NORTH GEORGIA JAGUAR CLUB

Newsletter for April, 2006, Volume #5, No. 4

T BIRDS AND JAGS AT WOLF MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

By The Old Rally Geezer

HWY 218

Our club has invited the Early Thunderbird Club (1955, 56, and 57) to join us for a day trip to Wolf Mountain Vineyards on Sunday, April 30. We will gather at the Home MEETING LOCATION FOR WOLF MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS DRIVE Depot parking lot, across from the North Georgia Outlet Mall that morning. Going north on GA 400, the Outlet Mall is just past highway 318 on your left. The Home Depot parking lot will be on your right (see attached map). We will leave for Wolf Mountain Vineyards at 11:15 am sharp and take a leisurely drive through the mountains to arrive in

time for our 12:30 pm reservations. Karl Boegner, owner of Wolf Mountain, promises us another

gourmet meal along with wine and wine tours. Wolf Mountain features a relaxed setting, excellent food,

and marvelous mountain views. The cost is \$25.00 per person. While our reservations are somewhat flexible, we are requesting that you RSVP with Dave Kirkman (770-886-7435) or Roy Cleveland (770-538-0858) so that we can give the Vineyards a good headcount on how many of us to expect.

Just like our club, the members of the Early Bird's take great pride in their cars and drive them often. If

fun to see people

looking at me.

lady passes and

gives my owner

the "thumbs up".

He'll not admit it,

but he really likes

Since much of

my early life was

spent in Florida, I

really enjoyed the

ride South. As we

approached the

staging area on

Amelia Island, my

carburetors were

filling with salt air.

that.

Sometimes a

you have not seen one of these early two seat T Birds in awhile you are in for a real treat. Continued on page 2

2006 Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance and Me

By Eddie Cole

You know me as Jaguar #875205, OTS, white with red interior who sprang to life July 15,1961. Yes, I have outside bonnet latches, flat floors and welded louvers. My owner calls me "HIS KID IN COLLEGE" which can be somewhat irritating with its rather juvenile inferences. But then he does



Rear-view of a fully polished aluminum competition light-weight E-Type. Photography Robert C. Farris

nice things for me like arranging for my participation in this 11th annual Amelia Island Concours. If you have time, I'd like to tell you something about the preliminaries, some about the event itself and, finally, maybe a story or two.

My owner said the prelims were boring and time consuming: paperwork, photos, phone calls, etc. all beginning fully six months earlier. But for me-fun! I was delivered back to RENAISSANCE RESTORATIONS where in 1995 during my restoration I had my "TUBIE-TUCK" (MORE LATER). The guys at the shop polished my cam and carb covers to a bright shiny state, re-did my exhaust headers, changed out and added clamps and generally massaged and shined me to a fair-yewell! That's fun and lifts my spirits.

Friday, March 10th, 2006 finally arrived. I was loaded onto my trailer going South. My owner says the guys with the closed trailers have the idea because of the protection and cleanness afforded. For me, I like the open trailer. I can see more and it's You see, that is why I had the "tubie-tuck"! The salt air degraded my structural metal members leaving me unsafe, just short of the junk heap. I appreciate my owner springing for my restoration and, now, I'm tight and smooth as any new Jag. I stayed overnight in the staging area. You would not believe so many vehicles; car haulers, motor homes with trailers, big pick-ups with trailers, even Fed-Ex was there with a huge semi loaded with beauties, just like me. I stood high on my wheels and felt much at home.

Saturday afternoon my owner came and began to dust and polish me. Other cars were coming out for the first time. He put my top down. My pistons were so eager to fire, I roared to life at the single push of my starter. As we slowly rolled past the many vehicles and then onto the palm lined roadway, I could feel the salt air combusting in my engine and I wanted to rev to the RED LINE. Of course, my owner is much too conservative for that. Passing under the only traffic



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A clear, crisp day made for perfect conditions for our March event. Our rally had a respectable number of (eight) cars (mostly XK8s & E-Types) participating and John Baxa, George Haldane, Tom Koballa, and Bill Sherman generously performed the checkpoint duties. Of course Dave Kirkman organized the rally, including selecting the roads which we followed. Dave constantly amazes me with the roads he finds. Everyone seemed to enjoy the route, the rally and lunch afterwards at the Gold Creek Country Club.

April presents us with several opportunities to get out and enjoy our Jaguars. The first event is the concours d'elegance sponsored by the Carolina Jaguar Club in Dobson, NC at Shelton Vineyards on April 22-23. Details on this event were provided in last month's newsletter. Also, you can find more information at www.jcna.com. The next event in April is the Walter Mitty Challenge at Road Atlanta on April 27-30. There is an article by Dave

B.S. at the MITTY

President's Letter continued from front cover

By The Ole Rally Geezer

Kirkman elsewhere in this newsletter about this event. Dave plans to spend some time at the Mitty on either April 28 or 29. Call him if you would like to join him. More information on the Mitty can be found at www. theMitty.com. The final event in April is our drive to and lunch at Wolf Mountain Vineyards in conjunction with the Early T-Bird club on Sunday, April 30. There is a more detailed article elsewhere in this issue about that event.

Our first event in May is the first British Motor Car Day ever to be held at a location other than Chateau Elan. The British Motor Car Day committee decided to relocate the event to the campus of Berry College near Rome. Berry certainly has a beautiful campus but time will tell if this location will draw the number of participants that attended at Chateau Elan. I have also heard that this may be the last "British only" such day. Rumor is that in future years all "European" cars will be invited.

I'll look forward to seeing you at an event soon. Roy

Wolf Creek continued from front cover

Their club has not been to Wolf Mountain Vineyards before and we are excited to have them join us. Marvin and Carolyn Sikes are very active in the Early Bird Club and are serving as co-hosts for this event. Please RSVP by Monday, April 24, 2006. This is one outing and you do not want to miss!

For those of us who have read, and nostalgically laughed our way through, Burt (B.S.) Levy's previous three books about sport cars and growing up in the 1950's, his long promised fourth, and supposedly final, book in the "Last Open Road" series will be introduced at Road Atlanta during the Walter Mitty Historic Races. For those of you not familiar with "The Last Open Road", and the two follow on books, "Montezuma"s Ferrari" and "The Fabulous Trashwagon" the story follows the misadventures of young Buddy Palumbo, a budding auto mechanic and all around good guy, as he discovers the thrill of sport cars and sport car racing as well as life, love, and a host of unforgettable characters along the way at Finzio's Garage. Burt mingles fiction and historical facts to weave a wonderful story and Jaguar, particularly the

XK120, C and D types, play a significant role as Buddy becomes involved in racing in the US, Mexico and Europe. Burt will be at the Mitty hawking his latest effort. A quick update on Buddy and the gang, along with an excerpt from "Toly's Ghost", Burt's latest book, can be found starting on page 17 of the new May issue of "Classic Motorsports". I promise you a quick read and a good laugh for your efforts. The Mitty is the last weekend in April. We have a joint venture already on the calendar with the Thunderbird Club for Sunday, April 30, 2006. However, a club effort to visit the Mitty on Friday and / or Saturday, April 28 and 29 seems to be quite in order. Just call me at 770-886-7435 and let's make some arrangements to catch a historic race or two and some B.S. at the Mitty!



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North Georgia Jaguar Club 2006 Calendar of Events

By Tom Koballa (tkoballa@uga.edu) *Club Member Facilitator

January 14-22 -Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction Scottsdale, AZ

January 21 -Microcar Museum Madison, GA (* Tom Koballa)

February 17, 18, & 19 -World of Wheels Georgia World Congress Center



February 17 or 25 -Upholstery technical session with Dan Paul (*Skip Smith)

March 10-12 -Concours d' Elegance Amelia Island, FL (*Dave Kirkman)

March 19 -JCNA sanctioned Slalom Smoky Mountain Jaguar Club Knoxville, TN

March 30-April 1 JCNA AGM Seattle, WA

April 22-23 - Carolina Jaguar Club JCNA Sanctioned Concours d' Elegance (22nd) & Slalom (23) Dobson, NC

April 27-30 - Walter Mitty Challenge Road Atlanta Braselton, GA

April 30 - NGJC Drive to Wolf Mtn. Vineyards and lunch with Classic Thunderbird Club (*Dave Kirkman)

May 13 - British Motor car Day Berry College Rome, GA www.atlantabritishmorecarday.com (* Joe Newell) May 20 - Smoky

Mountain Jaguar Club Concours d' Elegance Gatlinburg, TN

Mav 28 - NGJC Sanc tioned Spring Slalom, Chicopee Woods, Gainesville, GA (*Dick Maury or Lynn Cunningham)

June 3 - Annual Con cours Judges Training **Hennessy Jaguar Gwinnett(*Pat Harmon)**

June 24-25 -NGJC "Old Car" Overnight (*Dave Kirkman)

July 15 -Concours d' Elegance 101: Introduction to **Concours Participation** Hennessy Jaguar Gwinnett (*Pat Harmon)

August 19 -TBA

September 16-17 -**Overnight Driving Tour** to the U.S. Air Force Museum Warner Robbins, GA (*Pat Harmon).

September 24 - NGJC Sanctioned Fall Slalom. Chicopee Woods, Gainesville, GA (*Dick Maury or Lynn Cunningham)

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September 27-30 -Petite LeMans

Location TBA October 8 -NGJC Sanctioned Concours d' Elegance, **Chattahoochee Country** Club, Gainesville, GA (*Roy Cleveland or Pat Harmon - Concours Chairman)

October 13-15 -Euro Auto Fest @ BMW PlantGreer, SC (*Dave & Beverly Kirkman)

October 28-29 -Southern British Car Club Show Chattanooga, TN November 3-5 -**Hilton Head Concours** d' Elegance, Hilton Head, SC (* Dave Kirkman) November 18 -

NGJC Annual Business Meeting (*Club Officers) December 17 -

NGJC Annual Christmas Party at Vinings Club Atlanta, GA (*Joe Newell)

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MEMBERSHIP

By Lynn Cunningham

We would like to welcome our new members since the last newsletter. They are

George & Norma Jean Daube and Henry & Diane Hodgkins

That brings our total of new members in 2006 to 18. That gives us 104 members at present. Membership lists are available to any member by mail or e-mail. If you would like one, call or email Roy



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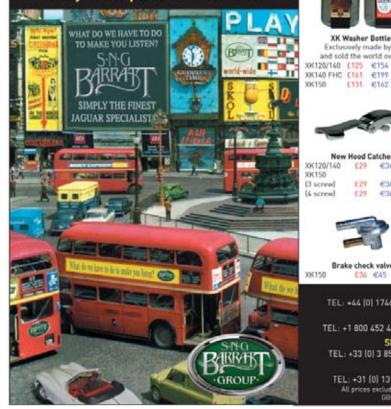
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2006 Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance and Me By Eddie Cole Continued from front cover

V-P Membership Needed

By Roy Cleveland

signal and through the Live Oak arched lane, I knew we were near! Then, the left turn onto **RITZ-CARLTON Drive** and I could hardly contain my revolutions as we were directed toward the field of competition. My owner took the directions and proceeded. As we crested that hill lined on



Crest from an Ecurie Ecosse C-Type (private entry). Photo, Robert C. Farris

either side with lush landscaping, we both gasped as we looked onto that open expanse of green grass dotted with only a few beauties and their attendants. There was a grandstand, awards stand, numerous large white tents and, of course, the water and walkover bridge at the far end. We drove to a shaded area, stopped and took it in! Soon enough we were directed to my class area where I backed up to an A.J. Foyt can-am racer. We were tail pipe to tail pipe---fun! She was a beauty in her polished blue with that high tail fin. Her owners were diligently detailing her and I watched as they wrapped her

in three different wraps. The Concours people advise a car cover because of the heavy dew. Since I'm garaged, my owner does not own a car cover. Guess what?—he had a religious experience Sunday morning ridding me of all that water-WOW!

We entrants were

glistening in our place when Johnny Rutherford, three time Indy winner, came screaming through the grounds in his former ride. Passing directly in front of me, he parked among six other of his rides just yards to my left. The Concours was open, it was 9:00 am and in they came-the paying public. On my left, our class winner, a 1963 Ferrari 250 GT Lusso from Thousand Oaks, Calif. and on my right, a 1961 Excalibur RS from Richmond, Il. The day was thrilling!

My owner ventured over to the 1930's European section to page 6

Lynn Cunningham, V-P Membership, recently resigned his position due to job related time demands. If anyone is interested in doing this job, contact Roy Cleveland who will be temporarily (hopefully) performing these duties.

The duties involved are: being the contact person for and responding to new member inquiries and maintaining the member roster and other member records. The ability to use Microsoft Excel and Word (in depth knowledge is not required - just basic working knowledge) would be a necessity.

NORTH GEORGIA JAGUAR **CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT**

At the end of 2005, the Club has \$3,872 in its bank account. In addition to the cash balance, the club also has an inventory of about 40 grill badges and lapel pins and quite a few hats with the NGJC logo. The retail value of the grill badges and lapel pins is about \$1,400. A statement of cash receipts and disbursements for 2005 has been prepared and mailed to all officers. A copy of this report is available to any member who requests one by contacting Roy Cleveland.



Jaguar News in the Pubs

By The Ole Rally Geezer

My eye always seems to catch any article in the monthly magazines that come my way if it has anything to do with Jaguar. Good or bad. And what a mixed bag it is! The latest "AutoWeek", dated March 20, 2006, has some very nice comments in the Drivers Log, page 12, about their experiences with the 2006 Jaguar XJ8 Vanden Plas. They all like driving the new XJ8 better than the equivalent German and Japanese offerings. On the other hand the April, 2006, issue of "Consumers Reports, Annual Auto Issue", page 88, shows any year of the Jaguar S and X Types with more black marks that a bad bowling card and, unlike "AutoWeek", they don't like the new XJ8 much either. Beverly assures me that the reliability information in "Consumers Reports" is collected from readers and not some conspiracy against the Brits (But I still have this funny feeling the good folks at Consumers Reports judge new automobiles with the same lack



of passion as they do with washing machines and ice makers. They would probably choose a mundane vanilla car in their driving life, just as long as it starts, costs nothing to operate, looks and drives like all the other boring cars on the road and they would not choose the chocolate ripple experience of driving a good road car regardless of make or model). However, I cannot help but wonder if the folks at "AutoWeek", who love driving chocolate ripple cars and detest driving boring vanilla ones, will still say nice things about the new Jag after they have put some big time miles on it. Unfortunately, the two articles agree on one thing. While we love the driving experience of the Jag, the sad reality of questionable reliability seems to follow the margue like ticks on a stray dog. Jaguar Cars LTD must address this issue in no uncertain terms or we might just find ourselves in the "Orphan Class" at the major Concours in, say, ten years or so.



2006 Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance

and Me By Eddie Cole Continued from page 6

view the Mercedes specially built for Nazi Commander Hermann Goering. This car was captured by the renowned "SCREAMING EAGLES", 101st U.S. Army Airborne Division and served the remainder of the war as General Maxwell Taylor's command car. The car was original, complete with several bullet holes. What a sense of pride my owner felt realizing the magnitude and cost of our winning World



COMMUNITY HOSPICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, INC. What a noble cause and event! When it's your time at Amelia... may it be so pleasant!

War II. Then, the story about his meeting an award presenter at lunch: Seems this lady owned her very own vineyard in Napa Valley, CA. and her business card presented her as the PROPRIETRESS of said vineyard. Her car collection has showed at Amelia and Pebble Beach. She said to my owner, "Come see my cars"! Finally, and to conclude, my owner met Dick Smothers and wife Denby. A major fan of Dick Smothers, my owner told him there was one serious disappointment in their chance, very pleasant meeting: my owner always thought of himself as much younger than Dick, but the face to



face greeting changed that; Dick appeared the younger.

The true story of the AMELIA ISLAND CONCOURS d' ELEGANCE is that of man and machine coming together for the benefit of PEOPLE: as a fund raiser for



(Top to Bottom): Various views of an MGM Studio owned XK 120 Roadster driven by Clark Gable. (Left Bottom) Steve McQueen's personal XK SS. (Right Bottom) Winner of Best Competition Jaguar in Class: the Ecurie Ecosse C-Type.

Photos, Robert C. Farris





Jags at the Mitty

By David Kirkman

The latest edition of the "Jaguar Journal" notes that the Jaguar Select Edition team will be bringing their race prepared E-Type to the Walter Mitty event at Road Atlanta. Even more reason to make sure that we attend this event. The race cars of Japan are the featured mark this year. But, hey, if a Jag is there then I am there. The dates are Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 27th through the 30th. Remember we have a club event already on the schedule for Sunday the 30th but Thursday, Friday and Saturday are open. Jags and B.S. Levy, a hard combination to beat! Give me acall (770) 886-7435 and let's make plans to attend.

RALLY 101 RESULTS

The Ole Rally Geezer

An enthusiastic group gathered at Wildman's Bar-BQ for what turned out to be a fun romp on a beautiful day, in the early spring countryside around Dawsonville. Everyone, including the check point workers and the Ole Rally Geezer, learned something about rallying, and had a lot of fun doing it. Eight cars started and, despite the best efforts of a "mobile check point" and unanticipated Sunday traffic at the finish, everyone, with a little help from their friends, found their way to a wonderful lunch at the Gold Creek Country Club. The results are strictly very very unofficial. Pat and Nancy Harmon ran the first leg with only a ten second time penalty but Ray and Margaret Gore were leading arriving only two seconds off the ideal time for the leg. Unfortunately, a wrong turn saw their advantage





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dwindle by the second check point as Robert and Barbara

Collins ran that leg within twenty-two seconds of the ideal

and his navigator, ran an exceptional rally considering the

"mobile check point" never quite made it to the right spot

time. Roy and Linda Cleveland ran the last leg with in

five seconds of ideal but Joe and Betty Newell's overall

performance was the best of the day. Richard Bowers,

in time to score them on the second leg. Therefore, we

apologize but we do not have a final point total for them

as it appears that the second check point team of George

Haldane and John Baxa meant to go west but went south and arrived late at the second check point, at least that

is their story, and missed checking the first two cars. But they did wave "hello" to Richard as he raced past them

beautiful XJS would not go past the mall but they did make

but not for time. Unofficial results: (1) Newell's 41 penalty

on his way to the final check point. The only DNF was Linda Bowers and her navigator. It was reported that their

it to lunch! Terry and Dianne Hulsey drove the course

points; (2) Harmon's 165 penalty points; (3) Cleveland's

Gore's 238 penalty points. I wish to thank everyone who

participated in this event. Besides George and John, Bill

them. I would like to stage a JCNA sanctioned rally (and

in August if there is enough interest. Let Roy, Joe, or Tom

a drive for those who just want to see the countryside)

168 penalty points; (4) Collin's 224 penalty points; (5)

Sherman and Tom Koballa also helped with the check

points and the rally could not have happened without

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2006 Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance

Continued from page 7



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