

Feb. 2023

THE RICHMOND TRIUMPH REGISTER

THE SPOKES



A Monthly Publication of the Richmond, Virginia Chapter of The Vintage Triumph Register
and a Triumph Register of America Local Center

www.richmondtriumphregister.org



**Drive Your
Triumph Day is
Friday, February 10th!**

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**Don't Miss RTR's
Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 5th
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PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By Bruce Vaden
RTR President



It's hard to believe, but it's been four years since I was chosen to be president of our Richmond Triumph Register. Serving as president has been a rewarding experience and has given me the opportunity to get to know our members better than I would have otherwise. During the last four years, the ebb and flow of life has continued even as we lived through a worldwide pandemic.

I've received a lot of help during my tenure as president. I'd like to thank Glenn Larson for always reminding me when this column was



due, and more importantly for pulling together and distributing the Spokes newsletter every month. The Spokes is the glue that holds the club together. Thanks to Eric Crenshaw, Terry Smoot and Mike Roe for their friendship and technical advice. Thanks to Tim Thacker for coordinating some really fun events. Thanks to Jim Scherer for keeping the money straight, Jim Coleman for transcribing our board meeting minutes and hosting the end of summer picnics, Gary Kinney for being a source for Penn Grade Oil and encouraging me to join VTR, Ken Nachman for hosting many club events, Mike (again) and Janet Roe for hosting Poker Runs and bringing the 6-Pack TRials to Richmond. Thank you to all RTR members who have participated in our club's events and have been so kind to me and my family.

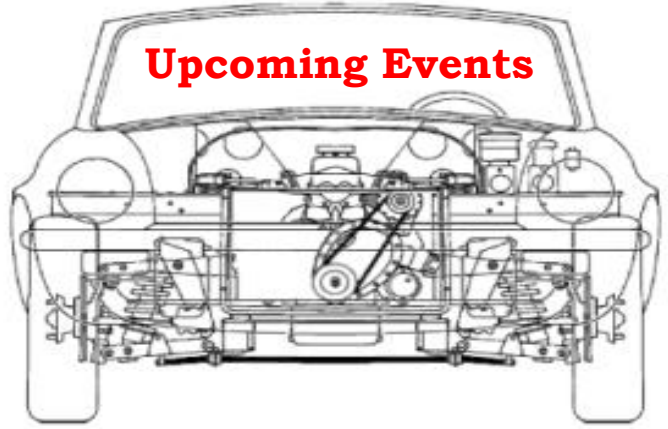
Now it's time to welcome our new leaders, which we'll do at our annual meeting on February 5, 2023. Thank you to all who have agreed to serve our club in the coming two years. With the infusion of new members and the continued support of all members, I believe our club and our hobby will continue to bring a lot of happiness and joy to us all. For these last four years it has been my pleasure to play a small part in keeping our club vibrant.

Farewell,
Bruce

On This Month's Cover

Ken Simms and his TR6 at the January 7th RTR breakfast.

Upcoming Events



RTR 2023 Annual Meeting Sunday, February 5th, 3 to 6 p.m. Walton Park Clubhouse 530 Walton Park Rd., Midlothian

The Richmond Triumph Register's annual meeting will be Sunday, February 5th, from 3 to 6 p.m. For you NFL fans, this is the "open" weekend between the NFL division championships and the Super Bowl. As always, all RTR members, spouses, and friends are invited to attend.

We will be meeting once again at the Walton Park Clubhouse, the same location as our holiday parties. Our annual meeting is a great reason to drive your TR on a cold February afternoon. After a brief business meeting where the slate of 2023 RTR officers will be voted on, there will be a covered dish social. Please bring a salad, appetizer, vegetable, or dessert that will feed about ten people. RTR will provide the main food course, beverages, paper products and eating utensils. Please RSVP to Jim Scherer at rosiesch3@aol.com no later than **Thursday, February 2nd** so we can get a head count. 2023 promises to be a busy year for the RTR, so come and find out what we have planned.



Get a new RTR magnet at the February 5th annual meeting!

RTR Breakfast Saturday, February 25th, 9 a.m. Joe's Inn Bon Air

A reminder that our next RTR breakfast has been moved forward a week to 9 a.m. Saturday, February 25th at Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. We hope you can join us!



RTR Run, Group Photo and Lunch on International Drive Your Triumph Day Friday, February 10th Everyone Invited! RSVP by Wednesday, February 8th

Weather permitting, the Richmond Triumph Register will be gathering for a short scenic drive, a photo opportunity at Richmond's historic Byrd Park Carillon and lunch on Friday, February 10th to celebrate International Triumph Day. Our group photo of all participating Triumphs will be sent to the organizers of International Drive Your Triumph Day (IDYTD), honoring the birthday of Sir John Black, founder of the Standard Triumph Motor Company.

All RTR members, including spouses and significant others, are invited to participate, regardless of what car they choose to bring, as not all of us have running Triumphs. We intend to take a photo of participating Triumphs in front of the Carillon bell tower in the center of Richmond's William Byrd Park. Rising a lofty 240 feet, the Virginia War Memorial Carillon is the Commonwealth's official monument to the approximately 3,700 men and women from Virginia who died in World War I. We will then continue on a short drive to Glenn and Sue Larson's home for lunch. Here are the details:



Start gathering at 11:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the River Road Shopping Center (6201 River Rd., Richmond) at the intersection of River Road and Huguenot Rd., just across the Huguenot Bridge from Chesterfield.

- Leave at 11:45 for a 20-minute scenic drive along the James River via Riverside Drive to Byrd Park. A route map will be available when we gather at the River Road Shopping Center.
- Group picture of all participating Triumphs in front of the Carillon.
- Short drive to Glenn and Sue Larson's home (3923 West Franklin St., Richmond) for an al fresco lunch on our patio around the firepit. The

Larsons will provide Sue's home-made pork barbeque, coleslaw, baked beans, and drinks. For those who may not prefer barbeque, Stella's Grocery is right across the street from the Larsons and has a good variety of take-out sandwiches and other lunch items. Don't forget to bring your camp chair.

- Following lunch, there will be a tech session in the Larson garage on the progress of Glenn's 1973 Triumph Stag restoration. Check out on page 5 the free garage clean stuff out that will be available.

Please RSVP Glenn at glarson182@gmail.com no later than **Wednesday, February 8th**. Please indicate in your message if you plan to drive your Triumph. Everyone who RSVPs will be emailed detailed route instructions (there's a 35 cent toll or EZPass involved) and will be notified the day before if inclement weather causes a change in plans. We hope you can join us!

Regardless of whether you can go on this year's RTR IDYTD run, we encourage you to take a photo of your Triumph on February 10th and email it to driveyourtriumphday@gmail.com, along with some basic information: owner's name, year and model of car, and place photo was taken (city, state, country). Photos will be published on the [Drive Your Triumph Day](http://DriveYourTriumphDay.com) website. Last year's IDYTD had great local participation, with more than 15 RTR members submitting pictures to both the Spokes and IDYTD website.

RTR 2023 Officer Nominations

The slate of officers that will be voted for at the RTR Annual Meeting on February 5th are as follows.

- President: Tim Thacker
- Vice President: Terry Smoot
- Secretary: Jim Coleman
- Treasurer/Membership: Jim Scherer
- Spokes Editor: Glenn Larson

The Committee has also recommended some changes to appointed director positions that are listed below.

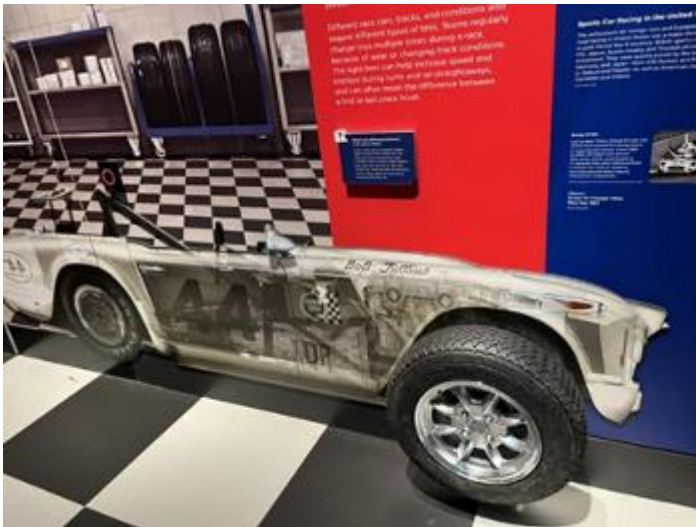
- President's Advisor: Bruce Vaden
- Web Master: Open
- Activities Coordinator: Ken Nachman
- 6 Pack Representative: Mike Roe
- TRA Representative: Jim Scherer
- VTR Representative: Gary Kinney
- Car Club Liaison: Jamie Walker
- Technical Advisor: Mike Roe
- Chapter Historian: Eric Crenshaw

If an RTR member in good standing would like to be considered for any of these positions, please contact Nominations Chair Gary Kinney at gkinney72@gmail.com or 804- 334-2605. Nominations will remain open until the annual meeting.

Odds and Ends



Mike Roe took this picture of Bob Tullius's famous Group 44 TR4, a cut out of which is on display at the recently opened [Nation of Speed](#) exhibit at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC.



Spitfire Sells for \$84,700

This 1970 Spitfire MKIII, once owned by TV personality Simon Cowell, sold for almost \$85,000 at January's [Barrett Jackson auction](#) in Scottsdale, Arizona. RTR members Ken Nachman, Greg Spencer and Don Tate were there, but no word yet if one of them bought this car...



Tim Thacker is making good progress on the restoration of his 1978 Spitfire.



Bill Moore sent me a link to a [YouTube video](#) of a wire stripping hack using a clothing seam ripper available for less than \$5 for two on [Amazon](#). G.L.



I was over in Stephen Johnson's garage a few weeks ago, and he showed me some \$5 magnetic tool holders he found in one of the hardware bins at the local Lidl grocery store. I went and bought two! G.L.

CLASSIC-FIEDS

Classic-Fied ads are FREE for any paid member of the Richmond Triumph Register. Please check your ads and notify the Spokes Editor of changes or ads to be removed. Sell most anything within reason. Ads are run for two months unless canceled.

For Sale: It's time to let go of my restored 1962 TR-3A. I have enjoyed it but only put a few hundred miles on it last year. Lots of upgrades. New wiring harness, lights converted to LEDs, brakes redone including new lines, radiator rebuilt, chrome wire wheels, etc. Lots of spare parts go with it including: an extra engine on a rolling stand, a complete rear, a spare front apron assembly, new auxiliary radiator fan, etc. \$25,000 for all. I am listing it first in the Spokes to give fellow members to first chance to buy it. I plan on listing it on other sites if not sold by the end of February. Stephen Johnson 804-837-4905 or stephen@actisit.com.



2023 RTR Membership Dues

Shortly, you will be receiving your 2023 dues renewal form in the mail. Dues remain at \$25 for the emailed version of The Spokes. Once again this year, there is no option for a mailed copy.

We are always looking for new and creative suggestions for our member meetings, tech sessions and social events. If you have any suggestions, please include them in the space provided on the Membership Renewal Form.

Since we plan to include our Membership Directory in the March issue of The Spokes, your prompt reply to the renewal form will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks, and I hope everyone has a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Jim Scherer
RTR Treasurer and Membership Director

Free Stuff!

The stuff shown below will be free for the taking at the Larson garage on February 10th. The tools, sockets and hardware (small screws, washers, etc.) are courtesy of Stephen Johnson. The books and box of Triumph bits (mainly from Spitfires, including RTR's 2014 Spitfire restoration) are from my collection, though I'm sure some of the clips and other items are compatible with other TRs. Come and get this stuff before it goes in the trash! G.L.



TR7 V8 Project – Paint! By Mike Roe

As many know, we have a '79 TR7 convertible that threw a connecting rod bearing during our trip up to the Britain on the Green show in 2018, then proceeded to consume its thrust washers a year later. With other projects completed, the time came this winter to start the Rover V8 conversion. We wanted

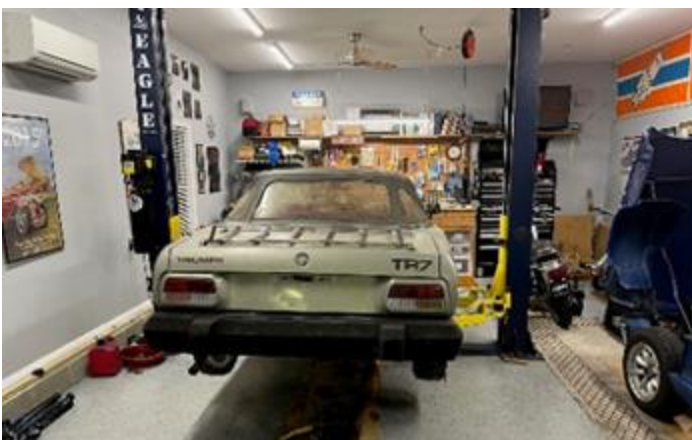


Purchase (2017)

to do a color change from the Platinum metallic to a Triumph Green. Having the engine out provided the best opportunity to get access to all areas of the car (except the interior, which I'm not removing).

There's a shop just up the road from us in Powhatan County called Venturi Motors, which specializes in vintage and classic cars. I stopped by this past Fall to discuss the project and get on their schedule, and it turns out the owner, Jason Nunnally, worked on a crew with his dad Donnie to build the addition to my garage back in 2018. We worked out a cost estimate and decided on December-January to begin the work.

Around October, I started pulling parts off the car



The Start



Before

so Jason could focus on prep and paint. Most of it went easily, though it took considerable time to clean and degrease the engine compartment. A survey of Triumph colors from the period revealed several options: Java, Brooklands, Tara, Poseidon, Triton, and British Racing Green. I got samples of 4 (BRG, Brooklands, Poseidon, Tara) from Auto Paint Supply on Chamberlayne. We settled on Brooklands, which will look good against the Red Tartan interior.



After

By January, I had the body completely stripped of trim and decals and trailered it the short distance up to Jason's shop. I dropped it off on Tuesday, January 3rd and mentioned at the time that the car had decals stating "T.P.A. Paint" in numerous locations, but I had not done any research on it. A couple of days later Jason called to tell me he did some research and found out that T.P.A. stands for Thermo-Plastic Acrylic, which is a type of paint used by some companies in the 70's. It is a plasticized acrylic that was electrostatically coated onto the body and then baked, which liquified the plastic and allow it to flow, resulting in a smooth finish. Trouble is, the plastic has a high coefficient of thermal expansion, so any paint you put over it will crack and lift.

To make sure this doesn't happen, Jason is going to take the surfaces that will see sunlight down to

bare metal, which is going to cost more but will have a much better outcome. He has already done a great job of fixing the lower valence, which was damaged. Hopefully I'll have her back from paint in a month and can start reassembly!



Before



After



Ready to paint

25th Annual Britain on the Green April 30, 2023 Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA

The Capital Triumph Register is proud to announce that the 25th annual Britain on the Green (BOG) will be held at historic Gunston Hall, the colonial home of George Mason, in Lorton, VA, on Sunday, April 30th. BOG, which welcomes all British cars and motorcycles, is well-established as one of the premier all-British shows in the metropolitan DC area.



Mark your calendars now and plan to attend as we expect this year to be the best ever! In addition to hundreds of beautiful British vehicles on display, we'll have live music, a Food Truck Alley, a sponsor/vendor midway for your automotive needs, activities for children, and tours of the Gunston Hall mansion and gardens for participants and spectators.

We are pleased to welcome the Nation's Capital Jaguar Owner Club (NCJOC) which will again join Britain on the Green to host a Jaguar Club of North America (JCNA) Concours d'Elegance (Concours) event according to national JCNA rules.

For 2023, we will be celebrating British sports cars with V-8 engines with a special display at Britain on the Green.

Participant's Choice honors will be awarded in 25 or more classes of British cars and motorcycles. There will also be a number of special awards including Best Resto-Mod, Best Survivor, Best Display and, of course, Best of Show.

So please plan on joining us on April 30th for the 25th annual Britain on the Green. It is a great day to bring out your car and celebrate the British car show and driving season with friends, family, and fellow enthusiasts.

Cars registered by April 15th will receive the collectable 25th anniversary show poster by famed artist Joseph Craig English.

Further information on Britain on the Green can be found at: <https://www.britainonthegreen.org/>



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A Stag's Progress (Part V) By Glenn Larson

Now that the hustle and bustle of the Christmas holidays is over, I'm making good progress on my 1973 Stag's restoration. I'm in the middle of the engine rebuild, with the crank and thrust washers installed to spec. The rings are on the pistons, and should be back in the engine by the time of RTR's February 10th Drive Your Triumph Day tech session. One small setback involved sourcing the properly sized shims that go under the valve tappet caps on the cylinder heads. Measured with a micrometer, the tolerance must be within 0.008 to 0.010. Once the pistons are installed, I can move on to setting up the timing chains. Then comes finishing the brakes and suspension, installing my new radiator, mounting new tires, reconnecting the electrics, and so on. I've found the critical element to this restoration is being extremely organized, keeping an extensive inventory of all parts, triple checking and recording all specifications (including torque settings), and making sure my work areas are spotless. Done by the spring? That's what I'm shooting for, so stay tuned!





THE SPOKES

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New Triumph TR-4A is one sports car that won't shake your fillings loose.

New independent rear suspension smooths the bumps.



Triumph

There's something else about the new TR-4A that won't shake you up. That's the price. \$2899**.

It also prevents rear-end rumbles. Even if you hit cobblestones at 100 mph. (Here's another eye-opener: The TR-4A costs \$1000 less than other sports cars with full independent rear suspension.)
More TR-4A innovations: deep-cushioned bucket seats and easy-up convertible top. Weather-tight up, we might add.
Of course, it retains those features that made the TR-4 the SOCA National Class Champion for three straight years. Such as four forward synchromesh gears. Rack and pinion steering. Low center of gravity. Enormous disc brakes.
(How about the availability of Triumph services? No problem. Parts are available through a nationwide network of warehouses, distributors and dealers.)

RTR 2022 Officers (See page 3 for the 2023 slate of officers.)

President	Bruce Vaden	(804) 330-2487	shelleyv8@comcast.net
Past President & TRA Rep.	Ken Nachman	(804) 840-1441	Kennachman@comcast.net
Vice President	Tim Thacker	(804) 502-3532	thacket@outlook.com
Secretary	Jim Coleman	(804) 569-9135	JimByJove@comcast.net
Treasurer/Membership	Jim Scherer	(804) 594-5694	rosiesch3@aol.com
6 Pack & Wedge Rep.	Mike Roe	(804) 774-1750	microtr6@gmail.com
Spokes Editor	Glenn Larson	(804) 350-6820	GLarson182@gmail.com
Historian	Eric Crenshaw	(804) 320-1951	ericcrenshaw@gmail.com
VTR Representative	Jim Coleman	(804) 569-9135	JimByJove@comcast.net
Activities/Webmaster	Tim Thacker	(804) 502-3532	thacket@outlook.com
Car Club Council Rep.	Jamie Walker	(804) 350-8941	greenspit79@gmail.com

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you know of an event, or have an idea for one that might be of interest to our members, contact us with details (or rumors). Please use the contact to confirm event status before making any trips. RTR sponsored events are in yellow.

Feb.					
4	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
5	RTR Annual Meeting at Walton Park Clubhouse - 3 p.m.	SUNDAY	Bruce Vaden	804-330-2487	
10	RTR International Drive Your Triumph Day Run	FRIDAY	Glenn Larson	804-350-6820	
11	Simeone Museum Demo Day, Philadelphia PA	SATURDAY	https://simeonemuseum.org/		
18	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
25	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/		
March					
2-5	Amelia Island Concours - Amelia Island, FL	THUR-SUN	https://www.ameliaconcours.org/		
4	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
9	RTR Monthly Meeting - Location TBD - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY			
18	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
25	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/		
April					
1	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
13	RTR Monthly Meeting - Location TBD - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY			
14-16	The Gathering - Shelton Vineyards, Dobson, NC	FRI-SUN	www.triumphclub.org		
15	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
22	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/		
?	British and European Car Show - Williamsburg, VA	SATURDAY	www.wmbgbrit.com		
25	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/		
30	Britain On The Green - Gunston Hall, Lorton	SUNDAY	http://www.capitaltriumphregister.org		