



The Marque

"All the news that's fit to soak up oil"

The Marque - August 2023

Marque Editor's Comment



Hopefully back to normal for this edition of the Marque. No rushing, at least a week called out before articles were due. Should be easy to get something together. Thanks to those who sent in articles and keep them flowing in.

August is BCD month, so expect some coverage of that in this Marque.

August MVT Events:

- 2 – MVT Monthly Meeting
- 4 – BCD Set-up
- 5 – Dayton British Car Day
- 12 – Indianapolis BCD
- 19 – Rescheduled J3P Toru
- 26 – Orphan Auto Show Tour

More TRA Thanks

Chris White

A BIG Thank You to everyone who volunteered to sit in the "Freezer" (aka the TRA 2023 Registration Room), keeping tabs on the Arts and Crafts items as well as the Silent Auction items and Old Friends Donation Box.

Thank you to those who helped in setting up the Banquet table center pieces.

Thank you to the "Ticket Takers" at the Welcome Picnic and Awards Banquet.

Thank you to the "Parking Directors/Flaggers" at the Welcome Picnic.

Thank you for the loan of the coolers for the Hospitality Rooms and the clipboards for the Registration Room.

Thank you to all the MVTer's for stepping up and helping to make TRA 2023 a success!

And lastly, thank you to my "cohort in crime" – Alice Owen-Clough for the past 4 years of planning, and re-planning...without your help things would not have fallen into place as easily.

Thank You!

In This Marque

- Those pesky Overdrives
- All those August Events!
- Did we mention free beer?

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. We also don't vouch for spelling or grammar – the editor is an engineer...

Technical advice given within is the opinion of the writer(s) and should not be construed as professional advice nor relied upon. They are not official advice of Miami Valley Triumphs, MVT officers, or MVT members. As with all maintenance and repairs the reader should do their homework and get multiple opinions.

MVT Club Info

Miami Valley Triumphs is a non-profit club founded to preserve and enjoy Triumph and Standard automobiles. You do not have to own a Triumph or Standard to be in the club, just be interested in the preservation of the marque. For more info on joining the club and dues please contact the MVT Membership Chair (contact info below).

President: John Coutant,
john.coutant@gmail.com

Vice President: Chuck White,
triumph.driver@gmail.com

Secretary: Clyde Collins,
cyaclyde@outlook.com

Treasurer: Harry Mague, 937- 426-3802

Membership: Valerie Relue,
vleigh607p@gmail.com

Webmaster: John Coutant,
john.coutant@gmail.com

Events & Newsletter Editor: Bruce Clough,
937-376-9946, portabezi@hotmail.com

Club Address – MVT, P.O. Box 144, Bellbrook, OH 45305.

Club Website:

<https://www.miamivalleytriumphs.org/>

We are also on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1654893204751113/> - this is a closed group so you will need to request joining.

Please send comments/suggestions to: miamivalleytriumphs@gmail.com or to the PO Box.

Cutoff date for next month's Marque is the 25th of the month or when the editor screams...

National Affiliations:



Vintage Triumph Register

MVT is proudly a Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register, the link to their comprehensive website is: <http://vintagetriumphregister.org/> .

The Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) is a North American Triumph car club of nearly 3000 Triumph owners and enthusiasts supporting and showcasing all models of Triumphs. Their award-winning VTR web site has been assembled through the co-operative efforts of many VTR members and make the VTR site a current and accurate resource for Triumph enthusiasts worldwide. VTR publishes a bi-monthly magazine, The Vintage Triumph, which is filled with valuable historical and technical articles and industry news. In addition to the magazine, membership in VTR also includes:

- Access to VTR's staff of volunteer vehicle consultants
- Various VTR Triumph car club regalia
- Low-cost collector car liability insurance to members at costs far below regular insurance rates
- An annual convention, hosted each year by one of VTR's many local chapters.

If you are interested in becoming a member (you don't have to own a Triumph to join), please head to this website for complete information:

<https://vintagetriumphregister.org/whatisvtr/>

Triumph Register of America



MVT is a Center of the Triumph Register of America, website: <http://triumphregister.com/>.

TRA was established to aid TR2, 3, 3A, 3B, 4, and 4A owners in the preservation, maintenance and enjoyment of their classic sports cars and is focused on growing local groups of TR2, 3, 3A, 3B, 4, and 4A owners. We believe that local used parts supply networks and local activities such as technical workshops or rallies provide the binding glue for our national organization. TRA is firmly a grassroots organization, which offers many advantages and services for individual members, groups, and local centers.

In addition to VTR and TRA, MVT members are also part of other model-specific clubs such as:

6-Pack (TR6/TR-250) <http://www.6-pack.org/j15/>

Triumph Wedge Owners Association for TR7 and TR8 owners: <https://triumphwedgeowners.org/>.

We actively participate in activities of these clubs and their endeavors to preserve the marque.

MVT Monthly Meeting



MVT Monthly Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at **Archers Tavern Kettering**, 2030 E Dorothy Ln, Kettering, OH 45420, (937) 291-1015. We are in the meeting room off the bar at the front of the tavern. We have dinner and socializing at 6:30PM and the president usually ruins our fun by starting a meeting at 7:30PM.

<http://archerstavern.com/archerstavern/>

Officer's Reports

President's Report

When you're hot, you're hot!

John Coutant



Secretary's Report/Last Month's Meeting Minutes – July 23

August is here and traditionally the first part of the month is the hottest time of the year. I took the title for this column from the song by Jerry Reed (even though the song is about craps, the title seemed fitting so [click here](#) for the link to listen while you read the rest of the column).

The hot weather really makes early morning or evening the time you want to go for a ride in your Triumph and enjoy it. A day ago, I finally got around to washing the TR3 as it was covered in mud from the rain shower as I left the WindFlashMob on Sunday. I waited until after dinner when the sun was on the way down and when I finished it was about 8:30. I decided to go for a short drive and it was really comfortable even though mid-day was in the high 80's.

July has turned out to be the month between the bookend months of TRA and BCD. The weather has had a lot of heat and then intense rain and storms. One of those storms cancelled a planned tour mid-month and that tour has moved to mid-August. We did manage to have a WineFlashMob but even that, while starting with nice weather, ended with showers.

Dayton British Car Day is coming up all too quick on Saturday, August 5th. We're asking for help again as we need people for registration, ballot counting, parking, and other aspects of BCD that we are responsible for. Many of you signed up at last month's meeting (Thanks!) and we will have another list going around at next week's meeting. Don't forget the bag stuffing on Friday night at the park if you can make it. Hope to see everyone and their cars at BCD on Saturday. Fingers crossed for good weather.

After BCD and we move into September, the weather cools, and we have a lot of driving, tech, and social events on the calendar. Check the Marque for details and put the dates on your calendar so you don't forget.

We have a number of members with cars almost ready to get back on the road. I hope to see as many as possible driving in the coming months. Remember, help for advice or parts is abundant in this club. Don't be afraid to ask.

Keep cool and I'll see you at BCD.

Meeting called to order 7:30 by President J Coutant. 23 members, no visitors

Opening Remarks

John Coutant: Life is simplified following TRA and July 4th holiday. Drank some TRA keg leftover. Thanks to all who assisted in the TRA event. There is a sign-up sheet being passed around for needed help at upcoming BCD.

Request for Changes / Additions to Agenda

None

Introduction of Guests/New Members:

None

Officer Reports:

- Vice President Report Chuck White: Thanks to John and others for great TRA and grateful for best car runs.
- Treasurer Harry Mague: Checking balance is \$2742.30 currently and expects about \$2500 from TRA event. The IRS finalized 501.c3 status and State approval is pending. He also has a few TRA polo shirts available. Report approved by all
- Secretary Clyde: June minutes recorded by Valerie, thanks. Requested approval of minutes as they appeared in the Marque. (not recorded) requested approval, 2nd by Chuck and all approved as written.
- Membership Valerie Relue: We have 56 members. 8 owe MVT dues.
- Events Bruce Clough: 74 registered at TRA, 15 were from MVT. There were 30 trailers and 122 attended the banquet. The TRA meeting had something voted down. 3 MVT cars won awards. Thanks from Bruce for support. Upcoming Events:
 - 2024 TRA will be at Mohican State Park
 - July15 is the Jeff/Jodi/John/Patti Tour

- July 22 – Dublin Car Show
- August 5 – Dayton BCD
- August 12 – Indianapolis British Motor Day
- August 26 – Bob Pool “Orphan” Car Show followed perhaps by Caesar’s Creek Vineyard
- September 10 – Cincinnati BCD;
- September 16 – MVT Pool-less Pool Party
- Late September – VTR 2023 in Dillard, Georgia
- October TBD trip to Valley Vineyards.

100 yrs of Triumph will be available, he will email with details.

50-50 Raffle

\$16 to Stan

Adjournment

Moved by Chuck, 2nd by Stan. Passed 8:06 PM

Respectfully submitted, *Clyde Collins*

Standing Committee Reports

- Technical: Bruce: none
- Marque: Send articles and pictures to Bruce.
- Spare Parts: John Coutant said Mark Baich had a supply of parts, see John for details.
- Website: John Coutant none
- Memorabilia: Harry has magnetic logos that look good for BCD and other items.

Event Committee Reports:

- BCD: Stan said BCD registrations are currently 85, about 20 more than this time last year. A Zoom meeting will be 7/6.

Old Business:

- Discussion on MVT poster for BTM-Valerie: There was discussion about how it looks in BTM
- Discussion on motion to amend by laws regarding notifications and cancellation: Stan said a vote for the next meeting will be held

New Business:

- Stan had a letter from Mark Baich in Texas about a big sale of parts, see Stan for contacts. Also, Cloisonné badges about

Vice President’s Report



After four L-O-N-G years of planning, the TRA 2020/2024/2023 National Meet is finally in the books. To all the MVT Staffers who participated, no matter the effort, large or small, thank you! (You can't see it but I'm giving you a standing ovation.) I heard not one word of complaint or dissatisfaction from any attendee. Oh, sure. There were minor incidents behind the scenes but you handled them discretely and successfully. And there were a couple incidents that could have blown up in our faces, but the MVT Staffers involved handled them with great professionalism and patience and few were any the wiser. At least no one was killed or blood spilled!

So again, I say, kudos for a job well done! (That's another standing 'O!') I'll end with the words spoken by a man I admire immensely as the final curtain fell, "Well, we ain't do'en this again anytime soon!" LOL.

Chuck

Treasurer's Report



As of 1 Jul 2023, the club account had a balance of \$2742.30. For the month of July, the club's income was from 50/50 for \$16.00 and \$90.02 in membership renewals. We had no expenses for the month of July. As of 1 August, 2023, the club's account balance is \$2848.32.

Respectfully submitted, *Harry Mague*

Membership Chair Report

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We are quickly approaching the final deadline for payment of our \$20 annual membership renewal dues. Our club by-laws call for an August 1st deadline, but we always extend that a bit to encompass the Saturday of our British Car Day. That date is August 5th this year, and I will be in the BCD T-Shirt Booth all day. There are only a few members who still need to re-up, and there are still three options for payment. We appreciate everyone's support of MVT!

1. Pay in person (with \$20 cash or a check payable to MVT) at the August 2nd

membership meeting or the August 5th BCD event.

2. Pay by mailing a \$20 check (payable to MVT) to our treasurer, Harry Mague, at 4044 Meridell Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45430.
3. Pay at our MVT website z;<https://miamivalleytriumphs.org/online-dues-payment> . This method is convenient but it will cost you an extra \$1.25 to cover the PayPal fee.

Thank you.

Valerie Relue

Events Chair Report



I'm still digging my way out of TRA 2023. The kudos are still coming in, but I think we have all the bills paid! Time to move on especially since August has something going on each week.

- First weekend is Dayton BCD
- Second weekend is Indy BCD
- Third weekend is the redux of the J3P tour that was cancelled due to sucky weather in July.
- The last weekend is the Orphan Auto Show at Young's Dairy with a short drive afterwards.

Yes – the back side of Summer and early Fall are driving times, so get the cars out. We had a great time in June and July, but drier (hopefully) times

are ahead, so enjoy the weather and get them Triumphs out!

I'd like to thank those who showed up to the July 23rd FlashWineMob @ CCW – we had a load of people, a load of food, and we drank a load of wine. Weather was great except for one short downpour and the company was fantastic – it was nice to drive the TR7 once more.

I'm starting my planning for the trip to VTR '23 in Dillard GA late September. Working with Chuck we have already spec'd out a few roads to drive and some places to stop at on the way there and back. Wineries, distilleries, antique shops, quilting shops, and other interesting overlooks and parks (as well as fun roads) are on the agenda. Our motto is that the drive to the events and back is every bit as part of the event as the event itself. Roads less travelled and all of that. So far, I don't think we are on any part of any Interstate. Pictures at 11.

TRA 2024 room block is open – call Mohican Lodge and ask to be put in the block for TRA 2024 to get the discount. If you have not been to that state park, it's a good one, and not far from Grandpa's Cheese Barn....

Bruce Clough, MVT Events Chair

MVT Events

Past

July 2023

Are you ready for this? We really didn't have much in the way of events in July except for a cancelled tour, the WineFlashMob on the 23rd, and a visit to Old Friends Farm on 26/27. To be expected since a lot of us who put on events were recovering from TRA 2023 for sure. The J3P Tour has been rescheduled to August 19th due to bad weather.

23 – WineFlashMob



Chuck showing us his victory spirit at CCW...

Thanks to those who came out for the WineFlashMob – that was a pick-up game that turned out very well! The charcuterie was overflowing as well as the wine bottles, and the weather was almost great – we had one minute of hard rain, but that was all.



MVT Cars resting at CCW while their owners porked out...

26/27 Old Friends Visit

Chris and Chick White, as well as Alice Owen-Clough, took a trip to Old Friends Farm near Georgetown, KY, to deliver the donations we had collected at TRA 2023. Mike Blowen, the chairman and driving force behind the farm gave them a guided tour with the highlight being a close up visit with Silver Charm, a past Kentucky Derby winner.

They were very appreciative of MVT and TRA generosity and invited us back whenever.



Some of the locals stopped by...



Mike giving Silver Charm a kiss

BTW – Silver Charm is 30 years old!

Future

August 2023

2 - MVT Monthly Meeting –

The meeting will be held at Archers Tavern Kettering, 2030 E Dorothy Ln, Kettering, OH 45420, (937) 291-1015. We are in the meeting room off the bar at the front of the tavern. We have dinner and socializing at 6:30PM and the president

usually ruins our fun by starting a meeting at 7:30PM.

<http://archerstavern.com/archerstavern/>

Meeting Agenda:

Opening Remarks and Welcome – **John**

Request for Changes and Additions to the Agenda - **John**

Introduction of Guests/New Members – **John/Guests**

Officers Reports

- President – **John**
 - BCD and signup
- Vice-President – **Chuck**
- Treasurer – **Harry**
- Secretary – **Clyde**
 - Approval of July's Minutes as published in the Marque
- Membership Chair – **Valerie**
 - Status update on membership renewal for 2023-2024. Dues accepted at meeting
- Events Chair – **Bruce**
 - Review of past events
 - Upcoming events

Standing Committee Reports

- Technical – **Bruce**
- Marque – **Bruce**
- Spare Parts – **Chris**
- Website – **John**

Other

- Memorabilia – **Harry**

Event Committee Reports

- BCD 2023 - **Stan**

Old Business

- Discussion on MVT poster for BTM – **Valerie**
- Discussion and vote on motion to amend By Laws - **Stan**

New Business

Split the Pot - **Harry**

Adjourn – **John**



4 - Dayton BCD Set-Up

It is traditional that we set up BCD the evening before, and this year is no different. Please join us at Eastwood Metro Park starting at 6PM to pack registration bags and set up parking spaces.



5 - Dayton BCD

It's that time again, time for us to host fellow British Car Owners from all over the Midwest. The 2023 Dayton BCD stands to be a great year, over 150 pre-registration are already in as of this writing, so we are expecting over 250 cars at tie minimum.

Do we need your help? Absolutely. We have been passing around sign-up sheets at the last several meetings and we are glad folks have volunteered to help. We can always use more help.

It is going to be a great time – more discussion on 2 Aug! Everything, and I mean everything, you need to know is at:

<https://britishcardaydayton.com/>

12 - Indy BCD

MVT'ers normally caravan over to Indy for their BCD. That is usually lead by the Clifford's and the

Barth's. Jeff sent out an email to the club earlier in July, and here are the important parts for now:

The 35th Annual Indy British Motor Day presented by TBD will be held at Lion's Park in Zionsville, just one block from Main St. on Sycamore St. Your family will enjoy browsing the galleries, antique shops, specialty stores and the farmer's market. Lunch may be available on-site, but there are also a variety of restaurants on Main Street offering breakfast and lunch. For more information on Zionsville, visit the Chamber of Commerce website

Event Schedule:

- 8:30 am – 10:30 am – Vendor Registration
- 8:00 am – 10:30 am – Vehicle Staging and on-site registration
- 11:00 am – 1:00 pm – British Motor Day Show and Voting
- 2:30 pm - Awards Presentation

Cost: \$40 - - \$40 for 1st vehicle, \$20 for each additional vehicle

You register online. <http://www.ibcu.org/indy-british-motor-day.html>

Clifford's and Barth's plan to attend and we expect them to pass along caravan info soon. .



19 - J3P (Jeff, Jodi, John & Patti) Tour

We will be meeting at Cafe 19 (19 W. National Road, Englewood) at 9:00am for a quick beverage and pastry. At 9:30am, we will start the drive by wandering around somewhat familiar roads, eventually arriving in West Milton to visit Wertz's

(Hardware store on the right, Variety store on the left). After about 30 minutes, we get back in our cars to drive on some more twisty roads through Miami county until we get to Troy and cruise down some streets with rather impressive homes, until we get to Moeller Brew Barn for lunch. Afterwards, we are back on the roads again, eventually crossing into Clark county, ending up for ice cream at Fent's. Along the way we pass very close to the Clifford's, the Barth's, Mark Senter's, Mark Eberhardt's and lastly the Rutledges. We should be done around 3:00pm.



Yes, the perfect, deserving, orphan...

26 - Orphan Car Show & something tour

We will be meeting for coffee/light breakfast at the Coffee Hub Beavercreek (3375 Dayton Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45432) sometime around 8:30-9AM. We will leave for the Orphan Car Show around 9:40, taking back roads to Young's Dairy where the show is. When we get bored at the show we will head over to Caesar's Creek Winery to order pizza and get some vino. Here is more info on the show itself:

Location: Young's Dairy (actually right across the road from it in the overflow parking/show field), 6880 Springfield-Xenia Road, Yellow Springs, OH 45387, Ph: (937) 325-0629

- Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Registration: 10AM – Noon

- Registration Cost: \$5

Description: The Tri-State Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club and the Wright Brothers Region Packard Auto Classics will co-host the 27th Annual Bob Pool "Orphan" vehicle show on August 26th, 2023, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Young's Jersey Dairy, Yellow Springs, Ohio. The show will feature cars, trucks, buses, motorcycles, and specialty vehicles from Independent Manufacturers that are no longer in business and "Big Three Orphans" such as Edsel, DeSoto, Corvair, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Plymouth, etc. Every American and Foreign make from Auburn to Yugo is welcome to attend and be displayed. This year we are having a "Feature Car" class and have selected Pontiac for our Feature Class. So bring your "Orphan" Pontiac and join us on August 26th.

<https://youngsdairy.com/bob-pool-orphan-car-show/>

September 2023

6 - MVT Monthly Meeting

The meeting will be held at Archers Tavern Kettering, 2030 E Dorothy Ln, Kettering, OH 45420, (937) 291-1015. We are in the meeting room off the bar at the front of the tavern. We have dinner and socializing at 6:30PM and the president usually ruins our fun by starting a meeting at 7:30PM.

<http://archerstavern.com/archerstavern/>

11 - Cincinnati BCD

Aubrey Rose Foundation British Car Day, Sunday, Sept. 11, Noon – 3 pm in Village Green Park

Presented by the British Car Club of Greater Cincinnati. Live music by British Invasion from 1 - 3 pm, All British Cars Welcome to Display

70+ Awards by Popular Vote, Live Music, Food and Beer Trucks, Split The Pot, all proceeds Benefit Aubrey Rose Foundation

Entry Fee: Early Bird: Register before September 1st \$20.00 + FREE T-Shirt, after that \$25.00 per car. Registration is now open at:

<https://www.bccgc.org/bcd-registration>

14-17 The Wedge Shop Reunion at Stow British Invasion

TWS Gathering 2023 - Sept 14 - 17 - Stowe, VT USA

Join us for the premier British Car gathering in the Northeast! Our event will be alongside the British Invasion show in Stowe, VT.

[Show Info & Registration](#)

- Full schedule and host hotel info soon.
- Mix of back road drives, car show, dinners, driving events and socializing!
- Driving events (auto-x, dyno day) for all the on road cars, along with an off road driving event (back woods, dirt roads) for all the Land Rovers.
- Rover V8 Tech session by TWS (Clint & Woody Cooper).

Free T-Shirts and other swag for all attendees.

16 – Pool-less Pool Party

At the Rutledges - expect some great pork chops and conversations. We will be asking for a head count – the perfect count for the perfect pork chops. Are we working on any cars? That we cannot say.

17 - Fairborn Car Show

Auto Enthusiasts will enjoy hundreds of classic cars, street machines, trucks, and motorcycles. The Downtown Fairborn Fall Car Show draws hundreds of car lovers to Fairborn Ohio on September 17, 2023. Admission to the show is free.

- Sunday, September 17, 2023 8:00 AM thru 05:00 PM
- Downtown Fairborn, intersection of Main and Central



27 Sep - 1 Oct VTR 2023

In Dillard, GA (NE GA)

<https://vtr2023.org>

There will be a couple groups headed to VTR this year – if you want more info corner Bruce Clough or John Clifford.

October 2023

4 - MVT Monthly Meeting - The meeting will be held at Archers Tavern Kettering, 2030 E Dorothy Ln, Kettering, OH 45420, (937) 291-1015. We are in the meeting room off the bar at the front of the tavern. We have dinner and socializing at 6:30PM and the president usually ruins our fun by starting a meeting at 7:30PM.

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14 - Farm Stand Tour – A bit later than usual, but I have a feeling they will still have some produce. We have learned our lessons, we will not be going to Peifer Orchards! We will end up at Caesar's Creek Winery to munch on things we have discovered along the way.

21 - LMRT/FFT/RWTGTVV Tour – Yes, the Little Miami River calls you, the fall foliage calls you, and so does that winery near Morrow! Plan on starting at Clifton Mill for manhole cover pancakes, and plan on ending at Valley Vineyards for their dinner. We will be asking for a head count and we will be limiting the number for dinner to about 16, so if you are planning on going pls let Bruce know.

November 2023

1 - MVT Monthly Meeting - The meeting will be held at Archers Tavern Kettering, 2030 E Dorothy Ln, Kettering, OH 45420, (937) 291-1015. We are in the meeting room off the bar at the front of the tavern. We have dinner and socializing at 6:30PM and the president usually ruins our fun by starting a meeting at 7:30PM.

<http://archerstavern.com/archerstavern/>

4 - Guy Fawkes Roasting – let the traitor burn!

?? - The Last Tech Session

December 2023

? - **Holiday Soiree** - so let's talk about this. Can we find a different date so those of us that might want to go to Trans-Siberian Orchestra might be able to go?

? - **Ugly Sweater Gathering** - yes, we will plan another one of these at a watering hole around SW Ohio

Dayton British Car Day



Stan Seto

Dayton British Car Day (aka BCD) is August 5th, and it's never too early to prepare. Registration and other information can be found at:

<https://britishcardaydayton.com/>

Since this is an MVT event, and since we all want to support the club, I can think of no excuse besides a zombie apocalypse not to register.

It is still at Edgewater Metro Park, the registration cost has increased by \$5 to cover increased park costs, and to take advantage of the early-bird free t-shirt special you need to register by July 22nd.

Volunteers? Yes, we will need them. We will start asking for volunteers to help various jobs soon - sign-up sheets will probably start the rounds next month.

Remember - it's your show, so come out and support MVT and the hobby.

Ballot Proposal for MVT By Laws, June 2023

Stan Seto

Background:

At the May meeting there was discussion on the proposed ballot below. One set of changes has been submitted, considered and partially incorporated. If any Miami Valley Member has a suggestion for change, they may submit it to Stan (stans@fuse.net) in the next two months.

The June issue of the Marque will become the start of the ballot consideration. The second review will be in the July issue with the ballot that will be voted on at the August meeting if no changes are required. So that means this is voting month!

Ballot Proposal:

4.0 – Meetings

4.4 To quickly communicate any very near-term meeting cancellations or some other important news item to the club members, the MVT elected officers will divide up the membership list, each officer calling a portion of the membership to provide the emergency information.

One way to determine the number of members that each officer will contact is: {Total membership minus No. of Officers} divided by No. of Officers. Value to be rounded to a whole number. If fractional value is less than 0.50, round down, if 0.5 or greater, round up..

Technical Talk

Edited by Bruce Clough

Hey, look – we have an article this month! Thanks to John we have some more understanding of a very simple, but frustrating component, the overdrive solenoid!

Overdrive Woes - What Gives with the Solenoid?

John Coutant

True to form (nothing ever goes wrong with the car at an opportune time) my overdrive would not switch into overdrive during a tour for the Cincinnati Concours that was a week before TRA. At the start of the drive it was working, then intermittent during the drive, and by the end not working. At least a non-working overdrive is annoying but not serious.

When I got home and did some online reading, the advice was to first see if the solenoid was working before working backwards on electrical issues or internal to the overdrive (oil level being the first but I just filled it).

What is a solenoid? Well a simple explanation is that it is a big electro magnet surrounding a piece of metal that moves when current (electricity) is applied to the coil of the electro magnet. How does this relate to the overdrive?



Your friend and mine, the solenoid in position on the overdrive

There is a lever on the side of the overdrive unit, that when lifted up, allows oil pressure inside in the overdrive to flow and shift to overdrive. When the

lever is moved down, the oil pressure is cut off and the overdrive shifts back to direct drive. In the picture above of the overdrive unit, the tall cylinder is the solenoid unit and the rod extending below is connected to the lever which controls the overdrive.

When I looked at the lever on my overdrive, it did not move when turned the switch on and off. I wanted to see if there was +12 on the solenoid and, while testing, found if I moved the lever up the solenoid would then grab and hold the lever up.

This told me the electrical circuits were OK but the solenoid was not able to pull the lever up.

So why? The solenoid needs a lot of power to pull the lever up, in fact it draws 15-20 amp to do this. However, once the solenoid is engaged and the lever up, it does not need very much power to keep it there. To do this, there are actually 2 coils in the solenoid. Both are energized to pull the rod connected to the lever up but when the rod is all the way up, it hits a switch and disconnects the main coil. The holding coil only then draws about 1 amp.

This meant that the main coil of the solenoid was bad but the holding coil was OK. Time to replace the solenoid. Actually, very simple IF you could actually get to the solenoid. For a TR2-3 to get access to the transmission and overdrive you need to remove the center tunnel and to do that remove the carpet and seats. When the tunnel is removed, only two screws/bolts hold the solenoid on, a quick job at this point.



One disassembled solenoid

The picture above shows the solenoid after removal with the cap lifted off to show the switch and the plunger that goes inside the solenoid coil and connects to the lever.

The replacement solenoid is not expensive for an A type (approx. \$55) and quick call to TRF overnighed it (for extra \$\$)

Replacing the solenoid is just as quick as removing the old one. I did replace the crummy bullet connector with a correct one.

One last and important step after the new solenoid is installed. When the solenoid is not engaged, the gap between the operating plunger and the bottom limit screw should be around 0.15" according to the manual. The gap I measured with the old solenoid was around 0.10" so this is what I adjusted the new one to. I did have make an adjustment as the plunger in the new solenoid was slightly longer. If the gap is too small the overdrive might not disengage. This can be really serious as if you back up with the overdrive engaged, IT WILL BE RUINED! Needless to say, I made doubly sure the overdrive engaged and disengaged many times before and after I replaced the center transmission tunnel, carpet, and seats.

With the new solenoid it is night and day the way the overdrive now engages. Before there was a delay in engagement and now it is gone, gone, gone. Probably the pull up coil in the old solenoid was going bad for some time, having less pull on the plunger, and resulting in longer engagement times.

(Editor's Comments – John's experience got me thinking, always a dangerous thing. His write-up jogged my memory. The following was from a reproduction part report "Repo Report" I did for the Marque way back in 1992. Back then I reported out on parts I bought and put in my car. I graded them on several aspects from A to . This got me in hot water with vendors several times (Monza owner even threatened to sue, but they couldn't prevail against the truth since I documented everything...)

Repro Report: Overdrive Coil

Bruce Clough – circa July 1992

- Manufacturer: Lucas
- Vendor: The Roadster Factory
- Cost: \$109
- Fit: A
- Finish: F
- Shipping Time: Three Days
- Installation Time: 0:02
- Re installation Time: 3:20

When putting the Gray Ghost back together I thought I'd play it safe by putting in new overdrive isolator switches and solenoid. The old ones looked serviceable, but better to play it safe. The new units took only several minutes to install.

No fitting problems.

I was planning on driving to The Roadster Factory's Summer Party and I took The Gray Ghost out for a speed run in preparation. Just as I was coming back from Xenia thick smoke rolled out from under the dash. I killed the ignition and was reaching for the fire extinguisher when the smoke stopped. This meant either fire was out and/or the smoke all escaped from the Lucas system.

A quick peek under the dash showed that the overdrive coil drive line has become a bit, um, toasty – a melt-a-matic. I motored on home wondering where I had made the wiring mistake, and knowing that there was no way I'd make the party now, at least with this car. Bummer.

Next day I took the tranny tunnel off and discovered that the melted wire went all the way from the relay into the solenoid with no obvious grounding or wear issues. My wiring was fine, it was Lucas that got me again – something shorted out in the solenoid. I took the solenoid off and then took it apart to find the source of failure.

I thought that the internal switch which disengages the pull-in coil was faulty. No dice. Resistance check showed that pull-in coil was fine, but the holding coil failed.

When the coil was exposed the source of the failure became clear. The winding machine (or maybe person) that wound the bobbin which became the solenoid once it was all put together screwed up, kinked and mis-wound the coil. At one of these kinks the insulation wore away and caused

a short to the case. You could follow the discoloration of the hot insulation, missing insulation, and melted bliss to its source.

What really blew my mind was the total lack of quality control by Lucas since the coil was wrapped in masking tape by hand. Someone had to see this bad winding job, and someone let it go by. And Lucas wonders why we constantly bitch at them! Hell, this manufacturing defect almost caused a fire in my car, at speed, with me in it! All from a low-tech part that cost me over \$100!

I've since replaced the solenoid with the original one and The Roadster Factory is sending me a new unit – and I hand-delivered the failed one to them at TRFSP. Whether that one will be much better waits to be seen. It's like playing Russian Roulette, sad that we can't depend on new parts anymore! This sucks! I'm sorry folks, but it does. We are placing our lives in the hand of parts that never had a chance from the factory. Bah!

MVT Memorabilia

The Club has the following fantastic, wonderful memorabilia for sale. Show your colors in public, on your car, or on you! Look at all we have:



MVT Cloth Patch - \$12.00



MVT Pin - \$5.00



MVT Enamel Car Badge - \$30.00



MVT Car Flag - \$5.00



MVT Window Sticker - \$1.00



MVT Magnetic Signs – these can be easily cut so they are round. They are 12”x12”, 11” in diameter if cut round. - \$12



They look very spiffy on a TR7...

All the memorabilia is available at each Club meeting upon request. Please contact our MVT Memorabilia Manger, Harry Mague harrymague@aol.com

Classifieds

Classified ads are free to MVT members and run month to month. We do not endorse anything in here, nor do we get any compensation in fees or royalties. As with the rest of life “buyer beware”.



For Sale: TR3 -3B steel hardtop for sale \$300, TR3 -3A rear seat with brackets \$100 Inquire - tryanity@gmail.com



TR7's for sale - From Bruce Miller: “The seller lives in Preble Co., @ the corner of “Four Mile Straight Line Rd.” & Fairfield-Concord Rd. Greg Issacs - Home phone: 937-465-1989. He wants to be rid of the brown TR7 (which I formerly owned) a/w/a red 75 TR7 coupe. It was a parts car for him. He says it runs, too; BOTH for \$2500.00.”



For Sale - I no longer need the following so they are for sale: One-ton engine hoist, good condition; used maybe 10 times. \$125. Engine stand, good condition, \$50. Or both together for \$125. Jeff John - jajohn1469@gmail.com