

TRIUMPH CLUB OF NORTH FLORIDA

Volume 17 Issue 4

April 2005

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Announcing the **TRIUMPH T.R.2**
**NEW HARD TOP
CONVERTIBLE**



One of the world's great sports cars, the Triumph T.R.2, has an exciting new twin — the T.R.2 Hard Top Convertible. This sleek, all-weather convertible with the easy-lift hard top is brand new in the United States. Its all-steel, lightweight top, which lifts off easily, is smartly styled to enhance the T.R.2's attractive lines. Detachable door windows are sliding type for added convenience and comfort. In the new Triumph Hard Top Convertible you can get the advantages of two great car styles — for one surprisingly low price. See the T.R.2 Hard Top sports car — *drive* the T.R.2 Hard Top — see your Triumph Dealer this weekend. Rain or shine, you'll thrill to its amazing roadability, exciting acceleration and superb sports car styling.

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All opinions expressed in the articles, columns and other material included in the newsletter are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Triumph Club of North Florida, its officers or members. The Triumph Club of North Florida is not responsible for any technical advice which may appear in these pages.

Motor Trip to Thomasville, Georgia

On a bleak day in January, two trailblazers (Graham Thomas and Jerry Popp) set out to follow Horace Greeley's advice to "Go West" to find a route to Thomasville, Georgia.

On March 19th, a somewhat cool morning, five brave couples set out in an attempt to follow their circuitous route: Graham and Janett Thomas (TR3), Lance and Gloria Brazil (Spitfire), Walter and Barbara Lanz (TR6), Angelo and Anitra Guzman (TR6) and Jerry and Louise Popp (TR8). Although unable to come with us, Don and Jo Marshall were on hand at CVS in Macclenny to wish us Bon Voyage. Following their route turned out to be not an easy task as we encountered unmarked turns, dirt roads, miles of unmarked roads on which not a car was seen for many, many miles. A proposed lunch/pit stop in Jasper, Florida, had only a tired looking Hardee's. The group opted to go off the proposed route to Jennings, Florida, where we did find Jennings Country Restaurant, and, although not quite five-star, proved adequate.

Westward Ho!!! We zigzagged back and forth along the Florida/Georgia border (not the way the crow flies), finally arriving in Thomasville a little later than expected. We were welcomed at the Serendipity Cottage Bed and Breakfast (overflow staying at Holiday Inn). Our hosts Laura and Robert had much appreciated wine and snacks ready upon our arrival. This Cottage is absolutely charming. Each room had a private bath with Victorian decor. An outdoor porch and spacious living area encourage relaxation and pleasant conversation. On Saturday we took a walking tour of the historic homes of Thomasville and posed for photos under "The Big Oak," born about 1685 with a limb spread of 162 feet. Very impressive.

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President's Corner – April 2005

Just got back from our March event to Thomasville and boy, what a great weekend! Five Triumphs (four different models) ran flawlessly.....well, other than **Walt's Whacker** having to be used to start his engine on one occasion, much to the delight of the local citizenry.

The March Tour to Somewhere is always the same weekend each year and I hope more Club members consider it next year.

Speaking of events; each one is put on by a Club member and there is nothing more rewarding than to experience a good turnout in return for the effort involved in doing an event. That is why we try to list the whole year's events so far ahead: it gives you a chance to plan.

The next pit stops are April 3rd at the Pub and April 30th in Lance Brazils backyard. Gloria has the greenest thumb around and she has this backyard to prove it. The official start time for the Cookout is 3pm, finishing "whenever". Now it is said that last year we were all too polite about the "whenever", so we are invited to hang a bit. If "whenever" comes around Lance will do his duty! See page 9 for address and directions.

Are crop circles the work of cereal killers?

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July 2005 Picnic

I've reserved the same pavilion we've used before at Camp Blanding for Saturday July 16, 2005

Each year I forget to post a time; so how 'bout this....

“On Saturday, 16 July 2005, Report for picnic duty at 1000 hours (10:00 a.m. for you silly-villains). Coals will be lit and should be hot enough for cooking at 1100 hours.

Coals will be quenched at 1400 hours. BREs (Burgers, Ready to Eat), hot dogs, buns, condiments, chips, and soft drinks will be provided by the club. Supplemental rations (covered dish/malted beverages) are your responsibility and are encouraged.”

Stan A. Kinmonth, P.E.
US Army Corps of Engineers
Assistant Director, Architect-Engineer Resource Center
US ICE and CBP-AMO Programs

Voice: 904-232-1113
Fax: 904-232-3920
Cell: 904-616-2387

What happens if you get scared half-to-death twice?

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Old Days - Old Ways

Well, this girl reporter lives in a family with two Brit cars, both a bit hoary: a '64 TR4 and a '95 Jaguar XJ-12. Much as I love them both, they both have caused me stress (to say the least) and both have performed less than admirably upon occasion. If I don't have to travel via interstate, I think I prefer the TR4, and I will tell you why. No computers.

During our Holiday trip to see our kids and grandkids in Dallas, we developed a leak in the Jag between two fuel rails. This persisted for several days with the car finally being 86'ed. Can't have the kiddies breathing all those fuel fumes! A trip to an allegedly honest mechanic cost \$45 and no relief but diagnosis, gee thanks. A cell call to our guy in Florida resulted in reseating the hoses and seals to relieve the shrinking from the extreme cold. This solved the problem. The real problem with the 12 is that one looks under the hood and says, "where do I check the oil?" It's truly scary.

We had a fuel problem with the TR4 in 1994 coming back from the Sebring Regional, hosted by the Gold Coast Club. Apparently, the fuel pump fell out of the engine block - no fuel - no go. In pelting rain, under umbrellas held by TCNF ladies, the pin was found, the pump reseated and on to Daytona - or rather Palm Coast. But it was a roadside repair effected by Triumph drivers and worked just fine. (This is why we convoy, guys!) Not such a scary sight under the hood - most drivers can fix most things on their cars or help with some one else's. I remember the Lake City Regional in '99 when two bozo's (including crazy Monkey Boy) showed up in a car stuck in gear with nothing, nothing in the transmission box. Guys hanging out in the parking lot fixed them up, no problem! You gotta love this kind of driving!

Okay, coming back from Dallas, both girl reporter and spouse fighting for primacy in the "who's got the worst cold from the kids" rodeo, driver spouse notices dark and ugly smoke coming from the rear of the - gasp - 12. We end up in Abita Springs, LA. Hey, not a bad place. They have a great little place there called the Jag Shop. I am not making this up. After pulling off the interstate, leaving a trail of oil, we were

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Not Sold in stores! Never seen on TV! *Walt's Whacker.* Multi-use tool for checking the accuracy of your gas gauge, boot and bonnet angle retainer, and high-tech starter repair tool. Contact Walt Lanz for details. Coming soon! A customized carrying case.

Along with the May Newsletter we will be including a member's roster including addresses, both E-mail and Snail, and phone numbers. If for any reason you do not want your name published to the other members, contact Lance Brazil either by phone or E-mail. Thanks

Ad Policy—We will run ads that may be of interest to our members from outside sources when there is room. For members, we will attempt to make room.

1976 Triumph Spitfire. Right now, it is in storage. No Rust. Missing engine, transmission, and rear end. Don Forg. 407-260-9991. Longwood, Florida.

1963 Triumph TR3A, listed on Ebay. I'd prefer it be sold to someone who wants the car! Lots of new parts with receipts. See it at <http://www.pgwsales.com/mytr3a.htm>. Robert Desrosiers.
210-497-5162 San Antonio, Texas

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?



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Join the Triumph Club of North Florida

If you're interested in Triumph cars, You should be a member of TCNF. The benefits are outstanding, a monthly newsletter that is entertaining as well as informative with free ads to members, monthly events, rallies, shows, picnics, tours and camaraderie with fellow enthusiasts...

Membership Application/ Renewal

_____ (Please Print) _____

New _____ Renewal _____

Car Information

Year Model Comm #

Name _____ 1. _____

Spouse _____ 2. _____

Address _____ 3. _____

_____ 4. _____

_____ 5. _____

Home Phone () _____ Please circle interest in:

Work Phone () _____ Tech Sessions Autocross

Email Address _____ Social Events Tours

Fun Rallyes Car Show

VTR Member? Yes _____ No _____ T-S-D Rallyes Races

TRA Member? Yes _____ No _____ Make your \$25.00 check

payable to:

Other British car clubs: _____

Triumph Club of North
Florida

c/o Norm Reimer

1409 Forest Ave.

Neptune Beach, Fla 32266

The English Garage

British Car Repairs

DAVID GERRARD
(904) 724-1353

1948 Parental Home Rd.
Suite 2
Jacksonville, FL 32216

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towed there (the Jag Shop) to be met by an assortment of wonderful people. A nearly toothless proprietor more than ably assisted by a number of VietNam Vets (who had already rebuilt their own rides) This place rocked! They had in the waiting room/morgue an XJ12, a TR4 and a TR6, among other assorted vintage exotics. They diagnosed the problem quickly - an oil pressure sensor (maybe due to the Dallas winter, as well...) and sent a minion off to a nearby Ford dealer for a replacement. Actually, we only lost 2 of 12 qts of oil, but we didn't know. Fun fix and well under \$200 - these guys were honest. If you ever break down on I-10 in LA around Slidell, get towed to Abita Springs and the Jag Shop. These guys will take care of you and you'll have a good time while they're doing it. I love Louisiana!

On the other hand, in 1992, during spouse's first TCNF trip to Gainesville, he had a little problem with the 4. Seems the fan belt broke. Now, he can make this into a longer story...but my eyes glaze over. Upshot of the whole thing is a friendly guy, who just happened to have a crow bar in his car, stopped to offer help. Anyway... there was spouse in white trous and good Samaritan levering the engine up to reapply a new fan belt. It worked; spouse made it to the gathering. Got to love these roadside fixes. (And always carry an extra fan belt!)

Which brings me to my conclusion. There is no way you can do a roadside fix on a "check engine" light that keeps flashing. Or something under the hood of a computerized car. The old cars require a few simple tools, some mechanical moxie and a lot of love for the vehicle - and a little help from your friends.

This girl reporter will not be attending either the tech session in February or the B&B trek in March. I wish you good traveling and successful roadside repairs!

Michele Kelly
Girl Reporter

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**Directions to Lance and Gloria's House
Cookout
Saturday, April 30, 2005 3:00 p.m.**

From Atlantic Boulevard (A1A) in Atlantic Beach, Turn **NORTH on Seminole Road**. Landmarks are Blockbuster and Aqua East Surf Shop on the opposite side of Atlantic Boulevard.

Go approximately 6/10 mile to the **5-way stop sign**.

Continue on Seminole Road to the first **LEFT** which is **11th street, turn LEFT**. Street signs are on the left side of the road. Go to the next stop sign.

Turn **RIGHT on Linkside Drive** and go to the next **STOP** sign, approximately 3 blocks. **Follow Linkside Drive around to the right**.

Our house is 1480 about 6 houses down on the left.

Lance and Gloria Brazil
904-247-1030

Starts at 3:00 Runs until ??

Hamburgers
Hot Dogs
Potato Salad
Chips 'n' Dips

If you are going to shoot a mime, do you have to use a silencer?

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CLUB OFFICERS	COMING EVENTS	
<p>PRESIDENT Graham Thomas (904) 321-0261 email: gandj9@bellsouth.net</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Stan Kinmonth (904) 276-1418 email: stantr6@comcast.net</p> <p>SECRETARY / TREASURER Norm Reimer 904-246-6044 email: suennorm@comcast.net</p> <p>EVENTS COORDINATOR Jerry Popp (904) 287-1891 gpopp@earthlink.net</p> <p>NEWSLETTER Lance Brazil (904) 247-1030 email: lbrazil@bellsouth.net</p> <p>Any contributions to the news-letter are greatly appreciated. If you have articles, graphics or funny anecdotes, please call Lance Brazil at (904) 247-1030 or email to lbrazil@bellsouth.net by the 22nd of the month prior to publication.</p> <p>Visit the TCNF Web site at: http://tfn.net/~tcnf/</p>	April 30	Cookout at the Brazil's House See page 6 for details
	May 21	Tour the Okefenokee Swamp
	June 11	Day at the Zoo
	July 16	Camp Blanding Picnic
	September 29, 30, and October 1	SEVTR at Jekyll Island
	November 12	Reimer Road Rally and Tour
	December	Christmas Party
	<p>Monthly Reminders Pub Club at the King's Head Pub in St. Augustine - Sunday April 3rd, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	

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Our hosts suggested Mom and Dad's Restaurant for dinner, and we enjoyed a fine Italian dinner from steaks to veal to lobster ravioli.

Sunday was a much warmer day (everyone had their top down). After a sumptuous breakfast of quiche, homemade sausage and fresh fruit, we set out for the main street hoping to do more sightseeing only to discover that the sidewalks are rolled up on Sunday with nothing open. The mansions and plantations don't begin tours until two-ish on Sunday.

Our lined-up Triumphs drew a small crowd, who requested "Gentlemen, start your engines." Walter had a chance to show off his "fuel gauge." This is a stick (made from an old window shade roller), with fuel levels marked on it, which, when inserted into the gas tank, gives an accurate fuel level. He states that other uses for this home-made gadget include rapping on different engine parts to get them going. We decided he needs an Infomercial to market this sophisticated tool.

The group decided to travel to Madison, Florida for lunch; we already knew we were not going back the same way. We ate at quaint Virginia's Cafe and did find an antique shop open for browsing. Mid-afternoon the "wagon train" moved east on Route 90 (this was marked), trailing off as more direct routes home became available. We exited on Route 100 South in Lake City.

It was a wonderful weekend of excellent friendship, conversation and even a technical session with **Walter's Whacker**. For those unable to attend, please plan to come to our next outing. We're a fun group of people

Jerry and Louise Popp