

Celebrating More Than 70 years in the San Francisco Bay Area

JAGazette



The official publication of the **JAGUAR ASSOCIATE GROUP (J.A.G.)**

Volume 72 No. 2, February 2026



Autovino January 2026

Member Francois Henley's 1972 Red E-Type Series III, OTS
Below: An early Series I stored at Autovino





President's Message February 2026

I hate to begin this month's message on a sour note, but as of this writing, our club's membership has declined to the point where we're at risk of losing our standing as the largest Jaguar club in North America. Some of this down turn is due to the usual assortment of our member's life circumstances: some sold their Jaguar or don't drive anymore; some have moved out of the area or have lost interest; etc. Another, more somber aspect of our declining membership can be directly attributed to the club's demographic, which decidedly skews towards more senior individuals. Every year, we lose a number of members to illness and death. Our J.A.G. board has recently discussed the need to attract younger members to our club, likely through an increased presence on social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok.

I know I've commented on the positive reasons for joining J.A.G. before, but, in light of our slipping membership, I feel the need to touch on that subject again. A powerful reason for both for younger and older drivers to join our club is to tap into the wealth of knowledge of our more experienced members. Whether classic E-Types or modern F-Types, learning how to maintain, restore, and/or upgrade these vehicles becomes easier (and more fun!) when you're surrounded by people who have owned—and cared for—their Jaguars for many years. This kind of mentorship is invaluable, offering practical skills and insights that can't be found in manuals or online videos. It's a living, breathing form of education—automotive wisdom passed down through real human experience.

Another compelling reason for people of all ages to join J.A.G. is to become part of the vibrant community of Jaguar lovers. Our club has a well-earned reputation for having a welcoming atmosphere, where members bond over their shared passion rather than their age or background. Younger members could find themselves quickly integrated into a network of people eager to share stories, offer advice, and celebrate each other's achievements. Our exciting group drives, car shows, and social gatherings create opportunities to form friendships that extend beyond the cars themselves.

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This sense of belonging is especially meaningful in a world where digital interactions often replace face-to-face connection, making authentic community a rare and valuable experience.

To help bolster our membership numbers, please feel free to invite any relatives, friends or neighbors who you think might be interested to join our club, or invite them to come to one of our events. My guess is, that when they meet our wonderful members, they'll want to join in the fun (remember: you don't have to actually own a Jaguar in order to join the club). Finally, if you have opinions or suggestions as to how we could improve our club's activities or visibility, please feel free to email me directly at: president@jags.org

Hoping to see growing numbers of us at upcoming events.

Sandor Nagyszalanczy
J.A.G. President

Keeping your Jaguar on the road

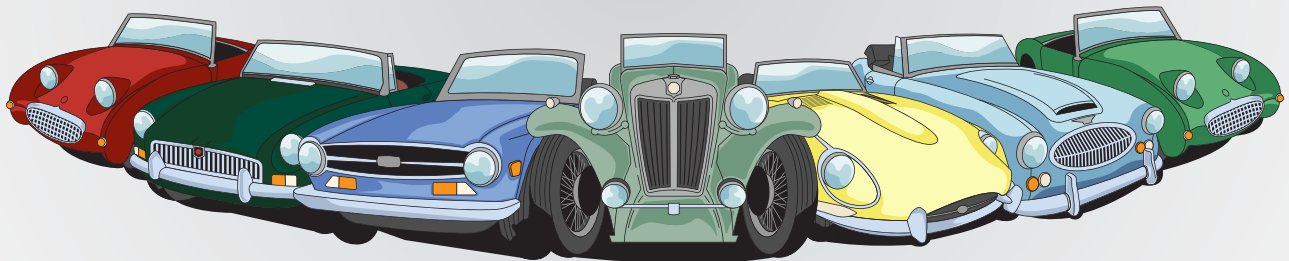


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2026 CALENDAR

ALL EVENTS IN CAPS
ARE J.A.G. CLUB EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2026

28 **FOUR RESERVOIR TOUR & CAR BARN & BBQ**

MARCH 2026

7 **MOZART MUSEUM & LUNCH, MOUNTAIN VIEW WITH ROLLS ROYCE CLUB**

28-29 **CLOVIS BRITISH AUTO ROUNDUP- DRIVE & CAR SHOW**

APRIL 2026

16-17 **JCNA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN MEXICO CITY**

18 **NAPA DRIVE, YOUNTVILLE, PETALUMA LUNCH**

29 **RANCHO CIELO WITH CCBMC**

MAY 2026

17 **DIXON BRITISH CAR SHOW AND SWAP MEET
JAG EVENT COMING SOON**

JUNE 2026

6 **BRITS BY THE BAY**

JULY 2026

16-18 **JCNA International Jaguar Festival in Pittsburgh**

AUGUST 2026

7-15 **ROLEX MOTORSPORTS REUNION**

10 **MONTEREY BRITISH CAR SHOW
- CARMEL**

16 **PEBBLE BEACH CONCOURS**

NOVEMBER 2026

22 **MOSS BEACH DISTILLERY DRIVE & BRUNCH**



February Birthday's

Andrew Dickinson	Feb. 2
Michael Meckl	Feb. 3
Heather Ripley	Feb. 3
Cheryl Medina	Feb. 8
Jon Fox	Feb. 8
Marlon Smith	Feb. 8
Jeff Leonard	Feb. 10
Dennet Colescott	Feb. 10
Gail Salice	Feb. 10
Jason Brandt	Feb. 11
Mark Hacker	Feb. 13
Theresa Bouret	Feb. 13
Jim Kimball	Feb. 15
Norm Madge	Feb. 16
Denise White	Feb. 17
Kathleen Nilsson	Feb. 17
Robert Kelly	Feb. 20
Patrick Whaling	Feb. 25
Richard Keller	Feb. 26
Kate Hutchison	Feb. 26
Ari Bedirian	Feb. 27
Felix Lee	Feb. 27
Kim Mitchell	Feb. 27

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For information about JAG
officers and other club
information



Please visit our website
www.jags.org
or scan here



The Four Reservoirs Drive
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2026
10:00 am Event Start



START 2026 WITH A DRIVE OF SOUTH COUNTY RESERVOIRS!

This drive explores Four Reservoirs in Santa Clara County. The reservoirs are Chesbro, Calero, Uvas Reservoir, and Coyote Lake. There are actually 10 reservoirs in the Santa Clara Valley, and they hold enough water for 340,000 families for one year. The terrain is typical of California foothills, and consequently, the roads are great for driving, narrow-ish, winding, with various road surfaces, and some fabulous views. In February, the hills will be lush, green, and abundant with wildflowers. We are certainly looking forward to a beautiful California day with wonderful spring views and great driving.

This event will begin at **9:30 am at the Walgreens parking lot on 745 East Dunne Ave., Morgan Hill.** Trader Joe's and Starbuck's are nearby for food, coffee or bathroom. After our **Driver's meeting at 10:15am** we will commence the drive at **10:30am promptly** and visit reservoirs both East and West of Highway 101 with brief stops to marvel at the water levels and capture photos of the wildlife, scenery and Jaguars.

Our tour end in Gilroy/Morgan Hill at "THE CAR BARN", as it's called by members Sean & Patricia Rositano. You'll be dining amongst their wonderful car collection. Mansmith's BBQ will be catering our lunch. You'll see their smoker and food truck as you drive into the parking lot. Their preparation will include Tri Tip, Chicken, Ribs, Red potatoes, Beans, Grilled Vegetables, Green Salad, Cole Slaw, Bread, Brownies and Cookies. Nonalcoholic drinks included. Wine also available.

Sign up quickly **our deadline is February 19, 2026,**
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENT AND DRIVE!

Reservation Form The Four Reservoirs Drive DEADLINE 2-19-26

Event: Saturday, February 28, 2026

Name _____ Name _____

Cost: \$48.00 per person x _____ members \$ _____

PLEASE CONTACT DEBORAH FOR ANY DIETARY ISSUES. 415 509-2909

Pay by Credit Card

Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____ CVC _____ Billing Zip code _____

Pay by Check:

Make out to JAG and mail to; JAG Treasurer, 37 Campbell Lane, Menlo Park, CA. 94025

Electronic: Pay Pal: button on JAGS.ORG event or via Zelle to Treasurer@Jags.org

AUTOVINO, DIAMOND DETAILING SESSION

By Deborah Hartunian

For our kick-off event of 2026, 34 J.A.G. members headed to Autovino, Industrial Way, San Carlos. Another group was still occupying the space, so, J.A.G. members congregated near our fine British cars chatting and catching up. Something we are all very good at talking about, is our cars.

There were new J.A.G. members' cars to see, such as Francois Henley's 1972 Red E-Type Series III, OTS. Sure, sounded good as he drove in the parking lot. New members Daniel Buringrud and his son, Nico, might have been confused by the Swensson's beautiful Bentley driven by John as his XK was visiting the mechanic.

Al Boasberg's Jag was also in the shop, so he was driving his maroon 1970 Rover 3500, one of only 10 still existing in the US and Canada. The car registration plate is 70 ROVER if you see it around. Good to see Al back after his accident.

Just before 1:00 pm, everyone was went inside for lunch, where we were greeted by Autovino owner, Phil Guirlani. The food was set up in the Library and so after we had spent a few minutes browsing the impressive car collection and sampling wine, we were invited to fill our plates at the buffet served by Phil.

The buffet was delicious, the tri-tip sandwich and grilled salmon came right off the grill and pizza oven. There were Caprese sandwiches and a tasty salad. We took our food into the main space to sit amidst the spectacular cars.

As Autovino had recently had an event that focused on "the Gatsby Era", there was a beautiful 1930 Rolls Royce Phantom II Barker Torpedo Sports, a Bugatti, and other fabulous period cars.

After lunch and introductions from all the members, we moved back to the Library area, which had been transformed into our presentation room with chairs set up. Also available for dessert were the best cookies and muffins ever.

Cullen Westmoreland and Keith Thomson from Diamond Car Care Systems were our presenters for the hour-and-a-half discussion. Cullen covered many subjects under the umbrella of detailing.

Light Washing of the Car: To wash your car effectively, use an inexpensive pressure washer (under \$120) that delivers high pressure and low water volume. Begin by applying a pre-rinse foam to help remove dirt from the car's surface. The recommended process is to rinse, foam, rinse again, and then dry. When drying or wiping, use new microfiber towels once only on the car's paintwork. Microfiber towels trap grit, which can scratch the surface if reused on paintwork. After their first use on the car, reserve these towels for other cleaning tasks.

Convertible Tops: Do not use a pressure washer on convertible tops. Instead, clean with a dedicated top cleaner, such as the Porsche Driver's Club product. Over-washing the convertible top can lead to loss of water resistance; to restore use Scotch Guard. Always remove bird droppings promptly and avoid exposure to tree sap. Dawn dish soap can be used if needed.

Windows: Minimize the use of conditioner inside the car, as it can outgas and fog the windows. For a concours event, do not use conditioner for at least one month before the event. For cleaning, use Spray Away or Invisible Glass products, and always dry off with a new microfiber towel. Note: Do not wash microfiber towels as usual, as they tend to retain grit. If necessary, wash them with a detergent specifically designed for microfiber. Hint: When dusting the car, a thick towel is most effective for safely removing dust without scratching.

Leather Care: Avoid silicon-based products on leather surfaces.

For modern cars, the leather is typically coated with urethane. Cleaning is simple: use a damp (possibly warm) towel to wipe the surface.

For vehicles made before the 1980s, treat the leather with a cleaner followed by a conditioner. Do not allow the conditioner to soak too long, as it may damage the stitching. If possible, apply the products by hand. Connolly products are recommended but are generally available only from Rolls-Royce dealerships.

If the seat leather is perforated, gently pat or hit the seat to dislodge any residue from the holes.

To clean the car's interior surfaces, Formula 409 or very diluted Simple Green can be used with a towel. When rinsing the towel, dip it into and out of the water, then wring it out. This technique prevents grit from being pushed into the fibers. Always apply cleaning products onto a towel rather than directly onto the car's surfaces. For fine work use the highest-quality latex paint brush.

Paint Decontamination and Finishing:

Clay Bar: If a clay bar is used, always use fresh clay and lubricate it frequently with hot water for best results.

Iron Particle Removal: To remove rust particles from surfaces, apply Iron-X or other products specifically designed for this.

Finishing Alternatives:

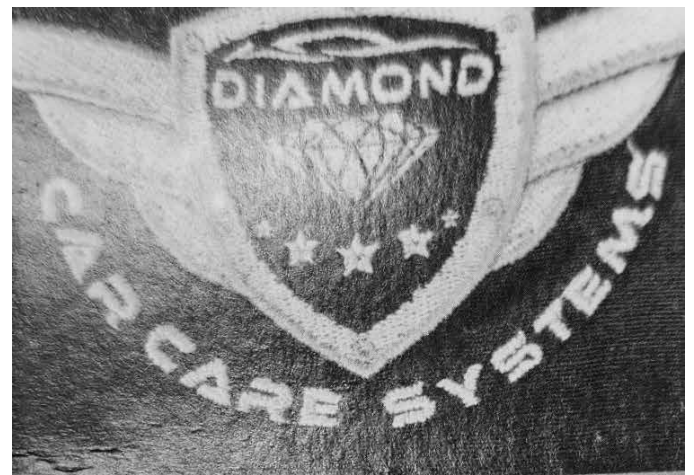
1. **Wax:** Use a good quality paste wax for the best shine. Note that the shine from wax does not last long.
2. **Polymers:** Products like Liquid Glass provide a good, longer-lasting shine, and are applied as a liquid or cream.



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3. **Ceramics:** The most recent innovation for finishing. For non-professional users, spray-on ceramics, such as Turtle Wax Hybrid Ceramic, offer the best results. There are many brands available. After washing, rinsing, and thoroughly drying the car, apply the ceramic coating. Do not let the ceramic product sit on the surface for too long before buffing. Special ceramic coatings are available for wraps and satin finishes.
4. **Chrome and Metal Care:** A great product for cleaning and polishing chrome and metal surfaces is Blue Magic. After polishing, you can apply wax to chrome to add a layer of protection and help maintain its shine.

We all departed well fed and with new ideas on how to keep our Jaguars looking beautiful and shiny.



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CLOVIS BRITISH AUTO ROUNDUP 2026
FRESNO/CLOVIS- March 27-29, 2026

J.A.G. is again participating in the Clovis British Auto Roundup. Our Jags are always welcome. Drive on your own to Fresno/Clovis on Friday, and that evening we'll all have dinner in Clovis (all walkable).

On Saturday, we will meet up with the Valley British Auto Club for a couple of hours drive through the beautiful valley foothills. Anticipate wildflowers in full bloom, with amazing scenery. The drive will begin at 10:00 am in front of our hotel. After the 100-mile tour ends at approximately 12:00 noon, a no-host lunch will follow at Bobby Salazar's Mexican Restaurant (across the street from our hotel). Saturday evening, we'll have dinner at one of Fresno's best restaurants.

On Sunday morning, you'll enjoy your free full breakfast and meet up in Clovis with the VBAC again to set up for the car show and antique street fair. Car Show participants must be ready to show by 9:00 am. This car show is not a concours; it's better described as a car show and street party. There will be awards with unusual categories like Best Oil Leak to be given out 1:30-2:00 pm and the Car Show ends at 3:00 pm. You 'll then bid goodbye to all your NEW friends and travel back to the Bay Area. Sign up ASAP. The Best Western in Clovis is very convenient for all the events. Rooms will go fast as will spots in the Car Show. Central Valley Veterans is the 2026 Charitable Contribution recipient. 100% of the Car Show Raffle proceeds will be donated to the Central Valley Veterans organization, where \$0.94 of every dollar goes to support Local Veterans.

HOTEL INFO: **Best Western Clovis Cole**, 415 Clovis Avenue, Clovis, CA. 93612 **559 299-1547**
Please reserve your rooms immediately. King Bed \$154.99-180.00 //2 Queen Beds \$154.99 per night not including tax. NOTE: Get best rates online. <https://www.bestwestern.com/>
No J.A.G. rooms have been reserved.

CAR SHOW: \$35.00 per car. Please sign up with both VBAC & J.A.G. clubs. To sign up, print the entry form found on the VBAC website and mail the form and your payment to the address listed on the form. VBAC website <https://www.valleybritish.org/2026-clovis-british-auto-roundup>. Or for online registration, use <https://msreg.com/clovisbritishautoroundup2026>.

RESTAURANT INFO: All restaurants will have separate checks; you'll be able to pay for your own.

J.A.G. Club Reservation Form for CLOVIS BRITISH AUTO ROUNDUP & DRIVE FRESNO/CLOVIS,
March 27-29, 2026

Name_____ Name_____

Sign up online or contact Phil Endliss (650-269-0457) to register.

Mozart Foundation Automotive Museum, Mountain View, March 7, 2026

For J.A.G. and Rolls Royce Club members, we have an opportunity on Saturday, March 7th to visit the marvelous collection at the Mozart Foundation in Mountain View. We'll see 60 of the 120 plus cars of this eclectic collection of significant automobiles. Mr. Mozart's automotive passion comes from obvious roots, since he was raised among automobiles in his father's dealership in Palo Alto, one of the first in the country to handle Volkswagens and Porsches, as well as Mercedes-Benz in the early days.

The museum realizes Mr. Mozart's personal dream of combining his interests in history, automotive development, and motorsports. Completed in 2011, the museum has translucent glass walls surrounding black granite floors, with the cars highlighted by grids of ceiling lights.

We have arranged a private viewing for J.A.G. and Rolls Royce members and their guests between 10:00AM to noon. We will be greeted by docents who will show us through the collection and discuss the history of some specific cars. After the docent tours we can focus on the cars that have interested us while the docents are available for any questions.

Photography inside the collection is strictly prohibited.

Mr. Mozart is known for moving specific cars from his broader collection as tangible signs of welcome to individual car clubs and so we may have some surprises waiting.

Entrance to the Mozart Museum is limited to 25 members per club, so make your reservations early

When our visit to the Museum is completed, we will drive about 15 minutes to Sunnyvale for lunch at Marie Calendar's in our own private room. We need your Entrée and pie choice when you signup. **FINAL DAY TO SIGN UP IS FEBRUARY 28. Food choices cannot be changed at the restaurant. Route Directions will be sent to registrants ahead of the event.**

1. BRAISED & SLOW -ROASTED POT ROAST -Tender chunks of chuck roast slow-simmered for full flavor and tenderness, topped with mushroom cabernet gravy. Served with fresh mashed potatoes and fresh seasonal vegetables.
2. HONEY GINGER GLAZED SALMON- Grilled salmon fillet brushed with a house-made honey ginger glaze, served atop rice with seasonal vegetables.
3. ROASTED TURKEY DINNER- Hand-carved roasted turkey served over our apple-sage stuffing and topped with house-made giblet gravy. Served with fresh mashed potatoes, tangy cranberry sauce and fresh seasonal vegetables.
4. SOUTHWEST AVOCADO WITH CAJUN GRILLED CHICKEN SALAD- Iceberg, romaine, carrots, red cabbage, a blend of three cheeses and tortilla strips tossed in spicy chipotle ranch dressing. Topped with Cajun-grilled chicken plus avocado, roasted corn, black beans and Pico de Gallo.
5. PIES: Apple pie, Lemon Meringue pie, Chocolate Cream pie.

FOR ANY DIETARY ISSUES: Call Deborah 415 509-2909

Please see page 17 for the sign up form





Wednesday, April 29th
Tour, Show & Shine, BBQ
montereybritish.com

Join us in Salinas for a truly unique experience and be prepared to be blown away! Whether it's your first visit to Rancho Cielo or you are returning to see what new adventures they are up to, this will be a day you will remember for the rest of the year!!

ALL Makes, Marques, Years, and Models are welcome but please drive something fun as this will be an incredible Show & Shine opportunity to share with the students.

We will start with a special guided tour of the campus (including the Classic Car Restoration Program) that will leave you speechless. Then, we'll be on hand to delight in the questions and viewing of our cars before walking over to the award-winning Drummond Culinary Program where Chef EJ and his students will prepare a mouthwatering lunch for us.

We will coordinate drive options to the campus from locations in both Monterey and Salinas.

Register at www.montereybritish.com
Email info@montereybritish.com with any questions

SAVE THE DATE

BOOK YOUR HOTEL NOW!



Monterey British

Monday, August 10th, 2026

Carmel Valley Community Park

11am -2pm

Registration opens in February

J.A.G. Board Meeting, January 13th, 2026

Meeting Date: 01/13/2026 5:00 pm.

Location: Zoom Video Call

Participants:

Sandor Nagyszalanczy – J.A.G. President	Howard L Smith - Immediate Past President (Traveling)
Deborah Hartunian - 1st Vice President	Andy Preston – Director-at-Large
Stuart Smedley - 2nd Vice President (Absent)	Clive Hallatt – Director-at-Large
Phil Endliss - Treasurer/Membership Chair	Kristan Neubecker – Webmaster
Les Hamilton – Secretary/Editor	

Minutes

J.A.G. President Sandor Nagyszalanczy called the January 2026 Board Meeting to order at 4:59 pm. Sandor welcomed the new J.A.G. Board to 2026.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the December 2026 Board Meeting were reviewed and approved. **MSA.**

Treasurer Report.

Phil reported that J.A.G.'s finances remain strong and well-positioned to fund all the budgeted items for 2026. J.A.G. performed quite closely to the 2025 budget, with a slight surplus at year-end. **MSA.**

Membership Report.

J.A.G. has 195 members, including 5 associate members. 20 members will not be renewing due to death, relocation, or the sale of their Jaguar. Phil has sent a 3rd reminder to members who have not yet renewed Clive and Les will make calls. Phil is preparing the 2026 Roster and will send to the printer shortly. The board discussed the merits of paper versus electronic Roster and agreed that for 2026, a paper Roster would be produced. A secure electronic Roster as part of the WebSite will be researched. **MSA**

1st Vice President Report/2nd Vice President Reports.

2026 Schedule

January 2026

17th Detailing Workshop at Autovino presented by Diamond Care Systems. Arrangements complete. Les needs to collect payment from Phil the morning of the event.. **Action /Les**

February 2026

28th Four Reservoir Drive and Car Barn Visit. Les provided the route to Stuart to test drive. Phil has invited the Corvette Club **Action: Les/Stuart**

March 2026

7th Joint visit with the Rolls Royce Club to John Mozart Museum in Mountain View. The meal after the event will be at Maria Callendar's. Deborah is finalizing. **Action: Deborah**

28-29 Clovis British Car Round Up. Information and a signup sheet have been added to the website. Deborah will make reservations when we know how many members will attend.

April 2026

16th-17th JCNA AGM in Mexico City.

18th Napa Drive and Lunch at Café Bellini, Petaluma. (see Andy's report)

29th Rancho Ceilo Classic Restoration Program with the Cypress British Car Club of Monterey. See Kristan's report.

Directors at Large Reports:

J.A.G. Board Meeting, January 13th, 2026

Andy Preston

Andy shared the challenges he encountered during the Napa drive test. The route was on great roads, but a planned rest stop in Yountville has closed. Andy is searching for an alternative.

Clive Hallatt

Clive had nothing further to report and will assist with phone calls to late-renewing members.

Past President Report

No Report as Howard in Hawaii.

Editor's Report

The JAGazette deadlines will be January 18th and February 15th. **Action: All**

Social Media/Website

J.A.G. Members are invited to a visit to the Rancho Ceilo Classic Restoration Program on Wednesday, April 29th with the Cypress British Car Club of Monterey. The tour will include the Classic Car Restoration Program followed by a BBQ Lunch prepared by the Rancho Ceilo Culinary program.

The 2026 Monterey British Car Show will be held on Monday, August 10th, hosted by the Cypress British Car Club of Monterey. We are unsure if there will be a Cars and Coffee at Monterey Jaguar.

Linda and Kristan will host a post PB Concourse open house after the Concours on Sunday.

Old Business

An additional tier is needed on the Gene Babow trophy. In progress. **Action: Sandor**

The proposed license agreement between J.A.G. and JCNA was sent to JCNA. JCNA has declined to sign the agreement. Phil will send minimal information with the renewals as we stated we would. A response to JCNA to be drafted, **Action: Les/ Clive/Sandor**.

Submission for the Newsletter awards is due January 6th, 2026. **Closed.**

Candidates are needed for the vacant Director at Large Position. It was discussed that a younger board member would be beneficial. Suggestions should be submitted to Sandor. **Action Sandor.**

Les to provide details of J.A.G.'s Instagram account. **Action: Les**

Andy asked about making a secure electronic version of the Roster available. Les to research alternatives. **Action: Les**

As J.A.G. will not attend the JCNA Mexico AGM, thereby saving \$2500, J.A.G.'s proxy needs to be sent to Nedra Rummel in the New Year. **Action: Sandor**

Testing Roadstr smartphone app for the drive directions for the Four Reservoirs Drive was unsuccessful due to route restrictions.

New Business

No new business.

Next Meeting:

The next 2026 J.A.G. Board of Directors meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24th, 2026, at 4:30 pm via Zoom.

Adjournment:

The January 2026 J.A.G. Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm. **MSA.**

Respectfully submitted by Les Hamilton, J.A.G. Secretary.

January Membership Report

Phil Endliss - Membership Director

Each year we lose a number of members for a number of reasons - health issues, loss of the car or moving to a new area are some examples. JAG starts 2026 with 194 members including 5 Associates. To build up our membership, we'll need our members to continue to be on the lookout for potential new members. Use your JAG business cards when you see a Jag on the street, in a parking lot, during a visit to a Cars & Coffee meeting and especially at car shows. Let me know if you run out of them and I'll send you more..

New member signup

To join JAG, all you need is a Jaguar and the desire to spend time with others who enjoy socializing while enjoying their Jaguar. Even if you just have a desire to own a Jaguar or lust after one, you can become a Friend of JAG. To join, fill out the application on our website (www.jags.org) under the Membership tab. Your dues will provide membership in JAG and JCNA, the North America Jaguar Association, through the end of 2026.

Welcome new members who joined in January

Kevin Treehan of San Francisco
with his 1994 XJ6 Vanden Plas

Hiawatha & Flora Harris of Oakland
with their 1960 Mark II

David & Susan Cunha of Atherton
with their 1997 XK8

Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating their anniversaries joining JAG in February:

Howard Bujtor – 8 years

Laura & Dirk Caudill - 4 years

Calvin Craig - 11 years

Andrew & Kristin Dickinson – 1 year

Eugenio Jauregui – 2 years

Joe Massucco Jr. – 24 years

Jack & Dolores McKenzie – 8 years

Eric & Christina Schatmeier - 11 years

Richard & Gail Weisner – 3 years

The Editor's Musing By Les Hamilton

Space is tight this month, so I will be brief.

It was good to revisit Autovino again and to hear the latest on car care from Diamond Car Care Systems. I always learn new information, and this month it was about foam cleaners and ceramic finishes.

If you would like to contact Diamond, call Keith Thompson on 408.561.3859 or email : keiththom805@gmail.com.

Jaguar recently lifted the covers on the “00” and provided test rides to several automotive journalists, probably because of all the negative press about the 00. The journalist community seems very impressed, but it will still be a while before we can test-drive the new high-end Jaguars. In the interim, however, Jaguar is discounting unsold 2024 models. I stopped in at our local dealership the other day and a new Ipace was discounted by around 25%. Go visit your dealership and snap up a deal.

I have just read “Touch Wood,” by Duncan Hamilton (not a relative). An entertaining read if you are interested in the heydays of Jaguar racing and Le Mans.

A quick note about JCNA's sister organization, the Coventry Foundation and the British Sports Car Hall of Fame. The Foundation is a charitable organization that provides a Factory Tool Loan Program, a library of Jaguar's technical documentation, and several other reference services. If you are looking for parts, tools, or accessories for an older British vehicle, they have two eBay stores stocked with duplicates that are donated to them. Check out their website at coventryfoundation.org or use the link at the foot of the Jags.org home page. I will write more when space is available.

For Sale: 2009 XK Convertible.

Very clean, 2009 XK Black on Black Convertible, 41K Miles. Recent tire replacement and new battery and brakes, fully serviced and sorted. The XK is one of the best cars made by Jaguar. Includes: Weathertech mats, battery maintainer, rain cover and sunshade. \$17,499 or Best Offer. Les Hamilton, Hamiltonl@mac.com.



FOR SALE Lovely 2003 XJ Sport (X308) Platinum Metallic with Oatmeal Leather Upholstery. Purchased on Bring a Trailer in 12/2. 5k miles added since, currently ~70k. In lovely condition. New rear tires installed in 2025, and new front tires this year. Recent oil change and an alignment. Clean Car Fax. Please reach out if interested. We would love to keep it in the family. Contact Jeff Cowan jeffcowanm3@gmail.com for more information and pictures

**Mozart Reservation Form-Mozart Foundation Automotive Museum,
March 7th, 2026**

Jaguar and Rolls Royce Club Members:

\$60 per member (Museum fee and Lunch). Total \$_____

Reservation for:

Name (1) _____ Entree _____ Pie _____

Name (2) _____ Entree _____ Pie _____

FOOD CHOICES MUST BE EMAILED TO: djhartunian@gmail.com

Transfer Payment via Zelle to Treasurer@Jags.org

Pay by Credit Card:

Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____ CVC _____

Billing Zip code _____

Pay Pal: button on JAGS.ORG event

Check: Make out to JAG and mail to; JAG Treasurer,

7 Campbell Lane, Menlo Park, CA. 94025

Smoking is bad for you

Those of us with older Jaguars or other veteran British Cars are familiar with Lucas electrical components. Below are some comments and opinions collected over the years.

The Theory of Smoke

Positive grounding is essential for proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of negative ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as "smoke". This has been referred to as the smoke theory as: "when the smoke comes out its finished, cooked or done for". Smoke is the thing that makes electrical circuits work. We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working. This can be verified repeatedly through empirical testing. For example, if one places a copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated, and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component will no longer function. The logic is elementary and inescapable!

The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works afterwards. Starter motors were considered unsuitable for British motorcycles for some time, largely because they consumed large quantities of smoke, requiring very unsightly large wires.

It has been reported that Lucas electrical components are possibly more prone to electrical leakage than their Bosch, Japanese or American counterparts. Experts point out that this is because Lucas is British, and all things British leak. British engines leak oil, British shock absorbers, hydraulic forks and disk brake systems leak fluid, British tires leak air. Therefore, it follows that British electrical systems must leak smoke. Again, the logic is clear and inescapable.

In conclusion, the basic concept of transmission of electrical energy in the form of smoke provides a logical explanation of the mysteries of electrical components especially British units manufactured by Joseph Lucas, Ltd

And remember: "A gentleman does not motor about after dark". Joseph Lucas, The Prince of Darkness 1842-1903

Other lesser known Lucas facts

The Lucas motto: Get home before dark.

Lucas is the patent holder for the short circuit.

Lucas - Inventor of the first intermittent wiper.

Lucas - Inventor of the self-dimming headlamp.

The three-position Lucas switch--DIM, FLICKER and OFF.

The other three switch settings--SMOKE, SMOULDER and IGNITE.

The Original Anti -theft device - Lucas Electrics.

With the technology available today in the form of modern materials and components, none or all of the above may not apply.

Autovino January 17, 2026 J.A.G. members enjoy lunch and listen to as Deborah described upcoming events. Photographers: Brian Frye, Sandor Nagyszalanczy and Les Hamilton



Autovino January 17, 2026. J.A.G. members listen to Cullan Westmoreland from Diamond Car Care Detailing systems in the library at Autovino. Photographers: Brian Frye, Sandor Nagyszalanczy and Les Hamilton



JAGazette