

# Triumph



# Newsletter

TSOA

TRIUMPH SPORTS OWNERS ASSOCIATION



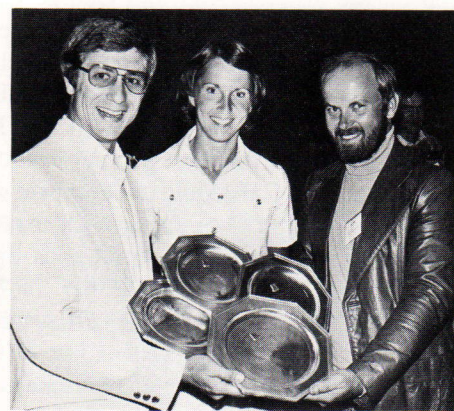
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AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1977

## NEWS OF TWO MORE BIG TRIUMPH RALLIES

**Troy, Michigan, and Gloucester, Ohio, events attract over 100 Triumphs:  
Add to growing list of big annual Triumph rallies.**



(Above) Phil and Mary Schmidt were a winning couple at Troy with their TR7. She won the Ladies Autocross and together they were second in the Friday Evening Rally. With them (right) Saul Malmantis, of British Leyland's Central Zone, presenting the awards.

(Left) Mike O'Sullivan helps Sue Armstrong with her helmet at the 'North American Triumph Challenge'. They share a 1976 TR6 and enjoyed the rally so much, they've promised an entry for next year already.

### **BIG 3-DAY TRIUMPH RALLY AT TROY, MICH.**

Nearly 70 Triumph sports cars attended the North American Triumph Challenge II held in Troy, Michigan, Aug. 19-21. Seven states and one Canadian province were represented at the three-day meet which included an evening rally, an autocross, an economy run and a Concours d'Elegance. The meet was co-sponsored by the Detroit Triumph Sports Owners Association and the Illinois Sports Owners Association. The registration fee was a modest \$35, which covered all events and the Saturday evening banquet.

Registration was held Friday evening at the Holiday Inn in Troy. Participants were given a schedule, a Challenge II T-shirt, a gift bag containing some neat Triumph memorabilia and a badge for his or her car. Free beer and conversation filled the room. Shop talk abounded as novice owner and old pro debated Triumph ownership.

Friday evening rally entrants left the hotel in their cars at 8 p.m. The 110-mile course was difficult but not cruel. Ann and George Gelehrter and their 1976 TR7 won the event with an impressive 694 points. Phil and Mary Schmidt were second in their TR7 with 755.

Preparation for Saturday's events began early. Owners wiped off and made adjustments to their respective autos. The parking lot became a mini auto show with Inn guests walking about asking questions and looking at cars. A water pump problem in a TR-3 and some valve adjustment problems in a TR-6 caused their owners some concern. Participants for the economy run lined up in the parking lot promptly at 11 a.m. After topping off their tanks and a brief drivers' meeting, the tour was off. The route ran in and out of downtown Detroit with a brief MacDonald's

## News of Two More Big Triumph Rallies (continued)



Ready for the Saturday Autocross, nearly forty Triumphs of all varieties—TR7, TR6, Spitfire, TR4, GT6, etc.

stop on the agenda. Ann and George Gelehrter (the rally winners!) once again came in first in their TR7 averaging an astonishing 50 m.p.g. In the 6 cyl. class, Roy Summer in his GT6 won with 33.33 miles per gallon.

Autocross events took place at the Ford Test Track. This proved to be the most popular event with an estimated 40 cars entered. Cars could not compete without a technical inspection. Rich Torres supervised, making sure that batteries were fastened down, front ends tight, tires properly inflated, etc. Mary Schmidt in her TR7 roared to a first place in the ladies' division. Rich Grottemeyer won the men's division, class A, in his TR6. Class B winners were Bob Kester in a TR4 and B-Prepared winner was Bill McCarthy in another TR4.

Awards, door prizes and toasts were the order of the day at the Saturday evening banquet. British Leyland had provided plaques for all winners. Irv Korey from the Illinois Sports Owners Association was the M.C. Area merchants provided door prizes which included car mats, rally lights, wax, brake fluid and so on.

The three-day meet was topped off by Sunday's Concours d'Elegance at the Ford Test Track. Randy Mason organized the event. A light rain made judging difficult. Owners covered their Triumphs with plastic drop cloths until just before judging. Winners included: Mike Bilyk, 1972 GT6; Lee Matas, modified 1977 TR7; Bill Smith, 1959 TR3; John Vanidour, 1974 Spitfire; and Don Ryberg, 1975 TR7. Roy Summer drove over 600 miles in his GT6 to win the distance award and Randy Mason's 1953 Triumph Mayflower won the "People's Choice" award for the most popular car.

Plans call for next year's meet to be held in Utica, Ill. sometime in August, 1978. Organizers expect an increase in attendance and hopefully drier weather.

### TR2 AND TR3 OWNERS RALLY IN OHIO

The Triumph Register of America (TRA) held its yearly National Meet this June 10-12 at the scenic Burr Oak Lodge near Gloucester, Ohio, culminating another year of successful activity by this TR 2/3 owners group. The 60-

room Lodge, reserved solely for TRA members, was populated for the weekend with nearly 150 participants who enjoyed the flurry of Triumph-related activities organized by the Meet's sponsors, the Central Ohio Center-TRA. Pewter plates were graciously donated as Concours d'Elegance awards by the British Leyland Triumph Sports Owners Association, and six additional Concours awards consisting of framed, professionally hand drawn TR pictures were provided by Martin Lodawer, member of the Triumph Register of Southern California, a TRA Center. Over 50 TR 2/3 series cars drove in for the event, with a "Longest Distance Travelled" award going to Randy Thompson of



Judges in the Concours, (L to R) Randy Mason, Bob Kester, Steve Rossi and Bill Smith, compare scores.



For the Autocross, a course marked by pylons was set out at the Ford Test Track, near Troy. Here is Jessica Bechtel's TR7.

Hampton, Conn., who drove his TR3A 667 miles to reach the Meet. Representatives of all four U.S. TRA local Centers were present, as well as several Canadian TRA members including Gordon Warburton of Toronto, owner of the first TR2 manufactured.

The weekend's festivities began with a sale of TR-related paraphernalia on the afternoon of Friday June 10th, followed by a sale of rare new-old stock items that evening. Two other suppliers of new-old stock items also conducted sales that evening, along with a free refreshments "hospitality hour" hosted by TRA's National President, Joe Richards.

Saturday the 11th began with a refreshing tour of the

evergreen forested area surrounding the Lodge and its adjacent lake, followed by a series of TR-related workshops including sidecurtain and body restoration and competition preparation. Saturday afternoon brought the Concours d'Elegance with strict rules and many entrants in six classes—TR2, TR3, TR3A, TR3B, "Driven Daily," and "Competition." A few drops of rain that afternoon could not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants whose cars were first staged in a pre-judging lineup by class and then driven individually to a judging area for close inspection. Judging proceeded rapidly using this system and spectators had an ample opportunity to view each of the mouth-watering cars. Saturday evening occasioned an excellent buffet-style roast beef banquet, a slide show trip report on a U.S. member's recent visit with TR Register members in England, and an awards ceremony. Concours awards were



At least seven different types of Triumph are recognizable in this photo at the Sunday Concours. In the foreground, Randy Mason's 1953 Mayflower, which was voted "People's Choice".



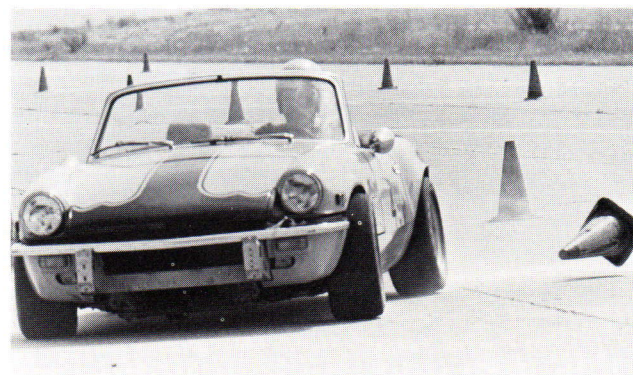
A feminine element was welcome at Technical Inspection.



Judging in the Concours was made more difficult by showers.



A sharp-looking TR6 in the Autocross was Lynn Vogel's, with special wheels.



Rich Torres was a bit too enthusiastic with his modified Spitfire and scattered the pylons.

(Photos by: Greg Stangel, Aurora, Ill.)

## Triumph Rallies (continued)

presented to show winners (see list) and special awards were made to TRA members who had spent "... countless unselfish hours of dedicated service . . . to preserve the marque TR2/3/3A/3B."

The winner of the Meet's Greatest Optimist award was Skip Allen of Forrestville, Md., who had driven his TR3A nearly 500 miles to the event without a failure (something he did on the return trip as well).

Many events from the weekend stood out as memorable—a 9 hour rainstorm one convoy of 5 TR's drove through to reach Burr Oak; the story of a 400-mile, 85 mph jaunt accomplished by a TR3A and its owner; the look on the faces of TRA members as a local resident tore the front door off of a nearby pizza parlor; the tale of woe of a member who had to change sparkplugs every 20 miles on his 425-mile trip home; and above all, the remarkable camaraderie generated by participation in this major "TR2/3 Event" of 1977.

## CLUB NEWS

### Long Island Club Activities

In August the very active Long Island Triumph Association completed its first year, and staged a small anniversary picnic, unfortunately somewhat spoiled by poor weather. But for the Mini-Tour later in the month, 25 Triumphs showed up. Membership is now over 40; all Triumph owners.

President of LITA is Bill Sohl of 28 Barrington Street, Westbury, N.Y. 11590 (516-333-3159) and editor of the well-produced Newsletter is Toni Dabice. The Newsletter lists 'Forthcoming Events'; the club officers' names, addresses and telephone numbers; reports and results of club events. This is fundamental information but too often missing in club newsletters.

Next big meeting for LITA is the Halloween Party and General Meeting at their regular get-together place Bill's Meadowbrook, 1002 Fulton Avenue, Uniondale, Long Island, on the evening of October 31st.

### Triumphs at Indianapolis Speedway

Mike Besch of Milwaukee, chairman of the Wisconsin Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register, was the VTR class winner this year at The Milestone Car Society's "Grand National" meet at the Indianapolis Speedway. A large Triumph delegation accompanied Mike and his 1961 TR3A, participating in four days of activities including an Indy track tour, technical sessions, a large Concours in the Speedway infield, an awards banquet and old films starring "Uncle Tom" McCahill.

### All British Field Meet

The First Annual All British Field Meet of the Portland Triumph Owner's Association took place in the summer. Trophy winners included the following:

- TR2/3A: 1. Harry Niehoff (1960 TR3A), 78.17 pts.  
TR4/4A: 1. Don Chalmers (1967 TR4A), 81.67 pts.  
TR250: 1. Paul Diegel (1968 TR250), 92.43 pts.  
TR6: 1. Steve Riddell (1975 TR6), 93.40 pts.  
TR7: 1. Ed Sanman (1976 TR7), 93.17 pts.  
Spitfire: 1. Jim Barber (1977 Spitfire), 95.33 pts.  
Other: 1. Thomas McCoy (1969 GT6), 78.53 pts.

### RESULTS: North American Triumph Challenge II

Troy, Michigan 19/21 August 1977

#### Evening Rally:

1. Ann Gelehrter/George Gelehrter (TR7)
2. Phil Schmidt/Mary Schmidt (TR7)

#### Econorun:

1. Ann & George Gelehrter (TR7) 50 mpg
2. Roy Sommer (GT6) 33.33 mpg

#### Autocross:

- Racing cars: Rich Grotmeyer (TR6)  
Class B: Bob Kester (TR4)  
Class B-prepared: Bill McCarthy (TR4)  
Class C: Gary Thomas (TR6)  
Class D: Wayne Sayre (Spitfire)

#### Ladies Autocross:

1. Mary Schmidt (TR7)
2. Barb Mynek (Spitfire)

### Concours d'Elegance

#### TR3:

1. Bill Smith (1959)
2. Bruce Ware (1963)

#### TR4:

1. Nancy Budd (1967)
2. Jeremy Stern (1967)

#### TR6:

1. Rich Gudmundson (1974)
2. Tom Sovereign (1974)

#### GT6:

1. Mike Bilyk (1972)
2. Dennis Phleeger (1969)

#### Spitfire:

1. John Vanidour (1974)
2. Mark Rudnicki (1975)

#### TR7:

1. Don Ryberg (1975)
2. Richard Lamb (1975)

#### Modified:

1. Lee Matas (TR6)
2. Bob Bechtel (TR7)

#### Distance:

- Roy Sommer (1972 GT6), 600 miles

#### People's Choice:

- Randy Mason (1953 Mayflower)

### RESULTS: TRA Concours, Gloucester, Ohio

(11 June, 1977)

#### "Competition"

- 1—Bob Radcliffe, Edgewood, Md.
- 2—Lou Dedo, Baltimore, Md.
- 3—Ken Berchak, Reynoldsburg, Oh.

#### "Driven Daily"

- 1—Jeff Powers, Colonial Heights, Va.
- 2—Vicky Leasure, Wash. Cthse, Oh.
- 3—Sharon Dickson, McLean, Va.

#### TR2

- 1—Skip Marsh, Vienna, Va.
- 2—Phil Warner, New Holland, Oh.
- 3—Arnie Kovalov, Delaware, Oh.

#### TR3

- 1—Barb Richards, Lancaster, Oh.
- 2—Jim Franchere, Columbus, Oh.
- 3—Jim Craig, Thornville, Oh.

#### TR3A

- 1—Jack Farish, London, Oh.
- 2—Dick Kahle, Raleigh, N.C.
- 3—Wally Neeley, Bridgeport, W.Va.

#### TR3B

- 1—Thad Rasche, Columbus, Oh.
- 2—Bob Burnett, Webster, N.Y.

#### Best in Show

- Jack Farish, London, Oh.



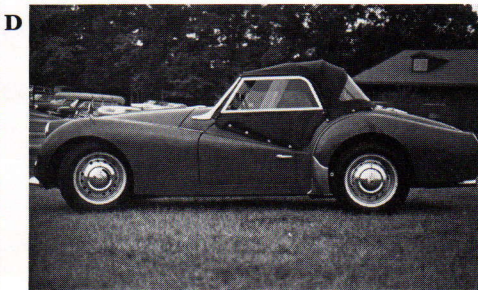
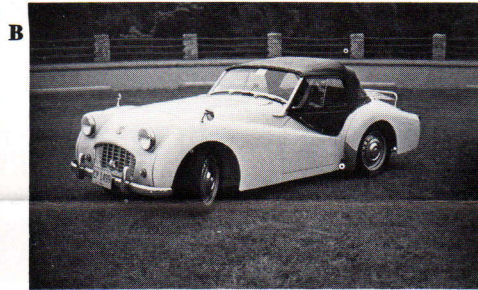
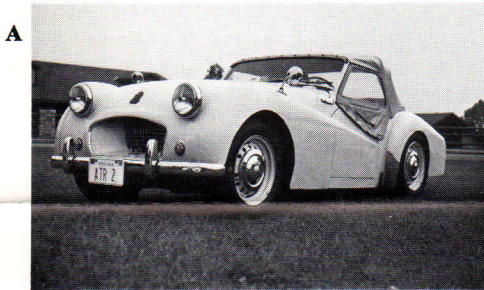
A splendid gathering of Triumph Register of America members (restricted to TR2 and TR3 owners) at the Gloucester, Ohio, national meeting, which was held in a beautiful setting at Burr Oak Lodge.



TR2 and TR3 Concours winners are displayed outside the Lodge.



Jack Farish, whose TR3A won the Concours class, tries his luck in the hand cranking contest.

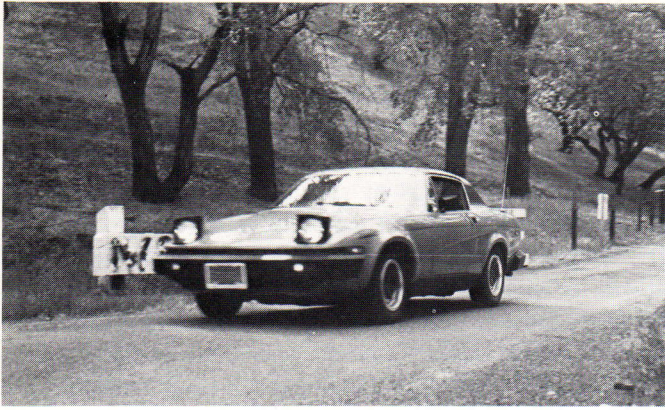


A) Best TR2, owned by Skip Marsh, national secretary-treasurer of TRA. B) Best TR3, owned by Barb Richards wife of TRA president Joe Richards. C) Best TR3A owned by Jack Farish of London,

Ohio. D) First place car in the "Driven Daily" category was this TR3 of Jeff Powers, from Colonial Heights, Va. This is an ex-race car with Alfin brake drums, aluminum oil sump, and widened wheels.



Secretary of TRA Skip Marsh (right) presents an award to TR3 owner Jim Franchere of Columbus, Ohio.



A Two-Day Rally called "Triumph '77" was organized recently in California by the Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club, from the Oakland area. (Left) Best Triumph on the 350-mile overnight section was Charles Harlchurst's TR7, navigated by Dave Alvis. (Right) TTSCC President Bob Brazington tests the timing at a checkpoint with his TR6. Address correspondence about this go-ahead club to TTSCC, P.O. Box 5881, San Jose, Calif. 95125.

## CLUB NEWS (continued)

### New Directory lists 21 Triumph Clubs Throughout USA

An invaluable reference directory of Triumph owner clubs throughout the USA has been published by the Triumph Sports Owners Association. TSOA is the factory sponsored national organization co-ordinating approved Triumph clubs in the US and Canada.

The Directory lists no fewer than 22 different clubs or centers from 15 states as follows: California (3), Michigan (2), New Jersey (2), New York (2), Virginia (2), Ohio (2), Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin. Also the Vintage Triumph Register has several additional local chapters and zones.

The Directory has been distributed free to all Triumph clubs as a service of TSOA and to help clubs get together to organise bigger and better events in co-operation with each other.

However, some clubs have not yet supplied full up-to-date information and this is urgently requested for the benefit of all concerned. Please write TSOA, 600 Willow Tree Rd., Leonia, N.J. 07605.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Good TR7 Racing at Mid-Ohio



"Thought you might be able to use one of the enclosed photos taken at the recent SCCA meet at Mid-Ohio. The 2 TR7's put on one heck of a race and the two drivers agreed that the D-production race gave the fans the best show of the day. I agree."

—Mark M. Levin, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

## CLASSIFIED

### WANTED

Factory hard-top for 1973 TR6. Will accept any condition of the interior and any color of the exterior. Also interested in hardware. Steven R. Miller, P.O. Box 3222, Monroe, La. 71201. (318-388-3000 collect).

Limited slip differential to fit TR4. Must be in good working condition. Any ratio considered. Norm Morgan, 1061 W. Paces Ferry N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30327. (404) 262-2584.

TR250, TR5, or pre-1971 TR6 engine, condition not important. Please contact Steven Schnake, P.O. Box 368, Centralia, Ill. 62801.

TR2, TR3 mint, restored or excellent original. Do not expect to haggle. Quote firm final price only. Pictures returned. R. F. Gerow, 6525 Greenway Drive A-6, Roanoke, Va. 24109.

### FOR SALE

1951 Triumph Mayflower. Rusted, not running. Complete car for parts or difficult restoration \$450. Dash is excellent, interior good, hood, doors, trunk, good. Engine worn. Also have numerous additional parts including some sheet metal. Write your needs. Mike Cook, 15 Birch Rd., Bloomingdale, N.J. 07403. (201) 838-7734. (Eves.)

Spitfire hardtop for Mk IV or 1500. Pimento red. Excellent condition, complete with hardware. \$200 FOB. Mike Cook, 15 Birch Rd., Bloomingdale, N.J. 07403. (201) 838-7734. (Eves.)

TR6 engine with 16,000 miles complete. Also rear end, body, and many misc. parts. Steven Schnake, P.O. Box 368, Centralia, Ill. 62801.

TR6 factory hardtop with fittings. Seldom used. Ed Gabriel, 2931 South Fourlane Hwy., Atlanta, Georgia 30339. (404) 422-3896.

TR7 wheels and tires, western cyclone mags with Goodyear GT radials, like new \$300. 1 pr. Hitachi: SU 175s \$150. George Ueltzen, 519 S. Emerson St., Allentown, Pa. 18104. (215) 434-0726.

1976 TR6 13,000 mile motor, gear box and rear half like new; also misc. TR3 and TR4 parts. Richard Lauga, Box 89, Spring Creek, Pa. 16436. (814) 489-3364.

THE TRIUMPH NEWSLETTER—for Triumph enthusiasts

EDITOR: JOHN F. DUGDALE

Published by British Leyland Motors Inc., in co-operation with the Triumph Sports Owners Association. Yearly subscription in US and possessions is \$3 for TSOA members and \$5 for non-members. TSOA is a factory sponsored national organisation co-ordinating approved Triumph owner clubs in the USA and Canada.

We shall be pleased to consider for publication any reports, photos and results of newsworthy Triumph events submitted by readers. Original articles, illustrations and technical notes will be paid for at our current rates. Six issues are published each year, bi-monthly.

Address correspondence to: The Editor, Triumph Newsletter, 600 Willow Tree Road, Leonia, New Jersey 07605.