TOMCC Carolinas

SEPTEMBER 2026

Volume 1 Issue 7



Photo of the month - Jarrod Gatewood

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TOMCC DEALER OF THE MONTH
D2 POWERSPORTS
GREER SC

xxx

D2 Powersports in Greer, SC built its foundation on a well-known local business called Cherokee Cycles, which originally opened in 1997. It was built on a long-time dream by owner and dealer principal Danny Patterson to combine the spirit of freedom and community that comes with motorcycling into a standalone local business. In its early years, the original shop incorporated this native American"Dream Catcher" design into its visual identity. The dealership built a local identity over the years operating as Cherokee Cycles, offering a reliable stop for motorcycle sales, parts, service.

At the time, the regional go-to destination for European engineering was a local shop called Touring Sport in Greenville. Touring Sport had spent years holding the authorized local dealer or European brands—including Triumph, BMW, and Ducati.

In August 2021, Touring Sport made the decision to close its doors for good. Recognizing an opportunity to grow business and keep those great brands in the Upstate, Danny stepped in and purchased Touring Sport's dealership assets. To be sure they met the standards required by Triumph corporate, they migrated the entire specialized technology staff, diagnostic equipment, and specialty tooling. By September 2021, Cherokee Cycles officially reopened its newly expanded facility.

The Greer dealership transitioned to the D2 Powersports umbrella, including it's sister location, D2 Powersports Spartanburg. D2 Greer is our Triumph hub. While it started as a more boutique custom and metric bike shop, the Greer location on Highway 14 is now a massive multi-line powerhouse. They have most every brand you could desire!They not only carry Triumph, BMW, Ducati, and Royal Enfield, but also Polaris and

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FALL IS COMING! RIDING ABOUNDS

Lots of events are coming up, and we are planning some for the 2027 year also! Here is the run down as it stands:

September 26th , 2026 WNC British Car and Bike Show, Mills River, NC. This is a great show, let's bring out our classic Triumphs!

September 26th, 2026, Ladies First Ride, Marshall NC. Hosted by a TOMCC member, Zoe Kelly!

October 3rd, 2026 - Highside Vintage Motorcycle Gathering, hosted by DonRaven, Fletcher NC. New classics event this year, we will have a TOMCC site set up.

October 9th, 2026 - Barber Vintage Days, Birmingham, AL. If you know, you know. This is the best motorcycle event in the South, by far.

October 9th 2026 - AMCA Southern Nationals, Denton, NC. If you can't make it to Barber, here is the next best thing.

2027 Events Continued, Page 2

D2 Powersports *(continued from pg 1)*

CFMOTO and has even become the exclusive South Carolina dealer for Aprilia, Moto Guzzi, Vespa, and Piaggio.
So, from its humble late-90s origins as Cherokee Cycles to its current status as a premium motorcycle hub, the dealership has maintained its deep roots in the local Upstate riding community. We would like to be more actively involved here also. While TOMCC has reached out to D2 to start a local group there, they have expressed more skepticism about support than many of our other Carolinas dealers! They have many brands to manage, not sure! To help them see our impact in the community, stop by and tell them you heard their story here, that you are a proud TOMCC member, and would like their support!

2027 Events *(continued from page 1)*

May 20-23 2026 TOMCC Regional Rally, Maggie Valley NC - Back to the Route 19 Inn, by popular demand

June 26-28 2027 Triumph National Rally, Oley PA - A group of us is planning a road trip to attend. Holler if you want to go!

New ADV Group Being Planned



Tigers and Scramblers, Oh My!

As for new activities, we are in the early stages of planning a new off-road oriented group for of local TOMCC branch. There is an planning discussion on-going on a FB messenger group, and it looks like camping and rides would be the direction it is going. Possibly also some BDR runs and other destinations. Reach out if you'd like to be involved!

L&M POWERSPORTS REPAIR
Etowah, NC 828-849-1967
TOMCC Member Mike Carstens


Photo by Killboy.com - 2005

Chairmain's Chatter - Scot Dail

One of the great things about our Triumph club is the sheer variety of machinery that could show up to events. On any given ride, you might see a vintage Bonneville, a modern Tiger, a highly modified Speed Triple, and a comfy Thunderbird cruiser sitting side-by-side. This diversity makes for a great community! It also presents a unique challenge on the road- one size definitely does not fit all on group rides!Trying to keep a fast-paced sport riding pace, an adventure bike route that dips onto gravel, and a relaxed vintage cruise all in a single pack doesn't always work well. It can leave some riders frustrated at the paces or others pushed outside their comfort zones.

To keep our rides safe, smooth, and fun for everyone, we have to think outside the rockerbox on how we hit the road. As we plan for our regional rally and other events, our goal is to split larger group outings into distinct sections tailored to the types of bikes and riding styles people actually enjoy.

As a Triumph group, our goal is to build an active, welcoming community where every rider feels valued and included. To make this happen, we need you. We need folks who love to ride to step up and get involved. We are looking for volunteers to pilot these different section rides on the roads you love.Whether you enjoy mapping out technical twisties, guiding modern classics down scenic byways, or leading adventure riders onto the forest service backroad and trails, we want your local knowledge and leadership.

Stepping up to lead a section doesn't mean we are going to drop the ball on you all the time – it's just the opposite.—it helps ensure that every member gets the kind of ride they look forward to, and it prevents a select few from getting burned out. We all get to have some fun. Plus w get to discover new roads (sometimes by accident).

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Local TOMCC Section Highlights

Charlotte TOMCC

Contact - Scott Kelly, Mike Martin

Charlotte had it's first "meet and greet" this month at Harp and Crown in Coernelius September 16th. Several of the local members have also been leading rides from a Facebook Messenger chat group for the area. Reach out to Scott Kelly is you want to get involved.
In additon to the events on our calendar, there are a few other opportunities for Charlotte area Triumph fans. Brit Bike Breakfast occurs each month on the north end of town, and SoMoto on the South side in Fort Mill / Rock Hill.



Charlotte Photo: Scott Kelly

Asheville TOMCC

Contact - Scot Dail

The Asheville Group had a few meetups this month, these are mostly being planned on our Facebook Messenger Group, so reach out if you want to be included. **There was an Eggs and Bikin on 3rd Sundays, monthly meetups on 2nd Tuesdays.**
Hunter Powersports, our Triumph dealer, has bike nights 3rd Friday of the month, Kickstands and Coffee events are at Prescott Auto Reserve in Fletcher every two weeks!
This month, There is the WNC British and Euro Car and Bike Show Sep 26th , Zoe is putting on a womens ride that same day also.
Next is the Highside Show in Fletcher NC - October 3rd, which we are helping put on with other local clubs. Come on out!

Raleigh TOMCC

Contact - Greg James

Raleigh Photo: Art Moto

We had a great turnout for our August gathering with about 13 bikes. We left Art Moto Garage and took a nice ride out towards Jordan Lake where we stopped and got some great pictures with the lake as the Background. Thanks to Howard Lindsley for the photos. We are meeting up this month on September 19 at Art Moto and heading down towards Buies Creek on about a 70 mile loop. Hope to see a lot of the Raleigh area riders there again!



Raleigh Photo: MotoEuropa Meeting (Occurs Monthly)

Greensboro TOMCC

Contact - Nat Simpson



Select Cycle in Greensboro is our local Triumph dealer, and we like to launch events from their location when practical. Ryan at Select also supports the TOMCC events there. Greensboro alos has a chat group in Facebook Messenger for discussing and planning rides.
The Greensboro group now meets on Second Saturdays at the dealership.
Get there around 9:00, meet the crew and go on a ride!
Tom D'Onofrio, TOMCC Member, has started working at Select! Stop by and say hello!

Chairman Chat (cont.)

TO TRULY MAKE THIS GROUP OUR OWN, A THRIVING CLUB RELIES ON THE DIVERSE IDEAS AND ENERGY OF ALL ITS MEMBERS, WHICH IS WHY WE ARE CALLING ON EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE AND PITCH IN WITH PLANNING OUR UPCOMING RIDES AND EVENTS.

Whether you have a favorite route to share, want to host a weekend meetup, or can help coordinate logistics and route planning, your active participation is what keeps our calendar exciting and our community strong.
Many people have discussed the interest in a ADV group, so we have started planning a "Tigers and Scramblers" section. This would be for mixed-use road riding including two-track gravel, forest service roads BDR routes. There is a new chat for this on Facebook messenger. A member also mentioned a destination ride to the Triumph National Rally in Oley PA next year. We have sent out a planning invite. Of course, same as last year, we will put together all sorts of tailored rides at our regional rally.
If you are interested in leading a section or helping plan a route for our upcoming rides, please reach out and let us know what style of riding you want to champion. Let's work together to make every event a success—reach out with your ideas and let's start planning!



TOMCC Carolinas Local Area Leaders

- **Asheville** – Scot Dail – scotdail@gmail.com 919-946-4080
- **Charlotte** – Scott Kelly - spckelly@comcast.com
- **Greensboro** – Nat Simpson – hnsimpson@gmail.com
- **Raleigh** – Greg James - greg.james@gmail.com
- **Coastal** – Wheaton Lefler – wheaton1002@gmail.com

TOMCC Carolinas Member Spotlight - John Vergara
“They call me the Lord of the Strings”



My name is John Vergara, and I am the Lord of the Strings. I’m also an avid motorcycle enthusiast and a full-time luthier. A luthier is a stringed instrument maker. I make and repair guitars (acoustic and electric), violins, lutes, mandolins and more. I also teach guitar making to aspiring luthiers.
Scot Dail asked if I could write about what I do and if I could possibly connect it to motorcycles... and I said, I can!
As a luthier, you are fused with being part woodworker, part artist, part engineer, part acoustician, and part wizard. But for me, instruments and music have also always been connected to places. I can't separate the Spanish guitar from Spain, the oud from Lebanon, the violin from Stradivari's Cremona, or psychedelic cumbia from the Atacama desert of Peru. When I hear this music or work with these instruments, I think about the places and cultures they came from, and I want to experience those places for myself.
Motorcycling does something very similar to me. It makes me want to actually go to those places—not just fly there and look around, but experience them from the saddle of a motorcycle. I want to ride through the Spanish countryside, through the mountains and villages of Lebanon, into Cremona, or across the desert in Peru with that music playing in my head. There is something about experiencing a landscape on two wheels, exposed to the air, the temperature, the smells and everything around you, that makes you feel like you're actually in the place rather than just passing through it.
Motorcycle literature only fed that feeling. Books like Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance, Jupiter's Travels, and The Man in the Saddle showed me that a motorcycle could be more than transportation or even recreation. It could be a way of experiencing the world. I'd recommend those books to any motorcyclist.
Maybe that's where these two passions really meet for me. Music gives me a reason to dream about a place. Motorcycles make me want to find the road that takes me there.
But my connection to guitars and motorcycles goes back much further.



This is just the beginning of John’s story. We are publishing the full work on our web page! Go there to read the next chapter!!

www.triumphmotorcycleowners.com

We also would like to share your motorcycle story, so reach out!





John Hanna at the Asheville Meetup in September

LORD OF THE STRINGS

CONTACT US FOR SERVICES NEEDED.

845-309-5917

Lexington, North Carolina





Cycle Gear in Raleigh is now offering 10% discounts to TOMCC Members!



Cycle Gear, Raleigh, NC

TOMCC
CAROLINAS REGIONAL RALLY
★ 2027 ★

May 20 - 23, 2027 at the Route 19 Inn Maggie Valley, NC

Rooms go fast, reserve yours now!





Hanging Out at the Wedge in Asheville

Check out our new web site and discussion forum, under construction!

(forum will be for TOMCC members only)

www.triumphmotorcycleowners.com

TOMCC CAROLINAS BENEFITS, SEP 2026

MAKING RIDING MORE AFFORDABLE!

OK, so folks often ask about the club, "what's in it for me?". We think it is obvious, fellowship, community, help with your bikes, local and regional events and riding! We like to think of ourselves as a family. This is a formal club also, with rules and bylaws, offering a safer and more secure environment to ride.

Some people want more though! So, we have reached out to our local dealers and merchants for help. Here is what we have thus far - to sweeten the pot for TOMCC members:

1. **Art Moto Garage**, Raleigh NC - 10% off parts, accessories and merch
2. **Cycle Gear**, Raleigh NC - 10% off regularly priced parts
3. **Hunter Powersports**, Hendersonville NC - 10% off parts, accessories and merch for members
4. **Old Towne Cycle Center**, Piedmont SC - 15% of parts for British Motorcycles, scbritish@gmail.com 864-350-0067
5. **Motorcycles of Charlotte**, Charlotte NC - 15% off on all Triumph merch in stock, 10% off on other merch and ordered merch.10% off on parts
6. **Select Cycle**, Greensboro NC - 10% off parts, accessories and merch for TOMCC members. Free year's TOMCC membership with a new bike purchase

Bring your TOMCC Membership card, for digital members this can be printed off from off-line!

CAROLINAS TOMCC	SCOT DAIL, BRANCH CHAIRMAN 919-946-4080 chairman@tomcccarolinas.org
www.triumphmotorcycleowners.com	Covering all of the Carolinas