

March
March 3, 2011

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, Little Italy Restaurant 6:30 P.M., Wednesday, March 9, 2011



Spitfire 4 Mk2

The tub of the Spitfire is on the cart and ready to roll into the Big garage. I haven't picked the best man or any bridesmaids yet for the tub to be wedded to the frame but I am hoping to clear a path for this occasion in the not too distant future. I have cast off the original hard top for a new fiberglass, lite weight version from Rimmer Brothers. I'll tell you why. I have been tried to buy this particular top from Rimmers but for the last two years it was marked discontinued. I was on their site a few weeks ago and discovered that if you looked in the right place you can buy a set of white original looking sun visors. So I did. Then I decided to try my luck and look for this hardtop one more time

and viola! There it was! It had a note that said as of 3:00 P. M. that day they had one. So I bought it immediately. Why? I have an original hardtop already. I know.

Fiberglass is light weight, not loud like the inside of a drum and it is already painted. The old top would require approximately \$500.00-1,000 to restore it and it would still be loud. I may have the new hardtop painted red to match the rest of the car though. That is, if I can find somebody that is good, to do a professional job, for a fair price and have it finished in a short turn around time. Sound impossible? It probably is.



Well anyway Obin and Andre have come by to bless the top and I am very pleased with it.

I want you to know that finding all of the parts to put together a little car like this is difficult. Nobody has all the parts, new or old, for a car that is over 46 years old. Especially if the company that made the car is out of business.

However, it is interesting. A world wide treasure hunt. I have no idea how it was ever done without the internet. It is amazing how parts suddenly appear just when you need them and the connections make all over the county is a lot of fun. Do you know there people that are knowledgeable about Triumph Spitfires and they like to talk about them too!

I am putting painted wire wheels on this car. They will actually be powder coated with silver called "almost chrome". The wheels do not look bad right now, but the rest of the car looks new, so the wheels will have to look new. I found out that I could not sand blast them in a cabinet and get the paint off. So, I will have to take them to Blue's Sandblasting out by the Tallahassee airport. I will do the powder coating myself.

One final note the wheels. The wheel nuts for the wire wheels are the same nuts as used on the steel wheels. The bolts on the wheel hubs do not have to be trimmed to fit the wheels on. D. Knopf



