



# TRIUMPHS & TRIBULATIONS

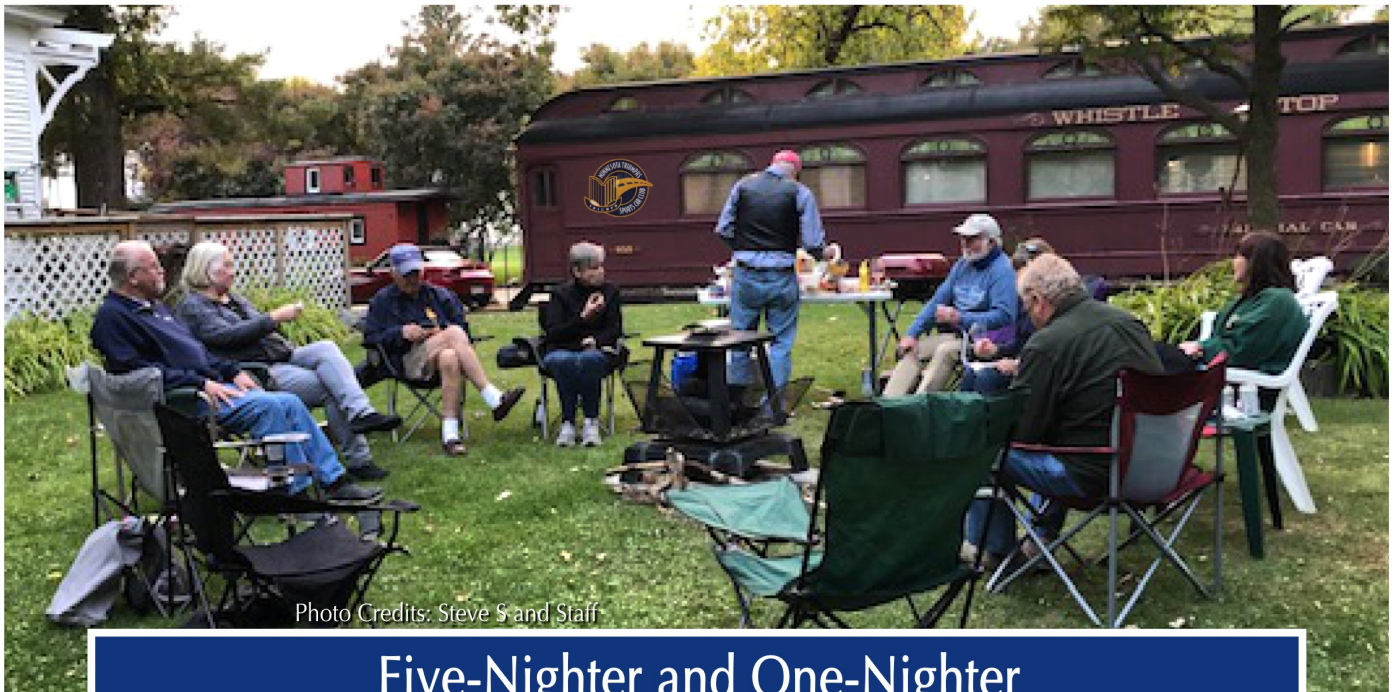


Photo Credits: Steve S and Staff

## Five-Nighter and One-Nighter

Black Hills and Whistle Stop. If you missed either, you missed some good times.

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### About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs formed in 1981 when a group of Triumph enthusiasts met for an afternoon of fun and conversation at Fort Snelling Park.

Since then, the club has grown to more than 150 members from throughout the Midwest.

Our activities include:

- Monthly meetings
- Social gatherings
- Tech sessions
- Road rallies
- Regional and national events

We welcome all Triumph enthusiasts, whether you own a concours winning showpiece, are restoring a diamond in the rough, are searching for just the right addition to your garage

or just appreciate the marque.

Together we can locate those hard-to-find parts and assist one another in keeping our vehicles on the road. But most of all, the club offers opportunities to explore some of the best roads in the region with others who enjoy the Triumph experience.

### Monthly Meetings

Membership meetings are the **SECOND THURSDAY** of the month January through October. **At this time for 2021 there are no meetings scheduled due to COVID guidelines.** Once we resume meetings they will be held at the Crooked Pint Ale House. The address is 1734 Adolphus St., Maplewood, Mn 55117. It's the northwest corner of I-35E and Larpenteur Ave. For membership information visit our website at [www.mntriumphs.org](http://www.mntriumphs.org)

**Minnesota Triumphs is a charter member of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR).**

**For VTR Membership information visit [www.vtr.org](http://www.vtr.org)**





## *Season Greeting and Good Tidings*



May your yule log burn bright and bring a calm atmosphere to your home for the next twelve day as we transition from the winter solstice to a new year. The Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club (MNTR) celebrates its 40th year of publishing a newsletter in 2021. Let's find ways to celebrate!!

This is a joyful yet reflective season in my neck of the woods. It is a special time as truckloads of yule trees flow freely from the neighborhood groves. From just a half mile away I can hear the constant murmur of excitement and laughter from parents, children, grandparents and friends finding that perfect evergreen to dress the home. Yes, the picture does depict the constant flow. But this year, so far, there is no snow. Pat Holt and others have and will continue to take their sleds out for a drive. Doug Foster is excited to go hear the exhaust note resulting from a new installation. We push and extend the season.

No matter what holiday you celebrate take a moment to think of those who are near, far and dear to you. Don't forget to be "Triumphant" in your thoughts and check the garage for special packages. Who knows??? Its Magical!!! For the season to pace and prance our Triumphs through the pine forests, is not far away. (continued)

## PREZ RELEASE - continued

Your Club Board Members and Officers are diligently preparing their thoughts and planning activities for the upcoming year. We had a Zoom meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> thanks to Dave Anderson. Feel free to voice your opinions!! The focus for the year is on presenting a diverse level of opportunities while allowing members to make those personal decisions of risk and safety. These are the conditions we live in and we are planning with the assumption that conditions will not alter in the near future. So social distancing and outdoor gathering with no time in restaurants and bars, is our focus. Clean out your trunk and make room for folding chairs, a cooler and a picnic basket. We will be active.

An immediate decision has been made that the **New Year's Sunrise Toast** event will occur for those who can climb out of bed. I will see you in Birkmose Park in Hudson, WI. Pancakes, bacon and sausage will be on the griddle. BYOB, glasses and utensils, plates will be provided. The January and February Club Meetings at the Crooked Pint have been cancelled. We will resume hopefully in March, or once conditions permit. Keep yourself up to date at [mntriumphs@groups.io](mailto:mntriumphs@groups.io) We regret that the **Winter Party** is canceled. We will look for the opportunity to hold either a **Spring or Summer Picnic** as a replacement. Steve Shogren, please hang on to those nice framed prints that Dr. John Withrow donated for door prizes. There will be a time. We will be needing a member(s) to step up and be the coordinator for this event. It will take some time and close interaction with the Bill Connell, the Events Chair.

The committee has several initiatives we are undertaking in 2021 beyond addressing general business and budgeting issues. Here are a few:

As you are hopefully aware, we are transitioning to Group IO software for the primary method of communicating with our members. The Committee approved the \$220 expenditure and we will be moving to a more robust format. A big thank you to Wade Peterson and Bill Connell. All members please sign up at [mntriumphs@groups.io](mailto:mntriumphs@groups.io). Check it out. It is a work in progress.

The intent is to have six tours/driving events this year. To address several members concerns we are looking at taking what I'll refer to as a "Compass Format". We will schedule trips heading in the different direction of the compass. Not always to the great state of Wisconsin. So, step up and take us on the road less traveled that you do when you want to have some fun. We are always willing to help in the planning if you are willing to take the lead and host.

A review of the Club's Bylaws, an annual financial audit procedure and a fiscal budget forecast will be conducted.

A credit card advertising page will be added to the newsletter to identify businesses and gain revenue.

Our insurance through VTR is changing and we will learn what that all involves.

An outdoor drive-in night is being considered at the Rivers Edge. The feature film will be Ford vs Ferrari. We can select another film, so give your ideas for a double header. \$25 a car load.

**Express your ideas, It's your club. Anything is fair game!!!** Next month we will begin our Membership Drive and explore the topic of Restore, Rejuvenation or Rehabilitation. Like last year we will highlight your project photographs and stories.

Cheers! Have a fantastic Yule Season and New Year!!!!

Chip Lederer





## Minnesota Triumphs Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2020

President Roger Kramer called the meeting to order - In attendance: 31 members

### Reports:

- Treasurer - Jill Davenport – Roger provided the treasurer report from Jill.
- Newsletter – Carol Thompson – Will be looking for one-page feature articles member cars as a way to connect with other members. And you can send pics of your car driving down the road.
- Tech Session – Steve Shogren – On October 17<sup>th</sup> – tech session for Jeff Nord's 72 TR6 – the clutch is rusted to the flywheel. Bring a hammer.
- Membership – No new members
- Intermarque – Doug Burch – Saturday morning breakfasts will start back at Elsie's. Saturday morning after brea - VFC?? – John Ingstrom to lead a drive. Maps are available. Stiff Upper Lip car show – contact Doug for directions. Time Trials now through the weekend. Any interest for spring events contact Pat Holt and Dick Leighninger for help with coordination.
- Historian – Bill Nelson – nothing new, everything is old.

### Old Business

- Congratulations and thanks to all of the officers of the club. We will extend the Crooked Pint as meeting location of choice.
- Nathan Arvold is new Membership Chair.

### New Business:

- In speaking to the Healy club they do a highway clean-up. How do we expand our footprint/exposure? Asked for interest in partnering with the Healy club to volunteer for a Saturday or Sunday event. Question came up regarding the sustainability of volunteering long term. Approach is to help once and see if it feels like a fit. Next steps: let them know we have some interest. Nathan will get out an email blast with Joe.
- Officers for next year were confirmed with 48 votes.
- Doug Foster – VP – the MN Street Rod Yearbook request is that we have to send something to them so we can be listed.
- Discussion recommending that we review the By-Laws and Policy & Procedures for club. In looking at outside groups there is roles & responsibility lens to consider as well as policies & procedures. Basically the officers have a responsibility to adjust and create policies/procedures. Next step is to review the by-laws that are posted on the website.

### Other

- Pat Holt offered his Waumandee Hill Climb registration for free.
- David Morocco's Spitfire made it down the road thanks to Dan Booth. Fuel fittings adjusted and it was a long time coming. Great success!
- Rags to Riches Story: Doug Birch a Spitfire to Rick Morris and he and his grandson restored it passing the legacy of Triumph.
- Bill Connell wants any route sheets or maps.

John, Carol Motion to adjourn, seconds and we were done. Cue the background music.



# YOUR CAR PROJECTS!

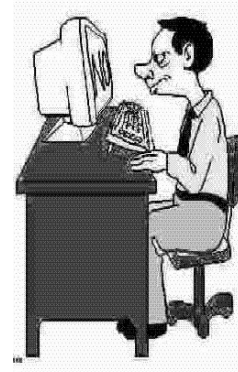
Asking for your current car projects to feature in the Feb newsletter. No project too small or too large. Send 1-2 of your BEST photos with a short write up to editor Carol: [<caroljt@prodigy.net>](mailto:caroljt@prodigy.net)

**DEADLINE JANUARY 15, 2021**  
First 2 or 3 entries received will also go on the cover, so HURRY!

**Are you connected to the group? Do you get in on the latest information?**

We have an e-mail site you can easily join.

Simply sign up at [mntriumphs@groups.io](mailto:mntriumphs@groups.io). Check it out.



## How I Obtained My Third Triumph - Bill Nelson

After getting tired of driving my PTR Cruiser on outings with Southern California Triumph Owners Association (SCTOA) I mentioned at a meeting in 2017 that I was interested in a Triumph to be able to drive in Southern California. A few days later I was given a name and phone number of a person who used to be a member and was being forced to sell. Her first car, a 1971 TR6. I looked at the car and paid for it on Friday March 13. On the way to the bank, I asked the seller (Kathee) if she would like to be a navigator in the TR6 during a SCTOA drive. She said she would like that.

While the AAA driver was loading the car onto the flatbed, he commented that she looked like she was about to cry. I told him about it being her first car and a daily driver and yes, she was sad to see it go.

A few months later I asked Kathee if she would like to go out to dinner. She ended up with the car and the guy, I ended up with the car and the girl.



# A Fresh Year

Last year in one of my “Season of...” stories, I listed a host of things I was going to do to Gulf 4 (our TR4). The list was long but the items that got checked off was short. I will say in my defense a few things got in the way.

My sister dragged home an early Miata that had close to 200,000 miles on it. The water pump was noisy and there was no history with the car so I did the timing belt, idler pullies, cam seals, valve cover gaskets, and radiator too. The top was shot so I attacked that too! Makes fitting a TR top child’s play.

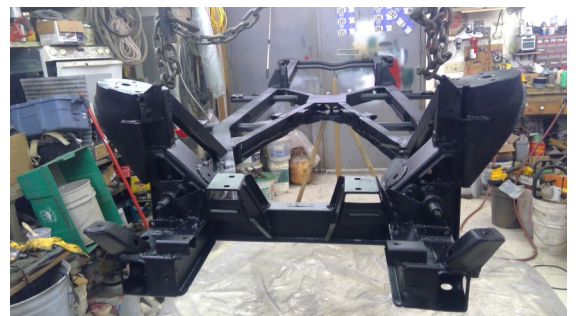
I also spent a fair amount of time helping Larry Sanderson getting his TR4A back together after final paint was done at a paint shop near him. It will return in the spring for a bit more work but for now the shop is all mine.

I did replace the steering rack in our car in preparation for the trip west to the Black Hills and while doing that, found some cracks in the frame. I welded them up as best I could in situ, but I knew then that the body needed to come off to do a proper repair and make a complete inspection possible. I believe I cracked the frame while trying to install a nicer looking cross member between the suspension towers a while back that was a bit longer than the original. I used some hydraulic assistance to get it in but in the end didn’t get it to go. I guess that proves the same part will not always fit one car to the next.



I am sure glad I decided to do the tear down! This car has always had an inordinate number of rattles and I just attributed it to the car being old. Well, the reasons were many. There were several mounting bolts missing and or broken holding the body to the frame. There were also several body mount pads that didn’t fill the gap between the frame and the body. The combination of these things allowed the body to move about a bit on the frame, enough that in multiple places there were bright metal wear spots.

Complete tear down is now complete and I have some good news and some bad. The good news is I didn’t find any more cracks in the frame, the bad news is I found rust through on the driver’s floor under some half-adhered sound insulation and bondo filled rust holes in numerous locations. More on that in another article. I sand blasted the frame and since it was stripped bare, decided to do a Racetoration lite reinforcing of the frame. Chip Lederer is using several components they sell and did the full-on “Rallye” reinforcing and when he is done he will be able to do jumps without fear of bending the frame! I did the areas I thought may in the future be weakened by rust inside the frame. It is day 28 of the rebuild and the frame is painted and ready for some restored components to be attached. I don’t have a clear path as to the order I will take at this point in the rebuild! I guess we will all know after next month’s letter.



One of your editors,

Greg

## Whistle Stop Trip By Roger Kraemer

Last year six members of the club went to the Whistle Stop B&B in New York Mills MN. We had such a good time that we did it again, this time only five went. One member couldn't make it. It's not that New York Mills has a lot going for it, it's the B&B that is so unique. There are four restored Railroad cars that are your rooms. Three Pullman cars and one caboose. Along with that there is a cabin and two rooms in the main house. The Pullman cars all have jacuzzies and one has a sauna. All have Railroad memorabilia decorating the inside.

This year Pat and Marsha Holt led the way. We took a leisurely route and ended up in Sauk Center at the Palmer house for lunch. Then on to New York Mills.

Because of the COVID virus we decided to just stay at the B&B and have a Bar B Que for supper. Nora and I brought up a grill and then it was a pot luck. We had Brats, chicken and ribs on the grill, we had salads and more, then desserts galore.



The B&B had a fire grill with wood supplied, so we had a campfire and mind altering beverages. There were cans, there were bottles with corks and screw caps, there were single serving bottles. There was more than we could consume.

The fire went out about 10 and everyone retired to their accommodations.

Normally you have your choice of having breakfast in your room or in the main house dining room. Because of COVID every one was served in their separate room, except Dick and Sally Leighninger who were up before the sun to meet the other group heading for the Black Hills.

Sunday was a beautiful day and again we took a leisurely route home .



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Terry Mackey  
1961 East River Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



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## Black Hills Trip - stories and pictures

**Jon Meier** - Big thanks to Joe Bisanz for organizing a great Triumph Club road trip to Custer State Park in South Dakota! This was the second time Joe has planned this trip. In the throgs of the pandemic, it was an opportunity to safely get our Triumphs out on the road! Joe setup our lodging in Murdo, SD (9/20 & 9/24) and Sylvan Lake Lodge (9/21 thru 9/23) in Custer State Park. He also arranged for us to have group evening meals on the outside patio each night at Sylvan Lake Lodge. For Jody and I this 1700+ mile trip in our 1964 TR4 included stops in the Badlands, Deadwood, Devil's Tower, Mount Rushmore, and Spearfish Canyon. Larry Berg told us of a great road to use to approach Devil's Tower from the north. He and Joe and traveled it on their motorcycles. It was fantastic! One photo op I missed at the start of the trip was my TR4 towing Greg Thomson's TR4 back to his house after it stopped dead a couple blocks from home. All world Triumph mechanic that he is, he quickly diagnosed the problem as a failed Pertronix ignition. He quickly swapped distributors in his 4 and we were on our way. Then about 15 miles or so later my 4 lost power. Again, Greg quickly diagnosed the problem. Power had stopped getting to my coil. He opened his 4's magic trunk, that always seems to contain everything you need, pulled out a length wire, ran it from my fuse box to the coil and away we went. No problem since! Great road trip, great Triumph friends and great cars! Thanks all!





## Black Hills Trip - stories and pictures

**Terry Mackey** - Really...I didn't want to go back to the Black Hills, having been there only three years ago. But Bernadette twisted my arm...

However, we found the roads to be spectacular once again and drove some new ones which made it even better. This time we went to Sturgis and Deadwood for the first time.

Terrific driving, camaraderie and weather...and only a few car issues with eight of us on the road.

And an odd side note, we bumped into another club member in the Badlands who was also on vacation.

It's a small Triumph world...



Thanks to Joe B for organizing...

Terry and Bernadette

Photo Credit: Terry Mackey





## Black Hills Trip - stories and pictures

**Larry Berg** - I am going to forgo the shots of Black Hills Scenery, cute prairie dogs, or shots of Triumph cars and weary travelers, you will see plenty of them.

My thoughts return to the FOOD. The Sylvan Lodge did a fine job feeding us in style. They were a little short staffed but the chef brought it together and everyone was pleased with the outcome. I never knew there were so many ways to prepare Buffalo

Photo Credit: Larry Berg





## Black Hills Trip - stories and pictures



Needles Highway - photo credit: Terry Neuman



Sylvan Lodge Area - photo credit: Terry Neuman



## For Sale

I have many parts for all Triumphs. I have motors, frames, wheels and most other parts.

Email me at [wmorris11134@yahoo.com](mailto:wmorris11134@yahoo.com) or call me at 612-723-4602 or text. - Wayne Morris



## For Sale

Early small bubble HOOD for '61 or '62 TR4. Rare piece, with a few dents. (Pictures available)  
\$500 obo

Top bows for TR4. (Not for a TR4A) \$35

RH, Center, LH passenger compartment mouldings in polished aluminum for a TR4. Very good condition \$40

Late TR3A or TR3B HOOD late with raised hinges. In grey primer, underside in red paint. Not rusty or dented, in very good condition. \$250

Cylinder Head for a '75 TR6. (No rocker assembly or valve cover) \$40 obo

Contact: [steveshogren@yahoo.com](mailto:steveshogren@yahoo.com) or 651-454-2037

## Tech Session

We had a first at Jeff Nord's tech session, we didn't accomplish anything. 11 of us could not get it started or free up the clutch. Nice rust free black '72 TR6 which has been a mouse house since 1993.

Oct 17th, 2020

Steve S



### Minnesota Triumphs Tech

#### Specialists

As a service to fellow members, club members with an expertise in a particular model of Triumph have volunteered to act as tech specialists for that model. They don't know everything but they do know a lot. So, if you have a question, give them a call.

TR2/3/3A/3B -

TR4 - John Myers (507-633-2017)

TR4A - Larry Sanderson (507-775-6940)

TR250/TR6 - Orrin McGill (763-755-7765)

TR7 - Charles Setala (651-490-0489)

TR8 - Greg Gelhar (763-424-6434)

Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)

GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)

Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)

### 2021 New Membership Form

\$25 for a single membership + emailed newsletter \$26 for couple membership + emailed newsletter

\$35 for a single membership + mailed newsletter \$36 for couple membership + mailed newsletter

Mail to: Minnesota Triumphs, 3562 Buchanan St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Name (as to appear on Name Tag)	
Partner (as to appear on Name Tag)	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Day Phone/Cell Phone	
Home Phone	
E-mail address	
Car, Model/s	
Member of VTR	Yes No

## A Look In The Rear View Mirror (adapted from Greg Gelhar)

Submitted by Bill Nelson - Historian



5 years ago - January 2016

+ Club Funds Balance  
 Checking \$4,866.62  
 Savings \$7,355.32  
 Total \$12,221.94

+ A November tech session was at Bob Swanson's. General engine work was performed and we could admire the body work and paint as his TR3 had just been returned from the body shop.

10 years ago - January 2011

+ The newsletter displayed quite a collection of photos by Joe Bisanz of VTR in Jekyll Island, Georgia.  
 + The newsletter had a nice article and photos of the tour of French Lake Auto Parts yard.  
 + In the Triumph Trader. Richard had a pair of black 1969 folding head rest seats for a T

Meeting Locations Through the Years

Aug-81 to Jul-87	Various member's homes	
Aug-87 to Sep 92	Parrish's Supper Club	2176 west 7 <sup>th</sup> St, St Paul
Oct-92 to Jan-96	Roseville Steak and Ale	1893 Hwy 36 W, Roseville
Feb-96	Country-Side	2851 N. Snelling, Roseville
Mar-96	Duggan's	5916 Excelsior Blvd, St. Louis Park
Apr-96 to Oct-98	Ol' Mexico	1754 Lexington, St Paul
Jan-99 to May-15	Ft. Snelling Officer's Club	Post Road, Mendota
Jun-15 to Jul-15	7 <sup>th</sup> Street Social	2176 W. 7 <sup>th</sup> St, St Paul
Aug-15	Richfield American Legion	6501 Portland Ave S, Mpls
Sep-15 to Jan-17	Roseville VFW	1145 Woodhill Dr., Roseville
Feb-17 to Oct-19	Ol' Mexico	1754 Lexington, St Paul
Jan-20 to Jun-20	56 Brewing	3055 Columbia Ave NE, Mpls
Jul-20	Crooked Pint	1734 Adolphus St., Maplewood
Aug-20	Joseph's Grill	140 Wabasha St S., St Paul
Sep-20	Crooked Pint	1734 Adolphus St., Maplewood



## EVENTS CALENDAR

Please see the events page on MN Triumphs website for more information about our different events and a google calendar with the events for the year. <http://www.mntriumphs.org/events.shtm>

Or scan the QR code to go to the website:



### January

1 New Year's Day Sunrise Toast, Birkmose Park,  
Hudson, WI - 7:30am – 9:30am

### February

10 Drive Your Triumph Day

### March

### April

### May

### June

10-12 Rendezvous 2021 - Lake of the Woods Vintage  
Sports Car club - Kenora, ON

### July

22-25 Kastner Cup - Portland International Raceway  
[www.kaskastner.com/kastnercup.html](http://www.kaskastner.com/kastnercup.html)

### August

### September

2021 VTR September 14 - 18 in Edmond, OK  
<https://www.triumphsokc.org/vtr2021>

**Every Saturday: Intermarque breakfast:** currently meeting at Silverwood Park - corner of Silver Lake Road and County Road E in St. Anthony. Meet about 9:30am - bring a lawn chair, coffee, and food.

## Regalia Notes

A wide range of regalia and logo designs is available for Minnesota Triumphs members through the WildThreads Etsy site: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/MNTriumphsStore>

Wearing club regalia is fun and a great way to promote awareness about our club and Triumphs!

When ordering it is best to use the following guidelines for a smooth ordering process.

- **Place your order via the link on the Minnesota Triumphs Web site to the WildThreads Etsy site.** Only email Suzanne directly if you have a question about an item, but if you're going to order an item that is listed on the Esty Web site it's generally better to order it through the site. (The exception to this is if you're working with Suzanne on an item that is not listed on the Etsy site and/or you have a special/custom request).
- Be sure ALL information is entered when you place an order, including any size, color, logo options, shipping information, etc., plus your payment information.
- From the WildThreads side, Suzanne has promised she will ship orders within ten business days after they have been received.

Questions? Contact Glenn Anderson

## Website - Bill Connell

**The new MN Triumphs club website is live!** You can see the new site at the same URL: <https://www.mntriumphs.org>

A few members mentioned wanting more photos and pages about member cars, and we have an easy way to add those. If you want to have your car featured on the site, send the story about your car and a photo or two, and I'll add it. Or, just send a photo and it can be in the rotating photos on the home page.

Please email your car photos and stories [webmaster@mntriumphs.org](mailto:webmaster@mntriumphs.org), or if you see anything missing, not working right, or if you have other ideas for new things to add.

Scan the QR code to go to the website:





The Minnesota Triumphs Club is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of the Triumph Marque. It was formed in 1981 and is a charter member of the Vintage Triumph Register. Correspondence can be sent to appropriate emails below.

Or Check our web site at: [www.mntriumphs.org](http://www.mntriumphs.org)



## 2021 OFFICERS

### President

Chip Lederer  
612 760-6615  
President@mntriumphs.org

### Vice President

Doug Foster  
612 387-8254  
VicePresident@mntriumphs.org

### Treasurer

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### Secretary

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612-810-9740  
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### Membership

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### Regalia

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### Member At Large

Open

Triumphs & Tribulations is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club. It is published monthly except for November and December. Deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All the opinions expressed in the articles, columns and other materials are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of MTSCC. MTSCC is not responsible for any technical advice which may appear in these pages. Classified ads in the Triumph Trader are free to MTSCC members and to members of other Triumph clubs. Submissions should be sent to the editor. Non-member and commercial notices are published for \$5.00 per month.



**Triumphs & Tribulations**  
c/o Greg & Carol Thompson, Editors  
1528 Haller Ct S  
Maplewood, Minnesota 55119