



TRIUMPHS & TRIBULATIONS



Elmer's Car/Toy Museum and The Rendezvous

A great time at both events. Thanks Bill C. for organizing the Elmer's run.

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Thank you to all who hosted events and contributed to this newsletter!

Photo credits: Joe Bisanz, Joe DeMuth, Jeff Johnson, Terry Mackey, Carol & Greg, Thompson, Greg Gelhar



About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs formed in 1975 when our club was first given a Charter with the Triumphs Sports Owners Association.

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. **Our next meeting is July 14 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**

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

For VTR Membership information visit www.vtr.org



PREZ RELEASE

Hello

all,

What a beautiful start to the summer. The weather has been gorgeous, my travel schedule has slowed down and so the Anderson family has been taking advantage of both Triumphs. I drove the TR3 to some work off-site events last week and I gave rides to my colleagues because they hadn't seen or ridden in a TR3. Everyone enjoyed the experience. One loved it so much that he wants to become a TR3 owner in the Boston area. All it took was a ride and he was hooked.

I recently received a text from my uncle and he wanted to talk. I typically don't hear from him that often so I was a little worried for the worse on the news. I was totally wrong. Our conversation invoked a ton of childhood memories for me that made me very appreciative for what I have.

Memories of my uncle are he was this amazing guy with a 70's mustache that drove this cool red '62 Corvair Convertible. I used to spend summers at my grandparents in TN and I remember sitting in that car in my grandfather's garage when I was little and pretending to drive it. To me, at the time it was the coolest car ever. I also remember that is where I had my first smell memory of my grandfather's garage where you could smell the oil and petrol from the tractor and trucks that he worked on. It was there where I learned to drive his '59 International Harvester pick-up and I think it was a Massey Ferguson tractor. I imagine that is where I learned to love vehicles. Our family were millers and we owned the [Ebenezer Mill](#) in Knoxville and my grandfather had some farm acreage not far from the mill. The mill has long been shut down but it is a piece of family history.

Now back to my Uncle and family history. The reason he reached out was to see if I would be curious in taking his awesome red Corvair. I was honored, because this is the first car he ever purchased as a kid and he has kept for 60 years. He remembered how much I loved that car as a kid and how much I love cars today. I am very excited and I hope to be a great steward of this vehicle for him and I can't wait to create new road trip memories in it with my family.

I'd be curious to hear from all of you on the first car you ever owned or share any remarkable car stories like my Uncle Dennis.

And speaking of making memories, don't forget the Hasting's car show along with the summer picnic. It is just around the corner and the picnic committee has been working hard to provide a wonderful event for all of you.

If I don't see you at the club meeting then have a safe and happy 4th of July!

Cheers,
David



June Meeting Minutes - Jill Davenport

June Meeting Minutes 6/9/2022

Call to order 7:02

78 degrees and sunny, about 10 triumphs, about 30 in attendance.

New Members

Steve and Suzanne Lowe, TR4 1962

Gary and Kris Johnson, TR6, 1975

Gene's story about getting to the meeting tonight - He got the Spitfire out for the first time this year, Traveling 35W, a minivan blew a tire, Gene hit the ditch to avoid it and drove it out, only incurred damage to license plate cover from the flying debris. Whew!

Agenda

Previous Meeting Notes approved.

Summer Picnic report by Bill - the committee decided on a cookout (by chef Chip), more info to follow.

Reports

Treasurer - Jody Meier, report by David. Savings balance \$6562, checking \$3173, expenses \$317, income \$51, ending total balance \$9469.

Membership - Mike Smith, report by David. Final membership stats listed on agenda. Total membership income just over \$3K

Newsletter - Greg and Carol Thompson (not present) Many comments how great the June issue looked!

Events Coordinator - Bill Connell

Joe Bisanz is planning a Brainerd overnight trip and overnight trip to LaCrosse for the MG rally. Contact him to join up.

July could use a drive if someone has an idea.

Hastings Car show July 17. More details from Christina next meeting.

Chip reported that there is discussion of Lost in America trip 10-11 days, 3000 miles, end of September

Tech Sessions - Jeff Johnson, report by Bill. Judy Sherwood's TR7 June 18; Jill Davenport's Spitfire, July 9

Intermarque Liaison - Glen Wilson, report by Doug. Restarting weekly gatherings at Silverwood Park, Wednesday evenings 6 PM, for the summer. BYO sandwich and chair.

Ongoing Club Business

Spring kickoff - valve cover racing was a great success.

Crooked Pint contract possibility for ensuring our preferred room; the board is analyzing contract proposal.

Rendezvous 2023 update - The hotel is reserved, deposit will be required. More discussion next meeting.

Dave Phillips shared that you can order Moss Motors parts through Quality Coaches. They will give a 10% off regular prices, and 5% off sale prices. There is no shipping charge, and you pick your order at Quality Coaches. He also reported that sometimes Quality Coaches has the part on hand. Price would never be higher than the Moss price. Jill Davenport added that she loves this service because she doesn't like boxes delivered to her front step, and that she lives close to Quality Coaches and could pick up your parts order and bring it to the meeting if the timing is right.

New Business

There was a request to have access to the great photos members take of our events. Bill will inquire about adding albums to the Groups IO site, as that would be more secure than our public website.

Parts to give away, David accepts them so anyone can speak up for them. He'll list them in the trader section of the newsletter

Drawings for regalia. \$15 and \$30 prize winners were Dave Phillips and Lenny Kukuza

Adjourn 7:42

Website - Bill Connell

The MN Triumphs club website is: <https://www.mntriumphs.org>

We've added a Drives and Tours page to the club website with some of our favorite driving routes and destinations. Send your routes to webmaster@mntriumphs.org to add them to the list!

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, or if you see anything missing, not working right, or if you have other ideas for new things to add.



Membership - Mike Smith

The MN Triumphs Car Club is always welcoming new members. Our tank is never full. Cost to join is \$25 for a single membership and \$26 for a family membership to cover a partner. Membership dues are accepted throughout the year. Dues paid after September 1st will apply to the following calendar year. The fastest way to join or renew is to pay by PayPal through the membership page on our website and send an email to me. [MN Triumphs Website - Membership Page](#) Any

other questions or comments regarding membership, please contact me. Thank You!

Mike Smith, MN Triumphs
membership@mntriumphs.org



Regalia - Dan Booth

Minnesota Triumphs Club logo apparel is available on demand in many different styles, for men and women, with different logos and colors.

Contact our apparel coordinator Dan Booth to start an order, he can get you the item and logo you're looking for.

- Text or call 651-208-9355 or email dbooth41@gmail.com
- See samples of Dan's work: [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Facebook](#) ; [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Instagram](#)



How Are You Feeling

It seems that the way I feel about my cars, the club, and car related activities, run in cycles. Every so often I have to do a reality check and reset as sometimes the time I invested in my hobbies are taking time from family or consuming far too much brain bandwidth. There are many activities one can be involved in associated with the car culture and some don't draw me in and I need to tell myself, that like me, not everyone will be interested in every activity I am.

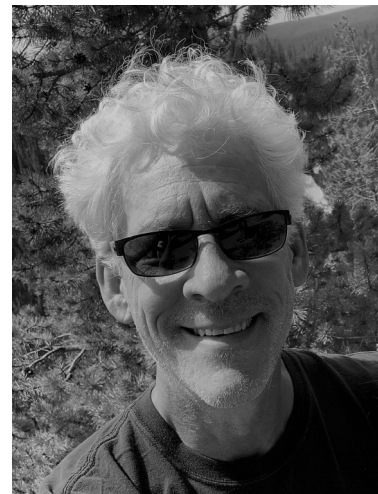
Since I was a young lad, I always had an interest in things mechanical. At age 9, I took my sisters bike completely apart and reassembled it. I still get great satisfaction tearing down just about anything and getting it to work again. I know not everyone has the burning desire to know how the planetary gear in the overdrive reduces engine revs or how to wet sand the high-build primer on a body panel to get a glass like finish on a fresh paint job.

On the other hand I have never been one to flock to social gatherings to sit at a table with people I don't know and chat, even if I have similar interests. So, for me the Saturday breakfast at Elsie's is not my thing. I totally understand the draw for type A (other?) folks to connect and network with others and it is important to the vitality of the Inter-Marque group.

All of these feelings relate to not only activities but to club involvement as well. Carol and I have been a part of this club since the late 1980's and depending on our work life and our children's activities, our involvement has changed over the years. Sometimes it's hard to say yes to volunteer of your time and there are many reasons not to! Someone else will do it, I don't like some of the members and I won't work with them, and "it's the same group that makes all the decisions" are a few of the most popular. The reason you see a lot of the same people up front making decisions is because no one else steps forward to take their role! We are a volunteer organization after all, so at some point during your membership you should give back.

I didn't start this thread to be a rant on club involvement but rather my everchanging feelings about my car life. I think that how we feel is a direct correlation to our participation as an onlooker or a volunteer. How do you feel about your experience in the car culture that we are all part of?

Greg



New Horizontal Club Banner!

Thank you to Joe Bisanz for donating and Terry Mackey for designing! It looked great on the patio at Rendezvous!



MN Triumphs Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 6, 10am-3pm

Spring Lake Park Reserve Hastings, MN West Shelter

Fair menu including burgers, brats, homemade sides, fruit, chips and dessert, including veggie options.



Chip is leading our grill crew, but we will need a few more to help with cooking and maybe hauling food and supplies to the event. We are finalizing the menu and budget, but cost will be around \$15 per person. Bill Connell will be following up with folks who volunteered through the survey, or feel free to contact him directly if you'd like to help out.

Top Talent

Greg Gelhar

Over the years, a small group of members within our club have installed convertible tops on various Triumphs. Whether the project is part of a major restoration or simply ongoing maintenance, this small group, comprised of Joe DeMuth, Greg Gelhar, and Larry Berg, has gained experience by tackling the challenge of fitting new replacement tops using all the material types available.

So far, at least a dozen TR3's, two, maybe three TR4's & 4A's, another dozen TR6's, a handful of Spitfires, and recently one TR8 have been done.



New tops usually come with a bag of loose snaps that need to be placed in the proper locations.



Tops, hoodstick covers, and tonneaus of all popular colors are fair game to this group. This work is often performed midweek as we are retired.



Adding these components to a valuable new top is where the groups experience comes into play as many car owners are hesitant to do the job themselves. Often, the car owner or other interested club members lend a hand. The necessary tools have been purchased to get professional results to please the car's owner. There is always communication between each step of the job and no holes are punched before an agreement has been made for their exact location. No commercial shop will devote this much care in fitting a top, and we have heard sad stories from owners who have had work done by them.

Elmer's Car & Toy Museum Tour - May 28

We had a good number of folks join in on the trip to Elmer's Car & Toy Museum in Fountain City, WI with a stop on the way at the Pie Shop in Stockholm and lunch in Fountain City after the tour. They will be closing later this summer so plan a trip if you want to see a huge collection of all sorts of things- cars, pedal cars, toys.



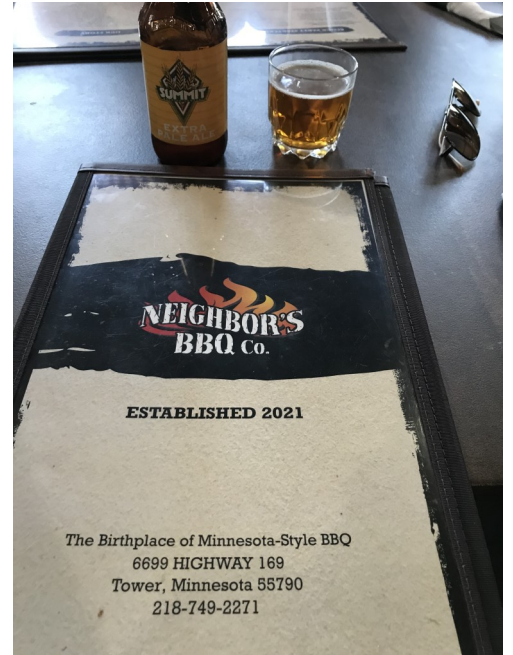
Rendezvous June 9-11 Tower, MN

After two years of no Rendezvous it was apparent that people were definitely ready to get together again! A big thank you goes to the Intermarque Group for taking on the planning and execution of this event. MN Triumph members totaled 26 with a car count of 17. It was great to see everyone supporting this event. The Poker Run on Friday was a great drive with some interesting stops. The band and food truck at the car show on Saturday was a great addition and enjoyed by all. At the banquet Mark Brandow presented a wonderful talk on his start in the auto repair business. We're sure you noticed the person with the question mark in the group photo on the cover. That is Todd Bjerknes who helps organize the Intermarque breakfasts and helped with this event.

Now we get to look forward to Rendezvous in 2023 which our club will be hosting in Ashland, Wisconsin!



Rendezvous - June 9-11 - continued



Tech Session - Jeff Gilmer and Mary Deeg

I had been researching and working on the TR7, getting several items resolved. I had researched on some of the forums and had a good idea of what the potential solutions might be for the two main issues. Lights not completely functioning and the stalling at idle. The research also provided me with some idea on what parts we might need. I might have figured it out over several hours and trial and error, having the tech session was a much more efficient way to fix the problems.

The big difference was having some great MN Triumph people Jeff Johnson, Frank Weber, and Orrin to help with the process. We had some initial options for the lights: fuses, bulbs, main power switch, power switch connector, wiring harness or other? They immediately knew the key steps to determine what might be the real issue. We tested each of the parts above, and in the end determined the main power connector was the issue. They were able to splice in the new connector and we installed the new light master power switch. Success... all the lights are working.



Related to the engine issues, the forums pointed us to many areas to check. The initial concern was the auto choke not functioning. As we looked through the forum responses, several things appeared to be the source for the problem. They ranged from the auto choke, thermostat temperature, vacuum leaks, carburetors, fuel line, fuel pump, etc. Initially we thought changing the thermostat from the 180 F which was recently installed to the recommended 195 F thermostat would be the starting point. The forums all stated too low a thermostat impacts the melting of the wax in the auto choke and doesn't allow it to fully open, causing the motor to stall when warm. However, as we started to dig into the vacuum hoses on the engine, we found many were cracked on the underside and in hidden places, realize these are still the original hoses from 42 years ago. We gathered up what we needed and after a quick run to the local auto parts store we had the broken hoses replaced. After attaching the battery, we turned the key and it started instantly. After a short drive, no stalling and the engine idled wonderfully.

In the end they also left me with a list of more to do's, which I am already working to get repaired.

I cannot say enough of the help, expertise and unselfish support provided the Jeff, Frank and Orrin and everyone else who suggested ways to solve the problems. I have attended a couple tech sessions previously, where I was really learning. After this experience I intent to attend more and hopefully can someday pass on the help and payback for the success today.

Thank you everyone,

Jeff & Mary



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Contact the membership chair at
<membership@mnrtriumphs.org>
Can be delivered at the next meeting.

*paraphrased from "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre"

GOT WINDOW CLING?



If not...send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I'll send you two of 'em. One for each Triumph you have or one for your daily driver or two for your TR or one for your front door or...
Compliments of your Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club.

Or you can pick 'em up at your next club event.

Terry Mackey
1961 East River Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55414



JOIN US !

*As we tour the
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VTR NATIONAL CONVENTION 2022

HOSTED BY ILLINOIS SPORTS OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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Visit VTR2022.ORG for details and registration

TRIUMPH TRADER

Wanted. Right rear ¼ bumper for MK1 Spitfire. (TRF and Rimmer #806901).. Bill Nelson - 763-441-2934

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

Email me at wmorris11134@yahoo.com or call me at 612-723-4602 or text. - Wayne Morris



For Sale I have 5 original steel wheels for sale from my TR which now has wire wheels.

They have been straightened, sandblasted, magnafluxed for cracks, primed and painted. They look like new. I'm asking \$200. for the 5. Included are 4 Starfire 165R-15 tires which look like new but are old. I bought them for the car when I did a body off restoration. The tires have about 1500 miles on them from post-restoration driving. Good inner tubes are also included. See the photos attached. Contact Mike Frazzell at 715-878-4933. I could deliver them to the Twin Cities area as I visit often.



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 MTSSC. MTSSC is not responsible for any technical advise which may appear in these pages. Classified ads in the Triumph Trader are free to MTSSC 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.

Trader-continued

Selling an originated California Triumph TR6 from May 1974 production run. Super good frame and body condition; car had body lift to seal frame and body repainted bright red. Engine is decent for around town driving but uses substantial amount of oil in #6 cylinder. 4 speed manual transmission operates good with new main seals, new clutch, and master/slave cylinders 3 years ago at a tech session. Dual 2-barrel down draft Weber carburetors, Crane Fireball electronic ignition, and Monza dual exhaust. Rear end leaks some oil and rear bearings show wear.



Aftermarket black interior, seats, and ragtop in great shape.

Newer water pump, alternator, battery, brake master cylinder, and front shocks, 3-year-old Michelin tires. Comes with halogen headlight conversion kit, front/rear bushing kit, extra engine head, service manual, and carburetor tuning DVD. Odometer shows 25K miles but total miles is unknown. Purchased car from a local estate sale in Oct 2015. Hagerty value \$14,800, asking \$12,500 to right Triumph eutheist. Will bring car to the July 14 club meeting or by appointment.

Car is in the Twin Cities, Andover, MN. Have chassis and engine IDs. Detailed photos are available. Jeff Johnson, 763 210 8052 or johnson173@msn.com

For Sale

Rare, authentic Ansa exhaust for 1972-1976 TR6 (Ansa part# TR0840). Twin down pipe, two mufflers/two resonators with 2 3/8" slash cut, chrome plated quad exhaust pipes. These are one of the last sets acquired before Ansa discontinued production (again) a couple of years ago. Less than 500 miles, like-new condition. They will fit fine over rear sway bars. Note they are significantly louder than stock, but these were attached to a high performance motor with aftermarket, free flowing, ceramic coated headers. They won't be as loud with a stock motor/exhaust manifold, but will still be louder than an OEM muffler. \$450 firm.



Contact Steve Greenstein @ 651-494-7214

For Sale

1976 TR6. The last year of the model. I've owned it nine years and it is in exceptional mechanical (A+) and cosmetic (B+) condition. I believe the mileage (57,500) to be accurate, but its early years are undocumented. I was told it spent most of its life in California and Colorado. It is rust-free. Bare-metal repaint in 2005 in correct blue color. Restoration over recent years includes ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: total top-end rebuild (ported, shaved, valve seats ground, new valves, guides, springs, rocker assembly, oil feed line, timing chains and sprockets, vib damper, performance 2 Good Parts camshaft, intake and exhaust manifolds)--estimated 125 HP; 5-speed transmission conversion; triple Mikuni carbs; ignition coil, plugs, distributor, wheel bearings and hubs, differential seals, sway bars, tube/gas shocks, seat foam, newer top, door seals, windshield, radiator, brakes, clutch disc and cylinders, seat belts, carpets, bonnet release cable, heater valve, tires, fuel pump, driver's seat rail extension, and more. No expense spared. Seats and dash top have no cracks. Chrome is probably original and shows some light scratches but no rust. This car has never been raced or autocrossed during my ownership. I would drive it thousands of miles with no concerns. This is not a "garage queen", it should be driven. \$28,000 is a very fair price for this exceptional TR6. No low bids please. Many photos available on request. Text Rick Morris 612-207-7990.



For FREE

Pair of GT6 rear shocks, *non-rotoflex* KYB Gas-A-Just KG3198. Lightly used.

Pair of motor mounts for TR4A, 143057, unused.

Plastic battery box, drop-in instant fix for rusted out box. Should fit any car.

Dave Heglund davisnlinda@yahoo.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

If you'd like to host an event think about a favorite antiques stop or day trip you like to take and let's make a club outing of it!

July

- 7-9 Iola car show - 50th Anniversary
- 12-13 National MG Rally at La Crosse Radisson
- 14 Club Meeting
- 16 Tech Session - Jill Davenport's Spitfire
- 17 Hastings Car Show & Rivertown days: MN Triumphs Club is hosting - contact Christina Bigelow
- 31 Intermarque picnic, Harriet Island

August

- 6 MN Triumphs Summer Picnic! Spring Lake Park Reserve, West Shelter
- 11 Club Meeting
- 12 Healy Track Day
- 13 Tech Session - VTR travel prep
- 20-22 SRO GT World Challenge America, Elkhart Lake
- 28 Intermarque picnic, Harriet Island
- 29-Sept 1 - VTR 2022 in Galena, Illinois at the Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa. Check out the event at VTR2022.org

September

- 8 Club Meeting
- 10 Tech Session
- 10 Wings & Wheels - Osceola, WI
- 11-12 Des Moines Concours d'Elegance
- 23-25 Waumandee Time Trials
- 23-26 Brits in the Ozarks Gathering
- 25 Intermarque picnic, Harriet Island

October

- 8 BMC open house, Isanti MN
- 13 Club Meeting
- 8 or 15 Tech Session
- 15 Fall Color Tour - Jeff and Mary hosting at their place in Delano

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.



Every Saturday: Intermarque breakfast: currently meeting at Elsie's at 9am - 729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis, 55413 - See Intermarque calendar at <http://intermarque.org/index.php/event-calendar/>

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.

- TR2-3B - Greg Gelhar greg@gelhar.com
- TR4 - John Myers (507-633-2017)
- TR4A - Larry Sanderson (507-775-6940)
- TR250/TR6 - Orrin McGill (763-755-7765)
- TR7 - Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)
- TR8 - Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)
- Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)
- GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)
- Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)

2022 OFFICERS

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Historian - Bill Nelson

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Past President

Chip Lederer

A Look In The Rearview Mirror

Submitted by Bill Nelson - Historian



5 years ago

July 2017

- + The July 2017 newsletter had the minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting. 16 TRs lined up. 81 degrees and blue skies. One new member, Robert Petersen, joined us. He recently adopted a TR250 into his family.
- + The newsletter had very nice photos of Rendevous 2017. Photo credits: Jon Meier.
- + The Antique Tour of River Falls, WI, was June 17. A sunny day for a drive with 6 Triumphs. Shopping at four antique stores and then lunch at the Belle Vinez Winery.
- + The newsletter had a flyer for Britfest 2017 in Hudson, WI.
- + In the Triumph Trader. For sale: 1974 Triumph TR6. 50,XXX miles, rusty, good motor and 4 speed trans. Many good parts, original tires. \$1,000 OBO. Don S.

10 years ago

July 2012

- + The July newsletter had the minutes of the June 14, 2012 meeting. No Triumphs in the parking lot, partly due to the rainy weather and partly due to the fact that several people went to the Rendezvous event in Kenora.
- + There was an article by Andy Lindberg with photos by Orrin McGill and Joe Bisanz on the First Annual British Car Week National Meet. May 30 to June 3 in Hot Springs, Arkansas.
- + There was an obituary and photos of Russ Mattson Jr. January 1936 - June 2012.
- + There was a welcome to the first ever Minnesota Triumphs Calendar Rally. May through October get a picture of your car in a city or town that has a reference to water in it's name. The car with the most photos will be the winner and, along with bragging rights, will be the feature car on the calendar.
- + In the Triumph Trader. 1975 TR6 for sale. White with blue interior, 56K miles. Body excellent, runs great. \$8,500. Jim.



Photo : Joe Demuth



Triumphs & Tribulations
c/o Greg & Carol Thompson, Editors
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