



TSSOA NEWSLETTER

TRIUMPH SPORTS OWNERS ASSOCIATION

600 WILLOW TREE ROAD • LEONIA, NEW JERSEY 07605

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 5

JUNE, 1973

TRIUMPH COMPETITION VICTORIES MULTIPLY

30 SCCA National Wins

1st in Virginia Reel Rally



Tom and Fran Canavan, Virginia Reel National Rally winners, pick up their "Best British Leyland" awards.

CANAVANS TOP VIRGINIA REEL

In a time when rally success implies the use of a sedan, primarily to carry navigational computing devices, it is refreshing to find a team which competes in a sports car. When such a team wins an SCCA National rally, that is real news.

On May 5-6, 1973, Tom and Fran Canavan of Bowie, Maryland, did just that, in a TR-4A. They beat 74 other entries, independent and factory-supported.

Outdoing the top rally teams in the east, the Canavans were First Overall, First in Class A and the recipients of the "Best British Leyland" plaques. Our congratulations and here's hoping for many more! We especially wish future success to the organizers of the Virginia Reel. This year's 15th Annual was, as usual, first class in every way.



GROUP 44 BEGINS '73 SEASON ON RECORD-BREAKING NOTE

Records went down at a rapid pace during the first weekend of SCCA National Championship racing in 1973 for Group 44, the British Leyland/Quaker State racing team from Falls Church, Virginia.

On May 13, at Mid-America Raceways in Wentzville, Missouri, two Group TRs set new track records for their classes. President Bob Tullius in his TR-6 set a new C-Production record, taking 0.3 of a second off the record set the previous year by teammate John McComb.

John Kelly drove the Spitfire 1500 to a new record in F-Production shortly before a head gasket gave out. Group cars took first and second overall, and first in their classes as McComb put the D-Production GT-6 Mk III over the finish line 0.1 of a second ahead of teammate Brian Fuerstenau in the E-Production MGB.

Bob Tullius finished off the weekend with a convincing record-breaking win in C-Production, taking third-place overall and first in class behind two extremely powerful A Sports Racing cars.

continued on page two



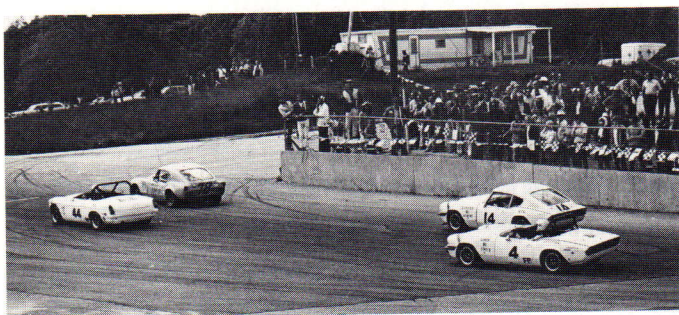
The Group 44 tractor-trailer rig and its four gleaming white sports cars are familiar sights at Sports Car Club of America race tracks. The cars are (L-R) Triumph Spitfire, F Production; MGB, EP; Triumph GT-6, DP; Triumph TR-6, CP.

continued from page one

TULLIUS AND SHARP RIVALRY FOR C-PRODUCTION HONORS RENEWED AT NELSON LEDGES

SCCA National races held on May 19-20 attracted 250 drivers to the Nelson Ledges race course near Warren, Ohio. The event marked the beginning of another season of friendly rivalry between Group 44 President Bob Tullius in the TR-6 and Bob Sharp in his Datsun 240Z.

The course was beginning to dry off after two days of rain when the C/D-Production event started. Tullius and Sharp drag raced into the first turn. Tullius won and took the lead. Then the spoiler on his TR-6 came off and Sharp passed him. Tullius quickly caught up to him and was preparing to pass when an abrupt fuel stoppage forced the TR-6 out of the race. However, Tullius did record the fastest lap for C-Production cars on the two-mile track. John McComb drove the GT-6 Mk III to a D-Production victory and a second-place finish overall in the C/D-Production race. That's two for two for John.



Three Group 44 cars in one race at Mid America Raceway. We won't mention Brian Fuerstenau's #44 on the left but #14 is John McComb's GT-6 and #4 is John Kelly's Spitfire. McComb and Fuerstenau were victorious, Kelly did not finish.

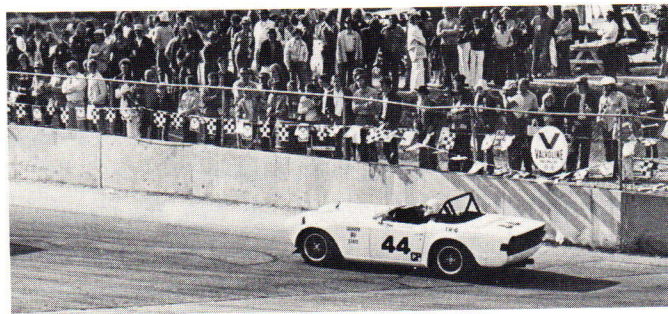
36 WINS

Triumph drivers have already taken the checkered flag 36 times in the fledgling 1973 Sports Car Club of America racing season.

Multiple winners to date are Ken Slagle, Harrisburg, Pa., two FP Spitfire wins, Jim Ray, College Station, Texas, with three victories in his TR-6; John McComb, Hutchinson, Kansas, with three wins in the Group 44 GT-6; and Rick Cline, Gainesville, Fla., who has scored four times with his G-Production Spitfire. Cline won the class GP national championship with the same car in last year's American Road Race of Champions.

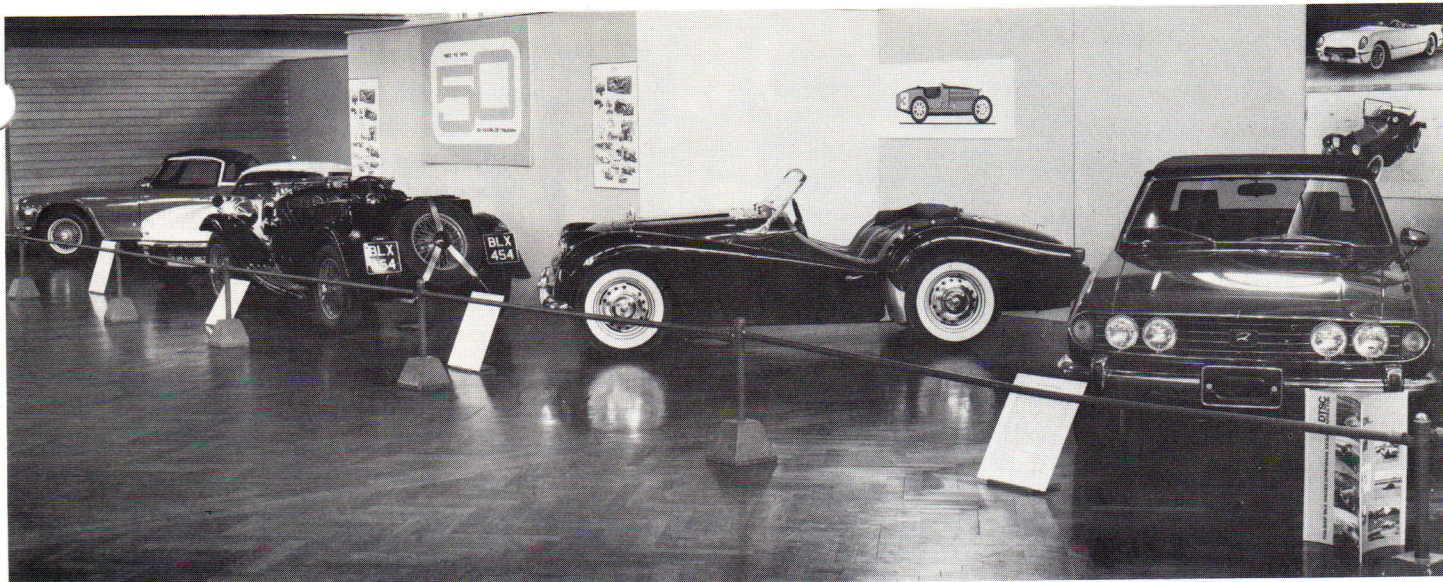
Jim Ray formerly drove a Spitfire in Southwestern Division events and this is his first season with a TR-6. He won five straight divisional championships with his Spitfire. McComb was Bob Tullius' replacement driver in the Group 44 TR-6 last season while Tullius recovered from non-racing injuries.

In three races, Nelson Ledges, May 19, Road Atlanta, May 6, and Virginia International, April 8, Triumphs finished one-two-three in GP. The respective winners in these win, place and show victories were: George Dennis, Rochester, N.Y., Rick Cline and George H. Tompkins, Petersburg, Va.



Bob Tullius was the CP winner at MAR. Here he slips smoothly through turn #1 in front of a group of spectators. The MAR National is an exciting, well-attended annual event.

Photos by Edward S. Fergus, Jr.



More Nostalgia — The 1935 Southern Cross, featured in the April issue, was also exhibited at the Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Mich., in March. Here it is, surrounded by other TRs, new and old, in a very tasteful 50th anniversary display.

LOCAL CLUB NEWS

It seems we goofed the address of the TSOA in Melbourne, Australia. For those who are corresponding, traveling or otherwise concerned about down under, the correct address is: TSOA, Melbourne Branch

Box 5020Y
G.P.O., Melbourne 3001
Australia

The Tye Triumph Club, Seattle, Wash., can't stand all the publicity the Portland group has been getting lately. They report that plans are under way for the two clubs to have a joint event to see if they can outdo each other all at the same time. Tye V-P Roger Brown reports new officers for '73.

President	Frank Cook
Vice-President	Roger Brown
Treasurer	Ralph Williams
Secretary	Marge Lambert
Board Members	Jim Taylor
	Bob Gaston
	Duffie Lowery
Competition Director	Bob Brittingham
Tour Chairman	Ira Sleasman
Membership Chairman	Duffie Lowery

Club address: Tye Triumph Club, Inc.
10704 35th Ave. S.W.
Seattle, Wash. 98146

Meetings: 1st Tuesday, 8 PM, City Light Bldg., 97th and Stone Ave. N.

On the other end of the West Coast is San Diego, home of the Triumph Sports Car Club of San Diego. Steve Leene advises that TRSCC offers TR owners a chance to get more than just economy out of their cars with an interesting diet of slaloms and other events. Write to:

Steve Leene
3513 Plumbago Ln.
San Diego, Calif. 92154

We have a note from the FORTS, a general sports car club operating at Fort Ord, Calif. Although affiliated with the military, the FORTS will be more than happy to enlist some civilians who enjoy rallies, tours, autocrosses and fun with sports cars. Write or call:

Roy Pina
Fort Ord Rally and Touring Society
Fort Ord, Calif.
372-9136

MISCELLANY

All sorts of odd items creep into our copy file and some never see the light of day as we have to bypass them for more urgent copy. Now, with a little space to fill, we can get out some of these items for your enjoyment.

Three Spitfires

Dr. David Starr writes from Placerville, Calif. that, after enjoying a 1964 Spitfire for 8 years, he and his wife bought a Mk IV. They took delivery in England and put 5000 miles on the car before returning home. The original car went to their daughter. Now, son David, Jr., is driving a 1969 Mk III.

Okay, who's got a better story?

continued on page four



Unsolicited Testimonials: Here is a shot of four girls from the Southwestern Zone Office of Leyland Motor Sales, British Leyland's marketing arm in Gardena, Calif. Left to right, Mary Bohler, secretary to Service Manager, GT-6; Nancy Dart, switchboard operator, Spitfire; Troylene Cameron, Inventory Control, GT-6; Sandy Starr, inventory control. Good luck, girls!

MISCELLANY

continued from page three

Sixteen and Still Going

"My TR-3 is in need of some re-furbishing" writes Joseph P. Novonet, Jr. Right! Joe has owned TS19261L since new, in 1957 and is very pleased with its performance. Other restoration enthusiasts can write him at 810 Benton St., Allentown, Pa. 18103.

Watch Out For Spurious Clubs

We'll just quote this note from Captain Alan R. Sibert, new TSOA member

"Just a parting note. A little over a year ago I made the mistake of 'joining' a club from California called 'Triumph Club of North America' located at 15116 Parthenia #223, Sepulveda, California 91343. They advertised 'gigantic savings and discounts, membership cards, trips, rallies, technical, UNS newsletters, badges, prizes . . .' and on and on. To date the only return that I've received for my \$10 fee has been one membership card and three (3) mimeographed sheets of member news which contained less 'news' than I could get from one of my children and all they know about cars is you go places in them.

I was just wondering if anyone else had experienced this problem that you know about? Something like this could make a bad name for the REAL clubs. Thanks."

SERVICE NOTES

The following comes from a club publication and may help some members with a wire wheel problem. The shop listed below will tune and align your wire wheels for \$7.50 each. (Any spokes that need replacing, \$1.00 each).

Woodward's Spring Shop Inc.

111 McGrath Highway

Quincy, Mass. 02169

Phone: 617-773-1200 617-773-1201

VYBACK REAR WINDOWS

The Vyback rear window on convertible tops sometimes becomes badly creased due to incorrect stowage of the soft top assembly. We have found that these creases in most cases can be removed satisfactorily by simply filling a plastic bottle with hot water and rolling it across the creased area and at the same time supporting the opposite side of the window.

CLASSIFIED

ITEMS FOR SALE

TR-3 Instruments — make offer. J. S. Levine, 140 Valley Forge Pl., Orangeburg, New York, 10962. 914-359-1704.

Marchal lamps. 2 7" dia. replacement units for cars with two-headlamp systems. With two extra bulbs, \$10 plus \$1 postage and handling. John J. Jennings, 33 Melrose Ave., Bergenfield, N.J. 07621.

Repair manual for Spitfire Mk IV, hardly used. \$20.00. Larry Langmore, Glen Ellen Skit area, RFD Box 66, Fayston, Vermont, 05673. 802-486-3339.

ITEMS WANTED

Red, black or white hardtop for TR-6. David Alessandrini, 172 Jason St., Arlington, Mass., 02174.

Factory hardtop for TR-6, good condition. States color and price. David Southerlin, 21 Buckingham St., Waterbury, Conn. 06710.

TSOA SUPERMARKET

The following items are to be ordered from TSOA Leonia.

Local TSOA Club "Calling Cards"	FREE
List of Triumph Dealers and Distributors	FREE
Replacement TSOA badge	\$1.00
TSOA Handbook, 2nd Edition	\$2.00
Triumph Automobile Association badge	\$1.50
GT-6/2000 Competition Preparation Manual	\$2.50
TR-4/TR-4A Competition Preparation Manual	\$2.50
SPITFIRE Mk-I-II-III Competition Preparation Manual	\$2.50
TR-250/TR-6 Competition Preparation Manual (Not currently available)	
GT-6+ Competition Preparation Manual	\$2.50
Complete list of Competition Parts for all Triumphs	FREE
TSOA Jacket Emblem	\$1.00
(Club Discount — 1 Dozen)	\$10.00
Official Triumph Jacket Emblem	\$.50
Triumph Sportscar Champions Jacket Emblem	\$.50
British Leyland Competition Stickers, Mylar	3 for \$1.00

Send Check or Money Order. No. C.O.D.'s please.

Please make checks payable to Triumph Sports Owners Association.

The TSOA NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Triumph Sports Owners Association, 600 Willow Tree Road, Leonia, N. J. 07605. TSOA is a national organization of American sports car enthusiasts who own a Triumph or are interested in the purposes of the Association. Subscription is included with a \$5.00 membership in the Club.

EDITOR, MICHAEL L. COOK