

The Ragtop



July 2013

Hill Country Triumphs

By Steve Johnson



umphs don't heat up like ours do. We could be living in the northern states where the weather in the summers isn't quite as hot as Texas, but I've personally had my fill of shoveling snow in the winter and prefer the heat of the summer. I'll take the hot weather any day.

MotoCancelli - Performance Run

One of our bigger events of July was the Performance Run to the open house at MotoCancelli. Chris Cancelli knows his triumphs and is a welcome addition to our club as well as his shop that specializes in pre-1980 machines like ours. I

Here comes August. It's the time of year when my drives get a bit shorter, but always a pleasant experience. To and from work isn't bad unless you have to sit in traffic. England has a more temperate climate than Texas and their Tri-

The Hill Country Triumph Club, the 50th Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR), was founded in 1990 to bring together the owners of Triumph automobiles in the Central Texas area surrounding Austin. In 1991, the membership decided to include other British car fans as associates due to lack of other clubs in our area that represent some of the other marques. As owners and lovers of our unique types of cars, we have a special kinship, which draws us together. Membership is open to anyone who is a British car enthusiast, with or without a car.

Annual dues are just \$15.00 per family group or address per year. We have dinner meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and at least one other event each month. We encourage you to join and support us, even if you don't drive your car regularly. We also offer technical assistance if needed. One goal of the club is to help its members keep their cars on the road. Please call one of the club officers listed in the newsletter for more information about club benefits and spread the word about our club to others.

The Hill Country Club is a local chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR)/Triumph Sports Owners Association, which is open to all drivers of Triumph motorcars; a chapter of the Triumph Register of America, exclusively for TR2 through TR4A sports cars; and a chapter of the 6-PACK, dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation, and restoration of the Triumph TR250 and TR6 sports cars. Membership in these national organizations is encouraged. Visit their websites at www.vtr.org, www.triumphregister.com, and www.6-pack.org.

The Ragtop is published monthly by the Hill Country Triumph Club. Material within may be freely reproduced providing Ragtop and the authors are credited. Any and all newsletter contributions are welcome. Deadline for submissions is the end of each month. Submissions may be emailed to editor@hillcountrytriumphclub.org. Car related classified ads are free to members and will run for three months unless otherwise instructed. Contact editor for other ads.

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wrote an article on this great day that you will see later in this edition of the Ragtop.

Cars and Coffee – British Invasion Sunday July 14th

Jim Icenhower said the Texas All British Car clan had a great turnout for his British Invasion of Cars & Coffee Sunday! Nearly 60 British cars of all types and ages enjoyed cars and camaraderie. If you haven't attended, you definitely need to. Way to go Jim!



Hill Country Triumph Club – Pool Party July 20th

Unfortunately Mike Schubert had to cancel the Pool Party we had scheduled for July 20th. Just plain too hot and not many of our club members signed up. Thanks for trying to put on an excellent get together for us again this year. Maybe we'll have better attendance next year.

Texas All British Car Days – September 27th-29th

Do you have September 27th through the 29th on your calendar yet? That's our annual TXABCD and I'd like to see every car in the club at there this year. Here's an overview:

Friday, Sept 27, evening: casual meet & greet at The Brass Tap, downtown Round Rock.

Saturday, Sept 28: Shop Tour, Rallye and Dinner.

Sunday, Sept 29: Car show -- Old Settlers Park, Round Rock -- On-line and mail registration will be open soon. In the meantime, please tell anyone you know who might be interested in our events to send Jim a note at info@txabcd.org so he can add them to the email list.

For More Info: Check the Texas All British Car Days web site at www.txabcd.org

US Vintage National Championship – Oct. 25th–28th

Dave Foreman and Robert Mackenzie let me know that the *US Vintage National Championship* put on by the *Sportscar Vintage Racing Association* will be held October 25th – 28th. We should have several club cars in the races at Circuit of The Americas. The races will be open to the public at no charge.



This is a great, inexpensive way to enjoy this venue and some 500 pre-1973 race cars, including some truly historic autos. Come see us race! Let's go and support our race team. Here's some additional information you'll be interested in:

Flyer:
<http://circuitoftheamericas.com/vintage>

Great SVRA Video
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=211545682334573>

2013 VTR National Convention – San Rafael California

The Vintage Triumph Register National Meet is in San Rafael, California, from October 2nd through 6th, 2013. I know a number of our club members are already planning to go. Here's the website with details:

www.triumphtravelers.org/. Their flyer is later in this Ragtop.

Roger Bolick is organizing the drive across to San Francisco, and trying to get us all in a close hotel so we are together. Please let Roger know if you will be attending 2013 VTR Nationals this year. He'll



send you the information and add you to his list. Roger's email address is rgb@exact427.com.

HELP - 2013 Holiday Party - December

The Hill Country Triumph Club Holiday Party is our best attended event every year. This year I'm looking for someone to offer their home for the Holiday Party. The club will help with the food and drinks while the club members bring a side dish. If you would like to help out this year send me a note

stevenjohnson7@sbcglobal.net.

August Club Meeting - Tuesday the 13th

Our August Club meeting will be at Rudy's on RR 620. It's just North of RM 2222 on RR 620. Here's their website with the menu and directions [PRESS HERE](#).

Remember, you don't have to drive your Triumph to the club meeting to enjoy the excitement!

Just be there....

Triumphantly,

Steve

Steve Johnson

President

Hill Country
Triumph Club

stevenjohnson7@sbcglobal.net

Our Website -

www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org



Bob's Your Uncle

By Bob Skewis

"Bob's Your Uncle" Returns

Betina and Dave Foreman took an extended holiday in England last month while they were there to see a friend's wedding. Bob Skewis stepped in to handle the scribe duties in Betina's absence.

The Meeting was opened at 7:15 by Steve Johnson who reported that in a "stealth" election last month, all officers volunteered for another stint and were elected by acclamation. We all owe these members a debt of gratitude for taking on their assigned tasks! Steve noted that the Cars and Coffee show on July 14th was going to be a Second British Invasion with many cars of multiple marques committed to attend. A mass arrival was planned with a gathering at the Steiner Ranch Randall's and then a drive to the Oasis together . . . should be a great entrance!

Steve reported on the event at Cancelli Performance the previous weekend . . . a good turnout de-

spite the 108 degree weather. They got to view the new shop and see engine work being done on Alan Palmer's car and Robert MacKenzie's racer. A short trip down the road took them to lunch at Cindi's Hog Wild for burgers and beer before traveling a little further to the Circuit of the Americas. The event that day was the Solar Car Races . . . free entrance into the gate and the pit area was the attraction here (not the speed).

Mike Schubert is offering to host all members at a pool party at his house on Saturday, July 20th from 1:00 to whenever. With the heat lately, this might be just the thing to get a short ride in the car and a refreshing dip afterward. Contact

Mike or Steve for more information on what to bring.

Updates were made on Texas All British Car Days, VTR Nationals in San Francisco and HCTC hosting the 2015 Regional VTR meet. We are still in negotiations for holding the Regional at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort at this point. TXABCD will be September 28-29 and the organizing committee has things well in hand . . . but, if you want to volunteer, you're more than welcome to contact Jim Icenhower. A good contingent of members will be driving to the VTR Nationals and they are open to having you accompany them on the marathon . . . contact Roger Bolick or Mike McPhail if you think you and your car are up to the task.

A Chump Car Race report was given by Richard "Nobody Died" Ceraldi and Steve congratulated the team on bringing home the best-effort-in-the-spirit-of-the-race award. In other race news, the US Vintage National Championship will present CVAR racing at its finest at the Circuit of the Americas with 600 cars in attendance for the October 24-27 event. Up to date information can be seen on the web site: www.svra.com.

In the Old Friends and New Faces report, our friend Carol Pennington is returning from Yoakum. She has taken a teaching position at Del Valle ISD and is working on finding a home for herself and her TR3. It was good to see Charles Wagner and his young son Carlos pull up to the Spitfire Squadron in their own 1972 model. Charles is starting a complete frame-up restoration, beginning with a frame he got from Art Shoenig. Rounding

out the new youth movement in the club was Ryan and Aidan Gould in their own Spitfire, which gathered a good deal of parking lot help and discussion. The Spitfires took the prize this meeting . . . of the 7 Triumphs in attendance, all were Spitfires except one TR6 and one TR4. Thanks for bringing your cars out on a warm Summer evening!

From the Editor

By Dan Julien

There is not much content for this issue. I guess it's just that time of year. A lot of us have been away on vacation, and for the rest, it is just too dang hot to be doing much with the car. Keep the contributions coming in. I'm always grateful for whatever you can send. Don't worry about making it look good. Just text is fine. If you send the pictures separately, it's easier to place them wherever they fit best.

My TR6 is back in my garage. The repair panel is welded in, and the welds have been ground down, and I smoothed it over with body putty. I've sanded the remaining rusted areas down to bare metal and treated with rust converter. Next is masking, priming, and painting.

I had recently bought a RetroSound radio from Moss Motors, and while the car was away, I decided to

mount it. The RetroSound can be made to



fit in a lot of different older cars because it has control knobs mounted on outboard brackets that allow quite a bit of flexibility in their location.

They sell a special Triumph face



plate.

The biggest modification I had to make was that the brackets made the radio too wide to fit in the TR6 factory radio location in the dash support, so I had to cut them with a hack saw.



Once all that was done, the installation didn't look half bad.



BBQ DRIVE TO TAYLOR followed by a BEER RUN TO BASTROP

Just in from Don Couch:

August 3rd (short notice, I know) 10:00 am departing promptly at 10:30am for Taylor. Come shine or Shiner! If it looks like rain (I know, I know... what's rain?) call to make sure we are still on. Meet at Don and Brenda's house:

6802 Notre Dame Drive
Austin, TX 78723
(512)-680-3540

MotoCancelli - Performance Run

By Steve Johnson



June 29th was a day to remember in more ways than one. The good news is that we had a great run with great fun. The bad news is that the day quickly got up to 108 Degrees, set a high record for that day in history, and still is our top temperature for 2013. Even with all that we had sixteen club members, including prospective members join us for a wonderful day.

We started the day at Chris' MotoCancelli Performance Shop where Chris and his team were having their grand opening. As I arrived, I saw a number of our club cars in the parking lot. As I walked into the shop I saw even more club cars, but that wasn't all. There

were a number of other stock and modified cars in the shop awaiting their turn with the mechanic. MotoCancelli does more than just performance. They really enjoy pre-1980 Sports Cars of all kinds including Triumphs. Chris helps our race team in the pits, and I'm sure you'll be seeing more and more of him and his crew. I've added a few pictures following the article. Here's the MotoCancelli website. Take a look <http://www.motocancelli.net/>.

After the Grand Opening, we went to *Cindy's Gone Hog Wild* for lunch. It's about 6 miles east of MotoCancelli on Hwy. 71. We felt right at home at Cindy's. It's a Biker joint with great food and friendly folks. It was a great oasis before heading out for the next leg of our journey.

After Lunch, we drove to the *Circuit Of The Americas* track. Friday

before the run I drove the route so I could update maps for everyone.

The guard at the COTA gate told me that Saturday would be an open house and we would be able to go on tours of the track. Then Saturday Morning in the American Statesman there was an article indicating that the Solar Cars were competing and the track was open to the public. I love it when a plan comes together. The Solar Cars didn't have the high pitched whine that the Formula One cars have, but it was great to be at the track for a while and see what the pits looked like.

It turned out to be a great day for all. Check out the pictures below.







You'd act sassy, too...if your name was Spitfire.

You can't blame a Spitfire for feeling exuberant. It simply outclasses everything in its price league.

Start one up. You're doing 50 in 12 swift seconds. Top speed is well over 90.

Rack-and-pinion steering and the smallest turning circle (24 ft.) let the Spitfire outmaneuver any other car.

And it's longer, lower, wider...and faster than the competition! More comfortable, too.

You'll pay a lot more than \$2199* before you find another sports car with roll-up windows, disc brakes, and all round independent suspension.

And nothing, but nothing looks like the Spitfire... except maybe that plane.

Triumph Spitfire!

*Suggested retail price PGE plus state and/or local taxes. Slightly higher in West. Look for dealer in Yellow Pages. Overseas delivery available. Standard-Triumph Motor Co., Inc., 575 Madison Ave., N.Y. 22, N.Y., Canada: 1463 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto 10, Ont.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Triumph-Motorcar-historical-archive/318033424973420>

TRIUMPHWEST

Triumph Travelers
Sports Car Club

2013

VTR National Convention

Greater San Francisco Bay Area
October 2 through 6, 2013

Events:

San Francisco Driving Tour
Sonoma Raceway Autocross
VTR Concours
Hospitality Party
Funcours Car Show
Funrallye
Awards Banquet
Triumph Vendors and Regalia

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krigibbon@volcano.net
Cregg Cowan
(650) 966-8651
cregg.cowan@sri.com
Get complete details at:
www.triumphtravelers.org



Jim Icenhower's



Wood, Leather and Vinyl Steering Wheels for Classic Cars At Exceptional Prices

Wood Wheels with Hub	\$219.95
Leather Wheels with Hub	\$119.95
Vinyl Wheels with Hub	\$109.95



I have steering wheels and hubs for almost all British classics as well as accessories like shift knobs, mirrors, light/badge bars and more. Check out my current listings on eBay at <http://stores.ebay.com/specialtypartshop> or email me at jicenhower@yahoo.com for more information.

Listing change as I get shipments from the UK so check back often or contact me for any special requests.

Back issues of The Ragtop are available on our website:
<http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org/newsletters.php>

Pay Your Dues!!!!!!!

Please check the latest spreadsheet sent out by Nel. It says the month and year your dues are due. If the year listed next to your name isn't 2013, you owe right now. Any quite delinquent members who haven't paid will be dropped from the roster.

Cost is \$15 per year per family. If you don't wish to renew, please notify Nel.

Mail your check made out to **HCTC** to:

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1105 N Canyonwood Dr
Dripping Springs, Tx 78620
(512) 656-1456
nmcphail@austin.rr.com

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Membership Application

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____
Email address: _____
Car Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____
Car Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____



How on earth did you hear about the Hill Country Triumph Club?

Please mail your application and \$15 check payable to HCTC to:
Nel McPhail, 1105 North Canyonwood Dr, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Upcoming Events

Dates	Event	Location	Where to Find Information
Aug. 3	BBQ Drive to Taylor & Beer Run to Bastrop	Meet at Don and Brenda's house	This newsletter
Aug. 13	HCTC Meeting	Rudy's BBQ	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
Sept. 10	HCTC Meeting	TBD	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
Sept. 28-29	Texas All British Car Days	Old Settlers Park, Round Rock, TX	www.txabcd.org
Oct. 2-6	VTR National Convention/Triumphfest	San Rafael, CA	This newsletter
Oct. 8	HCTC Meeting	TBD	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
Oct. 25-27	US Vintage National Championship	Circuit of the Americas	circuitoftheamericas.com/vintage
Nov. 12	HCTC Meeting	TBD	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
December	HCTC Holiday Party	TBD	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
April 27-29, 2014	VTR South Central Regional Convention	Kansas City, MO	Watch this space

HCTC Classifieds



FOR SALE (in New Mexico)—1961 Triumph Herald Convertible. This car spent most of its life in southern New Mexico. I bought it as a project from an estate and it had been garaged for the past 25 years. It has a 948 cc engine, new tires, new interior, the convertible top is good. It needs door latches. \$3,500. Call Ron (575) 531-2193.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Rudy's BBQ

7709 Ranch Road 620

Austin, TX 78726

www.rudysbbq.com — Phone: 512-250-8002