

January Meeting

Monday, January 13

7:30 pm at Capone's

Ristorante

831 Industrial Road

There is NO December meeting and no January Jaguar Jottings

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Jaguar Jottings is the monthly publication of the Ottawa Jaguar Club and the Jaguar Owner's Association - Montreal. It is produced for the information of its members and welcomes your participation. Deadline for contributions is the 23rd of each month.

The Hubley Blue Nose Special

By Dave Boon: "The older I get the faster I was"

It may be correctly assumed, as a founding member of the Ottawa Jaguar Club and an owner and racer of an XK150 FHC, that I've had a lifetime interest in racing and fast cars.

This interest also encompasses regular competition in my 1923 open-wheel T powered oval track racer in many of the vintage dirt track racing events in Canada and the USA, as well as my being a senior writer about vintage racing for a Canadian publication "Old Autos" under the tag line of "The Older I Get The Faster I Was".

Because of my connection with such racing activities, I was contacted about five years ago by Bob Hubley of St. John's Newfoundland who had an historic dirt track racer for sale. The car had been built in Nova Scotia in 1937 and had successfully raced in Halifax at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition in 1938. Which, by the way, was the last race before the start of WWII. Bob's uncle, Reg Hubley, a veteran racer/constructor, was the driver/builder of the car with a claimed top speed of 100 MPH.

Continued on Page 5



**Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!**
**To all the members and
friends of the
Ottawa Jaguar Club**

OJC Meeting Notes, November 11

John Smiley, Secretary

Daniel Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at Capone's Restaurant. There were 28 members in attendance.

Daniel opened a discussion on the increase in dues by JCNA. JCNA have raised their portion of the dues by \$3.00 U.S. for 2003. The Club's portion of dues to JCNA will now be \$18.00 U.S. per member for 2003. A motion was put forward to raise the Club dues to \$60.00 if paid before 31 December 2002 and \$70.00 after 1 January 2003. It was unanimously approved.

Wendy VanderMeulen reported that the Colour Drive was a great success with twenty cars attending from Ottawa and Montreal.

The Christmas Party will be held at Noah's Restaurant, 407 Laurier

Avenue West on Sunday, 8 December 2002.

Daniel reported that Jaguar will be the feature car at the British Invasion to be held on 19-21 September 2003 in Stowe, Vermont. It will be a JCNA regional sanctioned event and judging will be on Saturday, 20 September 2003.

Daniel Thompson looked after the election of the Officers for the year 2003 and the following is the list of the new executive.

President – **Yann Robin**

Vice-President – **Ed Theoret**

Treasurer – **Roger Gough**

Secretary – **John Smiley**

Membership – **Mark Roberts**

Activities – **Guy Larabie**

Concours Chair – **Daniel Thompson**

JAG Jottings Editor – **Jim Walker**

Co-Editor – **Paddy Robertson**

A round of applause was extended for the good work done by **Jim Walker** and **Paddy Robertson**, Editor and Co-Editor of the JAG Jottings.

Three new members, **Mark & Sheila Chappell** and **Les Jones** were welcomed to the OJC. They own a 1988 XJS V12 and an XJ6 Coupe respectively. Numerous club members were spotted swooning over Les' car in the parking lot after the meeting. It's sure to be Concours bound next year.

Daniel volunteered to upgrade and improve the website jaguar-club.ca.

The meeting was adjourned and the usual informal discussion and socializing took place.



Wendy VanderMeulen
Associate

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An Interesting 'thought piece' from our President, Daniel Thompson

Perhaps emulating two other relatively famous Quebecers, Daniel had a 'walk in the snow' and came up with the following idea.

What about the possibility of combining the two Clubs of Ottawa and Montreal into one?

Advantages could include a doubling of membership, a bigger pool of people to attend/support events, a combined healthy treasury, monthly meetings alternating between Ottawa and Montreal, alternate sites for the Concours on a yearly basis, and a broader base for membership.

While this is somewhat encapsulated from an email sent to a partial list of OJC members, it contains the 'nub' of the idea. I was privy to a series of return comments from club members and the item will likely be surfaced at the January 13th meeting. It was generally felt that a discussion of the issue, while perhaps not making any definitive change in the status quo of either Club, could surface other important ideas. Important issues like attracting new members, the raison d'être of the Club; likes and dislikes of current members; means of stimulating a larger number of current members into a more active role in activities/meetings/contribution.

When, for example, is the last time you submitted an article for inclusion in the Jottings? Have we become complacent, do we need someone to rattle our cage? What do you think?

I also want to ask Daniel what the wind chill factor was on the night of his 'walk in the snow'.

Think about some of the above for, hopefully, a robust discussion at the January meeting.

Jim Walker, Editor

Market Place

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

New Targa Panels for XJS-Cabriolet Navy Blue

New Hood Cover for XJS-Cabriolet Black. Contact Jacques Bernard at (514) 846-8937 or email to jacques.dorothy@sympatico.ca

4 Winter Tires. Pirelli 215/65 in excellent condition. Please call Ricarda or Graham Smith at (613) 748-7801 or email at ricinvest@aol.com

Jaguar dealership picture (20 x 24 inch) featuring red XJ-40 in brushed stainless frame \$ 50.00 OR b.o. Also, 4 very good S rated Michelin Artic Alpine snow tires 225R16, used one winter only \$300.00 or b.o. Call Guy at 445-2173.

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While Bob had supplied good documentation, I found further details about the car in the National Library newspaper microfilms of the Halifax newspapers of that era. Even though I already had a racer, Bob and I struck a deal and the car was shipped to me in Ottawa from St. John's.

All racecars of those long-past times were homebuilt, and this one utilized a 1927 Model T chassis and running gear parts in its construction. It was unique in that, while most racecars of that era used four cylinder Ford engines, Reg Hubley chose the more durable four cylinder OHV engine from a 1920's Chevrolet.

Although the car had been previously well cared for, I decided to completely restore the body and chassis, to replace the cockpit leathers, and to completely rebuild the engine. This process took a leisurely four years and by mid-June 2002 the car was completed and the four cylinder engine was fired up for the first time!!

In honour of its origin the body had been painted Nova Scotia blue, and in the fashion of that long past era, I gave it the name "The Hubley Blue Nose Special". A decal with the name and the Nova Scotia official seal was applied to both sides of the cowl, and the car, which had arrived in Ottawa as No. 7, was re-numbered to Reg's original No. 6.

After four years of painstaking work I was now anxious to see how the car would run and handle, and an upcoming vintage sports car race event at Mosport on the July 1st holiday weekend seemed to be a prospective venue.

I loaded up the "Hubley" on my flatbed trailer behind my motor home and on the Thursday prior to the weekend event I arrived at the circuit and found a place to park, with electricity, beside some fellow racing buddies, called, enigmatically, the "Number Two" gang.

The "Hubley" was very well received there, and was adopted by the elite and very fast "Monoposto" racing group, who recognized it as an early example of their marque.

On the Sunday "we" were offered track time by the Mosport authorities, and for the first time since 1938 on that Sunday afternoon, the Hubley eased onto a race track, and started its run around the 2.5 mile circuit.

The car with its 75-year-old engine easily kept up to the pace car, perhaps 40 – 50 MPH, but since I had concerns about the

engine possibly overheating, I chose to run only two full laps.

Each winter I travel to the vintage oval track race event in Zephyr



Dave Boon in The Hubley Blue Nose Special on the false grid at Mosport just prior to his trip around the 2.5 mile circuit Sunday, June 30th, 2002.

Hills, Florida where I have raced my T racer. It is very likely, this February, that I'll haul the Hubley and let it have the feel of a real dirt track for which it was originally built.

The Hubley is the only known pre-war Canadian built racer that is mobile. The sole other survivor, the "King Special", is currently under reconstruction.

I've had offers to sell the car, but I look upon myself as being the current 'caretaker', not the 'owner'. When the time comes, the car will not be sold but will find a home in a museum, possibly the Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame in Toronto, or one in its home province, Nova Scotia.

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Gordon Pape - The Moneyletter; September 1999

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Duff Young - FundMonitor 1998

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Peter Brewster - Globe & Mail Report on Business; February 6th, 1997

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Larry Davis- This week in Business; January 27th, 1990

For more information or to arrange a meeting please contact:

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The Jaguar Network at Work

It's nice to know that there are lots of people in the Jaguar community who are there to help.

After experiencing a small "operator problem" a year and a half ago, we had to put another engine into our 85 XJS. Fortunately, **John Pritchard** had a V-12 available on short notice, which he delivered to Global Auto Care. **Mike Shore** and **Mike Doherty** did an excellent installation, which we followed with a 2,000-km trouble-free trip to the U.S.

I want to rebuild the old engine, so Global kindly provided storage for over a year while **Guy Larabie** came up with a good engine stand. Finally, **Grant Edwards** volunteered the use of his time and his truck last Saturday morning to move the engine to our garage, where it now stands ready for an overhaul.



*A somewhat injured (& dirty) V12
in its (hopefully quite temporary)
home at the Robertsons*

Stewart Robertson

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Invitation from JCNA Webmaster Guru Pascal Gademer

Please check out the new features on the JCNA website which include a **Paypal** payment system for new applicants and Online Discussion Forums. If you wish to visit the site, log on to www.jcna.com Open your horizons to the world of Jaguar information.

Update to OJC members' profile

John Charman is updating the OJC membership list and has requested that members contact him with updated material on addresses, email addresses, vehicles owned, and any other pertinent information. Please contact John by email at john.charman@sympatico.ca

2003 Club Dues

Pay your dues (\$60.00) prior to December 31st and save \$10.00 as the new rate is \$70.00 as of January 1st, 2003.

OJC Executive 2002

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Vice President: Yann Robin (613) 744-3399
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JOA Montreal Executive 2002

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