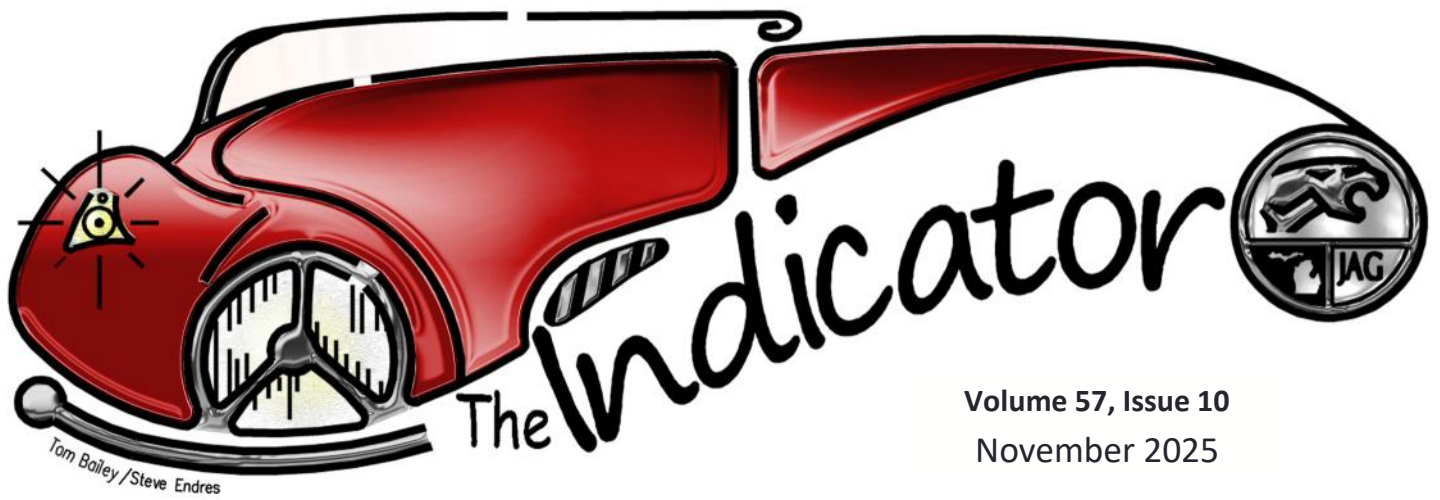




Volume 57, Issue 10

November 2025

The Official Newsletter of the Jaguar Affiliates Group of Michigan



Reflections on the Auburn Museums

Reflections on the Auburn Museums

See Pages 4 & 5



JAGM Officers

President

Gary Hillebrand
313.595.5365
President@JAGM.org

Vice-President

Currently Open

Secretary

Phil Crutchfield
734.347.8747

Dealer Relations

Gary Cunningham
248.649.4959

Treasurer

Tim Moore
586.945.4509

Concours Co-Chairmen

Steve Myerscough
313.590.4549
Gary Hillebrand
313.595.5365

Chief Judge

Dave Wathen
248.539.9464

Membership

Philip Wiltshire
574.202.8919
Membership@JAGM.org

Newsletter Co-Editors

Ellie & Gary Hillebrand
313.595.5365
Editor@JAGM.org

Webmaster

Phil Crutchfield
734.347.8747
Webmaster@JAGM.org

Board Members

Loran Brooks
248.434.7663

Domenic Federico
616.340.6706

Bic Gohil
313.720.9647

Mark Griffith
248.437.5442

Steve Myerscough
313.590.4549

Philip Wiltshire
574.202.8919

2025 Activities Calendar

	November	December	January
Activity	In-Person Membership Meeting Craft Brew City Farmington Hills, MI Wednesday 12 th @ 5:30 PM	Holiday Party Filippa's Restaurant Shelby Township, MI Saturday, December 6 th	 The 2026 Calendar is under construction. See the December Indicator for the tentative schedule
	Pontiac Transportation Museum Pontiac Michigan Saturday 15 th		

For the most up to date listing & schedule of events, go to: www.jagm.org/events

Welcome New Members

Member Name	Jaguars Owned
Lois Baxter	2018 XE Sedan
Gino Genova	1997 XK8 Coupe
Norbert Maecker & Barbara Anderson	2023 F-Type Convertible
JAGM welcomes our newest members. Please help extend them a warm welcome.	
Current JAGM Membership is 155	

Photo Credits

Auburn Museums

Bob Matejek





As we approach the end of a very successful 2025 for JAGM, I have a few thoughts to share.

JAGM Holiday Party

First, our annual Holiday Party is coming up, and it took us a little longer than usual, but registration is now open on the www.JAGM.org website. The venue is

Filippa's Restaurant in Shelby Township, for the 3rd straight year. We need to provide them with a final number of guests on November 22nd, so be sure to register by that date. This is always a nice way for us to end the JAGM year, with a great meal, great friends, and exciting drawings and prizes. As in past years, bring a toy or check for Toys for Tots and help make it a special season for others as well.

Online Payments with Zelle

Speaking of the Holiday Party registration, we'll be introducing a third payment option for this event (along with the existing two—online payment with credit card or mailed personal check). With a view toward reducing the amount of money the club pays for credit card fees, you may opt to pay for the party through Zelle, which is a bank-to-bank electronic payment system with no transaction fees to the club or to you. Not all banks participate in the Zelle system, but most do.

If you already use Zelle, it will be an easy thing to try for this event. If Zelle is new to you, check out the instructions as you register and decide whether you want to try it or not. No rush—we're viewing this as a small first step toward lower fees. Zelle will also be an option for the 2026 membership renewal process, which will open soon. For more info click this link:

<https://www.jagm.org/payment-options>.

New Board Member

On page 11 you'll find the annual ballot for the JAGM Board of Directors. All ten of our current board members will be returning, and we are looking forward to adding Deb Conway as well. Deb and Pete have been very active members for several years now, and Deb will bring great enthusiasm and perspective to the board. Vote early, vote often, and vote for Deb!



November 12th In-Person Membership Meeting



Where: Craft Brew City, 27843 Orchard Lake Rd, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334 (NW corner of Orchard Lake Rd and 12 Mile Rd).

When: Wednesday, November 12th, 5:30 pm for dinner, meeting begins at 7 pm.

What We'll have a short agenda plus a slideshow of 2025 JAGM event pictures.

Please register at <https://JAGM.org/events>.

Fall Color and Museum Drive—Auburn Indiana

Saturday the 18th was the last of the string of warm October days. When we arrived at the Cracker Barrel in Belleville at 8:30 AM, the temperature was already in the 60's and the sky was mostly blue. It was a nice day for a drive down to Auburn, Indiana. The fall colors were good; not yet peak, but very nice, and the two hour drive was easy and uneventful.



We arrived at the **Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum** a bit after noon on Satur-



day and spent about two and a half hours touring through all the cars and displays. There were only five of us from JAGM, after a few late cancellations—Bob Matejek, Ellie and I, and Wayne Schultz and his brother Ken, who just drove down for the day. (Editor's note: we failed to take any pictures of Wayne, but later found that he had "photo-bombed" a couple pictures without our noticing. You may be able to spot those if you look closely).

The ACD Museum's cars are, of course, incredibly impressive,



and the building itself (the original Auburn Motor Company Administration building) is impeccably restored. The first floor is mostly Auburns, Cords and Duesenbergs, while the upper floor has a variety of historically significant cars including many with roots in Indiana. The 1963 E-Type coupe that Matt Nold (long-time JAGM member) owned is still there—it was donated to the museum after Matt's death a couple years ago.



A couple displays that I didn't recall from my previous visits included two airplanes and a wooden boat.

The airplanes were Stinsons, from the 1930's. I had not known that E.L. Cord bought a controlling interest in the Stinson aviation company at that time, and the planes used Lycoming engines. Lycoming was an affiliate of the Auburn motor



company, supplying the engines for Auburns, Cords and Duesenbergs. The wood boat was a Dodge Brothers boat; Cord had contracted with the Dodge brothers to supply Lycoming engines for their boats when they entered that business.

After leaving the ACD museum we honored a

Fall Color and Museum Drive—Auburn Indiana

long-time JAGM tradition by visiting the Classic City Creamery in downtown Auburn. We enjoyed excellent ice cream cones in front of the County Courthouse in what was likely the last 80 degree temperature we'll feel this year!

Sunday morning was much cooler and rainy. We spent the morning touring the National Car and Truck Museum, right next door to the ACD museum. We started in their very extensive model car collection, then moved downstairs to the (mainly) truck displays. A couple highlights; an International truck built to set a speed record at Bonneville salt flats, and an eight-door Checker Limo/Cab. The truck was destroyed in a wild spinning accident on a speed run, then rebuilt for the museum. The Checker Limo is used by the museum for events and parades.

Then we went up to the main floor to tour through the interesting and varied collection of cars, as well as the museum's most famous display, the GM Futureliner.

We left the National Car and Truck Museum in a steady rainstorm and headed north for dinner at another JAGM favorite—Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall, Michigan. We had an excellent dinner to cap off a nice weekend.

Gary Hillebrand



Maine and New England Road Trip in our XJ8

A few days after the JAGM Concours in September, Ellie and I set off on a road trip we've wanted to do for several years – a drive to Maine in the Fall, and in a Jaguar! Ellie had recently finished a special quilt she made for our youngest daughter Laura and her husband Josh for their wedding, and since they live in New York (Manhattan) we were able to deliver the quilt to them. Then they joined us for the first five days of our traveling in Maine. Four travelers for that part of the trip dictated that the car we would drive was the 2002 XJ8 sedan.

hattan was only slightly terrible, and we miraculously found a parking spot on the same block as Laura and Josh's apartment. We presented them with the quilt



With a couple days on our own before Laura and Josh could join us (work; we also had that problem earlier in life...) Ellie and I spent a day touring in the Catskills. We happened across a nice old covered bridge, enjoyed some early fall colors and explored a state park with a beautiful lake and a trail to a ridge from which you could see the Hudson River and parts of five states (NY, NJ,

and collected them and their luggage, all fitting into the XJ8 with some puzzle-like arranging. Traffic out of the city on a Friday afternoon was predictably terrible, but it was great to be all together and heading for Maine!



Mass., Conn. and Vt.). We even went inside the world's largest kaleidoscope. It was originally a farm silo, but was modified with mirrors and lights and could hold 20 people for the short program they presented. Certainly unique and quite impressive.



Our "home base" in Maine was a small, but very nice cabin in the woods near Belfast, which is around half way up the Atlantic coast of

From there we headed south to the city, a part of the drive I was not really looking forward to. I will say the traffic in to Man-



Maine and New England Road Trip in our XJ8

Maine. That put us in the middle of the areas we wanted to explore during our week there. Each day we would drive north or south along the coast, visiting the various bays and towns as far north as Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park, and as far south as Boothbay. All along the coast we enjoyed great views of the rocky shoreline, islands, lighthouses and boats. The roads were always scenic, winding and fun to drive. The main(e) highlights for us were a lighthouse boat tour and the Maine Botanical Gardens, both near Boothbay, and all of Acadia National Park, where fabulous views were in every direction. And, of course, lobster and other fresh seafoods, which were excellent all along the coastline.

Following our week in Maine we headed for the hills to the west. The White Mountains (in New Hampshire) and the Green Mountains (in Vermont) both looked more yellow, red and orange to us, with the fall colors already well advanced in late September. It took us a full two days to get through those two small states, as we made many stops to hike, climb and take pictures along the way. We enjoyed the small towns and waterfalls along with excellent views from the peaks and passes.

We followed signs near Stowe, leading to a "toll road" which went up to one of the highest peaks in Vermont, Mt. Mansfield. It turned out that the toll, like the road, was quite steep: \$70! But we had read that the view was worth it, so we paid it and proceeded. The road was challenging – all gravel, very steep and winding, and about a lane and a half wide, despite

having traffic in both directions. It took us about 30 minutes to go 4.5 miles to the small parking area near the peak, including a short delay before the final, steepest section to make sure the number of vehicles didn't exceed the parking spaces. Our Jaguar was one of very few cars we saw on the road – most all the others were SUVs and pickup trucks. With decent road clearance, the XJ8 handled the drive just fine, although it was a bit nerve wracking approaching some of the blind switchback turns, hoping some big truck or SUV wouldn't suddenly appear coming in our direction!

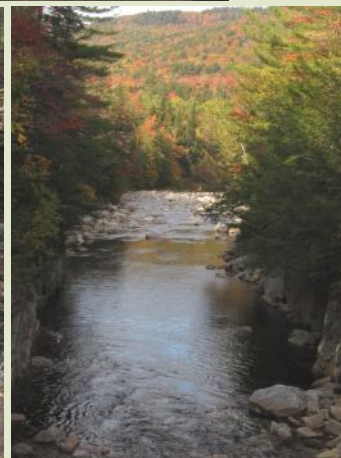
As we had heard, the view at the top was spectacular, although we had gone from sunshine at the bottom to low clouds at the top. There were great views in all directions of the

surrounding mountains, but it took a fair amount of scrambling up and around the rocks to get the best pictures. We were glad we took the extra time – it was a memorable experience!

Leaving Vermont, we headed west again into upstate New York, in the southern Adirondacks. Almost two weeks into the trip at that

point, we were starting to think it would be nice to get home again, so we headed across I-90 toward Niagara Falls, where we crossed into Ontario and took the "short cut" across to Windsor and were glad to sleep in our own bed after an almost 600 mile day.

In 13 days we put 3001 miles on the XJ8, and it performed perfectly the whole trip. Getting in and out of the car (probably 100 times), I always appreciate the way the car looks and feels, with all the leather and wood. It was especially entertaining to drive on all the



Maine and New England Road Trip in our XJ8

great roads in New England; the ride is comfortable and quiet and the handling is precise and confident. As a bonus there were many times when we would get nice comments and waves from people who appreciated seeing the car and recognized it as something special.

Touring in a Jaguar is great – maybe the next big trip will be in the XK8.

Gary Hillebrand



JAGM Holiday Party

The always popular JAGM Holiday Party will be on **Saturday, December 6th from 1 pm to 4 pm**. The venue this year will once again be **Filippa's Italian Restaurant**, 45125 Mound Rd, Shelby Township. Filippa's will be providing a fine buffet dinner – members who attended the last two years' parties have raved about the food. Please arrive shortly before 1:00 PM.

Bring an unwrapped toy or a check for Toys for Tots, so we can bring some holiday cheer to others. We'll also have door prizes and a 50/50 drawing.

Register at JAGM.org by November 22nd. The cost is \$53 per person. There are three payment options for this event. You can (1) pay online by credit card on the Events page, or click the "Invoice Me" button, which allows you to either (2) send a check by mail or (3) pay directly through your bank using the Zelle electronic payment system, which JAGM is piloting on this event.

Directions for each payment option are available on the Holiday Party Events page. The Zelle payment option (as well as the personal check) offers the advantage of lower cost to the club, compared to paying by credit card with its roughly 3% fees.

Hope to see you at Filippa's!

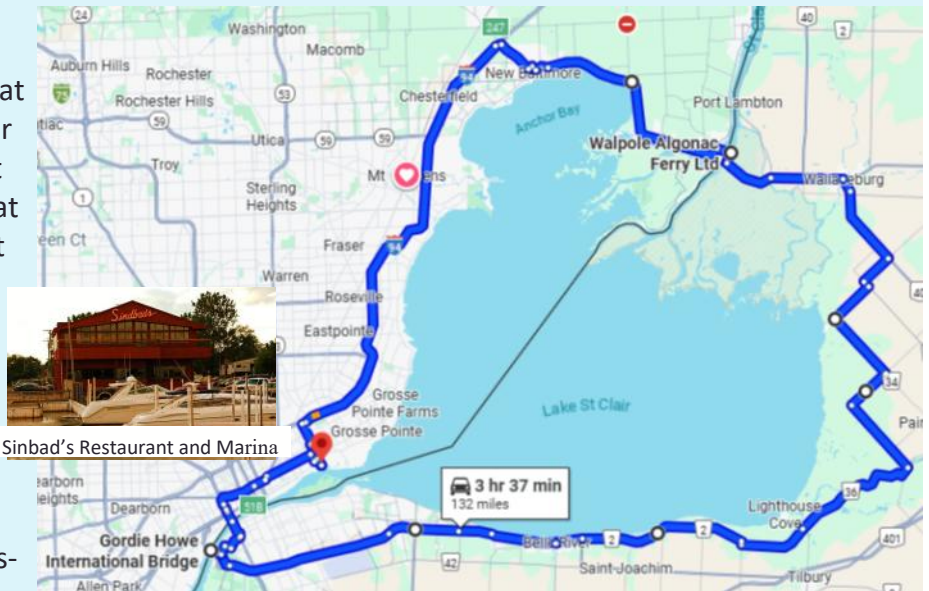


FILIPPA'S
ITALIAN RESTAURANT & BANQUET

Teaser: Watch for these new events in 2026

As we start putting together the events calendar for 2026, we thought a quick heads-up on some new event ideas might be nice. Some things to look forward to as most of our cars go into winter hibernation.

- **Lap Lake Saint Clair** Bob Matejek came up with this one. Inspired by the Lap the Lake (Lake Michigan) that many of us have participated in over the past five years, this JAGM event will be a one-day drive. It will start at Sinbad's in Detroit along the Detroit River. The route will hug the shoreline of Lake Saint Clair, going all around the lake and ending back at Sinbad's for Dinner. The route will cross the Wapole-Algonac Ferry on the North end of the lake and the New Gordie Howe Bridge on the South. The driving distance and time is about 150 miles and 4-1/2 hours, plus time for interesting stops and for lunch near Algonac. Get your documents in order for easy border crossings.
- **Garage tours** We have two members, Dom Federico and Dennis Weglarz, who have offered to open up their garages and collections for a club event. Each of these would likely be paired with a short local drive to an interesting lunch spot. Dom's collection is in Grand Rapids (some of us visited there several years ago), and Dennis's is outside Grand Ledge, just west of Lansing.
- **Northville Concours d'Elegance** This annual show draws a great number and variety of interesting cars, but has always conflicted with the Bay Harbor weekend that JAGM participates in. The 2026 Bay Harbor event has moved up one week, so we'll put the Northville Concours on our schedule. Conrad Foster is involved in organizing the show, and several other members have been able to show their Jaguars.
- **Belle Isle Attractions tour** This is another Bob Matejek idea. He has identified a half dozen sites of interest on Belle Isle, which continues to be im-



proved now that it is part of Michigan's State Park system. This will be a single day event.

- **Windsor/Tecumseh Area Drive and Winery Visit** This is another reason to make sure those international travel documents are up to date! Allan and Mary Ann Rae came up with this one day event plan—to start with lunch at a country club, then drive to an Ontario winery.

It's great to have members coming up with new experiences and adventures! Hopefully we'll add all these new ones along to the many great repeat events that we've been enjoying over the past few years.

We should have a tentative 2026 Activities calendar to include with the December Indicator. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this list, and we look forward to many other new and fun activities in the future.

Gary Hillebrand and Phil Crutchfield

Pontiac Transportation Museum—November 15, 2025

I have been watching this Museum for several years. Early this summer, they completed their phase 2 expansion. I was very surprised at the overall quality of the museum and the abundance of information that is shared during the docent led tour. The docent led tour takes about 3 hours. The cars pretty much cover the Big 3 Auto Makers. There are unusual production cars, concept cars and very limited production cars. The docent, who retired from GM Design Studio, got into how the cars' shape, size, performance and colors represented the mood of the country at the time. There was really a sociological basis for the cars that were produced and when. As an example, during the Viet Nam period, there was a lot of anger in the country and all of a sudden there were



wild bright colors, stripes, huge tail spoilers and hot engines so that the customers could vent their anger.

The Museum is inside an old school building and has been carefully turned into a great museum in the past 5 to 10 years. I was so impressed that I am following them on Facebook, will be joining as a member of the Museum and looking into their monthly evening lec-

ture series. **Admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and veterans.**

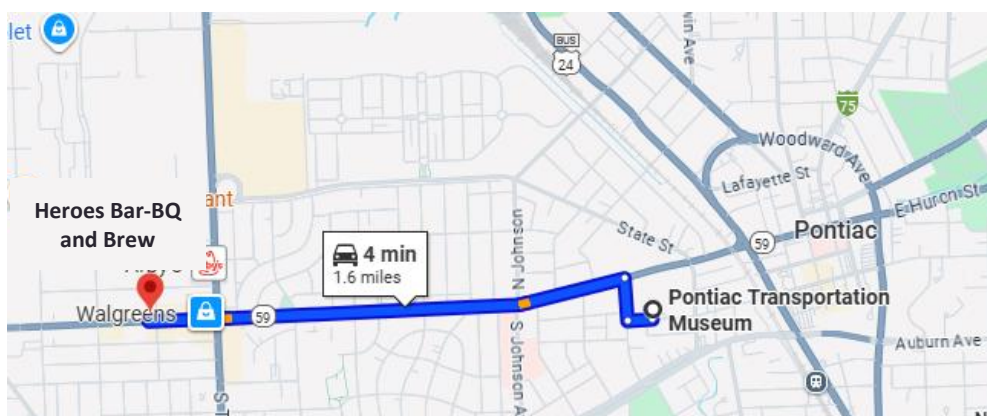
The Pontiac Transportation Museum is located at 250 W. Pike Street, Pontiac, MI. <https://www.pontiactransportationmuseum.org/> It is basically several blocks west of the loop around Pontiac. On Saturday, they open at 10:00 and we can shoot for that. When you arrive, there is a big mural on the side of the building. Back your car up to the mural, with Jaguars in the center and we can take a nice group photo there.

Following the Museum, we will go out for a late lunch at Heroes Bar-BQ and Brew around 1:30 to 2:00. **Heroes is located at 998 West Huron, (M59), Waterford, MI. 48328. <https://heroesbarbeque.com>** They are just west of Telegraph Rd. on the North side of the street. They have a very extensive menu. The building sign and website name says BBQ, but that is only a small portion of what they have available.

Come see and enjoy the Museum. Bring whatever car fits your desires of the day. Invite your friends and family to join us. **Please register for the event on the JAGM website** so we can get a pretty good count on the attendance.



Bob Matejek, 248-842-1046



Ballot for 2026 JAGM

Voting **DEADLINE** November 30th, 2025

Member Name: _____

(printed)

(signature)

To vote by U.S. Mail, send to:

JAGM c/o Philip Wiltshire

11340 Fishers Pond, Middlebury, IN 46540

To Vote by e-mail, send to:

Membership@jagm.org

Subject: JAGM Election

If voting by e-mail, subject line must be JAGM Election—the body should specify “I (your name) vote for...”

Office of **President** () Gary Hillebrand

Board of Directors (Check individual box of up to eleven candidates)

() Loran Brooks	() Phil Crutchfield	() Bic Gohil	() Steve Myerscough
() Mark Griffith	() Tim Moore	() Gary Cunningham	() Gary Hillebrand
() Philip Wiltshire	() Domenic Federico	() Deb Conway	

Classified Ads

Free to JCNA member: Jaguar 3.8 engine with auto transmission, spare head, starter, generator, spare crankshaft, oil pan, and engine lift. Sedan gas tanks, new stainless exhaust for E-type and sedans.

Text Jeff Simpson at 248-652-6741

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

Contact Tim Moore at 586-945-4509

tfm0719@live.com

For Sale: 2000 XK8 V8 Convertible. Very good condition and well maintained. Clean title and no accidents. Stored in heated garage during the winter months.

55,000 mi.

Asking \$10,500 or best offer.



Contact Eileen Martin at eam7272@gmail.com or text 734-674-1349

For Sale: Jaguar Hats with Correct Logo for 1945 to 1952. The hats are available in Black and are of the “Fitted” variety. They are available in Sizes—Small/ Medium and Large/X Large.

\$35 each.

Call Karl @ 248-766-9141



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

Call Karl @ 248-766-9141



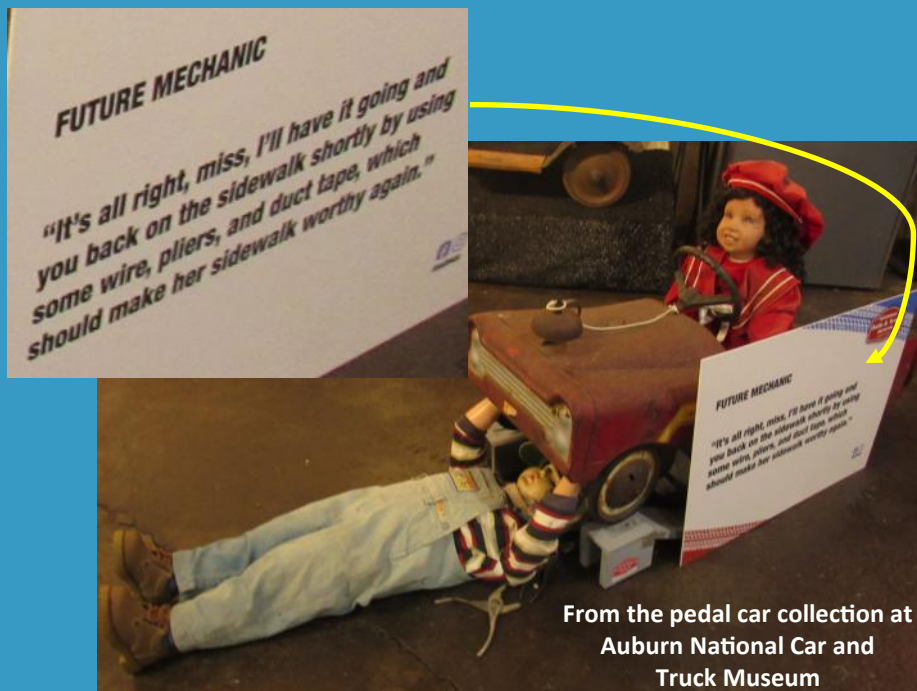


Ellie & Gary Hillebrand
Newsletter Editors
21117 Randall St
Farmington Hills, MI 48336
Editor@JAGM.org
www.JAGM.org



FIRST CLASS MAIL—PLEASE FORWARD

See You at the November 12th Membership Meeting!



From the pedal car collection at
Auburn National Car and
Truck Museum

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Classic Appreciation
World Class Auto Detailing
www.classicappreciation.com

Welsh Enterprises
www.welshent.com

Setup Solutions LLC
www.SetupSolutions.net

XKs Unlimited / Moss
Motors
www.XKs.com

Craft Breww City
www.craftbrewwcity.com