

June 2016

# Desert Jaguar



Monthly Newsletter of the Jaguar Club of Southern Arizona



**This cool color scheme to be offered on all new Jaguars?**

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# The Prez Sez

Last summer we did not stage any driving trips in May, June, July and August as it was thought there was no demand for tours in the hot summer months. This year we reversed that decision and have reinstated driving events as it was felt that even if many snowbirds were away those members remaining would like to have the option of going on a monthly drive somewhere interesting. So far the participation in summer drives has been low; nevertheless if there are people prepared to organize trips then we will keep staging drives in the summer and hope the organizer's efforts will be appreciated. The May double overnight trip was thoroughly enjoyed by the small band of members that participated.



drive around the Targa Florio road race circuit - the oldest in the world. Other attractions will be Greek temples, baroque hill towns and the active volcano, Mount Etna. Read all about it in an upcoming issue of the Desert Jaguar. Speaking of which, it is possible that the July issue might not come out on the 1st of July because I will be motoring around Europe for most of June and will not have time to prepare it. However you never know - I might get ultra organized and squeeze it out on time.

My plea for someone to host our Holiday Party in December has borne fruit and Claire Hampton will host the event in her delightful home. Thank you so much Claire. And thanks also to Colleen Jacob who will help Claire with the arrangements.

Maggie and I are enjoying the vagaries of the English summer and are using the XKR and XK150 to zoom around the local country lanes and visit the wonderful country pubs that abound near our home on the border between England and Wales. Nothing beats a good pint of bitter and a plate full of roast beef or alternatively a cream tea on the banks of a gently winding stream.

In the last several newsletters we have included a Tech Forum with valuable advice given by Alan Cowan, proprietor of Falconworks. This month there is no article as there were no questions forthcoming from our members. The Tech Forum is a way of getting free technical advice from Alan the Expert so please take advantage of this excellent facility which is an asset to the club and should not be allowed to wither away due to lack of interest.

We have just about finished preparations for our XK tour of Europe which will start on June 13th. This year we will be taking eleven Jaguar XKs to the island of Sicily where the main attraction will be a

*Happy Motoring Fred Secker President*

## 2016 Driving Events

June 17	Queen Creek Olive Mill & Orthodox Monastery
July 20	Mount Lemon & Lunch at Iron Door
August 20	Karchner Caverns brunch and tour
September 18	Local drive and brunch
October 22	Double overnight White Mountains fall colors
November 12	Concours
December tba	Holiday Party

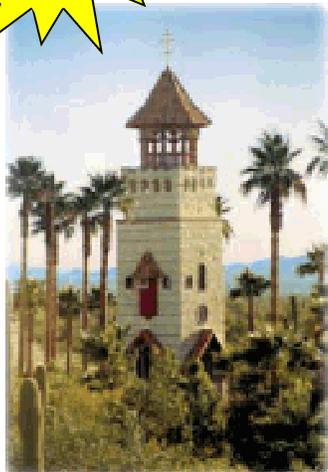
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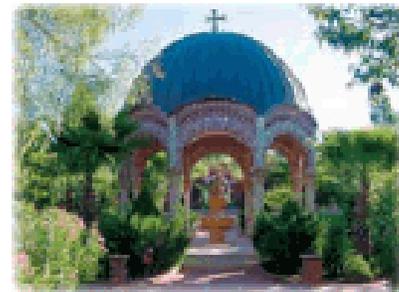
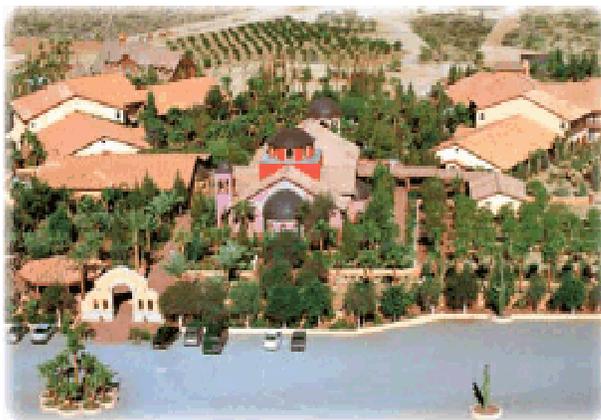
Next  
Event!

## Greek June Jag Jaunt

June 17



*St. George Chapel's Belfry*



*The Central Fountain (Fiali)*

### Join us for a Greek inspired June Jag Jaunt

On June 17th we will be driving to St. Anthony's Greek Monastery to see eight unique churches and stroll thru their serene oasis gardens. See <http://www.stanthonysmonastery.org/> for details of this special place. The chapels are in Greek, Russian and Romanian architecture styles and are filled with beautiful wood carvings, icons, and brass chandeliers from Greece. There is also a small book and gift shop with interesting items. This is a truly remarkable and unusual site that few people are even aware exists here in the Sonoran desert.

We will meet at the Basha's parking lot (next to the Valero) on Oracle Road and Golder Ranch Dr, 15310 N. Oracle Road, Catalina at 9:30 am and leave promptly at 9:45 am for the monastery. It is off of Hwy 79 near Florence. There is no fee for the monastery, but they do welcome a small voluntary donation if you would like to do so.

**NOTE - THERE IS A DRESS CODE** at the monastery. The monks are extremely welcoming, but this is an active religious community and guests must be modest and respectful in their dress. That means that everyone must have long sleeves, long pants for men, and women must have ankle length skirts, modest necklines and head coverings. The monks do keep some loaner scarves and skirts available at the entrance for those who need them. Everyone's feet must also be covered (sandals with socks work ok) and comfy shoes recommended. This does make for some interesting fashion photo ops!

After our visit, we will head back to Catalina for a Greek lunch at "It's Greek to Me" deli, <http://www.itsgreektometucson.com>. (This is a deviation from the originally planned lunch at Queen Creek, but current construction/utility work along the route to Queen Creek made this a difficult drive for right now).

#### "It's Greek to Me" Deli



## Prescott/Jerome Double Overnighter

May 20th - 22nd

With Prescott and Jerome awaiting on a beautiful Friday morning, a small contingent of dedicated JCSA drivers gathered to start our trip to Prescott/Jerome. After a quick drivers' meeting including maps and sights info, we saddled up and hit the road.

Since we used one of Herbie Hampton's and Chuck Zimmerman's old driving routes, it was a bit of a nostalgic drive. Once out of Gila Bend, the group headed through some of Arizona's remote agricultural back areas, passing sorghum fields, solar farms, an egg ranch, vintage bridge, the old Vulture Gold Mine, rows of mailboxes (but no homes??), and even a few cows. In Wickenburg, we lunched at the Los Caballeros Golf Club where discussions ranged from Murphy's Law to, oddly enough, crock pot liners. We're a diverse bunch!

As always, the best and most beautiful part of the drive is from Wickenburg through Peeples Valley and up the mountains to Prescott. The charming old Hotel Vendome (est 1917) just off the courthouse square awaited us with vintage furnishings and a cheerful staff. Claire Hampton and Colleen Jacobs set up a lovely cocktail hour(s!) providing us with a club-sponsored delicious assortment of hors d'oeuvres and wine while we relaxed in the porch/courtyard areas and chatted with passersby.

Saturday saw most of us heading out again for a great drive (well, if we could get the slow vehicles out of our way!) the rest of the way up to Jerome. A stop at the Douglas Mansion in Jerome State Park was on the trip itinerary and provided lots of historical background on the town. When we were done enjoying the museum and views at the park, everyone was on their own for the afternoon. Most of us opted to join in Jerome's 51<sup>st</sup> Home Tour – an annual event that happened to be this weekend. Unusual and imaginative homes that illustrated the diversity of Jerome's people and history ranged from a Craftsman bungalow to a very upscale miner's "shack". Hard to see and do everything in one day even in little Jerome!

Back in Prescott, Rick and Rita Skillman who decided to spend the day in town enjoying the architecture and shops, met up with the rest of us for dinner at El Gato Azul. Al fresco dining with a great assortment of tapas and even better conversation finished the day.

Sunday, half the group headed right home and the other half again headed out again on back roads, stopping at Monezuma's Castle and then for a relaxing picnic lunch at Lake Roosevelt.

It was great to do one of the club's favorite trips again!



# Jaguar Speed Records from the Archives

## 1949

In May 1949 Jaguar demonstrated an XK120 roadster to the press on the high-speed autoroute between Jabbeke and Aeltre in Belgium. The road was closed for the occasion. The white left-hand drive car, chassis number 670002, was the second XK120 built. Jaguar's development engineer Walter Hassan was to have driven but fell ill, so Jaguar test-driver Ron "Soapy" Sutton substituted. With hood and sidescreens erected, and the airflow under the car improved by the addition of a full-length aluminium undertray, the Jaguar was timed through the flying mile by the Royal Automobile Club of Belgium at **126.448 mph**. With hood, sidescreens and windscreen removed, a metal airflow deflector fitted in front of the driver, and with a tonneau cover fastened over the passenger side of the cockpit the speed improved to **132.596 mph** (213.393 km/h). The Observer's Book of Automobiles said it was the fastest production car in the world. In 1953 Jaguar was again at Jabbeke's closed off highway. On October 21, 1953 Jaguar test driver Norman Dewis drove a modified XK120 to a two-way average flying mile 172.412 mph.



## 1950

Leslie Johnson and Stirling Moss drove an XK120 roadster, road-registered JWK 651 at an average speed of **107.46 mph** for 24 hours (including stops for fuel and tyres) at the Autodrome de Montlhéry, a steeply banked oval track near Paris. The first time a production car had averaged over 100 mph for 24 hours. Changing drivers every three hours, the Jaguar covered 2579.16 miles, with a best lap of **126.2 mph**.

## 1951

Leslie Johnson drove solo at **131.83 mph** for one hour at Montlhéry. "No mean feat...driving at almost twice today's maximum (UK) speed limit into a steep turn, assaulted by the G-Force induced by 30 degree banking twice every minute, using Forties technology, leaf spring suspension and narrow crossply tyres...Johnson remarked that the car felt so good it could have gone on for another week, an off-the-cuff comment that sowed the seed for another idea. Flat out for a week..."

## 1952

Johnson, Moss, Hadley and Jack Fairman drove an XK120 fixed-head coupé at **100.31 mph** for 7 days and 7 nights, again at Montlhéry. William Lyons, mindful of the considerable kudos and advertising mileage that had already accrued from Johnson's previous exploits, commandeered a brand new XK120 FHC for him: bronze-colored, and fitted with wire wheels, it was Jaguar chief engineer Walter Hassan's car, the second right-hand drive coupé made. The car broke a spring on the track's rough concrete surface when already well into the run. No spare was carried, and regulations stipulated that a replacement from outside would make the car ineligible for any further records beyond those already achieved before the repair. Johnson drove nine hours



to save the other drivers from added risk while the speed had to be maintained on the broken spring. When he finally stopped to have it replaced, the car had taken the world 72-hour record at 105.55 mph, world four-day record at 101.17 mph, world 10,000-kilometer record at 107.031 mph, world 15,000-kilometer record at 101.95 mph, and world 10,000-mile record at 100.65 mph. After the repair the car went on to complete the full seven days and nights, covering a total of 16,851.73 miles at an average speed of 100.31 mph.

# JCNA looking for a few good men & women

Below is a letter from JCNA to myself which I reprint here. If you are interested in being Regional Director for the SW Region please let me know and I will forward your nomination.

- Fred Secker, President, JCSA

Well, it is again that time of year for those individuals who would like to step up to the next level of their interest and dedication to the **Jaguar Clubs of North America**, and consider seeking the office of **Regional Director** and serving on the Board of Directors of **JCNA**. The nominations are now open for each of the six regions of **JCNA** for the **2017--2019** (i.e.- two year) term of Office. Nominations must be made in accordance with the **JCNA Bylaws** -(as stated below)- by submission of a duly completed "**Nomination for Regional Director Form**" -found in the **Library**-link on the **JCNA.com** web-site, and mailed (or faxed) to me **AND Harold Leggett -JCNA Administrator** - before **AUGUST 1st, 2016**.

Serving on the **JCNA Nominating Committee**, it is the Committee's duty to compile a list of one or more Candidates seeking office for the **2017-to-2019** Board of Directors from each Region - **before August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** -(only 2 months away).

Unfortunately, **Doug Dechant** (your current **South-West Regional Director**) has decided that he will **NOT** be able to seek re-election as the **JCNA** Director of the **S-W Region**, and therefore **JCNA** is now urgently seeking someone willing to "Step-up-to-the-Plate" to assume the role that Doug has so ably filled during his tenure in representing your Region on the **JCNA Board-of-Directors**.

It is our hope that someone in your Club would be interested in serving on the Board of Directors, -as a Regional Director of the **S-W Region**- and the Committee would welcome your recommendations and help in recruitment of any such interested and qualified candidates as your Regional Director, and perhaps thru your help, **JCNA** can continue on the path that you have helped establish for your own Club.

The requirement for nomination and candidacy for the Board of Directors of **JCNA** is as follows:

## **ARTICLE VI. DIRECTORS**

**Section 3. Nomination of Regional Director Candidates:** *A JCNA group may nominate a member in good standing by submitting a written nomination bearing the signatures and membership numbers of two officers and the nominee; OR Any member may nominate a member in good standing by submitting a written nomination bearing both membership numbers and countersigned by the nominee: OR The Nominating Committee may nominate a member in good standing by executing a written nomination bearing the signatures and membership numbers of the Nominating Committee members and the nominee. With the exception of a Nominating Committee written nomination, all other nominations must be made by members and nominees residing in the Region to be represented. All nominees for office must have been members in good standing for at least twelve months prior to their nomination.*

I won't say to you that serving as a Regional Director is a "Walk-in-the-Park" -as they must attend one or two meetings each year (i.e.- the **AGM** and sometimes a short Fall meeting), and partake in "on-line" discussions involving the "day-to-day" business of **JCNA**. (Some basic Computer knowledge in e-mail usage is therefore needed.) This is in addition to serving on the front-line in representing the many **JCNA** members of your Region, and the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of **JCNA**. The remuneration for this effort is solely the personal satisfaction of a "Job well done", and the appreciation of the several Jaguar Clubs and many **JCNA** members which they represent. (See **JCNA By-laws - ARTICLE IV- Sect. 1-3 - for more details of R/D Duties**)

Gerald Ellison (E-mail : [nominating@jcna.com](mailto:nominating@jcna.com) )  
P.O. Box 41721  
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AND to: Harold Leggett (the JCNA administrator) (e.mail: [admin@jcna.com](mailto:admin@jcna.com))  
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**First Wednesday Dinner**

# Harvest on River

**Wednesday June 1st**

Join us for our monthly social dinner at the River Center on Craycroft and River for an informal fun filled evening spent with like thinking Jaguar lovers. This is the perfect spot to socialize and for new joiners to meet with existing members.

Two menus are available - the normal Dinner Menu and the Sunset Menu. Happy hour is until 6 pm when there will be \$2 off glasses of wine & beer, half priced house cocktails & well drinks & \$6 apps. There is a bar area with tall tables where we can gather for mix and mingle as usual and the dinner seating will be at long tables at the far end of the room next to the fireplace. They will supply separate checks.

**There is no need to RSVP as they have been told how many to expect.  
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## Jaguar's Ex-service Recruitment

- UK's largest vehicle manufacturer aims to deliver a five-fold increase on ex-service recruitment in the next four years.
- Renewed commitment to skills and training opens up new opportunities and careers to military heroes.
- The move supports the company's ambition to become the employer of choice for service leavers. New North American Veterans programme is a significant milestone and signals the expansion of programmes offered by the Jaguar Land Rover Learning Academy.

Jaguar Land Rover today announced it aims to increase the number of ex-service men and women employed across its global operations to 1000 by 2020 - a five-fold increase on recruitment since 2013. This news came as the UK's largest vehicle manufacturer welcomed the start of the 2016 Invictus Games in Orlando, Florida. The company has been Presenting Partner of the Invictus Games since the inaugural event in London in 2014 and has committed to continuing its support for the 2017 Games to be held in Toronto, Canada.

Ian Harnett, Executive Director of Human Resources at Jaguar Land Rover said: "It is fitting that this announcement comes ahead of the Invictus Games, an inspirational event that demonstrates the resilience and dedication of those in the armed forces. I am immeasurably proud that through our company, and the Jaguar Land Rover Learning Academy, we have been able to give hundreds of ex-service personnel the opportunity to rebuild their lives and careers.

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