

Volume 47, Issue 3
March 2015

The Official Newsletter of the **Jaguar Affiliates Group of Michigan**



Road Trippin' ~ Jag Style!

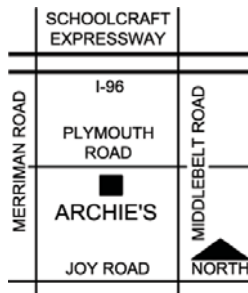
JAGM Meetings

Membership Meetings

are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month from **7:00PM – 9:00PM**

@ **Archie's Restaurant**

30471 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150



www.archiesrestaurant.com

March Mtg Guest Speaker

Our meeting on **March 11th** will be host to radio personality, **Tony Ortiz.**

Mr. Ortiz began his career in 1986 as an intern at WXYT while attending



the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting. After landing a position at the station, he also worked as a producer for Spartan basketball and football. Ortiz moved to WWJ Newsradio 950 in 1991 and went on to produce Detroit Lions football.

Three years later he left Detroit to work as a producer and talk show host at KTRH in Houston, Texas. He covered everything from college football to gymnastics, including 2 NBA championship runs by the Houston Rockets.

He returned to Detroit in 2001 and re-joined WWJ/WXYT. He is currently the morning drive sports anchor for WWJ Newsradio 950 and the Lions Beat and Sideline Reporter on 97.1 FM The Ticket.

Don't Miss Out!

Feather Bowling ~ March 22nd

It's time again for JAGM FEATHER BOWLING!!!

When: March 22nd, 4-6 PM

**Where: Bath City Bistro
75 Macomb Place
Mount Clemens, MI 48043**

RSVP: March 18th 2015

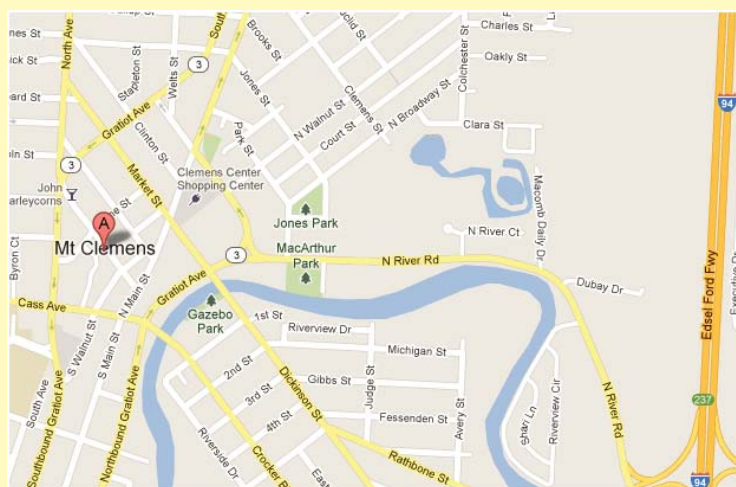


Belgian Trough Bowling (i.e., feather bowling) is best described as a cross between bocci ball and shuffleboard. Participants try their best to roll wooden discs at a pigeon feather at the other end of a trough shaped lane.

It's really a fun time for young and old alike. No experience, nor athletic prowess required. Join us to bowl, to watch and either way, to simply have fun.

JAGM has reserved a lane from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. **Your JAGM membership covers your bowling.**

Drinks and snacks are available while we are bowling. Dinner will again be across the street at the "Detroit Pub" (76 Macomb Place, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043)



Please call

Tom Bailey @
(313) 534-5163

PRIOR to March 18th
if you plan to attend

For additional information on the Bath City Bistro or the Detroit Pub, visit their websites at:

www.bathcitybistro.com
www.detroitpubmc.com

...From Behind the Wheel

You may recall from last year's article, in late 2007, Kris and I bought a '69, Series 2, E-Type FHC from Bruce who lived in El Paso, Texas. Over the next year and a half, the Jag was refurbished all with the intention of hitting the road and seeing how far we could go. You will also recall the economy was in the proverbial toilet and this raised havoc with Kris' employment, so the trip timing was delayed, but it did give us more time to dream about where to go.

Speed ahead to 2014; I'm now retired, and Kris takes a new job with an understanding boss and the flexibility to be gone for three weeks.

Now the serious planning began.



Up off all four for service

So much to see and so far to go! I think we were both amazed just how many places there are to visit in the near West. Quite early on we ditched the notion to reach the Pacific; long drive there and a long drive back. Besides, there is so much to see once you get into western South Dakota.

As a youngster, Kris visited several of the National Parks with her parents; I hadn't been to any of them, so they became the focus of the drive. There are also many more non-park places to visit and, quite conveniently, a lot of these are on the same routes. Now the task became; what won't we stop at????

The Jag hadn't been sitting since returning to the road in 2009. I don't recall all the trips,

...continued on page 4





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From Behind the Wheel, *continued*

...continued from page 3

but it did make Kentucky once or twice (Bourbon Tours!), Kennebunkport, ME (including Hurricane Sandy!), Elkhart Lake, for Historic Races (and a trip on the Badger across Lake Michigan), and several other lesser trips around Michigan and Ohio. All in all, we added another 16,000+/- miles to the Jag. My focus here was gaining confidence the car could sustain a much longer jaunt with no major problems.

But, keeping that in mind, I still wanted to be prepared if something did go wrong and we were in the middle of nowhere. The FHC has a nicely sized luggage area and I figured this would be fully occupied with baggage and on-the-road necessities.

So where to put all the emergency stuff? How about under the boot floor? Not much room, you reply. Well, not to many "big" spaces, but lots of "little" ones. So my task was figuring out what to take and how to stow it, piece by piece, in every little nook and cranny around the spare tire and fuel tank.

Determining what to bring was another challenge. I decided to be practical and prepare for nuisance issues; something that could be rectified with simple hand tools and minimal parts. Yes, Duct Tape was one of the first items to make the list. I had previously made a trip to Sears during one of their sales and purchased a variety of hand tools; small socket set; wrenches; screw drivers; pliers; and small cases to hold like things together. Fuel pump! Seems like most of the break downs I hear about are failing fuel pumps, so one of those was included. When the Jag was rebuilt, I put on Dayton tubeless wirewheels; seemed like eliminating the tubes was a good idea. Well, one wheel developed a very sloooowwww leak so I tossed in a tube "just in case". It fit nicely under the



Many small crannies! The manual and catalog were in the fender well, right of the spare tire

boot floor, on top of the gas tank. Other items that made the list were:

- ✓ Fire extinguisher (carried behind the seats)
- ✓ Jumper cables ✓ Volt meter and test light
- ✓ Warning reflector ✓ Mechanic's gloves
- ✓ Rain poncho ✓ Extra fuses and light bulbs
- ✓ Trouble light ✓ Fan belts ✓ Quart of oil
- ✓ First Aid Kit (carried with luggage)
- ✓ Service manual and parts catalog
- ✓ Factory jack, hammer, and wheel nut tool

The Jag itself was doing fine, but I did do a complete fluid change and grease job; had the front alignment checked; greased the wheel splines; and had the AC

serviced. The air conditioning had been a welcome upgrade, but on occasion, it seemed to struggle in hot weather at slow speeds. I suspected it was from poor air circulation over the condenser in front of the radiator.

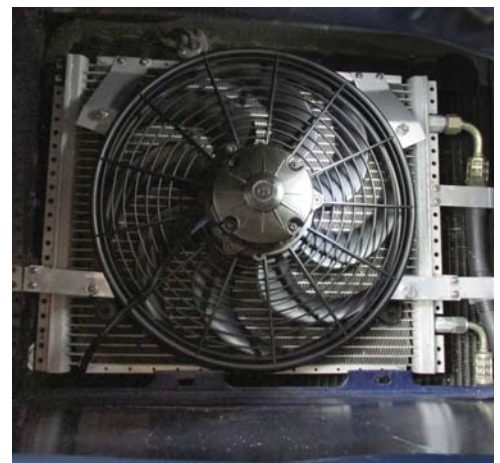
To rectify this, I added a 14" fan in front of the condenser and wired it in to switch on with the AC. This seemed to help a lot, even with the engine cooling.

With the Jag ready, the next task was planning a tentative route and getting on the road.

to be continued next month...



Emergency items to stow



My brother said with all the fans on this car it will just suck itself down the road!



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Jaguar Adventure Roadtrip



Author Mike Jones

Next stop was San Francisco. My main object was to meet up with some of the folks I had talked to on the phone, but had never met, when I was working in the sixties as Chief Engineer at a UK car company called Jensen. Part of my job was to keep

in touch with the only US dealer for Jensen cars. The dealership is simply called 'British Motor Car Distributors' – which in the sixties were importers of British cars like MG's, Minis, Jaguars, Rolls Royces, Lotuses... When I arrived in September at the dealer, there weren't many of the original folks left. Some had died, some had moved on, but I did meet some of the loyal men and women who were still there and even remember Jensens, and even some of the problems we had to sort out. It brought back some very happy memories for me, and I was sorry to have to say goodbye to them.

Before I left San Francisco, I managed to get a boat ride to Alcatraz to spend a few hours there. Fascinating stuff. My big surprise was just how small the prison cells are. The audio guide was excellent, even including recordings of some of the ex – inmates.

When I told my Jensen friends that I was hoping to get to San Diego on the Mexican border, they told me I should take the coast road (101) to Los Angeles, instead of using the boring I-5 Interstate road. So I did so, and was really impressed. For most of the way the road hugs the coast, so there were some

spectacular views, and some quite tricky driving too, so it was often better to see which way the road goes, rather than admire the view!

When I arrived in LA, I had to visit Hollywood, thinking I might see something related to the movies. I was hoping to get inside the theater used for the Oscars, but it was closed when I arrived, so I just drove past it. I had been warned the town of Hollywood is a bit seedy, and so it is, from what I saw of it!

The Queen Mary is still sitting at Long Beach, so I thought I should see how it is surviving. I did a self-guided tour of the ship, including the engine room, which for engineers like me, is the most interesting part of the ship. I had a civilized breakfast before I left, but feeling that my scruffy shorts, T shirts and sandals were not quite the correct dress code for the restaurant.

To keep costs down, I tried to find cheap but well established motels, like Motel 6, throughout the trip. If Veronica had been with me, we would probably have stayed in hotels, but all I needed was a bed each night. On most traveling days I would arrive at my destination mid-afternoon or early evening, spend half an hour or so seeking out, with the help of my

GPS, a motel in a not too dodgy location, then get something to eat, and then get to sleep by about 9:00pm. I would get up the following morning at about 5.00, have a coffee, check car fluids and tire pressures, pay the bill, and be on my way by 5:30. By mid-day I had usually got about 350 miles behind me, so I could still do 200 more miles or so in daylight, if I felt

like it. There were very few days when I got bored on the road. For much of the trip the landscape was spectacular, to a Brit anyway, and when it was a bit boring I had audio books to listen to, in addition to



San Francisco - Golden Gate Bridge

Jaguar Adventure, *continued*

a satellite radio which worked well, compared to my pathetic FM/AM radio, even in the middle of nowhere.

When I got to San Diego, I took some photos of a house for a pal of mine who used to live there. My main interest however was the zoo. I already knew it was one of the most famous zoos in the world, so I wanted to see for myself what it was really like. I'm glad I did so. It is the best zoo I have been to, and I've been to a few over the years. Most of the animals are kept in fairly natural surroundings, and seem fairly content with

their lives. To see it all, involves much walking, so I was delighted to find an overhead cable car to take me back to the starting point at the end of about five hours walking in the scorching sun. Incidentally I was only aware of hot weather when I was outside the

car. The air conditioner in the car behaved perfectly throughout the trip, even when the outside temperature was hitting 100 degrees F.

Before I left San Diego I thought it was time to get the car cleaned up, so I soon found, what I thought, was your typical auto car wash...

to be continued, next month...



Long Beach - The Queen Mary

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2015 Summer Drives

Photography credit to John Dykstra & MichiganMoments.com



Jags Across the Water

When: June 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th, 2015

Why: Drive Your Jag ~ Make New Friends!

What: Grayling ~ Hartwick Pines ~
Harbor Springs ~ Tunnel of Trees ~
Legs Inn ~ Mackinaw Bridge ~
Mackinaw Island and more!

All the driving will be "casual" and done on two lane roads. Drives will include gas and potty stops (plus some other stuff). This is a trip you don't want to miss!

We have **fifteen** reservations available; half of them are taken. **DON'T WAIT!** (*first come, first reserved*)

06-26-2015 Reservations - Days Inn Grayling
877.361.2506 - Reservation # 40062338

06-27 & 28-2015 Reservations - Best Western Harbor Springs; 231.347.9050 - Group code; JAGUAR

Call these establishments. Make your reservations.
Let me know you have joined the group!

Need more info? Call Mike Bailey @ 734-416-3839
or email at jaguarinterests00@yahoo.com



Caravan to Hickory Corners

When: July 11th & 12th, 2015

Why: Drive Your Jag ~ Make New Friends!

What: Road Trip ~ Barn Theatre Play ~
Yarrow Conference Center ~
Mad Dogs & Englishmen Car Show ~
Ice Cream!!! ~ Road Trip

Check <http://yarrowgolf.com/>
Them <http://www.barntheatre.com/>
Out: <http://www.gilmorecarmuseum.org/>
<http://maddogsandenglishmen.org/>

The Barn Theatre is a quality production performed in an air conditioned "Red Barn." The schedule has not been published yet, but we have never been disappointed.

Mad Dogs & Englishmen show highlights between 250-300 British cars and motorcycles of all types.

Call the Yarrow at 800.563.4397 to make your reservation & let me know you have joined the group!

Need more info? Call Mike Bailey @ 734-416-3839
or email at jaguarinterests00@yahoo.com

Ice Run at Ross Lake, Beaverton

Beautiful day...cold as it was, but we did have degrees!

We had 49 entrants who had 5 timed runs with little snow on the 11" of ice.



Good full course of 2 miles and all the way around the island. The slowest car on the course was a 237.929, but the fastest car on the course was Burke Davis in the studded class with a 128.665 in his well-used Honda Civic. Hope to see you on the ice again soon!



Tom Hudak

Tipping Point Theatre Wrap-Up



Twenty-seven JAGM members and friends attended this winter's cultural event at the Tipping Point Theatre in Northville.

Husbands have found their wives think that theater and dinner out cover all the requirements for a terrific Valentine's Day gift, so this event has become a club favorite.



Dinner at the nearby Deadwood Bar & Grill followed "Leaving Iowa," a play about a family's annual 'driving' vacations. Only, this time, the son had to find the perfect spot to leave his father's ashes.

It was another great JAGM activity. If you didn't make it this year, be sure to put it on your calendar for 2016.



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West Michigan Gathering

SAVE THE DATE of June 6, 2015

JAGM West MI representatives are planning a visit to the Kalamazoo Air Museum with a dinner to follow. All JAGM members are invited. Plans to have a couple West side events are in the works, so we can get to know each other better.

More info to come, see future *Indicators*, but for now, check it out at www.airzoo.org/

Corvette & Jaguar Car Show

Every Year The GMC Corvette Set Car Club holds their big Corvette Car Show at Canterbury Village in Lake Orion with about 150 Corvettes in attendance. Every other year, they have a guest marque. This year that will be Jaguar. This year's show is on Saturday, June 13.

All the cars are displayed on the grass inside Canterbury Village. I have talked to a few Jaguar members and there seems to be a lot of interest in a nice car show. There will be four Jaguar classes set up, those being the same as Mad Dogs and Englishmen.

The Corvette Club will come to our April Jaguar Club Meeting to give a brief presentation on the show to all those in attendance. There will be an entry fee and all proceeds from the show go to support Leader Dogs.

For more information, see future *Indicators*. I wanted to alert the membership and have you mark it on your calendar. Bob Matejek

JAGM Library

Some of you may not be aware, but the JAGM has a substantial library. Members may check out books and videos for their use and review.

You will find a list of our inventory on the "Good Stuff" page, on our website www.jagm.org

For more information, contact club Librarian, Teresa Klotz, at: 248.635.1027 or teresamk12@yahoo.com



Activities Calendar

	March	April	May	June
Meeting Activity	Meeting~Guest Speaker Tony Ortiz ~ WWJ 11 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Meeting~Guest Speaker Gavin Pearson 8 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Meeting 13 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Meeting 10 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia
Outside Activity	Feather Bowling March 22 nd 4-6 PM+ Dinner RSVP by March 18th	t.b.d.	Mueller's Steak Fry 23 rd Linden MI	JAGM Kalamazoo Air Zoo 6/6 JAGM Road Trip 6/26 - 6/29
	July	August	September	October
Meeting Activity	Meeting 8 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	No Meeting	Meeting 9 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Meeting 14 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia
Outside Activity	Barn Theater & Mad Dogs & Englishmen Car Show 11 th & 12 th	Concours d'Elegance August 15 th Woodward	t.b.d.	t.b.d.



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