TRIUMPH NEWS

The Newsletter of the Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club

Volume 28 Number 12 **December 2016**



A TR4 (Group 44 tribute) racer *at speed* on the straightaway during the 2016 Watkins Glen Vintage GP. *Photo by Stan Carpenter

In This Issue: **www.cptc.org**

- **About CPTC**
- **President's Message**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **Fall Leaf Tour**
- **Northwest Passage**
- **The Brokerage**

The Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of all automobiles built by the Triumph Motor Company and its successors from 1923 through 1981. Annual membership is $20.00 ($15.00 if you opt for the electronic version). **Triumph News** is the official newsletter of **CPTC**: its objective is to encourage research related to Triumph automobile history and to disseminate technical and current/historic information to its members. **Triumph News** is published monthly.

CPTC will consider running commercial advertisement that is representative of maintaining interest in the preservation of the Triumph automobile as a service to its members. Interested businesses may contact Joe Laurito at 717-652-8636 or **web@cptc.org** to discuss placing an ad and available rates. All ads are subject to board review and approval.

Information found within this newsletter is believed to be of interest to the Triumph owner. Opinions expressed may or may not reflect the ideas of all officers and members. Technical material is provided for reference and should be used advisedly.

All material intended for **Triumph News** should be submitted to John Miele, Editor. Contact information: Phone ~ 717-566-7228 or email **newsletter@cptc.org.**

Ads for The Brokerage are free to **CPTC** members; they usually will be run for two issues, and must then be resubmitted. Ads should be received no later than the beginning of the third week of the month**.** Late arrivals will be printed when possible.

Visit **www.cptc.org** to view the club website, with an expanded calendar of events and photos.

Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club Officers

Tom Billett	**President**	**717-469-2379**	president@cptc.org
John Krause	**Vice President**	**717-697-9762**	vp@cptc.org
Helen Weaver	**Secretary**	**717-761-7105**	secretary@cptc.org
Marty Shoop	**Treasurer**	**717-258-6140**	treasurer@cptc.org
John Miele	**Newsletter Editor**	**717-566-7228**	newsletter@cptc.org
Joe Laurito	**Webmaster**	**717-652-8636**	web@cptc.org

User Name: CPTCMember **Password: spitfire**

A Few Words From Our President ~ Tom Billett

I want to thank all our members who took time out of their busy schedules to show support for the club by voting at our public meeting in November. With our club and national elections over, let's hope everyone can come together to make things better for all.

Our driving season may be over for the year; but the holidays are fast approaching. Please plan to attend our annual Christmas party which will be held at the Italian Lodge in Hershey on December 4th at 1:00 p.m. For anyone planning to participate in gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift in the $10.00 price range. Be it a practical or not so practical gift, I'm sure we will have a good time. So, again, please join us and let's kick off the holidays on a fun and wonderful note!

The Board would like to thank everyone who helped out with the club functions during the past year, from hosting a run to showing up and making every event a success.

And, as always, I would personally like to thank all the officers and volunteers who have helped me and the Club throughout the year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

Keep Calm and Motor On!

Tom



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2016 Calendar of Events

The caption **CPTC Event** means the event is sponsored by our Club.
The caption ***CPTC Event**** means the Club has a presence within the main event, such as our tent at the Carlisle Import Nationals.
Visit **www.cptc.org** for updated event information.

Dec 4th **CPTC Christmas Party - Hershey Italian Lodge, 128 Hillcrest Rd., Hershey, PA. - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Banquet Room. Italian buffet and cash bar. Gift exchange for those who wish to take part. Cost - $25/person. Make plans now to attend and send your checks to CPTC, PO Box 493, Mechanicsburg, PA, 17072.**

One of Our Own

The Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club mourns the recent passing of Jeffery L. Maurer, 58, of Mechanicsburg, PA. Jeff was born in Philipsburg, PA and was a US Air Force veteran. He was a well-liked member of CPTC and a Mechanicsburg resident until his untimely passing.
You will be missed, Jeff.

~Rest in Peace~

Attention, CPTC Members!

If you are in the process of doing a full restoration and are doing much of the work yourself, please let us know! Mention your project to a Board member or send an email to:
newsletter@cptc.org

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Fall Leaf Tour
October 16, 2016



On what would turn into a lovely fall day, CPTC members began arriving at the Cocoaplex Plaza in Hershey, PA for the start of the Leaf Tour.



After a briefing on the trip agenda by our tour organizers, Tom & Sue Billett …



We headed off for a scenic drive through Dauphin, Lancaster & Lebanon counties.





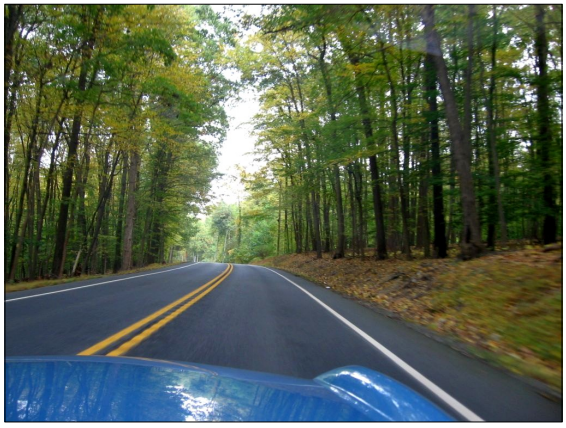


(Continued on P. 6)

Fall Leaf Tour (Cont.)



A ride through picturesque Mt. Gretna and over some relaxing country roads …



brought us to Funck's Restaurant in Palmyra for some delicious food, a bit of liquid refreshment and plenty of good old fashioned camaraderie!



We hope you will be able to join us next time!

**Photos by Bob Iwan, Michele Laurito and MB Miele*

Northwest Passage

~ By John Schmoyer

While recognizing that our journey would not be on a scale as epic as that of Lewis & Clarks' "*CORPS of DISCOVERY*", my wife Karen and I set out on an 1100+ mile driving adventure through the mountains and up the coastlines of Oregon and Washington. Our intent was to capture, to some degree, the beauty and ruggedness that L & C certainly experienced 212 years ago. Of course, we were armed with GOOGLE, cell phones, and a GPS rather than hunting rifles, compasses, and a knowledge of map-making.

Throughout such trips it is always a curiosity of mine to poll the number of makes and models of British sports cars that I come across. Perhaps not as nature-related as spotting elk or snow-capped peaks in August; but interesting just the same. The end result, after seven days, was a brilliant red GT-6 which was housed in Tacoma's *LeMay America's Car Museum* …



and a number 2 (subscribers to *Classic Motorsports* will understand) light blue Morris Minor 1000 which was unexpectedly discovered behind a Sonic drive-in. Based on such a paltry showing and in light of all else that we had seen, we concluded that the residents in those two states are more interested in pulling a camper or driving a Prius.

So, if its scenic views of lush forests, dormant and extinct volcanoes, or the sun setting over the rocky coasts of the Pacific Ocean that you want, a visit to Oregon and Washington is a must.



If its roadsters that you fancy, you will be far better suited visiting California.

Postscript: The museum's poster of the Herald (next page) refers to BMW's ownership of the *Triumph* brand and a hint that they may someday re-introduce it to the motoring public.

(Continued on P. 8)

Northwest Passage (Cont.)



Likely there's a better chance that Mount St. Helens will once again blow her top!

**Photos by John Schmoyer*



Standard Engines & Ferguson

~ By Cliff Grube

Despite common lore, Ferguson tractors powered by the Standard manufactured engines are extremely rare in the US. Here is one at a recent auction ...



The bidding went to $1600; but the seller wouldn't let it go. I believe he wanted over $3000. It was not properly restored and, although it looked good at a distance, issues such as extremely low oil pressure kept me from bidding.



The search continues ...

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Meeting of the Marques Recap

~By Stan Carpenter

One word for 2016 MoM – FANTASTIC! The weather, new faces, old friends, the Motorshow, 100 mile Tour and food (of course)! Location, Sponsors, Volunteers and a loyal following - for most of its 26 years those four items have been the key ingredients that make 'The MoM' something special indeed.

Of the many CPTC members on High Street, each one's presence seriously counts toward preparing our hobby for the future. To those of you responding to public interest, only the future knows of the return on your efforts. While our primary objective is to have fun, its true mission is for the club (and our cars) to outlive us. It will take 'new blood' and younger generations to secure that mission so please be an ambassador every chance you get.

CPTC member Ed Plank took top honors in the British Invasion class with his TR3A. Congratulations - Well done!



CPTC Christmas Party

December 4, 2016
Cost: $25/person

1:00 PM - Banquet Room
Hershey Italian Lodge
Hershey, PA

Join us for a joyous & fun afternoon - participation in the gift exchange is optional.
Reserve your place by sending your check to:
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TR-4s Built on World's Longest Sports Car Assembly Line

The December 1, 1962, production of the new Triumph TR-4 was transferred to Standard-Triumph's revolutionary new assembly plant at Coventry, England. Reported to be one of the most modern auto plants in the world, the TR-4 assembly line is the longest for sports cars.

This line is over 200 yards in length and has stations for 46 units. TR-4 production is being boosted by this move and is nearing the target figure of 500 units per week. The modernization is part of the effort to fill the record number of orders, received from throughout the world, most notable of which is the fifty-seven million dollar order from the U.S.A.

On the "TR-4 Furlong," the assembly methods maintain Triumph's high degree of quality control, yet at the same time, every stage is planned to give maximum efficiency and speed. Each unit has a pitch of 18 feet which gives fitters generous space to perform operations under the most favorable working conditions.

At the end of the line, each car covers three to four miles of simulated road conditions in a special roller test booth. Checks are made on the engine, transmission, brakes (with individual measurements for each wheel), speedometer and steering.

Triumph is maintaining its position in the United States as the top selling British Sports Car and, with the increased production from the "TR-4 Furlong," sales will definitely improve.

** Above article gleaned from the January 1962 issue of TSOA by CPTC's own Jerry Frasso*

CPTC Election of Officers

To the surprise of … NO ONE (!)
All 3 officers were re-elected to serve another term on the CPTC Board.
Election Results are as follows:
Vice President - John Krause
Treasurer - Marty Shoop
Webmaster - Joe Laurito

A sincere 'Thank You' is due each of these guys for their willingness to continue to serve our membership and to those members who showed up to cast their vote.

Cars and Coffee



Jerry Frasso's TR6 and Cliff Grube's TR4 sit gracefully at the curb outside Haag's Restaurant in Shartlesville after an early morning run and a great breakfast at the start of a crisp, beautiful Veteran's Day in Pennsylvania!

**Photo by Jerry Frasso*



1949 Triumph 2000 Roadster

From a recent posting in *Hemmings Daily* ' Find of the Day'

This beautiful roadster has undergone a 7-year restoration to original specs and it appears every bit the part!



Yours for a mere $139,000 USD
Would make a great Christmas gift!



**Submitted by John Krause*

MG Halts Assembly of Cars in UK

During the late 1960s, the automobile assembly plant in Longbridge, Birmingham, England, employed an estimated 25,000 workers, building vehicles sold under the British Leyland banner. Today the plant occupies less employs roughly 500 workers; but still handles final assembly of certain MG automobiles for parent company Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation (SAIC). At least it did – now SAIC has moved all automotive production to China.

MG Motor UK Sales & Marketing says the move is a "necessary business decision to allow faster access to product and help to meet ever-increasing customer demand, while maintaining the highest levels of production quality." Sales and marketing staff not deemed redundant by the move will remain at the site.

This is not the first time the Longbridge plant staff has received bad news. Then-parent BMW sold the Rover Group, and the Longbridge Plant, to the Phoenix Consortium in 2000, resulting in the formation of MG Rover Group. By 2005, MG Rover Group was out of money, forced to shutter the factory and fire an estimated 6,000 workers.

Just 90 days after the closure, MG Rover Group and the Longbridge plant were purchased by Chinese automaker Nanjing. Nanjing itself was bought by SAIC in late 2007, and in 2008 the plant resumed final assembly of the MG TF roadster. In 2011, the plant began producing the MG 6, a variant of the Chinese Roewe 550 sedan, from semi-knocked-down kits shipped from China. The MG3 subcompact entered production in Longbridge in 2012, and plans were in place to build a new MG SUV at the plant this year. The shuttering of the Longbridge assembly line ends nearly 92 years of MG manufacturing history in England.



Editor's Note:

Adapted from an Oct. 6th article by Kurt Ernst in the *Hemmings Daily* blog
**Photo by Jill Reger*

**Submitted by John Krause*

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The Brokerage

Where Buyers Meet Sellers

1981 Triumph TR7 - Fair condition $3,500 OBO. Mileage 61,502. Repainted in original color (Bordeaux Red) about 12 years ago. Newer tan convertible top, original tan interior. Needs new tires and has some minor electrical hiccups. Last worked on at Triumph Rescue. Garage kept since 1999 - Presently in Hackettstown, NJ. Contact owner (Non-member) via email: mybluedaisies@comcast.net or text (preferred) to: 973-906-6572 [Listed 11/16]

1973 Mercedes 450 SL Coupe - This is a rare coupe, white with light blue interior. Ran when stored in 1991. Slight damage to fender, or quarter, and some minor rust on floor pan. All original parts - $2,000. Call Sam (Non-member) at 717-253-5849 for more information. Car is located in Hanover, PA. [Listed 11/16]

1957 TR3 (small mouth) - Blue exterior, 54,000 miles, electric overdrive, hundreds of spare parts. The car is in excellent condition; but is an unfinished restoration which has been in our family for 50 years. The vehicle is located in Berkeley Springs, WV. Complete description & photos available at: http://washingtondc.craigslist.org/mld/cto/5659276680.html Price: $22,500 with spare parts, OBO without. Contact Mark Schwenk (Non-member) at 304-676-4599 or mark@frogvalley.com [Listed 7/16]

1962 Triumph Spitfire - Restoration project/parts car; located in Northampton, PA; reasonable offers considered. Call Mary (Non-member) at 814-317-5578 for photos and more information. [Listed 6/16]

1971 TR6 Project - Ran when parked; 3 fenders done, balance of car to finish. Two extra doors, hardtop, new interior still in bags - $4000. Please contact Bob Logan (Member) at boblogan61@gmail.com or call 610-401-0834. [Listed 5/16]

1968 Triumph TR4A - Red with black top/interior. Ground up restoration completed in 2009; driven 450 miles since. Garaged, never driven in inclement weather. Pertronix electronic ignition, concealed battery disconnect, fire extinguisher, solid birds eye maple wood dash, silver painted wire wheels, car cover, shop manual, extra red paint. In excellent condition and runs good. Antique auto tag, transferable. Asking $25,000.Contact Charlie Benner (Member) at 717-898-2638. [Listed 12/15]

(Continued on P. 14)

The Brokerage (Continued)

PARTS & EQUIPMENT

Stow-able Top and Frame - fits '62 -'70 MGB. Top is in good shape; black with the original two piece frame from my '65 MGB. $350. Willing to consider trade for a nice, period correct luggage rack. Call Jeff (Member) at 717-574-2775.

Rebuilt TR6 Engine - Head & block done by Dorman Machine in Mill Hall, PA. All new bearings, pistons, internals; rebuilt carbs; head, timing chain cover & pan gaskets not installed so buyer can verify work; photos upon request; may visit to inspect. Price: $3000, $2500 w/o carbs & intake manifold. Contact Chad (Member) at 570-295-7069 or email chad.l.sample@gmail.com [Listed 8/16]

Interior panels - New wheel arch panels, black, purchased for '67 Triumph GT6, Spit Bits price is $160 + S & H. Will sell for $110. Contact Ken Drye (Member) - email: akdrye@gmail.com or call 301-271-4042. [Listed 3/16]

Disclaimer:
Items for sale are provided as a courtesy to members of the Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club (CPTC) and the readers of *Triumph News*. This section is provided solely to facilitate contact between Triumph enthusiasts and the use of this information shall create no liability or responsibility upon CPTC, or its Officers or Directors.





The Triumph Lunch Bunch

The next meeting of the **Lunch Bunch** will take place at noon on **Thursday**, December 15, 2016 at John's Diner, 146 Sheraton Drive, New Cumberland, PA. Take Exit 40A (Limekiln Road) off I-83. If you enjoy great company, engaging conversation and good food, consider joining them on their next outing. Please call Diane at 717-761-1741, so she can include you in their reservation.

New Protocol for Purchase of Club Regalia

Holly's Embroidery is the exclusive embroiderer for our club. You can now select men's or women's styles in a wide range of clothing from the full inventory of Holly's catalog.

Call or email Holly with your request, telling her that you are a member of the Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club. She will calculate the cost of the item, embroidery and shipping and get back to you with a price. Pay with a check or credit card and the item will be shipped to your door. View her catalog at www.sanmar.com. Email HollysEmbroidery@comcast.net or call her at (717) 599-5975.

The Vintage Triumph Register

The Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) was founded to promote historic research, encourage sensible and accurate preservation of Triumph automobiles, maximize the enjoyment to be had from driving a Triumph and emphasize camaraderie and social interaction among Triumph owners. VTR welcomes all Triumph automobiles. Membership to VTR is $35.00 USD and includes 4 issues of *The Vintage Triumph* magazine and newsletter. Write to: VTR-E-New Membership, PO Box 655, Howell, MI, 48844 or visit **www.vtr.org** for more information and a membership application.

CPTC Events Coordinator

Tom Miceli
Phone: 717-432-5650
Email: tr-tom@comcast.net

If you'd like to volunteer a little time to help Tom coordinate our various Club events or if you have any suggestions for events or additional Club activities, please feel free to share them with him.

Membership Renewal Information

The membership renewal date for **all CPTC members** is now June 1st of each year! Please bear with us through this transition as we simplify the renewal process for all concerned. Thank you.

Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club
P.O. Box 493
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FIRST CLASS



Merry Christmas
And Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!