

The

January 2025



Letter From The President

January, 2024

Joe Payne



Dear HCTC colleagues,

Happy New Years wishes to you all! This is the time of year that traditionally some will make New Year's resolutions for the upcoming year and while I don't typically do this, for 2025 I do have some things I want to achieve and experience in 2025, particularly when it comes to participation with the Hill Country Triumph Club. Such as:

- More driving event participation. For example, I've never been to "Brits in The Ozarks" and want to experience this in 2025 given the great reports from those that have been. Just ask past participants and they will wax poetic about the Ozark mountains and wonderful drives and people that attend.
- VTR Nationals which while serving as President for the past one and half years I've missed due to circumstances have prevented me from attending. Work has been one reason (which Mike McPhail reminds me is a four letter word) and



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Letter from the President

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not really a good excuse for missing such a great event and I believe he is correct. I'll commit to doing a better job of prioritizing living versus working. I know we will never get back time and life is about choices. I will hope to choose experiences, best created with friends that will bring a smile to face whenever I remember the places and things we have done.

So, a new year is at hand, what do you hope for and what may be holding you back?

Please come to the January meeting and social hour and take advantage of the many noted Hill Country Triumph Philosophers, ready to sort out the most difficult questions with a cup of coffee or a cold beer at hand. They will have your best interest at heart and never steer you wrong!

Giddy Up,

Joe





Hill Country Triumph Club Officers

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Back issues of The Ragtop are available on our website:

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Joe Payne



Jim Wells



Gary Payne



Dick Simonson

HCTC Events-at-a-Glance

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 15th - 17th:

- Drive and overnight to Vanderpool (HCTC Event)
Vanderpool, TX

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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February, 2025

February 8th:

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

February 10th:

- Drive Your Triumph Day (HCTC Event)
Details coming in the next issue

February 11th:

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

February 15th:

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

February 17th - 19th:

- HCTC Couples Outing
TBD

February 22nd

- Brits and Barley
Schitts Creek Brewery, Liberty Hills, TX

February 2025

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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

January 2025

Dick Simonson



First off, my best Christmas wishes to all of you and your families and I hope you all have a healthy and prosperous New Year! We were on a holiday footing during December. This report is going to be a little shorter than normal.

We did not have our usual social hour or breakfast meeting. Instead, the club's activities started off with the annual Tour-de-Lites on Tuesday the 10th. A group of five Triumphs met at the Barber Shop in Dripping Springs around 5 pm and, led by Mike McPhail, headed out to Johnson City around 6 pm. The group of eleven folks enjoyed a meal at the Proof and Cooper restaurant before heading to the nearby Tour-de-Lites. From the photos, it looks like everyone dressed warmly and seemed to be having a good time.

On the 14th, Kim and Sam Vazquez hosted the club's Christmas party. Many thanks to them for opening up

their beautiful home and undertaking all the things necessary to host the party. The event was well attended. The crowd was jovial and in the Christmas spirit. The BBQ was tasty and the many desserts were delicious. Unfortunately, I had to leave early due to travel plans the next morning, so I may have missed Santa.

The next two events were not club events. Instead they are affiliated with our club and are attended by club members and of people of interest.

The regular Pistons on the Square car show took place in Georgetown on December 21, 2024. It was very, very cold at 8:00 am (38 degrees) but a few hardy souls — Jacques Welter; Nick Roccaforte; and Rod Hamilton — managed to go. Pistons on the Square is every third Saturday of the month in the Georgetown Courthouse square, starting at 8 am (but if you want a parking



Looking at Sam's car collection, Christmas Party @ the Vazquez's



The Tour De-Lites had a great turnout

Secretary's Report

January 2025

Continued

space, come no later than 7:30 am — the event is well-attended !!!). HCTC members attend; many belong to the Georgetown All-British Squadron (GABS). See the Events section for more information on GABS.

On December 29, the fledgling Brits and Barley group got together in Pflugerville at the Old Gregg Brewing Company in Pflugerville. The unseasonably warm weather and clear blue skies contributed to a large turnout — 15 people showed up including HCTC members Kim & Jacques Welter; Dan and Francis Julien; Sam & Kim Vazquez; Gary Payne; Brett & Karen Green; Roger Bolick; Steve & Norma Brand; & Jimmy White & Penny Powell. Brits and Barley generally meets the fourth Saturday of the month, starting at 2 pm. Check the Events section of The Ragtop for more information.



Brett Green & Roger Bolick talk shop at Brits and Barley

In January, HCTC will return to its normal schedule. The Club breakfast meeting will take place on the 11th at the Waterloo Icehouse and the Social Hour will return on 14th at County Line on the Lake.

Hope to see you all in the New Year.

From the Archives

Art Graves



Another look back at what the Hill Country Triumph Club was doing in May 2002. Herb & Cindy Valliant organized a drive to the Wimberly Glass Works. Included here is the event description in the April 2002 "Ragtop" and the event recap in the May 2002 "Ragtop".

—Art

Wimberly Glass Works Tour

Herb and Cindy Valliant

We will meet at Jim's at the "Y" in Oak Hill at 11:15 for an 11:30 departure on Saturday April 13. A short drive will take us to the Salt Lick for lunch. As the county is dry, the Salt Lick operates as a BYOB, so don't forget your favorite refreshments. Also, the Salt Lick is CASH ONLY, so be sure and bring CASH (or a friend with CASH). From the Salt Lick we will wend our way to the Wimberley Glass Works by a sporty route. WGW will demonstrate glass blowing and their gallery will be

open to view finished products, which include a variety of objects such as vases, lamps, and other decorative pieces. Next door to WGW is the show room for Perry's Metal Art Company, which we can also visit.

The tour will conclude with ice cream and shopping on the old town square. If you plan to come, please E-mail valliant@ccsi.com so I can get a head count for the Salt Lick.



Wimberly Glass Works

From the Archives

Continued

Wimberley Glass Works Tour

Dan Julien

The HCTC event last month was a tour of the Wimberley Glass Works, hosted by Herb & Cindy Valliant on Saturday, April 13. Club members Art & Karen Graves, Jerry Beaty, John Amidon, Sean Bailey, and Dan & Francis Julien joined Herb and Cindy, their friend Neal Grolnick (driving a Mustang Saleen), and their son Kenneth (visiting from Ottawa, Canada) at the “Y” in Oak Hill.

The caravan included four Triumphs: the Valliants’ V6 TR7, Jerry Beaty’s TR4, and the Graves’ and the Julien’s TR6s. To round things out, there was the Mustang, the Valliant family Honda, and Sean Bailey’s 1963 Corvair.

It was a beautiful, sunny spring day, perfect for a drive with the top down, if you had remembered your sunscreen (I hadn’t). The first stop was the Salt Lick for lunch. We were joined there by Carl & Barbara Drewett in their award-winning Spitfire. The Salt Lick proved that its reputation for great barbecue is well deserved.

With the important business of lunch taken care of, we proceeded to Wimberley, passing briefly through town before taking a wide loop through the Hill Country, including a low-water crossing of the Blanco River. We finally reached our destination, the Wimberley Glass Works.

The studio there has an air-conditioned spectator section, so we watched in comfort as Tim de Jong and his assistant worked with the hot glass, producing a “jinni bottle,” a globular bottle with a very long neck. Tim is something of a showman, as well as an artist, and the demonstration was both entertaining and informative. A visit to the gallery after the demonstration revealed Tim’s artistry. It was a fun event.

Thanks to Herb for coming up with the idea and organizing the tour.



Showroom at Wimberley Glass Works



Glass blowing demonstration, Wimberley Glass Works

Hill Country Triumph Christmas Party

Jacques Welter

Hill Country Triumph Club members gathered at Sam & Kim Vazquez' to celebrate Christmas 2024 as only HCTC can — great BBQ, wonderful company, and — of course — cars !!

Held on Saturday, December 14th, some 35 people made it out to Sam and Kim's lovely home in Burnet, Texas. Once there, the guests all dug into the excellent food and drink provided, with a lots and lots of conversation.

It really wouldn't be an HCTC get-together unless we were talking cars, and after a bit everyone went out to Sam's garage — to look at and talk about cars. What a surprise ...

You may not have heard, but Sam had an unfortunate encounter with a cement truck a few months back that did some significant damage to his beautiful white 1973 TR6. It was up on his lift when we got there, and instantly he had 10+ HCTC members underneath, above, and all around giving opinions and options — and ultimately a sale to Mike McPhail !!

But, HCTC faithful, just because the **white** TR6 is *hors de combat*, it doesn't mean Sam is without a TR6 — or two — to bring to club functions and we all got to admire his sapphire blue TR6 and the latest addition to his stable, a Java Green TR6 nicknamed 'Lola'

After the garage tour, the party wrapped with a picture and we all went on back home. Many, many thanks to Kim and Sam Vazquez for being such excellent hosts. A good time was had by all.



Kim Vazquez with Joe Payne & his door prize



Out in the garage, talking cars



The Vazquez' laid out a magnificent spread



It was a beautiful evening to just sit out on the back porch

Hill Country Triumph Christmas Party

Continued



Brett and Karen Green on the patio with Sam Vazquez



Julie Roccaforte with her door prize



Chilling on the back patio



Nick Roccaforte & Joe Payne ... say 'Cheese' boys



Jacques Welter with Rod & Laurie Hamilton



Our hosts, Kim and Sam Vazquez
January 2025



Penny Powell with her door prize



Jimmy White takes home a door prize

Homemade Southwick Conversion

Make note of the orientation of the grees) . Measure, protractor, sundial

Rodney Hamilton backing plates(specification is 45 de-
whatever you need to be able to

Most people ask “what is a Southwick conversion?”

There are several documented incidents (search the interweb) of Triumph axles breaking during racing or performance driving. The Southwick conversion is for solid axle cars and allows use of one-piece solid axles made by Moser (or another manufacturer). Originally attributed to Southwick Machine and Design, this conversion eliminates the Triumph Standard hub and nut from the picture. The cool thing about this conversion is it can actually be done without removing the rear axle from the car. “Uncle” Tony Drews also had a version of it.

A custom set of axles are made by Moser (purchased with bearings already installed) which are one-piece hub and axle and will not fail in the same manner. The hubs are cut off your existing rear-end housing and a set of Small Ford hubs are welded on. Modification to your existing brake backing plate is done to allow the axles and bearing to slip through the backing plate. It all bolts together through a hole in the axle flange.

Parts List:

- Moser Engineering P/N 7755 Small Ford housing ends (ask for the installation holes in the flanges).
- Moser Engineering P/N A2721 Custom 24 spline axles 24 1/8 long,
- Moser Engineering P/N 9507F(I) Small Ford Axle bearings (installed on axles)
- Moser Engineering P/N 9750 Bearing Retainer Clip.
- Ford 9 in. Housing Fasteners (nut and bolts) P/N TB9075

Basic Disassembly / Assembly:

1. Remove the wheels, disconnect the parking brake, and remove the brake drums. Disconnect the brake lines from the wheel cylinder. Smarter people will have already removed the brake fluid from the master cylinder and have a container or cover for the brake lines to keep fluid from going all over the place. Oh yeah, disconnect your battery, just for safety.

2. Remove the brake drums. Remove the brake assemblies (all the brake parts). Remove the brake cylinder. Remove the brake adjuster, use a zip tie wrap to go around the adjuster so you don't lose the parts inside.
3. This is a good time to remove the differential cover and let all the gear oil drain out. Use one of your wife's favorite cooking bowls (they love when we include them in our projects). After all of the gear oil is out put the cover back on. I like to put some rags inside it to soak up and residual oil (remember to take them out later).
4. Bend back the tabs holding the bolts on the back of the brake backing plate and remove the 6 screws holding the axle bearing housing in place. Some differential assemblies have “buttons” that are between the inside end of the axles and the differential. These can be removed.
5. Make note of the orientation of the backing plates (the specification is 45 degrees). Measure, protractor, sundial whatever you need to be able to put the baking plates in the same angular orientation (it does not have to be exact, but looks better if it is very close). After you cut the housing ends off you'll need to know where to put them.
6. Remove the axles/ bearings /flanges. They should slide right out. If not use a slide hammer axle puller.

Figure 1



Figure 1: Triumph axle 'as found' before conversion

Homemade Southwick Conversion

Continued

7. Set the backing plates aside for later work. Measure from the end of the axle flange to the end of the differential pumpkin (where the tubes attach). Measure the other side also. They may not be perfect from the factory.

Machining/Modification:

8. Next you will need to cut off the differential housing ends. I used a cutoff wheel on an angle grinder and cut it as close to the housing as possible. Clean up the ends with a grinding wheel on the angle grinder. Make it as flush as you can. It is not required to be perfect. **Figure 2, 3 & 4**
9. The Moser small Ford housing must be machined prior to use. There is a step on the inner ID that must be removed on a lathe or cutoff. I preferred to chuck it up in a lathe and relieving the ID to that of the next step in the housing end. This will allow it to slip directly over the differential housing.
10. Strip, sand clean the rear end housing ends as clean as you can get it for welding the small Ford housing ends. Clean the small Ford housing ends also. Push rags into the rear end.
11. Now is a good time to drill the backing plates to match the small Ford housing ends. Bolt the backing plates to the housing end. The housing ends can be set on the backing plate and rotated until you have a place where the 4 holes for the housing can be drilled. Use a punch to mark the spot for the new holes.
12. Drill the 4 holes for the Ford axle housing. Do the same to the other side. **Figure 6**
13. The backing plates will need to be machined or ground out to a large enough diameter to fit the new axle bearing (which is pressed onto the axle) through the hole in the center. **Figure 5**
14. Clean the outer parts of the rear end to prepare it for welding. Clean the small Ford housing. Push rags into the rear end housing to keep and weld material from going inside. Pay attention when welding so the rags don't catch fire.
15. Remove all the rags. from the rear end. Also if your axles has "buttons" to push the axles out remove them.
16. Bolt the Small Ford housing to the new axles purchased from Moser with the c-clip and the backing plate sandwiched in between. Do not put the o-ring seals on the bearing yet. Slip the axle assembly onto the rear end. The housing should



Figure 2: Cutting the housing ends



Figure 3: Cutting the housing ends



Figure 4: Axle cut and cleaned

Homemade Southwick Conversion

Continued

slide right over the rear end housing. Use a rubber mallet to pound the axle into position (if needed) Turn the backing plates to orient the small Ford housing such that the brakes will be in the correct position.

17. Tack weld the housing onto the rear end. Turn the differential to make sure everything works. **Figure 7**
18. Disassemble the axle assemblies leaving the small Ford housing attached to the rear end (it is tack welded so it should not come off). Push rags into the rear end to keep gear oil from migrating into the welds. Make sure they are deep enough not to catch fire.
19. Weld the small Ford housing to the rear end. If you are not a very experienced welder, have someone who is weld it because gear oil will leak through poor welds (ask how I know). **Figure 8**
20. Clean everything. And repaint the exposed metal on the rear end (or the whole thing).
21. I prefer to assemble the brake onto the backing prior to assembly. The springs under the adjuster are very difficult to install under the new axle flanges.
22. Put the axle seal o-rings onto the bearings. Oil the inside of the flange to ease assembly.
23. Slide the axle through the backing plate and into the rear end. Slide the c-clip between the axle flange and the backing plate, then bolt it together. If you did not heed my advice about putting the brakes together first, install the brakes (try to keep your swearing to a minimum).
24. Rotate the axles and make sure everything turns freely.

Note: If this is something you are planning on doing I can provide my invoice numbers from Moser and you can ask for a duplicate of my axles to simplify the ordering process.



Small Ford housing

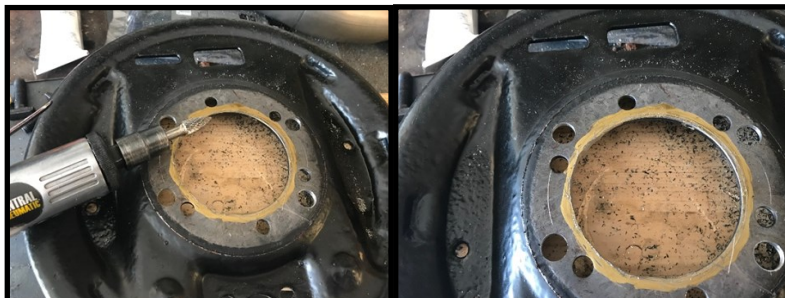
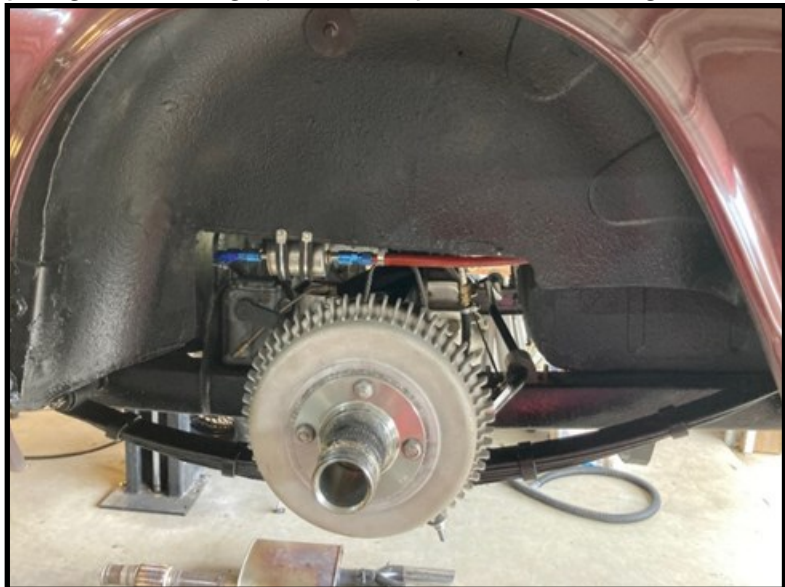


Figure 5 & 6: Backing Plate holes drilled for Ford housing and inner diameter ground for bearing clearance



Figure 7 & 8: Test fit and Tack Welded. Note: The hole in axle flange for putting a socket through, you have to request this when ordering.



Completed Southwick Conversion

News from Mike's Motors

Mike McPhail

There has been no shortage of non-running Triumphs being delivered to "Mike's Motors" in 2024. Most of them "ran when parked" (except the latest — a victim of a collision with a dump truck!).

Usually a non-running car would be defined as one without a working motor that probably has sat idle for a long time due to some other mechanical failure. Long periods of storage often lead to even more problems like inoperative brakes or clutch.

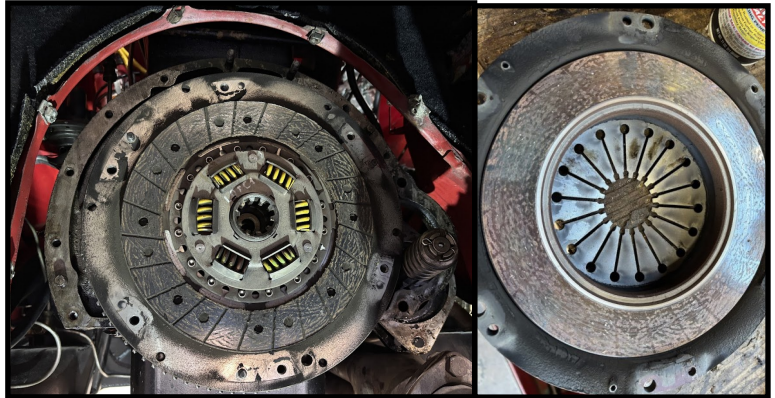
Peter's TR4a needed carburetor and fuel pump rebuild; brake overhaul; clutch cylinders; and more to get it back on the road. All this is very typical, and yet it was not quite enough to get things rolling. In spite of the new hydraulics, the clutch would not release when the pedal was depressed.

All the usual tricks were employed to unstuck the clutch disk, but to no avail... the gearbox would have to come out. Of course, much of the interior has to be removed first... easily as much work as pulling the box!

The pressure plate was indeed stuck to the disk, which had equally adhered to the flywheel. The disk had left marks on the mating surfaces that required removal with a power tool mounted abrasive disk! Had the pressure plate not been the highly regarded and low mileage Laycock item, it might have been relegated to the scrap metal pile.

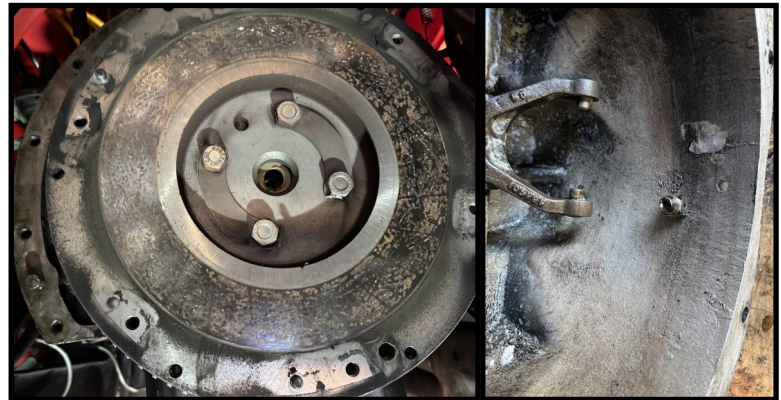
Since the gearbox was now out of the car, it was examined for the notorious "broken fork pin syndrome" which, of course, it had. It is tempting to go after the cross-shaft with a saws-all, but with a little effort the fork and shaft can be saved. After unscrewing the exposed end of the pin, a hole can be drilled in the fork and the rest of the pin knocked out with a punch. If the hole had been drilled at the factory, it would have saved a lot of trouble!

Actually, this broken pin thing was an unaddressed problem throughout the production of the TR series. The broken pin doesn't often cause total clutch failure, but will definitely affect clutch operation. The new pins sold today are supposedly hardened against breakage, but some mechanics will go so far as to drill a second hole through the fork and shaft and insert a grade 8 bolt as a backup.



Stuck to the flywheel ...

and unstuck pressure plate



Flywheel exposed ...

and broken pin



Hole in the fork ...

and new pin

Hill Country Visits West Texas

Continued

The TR4a is now moving under its own power and the Laycock clutch is delightful... but what about our accident victim? Well, if you saw it on the lift at the HCTC Xmas party you will know that the back wheel was ripped off along with rest of the suspension on the right side.

On the Tuesday following the Christmas party, the half-shaft, hub, wheel and trailing-arm were replaced with donor items and the stricken TR6 was driven onto a trailer... currently awaiting further repairs at "Mike's Motors" ... but that's a story for another issue.



The wreck of Sam Vazquez' TR6



Found on the road



Four on the floor again



Loaded up and heading to its new home ... Mike's Motors

HCTC Tour-De-Lites

Jacques Welter

December is the month for two seminal events for Hill Country Triumph Club — the HCTC Christmas Party and the HCTC Tour-De-Lites to Johnson City.

This year's Tour started off at The Barbershop in downtown Dripping Springs. Being a 'down South' activity, we had attendance from some of the club's more southerly members — in this case, long-time member Bill Waller and his red TR6. This year, everyone who went to The Barbershop also headed out to Johnson City — Jim & Diana Wells; Rip & Cheryl Torn; Nel & Mike McPhail; Kim & Jacques Welter; Bill Waller; and Bob & Pam Skewis.

After fueling with some good Christmas cheer, the group headed out to Johnson City and dinner at Proof & Cooper. The dinner did not disappoint — Proof & Cooper provided some excellent food and drink while giving HCTC members time and room to talk and celebrate the coming holiday.



Getting started at The Barbershop ...

After dinner, the group walked across the street to the PEC lights display in the park and took a group picture. The Tour was extended by a drive around the Johnson County Courthouse square, ending with a great group shot of cars and people parked in front of the lights !! Indeed, a great time was had by all.



A long line of Triumphs in front of the Johnson County Courthouse. Left to right - Diana Wells; Rip & Cheryl Torn; Mike & Nel McPhail; Bill Waller; Bob & Pam Skewis; and Kim & Jacques Welter

HCTC Tour-De-Lites

Continued



Jim & Diana Wells and Mike McPhail enjoying themselves and waiting for food at Proof and Cooper



Left to right: Bob & Pam Skewis; Rip & Cheryl Torn; and Bill Waller at Proof and Cooper



Back row, left to right: Bob Skewis; Bill Waller; Jim Wells; Jacques Welter; Rip Torn Front row, left to right: Pam Skewis; Diana Wells; Nel & Mike McPhail; Kim Welter; Cheryl Torn



The PEC lights display was just spectacular

HCTC Shows out at Brits and Barley

Jacques Welter

HCTC has a new affiliated group called Brits and Barley (see more on the group in the Events section) that meets once a month. In December, they met at the Old Gregg Brewing Company in Pflugerville. The weather was perfect for an afternoon drive and get-together, and 15 folks showed up to enjoy each other's company and some great beer and food.

Present from Hill Country was Jimmy White & Penny Powell; Dan & Francis Julien; Kim & Sam Vazquez; Kim & Jacques Welter; Brett & Karen Green; Roger Bolick; Steve & Norma Brand; and Gary Payne.



What a great turn out



Kim & Jacques Welter's and Dan & Francis Julien's TR6 side-by-side



Kim & Kim talking about the holidays



Jimmy White's Spitfire

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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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

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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						
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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
 25 Xmas Party Christmas

Dec						
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Hill Country Driving Event

JANUARY 2025

How's this for a New Year's resolution...

"I am not going to miss another HCTC driving event!"

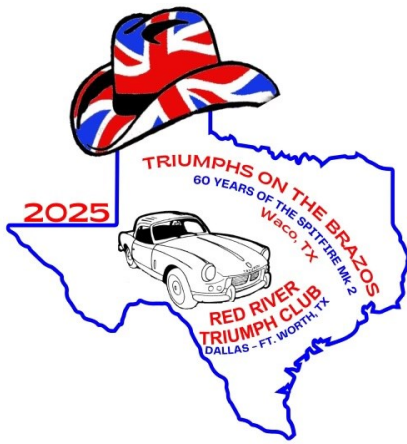
Okay, now that's settled...here is what you are doing January 15th, 16th, and 17th :

- Meet at Jim's Restaurant in Oak Hill Wednesday, January 15 for a 10 AM departure. Enjoy a scenic Hill Country drive to Vanderpool where you will spend two exciting nights at the fabulous Fox Fire Riverside Resort <https://foxfirecabins.com/>.
- Day two will be spent touring the REAL Texas Hill Country around Leaky...you know...Garner State Park, Camp Wood, Lost Maples State Park, etc. Friday we will take another amazing route home, with astounding stops along the way.

Text 512-695-8637 for more information!

Drive your Triumph!





VTR South Central Regionals



April 23rd - April 27th

Red River Triumphs invites you to 2025 Regionals

The Red River Triumph Club is pleased to invite you to the 2025 South Central VTR Regionals to be held April 23 - 26, 2025 in Bellmead, Texas. The theme will be the 60th Anniversary of the Spitfire MK2. Our host hotel, The Holiday Inn & Suites, is located just 10 miles north of Waco, Texas on I-35. The hotel is central to all of the driving activities and other planned events and provides spacious meeting and dining room spaces for all of our onsite activities.

Our Featured Marque

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Spitfire MK2, the second in the series of Spitfires. It was styled for Standard-Triumph in 1957 by Italian designer Giovanni Michelotti and the Spitfire was introduced at the London Motor Show in 1962. It was manufactured at the Standard-Triumph Canley works, with approximately 37,409 MK2 being produced between December of 1964 to January 1967.

Where to stay

The Holiday Inn Express & Suites has a limited number of rooms reserved for us.

You can use this LINK or the below QR code to book a room in our reserved block and pricing.

Or call them directly at Front desk: 1-254-799-9997

Holiday Inn & Suites Waco Northwest



Follow this link for more information: <https://redrivertriumphclub.org/2025-scvtr-regionals/>

For online registration, follow this link: <https://redrivertriumphclub.org/2025-scvtr-registration-page/>



VTR Nationals La Crosse, WI



July 15th - July 18th

2025 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention

The Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club is excited to be your host for the 2025 North American Triumph Challenge! We had a terrific event hosting VTR in 2018, so we're heading back to the same great location and host, with even more fun to fill your week.

Follow this link for more information: <https://www.mntriumphs.org/vtr2025/>

For online registration, follow this link: <https://www.mntriumphs.org/vtr-2025-online-registration/>

Event Dates: July 15-18, 2025

Location: Radisson Hotel, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Event registration will be available before January 1, 2025.

La Crosse is near the center of the Driftless Area of Wisconsin right on the Mississippi River. This region is well known for its rolling hills, beautiful views along the river bluffs, and excellent back roads. You can pick about any direction and find scenic, winding roads with friendly small towns to visit.

VTR 2025 Accommodations

Both hotels below have opened the room blocks with our special event rate, so you can reserve your hotel room now.

Host hotel: **Radisson Hotel La Crosse**

- Book your room online: [VTR Booking Link for Radisson Hotel La Crosse](#)
- Or by phone: (608) 784-6680, let them know it's for Vintage Triumph Register 2025
- Rates: \$135 king city view, & \$145 double queen river view

Backup hotel: **Home 2 Suites**

Book your room online: [VTR Booking Link for Home 2 Suites](#)

- Phone: 608.881.6666
- Rates: \$144 for the King Studio suite

Preliminary Event Schedule

Tuesday, July 15

- Registration and check-in open
- Funkhana
- Craft, Model, Photo, Silent Auction opens
- Autocross tech inspection
- VTR board and member meetings
- Welcome reception

Wednesday July 16

- Autocross
- Tech session #1
- Trolley tour
- Self-guided tours
- Wedge owners meeting
- Sunset cocktail cruise

Thursday, July 17

- Breakfast run
- Run rally
- Tech session #2
- Self-guided tours
- Dinner run

Friday, July 18

- Car show
- Self-guided tours
- Cocktail hour
- Awards banquet Friday night

Saturday, July 19

- Check-out and parking lot goodbyes

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:](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, January 11th

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 Tuesday, January 14th

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.

The Social Hour has moved its venue 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.



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

Ring and Pinion Gears with bearings for TR3, TR4, TR250, TR6. 4.1:1 Ratio great condition. Removed from my rear end with approx. 2500 miles on it. The wear pattern was tested with yellow grease prior to removal and it shows almost no wear. The gearing was too low for my purposes. \$200.

Rod Hamilton rbhamilton1130@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).**