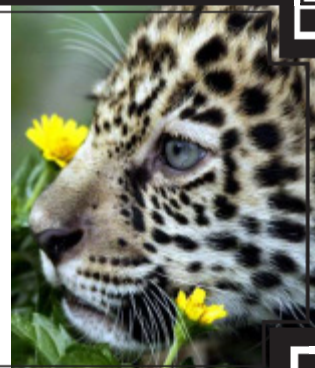




CAT TRACKS

JAGUAR CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA



Volume XXX October/November 2008 Number 10/11

EVENTS

Ed Sowell – 1st V.P.
Jaguar Owners
Club-LA



The big news last month was our visit to Santa Maria. Twenty-three members of JOC-LA, the Central Coast Jaguar Drivers Club, and the **Jaguar Club of Santa Barbara** turned out for the event. We were also joined by Jag enthusiasts from San Francisco (**Gil Lesage**), Bakersfield (**Chris Eicher**), and even a couple from British Columbia (**Rob & Bev Clare**)! It's getting harder to keep these great events secret... once the word hits the street there's no telling who's going to show up! In this case the cat was let out of the bag, indeed driven out with a stick, by **Bob Constable** who must have called every jag owner from San Francisco to Ventura to alert him or her to the opportunity to join in for a great Jaguar weekend. Unfortunately, Bob was unable to attend himself, but we are indebted to him for getting the word out. Thanks Bob! Surely, the enthusiastic support from the local clubs and those from more distant places gave the event the critical mass needed for an exciting weekend in spite of lower than expected turnout from our own club.

The weekend began with a Friday evening reception in our Grand Suite, which the Inn graciously made available to us

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Christmas Gala

by Pat Bivans

Don your best bib n' tucker and join in at the Glen Annie Golf Club on Saturday, December 6th, for what promises to be our most elegant soiree of the year!!! The festivities will begin at 5 p.m. since we must vacate the premises by 9 p.m.. There will be music, dancing and a board groaning with goodies for a total cost of \$55/person.

There will be a cash bar. Well drinks are \$5 and calls \$6. There is a corkage fee of \$12/bottle for wine. The Glen Annie Golf Club has offered to purchase champagne especially for us at \$4/glass. Please be sure to indicate on your reservation form if you will be buying champagne by the glass so they can judge how much to purchase.

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as a no-cost upgrade. Those attending were mostly those who traveled far and stayed at the Inn. We were especially pleased to see the **Kintners** and the **Whites**, JOC-LA members whom we have not seen at earlier events. We hope to see more of them. As planned everyone brought his or her own wines and snacks, which for the most part far surpassed my selection from TJ's (Smart people!).

Afterwards, many of us had a very enjoyable dinner in the Garden Room downstairs in the Historic wing of the Inn. Next morning the group was again in the Garden Room for buffet breakfast (covered by the Inn's Wine Tour package), this time joined by many of the locals. By 9:30 we were all out front dusting the Jags, topping up coolant, and listening to me droning on and on about what the plans were.



The general idea was to caravan to the north end of Foxen Canyon Rd, then proceed south with small groups dropping off at wineries of interest, thus avoiding overwhelming the smaller tasting rooms. A private tasting and picnic lunch at 11:00 was planned at Fess Parker, near the south end of FCR. It worked pretty well, although some lingered at the first stop while others dashed ahead to Fess Parker. Unfortunately, Fess couldn't hold the private room till we all arrived an hour late, or perhaps the old coot had a senior moment and simply forgot about us entirely! But many minds simultaneously devised a Plan B, i.e., eat our box lunches and step up to the tasting bar afterwards!

This worked out great because we were able to blend in with others at the public tasting bar, thus allowing Inn guests to use their free tasting coupons rather than ponying up \$10! The patio provided such a charming setting that we lingered to well after 1:00. At some point the conversations at the several tables turned to where to go next, producing suggestions equaling in number approximately two times the number of tables. It was obvious that the modicum of leadership that I may have enjoyed before lunch had collapsed; as they say, it's hard to herd cast! The group seemed to split up into those who wanted to hit the quality vineyards vs. those who wanted to go only to those for which we had coupons. So we all headed off our various directions, vowing to meet up at the Olde English Tap Room at the Inn at 5ish.

Some reported going further south, taking in Solvang or Los Olivos, while others worked their way back up Foxen picking up wineries missed on the way down. Later in the evening we lined up the Jags once more, headed to the Far Western Tavern in Guadalupe where we all ate and drank hardily. The event concluded at Sunday breakfast, again in the Garden Room where those with the Wine Tour package were pleased to eat again free.

So, that was the weekend that was. As nearly as I could determine, all had a good time. I also wanted to say that the Historic Santa Maria Inn lived up to expectations. The rooms were beyond merely comfortable, and the service and amenities were outstanding. They went out of their way to make our group happy, even blocking off preferred parking at the main entrance. As I said last month, we are indebted to **George** and **Alice Lux** for



having ferreted out this jewel of the Central Coast. And while talking about people who helped make the weekend a success, I want to thank **Shirley Nyquist** for taking calls and keeping track of participants. In addition to names, she was able to give me important details such as what parts of the weekend the person would be joining us, and phones and email addresses so I could make contact when necessary. Thanks Shirley!

One final thing regarding Santa Maria. The local clubs liked the weekend so well that they suggested a follow-up joint event, this time in our neck of the woods. In particular, **Ron Bock of JCSB** suggested meeting up at the Nelhercutt next year. I'm all for it!

(Christmas Gala continued from page 1)

Remember that there are no gifts. Your check is your reservation. It must be received no later than Saturday, **November 29th**.

Questions? Call Pat at 682-2778.

Directions:

From the North: Exit 101 at Storke Road/Los Carneros offramp. At the stop sign turn left and proceed north about a mile on Glen Annie to the stop light at Cathedral Oaks Road. Go through the light for one long block and the entrance is on the left. It's hard to see at night so watch carefully.

From the South: Exit 101 at Storke/Glen Annie Road offramp. At the stop sign turn right onto Glen Annie and proceed north as above.

Glen Annie Golf Club, 405 Glen Annie Road, 805-968-6400, Frog Bar & Grill.

In Memorium

Norman Ridley Gillespie

Long-time Jag Club member **Norman Gillespie** succumbed to tongue cancer on October 24th.



Although he and wife Jane have been living in Ajijic, Mexico since 1999, he continued his interest in our club through Cat Tracks. He had been a Jag Club member for over 30 years. He proudly drove a maroon XKE. Well, sometimes. He served as our treasurer, then president, and finally Cat Tracks editor. He and Jane hosted a number of memorable Jag Club events, initiating the infamous "Trader Joe's parking lot wine tasting." He regularly made the jaunt to Carmel for the Concours, and was active in planning some of our spectacular wine tours.

While he has been away from us for a number of years, it was nice just knowing he was there and wishing us well. Our hearts go out to Jane. They had been married 53 years.



To: Patricia Bivans
872 Via Granada
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Enclosed is my check made out to Jaguar Club of Santa Barbara in the amount

of \$_____ for _____ reservations at \$55/person for December 6th.

We will () be purchasing champagne from Glen Annie at \$4/glass
We will not ()

Your Name _____

Your JCSB Calendar

Saturday, December 6: 5:00 p.m., Christmas Party will be at Glen Annie Golf Course's dining room .

Saturday, January 10th: White Elephant Party. At Betty Wells Bonneymeade home.

February: A visit to the Gourmet Dining Room at Santa Barbara City College.

Check our JCSB Web site for current and past newsletters at: <http://members.cox.net/jcsb>

BIVANS GAIN JOC-LA FAME

by Ron Bock

Jaguars from the south, the north, and the very north converged on the Santa Maria Inn for a beautiful October weekend of wine tasting, good food, good fellowship, and beautiful automobiles. Representing the JCSB at this JOCLA event were **Pat and Ernie Bivans, Ron and Mary Bock, Carl and Pat Carter, Cam and Charlene Lindberg, and Bill and Elana Rourke.** Making a cameo appearance on Saturday, were **Don Cooper** and his friend **Diane.**

Jack & Lorelei Snyder - Cat Tracks Editors
Jaguar Club of Santa Barbara
1503 Mountain Avenue
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



Saturday, December 6th
5:00 p.m.
Christmas Party
Glen Annie Golf Course

The 08/09 Board of the Jaguar Club of Santa Barbara

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Thank you to the great contributors to this issue of JCSB's Cat Tracks!