

# The Coventry Cat

The Newsletter  
of the

Jaguar Association  
of New England

Vol 11 - Num 10  
October 2009



*XK120s belonging to JANE's Ken Loring, John Brady, and Carl Hanson at the British Invasion Friday Night Block Party in Stowe, Vermont*

*Photo by John Brady*

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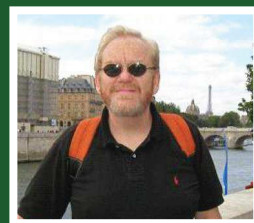
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# President's Update October 2009



## Bylaws update . . . ready to nominate new officers for 2010 . . . more events in October

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

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Michael Kaleel • Alan Quinn • Dave Randall  
Francisco Silva • Herb Strachman

### The Coventry Cat

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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**

As many of you may know, JANE has not had official legal status as a 501(c) non-profit organization with the federal government. Without this 501(c) recognition, JANE could be taxed as a corporation. Needless to say, we as a club need to straighten this out. I have been working for the past year with Aldo Cipriano, Don Holden, and a CPA to amend our bylaws and to have the appropriate filings with the IRS.

At our September monthly meeting we had an affirmative vote by the JANE Board of Directors to amend our bylaws to read:

**"In the event of termination, dissolution, or winding up of the Corporation in any manner or for any reason whatsoever, its remaining assets, if any, shall be distributed to (to the extent feasible) one or more organizations which, in the opinion of the Board of Directors will carry on activities which are analogous to those of the Corporation; provided, however, that any organization described in Section 501 (9c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code is not exempt as under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code."**

The next steps (also approved by the Board of Directors) will be the filings with the IRS and annual updates to the IRS on an ongoing basis.

Chuck Centore has once again volunteered to lead a nominating committee for the election of new officers and board members to serve JANE for 2010. If you would like to become an officer or join the Board of Directors, please contact Chuck at cpc@anaconusa.com. Serving as an officer or director is a great way to enhance your JANE membership. New officers and directors will be voted in at our Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party on December 6th.

By the time you read this, the JANE trip to the Owls Head Transportation Museum in Tenants Harbor, Maine, hosted by Ed and Cheryl Avis, will have taken place. This is a great event and I'm sure was a lot of fun for the attendees.

Coming up this month:

October 10th, Jungle Cat Racing and Tech Session at Upton Foreign Motors

Contact Tom Moses at 978-580-7416

October 11th, Salem Witch Museum and North Shore Fall Foliage Tour


Contact Carl Hanson at 781-275-2707

October 24th, JANE Fall Slalom

Contact Tom Parish at 978-828-4707 or Bill Parish at 978-486-9830

Check our website at [www.j-a-n-e.org](http://www.j-a-n-e.org) for additional events and more details.

As an alternative on October 11th, JANE members are invited to drive their vintage Jaguars in the Columbus Day Parade in Boston. See more information about this on page 10, and if interested, please contact Dean Saluti at 617-285-6565.

Our regular monthly meeting will feature a guest speaker, J. Warren Alessi, who worked for Jaguar Rover Triumph back in the 1970s. He will regale us with how things worked in PR for Jaguar at that time. Hope you can make it. As usual, we will be at Longfellow's Wayside Inn in Sudbury, MA. 

RAY

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

# From the Editor

## WHEN

## WHAT

## WHERE

### October

2-4 - Fri - Sun	Owls Head Foreign Car Show Weekend	Owls Head, ME
2-4 - Fri - Sun	9th Annual British Legends Weekend	East Falmouth, MA
4 - Sun	JCSNE Slalom	Hartford, CT
10 - Sat - 9 a.m.	JANE Tech Sessions at Upton Foreign Motors	Upton, MA
11 - Sun - 8:45 a.m.	JANE North Shore Fall Foliage Tour	Salem, MA
24 - Sat - 8 a.m.	JANE Fall Slalom	Devens in Ayer, MA
28 - Wed - 7 p.m.	JANE Monthly Meeting with J. Warren Alessi as Dinner Speaker	Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA

### November

18 - Wed - 7 p.m.	JANE Monthly Meeting	Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA
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### December

06 - Sun - 3 p.m.	JANE Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party	Vesper Country Club, Tyngsbury, MA
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**CHECK THE CALENDAR ON THE JANE WEBSITE OFTEN**

**WWW.J-A-N-E.ORG**

**THERE ARE MORE EVENTS THERE THAN WILL FIT IN THE CAT CALENDAR!**

## Corrections

In the September issue of *The Coventry Cat*, I identified the Best in Show winner in the Driven Division at the JANE Jaguar Festival and Concours incorrectly. The winner, with his white 1966 3.4s Saloon, was actually Richard Podoloff.

I also ran the wrong photo as John Fuller's XK120 People's Choice Winner.

The photos below are Richard Podoloff receiving his Best in Show award from Margaret Caruolo and John Fuller's beautiful racer, with number 466 on its side.

*Prebble*

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**Richard Podoloff accepting his trophy for Best in Show in Driven Division from Margaret Caruolo**



**People's Choice Winner, John Fuller's XK120 racer**



# Upcoming Events

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



Longfellow's Wayside Inn

**J**ANE's monthly meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except for November and December). Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 28th, at Longfellow's Wayside Inn, and we will have a featured dinner speaker, J. Warren Alessi. Warren is a professional pinstriper, graphics artist, and illustrator. His work can be seen around the area on building signage, motorcycles, cars, and trucks. During the 1970s Warren worked for Jaguar Rover Triumph out of Leonia, NJ. He was responsible for illustrations, posters, logos, graphics displays, and much more. Come and hear his tales of the good old days and how he personally met Sir William Lyons.

Our meetings are lively and fun, and they begin at 7 p.m. Come a little early, though, to schmooze a while in the Old Bar with other JANE members before dinner and the meeting. 🍷

## **JANE Tech Sessions at Upton Foreign Motors** **Saturday, October 10th**

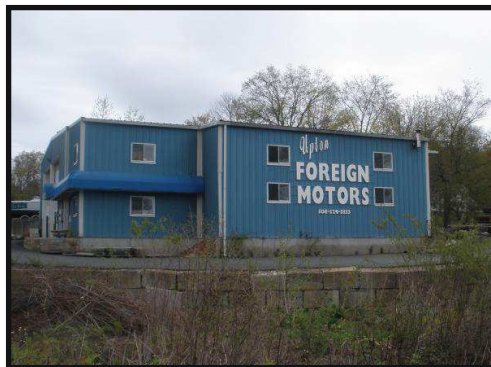
**Jungle Cat Racing and Tech Session**  
**Tech Session and Lift Time**  
**Tech Session and Safety Inspection**

**O**n Saturday, October 10th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., JANE member Dana Schwehr is hosting all of the above for JANE at his facility in Upton, MA. a new exhaust system. We are hoping that the car will be in race-ready condition for the next slalom event.

Dana is a Certified Gold Jaguar Service Technician with 20 years experience, and his new Upton Foreign Motors facility will be open to JANE members and their guests. Members who bring cars will be treated to lift time and a free safety inspection.

Dana advises that getting your vehicle on the lift provides a unique perspective of the underside of the car. Whether you do your own work or not, familiarity with the vehicle is a plus. Dana can provide his expertise in letting you know how to get your car running at optimal performance levels.

JANE's XJ40 club racer, known also as the "LeMons" car, will also be available for viewing. This XJ40 successfully ran the 24 Hours of LeMons in 2008. After completing over 1100 grueling laps, the car was in need of a radiator hose, a crank speed sensor, and a new Plexiglass windshield. Additionally, the catalytic converters need to be replaced with



Jungle Cat Racing is grateful that Dana is available to help keep the racer mechanically fit. In addition to providing his technical expertise, Dana is storing the car and giving us a place to work. Upton Foreign Motors is supporting JANE's ongoing effort to provide a club racer for member use.

Members wanting free lift time and an inspection should RSVP by email before October 5th. We will have regalia for sale, along with coffee and donuts in the morning, and lunch for \$5.

Upton Foreign Motors is conveniently located at 138 Milford Street (Route 140) in Upton, MA, 508-529-4040. Take 495 to Exit 21B (Main Street

toward Upton). Main Street turns into Hopkinton Road when you enter Upton. Follow that to School Street (on your left). School Street ends at 140. Take a left onto 140. Upton Foreign Motors is 1.2 miles on the left. Proceed to the very top of the hill. Parking is in the rear. **Call Tom Moses at 978-580-7416 for any other details.** 🍷

**SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 18 WITH RELATED  
INFORMATION ABOUT DANA SCHWEHR'S  
UPTON FOREIGN MOTORS**

## North Shore Fall Foliage Tour

### Sunday, October 11th



Salem Witch Museum

**The fall colors are expected to be spectacular this year. To take advantage of the season, JANE member Biff Michaud has set up a delightful tour of Boston's North Shore during the peak of the fall foliage color season.**

Besides being an outstanding guide for our tour, Biff is the CEO of the Salem Witch Museum ([www.salemwitchmuseum.com](http://www.salemwitchmuseum.com)). And he is offering our tour participants a special deal, free admission to a private showing at the museum featuring the Salem Witch Trials. This event will get you jump-started for Halloween!

Here's the deal . . . let either Biff or Carl Hanson know if you are coming by Friday, October 9th (**we must have a head count for this event!**), then show up at the Salem Witch Museum, 19 1/2 Washington Square North, Salem, MA (on Rt. 1A, diagonally across from the Salem Common) on Sunday, October 11th, **before** 8:45 a.m. for admission to

the museum. The presentation starts at 9 a.m., and latecomers may not be admitted as part of the JANE group.

After the presentation, Biff will hand out route instructions with turn-by-turn directions by mileage and descriptions of the sights along the way. Biff urges us to have a navigator who can read the directions and the descriptions to drivers and riders in our cars. We will try to caravan as a group through the North Shore communities of Beverly, Prides Crossing, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Essex, Ipswich, Hamilton, and Wenham. The tour will include a noontime stop at the famous **Woodman's** in



Essex, where you can put a bib around your neck and indulge in a lobster if you want, and will end around 3 p.m.

with a stop for ice cream at the outstanding **Cherry Farm Creamery** in Danvers.

Please let us know if you are planning to attend . . . Biff Michaud at his office number, 978-808-5400, or Carl Hanson at his home, 781-275-2707. 🇺🇸



## The Second JANE Slalom of the Year is a GO!

### Saturday, October 24th

**Despite losing our site at Nashoba Valley, through the generosity of the New England Region of the SCCA, we will be able to hold JANE's second slalom of 2009.**

We will be sharing Devens (same location as our spring slalom) with NER/SCCA. The date is **Saturday, October 24th**. We will be running our usual course, and may also have access to the SCCA course as well.

Registration and Tech will start at 8 a.m. and will be done through the SCCA. SCCA may be a bit stricter that we are on Tech, so be sure your cars are up to snuff.

We will not be serving lunch – BYOL.

Directions are at the end of this notice.



**Please contact Tom Parish at [tparish@carlisle-co.com](mailto:tparish@carlisle-co.com) (978-828-4707) or Bill Parish at [wdparish@verizon.net](mailto:wdparish@verizon.net) (978-486-9830) with any questions or to volunteer.**

### Directions to Devens Autocross Site

- From 495 take Exit 30 (Route 2A/110) and turn toward Ayer.
- You will go through a rotary about 5.5 miles from 495. Continue on 2A, which is the second exit in the rotary (straight across, just past the McDonald's).
- You will then go about 1 mile and be in the center of downtown Ayer. Route 2A will take a right turn just past the main business district; there will be a Mobil station on your left at that corner.
- Travel about a half mile. A couple of hundred yards after Dunkin Donuts, take a left onto Bishop Road.
- You will pass a cemetery on your left. Go through the first gate.
- Two hundred yards after the first gate, bear right at the Y intersection. This will take you into the autocross site. 🇺🇸

***Please remember to drive legally in and around town!***



# JANE Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party

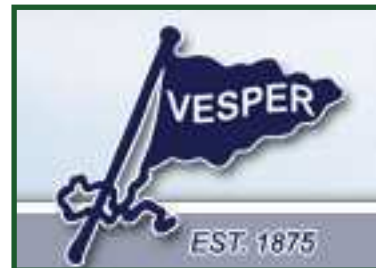
## Sunday, December 6th



JANE President Ray O'Brien and our hostess, Avis Mello, at the 2008 Holiday Party

**W**e're barely into the fall season, but it's not too early to begin thinking about our Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party. Put it on your calendar now: Sunday, December 6th.

Once again, Avis Mello will host JANE at the beautiful Vesper Country Club in Tyngsboro, MA. Watch for more information about the party in the November *Coventry Cat* and the official announcement and registration form that you will get in the mail, also in November. 🇺🇸



Carl Hanson and Dennis Eklof in very festive attire

### 2008 Party Goers



Chuck and Patt Centore



Was Tom Moses singing "Little Drummer Boy"?




L to R: Maureen and Tom Letourneau, Avis Mello, Dave and Becky Randall, Tom Moses, and Jim Sambold

# JANE 2010 Jaguar Wall Calendar

## Calling for All Good Photos of Your Jaguars!

Tracey Levasseur is now working on JANE's 2010 calendar. Anyone wishing to have photos considered should send them to Tracey's email address -- [sharpei@sacoriver.net](mailto:sharpei@sacoriver.net) -- **no later than October 31st.**

Any and all Jags are welcome. Please include a brief description of the vehicle along with your submission: year, model designation, exact paint color name, if known, and any little tidbit of interesting information or history. Also who the photographer is! 



*EVEN IF YOU GET THE  
COVENTRY CAT BY  
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AT  
[WWW.J-A-N-E.ORG](http://WWW.J-A-N-E.ORG)  
IT LOOKS BETTER  
THERE IN COLOR!*


# JCNA Northeast Regional Director

## Last Chance to be Considered for JCNA Northeast Regional Director Position

Each JCNA region has two directors, one elected in even years, the other elected in odd years. Each regional director may serve only three elected terms (six years). Our current Northeast Region directors are Steve Weinstein and Sherman Taffel. The three terms for Steve Weinstein, who lives in New Jersey, expire in March 2010, so our region needs to elect a new director.

Duties include attending the AGM in March of each year. This is always fun, as it gives you a chance to visit different cities, a chance to meet members from other clubs, and is kind of a mini-vacation. Then in the fall, usually October, there is a board meeting, and in the past, the board members have traveled to various clubs and attended their concours or other events. Although this fall's board meeting will be via either email or web cams, therefore no travel required, for the March AGM and the usual fall meetings, expenses are on your own. JCNA does not provide any stipend for these events. But it may be well worth it to support our region and bring new ideas from our region to the national club.

If you are interested in running for regional director, please contact Brock McPherson right away ([Bmcpherson@Jcna.com](mailto:Bmcpherson@Jcna.com)), as he is the Nominating Committee Chair, or else let Ray O'Brien know of your interest as soon as possible (617-734-5949 or [raymondobrien@comcast.net](mailto:raymondobrien@comcast.net)).

**The deadline for submission of nominees is October 15th. Act NOW if you are interested in being nominated to represent our region with JCNA.** 



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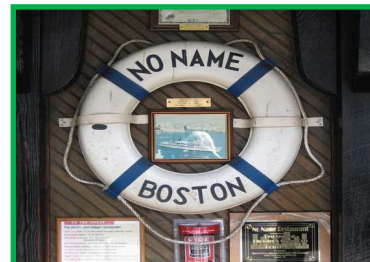
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# Other Happenings

## **2009 Columbus Day Parade Sunday, October 11th**

**J**ANE members Dean Saluti and Marjorie Cahn invite JANE to bring our classic Jaguars and join them at the annual Columbus Day Parade in Boston's historic North End. JANE will be sponsored by the Renaissance Lodge of the Sons of Italy, as Dr. Saluti is the President of this Boston organization.


Date: Sunday, October 11, 2009  
Time: Line Up: 11:30 a.m.  
Kick Off: 1:00 p.m.  
Location: Government Center, Cambridge Street, Across from Boston City Hall's entrance  
Ask for: The Sons of Italy Section, Dean Saluti or Marjorie Cahn



Before the Parade: Pizza and drinks will be served  
After the Parade: Dean and Marjorie will provide a no-cost early seafood dinner at the No Name Restaurant located on Boston's Fish Pier. There is ample parking for your classic Jaguars.

Contact: Dean Saluti or Marjorie Cahn  
Cells: 617-285-6564 or 617 285-6565  
Email: djsaluti@aol.com

Directions: From the South or North: Take Route 93 to Boston and exit at Government Center.  
Continue on Charles Street, stopping opposite Boston City Hall.

From the West: Take Storrow Drive and exit at Government Center.  
Continue on Charles Street, stopping opposite Boston City Hall. 

## **The Silverstone Club's First Annual Car Club Invitational Sunday, October 18th**

**T**he Silverstone Club (a JANE advertiser, see page 9), along with the New England Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club, is hosting its first annual Car Club Invitational on Sunday, October 18th. This Car Club Invitational is a slightly different idea for a car show. They are inviting all car clubs -- racing, antique, exotic, special interest, even fire apparatus and military apparatus clubs. All clubs will have the opportunity to park together with fellow members

While this show will not be judged, there will be a modest number of trophies handed out for Best Club Participation, Longest Distance Traveled, and other superlative awards.


The Silverstone Club  
15 Sharpners Pond Road  
North Andover, MA 01845  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
\$10 Per Car  
Food and Entertainment



RSVP to Chris Milici, NERCLC Editor, icilim@verizon.net, 508-384-7578

or

Paul Fluckiger, Founder The Silverstone Club, paul@silverstoneclub.com, 866-426-4480.

The Silverstone Club is just 30 minutes north of Boston and 30 minutes south of Salem or Portsmouth, NH. Sharpners Pond Road is located off Route 144, right on the North Andover/Middleton town line. Look for the signs on Route 114 directing you to the show. 





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# Event Reports

## JANE at Lime Rock Vintage Festival

By Prebble Eklof

Photos by Dennis Eklof, Echo Fling, and Gary Hagopian

**L**ime Rock, CT -- it's beautiful nestled there in the Berkshires with the first hints of fall on its way around the Labor Day weekend. Several JANE members went out for the Vintage Festival this year. The weather was perfect and, as always, there were many fine cars to see. There were practice sessions on Friday, with racing on Saturday and Monday. It's always fun to watch races in which someone you know is competing, and JANE members Stu Forer, Gary Hagopian, and Michael Kaleel gave us non-racers the opportunity to cheer them on from the hillside overlooking the track.

There are never any races scheduled for Sundays at Lime Rock Park. Instead they have "Sunday in the Park," a car show and concours always drawing a nice turnout of beautiful and historic cars. And not only did Stu Forer place very well in his races, Stu also took the first place trophy for the win in his class at the Sunday show.

This is an annual event at Lime Rock Park. In addition to the racing and the "Sunday in the Park" car show, there are also car corrals and swap meets to browse. And members of car clubs are eligible for discount tickets to the event. If you didn't go this year, make plans for the fun weekend next year. 🇺🇸



Above Left: Several JANE members and friends of JANE at dinner Sunday evening



Above Right: Hillside lawn chair seating overlooking the track and the beautiful Berkshires landscape in the distance

Right: Gary Hagopian always looks relaxed before racing



Below Left: Stu Forer on the track in his XK120 racer

Below Right: Michael Kaleel in his Lotus





# Potluck Picnic and Lawn Party

By Prebble Eklof  
Photos by Rod Gilbert

**The rain date for the Potluck Picnic and Lawn Party gave us the perfect late summer -- almost Indian summer -- day for the event.** There was a very nice turnout for a relaxing afternoon of car talk and schmoozing, with a huge amount and variety of wonderful food contributed for the picnic. Thanks to everyone. What fine “cooks” we have in JANE. Someone even suggested we think about compiling a JANE Cookbook! 🇺🇸



Crin Coull, Michele Kayden, and Prebble Eklof in the kitchen



Dennis and Susan Casey, Dennis Eklof, Bruce Murray, and Jim Coull hanging out at the bar



“Girl Talk” -- Clockwise from front center: Becky Randall, Margaret Caruolo, Kathy Hall, Nancy Monaghan, Sandy Cotterman, Jane Murray, Brenda Soussan, and Patty Axford



“Car Talk” -- Clockwise from left front: Tom Larsen, Stu Forer, Ed Hall, Keith Carlson, Jay Carter, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy (car talk, Betsy?), Gordon Taylor, and Dave Randall



There's nothing like some beautiful Jags to add a little class to a lawn party!



And more Jags!



# JANE at British Invasion

By Prebble Eklof

Photos by Ed Avis and John Brady

**G**oing to Stowe, VT, in mid-September for British Invasion is becoming a tradition for many JANE members, and what a fine British Invasion weekend it was this time. We could have done with a few degrees warmer on Saturday, but at least it didn't rain, Vermont was beginning to show its lovely fall foliage, and Michael Gaetano and Chris Francis put together another terrific show this year.

As Michael and Chris tell it, this "British lifestyle event" began "over a pint of ale" in Stowe, Vermont, in 1990. It has grown since that time to become one of Vermont's top ten events and the largest all-British car show on the East Coast, attracting well over 600 cars each year now, mostly from the U.S. and Canada. Its popularity continues to grow, and so does its line-up of well-known sponsors.

The weekend begins with a couple of driving tours around the Stowe area on Thursday and Friday and a registrants reception at the event field Friday afternoon. And this was the second year that the main street in Stowe was closed to traffic on Friday evening for the British Invasion Block Party. Many British cars were angle parked along the street for viewing, food vendors and village restaurants did a brisk business, and there was dancing in the street to live music by "British-Mania," The Official Beatles Tribute Band of Liverpool Tours."

The actual British Classic Motor Car Show was on Saturday. It features two competitions, the Concours d'Elegance and People's Choice. No JANE cars were entered in the Concours this year, but we did very well in the People's Choice voting. Check out the list of JANE winners on the next page. We had a JANE table set up on the field all day alongside the Wagner Motors area. We flew the JANE banner, sold some JANE merchandise, and talked with quite a few people who came by and expressed an interest in joining our club. Saturday night we had a large gathering for a JANE dinner at Ye Olde England Inne.

But wait, that's not all. Some of our members were back on the event field Sunday morning. The activities wind down with several fun events, including a Tailgate Picnic Competition and the Competition of Colors. Sunday morning is also a good time to stroll around the vendor area and the car corral.

And if all of that didn't make for a fine weekend, then there was the fanatastic drive home on Sunday afternoon. The fall foliage color had intensified since our arrival on Thursday, and the day was perfect for windows open or tops down along the winding back roads in Central Vermont, with stops along the way at country stores. Some of us have already made our reservations for British Invasion 2010. It's always a very special event.

And we have one more British Invasion highlight to look forward to before next time. A film crew was there this year to capture the event, and British Invasion 2009 will be featured on *My Classic Car with Dennis Gage*, a program on the Speed Channel, probably sometime in January. We'll post the air date as soon as we know it. 🇬🇧



The Brady's (center and right), at their favorite activity, smokin' 'n drinkin', and Carl Hanson joined in. This was at the Friday night Block Party in Stowe.



L to R: Prebble Eklof, Cheryl Avis, Kathy Hall, Sing Hanson, Rosetta Nasisi, and Sandy Cotterman also enjoying the Friday night Block Party.

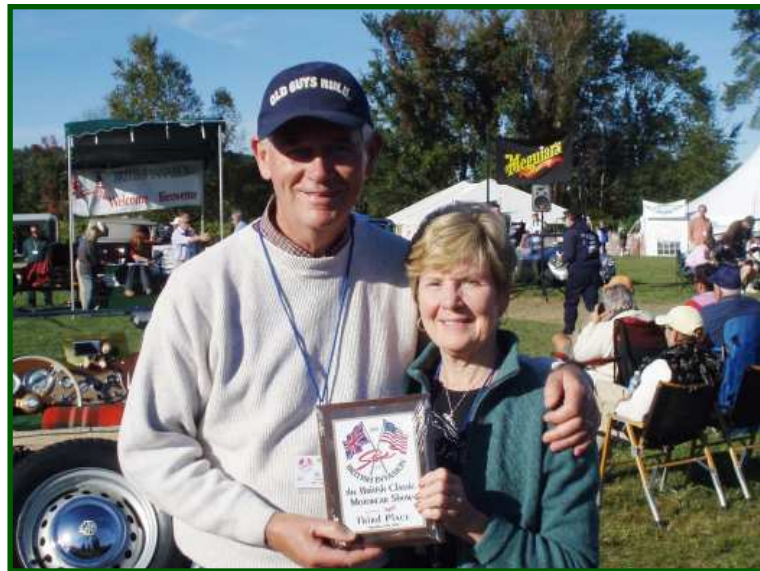


"Beatle-Mania performing at the Friday Night Block Party





Look at that perfect early autumn sky as the hot air balloon was about to ascend over the event field. That's Ed and Cheryl Avis's E-Type in the foreground.



Ed and Cheryl got their E-Type earlier this year, and already they have a 3rd place trophy in their class at British Invasion.



The *My Classic Car* film crew catches Bruce Cunningham playing his bagpipes.

### JANE Winners at 2009 British Invasion

- Aldo Cipriano - 2nd in Range Rover class
- Sandy Cotterman - 2nd in her class with her red XKR Convertible
- Ed Clouthyer - 3rd in his class with his XJS Convertible
- Tom Brady - 1st in his class with his green Mark IX
- John Jennings - 1st in the XK class with his XK140 OTS. John also received the Meguiar's award for Outstanding Car.
- Carl and Sing Hanson - 2nd in the XK class with their XK120 FHC
- Rod Gilbert - 1st in early E-Types
- Dennis and Prebble Eklof - 2nd in early E-Types
- Ed and Cheryl Avis - 3rd in early E-Types
- Don and Molly Foster - 3rd in their class with their S-Type

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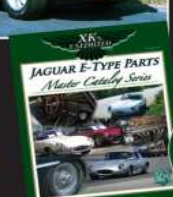
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# Life With Cars After Retirement

By Tom Letourneau



Tom Letourneau

**M**y 40-plus years in the automotive industry with two major European manufacturers, Porsche and Audi, were the best of times, and a lot of doors

were opened for me because of the contacts that were made. Likewise with my many years spent within the automotive industry software business. Both of these positions afforded me many an opportunity to work

with new car dealers and their parts and service personnel, helping them to better understand both the business management and technical sides of their jobs. However, what have been the most pleasing and satisfying times are the last ten years, when I have worked almost daily with small, independent repair shop owners, both import and domestic, helping them set up their business management software and then teaching them how to use it, and to run their shops more cost effectively and profitably.

As things have worked out, knowing as many small shop owners as I do in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, I still get calls from shop owners and techs asking me to come in and spend some time with them, working with their software, tweaking it, and showing them features that they may not be using. All of this has given me the opportunity to stay involved and maintain the many contacts that I have made over the years, and even meet new ones. Such was the case recently when I had put my XJ-S club racer project up for sale in both *The Coventry Cat* and on eBay. As a result of the car being on eBay, I received an email from Dana Schwehr, in Berlin, MA, asking if he could stop by to see the car, as he was going to be in Rhode Island the very next day.

Well, things could not have worked out any better if I had planned the entire thing in advance! You see, Dana is a brand new JANE member, has just recently opened his own Jaguar specialty shop in Upton, MA, and he was interested in my XJ-S, as he thought it would be a good project to take on -- and finish! -- good advertising for his business! And by the way, many JANE members may already know Dana, as he has been in the repair business as a tech for 20 years, the last 13 or so working and learning Jaguars and their intricacies at Lee, Foreign Motors of Woburn, and Wagner Motors. He is also the tech who did a lot of the work on the XJ-40 that some JANE members ran in last year's 24 Hours of LeMons, and are rumored to be doing so again in 2010.

As to my XJ-S, I had plans for a lot of modifications to the car -- conversion to 4.2-litre 6-cylinder, a 5-speed gearbox, complete front and rear suspension reworking, etc. Very much wanting to welcome Dana into JANE, and also wanting to help him get started in his business, we did a deal. The car went to his shop, with promises to finish it pretty much according to my plans for it. Long story short, though, the car now actually belongs to Dana! Dana plans to eventually do something along the lines of my original plans. But as a part of the deal (I love the barter system!), we agreed that some of the work that I will be needing done on my two remaining Jags (my Corvette-powered XJ-6 and my 1961 Mk. IX) will be done there at his shop.



Tom and Dana loading the 4.2-litre XJ-6 engine into Dana's truck

In addition, I am also helping Dana get his computer system and software set up, which enables me to also remain involved in doing something that I always enjoyed doing, especially with young individuals who have taken the chance to go out on their own!

Dana is very much looking forward to meeting a lot of JANE members, especially as he probably has, at one time or another, probably already worked on your car!

And speaking of working on JANE members' cars, obviously fellow JANE member Chester Shea has already discovered Dana, as his beautiful XJ-S Cabriolet was sitting in the shop the Saturday morning that I delivered my XJ-S.

Yes, this retirement situation isn't so bad after all!





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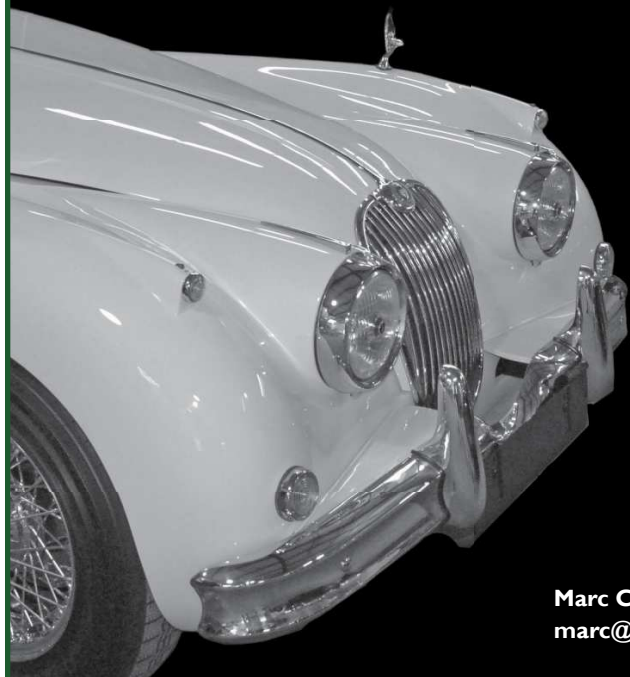
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