

November 2014

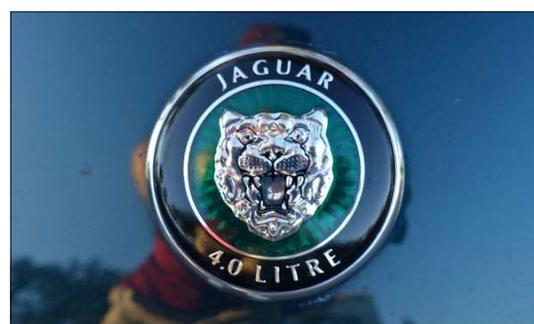
# Desert Jaguar



Monthly Newsletter of the Jaguar Club of Southern Arizona



## Concours D'Elegance - October 2014



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## The Prez Sez

This year's Concours was a resounding success and St Philip's Plaza was once again the venue for a glorious display of Jaguars old and new. On days such as this we get to see first hand a range of beautifully prepared machines of the cat variety and to reflect on how lucky we are to belong to such a fraternity. Event Chair Dan Eklund and Chief Judge Chan Dayton deserve the highest commendation for staging this excellent event. Their enthusiasm and organizational ability is to be greatly admired. They and their entire team did a great job. Dan's report is on page 4 along with some terrific photos by Carroll Lam. There has been too little time to include the results of the judging in this newsletter so a full list will appear in the December issue.



Now we have two great events to look forward to. The double overnighter to Valley Verde on November 7 and the Holiday Party on December 14.

The Valley Verde trip has been organized by the Terrific Trio of Carol Anderson, Cathy Alexander and Colleen Jacob who had a great time on the scouting trip and have put together a wonderful itinerary for us. This is one not to miss.

The Holiday Party will be held at Cathy and Jack's lovely home in the foothills which is the perfect spot for our year end celebrations. The catering will be by AJs which has in the past proved to be of very high quality.

On October 4 we drove to Kitt Peak Observatory for a tour of the facility and a picnic. Carroll Lam and Doug Dechant combined to plan this outing and what a success it turned out to be. As you will see from Carroll's report on page 6 there was a great turn out and active participation by Royal Jaguar who supplied a superb catering package and sponsored the guided tour. Hopefully Royal will be encouraged by this success to repeat the formula in the future.

It is very good to see that our club is in such good shape. Fabulous cars, great events and lovely people. The future is lookin' good!

Happy Motoring,  
Fred Secker

"Money may not bring happiness but I would rather be sad in a Jaguar than on a bus"  
*Francoise Sagan*

### Board Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Council on Saturday November 15 at 1pm in the conference room at Royal Jaguar. All members are welcome to attend.

### Upcoming Events

|             |                                       |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| November 5  | First Wednesday Dinner at Firebirds   |
| November 7  | Verde Valley double overnight         |
| December 3  | First Wednesday Dinner at Firebirds   |
| December 14 | Holiday Party at Cathy & Jack's place |
| January     | Mystery Drive                         |

### JCSA Officials

|                |                    |              |                         |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| President      | Fred Secker        | 520 574 3042 | fred@secker.uk.net      |
| VP Events      | Richard Mandziak   | 520 207-1155 | rmandziak@cox.net       |
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| Editor         | Fred Secker        | 520 574 3042 | fred@secker.uk.net      |
| Concours Chair | Dan Eklund         | 520 250 8209 | daneklund@msn.com       |
| Chief Judge    | Chan Dayton        | 410 370 2340 | mitchdayton@cs.com      |
| Membership     | Doug Dechant       | 520 441 2028 | ddechant@wbhsi.net      |
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| Web Master     | Maggie Secker      | 520 574 3042 | maggie@secker.uk.net    |
| Adv. Council   | Diana Raymond      | 520 360 4991 | d.raymond@me.com        |
|                | Doug Dechant       | 520 441 2028 | ddechant@wbhsi.net      |
|                | Bill Badger        | 520 577 3246 | badgerbd@aol.com        |
|                | Skip Bailey        | 520 219 2578 | skip-bailey@comcast.net |
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## Our 42nd Concours D'Elegance

### The Chairperson's Perspective - Dan Eklund

This year's event got to be very challenging. In prior years, there has always been the Windmill Inn for people to stay, ample parking around the hotel, choice of restaurants for lunch following the judging and the nice courtyard for the event to take place. In June, the Windmill Inn closed to be reincarnated as a Hilton Homewood Suites to open in early October. That didn't last long with the opening date sliding to late October and now sometime in November. Along with that, Anthony's in the Foothills restaurant closed its doors. That left an opening for Daniel Scordato to move Vivace's to the Anthony's location. Now the old Vivace's restaurant would be rebuilt to become a Mexico City restaurant. It had a construction fence installed around it and the changes began. The construction fence would be down in mid-October and there would be little impact to the courtyard. Those who looked at the courtyard thought it was all workable. The work went slower and the fence did not come down. Then two days before the Concours, the contractors had to make changes to some underground (under courtyard) piping. Hence there was another 10 feet of courtyard gone from the South gate to the end of the restaurant to prepare for additional trees. The courtyard now had new cement and additional construction barriers. That is the way it looked event day. This is where a miracle should occur – it did not, but with fantastic help from everyone involved, the cars were all parked and there was still room for an additional 5 or 6. Thank you Andy and the team. There was fantastic cooperation between the new property managers, the new Farmer's Market manager, and the Concours team. All went smoothly. We had sole use of the bank parking lot for staging the cars. The property manager and

Farmer's Market manager were both on-site from 0700 on to make sure everything was running smoothly and there were not any conflicts. There were none.

We had twenty cars this year including two for display. Chief Judge Chan Dayton had a judge's training session in mid-October with ten people attending. We had judges from our out-of-town guests volunteer so we ended up with extra judges being available if required. On the day the judging went very smoothly so a big thank you to Chan. We had 34 people attend the Friday night gathering on the patio at the Embassy Suites. Some wore costumes which were enjoyed by all. Everyone enjoyed the evening with lots of hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine. After the judging was completed on Saturday about 30 people had lunch at the Union Pub. The awards ceremony and dinner was held at the Westward Look Resort with 39 people attending. A silent auction was held before the dinner bringing in a total of \$1,485 including cash donations for support of our designated charities. Following dinner, Chan announced the winners of the classes and the trophies were awarded to the entrants. Raffle prizes were given out during the dinner and a large floral bouquet after the awards. Special Thanks to Colleen Jacob and Carol Anderson for their work on creating the table center pieces and some of the silent auction items. A special thank you goes to Cathy for her support and help in preparation for the event.

Thank you all for making the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Concours d'Elegance a huge success. For next year, we already have Colleen Jacob and Marianne Fortunato volunteered to be co-chairs for the event.





Photos by Carroll Lam

## Picnic at Kitt Peak Observatory

### A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

By Carroll Lam

The JCSA-sponsored drive to Kitt Peak National Observatory in early October was a great success. Some 14 cars and 18 current, or about-to-be, club members were there along with four **Royal Jaguar** customers (potential club members!) and some five Royal Jaguar employees and family. This added up to some 27 people for the trip. **Thanks to the initiative of Doug DeChant, Royal Jaguar** was a co-sponsor of the event and also provided both food and telescope tour sponsorship.

The drive was delayed from its original date because of Pacific hurricane(s) leftover weather in Tucson, but Doug Dechant's recommendation for a new date of October 4<sup>th</sup> turned out to a beautiful day for a drive through the Sonoran desert and up the fine road to the observatory, both studded with beautiful Arizona views. The drive across the desert and up the mountain was a great opportunity for some members to "clean the carbon" out of their engines. In fact, one of our driver's was "certified" by the local gendarmes in the outskirts of Tucson on the way out.

Arriving at the observatory we spent an hour or so in the cool shade of some of the observatory's trees enjoying a variety of cheeses and fruits provided by **Royal Jaguar**. When finished with this lovely cooling off period we were off to the visitor center to begin our tour.

The tour was initiated by a nice talk in the visitor center by the tour docent on the history of the Kitt Peak Observatory and some fundamentals of astronomical telescopes. A short walk took us up to the 2.1 meter telescope facility with stops along the way for docent comments on various observatory facilities. The docent gave us a description of the telescope and its uses, and then it was back to the visitor center.

A short two mile drive took us to the observatory's picnic area. There, **John Farinsky, Royal Jaguar's** service manager, and his team laid out a great picnic spread for us. Despite this being an almost record heat day (for this date) in Tucson, the 6000-foot altitude of Kitt Peak and nice breezes made for perfect picnic weather. Lot's of bragging about various Jaguar cars ensued.

The return to Tucson included a required stop at a Border Patrol checkpoint. As far as I know, all of our drivers were passed through successfully.

Once again, we'd like to thank **Royal Jaguar** for their sponsorship and participation. We're looking forward to joining with them again in some future events.



#### Attendees

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Carroll Lam                        | F-Type Roadster |
| Carol, Darrell Anderson & Grandson | XK8 Roadster    |
| Ron Meyer & Abbe Burns             | XJ Van den Plas |
| Doug & Shirley Dechant             | XK8 Roadster    |
| Dan & Cathy Eklund                 | S-Type          |
| Michael Wsol                       | XKR Roadster    |
| Frank Zunno                        | XJ Van den Plas |
| Michael & Gail von Pinnon          | XKR Roadster    |
| Chan & Jude Dayton                 | XK8 Roadster    |
| Richard & Rita Skillman            | E-Type Roadster |
| NON-CLUB attendees                 |                 |
| Stan & Chris Turney                | XF              |
| Dan Stone & Genevive               | XJ              |
| John Farinsky (Royal Jaguar)       | XJL             |
| Heather Baldwin (Royal Jaguar)     | Range Rover     |
| John Smith (Royal Jaguar)          | XF              |

# More Kitt Peak Pics.....



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## *Douglas Dechant*

### *Candidate for the Regional Director Position Southwest Region*



With twenty-five years of executive experience in sales and marketing in the telecommunication industry, I worked closely with AT&T and Verizon's largest national customers. In both corporations, I worked directly with the Executive and Legislative branches of the U. S. Federal Government, the U.S. Military and large corporations as Farmers Insurance. Therefore I bring a tremendous amount of successful executive experience to both the Jaguar Club of North America and especially the local clubs in the SW Region.

In 1998 we purchased a 1996 Jaguar XJ6. After 100,000 trouble free miles it was totaled in a car accident in 2003. We currently own two beautiful Jaguars, the 2003 XK8 (a three times Concours first in class winner) and a 2011 XJ.

In 2012 I was elected President of the Jaguar Club of Southern Arizona (JCSA). In 2013, I served as Executive Assistant to the JCSA President, Concours Co-Chair, JCSA Membership Committee Chair and the local Jaguar Dealer liaison. In 2014, I am the co-Chair of the JCNA Membership Committee. I continue to be the JCSA Membership Chair and our Jaguar dealer liaison.

I would be honored to be considered for the open position of JCNA Southwest Regional Director. There is a lot of work the Board is doing and I would like to ensure that our members are aware of it.

Therefore I will provide every club in the SW Region with the following:

A report of what was discussed at the AGM, decisions made and any other important information that would help enhance our members experience with JCNA.

A report of what was discussed at the yearly Board of Directors meeting, especially initiatives tabled and those moved forward.

I will ask your opinion on matters that affect you in the SW Region and carry your ideas to the Board.

In addition I will travel to each club and meet with you. I want to hear what you have to say and how JCNA can better support your efforts.

I will provide an open door policy so you have easy access to me.

I will work closely with Jack Humphrey to forward his initiatives and continue to be your advocate within JCNA.

Thank you for your consideration and hopefully your vote.

Doug Dechant

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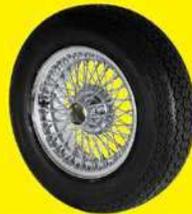
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