

Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the

**Wasatch Mountain
Jaguar Register**

November 2012



WMJR on the web:

www.WMJR.org

Spooktacular Rallye And Hallowe'en Pot Luck At Jennings'

A very scary time was had by all at the WMJR Spooktacular Rallye and Pot Luck Dinner at the Jennings' on Friday October 26.

Duane Allred and his Co-Conspirator Ken Borg devised a fiendishly difficult Puzzle Rallye Cum Scavenger Hunt involving scary sites and venues throughout the Salt Lake Valley.

Most devious were a few destinations in the Mount Olivet Cemetery, which it turns out closed at 6pm even though the first rallye

car left the Jennings shortly thereafter.

Slightly less devious were the directions "As you proceed, you'll see a small structure on your right. *This is not a telephone booth. What is it, and what is its name?*" Answers: (a) porta potty, and (b) Honey Bucket.



rallye organizers, and all left in favorable moods.

It is unknown if this included Joe and Judy Todd, who arrived one day late

on Saturday evening.



Although the directions said the circuit could be done in an hour, these were probably intended for Steve McQueen in his XKSS (see [p. 4](#)). Most folks straggled in ravenously hungry between 7:30 and 8:00pm.

Fortunately the vast array of good food on offer subdued any thoughts of lynching the

Attending were: hosts J and Kay Jennings, Marvin and Connie May, Duane and LeAnn Allred, Ken and Joann Borg, Barbara Smithen and Bob Swift, John and Liz Green, Susan and Mike Cady, Ed and Michelle Higbee, David and Debi Hobson, and your obedient scribe, Gary Lindstrom. And of course the Todds.



More Hallowe'en Party Photos



Save The Date
WMJR Christmas Party December 4
6:30pm At Michelangelo Ristorante

Once again the club will be holding its annual Christmas Party, this year on Tuesday, December 4.

The festivities will be at [Michelangelo Ristorante](#), 3005 S. Highland Drive, beginning at 6:30pm.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a “white elephant” gift to exchange, valued at no more than \$10. These will be ran-



domly reallocated among those who brought items.

Michelangelo’s is noted for tasty food and features Italian entrée’s from \$10 to \$30.

This has always been a well attended fun event, so don’t forget to put it on your calendar in this busy time of the year.



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Natalie Wood with Steve McQueen in his XKSS

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Laws of Physics for British Cars

By Rex Funk

From *The Special Breed*, Newsletter of the Wisconsin Jaguars Ltd. Auto Club
Vol. XXXII, No. 1, January/February 2012

Sir Isaac Newton, an Englishman famed for his discovery of the Law of Gravity, has a branch of Physics named for him. The real breakthrough in physics in the 20th century has been the development of Quantum Physics.

Often startling and unconventional, the laws of Quantum Physics explain heretofore little understood phenomena. Yet no one has fully explained the perplexing contrivance of Newton's countrymen: the British car.

Indeed these cars, which we know and love, defy all known laws of physics.

In an effort to bring some clarity to the conundrum of the British Car, I offer this treatise in hopes that it will account for some of the idiosyncrasies of these venerable but unpredictable vehicles. This seminal dissertation will no doubt be widely, if not soberly, debated.

While I support the prerogative of the reader to question my conclu-

sions, I challenge skeptics among you to propose equally plausible, lucid and concise explanations for the phenomena in question.

1. *Law of Accelerated Entropy*
Entropy in British cars proceeds at twice the rate of that of normal electro/mechanical devices. Entropy is the propensity of matter to break down to its simplest form (ultimately the hydrogen



atom).

This previously unknown law has been deduced through observation, and is supported by the now famous *Lucas Corollary to Murphy's Law*.

2. *Law of Inverse Practicality*
The most desirable British cars are the least practical to own and operate. This is also known as the *Law of Sado-masochistic Attraction*.

3. *Law of Momentum and Inertia*
Most simply stated this law is British cars are hard to start, but once you get them going there is no stopping them. Also known as *Girling's Law*, this explains why older British sports cars which still run, need bodywork on their front wings, bonnets and/or front aprons.

4. *Law of Inverse Complexity*
Mechanical devices on British cars have twice as many parts as those on other cars. In Social Science literature this is referred to as the

British Labour Party Law of Job Security and Feather-bedding.

5. *Law of Obscure and Obtuse Nomenclature*
The names given to parts of British cars have no rational explanation outside of certain esoteric circles. Cases in point: a Hood is a convertible top, the Bonnet is the hood over the engine, the Boot is the trunk, and

—cont'd on [p. 6](#)

Laws of Physics for British Cars—*cont'd from p. 5*

a King Dick Spanner is an adjustable wrench.

Recent research has confirmed that these arcane terms were coined by early British auto makers as an inside joke while in an ale-induced stupor during nightly visits to the Lucas Pub and Electrical Works in Coventry.

The same beverage was consumed in quantity by writers of technical and shop manuals with similar unfathomable results.

6. Law of Agricultural Lineage
With notable exceptions, stock British car engines look and sound like tractor engines, from

whence many of their original designs came. If it could plow a field, it could power an auto.

7. Cultural Phylogenetic Law of Electrical Systems
British car electrical systems recapitulate British society in that their designs are rooted in tradition, but their components often go on strike, fail to work together, and are filled with caustic and incompatible constituents.

These social conditions are exacerbated by the fact that much of the populace own Lucas refrigerators, and are forced to drink warm beer.

8. Law of Inscrutable Variables
Also known as the *Stealth Corollary to Murphy's Law*, this law states that anything that can go wrong will be well hidden until it does, and will often defy diagnosis. This explains why British cars are chock full of so many delightful surprises and enigmas.

9. Law of Cyclic Effort in Restoration
Similar to the example of the process of painting the Golden Gate Bridge, this law states that as soon as one need or problem is solved, another will pop up to take its place. Thus, a British car restoration is never completed, but always in progress.



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Event Calendar

Monday November 12, 2012

Planning Meeting and
Selection of New Officers
See article below

Tuesday December 4, 2012

Christmas Party
Michelangelo Ristorante
See article on [p. 3](#)

Planning Meeting and Selection of New Officers

J and Kay Jennings Home

The slates of club events and leaders for 2013 will be planned at an informal meeting 7pm Monday November 12 at the home of J and Kay Jennings, scene of the terrific Halloween Party reported on [page 1](#).

These are important matters that affect all we'll do next year, so please find the time to come help and enjoy a pleasant social evening to boot.

The Jennings live at 6046 Fontaine Bleu Drive in Murray, phone 801-274-2671.

Notable 2013 JCNA Events

- JCNA Annual General Meeting March 21-23, Dallas TX (moved from Mexico City)
- JCNA Challenge Championship June 12-16, 2013, Richmond, VA

Club Officers

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