

Volume 401
May 2024

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.com



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Monthly Meeting
Thursday May 9th
At Ken Simms's Garage**

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PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

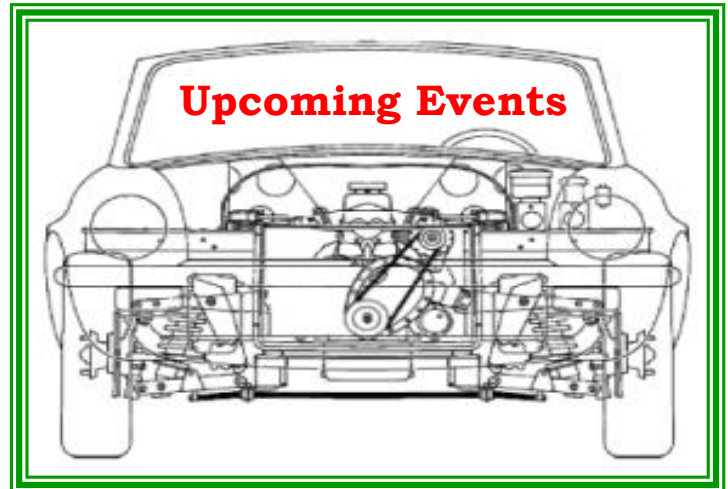


**By Tim Thacker
RTR President**

On April 20th, long time Richmond Triumph Register member Gary Kinney flew to Texas to begin the next chapter of his life. Gary has been a great friend and mentor to me and I will certainly miss him. While I won't be able to see him in person, I know he will only be a phone call away. In British sports car circles, Gary has touched so many lives and has never refused anyone that needed his help. And I have needed his help quite a bit of these past years! I don't know where he gets his energy, but he has surely made his mark in the Triumph community.

Gary, you will be missed by everyone that has crossed paths with you. On behalf of the entire RTR family, we wish you the best on your new journey. I am sure many will keep in touch with you and you will never be more than a phone call away!

Cheers, Tim



Three RTR Events in May!

**RTR May Monthly Meeting
Thursday, May 9th, 7 p.m.
Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30 p.m.
At Ken Simms' Garage
20007 Talon Point Dr., South
Chesterfield**

RTR's May meeting will be held at Ken Simms' home. We'll have a short business meeting in Ken's garage starting around 7p.m., followed by a tech session on essential tools for the garage and what emergency stuff to carry in a Triumph. We will have dinner starting at 6:30, but no pizza is allowed here! Come hungry! Also, we will have your favorite liquid refreshments. Please bring a camp chair.

Directions to Ken's Garage: Ken and Cheryl Simms live in southern Chesterfield adjacent to Lake Chesdin. The easiest way to get there is with your GPS. Make sure you enter 20007 (that's 3 zeros). GPS will get you there. Easiest route: Rt. 288 to Rt. 10 Chester, right on Beach Rd., left on Nash Rd., right on Woodpecker Rd. and a quick left on Nash again. Left on River Rd. Right on Oak River Dr, left on Talon Point Ct and left onto Talon Point Dr. Fourth house on the right.

For additional information about the meeting and getting to his garage, contact Ken at ken.simms56@gmail.com or 804-516-6052.

**RTR's British Car Breakfast
Saturday, May 18th, 9 a.m.
Joe's Inn Bon Air**

Our next RTR breakfast is Saturday, May 18th at Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. For more information, contact Tim Thacker at 804-502-3532. We hope to see you there!

**the 55th annual
RICHMOND
COLLECTOR
CAR SHOW**

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Saturday, June 8, 2024 - 8:00am - 3:00pm
St. Joseph's Villa
8000 Brook Road, Richmond, VA

Judged Show Cars - Cruise-In Cars - Antique Car Rides
Largest Collector Car Swap Meet in the area - Special Exhibits
Admission \$10 per person, children 12 and under FREE
100% of the Admission-Gate proceeds benefit St. Joseph's Villa
www.RichmondCarShow.com

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auto group

RTR at Gelati Celesti Friday, May 31st, 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.



More Events For British Car Fans British and European Car Show Saturday, May 4th The Shops at High Street 1430 High St., Williamsburg

The Williamsburg British and Import Car Club invites you to join us for the 24th Annual Williamsburg British and Import Car Show, May 4th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Rain date: May 5). Owners of British and Import cars are welcome to register. This event helps benefit The Arc of Greater Williamsburg, proudly serving adults with disabilities. The Featured Marque is the Healey, recognizing the contribution of Donald Healey. Field opens at 9 a.m. for show cars. Door prizes awarded throughout the day. Food is available from nearby restaurants. The Arc will be onsite to conduct a charity 50/50 raffle and silent auction for all attendees. Day of show registration is \$30. Download a pre-registration form at: <https://www.wmbgbrit.com/>



Breakfast Cruise In Saturday, May 4th, 8 to 11 a.m. Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum Colonial Heights

Oldies But Goodies Classic Cruisers will once again host a monthly First Saturday Breakfast Cruise In at the Keystone Truck and Tractor Museum. This event will be held the first Saturday of each month weather permitting, starting at 8:00 a.m. All makes and models including bikes are welcome. Find out more at <https://keystonetractorworks.com/> by clicking the Events tab.

(Continued on page 4)

Barn Find Hunter Tom Cotter to Speak at RTR's December Holiday Party

The Richmond Triumph Register is excited to announce that Tom Cotter, renowned Barn Find Hunter author and host of Hagerty's Barn Find Hunter YouTube series, will be the keynote speaker at RTR's holiday party, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, December 7th at the Keystone Truck and Tractor Museum in Colonial Heights. All central Virginia classic car enthusiasts are invited to attend. In addition to dinner and Tom's presentation, attendees will have exclusive access to the museum's amazing collection of automobiles, trucks, tractors, and transportation memorabilia.



A well-respected author, historian, and automotive enthusiast, Tom has written numerous classic car and racing books, including ten in the best-selling Barn Find Hunter series. He has hosted more than 100 episodes of his Barn Find Hunter videos, now available on YouTube and the Hagerty website. Attendees can look forward to fascinating insights and anecdotes from Tom's illustrious career in racing and discovering hidden classics in barns, backyards, and scrapyards. While Tom will speak about classic cars in general, his experience with British classics runs deep. He has owned, and sometimes raced, MGs, Austin Headleys, Morris Minors, among others classic marques.



Invitations to the RTR holiday party and Tom Cotter's presentation will be extended to the Central Virginia British Car Club, the Capital Triumph Register, the Virginia Jaguar Club, the Car Club Council of Central Virginia, the Richmond Region Antique Automobile Club of America and others. Admission will include access to all Keystone Truck and Tractor Museum exhibits, drinks, a buffet barbeque dinner and Tom's presentation. Details on pricing and online ticketing will be available this summer.

Mark your calendars! We hope you can join us on December 7th. For more information, contact RTR at richmondtriumphregister@gmail.com.

(Continued from page 3)

Breakthrough Car Show Saturday, May 11 Pamplin Park, Petersburg

Come celebrate the 29th anniversary of the Car Club Council of Central Virginia at Pamplin Park, 6955 Duncan Road, Petersburg. Judging classes for all makes, models and years. Classes for every vehicle! Goody bags and dash plaques for the first 150 registered. Participant voting. There will be vendors and food trucks. Free spectator admission, free parking plus discounted park entry. Door prizes, music, silent auction. All proceeds go to Historic Pamplin Park. Complete info, registration form, and everything at carclubcouncil.com/carshow. Questions? Email contact@carclubcouncil.com.

British Car Night Saturday, May 18th, 4:30 to 8 River City Diner W Huguenot Rd, Midlothian

It's "BRITISH NIGHT" at the Chesterfield Cruising-Cruz-in, 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at RIVER CITY DINER (Huguenot Rd. in the Shops at Belgrade). Open to everyone, but all drivers of British cars will receive 20% off their dinner purchase. Everyone attending will receive a FREE ice cream sundae with dinner purchase. Gift Card Drawing. There will be British food on the menu and a special music program featuring the 1960's British Invasion. Info Cadillac Jeff at caddyman617@yahoo.com. or contact the Diner at 804-897-9518.

4th Annual CrossRidge Cruise-In Friday, May 31st, 5 to 7:30 p.m. 3300 CrossRidge Glen Way Glen Allen

The staff and residents at CrossRidge cordially invite you to display your antique or classic car(s) at their fourth annual CrossRidge Cruise-In, at the Pavilion at the entrance of the CrossRidge community at 3300 CrossRidge Glen Way, Glen Allen, VA. CrossRidge is an active adult community with approximately 1500 residents. CrossRidge will be arranging for a food truck to be on site during the event. Please confirm your intention to attend and provide the make and model of your car by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 30th, to Mike Johnston at jmjohnston15@yahoo.com or text (610) 574-3763. No charge for this event. Rain date is June 14th.

RTR April Monthly Meeting Thursday, April 11th At Chip Hidinger's Garage

A big thank you to Chip Hidinger for hosting RTR's April monthly meeting at his garage in northwest Chesterfield County. We had a very productive meeting, discussing dates for RTR's December 7th holiday party and our September 8th picnic, which will be at Rockwood Park in Chesterfield County. I made sure to give an update on Glenn Larson's Stag (still not on the road) and Eric Crenshaw gave an update on his recently purchased Fiat 124.

Mike Roe did a great session on replacing U joints, using Chip's 1976 TR6 as an example. It turned out that Chip's U joints were not the issue, but a good session nevertheless.

Future monthly meeting locations were discussed:

- June 13 – Glenn Larson's garage
- July 11 - Mike Roe's garage
- August 8 - Baxter Phillips's garage

We also discussed future RTR drives, and plan to get together with Ken Nachman on open dates. Great to hear from those attending where they would like to go!

Tim Thacker



Clunk-Clunk, Knock-Knock, Now What? By Don Tate

Last fall, I participated in the Central Virginia British Car Club outing to the Blue Ridge Mountains. We drove our Triumph TR250 and it was our first road trip in this car. Departing on a Saturday morning, our first destination was Scottsville, and it was going well until we rolled into town and as I coasted to a stop I heard a 'clunk-clunk' that was definitely related to my decreasing speed. On acceleration, there was no 'clunking'. Hmm, this is concerning but what is it? We continued on the journey over the mountains and had a wonderful drive. After returning home, I put the car on the lift and got a second pair of eyes on it. On these Triumphs, you have independent rear suspension which means you have the main driveshaft with u-joints plus more u-joints on each of the axle half-shafts. Turns out almost all of the nuts had come loose to the point some could be turned without tools! I have since replaced the original lock nuts with new ones.



So I thought my mysterious 'clunk-clunk' was eliminated only to drive the car later and hear a different sound, a 'knock-knock' that seemed to correlate to bumps in the road. Triumphs of this vintage came with lever shocks which require routine tightening but my car was converted to tube shocks by a previous owner. I jacked the car up and removed the rear wheels for an inspection. The shocks seemed tight but I did notice the rubber bushings for the rear suspension were cracked and looking pretty tired. Last summer, at the recommendation of our good friend Gary Kinney, I purchased a set of adjustable trailing arm brackets with the thought of installing them over the winter. Now with the observation of old rubber bushings, I added their replacement to the scope and why not? To install the new brackets, the trailing arms have to come off so what better time to install new bushings.

While waiting for the winter project to begin, I had a conversation with Sandy Thompson of Coventry Motor Works and he got around to talking about the rubber bushings we buy today are obviously not made from the same quality rubber as was used by the factory. In fact, he said they are seeing today's rubber bushings cracking after only 2-3 years. They have switched to urethane by [SuperPro](#), an Australian company. I



have been forewarned about urethane bushings for my Austin Healey because they can be too stiff and provide a hard ride. However, based on his recommendation, I purchased a set for the rear of the Triumph. Another reason is that removing the rear suspension is a lot of wrenching and I prefer not to see cracked rubber bushings in a few years. Time will tell if the investment was a good one. They certainly cost a lot more than rubber. Will the ride be so hard I regret my decision? Stay tuned.

Back to my 'knock-knock'. Steve Terrell, who has done this suspension rebuild a couple of times, offered to help me. In exchange, I am going to assist him with the same project on his TR6. While the tube shock was hanging from the top connection point he checked the shock for any signs of rebound weakness and in the process of pushing and pulling



on the shock, he inadvertently recreated the 'knock-knock'. Whoa, where's that coming from? Well it turns out the bracket that holds the top of the shock is attached to the frame with 2 bolts and they were loose. I was confident this was the sound I was hearing. Another mental note.

We have finished the project and I had a 4-wheel alignment done. On the drive home, both the 'clunk-clunk' and 'knock-knock' are gone and the car handles much better with the new alignment. So far I haven't noticed that the ride quality has changed so fingers crossed!

So now what? As they say, 'every drive is a test drive' and on the way home I noticed I still have 'bump steer' which I was hoping the alignment would correct. However, I have since learned there's other reasons for bump steer' so I guess that's my 'now what' as well as my 'what's next'.



Evolution of the Triumph Logo Why the Confusion?

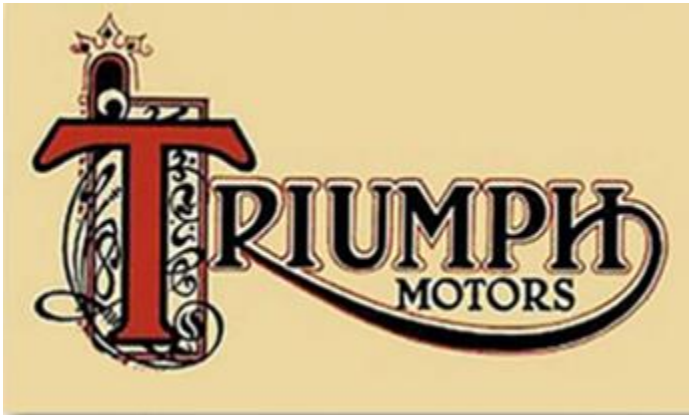
By Glenn Larson

In perusing the internet these days for information about our classic Triumph cars, one often sees the classic Triumph under swoop logo for Triumph motorcycles used mistakenly in conjunction with classic Triumph cars from

the 1950s, 60s and 70s. As owners of these sports cars, we know the swoop doesn't appear any-

where on our cars, but the online sellers of ancillary merchandise and add-ons supposedly marketed for TRs, Spitfires and other Triumph marques seem to think otherwise. Why the confusion?

The answer goes back to origins of the Triumph Motor Company, established as the Triumph Cycle Company in 1889 in Coventry, England. Originally



building bicycles, Triumph branched out into motorcycle manufacturing in the early 1900s and then automobiles in 1923. The Triumph Motor Company made both motorcycles and cars until the company split into two separate corporations in 1936.



Between 1923 and 1936, Triumph cars and motorcycles shared the same under swoop logo. While extremely rare here in the US, pre WWII Triumph cars enjoy an enthusiastic following in the UK. Find out more about pre WWII Triumphs at the [Pre-1940 Triumph Motor Club website](#).



In the early 1930s, Triumph started

using the "Triumph All Over the World" motto and incorporated a globe into their badging. After the 1936 sale, most pre WWII Triumph cars had adopted the Triumph world badge, variations of which were widely used for the Triumph marque in the late 1940s and 1950s, including the TR3.



Today, because of the popularity of modern Triumph motorcycles, many associate our cars with the Triumph motorcycle under swoop logo, even those new to our hobby who purchase Triumph swoop merchandise for their cars. If you see one, take the opportunity to explain that the Triumph logos' common history does not realistically translate to a swoop decal on a Spitfire.



Ken Nachman's TR5 was featured in Richmond Magazine April 2024 issue covering Richmond's growing car culture, including the biweekly Cars and Coffee .

THE SPOKES



Another fantastic turn-out with 25+ hungry RTR members and friends attending our April 20th British Car Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air. Great to see the owners of three MGs joining us.



Welcome New RTR Member

Ed Wood
11246 Dude Ranch Rd.
Glen Allen, VA 23059
804-640-2735
ewood@connec-inc.com
1975 Triumph Spitfire

DYTD
Drive Your Triumph Day



Dear Fellow Triumph & Standard Owners,

Thank you to everyone who participated in Drive Your Triumph Day 2024. It's amazing to see Triumphs and Standards being driven and celebrated all over the world, all on the same day. Once again it's great to see several group club drives around the world, from Australia to South Africa, Oklahoma to Canada, US and the UK, which is fantastic. I've posted the photos to Facebook - [Drive Your Triumph Day](#). The downside is you can't see the file name which has all the data about the owner, car and location. The photos are also posted on the Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club [website](#) where you can see the file name which includes the owners name, model and year of car, city, state and country. So get your favorite beverage, sit back and click through the photos from all over the world. Next year DYTD 2025, February 10th, is on a Sunday. Mark it on your calendar now.

Best Wishes, Rye Livingston
Activities Chairman
Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club
1960 Triumph TR3A



RTR member Ray McCaskey took this shot of a Spitfire racing at the April 5-7 SCCA Super Tour event at Virginia International Raceway.

On This Month's Cover

Dean Tetterton and Tim Thacker inspect Mike Roe's work at the April RTR meeting.

Photo Credits: Tim Thacker and Ray McCaskey



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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: 1959 Triumph T-10 Companion. Four door station wagon For parts or restoration. \$3,500 Contact Bob Powell at rlplkp@comcast.net.



For Sale: Spitfire parts. Cleaning out the garage. All or any: five dollars. Engine block FM 532292 UE. Engine head # 1 TKC 3239; # 2 TKC 2740 Differential, 411 ratio. Radiator, 12x16 inches wide with wings. Transmission bell housing. Call Mark Hornick @804-717-5744 or hornickms@yahoo.com.



RTR member Scott Tilton's 1971 Stag at the Britain on the Green show, April 28th at Gunston Hall in Lorton. Scott reports his Stag doesn't like the heat.

Find out more about British Car Week at www.britishcarweek.org.



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Join the Vintage Triumph Register

The Vintage Triumph Register is a North American club of over 2,700 Triumph owners and enthusiasts. Membership includes a quarterly magazine, "The Vintage Triumph," and access to VTR's staff of volunteer vehicle consultants. The award-winning VTR [website](http://www.vintagetriumphregister.org/secure/signup) is a resource for Triumph enthusiasts worldwide. VTR annual dues are \$35. To join VTR, go to www.vintagetriumphregister.org/secure/signup

Calling all car enthusiasts, classic & modern!

We're thrilled to announce the exciting news that Moss Motors, Moss Europe, and Rimmer Bros are joining forces, in partnership. This powerful alliance signifies our unwavering commitment to supporting your passion for keeping legendary vehicles on the road.



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Combined Strength, Unmatched Parts Availability: By merging our strengths, we'll ensure the long-term availability of existing parts, while also igniting the development of exciting NEW additions to our inventory including the resurrection of parts long since discontinued. This comprehensive one-stop shop solution will provide you with an unparalleled range of parts at exceptional value, all backed by the unwavering commitment to quality that defines our legacies.

A Legacy of Supporting Your Passion: Whether you're a longstanding customer or a new enthusiast joining the community, you're likely familiar with the rich family histories of Moss and Rimmer Bros. We've both spent decades empowering car owners to keep their cherished vehicles running smoothly. This commitment remains our sole mission: to provide the exceptional service and part availability you rely on to keep your automotive dreams alive.

Thank You, and Onward Together: We sincerely thank you for your unwavering support over the years. This exciting merger signifies our dedication to being your partner, not just today, but for years to come. Together, we'll ensure a thriving future for car enthusiasts everywhere.



RTR's Drive Your Triumph Day panorama is featured in the April—May issue of The Vintage Triumph Magazine.

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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.

May

4	British and European Car Show - Williamsburg, VA	SATURDAY	www.wmbgbrit.com	
4	Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum Breakfast Cruise In - 8 a.m. to 11	SATURDAY	https://keystonetractorworks.com/	
9	RTR Monthly Meeting - Ken Simms's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Ken Simms	804-516-6052
10-11	Import/Performance Nationals - Carlisle, PA	FRI-SAT	http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/	
11	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
11	Breakthrough Car Show, Pamplin Park, Petersburg	SATURDAY	https://pamplinpark.org/	
18	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
18	British Car Night at River City Diner, W Huguenot Rd, Midlothian	SATURDAY		804-897-9518
25	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
25-2	British Car Week		www.britishcarweek.org	
31	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
31	Cross Ridge Cruise In, Glen Allen - 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Friday	Mike Johnston	610-574-3763

June

1	Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum Breakfast Cruise In - 8 a.m. to 11	SATURDAY	https://keystonetractorworks.com/	
8	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
8	Richmond Collector Car Show - St. Joseph's Villa, 800 Brook Rd.	SATURDAY	http://www.richmondaaca.com/show.html	
13	RTR Monthly Meeting - Glenn Larson's Garage - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
21	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
22	Upper Shirley British Car Gathering	SATURDAY		
22	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
29	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532