

THE

SPOTTEDCAT

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER, 2020 | OUR 52nd YEAR | Visit our website: JCSNE.org

*Jaguar Club of Southern New England
Affiliated with Jaguar Clubs of North America*



For any Jaguar lover, particularly those who own very early Jags, this is a painful picture. Was forwarded to me 3rd hand, so have no info on it. Could be Baja, CA. Certainly looks like the Southwest. And from the days when people had no idea of this vintage's worth!

IN THIS ISSUE

Read about changes in club positions, board members in our president's column on page 2. Sign up NOW for our Annual Elections & Holiday Dinner, page 5. *My Jaguar Experience*, page 6. *Batteries*, page 7. *Cars in Scale: E-types*, page 9. Collector Car items for sale, page 11. Thinking Out Loud: *November...December...2021*, page 11.



FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT . .

Martha LeClair Worley
JCSNE President

November, seems like 2020 will go on forever but it is winding down. As our editor Alta has said she's staying up New Year's Eve just to make sure it goes away. Let's hope a vaccine is in our near future that we can trust and 2021 will be a good year.

Coming up in November we have our annual meeting and dinner on Sunday, November 22. It will be held at the same place as last year, Il Monticello in Meriden. They are meeting all the State guidelines for service. Food will be served family-style, rather than buffet, to limit the contact, tables will be spaced and seating per table limited. Please make an effort to come out if you're not at high risk. My thought is that if we have kept to our own "bubbles", joining them together with proper social distancing will be okay. . .

We do have some changes to the officers in appointed positions this year. After more than 25 years, Hal Kritzman is stepping down as Membership Chairman. His duties as Chief Judge for the National JCNA have taken up most of his time. Eric Overland has graciously offered to take his place. Thank you to both Hal for his years of service and Eric for coming on to the Board.

Our Board of Directors is also changing. Directors hold a 3 year term. Elmar Kessler will be stepping down. Matt Pekar is coming on in his place, as well as Joe DiGiovancarlo who will take Bob Aldridge's slot. I thank them too for stepping up. The rest of the Officers have agreed to carry on for another year. 2020 certainly gave us very limited opportunities. We all look forward to a better 2021.

As a Club we were able to keep things together with Zoom monthly meetings, Jags & Java on the 3rd Saturday of the month for the last several months, socially distanced drives, wine tours, the Dream Show and Lime Rock Historic's Sunday in the Park as a group. Thank you to everyone that came out and participated. I hope everyone enjoyed what limited offerings we had and I look forward to 2021.

My little dog Andi, a Papillion, jumped down from a chair and slipped a disc in her mid-spine. Her hind legs were both numb. I took her to Pieper Specialty Veterinary Hospital in Middletown where the neurosurgeon operated on her spine. A nine staple incision on an 11 lb. dog was scary for me (and her) but now 18 days later, the staples are out. She's walking again and eying her favorite chair to jump up on (that won't be happening). Why the story you ask? We as humans should be so lucky to recuperate that quickly, however, the story here is that there is hope. We just have to look forward and enjoy the moments.

We may not be bound to home as we were, but we still should be practicing social distancing, wearing a mask, staying home if you are sick. This will help us get back to our new normal and out there with our cars and friends.

Especially now, remember life can change in an instant, please, get out there and enjoy it (at a social distance).

Martha LeClair Worley

2 | THE SPOTTED CAT |

THE SPOT CAT 2 THE

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Jaguar Club of Southern New England MEETINGS & EVENTS

Calendar of Events for 2020

Martha Worley, President
president@jcsne.org

Our 52nd Year
www.JCSNE.org



MONTHLY MEETINGS - SECOND TUESDAYS

Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Tpke, Newington • In the attractive dining room at rear
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Sign up on the Nov 10th Events Calendar to receive the instructions to join.

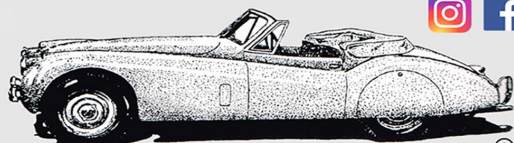
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DETAILS ON PAGE 5.



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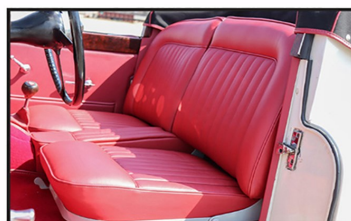
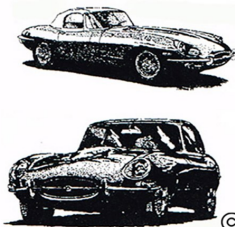
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Our Annual Elections will take place at the Holiday Dinner

(see opposite page)

Due to COVID, 2020 has not been a usual year of events and car shows.

It's been difficult for our Officers to maintain the cohesiveness of the club.

They have done an admirable job considering the circumstances.

The Officers are willing to carry on for another year, not knowing what the coming year will allow us to do. But this is an open Election and every member is eligible to be a candidate. See information on page 8.

Slate of Officers

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A perfect Fall day, milder than expected. 24 people showed up for this great event of wine and spectacular Litchfield Hills foliage. We met in Torrington to caravan to the Land of Nod winery in Canaan. A very serene and peaceful setting with delightful wines. We sat outdoors around separate tables and enjoyed great conversation. Then it was on another scenic drive to get to Lakeville to The Boathouse (no water in sight). Here we were indoors at small tables, seating 6, well spaced. Good food, more wine, great people and more conversation! After a leisurely lunch, we all hopped back in our Jaguars and headed back to Goshen to Miranda Vineyard. Another bucolic setting. They had a musical group playing outdoors. And plenty of space to set up chairs and visit some more. A fine ending to a very nice day. Thank you to Steve & Angela Hill for mapping all this out and making the arrangements.



L-R Jaguar line-up by the tent at the Land of Nod winery in Canaan.

Sabrina Aldridge, Christina Prescott-Walker and Angela Hills chat.

Our Jaguars departing the Boathouse eatery in Lakeville.

JCSNE's *Annual Holiday & Elections Dinner*

Sunday, November 22, 2020 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

il Monticello Restaurant
577 South Broad Street
Meriden, CT



Family Style Dinner ~

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Coffee ~ Tea

Due to COVID, the restaurant will be adhering to all state requirements.

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My Jaguar Experience

by Joseph DiGiovancarlo, JCSNE

For as long as I can remember, I have been drawn to fine automobiles. Posters of exotic cars were taped to the walls of my bedroom, which included Porsche, Lamborghini and Ferrari, but no Jags were to be found. My dream of owning an exotic car had been driven by television shows like Magnum PI and Miami Vice. Then reality stepped in. I drove away in my first car, a 1973 Buick Centurion. My dreams faded but did not disappear.

Meeting Dean

Many years and cars later, I was lucky enough to purchase a Mercedes Benz. Having just moved to Farmington with my new wife, Rebecca, I needed to find a local mechanic. I knew a friend of mine worked for Motorcars, Inc. and that they came highly recommended. The first time I brought my car in for service, Mike D'Avino gave me a tour of the facility and introduced me to Dean Cusano.



That was the first time in my life that I had seen that many E-types in one place! I was hooked. From that moment on, I had a new appreciation for a brand of automobile that was really never on my radar.

That Car Was Mine!

I do understand now that my younger self was more interested in flash than substance. Well, time had passed, and so did that Benz, but I still passed by Motorcars in my travels and one day, I saw my car (wasn't mine yet) sitting out front. I had to turn around and go back. It was a beautiful 2004 XK8, the color, the lines, the elegance of the Jaguar finally grabbed me!

Life Is Too Short

After some negotiations with my better half, we decided that life was too short to sit by and watch it go by from the sidelines. We purchased the car and have not had a single second thought about doing so. This car has enriched

our lives; it has made me realize how blessed I truly am every time I walk by it in my garage. It has given us the opportunity to share our good fortune with others by participating in the Dream Ride experience every year since we've own the XK8.

Finding JCSNE

I have also been lucky enough to find JCSNE while searching for things to do and places to go with our Jag. The Club has been a great resource for knowledge and good company. My first interaction with any of the members was at Moz-zicato's for a Jags and Java event. I knew no one, but was warmly welcomed by the crew that was present. People even got up and went outside to see my car, genuinely interested, taking pictures and asking questions. Something that I will never forget from that first meeting was Bob Aldridge saying to me and I quote, "You do know Jaguars are good luck, don't you?" I have to say, he was 100% correct. #



Joe and Rebecca



Ed. Note: We'd like to hear your story of finding your way into a Jaguar or several Jaguars. Everybody's story is different. Consider writing down your experiences, with details and even photos. If writing is not your bag, no problem. Just put down your thoughts as they come and we'll polish it up for you. Photos of yourself and your car welcome also.

Jags & Java October 17

If you don't get to Jags & Java, you can miss stuff. You miss great people, good conversation, beautiful Jags and once in a blue moon, a very unusual Jaguar that you rarely get to see. Seen here at Jags & Java is a wonderful right-hand drive C-type which belongs to Tony Amato.



To say it drew a lot of attention is an understatement.



Thank you to Tony for bringing this car. It was an amazing treat to see up close.

Right-hand drive is a challenge, indeed. The engine is a powerhouse of beauty.



BATTERIES, no spark, no fire.

Without a properly working battery, your car is dead. Some useful information on the care and maintenance of your car's battery.

CHARGERS If you have a hobby car that is put away each fall and brought out in the spring, you probably need a charger. The modern charger not only charges your battery, but will also tell the % of charge. You need this type of charger to charge a battery that is less than 100% charged. Also there are trickle chargers. They charge at a slow rate. If you have a trickle charger, it may take 24 hours to bring a battery to full charge. In addition, there are maintainers. A maintainer will hold a fully charged battery at full charge and not allow it to discharge. Some trickle chargers can go to a float charge and be used as a maintainer, but be sure they are designed that way. Even a trickle charger can boil the electrolyte out of a battery.

If you have an older non-computer car, you can bring the battery indoors for the winter. It is best to bring it to a full charge before storage. If you have a maintainer, it is a good idea to use it. If you have a more modern car, it needs to be on a maintainer. If you take the battery out, you will lose your station presets on your radio and other systems.

During the cold snap in February, one of our everyday cars wouldn't start if the temp was below 10 degrees. A full charge and battery test told me that the battery was just barely in the good range. It was a series 26 battery. Upon checking batteries for the car, I discovered that the car should have had a series 35 battery. It is a slightly larger battery and more powerful. Even though the 26 battery tested good, it couldn't cope with the colder temps.

When you buy a new battery, the temptation is to put it in and go. I put mine on the smart charger and it had only 80% charge. A couple of hours and it was at 100%. Don't start off with a short charge.

Many years ago, our Club friend and master Jag mechanic Al Garz gave a great bit of battery advice. He said it takes about 80% of your battery power to crank over that big XK 6 cylinder engine. That leaves only 20% to fire the ignition. If your battery is only at 80%, it may not be able to start the car. Modern cars have more electrical stuff working and so the same rule may apply.

Start with the basics. Check the electrolyte level in the battery if it is not maintenance free. The plates you see when you look in the hole need to be covered. Use distilled or filtered water. Next clean the cable connections. Remove the negative cable first and then the positive. Battery has a plus or minus stamped into the case near the terminal. Clean with a wire brush or sandpaper. Make sure the battery has a full charge. Do not jump start and drive to charge the battery. It won't get enough charge and you will have the same problems over again.

An older friend told me that his car didn't seem to stay charged and the battery was only a year old. He jumped it and drove around for a couple of hours and the next day it wouldn't start again. I had him bring it over and we put the charger on it. It was at 30%. It took 4 hours for it to get to 100%. It has been a month and a half and it still fires right up.

So keep your battery connections clean, electrolyte topped up and if it's stored, on a maintainer. In this super cold weather, everything needs to be at 100%.

Happy Jaguaring, Bob

Editor's Note

This is an article that Bob Aldridge wrote only a few years back to share his experiences with the behavior of batteries during winter. If you are not aware of battery maintainers (which is not a trickle charger), there is good advice here to get your batteries on all cars through the winter cold. (Bob was a club member for 45 years and passed away a year ago November.)

NOMINATIONS

Not too late to become a candidate for
Office. Elections at Nov. Dinner Mtg.

The positions are:

President

1st Vice President (indoor events)

2nd Vice President (outdoor events)

Secretary

Treasurer

Contact Barb Gelinas 860-995-2830 or
Alta Aldridge 860 605-3230

Welcome !

New Members

John D. Butler
Warwick, RI
1994 XK120C
OTS / C-type

Alan C. Habbe
Gales Ferry, CT
1966 E-type Ser. 1 FHC
1961 Mk2 3.8 Saloon
1969 E-type Ser. 2 DHC

Brian Harkins, Bristol, RI

To join meetings on Zoom, register on jcsne.org
for that date. Watch email and website for events.

Helpful Hint — Cleaning Car Windows

Don't you just hate cleaning windows? OK, you're pretty careful about the glass surfaces on your show car, but your everyday car. Hmm. Not so much. Part of the problem is assuming uncomfortable body positions to reach the inside surfaces of the glass. Another part is gaining effective access to those awkward corners. One helpful tool is made by **Invisible Glass**.

Their "Reach and Clean" tool is about 18" long and is hinged. The working surface is a padded triangle about 8x6x8 inches. Most auto parts or large retail stores stock them at prices ranging from \$12-\$16.

It is probably unnecessary, but I cover part of my car's dashboard with a sheet or two of newspaper, then spritz the glass with my favorite window cleaning fluid, then use the tool to achieve clear haze-free glass. -Bob Brown



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CARS IN SCALE

BBURAGO's JAGUAR E-TYPE

by Ed Rubacha

In the mid-1970s the higher-quality scale model car market changed with the arrival in the USA of the Italian toy company Bburago. They produced model cars in a variety of scales at modest prices. Discount and toy stores stocked their 1:18th scale examples in the \$15-\$20 price range. Bburago's success sparked price competition in the marketplace from other brands who used Asian suppliers. By 2005 the company was in financial trouble and was later taken over by rival Maisto.

The accompanying photos shows examples of Jaguar Series 1 E-types OTS AND FHC by Bburago. A variety of colors have been available, the most common have been red, green and silver. Some were offered in racing livery in assorted colors, including black. Both Target and Amazon list models in the \$50-\$60 price range. Sites like eBay provide many examples, priced in the \$10-\$15-\$80 range, depending condition and details.

The white example shown is a Bburago OTS with hardtop in place repainted and enhanced with "lightweight" details provided by the company Provence Moulage. So far as I can tell, these kits are no longer available for sale. However, there is a similarly pre-sented Cunningham E-type currently offered by Paragon in the \$65-\$85 range. Cult offers a 1:18 lightweight, low-drag coupe around \$200.

Editor's Note: Really well-done scale models cars can be a boost to your enjoyment of Jaguars (or other marques) when you know the real thing is a pipe dream. In the higher quality models, you get incredible details that make you want to hop in and drive it away! You can get a great history of Jaguar in models, from very early (SS100) to later (XJS or X-type). Explore it this winter. . .



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Thinking Out Loud . . .

-Alta

November...December...2021

I think many of us are counting down the rest of this year in that way. We CANNOT wait for it to be over. Of course, you do know it won't be different on January 1st or 2nd or 30th. I'm hoping with all my heart that it WILL be different by May or June. Maybe we'll have a vaccine to conquer COVID-19 or we'll have more medicines that will keep people from dying of the virus. It's been a really, really tough year on so many fronts and for so many reasons, beyond trying to stay well.

Winter is coming. Last winter, we didn't get much snow up here in the Northwest Hills. Now I hear there's a possibility of snow by Friday of this weekend! How much, they haven't said, so far.

All in all, we're probably going to be well sequestered at home this winter. Some are working at home, some cannot get out at all and others just plain don't know what to do with themselves. So it's a time for us to be creative, innovative, think outside the box and take a leap of faith. Meaning what? That we have to use this time to do or try something we've always said to ourselves, when I have the time, I'm going to! Well, instead of looking at this as a drag, look at it as an opportunity to really get something you've always wanted to do: accomplished!

Maybe it's something as simple as I really have wanted to get my garage or workshop

really organized, know where every tool is and have enough space to work on my projects. Maybe I need more cabinets or better shelving, or better lighting. I can take the time to plan it, according to the kind of projects I like to work on. And then I can get to work and make it happen, not overnight but maybe by the time winter ends.

Maybe I've always thought about writing a book; it's been lurking in my mind. I have time to really assess what I want to write about, get my writing area organized, do some research, outline my project and then, go for it!

How about scale model cars? Do I want to try a kit and see if I can put one together, paint it, put on decals. Or do I want to see what's out there in really good quality model Jaguars, with good detail and perhaps even a copy of the Jaguar I drive. Start a small collection.

There's always that room in the house that I'm not happy with and want to do over. Maybe from scratch, new paint, etc. or just some new furniture because after 20 years, it's time for something different that will really perk me up.

When is the last time you did a jigaw puzzle? For some, it's been years and years. Others, enjoy doing them frequently. If you haven't done one for quite some time, you will be astounded at the topics that are covered and the

the stunning beauty of some of these puzzles. A puzzle is also something that others in the house can help you work on and you can enjoy this time together.

For other together times, get out some or purchase some board games. There are the tried and true ones that have been around for ages that never cease being fun. But there are new ones out now and something for all ages.

This is also a time over a long winter that is confining that we have time to really think of others. We can think of those that are not able to get out. Offer to do some grocery shopping for them, or simply call them to chat for a bit and let them know you are thinking of them. A phone call can make a world of difference to someone whether they are shut in or not. Winter is a time when you can shovel someone's sidewalk or bring in their mail. With today's technology, you can keep in touch by phone, email, Zoom, Facebook. Do that; it will make someone's day.

Our world has changed, and changed dramatically from what we knew. Some of it will come back. But other parts that we were used to may never come back. It's a time when we need to stick together, help each other out, take the time to chat with someone, ask them how they are doing. It's a time for us to be kind to one another. Think the best of someone, even a stranger, before you think the worst.

-alta

FOR SALE—Calling all Car Collectors: Bill Longstreet is downsizing his huge collection of automobilia. He has a substantial collection of sports car items, heavy on but not limited to Jaguars. Many dealer showroom items, banners, signs, etc. 16 framed 20x30 color photographs of cars I have owned. Jaguar figurines, about 20 scale models most 1:18, including a DOEPKE early 50s XK120 in excellent condition, unopened XKE model kit, racing related flags, many signs. Some 50 toys cars. And more. Everything must go, everything negotiable. Call to inquire: Bill Longstreet, Avon, CT 860-675-4966 or 869-380-7501.

HOLIDAYS WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR - IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE FAMILY GET TOGETHERS.

BUT HOWEVER IT WORKS OUT, THERE ARE WAYS TO SHARE YOUR LOVE FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS.

COVID HAS ROBBED US OF MUCH. LET IT NOT ROB YOU OF THE BLESSINGS OF FAMILY.

Harold Kritzman
Jaguar Club of Southern New England
P.O. Box 310602
Newington, CT 06131

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