

Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the

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Retromobile Week In Paris February 2011

By Gary Lindstrom

Some folks love Paris in the spring time, but personally I love Paris in February, during [Retromobile Week](#).

Although it's hard to say anything can take over that cosmopolitan, blase' city, cars are definitely in the air during this annual event featuring collector car shows, exhibitions, auctions, and general gawking.

I finally made it to see this spectacle this year after hoping to do so for a long time. The week has three principal events -- a three day exposition and two auctions that draw the creme de la creme of collector cars, mostly European of course.

The exposition occupied one immense floor of one of seven halls at the Port de Versailles Paris convention center, which altogether is a huge venue.

There was everything automotive on offer here -- cars, posters, automobilia of every description including bonnet mascots, clothes new and old, gas pumps, car models, tools, car clubs, restoration services, insurance companies -- you name it! Even a company selling desk furniture made out of airplane body parts.

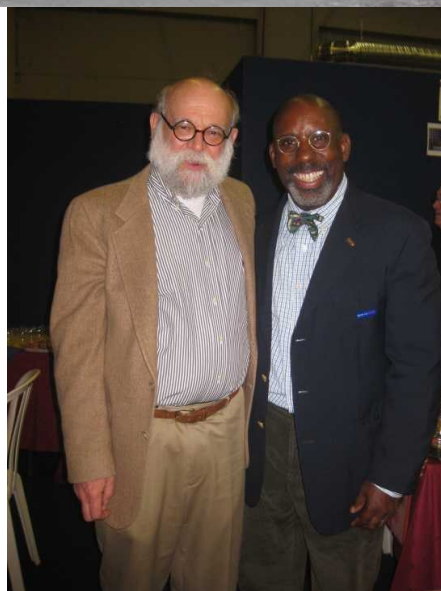
One of my favorites was a booth devoted



The French Jaguar Drivers Club had a very tasteful display honoring the 50th anniversary of the E-type (of course), with very nattily dressed bi-lingual members holding forth. I bought a very nice dress shirt embroidered with the club logo as a souvenir.

A special treat was the appearance of the historically significant [fardier a](#)

[vapeur](#) (steam dray) designed in 1769 to transport guns for the French military. This strange beast, which looks like a mobile distillery, is recognized as the first self-propelled vehicle to transport man. It also is said to have caused the world's first automobile accident when it ran out of control and demolished a garden wall (a reconstruction of the event can be seen on YouTube). The *fardier* was on loan from the Paris [Muse'e des Arts et Metiers](#), and actually backed its way out of the exhibit hall under its own steam. Awesome!



exclusively to vintage pedal cars -- where else can you find Citroen Deux Chevaux transport for your preschooler?

The French auction house [Artcurial](#) rented significant space to preview the cars that would later be at its auction -- more on this later. And of course there were several cafes feature wine, beer, munchies (please, crudite's!) and the obligatory brusque Parisian waiters. On the evening of the first day there was an invitation only reception at one of the cafe's hosted by Don Osborne of [Sports Car](#)

Retromobile Week In Paris — cont'd from page 1



lish language supporting commentary, and more British cars on offer, including several Jaguars. High sale was again a Bugatti, this time lot 327 a 1933 Bugatti Grand Prix Type 51 Biplance racer which changed hands at 943,000 euros (\$1.3 million).

The 1950 Rolls Royce Silver Dawn Cabriolet used to transport clients of the nearby Hotel George V went for 247,250 euros (\$341,205) to a buyer known to the auctioneer, who sniffed mistily "at least it will remain in Paris."

Artcurial offered a special collection of heads of state cars from a disbanding museum. Particularly notable was lot 298 a 1960 Simca body by Chapron Presidence cabriolet 4 door, backed by a photo of de Gaulle in it waving to adoring citizens. This went for below estimate at 117,940 euros (\$162,757).

The nicest Jaguar at either sale to my eye was lot 213 at Artcurial, a lovely pastel green 2.5 liter 1939 SS drop head coupe, which sold for a paltry 80,236 euros (\$110,726).

As always, the people watching at these auctions was almost worth the cost of admission (50 euros at each, including a keepsake catalog). The casual manner in which enormous sums were bid was truly impressive.

All in all it was a truly memorable week.

[Market](#) magazine. Don is a fascinating character who runs a collector car appraisal company Auto Valuation Services -- how do I get this job?!? Prior to that he was a baritone at the Metropolitan Opera, and still has the voice to match!

The Artcurial auction was of course conducted in French with smatterings of English, but the bid prices were helpfully posted in euros, dollars and pounds. High sale was lot 215 a 1937 Bugatti Type 57C Atalante, which found a home at 579,966 euros including buyer's premium (15%) and taxes (a tad over \$800k). A 1959 Riva Tritone Motor Launch in very rough condition brought 86,096 euros (\$118,812).

The third event I attended was the auction by [Bonhams](#) of London, held at the *Grand Palais* exhibition hall just off the Champs Elysees. This fabulous belle epoch venue was built in just three years for the 1900 Universal Exhibition.

This auction was also conducted in French (as required by law), but as you might expect there was much more Eng-



Member Profile: John and Liz Green

John was born and raised in Salt Lake City. He has six brothers—two blood brothers and four step brothers.

John went to Highland High School and has a B.S. degree from the University of Utah in Business Management and Marketing.

After graduating from college John worked for Borg Warner in Los Angeles, CA for a year then returned to Salt Lake City. He then worked for Stokermatic Co. as sales manager.

Stokermatic made small one room coal heaters that were distributed around the world as well as the US., Hydro-swift boats, flare dispensers for planes and rotating signs.

He then moved on to sell life insurance and now he has two warehouses he rents that are in Hyrum, UT.

Liz was born and raised in Salt Lake City. She has one brother and one sister. She went to Highland High School. Guess where she and John



When she and John went to LA for John's work she didn't work again until the kids were in school.

Liz worked for Davis County Day Care, JC Penny telemarketing and Deseret Mutual Benefit Administration insurance.

John and Liz have 5 children – 4 boys and 1 girl ranging in age from 41 to 26. We have 12 grandchildren with one more due this summer.

All of our family lives in Davis County within 10 miles of each other. We are very lucky to have them so close by.

John and Liz bought a 40 foot motor home 8 years ago and since semi-retiring they spend January, February, and March in Yuma,

Arizona with 8 other couples in the warm weather. We love to go camping, ATVing, golfing and cruising.

John has always admired Jaguars. He sold our suburban for a small Toyota truck which ended up being too small.



met?

Liz has a B.S. from the University of Utah in Child Development. Liz worked for Stokermatic Company in the office and upon graduating from college worked for the Head Start Day Care Center as a teacher.

Member Profile: John and Liz Green
Cont'd from page 3

One day he was in Salt Lake and drove into Ken Garff Jaguar and traded the truck for a 1987 Series III XJ6. Five months later he bought a 1989 XJS coupe. That was the summer of 1995.

John and Liz went to the concours in Park City that year and joined the club. John then bought a need to re-

store 1960 Mark II. Not long after he bought his dream car – 1972

XKE Roadster and then bought Liz a 1997 XJ6L.



Unfortunately we sold the XKE three years ago. We sold the 1987 XJ6 to Jerry and Joy Wilson (they used to be in the club before they moved to St. George).

The XJS now belongs to one of our sons so it is still in the family.

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Paris Auto Show: Jaguar Unveils C-X75 Two-Seat Design Study By Wes Reynal on Autoweek.com

What's hotter at an auto show than a Jaguar sports car? Jaguar says that its C-X75 concept, shown at the Paris auto show, is both a celebration of 75 years of Jaguar design (XK120, C-type, D-type, XJ13 come to mind) and a look into the future.

Designed as an electric two-seat supercar, the aluminum C-X75 "explores the outer limits of both performance and sustainability," Jaguar says. The car can run on electricity for 68 miles on a six-



hour charge and has a 205-mph top speed.

The two-seater has lithium-ion batteries and a 195-hp electric motor mounted at each wheel, for a combined output of 780 hp. Two mid-mounted gas-turbines produce 188 hp to charge the batteries and extend the range of the car to 560 miles. The four electric motors provide torque-vectoring all-wheel drive. Jaguar says that the car will hit 62 mph in 3.4 se-



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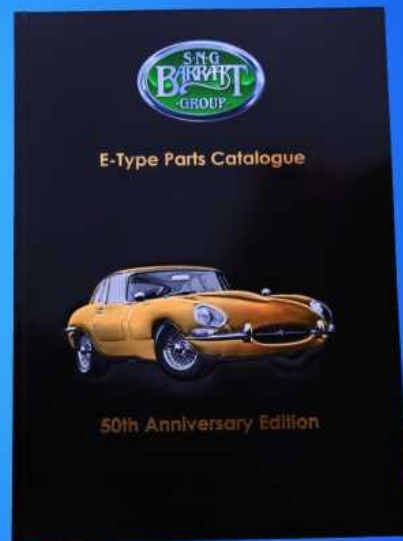
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Paris Auto Show: Jaguar Unveils C-X75 Two-Seat Design Study *Cont'd from Page 5*

conds and will go from 50 to 90 mph in just 2.3 seconds.

Inside, it's all cream and gray leathers, polished aluminum and soft-feel textured neoprene. The driver and the passenger sit ahead of a sealed airbox housing the turbines. The seats (the driver is placed as close to the center of the car as possible) are fixed in place, while the steering wheel, controls, dash binnacle and pedal box all adjust toward the driver. The instruments are TFT screens like those on

Jaguar's latest XJ sedan.

Theater lighting comes on as the driver approaches the car, as blue electroluminescent lights illuminate the cabin perimeter and the turbines. When the car is started, additional blue LED lighting gently floods the door and bulkhead speaker cavities, emphasizing the car's lightweight construction.

Jaguar says that its aim was to produce not only the most innovative but also

one of the most beautiful Jags ever, and we hear whispers that the automaker would love to build it.

"The C-X75 is everything a Jaguar should be," designer Ian Callum said. "It possesses remarkable poise and grace yet at the same time has the excitement and potency of a true supercar. You could argue this is as close to a pure art form as a concept car can get, and we believe it is a worthy homage to 75 years of iconic Jaguar design."

British Field Day Moved To Saturday August 13

Local MG owners have lobbied for British Field Day to be moved from its customary June time frame to a later date due to the [MG 2011](#) meeting in Reno June 13-17. The new date is Saturday August 13, but the venue remains the same: Liberty Park, in Salt Lake City (between 5th East and 7th East, and 9th South and 13th South).

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Jaguars Once Abundant In Valley

James Cornett, mydesert.com, February 5, 2011

Publisher's note: This article arises from the celebrated arrival of a two year old breeding female Jaguar at the Living Desert Museum in Palm Desert, CA (see photo). I recently visited that wonderful open air facility, as well as the nearby town of Palm Springs, where I can report there are more cougars on the streets than jaguars.

Is it true the jaguars once lived in the Coachella Valley?

The answer is yes. The jaguar, known as *Felis onca* to mammalogists, lived in California as far north as San Francisco up to at least 1826. The last official record for the state was an individual killed right here in Palm Springs in 1860.

The jaguar is the largest cat occurring in the New World. It can be twice as heavy as a mountain lion with record weights reaching up to 250 pounds. Adult jaguars have been known to attack and kill grown horses and large bulls.

They are very shy and there has never been a record of a human being attacked in the United States. In South America, however, there have been a handful of instances where jaguars have attacked and killed humans.

In recent years there have been several sightings of jaguars along the Mexican border in both Texas and Arizona. A few years ago, a large, male

jaguar was cornered by hunting dogs in the Peloncillo Mountains northeast of Douglas, Ariz. The hunter chose to take photographs instead of killing the large cat. After getting his pictures he allowed the jaguar to safely escape — a pleasant ending to the story.



I can only speculate on the vanishing of the jaguar from California. The most likely explanation for their absence is the paucity of large prey species. During the last ice age, animals of all sizes and shapes were abundant in California. There

were enough animals to support several large predators including the short-faced bear, grizzly bear, dire wolf, sabre-toothed tiger and American lion in addition to mountain lions and jaguars.

But the climate changed and the last ice age ended about 10,000 years ago. In many parts of the world, particularly in North America, the land became more arid, reducing the food supply for prey species. In addition, human hunters entered North America and carried with them the new hunting technologies that were spreading around the globe. The result of these factors was the drastic reduction in prey species and the disappearance of most large predators.

The jaguar represented one of the last remnants of the great ice age megafauna that roamed over the entire state and nation. Fortunately for the jaguar, it survived to modern times in the dense vegetation along the Mexican border and then southward into the rain forests of South America. In these environments there are several large prey species that are absent from California.

Such species include peccaries, armadillos and whitetail deer. The only common large prey species left in California today is the mule deer — an insufficient food base for the jaguar.

James Cornett is a desert ecologist living in Palm Springs.

Dinner Social Saturday March 19

Due to weather uncertainties, the venue for the March 19 dinner social has not been chosen at press time.

After all, it it's sunny and balmy we'll certainly want to combine a season opener drive with the event. On the other

hand, if it's like London in March we'll want to put on our Wellies and dress like the Queen (OK, that's not required).

In any case, watch your email for details as they become available, or if you're not hooked on computers, call

Susan or Liz (phone numbers below) as the date approaches, and they can fill you in on all the specifics.

Don't miss the fun and tall tales about how much everyone got done over the winter — on their Jaguars or otherwise.

Event Calendar

Saturday March 19, 2011

Dinner Social
See Article Above

Saturday May 21, 2011

Dinner Social with Drive
TBA

July / August

Car Show with [Bonneville Austin-Healey Club](#)

August 2011 — date TBD

Lunch and Drive to Antelope Island
[A Little Taste of Britain](#), Layton

Saturday August 13, 2011

British Field Day
Liberty Park, Salt Lake City
Bill Davis, 801-484-2858

Saturday August 27, 2011

[Utah Concours](#)
Thanksgiving Point

Saturday September 17 2011

Dinner Social at the Cady's
802-731-1599, [cadysue1599@msn.com](#)

Saturday October 29, 2011

Hallowe'en Party
J and Kay Jennings, 801-274-2671

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