

April 2010

This newsletter is the publication of the North Coast Triumph Association (NCTA)

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# The TR Coaster

## The PREZ SEZ:



Happy Spring!!

Our brunch on Sunday went very well. It was great to see Mary

Thanks to everyone who attended... even the late ones!!

That darn time change....But I should talk. I did change my clocks the night before to be ready for the morning, although I sprung backwards!!!

Good thing Doug caught it before anyone showed up 2 hours early!!

Make a note. We have some additions to our calendar to make.

Our June 4th meeting will be at the Chicken Manor in North Canton and our July 10th picnic will be at the Floyds home in Akron.

Thank you to Ken Kreiner who accepted the position of being our car show coordinator for this year.

Also, I still have grill badges to sell. The cost is \$25 if you pick them up and \$30 if you want them mailed to you. If you can't make it to a meeting, please get in touch with me so I can get them to you.

See everyone at The Covered Bridge Inn in Newton Falls on April 2nd!!

### Renee Karns, NCTA President



IMPORTANT: All material published has been contributed by NCTA members and other interested parties. Articles are the opinion of the authors and are not endorsed or recommended by NCTA officers, its editors, or its other members unless stated.

Use information herein at your own risk

## **Editor's note:**

Any comments, photos, story ideas, car hobby-related articles, and forms would be appreciated. All submissions must be to the **Newsletter Editor**, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the next newsletter. If they're not submitted, they won't be in the newsletter.

### **Newsletter Co-Editors**

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### **Web Site:**

<http://www.nctaweb.com>

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NCTA Membership dues are just \$25.00 per year, payable in July.

Membership Forms are available at most NCTA events including the monthly meetings, and can be downloaded from the NCTA's website:

[www.nctaweb.com](http://www.nctaweb.com)

Need more info about joining the NCTA? Then contact our Membership Chair:

Jim Shear  
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## **VTR.** ***Vintage Triumph*** ***Register***

NCTA is a regional Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register.

The VTR is for owners of all Triumph models, both sport cars and family saloons.

[www.vtr.org](http://www.vtr.org)

The NCTA VTR Director is Eric Langreder, who can be contacted at 330-699-0005 or [elangtr4@aol.com](mailto:elangtr4@aol.com)

## **Minutes from our March 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

- The meeting was held at Mavis Winkle with 35 members in attendance and was called to order by President Renee Karns.
- Ava attended the meeting and spoke about Bob Palmer. She gave an update on his condition and thanked everyone for their support.
- Bob Kasper spoke about how Mary was progressing and also relayed her thanks for the support she has been receiving.
- The minutes from the February meeting were read by Doreen Triska.
- Treasurer Doug Karns gave the financial report.
- Membership Chairman Jim Shear stated we had no new members. He sent out 60 letters to previous members and has had no response.
- John Nelsen advised Jim Shear you could now access the newsletter from the web.
- The April meeting will be at The Covered Bridge in Newton Falls on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The June meeting will be held in Canton. No location as of yet.
- Renee spoke about the brunch on March 14<sup>th</sup> and the trip to The Museum of Speed on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- New Business discussed was: Need a coordinator for the car show, need to put a e mail on registration form for the car show, need calendar on web site updated, need venue for the Christmas Party. The Floyd's will again be hosting the summer party.
- Two NCTA event signs were donated by John and Doreen Triska.
- There was a short discussion regarding the August Car show. Topics discussed were 1<sup>st</sup> place awards, and sponsoring a blood drive for the Red Cross.
- Doug Hill is looking for a factory hardtop for a TR6. Contact Renee for more information.
- Pat Flynn spoke about the car show being held at the IX Center in October. The British Car Council is participating and has invited NCTA members to park their cars in the area designated for The British Car Council.
- Bob Gates spoke about a cruise sponsored by Truck Stop of America which will be held in the fall. See Bob for details.
- Meeting was adjourned by President Renee Karns. Our next meeting will be April 2<sup>nd</sup> at The Covered Bridge in Newton Falls.

**Respectfully submitted, Doreen Triska Acting Secretary**

### **St. Patrick's Day Brunch**

It was cold and rainy outside but warm and cozy inside for the 15 of us who attended the Karn's Brunch on March 14<sup>th</sup>. There was a St. Patrick's theme throughout the house; green, green everywhere. It was lovely. There was a little car talk, delicious food and good company. What could be better? Thanks to Doug and Renee for their hospitality. A good time was had by all.

Mary Kasper.



The NCTA is a regional center for the TRA.

Our Regional Director is **Ron Boals**, who can be contacted by telephone at: 440-442-4859  
Or by email at:  
[Ronjobycred@att.net](mailto:Ronjobycred@att.net)

The TRA is for owners of TR2, TR3, and TR4s

### **Are you a TRA member?**

#### Just a few things the TRA Offers:

- Four newsletters per year detailing the Annual National meets.
- Local Center information & event announcements.
- Second-hand spares service through free classified ads.

Don't miss another issue of the TRA National Newsletter.

#### **Would you like to rejoin TRA?**

Please send your \$25 check to:  
Ron Hartley  
28342 Lake Logan Road  
Logan, OH 43138

TRA Membership Forms are available at:

[www.triumphregister.com](http://www.triumphregister.com)

### **NEOBCC**

The NCTA is a member of the Northeastern Ohio British Car Council.

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Website:

<http://members.aol.com/britsatursuline>

## **2010 Calendar**

### **April:**

Monthly meeting April 2<sup>nd</sup> The Covered Bridge in Newton Falls  
Mentor Museum of Speed with lunch at Quaker Steak on April 17<sup>th</sup>

### **May:**

Monthly meeting May 7<sup>th</sup> The Pub in Rocky River  
Healey Car Show May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Solon  
British Car Day May 15 – 16<sup>th</sup> in Columbus  
Tech Session Mark Loughery 10:00 am May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Kent Show May 29<sup>th</sup> Kent Bob Brown

### **June:**

Monthly meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> Chicken Manor in Canton  
Ft Meigs Toledo June 6<sup>th</sup>  
TRA 16 – 20 Holmes County  
Stan Hywett Car Show June 20<sup>th</sup>  
Mid Ohio 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>

### **July:**

Monthly meeting July 10<sup>th</sup> at the summer picnic at The Floyd's home  
Pittsburgh Vintage GranPrix July 10<sup>th</sup>  
Roadster Factory Summer Picnic July 31<sup>st</sup>

### **August:**

British Car Day Cleveland Ursuline College August 7<sup>th</sup>  
Emerald Necklace Drive August 14<sup>th</sup> Bob Brown  
Monthly meeting at Doogan's of Aurora August 20<sup>th</sup>  
NCTA Car Show at Shaker Square August 22<sup>nd</sup>

### **September:**

September 9 –11 6 pack Oxford Ohio  
September 10 –12 Kelley's Island Bob Brown

### **October:**

Monthly meeting October 1<sup>st</sup>. Venue to be announced  
Wine Tour October 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob and Mary Kasper  
VTR October 17 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Jekyll Island, GA  
I X Center Show Oct 23 – 24 Tentative

### **November:**

Monthly meeting November 5<sup>th</sup>. Venue to be announced

### **December:**

Monthly meeting/Holiday Party December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Venue to be announced

## California Dreamin' VTR 2009 (Cont)

After I found my wallet we continued on our way to Arizona where we picked up Old RT 66. This stretch of old 66 took us to Kingman, Arizona.

It was a nice road to drive and the scenery was terrific. After stopping for some photos at some old original gas station we arrived in Oatman, Arizona. Oatman is a mining town from the early 1900's that would not die. When we pulled into town it felt like we had stepped into the Old West. The buildings were original and are now stores selling all kinds of



things. Wild burros usually walk the streets but we didn't get to see any. There was a hotel in the town where Clark Gable and Carole Lombard spent their honeymoon. There was a restaurant, which had dollar

bills covering the walls and ceilings. An estimated \$70,000 was pinned to the walls/ceiling. This was started in the early 1900's by the miners. We spent over an hour exploring.

The next spot that we came upon was a restored gas station in Cool Springs from the glory days of RT 66. It was now a museum and gift shop and of course had some great photos ops. After buying some gifts we proceeded onto Kingman where we had lunch at a neat diner. This stretch of RT 66 was my highlight of the trip.



Our next stop was Williams, Arizona where we stayed over night. The next morning we boarded the train for a 2-hour ride to the Grand Canyon. What an



awesome sight. This is one trip everyone should put on their bucket list. There were many areas along the canyon without railings and I felt very uneasy looking over the edge, especially with the

wind blowing. After a couple of hours we boarded the train back to Williams and low and behold train robbers attacked the train.



The next morning we left Arizona and continued toward

New Mexico. We wanted to stay over night at the Wigwam Motel in Holbrook, Arizona.

Unfortunately they were already booked when we arrived. They did let us into one of the wigwams and the interior was very quaint.



In Amarillo, Texas we stopped

to see the Cadillac Ranch.

In 1974 Stanley Marsh buried about a dozen Cadillacs engine first into the ground so the fins would be sticking up in the air.

Over the years thousands of cans of spray paint have been used to put graffiti on the cars. Marsh said he did it to make people believe that the Cadillacs had been planted there by members of a highly intelligent civilization. They were planted in concrete at the exact angle of the Great Pyramid.



We stopped in Groom, Texas to see the 190 foot tall

Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ. While in Adrian, Texas we stopped at a little diner called the Mid Point Diner. It was at the midpoint of old Rt 66. They were famous for their ugly crust pie. So we had to have a piece of pie and cup of coffee before getting back on the road. They also had a 1963 Ford pickup truck



covered in thousands of signatures. We were able to find a place to sign our names.



When we reached Oklahoma we stopped to visit the Will Rogers

museum. This was a great museum. Will Rogers was famous not only for his humor but also for his rope tricks. They showed an old movie in which he displayed some of his tricks.



I mean to tell you that it was

unbelievable what he could do with a rope. We also ran across the worlds largest totem pole. It was built by Ed Galloway from 1937 to 1948. 90 ft tall and 18 ft in diameter. Made from 100 tons of sand and rock, 28 tons



## California Dreamin' VTR 2009 (Cont)

of cement and 6 tons of steel. It has 200 different carved

pictures on the outside. Very interesting and colorful.

When we arrived in Missouri we got back on Old RT 66 and in Spencer we came upon an original gas station, grocery store, post office, dry goods store and barber shop. The old buildings had been purchased by a RT 66 enthusiast and they were starting to restore the buildings. Took lots of photos. After leaving there we drove for a while and came upon a restored gas station in Paris Springs Junction, Mo. Of course we had to stop and get some photos. The owner happened to see us and invited us into the station and he kept us there for more than an hour telling us about the history of the place. He was a real character. We of course had to take more photos and spend more money on souvenirs. It was cold that day and he kept asking the women if they wanted some soda pop. Our next stop was the Arch in St. Louis. What an unbelievable structure. We



rode to the top and had quite a view. They also had a very nice museum in the bottom of the Arch. An amazing statistic: not one worker lost his life working on the Arch and this was before all of the OSHA



rules. From there we headed for home. Our trip took 20 days and covered over 6000 miles. This was a trip that I don't think any of us will ever forget.



This is the final chapter in our trip, hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did.

Ken Kreiner

## How to Stay Young

1. Try everything twice.
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain get idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devils' name is Alzheimer's
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and hard.
6. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life is ourself. Live while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever.
8. Cherish your health. If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county or to a foreign country not a guilt trip.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them at every opportunity.

**JOHN & DOREEN**

## A Look Back in Time

Did you grow up in the Greater Cleveland Area? If you did, you will no doubt remember a great Cleveland attraction called Euclid Beach Park. As kids, we all went there for nickel day and Cleveland company picnics.

Doreen and I attended The new Home and Garden show at the IX Center, and low and behold we came across a piece of Cleveland History:



### The Euclid Beach Thriller Car

The Thriller was one the most popular and highest coaster in the park, and when the park closed in 1969 many people started looking for items to keep as souvenirs. Three of the original ride cars from the Thriller have survived to this day. One is owned by the Western Reserve Historical Society. It is currently in the archived collection and not on display. The other two are owned by L.E.A.R. Promotions.

One car is badly weathered and in need of restoration. The other train car has been reborn into a street-legal and fully insured vehicle. The car itself is believed to be the rear car of the second train that made its last run September 28, 1969.

The Thriller Coaster Car was constructed over the winter of 2001 at far less then cost of the original ride. A modified 1951 Chevrolet truck chassis was used as the mounting



platform for the train car. The truck used was actually one of Euclid Beach's maintenance trucks used to service the rides. While gravity powered the Thriller at the Park, our updated version relies on a 327 c.i.d.



Corvette engine. Riders are still warned to "hold on to your hats" as they cruise to the sound of the original band organ music. The Coaster has been rented for parades, grand openings, birthday parties, weddings,

and even wine tastings. The car can carry ten adults or up to fifteen children, besides the driver.

John & Doreen

## Members Update

Dear NCTA friends:

I wish to thank Darrell Floyd for forwarding my previous Emails regarding Bob's health and stint in the Cleveland Clinic. (Darrell.....please forward this on once again.)

On day 16 (March 2) we are awaiting news of yesterday's bone marrow biopsy. When the doctors made rounds this morning they still did not have even preliminary results as the slides, marrow, & blood were not sent to the lab until after 3 pm yesterday (3/1). If the news is good (less than 5% immature blood cells) Bob could be coming home within the week. If not (a greater chance) then he will go through another round of chemo (5 days 24/7) then a recovery week and another bone marrow biopsy.

I have printed every one of the Emails I have received to both Bob's & my Email addresses. With over 75 well wishes and a dozen cards (which can be sent to: Bob Palmer, Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44101 Attn: Room G111-20 - please note, he has moved to a bigger room!) Bob is overwhelmed with the support that has been generated on his behalf.

I hope to pop in at the NCTA meeting on Friday at Mavis Winkles to thank you all in person, but know that we are very grateful for every kind word, thought, deed and prayer.

Sincerely,  
Ava

P.S. Ava found time to come briefly to the March meeting and give us an update, unfortunately it was not as well as expected. Bob's biopsy came back positive and he is going through another 5 days of chemo. Our thoughts and prayers are with both Bob and Ava.

**Bob Kasper** gave us an update on Mary. She is progressing and hoped to be able to attend the Brunch that is planned at the home of Renee and Doug Karns. Bob thanked everyone for the support especially Ken and Marge Kreiner (bringing over dinners) and Doreen Triska for taking her for doctor appointments. They all live close to each other.

## The British Return to Fort Meigs June 6, 2010 Perrysburg, OH

The Lake Erie British Car Club will be hosting their 12th Annual "The British Return to Fort Meigs" British Car and Bike Show at the Fort Meigs Historical Site, Route 65, Perrysburg, Ohio. The show runs from 10 am to 3 pm. After viewing and voting on your favorite British vehicles, you will have opportunities to tour the restored fort from the War of 1812, try a challenging British car quiz, shop at one of the vendors or sample some tasty food from one of the food vendors. Voting by popular vote. Dash plaques to the first 200 registered, goody bags, and lots of door prizes. Pre-registration is \$12.00; day of show is \$15.00. Event shirts will again be available. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Fort Meigs Historical Site. Bring a can good for Kitchen for the Poor and get an extra door prize ticket. So mark your calendars now. Hope to see you there. Contact: Tony Shoviak. Phone: 419-878-2041. Email: [Tenntony@roadrunner.com](mailto:Tenntony@roadrunner.com). Website: <http://lakeeriebritishnews.home.att.net>.

### Lucas the Prince of Darkness

- The Lucas motto: "Get home before dark."
- Lucas is the patent holder for the short circuit.
- Lucas - Inventor of the first intermittent wiper.
- Lucas - Inventor of the self-dimming headlamp.
- The three position Lucas switch - Dim, Flicker and Off.
- The Original Anti-Theft Device - Lucas Electrics.
- Lucas is an acronym for Loose Unsoldered Connections and Splices
- Lucas systems actually uses AC current; it just has a random frequency.
- "I have had a Lucas pacemaker for years and have never had any trou..."
- If Lucas made guns, wars would not start.
- A friend of mine told everybody he never had any electric problems with his Lucas equipment. Today he lives in the countryside, in a large manor with lots of friendly servants around him an occasional ice cold shower...

Submitted by Bruce Lapierre

## Winter in Ohio (We hope it is over)



It's winter in Ohio  
And the gentle breezes blow,  
70 miles per hour at 25 below!

Oh, how I love Ohio  
When the snow is up to your butt;  
You take a breath of winter air  
And your nose is frozen shut.

Yes, the weather here is wonderful,  
I guess I'll hang around.  
I could never leave Ohio,  
'Cause I'm frozen to the ground.

### Mentor Museum of Speed Update

If we can get a group of 15 or more attendees, the rate will be reduced from \$10.00 to \$8.00/person. The museum hours are 10 am – 5 pm Monday-Friday, and 10 am – 4 pm on Saturdays. I am still working on going to Quaker Steak and Lube in Mentor after the tour. If you are interested in going, please send me an e-mail so I can have a head count for both places.

Bruce Lapierre  
[fasttr4@aol.com](mailto:fasttr4@aol.com)



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## WANTED: Cars or Parts:

Frank Conklin is looking for a replacement **Bourden tube for a TR3A**. If you have one, or a junk temperature gauge in your parts bin, please contact Frank at [fnconklin@aol.com](mailto:fnconklin@aol.com). If you're not sure exactly what Frank is looking for, please email him and he can provide a picture. Thanks!

## Rental Space

2 unheated spaces 10ft x 20ft. with alarm system \$65.00 per month per space.

**NCTA Members only**

Randy Joles  
Cell: 440-479-5087

## For Sale:

**TiresForSale:**  
**Kuhmo 165-80-15 all season radial.**

These are the same size as a 165sR-15, the size to fit TR3-4's. Brand new; buy 4 for \$249.00 plus tax. Classic Restoration 330-507-2878

## For Sale

Michelin Red Line tire. 185/70/15 with tube. Came originally with my TR6 and was never on the road. There is no dry rot. \$40.

Ken Kreiner  
440-286-3243  
[klktr6@aol.com](mailto:klktr6@aol.com)

## For Sale:

### **1972 Triumph Spitfire IV**

For information on condition, asking price, or if you want to see the car, please contact Joanne Doyle at 330-810-0358

### **1976 Triumph TR7 Victory Edition.**

Parting out many good parts. Call with your needs 330-507-2878, Mark Loughrey

### **1978 Jaguar XJS.**

5.3 Liter V-12 Engine, rare European-style headlights. Extensive work done on this rare Jaguar.

For more information, or to arrange to see this car, contact Steve Chivington at 216-251-2269

### **1959 Triumph TR-3A**

Total frame up restoration including engine by owner over many years. Red with black interior; 98% complete. Just needs interior and seats installed. All original including rare overdrive. Located in Ohio. Please call for details, pricing. Pics can be sent upon request. 440-352-1946 or email [fickann@yahoo.com](mailto:fickann@yahoo.com).

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Contact: Renee Karns  
330-562-8559 or  
[eenerjag@roadrunner.com](mailto:eenerjag@roadrunner.com)

## NCTA Participation Points

Please make sure that you see Jim Shear or Sharyn Kitzmiller at all official NCTA events and sign in so that you can accumulate all the participation points you deserve. Articles for the *TR Coaster* will also earn

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