

# Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the

**Wasatch Mountain  
Jaguar Register**

December 2013



WMJR on the web:

[www.WMJR.org](http://www.WMJR.org)

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## Christmas Party

6:30pm Thursday December 5

Michelangelo's Restaurant

Once again this year the WMJR will return to [Michelangelo's Ristorante](#) for our holiday party (3005 Highland Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84106, 801-466-0961). large tables or private rooms, but last year we all sat in the same general area and comrad-erie abounded.

We tried this venue for the first time last year, and there was wide agreement that the food was very good and the service surprisingly good given the size of the group and the option to order freely from the menu.

The menu offers a wide variety of reasonably price items, appetizers (\$8.95-\$14.95), soups (\$3.95), salads (\$5.95-\$11.95, with add ons (\$2.95-\$5.95), pastas (\$9.95-\$13.95), with add ons (\$2.95-\$5.95), gnocci (\$11.95-\$13.95), ravioli (\$9.95-\$27.95), pizzas (\$5.95-\$12.95), meats (\$12.95-\$29.95), seafood (\$19.95), and desserts (\$4.95-\$5.95).

Michelangelo's layout doesn't lend itself to



And as we did last year, each participant is invited to bring a low priced gift to exchange white elephant or otherwise. You can mark the gift as either of "his" or "her" variety, or "unisex".

Rumor has it there will be a visit from Santa to handle the distribution, or at least a Designated Elf or two.

Your Officers hope you can attend this gala event, and look forward to being superseded by a new slate to be announced at the event.

Please be prompt, as it rapidly gets hectic as the food and beverages (there is full bar service) start flowing. And don't forget your \$50 dues for 2014.

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## Keep Calm And Drive On The Left

By Lindsey Ritenour, [www.lindseymarcella.tumblr.com](http://www.lindseymarcella.tumblr.com)

I love driving in England, even though I drive an American spec Nissan Sentra 2.0 S, I still love it! Some people say the free and open road is in America, but I beg to differ. I do live in Suffolk however.

England is where your defensive driving skills come in handy. You can unleash your inner race car driver. Unlike the boring open roads in America, you really have to keep your eye peeled here.

What is considered a bicycle lane in the States, is a two-lane country road over here, which amazes me. I love zipping around corners, testing the limits of my standard



little family car. What used to scare and annoy me at first has become thrilling and exciting.

Driving on the left side of the

car, on the left side of the road, produces a few challenges. I can't see the lane divider very well on my right, nor can I see a car coming the opposite direction when I want to pass.

It brings out a sense of fear and panic and turns a familiar driving route into a real unknown adventure – almost as if I am playing chicken every time I venture out.

I have trouble getting over the fact that I could be driving at 60 mph, enjoying the autumn colors, listening to BBC Radio1 and then, Urch!, all of a sudden I have to pull over or stop because

—cont'd on [p. 3](#)

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Keep Calm, *cont'd from [page 2](#)*

another car is coming my way and there is only room for one of us. If it isn't another vehicle, it's a Muntjac deer at 6 a.m. in the pitch black, or a beautiful pheasant with a death wish.

I feel like close calls occur for everyone at least three times a day here. In the U.S. a close call may result in this reaction from the opposite driver: middle finger waving, profanities shouted at you, and they may follow you just to be a jerk. (I must admit I am guilty of all three.)



*Squeezing by on a two lane country road.*

On this side of the pond, you get an apologetic wave, lip-synced "I am so sorry," and a smile.

This hotheaded American will never understand the patience and politeness.

I think I will save roundabouts for another time. (They are wonderful by the way.) For now, I'm going to enjoy pretending to be a famous race car driver and try not to hit anyone...or anything.

Lindsey Ritenour is an American military wife living in Suffolk with her pilot husband, two furry children, a shi-poo and a border collie mix. You can find her blogging at

[www.lindseymarcella.tumblr.com](http://www.lindseymarcella.tumblr.com)



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## So You Think You Know Automotive History?

Ponder These — *Answers On [Page 5](#)*

- 1) What was the first official White House car?
- 2) Who opened the first drive-in gas station?
- 3) What city was the first to use parking meters?
- 4) Where was the first drive-in restaurant?
- 5) True or False? The 1953 Corvette came in white, red and black.
- 6) What was Ford's answer to the Chevy Corvette, and other legal street racers of the 1960's?
- 7) What was the first car fitted with an alternator, rather than a direct current dynamo?
- 8) What was the first car fitted with a replaceable cartridge oil filter?
- 9) What was the first car to be offered with a "perpetual guarantee"?
- 10) What American luxury automaker began by making cages for birds and squirrels?
- 11) What car first referred to itself as a convertible?
- 12) What car was the first to have its radio antenna embedded in the windshield?
- 13) What car used the first successful series-production hydraulic valve lifters?
- 14) Where was the World's first three-color traffic lights installed?
- 15) What type of car had the distinction of being GM's 100 millionth car built in the U.S.?
- 16) Where was the first drive-in movie theater opened, and when?
- 17) What autos were the first to use a standardized production key-start system?
- 18) What did the Olds designation 4-4-2 stand for?
- 19) What car was the first to place the horn button in the center of the steering wheel?
- 20) What U.S. production car has the quickest 0-60 mph time?
- 21) What's the only car to appear simultaneously on the covers of Time and Newsweek?
- 22) What was the lowest priced mass produced American car?
- 23) What is the fastest internal-combustion American production car?
- 24) What automaker's first logo incorporated the Star of David?
- 25) Who wrote to Henry Ford, "I have drove fords exclusively when I could get away with one It has got every other car skinned, and even if my business hasn't been strictly legal it don't hurt anything to tell you what a fine car you got in the V-8"?
- 26) What car was the first production V12, as well as the first production car with aluminum pistons?
- 27) What was the first car to use power operated seats?
- 28) Which of the Chrysler "letter cars" sold the fewest amount?
- 29) What car company was originally known as Swallow Sidecars (a.k.a. SS)?
- 30) What car delivered the first production V12 engine?
- 31) When were seat belts first fitted to a motor vehicle?
- 32) In January 1930, Cadillac debuted its V16 in a car named for a theatrical version of a 1920's film seen by Harley Earl while designing the body, What's that name?
- 33) Which car company started out German, yet became French after WWI?
- 34) In what model year did Cadillac introduce the first electric sunroof?
- 35) What U.S. production car had the largest 4 cylinder engine?
- 36) What car was reportedly designed on the back of a Northwest Airlines airsickness bag and released on April Fool's Day, 1970?
- 37) What is the Spirit of Ecstasy?
- 38) What was the inspiration for MG's famed octagon-shaped badge?
- 39) In what year did the "double-R" Rolls Royce badge change from red to black?

## Answers to Quiz On Page 4

- 1) A 1909 White Steamer, ordered by President Taft. Did it in 4.0 seconds.
- 2) Gulf opened up the first station in Pittsburgh in 1913.
- 3) Oklahoma City, on July 16, 1935.
- 4) Royce Hailey's Pig Stand opened in Dallas in 1921.
- 5) False. The 1953 'Vett's were available in one color, Polo White.
- 6) Carroll Shelby's Mustang GT350.
- 7) The 1960 Plymouth Valiant
- 8) The 1924 Chrysler.
- 9) The 1904 Acme, from Reading, PA. Perpetuity was disturbing in this case, as Acme closed down in 1911.
- 10) The George N. Pierce Co. of Buffalo, who made the Pierce Arrow, also made iceboxes.
- 11) The 1904 Thomas Flyer, which had a removable hard top.
- 12) The 1969 Pontiac Grand Prix.
- 13) The 1930 Cadillac 452, the first production V16
- 14) Detroit, Michigan in 1919. Two years later they experimented with synchronized lights.
- 15) March 16, 1966 saw an Olds Tornado roll out of Lansing, Michigan with that honor.
- 16) Camden NJ in 1933
- 17) The 1949 Chryslers
- 18) 4 barrel carburetor, 4 speed transmission, and dual exhaust.
- 19) The 1915 Scripps-Booth Model C. The car also was the first with electric door latches.
- 20) The 1962 Chevrolet Impala SS 409.
- 21) The Mustang
- 22) The 1925 Ford Model T Runabout. Cost \$260, \$5 less than 1924.
- 23) The 1998 Dodge Viper GETS-R, tested by Motor Trend magazine at 192.6 mph.
- 24) The Dodge Brothers.
- 25) Clyde Barrow (of Bonnie and Clyde) in 1934.
- 26) The 1915 Packard Twin-Six. Used during WWI in Italy, these motors inspired Enzi Ferrari to adopt the V12 himself in 1948.
- 27) They were first used on the 1947 Packard line.
- 28) Only 400, 1963, 300J's were sold (they skipped "I" because it looked like a number 1)
- 29) Jaguar, which was an SS model first in 1935, and ultimately the whole company by 1945.
- 30) The cylinder wars were kicked off in 1915 after Packard's chief engineer, Col. Jesse Vincent, introduced its Twin-Six.
- 31) In 1902, in a Baker Electric streamliner racer which crashed at 100 mph on Staten Island!
- 32) The "Madam X", a custom coach designed by Earl and built by Fleetwood. The sedan featured a retractable landau top above the rear seat.
- 33) Bugatti, founded in Molsheim in 1909, became French when Alsace returned to French rule.
- 34) 1969
- 35) The 1907 Thomas sported a 571 cu. in. (9.2 liter) engine.
- 36) 1970 Gremlin (AMC)
- 37) The official name of the mascot of Rolls Royce, she is the lady on top of their radiators.
- 38) The shape of founder Cecil Kimber's dining table. MG stands for Morris Garages.
- 39) 1933



## Les Bottrill, 1926-2013

*By Paul Skilleter*

*PJ Publishing Newsletter November 2013, Reprinted By Permission*

Again we need to pay tribute to the passing of a significant ex-Jaguar man. For over 25 years in Nyack, New York, a small car repair shop was run by one Les Bottrill, but few customers would have realised that the proprietor had, in the mid-1950s, driven 160mph Le Mans cars daily for many months. Yet that was one of the jobs which Les Bottrill undertook when he worked for Jaguar.

Leslie Thomas Bottrill, who died on August 31st aged 87, was born on April 5th 1926 in Brinklow, England, and as a young man followed his father by joining Jaguar. In 1950 he began working for the service department run by FRW England, and having already worked on such important cars as the C/D prototype, had by 1954 graduated to the competition department, where the new D-type was being built.

Les was amongst those in the works team who attended Le Mans for the D-type's inaugural race in 1954, although he nearly didn't make it. With Frank Rainbow in the C-type (047) which had been

prepared at Coventry for the Belgian team Ecurie Francorchamps, Les was flung from the car when Frank spun the car into a concrete pylon during a low-speed overtaking manoeuvre near Montebourg in

France. Miraculously, both men escaped serious injury and were able to prepare XKC 011, hastily called out from Coventry, as the substitute.

Les then looked after a Belgian-entered D-type (XKD 503) in the fateful 1955 Le Mans race, Claes and Swaters taking it to a great third place, and he was a team mechanic at Le Mans again in 1956, the last 'official' year for Jaguar in the 1950s. Most famously, however, Les Bottrill was given the task of

testing and running-in the 67 production-built D-types prior to their sale to private owners.

He drove each car to the MIRA test ground where on its banked circuit he would drive each one for 200 or more miles, noting each fault and its rectification after attention back at Browns Lane. Some D-types some cars returned to MIRA eight times before being passed. With Norman Dewis largely confined to the



Les Bottrill, who tested the production D-types, is seen here with Jacques Swaters at Le Mans. Bottrill later emigrated to the USA.

## Les Bottrill, *continued from p. 6*

relatively few works cars, it is safe to say that no-one has ever driven (or will ever drive) more individual D-types than Les Bottrill did.

In the late 1950s Les was given the chance of working for Jaguar's service operation in New York. He never returned to the UK as after leaving Jaguar in the British Leyland era he set up his own business in Nyack, New York. British Car Service catered for various marques and after 27 years was sold when Les retired. He and his second wife, Milou (who he married in 1991), moved in recent years to Salt Lake City to be near Milou's family. It was here that Les died from a perforated colon at the end of August.

An unassuming man, only towards the very end of his life, when he was contacted by the local Jaguar club in Salt Lake City did Les begin to realise the huge interest there was in him and his time with Jaguar. But his contribution to Jaguar and his place in its history are assured, and our sincere condolences go to his wife Milou and his sons.

*Local postscript:* Milou Bottrill



established contact with the WMJR about a year ago conveying Les' interest in the club, and their email was added to the club list at that time.

Milou contacted the club again in August saying Les and she had many items of memorabilia concerning his career with Jagu-

ar, and sought aid on how to properly preserve and share them.

Duane Allred and Ken Borg visited them soon thereafter and spent two hours learning about his life and examining these treasures.

It was agreed to host Les as a featured speaker at a future club event, however his health continued to fail and he passed away shortly thereafter.

At it happens Ken and Joann Borg were in England a few weeks later and they contacted the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust and Paul Skilleter, the noted Jaguar author and historian.

Skilleter expressed interest in seeing the memorabilia, and Ken arranged for it to be accessed via Internet.

In the meantime Les passed away, resulting in Paul's article reprinted here.

Ken and Joann will be escorting Milou to the WMJR Christmas Party, where she will be honored for her remarkable life with Les, and will receive club condolences on Les' passing.



# Show Us Your Tat!

Aston Martin owners suffer from an image of being staid old farts who have more money than they know what to do with. But—*Late Breaking News*— there are some hip and trendy AM aficionados out there who proudly display their loyalty in body ink.

Surely there must be WMJR members out there who sport Jaguar car or logo adornments—let’s have a *Show & Tell* at the Christmas party!



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## Event Calendar

6:30 pm Thursday, December 5, 2013

Michelangelo's Ristorante

Christmas Party

See article on [p. 1](#)

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### Classified Ads

For sale: Jaguar wheels and tires

1) 4 XK120/140 54 spoke wire wheels with original "Made in England" stamping in internal valleys mounted with Dunlop bias ply tires. Painted grey/green, no rust, one missing one spoke. \$200 for the set.

2) 4 15 inch steel wheels suitable for Mark I sedan with snow tires and hubcaps. \$100.

3) 5 chrome Dayton 15 in wire wheels suitable for XJ6 with tires, plus 6th wheel for parts. \$500.

Roland Held, 801-745-1188

1992 Jaguar Sovereign, 23000 miles, white with tan interior. Absolutely like showroom new. Kathy Reed, 208-521-9824.

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Better Try  
Less Speed Per Mile  
That Car May Have To  
Last A While

—Burma Shave, 1952

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