



Cat Tracks

Central Oklahoma Jaguar Association January 2026

Compiled &
Edited by
Harry
Frantz

A Message from The President By Harry Frantz

Happy New Year everyone. Have you had enough football yet? We are in the midst of no less than 47 bowl games. The Sugar Bowl was of particular interest on New Years Day. I hope your favorite teams have won.

On December 6th, we had our annual Christmas party, election of new officers & directors and approval of the new Calendar of Events for 2026. The results of the election and the calendar can be seen further on in this month's newsletter. I wish to thank the club members for electing me president for the next year and for allowing me to continue as editor of the newsletter. I am pleased at the confidence you have in my abilities.

The Christmas Party was a lot of fun as usual. We got to see many members that we haven't seen for some time. In particular, we were all grateful to see Dick Russ walk in under his own power after his horrendous car accident. He didn't even need a walker or neck brace. He was kept pretty busy during the party greeting well-wishers.

COJA's Annual Christmas Party By Susan Frantz

Our annual Jaguar Club Christmas Dinner was a wonderful way to close out the year, bringing members together to celebrate the season and our shared passion.



Beautiful table decorations.

The evening was filled with festive décor, lively conversation, and the camaraderie that defines our club. It was a pleasure to gather with fellow enthusiasts, enjoy good company, and reflect on another memorable year of drives, events and friendships.

Upcoming Events

January's Breakfast Get-Together

By Bruce & Sharon Parker

If your New Year resolutions include finding, and trying, a new place for a delicious breakfast that just happens to make the BEST homemade biscuits and sausage gravy ever, then please join us at our favorite breakfast place in Norman, the OK Diner, on Friday morning, January 23, 2026 at 10:00 am.

For over 30+ years it was known as Ozzie's Diner at the Max Westheimer airport. But the diner closed down during Covid and was sadly missed by Normanites! Then it was re-opened by Kent Kistler and is going strong once again! If you like classic, homemade American breakfast and lunch comfort food, fresh ingredients, and friendly service, then this is the place to go. And did I mention you can watch the airplanes landing and taking off again right outside the Diner's windows while you eat?

It's a small place and they don't take reservations, so just show up and find a seat. If it's not too busy we can try to sit close to each other, if not we can wave at each other and mingle after we eat.

The address is 1700 Lexington Ave, Norman, OK and is located in the Max Westheimer Airport Observation Area. You can enter from Robinson via Berry Road, or from US77 via Goddard or Lexington Avenue.

So, we hope to see you around 10:00 am on Friday, January 23, 2026 at The OK Diner!

Happy New Year!
Bruce & Sharon Parker



Friends greeting Dick Russ at the Christmas Party.

Following dinner, the evening concluded with a brief business meeting, during which new officers and board members were elected. This transition marks an important step forward to a new year of fun activities and was met with appreciation for those who have served and enthusiasm for those stepping into new roles.



Friends catching up.

Ending the night with both celebration and purpose was a fitting reminder that our Jaguar Club thrives not only on great cars, but on the dedication and involvement of its members.

Miscellany

Annual Business Meeting & Election of Officers

By Sarah Baxter

Jeff opened the meeting with the reading of the slate of prospective officers and directors which the Nominating Committee had recommended:

President & Editor	Harry Frantz
Vice President	Susan Laurence
Secretary/Treasurer	Sarah Baxter
Past President	Jeff Hand
Board Members:	Nancy Driver Lynette Hand Sandy Ratzlaff

Jeff asked if there were any other nominations from the floor to which there were none. The members in attendance unanimously approved our new Officers and Directors for 2026.

Next business was the listing of the Calendar of Events for 2026. I have attached the new Calendar of Events for 2026 to this edition of the Cat Tracks. We are going to try meeting for breakfast once a month for all members instead of having a "Ladies Luncheon" or "Guy's Outing" this year. If there is not enough interest, it will be discontinued. As you will see, we do not have any dates listed as yet, but as soon as we know them, they will be added and attached to future copies of the Cat Tracks.

At the annual meeting in November, it was suggested that we make a charitable donation like we have done in the past. At the November meeting, it was suggested that we give a donation of \$2,000 to one of the

following organizations: City Rescue Mission, Homeless Alliance, or Regional Food Bank. Jeff opened the subject up to the members in attendance. There was another charity that was suggested – Positive Tomorrows. After a discussion, a Motion was made that \$500 be given to each of the four entities. The Motion was seconded and a majority of those present approved a donation of \$500 to each of the following entities: City Rescue Mission, Homeless Alliance, Positive Tomorrows, and Regional Food Bank. Jeff directed that checks be written to each of the entities.

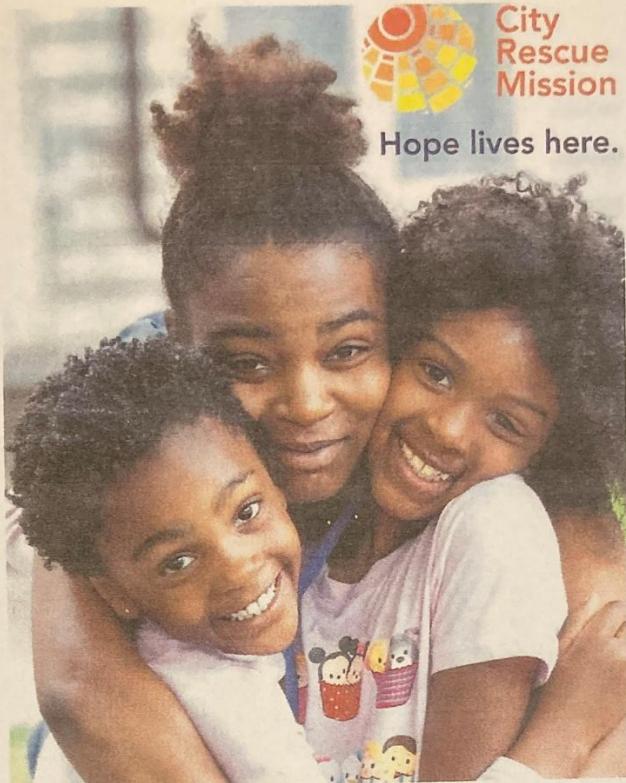
The final business of the evening was the presentation of a "Past President" name tag to Jeff Hand by Vice President, Harry Frantz. Jeff, thank you for your leadership in 2025.

As a follow-up to the business meeting, a letter and check for \$500 each were written to each of the entities. To date, I have received "Thank You" notes/letters from 3 of the 4 entities. Those "Thank Yous" are attached.

As of this writing, I am locked out of my QuickBooks program so am unable to prepare the ending 2025 semi-annual financial for the Club. As soon as I can get back in, I will prepare the financial and send it out.



Hope lives here.



Dear MS Baker + Members

I thank you so much
for your generous gift
to support the work of
City Rescue Mission! This 8
will have double the
impact this year grant
to the Restore Hope Holiday
Match! Thank you for your
compassion and generosity

Best -
Melanie Anthony

Melanie Anthony
Vice President of Development
& Engagement

Email: manthony@cityrescue.org

Direct: 405.604.5250

Main: 405.232.2709

800 W. California Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73106



Cell: 405.850.7356

[@OKCityRescue](http://cityrescue.org)



HOMELESS
ALLIANCE

December 18, 2025

Central Oklahoma Jaguar Association
Sarah L. Baxter, Secretary/Treasurer
11008 S Eastside Dr
Oklahoma City, OK 73165

Dear friends,

During the holiday season, life seems to move faster – filled with the hustle and bustle of celebrations, family gatherings, and preparations for the colder days ahead. For many in our community, however, this time of year brings added challenges: finding warmth, safety, and hope.

Thanks to your generosity, those challenges feel a little lighter. Your support helps ensure that individuals and families experiencing homelessness have access to shelter, resources, and the care they need. Because of donors like you, the days are brighter and the nights warmer for so many in our city.

Your gift is more than a donation – it's a message of compassion and community. It reminds us that even in the busiest season, kindness shines through.

From all of us at the Homeless Alliance, thank you for making a difference. We wish you peace, joy, and warmth this holiday season.

With gratitude,

Meghan Mueller, LSW-ADMIN
President & CEO

Thank you so
much for this generous
support! Happy Holidays!

Please save this letter as your receipt for tax purposes. The Homeless Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 11-3718005. No goods or services were provided in exchange for the contribution detailed below:

Gift Amount: \$500.00

Date Received: 12/17/2025

Payment Method: Check 3134



December 19, 2025

Central Ok Jaguar Association
11008 S Eastside Dr
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73165

Dear Central Ok Jaguar Association,

Thank you for your gift of \$500.00 by check dated 12/11/2025 to Positive Tomorrows, Oklahoma's only elementary school and social services agency focused on serving families experiencing homelessness.

The holiday season is a special time of year, but without a stable place to call home, it can also bring uncertainty and added stress. Thanks to generous people like you, our students and families can experience a holiday season full of warmth and connection.

At Positive Tomorrows, children get to spend the season focused on learning and the fun of being kids—baking cookies in the food lab, writing letters to Santa, and enjoying winter break camp in a safe and loving environment.

Families also get to create special moments through our Merry Market, where they can select gifts at no cost and experience all the magic and joy of giving the perfect gift to those they love.

Your support helps create holiday memories that families carry forward as they continue working toward stability and brighter futures. We are so grateful for the difference you make.

Sincerely,

Sara Jacobson
Director of Development

Positive Tomorrows, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit school, asserts that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this generous donation. Federal Tax ID #73-1393438.

PO Box 61190 • Oklahoma City, OK 73146 • positivetomorrows.org
O: 405-556-5082 • F: 405-556-5085

Editor's note: The following is a lengthy submission from Dick Russ about his long-time love affair with his 1970 Jaguar E-Type drop head coupe. The conclusion of his story will be included in the next issue of Cat Tracks.

41 years of Bliss

By: Dick Russ

Back in 1985, my wife and I were on a trip to Las Vegas. At the airport, I bought a magazine that had a story about the Jaguar E-Type. While on the flight, I was reading the article, it struck me that it might be fun to own a Jaguar E-type. While we were in Las Vegas, I stopped by a bookstore and bought a copy of Hemmings to see if there was a used E-Type that could be bought reasonably. I found one in Waco, Texas, that sounded like what I would be interested in buying. It was a 1970, and the ad said all original except it had been repainted.

Not knowing much about the Jaguar E-Types as well as literally nothing about this one, I thought that if the owner was willing to drive it to Dallas for delivery, it might just be a decent buy. So, with that part out of the way, we discussed the price and negotiated a price both of us would be happy with. The plan now was fly back to Oklahoma City after our visit to Las Vegas and arrange the financing, which we both agreed would work. We decided on a time to meet at Dallas Love Field and take delivery. I agreed to pay his airfare back to Waco.

As planned, the owner drove to Love Field to meet LaNeal and me, where we exchanged paperwork and money, and now I was the proud owner of a Jaguar E-type. The trip back to

Oklahoma City was uneventful and rather exciting to say the least. The next day, my wife and I decided to celebrate and drive the car to lunch. After lunch, we prepared to leave the restaurant, and the car wouldn't start as if the battery was dead. A couple of men who were exiting the restaurant kind of laughed a little and asked if we needed help. I asked if they would just give us a shove and see if it would run, which it did. On the way home, I told my wife that maybe we should just bite the bullet and go ahead and restore the car to ensure total reliability. She agreed. By taking this approach, I would learn everything possible about our E-Type. So, we immediately started disassembling the car. We spent every spare moment working on the restoration, which was basically every day. Even working part-time, it still took us six months to get it finished. It really wasn't a total restoration, but at least it made it reliable and nice to look at. I had a close friend who had a spray booth, which he said I could use to paint the car, which really helped a great deal with the project.

I had been busy working, and I didn't have much time to drive or to keep the car in top condition. It had just been sitting in our garage. My lovely wife LaNeal asked me what I was going to do about the car since it had been sitting in the garage for so long. I said we really need to restore it, but this time it needed a total restoration to bring it back to better than new and reliable. I also told her that if we decided to do that, it would be costly. She agreed but also said we needed to take our time to do it right, so there we went again but this time a total restoration.

Now this restoration was going to be totally different than the first. My close friend Tom had a body shop and could help with getting everything we needed wholesale. So, in 2003, we ordered everything needed to return the car to as new as possible. The overall cost for the parts alone came to well over \$30,000. The upside to this was that it made the task much easier since I would be going back with all new parts. The chassis was totally stripped to bare metal. Any corrosion found was removed or repaired. The entire car was primed with epoxy primer and finished in pure white DuPont Centuri enamel. I installed a new wiring harness in the entire car, all new relays, switches, gauges, and anything else you can think of. I overhauled the engine and installed a new starter and alternator, which I hoped would last a long time.

The restoration took much longer than either of us imagined. We worked on it as much as we could. Finally, in 2008, it was finished, and the car turned out to be beautiful. Not only did it turn out gorgeous, it was also fun to drive and reliable. Then, in 2013, I decided to upgrade the restoration to a JCNA 100-point concours class show car. When we finished, we entered it in many JCNA Concours, and at every event it took best of class, including the 2013 and 2014 National Class Champion. We ended up with over 21 JCNA Class champion awards, two Keels and Wheels (that is equivalent to Pebble Beach) best of class awards, and three years in a row best of show awards from the JCNA clubs in Texas.

Then, in 2015, I read about the Hagerty Great Race. A very close friend had just lost his wife to cancer, and I

thought that maybe he would like to get away and participate in the Great Race. We made our application to the Great Race to find out there was a waiting list a mile long. Be that as it may, we sent in our application fee in hopes we would be able to participate. As luck would have it, we were accepted.

For some reason, the engine never sounded like I thought a Jaguar engine should, so in preparation for the race, I thought it was best to pull the engine and make sure everything internally was ok. As it turned out, for whatever reason, the bearings were totally worn out and down to copper. With the race just a couple of months away, I thought that I could just overhaul the bottom end, which I did. With the engine back together and in the car, it looked like we were on our way to the Great Race, which started in St Louis, Missouri. Mike Cook, my navigator, arrived a couple of days before the race so we could make the drive from Oklahoma City to St Louis with ease.

(To be concluded next issue.)

DUES ARE DUE

By Sarah Baxter

If you have not already done so, please take a moment to write your check and send to me for your 2026 membership dues for COJA and JCNA. Dues become delinquent and the member dropped from the Club on January 31st. If you did not receive your dues statement, please let me know. The dues are \$85/year (\$30 for COJA and \$55 for JCNA). Please make your check payable to "COJA" and mail to me at the following address:

COJA
c/o Sarah L. Baxter
11008 S. Eastside Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73165

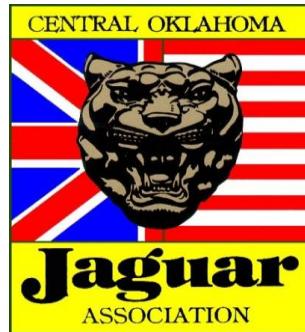
I will submit the amount to JCNA when I prepare the JCNA Renewal Form at the end of January.



2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Month	Date	Activity	Coordinator
January	23 rd	Breakfast at The OK Diner in Norman	Bruce & Sharon Parker
February	TBD	Breakfast	Sarah Baxter
	TBD	Caldwell Collection (Airplanes) in El Reno	Dean Ritter
March	TBD	Cold Creek Winery	Jenny Somerhalder
	TBD	Breakfast	Need Volunteer
April	TBD	Guthrie Shrimp Grow	Susan Laurence
	TBD	Breakfast	Need Volunteer
May	TBD	BBQ Sandwiches/Pot Luck	Dick & LaNeal Russ
June	TBD	Route 66 Event	Parkers or Frantz's
July	TBD	Open	Need Volunteer
August	TBD	Auto Museum	Jeff & Lynette Hand
September	TBD	Tour of Braum's	Ben & Sandy Ratzlaff
October	TBD	Talimena Drive for Foliage Tour	Scott Blaylock
November	TBD	Annual Business Meeting	Harry Frantz
December	12/5	Christmas Dinner at Legend's Times Two	Susan Frantz, Sandy Ratzlaff, Susan Laurence, Sarah Baxter



Officers

President & Editor	Harry Frantz	405-496-0850
Vice President	Susan Laurence	405-640-0545
Secretary/Treasurer	Sarah Baxter	405-408-8878
Past President	Jeff Hand	405-590-4167
Board Member	Nancy Driver	405-990-2861
Board Member	Lynette Hand	405-620-3634
Board Member	Sandy Ratzlaff	405-213-4535

Membership

Annual membership is \$85. Note, this includes membership in Jaguar Clubs of North America.

Advertising

Business Card size space \$10 per month, 3 months minimum or \$100/yr. Full page \$30 per month (\$360/yr.), half page \$25 per month (\$300/yr.). Personal ads for members (non-commercial) are free. This newsletter is published monthly by the Central Oklahoma Jaguar Association. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of your editor and correspondents and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Jaguar Clubs of North America or Jaguar cars. Neither the editor, members, nor contributors to the publication are responsible for the statements or claims made by advertiser.

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ORIGINAL SPECIFICATION JAGUAR INTERIOR

A teal Jaguar race car with white racing stripes and the number 8 is parked in a garage. The car is positioned in the lower half of the advertisement, with its front facing towards the left. The background shows a wooden garage door and a window with a grid pattern. The overall lighting is dramatic, highlighting the car's sleek lines and metallic finish.

TT RACE ENGINES

AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALISTS SINCE 1975

**SALES | PARTS | RESTORATION | MAINTENANCE |
REPAIR | FULL-SERVICE FACILITY | O.S.J.I INTERIORS**