

TRiumpH TRumpeter

D. C. T. R. A.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DESERT CENTER-TRIUMPH REGISTER OF AMERICA

PRESIDENT: ARMAND LACASSE 968-5639
NEWSLETTER: DIGGER DAVITT 966-9712

MAY 1989

MEETING: MAY 9, 1989 @ 7 PM
HUNAN RESTAURANT
1575 E. CAMELBACK

The TRIUMPH TRUMPETER is the official newsletter of:

The Desert Centre
Triumph Register of America

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Armand LaCasse	968-5639
V.P. & Events	Gracie Pennell	951-8472
Secretary	Beth Horton	843-1399
Treasurer	Bob Morey	838-5359
Newsletter	Digger Davitt	966-9712
Membership	Tom Pennell	951-8472
Tech Advisor	Bob Schaller	992-7969
Historian	Sherry Sharp	966-9932

Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of each month.

Dues are \$12.00 per year

For membership information, contact Tom Pennell at 951-8472 or 371-7623

COMING EVENTS

May 21

2nd ANNUAL DIGGER'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Steve & Jo Chandler's, Tuscon
Details Inside

May 27, 28, 29

OVERNIGHT CAMP OUT

Hannagan's Meadow, Arizona
Details Inside

EDITOR'S CORNER

I caught some flak for my crazy remarks last issue. Was telling delinquent members that they were not getting their newsletter until they paid their dues. And to top it off, I sent them their copies anyway! But the results are what count - and they counted. Several members put checks in the mail - a little late (four months) but now they are back in the fold.

Something to think about...Armand's tale (in the last two issues) of his Spitfire experiences reminded me of articles written for the newsletter several years ago that were short autobiographies, of a sort, of club members. Now with over a hundred members, there are bound to exist many amusing and/or interesting Triumph experiences by club members. How about sharing them with us?

AND...if you don't have any experiences that you wish to share, how about any mods, short cuts, or other improvements to your TR that we don't know about?

Digger

PREZ NOTES

It is Saturday at the 10th Annual Grand Prix. I am sitting where Tom Pennell's pit area would be if Tom were racing. But alas, the race officials reversed the course direction, and Tom knew he would not be able to adjust driving backwards! Actually, Tom is working communications for the race.

I thought I would write this entire article between races, but that idea did not work since it is now Monday morning. Dave Hansen made a cameo appearance on Channel 10 last night. They filmed the Eloy Fire Dept. serving food to Dave and a few other people.

It sure was different being a spectator instead of crewing for Tom. Since there was no race car to fix Saturday night or tools and assorted other stuff to pack Sunday night, Digger and I were back in Tempe by 5:30 each evening.

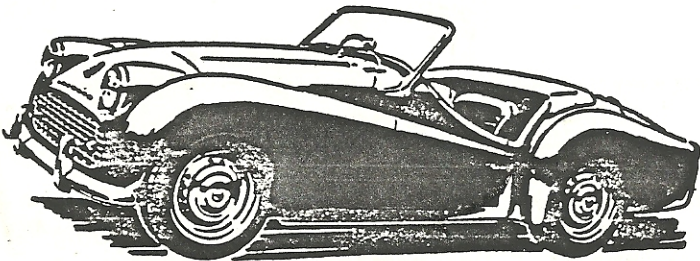
Congratulations to the club members who won awards at the BMCC All British Car Day.

Hannagans Meadow is one of our May events. The "official" route to the meadow is through Globe, then Safford to Clifton/Morenci and up route 666. The return route will be decided on when we start home Sunday.

Have you seen any potential new members lately? Do you have enough business cards? Even though our membership is diverse, we all appreciate Triumphs. Our cars range in appearance from the immaculate (Tom L's TR-4 & Greg L's TR-6) to one in two tone primer (Digger's TR-2). So if you see another parked Triumph in any condition, put a card on the windscreen to let the driver know about DCTRA.

See you at the next meeting.

ARMAND



MG

Triumph

Jaguar

VITO'S BRITISH AUTO REPAIR LTD.

VITO CIRINCIONE
Manager

4723 N. 12th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85014
Phone 264-7398

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 1989

May 21	Birthday Party (Tucson)	Jo Chandler's
May 27/28	Campout	Hannagan Meadow
June 18	Hassayampa Brunch	Prescott
July 15	Night Bar-B-Que	In desert
August 20	Pool party, pig roast, regatta	???
Sept 16	Western Nite on the Town	Mining Camp
	Restaurant, Apache Junction	
Oct 14/15	TRIUMPHEST'89	California
Oct 28	Halloween Rallye	Phoenix area
Nov 19	BMCC Pancake B'fast	Phoenix area
Dec 16	Christmas party	John Horton's
Dec 31	New Year's Eve party	(need a host)

POT-POURRI

MORE TRIVIA

TR-6 ONE OF THE BEST

Did you happen to catch the January 1989 issue of Car & Driver magazine? This year's list of 10 Best Categories included: Grinmobiles, rich road experiences for less than the price of a Yugo. Of the TR-6 which was included in this listing, they said, "This car says 'sport' more authentically than any tweed jacket ever could."

From THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, Jan-Feb 1989 issue.

MUSICAL CARS

Everybody knows that European auto horns are tuned to perfect fifth and American horns to major third. Hardly anybody, however, is aware that Triumph has cleverly given us a full octave to play on the GT-6 Mk.II. How so? You may well ask. The next time you have distracted a Mk.II owner, covertly run your fingernail front to rear over the die-cast rear quarter exterior ventilation grille. Voilal A full octave, a vertiable rolling xylophone. Now, can anybody tell us what fifteen inch sixty spokes are tuned to?

Randy Morrison

AUTO SPORTS INC.

Chuck Collins closed his shop a couple of months ago. His two crack mechanics have relocated elsewhere in the valley. Jim Palmer now works for Barry Briskman in car restoration. Frank Reyna has gone out on his own. He is located in northwest Phoenix. If you were a former satisfied customer of Auto Sports Inc. and desire the same level of service and support, you can get in touch with Frank at 864-9281.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

First order of business was introducing guests and a new member, Maurice Levitt. Minutes were approved, and the treasurer reported \$3800.

Armand reprised the British Car Day. Several new members were discovered there, plus some renewals. Armand won the speed spark plug changing contest.

On upcoming events: Tom Pennell told us more about the Eloy Grand Prix. He will not re racing this year, but at least 140 entries are expected. Cost for spectators has not yet been announced. In May comes Digger's birthday party in Tuscon, and the Hannagans Meadow camp-out.

It's a maybe for the Hassayampa brunch - the hotel is not definite that they'll be having a Sunday brunch. More to come. Bill Sharp said to mark Nov.19 on our calendars for the BMCC Pancake Breakfast.

Armand showed off the GREEN rosette won by DCTRA at the Sedona St. Patrick's Day Parade. The award was for honorable mention. We decided that a dinner theatre trip would be too expensive, so it was voted down.

The Pennell's pre-announced a regatta for the upcoming pool party. Rules aren't firm yet, but there will be a competition for boats small enough to fit inside a shoe box. It must be made by the entrant, and have no internal combustion engine. Detailed rules will follow - thinking can start now.

Digger had the answers for his quiz in the newsletter. He also had a note from Mary Poore on the AAHC meeting regarding the possibility that state would merge the classic and historic plates for a much larger fee. He said a new representative is needed for the Hobbyist Council, which meets the 1st Monday of each month. Ron Strong volunteered.

Bob Coffman was introduced. He brought a 16 by 20 framed photo of a TR-3 in competition. Digger suggested we buy the photo (\$50.), raffle it off, and send any profit to the childrens ranch. Gracie thought we should raffle it at TRIUMPHEST '89 in October. John Horton then moved that we buy the photo, raffle it, and give the profits to the childrens ranch. The motion carried.

Bob Schaller will be leaving for England soon to visit the Morgan factory, Cosworth, and more, including the British Heritage Car Show. We are hoping for pictures, maybe even words for the newsletter.

John Horton volunteered to host the Christmas Party, to avoid the rush. Ben North introduced his new bride, Carol. About 40 persons were present in all - The Hunan had to open up the room to double size.

A letter was read by Tom Pennell from a Taiwan company that offered to make a sample pin for DCTRA. It was agreed to send for one, and to ask about car badges. Bob Morey said the club will pay for the sample pin.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Beth Horton, Secretary

WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN THIS MONTH

BIRTHDAY PARTY

On Sunday, 21 May, Steve & Jo Chandler will host the birthday party in their home in Tuscon. Elsewhere in this issue is a map with directions on how to get to their place. That will be needed if you are going solo. Plan on arriving sometime around ten and departing around ??????. If we convoy down (and that is a big IF) plan on gathering around eightish at MacDonal'd's, Awahtukee, Exit 157, I-10. Jo needs a head count, so, if you plan on going say so at the May meeting. If you don't make the meeting and are going, call Gracie at 971-3494 days or 951-8472 nights or Digger at 966- 9712 anytime. Steve & Jo will provide the potables (beer, wine, coffee, iced tea) and the food (salad, burgers, lasagna, fruit salad, cake). You bring something to sit on, soda (as desired) and suit (community pool).

CAMP-OUT

The "official" start of the Hannagans Meadow trip is Saturday, 27 May, 10 AM at the corner of Power Road and Apache Trail. Armand listed the route in his notes. If there are any changes they will be brought up at the May meeting.

For Imported Car Parts

Call

DELTA MOTORSPORTS

265-8026

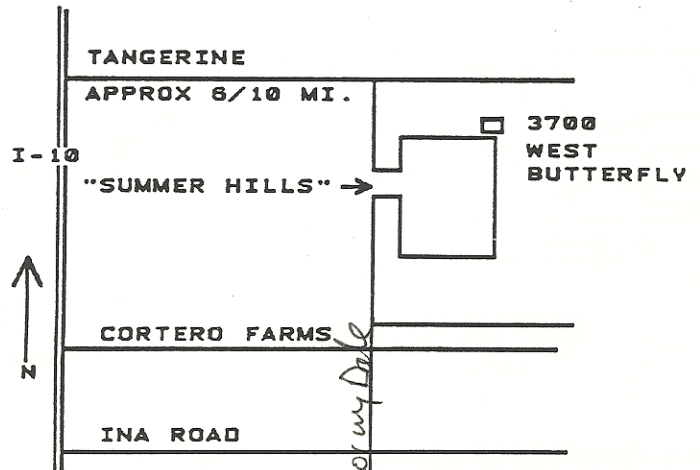
Serving North Phoenix

**DELTA
MOTORSPORTS
INC.**

2724 EAST BELL ROAD
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85032



MAP TO STEVE & JO'S HOUSE IN TUCSON



THE TECH ADVISOR SPEAKS

Ed. Note: While Bob Schaller is enjoying warm beer and twisty two lane blacktops, his column is temporarily used for another approach to TR electrics.

VOLTS & AMPS

Lucas generators and alternators are unique and expensive, running from about \$90. to \$225. or more. They seem to fail all too often. Consider the following: they all turn the same way, respond to loads, and charge batteries. Mountings are different and hook ups vary, but they all work the same way. Why go back to an expensive unit when almost anything will do the job? Let's look at the load needed. Electrically speaking, watts x volts = amps. A headlight drawing 55 watts at 13.5 volts = 4.07 amps each. A halogen headlamp can draw 15 amps, cooling fans 5 to 10 amps each, dash lights .945 amps each, heater fan 4 to 8 amps, parking and tail lamps 2 amps each.

Add up your worst load condition (night time driving in cold weather) and you get:

2	Headlights, halogen @ 15 amps	30
2	Tail & 2 parking (side) lamps, 4 x 2	8
4	Dash lamps, 4 x .9	3.6
1	Heater fan	7
4	Interior lights, 4 x 1.5	6
	Ignition	8
	TOTAL	62.6 AMPS

The alternator must keep your battery up under these conditions. We (Dan & I) are using Delco Remy and Toyota units in our Triumphs (TR-7 & TR-8). I outlined the Toyota hook up in the October article on Toyota conversions. Dan is using a 90 amp Delco with an internal regulator. It is simplicity itself to hook up. The battery lead hooks to a 1/4" bolt, and a switched 12 volt lead to the flag terminal.

The base bracket should be 1/4" thick steel, a U-shape that align the pulleys and allows the alternator to mate with the top tensioning bracket. This should be reasonably easy to fabricate. All bolts should be grade 8 hardness.

AUTO 
BRITANNIA

PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

MARK HOLDEN

(602) 234-1396

1405 E. CAMELBACK ROAD, PHOENIX, AZ 85014


Jaguar
TRIUMPH
LOTUS
AUSTIN-HEALEY

You eliminate the outboard regulator by going to an alternator with internal regulation. Refer to Digger's article on changing positive to negative ground. One nice benefit is that Delco and Toyota alternators are available anywhere reasonably. You can match hook ups to your system by either using an internal or external regulator.

I have had lots of good advice and help locally from Copperstate Auto at 200 Spouth 18th St. They always give straight answers.

John Horton



THE
MG
SHOP

BRITISH SPORTS CAR
SPECIALISTS

Glen Frost

967-5631
936 E. Gilbert Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85281

WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH

BMCC ALL BRITISH CAR DAY

As usual BMCC put on a good show again. The rally was run within the boundaries of of the park. The two mishaps certainly were not planned. Setting out one of the rally checkpoints, Bill Sharp severely sprained an ankle and retired for the day. And some tots opened all the sealed envelopes at another checkpoint. But those mishaps did not stop Phil Hunt and Dave Hansen from copping first place. Our other winner was Armand LaCasse who was the fastest spark plug changer. A bonus for DCTRA was four new members.

ELOY GRAND PRIX

Altho' Tom was not running the SPITOTA this year, DCTRA was well represented with workers and spectators: Tom & Gracie Pennell., Phil & Sue Hunt., Steve & Jo Chandler., Wally Skurda., Dave Hansen., Mark, Armand LaCasse., and Digger Davitt. There were two notable changes from years past: the cars raced counterclockwise and beer was allowed (and in great evidence) in the paddock area as well as in the grandstands!

