

THE RICHMOND TRIUMPH REGISTER

Volume 391  
July 2023



# THE SPOKES

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

Check Out Our New Website at [www.richmondtriumphregister.com](http://www.richmondtriumphregister.com)



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## Don't Miss

RTR's July 13th  
Meeting at the Larson  
Garage

Event Details on Page 2

## PRESIDENT'S GARAGE



**By Tim Thacker  
RTR President**

Well, Summer is finally here! RTR is in the process of ramping up our club activities and we should have some nice drives popping up on the club calendar here shortly! I hope that everyone will take the time to pay particular attention to the updates on the Holiday Party and the July 22nd Moss British car event in this edition of the Spokes.

Switching gears, I am finally in the final stages of having my Spitfire road ready. After 10 years of just taking up garage space, there is light at the end of the tunnel. I am having a Spitfire resurrection "Get to gather" at my house on July 8th at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to attend, just let me know if you are coming. Breakfast will be served by Chef Terry so you will also be fed! And fed well!

Hope to see you there! Cheers!  
Tim

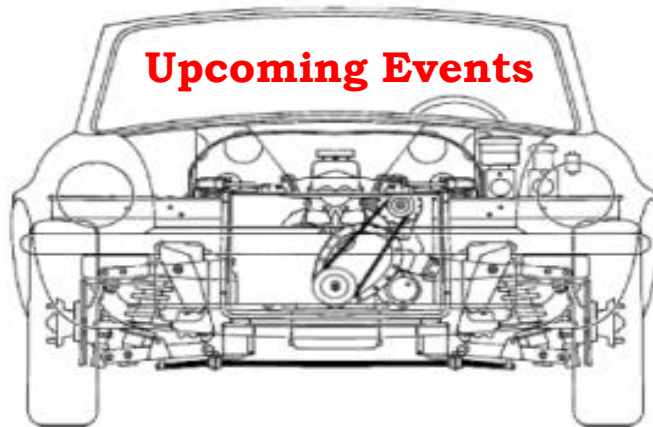
### On This Month's Cover

RTR members Les Thompson's 1976 TR6 and Scott Koehler's 1958 TR3A at the June 10th AACA Richmond Collector Car Show and Swap Meet.



While visiting family in Columbus, Ohio a few weeks ago, I decided to check out a local Saturday morning "cars and coffee" gathering. At around 50 cars, the turn-out was a bit disappointing, with a TR3 and Spitfire in attendance along with a smattering of Jaguars. Then I spotted this, which turns out to be British made. It's an [Ultima RS](#), a 1,200 horse power racecar that is also street-legal. This one packed a 6.2-liter supercharged Corvette LT5 engine. Listing at around \$120,000, it's an interesting mix of American grunt and British racing style.

## Upcoming Events



### RTR Monthly Meeting Thursday, July 13th

**At the Larson Garage, 7:00 p.m.  
Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30 p.m.  
3923 W. Franklin St., Richmond**

RTR's July meeting will be held at the Larson garage. We'll have a short business meeting followed by a tech session. Pizza and favorite liquid refreshments will be available.

**Directions to the Larson's:** We're in the near West End, two blocks off of Malvern Ave. and Monument Ave., adjacent to the intersection of E. Franklin and Lafayette. Best to park on Lafayette and walk up the back alley to our garage, second house in, or come through the side gate to the backyard. Contact Glenn at [GLarson182@gmail.com](mailto:GLarson182@gmail.com) or 804-350-6820.

### RTR at Gelati Celesti Friday, July 21st, 7 p.m. Stony Point Shopping Center on Huguenot Road

Summer is here, so it's time once again for RTR and ice cream! Drive your Triumph and join RTR for a scoop or two at Gelati Celesti in the "original" Stony Point Shopping Center at the intersection of Huguenot and Buford Roads (across Huguenot from Joe's Inn Bon Air). Find out more at [www.gelatiicecream.com](http://www.gelatiicecream.com).

### RTR Breakfast Saturday, July 29th, 9 a.m. Joe's Inn Bon Air

Our next RTR breakfast is Saturday, July 29th at Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. We hope you can join us! For information, contact Tim Thacker at [thackett@outlook.com](mailto:thackett@outlook.com) or (804) 502-3532.



## **Moss Motors 75th Anniversary Cars and Coffee Saturday, July 22nd 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 25651 Simpson Road Petersburg, VA**

RTR plans to show up in force at Moss East Coast Cars & Coffee Saturday, July 22, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. It's part of Moss's 75th Anniversary celebration, and we're invited to join them for coffee (and tea), fun prizes, and casual voting at their Virginia warehouse. The first 200 cars will receive a Moss goody bag, and voting will take place for some fun categories so a select few will win some product packages as well. Moss would like to know who plans to attend. You can let them know [here](#). More details in the June Spokes.



## **Post Moss Cars and Coffee Lunch**

RTR members and friends attending the July 22nd Moss Motors Cars and Coffee are invited to join us for lunch at Joe's Steak and Seafood, 6324 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg. It's a three minute drive from Moss. We plan to head over to Joes sometime after 1 p.m. If you're interested in joining RTR for lunch, please contact Tim Thacker at (804) 502-3532 or [thacker@outlook.com](mailto:thacker@outlook.com) so he can get a head count.

## **Mark Your Calendars! RTR Christmas Party Sunday, December 10th, 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Keystone Truck and Tractor Museum 880 W Roslyn Rd, Colonial Heights, VA**

The Richmond Triumph Register is doing something different for the holidays this year. On Sunday, December 10th starting at 5:30 p.m., we're having dinner at the [Keystone Antique Truck and Tractor Museum](#) in Colonial Heights. According to the museum's website: "The Keystone Antique Truck and Tractor Museum is conveniently located just 30 minutes from Richmond, Virginia. Encompassing more than 125,000 square feet, Keystone Antique Truck and Tractor Museum is no ordinary museum. Come experience the last century of agricultural heritage incorporating fully re-

stored antique farm tractors, ongoing restoration projects and other farm related equipment. Keystone offers visitors more than the farm with a time warp of antique road trucks, classic cars, vintage gas pumps, oil cans, automotive signage, clocks, advertising posters of yesteryear and so much more!" We'll have full reign to wander around the museum while we're there.



We're shooting to have 60 or more British car lovers attending and will be extending invitations to others outside our club to join us. Dinner will include barbeque and rolls, baked and fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, mac and cheese, baked beans, green beans, corn, coleslaw, rolls and a cookie tray. Beverages offered as part of the package will include sweet and unsweetened tea, lemonade, and bottled water. At this point, RTR plans to underwrite the charge for RTR members (and significant others) at \$25 per person, with a slightly higher charge for non-RTR members. We plan to have a cash bar as well. More detailed information, including prepayment options, will be published in the October and November Spokes.

Mark your calendars, and we hope you can join us. Want more information? Contact Ken Nachman at (804) 840-1441 or [Kennachman@comcast.net](mailto:Kennachman@comcast.net).

## **AACA Richmond Collector Car Show and Swap Meet St. Joseph's Villa, Richmond Saturday, June 10th**

Sunny, dry weather, and a huge turn out of classic cars made this year's Antique Automobile Club of America's annual Richmond Collector Car Show and Swap Meet the best in recent years. With 300+ cars on the snowfield, late comers were turned away for lack of room. Triumphs were well represented on the judged show and cruise-in fields. Congratulations to RTR members Gary Kinney (1974 TR6) and Don Tate (1968 TR 250) for their runner-up Old Dominion Awards.

### **Triumphs Spotted on the Show Fields**





*One more Triumph spotted at the AACA show.*

## **Tech Tip** **Triumph Key Replacement** **By Kenny Moore**

My best set of Triumph keys were lost over 20 years ago, leaving me with a single perfect ignition key and a second poor copy. Getting duplicates went on the "to do" list but never moved to the top until the remaining perfect key broke. I had known that Dominion Lock & Security had the proper blanks, but never took time to get the keys made.

It turns out they have access to a data base of key dimensions and a machine to cut the blanks direct from those dimensions. So now I have perfect ignition keys plus perfect trunk/glovebox keys (the latter never would work in the glovebox lock).

So the membership may want to know about Dominion's capability. They responded promptly to my inquiry on their [website](#), and the cost of the keys was about \$5.00 per copy. They are in Mechanicsville, phone 804-746-1456.



*This is not Kenny's broken key, but it shows where later Spitfire, Stag, and TR6 ignition keys tend to break.*

## **RTR June 8th Monthly Meeting Report** **By Gary Kinney**

The June meeting of the Richmond Triumph Register was hosted by CVCC/RTR member Don Tate. Don presented a tech session about stripping and refinishing wooden dashes for British cars. One of Don's hobbies is his wood shop where he enjoys working on all different types of wood products. He went through steps to remove old finishes and prep panels of both wood and veneer to create a high quality wooden dash. There are many steps required to complete the process and seeing how he completed a dash panel for one of his cars was quite remarkable. As hobbies, Don has a complete wood shop and a very enviable custom-built garage for his collection of Austin Healeys and newly acquired Triumph TR250 and Jaguar F Type.



## Roadster Palooza 2023

By Mike Roe

It's August 1999. Our twin girls Maddie and Sarah have been with us since January 1997, so Janet and I finally feel comfortable enough to leave them with the grandparents for a long weekend getaway. For our first outing without the girls, I decided to drive Bailey (our TR6) to The Roadster Factory Summer Party. For those unfamiliar, Charles Runyan (owner of The Roadster Factory) had been holding a summer party during the first week of August since the late 1980's, when he had an impromptu gathering during a VTR event in Pittsburgh.

The weather was hot on the trip out, but Bailey made it just fine and we arrived at the hotel around 4 p.m. (we didn't know most folks camped). After settling in at the hotel I suggested we drive to Runyan's Farm (where Summer Party was held) to see what was going on. As we drove around the farm we arrived at a campsite flying a pink flamingo flag, where a gentleman called out "Hey, y'all want to go on a Mountain Drive?" Well, the last thing Janet wanted to do was spend even more time in Bailey after the 7-hour drive out, but we said "sure" and joined Joe Earnest, Victor Rohner, Glenn Minucci, Jon Van Dorn, Joe Lackey, and a few others on an 8-car drive. Though four of the cars broke during the drive, we had a great time and new friendships were formed.



Fast forward 24 years; Charles Runyan has passed away after a brief illness, but The Roadster Factory is still going strong under the leadership of his son Albert. Joe, Glenn, Jon, and I have become close friends and have gathered annually for a drive in England or a "Palooza" at various domestic venues. For 2023, Joe calls Albert and asks if we can camp at the Runyan Farm for our annual Palooza. Unfortunately, an on-going dispute between Albert and his brother prevents us from camping on the farm, but Joe works his magic and finds an owner in nearby Plumville who will let us camp for free.

For the trip, Janet drove our camper van and I followed in Bailey. Jon, Glenn, and Joe showed up, along with a couple other folks we met over the years. For the first day of the Palooza, we drove to Mill Run to tour Fallingwater, the fabulous Frank Lloyd Wright home constructed for the Kaufmanns in the 1930's. Afterwards, we returned via the fabulous backroads in the area to Plumville for dinner and the movie Rush projected on the side of the camper van.



On Friday, the group drove to Pittsburgh for lunch at the famous Primanti Brothers Deli, where we feasted on the huge sandwiches (with fries and slaw piled on) and some adult beverages. We then proceeded to the Duquesne Incline, which is one of two funiculars from the late 1800's that were salvaged by a local group and now provide scenic rides up the hills surrounding Pittsburgh. We were joined on our trip by dozens of young girls and their moms, who were in town for the Taylor Swift concert at Three Rivers Stadium, right across the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio from the lower landing point of the Duquesne Incline.

On Saturday, the group drove the short distance to Armagh for the Charles Runyan Memorial Drive, organized by Dan Mabon, a former employee of The Roadster Factory. In addition to a few other British cars and members of the Pittsburgh British Car Club, we were joined by Caroline and John-Paul Runyan. Caroline is a tenured Professor of Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh and Jean-Paul operates an organic farm on the family plot in Armagh. It was fun to recount the adventures we had at the Summer Parties in the late 90's and 2000's, as both Caroline and Jean-Paul helped their dad plan and host these events. Caroline especially appreciated the fact that her dad's event was the genesis for the long-lasting friendships of the Palooza attendees.

The drive meandered about 50 miles through the rural Pennsylvania countryside and included a stop at the Horseshoe Curve, an engineering marvel that allowed the railroad to traverse the low mountains surrounding the Lehigh valley. The roads leading to and from this historic site were among Charles' fa-

avorites for driving his Triumphs, according to Caroline and Jean-Paul. After visiting the curve, the group returned to Armagh for lunch at Griffith's Tavern. On the return trip to Plumville, most of the Ploooza group made the short detour to Punxsutawney to see Phil and Gobbler's Knob, made famous by Groundhog Day (both the day and the movie). The actual Phil lives year-round in a burrow attached to the library at the town square, and you can peer into his burrow through plexiglass to see the little guy relaxing and enjoying himself. Back at camp, the evening movie was "Diamonds are Forever", in which James Bond (briefly) drove a Triumph Stag.



Sunday was goodbyes and departures for the drive back home, a great time had with long-time friends!

## More Spokes Back Issues Added to the RTR Website

Take a turn down memory lane by checking out the July 2020, May 2015, July 2010, July 2005 and July 2000 issues of *The Spokes* now posted on the [RTR website members page](#). With almost 400 issues of *The Spokes* published since the club's founding in 1986, it will take some time to post them all. I plan to continue to post highlighted back issues from selected years as we build up the *Spokes* archives on the web. G.L.



<p><b>July 2000</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. President's Barn</li> <li>2. TR6 Restoration</li> <li>3. Member Profile</li> <li>4. CA Change Instructions</li> <li>5. June 10 Meeting</li> </ol>	<p><b>Special VTR Mid-Atlantic Regionals Preparation Meeting</b></p> <p>Thursday, July 6</p> <p>Special Time and Location</p>
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<p><b>July 2010</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inside THE SPOKES</li> <li>2. The President's Garage</li> <li>3. Hanging With the Bubbs</li> <li>4. OSCD 2010</li> <li>5. It's Not the Destination</li> </ol>	<p><b>RTR July Breakfast</b></p> <p>Sat. July 3 - 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Elwood's Coffee in Carytown</p> <p><b>July RTR Monthly Meeting</b></p> <p>Thursday, July 8 - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>At The Ashland Sonic</p>
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## TR6 Ashtray Smartphone Holder

By Jeff Boyea

After getting my 1973 TR6 back on the road, I found there was no good place to put a smartphone holder. I looked at the ashtray in the center of the dash and there is about 6" from the bottom of the ashtray to the windshield. I believe other Triumphs like the Spitfire and GT6 have the same ashtray but I do not know if the bottom of the ashtray to the windshield measurement is the same. I searched on Amazon and found a metal phone tripod mount ([ULANZI ST-10](#)) that had good reviews so I ordered it. To mount it, you will need a 1/4" drill bit and 1/4 - 20 screw or camera fixing screw (search on Amazon). The screw I used was a little too long so I had to use some washers on the bottom. Drill a 1/4" hole centered on the width (short side) of the bottom of the ashtray and 1" in from the driver's side end. Install a screw from bottom of the ashtray into the phone tripod.



Mount with washers if needed and tighten. Install the ashtray with the phone tripod mount back into the dash. The phone clamp is spring loaded with rubber pads and



holds the phone very tight. I found inserting the phone into the top clamp and pushing up until it fits into the bottom side of the clamp is the easy way to get it in. Removing the phone I just pushed up on the top clamp until the bottom is free from the clamp. I have found it to

be in a good position that does not block much of the windshield and is within easy reach.





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## 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:** I'm parting out my 1974 TR6 so if you need any parts or assemblies please email or call me. I also have a black tonneau cover and a mallard boot for sale. All prices are negotiable. Bruce Vaden email; shelleyv8@comcast.net or phone 804-330-2487.

**For Sale:** 185 X 15 Michelin Red lines, great for spares. \$15 each. Contact Tyler at 804-839-6441 or Tylerh@fordthomas.com.

**For Sale:** TR6 wheels, tires and beauty rings (set of four): \$400. Extra set of beauty rings, new in the



box: \$30. Call or email Bennie at 804 339-1214 and email or minibeane@comcast.net. Located in Mechanicsville, VA.

## Welcome New RTR Member

Roger York  
2208 E Grace St.  
Richmond, VA 23223  
lahm1887@hotmail.com  
804-814-2812  
1968 TR4A IRS

*Check out Roger's TR4 on page 4 of this issue.*

## TR2s at the Mille Miglia By Glenn Larson

The Mille Miglia ("1000 miles" in Italian) was an open-road, motorsport endurance race which took place in Italy twenty-four times from 1927 to 1957. One of the most famous automobile races in the world, it was arguably the most dangerous, with 24 drivers/co-drivers and 32 spectators dying over its 30 year history. Between 1954 and 1957, Triumph TR2s and TR3s were campaigned in the Mille Miglia.



Tragically, Joseph Göttgens died in 1957 when his Triumph TR3 hit a tree due to a steering failure.

Since 1977, the Mille Miglia has been transformed into a popular classic car event. It's now more of a rally and classic European car show. Participation is limited to car models, produced no later than 1957, which had attended (or were registered to) the original race. The route (Brescia-Rome round trip) is similar to that of the original race. Because TR2s and pre 1957 TR3As raced in the original Mille Miglia, many have been entered in this annual event, the latest taking place in mid-June. Catch a TR2 drive past beautiful Italian countryside at about the 24.5 minute mark in this [YouTube video](#).







## THE SPOKES

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### More TRs on the Telly

Glenn, I spotted the following British cars used in movies and on TV. On ROKU TV in old 1960s episodes of 'My Favorite Martian', Bill Bigsby drives a 1963 TR4. Also, the flying car in Harry Potter is a early 60s Anglia. I owned an example of each of these two cars. Then I got married, had a daughter and bought a Ford station wagon.



Dennis Gorman

*The final series of "Endeavour" is currently running on PBS. Endeavour is the origin-story to the wildly popular Inspector Morse TV mystery series. While the "original" Morse was famous for driving his classic red Jaguar Mark II, the earlier, younger Morse of the 36 episode Endeavour series is too poor of a copper to afford any ride. Because Endeavour is set in the late 60s and early 70s though, astute watchers can catch a lot of British classic cars. The latest Endeavour episode, which premiered last week, featured a Triumph Stag nicked and damaged by villains. I wonder what the real owner thought about having his car bashed? G.L.*



### RTR 2023 Officers

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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.

#### July

13	RTR Monthly Meeting - Larson Garage - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Glenn Larson	804-350-6820
14-23	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	SAT-SUN	<a href="http://www.pvgp.org">www.pvgp.org</a>	
21	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
22	Moss Motors Cars and Coffee	SATURDAY	<a href="https://mossmotors.com/">https://mossmotors.com/</a>	
29	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532

#### Aug.

10	RTR Monthly Meeting - Gary Kinney's House- 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Gary Kinney	804-334-2605
18	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
26	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532

#### Sept.

10	RTR Picnic at the Colemans - 4 p.m.	SUNDAY	Jim Coleman	804-569-9135
21-24	Six Pack Trials, Indiana, PA	THU-SUN	<a href="http://www.6-pack.org">www.6-pack.org</a>	
23	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
27	CVBCC Mini Show - Brandermill	WEDNESDAY		
28-1	VTR National Convention, Dillard, GA	MON-THUR	<a href="https://www.vtr2022.org/">https://www.vtr2022.org/</a>	
30	Wings, Wheels and Keels - Topping, VA - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	SATURDAY	<a href="http://www.wingswheelskeels.com/">http://www.wingswheelskeels.com/</a>	