



TRiumpH TRumpeter

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE DESERT CENTRE - TRIUMPH REGISTER of AMERICA

"ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS - WE PRINT"

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JULY 2000

Vol. 21, #7

MEETING: JULY 11 @ 7:00 PM
DON PABLO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT
1935 E. CAMELBACK
COME EARLY - BUY FOOD!
SUPPORT OUR BENEFACTORS!

CLUB OFFICERS

V.P. & Events:	Paul Bridgnell	602-996-2880
Secretary:	Deta Hampsch	623-434-1999
Treasurer:	Ron Strong	602-944-6097
Newsletter:	Diane Carney	602-942-1113
Tech Advisor:	Armand LaCasse	602-870-8585
Historians:	Mike and Joyce Bayne	602-938-1282
Membership:	Tom Pennell	520-537-3355
AAHC Rep:	Roy Stoney	602-414-9953

Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of each month. (Including January)

Dues are \$18.00 per year

For membership information, contact Tom Pennell at 520-537-3355

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PROJECT CAR STATUS

NEXT WORKDAY:
SUNDAY JULY 23 @ 9 AM
BRITISH SPORTSCAR SERVICE
3948 E. AIR LANE

COMING EVENTS

UNKNOWN
AFTER-DARK PICNIC
Some lake
??

COME TO THE MEETING TO FIND OUT

OTHER EVENTS
SATURDAY NIGHT GATHERINGS
EAST MESA
CALL DOC SMITH @ 480-981-1158

GREAT BRITAIN TRIP

At the last meeting, the Montgomery's made a suggestion to visit jolly old England for a car related holiday. They went with their old club for a fortnight and enjoyed the exposure to cars. About eight couples showed interest.

If we are to make this happen, we need to have about twenty couples or more. Perhaps people from other clubs would be interested in helping to fill out the trip. We would be visiting car related sites and some other places. I should like to visit Dover.

Mrs. Montgomery (Cherise), will follow up with the person that lead the last trip. We will have a report on that at the next meeting. This trip might be late next year. If our are interested, please E-mail me a johnehorton@yahoo.com.

John Horton

DIANE'S TIDBITS

So much has been happening lately, I can barely keep up, especially since I'm now working full time. Eric and I have been forging ahead with our plans to move to Florida to be near my grandkids. We're redecorating the interior of our house for selling purposes and have purchased a used motor home to travel to Florida and live in until other arrangements can be made. So now, we are truly committed to this objective. Both of our employers are aware of our plans. It's a little "scary", but compared to the settlers moving west in their Conestoga wagons of yore, it's a "piece of cake". Still, there are lots of decisions to make and details to consider. And we will both most certainly miss all the wonderful friends we have made through DCTRA membership.

Therefore, again, I suggest you be thinking of someone to take my place as editor of the newsletter. Tom has gotten it down to minimal effort and time expenditure, now that we're using a commercial printer that collates, staples, addresses and mails the bulk of the issues and the rest are to be found on the Internet. There are only 3 issues that I still send by "snail-mail" and those are to two members in Canada and one in Germany. Anyone who is interested and have questions, please feel free to ask either Tom or me for further information.

Last weekend we enjoyed a nice backyard pool/barbecue with the Montgomery's, who are now headed to Oregon to spend the next 6 months in cooler climate. They were kind enough to bring us information about the RV'ing lifestyle, including it's "perks and perils". We thank them for their friendly company and sage advice.

Our best wishes to Nancy Herman and Dick who announced their quickly approaching wedding of July 7th in Arlington Heights, Illinois. They are planning to spend October and November in AZ and December and January in Florida. We will be happy to see them again. We also wish to extend our wishes for a quick recovery for Ann Montone.

Ta, Ta, Diane

A NOTE FROM YOUR PUBLISHER

There are several references in this newsletter about my being "under the weather" - so to speak. Please let me quote Mark Twain, who said "The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated".

Truth is, I was briefly affected by a particularly virulent flu-bug that was making its rounds in the White Mountains, and at the same time I had several symptoms of what's called "Mountain Fever". This comes from relocating to 7000 feet after 20 years in the valley. Thanks to Chris Strong and a doctor up here, I got some medication for both afflictions and I'm now doing just fine.

Gracie and I intend to come to Phoenix for the Club meetings, when our schedule permits. We've been very busy riding herd on sub-contractors in order to finish our "Carriage House" and life isn't as laid back as you might imagine. Thanks for all of your concern.

Tom Pennell

COMING EVENTS

September 29, 30 and Oct. 1st -- BAOA of Albuquerque is sponsoring the TENTH ANNUAL RIO GRANDE VALLEY REGIONAL RENDEZVOUS BRITISH CAR MEET--ALMAGORDO/CLOUDCROFT, NEW MEXICO. Contact Kevin Kittle 505-345-4207.

October 19th-22nd--TRIUMPHEST 2000--Shelter Island, San Diego, CA. For more information contact: Mel Hildebrandt at 858-484-1634 or E-mail to: Mel-Kristie@cs.com OR Co-Chairman, Wayne Johnson at 760-757-2865 or E-mail to: AWALARM@AOL.com.

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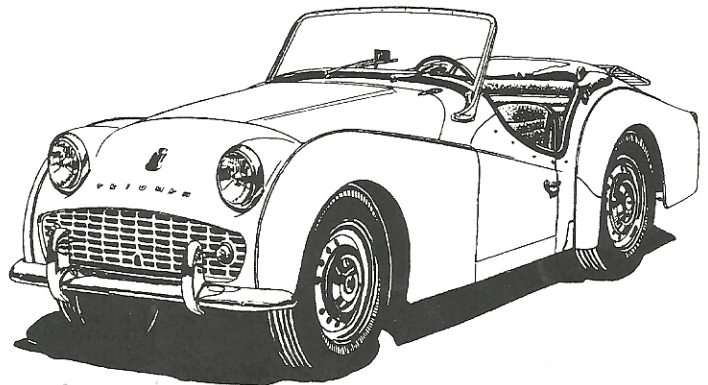
ACTION NOTICE:

WE DECIDED AT THE LAST MEETING TO COLLECT EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS TO HELP FINANCE THE PROJECT CAR. BRING YOUR CRUSHED ALUMINUM CANS AND I WILL TAKE THEM TO THE RECYCLE STATION MONTHLY.

John Horton

CLASSIC-FIED ADS

FOR SALE: Radiator for TR4/TR4A. Freshly rebuilt. \$100.00. Call John Horton, 602-843-1399. (6/2000)



MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING

Our first order of business was a vote to return to Don Pablo's in July. Treasurer Ron Strong reported that our club is still 'in the black'. Minutes were quickly accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Project Car: Four workers appeared last month, and it looks like a "new" car now! John appealed for a volunteer with specific knowledge of TR/3's, as that is needed now. Shares are still available.

Summertime quiet is prevailing. AAHC is not holding meetings. The Historian reported no news. And for the first time, there was no tech report. All cars must be running.

Get well wishes were shared for Tom Pennell and Ann Montone.

Past member, Scott Gray, announced a "Moving, Must Sell '68 Spitfire".

Old business: Bridgnells were praised for a dandy British Breakfast Run to Harold's in Cave Creek. Then Paul and Pamela passed out checks to participants in the club's yard sale. Six couples donated and others were buyers. In the future, the sale will be held only once a year so that more people can be involved. There was considerable interest in moving ahead with an order for grille badges. Bob Lee motioned that 50 grille badges be ordered from Caliber International.

Events: Two flyers were received--for a show July 15 in Happy Jack and the Arizona Dream Cruise in Flagstaff. The DCTRA July outing will be announced in the newsletter.

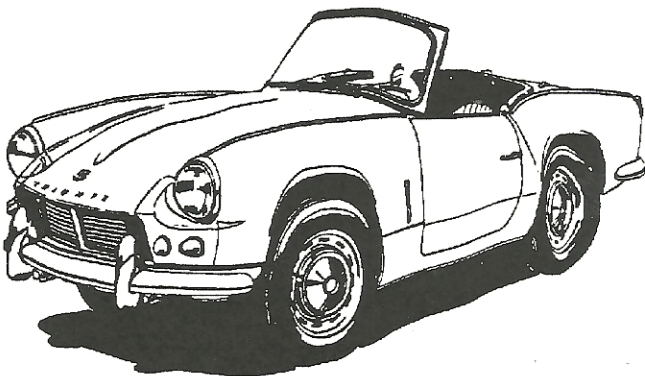
Announcement: Chris and Susanna Wainwright are generously donating a 1979 TR/7 convertible to the club. It is to be auctioned off at the July meeting with the proceeds going to the project car fund.

At a previous meeting, Cherise Montgomery brought up the idea of a group trip to England, which would be at least a year in the future. She wished to know how many were seriously interested. The tour leader of another trip will be contacted, and we'll be informed.

Women's door prizes were won by Diana Wickenhauser and Beth Horton, and R.B. Bell won the gent's, a book on early Triumphs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Beth Horton, acting secretary



THE PREZ SEZ

The meeting at Don Pablo's was a smashing success. There were 39 people attending. The food was great and we are going back next month and probably August as well. There was some noise from the air conditioning, however, I will be prepared for it. We missed the Pennells, Tom being somewhat "under the weather". A decision was made to order 50 grille badges. This is done by E-mail. I will keep everyone informed of the progress.

Cliff Philpott has graciously offered to manage the project car. I believe Cliff will be a great leader and a credit to the project. No event was held in June. It's too hot again. Speaking of hot, there is some confusion about the start time for the breakfast runs. Summer hours, as I understand are to meet at 06:30 and leave at 07:00. Winter hours are to meet at 07:00 and leave at 07:30. If I am wrong, someone correct me. Otherwise, this will work.

Chris and Susanna Wainwright have graciously donated their 1979 TR/7 to be auctioned for the project car funds. This will happen at the next meeting. I understand the car is almost running and in pretty good shape. If you cannot attend the meeting and want to bid, E-mail me at: johnehorton@yahoo.com with your bid and I will open it at the meeting.

I understand Frank Montone's wife has had a stroke. We all hope Ann gets well soon. Scott Gray has a 1968 Mark III for sale. He is moving and I will have the car in my back yard for parts or one-piece sale. Our Vice Pres will be basking in Hawaii at the next meeting time. We will be going to a lake somewhere for a nighttime potluck. I promise not to break down again.

The Carney's have purchased a 35' motor home for their pending move to sunny Florida. I hope there is room inside to fit their Spit. I finally moved the TR/7 into the garage to start removing the head. I hope to have it back on the road for the fall events.

A special thanks to Jim Hughes for donating several parts to the project car, including the important upholstery piece that hides the gas tank.

Remember, all Triumphs are orphans now, adopt one or more.

John Horton, President



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ST. JOHNS GRAND PRIX

As most of you know, when Dave Riddle purchased Bob Schaller's TR3, part of his plan was to run the car in "Vintage" races, as well as local ASRA and NASA events. That project has been continuing for some time, but Dave recently acquired another race car. It's a Formula 500 open-wheel racer powered by a 432-cc snowmobile engine. This class was formerly called Formula 440 within the SCCA system. It's an interesting vehicle in that it has an "automatic" transmission! A clever mechanism controls a drive belt, and as you go faster, the driven pulley gets smaller as the driving pulley gets bigger, so you go faster. Capable of about 130 MPH at the top end, it handles like a go-kart and can keep up with the best Formula cars in the really twisty bits.

On July 1-2-3, NASA hosted the "First Annual St. Johns Grand Prix" at the St. Johns, Arizona airport. Airport courses are generally uninteresting, as all they have to work with are runways and taxiways, making for long straights and sharp turns. NASA was able to add a "technical section" with chicanes at the top end of the course, so the drivers could have some real fun at least once per lap. Naturally, the airport was closed to air traffic for the three days.

Dave's original plan was to take both the TR3 and the F500 to St. Johns, but logistical problems intervened, and he entered the "Red Devil" chassis F500 only. Aside from small mechanical difficulties, the car ran well and posted decent lap times (including back-to-back identical times) over the 1.65 mile course. Dave won a trophy for second place in his class - which consisted of a Ford-powered "Spec Racer" and a Mazda powered C Sports Racer - both cars with much bigger engines. It's the old racing adage "In order to finish first, you must first finish". To add spice, Dave also won \$125 from Goodyear and NASA for his performance in the main event.

My hat is off to Dave for going racing, as I did so many years ago. Good job at St. Johns, Dave - and keep up the good work!

Tom Pennell

**IF WE HAD HAD TIME,
THERE WOULD HAVE
BEEN A PHOTO OF
DAVE'S F500 AT
SPEED IN THIS BOX!**

OUR HOBBY IN JEOPARDY

Our hobby faces the most serious challenge possible in the near future. We have seen the onslaught of legislation attempting to further control or outright eliminate the older fleet of gross polluters, *including our collector cars*. Most states have had downright restrictive bills offered by people that consider cars a means of only getting from point A to point B.

We must support the organizations that are working to keep our hobby from being eliminated. The local group is the Arizona Automotive Hobbyist Council, or AAHC. There are also national groups. A most effective tool is calling and writing to our legislators and voicing our opposition to anti-car laws. It only takes a few minutes and the legislators listen.


The threat I am most concerned about can come from the next presidential election. Al Gore has written in his book, "Balanced Earth", "the internal combustion engine is the major threat to the environment". If elected, he will push his agenda to restrict and eliminate cars and force us into public mass transportation. In the local newspaper, an article reporting that he is proposing

25 BILLION DOLLARS to states to assist in funding public transportation and alternative fuel cars is an example of his thinking.

There is a need for public transportation and alternative fuel cars. I am in favor of purpose-built cars and the obvious need for low cost transportation. I am concerned that little or no thought would be given to hobby cars. An entire industry will be eliminated if we are painted with the same brush that is aimed at the non-maintained, gross-polluter, daily drivers.

The present administration and Al Gore has demonstrated time and again that larger government and more regulations of our personal lives is the *future*, if he is elected. I urge you to consider this as you vote in the next election.

John Horton



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