

Triumph News

The Newsletter of the Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club

Volume 33 Number 3

March 2021



One of a number of fine British autos on display and for sale at the Classic Auto Mall in Morgantown, PA. Admission is free!

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www.cptc.org

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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; they usually will run for several 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

Rich Roenigk	President	717-487-1795	president@cptc.org
Rory Liebrum	Vice President	717-645-0581	vp@cptc.org
Mary Ann Berrian	Secretary	717-798-1922	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: nocovid21

A Few Words From Our President ~ Rich Roenigk

Hey, this snow thing is getting a little outta hand now! Weatherman says we have reached the average snowfall for the season; but March is typically the month we get whacked again, so head south or hunker down!

We did get in the Classic Auto Mall event last month. It is quite place, like a "museum of everything" with no entrance fee! Check their website for an outdoor car corral and flea market event in April.

I made contact with LANCO MG Club. They are planning a June event to Haar's Drive-in movie. Stay tuned for details on that. They are looking forward to doing events with nearby clubs including the Austin Healy group. We may have to do a challenge with attendance numbers!

I attended a Roadster Factory Summer Party years ago that was held at their local drive in. Quite a sight to see, with around 300 British cars lined up in the field. Those Summer Parties look like a thing of the past; but the Altoona show the end of August is on at this point. Look for details on it in the newsletter and on our website calendar.

The Simeone Museum is our next event, coming up in March. Those who attended Classic Auto Mall felt safe as masks were worn and there was plenty of social distancing space to be had. Hope to see many of you there.

Stay Safe, Keep Calm and Motor On!

Rich



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Please join us for the 23rd Annual



Britain on the Green

September 19, 2021

Gunston Hall
Lorton, Virginia



2021 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.

- March 13th** Visit the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum, 6825 Norwitch Drive, Philadelphia, PA. A collection of 75 + racing sports cars assembled over a span of 50 years. Meet at 29 Blue Spruce Drive, Enola, PA at 8:15 AM to carpool to museum. **CPTC Event**
- May 14-16** Carlisle Import & Performance Nationals, Fairgrounds, Carlisle, PA
- May 22nd** Shakedown Car Show - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, 149 Limekiln Road, Bechtelsville, PA. Sponsored by Triumph Rescue. No registration fee; but please RSVP if you plan to attend. More info on P. 6
- June 14-18** TRA 2021 - Lexington. KY. **Cancelled!!!**
- June 27th** Brits by the Bay - DeJon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Road, Hydes, MD 21082. Info & registration at www.trac1td.org
- July 23-25** 2021 Kastner Cup, Portland International Raceway, Portland, OR. Info to follow - See more on Kas Kastner's bio at: <http://kaskastner.com/kasbio.html>
- Sept. 19th** Britain on the Green - Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA.

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Historic Treasures In Our Backyard
 ~ by Stan Carpenter
(Continued from last month's issue)

1956 D-Type - XKD 538

The D-Type is an important part of Jaguar's legacy, both in terms of pure design and cutting-edge mechanicals, and as the pointy end of the spear leading to the E-Type. As an historian, I find the backstories involving XKD 538 equally noteworthy and we will investigate those too.

Some 'wins' for this car:

3rd overall in the 1956 Sebring 12 Hour with Jack Ensley and Bob Sweikert sharing the driving chores, finishing 12 laps behind the winning Ferrari 860 Monza of Juan Manuel Fangio and one lap ahead of the Aston Martin DB3S of future Jaguar pilot Roy Salvadori and chicken farmer Carroll Shelby.

Ken Breslauer's 2012 book Sebring 12 Hours, hows the #14 to be white in the photo, now on exhibit in silver. No explanation of a color switch in between that I could find.

8 more D-Types finished further down the order, driven by the likes of Mike Hawthorn, Briggs Cunningham, Bill Spear, Sherwood Johnston, Ivor Bueb and Duncan Hamilton.

Dr. Simeone purchased XKD 538 at a 1984 auction, outbidding ...

Mick Jagger!



The backstory with local connections involves California-born driver Bob Sweikert, a gifted young mechanic whose racing began on the streets of San Francisco and the East Bay, frequently against Oakland teenager Ed Elisian. Their paths would cross over the years ... more on that later. Bob was extremely proficient at the wheel of almost anything, on dirt or pavement, during the barn-storming outlaw and AAA-sanctioned years prior to USAC. Locally, he won on dirt at the old Langhorne track and raced at Williams Grove. His biggest hard surface victory was the 1955 Indianapolis 500, a victory overshadowed by the fatal crash of the 500's 1953 and '54 winner Bill Vukovich. Bob went on to win that year's AAA 'big car' National Championship in addition to the Midwest Sprintcar Championship, the only driver to ever claim the American 'triple crown'.

(Continued on P. 7)

The Club Corner

Links to Share:

Good information on Lucas horns found in Triumph TR3s

<http://www.vintagemg.com/ArticlePDFs/THorns1-2.pdf>

A bunch of images of various parts of a TR3 that may be helpful

<https://app.photobucket.com/u/TR3driver>

A great collection of tech articles from 'Down Under'

<https://www.tr-register.com.au/Files/technical.htm>

**Submitted by Ron Weber*

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MAY 22, 2021 Rain date May 23rd

149 LIMEKILN ROAD, BECHTELSTVILLE, PA 19505

Please join us from 9am to 3 pm for a relaxing non judged car show. Plenty of parking (pavement, stone & grass areas) and no registration fee.

Commemorative Dash Plaques to First 100 Cars
LUNCH FOOD AVAILABLE ON SITE









PLEASE RSVP TO: triumphs@triumphrescue.com or 610.845.8217
Red Door at reddooroffroad@gmail.com or 610.295.5169

Name (s) _____
Make _____ Model _____ Year _____

****NEWS YOU CAN USE****

CPTC now has a Facebook group which will allow us to get club news to you quickly. You will also be able to post your Triumph adventures to the group when something good comes your way.

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/773444003051724>

and join the group or search for Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club on Facebook.

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Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club*

Tire Trax (Cont. from P. 5)

So, as March 1956 rolled around, Bob was riding high when he arrived at Sebring for the 12 Hour race, his wife writing that he was the first Speedway driver to appear at Florida's sports car event, and admittedly a fish out of water. For whatever reason, Fangio took the time to introduce him to the airport circuit and provide pointers into Bob's new venture. It was certainly a nice gesture for the Argentinian World Champion to school the previous year's Indy 500 winner, and a friendship was struck with the promise to continue that in Europe.

Bob was back at Indy in May and would finish that 500 in 6th place. Just 3 weeks later Bob Sweikert would unfortunately be killed in a sprint car crash at the infamous, high-banked, paved bowl of Salem Speedway. He was running in the 4th position when his right-rear clipped the outside wall, flipping him down over the Turn 1 embankment. Running right in front of him in 3rd...his rival over the last 12 years, Ed Elisian. Gone in an instant was a life of just 30 years, with such driving promise yet unfulfilled, and not quite 3 months after his Sebring debut in a Jaguar.

1958 Aston Martin DBR1/3

This winner of the 1958 Nurburgring 1000km event at the hands of Stirling Moss and Jack Brabham also raced at LeMans four times. Weighing a mere 1764 pounds, this magnesium alloy-bodied missile had a lot of capability when the 254 horse, 3 liter straight six was off its leash.

Other drivers taking the wheel through 1961 would include Carroll Shelby and Jim Clark.



So, while each of these vehicles is beyond cool, if you're a gearhead like me who enjoys almost anything that has wheels, propellers or tracks, then the Simeone is a PA treasure that you must make the time to visit ... soon (like in March!).



CPTC member Vic Nigro on the road (in 29* temps) with his shiny black '62 TR4 to celebrate Drive Your Triumph Day on February 10th - Nicely done, Vic!

Classic Auto Mall Morgantown, PA Jan. 23, 2021

~by Mary Ann Berrian

Saturday, January 23rd was a typical winter day in PA. It was cool, brisk and a great time for a short road trip to visit the Classic Auto Mall in Morgantown, PA. (See ClassicAutoMall.com for info.)



This Club event drew nine members to view over 500 cars for sale indoors! One of our members, Ed Fitzsimmons, drove his own TR6 and met us at the Mall.



Everyone was masked - social distancing under 8 acres of roof was not a problem!

The British cars ranged from 1930's Austins to MGBs, an MGC, AH 3000 and a Bug-eye Sprite, a few Spitfires and one lonely (but very pretty) Triumph TR4A.

British hybrids included a genuine, heart-pounding, 1964 Shelby 289 AC Cobra and a nicely restored Amphicar!



While the Mall does house a number of fine British cars, the majority of the cars on display and for sale consist of great examples of Detroit iron ranging from the 1920s through the 60s, with a few in the 70s.

(Continued on P. 10)



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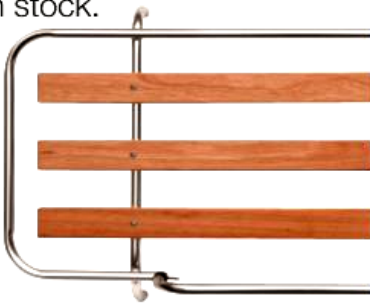
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Classic Auto Mall (Cont. from P. 8)



The Auto Mall is planning a Swap Meet and Car Corral on April 11th. Might be a great time to check out this interesting venue!



Tidbits from the Quarantine

The Pandemic has me stuck between a rock and someone I would like to hit with it.

It's been a blessing to be at home with the wife these past months. We've now caught up with everything I've done wrong in the past twenty years.

I think I've finally been grounded for everything I avoided getting caught for when I was a teenager.

Remember all those times you wished the weekend would last forever? Well ... Happy Now???

Coronavirus throat spray



Looking to Buy an LBC ... Or Planning to Sell Yours?

Check out the Classified Section on
The Roadster Factory's website:

[www.the-roadster-factory.com/
Classifiedsform.php](http://www.the-roadster-factory.com/Classifiedsform.php)

This free-to-list site contains numerous
MGs and Triumphs offered for sale
as well as listings for Triumph parts
wanted to buy and for sale.

Worth a visit even if you're just browsing!

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
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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.

FAX: (717) 599-7711

Need a gasket ... find a crafter!

~ By Ron Weber

As Triumph owners working to restore and maintain our 50+ year old cars, we are fortunate that there are a number of suppliers out there who market replacement parts for most of what we need. Some of these parts are OEM quality, some are OK and will work, and others require some “massaging” to work. On the other hand, and thankfully not that frequently, we come across parts that just won’t fit. One can speculate forever why this happens; but it leaves us with a choice we need to make - work with the supplier to see if perhaps there was a quality issue and get a replacement, order the part from another supplier in hopes that they get it from a different source, or make a new one using those tools and materials available to us.

I ran into a part situation rebuilding the AC OEM fuel pump for my TR3A. I ordered a rebuild kit from one of the “big 4” and proceeded to disassemble the pump while I waited for the kit to arrive.

Parts were degreased and plastic bead blasted (thanks for the hint, Mike Grove!) to refresh the die cast metal housing parts.

When the parts finally arrived, I began the reassembly of the pump. During this process, everything went together nicely except for the small figure 8 gasket under the two check valves which didn’t fit into the housing recess.

Figuring that it would “conform to fit”, I jammed it in and assembled the check valves. After finishing, I tried the pump and was “very disappointed” that I didn’t hear the usual fuel pump wheeze that occurs when the pump is mechanically actuated. Upon disassembly, I discovered that the paper figure 8 gasket folded on itself and formed a crease, resulting in an air leak.



After a few email exchanges with the supplier, I discovered a replacement figure 8 gasket is only available with the rebuild kits. I checked with other suppliers and confirmed this. The supplier was very understanding and went to the length of asking his personal mechanic what to do. The mechanic recommended using manila folder card stock for the gasket; so I proceeded to try to cut out this gasket using a Xacto knife - I tried this six times before giving up.

(Continued on P. 15)



The Brokerage

Where Buyers Meet Sellers

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.

1975 Triumph Spitfire 1500 – White with black interior. I have owned this car since 1995. It has 21,000 original miles; factory hardtop (white) and tonneau cover included; stainless exhaust; original AM/FM (working) radio. Always garaged; not perfect, but a very good example of a nice original car. Great weekend driver or show quality with additional investment. Photos on request; car is located in Altoona, PA - \$9,500
Call Bob (Non-member) at 814-932-6634 or email: yahnerr1@gmail.com [Listed 5/20]

Car Parts:

Want to Buy: Set of 4 steel wheels for Triumph TR4. Wheel width - 4.5" from bead to bead. Contact Bob Logan (Non-member) at 610-401-0834 or email him with info at boblogan61@gmail.com . [Listed 2/21]

Triumph TR4 Radiator for Sale - crank hole recently refurbished by Arnold Radiator Hospital in Lebanon PA. Radiator is an original Coventry radiator with tag intact. The upper & lower tanks were removed and cleaned, core cleaned & flushed, reassembled and pressure tested. There is a very small ding in the upper tank but otherwise very clean. Pictures available on request. \$350, pick-up only. Contact Ron Weber (Member), email: rmweber99@yahoo.com [Listed 02/21]

(Continued on P. 14)

The Brokerage (Continued)

Triumph TR3 Parts - Large stash of used parts to include spoked rims, steel rims, 2 eared knockoffs, steering wheel, side curtains, soft top, manifold, heads, axles, gauges, hinges, heater, radiator, suspension, fuel pump, valve covers, glovebox, grab handles, gas cap, pedals, hand brake and much more. First \$1000.00 takes all. The parts are located in Gaithersburg MD. Pictures on request. Call Greg (Non-member) at 301- 512-5110 or email gregscarver@gmail.com (Listed 12/20)

TR3 Roll Bar: Constructed of heavy wall, steel tubing and was used in a TR3A for hill climb events by the previous owner. It is a four-point mount to rear fender wells, utilizing four bolts and a heavy backing plate at each mounting point. Pictures provided upon request. \$200, pick-up only. Contact Ron Weber (Member) - Email: rmweber_99@yahoo.com [Listed 6/20]

TR3 Gas Tank: Fits post-TS60000 cars. Pressure tight - no leaks; should be cleaned and coated before use, \$75. Call or text Joe Laurito (Member) at 717-991-1428 or email trglory@hotmail.com [Listed 1/20]

Wanted for Triumph TR3: Fender Skirts or Spats in any condition. If you have a set that a pattern could be made from, that would also be helpful. Contact Dave (Member) at 717-887-4276 or email him at 1968gt6@gmail.com [Listed 4/19]



Attention CPTC Members Membership Renewal - June 1st

The membership renewal date for
ALL CPTC members is June 1, 2021

Thank you!

Need a Gasket ... (Cont. from P. 12)

I came to realize that a more creative solution was required. That's when I remembered that my sister has a craft cutting machine to cut pieces for her quilts as well as stencils for her cookie decorating hobby, so I gave her a call.

My sister has what is called a Cricut Maker, a < \$400, numerically controlled, craft cutter that will cut paper, leather, cork, balsa, cardboard, cloth and just about any craft type material. I asked her whether it would cut manila file folder paper and she said, "No problem". All she needed was an SVG/DXF format file to input.

I went to the shop and started taking dimensions from the fuel pump. I loaded LibreCAD (not the best program, but open source & free) on the computer and made a quick layout of the gasket using the dimensions I pulled.

To Be Continued ...

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, which includes six bi-monthly issues of *The Vintage Triumph* magazine.

Write to: VTR-E-New Membership,
PO Box 655, Howell,
MI, 48844 or visit
www.vtr.org for
more information
and a membership
application.



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

Your Help Is Needed!

To assist in our efforts to keep our membership information current, please email or call Rory Liebrum with changes in your contact information.

Rory's email and phone are located on the second page of this newsletter...

Central Pennsylvania Triumph Club
P.O. Box 493
New Kingstown, PA 17072



FIRST CLASS



1979 MGB
Owner: Mary Ann Berrian