

# Jag Wyre



S A C R A M E N T O J A G U A R C L U B

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

August Event in Mokelumne Hill  
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## A DAY AT THE ZOO

When I joined the club a year ago, then secretary, Judy Dunow, announced at my first club meeting that the SJC received a couple of admittance tickets from the Sacramento Zoo as tokens of appreciation for sponsoring the jaguar exhibit. The tickets were available to anyone interested in visiting the zoo. To allow the existing members the opportunity to reap the benefits of their donations, I waited until after the meeting was adjourned to ask Judy about the tickets. Since no one had expressed any interest in the zoo tickets, Judy gave the tickets to me.

I was like a kid again giddy with excitement about going to the zoo. I love look-

ing at and learning about both the familiar and unfamiliar exotic creatures. The zoo seems to bring together a world of creatures, plants, and people. I was looking forward to a visit.

That was a year ago. However it is unfortunate and embarrassing to admit I never made it to the zoo. I begged Kevin to go with me. He pooh-poohed the idea and suggested that I take the neighbor's daughter. The neighbor never really accepted my invitation to take her, her daughter, and a friend for the child. So a year passed, and the idea faded away.

I am not sure whether Susan, Natalie, Judy, or Linda gave the brochure on

Zoo Parent's Day to Kevin at the April or May SJC meeting. However, given the previous interest, I thought to myself, "Yeah, right. That will be another flash-in-the-pan idea." Do not get me wrong; I am not saying that club members do not like the zoo. I think instead, like with many things that we would love to do or say we might do and with time as a precious commodity and so many things to do, we often do not make the time to do some of the things we say we'd like to do, such as visit the zoo and we allow the ideas to fall to the bottom of the priority list. We wait for a good excuse to do them.

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## A DAY AT THE ZOO, CONTINUED

Kevin took the brochure, contacted zoo administrators, worked with zoo officials and Richard to coordinate both the June club meeting and club event at the Zoo, and gave me the information to post on the website. The date was set, the club was scheduled to meet at the zoo. I was excited. That day, I thought the weather might become another factor in the reasons why members might not attend the event. In Roseville, the temperature was a breeze-less, stuffy ninety something, and according to Karen Taylor, Vacaville was a chilly, overcast sixty something. Kevin and I went any way, Karen went any way, and lo and behold, lots of folks went any way. We certainly were rewarded for going, too. The weather was ideal and the turn out was fantastic.

Over twenty members showed up to enjoy picnicking in the cool eighty degree, shady and pleasantly breezy club event between the pink flamingo island and the reptile exhibit. There was food (mmm delicious food, too!) aplenty and enough enthusiasm to go around several times. Members shared stories of when they used to come to the zoo as kids, when they used to bring their kids, and when last they came to the zoo. The zoo closed its doors to the public at 5:00 pm and opened them wide to zoo parents at 5:30 pm. Zoo par-

ents had the zoo exclusively to ourselves. The zoo keepers brought out and entertained us with a parrot, a hawk, and a large sea-turtle while we feasted. Members brought a cornucopia of food to share: deviled eggs, chicken, salad, potatoes, chili, cornbread, pasta salad, cake, and much more.

With bellies full we entreated the zoo handlers to share with us a bit of history about the big cats exhibits, starting with the snow leopards. They were a treat. In case you missed it, the cute kitty holding her tail in her mouth is fifteen-years old! The handler said the kitty was probably entitled to a few eccentricities given her age. The kitty on the other hand looked and played like a kitten. A few club members were able to watch the tiger, others caught a glimpse of him hiding in his dwelling. Some members were able to watch the pair of lions posing for photos, other members were treated to the heart-pulsing thrill of watching the lioness rush the fence at a suspicious looking photographer crouched down in front of her exhibit. The club moved en mass to the jaguar exhibit. However, only a few members were treated to catch a glimpse of the very private, very sleek kitties, who prefer to watch than to be watched. The group moved from the front of the exhibit to the back side of the exhibit and back to the front again,

straining and hoping to see the jaguars. I caught a short video, a few members got good looks, others got a few good photos. I will try to post a few of them on the web to share.

The zoo day turned out to be a great event. The weather was ideal. The date was not as conflicting with so many different choices such as the weekend of the Woodland car show / Shriner's Car Show / graduation, etc. Members came to share food and fun, to share support for Linda Banta's bid on the framed jaguar during the silent auction, and, of course, to see our jaguar kitties.

As the zoo day event wound down and Kevin and I strolled the park with Dennis and Marsha Bentley, Kevin turned to me and said, "This is great. We should come back when we have more time to see all of the exhibits." I had to laugh. Kevin was not the only one I heard express this sentiment, several members in fact said they, too, would like to return either with their families or with the club. Perhaps SJC might make this an annual event.

*Kristina Creel*

## MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS

Our annual outing to Music in the Mountains will be on July 3. You should have received an e-mail. If you did not and are interested, please contact Susan or Richard Starch for details.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a warm, dry and smoky June with club events but no club meeting. As president, I made the decision that there were several events closely spaced during the month of June and early July. Therefore, June's club meeting agenda will be tabled until the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please contact me via email or phone for topics that will need to be placed on the July agenda. Club member Frank Weikel will provide a presentation of his involvement with the early formation of Jaguar clubs during the July meeting.

Now a quick recap of the June's events:

The first June event, the Wine Country Classics at the Infineon Raceway, was attended by a couple of members independently. Early reports were positive and the racing event was a good showing of antique race cars. Although Jaguar is no longer a sponsor of this event, I understand that

there were several Jags racing. In the future, perhaps the new owners will understand the significant relationship between Jaguar racing and Jaguar sales.

Our second June gathering was a great picnic event at the Sacramento Zoo. The weather was perfect by every means. The attending members enjoyed and shared their picnic foods while being entertained by several of the zoo animals. After the food, we toured the zoo and made every attempt to see our Jaguar. For a brief moment, the big cat walked by the viewing window. Magnificent! Then we attended the auction trying to obtain a framed jaguar photo. Fortunately, club member's restrained themselves as the bidding war forced the winning bid to \$160!

July's event will be the open air concert in Grass Valley on July 3, 2008. This event will be held at the fair grounds and the music begins at 7:30

pm. We will meet at 6:15 pm to have a picnic. As all of the picnic tables have been reserved, we will sit on blankets or camping chairs. After the picnic meal we will be entertained with Music in the Mountains. This event has been a favorite of members in the past and I look forward to seeing you there. If you need ticket information, please contact me.

The Western States meeting in Grand Junction Colorado will be held on July 28. There has been some interest and further discussion will be held during our July club meeting.

If you are interested in hosting a club event in the future, please let me know

See you at Music in the Mountains,

*Richard Starch*

## JULY MEETING

The next meeting will be at 6:30 PM on July 17th st at the Paradise Grill, 1410 East Roseville Parkway ( North Sunrise Avenue and East Roseville Parkway) Roseville.

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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

We had a great time at the Sacramento Zoo on June 15<sup>th</sup>; My thanks goes out to Kristina Creel for providing the story on page 1. I am always looking for stories or photos of club events or other things of interest to club members.

After attending the Annual General Meeting in March and looking at some other club monthly publication, it occurs to me we should think about some events which are more automotive oriented. One idea which occurred to me is to pick a concours somewhere not too far away and have our members enter their cars. While we may not take any official trophies, we could have a competition among ourselves. That is, we would see which SJC cars get the highest scores. Obviously it won't be real competition because our cars would be judged against many other cars in each class but it still might be fun.

Among other publications, I subscribe to Hemmings "Sports & Exotic Car". This is their publication on collecting and restoring imported

automobiles (they have another magazine for domestic cars). As the title implies, it covers a wide range of topics; typically everything from lowly imported sedans to one off show cars. Over the months I've noticed some things which may be of interest. First, collecting and restoring automobiles is a bigger operation than you might expect. While there are many people doing restorations there are some shops which are very specialized. One which is of particular interest is the outfit which specializes in restoring XKEs. The article on this shop and a comment on the auction price for an XKE both mentioned the fact that XKEs to restore are becoming harder and harder to find. Things which would have been parts cars 20 years ago are now being restored --at great expense--to concours condition. Would you believe there is a shop which specializes in one thing, rebuilding British car transmissions? There is! Apparently it is more difficult than it first appears. There are such things as gears which appear to be matching but in fact won't mesh properly.

Another thing I find of interest is the two schools of thought on how to restore a car. Some owners want the final product to be as close to original as possible while others simply something which looks good and is a good driver. In the former case it can come down to very fine points such as thread count of the upholstery. In the latter case the owners will often deviate from the original to accomplish their purpose. In an extreme case this might mean adding air conditioning or converting from mechanical to hydraulic brakes. Converting from carburetors to fuel injection--and in some cases vice versa--is fairly common.

One last comment, more often than you might expect, I find an article on someone spending vast amounts of time and money restoring very mundane cars, typically a small sedan from the 1950s or 60s.

*Andy Banta*

## AUGUST EVENT IN MOKELUMNE HILL

Dennis and I have gone ahead with our planning of the August Event. The Leger Hotel is reserved for Saturday, August 9th. Guests who stay at the Hotel will get a discount on the room rate. Plan your arrival for 4:30 pm. We will have cocktails' in the garden at 5:30 and dine in the banquet room at 6:30. After diner you can play billiards or enjoy spirited conversation. On Sunday we'll have a continental breakfast at the Bentley's Glen (only 2 miles away) and then drive to Volcano to explore the Black Caverns. We can lunch in Volcano, too.

Guests will make there own reservations for rooms at the hotel (call 209 286-1401) I'll be getting a menu together soon and costs for the dinner. There'll be a no host bar and Sundays expenses will be up to each participant

I hope this sounds like a fun event. If you can attend on Saturday August 9th and Sunday August 10th please let me know.

*Marsha Bentley*

## MEMORIES FROM MOKELUMNE HILL 2006



### SACRAMENTO JAGUAR CLUB

President: Richard Starch  
Past President: Thom Lyons  
Vice President/Jag Wyre Editor: Andy Banta  
Vice President: Kevin Kaser  
Treasurer/Jag Wyre Editor: Linda Banta  
Secretary: Natalie Olson  
Webmaster: Kristina Creel  
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JCNA Council REP: Bruce Dunow

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