

The Official Newsletter of the Jaguar Affiliates Group of Michigan

Springing into the Driving Season



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Welcome New Members

Member Name

Jaguars Owned

Jim & Christina Castellano

1974 E-Type Convertible

JAGM welcomes our newest members. Please help extend them a warm welcome.

Current JAGM Membership is 141

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Photo Credits

Stahl's Auto Museum

Connie and Steve Myerscough

Auction/Awards Banquet

Lee Jacobsen

2025 Activities Calendar			
	May	June	July
Activity	Studebaker Museum Cars & Coffee South Bend, IN Saturday 3 rd	The Brits Return to Fort Meigs Perrysburg, OH Sunday 1 st	Zoom Membership Meeting Wednesday 9 th @ 7:00 PM
			Mad Dogs Rally/Dinner/ Barn Theater/Car Show Hickory Corners, MI Fri 11 th —Sun 13 th
	Touring Day on GingerMan Raceway South Haven, MI	In-Person Membership Meeting Craft Breww City Farmington Hills, MI	
	Saturday 3 rd —Sunday 4 th	11 th @ 5:30 PM	Corvette Road Test Route Karl's Cabin Milford/Jackson/Plymouth Saturday 19 th Cars and Kettles/River Crab Port Huron, MI Saturday 19 th
	Zoom Membership Meeting Wednesday 14 th @ 7:00 PM	Motor Muster/Historic Base Ball Greenfield Village Saturday 14 th	
	British Car Corral/Baker's of Milford Milford, MI Sunday 18 th		
		Bay Harbor Vintage Car & Boat Festival Petoskey, MI Thursday 19 th —Sunday 22 nd	
	Lap the Lake 1000 Mile Tour Around Lake Michigan Monday 19 th —Friday 23 rd		
		British Car Corral/Baker's of Milford Sunday 29 th	British Car Corral Baker's of Milford Sunday 27 th
For the most up to date listing & schedule of events, go to: www.jagm.org/events			
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www.jagm.org

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I've generally found that working on my own cars is rewarding. It's especially so when things go more or less according to the plan and I manage to save some money, while learning things along the way. This was the case with my recent task – replacing the not-sodurable plastic tensioners and guides for the timing chains on my XJ8's engine.

I decided not to write an article detailing the whole job, since other people have already documented this well on the Jaguar Forums and on YouTube. Instead I'll focus on some of the things I learned along the way. Actually they are mostly lessons I had already learned, but I figure if it's worth learning once, it's worth learning multiple times!

Lesson #1 – Join the Club. One of the reasons to join a couple weeks delay. Duh! car club is to connect with people who know stuff about cars! As I was getting parts and tools in order to tackle the timing chains job, I sent out an email to a dozen or so JAGMers who own Jags with the 4.0 liter V-8 (or other similar engines), telling them what I was planning to do. Over the month or so that I was doing the diagnosing and fixing, several people jumped in with advice, ideas, tools and other resources (even extra hands!) to help me out.

Lesson #2 – The Jaguar Clubs of North America (JCNA) Tool Loan program is great. As JAGM members, we have free access to a lot of Jaguar-specific tools. I borrowed the complete set (about 10 special tools) for this job; I only had to pay for shipping – it was about \$80 to ship the set from Columbia, SC and back. Check out the program at https://www.jcna.com/ tool-loan.

Lesson #3 – Use online resources. I'm talking about Jaguar Forums and YouTube videos, as I mentioned earlier in this article. I leaned heavily on a few very detailed step-by-step procedures in Jaguar Forums and YouTube videos. I have the Jaguar Shop Manual on a CD, and it's very useful, but I often need more detail than it offers. For example, when it came time to remove the crankshaft pulley from the shaft, the shop manual says "remove the bolt." Well, that bolt was installed at the factory with 280 ft-lbs of torque and some thread locker, so I didn't find "remove the bolt" to be very useful direction. The forums and videos offer real-world, real-people solutions. You do, however, have to be careful to sort out the good advice from the bad (or even dangerous). Take the time; it's worth it.

Lesson #4 (and I learned this one the hard way) -Don't trust a torque wrench at the extreme ends of its scale. When I was about 98% done with this job, I broke two (of the 28) bolts attaching the cam covers to the cylinder heads. They are 6 mm bolts and the spec is less than 10 ft-lbs. I used my torgue wrench that scales from 5 to 80 ft-lbs and found that it is clearly not accurate at the low end of the scale. After the damage was done, I spent less than \$20 on a small torque wrench; if I had done that up front, I could have saved the \$40 for replacement bolts and a

Epilogue

In the last week, I've put a couple hundred miles on the



car and it's running great. Thanks to all of you who helped me get it done!

Gary Hillebrand

May 14th Zoom Meeting

Our May 14th meeting (7:00 pm) will be virtual and we'll follow our typical agenda for Zoom meetings-starting with new member introductions, then a look-ahead at the upcoming events, then open the floor for any projects, new cars, questions, etc.

Hope to see you on the screen!

2025 JAGM Charity Auction and Membership Awards



About 25 members got together at Lee Jacobsen's garage in Livonia for JAGM's annual auction and awards event on March 29th. This was the 4th straight year Lee has hosted this event, and his garage (which certainly stretches the meaning of that word!) is an ideal place to hold it. As usual, we had an hour or so up front to socialize, eat lunch, tour Lee's facility and the collection of cars and projects, and preview all the auction items. Members, both present and unable to attend, donated a great variety of interesting treasures to be auctioned off with all the proceeds going to a great charitable

Member awards for 2024. The winners for the year were Bob and Pat Matejek in 1st place, Pete and Deb Conway in 2nd place, and Dianne and Richard Gouin



winning their first award for 3rd Place. Gouin's were not present, so they received their award plaque at the next event – the Stahl's Museum outing on April 5th.

We also presented a special Outstanding Contribution award





organization, Homes For Our Troops.

After lunch we presented the annual Most Active



plaque to Pauline Blunt, who was our Membership Chairperson for the past decade or so, as well as volunteering to step up for plenty of other tasks (especially the registrations for the annual Concours). Congratulations to all the award winners! Active and involved members make

JAGM the great club that it is.

Next up was the Charity Auction, featuring our talented and persuasive auctioneer – Gary Cunningham. Popular items included some great garage art, many automotive books and sales/service literature, and car models. Some highlights this year:

JAGM Charity Auction and Membership Awards (cont'd)

- Two classic Jaguar paintings by Jim Hartline, painted from photos he took at the "Eyes on Design" show last year
- A beautiful handcrafted wood stool with Leaper, made and donated by Tom Hudak
- Delicious cookies, homemade by Judy Hudak
- XK120 Graphic T-shirts from Jack Valentine
- The traditional final item the 1970's T-Bird wheel cover, this year's generous donation by Phil Crutchfield

The donation to Homes for Our





JAGM Charity Auction and Membership Awards (cont'd)







Troops was about \$2000 this year – thanks everyone!

Gary Hillebrand

2025 marks the 50th anniversary of the



Jaguar XJS Fiftieth Anniversary

introduction of the Jaguar XJS. The model continued from 1975 until finally ending production in 1996 more than a twenty year run!

JAGM members own a large number of great XJS's; we'll celebrate the 50th anniversary in a couple ways.

We'll feature our members' XJS's in an anniversary article in one of the late issues of The Indicator this year. So, I have this request for all you XJS-ers: over the next few months, please send me a favorite photo

of your car (or cars) to be included in the article. Also, any memories or stories you'd like to share about them.

Also, the XJS will be the featured model in our Concours d'Elegance on September 14th at the Packard Proving Grounds. We hope to have a very strong showing of these cars at that event.

Gary Hillebrand

April 9th JAGM Membership Meeting

Our April meeting drew about 45 people, including our friends from the Windsor-Detroit MG Club. The featured speaker was Todd Bryan, president of the Henry Ford Heritage Association (HFHA); his presentation was about Ford Motor Company racing in the early days, from 1901 through the 1920's when Henry Ford was at the helm. Henry's main race driver from 1900 to 1920 was one of the first men he hired in to the Ford Motor Company, Frank Kulick. Frank traveled around the country for many years driving Ford race cars in exhibition races to "build the brand" as today's marketers would call it.

Todd attributed much of the material for his presentation to the book "Ford: The Dust and the Glory," by Leo Levine. He included a great number of pictures of the cars and people involved in auto racing from the turn of the century. It reminded me of an old joke (probably true): Question - When did the first auto race happen? Answer - The day the second car was built.

Highlights: Early racing collaborators with Henry were bicycle racers, including Barney Oldfield who had zero experience driving an automobile when Henry hired him to drive the famous, fearsome "999."

Henry's penchant for relatively simple, lightweight

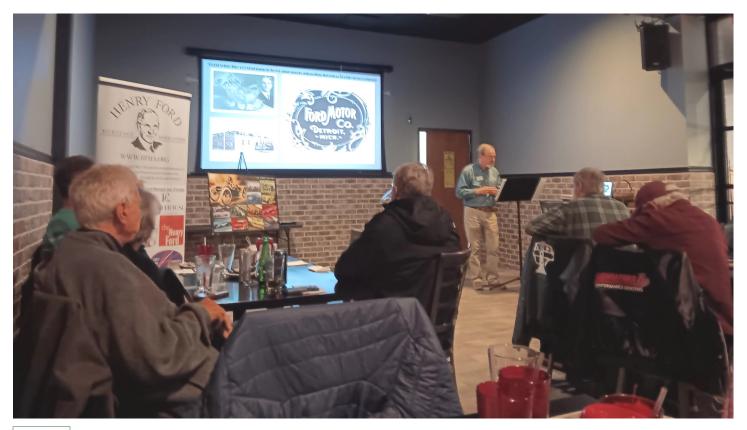
The Dust and the **Clocy** Marcing History Volume 1 (1901-1967) Leo Levine

cars was reflected in his early race cars. The cars Frank Kulick raced were typically Model T's, modified to increase the power and decrease the weight. They fared well against other manufacturers' heavier and much more powerful cars.

At the end of the presentation we were able to present HFHA with a nice dona-

tion, provided by the members of the two clubs who enjoyed the evening.

Gary Hillebrand



Stahl's Museum and Lunch—April 5

Saturday, April 5, 2025, began with widespread rain and moderate temperatures in Southeastern Michigan. However, that did not stop twenty seven JAGM members from arriving at Stahl's Museum by 11 a.m.

Our first stop was with a docent in their music machine room. There, we learned about many machines that played







music on various and unexpected instruments. The crowd was substantial, so we had to cozy up to hear the description of how the machine worked and then hear a sample of the music that each played. The docent was asked many questions, and the crowd appeared very interested in the music machines on display.

Then we entered the car museum. Even though I had been there twice before, the number and mix of cars

on display were surprising and most enjoyable. In addition to the vintage vehicles, organs, movie cars, and other photo-op cars were displayed. Two unique cars, a Tucker and a Chrysler Turbine, were displayed in their small back room. We were entertained by the theme song from the "Pink Panther" movie and other organ music as we viewed the cars.

We heard Stahl's will be enlarged, and another 100-plus cars currently



Stahl's Museum and Lunch—April 5 (cont'd)



At the restaurant, our President, Gary Hillebrand, presented Dianne Gouin with the third Most Active Member award for 2024.

On Saturday, three new members joined us: Alan Chapman, Lisanne Dickson, and Eric Wojciechowski.



Phil Crutchfield





in storage will be added to the museum. This is even more reason to revisit Stahl's every few years.

After touring the museum, we drove a few miles down Gratiot Avenue to the Twisted Rooster. There, we were seated together and enjoyed a relaxing lunch. Unfortunately, we discovered on Saturday that they were permanently



closing on Wednesday of next week. They had limited servers, so our wait was longer than expected. But our server did an excellent job, and the food was delicious. We used the extra time to reacquaint with old friends and make a few new ones.



Drive and Dine Clark Lake, Brooklyn, MI

Sometimes Mother Nature gives us great weather days in April. For a few days coming up to our Drive and Dine event on Saturday, April 26th, the weather was beautiful. Unfortunately that day ended the streak, as we had heavy clouds and a temperature only in the high 40's that morning. You win some and you lose some...

Despite the weather setback, though, the JAGM Drive and Dine at Clark Lake Golf Course in the Irish Hills turned out to be a great event. About 20 people, and an impressive 8 Jaguars (plus one Corvette – not Bob Matejek's!) made the trip to Clark Lake. I can't speak for all the participants, since people came to the restaurant from all directions, but the four cars that caravanned from Whitmore Lake enjoyed a pleasant drive on nice two-lane roads through the countryside. Amazingly, we encountered no construction delays or detours – a miracle in Michigan in the spring!

Since the weather was also not conducive to golfing, the dining room was mostly ours for the couple hours we were there. The restaurant staff was most welcoming, and the food was excellent.

Of course, there was plenty of conversation about our cars and the upcoming driving season, as well as catching up on old friendships and forming new ones. The sun even made a half-hearted appearance as we were leaving the golf course around 2 pm.

This was the second Drive and Dine event we've held (the first being last fall in Clarkston) and both have





been well attended, even though the weather was so-so both times. The formula seems to be a good one, and they are relatively easy to set up, so we'll continue to put these in the club activities schedule. If you have a location you think would be good, send it on to Phil Crutchfield and me, and we'll find a date that works with the club calendar.

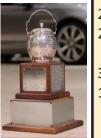
Let's keep driving (and, of course, dining)!

Gary Hillebrand

How to Win An Award at the JAGM Awards Banquet?

If you are new to JAGM and you have never been to an Awards Banquet, you may not know about the prestigious "Most Active Member" Awards, and if you have heard of them, you may wonder how you can win one of these awards. The criteria are listed at the right. The Membership Chairperson keeps track of everyone's points for the year, and determines who will be

awarded first, second, and third place plaques. The first place winner(s) will have their name(s) engraved on the trophy shown at right, and they will keep the trophy until next Awards Banquet.



Most Active Member Criteria

- 3 points—Showing a Jaguar at the JAGM Concours (per car)
- 3 points—Judging at the JAGM Concours
- 2 points Working at JAGM Concours
- 2 points—Judging at another JCNA club Concours
- 2 points—Showing a car or working at another JCNA club Concours
- 2 points—Showing a Jaguar at an Event listed in The Indicator
- 3 points—Coordinating a JAGM activity *including preparing*
 - "Pre" and "Post" activity articles for the Indicator)
- 2 points—Attending a monthly meeting
- 2 points—Submitting an article to the Indicator
- 2 points—Recruiting a new member to join JAGM (You are responsible for reporting)
- 3 points- Recruiting a new Sponsor for JAGM
- 1 point—Driving a Jaguar to any club activity

Board Members are Not Eligible for Awards

Some Great May Events

Cars & Coffee at the Studebaker Museum, South Bend, IN Saturday, May 3rd

Join us at 10:00 AM at the Studebaker Museum for a Cars & Coffee event. The museum will have some of their cars in the parking lot along with our Jaguars. It will be quite a sight to say the least. After the Cars & Coffee, we will tour the museum and then have lunch at the historic Tippecanoe Place Restaurant. You might want to arrive Friday evening and have dinner at the Bistro 933 located in The Hilton Garden Inn South Bend.

Some of us will be making a weekend of it, driving to South Haven for the GingerMan event below.

GingerMan Raceway Vintage Racing & Touring Laps, South Haven, May 4th

The Vintage Sports Car Driver Association (VSCDA) Spring Brake race weekend at GingerMan Raceway features many classes of vintage races, and the opportunity to drive our own cars on the track during the lunch break.

GingerMan is a road course, about 2 miles long, just East of South Haven. This year we'll watch the qualifying and races on Sunday. Racing begins at 8 am and finishes around 5 pm, with a break mid-

day for what they call "Touring" laps. That's when we can, for \$35, drive our own cars on the track for around 45 minutes, which is quite a bargain. A nice and easy way to enjoy your Jag on the track.

If you join us on Saturday at the Studebaker Museum, we will drive to South Haven Saturday afternoon.

Otherwise, just meet us in South Haven Saturday for dinner at 6 PM at Clementine's.

We plan to stay at the Holiday Inn Express South Haven on Saturday night.

Register on the Events page at JAGM.org so we can stay connected

with each other.

Organizers: Philip Wiltshire & Phil Crutchfield

More Great May Events

Classic Car Nights at Meadow Brook Theatre

Join us for a fun-filled Friday evening where you can show off your Jag (or other classic car), socialize with fellow car enthusiasts and enjoy some great live theatre!

Featured plays:

Friday, May 16, 2025 at 8pm, The Rat Pack Lounge

Frank, Dean, and Sammy are up in heaven, but God tells them they left some unfinished business back on Earth. It seems Frank



made an unfulfilled promise to Vic, the owner of the Rat Pack Lounge. Now he and the boys have one night to make things right. With hits like "My Way," "What Kind of Fool Am I?" and "Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime," this show will leave you singing and savoring the days of highballs and high rollers.

Friday, May 30, 2025 at 8pm, Shear Madness

This unique comedy-whodunit takes place today in the "Shear Madness" hair salon and is chock full of up-to-the minute spontaneous humor. During the course of

the action, a murder is committed and the audience

gets to spot the clues, question the suspects, and solve the funniest mystery in the annals of crime. The outcome is never the same, which is why many audience members return again and again to the scene of the mayhem.

Classic Car arrival: 6:30pm Doors Open (for seating): 7:30pm Performance: 8:00pm

Feel free to bring refreshments and have a picnic in the parking lot before the show! (No alcohol, please). **MBT attendants will keep an eye on the cars during the performance.**

SPECIAL OFFER FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Theatre tickets only \$30 each & get one free ticket per classic car!

Please Register for these events on JAGM's website, then purchase your tickets by calling Lisa Marie in Group Sales at (248) 370-3316

JAGM Organizer—Gary Hillebrand 313-595-5365

British Car Corral/Baker's of Milford—Sunday, May 18 (first of 5 monthly events)

Where: Baker's of Milford
When: Sundays—May 18th, June 29th, July 27th, August 31st, and September 28th from 2 - 7 PM

Baker's is America's largest weekly car cruise, with live outside entertainment, free raffle prizes, outside grill, hundreds of



great cars, and restaurant dining discounts for all cruisers.

British cars will have their own defined parking area. Mark your calendar now.

Motor Muster and Historic Base Ball

Join with other JAGM members on **Saturday, June 14**th to enjoy the Motor Muster along with another favorite, an historic base ball match.

The Motor Muster features hundreds of cars, motorcycles and bicycles from the 1930's through the 1970's. The base ball match pits the home Greenfield Village base ball club—the Lah-de-Dahs vs. the Regular Base Ball Club of Mt. Clemens, playing with 1867 rules and equipment. No gloves, no sliding, no spitting; a gentlemen's game! This year there will be

a second base ball match starting at 6:00 pm. I expect to be playing in the 1:30 pm match.

Saturday hours for the Motor Muster will be 9:30 am to 9 pm, and the Base Ball Match starts at 1:30 pm. The Motor Muster and the base ball match are free with membership or admission to the Village (\$39 for adults, \$35 for

seniors 62 and up and \$29.25 for youth 5-11. Children four and under are free).

For more information, visit **www.thehenryford.org**.

Gary Hillebrand

The British Return to Fort Meigs-June 1st

When: Sunday, June 1, 2025 10am—3pm Where: Fort Meigs Historic Site, 29100 W River Rd, Perrysburg, OH 43551

The Lake Erie British Car Club (LEBCC) is holding its annual car show "The British Return to Fort Meigs" in Perrysburg, just south of Toledo, on June 1st.

The show is open to all British cars (and bikes). There are two classes for Jaguars: Jaguar Up To '84, and Jaguar '85 And Up. Preregistration online costs \$18 per car, or you can register at the event from 10am until noon the day of the show for \$25. For more information and for online registration, go to: <u>www.lebcc.org</u>, and click the "2025 Car Show Registration" button near the top of the page. This is a very enjoyable show—relaxed and informal,

but with a great number (about 150) and variety of British cars. Perrysburg is an interesting and historic town, and not a very long drive for many of us. It's a good excuse to get the Jag out for a nice, sunny (hopefully) June drive.

Gary Hillebrand



Three Big Summer Events

may want to get these three great annual events on your calendar.

Bay Harbor Classic Car & Boat Festival 2025 June 19-22 Petoskey/Harbor Springs area & Bay Harbor

The Bay Harbor Classic Car & Boat Festival is a collection of the finest classic. future classic & rare cars and boats in the country.



JAGM has had a big part in this event for the past three years, with 20+ cars attending and a prominent display area for our cars on the grass in front of the bay. Our club activities start on Thursday evening with a JAGM reception. On Friday we join with the other exhibitors on a great drive event around the area with interesting stops and a nice lunch along the way. Friday evening is the very elegant Exhibitors' Dinner at the Bay Harbor Yacht Club, then Saturday is the Car and Boat Show. JAGM entrants finish the day Saturday evening with a nice dinner at Vernales Steak House in Harbor Springs.

Mad Dogs & Englishmen British Car Faire Weekend July 11-13 Kalamazoo Area and Gilmore Museum

We always get a good representation of Jaguars at this popular annual show. The weekend includes a Saturday rally run by the Mad Dogs and Englishmen Car Club, and JAGM also traditionally does a Saturday

It's early, but summer weekends fill up quickly, so you evening dinner and play at the Barn Theater in Augusta, MI. The British Car Faire is Sunday at the Gilmore Museum, and typically draws over 300 British cars. We usually arrange for a caravan of cars traveling from the Detroit metro area across to Kalamazoo on Friday, and also a caravan back on Sunday with a dinner stop at Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall.





JAGM 57th Annual Concours d'Elegance Sunday, September 14 Packard Proving Grounds, Shelby Township



The big news this year is this location—the Packard Proving Grounds (PPG) historical site. PPG has invited JAGM to be the featured margue for their biggest

Three Big Summer Events (cont'd)

fundraising car show of the year, called Cars 'R' the Stars. This significant automotive history site has lots of grassy areas for us to run our Concours event, and several impressive Albert Kahn buildings from the 1920's when Packard Motor Company opened their proving grounds. The Cars 'R' the Stars show draws more than a hundred cars and a large number of spectators, so our big event will be highlighted within PPG's big fundraising show.

Since this year is the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of the XJS, we encourage all XJS owners to bring their cars to the Concours!

Bring your car(s), to be judged, or not; either way our



Concours is a fun day and a good way to meet other members and share knowledge and stories.

See more details for these events as they develop in the Events page at JAGM.org. Also you can check out the stories of previous years' events in past Indicators.

Classified Ads

For Sale: Jaguar XK Radiator Hoses with Stockinette Finish. The XK120, XK140, E-Type, and various Sedans came with hoses with this finish; it has not been available the "Fitted" variety. They are for a number of years. They are making a reappearance now – I am making them. A comprehensive range for various cars – XK Sports and Sedans like the Mk4, Mk5, etc.

Please contact me for the complete range and pricing.



Call Karl @ 248-766-9141

For Sale: 1995 XJS V12 Convertible in Sapphire Blue. Excellent Condition. All original. One owne (provenance). No accidents. Clean title. Well maintained. California car 1st 20 years. Heated garage in MI. Includes original wheels. Dayton wire wheels. Car cover. 23712 miles.

\$25000 OBO.



Contact Donald Petersen Bwanadon53@gmail.com or text: 248-563-8110

For Sale: Jaguar Hats with Correct Logo for 1945 to 1952. The hats are available in Black and are of

available in Sizes-Small/ Medium and Large/X Large.

\$35 each.

Call Karl @ 248-766-9141



Wanted: JAGM Concours dash plaques from the past (pre-1999). Will pay any reasonable price.

Contact Tim Moore at 586-945-4509 tfm0719@live.com

For Sale: G.W. BARTLETT CO., original Jaguar interior for E-Type Series II, 2 + 2. Black in color. Current price new from OSJI (formerly G.W. Bartlett Co.) is \$4900.

Come and take a look as I will refuse no reasonable offer.

Call Rob at 734-564-0366



Ellie & Gary Hillebrand Newsletter Editors 21117 Randall St Farmington Hills, MI 48336 Editor@JAGM.org www.JAGM.org

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See You at the May 14th Zoom Membership Meeting!



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