



# TRIUMPHS & TRIBULATIONS



## Getting Ready for the Season.

Couple road trips and a well attended powder coating tech session.

## About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club formed in 1975 when our club was first given a Charter with the Triumph 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
- Group drives
- 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 will be May 9th, 2024 at the Lucky's 13 in Roseville. The address is 2480 Fairview Ave N Roseville, MN 55113, just north of Rosedale Mall.

For membership information visit our website at [www.mntriumphs.org](http://www.mntriumphs.org)

Minnesota Triumphs is a chartered chapter of the Triumph Sports Owners Association (TSOA) and a chartered chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR).

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



## 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 -  
TR4 - John Myers (507-633-2017)  
TR4A - Larry Sanderson (507-775-6940)  
TR250/TR6 - Orrin McGill (763-755-7765)  
TR7/8 - Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)  
Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)  
GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)  
Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)

Triumphs & Tribulations is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club (MTSCC). It is published monthly except for December and January. Deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All of the opinions expressed in the articles, columns, and other materials are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the 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. Non-member and commercial notices are published for \$5 per month. All submissions should be emailed to the editor: [Newsletter@mntriumphs.org](mailto:Newsletter@mntriumphs.org)

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Back cover: Triumphs on the road, from a 2011 trip to Woodland Hills Winery

## Prez Release

I hope you are all doing well. I am writing to you from a Starbucks in Seymour, Indiana coming back from a two week work trip. I spent much of my time in Atlanta and Knoxville. As I was driving around in the warmer weather I saw many car lovers like us already on the road and enjoying their rides. I even saw two MGs in Kentucky. (Why couldn't it have been Triumphs?)

So needless to say I am very excited about getting on the road.

Which leads me to my next topic, of reaching out to those who need help or guidance with their cars. I know we have many new members or folks that are a few hours away of having their British steel on the road.

Please reach out to your network on the groups.io for help. By being a member you have access to hundreds of combined years of experience. And they are at your access to help you.



I am hosting a tech session next month so I can get closer to putting my car on the road.

I am also looking to host a new member event in the next two months.

Until then, happy motoring!

Cheers, David

# March 2024 Meeting Notes

By Rich Riemersma, Secretary

**March 2024 meeting minutes.** Lucky's 13, Roseville MN. Call to order 7:00 pm

Meeting run by VP Brandon, while David is out of town. 37 in attendance, no new members present. 54 degrees and cloudy. 4 Triumphs in parking lot. Agenda and previous meeting minutes approved.

## CLUB TOPICS

**2024 Board/leadership roles:** Vacant role of secretary. Nomination for Rich Riemersma as secretary was made and seconded. No discussion, Voted on and passed unanimously.

## REPORTS

**Treasurer:** Jeff Gilmore not present, Brandon reported, they plan to present the 2024 budget at our next meeting.

**Membership:** Mike Smith reported one new member since the February meeting. James Buezis of Plymouth MN. He finally bought his first Triumph: it's a 1977 Triumph Spitfire that he has wanted since he was 10 years old.

We have about 100 members who have paid their dues for 2024. There are 43 members that need to renew by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mike will be contacting each member that hasn't renewed yet so their names won't be dropped from the 2024 roster.

**Newsletter:** Bill Connell reported he is looking for Triumph road trip stories for the newsletter. Submit any other articles, events, ad's or cancel current ads for the next issue by March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Events:** Pat Holt absent, Brandon reported, Larry Berg is organizing the spring shakedown tour for May 11<sup>th</sup>. They plan to meet at Chester Bird American Legion in Golden Valley then generally drive around the Lake Minnetonka area. More details to come.

Intermarque Spring Kickoff is May 18<sup>th</sup> in Osseo, featured car is the VW, note they plan to have valve cover racing again this year. Rendezvous is in Thunder Bay Ontario June 6-9. Bill Nelson is

planning a road trip from Elk River to St Cloud for lunch on June 22, more details to follow. July 21 our MN Triumph Club is again hosting the car show at River town days in Hastings MN. Christina Bigelow is will coordinate this event, more to come. MN Triumphs is also hosting the Intermarque picnic at Cherokee Park Aug 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Tech Sessions:** Frank Weber reported we had a good turnout, 12 members at the March tech session at Chip's. There was a hands-on demonstration on what and how to powder coat. April 13<sup>th</sup> we are at David Andersons to work on his Stag. Nothing is scheduled after that. Reach out to Frank to set up a tech session.

**VTR Liaison:** Greg Thompson reported the 2024 VTR is in Nashville Indiana September 8-12. Hosted by the Indiana Triumphs cars.

**Intermarque Liaison:** Glenn Wilson reported, check the newsletter for details for Intermarque May 18. Check their website, they now have t-shirts on sale.

**Historian:** Bill Nelson reported on this day in history: March 14<sup>th</sup> 1794, Eli Whitney got a Patent on the cotton gin. Birthdays: 1864 Casey Jones, 1879 Albert Einstein, 1933, Michael Cane. In 1962 GM produced its 75 millionth car, a 1962 Pontiac Bonneville convertible. Bill then recited two "lame car jokes" from Joe DeMuth's newsletter column 10 years ago.

**New club business:** None reported

**General discussion or comments:** Paul Aslanian's friend Dick Wolf of the Jaguar club is looking to purchase a nice TR6 that is a good driver. Dick has a 2016 Morgan tricycle he's looking to sell or trade. Paul also found a package containing the bushings for Joe Bisanz's TR6, mailing date was 30 years ago and the package says RUSH! Jeff Kussard mentioned the next no agenda lunch will be March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Tavern on Grand. Please e-mail if planning to attend. They are not taking table reservations, so try to arrive early.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:22,** (Missed sunset at 7:17 by 5 minutes)

# Membership Update

By Mike Smith, Membership

The 2024 membership drive is now complete and I will send the 2024 Club Roster out on Groups.io email messaging by April 15th.

It is great to see many new faces in the club. In 2023 we welcomed approximately 27 new members!

If you wish to join our club or renew an old membership, **please register and pay electronically** through our website's "membership" page. This is the easiest method for all involved.

**Follow this link to register:**

[www.mntriumphs.org/about/membership/](http://www.mntriumphs.org/about/membership/)

Email me with your membership questions!

[membership@mntriumphs.org](mailto:membership@mntriumphs.org)



The MN Triumphs welcomes the following new members since our last meeting:

James Buezis, Plymouth, MN, 77 Spitfire

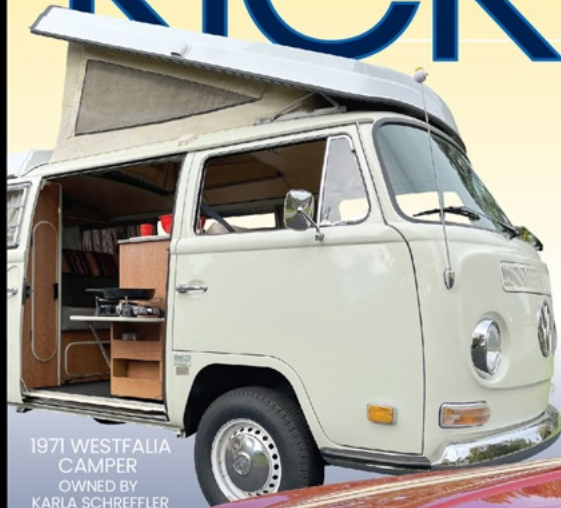


2024 SAVE THE DATE!

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# SPRING KICK-OFF

FEATURED CLUB  
**TWIN CITIES  
VOLKSWAGEN  
CLUB**



1971 WESTFALIA  
CAMPER  
OWNED BY  
KARLA SCHREFFLER  
& MIKE DAVIS



1964  
TYPE 3 GHIA  
OWNED BY  
JERRY COFFIN

**MAY 18**  
OSSEO  
MN  
10AM-3PM

31ST  
ANNUAL  
VINTAGE  
FOREIGN  
CAR SHOW

**MORE INFO TO  
COME IN 2024!**

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RESERVE A SPOT. SPACE IS LIMITED. **EMAIL [intermarque@gmail.com](mailto:intermarque@gmail.com) FOR MORE DETAILS.**

## Letter from the editor

By Bill Connell

As we prepare for another season of top-down driving, I think back to when I was nervous about driving my car even around the block for fear of having to push it home. It's come a long way.

Since those first tentative trips around the neighborhood I've done many drives with the club, and with great luck. Ashland, Somerset, Alma, Lanesboro: all fun trips, and aside from the multiple failures on the 2022 VTR drive to Galena, no major car issues. I started thinking of an even longer road trip.

The longest solo drives I'd done so far were to Alma for the Waumandee hill climb, but this time I quadrupled that with a trip to Rockford, Illinois. That's where I grew up, and my mom's side of the family was having a small reunion.



I planned out a route sticking with mostly 2-lane roads, and packed the trunk with all the tools and spare parts I could think of. I brought a small cooler with snacks and a portable speaker to play music from my phone. I tried not to second-guess all my mechanical work.

And then? The trip was totally fine, unexciting in all the best ways. I got some gorgeous views, visited with family and an old high school friend who owns a TR250, and ate at some funky little diners along the way. My mom (pictured here) even enjoyed the ride as we grabbed brunch before I headed for home.

Road trips of all kinds are good adventures, and the ones in old cars are extra good. If you've been worried about putting miles on your Triumph, set up a tech session to fix what ails it and join a club drive, like our spring shakedown tour on May 11. Driving with fellow club members is a great way to gain confidence for ever bigger adventures.

For next month: send me stories about how you got your Triumph, or got your first Triumph!



# VTR National Convention 2024



**September 8 - 12, 2024**

**Nashville, Indiana**

*Hosted by Indiana Triumph Cars*

**Celebrating 50 Years of "The Shape"**



Join us in Nashville, Indiana for the 2024 VTR National Convention. The event will be based at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park, just outside Nashville. Brown County, the "Little Smokies" of Indiana, has amazing topography and great driving roads for you to explore. Between Columbus and Bloomington, Nashville's downtown is home to many artists, tasting rooms, distilleries, and restaurants.



***Registration is OPEN now!***

**Seats for Banquet are limited. Register Early!**

[indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention](http://indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention)





## Email tech tip: Options for sending club emails

By Wade Peterson

You can get to this option through the “Your Subscription” link at the bottom of every email that goes out to the club email list:

1. **View/Reply Online** – clicking takes you to Groups.IO website, where you can log in to view and/or reply to the message. Not sure why anyone would use this rather than just hit reply via their email client.
2. **Reply to Group** – click to reply to the entire group. Use this instead of your normal email reply option to remove the original email body. The subject line stays the same.
3. **Reply to Sender** – click to reply *just to the individual sender* of the email. Use this to keep your reply private.
4. **New Topic** – click to begin a new topic of discussion. This takes you to the

Groups.IO website where you can enter the subject and message to send an email. This works fine, but it’s easier to send a normal email to the full list at [main@MNTriumphs.groups.io](mailto:main@MNTriumphs.groups.io)

5. **Contact Group Owner** – click to send a direct email to me (Wade Peterson) since I’m the group owner.
6. **Unsubscribe** – click to unsubscribe **from all emails (including this newsletter)**. Probably not going to want to do that.

If you have other content or historical material, you’d like in our Groups.IO website, just send them my way [email@wade-o.com](mailto:email@wade-o.com). Feel free to email me with questions, or topics you’d like covered in these email tech tips.

Next month we’ll talk about what to do if you get unsubscribed accidentally because of spam.

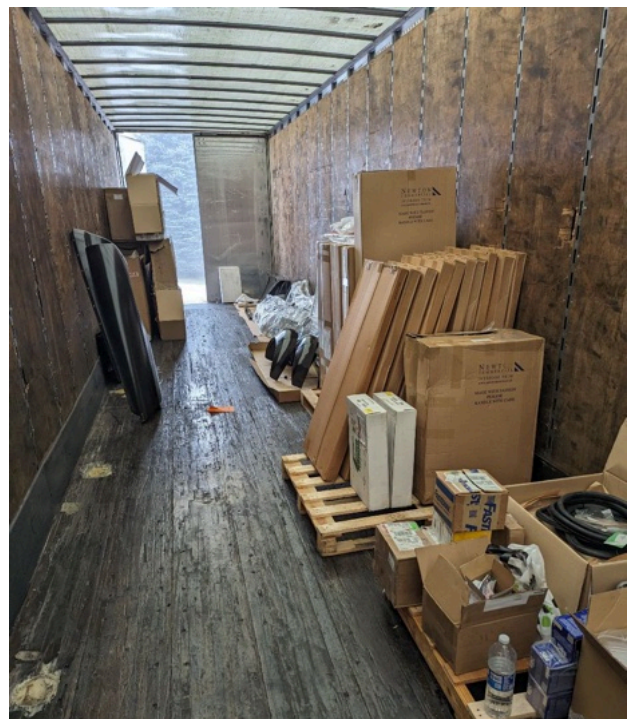
## Roadster Factory update

The Roadster Factory has been making progress rebuilding the business after their catastrophic fire on Christmas Day last year.

In an email update, TRF owner Albert said they now have a few parts available for sale, thanks to a shipment of their TRF brand parts from a manufacturer in Taiwan.

They have started building a new website for the business at [trfbasic.com](http://trfbasic.com).

Hopefully they will be able to repost their excellent parts diagrams that were a great reference from the old site.



# Triumphant Road Trips: Minnesota to Seattle and Back

By Ken Ljung

July 1968: I'm showing off my new '67 TR4A at my 5-year HS class reunion in Alexandria, Minnesota. My good buddy Dave needs a ride home. He lives in Seattle...

## ROAD TRIP!!

We left at O-Dark-thirty next morning, headed west across the Minnesota countryside in the beautiful cool morning. Then, top down, taking turns driving, cruised across North Dakota under 98 degree afternoon sun. Had the best cold beer I've ever had in my life in a dark little bar in Beach ND just before entering Montana.



Grand Teton National Park

Cheap motel in Billings for the uneventful night.

Spectacular Beartooth Pass into Yellowstone the next day. Old Faithful, Morning Glory Pool, Upper Falls; all that. Evening at a joint in West Yellowstone where (according to me) we saw the (embryonic) Starland Vocal Band for the \$2 cover. Then down to Jackson for a couple days, meeting Howard, a buddy of Dave's who happened to have a Spitty - he pretended not to be jealous. Summit tram at Jackson Hole, dinner at the Spaghetti Emporium (Mangy Moose). An evening at the Cowboy with some of Howard's friends.



Howard, Dave; Jackson Hole



## Minnesota to Seattle and Back, cont'd

Back on the road, over Teton Pass, through the weird moonscape along the Snake River to the scenic and exciting cultural Mecca of the West, Boise ID. Ditto the report from Billings. Onward - surprised at all the desert in Oregon. Got Dave home (a crash pad in Seattle) in time for supper.

deserted – of course, inviting speed runs and donuts on the hard sand. Did I mention the beer? So you can probably see the inevitable coming... I discovered that the hard sand got significantly softer nearer the water. Got stuck. As I'd somehow neglected to bring a shovel from Minnesota, we tried to

operators) ultimately led to the car resting on its frame. And the tide was coming in. Really. But in a brilliant flash of genius, I recalled the Old Indian Trick of letting most of the air out of the rear tires to get more traction. Turned out the Old Indian was right. After that close call, we of course picked up more beer to



Ocean shores, prep for beach lesson

Over the next couple days, Dave gave me the two-bit tour of Seattle and we took a trip out to Ocean Shores, a little resort (i.e., they sold beer) town actually on the ocean shore. There was actually a beach - a very long beach - mostly

dig out with a couple of Frisbees, which proved marginally effective at temporarily moving soft sand, but overall, a losing proposition since the physics of the operation (and possibly the less-than-sober state of the

celebrate. I don't recall a whole lot from that evening, except that for some reason we were not allowed into the local tavern/live music venue.



## Minnesota to Seattle and Back, cont'd

The next morning: Maybe about 10-ish, in the sloping ditch along a beach access road, half out of my sleeping bag, I gradually 'came to' under a hot sun baking the damp sand under my face, with a parade of ants tracking in and out of my parched mouth. Dave was sitting in the open passenger door of my TR, holding his head, I suppose trying to come to grips with the situation. Good Times.

Eventually, I had to point the car back east. Solo, except for a hitchhiking backpacker I picked up somewhere near Whitefish, and dropped off somewhere in Glacier NP. Note: Hwy 2 through Montana is 666 miles... (actually, Google says "The spiritual meaning of 666 is an encouragement to



Glacier National Park, Going-to-the-Sun Road

refocus." I found that the very relaxing traverse of Montana allowed more than enough time for any personal reflection, though I came to no particular epiphany.

During the trip back to MN, I slept two nights in the TR. I'm not a tall guy, so it

worked for me to simply unfasten the passenger seat and stow it upside-down on the driver seat, place my suitcase and duffle on the floor, and stretch out for some z's. Good Trip!



Postscript: I still have the TR4, and spent the pandemic rebuilding it, here it is in 2023.

## Tech session: powder coating at Chip's shop

By Frank Weber, Tech Session Coordinator

Chip Lederer hosted the March Tech Session at his house on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Session was more of a Lunch and Learn combined with a Tech Session.

About a dozen Club Members showed up at Chip's house to learn the fine art of powder coating. Attending members had the opportunity to prep and powder coat car parts they brought to the event.



Chip explains the powder coating process



Nathan and John clean and prep parts



Baking parts for final cleaning before coating

## Tech session: powder coating, cont'd



Chip adding yellow powder to a cooling fan

As the parts were cooling from the powder coating process lunch, consisting of chili, cornbread and brownies was served. During lunch the fine art of chili making was discussed where Chip divulged some secrets to his chili making process. Thank you Chip for sharing your knowledge on both topics.



Completed parts after baking



Crushing a powder coated pop can,  
the coating doesn't even crack!

# Triumph Trader

## For Sale

Frame with casters to mount on frame rails with subframe removed for wedges. Can easily be modified to fit other Triumphs. \$40.00

Engine support cross bar. Fits wedges \$10.00

Contact Roger 651-207-3920 text or phone or [kraemer@q.com](mailto:kraemer@q.com)



## For Sale

### For Spitfire Mk1 & 2:

- Valve guides (qty 8) \$24. Intake valves (qty 4) \$20.
- Exhaust valves (qty 4) \$20. Valve stem seals (qty 8) \$4.

Bill N. [nelson1\\_2@msn.com](mailto:nelson1_2@msn.com)

## 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



Need a name badge?



New members get a free name badge when they join. Continuing members can get updated or replacement name badges for \$10 each.

Email [membership@mntriumphs.org](mailto:membership@mntriumphs.org) to order a window cling or new badge. You can also pick up a free window cling at the next club meeting or event.

## Tech Sessions - Frank Weber

### Upcoming tech sessions:

April's Tech Session has a new date. The Tech Session is currently scheduled for **Saturday April 27** at David Anderson's house. If we have enough people, we'll have two separate projects going on. The first will be marrying the engine and transmission. Then installing the power-plant into David's Stag. The second project will be installing the hardtop on David's TR3. Time and address details will be in follow-up emails as the event date gets closer.

We currently do not have any additional Tech Sessions scheduled for the year. So, if you have a Triumph project you need help "fooling around" with, or have an idea for Tech Session – please contact me at: [frankj.weber3@gmail.com](mailto:frankj.weber3@gmail.com) or 952 934-0523. Also at: [Techsessions@mnrtriumphs.org](mailto:Techsessions@mnrtriumphs.org)



## Website - Bill Connell

The MN Triumphs club website is at:

<https://www.mnrtriumphs.org>

If you want to have your car featured on the site, send 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.

Scan the QR code for a quick shortcut to see the club website on your phone.



Please email your car photos and error reports to [webmaster@mnrtriumphs.org](mailto:webmaster@mnrtriumphs.org).

## Regalia/apparel - Dan Booth

Minnesota Triumphs Club logo apparel is available on demand in many different styles, for men and women, with options for various 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](mailto:dbooth41@gmail.com).

See samples of Dan's work: [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Facebook](#) [Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Instagram](#)





# Club 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! Email [events@mntriumphs.org](mailto:events@mntriumphs.org) to get it added to the calendar.

See the club website for more information about upcoming events and a Google calendar you can add to your personal calendar: <https://www.mntriumphs.org/events/>

## April

- 11 Club Meeting
- 27 Tech Session for David Anderson, working on reassembling his Stag

## May

- 9 Club Meeting
- 11 Spring Shakedown Tour, Larry Berg will host, details to come.
- 18 Intermarque Spring Kickoff, Osseo MN

## June

- 6-8 32nd Annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 15-16 Stone Arch Bridge Festival 2024 Art of The Car Show
- 13 Club Meeting
- 22 Lunch Drive to St. Cloud, Bill Nelson & Kathee Sublette hosting
- 30 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

## July

- 11 Club Meeting
- 21 Hastings Rivertown Days car show
- 28 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

## August

- 8 Club Meeting
- 25 Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park MN Triumphs hosting

## September

- 5-7 Brits in the Ozarks Car Show, Fayetteville, Arkansas, Agri Park
- 8-12 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention, Nashville, Indiana.
- 12 Club Meeting
- 28 Waumandee Time Trials

## October

- 6 The Lift Garage benefit car show
- 10 Club Meeting



Every Saturday at 9am: Intermarque breakfast at Elsie's - 729 Marshall St. NE, Mpls.  
Email [InterMarque@gmail.com](mailto:InterMarque@gmail.com) to join the breakfast Cars & Breakfast RSVP list!  
See more Intermarque events at <http://intermarque.org/index.php/event-calendar/>

## In the Rear View Mirror

Bill Nelson, club historian

### 5 years ago April 2019

- New member Jeff Johnson joined us at the March 14, 2019 meeting. He has a TR6.
- The Intermarque Spring Kickoff is set for May 11, 2019
- 9 color photos credited to Jon Meier, Bernadette M and staff of a club event.
- There was no collusion. Jon Meier did not conspire with the Corvette Club to become elected president for an unprecedented third term.

### 10 years ago April 2014

- New members Steve Greenstein (1971 TR6) and Matt Dunbar (1978 Spitfire 1500) introduced themselves and their cars at the March 13, 2014 meeting.
- There are b&w photos of the tech clinic for Terry Mackey's TR4A, 19 guys made it to the event.
- The newsletter featured three tech articles: "Timing Advanced and Retard" article (originally published Oct 9, 1998) , a tech article with color photos on how to get more legroom in a TR6 by Larry Berg and Joe DeMuth, and a story an photos of "Converting your Gauge Voltage Stabilizer to Solid State" by Bill Gingerich
- From the Triumph Trader: TR7 front K member assembly w/brakes, struts, and steering rack. \$60. Roger K.



## Do you remember?

Steve Shogren provided this classic photo from a club tech session.

Can you name these club members?

Send your guesses to the club email list!



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## 2024 OFFICERS

**President:** David Anderson  
[President@mtriumphs.org](mailto:President@mtriumphs.org)

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[VicePresident@mtriumphs.org](mailto:VicePresident@mtriumphs.org)

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**Member-at-Large:** Dave Heglund



**Triumphs & Tribulations**

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