



# "The Marque"

This month:  
President's Report  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Treasury Report  
Events  
TRA 2013 Reports & Photos

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "The  
Marque" in electronic/Adobe  
Acrobat format!!**

**July 2013**

## **MVT Officers**

President: Lorna Ball, 937-746-5189  
Vice President: Curtis Hayes, 937-610-8832  
Secretary: Stan Seto, 513-683-7974  
Treasurer: Harry Mague, 937- 426-3802  
Membership: Valerie Relue, 937-667-5227  
Events: Bruce Clough, 937-376-9946

Please send comments/suggestions to:  
[news@miamivalleytriumphs.org](mailto:news@miamivalleytriumphs.org)  
or to the P. O. Box.

Cutoff date for next month's Marque is the 20th.

### Obligatory Disclaimer

"The Marque" is the official publication of the Miami Valley Triumphs Car Club, P. O. Box 144, Bellbrook, OH 45305. Views stated in the "Marque" are not necessarily those of the officers or members of the club. Technical data is provided for information only and no liability is assumed for suitability, applicability, or safety. Miami Valley Triumphs is a registered chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register and a local center of the Triumph Register of America. Membership is \$20 yearly and is usually paid in May. Non-renewing members are deleted from the mailing list. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at **Logan's Roadhouse 2819 Centre Drive Beavercreek OH**, unless otherwise noted in the "Marque". General membership meetings are at 7:30 pm with informal dinner starting at 6:00 pm prior to the meeting. Anyone interested is most heartily invited to attend. Triumph car ownership is not required.

## **President's Report:** ~ Lorna Ball

Happy Summer everyone! Hope you are all able to find some down time and take those summer evening rides. BCD is quickly approaching. There was a sign-up sheet at the June meeting and it will be passed around again at the July meeting. For those of you who have been unable to attend these two meetings, reach me and volunteer to help. We need help with the registration (AM), balloting (PM), shirt booth (anytime), parking (AM). Hopefully the weather will be great and we can again gather at our house afterwards for pizza, chips, dessert, swimming, relaxing and wine!

Which reminds me....the pool party at the Ball Estate will be Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. There is a Clough road trip prior and we will all meet up at 112 Hemlock Street, Franklin OH around 3-3:30. The club will again buy the steaks and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. So we do not have 4 potato dishes and no vegetables, I ask that you let me know what you are bringing. There have been no water ballet practice sessions but we can only hope and pray that they perform.

Later, Lorna

## **Secretary's Report:** ~ Stan Seto.

### **MVT Meeting Minutes, June, 2013**

The June Meeting was held at Logan's Roadhouse on Centre Drive in Beavercreek, Ohio. The President, Lorna Ball, opened the meeting at 7:28 PM, with "Hail to the Queen!"

There were 24 club members, two Clough children and Roy Owen, past member, there. Madam President recognized the Queen and Roy's presence. She requested sign-up for BCD volunteers commented that she was gathering the Memorial pictures of recently deceased members for BCD and noted that the club got a very nice "Thank you " note from the Scott family for our funeral memorial for Debra's mom passing. She invited the club members to come the July BCD meeting when its time is announced. Finally she asked the membership for ideas on how to improve the club and urged greater attendance at our driving events.

The Vice President, Curtis Hayes was absent.

The Secretary, Stan Seto, noted that the May minutes were published in the Marque. He asked that the May minutes be accepted. Motion was made by Stan and seconded by Bruce Clough/Harry Mague, and passed by voice vote.

Harry Mague, the Treasurer, made his report, a write-up is in this issue of the Marque.

The Membership Director, Valerie Relue, said we have 36 members.

The Events Chairman commented that the Dayton Marketplace show had good attendance from MVT, everyone there received trophies. The ReLue's went to the Meigs show which had a good array of cars and lots of Triumphs. This show is held up near Toledo, OH.

John Coutant took his newly restored TR3 to the Cincinnati Concours at Ault Park, and got an award.

July events are BCD Cincinnati on 14 July, Pool Party at the Ball's on 20<sup>th</sup> of July. August starts with BCD on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and will have an as-yet –announced driving tour on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Committee reports:

Technical – no Report

Spares – It was reported that Mark Macy is no longer a Moss representative, so his parts costs will be increasing.

Newsletter – No report.

Regalia – Pete brought stuff again.

BCD Report – Next meeting will be 24 June at Poelking Lanes.

Old Business- Bruce still seeking volunteers for TRA 2014 events. He has a website up and he reminded everyone that there is a brochure for TRA 14. brochure to be handed out at TRA '13 and press releases after that event is concluded.

New Business – Insurance was mentioned, I think the bill is due

50/50 Drawing was won by Chris Yanity in the amount of \$11.00

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM

Respectfully submitted – Stan Seto, Secretary.

## **Treasurer's Report:** ~ Harry Mague

**Treasurer's Report:** As of 1 June 2013, we have a balance of \$2852.57. Since June 1, 2013 the club had the following income: 50/50 for \$11.00 and Membership renewals for \$180.00. Total income for 1 June

is \$191.00. The club had no expenses in June. Balance for 1 July 2013 will be \$3043.57.

**Events:** ~ Bruce Clough

## Upcoming MVT Events

### July 2013!

Upcoming Events From your MVT Event's Chair –  
Bruce Clough – [bclough@woh.rr.com](mailto:bclough@woh.rr.com)  
937.238.4962

#### Event's Chair Note:

*Still decompressing from TRA and trying to fix things on the cars. I'm in seat hell right now, but that's my problem.*

*July looks to be a good month for events. As always the Cinci BCD is this month and the pool party is on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and prep for our own British Car Day – lot to do!*

#### July Events

**3 Jul 13 – MVT Monthly Meeting – Logan's Roadhouse** – off of North Fairfield road in front of Kohl's/Best Buy/Lowes and across from the Fairfield Mall. Dinner at 6:30PM, meeting at 7:30.

**14 Jul 13 - Cincinnati British Car Day** - Come one come Ye All to this year's British Car Show at Harbin Park in Fairfield, Ohio from 9am until 4pm. This year's cars will be the MGTD and Delorean. There will be Door Prizes, Food & Refreshments. Registration form can be found at:

<http://www.bccgc.com/PDF/2013%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

#### **MVT Cinci BCD Plans:**

***We will be caravanning to the Cinci BCD and plan to have a dinner afterwards. We will meet at the Bob Evans at the Ohio 122/I-75 intersection (in front of the Middletown Mall), breakfast at 8 and we leave by 9, rain or shine.***

***We will have some dinner on the way back. Normally we have this at the Village Restaurant in Waynesville and eat Stan's pie. – why change anything?***

**20 July – MVT Tour and Pool Party. Surfs up!**  
Spend a day touring Southwestern Ohio, and end

up in a pool with steaks and rinks prepared by our crack MVT catering staff!

The day will start off with a tour, rain or shine. One year it was 69F, last year it was 104F. This year we are hoping for sunny and the mid-80's, which is perfect weather!

We will meet for the tour at the TRaditional place – the BellHop Café in Bellbrook, 26 N West St, Bellbrook · (937) 310-1223 at noon - if you want some light lunch pls come a bit early. Plans are to leave about 12:15PM. From there we will be heading to environs unknown (but will include a stop at the new Caesar's Creek Winery) before we end up at the Ball's sometime around 3:30PM. You don't have to go on the tour to go to the Pool party, so if you're just not in the mood for a tour, just head to 112 Hemlock St., Franklin, OH 45005 and be there about 3:30-4PM.



The Ball have asked that if you are going to let them know by 16 July, the Tuesday before, so they can order you a steak.

Yep, that's right, a thick, juicy steak that the club is buying for you – one of the benefits of membership! The Ball's phone number is: 937-746-5189, or email at [ballpad@aol.com](mailto:ballpad@aol.com).

Bring your swim trunks and prepare to splash!

#### August Events

**2 Aug – Afternoon/Evening Set-up for BCD. Rumors are there is a birthday or two on this date also.** Please get to Eastwood Metro Park by 6PM to help us set up the parking, pack registration bags, and have a good time. We usually get done by 7:30-8PM, which gets you to bed in more than enough time for the next day!

As a reminder, Eastwood Metro Park is off Harshman Rd just north of the Air Force Museum – street address is 1401 Harshman Rd, Dayton, OH. There is an entrance off Springfield Street, but you

do not want to use this one, use the Harshman Rd entrance. You wind back a ways and you will run into a parking lot – look for the Little British Cars – that will be us!

### **7 Dec – MVT Holiday Soiree and a light tour sometime else in December...**

That's the planning so far – want to discuss this at the January MVT meeting. Oh, as if you might not know...

(...and now for the TRA 2013 Trip Reports.... ed-)



**3 Aug – Dayton BCD. You cannot escape this. If you haven't registered yet, you will! Head to this website:**

<http://www.britishcardaydayton.com/>

**Catchy, no? The on-line registration is easy to do and doesn't cost you a stamp. You can also pay on-line which makes it even easier!**

**A significant part of the July Meeting will be devoted to talking about BCD - so be there or be square!**

**31 Aug – MVT Run – driving somewhere over twisty-turning roads!** The Rutledges are planning this now, so stay tuned. We are promised no potty stops in hospitals!

#### **Latter Events**

**21 Sep – Harvest Tour – Another Excuse to drive your car! Need to find those farm stands!**

**28 Sep – Fall Tech Session – Clough's Garage – get the car ready for the Fall Tour!**

**2-6 Oct – Triumphest & VTR National Convention, San Rafael, CA –**

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

**4-6 Oct – MVT Fall Tour – this time to the east of Columbus – expect a weekend drive (two night stay – leaving Friday and returning Sunday).**

**19 Oct - End of Summer Party – Tentative Date – might have to get moved. Right now thinking the location could be Caesar's Creek Winery. I have contacted them and they are more than happy to host us.**

**2 Nov – Last Fall Tech Session Clough's Garage**

**9 Nov - Guy Fawkes Tour & Bonfire**

## TRA '13, Land Between the Lakes

~ Stan Seto

Bruce Clough planned the trip down and back. His family and the Whites started on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, and others of us would catch up.

I had a softball game Monday morning, rained out (that was a warning!), so I and the TR3B got on the road south at about 1:30 PM and were aimed at Bardstown, KY and the Jailer's Inn (B&B). The distance was 180 miles and had no problems until circling north of Lexington it started to rain (down pour, actually and stuck in home bound traffic), eventually made it to the Blue Grass Parkway and west into the setting sun for some fifty miles. Pulled into the hotel (if you could call it that) about five O'clock. We all were in ex-jail cells, but some were less the cell and more the room, but mine was a jail cell (waterbed), with linoleum floors, concrete block walls, gymnasium shower and bucket commode, and two other beds, so could have slept four in the room. The door was tenth inch thick steel plate with vertical re-enforcement and a big steel bar to lock everything closed. For one night (and 110 dollars), I could stand it.

Dinner was at the tavern next door to the jail (adequate food) and we walked a couple of blocks up the street for desert at Baskin-Robbins.

Tuesday morning, the jail served breakfast in the courtyard (ignore the barbed wire, it keeps the rift-raft out) and was a delightful stuffed French toast with fruit and muffins, coffee, etc. Some of the other guests joined us (newly weds, 2 days into their marriage) and a small family. After, we packed the cars and were off to find a distillery. Several in fact, where extraordinary sums of money were exchanged for the Devil's Brew (more on this later). Then on to Mammoth Caves and a two hour tour of the main cave, followed by lunch. We then did about three hours of serious driving to close in on the KenLake Lodge and the TRA meeting site. This was located just off Route 80 on the west side of Kentucky Lake.

Dinner was at the hotel (nothing to write home about) and the dining room had a good view of the lake. John Coutant showed up after dinner, having spent some nine hours (350 miles) in his recently rejuvenated (Macy Garage) TR3, delayed primarily by a bad coil that needed to be replaced, and a longer lived unit (Lucas, I believe) provided by Mark himself fixed that problem. John's car had a top, but he did not have side curtains (still at TRF for rebuild)... Gutty decision.

Both Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were hot sweaty days. Mammoth Cave (ambient temperature 54 F) was a real break for us. Wednesday into Thursday a cold front came through making the rest of the week delightful.

Wednesday was registration only, so the early arrivals were looking around the area, visiting the nearby towns or just sitting around the parking lot and jawing. I went out and found the wash rack (over by the tennis pavilion) and washed the car, dried it and polished it, special attention to the wheels. Drove the half mile back to the parking lot, and saw that Jim and Karen Sipos had arrived, but with no car. All the MVT'ers were now there. John and I drove into the town of Murray (15 miles away) for lunch at a Thai/Japanese restaurant, Jasmine. Back at the hotel, I went swimming the rest of the afternoon. Later, he and I went to Murray for dinner and came back to the hotel on an alternative route (slower and more pastoral).

Thursday some of the ladies went to the national quilt museum in Paducah, and there were some technical sessions for Dent Repair and a Judging school session for Concours. John had gone into Murray to buy some stuff at WalMart, but Chuck and I followed Bruce to a liquor store, Higgins Liquors, over on the east bank of the Barkley River to buy some bottles of the Silver Trial Distillery (White Lightning and Apple Jack) products so that the owner of the distillery could sign them for us. Cost was \$40.00 per liter for either. Now Mr. Spencer Balentine was a celebrity, in his own right an accomplished dirt bike racer, many trophies on the wall above his various bikes in one section of the barn where he distilled his liquor. He had also been on a TV reality show about making White Lightning corn whiskey, and told many a tale about the good old days when his family made and delivered the then illegal stuff, all true, and that's why we wanted his signature. After the purchases we drove over to the Silver Trial Distillery where they were making white lightning that day. Sure enough the still was hot and there was a five gallon carboy slowly filling up with the water white fluid. The stuff we bought was 100 proof. At the still, the mash would produce about forty gallons total, but the early liquid was about 165 proof (too strong to sell) and had to be mixed with later gallons (lower proof) to establish the selling (100) proof. One other thing, where we were was a dry county; where we bought the liquor was a wet county. Mr. Balentine

was a really down to earth guy, and we got our signatures.

That evening we drove over to another part of the park for a welcome buffet dinner (catered) and the membership meeting, wherein the new bylaws were discussed, modified slightly and will now be passed on to the full membership for an acceptance vote.

Friday was the car show. There were about 70 entries in Participant's Choice and in Concours. John was entered in Concours and the rest of us were in PC. It was done on a part of the park overlooking the lake, very nice scenery, some trees, dry heat sunshine and a little slow in the judging.

After we went and got a little lunch and John and I came back and contested the Funkhana. Very closed course. Drive from start-finish to a spot, back up so passenger could pick up a box on empty bottles, forward and sharp turn right, stop. Driver had to shoot a rubber band into a bucket using a wooden rifle of immense length while the passenger had to snag three fish with a pole line and hook. Then forward, right turn, stop, back up to place right rear tire in a taped square, then forward to finish line and return bottles. I think the first time we did it, maybe four minutes. Second time 1:18, and the third time 1:13. Time to beat was 1:08. We weren't even Honorable Mention.

We went back to Murray for dinner and returned for the Auction. We crapped out at about 10:30 PM and they still had about a dozen items to sell.

Saturday – Morning Breakfast run to the Barkley Lodge Restaurant at 07:30. Unguided, so Bruce lead about thirty cars the 25 miles to the lodge. They had the same menu and buffet as our restaurant, but the ladies serving were so much more engaging than our waitresses. Back to our hotel by 10:00 to do the Road Rallye. Cars were sent in two different directions, same course, stops and questions no matter which way you were sent. Some 68 miles in length, drive your own speeds. John and I teamed up again. Nice sunny day and no pressure. We missed one question because we could not find an object, that later I learned was actually hidden in some books on a shelf in a flea market. There were also some bonus questions we were not able to answer. It was a nice drive, though. We did not end up in the top three on this one either.

Back to the hotel. We went swimming for awhile. Then it was time for the reception and Awards

Banquet. Car wise, I got a third place in TR3B, as did Chuck and Chris White for TR4A. John scored a Gold certificate in Concours but was knocked down in score due to a missing clip somewhere on the car (Mark Macy heard about that in short order). Bruce announced MVT would host TRA '14 at Brush Creek and TRA '13 was over.

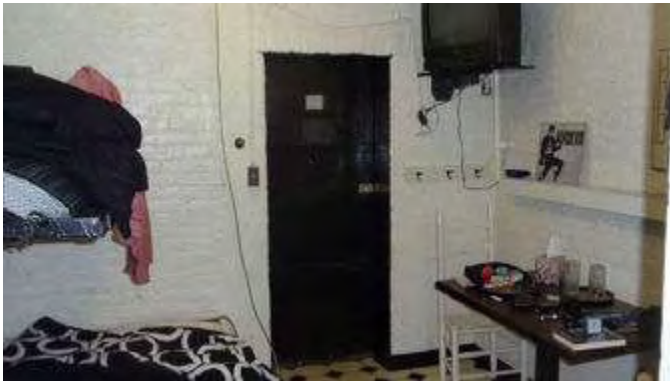
Sunday, we packed for the return trip. John left early, about 6 AM and was back in Loveland by 3 PM. He did not encounter any rain. Jim and Karen left at about the same time as the rest of us, 9:30ish. Bruce lead our intrepid little band north on Rte. 68. We stopped for breakfast and gas, and went on north, eventually crossing into Indiana, and found a small winery. Bottles were tasted and bought and we were on our way again. The sky was cloudy and rain forecast for further north, so at the next winery stop, I put the side curtains on. Back on the road, we finally found the rain, or it found us. Torrents fell out of the sky, I drove by following Chuck White's tail lights because that's all I could see. Suddenly there was a call that an engine had lost power. I thought it was Alice. The car seemed to recover, so on we drove. About five minutes later a call that the car had quit running. We pulled over. As the last car in the line, I kept my engine running and my turn signals on to warn overtaking traffic. The rain started to lift. After about five more minutes, it was only a light down pour, so I turned things off and out we got. It was the White's TR4A. His distributor was dry so it must have been wet ignition wires that were arcing. He got them dried off and the engine started right up. The rain was now down to a drizzle, so we got back on the road. Shortly, we pulled into a Winery and Restaurant in French Lick, IN. Cars leaving the parking lot were leaving dry spots behind, testimony to the now receding clouds. After more imbibing and consideration to purchase, we got back on the road again and drove north to Mitchell, IN. and Spring Mills State Park (admission \$7.00) to get to the Spring Mills Inn, our final stop.

It was a quiet location and my room was in a far wing. Dinner was a fair to middlin' Buffet, and then we just lazed around until the sun went down. The doors were key locks (just like the jail) but not much else in terms of security. Bruce wanted an early start, 7:30 or so, I went to bed early. Alarm was set for 6:45, but at 10 minutes to six there was a huge roar of machinery that went on and on, and that's how I knew I over the kitchens and these were the ventilator fans. Well, the sun was up so I rolled out.

We actually left at about 8 and drove southeast to Salem and stopped for breakfast and gas. We were driving for home now and Bruce took us north and east up to Brookville and then east to the Ohio Stateline and Hamilton, OH. I split with the group there and found my way back to Loveland, completing the circuit and ending this trip. Logged just over 1000 miles, averaged 25 miles to the gallon and no major problems for any of the cars. Good trip, met with old friends and saw a part of the States I had not been to.



Breakfast in the courtyard



Jail Cell – Inside



Stopping at a whiskey Distillery



Jail Cell – Outside



Their Products



Jailers Inn from outside



Entering Mammoth Cave



View of Kentucky Lake from Hotel veranda



160 proof liquor



Front View of Hotel



The MVT Gang at the Reception Dinner



In the Parking Lot



The MVT Gang at the Reception Dinner



Distilling "White Lightning" from corn Mash



The MVT Gang at the Reception Dinner



The MVT Gang at the Reception Dinner



“Other Triumphs”



The Concours cars



The Route 68/80 bridge that crosses Kentucky Lake



The other cars – Notice anything??



– At the Awards Banquet...



“Other Triumphs”



– At the Awards Banquet...



## By The Banks Of The Little Miami – July 2013

By Bruce Clough

### **TRA 2013!**

I was wondering under which heading I should write about the sojourn to TRA National Meeting this year. Let's see, the TRA Technical Advisor driving a significantly modified Stag with Alice driving the TR7. **Early TR Man?** No, not really driving an Early TR, but I was going to a TRA meet. **Late TR Guy?** Well, not really, and if I used **Tales of the FrankenStag** It would miss the point of the TRA National Meeting.

So I dragged this title back out from a five-year hiatus. This was the title I used when the article could have any focus. I originally called it **Somewhere Southeast of Dayton** loosely based on the "Somewhere West of Laramie" column I had seen in Old Cars Weekly, but I changed the name since I really like living in the Little Miami River Valley.

*Anyway, I digress.*

TRA 2013. Kenlake State Park Lodge on Kentucky Lake in Western Kentucky. We drove through this area travelling to TRA 2005 (the infamous overheating FrankenStag tour) with the Stag and the TR7, and we are doing it again. As a matter of fact, we went south to Murray, KY, just so Jeff Slaton, the organizer of this year's meeting, could join our caravan to

Branson, MO, and that is where he joined TRA if I remember right.

We are hoping for less theatrics from the Stag this year (we'll see). As we've been broadcasting for several months we are taking three days to get there, and two to get back, for a drive that you can do in a day even in an old Triumph.

### **Prep**

Hmm, jumping in a couple of cars not driven much since winter. Maybe I should prep? Good thing I did since I noticed a few things on Alice's TR7.

First of all, the bottom radiator hose can rub against the right motor mount. Not good for long term health of the hose, so about 10 years ago I put a rubber shield around the hose, well, it's about rubbed through, so it's time to replace, and this time I added a piece of sheet aluminum to the outside. This should get us another 15 years, or so, the hose will be gone by then!



### **Another 15 Years**

Second of all the JBN Weld plugs I made for the TR7 intake manifold when I put the SU carbs on it (about 15 years ago), plugging all them nasty smog-gear holes, were "weeping". Reminds me of a filling going bad after all these years – you need to plug it. I took out the JB Weld plugs, threaded the holes, and screwed in metal plugs. Case closed.

***Tech Tip – if you hate to have to worry about reconnecting the solid-bar***

***linkages between SU HS6 carbs when they are off you can do what I did – just take some long nylon ties and tie them together so they come off as one piece, and go on as one!***

### ***Packing***

Every year we try to pack less. I think we really did it this year – we managed to get clothes for four for over a week into four medium-sized soft bags. Okay, so we had an extra bag or two for shoes and toiletries, but the cars were not “stuffed” with stuff, and we had plenty of room for things we picked up along the way.

We would need it.

We also cut back on the spares being taken along. Since both cars were running TR7 engines I left many engine and electrical parts at home. Hopefully they will not be needed!

### ***Day One: To Kentucky!***

As usual, we met at Tim Hortons. Donuts and coffee, what is better?



**Indeed – what is better?**

But this time it was a bit different – we had a send-off crew – Ben (Chuck and Chris's son) and the Allison's waved goodbye as we headed south, okay, we headed across Business 35 past Walgreens.

Also found out that the dreaded carb starvation is back. Dreaded Carb Starvation? I had this

with the red TR7 where after the car was ran for a while, after you shut it down and let it sat it would start and run, but after 20 seconds one of the carbs would stop working for a little while. I attributed it to heat soak issue with one of the float bowl valves. Since I sold that car I wasn't worried so much.

Forgot that these carbs were rebuilt by Apple Hydraulics also – and now they do the same thing. I'm really thinking that I need to rethink about who rebuilds my carbs. Like the olden days maybe I should just have the bodies reshafted and do the rest myself.

But I digress.

After a few hectic seconds where I was wondering if I should beat the carbs with a hammer everything returned to normal and we headed south to Ripley for lunch. Parked along the river, had a sandwich and some ice cream, and then headed west to the Augusta Ferry. We've seen this ferry in action quite a few times while visiting Augusta, but have never taken it – we took it. Living on the wild side and whatever. The ride across was uneventful, but Chuck was concerned his parking brakes would not keep the 4A out of the Ohio so he stayed in the car until the ferry ride. Kids loved the ferry ride! So did we – smooth river and quick crossing for only \$5!



**Lunch in Ripley – use your imagination and think that once there was a nice sandwich in there!**

Once across we blew through Augusta and headed south. Thought about stopping and saying “hi” to George Cloony’s mom, but only

for a minute since the parking was tight. Headed south on KY19 about a half mile until we got to the Baker-Bird winery. This is a wonderful winery that has good wine and food tasting. We stopped by there last year on a run and said we'd visit again – and it was a good thing we did since they now have an bourbon oak-barrel aged Cab Franc that is wonderful too. Bought a bottle. Of course when we left we hit rain.

Rain?

We had noticed the rain on radar heading this way since we left Xenia, actually thought it might catch us before we crossed the river, but finally hit us, and hit us hard, as we headed down toward Lexington. Good news is, the Stag didn't leak, that much. Compared to a TR3 we were in heaven.

We wanted to get to the B&B for the night, but before we did we wanted to stop and try a place that's been on Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives", Wallace Station just a little west of Lexington.

Food was good, but maybe not quite a good as one would suspect – buy you got a lot of it – ask Chris about her salad.

From dinner to the lodging took us through some big horse farms, and a gorgeous drive.

Ah, the Run for the Roses and gazillions of bucks, and nice fences. Nice fences with nice horses and barns behind them

That night we stayed at the Montgomery Inn, a B&B on the south side of Versailles, KY. Kids watched some original "Pink Panther", mom and I watched some more Food Network and I sat down to write some of this out. Bed was comfortable and I fell asleep right away.



**Cute Kid – Duncan found the Jacuzzi tub at the Montgomery Inn right away!**

### ***Day Two: Bourbon & Jail***

It rained like you-know-what that night! Woke me up at one point. Although little got into the FrankenStag the day before, that night was different. Water in the trunk got a few things wet, but maybe we were lucky, methinks that is the first time in the almost ten years we've owned that car that it was in that heavy of a rain. Got some trash bags from the B&B and we were ready to go with our improvised dry bags.

The Montgomery Inn was a decent B&B, bed was okay, Jacuzzi was great, but, but, the breakfast was fantastic. I could write about it now, but your mouth would just water too much, just ask me about it sometime :-).



**Breakfast – yum!**

(Notice so far the pictures are of kids and food, not cars – you have to get your priorities straight!)

After the morning bout of rain passed by we headed west. Today was the Bourbon Trail tour – a chance to hit up a few distilleries on the road towards TRA 2013. We wanted to visit Wild Turkey, Four Roses, and Maker's Mark, and I even found a winery!

Actually there are a lot of wineries around, but most of them are not open on Monday, still hung-over from the weekend I suppose.

The first distillery we visited was Wild Turkey, which sits high above the Kentucky River – you can see the barrel warehouses (where the bourbon is aged) miles away. Since this is the first distillery of the day we took the tour. This took an hour and I think was worth it.



### **Duncan riding the Wild Turkey! Yeehaw!**

Yep, not quite sure of what our pastor or Duncan's teachers would make of this, but he needs education on demon liquor....

I suppose the best part of this is the taste testing at the end, which was pretty good, but even better was the turkey call I found in the gift shop precious! Should be able to use this for nefarious purposes!

From there we headed to the Four Roses Distillery. We didn't take the tour, but we did tag on to the end of the tour to do the tasting. By this time we were taking little sips since total booze consumption per person was well over a shot, maybe two, in the last two hours. Need to be safe out there folks.



### **Horseshoe Bend Winery – Banjos Close**

Maker's Mark was next, but to get there we had to pass by the open winery. Open winery? Yep – most Kentucky wineries are open on Sunday, so Monday is their day off, except for Horseshoe Bend.

Horseshoe Bend Winery is somewhat off the beaten path, okay, way off the beaten path. Down a road that went from two lane asphalt, to one lane asphalt, to one lane gravel, to one lane gravel with weeds growing on it. Yes, I did hear banjos, but that's okay, I can handle banjo players.

But the wine was good – every bottle was extremely drinkable. In fact, they supply wine to a few California festivals!

Back on the road to Maker's Mark the skies let loose again as we skirted severe thunderstorms, but no water got in.

Beautimous!

To get to Maker's Mark we were actually following an app on my phone available from the Kentucky Bourbon Trail folks, it linked to the iPhone maps app so you could use it as a GPS, and boy, did it take us over some great roads to get there! And once there, we quickly got to the gift shop, got in line, and dipped out bottles!



**Alice dipping at Maker's Mark – expert in one dip! Note that you have to be 21 in Kentucky to do anything!**

Now I can say I've waxed a Maker's Mark! From there we headed north to Bardstown. Our lodgings for the night was the old jail that is now a B&B. We got to stay in a converted cell in an 1812 jail. How cool is that? Stan Seto met us there and actually stayed in a cell that still looked kinda like a cell. How natural! Repeat - yes, we stayed at a jail! Stan got an actual jail cell still pretty much decked out as an actual jail cell!

***Day Three: Bourbon and holes in the ground***

Another great B&B breakfast – stuffed French toast, and then we headed out for one more distillery – Willett. Bought a bottle there just because the shape was neat! Turns out I really like the smooth taste of this bourbon! But remember, don't drink and drive.



**"Lodging" in Bardstown**



**Duncan checks out Stan's room**



**Kids accommodations were ample at the inn**

From Willett we headed southwest to Mammoth Cave National Park by roads less travelled. The folks in the caravan got to hear

me talk about bad signage a few times, but in general we made it to the park in one piece. Been by Mammoth Cave a gazillion times but never stopped. Stopped this time. The goal was to take a short tour, have some lunch, and then head on to Kenlake, but all the short tours had been sold out...so we took the two-hour tour.



**1812 Tavern in Bardstovn where we had dinner- right next to the jail, so we could stumble home before being locked up!**



**Had you been here earlier you would have seen the stuffed French Toast we had for breakfast at Bardstovn**

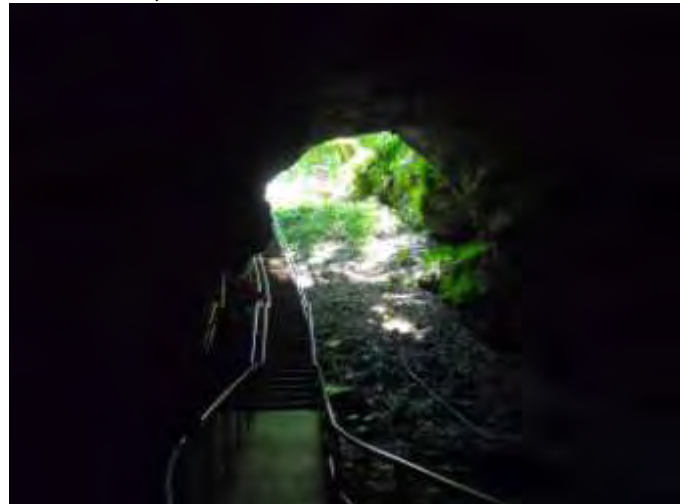


**No Evils at Willett Distillery**

Glad we did since the tour was great! No bats, but a lot of dark recesses and cool temps. Forgot it was almost 90F outside until we got back up. Had a good lunch at the park and then headed to Kenlake.



**Richard, our Mammoth Cave Tour Guide**



**Deep decent in Mammoth Cave**



**Kenlake State Park Lodge – We arrived!**

The ride to Kenlake was another three hours over decent secondary roads (once we got off I-65 that we took around Bowling Green). Scenery was great. Arriving at Kenlake we could see that we were not the first TRA'ers there – noticed the Rosen's TR2 and a few more Maryland folks had already arrived. We got unpacked and headed to the lodge restaurant for dinner.

***Note on Kenlake – The Land Between The Lakes was formed when the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers were dammed near where they enter the Ohio river. They are very close together there and the lakes (Lake Kentucky for the Tennessee, Lake Barkley for the Cumberland) kinda cut off a section of land between them that was made into a National Recreation Area. Kenlake State park sits on the western shore of Lake Kentucky, so it's on the west side of the Land Between The lakes (or LBL for short)***

The restaurant at the lodge was to be our bane for the next few days. It's not that the food was bad, actually it was okay, it's just that the attitude of many of the staff was very W.C Fields-ish ("go away kid, you bother me..."). We had to ask for menus, ask for more drinks, etc.



**The only surviving picture of the Kenlake Restaurant we have, there is a reason...**



**Another shot of Lake Kentucky**



**Kenlake Planter**

After dinner we found some of the other TRA folks and caught up with what was happening as well as went out in the parking lot and talked cars. Great time had by all!

### ***Day Four: Leisure***

Wednesday - nothing on schedule today for TRA. Nothing on schedule, but there are a lot of TRA cars out in the parking lot. This is one of the reasons I scheduled events on Wednesday for TRA 2014 since I know folks come early. Anyway, I think this day will be known as a regrouping day.



**Impromptu tech session at Kenlake – as usual we all stand around and pontificate rather than help...**

The first thing we did was to eat breakfast. After the dinner the night before we probably should have known it was going to be interesting, and it didn't disappoint - no menus, mixed-up service, and a lassie-faire attitude by the wait staff made it interesting. We ordered off the menu rather than the breakfast bar, and the food was pretty good, which made up for the service, maybe.



**Not quite sure what to say.**

Second thing we did was to wander around. The lodge is at the end of a driveway with cottages and other parts of the park coming off that driveway. It sits on a not-very-steep bluff overlooking Lake Kentucky. We found out that the walk around was nice, but the mosquitoes were not - out in full force in the shade during the day, and everywhere at night.



**Triumphs rolling in at Kenlake**

Third thing was registering - I wandered downstairs and met Jeff Slaton, the organizer for the meet, to get registration materials as well as get our auction parts into the auction. That took a while since there were a few folks I haven't seen for a while down there and we had to reconnect.

Fourth thing was shopping for vittles. We headed to Walmart to get some food and other things we forgot, then decided to go to lunch, or in this case, since it was 95F in the shade, to DQ.



**Whew – White Lighting!**

Fifth was unplanned - on the way back from DQ we hooked up with the Whites and Paremides (from Vermont – spelled the name wrong no doubt) to go visit a local moonshiner gone legal. Spencer has been on at least one Discovery's "Moonshiners" episode, and knows a lot of the other "shiners" well. Turns out that since this a dry county we can't taste or buy his

product, but we had a great time hearing him explain how shine is made, and I found out he raced the same type of dirt bike motocross as I did a long time ago, and still had them in the back of his barn!



**To quote Grandpa Jones: "I'll shut up my mug if you fill up my jug With some good ole mountain dew"**

Sixth was to get back to the lodge and hit the pool. The water was nice, sun hot, and sunscreen deployed.

After dinner we searched out the folks that came in during the day. I went out in the parking lot to look for interesting car modifications. About the best and most interesting was a Mega-Squirt electronic fuel injection built for a TR3 engine by Bob Maasel - he did it "because he could" - I'm planning on interviewing him for the TRA newsletter sometime! After that I found a hall party and shared some of my new favorite bourbon - Willett, with them. Bedtime came at 10:30.



Ever seen a fuel-injected TR3?

### **Day Five: First Day of TRA 2013**

Another breakfast at the lodge - we know what to expect by now, so we grabbed a menu on the way in and tried to sit in a certain server's area. I think it worked since we got better service (maybe).

While Chris and Alice went by bus to the Quilt Museum in Paducah, Chuck and myself headed to a liquor store across county lines to buy Spencer's shine so we could get it autographed, and Duncan and Bridgett read book, played games, and ran around the lodge. Turns out that the liquor store is "in the family" so we got a good deal on Spencer's products. Once back with the booze we headed back to Spencer's to get the bottles autographed, then back to the lodge where I played with the car a bit, then hit the pool again, a short nap, and by then Alice got back and it was time to get ready for the first official TRA group event - the dinner and TRA Membership meeting.



**View from Cherokee Lodge to Lake Kentucky**

The dinner was at the Cherokee Lodge in Cherokee Park - a nice building overlooking Kentucky Lake a couple of miles from Kenlake. This was a left-over of segregation - Kenlake was for whites, Cherokee for blacks - now all one park and the only memories of that less-enlightened time was the photographs and clippings lining the walls. It was just large enough to get all the TRA folks inside and we had a nice dinner.



**You can never have too many Red Solo Cups**



**What's up with this???**

The after dinner I was dreading, time for the TRA Membership meeting, the only contentious issue was approval to send bylaws to the general membership for an acceptance, and somehow I got put in charge of leading that discussion. Never the less, we got it approved and the entire meeting completed in under an hour. I think that was a record! Back

to the lodge for more wandering around and talking to folks as well as discussion on car show prep, for that was the next morning!

### **Day Six: Show and Auction**

Car show day, and the car show just happened to be about a mile drive away, still in the park, but down by the water. Since I had been volunteered to help park cars <smile> I got over there an hour before the car show to start the lining up. This meant at least I didn't have to eat breakfast in the lodge restaurant again! Since we drove the Stag, and since the Stag is about as far from a TRA car that you can go and still have the car be a Triumph, I put it way in the back - I actually determined the far end of the show - and then parked other cars. I suppose I could talk about the Mayflies as well as the dog who tried to mark my car, but all in all the parking job was easy and we went on to the judging.



**Stag parking on the show field**



### **Car show view that spectators saw**

I always volunteer to be a Concourse Judge. Jeff Zimmerman and myself have been doing chassis for the last 15 years and we have it down to a science. This year Jeff's very close friend/girlfriend/partner Christine shadowed us to keep us in line and we got the field judged in near record time - and there were quite a few cars to get through. Alice and Chris volunteered to tally the Concourse points helping Joel Rosen and I think we got all of it pretty much wrapped up by 1PM, time enough to head back, hit the pool and then go to a Thai restaurant called "Jasmine" before the auction started.



**Car show view that judges saw**



**Duncan eating French fries with chop sticks  
– kabob comes to mind...**

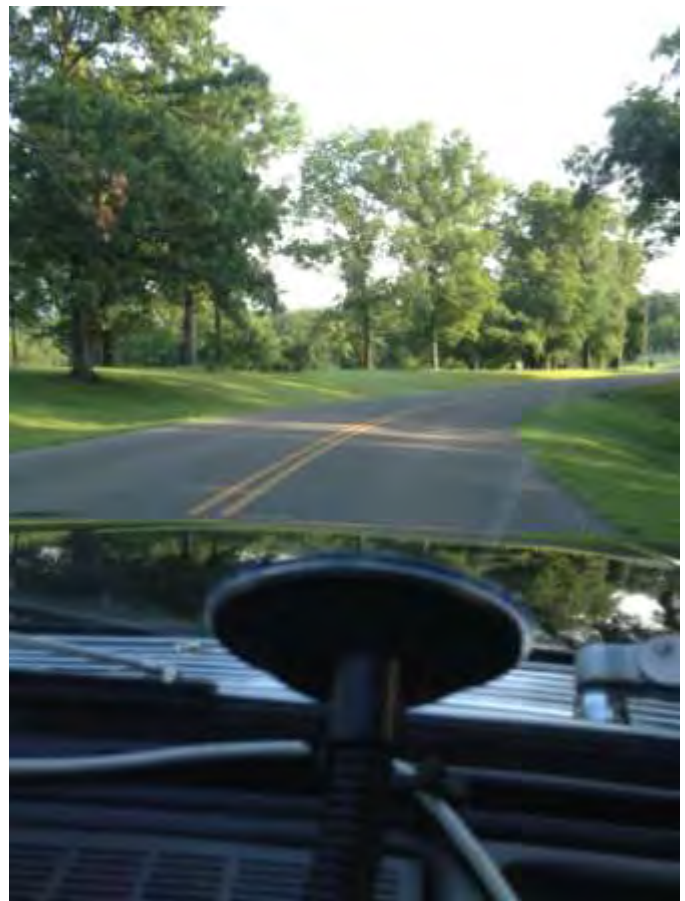
Actually before the auction planning started too. TRA auctions are the highlight of the meet for many folks, and Nino Richards and myself are the auctioneers. We peruse the parts

trying to set a decent order for the auction as well as set up the bad jokes and sight gags. I also ended up helping to set up the tables and tapping the beer keg (Stella - good beer). We had about 170 things to auction off - started promptly at 7PM, and were done by 11:15PM (yes, that same night). I think we finally figured out the flow of the tag-teaming and Joel was pre-picking the stuff to be auctioned two auctions in the future. One of the blessings about being an auctioneer is that I don't get tempted to bid on a lot of stuff, so I tend to only buy stuff I really want, so that's usually one or two things - this time several magazines, a panoramic photo, and some weird Spitfire parts - the last I bought just to keep the auction rolling! We were probably up until midnight helping clean-up. Again - good job on the auction all!



**Auction Action!**

## **Day Seven: Cars & Banquet**



### **EMR – on the way**

EMR - Early Morning Run day. Jumped in our cars at 7AM, and waited, and waited, but nobody came to lead. Since I'm naturally impetuous (ask Alice) and since I knew where we were going, I just started up the FrankenStag and yelled to all to "Follow me". The breakfast location was the Lake Barkley (the other lake that bounds the Land Between The Lakes) State park Lodge Restaurant, which meant that we got on US 68 (yes, the same US 68 that runs through Xenia) and headed east over a couple of bridges. Although this restaurant is also in a state park lodge, the staff there was happy to see us, all smiles, had plenty of menus, and gave us more coffee before we needed to ask! Maybe the Kenlake restaurant is an anomaly.



**Not often you see a stretched S-10 with dualies and a big block – this is Bob Kamholtz’s truck. Those old Triumph Nuts might recognize his name – the Cheeseman of Thunderbolt Racing fame – now retired in KY – he stopped by – great to see him again!**

After the EMR we essentially hung-out at the lodge. They had a rally going on, but it was hot and the pool seemed to be a better choice. Between the pool, talking to folks, and packing to get ready to go the next day, that kept us busy until the Awards Banquet.



**You really should clean off the bird poop on the chairs before seeing them up for banquet...**

The banquet was in a room too small to really host it, but we managed to get everything in. We couldn't figure out how to invert the projector picture, so we had to make a stand out of Styrofoam cups and packing tape so we could display.



**Kids, don't try this at home, remember these are trained professionals...projector engineering.**



**Dry County**



**Awards**

The food was good, and they had broccoli, so Bridgett could eat some vegetables - ask here about the green beans sometime! Come

awards time MVT members picked up awards in Concourse (John Coutant) and Participant's Choice (Chris & Chuck, Stan) - alas the FrankenStag, Inca and the rest in Other TRs class were beat out by a phalanx of TR6's - dang gone voting blocks <smile>. After the awards I had a chance to present what we want to do next year at TRA 2014 at Deer Creek. Feedback to the plans, presentation, and the tri-fold fliers were all very positive - great stuff to build on for next year! Afterwards we chatted with folks until the wee hours of the morning and then to bed!

### ***Day Eight: Pointed North and Rain!***

Another Sunday, another somewhat- late start, on purpose since we really didn't have very far to go that day. We (Stan, White's, Clough's) got packed and on the road by 9AM, and sad to say most of the other TRA attendees were long gone by then. Next year we are planning a free Continental-ish Breakfast to try and get more "goodbyes" time for folks rather than they just blowing out of there. For the record we did not eat at the lodge restaurant, but chose a Hardees's instead - draw your own conclusions.



### **Sunday morning – parking lot is empty by the time we leave - runaway time**

The plan for Sunday was to visit three wineries once in Indiana and stop at Spring Mill State Park Inn for the overnight. The trip across that little part of Kentucky to Indiana was actually very nice - great rolling terrain, small towns, good roads, and once in Indiana we headed

east from Evansville to the Monkey Hollow Winery. Problem was that we had to pass through Santa Claus, IN, to get there, and Santa Claus is a tourist trap that happens to have both an amusement park and water park. Despite groveling and tearful pleas from the kids we drove straight through the town - their cries of anguish somewhat abated by the "whoop-de-doo" ride on the road after Santa Claus. I suppose I should apologize to the other drivers for the gravel road we had to traverse to get to the winery, but I won't, it's just something one needs to face...

If you have a chance, visit Monkey Hollow Winery - it's actually a nice little winery in a nice little part of Indiana. Wines were good, t-shirts great, and Alice even bought several glasses. I wish we had more time to hang out there, but we had two more wineries and the weather was deteriorating - thunderstorms were gathering to the west - so we headed northeast to the next winery.



**Parked at Monkey Hollow**



**Chris does an interpretive dance for the monkey at Monkey Hollow...**

The Winzerwald Winery is a great place to find seasonal as well as fruit and spiced wines (kids would tell you the oyster crackers were good also). We rolled in with thunder just slightly audible to the northwest. The radar on the cell phone told us we had a while before it hit, so why not enjoy some wine? By the time we left, the sound of thunder was much more audible and skies noticeably darker - we had to head north into the storm for the last winery of the day.

And what a storm it was. We drove through rain shafts that showed very red on radar, and just about as we cleared the last red band Chuck and Chris had ignition failure, so we pulled over by the side of the road, let the rain pass, dried up the distributor, and were on the road again. The chicken will come later.

The last winery of the day was the French Lick Winery, which is a big operation compared to the wineries we had visited to date. They had a lot of wines, and you could try any you wanted, so we were there a while, let the cars dry out, bought a few bottles, and then were off to Spring Mill Inn.



**Wizerwald Winery – battenning down the hatches for the impending storm**



**Impromptu Tech Session in the middle of a thunderstorm.**



**Spring Mill Inn**

Spring Mill Inn is my favorite Indiana State park Lodge - beds are decent, pool is decent, and yes, it does have a typical lodge restaurant, but

it was filled with more of a Lake Barkley staff rather than Kenlake, so it was a decent dinner that night. I tried to write some stuff after dinner on this report, but sleep got the best of me!



**Alice practicing for her old age at Spring Mill**

### ***Day Nine: Back to the Banks of the Little Miami***

Homecoming. We left Spring Mill Inn looking for a mom & pop breakfast place (rather than the buffet-only breakfast at the inn) and found a nice one in Salem, IN - blundered into is probably a better term since I was turning around to head back into town when I spied it! I forgot how big the food was for not much money at these places...burp!



**Kessing Haus Café in Oldenburg – ausgezeichnet!**

On the road again we headed towards Oldenburg, IN for a pit stop at a little café I found on the Internet (which had great scones – BTW, Oldenburg is about as close as you can come to a German Village this side of the Atlantic), then cruised through Metamora to see if it was open (it wasn't), so we drove on to good old Waynesville (OH) to have some Peanut Butter Pie at the Village Restaurant before heading home. Stan left us going through Hamilton for home, so we ate his pie! It was good Stan!



**Stan's Pie**

### ***Back Home***

Arrived home a week and a day later than when we started. My trip odometer on the GPS said we had travelled over 1000 miles on this journey, and I have yet to add up the receipts, but I'm sure that will scare me. Inca needs to have the accelerator linkage replaced so it stops binding, and the FrankenStag needs help in a few areas, including a ripped seat, the carb heat soak issue, re-arranged instrumentation so I can see the idiot lights better so I can turn off the turn signals before being yelled at, and to remove the noisy and clunky Bluetooth adaptor from the radio. FrankenStag get's the work first, then Inca, and then maybe back on the Grey Ghost... Overall it was a great trip. No major issues, many great roads, lodges, distilleries, wineries, restaurants, and most of all people - nothing but smiles and greeting where ever we

roamed, okay, maybe except for the wait staff at the Kenlake Restaurant <smile>.

## **TRA 2014**

Hint - it's at Deer Creek next year and we (MVT) are sponsoring it! Get ready, it's coming!



## **TRA 2014 Update**

July 2013

Bruce Clough – TRA 2014 Chair

## **Out of the bag**

Well, it's out of the bag. We announced TRA 2014 location at TRA 2013 and it was very well received. We also launched the website.

*Now we need to keep the buzz going.*

I'm getting the news release out, first focusing on local and national Triumph clubs, then we'll worry about the other publications and organizations. We'll also give Chris Yanity the TRA 2013 registration bag we have so he can see which vendors supported them as a starting point for sponsors. I've written to VTR and TRA to get an updated local club contact list. I also did manage to talk to The Roadster Factor a bit during TRA 2013, so they are expecting our contact.

We handed out almost all of the tri-folds, so we need to get another batch going. Jeff Krupp is working on our logo, and we need to push the Participant's Choice Car Show for all Triumphs, since that's where we stand to really bring some new blood in. I wanted to get the next tri-fold done the last week of June to show

everyone, but I don't think that's going to happen.

## **To Do**

Oh, we got lots to do, but we also have lots of time. In the near term we are going to flesh out the agenda to ensure that we have a good amount of events, but also the folks that come don't feel rushed doing everything.

We also need to get some photo ops done.

Need some pictures of TRs around Deer Creek, so we need to talk about that. I'm thinking the first night of the Fall Tour this year will also be at Deer Creek??? Maybe a special run later this summer?

We have scheduled a TRA 2014 meeting on 26 June, so we will report out on that at the meeting. One of the topics at that meeting will be for the folks that went to Kenlake to discuss what was done we, and maybe what could be improved. Also, the TRA 2013 team is going to send out a "Lessons Learned" document which should be a good source of info also.

So far, so good!