THE RICHMOND TRIUMPH REGISTER

Sept. 2022

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

www.richmondtriumphregister.org



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- **Cool/Quiet Interiors**

Don't Miss RTR's **Annual Picnic** Sunday, Sept. 18th **Event Details on Page 2**



PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By Bruce Vaden RTR President

We're approaching the September equinox when, for a few days, both Northern and Southern hemispheres receive almost equal amounts of daylight. Fog shrouded our neighborhood one morning this week, a sure sign that autumn is near. After the stifling heat of August, I'm ready for milder temperatures that September brings.

Just as the changing of the leaves signifies fall, our club has its own event to mark the change of season. In Septembers past, Jim and Cely Coleman have hosted an "End of Summer" picnic at their home in Hanover. This year is no different as they have kindly agreed to continue the tradition on September 18. We usually get a maximum turnout of Triumphs. Drive your Triumph and join us for good food, camaraderie, and door prizes.

Our monthly Saturday morning breakfasts have been well attended this summer. In July we had close to 30 people; 24 people attended on August 27. We've settled on Joe's Inn Bon Air as our "go to" restaurant. Our favorite waiter Hunter returned from vacation to serve us August 27. The weekend date varies from month to month, so check the calendar in each edition off the Spokes. I make the reservation ahead of time, we try to get the 9 a.m. slot, and I send out a reminder on Wednesday or Thursday. Our Triumphs in the parking lot are always attention getters.

Our hobby seems to be gaining popularity based on the number of new members who have joined our club. I've found that our members, in addition to beings Triumph nuts, are also nice and interesting people. If you haven't attended a club event recently, I invite you to join us. Bring your Triumph. Happy Motoring!

Bruce

On This Month's Cover

Ken Nachman talks about his 1968 TR5 at the August RTR meeting. A big thank you to Ken and Carolyn for hosting 20+ RTR members and spouses.





Please RSVP!

RTR Annual Picnic Sunday, Sept. 18th, 4 p.m. to? At the Colemans 9314 Sentry Station Road Mechanicsville

It's time again to get together for our annual picnic. Cely and I are looking forward to all of you joining us. As quickly as possible, I hope each of you will RSVP by phone, email or text so we can begin shopping and do our preparations for the picnic.

The club will provide all the beverages including soft drinks, beer and wine, paper products, meat for hamburgers, hot dogs, and condiments for our annual potluck affair. We usually have about 30 people here, so keep this in mind when you prepare your food. We always need pastas, salads, and desserts and any other dishes you would like to share.

We'd love to see you here with your Triumphs and we like you showing them off in our side yard. Bring a folding chair.

Jim & Cely Coleman 804-569-9135 jimbyjove@comcast.net



RTR Breakfast Saturday, September 24th, 9 a.m. Joe's Inn Bon Air

The next RTR breakfast is 9 a.m. Saturday, September 24th at Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. We've had turn outs of 25 plus for the last few breakfasts, so we hope you can join us on the 24th!

Mark Your Calendars! RTR October Meeting Thursday, October 13th Jim and Nancy Scherer's House 1012Fernview Trail, Midlothian

RTR's October monthly meeting will be hosted by Jim and Nancy Scherer. Details in the October Spokes.

Want to Host RTR's November Meeting?

We're still looking for a host for RTR's Thursday, November 10th monthly meeting. If you're interested, please contact RTR President Bruce Vaden at 804-330-2487.

RTR Run to Surry Seafood Sunday, November 13th

RTR's Tim Thacker is organizing a drive to the Surry Seafood Company for a 12-noon lunch on Sunday, November 13th.

Surry Seafood (<u>surryseafoodco.com</u>) is in Surry County on a James River cove about a mile from the Jamestown/Scotland ferry. Tim needs to get a head count so that they will set room aside for us. Those interested in going need to call or email Tim at (804) 502-3532 or thacket@outlook.com by November first. More details will be available in the October Spokes.



River City Diner British Car Night Saturday, Sept. 10th, 4:30 to 8:30 11430 W Huguenot Rd, Midlothian

Open to Everyone...but, all drivers of British Cars will receive 15% off their dinner purchase. Everyone will receive an ice cream sundae dessert with dinner purchase. Gift card drawing. Special music program featuring the British Invasion of the 1960s. For more info, call the Diner at 804-897-9518. British car clubs are invited and encouraged

merrie Mill Farm & Vineyard 2nd Annual British Car Show Sunday, September 11th, 12-5:30

Keswick, VA

Our friends with the Central Virginia British Car Club have invited RTR to join them in bringing our British cars to Merrie Mill Farm & Vineyard's second annual British Revival Event on Sunday September 11th from Noon-5:30 p.m. There will be live mu-

sic, the Angelic Kitchen Food Truck, and Merrie Mill's own food menu inside the winery. There is no charge to attend. All British Car Club members will receive a complimentary glass of wine. All participating British cars will be displayed in front of the tasting room. More at www.merriemillfarm.com.

Please register to attend by September 6th at CVBCC's Jot Form link: https://form.jotform.com/222194953296162

British cars only please. The vineyard is located at 594 Merrie Mill Farm, Keswick, right outside of Charlottesville. A caravan will leave by 10:45 from the Publix at CrossRidge Shopping Center, 10250 Staples Mill Road.

26th Wings, Wheels and Keels Saturday, September 24th 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Topping, VA

Always a fun event, and it's back for its 26th year! Wings & Wheels is an annual family event located at Hummel Airfield in Topping, Virginia. Bring friends and family out



MERRIE MILL

(Continued on page 4)

on September 24th, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to enjoy the automobiles, aircraft, boats, food and craft vendors, and prizes! This Wings Wheels & Keels festival will be our 26th show, and we are expecting the greatest turnout yet - rain or shine! There is free admittance and parking for visitors; however, donations are appreciated. Interested in showing off your automobile or boat? Find out more and download a registration form at www.wingswheelskeels.com. It is only \$10.00 if postmarked before September 15th. Special gifts are rewarded to the first 200 entries! (\$20.00 afterwards and the day of the show)

SVBCC British Car Festival Waynesboro, VA Saturday, Oct. 1st

The Shenandoah Valley British Car Club invites you to celebrate the 41st Annual British Car Festival! One of the oldest car shows on the East Coast, the SVBCC British Car

Festival remains a favorite car gathering! Festivities begin with Crullers & Coffee at the Car Show on Saturday, Oct. 1st. Staged among the massive trees and lovely views of Ridgeview Park in Waynesboro, British classics, British motorcycles as well as British DNA & kit cars are welcome! There is an on-site food vendor, lots of door prizes, and special car displays! Get registration information & form, directions, maps, & show updates here. Registration forms may also be printed to mail with a check. GPS Coordinate for Ridgeview Park: 620 South Linden Avenue, Waynesboro, VA 22980 (I-64, Exit 94, follow signs) A portion of 2022 Car Show profits will go to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Last year, we raised a \$2250 donation!

Always a great show! The preregistration deadline is September 26th.

Car Club Council Update By Jamie Walker

The Central Virginia Car Club Council met on Monday, 8/22, at Anna's Pizza at Hull and Genito. There was very little discussed, mainly we talked about the Breakthrough Car Show that has been held for the last 3 years at Pamplin Park Civil War Site in Dinwiddie. Last year was a rainout. The first year was also affected by rain so this discussion was 1) whether to have it again (yes) and 2) whether to pick a rain date in case nature frowns upon the event again. The answer to this was a resounding yes. There has been no official date planned, but May 2023 is the sweet spot with a rain date to be planned as well.

CarClubCouncil.com is the website and the September Car Show and Cruise In calendar is now up. First on the list is an Orphan Car Cruise In at Noodles & Company, Huguenot Rd & Alverser Dr. on Sept 3, 4:30-8pm. Drivers of Orphan cars get a 15% meal discount, everyone gets a free drink with meal purchase, and 25% of proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Orphan Cars are those whose manufacturer is no longer in business....and that would be us!

Wire Wheel Advice?

RTR member Dave Upton "would very much like to have someone share wisdom on wire wheels. I am completely unfamiliar with them. I have always been a five lug nut guy (love the redundancy), but am somewhat leery of wire wheels." Any wire wheel experts out there? Get in touch with Dave at davideupton@gmail.com. CC me as well at glarson182@gmail.com and I'll share results in the October Spokes. G.L.



Gary Kinney's 1980 TR8 on the road to the 2022 VTR Convention in Galena, Illinois.

Festival of the Wheel August 28th By Ken Nachman

I had always heard how exclusive the <u>Virginia Festival of the Wheel</u> was but had never attended. You could say I was uninformed as I never thought that I had a car that was "worthy" to be there. I was sent a flyer and applied to enter my 1968 Triumph TR5 in their Concours. I filled out the application, sent photos, a description, and most importantly \$50 to see if I qualified. About a week later I was told that I made the grade and was accepted.

The day finally arrived, and I caravaned with former RTR member Harlan Schufeldt in his 2008 BMW Z4 M. Of course my "Personal Detailer" "British Car Fan", aka my grandson Karol Nachman, was my copilot. It's probably hard to believe that it was diffi-

cult to wake Karol in time to leave my house at 6:15 a.m. So off we went to meet Harlan at the Wawa at W. Broad & Rt. 288. We decided to take Rt. 250 instead of I-64 and that was a good choice. Rt. 250 was pretty much deserted at that time of day and was a great drive. Harlan asked me why I was driving 65-70mph? My



speedo in the TR5 shows only kilometers so my speed was just a guesstimate!

We arrived at the staging area for the Boar's Head Inn and waited while the other classes were taken out onto the show field. The British Sportscar class was one of the last to be staged. There were 12 cars. We were parked by the food trucks. I had asked if there was to be food for sale and was told to bring a picnic. I'm glad we got the word on that!

From the time we parked until the minute we left Karol was out taking photos. He borrowed my Nikon DSLR camera and had a blast. He's taking a photography class at school and wanted to get used to using a SLR. I posted some of his photos on Facebook.

There was a constant stream of spectators at the show. Hard to believe that they each paid \$25 to attend. Other than the heat and humidity, the show was great. I never did get to see the Boar's Head Inn. The show featured "Cars of the Autobahn", lots of BMW, Porsche, Mercedes, and Audis. There were also a few Ferrari, Lamborghini, Aston Martin (I guess these were too high class to park with the British Cars), American Post War cars, and even a few antique motorcycles.

This was a judged show and the British class was judged by Richard Lentillo (owner Crankshaft Magazine, formally with Hemmings), class winners were (1st) John Plummer's 1957 Triumph TR3 and (2nd) Bob Maupin's 1960 MGA Coupe. I had a great time and maybe I'll go again next year.









Photos courtesy of Karol Nachman.

The "Other" Triumph Marque By Mike Roe

As most of you probably know, a man named Siegfried Bettmann formed a company called "S. Bettmann & Co. in 1885 to import bicycles. Bettmann changed the name to Triumph the following year, as the name Triumph is largely the same in most European languages. In 1902, Triumph started producing motorcycles at the Much Park Street works in Coventry.

In 1921, Triumph acquired the assets of the Dawson Car Company and started producing autos, the first being the Triumph 10/20 with a Triumph-produced 1.4 liter engine. After encountering financial difficulties in 1936, Triumph sold the bicycle and motorcycle business, which became Triumph Engineering Co. Ltd.

When I was dating Janet in Indy in 1992, her brother John was riding a 1976 Triumph T140V, more commonly called a Bonneville 750. In 1993, John had taken the Bonnie off the road after dis-



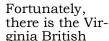
covering a crack in the frame. Triumphs of that era were "oil-in-frame" designs, where the engine oil reservoir is the seat and top tube of the frame. Obviously, a cracked frame is bad news for this design. John had disassembled the bike and sent it to a local shop for rebuilding. During my time in Indy, I would mention the Bonnie to John every now and then; the response always being "Sonny (shop owner) is still working on it.

Fast forward 25 years, to 2018. John and his wife are visiting us in Powhatan for the first time, and I inquire about the Bonnie. John has come to the realization that Sonny isn't going to get the Bonnie back together, he has lost interest, and the Bonnie is mine for the taking. I jump at the chance and quickly arrange a "business trip" to Indy so I can drive my truck and trailer and get reimbursed for mileage. When I arrive at Sonny's shop, I'm a bit taken aback by what I find, as the Bonnie is little more than an engine in a frame with wheels.

Sonny, John and I spend some time trying to collect as many parts and fasteners for the bike as possible, which was tough since it had been sitting in Sonny's shop for two decades. On the plus side, the tank had been beautifully repainted, the seat and chrome were good, and there was a new exhaust system in its box. On the downside, the head, valve train and carbs were in boxes, the wiring harness had not been hooked up, and most of the original

fasteners were missing. With the Bonnie strapped to the trailer and (what I hoped were) all of the parts in boxes, I made the return trip to Powhatan.

Progress was sporadic over the next few years, as I really didn't know what I was doing and there is quite the learning curve transitioning to motorcycles from cars.





Motorcycle Club, which is a great group of classic bike and chopper riders that meets in Ashland. There's even a member (Robin) who worked at the Triumph shop during the Meriden years. They gave me some great tips on where to get parts and what the proper fasteners are. I was able to get the wiring harness sorted (for the most part) and get the controls, fenders, seat, and exhaust installed, and got the timing pretty close (I thought) and got the carbs and tank installed. Despite my best efforts, however, I was unable to get the engine to start. Time to call in the reinforcements.

In March of '21, I rang up Ron at G6 Motorsports in Ashland and got on the schedule. Ron must do good work, as my appointment was in THREE MONTHS. I dropped the Bonnie off in June with the instructions to get the engine to hold an idle, since that is the most challenging thing to get a motorcycle engine to do properly. About a month later, Ron calls me to say it's ready. I collect the Bonnie (after verifying that it does indeed idle) and also pick up a modern rectifier to replace the Zener Diode, which is a 40's era semiconductor that is supposed to regulate the output of the bike's alternator. They are somewhat unreliable and prone to overheating when

used on a motorcycle, with the result of frying all your electronics due to sudden overvoltage.

Over the winter, I got all the electrics to work, got the brakes sorted, took apart the primary case to free up the (very) stuck clutch, and got the wiring and various



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.

Free for Loan: This Gunston Colortune kit is available for loan to any RTR member. The Colortune plug kit is a simple and effective way to tune all Triumph engines. It is easy to use and works on the principle that the combustion flame burns a particular color depending on the fuel



mix. The Colortune is a spark plug with a glass insulator viewing window so the flame is visible. These kits currently retail for around \$100. I picked this one up for free recently, and already

have another, so am happy to loan this one out. Contact Glenn Larson at glarson 182@gmail.com.

Wanted: TR3/TR2 engine draft tube. Contact Bob Powell at 804-389-2555 or rlplkp@comcast.net

Free: I have two books for anyone who is interested: "Triumph Spitfire and GT6 - A Collectors Guide" and "The Triumph Spitfire -The Total Story of



the Triumph Spitfire." Contact Carter Peaseley at carterrichmond@hotmail.fr.

breather hoses properly tucked away. The electrics were a bit of a challenge, as the wiring harness was "close" but not quite right. This meant many hours with the multimeter and a low current 9v source tracing wires. Triumph bikes of that era are also positive ground, a very important point not to be overlooked. Finding space in the headlamp for the myriad connections and wires also proved to be a challenge.

Spring came and went, and I did not have a chance to get my M2 (motorcycle) license, so the Bonnie sat. Finally, in July I had a chance to get the proper gear, take the 2-day rider course at Richmond Harley-Davidson, and get my M2. As of the end of August, I have put about 200 miles on the bike. There have been some surprises (oil leaks, anyone?), Lucas continues to raise his ugly head occasionally, and the speedometer is probably going to have to be replaced, but I am pretty happy with the way the Bonnie rides and definitely think she is a pretty bike. Plus, I learned a ton about these "other" Triumphs!

Postscript: On Wednesday, Aug 31 Janet followed me in on the Powhite to Bike Night at River City Roll in Scott's Addition. Bonnie ran fine, though I did lose an exhaust bolt which necessitated a trip to Lowe's. Got some good tips from some other vintage bike guys!







Stag Spotting: RTR member Ken Mills saw this 1973 Triumph Stag recently outside his dentist's office in Midlothian. Anybody know the owner?



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2022 Vintage Triumph Register Convention August 29—Sept. 1

The 2022 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention was held in Galena, IL. August 29 through September 1. RTR members Gary Kinney (1980 TR8) and Stephen and Ho Yong Oertwig (1965 Herald) joined hundreds of enthusiastic Triumph owners at the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. See more photos of convention events at the VTR Facebook page. Also check out this YouTube video of the August 31 Concours and Participants Choice car show at Galena's Depot Park.





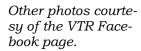




Photo courtesy of Ronnie Babbitt Photography



Gary Kinney wins the VTR 2002 Convention Participants' Choice first place award in the TR8 class. Photo by Steve Oertwig.







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The Spokes welcomes any submitted material for publication. However, neither its editors nor the RTR accepts responsibility for the accuracy of article content or safety problems resulting from suggested modifications. Articles may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email; material submitted by email is encouraged. If any material must be returned, please include a self-addressed envelope of appropriate size with sufficient postage.

Tech Tip

Since 2020 when we bought a motor home, I have been experimenting with different methods to keep the interior cool and quiet. Motor homes from the factory are neither well insulated nor quiet inside. I found two products that work well.

The first is <u>Siless Liner 157</u> mil (4 mm) Car Sound Deadening & Heat Insulation Closed Cell Foam. This is a stick on, aluminum backed insulation.



The second is Noico 80 mil butyl sound deadener and heat insulation. This is also a stick on, aluminum backed product.

Both can be easily cut with regular scissors. The glue is on the back, you remove the paper

and stick them on. I found that by intermixing them, you can easily get the desired result. The Siless seem to do better with the heat and the Noico better with the noise.

No problem to fix mistakes and you don't have to be exactly right in your measurement. Easy to use under carpet and on the inside of firewalls.

Carol was complaining on the ice cream run that her legs were too hot - mine were, too. I have leftover pieces of each product. Using that, I just put the Siless on the inside firewall of my TR3 and it made a difference in the heat. Now I am thinking of removing all the floor carpets and putting a layer of each product down on the floor, engine cover and inside firewall. I think it will make a significance difference with both heat and noise.

I also added some of the Noico sound deadener to the inside of the doors and they are no longer "tinny" when you close them.

Stephen Johnson

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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.

Sept.				
3	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
3-4	Va. Scottish Games British Car Show - Great Meadows, The Plains, VA	SAT-SUN	https://www.vascottishgames.org/	
10	British Car Night at River City Diner, W Huguenot Rd, Midlothian	SATURDAY	804-897-9518	
11	Merrie Mill Farm British Car Show, Keswick, VA	SUNDAY	www.merriemillfarm.com	
15-18	Southeast British Car Festival, Dillard, GA	FRI-SUN	https://peachtreemg.com/Dillard-202	<u> 2</u>
17-18	Stratford Hall Wine Festival & Car Show, Stratford, VA 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	SAT-SUN	https://www.stratfordhall.org/	
17	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
18	RTR Picnic at the Colemans - 4 p.m.	SUNDAY	Jim Coleman	804-569-9135
22-25	Six Pack Trials - Lexington, KY	THU-SUN	www.6-pack.org	
24	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/	
24	Wings, Wheels and Keels - Topping, VA - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	SATURDAY	http://www.wingswheelskeels.com/	804/694-5995
Oct.				
1	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
1	SVBCC British Car Festival - Waynesboro, VA	SATURDAY	www.svbcc.net	540/456-8436
2	SCCA Runoffs at Virginia International Raceway	SUNDAY	http://virnow.com/	
4-7	Hershey AACA Fall Nationals	TUE-FRIDAY	http://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-div	ision-fall-meet/
8	Cars & Caffeine Show at Virginia International Raceway	SATURDAY	http://virnow.com/	
6-9	Gold Cup at Virginia International Raceway	FRI-SUN	http://virnow.com/	
9	Hunt Country Classic - Middleburg, VA	SUNDAY	www.mgcarclubdc.com	
13	RTR Monthly Meeting - Jim and Nancy Scherer's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Jim Scherer	804-594-5694
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	$\underline{\text{https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/}}$	
22-23	British Cars at Richmond Celtic Festival	SAT-SUN	www.vacelticfestival.com	
29	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	