

# The Ragtop



August 2013

## Hill Country Triumphs

By Steve Johnson



**G**et ready! The rest of 2013 should be great tops down weather for the Texas Hill Country and I for one can't wait for cooler days and nights. As the weather cools down, our schedule of activities heats up. See page 2 for details.

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.

Our big event for December is the Hill Country Triumph Club Holiday Party. We haven't had an offer to host this end of year party, so I've asked Elizabeth to see if she can find a location that will provide a nice room and meal for around \$15 per person. Please let me know if that's too expensive for you and your family. It should be another great end of year party.

### **BBQ Drive to Taylor & Beer Run To Bastrop — August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

August took off with a quick note from Don and Brenda Couch announcing an

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](http://www.vtr.org), [www.triumphregister.com](http://www.triumphregister.com), and [www.6-pack.org](http://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](mailto: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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September 28-29	Texas All British Car Day Austin	Jim Icenhower Chairman
October 2-5	VTR National Convention & Triumphfest	Roger Bolick
October 12	Lucas-Marelli Tour	Dean and Elizabeth Mericas
October 19	Car Show and Chili/BBQ Cook-Off (Waco)	Tom Harrison
October 25-27	COTA Vintage Racing Nationals	Dave and Betina Foreman
October 27	Rolling Sculpture Car Show	Dean and Elizabeth Mericas
November 2	Boerne All British Car Day	
November 8-9	Veterans Day Car Show - Bastrop	Steve Johnson

August 3<sup>rd</sup> BBQ and Beer run for the club. From what I heard at the August club meeting, everyone that went on the run really enjoyed it. Thanks to Don and Brenda for organizing the event for us.

If you like doing these kinds of runs, let me know. It's nice when as many of us as possible participate. Participation encourages the club to have more activities with your help.

### Texas All British Car Days — September 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>

Do you have TX-ABCD, September 27<sup>th</sup> through

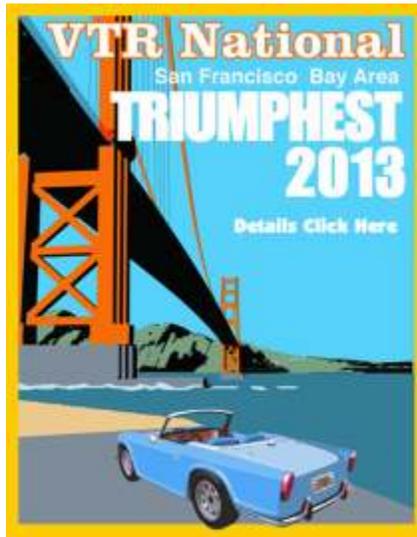


the 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendar yet? That's our annual TXABCD and I'd like to see every car in the club there this year. Online and mail-in registration is open now [PRESS HERE](#) for more information and instructions. I also added Jim Icenhower's latest flyer later in this Ragtop. Here's an overview of the TXABCD activities:

**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](mailto:info@txabcd.org) so he can add



them to the email list.

### 2013 VTR National Convention — October 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

Right after the All British Car Day many of our club members will be leaving for the Vintage Triumph Register National Meet is in San Rafael, California, from October 2<sup>nd</sup>

through 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. I know a number of our club members are already planning to go. Here's the website with details <http://www.triumphtravelers.org/>.

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](mailto:rgb@exact427.com).

### Lucas-Marelli Tour — October 12<sup>th</sup>

Dean and Elizabeth Mericas will be taking us on the Lucas-Marelli Tour again this year. This is an annual get together of Austin sports car clubs, hosted by the Texas Hill Country Alfa Romeo Owners Club. It's scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> and you won't want to miss it. Dean has put together a flyer that will appear later in this Ragtop. Details will be coming in September.

### Waco Car Show and Chili/BBQ Cook-off — October 19<sup>th</sup>

Many of you know Hill Country Triumph Club member Tom Harri-

son. Tom helped prepare the Regional for us in Waco this year. He has invited us to a Car Show and Chili/BBQ Cook-off in Waco on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There will be reserved parking for the club. Since it's starting early for us I let them know we would trickle in.

The day's events feature the car show, lots of food, live music, horseshoe contests, skiing on the Brazos River, kids' events and more. The car show will focus on car clubs such as RRTC, HCTC, TMGR, and NTAHC, with prizes for each club represented. Typical October weather should make for a good drive to Waco for clubs in Austin and DFW. It will be held on the Brazos river under the trees. Beautiful....

The event will support the Muscular Dystrophy Association. There is more information on their website [www.mdachillinandgrillin.com](http://www.mdachillinandgrillin.com). If you decide to go, send Tom Harrison a note at [Tom.Harrison@baylor.edu](mailto:Tom.Harrison@baylor.edu). Let him know what car you are bringing and they will save a spot for



you.

## US Vintage National Championship — Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

We have five cars competing in the Circuit Of The Americas (COTA) US Vintage National Championship put on by the Sportscar Vintage Racing Association which will be held October 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Dave Foreman, Robert MacKenzie, Bob Kramer, Greg Blake, and Bob Blake

will be racing from our club. If you would like to help out on the pit crews for these folks, please contact them directly and/or Dave Foreman for more information at



[dave@beanitos.com](mailto:dave@beanitos.com).

The promoters of the event plan to have over 500 pre-1973 race cars, including some truly historic autos. COTA would like for us to bring our cars out to celebrate the event. The cost is \$95 per car. That price includes 3-day access for one, guaranteed paved parking in a designated lot for club members and a reserved grandstand seating for all 3 days. It breaks down to about \$31 per day. It will be a great chance for us to get together, showcase our Triumphs, check out the other classic cars, and enjoy a great weekend of vintage racing.

Here's some additional information you'll be interested in:

Flyer:

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

Great Sportscar Vintage Racing Association Video:

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

Let me know if you would like to have one of the \$95 tickets, and I'll find the best way to get the tickets paid for and to you.

## 2014 VTR South Central Regional — Kansas City

Next year the Regional will be near Kansas City. Mark your calendars for April 27<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. We'll be in a historic Kansas City area hotel known as "The Elms Hotel and Spa" in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

## September Club Meeting — Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup>

Our September 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 Johnson  
President

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Our Website -  
[www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org/](http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org/)



# Betina's Bits and Bobs

By Betina Foreman - HCTC Secretary

**A**ttendance: 26, Ladies: 6,  
Men: 20,  
Triumphs driven: 5

**Visitors:** 5. Sadly only two signed in: Dave & Missy Douthit and John Akins. As I recall the other guests that did not sign were Joe & Cassandra Brecht.

Our meeting was held at the Rudy's BBQ on Ranch Road 620 and the weather was warm and breezy. We wished a warm welcome to our newest official member Chris Cancelli of Cancelli Motor-sports! Our illustrious Treasurer Earl McGlothlin has just retired. So we expect to see more of Earl at our events! He reported that since we stopped snail mailing our newsletters we now have \$4573 in the coffers.

**Past events:** BBQ Rally/Run to Taylor was organized by Don Couch. There were several participants, nobody gave us a list. However I know that David Foreman, Mike & Nel McPhail and Richard Ceraldi, Roger Bolick, Duncan & Lee Charlton (drove one of his Morgans!) and Fernando Ortega.

The Cars and Coffee "British Invasion" went well Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>. Jim Icenhower reported there was a great turnout and the weather cooperated and everyone had a wonderful time admiring all the cars.

## Future Events

The Holiday Party needs a new location. The Mericas's have generously hosted the last several years

and its now time for a venue change. So please contact Steve Johnson if you are ready to be the host. We are a very considerate group and promise not to beak anything!!

The Children's Miracle Network will be holding a raffle for four season tickets to COTA on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Please contact Bob Kramer as he is organizing this, AND his company is matching all funds raised dollar for dollar! Their goal is to sell \$10,000 worth of tickets. As many of you current season ticket holders know this is a screaming deal for COTA tickets.

SCCA is hosting a private viewing of RUSH, the Ron Howard film about Formula 1 for its members. There is a fair amount of crossover between our clubs, so I wanted to let everyone know. We are going the week after it opens, but the specific date and time have not been determined yet. If you are an SCCA member please visit the LoneStar SCCA FB page and vote! Thanks!

ABCD—All British Car Day will be held in Round Rock at Old Settlers Park. We anticipate having 200+ cars again this year. We hope to include a few active race cars in this years line up! There will be Rally and dinner at The Brass Tap on Saturday. Sunday will be the big event and all of the cars will be on display. If you can volunteer please contact Jim Icenhower as he is the point of contact again this

year. Thank you Jim for all of your efforts to make this event a huge success every year!!

Red River Triumph Club of Waco is hosting a BBQ & Chili Cookoff on the Brazos River on October 19<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to attend please contact Tom Harrison, he is also a member of HCTC so his contact information is on our roster.

COTA will be hosting a Vintage Race on October 25-27<sup>th</sup>. It is \$59 for the 3 day event and only \$39 for Vets! Parking is \$30 per car. Dave Foreman and Robert McKenzie and John Hamilton, and Bobby Whitehead will be racing and have a rented garage. So if you have ever wanted to see the race cars in action and visit the pits, this is a great event to attend. I will have a 6 person golf cart to help shuttle people to the pits and around COTA.

October 27<sup>th</sup> is the Rolling Sculpture Car Show in the Galleria at Bee Caves. This event is paired up with the Dog Costume contest each year so there are some fun costumes and very cool cars! Dean Mericas is the chairman of this event so please contact him if you wish to participate and or volunteer. This event raises money for the Bee Caves Library!

VTR Nationals are coming up and Roger Bolick is leading the Triumph convoy to San Francisco California. Right now we have 5 HCTC members committed to drive to this event. If you wish to join in the fun please contact Roger.

# From the Editor

By Dan Julien

Here we are already, with the last *Ragtop* of the summer! It was nice to have a contribution from one of our more distant members this time, a report on a drive to a car show in Canada. We also have Dave Foreman's report on the recent Chump Car race. All contributions are welcome. If you participate in an interesting event, even if it was just a ride around the back roads, write it up and send it in with some pictures. You don't need to format it,

plain text is actually easier for me to import. Captions for the pictures can sometimes help the reader understand what they are seeing, but are not always necessary.

I'm on the downhill end of my TR6 project. The firewall is painted, and I'm starting to put things back together. I must have made every possible painting mistake. Orange peel, drips, and some thin spots. I don't think I have a new career in

spraying paint ahead of me. But it is the firewall, not the body panels.

I've taken so many hoses loose that I'm just going to replace all of the rubber hoses in the cooling and brake systems. They are about 10 years old, and some of the fuel hoses were pretty brittle. The fuel system is back together now, so I just have steering, brakes, clutch, wiring, and the dashboard left! I'm hoping to have it ready to go for TxABCD!

## Optima Battery Chumpcar World Series Habanero Hoon at Texas World Speedway

By Dave Foreman

I guess I caught the racing bug at the inaugural USGP F1 races at Circuit of The Americas in November 2012. I did have some help though, from some buds already into vintage road racing, specifically Triumphs. I bought my first "race" car from Bob Kramer, a fellow Hill Country Triumph Club member. A 1970 Triumph TR6 that he and several other club members built to campaign in the 24 Hours of Lemons events. This car was literally found in a field, in pieces, with weeds growing through it.

Basically a bone-stock TR6, but with a roll cage, racing seat and harness, fuel cell, fire suppression, and slotted mags that had successful SCCA history. Oh, and an egg



TR6 Future Race Car.

timer bolted to the dash so the drivers would supposedly know when it was time for the driver change. The Lemons livery was an homage to Sherlock Holmes. Apparently the raised rear wing, previously run on a Formula car, did not survive the first outing when it broke at the mount and was re-



TR6 Future Race Car: The Beginning.

moved (can you say DRS?!). For the best, since it completely obscured the rear view in the mirror. When I picked the car up, it started right up and I drove it onto the trailer. I had a race car.

The plan was to do the Optima Battery Chumpcar World Series race



being held at Texas World Speedway (TWS) in College Station, Texas in June, then turn the car into a proper vintage racer. That was the plan. My friend, Robert MacKenzie, who had been doing Solo for years in his 1962 Spitfire, convinced me to do the Corinthian Vintage Auto Racing (CVAR) Spring Drivers School in February. Also at TWS. So I asked Bob to check with CVAR and see if they would allow the TR6, assuming it passed Tech, to be used for the school. Early on a Monday morning, about 3 weeks before the school, the answer came via email, yes, they would allow it. After several conversations with Robert, we concluded that it would take more \$\$ to build up the TR6 into a vintage racer than building down one of 3 TR4's I had into a race car. Now I had already been browsing vintage race cars for sale, and had come pretty close on a 64 Spitfire out of Georgia with a long racing pedigree. I re-connected with the seller, and we agreed on a

price. The following weekend, my racing Spit arrived via U-Ship. Now I would have a proper race car to begin my racing hobby.

There was an Autocross the following Sunday down in San Antonio, and Robert and I loaded up the Spitfires for the tow. I needed seat time and to make sure the car would hold together. It did, however Robert's car suffered engine failure, and would not be able to do the driver school as a result. What we overlooked at the time, was that he could have done the school in the TR6. But that is a story for another day.

Though the TR6 started right up, it did have some needs before putting it on the track for two 7 hour endurance races on the race weekend. New shocks, brakes, cut front springs, major trans leak repair, alternator, and a laundry list of items to get the car ready for enduro torture and to pass Chumpcar Tech. But first, we needed a team. And a team name. The first name was Fat

Old Guys, or FOG Racing. And the initial team would be Robert, fellow HCTC member and regular funny guy Don Couch. Don and Robert weren't too fond of the aptly named team, and after some hilarious alternatives were kicked about, we decided on Team FOGHAT: Five Old Guys Have A Triumph. And the driver roster would be Robert and myself as co-captains, The "Pawn Star of CVAR" and fellow Triumph (and GTA) racer, Bobby Whitehead, my CVAR driver instructor and MGB and Formula Atlantic racer John Hamilton, Lola and FA racer and token Brit Edward Copley, and solo star and HCTC member Mike Jankowski replacing Don who had a date conflict.

The laundry list of "to-do's" for the car commenced, albeit slowly. The master kill switch would need to be relocated so the belted-in driver could reach it, same for the fire extinguisher. A roof net would need to be fitted, as would a window net. A new alternator, second set of

rims for the Toyos, and Chump-spec pit gear such as the short list of approved 5 gallon fuel containers, 10-lb fire extinguisher, kitty litter, broom and, and, and would need to be accumulated. And that rear view mirror had to get a new solution. Everyone on the team volunteered, as did several of our fellow Friends of Triumph racing friends.

When we reached the 2 weeks till race day point, it was evident we'd need to kick things into high gear. None of the major items on the needs list had been completed. And Mike had a last-minute conflict that would keep him out of the driver seat, but he would be able to help with the big items, notably dropping the trans and fixing the leak. Fellow HCTC member and track day star Richard Ceraldi would be our 6th driver for the Five Old Guys team. Richard had driven this TR6 in one of the previous Lemons campaigns. And, ironically, he logged the fastest lap of the weekend, on the next to last lap. Ironic since he was the lone driver without a racing license, but he has as many laps around TWS as any of the race drivers.

Working late into the night at Chris Cancelli's MotoCancelli/PRI new shop just down the road from the Circuit of The Americas track, Mike wrestled the 6's trannie out (all along lamenting this was definitely NOT a Spit!). The fix was simple, a bolt was missing, but we all tried to figure out how in the world two 24 Hours of Lemons races were completed without it! And Chris had already solved the previous problem of that car not going past 4k RPMs, and fine-tuned for trouble free laps.

A couple of days later, 4 cans of green spray paint (one close to BRG, the other, John Deere green)

were applied over what remained of the Sherlock Holmes-Boys livery of Lemons past. One can of yellow was used to apply the tasteful, 'go-fast' stripe. A nice compliment to the rundials ala Buick that Robert insisted must remain. With the major repairs done, including new brake and clutch hydraulics, we applied the #22 Chump number panels to each door and the hood, Beanitos livery to the rear quarters, and the requisite Grassroots Motorsports stickers to all corners. The front of the car was reserved for race sponsor decals.

John donated a new Kirkey seat to the team, so we wheeled the 6 across the lot to Wes over at Gilfus Racing (Miata specialists who had also done extensive work to the roll cage, among other things, in my Spit). New belts were also needed, that fortunately Robert had. It looked like we were ready to go, though several hours later on Friday than we had planned. Good thing we had elected to forego the Friday T&T, as we would have missed it. So we loaded the garage into the back of the truck and drove the Team FOGHAT #22 Green 1970 Triumph TR6 onto the open trailer for the 2 hour tow from Austin to TWS. Aside from the number panels wanting to let go from the new spray paint, it was an uneventful trip, and we off-loaded into the covered paddock and set out for registration and Tech.

Amid the +/- 60 entries of Bimmers, Turbo Volvos, Porsches, myriad Miatas, and assorted crapcans, the 6 was the hit of the Tech parade. Older than most of the drivers on the other teams, it attracted quite a crowd. And the Tech inspectors praised us for bringing the car that Chump was all about. It was probably the most pleasant Tech experience ever! When Bobby arrived from the DFW area, he

installed his CoolShirt system, and the sponsor decals were applied. Then it was off to a Mexican feast in town followed by retirement to the Idle Inn trailers at TWS. Hard to beat a/c on a hot Texas summer night.

Saturday morning we reviewed the driver schedule and pit support rotation after a great breakfast made by the most stellar race support person ever (and active autocrosser), my lovely wife, Betina. Ed would drive first, as his reputation for aggressive starts from the back of the pack was well known. Amazingly, the old 6 just kept going and going and going, driver after driver, lap after lap, completing the entire 7 hour race without us ever lifting the bonnet. It was quite an experience, and the old girl was gaining major favor with the entire team. Though the schedule called for the driver rotation to be reversed for Sunday, we ran in the same order as on Saturday, since we had gotten it down to a well-oiled science.

After the race on Saturday, it was decided we'd put on the sticky tyres for Sunday's race. The ones we used Saturday were hard as rocks and would probably go another 30k miles, but they simply did not stick. I think everybody did at least 2 off at least once, and I added an on-track 360 in the carousel. The sticker tyres were already mounted on a set of rims Robert picked up from another TR6 that looked identical to the set already on the car. Looked identical, unfortunately, the lug pattern was different. So all 8 wheels and tyres were hauled across the track for a swap. And what a difference sticky tyres make! Everyone's times were many seconds faster than on Saturday. We were even passing some cars now!

All went well till about 11:30 am,

when Robert pointed out a missing lug on the left front corner. As Bobby was belted in, we would not let that stop us. But it did. The other 3 lugs let go and the wheel came off in somewhat spectacular fashion. Bobby and the car were delivered to the paddock on a flatbed, with the rear portion of the left front fender looking more like a wing. Our race was over. Or was it? Team FOGHAT would not be stopped. And after 2 trips into town, Ed and John made it back with a fix. The fender was bent back down and reattached in Chumpcar fashion, with hose clamps. And with about 45 minutes to go, John finished his laps and handed the car off to Richard for the checkered flag (and fastest

lap). Seeing the #22 cross the finish line was, I believe, as touching a moment as possible in motorsports. Team FOGHAT had pulled it off and had an epic time doing it, and won a standing ovation from the other teams who had all gathered at the wall for the finish.

The trophies were awarded to the podium finishers and winners of several other Chump categories, and it looked like this Chump adventure was over for Team FOGHAT. Or was it? The final award presented was the Spirit of Chump award, for the Chumpiest car with the team that raced the cleanest. Team FOGHAT took that one home, again to a standing ovation from the other teams. Well won, to be sure. Racing as part of a

team all driving a single car is quite a departure from the one driver one car we were all used to. And this team, Team FOGHAT, was spectacular, and was now FAST Old Guys Have A Triumph! I am sure there is a reunion race in our future. With 16 brand new lug bolts, and a new alternator. The fender remains attached with hose clamps. Goes with the road sign floorboards.

\* \* \*

Photo credits:

Chump Sunday 2013 Finish: Betina Foreman  
TR6 Future Race Car 1 and TR6 Future Race Car The Beginning: Richard Ceraldi

All others: Dave Foreman

\* \* \*



# 2013 All Triumph Drive In at Penticton British Columbia

By Sam Bass

## *A Texas Triumph in the Northwest*

**T**his year the ATDI was hosted by the British Columbia Triumph Club in Penticton B.C.. I have never been to this part of B.C. and I was looking forward to the trip. It was a fairly easy route this year, over Stevens Pass on Highway 2 turn left at Wenatchee and head north on Highway 97. I had two other TR6's going with me or so I thought on the trip. Here is what really happened;

This trip started out fairly simple, three TR6's from Seattle area and a couple of Triumphs from Portland, Oregon. Not a bad group of cars and fairly easy to keep together on the road. We (Linda Allen and I) left Everett on Thursday August 15 and drove to Leavenworth Washington. This is a little over 100 miles so it did not take long. We were meeting the couple of cars from Portland and my friend

Tom Sewell in his TR6. When we got to Leavenworth and met the Portland group I was in for a surprise. They had 17 cars in their group. Plus the three we brought makes a line of 20 Triumphs going to Penticton for the weekend. Somehow I was chosen to lead this group up to Penticton on Friday August 16. Did I mention that I NEVER been there?

Friday morning the weather was great. Blue skies and sunny, temperature was going to be in the low 80s. Perfect weather for driving LBCs with tops down. We left Leavenworth at 8:30 in the morning. It was a very impressive sight to see that many Triumphs on the highway. Everything was going fine until the first rest stop. It only had one restroom. It took about 45 minutes for the rest break and we were back on the road. The next stop was for gas before we got to

Canada. I did find two gas stations together, so we were all able to gas quickly and back on the road to Canada. The border crossing signs indicated the wait was around five minutes. Great news for us, unfortunately for us the sign was wrong. It was more like 45 minute wait to cross the border. That is when the first car had trouble. One of the TR6s from the Portland group vapor locked at the border and had to be pushed across by the Canada border guards. After the car cooled down it started right up and ran fine the rest of the drive to Penticton.

We arrived in Penticton around 1:00 PM and this is where I got lost. I missed the turn to the hotel and ended up in down town Penticton with 10 Triumphs following me. The others saw the turn and made it to the hotel. After getting some direction we were off again.





It turns out that we were only a couple of blocks from the hotel. After checking in and unpacking, it was time to wash and polish the car for the next day. So with a cold big boy pop in my hand I went to work on the cars. After that it was time for the swimming pool. After dinner and another cold beer it was time for the meet and greet. It was good to see old friends and make new ones. After the reception it was time for a good night's sleep to get really for the Saturday car show.

Saturday morning, sun shining and blue skies for the car show. The show was held at Rotary Park located on the lakefront in downtown Penticton. It was a great setting for a car show. There were

127 Triumphs on the field. TR3 thru TR8, Spitfires, Stags, one Vitesse and one Dolomite sprint. I have never seen a better group of Triumphs on one field. The level of restoration and care was unmatched. There were 36 TR6's on the field in two classes, early and late. The show was from 8:00 am until 1:30 PM and a wine tour was planned in the afternoon. Several of us decide to tour the local brew pubs in town. Lunch was at the Kettle brew pub, good food and a sampler tray of seven beers. Great Lunch!! The next stop was Cannery Brewery and the last as the Whistle Stop next to our hotel. We had a few hours to relax by the pool before the awards banquet started. The banquet was good and our little group took two

awards. Linda received a second place, early TR6, out of 16 cars. Tom Sewell received first place, late TR6, out of 20 cars.

Sunday we left for home around 5:30 am. The drive home was uneventful and it was warm and sunny the entire day. It was a great drive home down Highway 97 and over Highway 2 back to Everett. Next year this event will be hosted by Tye Triumph of Seattle and will be held in Tacoma, Washington. So if anyone in Hill Country is looking for a long distant award, you should plan to attend 2014 All Triumph Drive In at Tacoma. It will be held at the LeMay family compound at Marymount. Hope to see you there!







*Chairman's Message:  
Welcome to Excelsior Springs.*

2014 South Central Regional Vintage Triumph Register  
APRIL 27 TO 30, 2014



Excelsior Springs, located just 29 miles from Kansas City, MO, was a worldwide attraction for their healing mineral waters in the late 1800's to early 1900's. Our host hotel, The Elms Hotel & Spa was built in the 1880's to serve affluent mineral spa devotees.



**The Elms today**

The Elms completed a multi-million complete update and remodel in 2012. They have one of the largest spas west of the Mississippi for your enjoyment. Head to their web site for information about this beautiful resort hotel <http://www.elmshotelandspa.com/>



Excelsior Springs is just 29 miles from Kansas City, MO



Spa at the Elms

**Area Attractions**

You will also want to see the **Hall of Waters** and try their soda fountain of mineral waters. The Hall of Waters was placed on the Clay County Historical Landmark Register in 1981 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places on June 9, 1983.



. **Jesse James** This museum features the largest collection of James family artifacts, and is accompanied by outlaw Jesse James' family home and farm in Kearney, Missouri. Tour the museum and restored home, and view an informative video that relates the story of Frank and Jesse James and their bank- and train-robbing escapades. There's also a gift shop where you can procure Jesse James tee shirts, coffee mugs and other souvenirs. Jesse James' home and grave is about 10 miles away

**Events**

- |                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday Welcome Reception | Concours                       |
| Gimmick Rallye           | Funkhana                       |
| Autocross                | Dinner Runs                    |
| Photo/Model/Craft        | Concours 'Participants Choice' |
| Awards Banquet           |                                |

The committee has worked for the last eighteen months planning this event. They have planned rallies, tours, and secured the accommodations and a host of other things that go into making a successful and enjoyable event.

It is the planning committee's hope that you will have a great time at the 2014 South Central Regional Convention. During your stay, you will be able to identify the committee members by their fluorescent green vests. They will glad to answer any questions or give directions to local sights for you to visit.

The Excelsior Springs Police Department has worked closely with us, and they will be glad to assist you in any way they can. Be sure to thank them for the security services they are providing us when they assist you. Please join me in thanking the planning committee and the rest of the KC Triumphs for all of their efforts. We hope you find this program useful as it will give details of the events, history and places of interest in Excelsior Springs. I encourage you to contact any of the 2014 planning committee members with any questions or concerns.

Welcome to Excelsior Springs! I look forward to visiting with each of you. If you see any way we can improve the event please let me know your thoughts.

Jack Edwards  
Chairman 2014 SC Regional  
Kansas City Triumphs Host

Registration will be available beginning August 15, 2013 at  
<http://www.kansascitytriumphs.com/> .  
Those registering between August 15 and December 31, 2013 will be entered in a drawing to be held Jan 6, 2014, for one (1) night's stay at the host hotel (The Elms Hotel & Spa). There will be six (6) winners; the night's stay has a value of \$104.00 + taxes.  
**Good Luck!!**

# 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

**Contacts:**

Rich Gibbon  
(209) 296-8792  
[krigibbon@volcano.net](mailto:krigibbon@volcano.net)  
Cregg Cowan  
(650) 966-8651  
[cregg.cowan@sri.com](mailto:cregg.cowan@sri.com)  
Get complete details at:  
[www.triumphtravelers.org](http://www.triumphtravelers.org)





# 2013 TXABCD Registration is Open!

## Online and Mail In Registration is Open

The **23<sup>rd</sup> Texas All British Car Days** will be held **Friday, Saturday and Sunday September 27 through September 29, 2013.**

TXABCD is the largest gathering of British cars in Texas and a great place to see the cars you grew up with like Triumph, MG and Mini and to see exotic British cars you may never have a chance to see again like limited edition Jaguar, Aston Martin, Rolls, Bentley and Morgan.

### Online Registration

You can register online and pay using PayPal or a credit card by clicking the following link:

[Online Registration](#)

### Mail In Registration

A PDF that you can download, complete and mail in with a check is available here:

[Mail In Registration](#)

### Register Early!

Please register early so you have the best chance of getting the shirt in the sizes you want and that you are assured of getting your dinner tickets. Order by Sept 16 to guarantee your shirt size is available.

### Hotel Reservations

The Springhill Suites is again offering us a discount. You must make your reservation by Sept 11 to take advantage of it! Make an on-line reservation by clicking [here](#).

### More Information

Car classes, show field layout, a schedule of events and more are available by clicking [here](#).

Please email me at [info@txabcd.org](mailto:info@txabcd.org) if you have any questions at all.

Thanks!

Jim Icenhower

P.S. There is more information including a detailed schedule, hotel information and pictures from years past at our website: [www.txabcd.org](http://www.txabcd.org).

For More Information: [www.txabcd.org](http://www.txabcd.org)  
or by email: [info@txabcd.org](mailto:info@txabcd.org)

# FOR SALE



## 1960 TRIUMPH TR3

**JUST SERVICED      NO RUST**

**NEW TOP      NEW BATTERY**

**TONNEAU COVER & STICK COVER**

**TIRES ARE FAIRLY NEW**

**SOME SPARE PARTS**

**DOES NOT HAVE OVERDRIVE**

**Needs Side Curtains**

**\$17,900 or best offer**

**MIKE 512/252-3767 or [trebucs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trebucs@sbcglobal.net)**

## 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](mailto: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:

Nel McPhail  
1105 N Canyonwood Dr  
Dripping Springs, Tx 78620  
(512) 656-1456  
[nmcpmail@austin.rr.com](mailto:nmcpmail@austin.rr.com)

### HCTC Officers

**President**

Steve Johnson  
[president@hillcountrytriumphclub.org](mailto:president@hillcountrytriumphclub.org)

**Consigliere**

Elizabeth Mericas  
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**Treasurer**

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**Secretary**

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**Membership**

Nel Mcphail  
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**Ragtop Editor**

Dan Julien  
512-451-3102  
[editor@hillcountrytriumphclub.org](mailto:editor@hillcountrytriumphclub.org)

## 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
Sept. 10	HCTC Meeting	Rudy's BBQ	<a href="http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org">www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org</a>
Sept. 28-29	Texas All British Car Days	Old Settlers Park, Round Rock, TX	<a href="http://www.txabcd.org">www.txabcd.org</a>
Oct. 2-6	VTR National Convention/Triumphetst	San Rafael, CA	<a href="#">This newsletter</a>
Oct. 8	HCTC Meeting	TBD	<a href="http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org">www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org</a>
Oct. 12	Lucas-Marelli Tour	Austin, TX	Watch this space
Oct. 19	Car Show and Chili/BBQ Cook-Off (Waco)	Waco, TX	<a href="http://www.mdachillinandgrillin.com">www.mdachillinandgrillin.com</a>
Oct. 25-27	US Vintage National Championship	Circuit of the Americas	<a href="http://circuitoftheamericas.com/vintage">circuitoftheamericas.com/vintage</a>
Nov. 2	Boerne All British Car Day	Boerne, TX	<a href="http://www.visitboerne.org/calendar/all-british-car-day">www.visitboerne.org/calendar/all-british-car-day</a>
Nov. 8-9	Veterans Day Car Show	Bastrop, TX	<a href="http://bastropdba.org/vets.html">bastropdba.org/vets.html</a>
Nov. 12	HCTC Meeting	TBD	<a href="http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org">www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org</a>
December	HCTC Holiday Party	TBD	<a href="http://www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org">www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org</a>
April 27-29, 2014	VTR South Central Regional Convention	Kansas City, MO	<a href="http://www.kansascitytriumphs.com">www.kansascitytriumphs.com</a>

## 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, September 10, 2013

Rudy's BBQ

7709 Ranch Road 620

Austin, TX 78726

[www.rudysbbq.com](http://www.rudysbbq.com) — Phone: 512-250-8002