



TRiumph TRumpeter

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE DESERT CENTER—TRIUMPH REGISTER of AMERICA

PROMOTING TRIUMPHS AROUND THE WORLD
WITH OUR SISTER CLUB,
THE ISLE OF WIGHT TRIUMPH CLUB, U.K.

January 2008 VOL. 29 Issue 1

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NEXT CLUB MEETING:
February 12, 2008
7:00 PM

George & Dragon Pub
4230 South 48th Street

Come Early
Socialize and Network
with other members



THE PREZ SEZ

January is finally here, and I was thinking about this being my last newsletter contribution as president. It seems odd to me, as this has been a monthly “chore” for over two years, and as I’m sure any of the three newsletter editors we’ve had in that time can tell you, I’ve procrastinated up to and past their deadline almost every month! It’s not that I don’t enjoy communicating with people who share this common interest in all things Triumph. Anyone who knows me could tell you that I really don’t seem to know when to shut up! I guess it’s that I would rather do just about anything else instead of sitting here and putting my random thoughts to paper (or the electronic equivalent). Odd, really, in that once I get started I actually rather enjoy this.

I’ve had more than one club member say to me that they can’t imagine the DCTRA without me as president... fairly new members, obviously. I was going to use the phrase “at the helm” but images of a rudderless ship immediately leaped to mind. The fact that we are just a bunch of people with a common interest in Triumph with no agenda except to continue sharing that interest has meant that “leadership” has not been required. Now, I’m not selling myself short, but I’m not really a leader, director, or organizer. I’ve just tried to keep things moving forward, quelling the little flair-ups,



2008 Officers

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johnhorton@yahoo.com

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dave@microworks.net

Membership

Contact Marty Clark at
480-962-7848 for
membership information.

Dues are \$18.00 per year

New Members

Paul Bridgnell - 1974 TR6

Lynn Thayer - 1974 TR6.

Michael and Julie Donick - TR6 and
Allard K3

Minutes of the January Meeting

Stu opened the meeting at the Landmark at 12:15PM with about 50 people present. Marty Clark announced that membership is now over 100.

One of our newest members, Trudy Crable was present. She has a '64 Spitfire.

Our treasurer said we have lots of money on hand.

Deta offered apologies for misplacing the Dec minutes in the confusion of spending Christmas in Idaho.

John Horton said Hobbyists Council does not have any news as yet. There is a bill out that is trying to tighten emissions by 2011. It should not have any effect on the "new" classic car exemption.

For list of activities, please see separate article.

Next month's meeting will be held at George & Dragon again.

It was questioned as to whom could vote. 1 vote per membership or if both husband & wife had a vote.

According to the by-laws it says there should be 1 vote per paid membership.

Elections were held with the following results:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| President | John Horton |
| Vice-President | Kathy Nuss |
| Treasurer | John Reynolds |
| Secretary | Deta Hampsch |

John Truttman made a motion that the club do something to thank last years officers. Unanimous decision to pay for their lunch today along with their spouse's meal.

Champagne toasts were offered.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15PM



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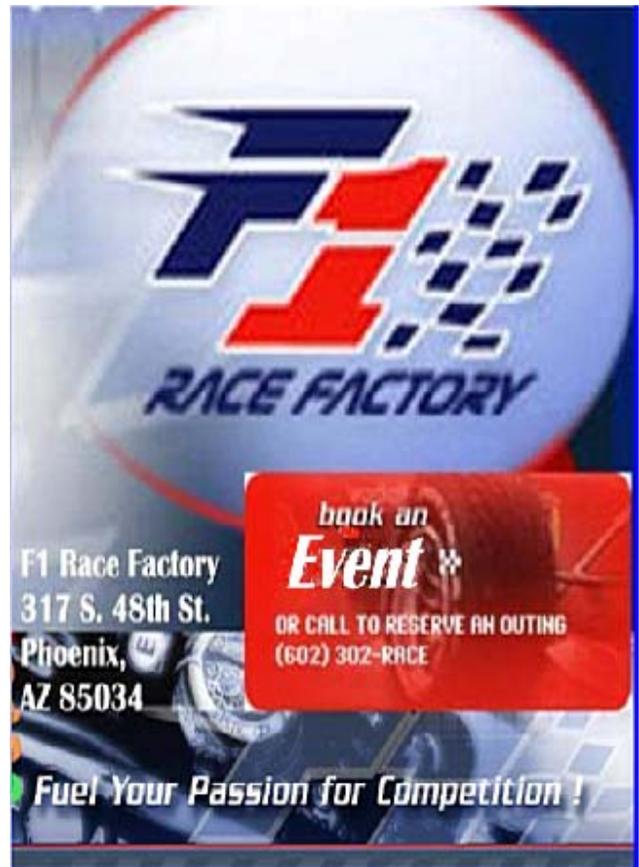
Dave Riddle
480-610-8234 or dave@microworks.net
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Continued from page 1

comforting the hurt feelings, clearing up the occasional misunderstandings, and encouraging all who wanted to contribute to the success of our little club. The fact that you all chose to re-elect me a couple of times leads me to believe that this is all you required of me.

Now, I'm sure that my tenure as president has not sat well with a few members with differing views. No doubt my casual leadership style of running the meetings offended those reared on parliamentary procedures as spelled out in Robert's Rules of Order. "Casual" could be read as ill-prepared, inconsistent and sloppy, but it seems the majority of the membership was willing to forgive my faults and accept my sincere enthusiasm for the cars and the club. Then again, maybe it was just that I always ran unopposed for a job no one else really wanted!

Well, times have changed, the club roster has swelled with new members, and we actually have an election with more than one candidate vying for the two highest posts! This could be seen as a very good thing, as it indicates enthusiasm for our club. It also worries me in that I hope no feelings are hurt by the outcome, as each candidate is a valued and capable club member. This makes the choice even harder, because I feel that each member running for office is a worthy candidate, and that

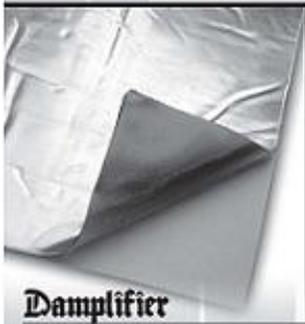


the "loser" should continue to contribute in other ways rather than withdraw and sulk. We all, as members of this club, need to contribute to it's well-being. If each of us can commit to making just one real contribution each year, the activities calendar could be full. If you think you know of an activity that you'd like to do, make it happen rather than wait for someone else! The activities director should schedule, not be counted on to create! This wasn't MY club, soon to be Mike's or John's club. This is OUR club.

Whatever the outcome, I am confident that the Desert Centre Triumph Register of America will continue to grow and prosper. I plan to stick around and see that happen.

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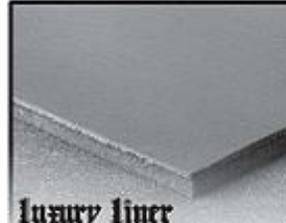


SECONDSKIN SOUND DAMPENING



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Post Your TR Story

All members that Register with the website (<http://www.dctra.org>) can post a profile and history of themselves and their car(s) along with a photo. Visit the site and on the membership page you can find a detailed step-by-step process (including pictures!) of how to do it.

Update Your Triumph Membership

Marty has posted the updated membership list on our DCTRA.org website (see files section). It's updated through the January Brunch meeting. He is still accepting digital pictures of your car (s) to include on this list. Club members voted to remove unpaid listings, so these will no longer receive club emails. If you would like your membership to be renewed, bring your payment to an event, meetingmail a check (made out to DCTRA) to our Treasurer, **John Reynolds**, 806 E. Campus, Tempe, AZ 85282.

Letter from the Editor

Happy New Year!

Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers!

As 2007 was my first year as a club member, I think it was pretty monumental. The spectre of Emissions Testing for Classic Cars and an impending Triumphfest were always in the forefront.

In the meantime I was attempting to finish the restoration of my car.

At the end of the year, I decided to change jobs and accordingly, I spent November, December and most of January in Seattle, WA. It's funny; I didn't even see a TR while I was there. Come to think of it, I didn't really see the sun either.

The trip back took three days. The sunshine started about 60 miles out and never stopped. It was bone chilling (down to 1 degree in Utah), but I got back to the valley in one piece.

I rested for a couple of days and then Bill Close needed help moving his TR3 (Winston). He even let me drive the beast. It was a great return to the valley and to Triumph sports cars.

Sometimes, it takes a little jolt to remind us of what we have here in our beautiful Valley of the Sun so here's a photo of the outdoor conditions in Washington during my stay.



Calendar of Events

1/13/2008: Annual DCTRA Brunch at Landmark Restaurant in Mesa. Among the festivities of this day we will be conducting the voting for our 2008 Officers. It is imperative that all active members make every attempt to attend this important function to ensure a sound future for this organization. Details and online registration for this event can be easily located on www.dctra.org.

1/20/2008: DCTRA sponsored British Car Interclub Breakfast Run. We rendezvous at (NW corner) of 32nd and Shea at 7:30am, followed by a morning drive and culminating with a festive breakfast party for all participants at a predetermined restaurant. It is a great way to start the New Year with your Triumph Car (or any other car you decide to utilize)....

2/12/2008: February DCTRA Monthly Club meeting at George & Dragon Pub at 6PM for dinner, and 7PM for meeting. This venue is located at S. 48th St, just north of Broadway, in Phoenix, or coming south take 143, just south of I10 on the right side.

*****Until further notice this location will be where we conduct DCTRA monthly meetings for 2008 on the 2nd Tuesday of the month!**

2/17/2008: February Breakfast Run, "yet to be determined" which British Car Club will host this event. We meet at NW corner of 32nd & Shea at 7:30am.....

2/23-2/24/2008: The Highland Games British Car Display Weekend event, will be held at Margaret Hance Park in Central Phoenix. The application forms for this venue can be downloaded off the www.DCTRA.org website. Advanced notification to attend this event is required. Details of this event will be discussed at upcoming DCTRA club functions.

2/29 - 3/2/2008: Tucson British Car Roundup Show is being held in Tucson AZ. during this weekend. Details for this event can be viewed at www.tucsonbritish.com.

3/2/2008: Wheels of Britain Show at Heritage Square in downtown Phoenix. This event is definitely a highlight of the annual Phoenix British Car Social Circuit. Details and a application for this event can be reviewed and downloaded on the www.dctra.org website. This is one of several once a year British Car Show venues you really can't afford to miss!!

***** Please mark your calendar and whether you enter a vehicle or not, just bring a camera and soak up the "gorgeous automobile scenery" of this annual British Car event!! All are welcome and admission is free!!**

3/11/2008: March DCTRA Monthly Club meeting at George & Dragon Pub at 6PM for dinner, and 7PM for meeting.

4/19 - 4/20/2008: Annual BEAT (British Euro Auto Tour) Event. This another highlight once a year "cross country weekend drive" to Flagstaff event you don't want to miss. It is without question the single biggest British (Euro) Car Social Function of the year in the Great State of Arizona. Details of this huge event will be discussed at upcoming DCTRA monthly meetings, and are currently available on the www.dctra.org website for your review and advanced bookings.

If there was one British Car event of the year you don't want to miss this is the one!!!

The Saga of Speedy

Hi Jim. I am out in the garage this morning trying to make some battery hold downs for my hot rod TR-3. (Speedy Gonzales) so named after the guys that restored (took apart, painted and reassembled) my green / black Tr-3 down in old Mexico.

This car was bought from a nice guy down in Silver City, New Mexico that had the car rebuilt just across the border down in old Mexico.

They disassembled the entire car, sanded or scraped it down to bare metal and then repainted.

When it came to reassemble they couldn't always (hardy ever) find the correct bolt or nut or screw that they needed so they substituted.

When I bought the car at a fair price, I looked it over, and knew that it was going to need some additional work but that was ok because what I wanted was a TR-3 that I could personalize (molest) with a few modern changes.

I started with the steering because it had a lose steering box (worn Out) missing some nuts, I copied a Bob Shaler rack and pinion set up that I had from another car and installed it on Speedy. worked out pretty good, drove like a modern sports car.

I then changed out the badly worn transmission. I make an adapter to convert the Triumph bell housing and clutch to a Toyota 5 speed transmission. I needed a test car anyway.

The car drove better but was overheating and I thought that I had a cracked head or a bad head gasket.

The motor is a 1957 TR-3, low port head, 2 bolt SU's, so I didn't have any 4-bolt SU carburetors, so it was decision time. I needed to go to a high port later model head, which

meant I needed a new intake manifold and carburetors. Jim Hughes felt sorry for my situation and sold me a spare head that he bought on E-Bay. (thanks Jim) I had an old set of Webers that I had bought from Tom Pennell up in Sholow and a set of headers from some guy with a Morgan.

I changed the head and headers installed the carbs but I had no linkage. I devised a cable linkage set up for the carbs and it works great.

Now my old starter was too close to my new headers and I decided to convert to a smaller gear reduction starter. It really spins the old motor over, much improvement.

Now my battery has gone weak, so I bought a new battery but my battery hold-downs don't fit.

I made new hold-downs and I wanted to paint them but it's too cold. So I put the paint can under the hot water faucet for just a short time (1 minute) and shook up the can and painted my parts.

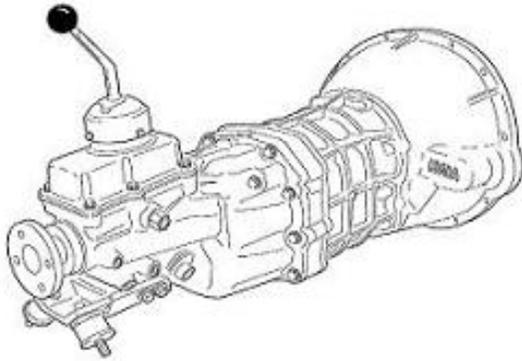
And that is my cold weather winter tech tip for the month. P.S. My mechanical fuel pump is now too weak for the Webers, SO now I have to buy one of those to install back by the gas tank, which leaks and is a TR-4 gas tank. With this car it never ends.

Bill Close - Mesa, AZ



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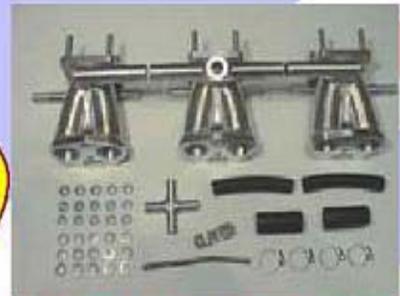
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Technical Article

Gripping the Wheel...

Pay attention to your stress levels while driving.

If you're gripping the wheel too tight you can't be smooth.

A famous British racing driver once said "You want to hold the wheel like you're holding a little birdie. You don't want to hurt the birdie, but you don't want it to get away either.

Also, the proper way to turn the steering wheel that encourages smoothness is to Push with the outside hand and pull with the inside hand.

When driving you will also want to resist the tendency to allow your shift hand to rest on the gear shift knob. Get both hands on the wheel - especially when driving in traffic.

If you need to take evasive action you want both hands helping.

The shift lever is not an oar and you're not rowing a boat. You don't need to row the car around the streets.

The classic hand positions on the steering wheel are 10-2 or 9-3.

The reason for this is that with your hands up there it gives you leverage.

This is important on a track where you will probably be "fighting" the tires and

the suspension with the car at the limit of adhesion.

Your arms are stronger than your hands but your hands are also important. Think of your arms as providing course-gain control and your hands (or more correctly - your finger-tips) as providing fine-gain control.

Use your arms to provide steering direction (left/right) and your hands to provide steering control (how much left/right).

There are two acceptable methods for using your hands on the wheel when turning. Cross-over and pre-setting are ok.

Shuffle steering is NOT.

Cross-over is when you keep your hands in the same place on the steering wheel and allow your arms to "cross" when turning.

Given the type of turns, the slow speed at which you are moving and other factors the cross-over method may not be too good on the street as you can quickly find yourself with arms completely crossed and still needing to turn the wheel.

Here is where the benefit of "pre-setting" really helps.

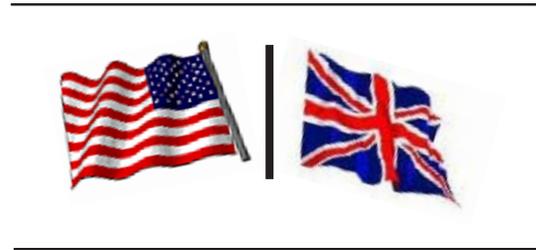
For example in a left-hand turn using a pre-set hand position you would move your hands from the standard 10-2/9-3 position to placing your left

Continued on page 11

hand at 12 and your right hand at 6 as you approached the turn. Then when you are in the middle of your turn you will find that your hands are back in the classic 9-3 position and able to feed in or out any additional steering with your arms able to provide plenty of leverage.

Shuffle-steering (moving your hands constantly around the wheel) may find you lost as to what is straight ahead steering if you all of a sudden find yourself having to take evasive action.

Therefore don't shuffle steer.



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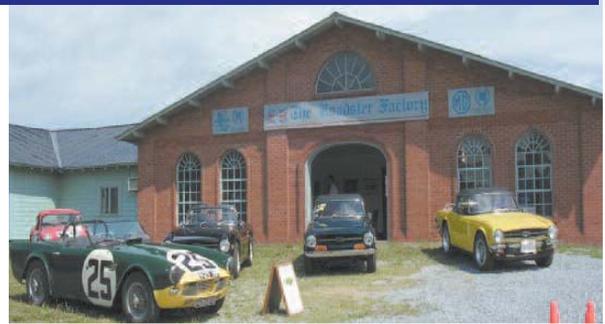
Participants, Triumphest 2007...

The Roadster Factory Will Attend Triumphest With A Selection Of Parts For Sale

Please Take Time to Meet John Swauger and Chuck Roser of TRF's Sales Department...

I am not able to attend Triumphest this year myself because of my heavy work load, four days each week for The Roadster Factory and three days each week for The Coventry Inn. I will miss seeing my friends at Triumphest very much, but completing my work is critical for the continuing success of my two inter-related businesses.

Although I am not attending Triumphest this year, I am still very much the voice of The Roadster Factory. I communicate each week personally with everyone who subscribes to my e-mail newsletter. I would appreciate it if you would try a subscription. Just follow the instructions on our home page. My weekly e-mails offer a large number of parts at web special prices, and there are amazing deals every weekend. Discounts, Half-Price Parts, Special Shipping Rates, and Much More. I spend one or two days each week in working up the listings for special deals offered in my newsletter. I also keep you up-to-date on new parts and other news from TRF. If you want



to unsubscribe at any time, it can be done very easily, also by following the instructions on our home page.

Thanks to all Triumphest participants who deal regularly with The Roadster Factory. The members of The West Coast Clubs, constitute one of the most active segments of our customer base. This is clear from the number of orders received, the value of orders shipped, and the number of TRF Car Club Members and TRF Investors who live on the West Coast.

I hope you have a great time at Triumphest, and you may be sure that I am thinking of you this weekend.

Your friend,
Charles A. Runyan
"The Guvnor"

P.S. I'm sending along a load of "TRIUMPH... Glory Still Exists" bumper stickers. John Swauger will have one for you to keep for old times sake. —C.A.R.

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MEMBERSHIP



DCTRA 2007 Membership Application & Renewal Form

Please print and return completed form to:
John Reynolds, Treasurer
806 E. Campus
Tempe, AZ 85282

Member Info:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____

email: _____

(required for newsletter notification)

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Make: _____ Model: _____ Commission #: _____

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Length of Membership

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Three Years
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Comments/Suggestions:

Form may be returned to John Reynolds,
Treasurer, 806 E. Campus, Tempe, AZ 85282

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October 2007

Dear British Car Owner,

I am writing to you on behalf of The Caledonian Society of Arizona, inviting you to display your car at the Highland Games in February.

This year the Games will be held at Margaret T. Hance Park (over I-10 between 3rd St. & 3rd Ave.) the last weekend in February, 23rd & 24th 2008.

All British cars are invited and the first 25 cars to register will receive a FREE ticket to the event. This is not a judged event but all registered cars will receive a souvenir dash plaque. We would like to have as many cars as possible for both the Saturday and Sunday, there will be security to leave your car overnight. However if you can only come on one or the other day we will be just as pleased to see you.

Please be aware that City of Phoenix Safety regulations require that all vehicles be in place when the gates open to the public at 9:00am and must remain in place until the close at 5:00pm.

Not only is this a really fun event but it is an excellent way to make your Club's presence known to newcomers to the Valley.

Please return the attached registration form ASAP so that the Games Committee can allocate us sufficient space!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 480-985-2531 or 480-924-2292.



Sincerely,
Philip Blahak,
Car Display Chairman



PLEASE ONE FORM FOR EACH VEHICLE REGISTERED
(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)



The Caledonian Society of Arizona Highland Games

February 23 & 24, 2008 at Margaret T. Hance Park, Downtown, Phoenix Az.

(Please Print Clearly)



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

E-mail _____

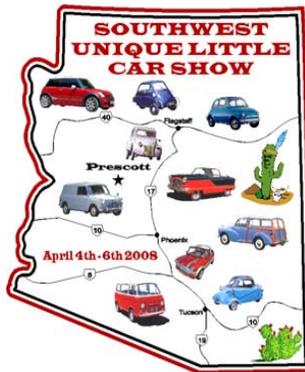
Marque _____ Series _____ Year _____

I agree to hold the British Motor Enthusiasts, Inc. and the Caledonian Society of Arizona, harmless while traveling to, during and from the event.

Signature _____ Date _____

I will have my car there-
(please circle one)
Saturday Only
Sunday Only
Both Days

Pre-registrations Must Be Postmarked by Feb. 18, 2008 to:
BME, Highland Games
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Prescott is in central Arizona amid the largest stand of Ponderosa Pine in the world. Prescott was the Territorial Capital of Arizona in 1864 and much of the original architecture has been restored from construction in the late 1800's. The Governor's "mansion" is preserved at the Sharlot Hall Museum where other historical structures have been brought to the site.

There are many other attractions in Prescott. Lots of quaint shops surrounding the Courthouse Square offer everything from ice cream and pizza to Birkenstocks and antiques. There are lakes for fishing and boating, a Zoo, golf courses and tennis courts, a roller skating rink and a bowling alley so there is plenty to keep everybody amused.

The average temperature in Prescott in April is upper 50s during the day, dropping at night so come prepared with jackets and sweatshirts.

Our headquarters Hotel will be the America's Best Value Motel where we have arranged a special rate of \$69.99 per night + tax. You must call 928-776-1282 and mention the Unique Little Car Meet to obtain this rate.

We are arranging all the usual features, the show itself we are opening to all unique vehicles at the owners discretion. If you feel you have something Little and Unique by all means bring it. The number of show awards and the classes will depend at the pre-registration figures so gather the fellow owners of your car's family together and register early.

The entry form will be available soon and if you have an email address we would appreciate a message from you and we will send the form that way.

Before long there will a special SWULCM web page so please be patient and keep checking www.azminiowners.com

**Alternatively email or phone for the latest updates.
Shirley@azwildblue.com
arizonaminis@earthlink.net**

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TRIUMPH 2008

**You are invited to the Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club celebration of 50 years
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at the Horizon Casino & Resort, South Lake Tahoe, Nevada**

Triumphest will begin with a dinner cruise Thursday evening on the M.S. Dixie paddlewheel boat, cruising Lake Tahoe and Emerald Bay. Events such as the Autocross, FUNkhana, Tech Session and FUNcours will be held on site. The Friday Driving Tour will take in some of Lake Tahoe and the surrounding area's beautiful Autumn colors.

Friday night will be the Gala 50th Birthday Party with all the trimmings. Participants and families are encouraged to join us for Cake, Games and Music. And of course, your favorite vendors will be present to support Triumphest with Catalogs and Items for sale.

The event will conclude with a group photo Sunday morning.

Triumphest welcomes all Triumph owners and enthusiasts to participate in all the events at Triumphest no matter if your car is pristine or a daily driver.

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