# DESERT CHAT



# IT'S "BEAR—TIME" THROUGH THE SALT RIVER CANYON



March/April 2023 Newsletter

Jaguar Club of Central Arizona

www.JCCA.CLUB

Picture: Courtesy of AZ Fish & Game Dept.

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#### JOIN JCCA

#### Go to our website jcca.club



\$80/yr. includes JCCA benefits, bi-monthly newsletter, JCNA bimonthly magazine and benefits.

JCCA Events & Camaraderie

#### JCNA membership and clubs benefits offered.

#### **MEMBERS**

Score keeping for Concours, Slalom, Rally, for those clubs that participate.

Bi-monthly magazine, technical articles, history, features, club doings along with Classified Ads in JJ, JCNA Website, Club Newsletters and Club Websites.

A common communications network for intraclub activities, calendar of events with historical and technical information library access.

JCNA Tech Hot Line is just a phone call away. Access to Coventry Foundation "JAGUAR TOOL LENDING PROGRAM"

JLR NEW CAR PURCHASE discount program (currently discontinued due to supply)

5% discount on collector automobile insurance (HAGERTY).

New JAGUAR owner membership referrals, PASSPORT TO SERVICE.

Book and Gift Store inventory in the JCNA Store

Authenticity Services for everyone through the Coventry Foundation

An excuse to bring like-minded good people together

#### **NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CLUB**

Blanket insurance for Club Events and all Club Officers and Directors The trophy awards program for Concours, Rally, Slalom, Club Newsletter, Service Awards.

Awards for individuals/clubs outstanding in several categories.

Automobile Advertisers resources in the JAGUAR JOURNAL

North American and Regional hosted events North American inter-club networking

Officers: Jeff Gennaro, President

Wayne Martin, Vice President

Kim Morgan, Secretary

**Robert Morgan, Treasurer** 

Rosemary Price, JPP

Dr. Marj Schafer, Newsletter Editor

Michael Sbraga Director

Larry Schafer, ESQ, Legal Advisor, NL Ed., Writer

Jim Vranich, Director

Tim Martin, Photographer, Cindy Rock, Reporter

Emeriti Directors: Dennis Eynon. JCCA & JCNA PP; Phil Parker, JAGIN & JCCA PP





Jeff Gennaro President

- As the world slowed down for the pandemic, I thought about how our club would get through shutdowns, masks, 6' feet spacing icons, and dining inside or out. I thought about what this club needs, resilience, fortitude, persistence, and creativity. We never shut down, we got through it, but we are entering a new and different world for Jaguar owners. Dennis Eynon, former JCNA President, and I as the JCCA delegates attended the JCNA Annual General Meeting, on March 11, 2023, near San Francisco. While these weekend affairs are always mixed with business meetings, speakers, awards banquet, car shows, fun activities, and Jaguar camaraderie, there was a sensitivity that we were entering a new world for Jaguar Clubs. Jaguar International speakers were a bit hesitant about the future of the brand.
- The following is a quick overview of discussion topics:
- Implement a Five-Year Financial Plan to return JCNA to sustainable financial health. (First started in 2019 with more review of current economic changes.)
- Review of Major Cost Increases Jaguar Journal & Management higher than earlier projected. Solutions: Increase Advertising Sales, decrease the quality of paper/print, increase dues, or explore electronic vs. paper options.
- Nominating Committee Report: President, John Boswell (WJCL), Vice President, Mark Mayuga (JOCLA), Vice President, J.J. Keig (JOANA)
- Concours Program Status Report: Review of the 35 Concours held in 2022 produced 20 items for discussion. (For details see JCNA online report) In line with the Concours Program Status Report, the Jaguar Concours Rules Committee presented an Activity Summary related to 2. a: Rule Book Administrative Changes, Clarifications, Rewrite and Additions. 2b: Judges Test, 2c: and Chief Judge's Test. New work on the 2024 Judge's Rules Book started. What this boils down to JCCA needs to develop a new cadre of certified judges for our coming concours. (For details, see JCNA 2023 Rule Book Synopsis, JCNA Rule Rook 2023 Edition).
- JCNA 2023 Social Media Report: Excellent communication method to existing and prospective members. No costs, great way to generate new members. JCNA Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube are all connected for club use.

 JCCA'S NEW SOCIAL MEDIA GURU JOLENE HARRISON, HAS JUST CONNECTED US. TRY US OUT: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/jaguarclubofcentralarizona?">https://www.facebook.com/jaguarclubofcentralarizona?</a>
 mibextid=LQQJ4d Or go to JCCA webpage, and click on one of the SM icons.

See You At the BEAR—Jeff



# Michael Sbraga Membership Coordinator

Welcome Jaguar Club Central Arizona (JCCA) Member Aficionados to the Desert Chat March-April 2023 Edition. Our current membership is 84 Active Members and 4 Associate Members. Our ICCA events are going strong with our monthly "Drive & Dine" events, as well as our monthly "Jags & Java" (J&J) events. Our Bi-Monthly J&J at the Chandler Jaguar Land Rover Dealership is discontinued due to the dealership no longer being a Jaguar dealer. However the Bi -Monthly J&J at the Arrowhead Jaguar Land Rover Dealership is continuing. The J&J's are an excellent way to stay in touch with your Jaguar friends and to look at the beautiful Jaguars of your fellow JCCA Members as well as the new Land Rovers and pre-owned Jaguars & Land Rovers at the dealership. Remember: you never know just what may follow you home. Discussion at the AGM noted a desire to explore JCNA & local club membership with Land Rover.

Look at our JCCA website to get the dates for the Jags & Java events and the list of upcoming events. **Registration in currently open, but not for long, for the 2023 BEAR, closes April 12.** If you have never been on a BEAR event, you have to sign up.

If you know of anyone owning a Jaguar and not belonging to JCCA, please tell them about our Club and ask them to join. The yearly dues of \$80.00 pay both the JCCA and JCNA Memberships.

Don't forget to become involved with JCCA. We can always use more help in planning and executing our events. The more involved you are, the better the events. Please provide me with any ideas you think you would like to see. Contact me at <a href="mailto:membership@jcca.club">membership@jcca.club</a> or 480-560-3057.

NOTE: Still needing members who can help JCCA with their website and Newsletter. Anyone experienced with Wild Apricot, please come forward.

Welcome New Members: Mike Martin, Eric Billeter, John-Rob Funk, and Bryan Callahan.

Stay well my Jaguar Aficionados!

# **ICCA 2023 CALENDAR**

<u>Jaguar Club of Central Arizona</u>

Highlights: JCCA will join other partner clubs for additional activities.

#### **April**

No April Jags & Java: Farewell to East Valley J & Js. at the Chandler Dealership. They will no longer sell Jaguars. JCCA looking for a new venue.

There are a few spots left for the April 22-23 Bear Drive to the East. Register by April 12.



4/22 For those not on the BEAR Run sign up for Southwest Regional Judges School: ZOOM call with Mike Mayuga, 909-772-1075.

**4/29 Viper Fund-Raiser** for St. Vincent De Paul; Mel Martin Museum. 9:00 a.m.-1 p.m. (See page 6)

#### May

#### **Starting in the Spring**

Judges' Training on specific Jag Marques: Sites @ different experts' shops w/ real cars. Hands –On and digital trainings in prep for JCCA Nov. Concours & Car Show.

5/11 Visit to Mike Lovell's exclusive Motor Sports
Warehouse. Limit 35 guests.
No host dinner following at Keegan's on Camelback & 32nd St.

(See pg. 7)

**5/13** Jags & Java, 10 a.m. Arrowhead JLR Dealership

5/18 JCCA Drive & Dine Event: Dinner at Mountain View Pub (MVP) - Stage Coach Village, 7033 E. Cave Creek Rd., Cave Creek, AZ 85331. Festivities began at 5 p.m. Great time for dining outside and enjoying the northern mountain views from MVP's terrace. RSVP, May 8.

#### **SUMMER**

7/15—Escape with the "Zonies" to San Diego Jaguar Club's Concours at Spanish Landing.

#### **Fall**

9/2023 JCCA's Southern AZ Wine Tour—Get in the mood for another adventure through wine country.

Drive to new wineries, more than tasting rooms. Hotel performances and awards.

**September/October**: join JCCA's new Ambassador Group for out of state drives to sanctioned Concours. Support members wanting regional & national points.

**9/29,30, Oct 1,** the scenic Inland Empire Jag Club Concours in the mountains above Palm Springs.

**10/29** JCNA's International Jaguar Festival—Santa Barbara, CA



**11/11** Jaguar Club of Southern AZ Concours, La Encanta Plaza, Tucson, AZ

Nov./Dec: JCCA Concours & Car Show; JCCA's AGM Party - Election Results





# Don't Miss this! REGISTER...By April 12, A FEW SPACES LEFT

## Run To the East

#### **April 22nd and 23rd, 2023**



The run goes East from Riverview Center in Mesa and reaches its destination at the Rustic Hon Dah Resort in Pinetop with several interesting stops along the way. Experience the beautiful drive through the low desert, climbing through the Salt River Canyon curves into the majestic pines of the high country through Snowflake. Enjoy several stops along the way with lunch served at the vintage Cattlemen's restaurant in Show Low and a reception and banquet later in the evening. It is sure to be a great experience.

- 2023 BEAR Tour Book
- 2 Event Name Badges
- Sponsor event gift Commemorative BEAR Run Light Pen / BEAR Key Fob
- Coffee / pastry at Tour Registration Riverview Center Dobson and 202.
- BEAR Logo Door sign
- Lunch at Cattleman's Show Low
- Mid day Snack Bag
- 2 Tickets to the BEAR Reception / Dinner at the Hon Dah Resort in Pinetop.
- 2 Event Ball Caps
- Tour photo with your car.
- 2 Sunday breakfasts included with Saturday Night Hotel stay King or Double Bedded room for 2 guests as available.
- Overnight Free Event Specific Parking Area
- Charity Raffle Prize Baskets Proceeds donated to Arizona Compassion in Action

Please arrive Saturday by 7:00 - 7:30 am so you can sign in, pick up your Tour Book and goodies. Tour Cost Per Vehicle \$455.00. Up to 2 attendees. Registration is now Open



ARIZONA VIPER CLUB PRESENTS

CANS-N-CARS

A CAR SHOW BENEFITING ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

SATURDAY APRIL 29TH | 9:00AM — 1:00PM MARTIN AUTO MUSEUM - 4320 W THUNDERBIRD RD, GLENDALE, AZ 85306

**GENERAL ADMISSION: 5 CANS PER PERSON** 

JOIN THIS FAMILY-FUN GIVEBACK EVENT BRINGING TOGETHER CAR ENTHUSIASTS FOR A GREAT CAUSE. WE ARE COLLECTING CANNED GOODS AT THE DOOR FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN NEED. IF YOU HAVE A CAR OR CARS TO ENTER IN THE SHOW, WE WOULD LIKE TO SAVE YOU A SPOT IN OUR LOT. PLEASE REGISTER YOUR WHEELS ON OUR WEBSITE.

## STVINCENTDEPAUL.NET/CANSNCARS





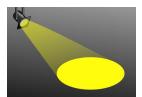


# May 11, 4-6 p.m. Join JCCA for a limited spaces viewing of Mike Lovell's Arcadia garage showing his beloved automotive collection

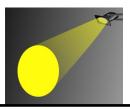


The 10,000-square-foot garage is as functional as it is stylish. The dark gray walls and polished black concrete flooring lend an industrial vibe. The centerpiece of the room is a turntable that showcases Mike's 1965 Shelby Cobra. "This is a dream," he says. "Other than my family, it's all I need in life—a bedroom, a kitchen, a bathroom and this garage, with a hangout space." (As seen in Phoenix Home+Garden June 7, 2021 Magazine; https://www.phgmag.com/inside-an-arcadia-car-collectors-over-the-top-dream-garage)

(Event Coordinator—Mike Sbraga, Register soon, don't be left out. No host dinner following at Keegan's Grill on Camelback & 32nd Street, 7 p.m.)



## Membership Spotlight



#### **JOLINE & GARY HARRISON**



Hello, we are Gary and Joline Harrison. We are new members to the Jaguar Club of Central Arizona and residents of Coolidge, Arizona. Prior to moving and living in Arizona, we lived in Monument, Colorado. Both of us moved to Colorado with our families in 1977 and lived there until August 2021. The question we always get asked is how did you meet? The answer is: "Joline's Dad". Gary worked as a truck driver for my Dad who brought Gary home to fix his car. My Dad wasn't mechanical by any means and fortunately, Gary was and is very mechanical. Gary was figuring out the problem with my Dad's car when I got home from a day of shopping with my friends. My Dad introduced us, and we have been together pretty much ever since. We won't provide you with any more details about the day we met but trust us when we say, "Joline was embarrassed even 2 years after we were married which was almost 4 years after we met".

Prior to Gary retiring, he drove a truck over the road for many years and has been in all 48 contiguous states. Now you are probably thinking wow – he has been to a lot of places and driving a truck allows you to see the sites. The truth of the matter is that trucking is a tough industry. Even though you are in 5 states in one day the view is primarily the two-lane road, interstate highway or the truck stop fueling lane. I was able to go with Gary in one of the 18-wheelers he drove the summer of 1989 when he was moving furniture. I was his furniture "lumper" for the summer.

Everyone thought we would come back married but much to their surprise we waited another 9 months before we tied the knot. Gary grew up in Alaska and lived there until his family moved to Colorado. He lived in a place called Galena which is very remote and not easily accessed.

Gary and his family were able to fish and hunt for their meat supply as a regular grocery store was not something that was close by. Gary's Mom even caught a 6-foot Northern pike. We are going to Alaska via Princess Cruise Lines this spring for our 33<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary. We can't wait!

I am still working but I get to work from home. I have been employed by Optum since 2017 and work in the pharmacy division. Prior to Optum I worked for another pharmacy company and have been in the healthcare industry for 28 years. I love the pharmacy industry as it is always changing, and I learn something new every day. Prior to living in Colorado, I grew up in Seattle, WA and Orange County, CA. My greatest memories of growing up are those where I spent the summers on Hood Canal with my grandparents at their home. My Grandpa and I would go fishing, trap Dungeness crabs and dig for clams. I also enjoyed camping with my parents and brother in the mountains at my parents' property. It was camping in the rough but some of the best memories ever, especially when I learned how to drive on the roads where the property was located.

Our biggest pride and joy is our son, Ryan. Ryan graduated in May 2021 and that is part of the reason why we decided to sell our house in Colorado and move to Arizona. We decided that a big 3-story house was too much for the three of us and too big for just the two of us. Ryan is a recent Marine Boot Camp graduate and Marine Infantry School graduate. He is at Camp Johnson in North Carolina waiting to start his Military Occupational Specialty schooling in May. We are very proud of him and his commitment to his Marine Corp journey. It wasn't an easy road for him to get to Marine Boot Camp, but he overcame the obstacles he encountered and made it. We do miss him being at home and seeing him every day but thank goodness for cell phones with Face Time.

Now to finish our story on how we got involved with the Jaguar Club of Central Arizona. In August of 2022, we took my then car to the dealership to have the oil changed when we spotted "Blaze". Blaze was sitting on the corner of the dealership's lot for everyone to see. We walked around her and looked inside. (Continued next page)

The Sales Rep asked us if we wanted to take her for a drive. I knew immediately that if I took Blaze for a drive, I would fall in love with her, so I told him "No, thank you!!" A few days later we decided to stop by the dealership for a test drive. Fortunately, (we thought) Blaze had a hold on her and was sold. Whew - safe and out of trouble!! Of course, the dealership took my name, phone number and e-mail address and said they would get in touch if anything changed. My phone rang a few days later - Blaze was available. We went for a test drive and fell in love but didn't have time to work on our deal that day but put a deposit down to hold her. Over the next day and a half, I talked myself out of Blaze and got my deposit back. The next day, Gary had been running errands and drove by the dealership. He said that there were puddles under the headlights because Blaze was crying and wanted us to buy her. The following day, I finished work up early as I had had a tough day and told Gary we needed to go shopping. He couldn't figure out why we needed to go to the grocery store when we had gone over the weekend. I told him "not that kind of shopping". He got a big smile on his face and the rest is history. Blaze moved into the Harrison garage!! Blaze is a 2014 F-Type with a V8 Supercharged 495 HP engine. She is a two-seater convertible. As a side note, before moving to Arizona, I always said I would love to have a two-seater convertible and now we have Blaze. We found the Jaguar Club of Central Arizona in the owner's manual and are sure glad we did. Meeting all the members and participating in all the activities has been great fun. We look forward to more adventures in 2023!!



(BLAZE) First time out, won an award at

the 2023 Highland Games

(Editor's Note: Joline has volunteered to become our JCCA Social Media Guru. Contact her for info @ jharrison0526@outlook.com)



# MEMBERSHIP SPOT LIGHT GILBERT & MOLLY OPPERMAN

The XJS was the featured car at the February Jags & Java, held at the XJS Chandler Dealership.



All were intrigued when a Jaguar masked driver appeared behind the wheel of a XJS racing green marque complete with an encrusted gold leaper and strutting an "Aruba" license plate. Here is the backstory from its owners, the Oppermans.

"While at a Kruse Auto Auction outside of Auburn, Indiana in 1993, I spotted this beautiful 1990 British racing green Jaguar XJS. Though it did not meet the owner's reserve at the auction; I eventually negotiated a sale. The car had 28000-29000 miles on the speedometer.

Two days after getting the car home, I pulled out on Route 30 near Valparaiso, Indiana, went about 1/2 to 3/4 miles; when I got pulled over by a very young trooper. His first words were, "boy is that a fast looking car". I had my first speeding ticket!

The car is an original except for brakes, hoses, filters, etc. It has 41000 miles and has been trouble free. I have never had it over 140 MPH, that's when my wife, Molly, woke up from her nap and asked, "just how fast are you going?" the V12 engine is by far the smoothest running I have ever driven.

I have a degree from Purdue University in Biochemistry. After 22 years in the chemical industry, Molly and I became Taco Bell Franchisees. We eventually had 19 units. After 38 years we retired to enjoy the good life in Sunny Arizona."

(Ed. Note:, OK, Opperman's, we have to see you out an about again to get the "rest of the story" regarding your car's accouterments. Photo by Tim Martin) Jaguar Life — By Phil & Nancy Parker
British Wheels at the Caledonian Society's
Phoenix Scottish Games—March 4, 2023



Comments from Jag Participants: "Wow, why have we never been to this event?" "Oh, I had forgotten how much fun it is to show your car and experience "Scottish For A Day." "My car won, it's the first time we showed it!" "I knew I was Scottish, I am joining a clan."

It is hard to sum up this international day with so much going on: Great food, whiskey, Guinness, Scots on stilts, games with 200+lbs. participants using pitch forks and poles, pipe and drum bands, dancers, a Queens Court, Wolfhounds, heritage tracking and so much you couldn't get around to it all.

Along with Minis, Triumphs, Rolls Royce and several unique British theme cars, eleven JCCA members attended with eight JCCA cars entered. Larry's Schafer's e-type didn't make it, leaking gas. Members provided a Jaguar group with one member, Dave Champion, JCCA's true "Brit," driving a heritage ROVER car.





Dave Olsen had the foresight to signup while traveling in Europe. He won 1st Place in the Jaguar XJS Class.





This was the place to be for car trophies: 6 of our 7 cars won in their different categories: Harrisons (F-Type), Pearcy (XK Coupe), Vranich (XJS convertible), Parker (X8 Coupe), Olsen (XJS convertible), Champion (Rover Vitesse).







### 1993 Jaguar XJS Convertible, 4.0 Liter, 5-speed by Jim Vranich









The Jags & Java February 2023 meet up was bitter sweet as our members displayed their XJS marques. Chandler JLR Dealership announced it closing of the Jaguar brand leaving JCCA to find another venue for our bi-monthly eastside Jags and Java meets. Over 27 people attended to see the E-Type's successor.

Jaguar in the mid 1970s had a problem: how to follow the E-type. Jaguar knew that the icon's successor had to be a success. The company needed a hit; it was in difficulty, racked by industrial disputes and with a growing reputation for producing attractive but poorly built, unreliable cars. Work had begun on the E-type replacement in 1965, ten years before the eventual unveiling of its successor, and the design went through many conceptual changes before the final clay model was produced.

The E-type had a loyal and enthusiastic following. But by the end of its life, it was being overtaken by rivals of more advance design. And so Jaguar decided that it would be folly simply to create another E-type. Instead it fixed its sights on the luxury tourer market already occupied by Aston Martin, Porsche and Ferrari. Jaguar, in declining financial health, badly needed the kind of profit that this lucrative market generated.

Jaguar enthusiasts and the press were looking forward to the company's solution to its problems, but when the XJ-S first appeared before the public at the Frankfurt Motor Show in 1975, the response was one of disappointment. This was not what they had been expecting. There were no graceful E-type curves, but a boxy, angular body that shared none of the design characteristics of the previous car. Journalists speculated that this would be the shortest-lived Jaguar in the company's history. As it turned out, Jaguar had produced a car that would go on to outsell the E-type by far: the XJ-S became one of the most successful cars that Jaguar ever built. (1)

This 1993 Jaguar XJS was purchased May 2016 in Muskegon, Michigan. I am the fourth owner. Originally purchased in Connecticut, the car also lived in New York. Luckily undercoating helped this car survive. Its 4.0-liter engine produces 237 horsepower and uses 10.5 quarts of oil with an oil filter change. Original price was approximately \$67,500. The 17" chrome wheels are from a 1995 -1997 Jaguar XJR6 installed by the second owner.

Total production for the XJS was 115,300 units. Final production was April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1996. Though titled as a 1993 car, this XJS was built July 1, 1992 and shipped in September. In 1992, Jaguar's new owner, Ford (yes, those guys from Detroit) decided a makeover was required to maintain the XJS' place in the market and suit the new decade. This makeover is known as the "Facelift" and thus, 1992 and later Jaguar XJS are known as Facelift models. Total facelift production was 27,802. (2) Of those 13,864 were 4.0-liter convertibles. (1,2)

This Kingfisher Blue Metallic (HFE) convertible with Magnolia (AEM) Interior is a rare example. Most XJS were equipped with an automatic transmission. Many sported Jaguars' beautiful and powerful (though thirsty) V-12. Five speeds were an option in the USA in 1993 and 1994. In 1993, 25 XJS coupes and 61 convertibles were shipped here with Gertrag 5-speed transmissions. So this is 1 of 61 5-speed convertibles shipped to the USA in 1993. (3) Of the many manual transmissions I have driven, this Gertrag 5-speed attached to the DOHC 4.0-liter Jaguar 6 cylinder is the smoothest I have ever shifted.

Jaguar The Iconic models that define the marque, Colin Salter & Paul Walton

Jaguar All The Cars Fourth Edition, Nigel Thorley

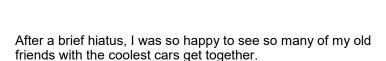
Letter 4/13/2016 from Mike Cook, Jaguar Daimler Trust

### Jaguar Life — Jags & Java

By Cindy Rock

2nd Saturday of each month

March 11, 2023 Arrowhead Dealership



Mike Sbraga dazzled us with decadently delicious pastries and, if memory serves, some gorgeous, ripe fruit to accompany the serve -yourself-like-a-barista coffee bar provided by the dealership with easy access from the 101 Loop at the Beardsley exit!

I was engaged in some edifying conversation about Jaguars - and the best ways to make French toast - with new members, beginning with Peter and then with his dad and brother, Eric and Eli! It is always nice to welcome new friends, especially with interests and information about plans involving Jaguars!

I chatted in the parking lot with a potential new friend driving his shiny, recent acquisition ("F-Type?). I am embarrassed to admit I can't recall if that was the model. This is our Jags & Java Treasure Hunt. His name vaporized right along with my ID of the model.- so if you are reading this, please let us know the next time we get together!

I look forward to seeing more of you at our next "meet up" in the Valley of the Sun!

#### Happy Driving! Cindy





Editor's Note: We wish to thank the Penske team at Chandler Jaguar for their years of supporting JCCA and their hosting our Jags and Java. Penske is moving the Jaguar Brand to their North Scottsdale Dealership and will no longer provide us with a Southeast Jags and Java venue.

Watch your e-mails and website for our new J & J site.



Our own JCCA Ian Fleming's neighbor, Charles Shoemaker, who is not a member yet displayed his C-Type replica. OK Charles, with all of the OOs and Ahs, it is time to become a member!

Photos: R. Morgan, M. Sbraga



## Treserving the Car—April, National Car Care Month Tips from Haggarty

Submitted by: Rosemary Price, JCCA Past Pres.

# **Sweating the Details: 10** car cleaning mistakes to

avoid Matt Fink, Haggarty Magazine, 01 April 2023

No fooling around, April means National Car Care Month! Whether you're a seasoned pro, or someone like me who has committed many of the below errors, it's easy to overlook best practices when washing and detailing your car. Now that spring is upon us and great driving weather is ahead, I'll bet you want your car looking and feeling its best. Here are 10 common car cleaning mistakes to avoid as you take your beloved machine out of hibernation.

#### #1 Don't: Leave wax on too long (or wipe it It may seem counterintuitive, but I'm a believer in off too soon!)

How long you should leave wax on a car before you that's done, start at the top of the car and work your wipe it off? It's 1-2 minutes... if it's Ammo Skin De- way down. <u>fense</u>. However, if you are using <u>Griot's Garage Ce-</u> If you wait to do the wheels as the final step, all the ramic 3-In-1 Wax, you need to let it sit for 12-24 caked-on brake dust and dirt you are spraying away hours before wiping off. Wait what? Then there's from wheels/tires can get on the nice clean paint that Chemical Guys Butter Wet Wax, which should be you just finished. Am I the only one who doesn't like wiped off immediately.

ent, so the move here is to follow the instructions to You do not want to soil a mitt or microfiber and then get optimal results. Some need to dry to a haze. Others apply it directly to the body. will leave streaks if you don't wipe them off immediately. Just keep in mind that with any wax, if you Don't: Use one towel for all tasks leave it on the longer than directed, expect to leave Today is the day! Get your car cleaning towels orgastreaks.

#### #2 Don't: Go overboard with the product

Whether it is wax or interior protectant, less is best! Especially when it comes to paint protection, using too much wax offers no additional benefit and just makes removing it that much more difficult. That also applies to mixing a concentrate product, so don't go too strong. Using too strong of a window cleaner, for instance, leads to more visible streaks. wipe down on paint the next week.

#### #3 Don't: Leave bugs or bird dropping on your paint

Maybe it's revenge, but bugs can damage the paint long after they hit the car. The little splattered insects stuck on your bumper can contain acidic substances. As insect remains decompose, they produce enzymes intended to break down the carcass. These enzymes also break down automotive clear coat and, eventually, paint. It can result in permanent etching. They're also gross.

Bird droppings, too, are both gross and acidic enough to penetrate your clear coat and leaving a lasting stain. The fix here is easy: Grab a spray detailer and wipe off bugs and bird poop when you see it on your car. Don't wait!

#### #4 Don't: Wash the wheels last

washing your wheels/tires/wheel wells *first*. Once

to repeat my work?

On that note, it's best to use a separate wash mitt or There's no hard and fast rule here. Each wax is differ- brush when you do the wheels/tires/wheel wells first.

Color coding can help a lot here. Towels used for cleaning windows should be all one color, so they are never mistakenly used for anything else. Interior protectant towels, a different color. Towels, you wipe the paint with? That's right, a third color.

Using a towel that previously had Armor All on it to clean a window will lead to streaks (even if it's been washed). A towel that applied leather protectant one week can't be expected to do perform a clean final wipe down on paint the next week.

# #6 Don't: Forget to clean the tires before dressing

Think about it: Before a big night out, most people shower before getting dressed. You need to clean or degrease tires *before* applying tire shine. Otherwise the dressing can't absorb into the tire as well, causing it to fling off the next time you drive—potentially onto your paint.

#### #7 Don't: Damage your infotainment screen

Is there a new car on the market that doesn't come with a big infotainment screen dominating the dash? These screens can be very vulnerable to damage. They tend to pick up fingerprints, smudges, and germs, and it can be tempting to reach for a Lysol wipe to clean them off. Don't do it! Household cleaners like wipes or Windex can damage your infotainment screen; many screens come with an antireflective coating from the factory that will be destroyed by these products. Scratches are also common, especially if you use a plastic vacuum attachment to run over the screen. (Soft attachments made for dashes and screens, however, do exist.) A clean microfiber cloth is the best when it comes to cleaning your screens, along with a little automotive window cleaner added if needed. If even that seems risky, you can always dilute the cleaner with a bit of water.

## #8 Don't: Add fabric softener to your cleaning towels

Pretty self-explanatory here. Any dryer sheets or fabric softener added to the wash with your towels makes them smell like rainbows, but causes them to leave streaks on paint and windows the next time they are used. Now you know.

## #9 Don't: Use a Magic Eraser to clean your car

Magic Erasers are great at removing dirt and grime from surfaces. But they should stay **far away** from most parts of your car. Made from melamine foam, a type of abrasive material, a Magic Eraser removes not only dirt but also some of the protective coatings on your car's surfaces. Vulnerable finishes like wax or even the clear coat on the paint are at risk with a Magic Eraser—even the tint on your windows. There is a drying effect to this product, as well, which can strip away the natural oils from your car's paint, interior plastics, and leather seats, leaving them looking dull. I'm sure there are some safe areas they can be used, but in general I keep them away from my car.

#### #10 Don't: Wash your car with dish soap

This is the most common mistake I see people make. Dish soap is engineered specifically to break down and remove grease, so it will strip any wax or paint sealant from surfaces on your car. Although it gets the car "clean", dish soap will cause more harm than good and can even dull paint. Dedicated car cleaning soap, for example is designed to be effective and safe on automotive finishes. Plus, it's really affordable! Using products that aren't designed for cars can do damage and end up costing you significantly more in time and money.

Hopefully you have time to get out and celebrate National Car Care Month by cleaning up your ride.

#### **The Market Place**

2015 Jaguar F-Type "R", RWD Coupe

For Sale

2015 Salsa Red/ Jet/jet (Black) Leather w/Red Stitching, 27660 miles, Ceramic Coated by professional detailer, 20" Carbon Fiber Blade Forged Wheels, Asking \$55,000, This beautiful Jaguar F-Type is located in Denver, Colorado. Email Skenndy@ecentral.com for details and photos.



### The Editors' Scoops

If you were on the JCCA 2022 Sonoita Wine Tour, there was more than the "Mini Cart 24 hrs. La Mans Race" at the Pillsbury Winery. Little did we know that we were

tasting "competition wine." AZ Wine Competition 2023 winners selected PWC wines in several categories: <u>Best in Class</u>: PVC's White Blend 2021; <u>Double Gold</u>: WildChild White; <u>Gold</u>: PWC's 2000 Romero's Syrah; <u>Silver Winners</u>: 2020 Grenache Reserve, 2000 Roan Red, 2021 Viognier; <u>Bronze Winners</u>: 2000 WildChild Red, 2021 Chardonnay. Watch your e-mail, website, and social media for our annual September drive and wine tour.



We are looking for a volunteer to be JCCA's Ambassador/Host at the Viper Cans & Cars Fund Raiser. Let Jeff know if you would like to be the liaison for our group. No real work, just a friendly greeting or two and take a few pictures. (See page 6)

Don't forget to check out our new Social Media connections. www.JCCA.CLUB. Left side of 1st page, select an icon. Let's get talking, post your pictures.

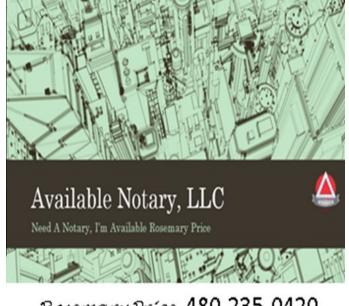
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