

The
**Coventry
Cat**

The Newsletter
of the

Jaguar Association
of New England



Vol 10 - Num 12
December 2008



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JANE President Ray O'Brien's dark blue '73 Series III E Type's bonnet is the cover for JANE's 2009 wall calendar. See promo and order form on page 7.

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President's Update December 2008



**Looking backward and forward . . . a great year in 2008
. . . an even better year in 2009**

By Ray O'Brien

The *Coventry Cat* is the official publication of the Jaguar Association of New England (JANE), a non-profit organization of Jaguar enthusiasts that is a regional chapter of the national Jaguar Clubs of North America (JCNA). JANE is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

JANE Officers

President: Ray O'Brien, 617-734-5949, raymondobrien@comcast.net

VP-Membership: Tom Moses, 978-580-7416, tmoses@spillecenter.com

Secretary: Dave Herrick, 603-673-1314, DaveAB7Q@aol.com

Treasurer: Don Holden, 603-673-8167, donholden@rcn.com

Concours Co-Chairs: Mike Kaleel, 978-468-8009, mkaleel@kaleelcompany.com; Brenda Soussan, 978-468-8009, ideacounselo@earthlink.net

Head Judge: Aldo Cipriano, 508-481-8806, aldoc.esq@comcast.net

Slalom Co-Chairs: Bill Parish, 978-486-9830, wdparish@verizon.net; Tom Parish, 978-692-8090, tparish@carlisle-co.com

Rally Chair: Steve Thomas, 603-293-4250, srt@anlytc.com

Traveler Contact: Gary Hagopian, 603-763-3093, ghagopian@jcna.com

Webmaster: Dennis Eklof, 978-448-2566, dennis.eklof@verizon.net

Board Members

Margaret Caruolo • Aldo Cipriano • Dennis Eklof
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Francisco Silva • Herb Strachman

The Coventry Cat

Editor: Prebble Eklof, 978-448-2566, prebble.eklof@verizon.net

Circulation: Ed Hall, 508-853-8193, eahall@charter.net

Send articles and info to:
prebble.eklof@verizon.net -or-
The Coventry Cat, 31 Ames Road,
Groton, MA 01450-1963

Advertising: Carl Hanson, 781-275-2707, chansonjag@aol.com

Display Advertising Rates

An ad in *The Coventry Cat* currently reaches over 350 households with excellent demographics. Rates are on an annual basis (12 issues):

Business Card (Members)	\$60
(Non-members)	\$120
Quarter page	\$175
Half page	\$325
Full page	\$600
Inside back cover	\$1200
Inside front cover	\$1000
Back cover half page	\$500

Visit JANE on the web at

www.j-a-n-e.org

In 2007 we had 57 events. In 2008, 100 events were on the calendar, though a few were rained out. That will be hard to top in 2009.

By the time many of you read this we will have had our elections for new club officers and directors for 2009. Special thanks to the Nominating Committee of Chuck Centore, Mike Kaleel, and Stu Forer for taking care of this important activity for JANE. The elections take place at the AGM and Holiday Party on Sunday, December 7th, graciously hosted once again by Avis Mello at the Vesper Country Club in Tewksbury, MA.

Just a reminder, if you haven't done so already, send in your membership renewal for 2009. Either mail in your check with the form you received, or go to <http://www.j-a-n-e.org/cgi> and renew on that page.

This past year saw JANE move its monthly meetings from Skip's in Chelmsford, MA, to the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, MA. Interestingly, we are averaging about a 50 percent increase in attendance at this new location. If you haven't been to a monthly meeting at the Wayside Inn, join us sometime.

Some other highlights from the past year include: Prebble Eklof accepting and doing a fabulous job as Editor of *The Coventry Cat*; the

introduction of the new Jaguar XF; the Ford Motor Company's sale of Jaguar Cars to Tata Motors; the 24 Hours of Lemons; Concours Judging Seminar, where members could learn how to prepare their cars for judging, graciously hosted by the Eklöfs; new JANE wall calendars and new club windshield decals.

Additionally, we lost three members this past year with the passing of Mark Alosa, of Exeter Jaguar; Bernie Yurt, founder of the New England XK Association, the precursor of JANE; and Harry Parkinson, a very active and outstanding member of JANE.

In 2009 we're still looking for volunteers to help with the website and events. If you would like to become more active in the club, let me know and we'll get you connected.

There's still time to order the new JANE wall calendars in time for holiday gifting, or buy a few for yourself. See the order form inside this issue of the *Cat*.

Have a safe and happy holiday season . . . hope to see you at the AGM.

After the AGM and Holiday Party, our next regular monthly meeting is Wednesday, January 28th, at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, MA. Their website is www.wayside.org.

RAY



**THE COVENTRY CAT
IS IN COLOR
AT
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JANE Calendar of Remaining 2008 Events

From the Editor

WHEN

WHAT

WHERE

December

7 - Sun - 3 p.m.

JANE AGM and Holiday Party

Vesper Country Club, Tyngsboro, MA

The AGM and Holiday Party complete our calendar of events for 2008.

Look for the 2009 Calendar of Events next month.

Wish List for 2009 JANE Events

JANE is one of the most active clubs in the country, with many events to choose from, sometimes three or more per month. Next year will be no different, but we want to make sure we have the kinds of events that you, the club members, want. So please start expressing your opinions on what you would like to see on our calendar starting in January. After the election of officers in December, the new VP-Events will get in gear to lay out the plans for the coming year. Make your voice heard, and be ready to host an event if you feel strongly about it. We will make sure to advertise all events well in advance so that you can put them on your calendar. Besides our regular Concours, Slalom, and Rally programs, we have room for tours, parties, and tech sessions. Here are some ideas:

Tech sessions . . . maybe two or three

Valentine's Dinner

Magical Mystery Tour

Drag Race Night

Go-Kart Races

VSCCA Rally . . . maybe not a JANE event, but could be

British Invasion

Owl's Head Car Show and overnight at the Eastwind Inn

Myopia Hunt Club Picnic and North Shore Tour

Lobstah Run . . . why was the turnout so light this year?


Fun Rally and Winery Tour . . . Rhode Island or Long Island

Lime Rock Weekend

Newport Concours Weekend

Local and regional tours . . . maybe with an overnight destination

Dave Pratt has very generously donated his time to putting together a 2009 wall calendar of JANE cars. See page 7 for more information about the calendar, plus thumbnails of the 2009 photos, and an order form. Depending on the volume of sales of the calendar, we hope this will become an annual production. If it does, Tracey Levasseur has already volunteered to put the 2010 calendar together.

Keep in mind that although there are many calendar-worthy JANE cars, there are only 12 pages and the cover for one year. So if your car didn't make it into the 2009 calendar, please be patient, as there is always next year. Tracey will be looking for high resolution, interesting shots of our Jaguars throughout 2009 for use in the 2010 calendar. 

Prebble

REMINDER

Renew your JANE membership for 2009. The renewal forms have been mailed to you.



Know of some non-JANE event that would be of interest to our members?

Contact JANE Webmaster at www.j-a-n-e.org

Do you have any expertise or interest in doing website work or desktop publishing?

Assistance with the JANE Website or *The Coventry Cat* always welcomed.

Contact JANE Webmaster at www.j-a-n-e.org

or

Coventry Cat Editor at prebble.eklof@verizon.net


Upcoming Events

JANE Monthly Meetings Longfellow's Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA



Longfellow's Wayside Inn

JANE's monthly meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except for November and December). Some are business meetings, others are minimal business followed by a program of some sort. But they are all a good opportunity to catch up with club members and to keep involved with the club. If you've not been to one of the meetings in a while, come out and join in.

In December our Annual General Meeting will be held at our Holiday Party on the 7th. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28th, at Longfellow's Wayside Inn. The address is 72 Wayside Inn Road, Sudbury, MA. Phone 978-443-1776. The Inn's website is www.wayside.org. 

JANE Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party Sunday, December 7th



By the time you are reading this, you should already have made your reservations to attend JANE's Annual General Meeting and gala Holiday Party. Avis Mello is again hosting this event, and it will be as festive as ever.

As it has been the last two years, the event will be held at the beautiful Vesper Country Club, located near Route 3 in Tyngsboro, MA. The format will be the same as in the past, beginning with cocktails


at 3 p.m., followed by the Annual General Meeting, then dinner, the awards ceremony, and finally, our traditional Yankee Swap.

Remember that the dress code is "country club casual," so please, **no jeans, no denum!** And plan to bring a wrapped Yankee Swap gift valued at \$25 or more.

Directions

The address of the Vesper Country Club is 185 Pawtucket Boulevard, Tyngsboro, MA.

From the North: Take Exit 35 (Kendall Road, Route 113) and at the bottom of the ramp turn right on Kendall Road (Route 113). Follow Kendall Road for 1.3 miles until you cross the Merrimack River. Just before crossing the bridge, the road name changes to Frost Road. Just keep going straight across the bridge. Immediately after crossing the river, turn right on Pawtucket Boulevard. The club is about two miles down on your right.

From the South: Take Exit 34 (Westford Road) and at the bottom of the ramp turn right onto Westford Road. In about 0.8 mile, Westford Road merges with Middlesex Road (Routes 4 and 3A). Keep going until you get to Frost Road, a total of about 1.25 miles from Route 3. Turn right on Frost Road to go across the Merrimack River. Immediately after crossing the river, turn right on Pawtucket Boulevard. The club is about two miles down on your right. 



Our hostess, Avis Mello



SCENES
FROM
LAST
YEAR'S
HOLIDAY
PARTY



Things to Get

JANE Window Decals

JANE window decals are now available. They are the JANE logo, 3.5" x 3", and they are static, so they can be placed on the inside of your windshield and removed at any time for reuse. Show your JANE association proudly . . . put them on all your cars. They are priced at \$3/each, 2 for \$5, or 3 for \$7. Order them on the same form as when you are ordering your 2009 Jaguar Wall Calendar. See page 7.



JANE 40th Anniversary Publication

Carl Hanson is working on a 40th Anniversary commemoration of JANE and NEXKA, and will have the publication ready for purchase sometime early in 2009.

The club started as NEXKA in 1968 and changed its name to JANE in 1986. Carl is still looking for information on the club between 1970 and 1984 . . . photos, stories, presidents, etc. Any help would be appreciated. Call Carl at 781-275-2707 if you can provide any information that he's missing.

JCNA 50th Anniversary Publication

This 50th Anniversary of JCNA publication has a one-page history and one page of interesting photos from every club. Carl Hanson did the write-up for JANE. You may see samples of each club's input by going to www.westernstates2008.com and clicking on the Clubs button. This publication is sure to become a JCNA collectable, and when they are gone -- they are gone! As of late November there were only 20 copies left.

The publication is available for \$35 a copy including postage. If you want a copy, make your check out to Western States 2008 and mail it to:

Steve Kennedy
JCHA President
5296 Youngfield Court
Arvada, CO 80002

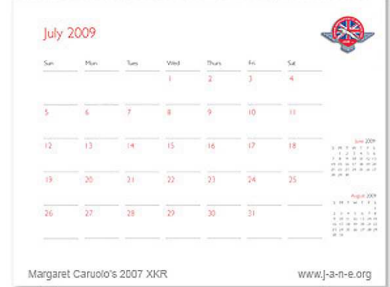
JANE 2009 Jaguar Wall Calendar

Order Now While Supplies Last!

We've been talking about doing this for years, but we're now happy to announce that the JANE 2009 Jaguar Wall Calendar is finally available! This is a professionally-produced, full-color, glossy calendar that you'll be proud to display in your home, office, or garage.

The calendar is a sizable 11" x 17" when opened. Each month features a color photo of a Jaguar (or Jaguars) belonging to your fellow club members that we have gleaned from event reports and issues of *The Coventry Cat* in the recent past. We've selected high-quality photos with a lot of variety—take a look at the thumbnails. We paid extra for a heavy glossy cover to make our calendar something you'll want to keep even after 2009 has wound to a close!

Your calendar will arrive shrinkwrapped and with a cardboard insert to protect it in transit. In mid-December, we're going to offer these nationally, so snag yours now—when they're gone, they're gone! Get several—for your home, garage, office, and for your friends and family—they make great holiday gifts! They're reasonably priced at \$15 each, 2 for \$28, or 3 for \$40, including shipping. Order your calendars today!



An example calendar page



A Jaguar E Type makes a perfect cover graphic



Thumbnails of the twelve photos, one per month - all JANE Jaguars!

Qty	Description	Price	Total
-----	-------------	-------	-------

_____	JANE 2009 Jaguar Wall Calendar		
	\$15/ea....2/\$28....3/\$40	_____
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JANE Members Making News

Not only was **Tom Brady's** '61 MkIX 1st in its class in the People's Choice competition at this year's British Invasion, it made the cover of the November *British Marque*. Executive Editor and Publisher, Bruce Vild, took the photo (below) and it ran with Michael Gaetano's lead article on the British Invasion.



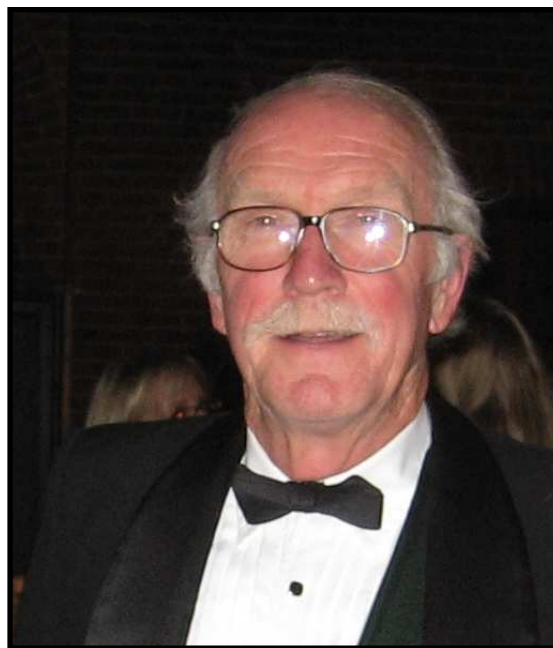
Chuck and Patt Centore have become grandparents again. **Alexander Davis Centore** arrived on November 8, weighing in at 8 lb. 6 oz. He's still being sized for his official nickname. So far he's been called Alex or Lex. His brother, Nathan, calls him "baby" or Alleez. He's still a little young to set his car preferences (we JANE folks hope it's British, not Italian!). For now, according to Granddad Chuck, he's just partial to sleeping and moving from left to right.



Michael Kaleel and Brenda Soussan are settling into their new place in Hamilton, MA. Michael is particularly proud of its roomy four-car garage, which just happened to come with a lovely ranch! Brenda is supervising the daily onslaught of plasterers spreading white plaster dust all over everything. But that's all a part of whipping the place into shape!



Several JANE members attended the Platinum Evening fundraising event at Larz Anderson Auto Museum in November, during which three auto-related packages were raffled. JANE's **Keith Carlson** is smiling because he was the winner of one of the packages . . . would you believe a trip to the 2009 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance!



Dunlop Loyalty Program

Do you have Dunlop tires on any of your vehicles? JANE has been accepted into the Dunlop Loyalty Program. This program enables the club to buy all kinds of items using points that we've earned with our purchases. The points are obtained by the club by submitting copies of receipts for our purchases by club members.

Here are some of the items we can buy with our points:

Helmets	Travel Mugs
Autocross timing systems	Cameras
DVD Players	Tire Gauges
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So dig through your receipts and send copies of them to: Brenda Soussan
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The Five Rules of Slalom

By Adrian Curtis

I've just read Tom Parish's Fall Slalom write-up in the November *Coventry Cat*. Again, I took a little kidding about being off course on one (or maybe more) of my five runs. "DNF" is not necessarily a bad thing and I don't mind the kidding, but since I am in 1st place Class B, playing on the "5" theme, here are my five rules for slaloming.

No. 1: BE PASSIONATE -- You might get lucky (@#\$\$), but by and large, class winners are passionate about slalom. It takes a commitment to do well. A few passionate drivers we've seen at JANE slaloms include Dean Cusano, Bill Parish, anyone whose last name is Hagopian, and many others who are a blast to watch because they're trying so hard to win.

No. 2: TRY GAMESMANSHIP -- Are you slaloming at the fastest location? Is Hartford faster than Nashoba? I've raced sailboats under PHRF (Performance Handicap Racing Fleet), where each sailboat type is assigned a movable handicap number? Is it fair? It's the best we've got. Likewise, we have to accelerate out of the Nashoba start gate on a slightly graded uphill. The stop gate, where braking occurs, is slightly downslope. Does that affect times? Probably. The Wilmington slalom course we used in the past was very skewed in our favor and I recorded my best times there. Was that fair? We're participating in a national program here, and like PHRF, it's the best we've got. Each JCNA club gets two slaloms per year, usually in the spring and fall. If you have a good run in the spring, everyone in the country will try to best that time all summer long. Save your best for last. Our weather delay to October 19 was perfect. There were only two slaloms left, one in Arizona and one in Florida, and neither club has any Class B competitors.

No. 3: OPTIMIZE YOUR CAR -- I've read the JCNA slalom rules many times. They change. For 2008, C Types and D Types got thrown out of Class B. Finally, I had a chance. By JCNA rules, "a car in a stock class may substitute any Jaguar original or optional equipment wheel, tire, engine, brake, suspension, or functionally equivalent replacement component" of any other car in that class. Both my Class B XK120 and Class C MVII now have the largest legal torsion bars and sway bars. To make this happen, I had to buy 140 torsion bars on eBay, legal since the XK140 slaloms in Class B. However, to slalom the XK120 I remount my stock (smaller) sway bar for the day, because no 120, 140, or 150 came with anything larger. M2s had an optional HD sway bar. Bingo! That factory option allows me to use my MVII's HD sway bar when slaloming in Class C. Remove extra weight, spare tire, etc!

No. 4: HAVE A PLAN -- You've got five tries to get it right. Warm your tires in Round 1. Try something slightly different in Round 2. Change the apex, add throttle earlier, whatever in Round 3. Going off course means only that you're trying too hard and lost concentration. Hitting a cone means you misjudged. Neither matters, you've still got two more runs to make corrections. Slow down in Round 4, get back into the flow that works best. Round 5, let it rip! The track is the warmest and cleanest of the day. Your car is thoroughly warmed up. Just don't blow it unless you want to drive to Arizona or Florida!

No. 5: KNOW THE COMPETITION -- Mike Eck, from New Jersey, slalomed his XK120 on June 29 and had an excellent time of 48.444 seconds. I went to Nashoba on the 19th knowing what I needed to do! Bill Parish knows who's in 1st place in Class D. Right, Bill? There's only one first place trophy, and it's very nice! 🏆



Adrian's MVII on the Skid School course at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, New Hampshire. Photos by Buzz Hawes.

Roar *N* Soar at the Fantasy of Flight

By Eric Hagopian

An early November Saturday in Polk City, Florida, at the Fantasy of Flight was the perfect setting for a JCNA-sanctioned slalom. With the help of my mom and dad (Sue and Gary Hagopian), the Florida Jaguar clubs were able to organize a slalom that was held as one of the “roar” components of the Roar *N* Soar event at Fantasy of Flight. The venue is an absolutely fascinating display of (mostly airworthy) antique aircraft privately owned by one very fortunate fellow named Kermit – not of the Muppet family!

This was the second annual Roar *N* Soar event where antique warbirds such as the P51 Mustang and passenger aircraft like the Ford Tri-Motor “fly,” high-powered boats “pylon race,” and Jags as well as other vehicles “roar” at the slalom. In addition to the marvelous warbirds, there are other amazing aircraft -- stunt planes, powered parachutes, and model aircraft powered by piston and even jet engines! This is truly a sensory delight for motorheads like my family and yours!

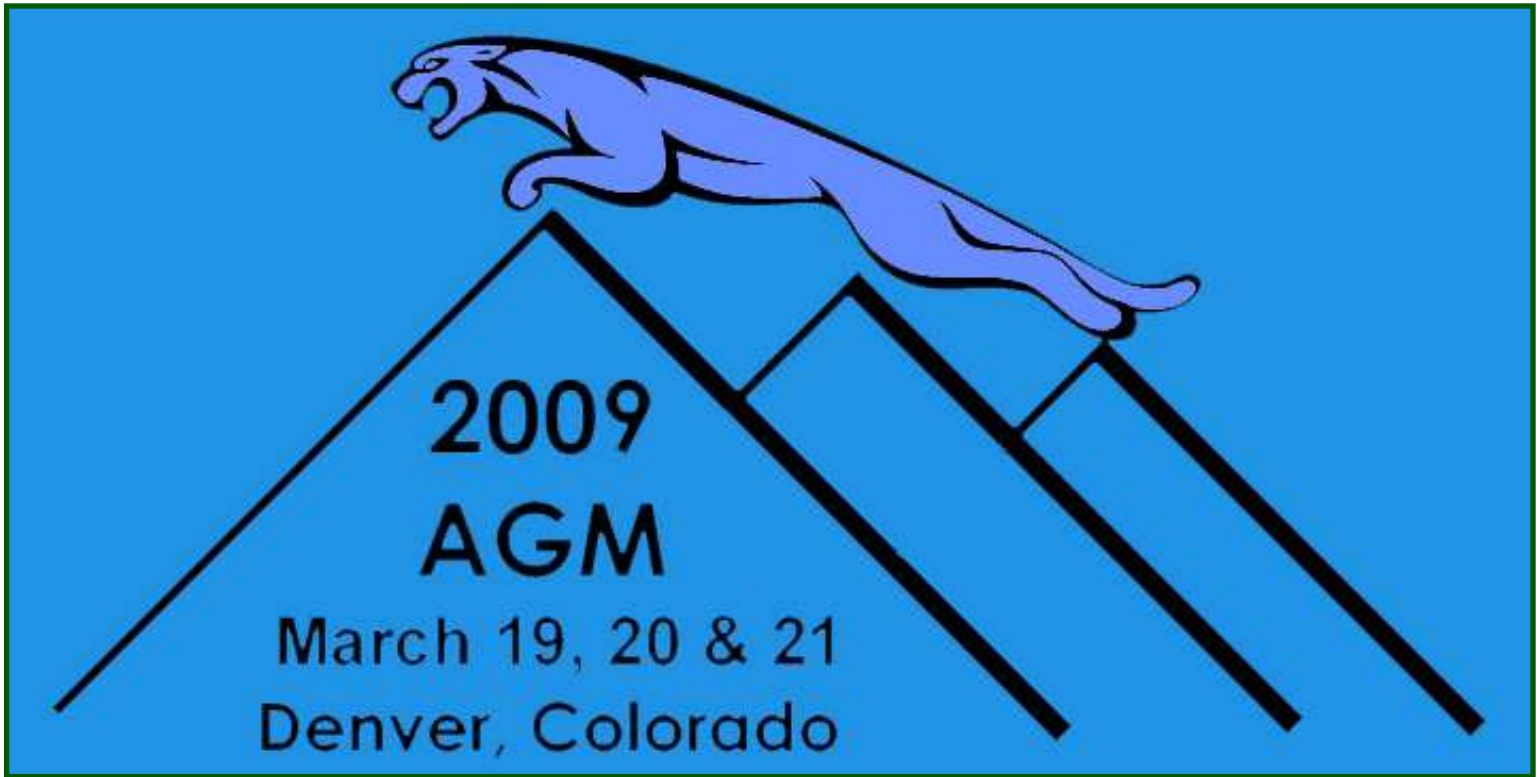
I’ve seen some crazy things at slaloms (even doing some of the crazy things there myself, as some have witnessed), but this was a first. When I started attending slaloms, the events were pretty much limited to Jaguars and other British marques. In the spirit of modern diversity, however, we’ve opened up the slalom events to more than just all British. We’ve seen everything from Honda Hybrids to full-out race cars, but this one takes the cake! The photo below shows a London double-decker city bus on the slalom course! OK, well I wasn’t raised to tell a lie – the bus didn’t actually compete, but it did make several “DNF’s” around the course and offered the onlookers a good belly laugh, so I thought I’d share the photo.

For the record, I also slalomed at this event. I slalomed my dad’s red E Type, but unfortunately I have no photos to show of my participation.

I’ll say that I’ve been attending JCNA events since I was knee high to a grasshopper, but this one was truly a delight. If you find yourself in the vicinity of Orlando, Florida, this place is a must see. It’s right off I-4 about 20 minutes west of Orlando. 🇬🇧



If this London double-decker city bus can slalom, anything can slalom!



The JCNA 2009 AGM will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Denver Colorado. Complete information about the hotel, the schedule, the activities -- a visit to the Cussler Museum (cars) and Wings Over the Rockies (airplanes) -- is now available at <http://www.agm09.com/>.



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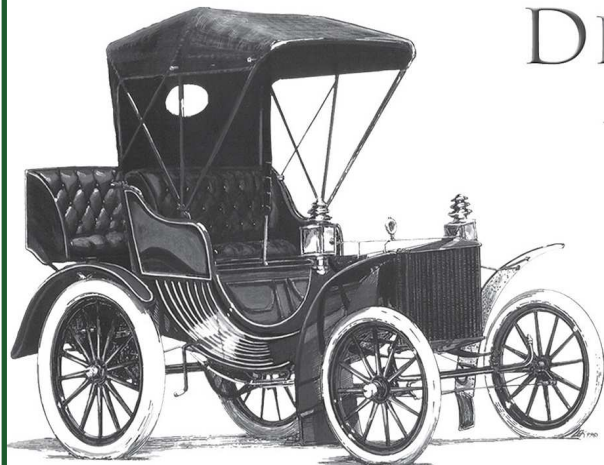
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Jaguar "R" Shift Knob

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\$59.95 each



Jaguar Wood & Chrome Shift Knob

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Jaguar Wood Shift Knob

GSW-125

- fits E-Type (61-74)

\$24.95 each



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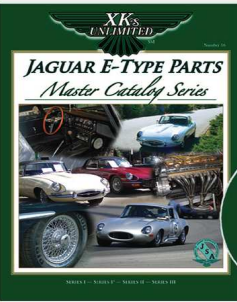
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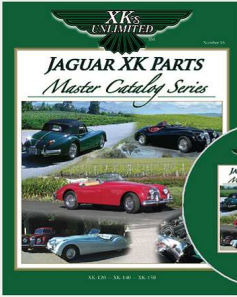
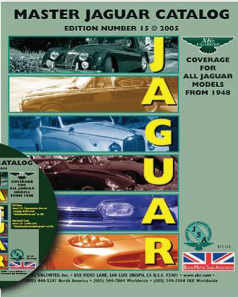
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CARS FOR SALE



1969 E-Type Series 2 -- This is a nice, driveable E-Type, purchased by the present owner 15 years ago. Mileage is 58,603. The car is very original and could be considered a "driver." To make it show quality it would need a re-paint, interior carpets, seat covers, and some weather stripping. The engine has been fitted with triple Webers, but the original dual Strombergs have been retained. Location: Bedford, MA. Price: Appraised at \$39,500. Ad placed by CHanson. Phone: 781-275-2707, E-Mail: chansonjag@aol.com. (8/08)



1961 Jaguar Mark IX - BRG & cream. Totally rust-free. Stripped to bare metal and re-sprayed its original color. Restored as daily driver, with new brake & fuel systems, front suspension, wiring harness, SS exhaust, and much more. Transmission replaced with rebuilt GM 700-R4 w/overdrive (original DG-35 gearbox included). New carpets (not yet installed). Factory bucket seats. Acceptable interior, restoration/dye kit included. \$18,000 firm. Tom Letourneau, Cumberland, RI. Phone: 401-334-3315. E-Mail: AlfaRacer1@cox.net (3/08)

1964 Jaguar 3.8 S-Type Project Car - This S-Type is a 4-speed with overdrive, wire wheels, less than 30,000 miles. Virtually rust-free body. Wood has been professionally refinished (\$2300), chrome replated (\$5500), 5 new Dayton wire wheels, 5 new Avon radial tires, 5 new knock-offs (\$2000). Front end all rebuilt with new parts. Thousands of dollars worth of new parts including 4 sill plates, rubber kit for the entire car, all aluminum parts polished. Pick your color combination, car needs interior and paint and lots of assembly. I have spent over \$10,000 in new parts. Asking \$12,000 or best offer. Robert Alexander, Allston MA, Phone: 617-783-1196. E-Mail: rnina3344@hotmail.com (7/07)

1992 Jaguar XJ40 Vanden Plas Majestic -- Top of the line, extremely rare, complete leather interior (doeskin). Color: Black Cherry Pearl. Cylinder head and differential rebuilt at 120,000 miles. Approximately 180,000 miles. Meticulously maintained. For details contact John or Carmen Chiungos at 978-692-3515. (9/08)



1973 XKE Roadster - Series III V12. 46,525 miles, 2nd owner, purchased 18 years ago. Excellent condition, 4 years in the Glen, NH museum. Signal Red with Black interior, hand carved mahogany dash, all original interior, radio, trim, etc. Have original title, and all service records since new. E-photos available. \$39,650 firm. Don Fitzgerald, New Hampshire. Phone: 603-383-9243 (summer number). E-Mail: p4t@adelphia.net (2/07)



1987 XJ6 - The last year for the Series III. This is an entirely ORIGINAL two-owner car that has always been garaged and well-maintained. I have owned her for 17 years. Total mileage is less than 41K. Dark metallic grey with medium grey interior. Excellent in every respect. All documents and car cover included. Pictures are available via email. \$10,500. Phil LaCasse, Boxford, MA, 978-887-8655, plsamfam@aol.com (11/07)

PARTS FOR SALE

1969 Series II Jaguar Bonnet - "Brand New". This front end sheet metal was purchased over twenty years ago from a parts dealer in RI. It is new and in near perfect condition aside from a couple of dings from being in a garage for so long. I have plenty of photos to share upon your request. Serious inquiries only please. Best fair offer takes it. Chris Kielb, 413-734-4544 or 413-531-7580, advance-welding@comcast.net (6/06)

Windscreen - For XKE Series III Roadster. This is an aftermarket windscreen. There are no pits or cracks. It is used, though. \$80. Ray, Norwell MA, 781-659-4024, crookjag@comcast.net (2/07)

E-Type Series I Radiator - When I rebuilt my '67 E-Type 4.2, I replaced the radiator with one of aluminum, so the original is surplus. Previous owner said it had been recored, but I cannot vouch for that. I never drove the car prior to the conversion to aluminum, so I have no experience with this radiator. The sale includes a high-quality aftermarket fan that is attached to the front of the radiator. Photos on request. \$400. Dennis, Boston area, 978-448-2566, dennis.eklof@verizon.net (7/07)

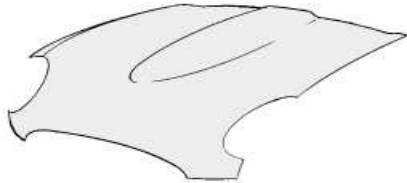
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Miscellaneous Parts from XJ-40 - Entire interior of this car has been stripped. Decorative items, chrome pieces, door seals, many pieces of wood trim, including the luxurious wooden Vanden Plas Picnic Tables, the front lights (markers and headlamps), the rear red marker lens, taillamps, interior lights, interior seats and seat belts, A/C compressor and air injection pump, both with clutches intact. Call or email Tom Letourneau (401-334-3315, or alfaracer1@cox.net) with your best offer. Proceeds to fund JANE's 24 Hours of LeMons project. Anything that doesn't sell will be put on eBay. (6/08)

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