





Busy tech session, project check-in, parts supplier changes

About Minnesota Triumphs Car Club

Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club formed in 1975 when our club was first given a Charter with the Triumph Sports Owners Association.

Since then, the club has grown to more than 150 members from throughout the Midwest.

Our activities include:

- · Monthly meetings
- · Social gatherings
- · Tech sessions
- · Group drives
- · Regional and national events

We welcome all Triumph enthusiasts, whether you own a concours winning showpiece, are restoring a diamond in the rough, are searching for just the right addition to your garage, or just appreciate the marque.

Together we can locate those hard-to-find parts and assist one another in keeping our vehicles on the road. But most of all, the club offers opportunities to explore some of the best roads in the region with others who enjoy the Triumph experience.

Monthly Meetings

Membership meetings are the **second Thursday** of the month, January through October.

Our next meeting will be June 13th, 2024 at the Lucky's 13 in Roseville. The address is 2480 Fairview Ave N Roseville, MN 55113, just north of Rosedale Mall.

For membership information visit our website at www.mntriumphs.org

Minnesota Triumphs is a chartered chapter of the Triumph Sports Owners Association (TSOA) and a chartered chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register (VTR).

For VTR Membership information visit www.vtr.org







Minnesota Triumphs Tech Specialists

As a service to fellow members, club members with an expertise in a particular model of Triumph have volunteered to act as tech specialists for that model.

They don't know everything but they do know a lot. So, if you have a question, give them a call.

TR2-3B -

TR4 - John Myers (507-633-2017)

TR4A - Larry Sanderson (507-775-6940) TR250/TR6 - Orrin McGill (763-755-7765)

TR7/8 - Roger Kraemer (651-207-3920)

Spitfire - Bill Gingerich (612-850-4072)

GT6 - Pat McFarland (763-427-5612)

Stag - David Anderson (612-810-9740)

Triumphs & Tribulations is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club (MTSCC). It is published monthly except for December and January. Deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All of the opinions expressed in the articles, columns, and other materials are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the MTSCC. MTSCC is not responsible for any technical advice which may appear in these pages. Classified ads in the Triumph Trader are free to MTSCC members and to members of other Triumph clubs. Non-member and commercial notices are published for \$5 per month.

All submissions should be emailed to the editor: Newsletter@mntriumphs.org

In this issue

page	page
Prez release 3	How I got my Triumph: Dick's TR6 12
February meeting notes 4	Triumph trader14
Letter from the editor 5	Events calendar 16
An update on Ester 7	In the rear view mirror17
Groups.io tech tips 8	Membership update17
Moss/Rimmer merger 9	Tech sessions, website, regalia18
Stag & TR3 tech session10	Club officers19

Back cover: Greg Thompson going fast at the 2024 Kastner Cup, Sonoma Raceway, CA. Full race report in an upcoming issue! Photo from Hunter Smith of the Baja TR3 team, used with permission.

Prez Release

Greetings fellow car club enthusiasts!

I hope your spring is off to a great start. Mine was slow going until last weekend with a tech session that really helped me get ready for this spring and summer.

For new club members, I hope you will host one. The years of experience that shows up to help is priceless. Please reach out if you have any questions or need some guidance. I am happy to connect you with resources.

For our existing club members, Mike Smith our membership chair recently put out the new club roster. I hope you'll take the time to reach out to the new members and help them feel at home.

May is a big month to wake your car up from the winter slumber and get it on the road. We have the Spring Shakedown Drove on May 11th and the Spring Kick-Off Car show May 18th.

I hope to see you at a monthly club meeting.

Cheers, David



April 2024 Meeting Minutes

By Rich Riemersma, Secretary

Lucky's 13, Roseville MN. Call to order 7:03 pm

Meeting run by Brandon Baker, Vice President. David is out of town. 43 in attendance, 55 degrees and cloudy. 8 Triumphs in parking lot. Agenda and previous meeting minutes approved.

New members: Kris and Dawn Knox just signed up to be members, they have a 61 TR3. Kris bought it when he was 14, he is now is restoring it. He has rebuilt the engine and transmission. Planning to repaint next month and get it back on the road soon.

REPORTS

Treasurer: budget report later in the meeting

Membership: Mike Smith reported membership drive is complete. We have 126 memberships with 185 members. New roster coming soon.

Events: Larry Berg reminded us the spring shakedown tour is May 11th from Golden Valley out to Maple Plain. We'll have lunch at the Irish Pub around noon. Let Larry know if you are planning to attend so they have a count for lunch. Feel free to join the drive even if you don't have your Triumph.

Dick reported Intermarque Spring Kick-off is in Osseo on May 18, the VW club is featured. They will have valve cover racing this year. He still needs about 30 volunteers to help.

Bill Nelson is organizing a drive on June 22nd to St Cloud through Monticello. They'll tour the Munsinger/Clemens gardens as part of the drive. Pat asked for other event ideas and anyone that would lead an event to contact him. Discussion followed about the fall color tour, mystery drive, go-kart racing, and club picnic.

Tech Sessions: Frank Weber reported the next session will be April 27th at David Andersons to install a drivetrain in his Stag and maybe also put a hard top on his TR3. May tech session is open at this time. June 1st will be at Nathan's to work

on his Spitfire. Talk to Frank if you would like to host a tech session.

VTR Liaison: Greg Thompson noted we'll likely have multiple groups driving to Indiana for VTR, and sent greeting from past member Dale Simpson, he said he really misses this great club.

Intermarque Liaison: Glenn Wilson reported, in addition to the May 18th Spring Kick-Off, they meet the third Sunday at Peg and Kay's restaurant. Also note the MN Triumph club is hosting the Intermarque Picnic on August 25th.

Historian: Bill Nelson reported on this day in history April 11th 1471, war of the roses. King Edward IV of England seizes London from Henry VI. 1689 King William III and Queen Mary II were crowned as joint rulers of England, Scotland, and Ireland. 1912, Titanic sails from Ireland. 1957, American Motors registered Metropolitan as a trademark for its British built sub compact car. 1954, according to a Cambridge scientist 4-11-1954 was the most boring day in history.

New club business

VP Brandon Baker Presented the 2024 budget. In general the budget is similar to last year with the exception of the 2025 VTR upfront deposit to secure the hotel reservation. Glenn Wilson made a motion to approve. Larry Berg seconded and discussion followed. Bill Connell noted the listed web hosting renewal cost is for 3 years. Newsletter printed cost are offset by those who are buying them. After discussion a vote was taken and motion was carried unanimously.

General discussion or comments

Discussion about a TR Club summer Picnic, nothing decided at this time. Someone also asked about the tea cups for a fall tea. (David Anderson is storing them for now).

Larry Berg said he has Brian's 74 TR6 in the parking lot with a RamTech EFI fuel injection. Larry will be there to answer any questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37

Letter from the editor

By Bill Connell

On a recent Sunday I took my '69 TR6 to autocross for the first time and had a blast.

It was the Novice School run by the Minnesota Autosports Club (MAC) at the Dakota County Technical College. I had done a track day before and a couple of hill climbs, but had never pushed my car quite like this.

We started the day with about an hour of classroom time to go over how events run, course features, safety, etc.

Then we put the cars through a tech check and started our set of 4 morning runs. Each car had an instructor along to get direct feedback during the run. In my case, feedback for the first two runs was mostly "GAS! GAS! GAS!"

During lunch we could do ride-along runs with an instructor driving. I had an instructor drive

Remains of an destroyed course cone (not mine!)



My car was the oldest on the track amid a sea of Miatas and Corvettes, plus a few EVs, Minis, Subarus, and a Lotus kit car

> my car, and it was really helpful to feel how smooth he was, especially places where I couldn't see the good line to take.

We got another 8 runs in the afternoon, 4 with instructor and 4 solo. It was cool to see everyone learning and improving with each run. My first runs were almost 50 seconds, but the last

one was 41.03 and (I think) clean, with no cone hits or course mistakes.

MAC does a really nice job with this event. We had 20 instructors there for our 60-person class, with everyone pitching in to work the course when they weren't running. Triumph club member Phil Ethier was there as an event organizer, adding helpful tips and fun stories.

Happily nothing broke on the car, I didn't crash into anything, and I just kept getting smoother all day. It felt like I got a big jump in my car handling skills, and glad to learn that the car handles well in a drift. Super fun experience, highly recommended.



An update on Ester, the '59 Triumph Standard 10 Estate

By Pat Kessler

Bob has been busy with Ester, still on body work but are picking out colors. Since the last article he has gotten ALOT of her insides in good shape.

Since a TR3 wheel and tire won't fit in tire compartment he used that hidden space to create a new battery compartment with a lid, all custom made by him.

Surrounding that box seen in pictures will be great space for tools and additional stuff needed to keep her running on road trips.



Also pictured is the sanded down and primed floor and fabricated TR3 tranny cover with a very customized fit that Bob had to do.

Exterior body has been stripped of paint as needed and body work done, almost ready for primer. Working on fenders, they are being stripped and dents etc. being dealt with.

We both agree our 2 seater Triumphs convertibles to some extent are easier, less body parts. All for now, take care. Spring driving coming!

Email tech tip: I Ain't Sending No Spam!

By Wade Peterson

We all get spam emails from time to time, and likely you are unaware your email provider is checking and flagging messages as spam. It's a good thing they do, as it helps cut down on unwanted emails.

But, in the case of Groups.IO; spam can raise a little ruckus at times. Kind of like Lucas electrical problems. Sometimes it's a real problem, and sometimes it's just... well, Lucas.

Groups.IO was designed to <u>unsubscribe</u> users who send spam. I understand why they want to cut down on illegitimate spammers; but for us law abiding MN Triumph members, it can be problematic at times. Unfortunately, I can't turn this feature off.

Here's the word from the official Groups.IO documentation:

Some email providers notify Groups.io when group messages end up in their (the provider's) users' spam folders. Most likely, the group messages were automatically flagged as spam by the email provider rather than having been specifically marked as spam by the users.

When Groups.io receives such a notification from an email provider, the system automatically unsubscribes that member from the group. Groups.io also sends the member an email with a link that lets them automatically and quickly resubscribe to the group if the spam flagging was a mistake. The email lets the member know to check their spam folder and mark any messages in there from Groups.io as not spam, which trains the email provider's spam filters to make fewer mistakes about Groups.io email messages.



If you receive a notification from Groups.io that you were removed from the group because of reported spam:

- Click the link in the notification email that will automatically resubscribe you to the group. Note: The link expires 7 days after the notification was sent.
- Check the spam folder in your email application or the email provider's webmail interface, and if that folder contains messages from Groups.io, mark those messages as not spam. Doing so will help train the email provider's spam filters to make fewer mistakes about Groups.io email messages.

! Important: Do not delete the messages from the spam folder or allow them to be automatically deleted from it. Otherwise, the email provider will likely continue flagging Groups.io messages as spam.

If you have other historical material, you'd like added to the Groups.IO website, just send them to email@wade-o.com. Feel free to email questions, topics you'd like covered, etc.

Next month we'll discuss the "folders" on the Groups.IO website. Yup, there's a lot of information there.

Moss Motors and Rimmer Bros Merge

By Bill Connell

We are, as the saying goes, living in interesting times, at least for the suppliers of classic British car parts.

2024 began with a massive fire at the Roadster Factory in Pennsylvania, wiping out one of the longest-running parts suppliers for Triumphs and a leader in commissioning reproduction parts.

Happily, Albert Runyon, the owner of TRF, seems committed to rebuilding the business.

They have a basic website online with parts for sale, and are restarting their carpetmaking shop.

Now, in April, news of a merger between the two largest suppliers of Triumph parts: Moss Motors in California and Rimmer Bros in England.

Moss is a large, slick operation, with a good website, a glossy catalog, and printed magazine of car stories. Their catalog includes parts for Austin-Healey, Jaguar, MG and Miata. They have been growing larger partly through acquisitions, buying Victoria British in 2020.

Rimmer, who advertises in our newsletter, is also a large

operation (selling parts for Jaguar, Land Rover, MG, Mini, Rover along with Triumph), and briefly had a local distribution outpost in St. Cloud. They have a deep Triumph catalog with parts and accessories not otherwise available through US sources.

The merger was facilitated by venture capital group Radial Equity Partners, who also own Coker Tire and other transportation parts suppliers along with other types of business.

There's reason to hope that this new larger company will stick around, given the size of those collector car markets, but it's a loss of competition and choice for those of us rebuilding and maintaining these classic cars.

This is a good time to note that we have a pretty complete listing of parts suppliers in the maintenance section on our website: mntriumphs.org/maintenance/

That supplier list was initially compiled by club member Chip, with input from many other members. It's a good reminder that even with



consolidation we still have a good ecosystem of smaller suppliers like Ted Schumacher and Richard Good, Spit Bits, and others with deep expertise and good advise to share.

It's also a good reminder that part of the reason we can keep these cars going and have fun events together is because we support each other, by sharing our knowledge (and sometimes our parts hoards), working together to find solutions, and enjoying the journey.

Tech Session: Stag engine install & TR3 tuneup

By David Anderson

Greetings fellow car enthusiasts. I wanted to share with you my experience as a first time host of a tech session. My hope is that you will try to host one yourself.

My main challenge was my 73 Stag. I have been in a 5-year journey on restoring him and had hit a road bump on getting the transmission and engine married up and getting the power plant back into the car.





What has delayed me for years was taken care of in six hours with the help of our club members.

I was nervous about having everything ready and wasn't sure what to expect.



April Tech Session, cont'd

That feeling of uncertainty was quickly put to rest by Frank Weber, our tech session lead. He came out ahead of time and evaluated what needed to be done.

He was fantastic. He gave me a list of things to prepare for and that week in the evenings I set up work stations, with parts and got everything ready for the big day.





I wasn't sure who was going to show and to my surprise 12 club members came to lend a hand. Everyone played a part that day. Because there were so many in attendance, I added a bonus project of tuning up the TR3 and fitting the hardtop I had just had refinished last year.

My wife and kids pitched in and made sure everyone was fed and thirst quenched.

All in all it was an amazing six hour run and I am forever grateful to my fellow car club friends.

Thank you for such a memorable day!



How I Got My Triumph

By Dick Leighninger

I think I had started liking TR6s since they were introduced in 1969. I had always liked MGB's, but liked the fact that the sixes had two more cylinders. However, I could not justify buying a sports car since I had a company car that I could use for personal use at \$.06 a mile, and my spousal unit had a car of her own.

But as I approached retirement age in the mid 2000's, I started window-shopping for TR6's on eBay, finding a lot on either coast, but at higher prices than I wanted to spend. Also, I would have the cost of airfare to the sales point, and since I have limited mechanical ability, I



Dick's TR6 in summer 2011

would have to find a knowledgeable party to inspect the car. I do, however, remember printing off a picture of an early 6, in Sapphire

Blue, and scotch taping it to a wall in our family room.

Then I bought a book on how to shop for a TR6. It said that if you had no experience with TR6s, to find someone locally, who did. That led me to Google, to identify a local Triumph Club. Lo and behold, the Minnesota Triumph Sports Car Club appeared, advertising monthly club meetings at Fort Snelling. So, I went to a meeting.



How I Got My Triumph, cont'd

I remember walking into the meeting and being met by a member who greeted me warmly. When I told him my purpose of attending, he offered to buy me a beer. I thought, "Wow! What a great club"! (They had a bar in the basement of the Fort Snelling Officers' Club where they met).

At the end of the business meeting, they asked if there were any new members present? I introduced myself, and said, "Hi, my name is Dick, and I am looking to buy a TR6! What do you have?" I left the meeting with four references. I also sent in my fee and became a club member.

One seller was Dan Schindler, a former club member. Terry Mackey endorsed Dan as a good mechanic and perfectly viable seller. I went to visit, and in his garage was a Sapphire Blue 1972 TR6 with redline tires... just like the one I envisioned owning. I knew enough about the various body styles of

TR6's to know I preferred the lines of the pre-1974 models. I also had experience with a 1974 Fiat 124 Twin Cam sedan. That was the first year they installed emission controls, detuned the engine, added bigger bumpers, and installed seatbelt interlocks that would not allow you to start the car until the seatbelts were buckled.* Because I had a friend with a '74 Plymouth with the seatbelt interlock system, I wrongly assumed Triumph had done the same.

After a test drive, and with approval from "management" (my wife), I made an offer and drove it home. That was the spring of 2011. And with the help of club members and Steve Rixen, I have been able to keep it on the road, and have been loving it ever since!

*A lot of mechanics bought new boats that year with extra money they earned removing seatbelt interlocks from 1974 cars.



Dick and Sally enjoying their car at the 2021 Fall Color Tour

Triumph Trader

For Sale

1976 Spitfire 1500

46,000 original miles, engine rebuilt 3000 miles ago, mechanically sound. Pro restoration, paint body and frame, 9 years ago in its original red. Includes 2 tops (ragtop and hardtop). Tan interior in good condition, one rip in driver's seat. Motivated seller, make a reasonable offer.

Contact Lynn Bremer at 612-910-8852 or <u>li_bremer@hotmail.com</u> if you are interested.



For Sale

Frame with casters to mount on frame rails with subframe removed for wedges. Can easily be modified to fit other Triumphs. \$40.00

Engine support cross bar. Fits wedges \$10.00 Contact Roger 651-207-3920, text or phone or kraemer@q.com

For Sale

For Spitfire Mk1 & 2:

- Valve guides (qty 8) \$24. Intake valves (qty 4) \$20.
- Exhaust valves (qty 4) \$20. Valve stem seals (qty 8) \$4.

Bill N. nelson1 2@msn.com

For Sale

I have many parts for all Triumphs. I have motors, frames, wheels and most other parts.

Email me at wmorris11134@yahoo.com or call me at 612-723-4602 or text. - Wayne Morris









VTR National Convention 2024







September 8 - 12, 2024 Nashville, Indiana

Hosted by Indiana Triumph Cars

Celebrating 50 Years of "The Shape"



Join us in Nashville, Indiana for the 2024 VTR National Convention. The event will be based at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park, just outside Nashville. Brown County, the "Little Smokies" of Indiana, has amazing topography and great driving roads for you to explore. Between Columbus and Bloomington, Nashville's downtown is home to many artists, tasting rooms, distilleries, and restaurants.



Registration is OPEN now! Seats for Banquet are limited. Register Early!

indianatriumphcars.regfox.com/2024-vintage-triumph-register-national-convention



Club Calendar

If you'd like to host an event email events@mntriumphs.org and let's make a club outing of it!

See the club website for more information about upcoming events and a Google calendar that you can add to your personal calendar: https://www.mntriumphs.org/events/

May		July		
9	Club Meeting	11	Club Meeting	
11	Spring Shakedown Tour, Larry Berg has planned a drive around the Lake Minnetonka area, see email for details	21	Hastings Rivertown Days car show	
		28	Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park	
18	Intermarque Spring Kickoff, Osseo MN	August		
June		8	Club Meeting	
1	Tech Session, Nathan's Spitfire	25	Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park	
6-8	32nd Annual Vintage Sports Car		MN Triumphs hosting	
	Rendezvous, Thunder Bay, Ontario	September		
13	Club Meeting	5-7	Brits in the Ozarks Car Show,	
15-16	Stone Arch Bridge Festival 2024 Art of	Fayetteville, Arkansas, Agri Par	Fayetteville, Arkansas, Agri Park	
	The Car Show	8-12	Vintage Triumph Register National	
22	Lunch Drive to Munsinger/Clemens		Convention, Nashville, Indiana.	

Gardens in St. Cloud, Bill Nelson &

Intermarque Picnic, Cherokee Park

Kathee Sublette hosting

30

October

12

28

6 The Lift Garage benefit car show

Waumandee Time Trials

10 Club Meeting

Club Meeting

Every Saturday at 9am: Intermarque breakfast at Elsie's - 729 Marshall St. NE, Mpls. Email lntermarque@gmail.com to join the breakfast Cars & Breakfast RSVP list! See more Intermarque events at http://intermarque.org/index.php/event-calendar/





New members get a free name badge when they join. Continuing members can get updated or replacement name badges for \$10 each.

Email membership@mntriumphs.org to order a window cling or new badge. You can also pick up a free window cling at the next club meeting or event.

In the Rear View Mirror

Bill Nelson, club historian

5 years ago May 2019

- From the minutes of the April meeting. DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER THERE ARE NO MINUTES THIS MONTH.
- There are 10 color photos credited to Doug Burch of the Shakedown Cruise.
- Greg Thompson wrote about the many similarities between the Multi- Marque Rendezvous and a VTR Convention.
- From the Triumph Trader. Just heard about a TR4 that is on the market red, totally redone a few years ago. Owner ready to sell. \$20000. Call Mark.

10 years ago May 2014

- From the Really Official Minutes of the April 10 meeting. Eight Triumphs were parked in the Triumph lower-level parking lot. Four TR6s, one 3, one 4A, one 250 and one 8.
- Newsletter editor Bill Gingerich said to send him articles, Dick Leighninger talked about upcoming events, and Pat Holt talked.
- The May 17 Tech Session was to help Kim's '74 Spitfire that has need of work on several things.
- There were color and b/w photos of the Tech Session at Andy Lindberg's. His TR3 got a water pump installed.

Membership Update

By Mike Smith, Membership membership@mntriumphs.org

The Minnesota Triumphs Car Club is always welcoming new members. If you wish to join our club or renew an old membership, **please register and pay electronically** through our website's "membership" page. This is the easiest method for all involved.

Follow this link to register:

www.mntriumphs.org/about/membership/

Or join in person by attending a club meeting or event anytime. Annual membership fee is \$30 for up to two members in your household. New membership includes one Triumph name



From the Archives

badge, car window cling and access to our club events and email support group.

The MN Triumphs welcomes the following new members since our last meeting:

Kris and Dawn Knox, Excelsior, MN - 1963 TR3

Tech Sessions - Frank Weber

Tech sessions are a great way to learn about your car or get help with your Triumph project. They can be anything from sharing specialized techniques to help learning how to tune up a Triumph to extra hands separating a car's body from the frame.

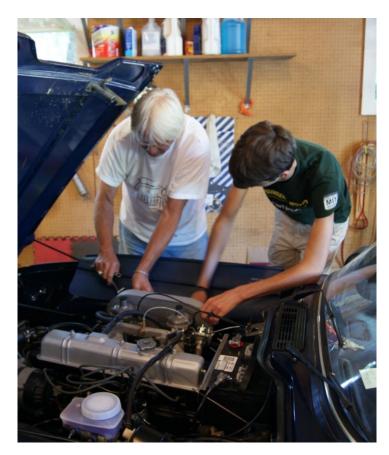
Upcoming tech sessions:

We currently do not have a Tech Sessions scheduled for May.

June 1 we will have a tech session at Nathan Arnold's shop to rebuild the rear suspension on his Spitfire. Watch the email list for location and details.

If you have a Triumph project you need help "fooling around" with, or have an idea for tech session – please contact me at: frankj.weber3@gmail.com or 952-934-0523. Also at:

Techsessions@mntriumphs.org



Website - Bill Connell

The MN Triumphs club website is at:

https://www.mntriumphs.org

If you want to have your car featured on the site, send a photo or two, and I'll add it. Or, just send a photo and it can be in the rotating photos on the home page.

Scan the QR code for a quick shortcut to see the club website on your phone.



Please email your car photos and error reports to webmaster@mntriumphs.org.

Regalia/apparel - Dan Booth

Minnesota Triumphs Club logo apparel is available on demand in many different styles, for men and women, with options for various logos and colors.

Contact our apparel coordinator Dan Booth to start an order, he can get you the item and logo you're looking for.

Text or call 651-208-9355 or email dbooth41@gmail.com.

See samples of Dan's work:

Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Facebook Magnolia Screen Printing Ink on Instagram



2024 OFFICERS

President: David Anderson President@mntriumphs.org

Vice President: Brandon Baker <u>VicePresident@mntriumphs.org</u>

Treasurer: Jeff Gilmer <u>Treasurer@mntriumphs.org</u>

Secretary: <vacant>

Secretary@mntriumphs.org

Membership: Mike Smith Membership@mntriumphs.org

Newsletter: Bill Connell Newsletter@mntriumphs.org

Tech Session: Frank Weber <u>Techsessions@mntriumphs.org</u>

Intermarque Liaison: Glenn Wilson Intermarqueliaison@mntriumphs.org

VTR Liaison: Greg Thompson VTRLiasion@mntriumphs.org

Event Coordinator: Pat Holt Events@mntriumphs.org

Webmaster: Bill Connell Webmaster@mntriumphs.org

Regalia: Dan Booth Regalia@mntriumphs.org

Historian: Bill Nelson Historian@mntriumphs.org

Member-at-Large: Dave Heglund





Triumphs & Tribulations

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