

The

May 2026



Hill Country Triumph Club Newsletter



celebrating and driving Triumphs since 1990



Triumph's in the fog ... Kim Welter on the SCVTR Autocross course, April 21st, 2026

Letter from the President

May, 2026

Jacques Welter



And just like that, it's May ... well, maybe middle May because the Editor has been a wee bit overwhelmed with moving into a new home along with SCVTR and other business.

April was a month full of surprises and fun. We had the normal HCTC activities — Club breakfast and Brits & Barley — and we had the extraordinary HCTC activity, 2026 SCVTR. We had unseasonable weather: hot, cold, dry, rainy, windy, still.

Ah, 2026 SCVTR ... I will not go into depth here, as it is gone into depth later, but man ... what a ride !! I'm still a newbie compared to others in the club, as this is just my seventh VTR event, but the things I like best about VTR events are:

- Seeing friends from other clubs
- The camaraderie in the group
- Taking part in the events

This SCVTR was no exception. And, as an added bonus, two of HCTC's founders — Art Graves & Bob Kramer — were there for the event. The next VTR event is in Kerrville in October and the next SCVTR event is in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

In other news around HCTC, two of our club, Nick Roccaforte and Brian Polk, signed up for the



Bob Kramer & Art Graves @ SCVTR

In This Issue

Letter from the President	2
VTR Membership	3
HCTC Officers	4
Events at a glance	5
Secretary's Report	6
From the Archives	10
2026 South Central VTR.....	12
SCVTR & HCTC by the numbers .	22
HCTC Women's Group	23
News from Mike's Motors	24
On the Road with HCTC	25
Events	26
Classifieds	31
HCTC Membership	34

Letter from the President

Continued

STACC-sponsored car show in Georgetown first week of May. Held annually in Sun City, STACC is primarily and predominantly an American Muscle Car show so imagine all of our surprises when both Nick and Brian took home trophies ... Brian for his 1974 TR6 and Nick for his 1970 GT6 (the big guy in the middle is Ken Frazier of the Georgetown All-British Squadron — he doesn't own a British car, but all his classics identify as British). Congrats guys ... way to represent.

As you know, we recently lost an HCTC member to cancer, Paul Rathouz. Paul's car, a 1976 TR6 was put up for sale in the Ragtop last month after an evaluation by Mike McPhail and myself and ended up being purchased by long-time HCTC member Ralph Herter. Congrats on the purchase, Ralph. Looking forward to seeing it on the road.

Lastly, Brits & Barley met on April 25th for some good company, food, and — of course — beer.

That's a wrap on this month - this newsletter is long overdue. I hope to see you out there.

Jacques



L to R: Brian Polk; Ken Frazier; Nick Roccaforte



Brits & Barley @ the Old Gregg Brewery in Pflugerville



Mike McPhail & Ralph Herter picking up Ralph's new (to him) TR6.

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



Hill Country Triumph Club Officers

President ... Jacques Welter

Vice-President ... Jim Wells

Treasurer ... Gary Payne

Secretary ... Dick Simonson

General inquiries should be directed to:

webmaster@hillcountrytriumphclub.org

Membership ... Nel McPhail

Events ... Mike McPhail

Marketing ... Rip Torn
Malcolm Grey

Social Media ... Kim Vazquez

Webmaster ... Henry Reynolds
Jimmy White

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

Back issues of The Ragtop are available on our website:

<http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org>



Jacques Welter



Jim Wells



Gary Payne



Dick Simonson

HCTC Events-at-a-Glance

May, 2026

May 9th:

- **Hill Country Triumph Club Monthly Breakfast Meeting**
Waterloo Icehouse, 10:00 am

May 16th:

- **Georgetown All-British Squadron & HCTC Drive**
Meeting @ Courthouse Square, Georgetown, TX; 10:00 am

May 19th:

- **Hill Country Triumph Club Social Hour**
Nosh & Bevv, Burnet Ave. Austin

May 24th:

- **Brits and Barley**
5th Element Brewing Company, Leander

May 25th:

- **Memorial Day (observed)**

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					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						

June, 2026

June 13th:

- **Hill Country Triumph Club Monthly Breakfast Meeting & Picnic**
Waterloo Icehouse, 10:00 am
Drive to Picnic leaving at 11:00 am

June 16th:

- **Hill Country Triumph Club Social Hour**
Nosh & Bevv, 7:00 pm

June 28th:

- **Brits and Barley**
The Austin Beer Garden Brewing, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
1305 W Oltorf St, Austin, TX 78704

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	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				

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

May 2026

Dick Simonson



Welcome to May! It seems cliched, but this year really does seem to be flying by. April was a big month for the club. Of course, the main event was the South Central VTR Regional in Marble Falls. Much more to follow on that, but, our April activities started out on the 2nd with the Women of HCTC outing. The ladies gathered at the Tea Thyme Cafe in Marble Falls. Kim Welter and Kim Vasquez organized the fun. After enjoying the repast at the cafe, the group headed off to gather strawberries at Sweet Berry Farms which allows patrons to pick their own berries. I understand the harvest was good and everyone enjoyed themselves. Kim and Kim plan for regular events to be held on a quarterly basis. Stay tuned.

On the 11th, ten of us gathered at Waterloo for the monthly breakfast meeting. In Jacques' absence, I conducted the brief business portion of the morning. I reported on the Covington, LA, trip six of us made in March. I highlighted the upcoming SCVTR events, including the Vanishing Texas Cruise on Lake Buchanan. Little did we know that the cruise would be canceled due to weather. I advised all that the normal monthly social hour would not take place due to SCVTR. In addition, though not HCTC affiliated, I also advised the normal April Georgetown Area British Squadron event was canceled due to conflicts with all the other events taking place.

The SCVTR took place April 20-24. Others will chronicle this in much greater detail, so I will just hit the highlights. First off, let me say that Jacques Welter and Mike McPhail did a superb job putting together and pulling this off. Many months involving countless hours of planning and legwork went into the final product and it showed. We dealt with off and on rain for the first three days. The Vanishing Texas Cruise was slated to be our kickoff event on Monday evening. As I mentioned, the weather had other plans for us and the

cruise owner

canceled the outing. We did have a social hour on Monday night at the Double Horn Brewing Company in Marble Falls. For those of you who remember that in the past we conducted many of our social get-togethers at the Bear King Brewing Company, that venue closed unexpectedly a couple of months ago. The Double Horn proved to be a nice alternative and was only a short walk from our host hotel.

The SCVTR had all the activities attendees expect at a national or regional event, including a Poker Run, Funkhana, Autocross and a TSD Rally (Time, Speed, Distance). Additionally, we had breakfast and dinner runs and self guided drives. We also had some uniquely Texas activities for our out of state regional attendees such as Texas Two Step lessons at the Dos Conchas Dancehall. After the free two step lessons, we held our welcome reception at the Dancehall. Dos Conchas owner Eddie Shell provided live music with his group, Eddie Shell and the Not Guilties. If you're wondering about the group's name, Eddie is an attorney. Those who took the two



Mike McPhail's TR6 PI in the rain in front of the Cadillac Dancehall

Secretary's Report

May 2026

Continued

step lessons got to try out their skills.

Jim Wells put together the poker run. It was a fun two hour drive through the local hill country visiting five locations while gathering cards. Unbelievably, the winning hand had three aces. I drove it with Art Graves and we couldn't even garner a pair.

Mike McPhail designed the TSD rally. It also took about two hours along some fun roads. Bob Kramer was instrumental in putting on the Autocross in the Mustang High School parking area. The weather cooperated and the event was big success. The big event of course, was the car show on Thursday. We were really lucky because not only did it not rain, but it remained cloudy all day keeping the temperatures very comfortable. As you can see in the pictures, we had plenty of wonderful cars.

The four day event was capped with an awards banquet on Thursday evening. The food was good Texas barbeque and there was plenty of it. At the awards ceremony, we learned that in the People's Choice Awards, Mike McPhail took first in the early TR6 class, Jim Wells took third for late TR6, Rod Hamilton took first in TR4 and Mike McPhail took a second trophy for second place in Sptifires. In Modified Touring, Jacques Welter took third with his TR6 and Sam Vasquez took first. Bob Skewis took second with his TR250. Joe Payne took first for early TR6 in the modified prepared class. Nick Roccaforte took first place in the GT6 class. In Showroom Stock, Andrew Murphy took first place and Ralph Herter took second place for TR3. Jim Herter took first place in TR6 early and Wiley Christall took second. Art Graves received a trophy in Preservation class with his late TR6. In Autocross, Kim Welter took first in her class, Ladies Street Stock and Jim Wells took first in the Street Modified class. Kim was also the Millie Rose recipient this year. The Banquet ended the four day event. We all parted ways Friday morning.

Before Art Graves returned to his homebase in Tulsa, he and Mike McPhail participated in the San Antonio Jaguar Club's annual Luckenback rally on the 25th. Mike drove his Bugeye Sprite and Art navigated the 100 mile TSD rally. Mike and Art showed them how it was done and took first place.

Returning to more normal routines, and concluding the month's activities, the Brits and Barley get together



Ralph & Jeffie Herter and Bob Skewis and Pam Owens take a spin around the floor on Tuesday's Welcome Reception



Nick Roccaforte and his 1st in Class, Concours Modified Touring

Secretary's Report

May 2026

Continued

occurred on April 26. This month's venue was the Old Gregg Brewery in Pflugerville. It was a warm day and those that attended enjoyed the local libations.

April is going to be a tough act to follow, but we look forward to what May has to offer.



Jim Wells navigates the Autocross. Jim placed 1st in the Men's Slightly Modified (MSM) class



Roger Bolick helps pick up the cones on the show field after the show ended



Jim Herter poses besides his 1st in Class Concours Show Room Stock TR6



Bob Skewis and his TR250 on the show field. Bob placed 2nd in the Concours Modified Touring field

From the Archives

Art Graves



Many HCTC members will remember Pat & Merl Reed. They did not own a Triumph, but a Jaguar Mark II and the Rolls Royce Shadow Coupe, as related in this article. They joined HCTC because, well, the reason is obvious, right? They were quite active, attending many events and meetings. This adventure in real life first appeared in the January 1997 issue of "The Ragtop".

- Art

TEXAS BBQ An en-lightening story

Muriel F. Reed

About six o'clock Friday October 4th we were in the Shadow Coupe on our way to Alexandria LA. to the meet the southern Delta Region was having at the Bentley Hotel. Our spirits were high and we were looking forward to a great weekend with some wonderful people and cars.

Fifty miles out on Highway 79 Pat said she smelled rubber burning. I know her to have a sensitive sense of smell, I dismissed it and suggested that the tires on the truck ahead were producing the odor. A few moments later she insisted she smelled rubber burning, "the truck" I said. At about that instant I saw a puff of white vapor issue from under the hood of the Rolls. Immediately I pulled to the side of the road, stopped and released the hood expecting to see a loose hose clamp or something amiss with the cooling system.

Almost in disbelief I saw flames issuing from the G.M. air conditioning compressor and the flames had just ignited the center padding under the hood. I plucked the little "Halon Flame Fighter" from the trunk and emptied it at the flame. I was distressed to find that it had contained only 4 or 5 seconds of fire snuffing stuff and the fire was only 80% extinguished! The compressor was really hot and the fire was threatening to go back to full bloom. Searching around, in desperation, for something to use on the remaining fire all I could come up with was a spray bottle containing glass cleaner.. That had to do, I sprayed the glass cleaner on the remaining fire and "it worked" out went the fire.

What had really happened was that the clutch on the compressor apparently was slipping and got very hot. The



1967 Rolls Royce Shadow Coupe

From the Archives

Continued

clutch has some rubber parts which produced the rubber burning odor announced by Pat, which went unheeded. This rubber ignited further, igniting one of the bonnet pads. No other damage resulted to the car.

Because the compressor clutch had come apart and loose parts were rattling around inside of it we decided to slowly drive back home to Georgetown. We then put all our bags etc. into the Honda and again departed to Alexandria with a very large fire extinguisher in the trunk.

We had a great time with the Southern Delta Region. We received the “Hard Luck” award for our adventure. Richard Norem, the chairman, in making the award announced it as the “Texas BBQ Award”.

The moral of this story is carry a BIG FIRE EXTINGUISHER, these little ones just don’t cut it. The alternative is to stand there and watch a little fire grow into a big fire and only be able to watch your car be consumed in flames.

Many older cars (Rolls Royce, Jaguar) use this same compressor and I understand that they frequently catch on fire. Be forewarned.



#

2026 South Central VTR

Jacques Welter

The 2026 edition of the South Central Vintage Triumph Register show (SCVTR) kicked off on Monday, April 20th, amidst a stretch of weather that only ducks would love. The day prior had been sunny, temperatures in the mid-80's with a high blue sky but the rain that would dominate the next three days started arriving just after midnight April 20th. Despite the weather (or maybe even because of it) HCTC pulled together and gave everyone a good show.

Triumph enthusiasts from five states started arriving mid-morning the 20th. The schedule for Monday was designed to allow attendees to get checked in to the host hotel, the Hidden Falls Inn; register; and have a fun evening cruising on Lake Buchanan with the Vanishing Texas River cruise. However Mother Nature had different plans — 40 mph winds, three to five-foot chop, and horizontal winds forced a cancellation. Instead everyone adjourned for a Social Hour at the Doublehorn Brewing Company in downtown Marble Falls.

Tuesday dawned overcast and soggy with intermittent rain showers, but that didn't stop our hardy band of Triumph owners from taking a breakfast drive to the Dam Grill, located at Lake Buchanan Dam. Ralph Herter led the drive of some 12 cars down Park Road 4. For people new to the area, Park Road 4 offers some of the best, most scenic driving in the greater Austin area. All travelers arrived at the Dam Grill, (we had one short-term casualty who's hoses weren't properly clamped



A full house for Social Hour Monday at the Doublehorn Brewing Company



Breakfast at the Dam Grill at Lake Buchanan.



A soggy morning but a great drive to the Dam Grill, Lake Buchanan

2026 South Central VTR

Continued

but that was rapidly remedied).

After breakfast the Poker Run opened at 10:00 AM running to 3:00 pm. Designed by Jim Wells, the Poker run was done with teams and ran both days. I'm not going to get into the rules here but everyone seemed to have a great time doing it while driving all over the Hill Country, so way to go Jim !!

At noon the Funkhana started at the Cadillac Dancehall. Credit to Art Graves for designing very fun course in a very small area with the theme of the Wild Wild West. Contestants had to 'ride' a stick pony around their car; throw cookie dough 'cow patties' at a pail; throw darts at a target; and lasso a Texas longhorn saw horse.

At 1:00 pm, Bob Kramer held a Tech Session on Autocross driving 101 in the Hidden Falls Inn that was very well attended. Bob races his TR4 on the local SCCA circuit, so his efforts here were appreciated.

When we started planning the SCVTR, we all thought what's the point of having the Welcome Reception at a genuine Texas dancehall and not have Texas two-step lessons? We had 22 people sign up for lessons — too much fun for one room — and it dovetailed very nicely into the Welcome Reception itself which started at 5:00



Bob Skewis & Pam Owens try to lasso the Sawhorse Longhorn



Dick Simonson & Joe Payne ride the stick Pony



Watching the Two-step lessons



Dancing to Eddie & the Not Guilties



Enjoying the evening at the Welcome Reception

2026 South Central VTR

Continued

pm at the dancehall.

The Welcome Reception was catered by Miss Vicky's and entertainment was provided by the house band for the Cadillac Dancehall, Eddie Shell and the Not Guilties. Eddie owns the Cadillac Dancehall and has been a major backer of Hill Country Triumph Club for both SCVTR and Texas All British Car Days. Thank you Eddie !!

The rain abated early Wednesday only to be replaced by ... dense fog. Triumphs in the mist, anyone?

Despite the fog — and because of the intense efforts of Bob Kramer — the SCVTR Autocross not only ran, but ran on time and on schedule. 22 racers braved the elements and ran the course. Fastest men's time was turned in by Cecil Wise in the Men's Six prepared division at 37.9. Fastest women's time was turned in by Katie Plotkin in the Women's Four prepared division at 42.2. HCTC top finishers were Kim Welter, 1st place, Ladies Six Stock; Jim Wells; 1st place, Men's Six Modified; and Dick Hunter, 1st place, Men's Six Stock. All results can be found later in this issue of the Ragtop.

Wednesday afternoon kicked off with the TSD rally, headed up by Mike McPhail. Most finished a scenic and challenging drive; some (including yours truly) DNF'd the course. A team of HCTC's Andrew Murphy and Paul Higley won the TSD having been penalized only 96 seconds over the course.

Also on Wednesday afternoon, Jim Herter gave a fascinating and well-attended Tech Talk on how to install cruise control on your TR6.

Also sometime during the afternoon, the sun finally made an appearance and the weather abated, giving way to partly cloudy skies and moderate temperatures — just in time for the Wednesday afternoon Social Hour and Dinner Drives. Jacques Welter led a drive to the Slot T Brewing Company in Liberty Hill with 18 Triumphs in tow while Ralph Herter led another dinner drive to La Taquila with 20 cars. A perfect ending to a perfect day.



Dick Hunter shreds the course in his stock TR6



Social Hour Wednesday on the pool deck of the Hidden Falls Inn



Dinner Drive to Slot T Brewing Company

2026 South Central VTR

Continued

Thursday — show day — dawned overcast with a few sprinkles but that couldn't dampen the enthusiasm. The show was highlighted with Duncan Wood's 1936 Gloria Southern Cross, but we many, many beautiful cars on display. By 12:30 the show was over and the votes and scores were being tabulated for the Awards Banquet.

The Awards Banquet started at 6:00 pm Thursday night, highlighted by a BBQ buffet laid on by Landholt BBQ, with the awards ceremony starting around 7:00 pm.

Awards fall into four general categories:

- Fixed Awards for Arts; Models; Photos
- Moving awards for events like Poker Run; Funkhana; Time Speed Distance rally; and Autocross
- Annual, recurring awards sponsored by individual clubs. The Gary Johnson Award; The Millie Rose Award; and the Wedge Award fall into this category
- Judged awards for Concours - Showroom Stock; Concours - Modified Touring; Modified Prepared; and Participants Choice

Kim Welter won the award for best photo titled Lights Triumphant ! We've already noted the winners from HCTC in Autocross. HCTC did not have any winners in the TSD or the Poker Run.

Kim Welter from HCTC was the winner of the Millie Rose award this year.

Award Winners in the SCVTR show from HCTC include Andrew Murphy; Ralph Herter; Jim Herter; Wiley Christal; Lorna Duke; Bob Skewis; Sam Vazquez; Kim Welter; Nick Roccaforte; Joe Payne; Rod Hamilton; Mike McPhail; Larry Fassauer; and Jim Wells. Later in this article you will find full results for all the Awards and contests.

SCVTR wrapped up Thursday night with the an announcement about next year's show, to be hosted by the Central Oklahoma VTR chapter in Shawnee, OK. Stay tuned for dates.

All in all, a great job HCTC !!

Editors Note: Dan Julien did a fantastic job of taking photos — hundreds of them — rather than reproduce them here they can be found on the Hill Country Triumph Club website on the home page. Thank you, Dan !!



The Wedges are here ... The Wedges are here



Part of the show field, 2026 SCVTR



Best in Show: 1936 Gloria Southern Cross

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Autocross

CAR	First Name	Last Name	Class		FTD
59	Lindsay	Fassauer	LSM	1ST	45.08
15	Margaret	White	LSM	2ND	46.90
2	Kim	Welter	LSS	1ST	43.20
14	Katie	Plotkin	LSX	1ST	42.12
67	Michael	Piggot	FX	2nd	41.20
40	Ruth	Josey	FX	1st	40.68
23	Jim	Wells	SM	1ST	42.20
15	Douglas	White	SM	2ND	42.59
61	Paul	Higley	SM	3RD	44.00
59	Larry	Fassauer	SM		45.25
7	Richard	Hunter	SS	1ST	41.88
42	Tom	Davis	SS	2ND	43.22
32	Hal	Sharp	SS	3RD	43.24
10	John	Barrett	SS		50.38
46	Wiley	Christal	SS		51.38
8	Cecil	Wise	SX	1ST	37.90
5	Drew	Holiday	SX	2ND	38.81
38	Dusty	Nicholson	SX	3RD	39.67
11	Dennis	Walje	SX		45.27
18	Mike	Hado	TX	1ST	42.65
58	Chris	Sharp	VM	1ST	39.67
51	Rod	Hamilton	XXX	*	41.43

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Concours Showroom Stock

Concours Showroom Stock

TR2/3	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1st Place	1957 TR3	52	Andy Murphy	370
	2nd Place	1957 TR3	50	Ralph Herter	349.5
TR4/4A	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1st Place	1966 TR4A	16	Fred Broach	335
TR6 Early	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1970 TR6 Early	60	Jim Herter	382
	2 nd Place	1971 TR6 Early	46	Wiley Christal	380
	3 rd Place	1969 TR6 Early	38	Dusty Nicholson	376
TR6 Late	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1st Place	1976 TR6 Late	6	Ron Feken	391.5
	2nd Place	1974 TR6 Late	61	Paul Higley	372.5
	3rd Place	1974 TR6 Late	62	Timothy Maxwell	370
TR7	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	TR7	49	Mike Gorman	370
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				
TR8	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1980 TR8	9	Steve Collins	399
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				
GT6	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1970 GT6	33	Lorna Duke	369
	2 nd Place	GT6	70	James Coughlin	362.5
	3rd Place				
Spitfire	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1968 Spitfire	28	Patrick Barrett	377
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				
Special Interest	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1963 Sports 6	10	John Barrett	359.5
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				
Pre-War	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1936 Gloria Southern Cross	43	Duncan Wood	398.5
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				
Preservation	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	In no order	TR6 Late	29	John Hanten	386
		TR6 Late	26	Art Graves	381.5
		TR4	64	Lonny Wall	386

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Concours Modified Touring & Modified Prepared

Modified Touring

TR4	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1959 TR4	17	Mike Rouse	394.5
	2nd Place	1966 TR4A	18	Mike Hado	394
	3rd Place				

TR250	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1968 TR250	27	Mike Sabelhaus	393
	2nd Place	1968 TR250		Bob Skewis	NA
	3rd Place				

TR6	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1st Place	1973 TR6 Early	30	Sam Vazquez	397
	2nd Place	1973 TR6 Early	41	Rodney Carr	392.5
	3 rd Place	1972 TR6 Early	2	Kim Welter	391.5

TR8	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1980 TR8	58	Chris Sharp	365
	2nd Place				
	3 rd Place				

GT6	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1970 GT6	33	Nick Roccaforte	388
	2 nd Place				
	3rd Place				

Modified Prepared

TR4	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1962 TR4	24	Tommy Cook	397
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				

TR6 Early	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1st Place	1969 TR6 Early	65	Joe Payne	382.5
	2nd Place	1970 TR6 Early	5	Andrew Holliday	382
	3rd Place	1973 TR6 Early	15	Douglas White	374

GT6	Place	Year/Model	Car #	Owner	Score
	1 st Place	1973 GT6	14	Katie Plotkin	379
	2nd Place				
	3rd Place				

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Arts; Models; Photos

Time Speed Distance

Poker Run

Arts, Models, Photos

Craft
<i>Battle of the Brits</i>
Model
<i>Spitfire Parking Incident</i>
Photo
<i>Lights Triumphant</i>

Time Speed Distance

Time Speed Distance	
1st	Andrew Murphy / Paul Higley
2nd	Mike And Brooks Piggott
3rd	Cecil Wise/Mia Gans

Poker Run

Paul & Jane Higley with 3 (!) aces

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Participant's Choice

Participants Choice

	1st	2nd	3rd
TR4	Rod Hamilton		
Early TR6	Mike McPhail		
Late TR6	Larry Fassauer	Jim Gildewell	Jim Wells
TR7 / TR8	Martin Treglown	Andy Riemitis	
Spitfire	Michael Piggot	Mike McPhail	Tie Kelly Sloan Kurt Hollenback
Other	Cecil Wise	Andy Riemitis	

2026 South Central VTR

Winners — Gary Johnson; Millie Rose; Wedge Award

Gary Johnson Award:

Beginning in 1992, the Texas Triumph Register presented a special award at the annual VTR South Central Regional Meet. This perpetual award was named the GARY JOHNSTON MEMORIAL TROPHY and will be presented annually to the Triumph owner who best exemplifies the spirit of the late Gary Johnston, longtime TTR member who died tragically in an airplane crash in September of 1991. Gary was very special to us in Houston and he was known throughout our region as the guy with the friendly smile and easy manner. His enthusiasm for Triumphs and his friendship to us all will not be forgotten. We hope this trophy will help keep that spirit alive for many years to come.

Millie Rose Spirit of Texas Award:

Millie Rose Philips was a true friend and supporter of all things Triumph. Unfortunately, after a courageous battle with cancer, we lost her way too soon — June 30, 2016. Millie was a beautiful person in many ways: a vivacious blond with a winning smile, an outgoing personality and with the energy to help everyone. She was a strong supporter and officer of the Red River Triumph Club and was always willing to help organize and put on Southwest Regional and VTR National Conventions.

The members of the Red River Triumph Club are often reminded of the strong positive impact and influence on, not only our lives, but also on the Triumph badge and Triumph car conventions. The Red River Triumph Club and now the South Central Region of VTR created the annual “Spirit of Texas Triumph” Award in her memory

Kent Kinnard Triumph Wedge Challenge Award:

The Kent Kinnard Triumph Wedge Challenge Award recognizes "The most sporting TR7 or TR8 in attendance at the Vintage Triumph Register's South Central Regional Convention." The award is co-sponsored by the South Texas Triumph Association (STTA) and the Triumph Wedge Owners Association (TWOA).



Dave Pilcher, Gary Johnson Award



Kim Welter, Millie Rose Spirit of Texas Award



Andy & Bunny Riemitis, Kent Kinnard Award winners

SCVTR & HCTC by the numbers

Jacques Welter

Planning for the 2026 edition of the SCVTR event actually began in January, 2025, following an HCTC board meeting. SCVTR rotates hosting among the eight clubs representing the region (Texas; Oklahoma; Missouri; Kansas; Louisiana) and HCTC's turn was 2026.

The logistics for hosting can be daunting; we needed to host SCVTR for four days. In those four days there are at least four primary events: an Autocross; Funkhana; a Gimmick or Poker Rally; and a show. HCTC added a River Cruise and a Time Speed Distance rally to the agenda. That was the easy part. The hard part was making it work. Hmmm ... that phrase, "making it work" is where it became a team effort, so I'm taking the time here to recognize the team.

2026 SCVTR Event Chairs

Co-Chairperson	Jacques Welter	Parking Coordinator	Dick Simonson
Co-Chairperson	Mike McPhail	Registration	Kim Welter
Autocross	Bob Kramer	Dinner Drives	Jacques Welter
Funkhana	Art & Karen Graves	Monday Social Hour	Roger Bolick
Poker Run	Jim Wells	Wednesday Social Hour	Jim Wells
TSD Rally	Mike McPhail	Show Field Set-up	Jim Wells
Breakfast Drive	Ralph Herter	Tech Sessions Leader	Wiley Christal
IT Support	Henry Reynolds	Awards	Jacques Welter
Marketing	Rip Torn	Concours Judging	Paul Higley
Catering & Hospitality	Kim Welter	Regalia	Wynnell Gorman
Name Tags	Jim Herter		

2026 Volunteers

Bob Skewis	Michael Piggot
Dennis Duke	Neil Hedden
Dennis Walje	Nick Roccaforte
Dusty Nicholson	Randy Deruiter
Hal Sharp	Rod Hamilton
Jim Herter	Ruth Josey
Joe Payne	Ruth Josey
John Barrett	Sam Vazquez
Larry Fassauer	Stephen Collins
Martin Treglown	Tommy Cook
Martin Treglown	Tommy Cook

HCTC Women's Group Summer Outing

Kim Welter

Save the Date: Thursday, June 25th at 10:00 AM

HCTC Women's Group is meeting at the **Sereni-Tea Cup** shop in Cedar Park on Thursday, June 25th, at 10:00 am. The Sereni-Tea Cup is a small family-owned business started a year ago that has been making fine brewed tea, coffee, and hot cocoa. And painting post cards !!

For \$45 each, step into the cute store and relax in the A/C while making a lovely watercolor card with the guidance from an instructor — done while sipping on a fresh brewed pot of tea of your choice. In addition, there is an assortment of pastries and sandwiches to purchase if you would like. Space is limited to twelve, so be sure to sign up early.

Sign-up sheets will be at the monthly breakfast at Waterloo Ice House and the Social Hour at Nosh and Bevy.

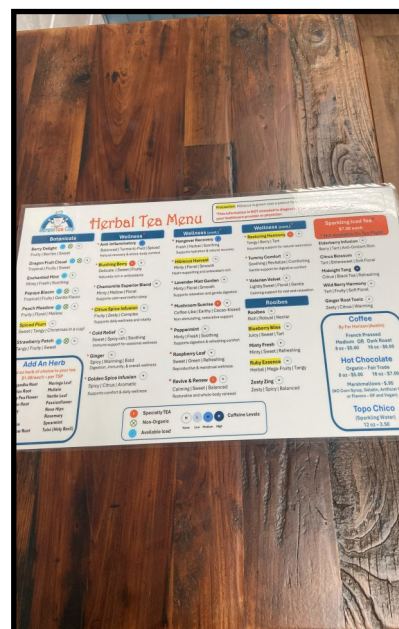
Hope you can join in on the fun!

Check out the website:

<https://SereniTeacup.com>



Menu



Tea Menu



Rolls, cakes, & buns in both regular and gluten-free varieties

News from Mike's Motors

Mike McPhail

Loose wheel bearings seem to be the norm on our old Triumphs, but that shouldn't really be the case on a well-maintained car like yours. It is certainly easy enough to pop off the cap and give the nut a little twist, but that will probably be a temporary fix.

It has been supposed that cheap bearings, incorrect installation, improper adjustment or all sorts of other mischief are to blame for the condition. My money is on wear caused by the inner inside wheel bearing race spinning on the base of the stub axle. Regardless of the cause, the cure is found by installing a wheel bearing spacer kit.

Good Parts sells such a thing, but it requires replacing the stub axle with a heavy-duty unit. BMC always used a spacer on their cars to good effect. It is claimed that the spacer strengthens the stub axle, while providing very accurate wheel bearing adjustment.



I have been using a kit from Revington TR in the UK on my cars with good results. The spacer fits over the stub axle between the bearings. Shims are used between the spacer and the inner races to make the adjustment. The axle is tightened firmly, which keeps the inner races motionless. For more information:

<https://www.revingtontr.com/product/rtr3463k/name/spacer-kit-front-wheel-bearing>

On the Road with HCTC

Mike McPhail



Art & Mike hoist the Luckenbach Rally trophy again !!

The British car driving season hereabouts used to begin with the San Antonio Jaguar Club annual Luckenbach Rally in February. This year it was held on April 25th, I suppose in the hope that the weather would be more conducive to top-down motoring. It was!

Although the rally is for the benefit of SAJC



Trophies pre-rally

members, anyone with twenty bucks is welcome to join in. This is not fair to the Jaguars, Austin-Healeys, MGs, Corvettes, Mustangs, Ferraris, or other sporting automobiles that enter, since Triumphs usually win every year!

Either in the role of driver or navigator, Joe Payne, Jim Wells, Roger Bolick, Art Graves, Mike and Nel McPhail have graced the winner's circle. This year the team of Mike and Art did it again!

San Antonio Jaguar Club Rallye to Luckenbach Scoresheet

Rally Date: 4/25/2026

								STAGE 1				STAG	
								Stage Length:		0:44:47	0:10:00	Stage Length:	
JCNA Driver Finish Order	JCNA Nav Finish Order	Event Finish Order	Car No.	Class	Car Desc.	Driver Name	Navigator Name	Start Time	Actual End Time	Actual ET	Delta from Ideal	Start Time	Actual End Time
		1	4	Z	Triumph Spitfire Convertible Red	Mike McPhail	Art Graves	12:34:00	13:18:38	0:44:38	0:00:09	13:28:38	14:05:55
1	1	2	6	T2	2008 Jaguar XKR Convertible	Roger Wilkie	Ken Havranek	12:36:00	13:21:15	0:45:15	0:00:28	13:31:15	14:08:31
2		3	3	T2	1991 XJ-S Convertible Green	Sherri Hanson	Gail Hathaway	12:33:00	13:18:32	0:45:32	0:00:45	13:28:32	14:06:15
3	2	4	2	T2	2012 XK Convertible Silver	Bob Sheldon	BJ Mamuzic	12:32:00	13:16:03	0:44:03	0:00:44	13:26:03	14:02:39
		5	11	Z	1967 MG MGB Roadster	Peter Hottenstein	Theresa Hottenstein	12:41:00	13:25:58	0:44:58	0:00:11	13:35:58	14:10:46
		6	7	Z	2017 BMW 330i Conv Silver	Julie Miller	Brett Miller	12:37:00	13:16:14	0:39:14	0:05:00	13:26:14	14:03:38
Stray Cat		7	9	Z	MGB-V8 Yellow	Larry Rogers	Pam Rogers	12:39:00	13:21:44	0:42:44	0:02:03	13:31:44	14:32:28
		8	10	Z	1968 MG MGC Roadster	Barry O'Connell	Marcia O'Connor	12:40:00	13:35:00	0:55:00	0:05:00	13:45:00	14:11:20
4	3	9	5	T2	2003 XK8 Coupe Silver	Buster Sherry	Jannette Sherry	12:35:00	13:18:16	0:43:16	0:01:31	13:28:16	14:06:44
		10	8	Z	1979 MG Midget Maroon	Jeff Moser	Michael Moser	12:38:00	13:16:19	0:38:19	0:05:00	13:26:19	14:08:51
		11	1	Z	2012 Corvette Blue Gray	John Dewey	Shannon Dewey	12:31:00	13:18:52	0:47:52	0:03:05	13:28:52	DNF

2026



GABS 3rd Sat- Georgetown

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

JAN

1 New Years Day

10HCTC Morning mtg

20HCTC Social Hr

19M L King Day

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

FEB

10Sir J. Black/DYTD

14HCTC Morning mtg

17HCTC Social Hr

16 Presidents' Day

GTN Air & Car Show

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				

MAR

14HCTC Morning mtg

17HCTC Social Hr

27-28 New Orleans British Motoring Festival

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		

APR

5 Easter Sunday

11HCTC Morning mtg

No Social Hour - SC VTR

20-23 VTR S. Central Reg M-T

Canyon of Eagles

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						

MAY

Pioneer Flit Museum Drive

9HCTC Morning mtg

19HCTC Social Hr

25Memorial Day observed

All Brit & Euro Car DAL

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

13HCTC Annual mtg/ Picnic

16HCTC Social Hr

TRA National Meet

Greater Ozarks

Euro-Expo Cr Sh OK

Brits & Barley 4th Sunday but varies

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	

JUL

4 Independence Day

11HCTC Morning mtg

21HCTC Social Hr

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					

AUG

8HCTC Morning mtg

18HCTC Social Hr

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			

SEP

7Labour Day observed

12HCTC Morning mtg

15HCTC Social Hr

19 Britts on the Bluff

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

OCT

04 Houston ABCD Dallas ABCD

9-11 Texas All British Car

14-18 VTR Nationals

20 HCTC Social Hr

24 South Texas ABCD

22-24 Brits in the Ozarks

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					

NOV

14HCTC Morning mtg

11 Veterans Day

17 HCTC Social Hr

26 Thanksgiving Day

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		

DEC

12 HCTC Morning mtg/Xmas Party TBC

15 HCTC Social Hr/Tour D'Lites

25 Christmas

Brits & Barley

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

Brits & 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.



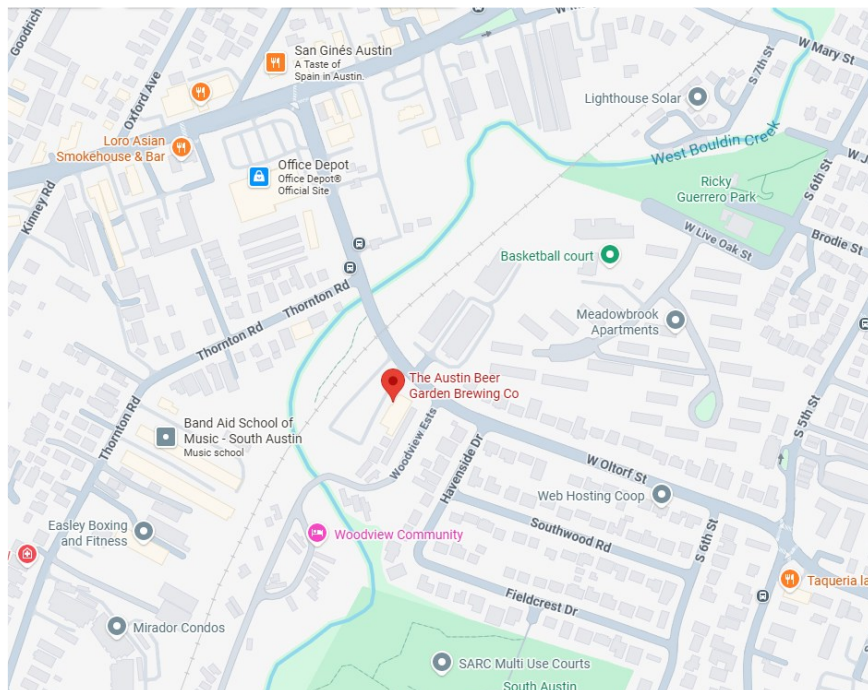
Members for Brits and Barley are drawn from local car clubs - to date we have Hill Country Triumph Club; Capital City MG; Lotus of Texas, and Georgetown All-British Squadron and we will be adding more over time.

We will (generally) meet the last Sunday of the month, but this can vary given holiday schedules. 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.

May

WHERE: The Austin Beer Garden Brewing, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
1305 W Oltorf St, Austin, TX 78704

WHEN: Sunday, May 24th, starting at 2:00 pm



HCTC Events

HCTC Breakfast Waterloo Icehouse Saturday, May 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.

We hope to see you there !!



HCTC Social Hour Nosh & Bevv Tuesday, May 19

The Social Hour has changed its day & location !!
We will be at Nosh & Bevv on Burnet Road !!

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 **third** Tuesday of the month.

While the event nominally runs from 7 pm to 9 pm, 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.





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

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.

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.

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.

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).**