



TRIUMPH CLUB OF NORTH FLORIDA

Volume 18, Issue 1

January 2006



HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!



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TRIUMPH CLUB OF NORTH FLORIDA

CLUB OFFICERS	COMING EVENTS	
<p>PRESIDENT Graham Thomas (904) 321-0261 email: gandj9@bellsouth.net</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Angelo Guzman (904) 781-0084 email: ukroadster@aol.com</p> <p>SECRETARY / TREASURER Norm Reimer 904-246-6044 email: suennorm@comcast.net</p> <p>EVENTS COORDINATOR Jerry Popp (904) 287-1891 Email: geraldjpoppp@bellsouth.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 NEW TCNF Web site at: www.tcnf.org</p>	January 8	Pub Club Meeting
	February 26	Tech Session— English Garage
	March	Road Trip to Mt. Dora. Details next month.
	<p>Monthly Reminders Pub club meeting January 8, at King’s Head Pub, St. Augustine on US 1 about 5 miles north of the city. Look for the Red Double-decker bus. Time: 1:00—4:00 p.m. Date Change due to Club date falling on New Year’s Day All Members are invited and encouraged to come.</p>	



President's Corner

How great it was to spend time with some less familiar folks at the Christmas Party a la Popp. James, Michelle and Dylan Rader, also Mike Morgan and Sheila and Matt and Carol Rund. Matt was one of the founders of our Club and he has the original meeting notes to prove it!

All these folks are working on getting a Triumph on the road (again), but with or without, we are glad to see them anytime. I have just finally finished a good read, Michael Cook's TRIUMPH CARS in America.

As one who never will come to terms with the demise of the British motor industry, it is an honest history of the good years and bad, giving some reasons for the bad though I venture there was more blame in top management than is revealed here.

I spent just a few years in the automotive parts export game and what I saw was that not all those wonderful Spitfire pilots necessarily made good export managers. I was surprised to read that the TR3/A/B sales in the U.S. were very close to those achieved by the TR6, but both were a little shy of the estimated number for the TR7. So where are all the TR7s? That's another story, I know.

Read in the paper the other day that the two featured cars for the Amelia Is Concourse next March are the Stanley Steamer and Jaguar; now that should be fun and is as near as we'll get to seeing them feature Triumph, no doubt. Well, NO Jag is as dependable as my Triumph, not even MY Jag! Ouch!

Safe and happy New Year to all".

Graham Thomas



Holiday Extravaganza at the Popp's!

Those of us clever enough to attend this year's TCNF Holiday Party at Gerry and Louise Popp's lovely home in St. Augustine really got the good deal. This girl reporter will let you in on the details below.

First to arrive were Sue and Norm Reimer (in their Jag). This is only news-worthy as they are usually the last to arrive...or anyway...late. Both Sue and Norm made an effort to let this girl reporter know that they were the first. Sue wondered if they had the date and time correct? This girl reporter knows what she is talking about.

Yes, you did arrive on the right day. And we all had a wonderful time. Louise had a spread of hors d'oeuvre that would not quit. Every counter and table top was filled with luscious spreads and cheeses and meats. This girl reporter cannot begin to tell you the wonders she tasted as she did not take notes on food! (Only ate!) Plus, she doesn't want to tell. But those who were not there did miss out.

Among the merry revilers were the aforementioned Reimers, Janett and Graham Thomas (our Pres) also in a Jag, Art and Michele Kelly (in their Jag). Vic Hall also came in a Jag. Hey, what kind of a club is this anyway. Well, it's cold, it's gonna get dark, how much can we depend on Lucas?? Keep in mind it's still Brit and still has the same problems, only more expensive to fix!

On to the stalwarts: Angelo and Anitra (who is doing great and looking good) came in the green TR6. Lance and Gloria came in their Spitfire; she kept her hat on all night due to hat head. Hey, Gloria, your head is great however! This girl reporter did not get to see all the autos, however, assuming that Mike and Michelle brought Dylan (Dillon?) along, probably not their Spitfire.

Actually, since this girl reporter did not go out into the cold of the lovely subdivision we were in, I don't know who drove what. So whatever they drove, we were happy to see Mike Morgan and Sheila (who brought a great red Velvet cake.)

It was a treat to see Matt & Carol Rund who were among the founders of the club, but, because their TR3 has not been road-worthy have been shy to come around. Hey guys, look at Reimer, Lanz, whoever...there are a lot of owners not on the road, or not currently driving TRs who are in the club. It was good to see them and talk about the old times and the old members.

Oh, the Newlyweds were there. Dave being his usual acerbic self and Kelly being her usual lovely wonderful self. How did these two ever get together? Whatever. This girl reporter wishes them the best. This was their "maiden" (yeah, right) voyage" into TCNF. As if we weren't already wondering what has happened to them since September? (I think they came in the SUV) Boo, hissss, etc.

Where to start? With the ping pong tournament with Dylan and Janett, or the tournament with Mike Morgan and Janett? Lots of fun on the porch, and this was before the fireworks! (Opps! Shhhss!!)



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All in all, it was a party. Complete with fireworks after a sumptuous spread of roast pork, chicken Kiev, German potato salad,, buttered carrots,, broccoli yummy, and a great bean yummy, a gargantuan fruit salad and a dessert buffet that belonged on a cruise ship. Among the incredible wonders were a pecan pie by Sue Reimer, and a Red Velvet cake by Sheila, friend of Mike Morgan. This girl reporter doesn't know who made the fudge, but she would like to include him/her in her will. There was just too much to taste.

A surprise was the fireworks set off against the lake reflecting Christmas lights on which the Popp's have built their lovely home. Gerry and Mike Morgan (a fireman in the Navy) took care of shooting off all kinds of spectacular things. This girl reporter is a wuss and stayed under roof at all times. But from the sounds and light, this was something.

And still more fireworks after the real ones. President Graham Thomas presided at the First Annual **P.O.R.N. Awards**. (President's Offering of Roadster Nonsense) Among the winners were some surprises, but, to this girl reporter, not many.

"Runs Like a Clock" This award went, not surprisingly, to Lance Brazil for his eternally dependable Spitfire.

"Babe Catcher of the Year" Well, this *was* a surprise. Who woulda' thought that Dave Finklestein could actually finalize a relationship with wonderful Kelly!

"Most Striking Paint" No surprise here, folks, of course it was Angelo Guzman in his green TR6.

"Most in Need of a Navigator" Apparently the award committee had some discussion about this (no, don't say it) but the winner was Vic Hall, the perennially single guy with all the hot cars.

"Most Ingenious Tool" This was no contest. Walter Lanz and his famous "Walt's Wacker", which is now in production and actually has a (bogus) TRF part number.

"Top Down Drivers of the Year" This award definitely went to Louise Popp. She'll give you the details.

"Can Anyone Remember When..." There were contenders, but the hands down choice was Norm Reimer because hardly any current members can remember him in a Triumph. This girl reporter does remember him in a GT6, and there are rumors he was also seen in a TR6. But, that was in the past.

"Worst Sense of Direction" Not a surprise. Just because this girl reporter lost the stone in her shoe at a Rallye and turned left instead of right and we ended up in San Marco instead of Fernandina Beach and we had to open the dreaded "dummy" envelope....sob, sniff, gasp, sigh. It was an anomaly. I swear.

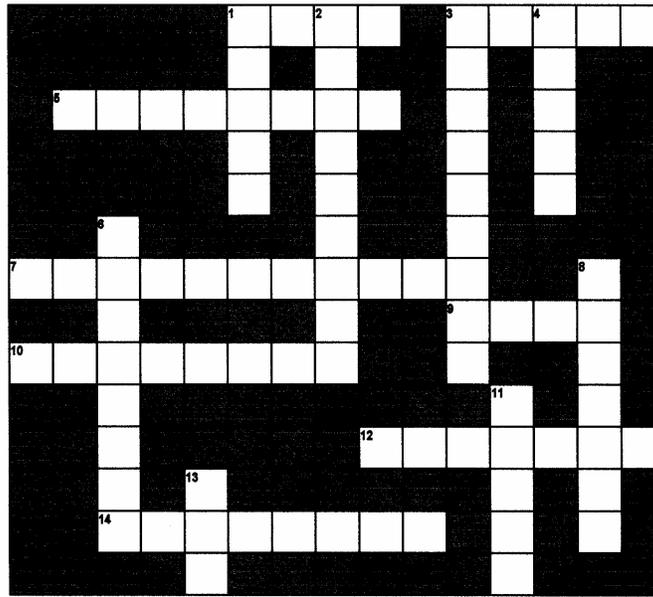
It was a **great** Holiday Party and a good time was had by all, especially this girl reporter. Thank you, Louise and Gerry Popp for opening your home to us and preparing all that fabulous food! And the fireworks!

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Kelly, Girl Reporter



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