

# TRIUMPH CLUB OF NORTH FLORIDA

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May 2017

*Triumph Club*



*Of North Florida*

1409 Forest Ave.

Neptune Beach, Fl. 32266

## May TCNF Meeting had 8 Triumphs in lot

(six shown here)

This is great driving weather so get them out of the garage at let's have 10 in June



Notify Norm Reimer of address changes at (904) 246-6044 or email to "suennorm@comcast.net"

*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.*

## Club Officers

### President:

Lance Brazil (904) 860-6799 [lbrazil@bellsouth.net](mailto:lbrazil@bellsouth.net)

### Membership Secretary:

Barry Northway (904)-473-5773 [trdriver.bn@gmail.com](mailto:trdriver.bn@gmail.com),

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Norm Reimer (904) 246-6044 [suennorm@comcast.net](mailto:suennorm@comcast.net)

### Events Coordinator:

Penny Levy, [levy.penny@gmail.com](mailto:levy.penny@gmail.com)

### Newsletter:

Steven Arrington (904) 262-7071 [arringtonsp@att.net](mailto:arringtonsp@att.net),

### Board Members at Large:

Jerry Popp (904) 287-1891 [geraldjpoppp@bellsouth.net](mailto:geraldjpoppp@bellsouth.net)

Walt Lanz (904) 641-4089, C-631-8395; [jaxwalt@gmail.com](mailto:jaxwalt@gmail.com)

## Member Help Groups

### Wiring Problems

Charles Fenwick  
Lance Brazil

### Polishes, Waxes, Finishes

Lance Brazil

### Vintage Triumph racing

Don Marshall  
904-259-9668

If you would like to volunteer to help other members with problems on their cars, let us know and you can be listed here.

## Coming Events

June 1 - TCNF Planning Meeting at 6:30 PM at Craft Pizza Company, 3rd St. in Neptune Beach

**June 4th** - Club Meeting, 1:00PM, Kings Head Pub

June 10th - Cars and Coffee at the Avenues Mall

June - 24th - Through the FCCC, we have an opportunity to participate in a fun event. As a club, we can reserve space for our Triumphs to park together in Springfield for their monthly Cruise In on June 24, and watch the start of The Great Race, a long distance road rally for classic cars that begins in Jacksonville, and ends in Traverse City, Michigan. Please let me know if you are interested in attending with your Triumph.

July - TBD

*OTHERS: Will be set at next Planning Meeting.*

FCCC - <http://www.carcouncil.org/events/>; for other local car events

## President's Corner

June is fast approaching and we have the perfect cars for beach life. Get 'em out and drive them. It is a great feeling to drive down the road with the wind in your hair – in my case, whistling over my bald pate. I hope you will take the time to read our article on *Caring for the Finish of Your Little British Car*.

Penny Levy and I collaborated on this article and it has some good points. Our bias for Meguiar's product will show because that is what we each use. However, there are many excellent products on the market by other companies so if you have a favorite list of products, by all means use them. Maybe you could write an article on the merits of your brand name favorite. You don't have to be a Hemingway to write something for the newsletter, just do it and if you would like, we will help you with any corrections if needed.

I am making arrangements for a planning session on Thursday, June 1. All members are invited and encouraged to come and give input for what we do in the next six months. I will send out an email blast to everyone in the club asking for attendance and input. Think events, drives, fun places to go and things to do. This is your club, let us know what you want to do.

Lance Brazil, President

### It is that time of year again - spray up



# Caring for the finish of your Little British Car

## Lance Brazil assisted by Penny Levy

I have a preference for car care products: Meguiar's. There are many products on sale at auto parts stores, discount department stores, and even online. I am sure they are just as good as Meguiar's but since I use their products on my car that is what I will suggest. You can make your own choice of brands; most will have similar products.

### Completely wet down the painted surfaces.

By hosing down the entire surface of the car you will lift any large dirt particles of dirt and road grime that could scratch the paint and cool the surface in the process.

## Soap



Do not use dish washing soap or liquid laundry soap for cleaning. These are specially formulated products used to cut grease. These products will remove the wax and possibly damage your finish. Instead, use soap especially formulated for protecting your car. Meguiar's Gold Class Car Wash is a good one to use because Gold Class products are formulated to float loose dirt above the paint thus reducing the chances of scratching.. There are several different types of car wash made by Meguiars, some of which have and added wax to them. Using a wash with wax mixed in would be fine if you already had a good finish on your car.

## Wash the car



Wash in the shade when the surface of the car is cool. If the car surface is hot it will make the soap and water dry before you have a chance to rinse. Most web sites and literature suggest a two bucket method for washing; one bucket for soapy water and one with clear water for rinsing your sponge between washing areas. I do not use a sponge on my car. There is too much chance of picking up dirt or sand particles and then scratching the paint surface even if you are rinsing the sponge frequently. I use a soft terry cloth towel and rinse if often; less chance of picking up scratchy particles. Also, if you drop the towel or sponge on the ground or drag a corner accidentally, QUIT USING it. Get a freshly washed towel. Work from the top down to the bottom of the car. Another option is a Microfiber wash mitt shown at right.

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## Rinse

Rinse all traces of soap from the car and dry it completely. Driving around the block is not an acceptable substitute for drying. Unless you have a water filtration system on your water supply, the water in Florida is hard water. This will leave water spots that will require more work to get a good shine. Use a chamois or a microfiber towel. Meguiar's has a Water Magnet Microfiber Drying Towel and you can buy packages of five microfiber towels at Publix or auto parts stores.

From this point you will evaluate the paint surface and go one of several ways according to the "feel."

Run your fingertips over the freshly washed and dried surface. If there is a slightly gritty feeling I suggest using the clay bar kit.

If the surface feels like glass you can go straight to wax.

If the surface is still dull you may want to use a polish.

If the surface has road tar, or other contaminants not removed by washing you might like to use a cleaner wax made for removing these problems.



## Clay Bar

The Clay Kit is the ultimate product to prep the surface for that deep, mirror-like glaze. In the kit you will receive 2 blocks of clay, a spray bottle of Quik Detailer and a microfiber towel. To use the clay kit:

1. Knead the clay bar to make it pliable.
2. Spray the Quik Detailer over a small area, about 2 square feet.
3. Gently rub the clay over the area to clean the surface. If you move outside of the sprayed area, the clay will stop instantly so be careful not to drop the clay. Once the clay begins to show contaminants, fold it over and knead some more.

- 4.
5. Use the microfiber towel included in the kit to wipe the surface clean.
6. Apply your favorite wax to protect the bare surface.

**Note:** as mentioned earlier, if you drop the clay bar on the ground, throw it away. The bar will slide easily over the wet surface but stop suddenly when you reach an area with no liquid.



**Cleaner Wax**

If there are contaminants on the surface that the clay bar kit did not remove such as road tar, you may want to use a cleaner wax – paste. This wax will remove most contaminants and leave a great shine on the paint. Use this cleaner wax as you would any other wax but pay special attention to any contaminants until they are removed. Let the wax dry to a haze then wipe off with a microfiber towel. With all waxes, it is important to apply longitudinally – fore and aft and remove it in the same directions. This prevents swirl marks and if there are any, the human eye is less likely to notice straight lines than swirling ones.

## **Wax**

If the surface of the car is clean and smooth, you can now use wax to protect the paint. Think of wax as sunscreen for your car. Meguiar's has multiple types and formulations of wax. It is just a matter of choosing one you like and that works best for you. They have clear-coat safe waxes, Carnauba waxes; spray waxes and even the Quik Wax mentioned earlier which is good to use to touch up the shine on the morning of a car show. In our area we should wax about twice a year if your car is garage-kept; twice as often if your car stays outside for extended lengths of time.

## Polish



If the surface is smooth but still dull, you might want to polish the car. Polish is an abrasive and removes dead paint. There are various levels of abrasiveness so always start with the least abrasive and work up to heavier if necessary. I have used Deep Crystal Polish on my car and like the results. Meguiar's sells a drill attachment that will take away a lot of the hard work. However, since the polish is abrasive, be especially careful when going over ridges, edges, or corners since it would be possible to cut all the way through the paint down to the primer or bare surface.

## Polymer Coatings



An alternative to using a natural wax to protect the finish of your car is a synthetic polymer wax. While a quality natural carnauba wax is made from the waxy leaves of a palm tree that grows exclusively in Brazil, a polymer wax is, largely, made from man-made materials. The advantages to a polymer is that it is easier to apply, usually cheaper, and lasts longer than a carnauba wax. The disadvantage is that it cannot compete with the shine of a natural wax. Some professional detailers will use a polymer sealant, then apply a coat of carnauba wax over it to give the car the deeper shine that only a natural wax can provide. Additionally, a synthetic polymer may emphasize any imperfections in the paint of your car. A natural carnauba wax does a better job of hiding imperfections, such as paint swirls.

## MAY Meeting

Our TCNF May meeting was at the Kings Head Pub in St. Augustine. There was a good crowd with most shown in photos below, but there were eight (8) Triumphs in the lot although not all could park adjacent. Let's make an effort to get at least 10 Triumphs in lot for the June meeting at the Kings Head Pub on the 4th. Thanks to Penny Levy for pictures.



**FOR FUN:** General Motors, feeling it was time for a shake-up, hired a new CEO. The new boss was determined to rid the company of all slackers.

On a tour of the facilities, the CEO noticed a guy leaning on a wall. The room was full of workers and he wanted to let them know that he meant business.

He walked up to the guy leaning against the wall and asked, "How much money do you make a week?"

A little surprised, the young man looked at him and replied, "I make \$400 a week. Why?"

The CEO then hands the guy \$1,600 in cash and screams, "Here's four weeks' pay, now GET OUT and don't come back!"

Feeling pretty good about himself, the CEO looked around the room and asked, "Does anyone want to tell me what that bloody slacker did here?"

From across the room came a voice: "That was the pizza delivery guy from Domino's."

Thanks Norm.

## 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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Social Events

Autocross

Tours

Fun Rallyes

Car Show

T-S-D Rallyes    Races

VTR Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

TRA Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Make your \$25.00 check payable to:

Triumph Club of North Florida,  
c/o Norm Reimer,  
1409 Forest Ave.  
Neptune Beach, Fl. 32266