

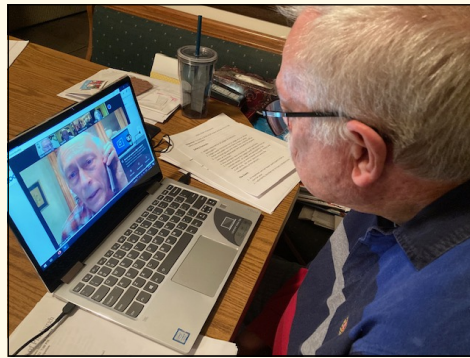
Jaguar Jargon



Volume 44, No. 2 www.jaguarclubofpittsburgh.com FEBRUARY 2021



Dave Gamret



Chuck Pipich (screen), Bryan Williams



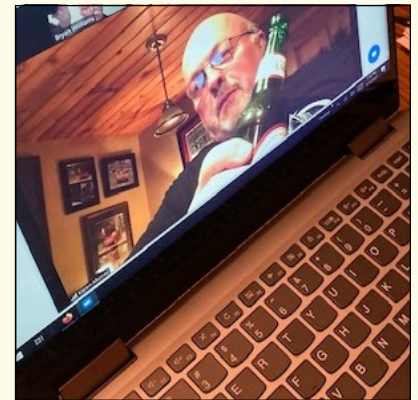
Jack Terrick

JCOP Leaders *ZOOM* into the New Year

The Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh's officers and board members didn't let Covid 19 restrictions stop them from kicking off plans for events in 2021 as conditions permit.

On the evening of Jan. 12, newly elected president Dave Gamret welcomed participants on a Zoom call, noting that "we'd rather be meeting in person, but Zoom is a useful tool that is the next best thing." Chuck Pipich served as moderator for the meeting, which was scheduled for 40 minutes but stretched into more than 2 hours, giving those on the call plenty of time for discussion.

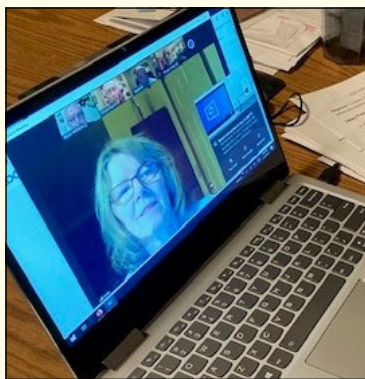
Agenda items included new business topics concerning JCOP's 50th anniversary in 2021, JCOP website updates, a by-laws subcommittee and Coventry Foundation. Board member reports were given by Secretary Don Johnson, Treasurer Jack Terrick, and Director and Concours Chief Judge Bryan Williams. Look for details in future Jargon issues.



Dave Murray



Bill Cooper



Dolly Taskey



Stu Benson



Fred Segal

Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh 2021 Events Calendar

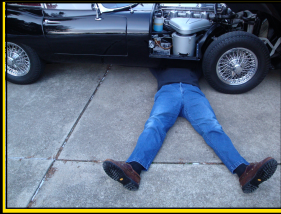


<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
August 28	“Jaguars and Jacksons” Dinner Event	Dave Gamret 734-645-5864
September 11	JCOP Concours d’Elegance Fox Chapel Yacht Club	Bryan Williams 412-751-2355
September 25	British Cars at Hartwood	Jack Terrick 724-837-7497

The Board encourages members to attend and sponsor club events that would be interesting to club members, especially as health and safety protocols and conditions permit. If you have a suggestion or idea, please contact Rich Aronson who is keeping the calendar (412-551-8319) or another Board member to discuss your ideas. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy through the season!

Non-JCOP Events for 2021:

April 30-May 2	Greenbrier Concours d’Elegance	
May 29	Susquehanna Valley Concours d’Elegance	Dave Hershey 717-846-0642
June 5	Delaware Valley Jaguar Club Concours	Jim Sjoreen 610-989-3860
June 24-26	Arthritis Foundation Auto Show, Dublin, Ohio	
July 11-25	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	
August 7	Jaguar Club of Ohio Concours	
September 10	Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival	



President's Perspective

By Dave Gamret



February finds us about halfway through winter and, even with cold temperatures lurking outdoors, it only takes a sunny day to generate visions of a brisk drive in our favorite Jaguar come spring. Of course with spring, a young man's (or woman's) fancy turns to thoughts of . . .the JCNA AGM. Unfortunately, this year's meeting originally scheduled for March in Columbia, SC has been postponed to fall. JCNA just did not feel confident that a quorum of club representatives could be assembled due to the obvious uncertainty still surrounding Covid19. We will keep you posted on potential dates and agenda content as they become available later in the year. Just a reminder that all JCNA members are invited to attend, so don't hesitate if this is an experience that has been on your bucket list.

Speaking of schedule adjustments due to Covid, our club is expending every effort to plan for the events we all know and love. You will find a TENTATIVE schedule for some of the activities we hope to conduct this year on page 2 of this newsletter. Rich Aronson is coordinating this calendar and will welcome any additions that you may wish to propose to the club. Contact any Board member and we'll work with you to try and make it happen. With so many members in our club, I'm sure there are great new ideas for fun things to do just waiting for a little encouragement. The Board would love to hear from you! We certainly hope we can make our calendar of club events a reality this year but the health and safety of our members will always be our top priority.

But lest you begin to think I am only the messenger of doom and gloom, let me brighten your day a bit with some exciting things happening in the club. First of all, this year is our 50th anniversary and Bryan Williams has already arranged to have grille badges and lapel pins available for us to broadcast this milestone. Fred Segal will be investigating the possibility of a formal celebration party later in the year dependent on the Covid19 situation. If you would like to help organize such an event or have ideas for making this a memorable success, please contact Fred by phone or email listed here in the Jargon. Volunteers and suggestions are both welcome and necessary.

The next major undertaking of note is an update for the JCOP website. I want to take this opportunity to thank Sean and Candy Williams for their many years of designing and updating our website with content reflecting the camaraderie of our club, as well as maintaining the financial requirements to keep it functioning. Their efforts are greatly appreciated by all the club members. Sean is embarking on a new chapter in his life with his fiancée and we wish them all the best. We are fortunate that Dolly Taskey has volunteered to assume the burden of URLs, web protocols and a bunch of other stuff that I have no idea what I'm talking about. She has already begun to enhance the site with new graphics, content, navigation capabilities and functions that will make visiting our website an exciting and efficient experience. Stay tuned for more info.

. . . and there still are more ideas in the works. The Board had its first meeting in January and we're anxious to navigate the club through these difficult times and present some new concepts to the members. Better days await. Just like driving through fog with your Lucas headlights, the road ahead may be obscured. But with patience and determination we'll all get where we want to go. Stay safe and healthy till we're able to meet again in person.

Dave



Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

1971 - 2021



Editor's Note: Share your memories of good times spent at JCOP events over the years. Send an email to candywilliams591@gmail.com and include photos of you, your Jaguar(s), and places you've been with fellow club members. We'll share your thoughts and pix in the Jargon!

JCOP- Recollections of the Early Days

By Bill Cooper

I bought my 67 E-Type FHC in late summer 1973, in response to an advertisement in the Post Gazette. It would need a clutch immediately and rust repair "soon", but that didn't deter me as I had wanted one for a very long time. I was a single 23-year-old lad, working for Bethlehem Steel in Leetsdale, PA, near Sewickley. That close proximity quickly led me quickly to Jim at Boffo Motors, as I undertook the dreaded clutch replacement in my parent's garage. Jim mentioned the Jaguar Club and I joined right away. Cyro Ambrozy was the president through 1973 with Jess Mellor taking over in 1974. The club was small in those days-32 members by my 1974 roster which listed Chuck Kusiolek, Jim Boffo, John Tuleibitz, myself and 28 others. The club was growing with an enthusiastic membership. By 1976, Tim Booher, Henry VerValen and Al Chellman would join, with 42 members. We had 54 members in 1977 with the Bishops joining the fold that year.

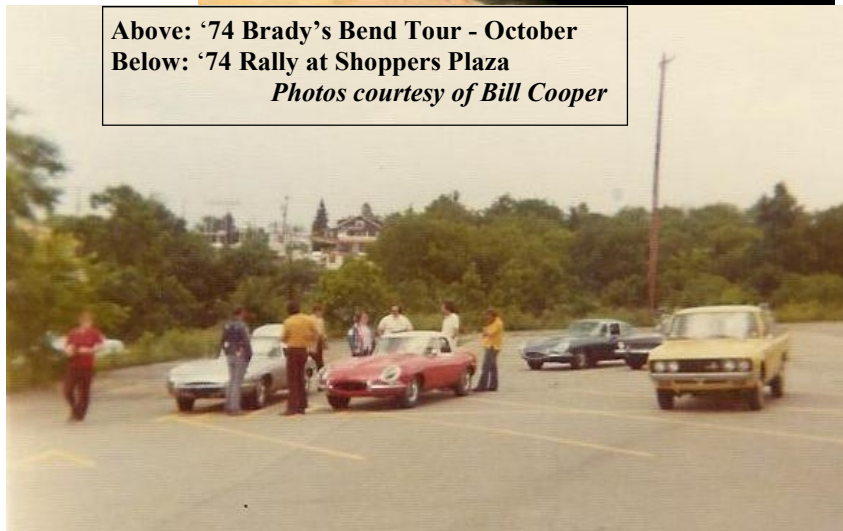
During those early years, monthly dinner meetings were held during the winter months and normally included a short business meeting and a guest speaker. Favorite locations were Emerson's Steak House on McKnight Road, The Viking on Banksville Road, the Greentree Holiday Inn, Johnny Garneau's in Monroeville and other similar venues. Elections took place at the January meeting each year and the first by-laws were presented and accepted at the January 1974 meeting. Menu for the January 1975 meeting was an 8 oz. filet, potato, salad and a beverage for \$7.10, with cash bar and pitchers of beer for 25 cents. Christmas wine and cheese parties were typically hosted by members in their homes.

Marion Owen was the newsletter (as yet unnamed) editor at the time. By October 1974, Pat Tuleibitz had assumed editorial duties and the newsletter became the Jaguar News.

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Above: '74 Brady's Bend Tour - October
Below: '74 Rally at Shoppers Plaza
Photos courtesy of Bill Cooper





Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

1971 - 2021



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JCOP- Recollections of the Early Days

By Bill Cooper

During the good weather there was a steady stream of events ranging from picnics to tours and somewhat informal car shows. There were at least two “Day at the Races” events at Nelson Ledges organized by Jim Boffo, an autocross in the Gulf Research parking lot (where I entered with my E-Type) and several rallies, both time-speed-distance and one with a scavenger hunt format.

I recall a “Summer Happening” hosted by Brad and Marion Owen at their farm in Washington County in July of 1974. The access to their farmhouse was a gravel and grass track accessible after fording a creek next to the county road. My E-Type dragged its exhaust on the high center nearly the whole way to the parking area. Those were the days!

The second club “Concours d’Elegance” was held at the Whitehall Shopping Center in August of 1974.

The highest scoring Jaguar at 96.75 was a 1970 E-type belonging to our president Jess Mellor.

There were quite a lot of members working on their own cars, and the club set up a “Jaguar Technical Advisory” of Jim Boffo, Ralph Nedbal, John Tuleibitz and myself, willing to support members with technical problems or questions. Parts for our Jaguars were more difficult to obtain in those days. The dealers did not carry much for the E-Types and other early cars unless the part was common to the later XJ sedans. In 1973, the only panels that I could purchase from Jaguar were the outer sills. Oil pan seals and an improved neoprene rear pan seal from the XJ6 were interchangeable and available if you knew what to ask for. Today’s aftermarket was embryonic, though Bill Welsh was filling a need by breaking Jags and selling used spares out of his garage in Steubenville, OH.

In later years, Brenda and I helped with the newsletter, I served as president on two occasions, we organized the Concours at Mountain View Inn in 1980 and chaired the first British Cars at Hartwood Acres event for the Jaguar Club in 1987 when the Triumph Club moved British Car Day to Schenley Park. We have made many lasting friendships in our years with the club, and have very much enjoyed those associations and the memories.



·77 Picnic at Boohers - Fall

Photo courtesy of Bill Cooper



Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

1971 - 2021



‘Looking Back, 50 Years is Not That Long’

By Dave Gestler

First, let’s get this straight, fifty years is not such a long time. I remember it well; at least some of it. In the early 70's, perhaps, 1971, my car buddy and I saw what was likely a newspaper add, inviting Jaguar owners, and perhaps other British cars, to what we now call a car cruise. It was to be held on a Sunday afternoon at a shopping center (stores were closed back then) located overlooking Rte. 51, leaving Pittsburgh, on the left side. So we got into my 1953 XK -120 and drove over to take a look. I remember some good looking Jaguars, mostly sedans, and likely an E-Type or two. I met some nice owners, one that I remember named Bill Cooper.



Photos courtesy of Dave Gestler

After that, I received printed news letters periodically from this new JCOP, inviting participation in various Club events. At the time, I was traveling on business and trying to help my wife raise three little kids, so I wasn't able to attend very many. One of the kids was a boy, the oldest of three with two little sisters, whose name is Craig. Many of you will know him today as a JCOP member and the owner of a Primrose ‘66 E-Type coupe. He is also restoring a rust free ‘66 Mark II.



The Club events that come to mind as favorites were the Station Square Concours and Show, and of course, the PVGP, particularly when Jaguars were the Featured Marque. I was honored to speak with Bibie Boerio at our 2006 Vintage Grand Prix dinner at the Edgewood Country Club and with Norman Dewis at the 2008 AGM at Station Square. Another good time was Chuck Kusiolek’s Corvettes and Jags at Linden Hall. Probably my favorite picture is my 120 parked next to one of the first model year, ‘53 Corvette.

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Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

1971 - 2021



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‘Looking Back, 50 Years is Not That Long’

By Dave Gestler

Back to the Club's history. When I attended the 40th Anniversary Celebration at the Duquesne Club, (where I see from the Program, I was on the Anniversary Committee) I spoke to our then President, Linda Drago, as to whether a Founding Member list existed, to see if I might have been included. She said that she had not seen one but that it likely existed. In going through my files to write this piece, I found a 2008 JCOP history that had been written as part of the 50th anniversary of the National Jaguar Association. It said that there were eight founding members, with Walter and Joy Blenko as co-founders. I suspect that I was not one of the other six. Perhaps, in preparation for our fifty year celebration, the full list can be unearthed.

And finally, this just would not be complete without a few words about my very original XK-120. Back in 1959, I had a good engineering job, a new bride, and a "Draft Notice". I felt that my only choice was to join the National Guard. At the time, the young Captain of the Unit owned a slightly used 1953 Jaguar XK-120 OTS.

As a member with a college degree, I was privileged to drive the Captain's car. These drives included a summer camp trip to Indiantown Gap, near Harrisburg, so I knew what the car was. So when in 1960, he decided to sell it so that he could buy a new Corvette, I came up with \$900 and it has been mine ever since. Starting with 27,000 miles at purchase, I am up to just under 56,000 today. And never in the rain because the roof is stored on a shelf in my garage. Yes, it is original with mostly period improvements like Belond dual exhausts with mufflers that were then called steel-packs, but today are likely wide open tubes (to break windows at 3,000 RPM). The engine and drive train have never been out of the car and I am still running the original factory clutch.

More recent improvements include a front disc brake conversion by Jim Boffo, and an electrical upgrade brought on when it failed to start at 2019 Hartwood. Now, with a new twice-the-torque starter, an alternator that looks like the original generator and two new sealed, but in original Lucas housings, 6 volt batteries, it spins and starts like never before. If only there was somewhere to drive it!

So, looking back, all-in-all, fifty years is not that long. And for me, it's been very good indeed.



Photo courtesy of Dave Gestler

JCOP Members Saddened by the Loss of Long-time Member and Friend John Sopiak Jr.



John Sopiak Jr., 86, of Canonsburg, died Monday, January 4, 2021.

He was born March 3, 1934, in Canonsburg, a son of John and Julia Sedletsky Sopiak.

John was a member of St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church. He was a member of the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh, and the Jaguar Club of North America.

Prior to his retirement, he worked as a maintenance foreman for Consol Energy. John also held a private pilot license and was an airframe and powerplant mechanic. John loved working on cars and was frequently spotted driving around the community in his red Jaguar.

On June 1, 1968, he married his wife of more than 52 years, Betty Clark Sopiak, who survives. Also surviving are his sons, John (Nanette) Sopiak of Houston, Gregory (Linda) Sopiak of Eighty-Four; his daughters, Sandra Castelli of Canonsburg, Hilary (Larry) Gunn of Maryland, Tammy (Richard) Bailey of Ohio, Sheila (Brian) Podobnik of Canonsburg, Jennifer Sopiak of

Canonsburg; one sister, Patty Delfine of Canonsburg; 15 grandchildren, Stacey (Michael) Bonus, John (Arianna) Sopiak, Jason (Misty) Sopiak, Jacquelyn (Michael) Khanolaar, Kacie Hollenbach, Chelsie Bedillion, Kristyn (Al) Dean, Gregory (Leigha) Sopiak, Kate (Katie) Sopiak, Justin Gunn, Chad McIntosh, Zachary Bailey, Rachael Bailey, Brian (Allison) Podobnik, and Steven Podobnik; 16 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Anna Louise Clendaniel and Mary Jane Guidas.

Arrangements were private and entrusted to Sollon Funeral and Cremation Services, LTD, 30 East College Street, Canonsburg. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly suggests memorial contributions be made to St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church in John Sopiak's name.

Following the family's wishes, the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh sent a memorial contribution to St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church in John's name.

John's son Greg and daughter-in-law Linda are also members of JCOP.

JCOP members were among John's many friends that posted their condolences:

John will be missed at our Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh events. He will always be remembered for his congenial spirit and engaging personality. It was always good to see John polishing his car while his wife Betty greeted and conversed with other participants. We are very sorry to hear of John's passing, and our deepest sympathies go to Betty and her family.

Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh - Jack Terrick

Will miss you John. Your smile, your wit, your support of the JCOP. You were always a class act. - PETE
R. Pete Galinowski

To Betty, Greg and family, We always enjoyed having John and your family at our Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh events. He was always a great addition to any event and he will be missed very much.
Bryan and Candy Williams

Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Series 1 E-type roadster quarter panels (left and right uppers from door jamb to bumper). Never on car ... still as new. Prefer to sell as a pair.
\$1250 OBO for the pair .
Buyer pays packing and shipping.

Other items for sale:

- Used heater box with core, good shape
- Headlight covers with trim rings
- Bonnet hinge repair panel
- New vacuum tank
- Original jack in bag

Email the club member for a complete list of items for sale at satchman2013@yahoo.com

The photo at right shows the Series 1 E-type roadster quarter panels ... still in original primer and never used.



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Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh / Jaguar Clubs of North America



2021 Renewal / New Member Application



Membership in the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh includes membership in the national organization, Jaguar Clubs of North America. Membership is based on calendar year. New member applications received after August will have their JCNA membership begin at the beginning of the following year.

NOTE: The JCOP newsletter, *Jaguar Jargon*, is sent to members via email in PDF format.

The JCNA magazine, *Jaguar Journal*, is mailed on a bi-monthly basis.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

(If you do not have an email address, please indicate here) _____

Phone _____ / _____

Please list any Jaguars currently owned (not required for membership)

Year	Model	Body Style (OTS, FHC, DHC, Sedan, Coupe, Convertible)
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Attach separate page for additional cars.

2021 JCOP/JCNA dues: \$45.00

Please make your check payable to the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh and send to:

**Jack Terrick, Treasurer
258 Echo Valley Rd.
Jeannette, PA 15644**

If you have any questions, please contact Jack at 724 837 7497, or email jht66e@comcast.net

Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh

2021 OFFICERS and BOARD of DIRECTORS



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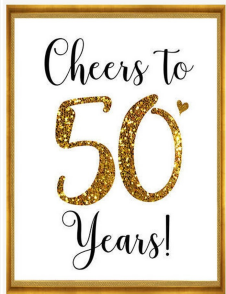


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Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh
Candy Williams, Editor
222 Karen Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037



In This Issue:

Members share some of their fondest JCOP memories



2021 Marks the 60th Anniversary of the E-Type!

If you have a story about an E-Type (it doesn't have to be yours) that you would like to share with club members, please send your article and photos to candywilliams591@gmail.com

In the photo:

Jaguar E-type '77 RW' on a demonstration run with test driver and development engineer Norman Dewis, Geneva, 1961

PHOTO CREDIT: jaguar.com/classic ©JDHT

