



December
December 5, 2010

Chapter of the
Vintage Triumph Register
Website:<http://www.vtr.org>

Temple of Triumph
Tallahassee, Florida
website: [http://www .Templeoftriumph.org](http://www.Templeoftriumph.org)

Temple Tablet

Next Meeting, Wednesday, December 8, Brickyard Pizza 6:30 P. M.
In The Roundabout on Kerry Forrest Parkway off Thomasville Rd.
(Turn right going north just before you get to the Walmart)

“The Godfather” Obin Hamrick, Remembers Our Beginnings

Some time in 1988, I mailed out 60 letters inviting all Triumph owners for which I could find addresses (at that time you could get this information from the Florida Division of Motor Vehicles) to meet at our house to see if we could get a Tallahassee Chapter of the Vintage Triumph Register started. Marilyn and I had joined the Central Florida Triumph Register after meeting a group of them on the way to a VTR National Convention at Road Atlanta.

Only two people showed up, J. K. Jackson, and later, his wife, Chris Moore, came out. (Look for the positive side: at least we did not run out of beer!) J. K. thought forming a VTR Chapter was a good idea, even if we were not overwhelmed with people rushing to find out about a new Tallahassee Triumph Club. He said he would contact his racer buddies and get their input and/or support. He did and we had a first meeting at Ricco's, Southernaire Inn, 1308 W. Brevard Street (at West Tennessee St. directly across the street from FSU campus) on March 1, 1989.

At this first meeting, many participants were already Vintage Triumph Register members, which VTR encourages for VTR Chapter status.

The following were elected to move forward with what became the Temple of Triumph, a Florida Chapter of the VTR:

President	J. K. Jackson
Vice President	Ken Blanton
Treasurer	Steve Aldredge
Secretary	Mike Chappell
Board of Directors	Charles Smith
Membership Chairman	Obin Hamrick
Newsletter Editor	Teresa Hamrick

Somewhere down the winding road, J. K. (under the pen name, the right ir rev dr. j) wrote a neat article on how the Temple of Triumph really got its name. See the newsletter, The Temple Tablet for October 1995.

Looking back through the old newsletters brings back hilarious memories, such as the time when 12 Temple members attended the VTR National Convention in Asheville, N.C., and 8 continued up to the Roadster Factory Summer Party the next weekend. At the first motel where the group stayed, J. K. circled the wagons (he had us park all the TR's along the curb in front of the rooms and he parked his truck and trailer behind us). Inside, the blankets were "U-Haul" blankets probably used in their first life as packing pads! And at Gettysburg going through the area, Charlie Ball had the little recorder explaining things hung in front of his CB microphone and the rest of us listened on our CBs. Two fun weeks from a long time ago...

Obin

Reprinted from the October 1995 Newsletter which can be found at
<http://www.TempleofTriumph.org/Newsletters.htm>

How The Temple of Triumph Got Its Name

By J.K. Jackson -- The right ir rev dr.j

Many years ago, shortly after I started participating in the Chimney Rock Hillclimb, a group of Triumph "Racers" informally named our little enclave "The Temple".

First a little background, the 1st year I attended the Hillclimb I crashed on the 1st run. After I got back to the pit area (I had a visit to the "Quackshack" (racer talk for field medical station)) there were so many people (that I didn't know) working on #20 that I knew we had to get it running again for this event. We did and I finished 2nd.

The following year a fellow TR racer named Terry Lee Carr had transmission problems (he had not checked the oil in 4 years! I had a spare that he used to win EP. Over the winter I built a gearbox and shipped it to him – he was to send me another for a core.

He did not send it, he brought it to Chimney Rock in the same wooden box I had shipped his in. He proceeded to dump it out in front of our pits. If you have never been to Chimney Rock, we had a premier pit space because Bill Forbes and I did the Thursday night tech,) Everyone (or nearly everyone) who walked by commented on the old box.

With one of those flashes of inspiration that perhaps come once in a lifetime, I took a magic marker and wrote "Arc of the Covenant" on the box on the side closest to the road. Then with his typical aplomb, Red McNeer (VTR racer and one of our founding fathers), poured the remains of a can of Budweiser over the box in an act of baptism.

We had our cars parked under the canopy (with the British flag flying). Someone said, "If that is an ark, what's that?" as he pointed at the canopy. Without missing a beat I replied, "The Temple." Before the weekend was done we were known by everyone as the "Temple of TRs".

I believe it was that summer or perhaps the next, Obin Hamrick, our patriarch, was trying to form a chapter of the VTR in Tallahassee. We, the racers, already had our loosely knit group. When everyone said, "sure why not?" The only name suggested was "The Temple". If our archivist would bother to check, I believe the initial membership was 80% racers with Obin, our token "waxer". If memory

