The RAGTOP

March 2024

Letter From The President

March, 2024

Joe Payne

The Hill Country Triumph Club is Here for Your Health, Happiness and Long Life….Tell Me More, Please!

Ladies and Gentlemen of the HCTC, lend me your ears to hear and your eyes to see, such is the good news today!

As we all migrate through stages of life, things that are commonplace when viewed through the glasses of the daily grind can take on new meaning and deserve greater appreciation when a fresh perspective is applied. Such has occurred to me with some recent readings and gave me a greater appreciation of the Hill Country Triumph Club and benefits I was taking for granted as I will share.

Let me set the stage with one article for which I've provided the link for in-depth reading/viewing per your interest and to level-set this month's address.

First, one blog I commonly read is "The Retirement Manifesto" and the January 18th, 2024 article was very interesting. Perhaps, you remember a favorite TV Show from our past, The Wonder Years and it's star, Kevin. For fun and a trip down memory lane please read and watch the vignettes to refresh your memory:

https://www.theretirementmanifesto.com/the-wonder-years/

Directly taken from the article please find the four secrets to living a great life and with my additions in blue on how the HCTC helps support you in your quest for happiness.

The Wonder Years is a great metaphor to help you live your best life in retirement. By looking into the deeper meaning behind

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Letter From The President

Continued

Kevin's voice-over insights into his adolescent years, we're shown the secrets to living a great life.

- **Rediscover Your Curiosity**
  - Curious about how that distributor works or how to upholster your seats? Rip Torn has been actively reviewing and indexing the past years Ragtops for the many tech articles that unveil the mystery of British cars and particularly Triumphs. Look for this resource to answer your questions.

- **Embrace Change**
  - Kevin was always wondering about new things and engaging with his curiosity and optimism. This is one thing I have found with the HCTC and how dynamic and vibrant our club is. If looking to shake things up from your regular schedule perhaps coming to more meetings, making the events and drives the club hosts may change your routine. Come on, Giddy-up!

- **Build Meaningful Connections**
  - What a stellar collection of people that make up the HCTC. Welcoming, warm, gracious and with varied background's that make for very interesting conversations from A to Z and they will buy you your beer for free if you let them. 😉

- **Embrace Your Inner Child**
  - Did you always want that one Triumph but was never able to pull the trigger because of competing priorities? It's time to start living the dream, tomorrow can't wait!

I encourage you to think about my epiphany and consider how you can apply it to your own life. The epiphany is simple in concept and easy to apply:

==========

So wishing all fellow members much happiness as we keep our inner child alive, enjoying our dreams and tomorrow's adventures. Giddy-Up!

Warmly,

Joe

Hill Country Triumph Club Officers

President ... Joe Payne
president@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Vice-President ... Jim Wells
vicepresident@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Treasurer ... Gary Payne
treasurer@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Secretary ... Roger Allen
secretary@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Membership ... Nel McPhail
membership@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Events ... Mike McPhail

Marketing ... Kim & Jacques Welter

Social Media ... Kim Vazquez

Webmaster ... Jimmy White
webmaster@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Ragtop Editor ... Jacques Welter
editor@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Back issues of The Ragtop are available on our website:

http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Joe Payne

Jim Wells

Gary Payne

Roger Allen

HCTC Events-at-a-Glance

March

March 5th:

- ***TX ABCD Steering Committee Meeting***
  Waterloo Icehouse @ 2222 @ 3:30pm

March 9th:

- ***HCTC Breakfast Meeting***
  Waterloo Icehouse @ 2222 @ 10:00 am

March 12th:

- ***HCTC Social Hour***
  The County Line At the Lake @ 6:00 pm

March 16th:

- ***HCTC Club Drive & The Bluebonnet Air Show***
  Starting with Pistons on the Square

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5 ★	6	7	8	9 ★
10	11	12 ★	13	14	15	16 ★
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24	25	26	27	22	29	30
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April

April 2nd:

- ***TX ABCD Steering Committee Meeting***
  Waterloo Icehouse @ 2222 @ 3:30pm
- ***Hill Country Triumph Club Board Meeting***
  Waterloo Icehouse @ 2222 @6:30 pm

April 9th:

- ***HCTC Social Hour***
  The County Line At the Lake @ 6:00 pm

April 13th:

- ***HCTC Breakfast Meeting***
  Waterloo Icehouse @ 2222 @ 10:00 am

April 20th:

- ***Georgetown Pistons on the Square***
  Georgetown Courthouse Square starting @ 8:00 am

April 2st:

- ***Dallas All British & European Car Day***
  Bath House Cultural Center, Lawther, Dallas TX , @ 10 am

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 ★	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20 ★
21 ★	22	23	24	25	26	27
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KEY

★ = HCTC-sponsored event

★ = Other event

For more detailed descriptions and information, please see the Events Section later in the newsletter

Secretary's Report

February 2024

Roger Allen

Welcome to another round-up of the Hill Country Triumph Club's goings-on in January, 2024.

On Tuesday, February 6th, the Texas ABCD Steering Committee met in Salado @ The Salado Lone Star Winery & Chupacabra Craft Beer to discuss Salado as a venue for the Texas All British Car Days event. This meeting was followed by an HCTC board meeting afterward.

The extended Steering Committed walked around downtown Salado and over to Pace Park, looking at the grounds and vendors and trying to match them to needs for TX ABCD.

On Saturday, February 10th, The Hill Country Triumph Club regular Breakfast meeting took place at the Waterloo Restaurant, starting at an earlier hour of 9:30 am to accommodate the drive after the breakfast. We had a good turnout with 18 members in attendance. President Joe Payne called the meeting to order and gave an opening welcome to both new and regular members. President Payne stated, "I want to say that HCTC has a lot of members working on different aspects of the club that help make our club a successful organization. I want to thank the TXABCD Planning Committee, our Marketing Directors, the HCTC Board of Directors, our Events Coordinators, the Ragtop Editor, the HCTC website manager, our Social Media Coordinator, and our Accounting / Treasurer for their hard work they put in to our club. We would like to extend a warm invitation to all members to join us at our March meeting. Exciting events are happening in March, and we would love to see you at any or all these events! It looks like great driving weather, and warmer temperatures have arrived here in Texas. Get those Triumphs all tuned up and polished and let us hit the road !!"

A great turn out at the HCTC monthly breakfast on Drive Your Triumph Day, February 10th, 2024

Secretary's Report

February 2024

Continued

Speaking of hitting the road, Mike McPhail was next on the agenda to outline several driving events coming in March. A list of short- and long-range drives were discussed. From Hagerty's sponsored Racing Eagle Canyon in Decatur, TX to an All-British Car Day in Covey, LA (near New Orleans). There are several more to events to consider. You may turn to the Events Calendar in this issue of the *Ragtop* to find a complete list of all possible drives and events coming soon.

Kim Vasquez, our social media director, is keeping HCTC current on Facebook etc. She would like for members to send her pictures of themselves in action with their Triumphs that she can display online.

President Payne adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am so the next phase of Drive Your Triumph Day could take place — a long drive through the Hill Country to meet the San Antonio Triumph Club. More on that later in ***The Ragtop***

From the Archives

Art Graves

The "Ragtop" has sporatically featured stories from members telling how they came to own a Triumph. This story is from Al 'Big Al' Johnson. As I recall, even though he is car guy, he didn't really enjoy driving. His daily driver was a pickup truck and I'm pretty sure he also owned a Corvette – despite what he says in the article. Unfortunately he passed away young, 10 – 15 years ago.

—Art

How I was Introduced to Triumph Sports Cars

Al Johnson

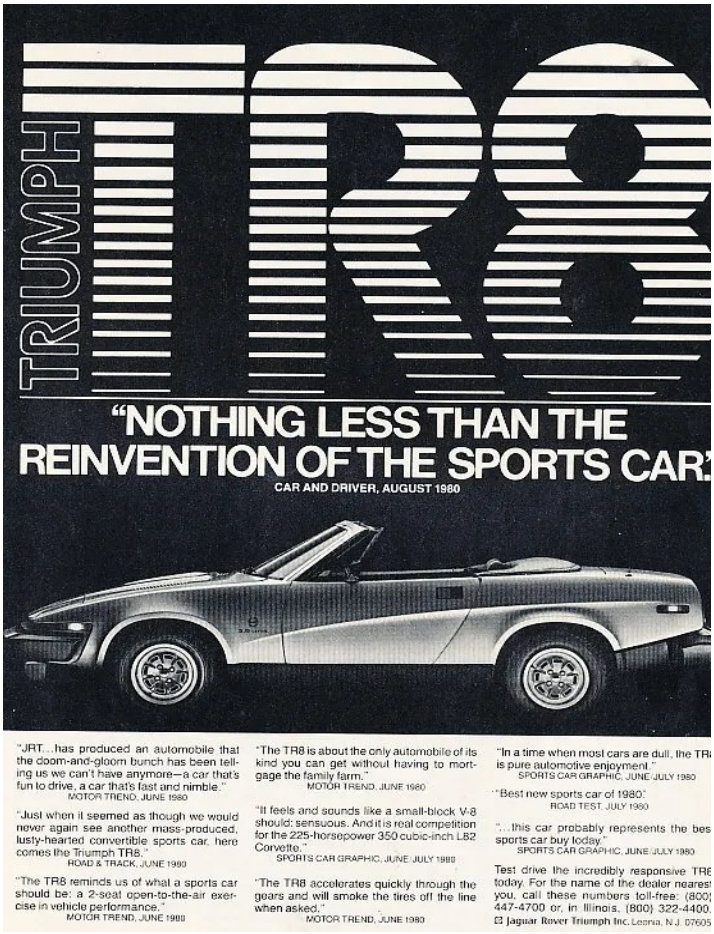
Well, the indoctrination to this British lunacy started with my mom. She owned an MG Midget back in the 60's. She's actually kind of a car herself as she's owned a 70's hot pink Sunbeam Alpine, a '66 Mustang and now at 68 has an Ernie Bauer Explorer and a new F150 pickup.

Back to my Triumph story. I was fresh out of college and a brand-new USAF Second Lieutenant. I joined the Air Force and for my first assignment they sent me to an army post in Virginia, Ft. Lee AFS. It was a NORAD Regional Radar Control Facility.
I was in the market for a new car (had to get in debt!) and definitely wanted a sports car.

I was never a Vette guy, didn't like the Datsuns back then, so my choices were fairly reduced. I went shopping just up the road from where I lived in Petersburg to the capitol of Virginia, Richmond.

I looked at a couple of Alfa-Romeos and they just didn't do anything for me, nor did any Fiats. Thinking back, I can't recall exactly how I wound up at Dick Bradley's Triumph, then located in the heart of Richmond.

I went in and he showed me a TR8 sitting on the showroom floor, the one I would eventually buy. He



Vintage advertisement of a 1980 Triumph TR8

The Road Warriors at TRF Summer Party

Continued

had another that I took for a test drive. I hadn't driven a stick shift in years and was nervous driving it in downtown Richmond traffic, so his secretary agreed to drive out to a less congested area.

As soon as she fired it up and I heard the V8, I thought "yeah, THIS is more like it!". Once we got to a more open area, we switched places and when I walked around the car with the V8 rumbling, I thought again, "yeah, THIS is more like it!".

I went blasting down the road and was pretty much sold. I negotiated with Dick on the 1980 TR8 that was sitting on the showroom floor and I have owned it ever since.

Editor's Note: Big Al was the proud and original owner of a 1980 Gold TR8 and was an HCTC member from 1998 until his death.

Stock photo of a gold 1980 TR8

Drive Your Triumph Day

Jacques Welter

Saturday, February 10th, was Drive Your Triumph Day — a day celebrating Standard Triumph CEO John Black's 129th birthday.

This year the South Texas Triumph Association invited Hill Country Triumph to join them at the Redbud Café in Blanco about an hour or so from the Waterloo Icehouse.

HCTC On the road to the Redbud Café, taken from Jim Well's TR6

Simple enough, but when the 10th dawned it was bucketing rain and never really let up all day. Still, a few hardy souls elected to make the drive to Blanco: Jim Wells; Mike McPhail; Malcolm Gray; and Joe Payne / Aaren Colburn.

After lunch, STTA headed on home but HCTC wasn't quite done with their day so we all headed to The Real Ale Brewing Company in Blanco to wrap up the day. There they were joined by Jacques and Kim Welter (Jacques had to pick Kim up at the airport) and a good time was had by all.

Looking forward to next year !!

A nice line up of Triumphs at the Redbud Cafe

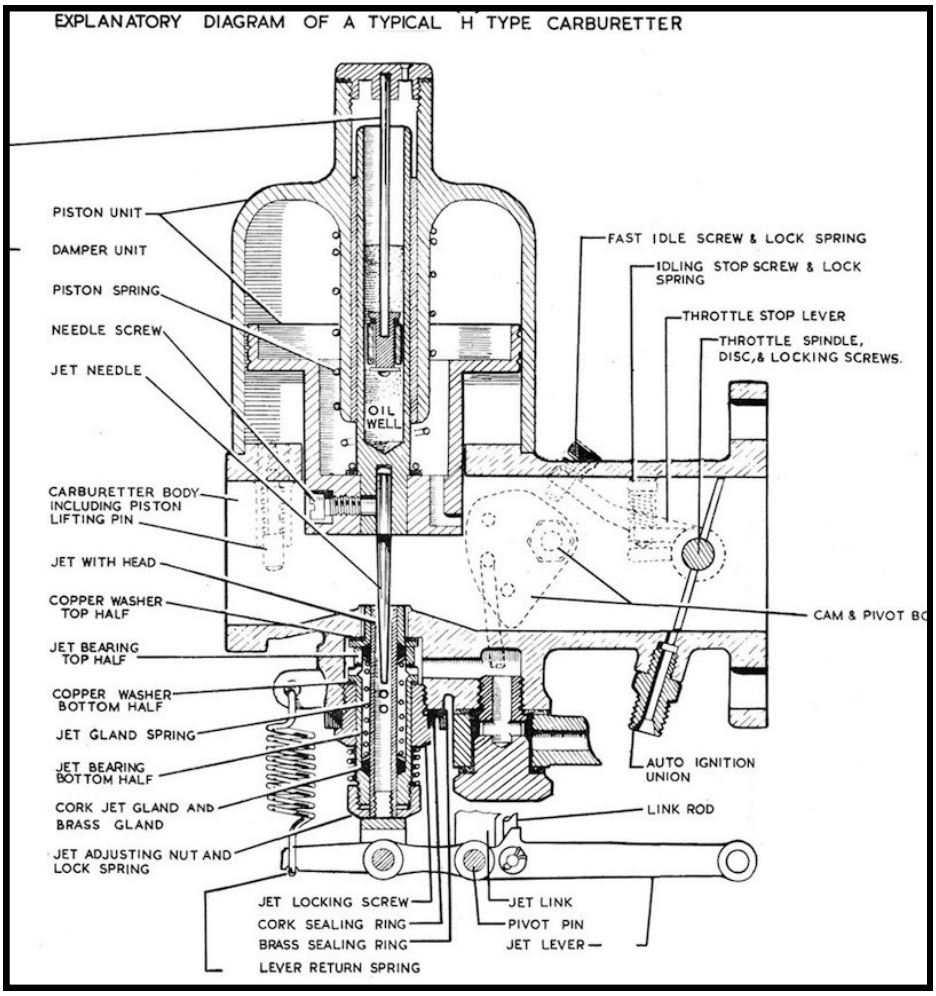
A Tribe of TR6's from HCTC at Real Ale Brewing

A great turn out on Drive Your Triumph Day, February 10th, 2024

A Unique Problem

Jacques Welter

I've owned and been driving a British sportscar since I was 18. All of them used SU carburetors. Not trying to start a religious war here, but I consider the SU carburetor to be the best downdraft carb for English cars. No surprise I converted my TR6 from Stromberg's to dual SU HS6's. They are simple and effective, and very tuneable. (Opinion: Stromberg's were just different enough from SU's to get around SU's patents, and generally are not as adjustable as the SU's, at least in the versions that came over to North America).



So there I am, dual SU HS6 carb setup, enjoying my TR6 on ***Drive Your Triumph Day***, cruising to the HCTC Breakfast meeting; then out to the airport to pick up Kim; then over to Blanco to meet the rest of the club; then home — a drive of 180 miles. One important part of this story — it was bucketing rain, especially on the way home when the deluge dropped 2+ inches of rain in a little over an hour.

We completed the drive home, parked the car in the garage — yep, rode hard and put away wet — and went about the rest of our day after the drive.

The next morning I went out to start the car to take it out for some gas and an errand … and … the car would start but was running exceptionally rough and would not idle up. In fact, if you gave it too much gas it would stall. You could smell the gas in the exhaust.

So I popped the hood and began my check of Fuel; Fire; Timing. Hoses all connected? Check. Getting fuel / fuel bowl full? Check. Spark plugs? Check. Distributor? Check. Linkage? Check. Choke cable? Check. Air leak? Nope. Blown head gasket? Nope. Call Mike McPhail? Check …

After a couple of Facetime conversations and numerous trial-and-errors with no improvement, Mike told me he'd be in my area that weekend and we could look for more exotic solutions. In the meantime, Nick Roccaforte came over and we pulled my spark plugs and cleaned them … a LOT of carbon … but no overall improvement.

Saturday morning and Mike came along and we started the diagnostics. Ran back through the original checklist … nothing. Then we took off the air filters to look at the dashpots and — AHA!! — we have the culprit.

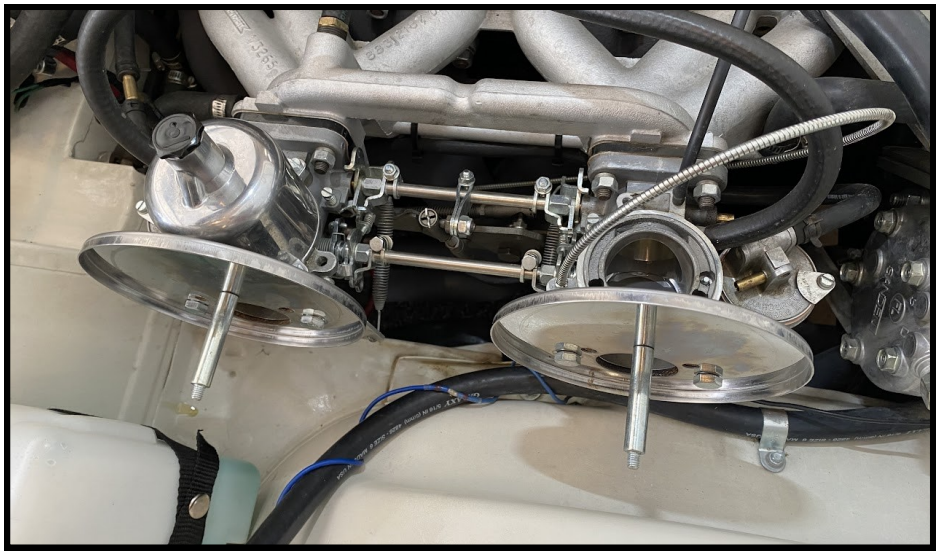
Turns out moisture had built up inside the dashpots and frozen the pistons in the closed position. I can honestly say (and I'm pretty sure Mike would say it too) that in all the years of driving British cars I have ***never***

A Unique Problem

Continued

encountered this before in an SU — or any other carburetor. The solution was easy. We removed the dashpots; wiped down the piston, housing, and mount; and put them back together again. Perfection once more.

Damper removed, looking at the piston



Wiped clean and ready for re-assembly. One down, one to go

In a piece of trivia (that may interest only me) Triumph started off using SU carbs, but had to pay the BMC's SU division a very high price for SU carbs. Adding insult to injury, BMC was notorious for delaying Triumph deliveries to satisfy demand on it's own product lines. After years of impacted delivery dates and high fees, Triumph kicked off work on what became the Stromberg CD (CD = Constant Depression) carburetor. After successfully developing a carb that did ***not*** infringe on SU patients, Triumph sold the design to Stromberg with a promise to use Stromberg carbs if Stromberg could reliably mass produce the product.

And Webber? The SU is a constant velocity carb. This means that the speed at which air flows over the jet never varies. The SU has one jet which must supply fuel during all stages of engine operation despite the fact that the engine demands different amounts of fuel and air for different situations. Everything is served by one jet, and the only possible adjustment (normally) is to the idle mixture. There are alternative jet needles, but for any given car you have the choice of weak, normal, or rich. Per the experts, the normal needle is probably correct for 90% of all cars on the road.

Weber carbs need different jets for each stage of engine operation. Unlike the SU, the jets must be tailored to work individually AND as a group. The SU varies airflow and jet diameter on its own to meet engine requirements. The Weber cannot do this, it must be set up in advance to meet expected demands, making it more complicated, time-consuming, and difficult to tune correctly. Done right, you get better performance, but that's the real trick — it has to be done right.

Successful HCTC Social Hour Change

Jacques Welter

After a lot of discussion, location swaps, and some false starts, it looks like the Hill Country Triumph Club has found its permanent home for the monthly Social Hour at the County Line on the Lake, located at 5204 Ranch Rd. 2222, Austin, TX.

To review, while there has been a long Hill Country Triumph Club tradition of meeting at the Tavern, the downtown rush-hour traffic and competition with other clubs for seating led us to seek an alternate venue that would be centrally-located for all members.

The inaugural HCTC members wetting down The County Line on the Lake venue

The County Line on the Lake location, just around the corner from the Waterloo Icehouse on Capitol of Texas Highway, is equidistant for most people in the Greater Austin area. Better, there are multiple routes to the venue for folks coming from the north, south and all points in-between.

Attending the inaugural Social Hour were some 14 members of HCTC. What we found was a venue long on hospitality; good food; and great service. The food portions were generous — indeed the plates were heaped with food. The Country Line on the Lake has a Happy Hour Tuesday that runs all night with discounts on Texas-label beer.

The management was very accommodating of our club, providing a flexible seating area that was semi-private. They also allowed us to come and go as needed, and provided a designated waiter to see to our needs. The County Line has ample seating, both indoor and outside, so no doubt we'll be taking advantage of the outdoor seating as the weather improves.

Along with the change of venue, we changed the start time. The targeted gathering time will be from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. That said, the Social Hour is designed as a come-and-go event so there is no specific time attendees have to arrive or leave.

We hope to see everyone there at our next Social Hour gathering on March 12th.

County Line on the Lake

Texas All British Car Days 2024

Hello and welcome to the first communication on Texas All British Car Days 2024. This article is our chance to communicate with you about the upcoming 2024 Texas All British Car Days (TX ABCD). We've made several changes this year and we hope you're as excited as we are, so we wanted to get the word out early.

Venue — Marble Falls, Texas

We listened to a lot of feedback from last year and the year before. What we heard was TX ABCD attendees wanted a venue that was:

- Easy to get to, and leave from, and get on to the higher speed Texas road system
- Refreshments — and shade — in a comfortable setting
- Things to do close to the hotel / show setting

Using this feedback as our guide, the TX ABCD Steering committee set out to look at venues. We scrutinized Dripping Springs; Georgetown; Marble Falls; Round Rock; and Salado as possible venues. After doing a full analysis, we've elected to hold the 33rd annual Texas All British Car Days show in **Marble Falls** as it met all criteria.

Texas All British Car Days format and events

Other points of feedback dealt with the show flow and format. Traditionally, we've had the Social Hour on Friday; some form of Rallye on Saturday; and the show + awards on Sunday. We listened and as a result, we're changing things up a bit this year to provide a better show experience and to align with other regional shows.

The new format of the show will be as follows:

Friday

- Social Hour
- Late Registration

Saturday

- Texas All British Car Days Show, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Self-guided drives, 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
- Cash-bar reception, 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
- Awards banquet, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Texas All British Car Days 2024

Sunday

- Breakfast 8:00 am to 9:00 am
- Optional Destination drive, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Yes, there are a few changes here. First, we're having the Car Show on Saturday, not Sunday. Second, we're having a reception and an awards banquet Saturday afternoon / evening to cap off the day. Third, we're having a breakfast on Sunday coupled with a drive. We found this format answered most — if not all — the feedback points from previous shows. It also better aligns with what other shows — Brits in the Ozarks; VTR Regionals; Brits on the Bluff; Texas All British and European Car Days — are doing with their shows.

Texas All British Car Days Locations

Hotel & TX ABCD Headquarters:

The Hidden Falls Inn
704 First St. Marble Falls, TX 78654
https://www.hiddenfallsinn.com/

The Hidden Falls Inn will have 30 rooms reserved for TX ABCD attendees. Rooms are strictly first come, first serve. Reservations will open Monday, March 4th. To receive the group rate, mention "Texas All British Car Days" or wait for the update on the TX ABCD website.

HIDDEN FALLS INN
AT LAKE MARBLE FALLS

Social Hour:

Bear King Brewing Company
207 Avenue G, Marble Falls, TX, 78654
https://bearkingbrewing.com/

Come join your fellow British car owners for a frosty adult beverage and a burger Friday from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm

BEAR KING
MF Brewing Co. TX

Texas All British Car Days 2024

Texas All British Car Days Show:

Dos Conchas Ranch
1375 FM-1855, Marble Falls, Texas 78654
https://www.dosconchasranch.com/

Gates open at 8:30 am for all registered cars. Cars should be parked and ready for the show by 10:00 am.

Same day registration will be at the Hidden Falls Inn, not at the show.
Same-day registration ends at 9:30 am, Saturday, October 12th

TX ABCD Reception & Awards Banquet:

Cadillac Dancehall at Dos Conchas Ranch
1375 FM-1855, Marble Falls, Texas 78654
https://www.dosconchasranch.com/

Cash-bar reception starting at 5:00 pm followed by a buffet dinner (6:00 pm) and awards ceremony at the Cadillac Dancehall. Tickets will be sold to the Awards banquet via registration

Sunday Breakfast:

Bear King Brewing Company
207 Avenue G, Marble Falls, TX, 78654
https://bearkingbrewing.com/

Start your day right with a drive and a brunch.

Texas All British Car Days 2024

The Importance of Early Registration

We'd really like you to register early. This helps us get accurate counts for the show, regalia, etc. To provide an incentive to you to register early, we are offering a significant discount from late and same-day registration. Registration fees will go up as the show approaches. Fee schedule:

- Early Registration, up to September 9th: **$35**
- Late Registration, September 10th thru October 11th: **$40**
- Same-day Registration: **$50**

Same-day registration is not available at the show venue this year. Instead, same day registration will be at TX ABCD headquarters in The Hidden Falls Inn, and will run from 8:00 am to 9:30 am.

Tickets for the Awards Banquet and Breakfast will be sold at time of ***registration***. There will be no same-day purchases.

Registration will open April 1st, 2024

Regalia

Regalia is being made available through Bits of Triumph (https://bitsoftriumph.com/). You may purchase regalia at any time once the store front opens. Regalia this year consists of a polo shirt; a T-Shirt; and a ballcap. Both the polo shirt and the T-shirt can be customized with up to three lines of type (Name; Car Type; Car Club; etc.). Look for more information on the TX ABCD and Bits of Triumph website. All regalia will be distributed at the show.

Pricing will be posted and ordering will start on April 1st

If you have any questions, please direct them to the Texas ABCD 2024 Steering committee of Mike McPhail; Jacques Welter; and Joe Payne. Thank you.

Texas All British Car Days 2024

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there going to a Vendor's Corner?
A: Yes, like last year, we will be hosting vendors providing services and products to British car owners

Q: Will food and beverages be available during the show?
A: Yes, there will be both food trucks and a beverage stand selling water, soft drinks, and coffee

Q: Is there going to be a swap meet like last year?
A: No, we have decided to not continue with that

Q: How much will the Awards banquet cost?
A: At this point we do not have a cost, but we are focused on providing a quality meal at an affordable price

Q: Will Regalia be sold at the show?
A: Yes, Bits of Triumph will be at Late Registration Friday and at the show in the Vendor's Corner

Q: Can I register more than one car? Is there a discount for two or more?
A: Yes, you can register as many cars as you wish. No, there is no volume discounts.

Q: When does preferred-rate hotel registration end?
A: The Hidden Falls Inn will release any unleased rooms in the TX ABCD block two weeks prior to show

Q: Do I need a ticket to attend the Awards Banquet? Can I get tickets if I register late?
A: Yes, you will need to purchase a ticket for the Awards Banquet. Yes, but only up to the day prior to show. There will be no same-day purchases.

Q: Do I need a ticket for the Breakfast?
A: TBD, we're still working out the details on this one

Q: Is there a rain-out date?
A: No, there is no rain date planned

Q: How will the cars be judged? What kind of award?
A: TX ABCD will be using a Car Class system with People's Choice voting. Awards will be for 1st; 2nd; 3rd in class. Additional awards will be handed out for Best in Show; Best Survivor; and Furthest Driven

Q: When does Registration open?
A: TX ABCD will be using CarShow Pro again this year for registration. We anticipate Registration opening in late March or early April.

HCTC Events Calendar

Year-at-a-glance

Editor's Note: *We're starting a new format with the HCTC Events section. We've created an at-a-glance section at the beginning of the newsletter and added a calendar-year events calendar to the already comprehensive coverage of HCTC events.*

JANUARY '24

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01 New Years Day
9 HCTC Social Hour
13 HCTC Morning Mtg
15 MLK Day
29 HCTC Drive Taylor

FEBRUARY '24

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10 HCTC Morning Mtg
10 Drive A Triumph Day
13 HCTC Social Hour
14 Valentines Day
19 Presidents Day
24 Georgetown Car & Air Sh

MARCH '24

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9 HCTC Morning Mtg
12 HCTC Social Hour
16 BLUEBONNET AIRSHO BNT
MGClub Spring Drive
23 New Orleans All British Car Day
31 Easter

? "Come and Take It" RR Gonz

APRIL '24

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28	29	30				

8 Solar Eclipse
9 HCTC Social Hour
13 Burnet Car Show BNT
SAIC Luckenbach Rally SAT
HCTC Morning Mtg
21 Dallas All British & Euro Car Dy

MAY '24

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4 WINGS & WHEELS! KGBY
11 HCTC Morning Mtg
12 Mothers Day
14 HCTC Social Hour
27 Memorial Day
30- VTR SC Regional, STL

JUNE '24

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1- VTR SC Regional, STL
8 Annual Picnic/ Election
11 HCTC Social Hour
16 Father's Day

Jul 2024

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04 Independence Day
9 HCTC Social Hour
13 HCTC Morning Mtg

Aug

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

10 HCTC Morning Mtg
13 HCTC Social Hour

SCCA Twin Sisters Dr

Sep

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

02 Labor Day
8- 12 VTR Nationals
10 HCTC Social Hour
14 HCTC Morning Mtg
18 6-Pack Trials

Triumphest
Rio Grande Valley Reg
Rendezvous TADS NM

Oct

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

BITO
8 HCTC Social Hour
11 -13 TX ABCD
12 HCTC Morning Mtg
14 Columbus Day

31 Halloween

Nov

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

9 HCTC Morning Mtg
11 Veterans Day
12 HCTC Social Hour
28 Thanksgiving Day

Dec

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

14 HCTC Morning Mtg
10 HCTC Social Hour

25 Christmas

HCTC Events

HCTC March 16 Double-header

Plan on an early start Saturday, March 16th. Meet the Hill Country Triumph Club in historic downtown Georgetown at 8:00 am for Pistons on the Square, the most popular collector car show in Central Texas. Once there, HCTC will join the Georgetown All-British Squadron. Let's turn out in force and give the Hill Country a taste of England. (https://visit.georgetown.org/pistons-on-the-square-nov-18-8-10-a-m/)

Plan on getting there early if you want a parking spot at Pistons !!

At 10:00 am, once Pistons breaks up, we will caravan to Burnet for the Bluebonnet Air Show, arriving at Casa Vasquez (134 Wandering Oak Circle) about 11:00 am. Kim and Sam are hosting us at their new home, which is conveniently located directly under the aerial action. A scrumptious lunch will be provided, so bring your appetite and lawn chair. BYOB

More information on the air show can be found here: https://www.bluebonnetairshow.com/

HCTC Events

HCTC Breakfast Meeting
Waterloo Icehouse
March 9th

The HCTC Breakfast Meeting starts your Saturday off right at the Waterloo Icehouse at the corner of Capital of Texas Highway and FM2222 !!

Come join the Club for breakfast, club updates, and some good company and conversation. Plan your arrival for 9:30—9:45 as the meeting (and breakfast) starts by 10:00 am.

After breakfast there will be a driving event to The Redbud Café in Blanco. Can't wait to see you there !!

HCTC Social Hour
The County Line on the Lake
March 12th

Take a break from your busy calendar and hoist a few frosty adult beverages with your favorite people at the Hill Country Triumph Club social hour, held every second Tuesday of the month.

<u>The Social Hour has moved its venue</u> to **The County Line on the Lake**, just up the road from The Waterloo Icehouse. The County Line on the Lake is located at 5204 FM 2222.

While the event nominally runs from 6pm to 8pm, folks have been known to show up early and stay on late, so if you can't make it on time, don't worry — there'll still be folks there when you get there.

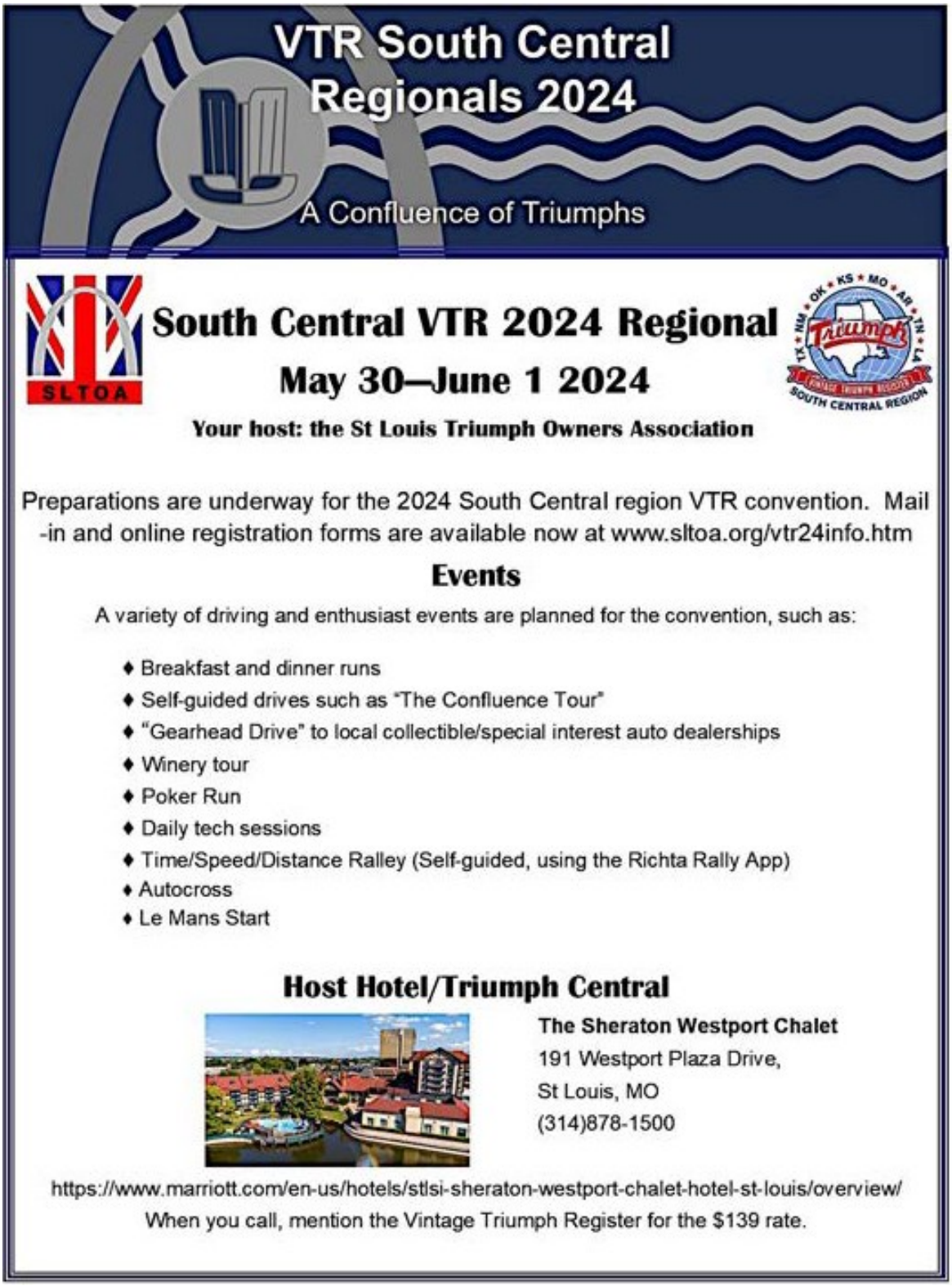
Events: South-Central VTR Regionals

St. Louis, Missouri

May 30 - June 1

For more information and to register, please go to:

https://sltoa.org/scvtr-2024/



Events: VTR Nationals

Nashville, Indiana

September 8 - 12

For more information and to register, please go to:

https://indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention

VTR National Convention 2024

September 8 - 12, 2024

Nashville, Indiana

Hosted by Indiana Triumph Cars

Celebrating 50 Years of "The Shape"

Join us in Nashville, Indiana for the 2024 VTR National Convention. The event will be based at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park, just outside Nashville. Brown County, the "Little Smokies" of Indiana, has amazing topography and great driving roads for you to explore. Between Columbus and Bloomington, Nashville's downtown is home to many artists, tasting rooms, distilleries, and restaurants.

Registration is OPEN now!

Seats for Banquet are limited. Register Early!

indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention

The Central Ohio Center of the Triumph Register of America cordially invites you to the 2024 TRA National Meet which will be held at the Mohican State Park Lodge near Perrysburg, Ohio June 17 through June 21, 2024. This will be the 50th anniversary of COCTRA and TRA and we plan to make it a special celebration for our vintage Triumphs. Although details are still being finalized, we will definitely have an off-site Welcome Dinner, a Poker Run, a Fun Rally, a guided driving tour to nearby Amish country, a Membership Meeting, a Parts Auction, a Concours and Participant's Choice Car Show and an Awards Banquet. Some of the COCTRA TRA Committee have been to the Lodge and have met with the Manager, James Calderhead, who is proving to be most accommodating. He is doing everything he can to make our stay both memorable and enjoyable.

The Parts Auction is always fun, entertaining and a great way to obtain some rare and useful parts for your Triumph. If you plan to bring items for the auction, the rule of thumb is: if you wouldn't use it on your car, please leave it at home. Obviously, parts need to be clean and (preferably) painted.

The roads around the Lodge are well-suited for our driving events, so heavy traffic shouldn't be a problem. The tour to Berlin, Ohio should prove interesting to anyone who is interested in the Amish way of life. Berlin is a tourist town complete with many shops and restaurants.

Instructions for all drives will be printed within the Meet Program, so nobody should get lost. Lodge reservation instructions are included on the Registration Form. We suggest that you make your Lodge reservations soon and be certain to mention that you are booking for TRA 2024 to obtain reduced pricing. Also, we suggest that you call the Lodge in the morning hours as there is one person on the front desk in the late afternoon and getting through may be an issue.

The 2024 TRA Meet team is putting together a collection of events to keep everyone busy and there will be plenty of opportunities to kick back and relax with old and new friends.
Again, we welcome you to the 50th anniversary of COCTRA and TRA. We hope you choose to attend our celebration. As the TRA Facebook page becomes available, we will post updates.

– John Huddy

Why should I join the VTR?

VTR works to maximize the enjoyment all of us have when driving a Triumph and emphasizes camaraderie and social interaction among Triumph owners. As the only North American organization which recognizes each and every Triumph model, we hope you'll want to join us as we strive to achieve these goals.

We also hope you'll attend either the National or regional gatherings of VTR members. These conventions are always fun for attendees, and joining a VTR chapter will introduce you to others in your area who share your passion for Triumphs. Car shows, rallies, autocrosses, tours, vintage racing, and social gatherings are a regular part of the VTR scene. The HCTC is a VTR Chapter, but we urge you to also join the VTR as an individual.

Won't you join us? https://vintagetriumphregister.org/

Your dues provide the following:

- Our award winning, bi-monthly, color-cover magazine, The Vintage Triumph
- Free classified advertising in the magazine
- Technical assistance from our vehicle consultants
- VTR membership card and windshield decal

TRIUMPH REGISTER OF AMERICA

Formed to preserve the Triumph marque

ESTABLISH 1974

Triumph Register of America (TRA)

is a non-profit organization established to aid TR2, 3, 3A, 3B, 4 and 4A owners in the preservation, maintenance and enjoyment of their classic sports cars. TRA is a grassroots organization, which offers many advantages and services for individual members, groups and local centers.

TRA Membership dues:
$40.00 Annually (US Resident)
$50.00 Annually (Non-US Resident)

Checks or money orders for membership should be made payable to:Triumph Register of America.
Mail the check with the ***Membership Application Form*** to the address shown at the bottom of the form.

OPTION 1: You can also fill out form electronically through Acrobat Reader (not through your browser).
To fill out form: Download PDF. > Open in Acrobat Reader. > Fill out form. > Save document to your computer. > Email to membership chair.

OPTION 2: You can also scan your completed Membership Application Form and email.

Link to the PDF version of the membership form: TRA-Membership-Form-2022

Pay Dues via PayPal:
If you have a PayPal account and wish to pay dues using this service. Simply log onto your account and follow the prompts to send the approprate annual fee using the following email: triumph.register.of.america@comcast.net.
NOTE: The application form must still be mailed or emailed to the address shown at the bottom of the Membership Application Form.

Benefits of a Triumph Register of America Membership:

- Four newsletters per subscription written by and for Triumph owners
- Annual National Meet (Concours judging is limited to TR2 thru 4A, Participants choice is open to all Triumphs.)
- Local Center development information and event announcements
- Free classified ads related to Triumph sports cars
- Technical advice via the Newsletter
- Factory build records
- Comments on originality via the Newsletter
- Judging Standards and Restoration Guideline Manuals for TR 2/3 and TR4 (online)
- The TRA Forum (online) where you can communicate with fellow Triumph owners

Classifieds

Hill Country Triumph Club Advertising Rates

Member ads for Triumph cars or parts are free and will run for two issues. These ads may be renewed as necessary two times, for a total of six issues.

Ads or flyers for other club's events are free and will run for two issues.

Ads for commercial items or services will be charged the following rates:

Business Card ad: $5:00 per issue
Quarter page ad: $10.00 per issue
Half page ad: $15.00 per issue
Full-page ad: $25.00 per issue

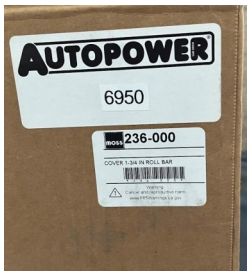
These ads must be prepaid and can be scheduled for as long as desired, minimum of six issues. Long term ad runs must be prepaid at the time of scheduling. All ads must include artwork.

Classifieds

Looking for a TR6 factory steel hardtop. Please contact:
Dick Simonson

In all the confusion with our TR6, some stuff got double ordered:

1. Moss Roll bar cover- new in box , part number 236-000, orig. 129.99, so would like to get ~$100 for it.
2. Mosom car cover Moss 237-420, as new, still packed in original box since 2019, orig. $134.99, so would like to get ~$100.



Bill Beckenbaugh
Katy, TX
wmbeckenbaugh@gmail.com

We have finished the restoration of the TR3A we have owned for about 44 years. After all those years of gathering parts and parts cars, we now have many parts and pieces left. I am wanting to give these to either an individual or a business that will be able to use them to keep some of these cars going. I don't mind if they are sold by a business or used by an individual – I just want them to be used and not stored in my garage.

I have a complete TR3 engine. It was running when it was removed 40+ years ago. Asking $100. Extra crank-shaft, condition unknown: $25. Extra flywheel, condition unknown: $25. Extra head, condition unknown: $25.

Contact Bill Duran, 512-227-6067 (cell)

Looking for a Triumph Stag Hardtop please contact me if you have one for sale. Thanks!
Joe Payne 210-326-6673
robjoepayne@yahoo.com

I undertake repairs to all British and European classic cars. If your car does not start or needs tuning I can perform on any carburetor including Keihin or Mikunis. Call or text Olivio 316 200 3068. Member HCTC and Vintage Triumph Register. Thanks.

Visor assembly with mounts (both sides), ignition switch cover, trunk light, misc. items. Text Jim @ 254-563-9141

Classifieds

Triumph TR6 '69-72 Intake Manifold Stanpart V3108, used, as is. Great condition. Price plus shipping or pick up in central Texas $110

Many more parts for sale and prices negotiable. See the catalog PDF or look at https://www.triumphexp.com/forum/buy-sell-and-trade-forum.5/

Contact Rip at 512 845 2944 or rtorn09@gmail.com

New Spitfire Seat Covers Set for sale.

This is a set of brand new seat covers made in England. Color beige Price $350.00. If you buy a new set it would cost over $500.00.

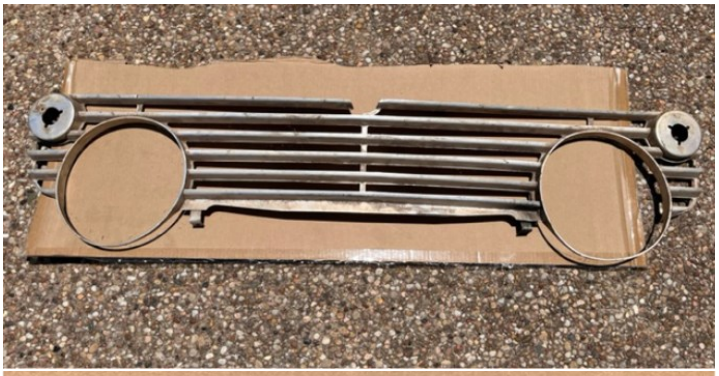
Please call or text 316 200 3068.

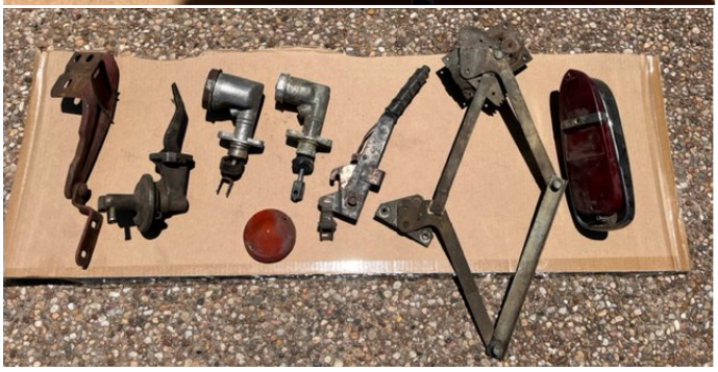
Classifieds

Used seats from a '75 TR6. Headrests are functional and stay up as desired. Asking $240.00

Text Jim @ 254-563-9141

TR4A Parts. Various parts left from my rebuild several years ago. Grill is $50. It does need a repair as pictured. As to the other parts just call and give me a offer. 214-587-5390.





The Hill Country Triumph Club, is a not-for-profit car club affiliated with several national groups. We are the 50th Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR), was founded in 1990 to bring together the owners of Triumph automobiles in the Central Texas area surrounding Austin. In 1991, the membership decided to include other British car fans as associates due to lack of other clubs in our area that represent some of the other marques. As owners and lovers of our unique types of cars, we have a special kinship, which draws us together. Membership is open to anyone who is a British car enthusiast, with or without a car.

As of 1 July 2022, Annual dues are only $20.00 per new membership for a family group or address per year and go toward supporting club events. We encourage new members to order their club nametag for an additional $11 each. Renewals are $20 annually.

We have social get-togethers on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, Breakfast Business meetings on the second Saturday of the month, and at least one other event each month. We encourage you to join and support us, even if you don't drive your car regularly. We support our members interested in Showing Cars, Traveling, Racing, Restoring, Maintaining and otherwise socializing. One goal of the club is to help its members keep their cars on the road. Please contact one of the club officers listed in the newsletter for more information at info@hctc.us about club benefits and spread the word about our club to others.

The Hill Country Club is a local chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR)/Triumph Sports Owners Association, which is open to all drivers of Triumph motorcars; a chapter of the Triumph Register of America, exclusively for TR2 through TR4A sports cars; and a chapter of the 6-PACK, dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation, and restoration of the Triumph TR250 and TR6 sports cars. Membership in these national organizations is encouraged. Visit their websites at www.vtr.org, www.triumphregister.com, and www.6-pack.org.

The Ragtop is published monthly by the Hill Country Triumph Club. Material within may be freely reproduced providing Ragtop and the authors are credited. Any and all newsletter contributions are welcome. Deadline for submissions is the end of each month. Submissions may be emailed to editor@hillcountrytriumphclub.org. Car related classified ads are free to members and will run for three months unless otherwise instructed. Contact editor for other ads.

Membership

Payment is due on joining and payable by check to HCTC and may be:
1. Mailed with this application to: HCTC Membership Chair, 1105 N. Canyonwood Dr., Dripping Springs, TX 78620 or
2. Online (when active) on the www.hctc.us or
3. Bring this application (filled out) to the next meeting.

Dues may be paid in more than 1-year increments. Renewals will be due on the closest Jan 1 or Jul 1. Multi-year rates: 5 years- $90, 10 years- $170.

Club bylaws are available online. By joining the membership, their family and/or guests agree to hold the HCTC, officers, or other members harmless in the event of any accidents or incidents related to club activities.

Please fill this out and send in with Membership request

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email: _____

TR Car 1: Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____

Car 2: Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____

How did you hear about HCTC? _____

Special interests, skills, etc? _____

What do you want your nametag to read? _____

Additional Nametag reads _____ (Add $11 per badge) If you want the badges mailed to you, add $2.00 per badge. Contact Gary Payne to order name badges (garypayne75@hotmail.com).