

July 2022

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



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**Don't Miss RTR's
Next Monthly
Meeting Thursday,
July 14th!**

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PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By Bruce Vaden
RTR President



Don't look now but 2022 is halfway gone. Like turning pages in a book, the older I get, the faster the years seem to go by. A physicist friend of mine explained it like this: when we are young our time reference is quite long, hence time seems to pass very slowly. As we age, our time reference becomes much shorter, i.e., speeds up, and so it seems that time goes by much faster. Something to do with $E=mc^2$.

Our monthly meeting on July 14 at Gary Kinney's house will be a tech session on electrolysis testing. Gary and Dean Tetterton will be using a multimeter to look for stray voltage in the cooling system caused by poorly grounded components. They'll test Gary's Sports 6 and a member's TR that comes to the meeting. I've never seen this technique demonstrated before. It sounds really interesting. Thanks to Gary and Dean for putting this on.

Other club events happening in July are another rendezvous at Gelati Celesti for ice cream on Friday, July 22. We had about 20 folks but only 2 Triumphs for the June 24th ice cream social. I'm setting a goal of 10 Triumphs for this one. Can I count on you? The CVBCC mini (not Cooper) car show will be held at Brandermill Golf Course on the evening of July 27. The show starts at 5 and RTR members and their cars are invited. We'll end the month (almost) with breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air on July 30.

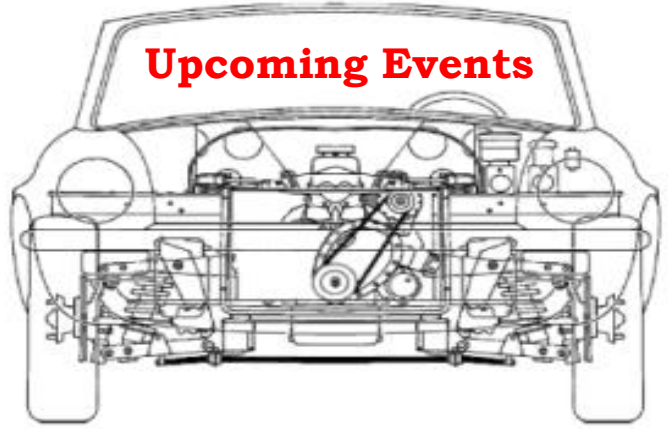
Finally, happy 246th birthday to the USA on July 4th. My family and I are blessed to be living in these times in this, the greatest nation in the world.

See you next month.



This photo is presumably from a Paris Motor Show in the mid-1950s. The placard on the car stand reads, "This car TRIUMPH TR 2 is absolutely identical to the one that exceeded 200 kilometers per hour at Jabbeke" - Jabbeke being a town in Belgium with a nearby long and straight highway that was occasionally closed for high-speed runs.

Upcoming Events



RTR July Meeting Thursday, July 14th, 7 p.m. Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30 At Gary Kinney's Garage 10109 Hearthrock Ct.

RTR's July meeting will be in Gary Kinney's home. Pizza and drinks will be available and bring a folding chair. There is plenty of room in the driveway and street for your British car or support vehicle. After the business meeting, both Dean Tetterton and I will present an interesting discussion about electrolysis and how it finds the most suitable grounding path. I recently attended a tech session about stray voltage in the car's cooling system that is caused by poorly grounded components, alternator overcharging and static electricity looking for a ground. We will demonstrate a test using a digital volt meter that will make for interesting results about the quality of the coolant. Time permitting, we will test one of our cars and a member's car.

Please let Glenn (glarson182@gmail.com) or me (gkinney72@gmail.com) know if you're attending.

Directions to Gary's House: 10109 Hearthrock Court, Henrico 23233. Gary lives in the Cedar Chase neighborhood, not far from Deep Run Park and the intersection of Ridgefield Parkway and Gaskins Road in Henrico County. From Gaskins, turn on to Ridgefield Parkway past the entrance to the park. Turn right on to Cox Road and follow it to Hearthrock Court. Turn right on Hearthrock. Gary's house is on the right.

On This Month's Cover

Scot Koehler and his 1958 TR3A with Mike Newhart and his 1961 TR3A at the June 4th British Car Week Run.

**RTR at Gelati Celesti
Friday, July 22nd, 7 p.m.
Stony Point Shopping
Center on Huguenot Road**

RTR's second ice cream run of the summer will take place on July 22nd. 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.



**RTR Breakfast
Saturday, July 30th, 9 a.m.
Joe's Inn Bon Air**

The next RTR breakfast is 9 a.m. Saturday, June 18th at Joe's Inn (www.joesinnbonair.com), 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. Please RSVP Bruce Vaden at (804) 330-2487 or shelleyv8@comcast.net no later than June 17th.

**CVBCC "Mini Car Show"
Wednesday, July 27th, 5 p.m.
Brandermill Country Club**

Our friends with the Central Virginia British Car Club (CVBCC) have rescheduled their annual Mini Car Show for July 27th at the Brandermill Country Club in Midlothian. All RTR members are invited to participate in this show, which was originally rained out in late May. RTR will email our members with any update closer to the 27th.

TR6 Brake Install Video



From Bill Moore: "I thought this would be a relatively good [video](#) on rear TR 6 brake installation for the next Spokes for someone who may not have seen it!"

Out and About With RTR



Ken Nachman's TR5 seen from my Mini Cooper's rear view mirror during the June 4th British Car Week Run. G.L.



Jim and Nancy Scherer's 1960 TR3A arrives at RTR's June 24th ice cream gathering.



Nice night for a club meeting. About 20 RTR members and spouses gathered at the Larson garage on June 9th.

British V-8 Gathering Wytheville, VA June 12 to 15th By Gary Kinney

Once a year, there is a unique gathering of British cars with very high-performance engine packages featuring a V-8 motor. Most are MGBs with a mix of Austin Healey, Jaguar, Sunbeam, Triumph and other models. There is no car show other than the incredible view in the parking lot and in itself, a sight to see.



This year, 52 cars met for the second time in Wytheville, VA for three days of technology, comradery and most of all driving. The driving events were primarily country back roads through the hills and high elevations of Southwest Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. Destinations included a stop at Big Walker Mountain Lookout, VA on our way to Princeton, WV to tour the historic Princeton Railroad Museums and Dr. Michael Crew's incredible car collection. After leaving Princeton, a bunch of us headed 35 miles south to Tazwell, VA, stopping at the visitors center before a drive on the "Back of the Dragon" run. Thirty-two miles, 386 turns and elevations to 3,500 ft, a challenge for your driving skills. The "Dragon" dumped us at the other end near Marion, VA where we headed northeast back to Wytheville, probably 170 miles of serious driving that day. We even made the [evening news](#) in Princeton, WV.



View from the hotel balcony

On the next day, there were two very informative tech sessions about stray electrolysis (something I need to do research about) and maybe give a tech session. Another popular tech session was about improving ignition performance with high performance V-8's. Later we toured around the Wytheville Tourism Bureau and the recently acquired Great Lakes of Florida Museum building. Lunch followed at a beautiful park in town (our mid-day stop) and

meeting the mayor of Wytheville. The afternoon tech session at the Thomas J Boyd Museum was hosted by Jim Blackwell, an incredible engineering mind who built a mechanical device to replicate engine timing and use of an ECM on a British car with a V-8. Fascinating but, unfortunately, I was unable to take a decent picture of this device.

On Wednesday morning, we headed south into N. Carolina for a tech session at Trilogly Detailing near Sparta, NC, then lunch and a tour of a performance shop in Roaring Gap, NC. Then we returned to Wytheville, driving only a short 105 miles that day. In the evening, we gathered for a banquet and fun auction which all of us donated some worthy items to seed next year's conference to be held in Arkansas. Wrapping it up, I drove home Sunday morning June 12 to the afternoon of June 16th. The TR8 rolled 850 miles flawlessly with a newly installed electric power steering kit. The TR8 and I were happy to be back home after some serious driving.



Gary's TR-8 at the Visitors Center entry to the "Dragon".



Triumph Spitfire with a Corvette LS6, check the fenders.



Scenic view parking at Big Walker Mountain Lookout.

TR6 Seat Diaphragm Alternative

By Jeff Boyea

The replacement seat diaphragms on both my 1973 TR6 seats had deteriorated and ripped after being in storage for 20 years. I ordered 2 replacements, installed them and one of the rubber tabs on each seat ripped during the installation. After sitting for a week 2 more tabs ripped on each seat. Most of the parts vendors I looked at sold the same style with the tabs based on pictures on their respective websites. So I looked for an alternative and found rubber upholstery webbing that is used for support in many seats. The webbing must be a low stretch type which I believe is identified by 1 red stripe in the middle and two inches wide. You will need 12 feet of



webbing and 20 metal end clips for rubber upholstery webbing (make sure to get the clips with a hole in the center). I also used some black upholstery dust cover fabric between the foam and the webbing.

I was able to find all the materials on Amazon for under \$40. I reused the hooks from the old diaphragm. For each seat, I cut 3 - 12 5/8 inch long webbing for the side to side webbing and 2 - 13 3/4 inch long webbing for the front to back webbing. I installed the metal clips using pliers, making sure the webbing is fully inserted in the clips and crimped very tightly. To install each strap, I used a flat screwdriver or small pry bar to push the 2nd hook into the hole in the seat. It took a good amount of force to stretch them which is good for a firm seat bottom. I wove the webbing straps as they were installed.



I have enough webbing and dust cover fabric to do four more seats if anyone is interested. Hopefully this will last a good number of years without sagging Time will tell.

British Classics Showcased During Queen Elizabeth's 70th Jubilee

Millions throughout Britain and the world watched Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee celebrations June 2-5. A highlight was Sunday's jubilee parade in front of Buckingham Palace, which featured such British classics as Morris Minors, Range Rovers and Jaguars. Unfortunately, but so typical, one classic Jag had to be pushed past the viewing stand. See the James Bond cars in the parade [here](#).



Triumph Values Accelerating?



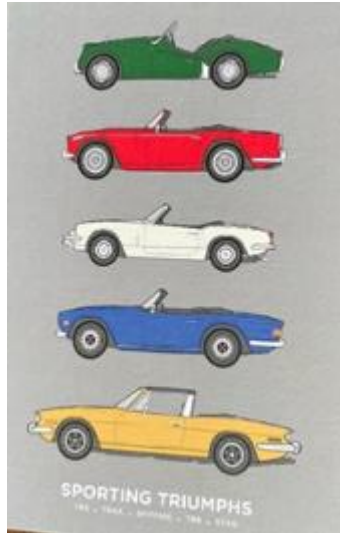
This 1972 Triumph GT6 Mk III sold for \$36,000 recently on the [Bring a Trailer](#) online auction site.

Postcard Corner By Charlie Edmonson

These three cards are my newest acquisitions. The shiny new Spitfire MKIII is shown at an auto show, with a new Herald to the right. Note the Studebaker Lark and Hawk in the foreground. To the right of the Herald is visitor admiring a Jeep Station Wag-on.

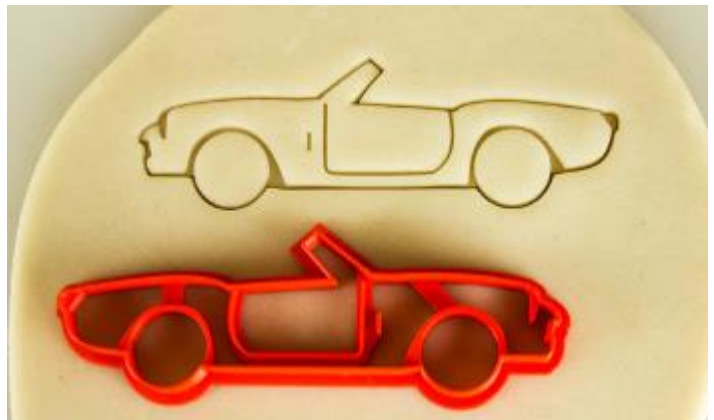
The red & white Triumph Sedan is looking snappy with whitewall tires and gleaming chrome...and it appears to be a hit at the beach with many admirers.

Colorful Sporting Triumphs in production order are represented on the third card. Interestingly not all the models are shown. Absent from the listing are the TR2, 250/5, GT6, and TR7/8 which would certainly be considered "Sporting Triumphs."



Sweet!

Doodling on Facebook, I stumbled on this new product, a Triumph Spitfire cookie cutter! Get yours for only \$ 9.95 plus shipping from carcookiecutters.com. This Spitfire cookie cutter is the only Triumph offered, but if you're interested in BMW, Porsche, Honda and other marques, you're in luck! G.L.



Triumph Treasure Trove Discovered in Tampa Storage Yard

Too bad we don't live near Tampa. Read full story [here](#).



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.

Wanted: I am looking for a used or new at a reasonable price windshield wiper switch for my 1973 TR6. Contact Bill Moore at bill.mysonnm@gmail.com.

For Sale: TR6 short block \$200, TR6 rollbar \$80, Mazda Miata seats \$120. Contact Mike Newhart at mike@newharts.com.

For Sale:

- 1970 Triumph Spitfire. Dirty, engine seized, but in sound shape, a bunch of stuff was done. You can have it for \$1500, but if I get to cleaning it up I will want \$2000. Act now before this bargain is gone!
- TR3 cylinder head, complete. \$50?
- 4 moveable pads. \$50
- TR3 drive shaft \$20
- TR3 rear end, complete. \$50
- Two TR3 transmissions, 1st/reverse gone, \$20 ea.
- Pair of TR# seat frames. \$20

I will have more later, but small stuff. Contact Dave Upton at davieupton@gmail.com.

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

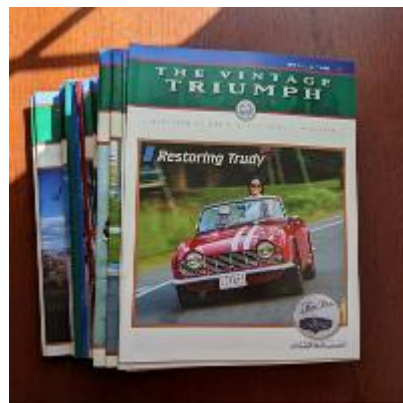
easy to use and works on the principle that the combustion flame burns a particular colour depending on the fuel mix. The Colortune is a spark plug with a glass insulator viewing window so the flame is visible. These kits currently retail for around \$100. I picked this one up for free recently, and already have another, so am happy to loan this one out. Contact Glenn Larson at glarson182@gmail.com.



Free to a Good Home: Cleaning out my garage. Come and get these items:

- Miscellaneous UNF bolts and nuts, all from Triumph Spitfires, but will fit other Triumphs. Always a good idea to have some spares!
- About 20 copies of VTR magazine from 2000 to 2010. They go in recycling if nobody wants them!

Contact Glenn Larson at glarson182@gmail.com



For Sale: Used parts washer. Fully functional with electric pump. No leaks. Yours for \$40. Similar models currently list for around \$130 at Harbor Freight. Contact Glenn Larson at glarson182@gmail.com.



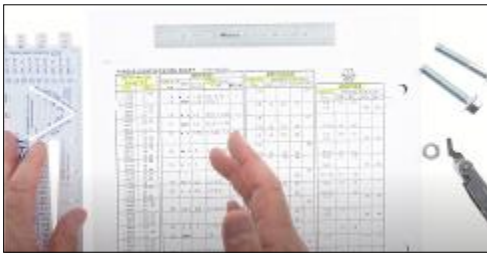


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More on Nuts and Bolts By Glenn Larson

RTR's June monthly meeting tech session highlighted how to identify the different types of nuts and bolts found on our Triumphs. We talked about how to access the "[Hardware Catalogue For Use With Standard Triumph Vehicles](#)," which can be downloaded here. Also, Moss Motors has an excellent [YouTube video](#) that describes the hardware used on British classics.



Finally, Dave Upton sent me this list of "Special Fastener Specifications" we didn't cover during the meeting. Thanks, Dave!



"New" Triumph Bumper Option?

RTR member Jim Barker emailed me recently about the new bumpers he purchased for his 1969 TR6.

Glenn, saw this on Facebook this morning. I did go to their website and found they have quite a gallery of bumpers. Whether it is a scam is another question. I bought a set of stainless steel bumpers off of eBay and am very satisfied with them. My order was shipped from Vietnam. This may be the same group.



I replied:

I think so, Jim. The "Vietnam bumpers," as I've seen them called on Facebook and other sites, get good reviews. I think they all are from the same company, bumperautomobile.com. It's probable the ones you bought from eBay are from the same folks.

Looks like the company, Bumperautomobile, manufactures a wide variety stainless steel bumpers for classic cars, including Triumphs, MGs, and other classic European marques. It lists bumpers available for TR4s, TR250s, TR6s and Spitfires. No endorsement implied, but it may be worth checking out if you are interested in replacing your bumpers.



Caveat Emptor! The front strut insulator pads on my 1973 Stag were almost 50 years old, so I purchased rubber ones from a well known supplier. When they arrived from the UK, they obviously didn't fit (right). The poly ones I subsequently bought (left) did. Why the discrepancy, and where was quality control?



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My good friend and former RTR member Harlan Schufeldt recently brought me a treasure trove of Triumph Stag promotional literature he had acquired over the years, primarily during his trips to the UK. Included was this color and trim brochure for all 1972 Triumphs. Gotta love those '70s colors, especially magenta. G.L.



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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

9	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
9	Classic Vehicle Display at Woodside Farms, Hanover County	SATURDAY	https://www.woodsidefarms.net/events	
14	RTR Monthly Meeting - Gary's Kinney's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Gary Kinney	(804) 334-2605
22	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	http://www.gelatiicecream.com/	
23	TRAACA Annual Swap Meet—Nansemond Academy - Suffolk, VA	SATURDAY	http://www.traaca.com/swap_meet.htm	
23-24	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	SAT-SUN	www.pvqp.org	
23	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
27	CVBCC Mini Show - Brandermill	WEDNESDAY		
30	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/	

Aug.

6	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
11	RTR Monthly Meeting Ken Nachman's House - 7 p.m.	WEDNESDAY	Ken Nachman	(804) 840-1441
19	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	http://www.gelatiicecream.com/	
20	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
27	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/	
26-28	Virginia Festival of the Wheel - Charlottesville	FRI-SUN	https://www.vafestivalofthewheel.com/	
29-1	VTR National Convention, Galena IL	MON-THUR	https://www.vtr2022.org/	