



Triumph Club of North Florida

Volume 32 Issue 3-4

April 2020



In This Issue

- President's Corner
- Valentine's Funkhana
- TCNF's Drive Your Triumph Day
- British Classic Car Show – A History
- WSJ article features a '60 TR3
- Amelia Concours
- The Assembly Line (video)
- Humor
- Regalia
- COVID-19

Useful Links

TCNF Home Page
TCNF Calendar
BCCNF Calendar
Moss Motors
The Roadster Factory
Rimmer Brothers
Vintage TR Register
Triumph Register

Business News

2020 Membership Dues
-Renew: \$30 (past due)
-New Member: \$35

Send membership forms and checks to Iris Lipsky @ 1208 Raleigh Ridge Drive, Jacksonville 32225. PayPal coming soon.

President's Corner

Penny Levy, TCNF President

How things change! My message for this newsletter was written weeks ago, before we understood the full impact that COVID-19 was going to have on the United States. So, here I sit doing a rewrite. Social distancing is necessary, and the moral thing to do to slow the spread of this highly contagious novel virus. However, it is difficult knowing that it will be months before we can get together in one place.

When it was clear that COVID-19 was a serious threat, Alex, a retired environmental scientist, quickly implemented a decontamination process when bringing items into the house from the store, or opening packages delivered to our house. Since I am still recuperating from joint replacement surgery in my right wrist, he is the sole hunter and gatherer in the family. An important part of his procedure is decontaminating his hands before touching anything inside of his car when entering it from the store parking lot, and decontaminating the door handle after he has unloaded it at home. Hagerty recently sent an email out with this [link](#) to its customers showing how to decontaminate our cars without destroying the interiors.

VP Terry Sopher, and his wife, Cathy, worked hard to pack our 2020 calendar with many opportunities to utilize our beautiful spring driving weather in Florida. April's meeting has already been canceled, and I expect that we will also cancel the meeting in May. Beyond that, we will see. While we can't get together as a club, I encourage you to get out and enjoy your cars. When you do, please snap a photo and email them to either me, at levy.penny@gmail.com, or Paul Thomas at thomas4511@comcast.net. We will share those photos with our fellow members.

We are fortunate to have two strong national organizations for the Triumph Marque, The Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) and the Triumph Register of America (TRA). Alex and I are members of both of these worthwhile clubs and have reaped benefits far greater than the cost of annual membership. As president of the TCNF I have received great support from the officers and members of both of these groups. Alex has taken advantage of the technical support on our current '66 TR4A, the '67 TR4A that we refreshed and sold, and our 1959 TR3A that is creeping toward completion of a frame-off restoration. And, we have made some good friends. The VTR provides the liability insurance for our club. I encourage you all to check them out and consider joining them. For those on Facebook, they both have very active members-only pages. We also have a Facebook page, which we will begin utilizing

New Members

Gregg and Nancy
Gaddie

Upcoming Events

April 5 – TCNF 1pm
Cancelled due to
Coronavirus.

*April 11 – Cars and
Coffee @ The
Avenues 8am.

*April 21 – Jax Beach
Classic Car Cruise by
the Sea Walk
Pavilion. 5pm

*April 25 – Historic
Springfield Main
Street Cruise.
Between 1st and 12th
Streets. 5-8pm

*May 3 – Cruising for
Crustaceans Tour.
Link up at 11:00am,
lunch meeting at the
Palms Fish Camp.

June 7 – Kings Head
Pub. Trivia and
planning for British
Car Classic XXXII.

July 5 – Kings Head
Pub. Trivia and more
planning for British
Car Classic XXXII.

October 10 – Kings
Head Pub. British
Classic Car Show
XXXII. Mark your
calendars!

*Subject to cancellation
due to Coronavirus.
Stay tuned to your
emails.

more during this time of social distancing. If you aren't on Facebook, no worries. We will continue to send out emails and the newsletter to keep you informed of what's going on.

Valentine's Funkhana and Pub Meeting - by Paul Thomas and Cathy Sopher

As I arrived at the Pub, there were Terry and Cathy, our club's event coordinators setting up the course dressed in their finest Valentine's outfits. The course had five stations that the driver and passenger had to navigate. After a walkthrough of the course, the 'fun'khana began.

Only first gear and reverse were used during this timed driving event. Each driver/navigator team had to adorn Valentine's Day items to wear on the course; and to score points on the course they had to throw their "love arrows" to hit the "motoring spirit" sign, then hurl their "hunks of love" (this is not a reference to Terry, it was a red ball) and four hearts into a basket, take the "love plunge" using a plunger, that we were all hoping was brand new, and a plastic heart container to move the items on the course, make a special Valentine's dinner (using plastic/simulated food) and lastly to make it to the finish line to "toast to their success" which ended the stop watch time!

Four Triumphs, three modern day cars and trucks, and about 25 members were in attendance. After about 40 minutes the competition concluded and surprisingly nobody got hurt!

The competition was fierce and here are the top three!

1st place - Steele Lipe & Carole Halkias (Carole visiting us from the Ohio TR Club)

2nd place – Paul and Lance (placed 1st at the last funkhana)

3rd place – Neil Rashba & Dick Messer



The group then moved into the pub for our usual club meeting, lunch, and drinks.

Items for sale

4 Michelin X 185 15 Redline tires mounted on TR6 rims, beauty rings & hubcaps - \$800 for all. Good tread. Call Bruce Brady at 386 864-1578

Pair of 175 CD Stromberg Carbs off a running TR6 - \$100. Call Bruce Brady.

Drive Your Triumph Day, February 9th - by Paul Thomas

On a cool, but not cold Sunday morning, 4 TR's met at Bruster's Ice Cream parking lot on Atlantic Blvd. We had the place to ourselves at 9:30 am. Member Ron Grasso (*left side in the first picture*) joined us for the first time ever, so that was fantastic. Ron actually bought John Popp's TR6 last year. John is the son of Jerry and Louise Popp who were long time TCNF members. Neat bit of recent history, but I digress.

At 10:00 am we departed for the Mayport Ferry. We arrived at 10:15am and like clockwork the ferry pulled in 2 minutes later. Fortunately no one bottomed out as we boarded the ferry! After a short trip across the St. Johns River we reorganized as a convoy and headed west on Hecksher Drive, past the zoo and south onto Main Street.

We meandered down Main Street and got on the 20th Street Expressway. Next, it was over the Hart Bridge to Beach Blvd. From there we took a few back roads to Southside Blvd and to our final destination, Culhane's Irish Pub. There we were joined by Charles Fenwick. Then it was drinks and some grub.

All in all, a nice little drive in memory of Sir John Black, the man who organized Standard's purchase of Triumph after the WWII and went on to make the cars we enjoy driving today! Click this [link](#) to see some pictures of other Triumphs from around the world.

Check out a few photos from our club drive and a few other member photos on the next page.





British Classic Car Show - A History by Norm Reimer

"In anticipation of the upcoming car show hosted by TCNF this year, I thought it might be nice to hear about how the show got started and some history of it through the years. I asked long-time Norm Reimer, whom I worked with at JEA for a few years, to write this article. Enjoy!" PT

After the startup of TCNF, in 1988, the club discussed the idea of having a British car show. It was decided that we should meet with the MG club to determine their interest in participating in the venture. Bob Pilling, a "Brit" and one of the people who helped start TCNF, and I agreed to meet with the MG club to discuss the idea of a British car show. The MG club was interested in a British car show and British Car Classic was born. We all agreed that the show would be a joint venture.

The first show in 1988 was held at Hanna Park in Atlantic Beach just south of Mayport Naval Base. The show was on a large grassy field with a pavilion and grills for cooking hot dogs and hamburgers. I believe we had about 45 cars in the show. One of the driving events was on the grass with 6 cones in a line. The task was to have a blindfolded driver and a navigator to travel zig zag through the cones forward and backward. It was timed and you were penalized time if you knocked a cone over.

There was a rally that left the park and was driven on the city streets. The rally took us over the Beach Boulevard bridge heading west. A key instruction shortly thereafter was in error and some cars went all the way to downtown Jacksonville over the Hart bridge. I drove the rally and my navigator said we were looking for the salad dressing clinic. We had passed the place to turn but suddenly realized the salad dressing clinic was the Mayo Clinic. We turned around and completed the rally. Some of those who went to Jacksonville were not, putting it mildly, happy when they got back to Hanna Park.

The two clubs decided to have shows annually with the clubs alternating as host. When the Kings Head Pub opened, we had the shows there. At some point, the MG club decided to have the show elsewhere when they were the host.

We had a variety of activities at our shows. At several shows we had a funkhana on the parking lot tarmac. One task was to mount a tire on a hub. Another task was to toss fan belts over targets. A most difficult task was to drive your car up two sturdy boards on cinder blocks like a teeter totter and balance your car on the boards.

We had good turnouts at our shows and were mostly blessed with good weather. Our shows were in October. The number of cars increased each year we were the host and

peaked at about 120 cars. We had cars squeezed on the grass, out by the double decker bus, and on the driveway from the road which was blocked off from the road and on the tarmac. We always had a DJ for music and announcements. We asked Arthur Crofton and he graciously accepted to be our emcee. In the beginning, a TCNF couple volunteered to cook the hot dogs and hamburgers. After doing this for several years, they said they could no longer do it because the dogs in their neighborhood kept following them around. That was when we asked scout troops and other nonprofits to handle the field food.

At a number of shows, Graham Thomas a "Brit" and Paul's father put a British car quiz together. The first time around we put the quiz in the goodie bag and announced when they were to be turned in. I believe the questions were multiple choice and fill in the blank. Several people got a perfect score. When Graham asked them about their exceptional British car knowledge, they said it was easy because they used their phones for the answers. Thereafter, the quizzes were handed out and Graham was the proctor to keep everyone on the same level playing field.

More recently, we have been averaging about 80 cars at each show. In addition to the local cars, we have had cars from the Florida panhandle, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and one car from Toronto Canada. We have had vendors with car parts, literature and a variety of other offerings. At several shows we had a tech session during the time the votes were counted. When you are at the PUB, notice the many pictures on the walls.

From the Editor's Desk - it takes a lot to put on this show each year. When Board members reach out for volunteers to assist with this year's show, please consider helping so that all Triumph and other British car lovers enjoy a great show!

[The Wall Street Journal - A Triumph in More Ways Than One by A.J. Baime](#)

A February 12th article in the Life and Arts section of the WSJ featured a 1960 TR3 owned by Steve Halter, 71, a retired agricultural marketing and sales manager. On September 20th, 1960 his father bought the car new for \$2756 the article says. The author goes on to tell a great story about the car and family. The WSJ is subscription only for articles but you can use this [link](#) to get to the article and at least view all the pictures, or at least the editor could. If you already have a WSJ subscription, you are all set.

[TCNF @ the 2020 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance Cars and Coffee - by Iris and Mark Lipsky](#)

Three club cars were among over 400 exotic and vintage cars that drove onto the fairway show fields on Saturday, March 7, to show the beauty and quality of Triumphs at the 2020 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance Cars and Coffee.

Mark Lipsky and his wife, Iris Lipsky, coordinated the event. The Lipskys with their Pimento red 1975 TR 6 crossed the St. Johns on the first ferry of the morning. They were joined on the Fort George side of the river by Terry and Cathy Sopher in their Valencia blue 1968 TR250 and Bruce and Viki Brady with their yellow 1974 TR6. The crisp morning was perfect for the three Triumphs to drive north together toward Amelia Island.



Started in 2013, Cars & Coffee at the Concours is free to spectators, but participants must submit an application with the fee for showing a car. The event generally fills up in early November or December.

The two TR6s and the TR250 received a great deal of interest and attention at the show. They were surrounded by spectators all morning. Along with the usual comments often heard by Triumph owners at car shows of "I had one of those when I was young," or "My dad had one of those," many people were curious about the Triumphs and complimentary on the styling and condition of the cars. The three cars were also the stars of lots of selfie pics.

The show gave the three couples an opportunity to serve as club ambassadors and meet a few fellow Triumph owners who are not members of TCNF. Events such as this are excellent public relations tools for the club and are essential for the continued growth of our club.

Next year's Cars and Coffee at the Concours will be March 6, 2021. Applications will be available this summer. Keep an eye on our club newsletters and the [Amelia Concours 2021](#) for more information. For a look at some of the 400+ cars that were on the show fields at this year's event, click [here](#).

The Assembly Line

Not sure if Henry Ford quite envisioned this (maybe he did) for an assembly plant but check out this 4 minute video of automation. Thanks to Steve Arrington for sharing. You'll have to double click on this file as it is not a hyperlink.



The Assembly Line.mp4

Humor



Auto Repair



Since we are stuck inside for a while, click [here](#) to see lots more car jokes. 😊

Regalia: Hats, Grill Badges and Shirts



- ✓ Hats are in! The club purchased 4 extra hats to have a few on hand.
- ✓ Grill badges and patches are also available
- ✓ Club shirts are Port Authority brand and a comfy dry fit (club logo on left breast not pictured)

Contact Us

President: Penny Levy

Vice President: Terry Sopher

Treasurer: Norm Reimer

Secretary: Iris Lipsky

Newsletter: Paul Thomas

COVID-19

We hope you and your family are doing well. Consistent with state and local guidance and requirements, TCNF events in the near term are either cancelled or subject to cancellation depending on the latest COVID-19 updates. Stay tuned to your emails regarding TCNF events.

There is a lot of information out there on COVID-19, some of it good and bad. The [CDC](#) and the [NIH](#) are good resources for information so I have included those links for quick reference.

Your stories, videos, articles and pictures are welcomed input for this newsletter. Thank you to all newsletter contributors. Send email to thomas4511@comcast.net.