, MN. Several folks are away on winter vacations. The only Triumph in attendance is a matchbox Spitfire that Bill Nelson brought.

Agenda and previous minutes were approved.

No new members present.

We still have vacant position for club secretary, need someone to fill the position full-time

Reports

Membership - Mike Smith reports 80 registrations and renewals so far, the member drive goes for another month.

Treasury - income is up from renewals, no new expenses.

Events - Brandon filled in for the vacationing Pat.

The May 11 spring shakedown tour will start at the Chester Bird American Legion in Golden Valley, and generally cruise around Lake Minnetonka.

Stone arch bridge car show and Lift Garage benefit car show were added to the calendar.

Tech sessions: Feb 10 - Mike Smith doing maintenance on his Spitfire

March 9 - Chip is hosting a clinic on powder coating parts. Attendees can bring a prepped part to powder coat during the session.

April 13 - helping David put his Stag together

Intermarque - Spring Kickoff is May 18. VW is chosen marque, expecting a lot of VWs at the show. Volunteer signup sheet coming soon.

This Day in History

- 1912, due to the Madrid earthquake, the Mississippi river temporarily ran backwards
- 1935, Monopoly game is published
- 1964, the Fab 4 landed in US
- 1968 the 100,000th Spitfire came off the production line

New business

We want to keep our eye out for other possible meeting locations. The starting point of the spring shakedown tour (Bird American Legion) is a good candidate. Axels on Hwy 13 might be another option worth checking out.

Bob Lee suggested looking at other weeknights as an option, would Tuesdays be easier to get a good room? Sunday afternoons?



Raffle winners

Clarence Westberg & Kathee Nelson - gift card

Bob Lee - original TR6 shop manual

George McCracken - 100th anniversary badge

Meeting adjourned at 7:24

Membership Update

By Mike Smith, Membership

Only 30 days left to renew your club membership! We still have over 50 memberships who haven't renewed yet. You must be in good standing to be on the 2024 roster and to remain on the Triumph Club's distribution email list through Groups.io.

Cost is \$30 for a household membership allowing up to two registrations from your home. Additional fees apply if you want printed copies of newsletters instead of the emailed pdf. The deadline for 2024 is March 31st.

Please **renew and pay electronically** through PayPal on our website's "membership" page. This is the easiest method for all involved and will make sure we have your current phone and address for the 2024 directory! Most of your data will auto-fill from your computer!



Follow this link to register:
www.mntriumphs.org/about/membership/

Remember, you're not registered until you've finished payment through the **PayPal / Credit Card** portion of the registration process!

You do not need to have a PayPal account to do this, just a credit card. Enter your info as you wish to be listed in the roster.

The printed renewal form is also available on the website if you wish to send the non-preferred renewal method of a paper registration and check instead.

Mail to:
Mike Smith, MN Triumphs
3260 Garland Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55447

membership@mntriumphs.org

Member spotlight:

Steve & Kathy Schwister

A Triumph has been in my family, one way or another, for 60+ years now. My father bought a '59 TR3 new; that one was sold after he married my mom and the second born kid (me) outgrew the cardboard box that served as a car seat. Times were different then.

He immediately regretted selling it and so a few years after he bought a '60 TR3 for a father-son project. We worked on that on-and-off for many years, lots of good memories. My dad passed away a few years ago and I still have that project car sitting in my barn. Not wanting to wait for a restoration, I acquired a restored '59 TR3 last winter. So now I have two TRs. We are looking forward to exploring MN / WI backroads with the '59 and meeting up with some like-minded folks in the coming months.



VTR National Convention 2024



September 8 - 12, 2024

Nashville, Indiana

Hosted by Indiana Triumph Cars

Celebrating 50 Years of "The Shape"



Join us in Nashville, Indiana for the 2024 VTR National Convention. The event will be based at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park, just outside Nashville. Brown County, the "Little Smokies" of Indiana, has amazing topography and great driving roads for you to explore. Between Columbus and Bloomington, Nashville's downtown is home to many artists, tasting rooms, distilleries, and restaurants.



Registration is OPEN now!

Seats for Banquet are limited. Register Early!

indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention



Letter from the editor

by Bill Connell

My own winter project was to get myself a small metal lathe. I didn't have a specific project in mind, but I've had several projects lately, both Triumph and other, where I kept needing a custom spacer or customized fastener or something else I needed but couldn't easily buy.

Like any good mechanical nerd before the 1990s or so, I took metal shop in high school. I used a lathe there (and still have the awl I made), but that was last century.

With Christmas coming, I figured I'd learn how to use the lathe by making gifts, and spend my shopping time in the shop.

I made several pens and toy tops out of brass and aluminum. This is most of the metal shavings after making just one batch.

I learned that when you turn brass at higher speeds it flies absolutely everywhere in a fountain of yellow metal shards

Ok, but this is a Triumph club newsletter, time to make some Triumph parts. I always liked the look of those fancy valve cover



nuts that Richard Good sells, so that's the first car project.

The prototype turned out nice enough, and it fits!

I copied the o-ring idea to seal the hole, those copper sealing washers are always a hassle when taking the cover off for valve checks.

They'll stay brass rather than trying to nickel plate them, and I think they'll look good after some tarnish and age under the hood. Now I just need to make 2 more exactly like this one and then try them out once the car is out of storage.



Drive Your Triumph Day

Five intrepid club members took advantage of our relatively warm spell (or at least the end of it) to celebrate Sir John Black's birthday on February 10th with a drive in their Triumph.



Dave Heglund with his GT6



Brock Thorson's TR3

Doug Foster's TR6 at the Intermarque breakfast



Jerry Moehnke with his TR4 on the frozen shores of Bear Trap Lake

(Also Mike Smith in his Spitfire, after his tech session)

Tech Session

By Mike Smith

The February Tech Session was hosted in my garage in Plymouth, MN. Five members attended with only one (Dave Heglund) driving his Triumph, it was February after all!

New member Tom Kroeten led the brake fluid flush with Dave keeping pressure on the pedal.



Bill Nelson heated things up with the thermostat change, and we all learned at least one new thing about Spitfires as we flushed / changed / topped off all the fluids and tightened up a few leaks.



Tech session, cont'd

When the front brakes were inspected we found some key parts that were missing. This car had been driving around with one set of brake pad retaining pins completely gone from the drivers side front and pins sliding out of position on the passenger side front! Someone forgot the cotter pins during the last brake job. No wonder the brakes were "soft" with loose pads floating around in the calipers!

Good discussion was had, lunch was served and after everyone left, this 64 Signal Red Spitfire made it outside for a 5 mile spin on Drive Your Triumph Day! Thank you to all who helped!



Winter Car Projects



Tom Kroeten, 1971 TR6 rebuild

I got the car from Milbank, SD. The engine and OD trans had been stripped before I got it. It was also missing windshield, dash/gauges, grill, exhaust, front bumper and chunks of the interior. I had to bring my own set of locally purchased wheels and tires for the tow home.

The chassis is super solid, the tub was kicked around a bit. I am doing the bodywork and painting myself. Car will be mechanically sound for Thunder Bay, but not in final paint.

I've spent the last couple years acquiring parts and doing some component rebuilds. I also got a '71 parts car locally, which provided the engine (with dual Webers), gearbox, and some body parts.



I only recently started working on trans teardown/refresh. I have a J-type OD apart that I'm waiting on bearing/seal kits arriving any day. I have some nice solid mahogany from a cabinet project I did decades ago and have enough for 3 or 4 dash boards.

I've changed names a few times, but settled on calling it Opus.

I'll be reaching out to Frank at some point to see what makes sense for a tech session. I don't know what I need to buy before I take something apart so wanting to assess before committing to a session.

My goal is to be doing shakedown of my work during May in preparation for the June run to Thunder Bay. I recently retired so I expect the pace of work to pick up.

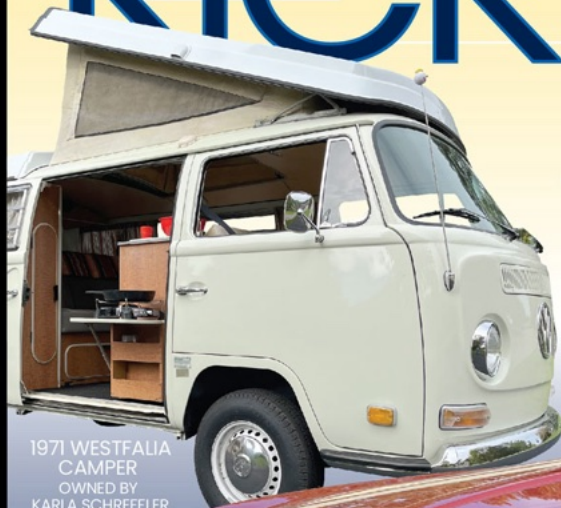


2024 SAVE THE DATE!

InterMarque™

SPRING KICK-OFF

FEATURED CLUB
**TWIN CITIES
VOLKSWAGEN
CLUB**



1971 WESTFALIA
CAMPER
OWNED BY
KARLA SCHREFFLER
& MIKE DAVIS



1964
TYPE 3 GHIA
OWNED BY
JERRY COFFIN

MAY 18
OSSEO
MN
10AM-3PM

31ST
ANNUAL
VINTAGE
FOREIGN
CAR SHOW

**MORE INFO TO
COME IN 2024!**

OPEN TO ALL
2004 OR OLDER
IMPORTS.
PLACEMENT
BEGINS AT 9AM.

THANK YOU TO THE CITY OF OSSEO FOR ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT
SPONSOR CLUB LIST AND EVENT DETAILS STILL IN MOTION. VINTAGE FOREIGN IMPORT CLUBS CAN
RESERVE A SPOT. SPACE IS LIMITED. **EMAIL intermarque@gmail.com FOR MORE DETAILS.**

Winter Car Projects, cont'd

Dennis DeGroodt, front suspension restoration on a 1960 Triumph TR3A



I started rebuilding the front suspension of my 1960 TR3A in late November 2023.

Started with the driver's side front suspension. It was slow going. I had some vague memories about how things went together, but it mostly felt like starting over.

Daniel Buchen and Paul Lavoie of the TR club came by and, with the use of Paul's spring compressor, we (Paul, mostly!) were able to remove the spring.

Once that's done, the rest is gravy. Except for one thing...

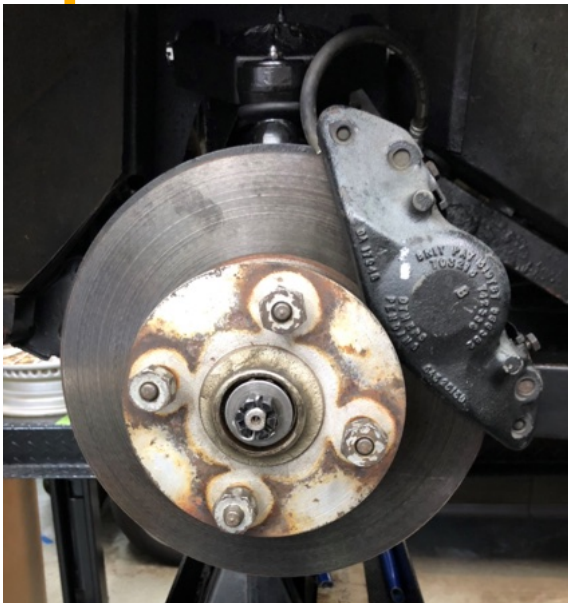
I got hung up trying to get the forward most lower control arm off the pinion shaft. Finally had to remove the bolts holding the steering box and the lower steering column brace so I could move the box out of the way enough to let the control arm to slide off. Why Triumph designed the car that way is beyond me.

The rebuild went fairly smoothly. Had to have a machine shop install the steel bushings in the lower control arms, and ream the bushings because once they were installed, they wouldn't slide over the trunnion pins.

It's now early February and the driver's side front suspension is complete. I used rubber

bushings (like the originals) in the upper control arms. Debated using poly bushings, but decided to stick with rubber.

Now, on to the passenger side! I'm also converting the car to wire wheels but I'll do that after the front and rear suspensions are complete and in good working order.



Email tech tip: Oh the Email Madness!

By Wade Peterson

We all enjoy the rhetoric of car discussions in Groups.IO emails. But sometimes it's overwhelming. Fortunately, there are options to limit or mute topics you're not interested in.

Each email contains a footer with options for dealing with the email.

These links provide 2 options for managing your incoming emails from the club. Both options require a login to Groups.IO. See last month's email tech tip to create your login or reset your password.

Mute This Topic – this link will open your browser to a screen like the one below. Clicking on “Yes” mutes any further emails *on this same topic* (with the same subject line), but allows other club emails to be delivered.

Your Subscription – this link will take you to Groups.IO to change your email delivery options.

1. Individual Messages – This is the default. You receive all emails, separately, as they're sent.
2. Full Featured Digest – You'll get all messages with all photos and formatting, but grouped together for fewer deliveries. Instead of getting 12 individual messages, all 12 would all be grouped together in one email.
3. Plain Digest – Same as above, but removes all images and special formatting, etc.
4. Daily Summary – You get 1 email a day listing topics sent, but not the emails themselves. You can click on each topic to read the full messages (with photos) on the Groups.IO site.
5. Special Notices Only – I've never sent a “special notice” so you can ignore this one.
6. No Email – No emails are sent to you, but you are still a member of the list, so you can log onto the Groups.IO website and view them there.

Groups.io Links:

You receive all messages sent to this group.

[View/Reply Online \(#6107\)](#) | [Reply To Group](#) | [Reply To Sender](#) | [Mute This Topic](#) | [New Topic](#)
[Your Subscription](#) | [Contact Group Owner](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) [email@wade-o.com]

Mute Topic

Mute the **Hemmings Auctions Daily** topic in the **MNTriumphs** group?

Yes

No

Email Delivery

☒ Individual Messages

Receive each message in an individual email.

☐ Full Featured Digest

Receive up to 12 messages grouped together in one email instead of receiving each message individually (rich text formatting).

☐ Plain Digest

Receive up to 12 messages grouped together in one email instead of receiving each message individually (plain text formatting).

☐ Daily Summary

Receive one email every morning that contains only a list of the topics posted to the group the previous day.

☐ Special Notices Only

Receive only special notices sent by the moderators. (Go to the group's website to view other messages.)

☐ No Email

Receive no group messages by email but remain subscribed so you can view content on the group's website.

If you have other content or historical material, you'd like in our Groups.IO website, just send them my way email@wade-o.com. Feel free to email me with questions, topics you'd like covered, etc. Next month we'll talk about what to do if you get unsubscribed accidentally because of spam.

Triumph Trader

For Sale

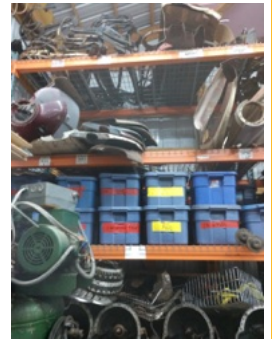
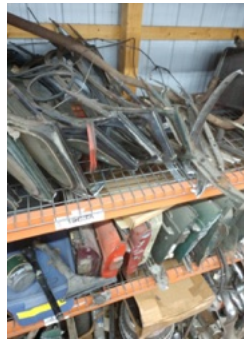
For Spitfire Mk1 & 2:

- Valve guides (qty 8) \$24. Intake valves (qty 4) \$20.
- Exhaust valves (qty 4) \$20. Valve stem seals (qty 8) \$4.

Bill N. nelson1_2@msn.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





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"Fighting Lou Gehrig's disease"



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PRESENTED BY
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September 5-7, 2024

Thursday, Sept 5
 Driving Tour

Friday, Sept 6
 Driving Tour
 Parking Lot Party

Saturday, Sept 7
 Car Show
 Banquet

SPECIAL GUEST

Dick Lunney

Executive Editor of Classic MG Magazine

Car Display • People's Choice Judging • Concessions Available

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn Convention Center of Northwest Arkansas
I-49 and Highway 412, Springdale, AR

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION CONTACT

BILL WATKINS

479-636-2168

www.Britishironnwa.org

OR

DOUG SCHRANTZ

479-531-2783

dougschrantz@gmail.com



Tech Sessions - Frank Weber

I hope everyone is having a great start to their New Year. One resolution you can keep is getting that project running or getting some long overdue maintenance done. Using Tech Session resources can help get that project off of top dead center.

Upcoming tech sessions:

March 9th: Chip Lederer is hosting a Tech Session on Saturday, March 9 starting at 10 a.m. in Somerset WI. Chip has a small powder coating set up and he will be demonstrating the power coating process. Participants will have the opportunity to power coat small items if they wish. Color options will be gray or black. Items will have to be properly prepped. If participants wish to observe the entire process they will need to bring their own N95 mask, or wait outside during certain steps.

April 13: David Anderson has offered to host a Tech Session on Saturday, April 13 starting at 10 a.m. in Minneapolis. David is looking for help doing some needed work on his Stag.

More details will be sent out through the groups.io as each event gets closer. If you have any questions about hosting a Tech Session or are interested in scheduling one please contact me at: frankj.weber3@gmail.com or 952 934-0523. Also at: Techsessions@mntriumphs.org



Website - Bill Connell

The MN Triumphs club website is at:

<https://www.mntriumphs.org>

If you want to have your car featured on the site, send 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.

Scan the QR code for a quick shortcut to see the club website on your phone.



Please email your car photos and error reports to webmaster@mntriumphs.org.

Regalia/apparel - Dan Booth

Minnesota Triumphs Club logo apparel is available on demand in many different styles, for men and women, with options for various 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 dbooth41@gmail.com.

See samples of Dan's work: [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Facebook](#) [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Instagram](#)



Club 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! Email events@mntriumphs.org to get it added to the calendar.

See the club website for more information about upcoming events and a Google calendar you can add to your personal calendar: <https://www.mntriumphs.org/events/>

March

- 9 Tech Session at Chip Lederer's shop, learning about powder coating parts
- 14 Club Meeting
- 24 Chicagoland MG swap meet and autojumble DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, Illinois

April

- 11 Club Meeting
- 13 Tech Session for David Anderson, working on reassembling his Stag

May

- 9 Club Meeting
- 11 Spring Shakedown Tour, Larry Berg will host, details to come.
- 18 Intermarque Spring Kickoff, Osseo MN

June

- 6-8 32nd Annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 15-16 Stone Arch Bridge Festival 2024 Art of The Car Show
- 13 Club Meeting
- 30 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

July

- 11 Club Meeting
- 21 Hastings Rivertown Days car show
- 28 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

August

- 8 Club Meeting
- 25 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

September

- 8-12 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention, Nashville, Indiana.
- 12 Club Meeting
- 28 Waumandee Time Trials

October

- 6 The Lift Garage benefit car show
- 10 Club Meeting



YOUR ROAD TRIPS!

We're looking for photos and stories to feature in the April issue. Whether it's an epic cross-country trek or a run for ice cream, send a good photo or two to your editor: bconnell@gmail.com

DEADLINE IS: MARCH 15

The best entries may be used on the cover, so hurry!

Every Saturday at 9am: Intermarque breakfast at Elsie's - 729 Marshall St. NE, Mpls.
Email InterMarque@gmail.com to join the breakfast Cars & Breakfast RSVP list!
See more Intermarque events at <http://intermarque.org/index.php/event-calendar/>

In the Rear View Mirror

Bill Nelson, club historian

5 years ago March 2019

- The Winter Party was cancelled due to weather. Date revised to March 31, 2019.
- A beautiful write up with color photos of another of Orrin and Joe's "In Search of America" trips. This one was to Lake Providence, LA. They drove down to visit Oscar and Barb Nelson who they had met in Hot Springs, AR. at the 2014 British National Meet. They also visited Orrin's cousin Kay who lives in K.C. On the return trip they visited John Hollingsworth and looked at his large collection of cars. 2402 miles total.
- A few color photos of the TR6 made from Lego's by Greg Gelhar were also in the newsletter.

10 years ago March 2014

- From the Really Official Minutes of the February 13th meeting. Newsletter Editor Bill Gingerich reported that he had the only Triumph in the parking lot. It was a TR7 on a trailer on it's way to Roger Kraemer's for removal of it's running gear and insertion of a Mustang V6. The club approved hosting the 2015 international and multi-marque Rendezvous.
- Some color photos in the newsletter of the Tech Clinic at Roger Kraemer's to dismantle some parts off a Spitfire and his new '75 TR7.
- A few lame car jokes were submitted to the newsletter by Joe DeMuth. The punch lines of two of them follow. "Don't mind old Bessie, son. She don't know a thing about cars". Also "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them".



2024 OFFICERS

President: David Anderson
President@mntriumphs.org

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VicePresident@mntriumphs.org

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Treasurer@mntriumphs.org

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Past President: Chip Lederer



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