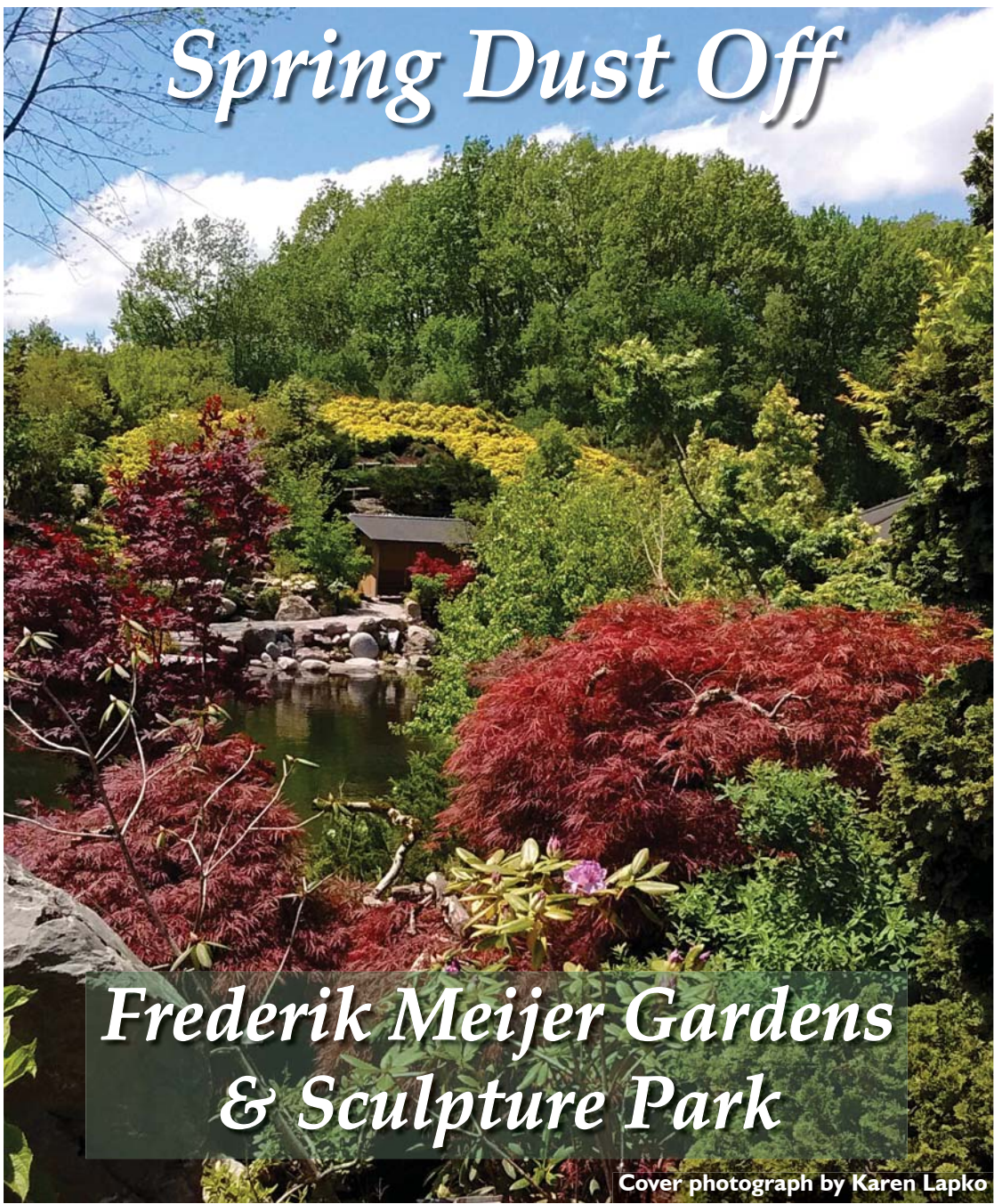


Tom Bailey / Steve Endres

Volume 49, Issue 6
June 2017

The Official Newsletter of the **Jaguar Affiliates Group of Michigan**



Spring Dust Off

*Frederik Meijer Gardens
& Sculpture Park*

Cover photograph by Karen Lapko

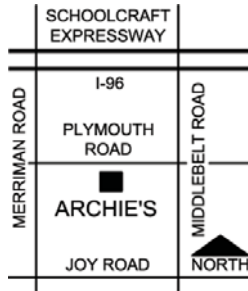
JAGM Meetings

Membership Meetings

are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month from **7:00PM – 9:00PM**

@ **Archie's Restaurant**

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Lots to Do in June!

MUELLER'S ANNUAL STEAK FRY -- June 3rd

6036 Lobdell Road, Linden, MI 48451, Time: 1:00 PM

RSVP by Friday May 26, 2017 to mueller1939@gmail.com or call

Chuck or Wendy **810-735-7676** See Page 4 for additional details

JACKSON PRISON TOUR -- June 17th

RSVP to Mattie Majors at bly12770@gmail.com by June 10th if you plan to meet at Cell Block 7 in Jackson MI Saturday, June 17th to learn the fascinating 178 year history of the prison. Lunch will follow at Rocky Top restaurant, 1900 Lansing Avenue, Jackson MI. See page 8 of this issue for directions & last month's Indicator for additional details.

"As Close To Prison As You Ever Want To Get: Welcome to the only prison exhibit within the walls of an operating penitentiary. Cell Block 7 is not just a replica; it's a real prison, where thousands of convicts have done hard time."

THE STAHL AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM -- June 23rd

JAGM has reserved a private showing at the Stahl Automotive Museum on Friday, June 23 starting at 9:00am. You, your friends and relatives are invited to view the collections of Automobiles, Music Machines, Gas Pumps, and Signs & Memorabilia. A brief image of what is available can be found on their website: www.stahlsauto.com.

The Museum is located in Chesterfield Township, near Gratiot and 26 Mile Road at 56516 North Bay Drive, Chesterfield, MI 48051. Since this will be a private showing of the entire collection, docents will be able to give us all their personal attention.

JAGM's four-day Summer Drive will start from this location immediately following the tour. There will be a minor attendance fee to offset expenses. Call me for further information or to reserve your place. Looking forward to seeing you there. See page 8 - Bob Matejek (248) 842-1046

From the President

The Rise and Fall of the Hillman Imp (continued from last issue)

Despite a bad start, the Hillman Imp was a fun car to drive. Soon things started to go wrong again. Next to fail were the brakes. Luckily I was not moving fast and could use the parking brake to avoid hitting anyone. **Fixed that.**

The car had a transaxle unit. That is, the transmission and differential were in one unit. The drive emerged on a short axle connected to the main axle by a thick rubber ring or a doughnut. This provided the flexibility to allow the suspension to move. This doughnut failed, throwing the axle into the rear muffler box and destroying that. Of course, I could not afford garage repair so I had to fix this by the side of the road. The new doughnut was sold with a metal band holding it under compression so it could be fitted. This band let go as I was fitting it, so I had to take the bus back to the parts store to get it replaced. **Fixed that.**

Drove it to the nearest muffler place (sounding very enthusiastic along the way) to get the muffler replaced. **Fixed that.**

Drove the car to see friends about 200 miles away. On the way the rear of the car suddenly cramped down and I could select no gears. On inspection, the transaxle case had cracked leaking all the oil and seizing the gear box. It was towed to a town parking lot and I caught the train home. I returned to the car 2 weeks later not knowing what I was going to do. As I sought sought inspiration, a young man approached who lived opposite and had noticed the car sitting there for some time. He was a bored mechanic, recovering from illness. He offered to help get the transaxle out for food and drink. He even had some contacts who obtained a used transaxle for a very reasonable price. I'm deeply indebted to him, but cannot even remember his name. **Fixed that.**

I drove it home without incident and all was quiet for a while. Then one day, pulling away from a stop light, I was overtaken by a wheel. It turned out to be my own back wheel that had come off, complete with the brake drum. This meant putting my foot on the brake had little effect and even the parking brake worked on only one wheel. I did eventually manage to bring the car to a stop, as my wheel cruised on down the road. It was eventually stopped by a gentleman waiting for a bus. As a kid I had often asked people for my *ball back* but this was the first time asking if I could have my *wheel back*. It turned out the soft washer designed to keep the central hub nut on had let go or had not been installed correctly. The miracle was that the only damage to the car was the back drum plate was bent. I straightened it, put the wheel back on and continued on my way. **Fixed that.**

By now my faith in the car wavered badly but I decided to take it on a 200 mile journey to visit my mother. Half way there the engine stalled and could not be re-started. Towed to a nearby garage, I found the head gasket had failed, a common fault on this engine. The head was removed, but three of the studs in the block had been broken. Costs to repair this were mounting fast. I told them to stop work, put everything in boxes in the car and I had it towed home. I thought of repairing it, but by this time I was tired of throwing money at the car. I had it towed to its final resting place.

It was back on public transport for me for a while. Next time ... a Porsche.

See you on a JAGM event soon.

Blunt, Paul Blunt



President Paul Blunt

Mueller Annual Steak Fry - June 3rd, 2017

Where: Mueller's Apple Orchard

6036 Lobdell Road, Linden, MI 48451

Time: 1:00 PM

RSVP: by Friday May 26, 2017

Email: mueller1939@gmail.com
or call Chuck or Wendy 810-735-7676

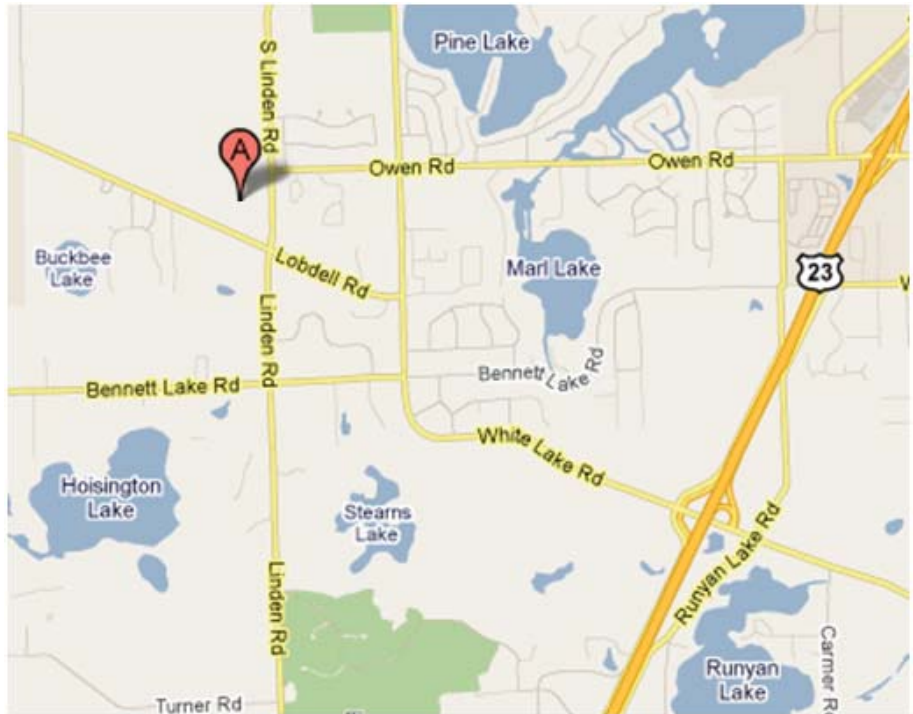
The Muellers will supply a couple types of meats, the grills, and with the talented Chuck Mueller wearing the Chief Chef apron.

Please bring your own flatware, drinks and your favorite "dish to pass". We usually get a wide variety of salads and desserts. **So, come on out!**

This is basically a club "BBQ", It is fun, relaxed, and always a great opportunity to drive your Jag, socialize with fellow club members, and enjoy good times and good food.



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2017 JAGM Caravan to Hickory Corners

When: July 8th & 9th, 2017
Why: Drive Your Jag ~ Make New Friends!
What: Road Trip ~ Four Points Hotel by Sheraton
~ Barn Theatre Play ~ Ice Cream ~
Mad Dogs & Englishmen Car Show ~
~ Road Trip ~ Ice Cream!!!
Hotel Reservations must be made by **06/08/2017**
Reserve: Call 800.368.7764
Check <http://www.fourpointskalamazoo.com/>
Them <http://barntheatreschool.org/>
Out: <http://www.gilmorecarmuseum.org/>
<http://www.maddogsandenglishmen.org/>

We'll be making our annual JAGM caravan to the Mad Dogs and Englishmen's car show in Hickory Corners. This takes place on the beautiful grounds of the Gilmore Museum. In case you are wondering, "Hickory Corners" is a small cross roads just Northwest of Battle Creek, Michigan.

To get there, we've mapped out a pleasurable tour route all on two lane, black top roads. The drive takes us through some wonderful small towns and scenic back country farm land. The drive is about 100 miles and shouldn't take more than about 3.5 hours. To some of you, this drive may be familiar; to those new members considering the trip, ask around, it is a very good trip.



We have secured ten room reservations at the Four Points by Sheraton for the evening of July 8th.

Call 800.368.7764 for a reservation. Be sure to mention "JAGM" to get our group rate of **\$119.00** + tax, including breakfast. **Reservations must be made by June 8th, 2017, so don't delay!**



As on past trips, we plan to do a night out at the Barn Theatre Saturday evening. This is a quality production, performed in an air conditioned "Red Barn". The performance scheduled for our visit will be **"The Buddy Holly Story"** and will include most of his best hits. We've never been disappointed with our evening at this theatre! However, you may wish to bring bug spray, as sometimes we need it for strolling on the beautiful grounds. Tickets are normally \$37 each but we will be negotiating a "group rate".

After a leisurely breakfast at Four Points, Sunday morning we will head off for the MD&E car show.



Entry forms for the 2017 MD&E Show are available at the link listed above. This show highlights between 250-300 British cars and motorcycles of all types.



There are always plenty of ice cream and rest stops along the road trip. We'll head for home about 3pm.

Give me a call at 734.416.3839 or send me an email at jaguarinterests00@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Mike Bailey & Kris Whise

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Spring Dust Off - Wrap Up



A dark and stormy night morphed into a dark and stormy morning - would our Spring Dust Off become a Spring Wipe Out?? In two words - NO WAY!! A small but august group (august? this is May!) gathered at the Filling Station in Comstock Park, MI just north of Grand Rapids where we (Paul and Pauline, Mark and Jackie, Steve and Jim, Karen and Gene) enjoyed lunch in automotive ambiance with bikers and other driving enthusiasts out for a day's adventure. Our meal was a reflection of the establishment's name - "Filling". Suffice it to say, portion control is NOT a priority at the Filling Station!



As we departed the Filling Station and headed to



Meijer Gardens, the weather broke and gave us large patches of blue sky with puffy white clouds. A steady breeze and perfect temperatures



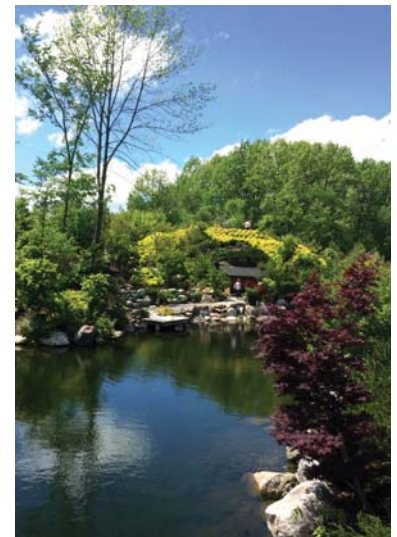
ushered us into the park. Boarding the tram, we were chauffeured and narrated through the gardens, where we saw about 25 of the sculptures for which Meijer Gardens is famous. The recently opened Japanese Garden, an amazing artistic visual gem in its own right, was enjoyed by all. The Japanese



Garden is a "can't miss" feature. Following the tram tour, the group separated and spent an hour exploring the other sculptures within the grounds. There are many unique sights to enjoy at Meijer Gardens and, because it is a living exhibit, it is constantly evolving during the summer and fall, presenting ever-changing splashes of color to be enjoyed by young and old. If you are in the area, it is well worth the visit to enjoy the beauty, color, and contemplative environment.



We departed the Gardens and headed for Rockford, MI and the world famous Pump House, where we each carefully crafted a confectioner's delight of frozen yogurt and toppings of our individual



choosing. Many "oh, this is so good" comments were heard and it was a fitting conclusion the day's excursion.

The 2017 Spring Dust Off was an activity coordinated and presented by JAGM-West. Thank you for your time and interest..... C U next time!!

Karen and Gene

Additional Information -- Tours

DIRECTIONS to Cell Block 7

Cell Block 7 is easily accessed by either US 127 or I-94. We are located at **3455 Cooper Street in Jackson (49201)**, Michigan on the grounds of the operational State Prison of Southern Michigan.

From the north or south, take US 127 to the Parnall Road exit. Head east on Parnall Road until Cooper Street (M-106). Take a left on Cooper Street and the museum entrance will be on your right.

From the east or west, take I-94 to exit 139 for M-106/Cooper St. Follow Cooper Street north until you arrive at the museum on your right.

Price: Tickets are \$15...\$10 for seniors.

JAGM Summer Drive -- Looping the State

By now you should have made room reservations for the June 23rd to June 26th tour of lower Michigan. Mark your calendars, check the oil and air pressure, and start packing your bags for this terrific weekend planned by Bob & Pat Matejek.

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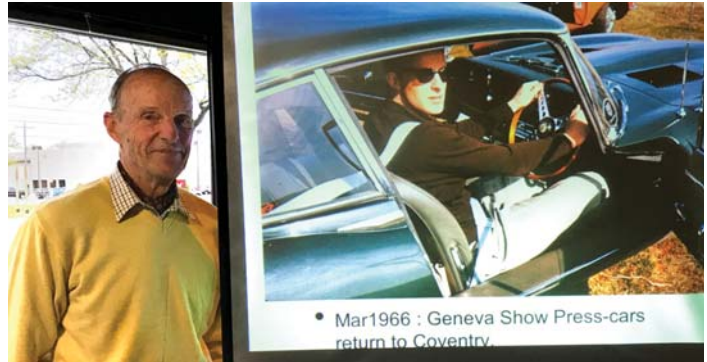
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May Speaker -- Martin Rowell



Many thanks to Martin Rowell for his most interesting photo presentation at the May Membership Meeting describing his days with Jaguar Cars during the mid-60's. Of much interest were his experiences as a factory service rep in Europe assisting dealers with customer issues. In an era absent "recalls", the factory responses to manufacturing/design problems were measurably different than today. His photo collection of adventures across Europe in Jaguar's newest offerings show a stark contrast to the congested motorways one would experience now.

We hope Martin will share more with us in the future.

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Shelby Trim Shop Tour Wrap Up



Dan Kruecher explains the upholstery process.

Both the Jaguar and Mercedes car clubs were well represented at the May 13th Shelby Trim Shop Tour in Chesterfield Twp.

Owners Dan and Terri Kreucher were gracious hosts and put on a great and interesting presentation on selecting and installing interior automobile trim.



And, happily for both us and the Kreuchers, they were asked for price quotations on new trim work by four of the club members present. We were also presented with commemorative calendars.

Thanks to all who attended.
Gary Cunningham



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"While I Am At It", Rod Lindoo Story *continues*

Ever take your Etype out for a long drive on a hot day and end up even hotter in the car? A lot of heat is given off by the 4.2 engine, it all seems to come thru the front firewall and transmission tunnel. Here is what I'm doing to hopefully cool down the inside so the air conditioner might have a chance to cool it down.

While I'm at it, I found a ceramic insulating paint that keeps the hot out, cleaned up the outside of the transmission tunnel and painted it with this Lizard Skin paint. After that I also got self stick foam insulation with a radiant metal insulator. A big upgrade!

While I'm at it, The interior also got insulated with "reflectix", yep the same stuff you get at Home Depot. Pieces were cut, fitted and contact cemented on. This baby should stay cool inside now!

While I was at it, I found one of my floor mats weighed 10 lbs and felt oily. Couldn't figure out at first why but then found the answer while ordering parts online. The hot water crossover tubes were leaking, soaking the mat. I ordered a new stainless steel set, these should last me a lifetime.

And while I'm at it, what to do with the front end? Might as well clean it up and repaint.

And while I have all the suspension apart I might as well replace all the rubber bushings, steering rack rubber mounts, sway bar rubber mounts and anything else since now is the time I can get to it easily.

I hope I can remember where all the wires and parts go back!

Next Issue, part 4, Where's that engine?



Transmission tunnel area insulated



Interior area insulated with Reflectix.



Painting the engine compartment.

By Rod Lindoo

Classified Advertising

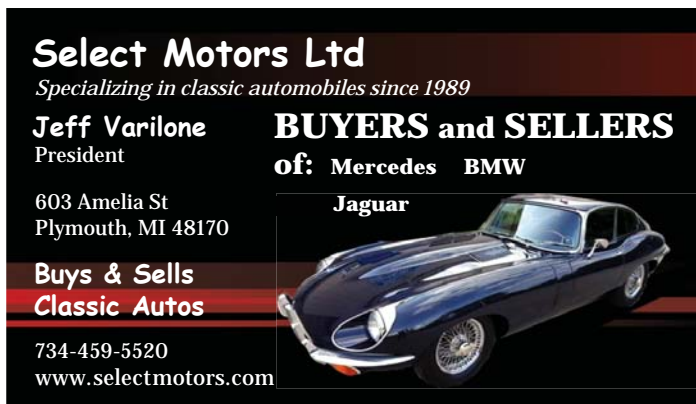
FOR SALE: 1998 XK8 Convertible, black with black top and Cashmere interior also has backup sensors. 95,000 miles. Everything works has been a great car. Call Mark at 586-801-5542 or 586-775-0359 and leave a message, or email imtb60@gmail.com \$7,000 or best offer

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Activities Calendar

	June	July	August	September
Meeting Activity	Meeting 14 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Meeting 12 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	T.B.D.	Meeting 13 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia
Outside Activity	June 3 rd - Mueller Steak Fry See Pg. 5	Caravan to Hickory Corners, The Barn Theatre "The Buddy Holly Story", and Mad Dogs & Englishmen July 8 th - 9 th See Pg. 6	T.B.D.	8-9th Mueller's Apple of your Eye Linden MI
	June 17 th - Jackson Prison See Pg. 2			
	June 23 rd - Stahl Auto Museum See Pg. 2			
	October	November	December	January
Meeting Activity	Meeting 11 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	Charity Auction 8 th 7:00PM Archie's, Livonia	T.B.D.	T.B.D.



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