



TRIUMPHS & TRIBULATIONS



Fixing a misaligned TR6 • Lunch meetups • Home-built ramps • VTR planning

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.

For membership information visit our website:
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

Monthly Meetings

Membership meetings are the **second Thursday** of the month, January through October. We meet at the Lucky's 13 in Roseville. The address is 2480 Fairview Ave N Roseville, MN 55113, just north of Rosedale Mall.

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 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 Newsletter@mntriumphs.org.

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Front cover: Lunch at Mannings, body repair on a TR6, and new ramps for easier maintenance. Photos from Mike Smith, Greg Thompson, and Ken Ljung.

Back cover: “the British are coming!” magazine ad from 1958.

Triumph movie trivia!



Which movie featured this scene with a GT6? See page 15 for the answer to last month's Triumph movie trivia!.

Prez Release

Wow! February is a short month to begin with; a recent stretch of warm weather has it feeling more like early April than soon to be March... the itch to get on the road is certainly making itself known. As our snowbirds slowly migrate home, it's a great time to get excited for the upcoming driving season!

We have a number of events already on the calendar and more to come! Make sure to check it out and save some dates. If you have an event idea feel free to reach out to Judy!

As March approaches it's time to get ready to get out there. If you need help getting ready for spring, now is the

time to schedule a tech session! Our club is full of extremely knowledgeable people who can solve most puzzles in seconds. I'd like to say it's because they're really smart, but let's be real. Experience is the most effective education... haha! These cars are not terribly

complex, so the odds of a query response of "been there, done that" is very high. I'd love to see an event this year where we have at least 50 cars on the road. I know we have three times that number in garages scattered across this club... let's dust them off and put on some miles!

See you on the road!
Brandon



*The Minnesota Triumph Club
is proud to invite you to the
North American Triumph Challenge 2025.*

After so much praise for its location in 2018, we are returning to the wonderful town of La Crosse, Wisconsin on the banks of the mighty Mississippi.

Event dates are July 15-18, 2025. Recommended check in on Monday the 14th and check out Saturday the 19th.

Although the location is the same we will have some new adventures for you as well as some of the best from 2018.

Our host hotel is once again the Radisson with Home2 Suites by Hilton as an overflow hotel only a block away.

Go to MNTriumphs.org for links and phone numbers for hotel reservations.

Also make sure to follow our Facebook page at 2025 VTR.



February Meeting Minutes

By Rich Riemersma, Secretary

Meeting run by Brandon Baker, light snow, no Triumphs in the lot, but 31 in attendance. Agenda and previous meeting minutes approved. We have 2 new members since last meeting, neither in attendance.

Club Business

We were told that club member Glenn Anderson had a stroke, he's up and mobile and doing pretty well. We're happy to announce after 22 years of dating Wayne and Joan got married. Congratulations to the happy couple!

Brandon reported that David Andersen has offered to fill the open position of V.P. Motion made to accept, all in favor and approved.

2025 Budget: This was shown last month to be voted on this month. Some discussion, then motion to vote. All voted in favor, approved.

Reports

Treasurer: Jeff Gilmer absent, Brandon reported on the club bank balance.

Membership: Mike Smith was absent but reported by email that we have almost 2/3 of the club have paid their dues for 2025. We have 2 new members since our last meeting: Mark Hiel from Columbia MN, who has a 1971 Spitfire, and Michael Pellizzer from Golden Valley, MN with a 1974 TR6.

Newsletter: Bill Connell said he is planning to do a 50th anniversary edition sometime later this year. If you have any stories or articles please send them to Bill.

Events: Judy Sherwood is planning an Ides of March party at her home on March 15th. This is a tradition going back 2000 years. Her plan is to have a gathering at a bonfire, then go to Lunch at the Blue Heron. Stay posted more to come. Brock and his wife Mary Gail have agreed to host the summer picnic again. Thank you! More to come.

Tech Sessions: Frank Weber was absent, at this time there are no Tech Sessions are on the schedule, Chip is planning one but no date yet.

VTR Liaison: Greg Thompson is on vacation so David reported we are well on our way with registrations for the upcoming VTR we are Hosting in La Cross WI. You can go to our website to register now.

We are still in need of some volunteer coordinators:

- Autocross. Event will be at the truck training center in Winona. Also need people to help with the tech check on each participating car.
- Craft show and silent auction.
- Someone to help park car trailers
- Awards banquet, someone to schedule speakers and keep the program moving.

David mentioned if you are not a VTR member if you go to register for the event this will prompt you to also register yourself for VTR. Membership is \$35 and you can get a discount card for O'Reilly auto part stores.

InterMarke Liaison: reported Spring Kick off will be in Osseo on May 17th. Saab is the featured car this year. Rendezvous will be June 5th-7th at Sugar Lake lodge in Grand Rapids. Check our club calendar for additional events.

Historian: Bill Nelson reported this is the 50th year of this club. So he went back to previous newsletters. 15 years ago 2010. Had car photos submitted by Orrin, and 2009 VTR photos from Phil and Keith, and the mid-winter party. 20 years ago 2005. Had 40 members present, and 2 new members. Also had an article called the great mechanic tool guide. Also an article for buying and selling of a classic car. 25 years ago 2000. Meeting had 47 members present. There were two traveling mileage awards. One for driving the most and another for driving to VTR.

New Club Business: none.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32

VTR 2025 Update

Thank you Bob Lee Jr for stepping up and filling the roll of leading the Richard Good Autocross. Richard Good with Goodparts, was the first to commit to sponsorship and naturally chose the autocross to put his name on. He is also attending the event which is a treat as well.

There are still 2 major roles to fill so consider helping out!

Greg and David



Membership - Mike Smith

Mike Smith
Membership Chairperson
membership@mntriumphs.org

Members please renew by the end of March to stay on the 2025 Triumph Club roster and emails. I'll be contacting those who haven't renewed in the next week or so.

If you wish to join our club or renew your membership, please register and pay electronically through our website's "membership" page. This is the easiest method for all involved.

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

Or join in person by attending a club meeting or event anytime. Annual membership fee is \$30 for up to two members in your household. New membership includes one Triumph name badge, car window cling and access to our club events and email support group.

The MN Triumphs welcomed the following new members in February:

- Michael Pellizzer – 74 TR6



No-Agenda Lunch Meetups

Jeff Kussard has continued his series of informal midweek lunches around town this winter.

In January about a dozen people gathered at Station 280, then 15 folks met up at Manning's for the February lunch.

It's a good chance to talk about winter projects, plan drives and events for the summer, or just get to know more people in the club.

All are welcome, just watch the club email list for future lunch dates and join in the fun!



You are Invited to



Sugar Lake Lodge, Grand Rapids Minnesota June 5th - 8th

The 33rd annual Rendezvous is brought to you by the MG and Austin-Healey clubs of Minnesota. The event is hosted at Sugar Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids, MN, on the shores of lake Siseebakwet. There are great roads to drive, historic sites to visit, and lots of fun activities. Such as:

- Welcome party • Silent Auction • Poker run on some amazing roads
- Self-guided drives • Local sites to explore • Regional Northwoods history speaker • Tech Session • Curated wine and cheese session
- Friday Night First Friday Art Walk and Northern Cruiser Car Show in downtown Grand Rapids • Bonfires and smores • Sugar Lake Lodge Car Show on the grounds • Saturday night closing ceremony banquet and more.

To register go to **Rendezvous2025.com**. Select the **REGISTER** tab and follow the prompts. Lodging reservations are made directly with the Sugar Lake Lodge staff. Call 218-327-1462. They will work with you to select the best option for your stay. Please consider pairing up with friends to take advantage of the 2-bedroom Villas!

Sugar Lake Lodge Address: 37584 Otis Lane, Cohasset, MN 55721.

Backup Hotel Best Western Plus: 2309 1st Ave SW, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Phone: 218-301-0345

Event Contacts:

Paul Lyon Minnesota MG Group: plyon1962@gmail.com

Suzanne Willodson, Minnesota Austin-Healey Club: suzanne.willodson@gmail.com

Humpty Dumpty Project Car

By Greg Thompson

I purchased a 1971 TR6 a few years ago that has a sad story with what I hope will be a happy ending. It may also be a lesson for those thinking of starting a project before doing ample research.

This gentleman purchased this car with the usual rust in the floors, rocker panels, b-posts and front and rear valances needed replacement. He bought boxes and boxes of new parts from TRF and set out on his new adventure.

The problem was, he did not leave the doors on when he fit the rocker panels and the end result is a terrible fit. He also replaced the rear valance and must not have test fit the rear fenders as



You can see the panel misalignment, with the red rocker panel well inside of the black fender line.



Section removed from the bottom of the B-post, to allow realignment of the rocker panel.

where they meet the rear valance by the tail lights, the valance was $\frac{1}{4}$ " short on top and $\frac{1}{4}$ " long on the bottom.

So he proceeded to buy another TR6 to set it alongside and do some measurements off to compare. When he saw how much he needed to change, he got frustrated and decided to sell it all.



Humpty Dumpty, cont'd



Rough cutting the new patch panel, marking the bend and curve lines.



Forming the patch to fit the curves and the new attachment point for the rocker.



Patch welded into place, reconnecting the B-post and rocker.



Welds ground smooth, ready for body work.



Humpty Dumpty, cont'd



Realigned rocker panel, now with a continuous straight line through the fender

I started by changing some body mount pads and using a bottle jack to move the top of the firewall forward as I think when the floor and rocker were removed, it sank a bit allowing the top to rotate rearward. I was able to get the doors to latch as when I got it this was not possible.

Like with all TR's, I started at the back fitting the rear valance to the fender by cutting his welds and using 2" wide ratchet straps to twist it to fit the fender profile. The rocker panels were installed without removing all the old one, leaving the piece that is below the B-post. This necessitated removing a portion of it and fabricating new after jacking up the rear of the new rocker panel. After this I had to move the front of the rocker out 5/16 of an inch to be parallel with the door.

I have only begun but my goal is to have it on the road by July.



Realignment was required in 2 dimensions: the rocker is also now parallel to the door, with an even gap front to back.



Return to the Tail of the Dragon III October 2nd Through 5th, 2025

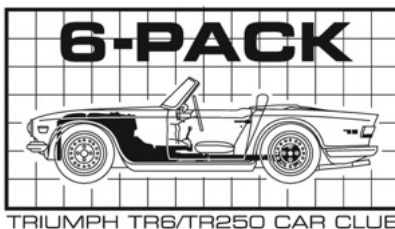
Book your reservation prior to July 1st, 2025...

And give the group name "6 Pack Trials" to ensure availability and group rates

<https://jimholewka.wixsite.com/trials2025>

Fontana Village Resort
300 Wood Road, Fontana Dam, NC 28733
1-800-849-2258

www.facebook.com and search Trials 2025



DIY Service Ramp

By Ken Ljung

As long as you are "ramping up" for the next issue... here's a thing I made so that I can fairly easily get under the car for the "annual check-up", tend to perennial leaks, mystery rattles, and whatever surprises await to confound and amuse.

I put this together out of miscellaneous materials that have been accumulating (and admittedly infringing on space) around the edges of my garage over past decades, eliciting occasional frowns and comments from my dear wife, whom I'm beginning to suspect is responsible for the newspaper clippings and magazine articles that randomly show up on my desk, referring to "decluttering", whatever that is.

Well, now I can now point to this magnificent piece for justification and vindication of my "Icanmaybeuse that for somethingsomday" syndrome.



But I digress...

Anyway, the thing works great, is very sturdy, disassembles for storage; and as you can see, the side sections pull away to allow access.

Triumph movie trivia answer

Last month's movie scene was from Police Academy, 1984. See page 3 for this month's trivia photo!



Tech Sessions - Frank Weber

Tech sessions are a great way to learn about your car or get help with your Triumph project. They can be anything from sharing specialized techniques to help learning how to tune up a Triumph to extra hands separating a car's body from the frame.



If you have a Triumph project you need help with, or have an idea for tech session, please contact me at: frankj.weber3@gmail.com or 952-934-0523.

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



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.

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)

Triumph Trader

For Sale

Triumph TR4, TR250 and TR6 Floor pans: The Roadster Factory new galvanized steel floor pans for left and right sides \$300 each.

TR6 parts:

- Rebuilt Zenith Stromberg CD175 SEVX carbs (uninstalled) \$500 for pair.
- 2 used, unrebuilt Zenith Stromberg CD175 carbs \$40 each.
- New AP clutch pressure plate \$100.
- Used Lucas 22D6 #41385A 02-73 distributor for 1971 to 1973 \$40.
- Used Weber MCHH-2 Carburetor pair with linkage bracket and adapters to TR6 manifold \$300. 1 additional used Weber MCHH-2 carburetor \$150.
- Used TR6 boot covers: 2-New tan color and 2-beige color \$40 each.
- New TR6 headers, 2-piece mild steel \$200.
- Used TR6 front bumper nice chrome, but some dents \$50.
- Used TR6 stock padded steering column lock with key and ignition switch \$60.
- 2 Used TR6 rear hubs \$80 each.
- 1 New front brake caliper \$40.
- 1 Used wiper motor \$40.

Numerous new and used parts leftover from restoration of my 1972 TR6 including:

New suspension bushings, new gaskets, new dash light bulbs, new knobs, new choke cable, used speedo cables, battery hold down, new convertible top seals, new gas tank sending unit, used fuel pump, new color coded wiring diagram, new disk brake pads, new right side front caliper, used gas filler cap, new red Furflex door seals (for Austin Healey 100, 100-6, 3000), used clutch slave cylinder and pushrods, rough dash support, new distributor points plate and cap, new chrome headlight trim ring, auxiliary engine oil line, used left window glass bottom channel, new black lap belts, new Lucas wiper wheel box, new sun visor retainers, used rear license plate light lenses, new accelerator shaft bushings, new door hinge, new engine thrust washers, new rear fender TR6 decals (white), 2 used dashboard controls plinths, Smiths and Lucas used dash gauges.

Contact Bill Furey: 651-263-9542 or william_furey@yahoo.com. Local pick up only. Reasonable offers may be considered.



Triumph Trader

Wanted

We need some original steel TR3 wheels, 15", 3 of them for Ester. They need to be straight, not bent, rust is not an issue as long as they are not pitted too bad. We have 6, but 3 are bent, so need good ones.

Bob & Pat Kessler: 608-860-0613, bpbritish@aol.com

For Sale

Spitfire parts, for mk4 and 1500 models. Doors and door parts, suspension parts, trim parts, dash parts, gauges, wheels, steering column, etc.

Doug Burch: 763-568-6499, doug.a.burch@gmail.com

For Sale

1969 TR6, about 87000 miles, \$8000

I'd call the car pretty original and a solid daily driver. I have records going back many years.

I put on new tires and brakes, did engine work and have enjoyed driving it these past two summers. We are getting a new dog and my wife wants a car with a full back seat.

The car is in storage for the winter but have access to it for any interested parties.

If anyone is interested or knows someone who is just reply to this email or give me a call.

Tom Hanson: 651-248-1805



Triumph Trader

For Sale

Brand new, never installed TR6 4 hole Center Switch pad and Speaker Panel Kit. Both from The Roadster Factory (part #s 718787 and RFK518).

\$50 for Center Switch Pad and \$80 for the Speaker Panel kit. Since I'm in FL, buyer will need to pay shipping.

Steve Greenstein, 651-494-7214



For Sale

1980 TR7 DHC project. Straight rust-free body. Stripped ready for priming, block sanding and painting. Has a John's Cars kit in a 3800 Buick Fuel Injected engine and 4L60E over-drive transmission.

The project comes with headers, new aluminum radiator, new top, new windscreen, complete tan interior, completely new front suspension including struts, rack and TR8 brakes. Lots more new stuff. Most parts to finish. \$1500.

Bought another project, lost storage for this one and it's in my way.

Contact Roger: kraemer@q.com or 651-207-3920 phone or text.

For Sale

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

Wayne Morris: wmorris11134@yahoo.com or call 612-723-4602 or text.



Club Calendar

If you'd like to host an event email events@mntriumphs.org and let's make a club outing of it!

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

March

- 15** Celebrate/toast the Ides of March at Judy Sherwood's house, Centerville. Bonfire, appetizers will be furnished. Followed by lunch at The Blue Heron Bar and Grill in Hugo, MN. Details to follow.

April

- 26** Spring Shakedown Cruise to Wabasha, MN. Meet at 10 am in Roseville, parking lot by Lucky 13. Drive to Wabasha, lunch at the newly-renovated Silver Star Saloon - good beer selection; crappy wine. Visit the National Eagle Center, Lark's Toy Store (best in the nation!) or shop 'til you drop. It's the home of Grumpy Old Men.

May

- 17** InterMarque Spring Kickoff Car Show, Osseo MN
- 23** Chicagoland All British swap meet

June

- 5-8** Rendezvous! In Grand Rapids MN, hosted by the Healey and MG clubs <https://www.rendezvous2025.com/>
- 14-15** Stone Arch Bridge Festival Art of The Car Show

July

- 12** Cedar Lake Speedway car show
- 15-18** MN Triumphs host the 2025 North American Triumph Challenge VTR Nationals, LaCrosse, WI <http://vtr2025.org>

August

- TBA** MN TR picnic, details to follow

September

- 6** Wheels & Wings, Osceola, WI
- 14** Grape Stomp at Carlos Creek Winery, Alexandria, MN
- 18-20** Brits in the Ozarks Car Show

October

- TBA** Oktoberfest in New Ulm, details to follow

November

- TBA** High Tea, date, time, details to follow

October

- 2-5** 6-Pack TRials, Fontana Dam, NC, featuring drives through Tail of the Dragon

In the Rear View Mirror

Bill Nelson, club historian



10 years ago March 2015

- About 30 people were present at the February 2nd meeting. Outside temp was 7 degrees. That was above zero but it still did not appear any Triumphs were present.
- The 2015 South Beach Rendezvous Registration Form was available. \$40. Banquet \$30. This was the 25th Anniversary for Rendezvous.
- There are color photos of the Tech Session held at Roger Kraemer's for his TR7.
- From the Triumph Trader. 73 Spitfire complete, for sale as a project / parts car. \$800. Doug B.

15 Years Ago March 2010

- Color photos credited to Greg Gelhar and Phyllis Galberth on the newsletter cover of The High Tea.
- The February 11, 2010 meeting was called to order at 7:15 with no new members in attendance. Meeting adjourned at 8:25.
- The March 11, 2010 meeting will be at Fort Snelling Officer's Club.
- The Inter-Marque Council Spring Kick-off will be May 22 in Como Park.
- Bill N had a write-up on his trip to 2009 VTR in San Luis Obispo, Ca. Color photo credited to Bill of his '63 Spitfire (with Triumph The In-sult Comic Dog) on the sand at Pismo Beach.

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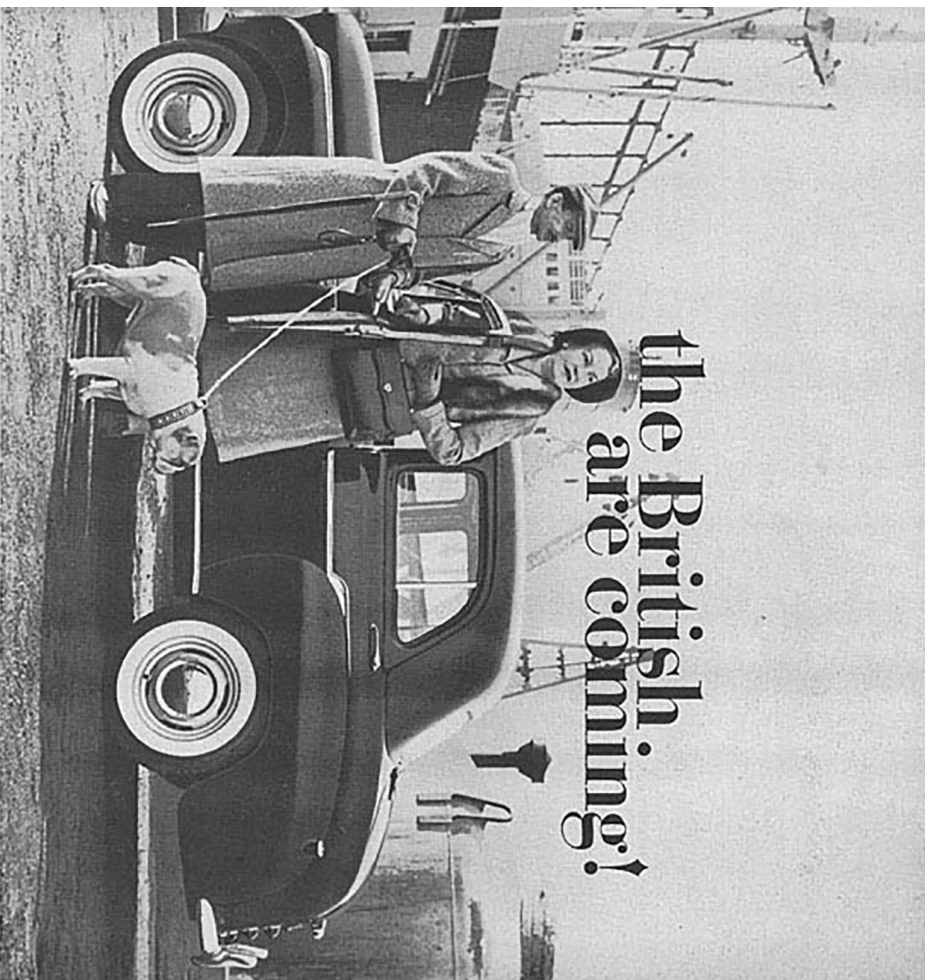
LAND ROVER MG MINI JAGUAR from 1996

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Triumphs & Tribulations
 c/o Bill Connell, Editor
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 St. Paul, MN 55104



**the British
 are coming!**

Braving the Atlantic, Triumph's new American representatives have landed. At the dock, they issued this joint statement: "The new Triumph Sedan is demonstrably superior to any motor car its size and cost." ■ Knock-down rear seats give you 30 cu. ft. of storage space. Only auto at this price with no-clutch, push-

button shift. ■ Motor with TR 3 sports car engineering gives speed of up to 78 m.p.h. ■ Economical operation with 40 miles per gallon of gas. ■ Also see 1956 Triumph Estate Wagon at \$1899. ■ Prices slightly higher on West Coast, while walls extra. Standard Triumph Motor Co., 1745 Broadway (Dept. FS2) New York 19.



TRIUMPH SEDAN ONLY \$1699*