

Oct. 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
October 13th
Monthly Meeting
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PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By Bruce Vaden
RTR President



Our 20th anniversary "End of Summer Picnic" was held at Jim and Cely Coleman's house in Hanover on Sunday, September 18. About a dozen Triumphs were on display. Our club provided the food and refreshments. Jim and Jamie grilled the burgers and dogs. Side dishes of picnic fare were brought by those attending. An accurate head count through RSVP worked out well; the amount of food provided was spot on. As usual, people got most of their carbohydrates from the adult beverages instead of desert. The club gifted a pair of theater tickets to Jim and Cely as a small token of our appreciation for their effort every fall for the last 20 years. Perfect weather and a big turnout combined to make the picnic a smashing success. We hope this fall tradition will continue next year.

Our October monthly meeting will be hosted by Jim and Nancy Scherer on the 13th. At the picnic, Jim was mum on the topic but with three weeks to plan, I'm sure he'll come up with something interesting. Liquid refreshments left over from the picnic and fresh pizza will be provided. The meeting starts around 7p.m. but come earlier for the food.

We're meeting for breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air on Saturday morning, October 22nd at 9 a.m.

Rumors are that Tim Thacker's Spitfire will soon be back on the road, hopefully in time for our run down to Surrey Seafood Restaurant in November. Good luck Tim! That's all I have this month.

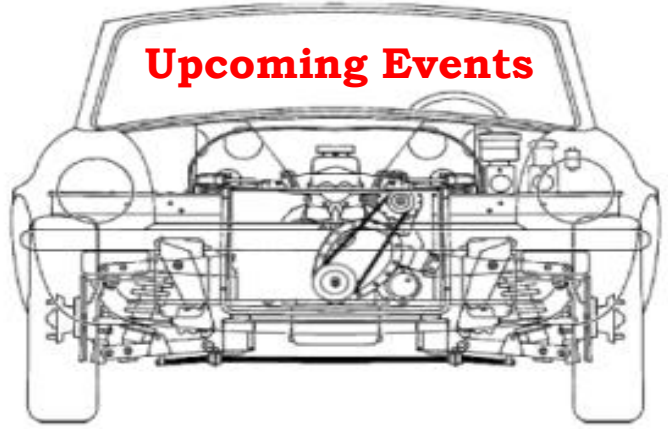
Bruce



On This Month's Cover

Triumphs at the September 18th RTR picnic.

Upcoming Events



Ladies Invited

RTR Monthly Meeting

Thursday, October 13th, 7 p.m.

Jim and Nancy Scherer's

Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30

1012 Fernview Trail, Midlothian

Due to the success of inviting spouses and significant others to recent RTR monthly meetings, we will continue this for the October meeting. Following a brief business meeting, we will have a very interesting tech session which will include: 1) Drip trays for GT6/Spitfire, 2) Multimeters: types, what each is used for and how to use them, and 3) Why your horns don't work.

For the guys, please bring a camp chair. Pizza and drinks will be available at 6:30 in the garage. Nancy will host the ladies with drinks and appetizers. Ladies, please bring an appetizer to share. **RSVP** if you plan to bring your spouse or significant other to rosiesch3@aol.com.

Directions to the Scherer's: We are located at 1012 Fernview Trail, Midlothian which is very close to St. Francis Hospital and just off the end of Brandermill Parkway Extension where it meets Charter Colony Parkway. If you cannot find our address in your GPS, please let me know at 804-617-7039.

RTR Breakfast

Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 9 a.m.

Joe's Inn Bon Air

The next RTR breakfast is 9 a.m. Saturday, October 22nd 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 22nd!

Tim Needs RSVPs ASAP! 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 (surryseafoodco.com) 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 thicket@outlook.com

ASAP. More details will be available in the November Spokes.



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**.



SCCA Runoffs Virginia International Raceway Sunday, October 2nd

The SCCA runoff races are being held at VIR Sept. 30-Oct. 2nd. The big bore cars (Vettes, Camaros, Mustangs) are racing on Sunday. Eric Crenshaw's friend Tom Patton from Ohio will be racing his Sunbeam Tiger, and he is always a strong contender for a podium finish. Eric is driving his Subaru Forester, and Ray McCaskey, Tim Thacker and



Chris Simmons are riding with him. If someone wants to go with them and has a bigger car, please contact Eric at (804) 320-1951 or ericcrenshaw@gmail.com. The tickets at the gate are \$35 for Sunday only.

Hagerty Cars & Caffeine Car Show Saturday, October 8th Virginia International Raceway

Be a part of the VIR SpeedTour weekend held at the Virginia International Raceway (VIR) in Alton, Virginia. The Hagerty Cars & Caffeine car show car



show is open to all classic, vintage, exotic, and collectible cars and vintage motorcycles of interest. Car clubs are welcome. Each \$50.00 car show registration includes: 2 Weekend tickets to

the Vintage and Trans Am Races, touring laps on the Virginia International Raceway in your show car, VIP Parking, and full access to the race car paddock.

September at Americas Motorsports Resort has long been a favorite weekend on SVRA's calendar. The Heacock Classic Gold Cup combines speed, thrills, and heritage on the same track where many of our vintage cars raced when Virginia International Raceway first opened in 1957.

Register for The Hagerty Cars & Caffeine car show [here](#).

Hunt Country Classic Sunday, October 9th Marshall, Virginia

Pre-registration by Sept. 30th is \$25. Drive-up/day-of registration is \$35. Spectator parking is \$10 per vehicle. Marshall is about 20 minutes north of Warrenton near the intersection of I-66 and US17. Find out more about the show and registration [here](#).



RTR Makes Impressive Showing at VTR 2022

By Stephen Oertwig

Photos by Steve Oertwig, Shawn Frank and Bob De Lucia

Triumph enthusiasts from across North America gathered Aug. 28 through Sept. 1 in Galena, Illinois, for the annual Vintage Triumph Register convention and North America Triumph Challenge. VTR 2022 was sponsored by the Illinois Sports Owners Association, a VTR chapter based in the Chicago area.

VTR 2022 was *deja vu* of the originally scheduled VTR 2020 convention that was canceled because of the COVID pandemic. ISOA brought the convention back to life for 2022 at the original venue, the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. Galena is a jolting landscape compared to the flat cornfields of Indiana and Illinois. Galena featured mountainous driving conditions and many twisting driving roads. While Galena is only a few miles away from Iowa and Wisconsin, it seemed to be a world of its own with so many hills.

The Middle Atlantic region was represented well at this year's convention, which was the first convention east of the Mississippi River since 2018 when it was held in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. I was joined at VTR 2022 by Gary Kinney with a TR8 coupé; Jack and



Gary Kinney's TR8 at VTR 2022

Carol Schmelyun with a TR-2 and Gary Klein in a TR8 convertible from Triumphs Around the Chesapeake; and Melody Laurel with a Spitfire and Bob De Lucia from the Delaware Valley Triumphs. VTR 2022 was the third convention in a row where Gary and I represented Richmond Triumph Register.

About 300 people with 200 Triumphs attended VTR 2022. VTR conventions draw many side curtain Triumphs as well as TR4s and TR6s. The Triumph Wedge Owners Association, a subchapter of VTR, always has its members out in force with many TR7s and TR8s. Spitfires of all years were plentiful. There also was a Renault limousine. Only three Stags were at VTR 2022, but the highlight of the herd was Stag No. 2, which Triumph used as a mule and for adver-



tising photography for U.S. sales.

Besides my Herald 1200 estate, there were three other Heralds, a Sports 6 and a Vitesse. A rarity this year was the gathering of three estates: my Herald, a 2500 PI estate and a 10 estate making its first appearance after restoration. The estates made it an Estatefest.

VTR 2022 had a wheel-clutching welcome. The blue skies of Illinois' tabletop landscape turned dark with heavy rain interrupted by tornado warnings. Some of the East Coast contingent reported driving through hail.

A highlight side trip of the 975-mile drive was a stop in Triumph, Illinois. I had spotted Triumph on the map off of Interstate 39 on the last day of the three-day drive. The best sign for Triumph for a picture was at the post office. Triumph is best known



Steve runs the funkhana with Sondra Brashield of the Kansas City Triumphs.

for its curling club. Turns out Triumph also was the location for a checkpoint during the rallye held at the first North America Triumph Challenge in 1975. It was very popular for VTR members heading east after the convention for a photo op.

The first couple days of VTR conventions are times to see old friends and slowly gauge the momentum of the venue. The funkhana was on day two. This event needs a passenger. Since Ho Yong stayed home to care for the two big dogs, I had asked Bob De Lucia to be the left seater (the Herald is right-hand drive). Just as I was lining up for the

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funkhana, Sondra Brasfield of the Kansas City Triumphs asked if she could be my left-hand navigator. I used to be a member of the KC Triumphs, so it was a great chance to see some Midwest friends. This was to my advantage because Sondra had done the funkhana already with her husband.

Despite the advantage, we did not win, but had a jolly good time. The right-hand drive Herald gave the course workers fits.

ISOA went all out for the welcome party that night. Matt Krajniak, VTR 2022 convention chair, had the host hotel provide a feast for attendees. I had been preparing for this event since 2020. I had bought a Union Jack suit two years ago just for the welcome party. It did dazzle many people when I walked into the crowd with the Union Jack competing with the setting sun.

Day Three started out with the traditional breakfast run in downtown Galena. Gary was at the front of the line of Triumphs cueing up for the second wave to Galena. Since Gary was without a route navigator, he asked someone else to take the lead. What should have been a 10-minute drive turned into a 40-minute adventure because of the circuitous roads around Galena. Galena is the birthplace of Ulysses Grant, and the town made sure you knew it.

ISOA changed the game with the normal gimmick



rallye, probably to reduce the number of people to work the course. Drivers encountered a poker run where a card is drawn for best hand. Vanguard was my navigator for this run, but we only drew three sixes, which I thought was good. The winning hand was four-of-a-kind, kings high. There also was a time-speed-distance rallye that required drivers to use app-based software to mark checkpoints.

Burning rubber and squealing tires were the focus for day four. Unlike the course at the 2021 convention in Edmond, Oklahoma, that featured a wide-open field, the autocross course at Galena was tight and short. It favored Spitfires and other Herald-based cars to maneuver the hairpin turns.

I was able to shave three seconds off each pass for the three runs allowed. The Herald's Solex carbure-

tor choked on the tight turns, but kept its wheels on the ground to successfully defend its title as the



Fastest Herald in VTR and Class SH champion two years in a row. Climax of VTR 2022 was the Triumph car show in Galena. Cars were displayed on a grassy park near the historic downtown of Galena, and drew many spectators. VTR fields two divisions: participants' choice and Concours d'Elegance.

Only the estate and another Herald were on display for participants' choice because of personal commitments by the other two Heralds. I spent the day photographing cars and talking with VTR members. I thought I had a low VTR number with 231, but found out Terry Telke, whom has the Renown, has VTR membership number of six. He is one of the founding members from Detroit in 1974.

VTR's membership meeting was held after the show. I brought up about making VTR's magazine an email feed because of increased printing and postage costs. The board agreed to look at this.

Conventions always have various technical sessions. Sessions included LED lighting, brakes and handling, and Stromberg and SU carburetors.

Highlight of the convention was the awards banquet on the final night. The guest speaker was Tim Suddard, publisher of Classic Motorsports Magazine and Grassroots Motorsports Magazine. He weaved a story about how Triumphs changed his life.

I learned he bought the rights to British Car, which I had subscribed to for many years. When I cleaned out the house to sell, I threw away many issues of British Car with much regret.

When it came time for car show awards, I was happy to have just been at the convention. Gary won best in class for TR8s in participants' choice. He had the only TR8 coupé among the Wedge convertibles and made a stunning presentation. I also won best in my class for special interest with the Herald. I had all the books and manuals out for people to thumb through, and that does make a difference in

(Continued on page 7)

RTR Annual Picnic Sunday, Sept. 18th

RTR's string of beautiful annual picnic weather continued with more than 40 members and friends gathering at Jim and Cely Coleman's Mechanicsville home on September 18th. This marked the 20th straight year (with the exception of a Covid pause in 2020) that Jim and Cely have hosted our picnic. In gratitude, RTR gave them tickets to a show of their choosing at the Hanover Tavern. It was great to see long time Triumph and RTR friend Sandy Thompson, who arrived in Gary Kinney's Sports Six. Sandy, proprietor of Coventry Motor Works in Easton, MD, was in the area to pick up a TR4. With good food, great friends and beautiful weather, a good time was had by all!



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



A friend of RTR member Bill Moore has this 1973 (?) Spitfire on their rental property near the intersection of Forest Hill and Buford Roads. No engine or transmission. If anybody is interested in this car, contact the owner at 804-651-8502.



As reported in the August Spokes, RTR members David and Bonnie Renn recently won this 1997 Mini from a contest in the UK. This picture is of them visiting the car during their September visit to England. We hope to see it soon on the road here at home.

(Continued from page 5)



showing a car.

Big surprise of the night was the Herald winning best of show for participants' choice. It was unexpected because there were so many great Triumphs there. I also shared an award for best dressed with a chap in a formal kilt and Leia Flure of ISOA. She wore a 1960s style dress with white go-go boots and I wore the signature James Bond tux.

Final announcements for VTR 2022 were about VTR 2023. Next year's convention will be held in Dillard, Georgia, less than 460 miles from Richmond. VTR 2023 will be hosted by the Georgia Triumph Association and the British Auto Owners Group Sept. 29 through Oct. 1, 2023. Website for registration and hotel accommodations is VTR2023.org. Rooms at the host hotel are limited and it is advised to reserve your room early.



Matt Krajniak, VTR 2022 convention chair, center, presents best dressed awards to Stephen Oertwig, left, and Forrest Shields, Illinois Sports Owners Association member. Matt bestowed \$25 gift certificates from Classic Motorsports Magazine to Stephen and Forrest at the awards banquet. Also winning a best dressed award was Leia Flure of ISOA. Leia wore a 1960s styled dress and white go-go boots.



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Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family's Love of Cars By Glenn Larson

The passing of Queen Elizabeth in September marks the end of an era, but the Royal Family's love of modern and classic cars continues. The Queen was a "car girl" for over 75 years, beginning with her WWII enlistment in the UK's Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), where she learned car mechanics and truck driving. She enjoyed driving well into her 90s, tooling around her Sandringham estate in a Jaguar XJ6. The picture below shows her checking the oil on a 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO owned by Pink Floyd's Nick Mason. Wow!

King Charles is also a car guy. He's owned a series of Aston Martins for many years, converting one to bio fuels. This picture of him and Camilla in an

MGTD was taken during their visit to Cuba a few years ago. I did find one picture of Royal Family members in a Triumph, this one of Charles and Princess Diana in a Stag during their honeymoon in Gibraltar.

Prince William's interest in cars extends to both automobiles and motorcycles. He is reported to own a wide array of Land Rovers, Audis, Bentleys and a Triumph Daytona 600 motorcycle, though I don't think he's doing much street racing these days.





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Postcard Corner By Charlie Edmonson

I've recently acquired four new Triumph postcards. I've always had a fondness for the Triumph Mayflower and was delighted to acquire this card of a 1951 Mayflower motoring through the snow. This card



was produced by an auto museum in Holland. The red TR2 is an original dealer card extolling the many benefits of a TR2. Note the white car in the background and that both are early model "long door" TR2s. The Standard sedans appear to be 1920's models (as best as I can determine). Note the Motor Meter, the low mounted headlights,



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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.

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://vimow.com/	
4-7	Hershey AACA Fall Nationals	TUE-FRIDAY	http://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-division-fall-meet/	
8	Cars & Caffeine Show at Virginia International Raceway	SATURDAY	http://vimow.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	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/	

Nov.

4-6	Hilton Head Island Concours, SC	THUR-SUN	www.hhconcours.com	
5	British Cars at Battersea, Petersburg - 1 to 4 p.m.	SATURDAY	-	804-732-9882
12	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
13	RTR Run to the Surry Seafood Company, Surry, VA - 10 a.m.	SUNDAY	https://surryseafoodco.com/	
19	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/	
25	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	

Dec.

4	RTR Holiday Party - Walton Park Clubhouse - 5:30 p.m.	SUNDAY	Bruce Vaden	804-330-2487
10	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
17	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	https://www.Joe'sinnbonair.com/	
24	Cars and Coffee - Regency Mall, 1420 N Parham Rd - 8 to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	