

The

December 2024



Letter From The Editor

December, 2024

Jacques Welter

Note: Ordinarily, we have Joe's Letter from the President here but I'm pinch-hitting for Joe this month - JW

What a wonderful month-plus we've had and what a good December we have coming up !!

November up North is a cold, wet, miserable month. Leaves have already changed; all of your colors are muted browns and dull oranges and yellows; the sky is dull and overcast - in some cases snow is already on the ground. But down here in Texas, November is a drive-your-car month, and HCTC did just that - trips as far away as Big Bend National Park and as close as Andice, with a small trip to a brewing company thrown in !! And just wonderful weather to accompany all the drives.

One of the great things about belonging to Hill Country Triumph Club (HCTC) is the diverse opportunities each member has for driving / destination outings. Just looking at the November calendar illustrates that. On November 16th, HCTC joined forces with the Georgetown All-British Squadron at Pistons on the Square; went to the personal collection of Gordon Logan (founder of Sports Clips); and finished with a drive out to Andice for burgers, fries, and friendship.

On the 19th through the 22nd, HCTC took to the roads for a little trip down to Big Bend and West Texas, taking in the sights and scenery and reflecting on a less-crowded and more laid back Texas than we get here in Central Texas. Finishing off the month, HCTC joined forces with Brits and Barley to head over to 512 Brewing Company here in Austin.

The main thing is this — driving events are plentiful with HCTC and the weather is generally cooperative. Speaking of cooperative — HCTC often joins up with other groups of British motoring enthusiasts, either informally or formally, to give us many, many driving opportunities. We call these groups



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Letter from the Editor

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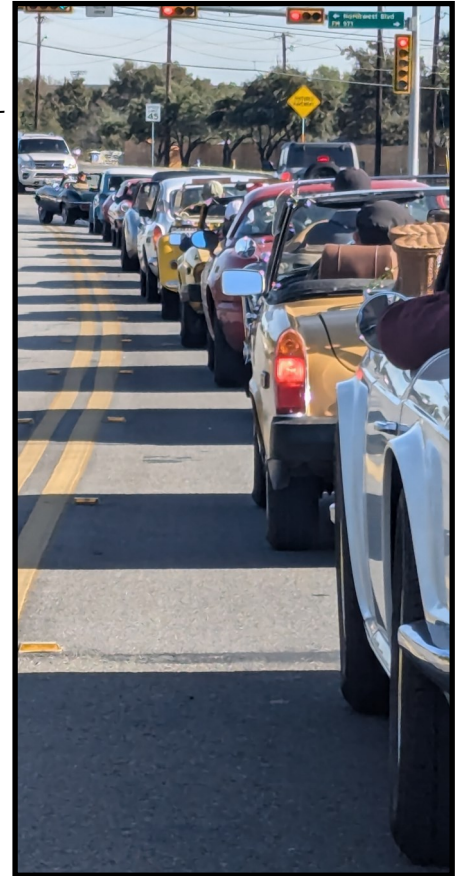
“affiliated” to HCTC and they share their calendar and group activities with us here in HCTC. You can find these outings on our Club calendar and in the Events section of the newsletter. You can also find these events on the HCTC website and Facebook page.

For driving events this month, HCTC will be heading out for its annual Tour De Lights drive on December 10th. Starting in Dripping Springs, we’ll be heading out to Johnson City for a great dinner and a walking tour of the light show in the town square in Johnson City. More details on this can be found in the Events section of The Ragtop.

December also means Christmas, and this year’s party promises to be a great one. Hosted by Sam and Kim Vazquez, festivities will start at 5 pm at their house in Burnet. There will be food, beverages, door prizes, a festive sweater competition, with lots of merry-making. Invites are already sent - check your Inbox and Spam folder - and even if you can’t find the Evite, please be sure to respond ASAP as the Vazquez’ will be purchasing food soon and we need an accurate count.

Lastly I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and holiday season.

Let’s ride !!



A long line of British iron on the way to Andice



Mike McPhail and Charlie Stewart stand in front of a vintage Aston Martin DB6 in Gordon Logan’s car collection



Dan Julien, Roger Bolick, and Mike McPhail at Social Hour



A refreshing afternoon at the 512 Brewing Company with Brits and Barley



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Back issues of The Ragtop are available on our website:

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Jim Wells



Gary Payne



Dick Simonson

HCTC Events-at-a-Glance

December, 2024

December 10th:

- **Hill Country Annual Tour De-Lights**
Meet at The Barber Shop, Dripping Springs

December 14th:

- **HCTC Breakfast Meeting**
Waterloo Icehouse, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Hill Country Triumph Club Christmas Dinner**
Kim & Sam Vazquez' residence, Burnet, TX, 5:00 pm

December 21st:

- **Georgetown Pistons on the Square**
Williamson County Courthouse Square, Georgetown, TX

December 25th:

Merry Christmas

December 28th:

Brits and Barley

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 	11	12	13	14  
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22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
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January, 2025

January 1st:

- **Happy New Year's Day**

January 11th:

- **HCTC Breakfast Meeting**
Waterloo Icehouse, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

January 14th:

- **Hill Country Triumph Club Social Hour**
The County Line on the Lake, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

January 18th:

- **Georgetown Pistons on the Square**
Courthouse Square, Georgetown, TX

January 25th:

- **Brits and Barley**
Acopon Brewing, Dripping Springs, TX, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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KEY



= HCTC-sponsored event



= Affiliated event



= Car Show



= Holiday

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

Secretary's Report

December, 2024

Dick Simonson



November had a lot going on, both in and outside the club. There was a presidential election and of course, the Thanksgiving holiday. I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It is important to consider the things in our life we have to be thankful for and although we should be mindful of these things year round, the holiday helps bring them into focus. I have many things to be thankful for, certainly family, friends and health, but right in there is belonging to our group of Little British Car enthusiasts. I have greatly enjoyed the last few years of my affiliation with this club and without getting too sappy, I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to help a little along the way.

In terms of activities, club sponsored or not, we had a full month. We started with a board meeting on the 5th, the minutes of which are posted on the HCTC website. Some of the highlights were a recap of the TXABCD. Including car entrants and banquet attendees, we had a total of 249 total paid

participants. Net revenue was over \$5,000. Of that, the board voted to donate \$4,500 to the Eddie Shell and Cloyce McLean Foundation. We received many positive reviews and plans are already being made for the 2025 edition. Mike McPhail and Jacques Welter will be heading the effort again and the venue will be back at the Dos Conchas Ranch in Marble Falls. The planned dates are October 10-12.

Stay tuned.

Some upcoming events were discussed, including the Back to Big Bend drive on November 19. You can read about the actual drive in other parts of the Ragtop. Other discussions included possible alternative December drives beyond the Tour De-Lights, but no decisions were made at the time.

Since that meeting, a decision was made to continue with the Tour De-Lights. We closed with a presentation



HCTC October Social Hour



Sam Vazquez in his 1973 Sapphire Blue TR6 pulls into the TX ABCD event

Secretary's Report

November 2024

Continued

by our treasurer, Gary Payne, on the budget. In short, the club is doing well financially and the details can be found on the website.

We had our monthly breakfast meeting on the ninth. Fifteen folks and ten cars met at Waterloo. Jacques and Mike presented a number of attendees with recognition awards for their volunteer efforts concerning the TXABCD. Similar awards will be mailed to those volunteers not at the meeting. The issue of where to hold the club's Christmas party was resolved when Kim and Sam Vazquez graciously offered to host the event at their house. Evites have since gone out for the 14th of December. Hope to see you all there.

The monthly Social hour took place on the 12th at the County Line. On the 16th, a number of club members joined the Georgetown Area British Squadron for Pistons on the Square. Following the show, fifteen cars drove to Gordon Logan's amazing car collection a few miles away in Georgetown. Mr. Logan greeted us and provided us with an informative and entertaining background on each of his cars. As you can see from the pictures, there was plenty to look at. From there, the group caravanned to the Andice General Store for lunch. It was perfect top down driving weather.

On the 19th, Mike McPhail led a small but intrepid group of Triumphs on a 400+ mile drive to west Texas on the "Back to Big Bend" Tour. It was a three night affair and I'm sure Mike will regale us with more details.

The Brits and Barley group met on the 24th at 2:00 pm. Nine attendees joined up for some socializing at 512 Brewing Company in South Austin.

On the 10th of December, in lieu of our social hour, we will have our annual Tour De-Lights. The group will meet at The Barber Shop in Dripping Springs at 5:00 pm with plans to be at Proof & Cooper in Johnson City at 7:00 pm.

We will have our regular breakfast meeting at Waterloo on the 14th, followed by the Christmas Party at 5:00 pm at the Vazquez residence.



Dick Simonson checks out a perfect Jaguar E type in Gordon Logan's collection.



Social Hour, November, at the County Line on the Lake



15 cars showed up for the Georgetown All-British Squadron affiliated event.

From the Archives

Art Graves



Here is a look back at what the Hill Country Triumph Club was doing in August 2007. Bob Skewis served as secretary from July 2007 to June 2011. He very cleverly used his name along with a common British colloquialism to name his column.

—Art

Bob's Your Uncle

August 2007 Meeting Minutes

By Bob Skewis

After fighting our way across town to Rudy's on 620, the shade of the side shed and the cool brew took away any unpleasant heat of the day. The sight of twelve Triumphs lined up in the parking lot was a sight that made everyone smile. Speaking of fighting across town, Warren and Yolanda rolled up a little late (or right on time) but they got the long-distance award for driving from Martindale to be there — 100 miles after he got off work. So, all you members that are lurking on the edges of Austin, the gauntlet has been ceremoniously thrown to the ground! Come on out and see us next month — some of you we have not seen for a long time. We were glad to see Ralph Herter return to the fold after surgery, driving Jeffie's Spitfire this time. Guess we will see him in the TR6 in August since he seems to have the rotation going.

New President (The Leader) Bill Waller was anxious to get the meeting rolling and officially started it at 7:15! Mike McPhail announced that he and Art Graves will be doing their usual marathon to the Roadster Factory Summer Party and while they are in Pennsylvania they are joining Andy Reed at the

VTR Nationals in Valley Forge. Andy will be trying to win Best of Show with his white 67 TR4A after winning that same award at the Houston regional show this year.

The Leader introduced our only visitor at the meeting — Leander Mayor John Cowman. John has had a thing for 1973 TR6s since his teen years and only recently found his dream car in St. Louis. He happened across some information on our group and decided to stop in since we were in the neighborhood. Seems we are getting quite a few new prospective members these days.

Bob Skewis will be organizing the annual Blood Drive on August 18th followed by our annual BBQ at the Kramer lake house. More information is contained in this issue. I would encourage everyone that can to participate in a project that gives back to a community that we enjoy so much. If you can't give blood, come for the party while the lake is up, the sun is hot and the beer is cold. Bob Kramer will not be performing death defying feats under the car lift this year — this one's just for fun.

Those 12 cars were driven by Greg and Suzy West, Robert MacKenzie, Ralph Herter, Dean and Elizabeth

Mericas, Mike and Nel McPhail, Bill Waller, Ron Smith and Sam Dixon, Dan Julien, John Cowman, Richard Ceraldi, Warren and Yolanda Cole and Bob Skewis. Congratulations on a great turnout. See you in August

... on the road.

TR6 U-Joint Replacement

Michael McPhail

Universal joints are not “cannabis for the masses”, but rather the clever devices that allow two rotating shafts that are not in alignment to rotate freely. If your Triumph has not had them



May be worn out

replaced for a few years, they may be the source of those odd vibrations and clunking noises.

Set your hand brake with the car in gear and wrestle with the shafts while watching the joints. There should be no play at all in them... don't be confused by play in the gearbox, differential and half-shafts.

Look at the circlips on the joints for signs of rotation... evidence that the cup is

moving instead of the bearing. Greasing the joints is a good idea, but unfortunately, the grease does not always get to all four cups.

The TR6 has six u-joints, two on

the drive shaft and two more on each of the half-shafts. The half-shafts are easier than you might think to remove. Just take out the four bolts and lock-nuts on the inner flange at the differential, then pull off the brake drum to expose the six nuts holding the hub to the trailing arm. There are two holes in the flange that give access to the lock-nuts. The backing plate may try to come off with the hubs, but can easily be persuaded otherwise. The big, gombey rubber cover that hides the inner joint will come out with the rest of the half-shaft with just a little coaxing... I often relegate them to the trash can. The shaft is a two-piece affair, and care should be taken not to rip the little boot that keeps the dirt out. The drive shaft has a collar that unscrews for separation, but there is a grease fitting for the spines, and if it moves in and out easily there is not much reason to take it apart.

The driveshaft can be hard to remove, especially on later TR6s with dual-pipe exhausts. The exhaust system may have to be pulled or even the differential! Got to do it...

Once on the workbench, go ahead and remove the ties holding the aforementioned boot on the half-shaft and separate the two sections... they will need some grease later. On half-shafts they are keyed, so don't worry about alignment issues, but mark the drive shaft if you are going to take it apart. Grab one end of the shaft and remove all the snap-rings that hold the bearing caps in place. A liberal dose of PB Blaster or Liquid Wrench will help things along. Some joints will require hefty snap ring pliers, others really big needle-nose pliers... keep a punch and hammer nearby.

Now that that is done, hold the flange in your six-inch vice and beat on the free end with your lead wire wheel knockoff hammer so as to drive one of the bearing cups as far as you can out of the flange. Alternatively, a chisel can be applied to the spider with the same effect... or then there is the big socket approach as shown in the photo. Do the same thing to the other cup.

There should be enough room now to use a long 1/8-inch punch to drive one cup out of the flange. Once



Press that U-Joint cup right out



Could have used some grease

TR6 U-Joint Replacement

Continued

removed, the spider will come out, leaving the other cup exposed for removal.

Okay, that was the easy part. Repeat the ordeal for the rest of the joints. Once everything is apart, clean the flanges, taking care to assure that the snap-ring grooves are perfect. A Dremel tool wire brush works well, and their little sanding drum does a fine job of shining the bore where the bearing cups will reside.

Now the really fun part...installing the new joints! Take



Nasty old U-Joint

the new u-joint spider out of the box and remove the grease fitting. Remove two opposing cups and fill them with grease from your gun. Stick your pinky finger in to displace some of it. At this point we are trying desperately not to disturb the tiny needles in the cup. If one or more become

dislodged in the following procedure you will be very unhappy!

Take a cup and set it in the flange finger tight... straight would help. Use the vice to press the cup in flush with the flange. If the vice can't do the trick, the inside of the bore may have needed more sanding. Now take the new spider and carefully set it in the cup. Take the other cup and press it into place, keeping the spider perfectly aligned in the process. Now, take a socket out of the tool box that is slightly smaller than the cup and use it in the vice to press one of the cups further into its bore, exposing the snap-ring groove. Install the new snap-ring and do

the same for the other side. The thick grease from the factory will come out along with some from your grease gun... good! If the second cup will not go in all the way, you may have screwed up. Not all is lost, but backing up at this point is no fun.

Once the first pair of cups are in place, the rest will get easier as you get the hang of it. Take your time and definitely have an extra pair of helping hands available. Okay, a 12-ton press may be needed. Don't forget to reinstall the grease fittings, and on some joints be aware that an angled fitting will need to point away from the shaft for servicing later. Truth is, it is very difficult to get a grease gun on the fittings once they are back on the car. Yeah, I hate u-joints too...



Moss Motors to the rescue

Hill Country Visits West Texas

Art Graves

It's November and all the car shows are over. What to do? Four Hill Country Triumph Club members knew what to do - drive out to West Texas, that's what! Benson Tuttle, Wiley Crystal, Mike McPhail and Art Graves drove their TR6s to Alpine to tour the area.

This was a great trip. I had to endure a torrential rain while driving out of Oklahoma, but the rest of the trip was excellent November weather. The mornings were cold out in West Texas, but the days were filled with sunshine and warm temperatures. Another plus to this trip was that there was no traffic to speak of. It's so nice to be able to just drive!

We were able to do everything we planned, which kept us quite busy. No time to fool around, except maybe in the evenings while unwinding over a couple of beers. Here is a brief list of all that we were able to do:

Tuesday November 19

- Benson, Mike and Art drove to Llano to meet up with Wiley and eat breakfast
- Drove to Fort McKavett and toured the grounds
- Drove to Alpine and checked in at the hotel

Wednesday November 20

- Left hotel, refueled and got a sandwich for later
- Drove along Limpia creek to Balmorhea State Park
- Visited the 1.75-acre spring-fed pool at the park
- Took circuitous route to the McDonald Observatory
- Ate lunch at a roadside picnic area
- Took a guided tour of the two large observatories
- Saw members Don and Laura Burkley at the observatory
- Drove to Fort Davis to sightsee the downtown area
- Drove to Marfa for sightseeing and a pizza dinner
- Drove back to Alpine, stopping at the Marfa Lights Viewing Area

Thursday November 21

- Left hotel, refueled and got a sandwich for later
- Drove to Terlingua and toured the downtown area and cemetery
- Saw members Jim and Karen Icenhower at the cemetery
- Drove into Big Bend National Park
- Ate lunch at the Santa Elena Canyon Overlook
- Drove east across BBNP to Boquillas Canyon overlook
- Refueled at the Panther Junction Gas Station
- Drove to Marathon for the night

Friday November 22

- Stopped briefly in route to Fort Stockton for car repairs
- Ate breakfast in Fort Stockton



Balmorhea Pool



Caverns of Sonora



Inside the Observatory

Hill Country Visits West Texas

Continued

- Drove to Sonora and toured the Caverns
- Drove to Dripping Springs

Other notes of interest

- The restaurants were all good, but in Marathon, the Brick and Vault BBQ & Brewery was excellent
- The Marathon Motel and RV Park (in Marathon) is a great place to stay. It features individual cabins and a courtyard complete with a fireplace with firewood
- The guided tour at the McDonald Observatory is well worth the fee
- Sonora Caverns is a stunning cave. Again, the tour is well worth the entrance fee

I highly recommend driving out to West Texas. There is a lot to see and do. The roads are well maintained and a lot of fun to drive – especially in the Davis Mountains.

And there is No Traffic!



Pottery at Big Bend National Park



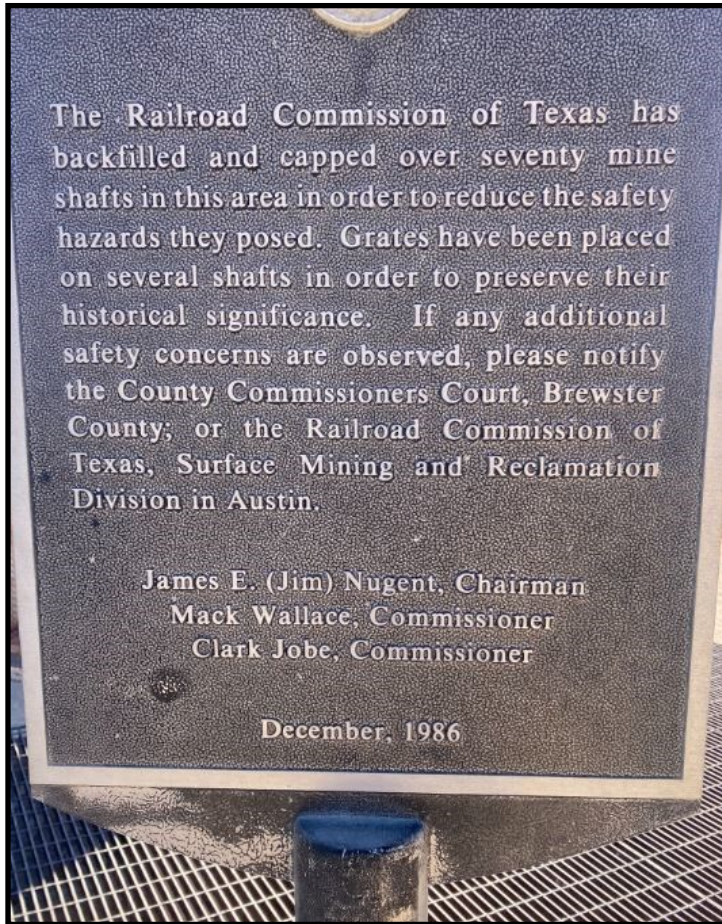
Terlingua Cemetery



Terlingua Welcome

Hill Country Visits West Texas

Continued



Mining Historical Marker



The Rio Grande River at Big Bend National Park



Triumphs parked in front of Fort McKavett. Left to Right: Art Graves; Benson Tuttle; Mike McPhail; Wiley Christal

Hill Country Visits West Texas

Continued



The stalagmite turns blue in sunlight



Wiley Christal walks past the Triumphs in downtown Marfa



Art makes his way out of the cavern



A challenging, winding road in Big Bend National Park



Modern-day cavemen: Wiley; Mike; Benson; Art



Refueling stop ...

It Could Happen to Anyone ...

Art Graves

In late November, four Hill Country Triumph Club members took a road trip to West Texas, more specifically, to Alpine and Big Bend National Park. Details of this trip are located in this newsletter. Participants were Benson Tuttle, Mike McPhail, Wiley Crystal and myself.

West Texas is sparsely populated with many miles separating even the smallest towns. For that reason, it is best to be prepared in case of car trouble. Prepared for car trouble, that is.

To that point, Benson was well prepared. On the last day of our trip, we were driving between Marathon and Fort Stockton on US 385 when steam began pouring out of Benson's TR6. He quickly pulled to the side of the road and popped the bonnet to look for the reason. It was readily apparent that the heater hose between the heater control valve and firewall had split, emptying the radiator of coolant.

As quick as a wink, Benson had the trunk empty and a replacement hose in hand. Mike and Wiley replaced the hose while Benson repacked his trunk. Replacing the hose was easy, but what about the empty radiator? We were in the middle of nowhere with no signs of civilization or water. Benson was prepared for that as well with several liter soda bottles filled with water. Soon the engine was running at normal temperature and we continued our trip to Fort Stockton and breakfast.

Not all car problems are so readily apparent. After we arrived at Mike's house, Benson reported a 'thunking' noise when shifting gears. Even though this noise didn't prevent him from continuing the trip, he knew it should be investigated. The next morning his car was on the lift to check for the source of the noise. It didn't take long to find a well-worn u-joint on the right-side half axle. Repairs were quickly made and Benson drove home to Portland, Texas with confidence and peace of mind.

As Benson remarked at the time, this could have happened to anyone. I would add that yes it could. But if you are prepared it will only be a minor inconvenience.

Good work, Benson!



Benson's split heater hose



Benson's well-stocked trunk

Lights

Wiley Christal

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. Hide it under a bushel, no! I'm gonna let it shine.

- Harry Dixon Loes, *This Little Light of Mine*

A study of physics tells us that light is a form of energy that consists of photons. Brighter light has more photons than dimmer light. Photons are difficult to understand – they have no mass and are continually moving. Photons, and light, travel in waves and can come from various sources, like the sun, light bulbs, phone screens, etc. Photons, and light travel at a speed of approximately 186,282 miles per second. So what?

Mike McPhail, Art Graves, Benson Tuttle, and I took our TR6 cars to the Big Bend area of Texas, November 19-22. That area of Texas has an unbelievable number of stars in the sky at night. While it was a mostly driving the Triumphs trip, we saw lots of stars, desert-like scenery with wild animals, scrub trees and bushes, canyons, rocks, and hills. And nice twisty roads that were fun to drive.

We did make stops to tour interesting sites: Fort McKavett, Balmorhea State Park, McDonald Observatory, Lights of Marfa, Terlingua – the Ghost Town, and Caverns of Sonora. My favorite stop was at McDonald Observatory where we took a tour (with a very good tour director) of two of their very expensive telescopes that study the night sky. The 107" telescope was undergoing some maintenance work, so we got to see some of its movements. That telescope was reported to have 0.1 arcsecond (0.00002777 degrees) of accuracy and it can detect light from more than 12 billion years ago! Using the speed of light from the first paragraph, that is a very large number of miles!

Just a few miles east of Marfa on US 90 is a stop for nighttime viewing the Lights of Marfa (mysterious dancing lights) on the southern horizon. The dancing lights were not out (but shooting stars were) when we stopped and it was cold, so we did not stay too long.

We stopped at the Caverns of Sonora on our return trip home and toured the caverns. These caverns are privately owned and very well managed. The tour director showed us the three main sections: dormant, semi-active, and active. The caverns were formed millions of years ago by rising water; hence calcium or calcite deposits are the main attractions with the caves. The dormant section is no longer growing, the semi-active section is still growing, and the active section has dripping water. At one stop the tour director turned all the lights off to give us an experience in

total darkness. It gets spooky in total darkness and silence! It makes you wonder how the first cave explorers with only head lamps were able to maneuver through the small crevices to find the big area that we viewed.

Triumph lights are something else. They emit photons when they work, but they are **not** predictable! I first noticed that both Art and Benson had only one backup light. But later in the trip something self-corrected on Benson's car and he had two backup lights. Then I noticed that Mike's car had a right tail/stop light that worked only during the daytime! During nighttime it did not work. But it seemed to have self-corrected by the last day of the trip. My turn signals stopped working on the last day of the trip. But just before dark, they started working again. So, Lucas, the Prince of Darkness, was playing games with our lights on this trip.



The Sonora Caverns

HCTC Events Calendar

2025 Year-at-a-glance

AFFILIATED GROUPS

- Georgetown All-British Squadron meets at Pistons on the Square (POTS) every 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 am
- Brits and Barley meets every fourth Saturday (or Sunday) of the month starting at 2:00 pm.

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01 New Year's Day
11 HCTC Morning mtg
14 HCTC Social Hr
20 M L King Day

04 Independence Day
08 HCTC Social Hr
12 HCTC Morning mtg
15-18 VTR National Wisc Conv

Jul						
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8 HCTC Social Hr
10 Sir J. Black/DYTD
11 HCTC Morning mtg
17 Presidents' Day
?? GTN Air & Car Show

9 HCTC Morning mtg
12 HCTC Social Hr

Aug						
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30	31					

8 HCTC Morning mtg
11 HCTC Social Hr
29 New Orleans British Motoring Festival

01 Labor Day
09 HCTC Social Hr
13 HCTC Morning mtg
?? Brits on the Bluff
?? Brits in the Ozarks

Sep						
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8 HCTC Social Hr
12 HCTC Morning mtg
20 Easter Sunday
23-6 VTR S. Central Reg Waco

04 Houston ABCD
04 Dallas ABCD
13 Columbus Day
14 HCTC Social Hr
10-25 Texas All British Car South Texas ABCD

Oct						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

26 Memorial Day
10 HCTC Morning mtg
11 All Brit & Euro Car Dallas
13 HCTC Social Hr

08 HCTC Morning mtg
11 Veterans Day
11 HCTC Social Hr
27 Thanksgiving Day

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						

Jun						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

7 Euro-Expo Cr Sh OK
10 HCTC Social Hr
14 HCTC Morning mtg
16-27-8 TRA National Meet Greater Ozarks

09 HCTC Social Hr / / Tour D'Lites
13 HCTC Morning mtg Xmas Party
25 Christmas

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			

Hill Country Driving Event

2024 Tour-De-Lites

This year's festive Christmas lighting tour will depart our favorite watering hole... "the Barbershop" ... in swinging downtown Drippin' Springs at 6 PM on December 10th.

Our destination is Proof and Cooper's trendy restaurant in Johnson City (7 PM arrival). After a sumptuous dinner we will walk across the street to view the fabulous holiday lighting display in downtown Johnson City.

Drive your Triumph!

<https://barbershopbar.com/>

<https://pclumberyard.com/>



Texas All British Car Days 2025

Come to the 34th Annual
Texas All British Car Days



October 10th to the 12th, 2025

At the beautiful Dos Conchas Ranch, Marble Falls, TX
Supporting the Eddie Shell & Cloyce McLean Community Foundation



Register and information Online



Self-Guided Fun Drives

Car Show Awards Dinner

Happy Hour Friday

Food Trucks! Vendors

Sponsored By:

YOUR LOGO HERE



Continfo@hillcountrytriumphclub.com



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/115499245141733>

HCTC Car Show Calendar

New Orleans British Motoring Festival

Location: Covington, Louisiana

Date: March 29, 2025

Web: <https://www.bmcno.org/2025-british-motoring-festival/>

Dallas All British & European Car Day

Location: White Rock Lake Park, Dallas, Texas

Date: ??, 2025

Web: <https://allbritishcarday.com/shop/>

VTR South Central Regional Convention

Location: Bellmead, Texas

Date: April 23 – April 26, 2025

Web: ??

Euro-Expo Car Show

Location: Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Date: June 7, 2025

Web: <http://www.jaguarcluboftulsa.com/>

TRA National Meet

Location: Kalamazoo, Michigan

Date: June 16 – June 20, 2025

Web: <https://www.triumphregister.com/tra-national-meet/>

Greater Ozarks British Motoring Club Car Show

Location: Springfield, Missouri

Date: June 27 – June 28, 2025

Web: <https://gobmccarshow.com/>

VTR National Convention

Location: La Crosse, Wisconsin

Date: July 15 – July 18, 2025

Web: <https://www.mntriumphs.org/vtr2025/>

Kansas City All British Car Day

Location: Merriam, Kansas

Date: September 7 – September 8, 2025

Web: <http://www.heartlandallbritish.com/index.html>

6-Pack Trials

Location: Fontana Dam, North Carolina

Date: October 2 – October 5, 2025

Web: <https://forums.6-pack.org/>

Triumphest

Location: Buellton, California

Date: October 5 – October 8, 2025

Web: <http://www.triumphest.org>

British Iron All British Car Day

Location: Agri Park, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Date: ??, 2025

Web: <http://www.britishironnwa.org/>

Britts on the Bluff

Location: Natchez, Mississippi

Date: ??, 2025

Web: <https://www.msemc.org/events/>

Houston All British Car Day

Location: Houston, Texas

Date: October 4th, 2025

Web: NA

Texas All British Car Day

Location: Austin, Texas

Date: October 10th - 12th, 2025

Web: <https://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org/txabcd/>

South Texas All British Car Day

Location: Boerne, Texas

Date: October 26th, 2025

Web: https:

Brits and Barley

Jacques Welter

Looking to have even more fun in your Triumph? Join the crew of Brits and Barley.

Brits and Barley is a driving / destination group (not a club) dedicated to the premise of driving our British automobiles and drinking some good beer - two concepts that have a great deal of attraction to all who join us. As a group we will drive to one local brewpub per month; consume a couple of frosty adult beverages; talk cars, friends, activities, and other things; and then head our separate ways.

Members for Brits and Barley are drawn from local car clubs - to date we have Hill Country Triumph Club; Capital City MG; and Georgetown All-British Squadron and we will be adding more over time.

We will (generally) meet the last Saturday of the month, but this can vary given holiday schedules. For example, the next meeting will be on Sunday, December 29th, but for the most part, we'll be on the last Saturday. At the end of every meeting we will decide where the next meeting will be using a master list of brewing companies that we've compiled and we'll try to spread it out. For example, if we head south one month, we'll try to head North, Central, East, or West the next meeting.

Check in your Ragtop each month for the location. We hope to see you there !!



December

WHERE: **Old Gregg Brewing Company**, 1900 E Howard Ln Building H, Pflugerville, TX 78660

WHEN: Sunday, December 29th, starting at **2pm**

HCTC Events

HCTC Breakfast Meeting

Waterloo Icehouse

Saturday, December 14th

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. While the meeting starts at 10:00 am, showing up early is encouraged !!

Can't wait to see you there !!



HCTC Social Hour

The County Line on the Lake

**No Social Hour
in December.
Come to Tour-De
-Lites instead !!**



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 appropriate 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.



Enjoy your TR more!

ENJOY A TRA MEMBERSHIP:

4 National newsletters per year

Annual National Meet

Website (password protected areas for members)

Concours judging standards

Factory build records

Technical support

Contact information

Shutterfly National Meet website



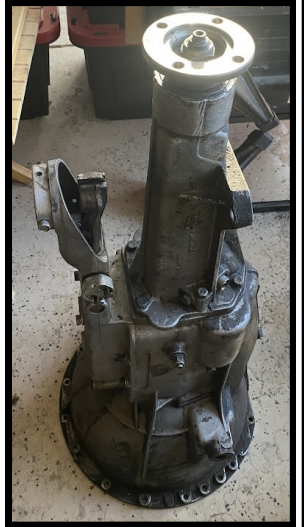
Join TRA Today!

www.TriumphRegister.com

Classifieds

Selling my original 1972 Triumph TR6 4-speed transmission. No known issues when it was pulled — I wanted an overdrive — but I'm selling at a CORE price all the same. \$300 OBO. Local pick-up.

If interested contact Jacques Welter (jawelter60@gmail.com).



Indertake 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

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



Classifieds

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.



Need a lift? I have several heavy tools that I am prepared to lend out to HCTC members who may be considering some DIY Engine or Transmission work. I have a hydraulic Engine Hoist, an Engine Stand and a Hydraulic Press.

They are available to any club member so long as you will take care of them until you return them. And so long as you operate them safely (I offer no liability for injury or damage) Just let me know, I can even get them over to you in my pickup truck.

Malcolm Grey

TEXT at 512 775 6443



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).**