

February 2001

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Jaguar Jottings is the monthly publication of the Ottawa Jaguar Club. It is produced for the information of its members and welcomes your participation.

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February Meeting
Monday, February 12th
7:30 pm at Capone's Restaurant
on Industrial Road
Winterlude Fun! on Feb. 10th
- see pages 2&5 for details



A D-Type lines up for the Mont Gabriel Hillclimb, circa 1958 (Rare colour photo courtesy Stan McRobert)

Turn to the JOA-Montreal pages for more about OJC's new members

March MUNCH

Friday, March 23rd
at the National Press Club

150 Wellington St., Ottawa

6:30 Cocktails, 7:00 Dinner
 \$40.00 per person
 (guests welcome)

- Table d'Hôte -
 Roast Duck or Roast Sirloin

Contact **Stewart Robertson**
 to reserve by March 17th
 (613) 729-8859 or
 stewart@travel-net.com
 (specify any special dietary requirements)

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President's Message

I'd like to welcome everyone to the Third Millennium in true Jaguar style. We have an exciting and fun slate of events being put together by **Barb Woods**. If half of them turn out as well as they sounded at our meeting on January 8th we should be in for a good year.

This year is also special as it is the first in which we will be welcoming our new friends from Montreal. They will be members of our club while they get a full Montreal club up and running. Having seen the enthusiasm with which **Dan Thompson** is approaching the whole thing, I don't suppose it will be too long! I'm looking forward to setting up joint events and activities with them.

I'd also like to thank the outgoing committee members for the work they did in 2000 and in particular **Wendy VanderMeulen** for all her enthusiasm and dedication as president. I'm sure we all wish her the best of luck in her new occupation, so everybody take a cruise!

An ongoing issue is the selection of guest speakers for our regular monthly Monday night meetings. If anyone wants to request a speaker or a particular topic PLEASE LET ME KNOW and we'll see what we can do about making the necessary arrangements.

Meanwhile, I'd like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and peace, happiness and prosperity for 2001.

*Michael Stott
President OJC*

Our Condolences ...

The Executive and members of the Ottawa Jaguar Club were saddened to hear the news that Chuck Cowie's wife of 55 years had passed away on January 19th, 2001. We offer our sincere condolences.

[Ed. Note: Chuck is founding member #02 of the Ottawa Jaguar Club]

Club Membership

New members:

Anthony Rowley of Ottawa and his 1988 VandenPlas joined up in December. (Tel. 234-5256)

Emile Masbou of Aylmer who has an 1987 XJS (looks like a twin to the Robertson's '85!), and a 1987 XJ12, came to November's meeting and joined. (Tel. 595-2709)

Jeff Jardine is our first new member for the new Millennium, and we all know where to find him at Campbell Jaguar! (Tel. 688-0250)

Harry Brownell, Membership Director, reminds everyone that dues have to be in to JCNA by Feb. 15th in order to renew Jaguar Journal magazine subscriptions on time.

Look at Us!

The OJC website should soon be up and running. It has a temporary location at www.neodym.com/jaguar but will (hopefully) soon move to the National Capital Freenet where it's address will (again, hopefully) be www.ncf.ca/ojc. The site contains details of the club as well as a calendar of upcoming events that can be updated as necessary.

Events Calendar

February 10	Winterlude Fun! - meet at Greek Souvlaki House (corner Prince of Wales & Baseline) at 9:00 for breakfast - carry on to Winterlude venues
February 12	February Meeting at Capone's
March 23	March Munch, National Press Club (6:30)
May 27	JOA Montreal's "British Car Celebration", Beaconsfield, QC - 40th Anniversary of the E-Type
June ?	Annual By Ward Market car show
June 16, Sat.	OJC Concours d'Elegance at the Canada Science & Technology Museum

Market Place

This newsletter accepts advertisements in good faith, but we suggest it is in your best interest to make every effort to check offers personally.

For Sale: 4 Michelin Arctic Alpine speed rated snow tires, 225 x 55 x 16. Used one winter, in excellent condition. They don't fit my new car! Retail value \$800. Now \$350 (no PST or GST). Call Guy Larabie, 445-2173

This space is free to OJC members if you wish to sell parts or vehicles. Contact the Editor.

Welcome back J.O.A. Montreal, we missed you!

Flashback: It's the mid 1950's and Montreal is buzzing with baby boomers eager for the speed and thrills that European sports cars can bring. Clubs are popping up everywhere, every day you get passed on the road by some smiling young man or woman driving a TR-3, an MGA, an Austin-Healey, a Morgan, or that most



Bob and Barbara Thompson get the XK120 ready before the Mont Gabriel Hillclimb, circa 1956

(Photo courtesy Dan Thompson)

beautiful creature of all, a JAGUAR! A group of enthusiasts get together and form a new Club, they call it "**Jaguar Owner's Association – Montreal (JOA)**" and they link up with a North America wide network called "**Jaguar Clubs of North America (JCNA)**". A great tradition is born. Members enjoy a "Concours d'Elegance", rallies, hill climbs at Mont Gabriel, ice racing, competition at the new St. Eugene track and much more. They proudly drive, race and show their XK120's, 140's and 150's, their XK-SS's and D-types and eventually their beautiful and fast E-types.

Fast Forward: It is 1983, and the old J.O.A. Montreal has just held its last meeting. Sadly, there just isn't enough interest anymore. Station wagons and

baby strollers have replaced 2-seat sports cars for baby boomers. Sir William no longer controls Jaguar, it is part of a state-owned conglomerate that has moved away from the great line of moderately priced sports cars into Mercedes-Benz territory with offerings like the XJ12 and the XJ-S. A note from the minutes of one of the last meetings tells the story: "getting harder to fill up places at the annual dinner, more members come to meetings in BMW's than Jaguars..."

Fast Forward to 1990: The "Montreal Gazette" runs a special section on car clubs. **Daniel Thompson**, then 28 years old and the son of one of J.O.A.-Montreal's founders, decides to take a chance and put out feelers to start up a new Club. At that point he is the proud owner of a rusty 1965 3.8 Mk2 and a VERY rusty 1968 E-type roadster. He places an ad in the paper and the responses start to come in. Before you know it, he is up to 35 members and a new name "Jaguar Club of Montreal – Club Jaguar de Montreal". The Club holds its first outing in 1991: a lunch at a lakeside restaurant west of Montreal; 30 cars and 100 enthusiastic people

show up. The Club grows bigger, becoming a network of owners sharing information about parts sources, talented repair shops and fun outings.

Fast Forward: It is May 1999, the Jaguar Club of Montreal decides to host a "celebration of the British Car". A lovely park setting is chosen in the city's west-end. Daniel Thompson (still him!) starts phoning, faxing and emailing anybody who will listen, inviting all the British Car Clubs in Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa and surrounding areas. Turns out lots of people were listening. Radio, television and print media pick up on the story. Beautiful weather, lost count of the cars after about 300, lost count of the people after a



Stan McRobert enjoys driving his new XK-SS through the streets of Montreal - car is XKSS760)

(Photo courtesy Stan McRobert)

J.O.A. Montreal



J.O.A. Montreal page 2

couple of thousand. No food, only an ice cream truck and just one bathroom but nobody seems to mind; they're having FUN talking about British cars with other people that want to listen!

Fast Forward to today: The Club has over 125 people on its mailing list. The impetus is in place to form a "real" Club, so why not re-incarnate the old J.O.A.- Montreal? The first 50 members sign on the dotted line (and sign cheques for annual dues). The idea is put forward to cooperate with the Ottawa Jaguar Club. Why not use the same treasurer and newsletter? That would save a lot of time and expense! The goals for the first year are set:

- regular monthly meetings
- a few select drives in the countryside
- another "British Car Celebration" in Beaconsfield on May 27th (hosted by J.O.A.)
- a published list of recommended parts sources and qualified garages
- an events listing for all the car outings in Quebec, Ontario and New England
- hopefully a bilingual web site



Stan McRobert poses with his new XK-SS in a Montreal Park
(Photo courtesy Stan McRobert)

grouping all the Canadian Jaguar Clubs

- finally, an increased awareness among Jaguar owners all over Eastern Canada with an eye to increasing the membership to triple digits within a couple of years.

More ambitious projects? You bet! How about a good old fashioned rally? Some autocross/slalom competition for more serious drivers and, when the track at Tremblant re-opens, a track day! For the British Car Celebration on May 27th, a reunion of all JOA members going back to the original Club. At the same time, 2001 is the 40th anniversary of the E-type's launch, so how about 40 E-types on the field at the Beaconsfield meeting!

So put another log on the fire, pour another scotch and pat your Jag on the bonnet, we're just getting warmed up here!

Member Profile

JOA-Montreal will try to profile a different member of the Club every month. To start off, here is a profile of the president.

Personal Profile: **Daniel Thompson**

Marital Status: Married to Mady Louvet with 2 children: Daniel Charles (8 years) and Simon (5 years); will be leaving for China in the next 2-3 months to adopt a little girl.

Profession: President of GBC Asset Management Inc. Portfolio manage-

ment services for institutions and high net worth individuals with a specialization in North American small-cap stocks.

Car history: Has owned approximately 35 "old" cars since obtaining his driver's license. Of those, maybe 10 were Jaguars (E-types, Mk2's, XJ6 and XJ12). Currently has trimmed the collection to a 1968 E-type (California import), a 1964 E-type (parts only), and 1965 and 1958 Austin-Healey Sprites. Always looking for a decent XK120 shell to convert into vintage racer. Likes to do his own mechanical work, time permitting; has a personal "crusade" going to ensure that Jaguar owners don't get ripped off by unscrupulous repair shops or classic car vendors. Call him for repair advice! Currently the Canadian representative of the XK Club (England) and a member of VARAC (Vintage Automobile Racing Association of Canada).

Favorite web sites: www.jag-lover.org,
www.classicjaguar.com,
www.jcna.com

Other information: Original JOA-Montreal was co-founded by his father (Bob) and his mother (Barbara) in the 1950's. Very interested in contacting anyone who can add to his collection of pictures and memorabilia of those great early years. If you were a member then or know someone who was, contact Daniel!

Contact information: Business phone 514-848-0716, home phone 450-441-6522, resides in the Montreal suburb of St. Bruno. Email dthompson@gbc.ca

1:43 XJS Models

by Anthony Pearson

Further to John Quilter's enjoyable article on XJS models (*Jaguar Journal*, November-December issue, p. 27), I would like to add that there are other choices of 1:43 models available. The following references come from a database of nearly 2000 Jaguar models that I have identified over the years. I cannot guarantee total accuracy, since I'm relying on the reference source, but I think the information is pretty good.

Alezan has produced resin kits for 6.0L TWR car, the Koenig, the Arden station wagon and an XJRS.

Corgi produced a silver coupe.

Danbury Mint have a 1988 convertible in pewter.

Deluxe Racer have a green coupe.

Detail Cars, in addition to the models listed, have silver and metallic red convertibles, and metal kits of both the coupe and convertible.

New Ray Toys from China have a very affordable 1988 silver top-down convertible, curiously in two versions (black or orange top).

Robustelli modelled the 1984 TWR racing car which competed in the Spa 24-Hour race of the European Touring Series.

Roco has a coupe.

Welly from Hong Kong produced a red convertible with friction-drive.

Western also make a silver 1978 coupe and XJRS, and kits of the HE and XJRS.

Of course, listing them is one thing, finding them is another. But you never know where they might show up next. I trust Jag Jottings readers will get some value out of this information.

Cheers!

Anthony Pearson, OJC

Notes from the January Meeting

President **Mike Stott** opened the meeting with a request that we find speakers! Have you had any work done on your car recently? Maybe your mechanic/bodyman/glassman (or woman) would like to talk about the job - how it was done, what it took in materials, etc. It could be very interesting. Let Mike know.

Our new Activities Director **Barb Woods** lead a lively and fruitful discussion on possible events/venues for the coming year. She's FULL of ideas.

- March Munch - members agreed on three possible dates: March 24, 23 or 16th. **Stewart Robertson** will contact the National Press Club to check availability. [See Page 1 for details.]
- A Wine Tour combined with the Bronte car show in September. The last wine tour (5 years ago?) was wonderful and worth repeating - and the Bronte show was a lot of fun in 2000.
- **Frank Basten** offered to host a Tailgate Party at his place in

Brockville, followed by a river cruise.

- Tickets to the Briar in March (any curling fans in the club? call Barb).
- **Winterlude Fun! February 10th, Saturday, meet at 9:00 for breakfast at the Greek Souvlaki House, Prince of Wales & Baseline.**

2001 Concours d'Elegance: Frank Basten called for volunteers to work with him on the Concours. **Stewart Robertson** "volunteered" in absentia to be the photographer (again) and **Paddy** agreed to take care of the trophies.

It's important to note that the **Concours date has changed from June 9th to the 16th** due to availability of the Museum grounds.

Of particular interest - the Concours is one of the best times to have your car appraised since it's spit & shine time. If you'd like it done by Al Stigter, who spoke to the Club on the subject last May, contact **Mike Stott** and he'll contact Al to ask him to come.

One Vehicle for every two Canucks

As of 1998 - the latest year for which Statistics Canada has figures - there were more than 17 million motorized vehicles registered in our country. That equals approximately one vehicle for every two people in Canada. This number includes passenger cars of all kinds, trucks/truck tractors, buses, motorcycles, mopeds and other types of road motor vehicles.

Here is how the numbers turn out, province by province:

10. P.E.I., 84,659
9. Newfoundland, 325,227

8. New Brunswick, 496,426
7. Nova Scotia, 548,110
6. Manitoba, 624,353
5. Saskatchewan, 824,981
4. Alberta, 2,099,676
3. B.C., 2,301,193
2. Quebec, 3,981,203
1. Ontario, 6,658,493

Eric McConnachie, National Post, Jan. 19, 2001 Source: Statistics Canada

[Hmmm! If we took **Phil Karam's**, **Merv Clarke's** and **Guy Larabie's** fleets out of the equation, do you think the calculation would change?]

Tip of the Month

Happy New Year!

Today, I'd like to plug the resolution angle of Jaguar ownership and maintenance. A little over a year ago, we bought a 1984 XJ-6 to drive. This car had several problems like multiple oil leaks on the engine, electrical components that worked intermittently or not at all, a few small rust holes around the windshield and back glass and a loose front suspension.

So, after I got it home, I replaced the cam cover gaskets, replaced the upper ball joints, re-adjusted the lowers, replaced the steering rack mounts with poly-urethane ones, and replaced the upper shock bushings. Now, I'm getting a thump noise when cornering on a rough street. I'm thinking the front suspension rear mount has separated.

The automatic transmission stop leak that I put in the engine has done its thing and the front of the engine has dried up. It looked like the front seal was leaking.

I temporarily patched the little rust holes around the front and back glass with POR-15 putty. Then I resealed the glasses with Urethane caulk. I also bought all new seals for the glasses so that when I get a chance to weld up the rust holes I can replace the seals. The POR-15 putty is a very good temporary repair. It has been there for a year and no leaks. The car is black as the putty, so it's not even very noticeable.

But I've fallen into a trap. The car has become so reliable, and we've driven it so much, like everyday. It is going to be hard to take it out of service to

make some of the repairs that are really needed to keep it reliable. And I have to report in all honesty - the car has become neglected.

So - my New Year's resolution: to get the needed repairs and maintenance done timely and regularly. Tomorrow, Saturday, is repair the car day (if I don't go ice fishing).

Thanks,
Walt Osborn

Advertisement: We carry the POR-15 putty (POR patch) along with other restoration aids.

This weekly Tip Service is provided by Walt Osborn and his company, Vintage Jag Works.
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Christmas Party 2000



Many thanks go to Club president **Mike Stott** for hosting a wonderful Christmas party at his home.

According to these photos taken by **Yann Robin**, everyone had a great time - good food - and fun [square] dancing courtesy of **Wendy VanderMeulen** and caller (past Club president) **John Charman**.



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Membership Application Form

Ottawa enjoys a healthy number of Jaguar owners, and it seems there is little hesitation for them to share information and tales about their cherished automobiles.

The Ottawa Jaguar Club provides a place to express the joys and woes of driving a "Classic Legend" and enjoy the benefit of others' knowledge and experience.

We have a monthly newsletter, an excellent activities programme, including outings, picnics, luncheons and workshops. Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month. We also receive the JCNA (Jaguar Clubs of North America) bi-monthly magazine and hold a Concours for those eager to have their prized possessions evaluated.

SHARE the feeling – SHARE the experience — SHARE the enthusiasm
*Join the **Ottawa Jaguar Club***

Please call Harry Brownell Phone: 613-774-3649

Or mail this form to
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c/o Harry Brownell
R.R.#1
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K0C 2K0

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Spouse: _____

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Jaguar Information:

Year: _____ Model: _____ Colour: _____

Year: _____ Model: _____ Colour: _____

Year: _____ Model: _____ Colour: _____

Date: _____ Signature _____