

# *The Special Breed*

Wisconsin Jaguars Ltd Newsletter

Volume XXXXIII No. 5

August/September 2024

## **From the Litter Box**

By: Mike Korneli



In Jaguars early years, after the war, the marque was tied to racing. The XK120 was the fastest production car in the world. All the up and coming race car drivers and wannabes drove an XK120. In the early years the grids were full of them. Sometimes there were Jag only grids. Guys that raced MG's, and wanted to go faster, upgraded to an XK 120. But what about someone who was already racing an XK 120 and could not afford or get their hands on a C-Type? American ingenuity... Build your own.

Many of the cars became modified. Some people, like John Fitch, used running gear and created a smaller more streamlined body. Then there were those that just wanted that glorious XK engine to put in their own creation. One of those was Milwaukee's own Brooks Stevens Excalibur J race car. He built three of them between 1953 and 1954. Only the last car was eventually upgraded to the new XK140 C head engine. Brooks also did design work McCulloch. They had a n add on supercharger kit for the XK engine. The car raced in C modified without the supercharger and B modified with it. In C modified it ran against the factory Jaguars and Ferraris. They eventually decided to stay in B modified. By 1957 they had changed the body of the car and upgraded to a huge 371 truck supercharger. They struggled in 1957. By 1958 they got things dialed in. The car was on the front row for

the 1958 Road America 500 ; next to a Chevy powered Ferrari. It won its class and won the B modified championship that year. A great accomplishment for a one off Jag powered special.

Brooks son David drag raced the car in 1959 and had fast time of the day at 12.5 in a quarter mile. By The time summer was over it had a twisted frame. The car got a new frame, a more streamlined body and a new engine. It was going racing again. The supercharged 3 ½ liter Jag motor was replaced with a fuel injected, stroked, Lincoln engine that was 1 cubic inch under the 8 liter limit for B modified. That is the way I am restoring the car today. It will be completed by next year. Photo on p4. David, Brooks & Steve Stevens 371 Supercharged XK 140 with a C Head

## **2024** **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

September 6, 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>. Over Night tour &  
Dinner on the Chief Waupaca  
Sternwheeler River Boat and more.  
Contact Jeannie Bode 262-565-3801

December 14, Holiday Party, at  
Westmoor Country Club in Brookfield.  
Contact Kristie Malone 414-378-0150

Put us on your calendar for a fun year of  
exciting Jaguar experiences!



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2024 VESPA SPRINT 150 SPORT



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**2024**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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### **Order your Jaguar club Name Badges!**

Wisconsin Jaguars Ltd. will provide individual name badges to new and veteran members for a nominal fee of \$20 per badge.

**Please mail a \$20 check for each badge, payable to WJL to**  
Don Huebschen  
7730 Cannellwood Drive  
South Beloit, IL 61080 **Email**  
**your request to**  
[sandra.jblock@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.jblock@gmail.com)

Type your name as you wish it to appear on the name tag.



### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**RONALD BREDESON**  
**MT. HOREB**  
**88 XJS CABRIOLET, BLACK**  
**89 XJS CONV, BLACK**  
**92 XJS CONV, WHITE**

**FREDERICK & JOY LOUCKS**  
**WEST ALLIS**  
**02 XK8 CONV. BLACK/BLACK**

It's great to have new members and even better when they tell us they want to be involved and help in any way they can.

That's what Frederick told Sandy Block and Deb Korneli.

We will take him up on his offer!

It's great to get new volunteers!

Please follow Fred's example and help put on an event or come up with an idea for a new event. You won't have to do it alone. We are coming up on our planning meeting for the 2025 calendar of events.

Call Mike if you want to help.  
414-315-1105



# Letting Go...

## Worried about inflation and recession? Call Joe!

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Thanks Sharon & Roger for another fun afternoon at your home on the lake  
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and as always the food was great!

Photo By: Bob Roth





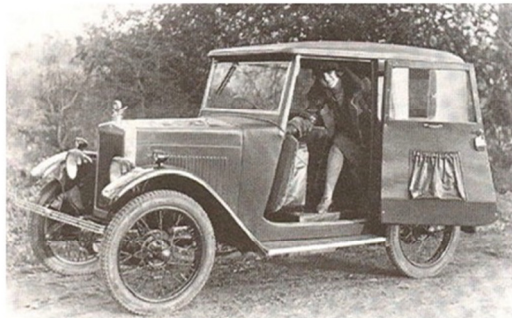
## DID – U – KNOW

by Facia Nearside

The Austin 7 was a very popular economy car in the United Kingdom from 1923 to 1939. Beginning in 1926 it was available with the choice of a fabric body for coachwork. Yes, you read that correctly, the body of the car was cloth. Charles Weymann, a Nieuport test pilot developed the process, and for about a decade it was a very popular option.

Why would fabric be considered a good choice for a car body? Metal bodies of that era produced plenty of drumming, squeaks, and rattles. The cloth body was silent, light weight, and cheap. Also, one has to remember fabric was the best choice for aircraft construction of that time. It's not much of a stretch to think if it's a good way to build an airplane it's certainly good enough for a motorcar. So popular was this idea, Weymann sold the license for his method to 123 companies worldwide including: Austin, Morris, Bentley, MG, Rolls-Royce, Rover, Sunbeam, Invicta, and Lagonda. Each of them used his process to build fabric bodies for various models.

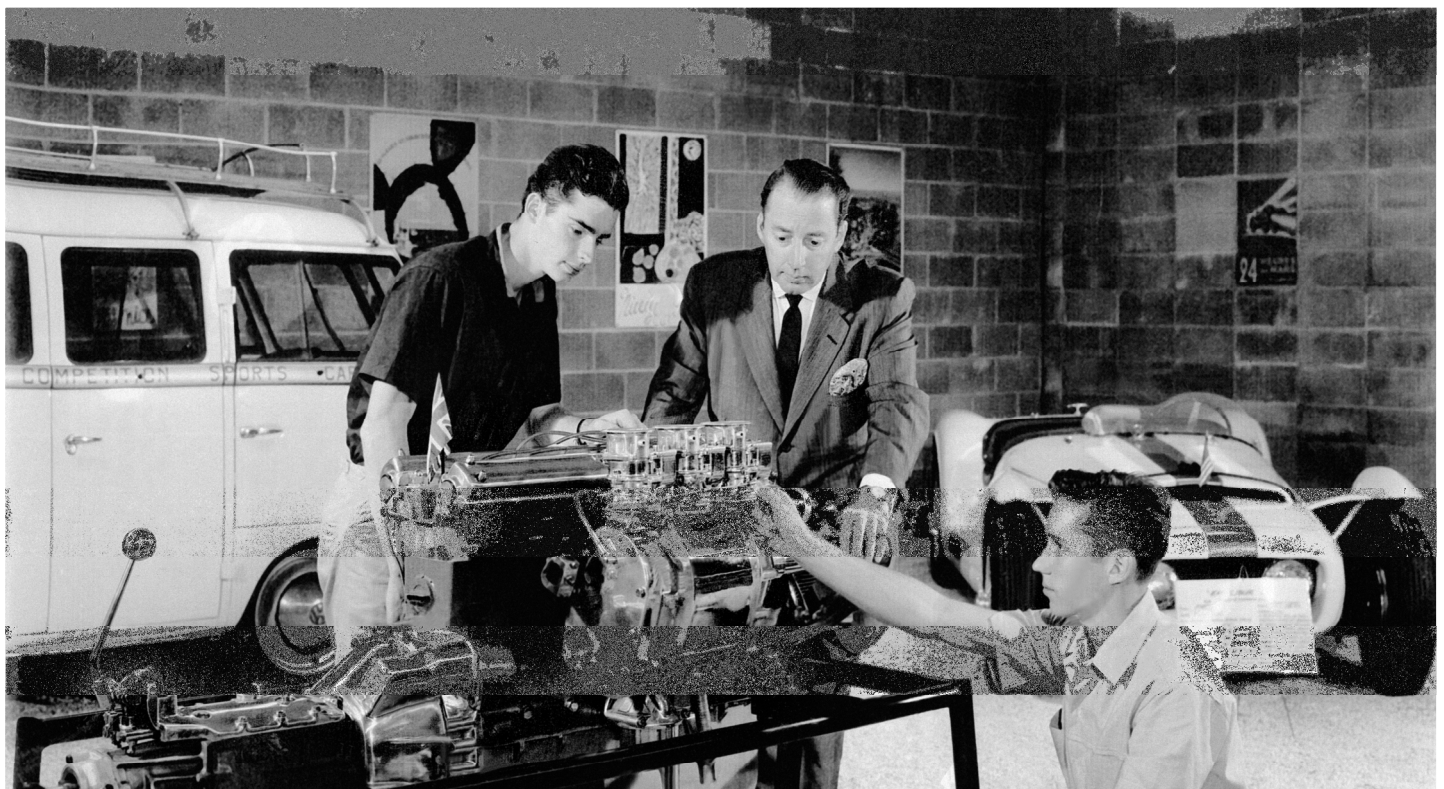
Fast forward 100 years and today the market for electric vehicles is growing. Range however is the Achilles heel, and the most common solution is to have bigger or better batteries. But wait! What would Colin Chapman say the solution was? Yes, to save weight. Enter the BMW Gina concept, a fabric-skinned sports car. BMW claims it is elastic, water resistant, durable, and of course light. Was Charles Weymann ahead of his time? Perhaps. Or perhaps the problems he solved have simply changed, and new technology might give fabric a second chance.



1928 CLOTH BODY MORRIS MINOR



BMW GINA







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*Through the years many vintage cars have come through my shop. In these changing times we also work on late models and your daily drivers. Come see what we can do for you*

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## CONCOURS SEASON

BY: DEB KORNELI

Mike and I have not competed for North American points, in a Concours d' Elegance, in a long time. That means attending three JCNA sanctioned Jaguar shows per year. Our first Jaguar was a 1973 E-Type 2+2 driver, but when it blew a head gasket Mike decided he would restore it and see how his work compared to professional restorations. It did well and we campaigned that car for several years. During that time we saw many places and met some really nice people. And that was the start of the disease called Jaguar!

The next car to join our family was a 1971 E-Type 2+2. It was bought solely to re-create a Group 44 racecar and race it in vintage racing. Having been bit by the concours bug, we did both. The Group 44 E-Type allowed us to meet more really nice people including its original creator, Bob Tullius. Bob was honored and surprised that someone would recreate one of his cars. He became a lifelong friend. This car introduced us to a different group of car people; racecar drivers and race fans. For twenty years we were involved in the racing life but still stayed connected to our Wisconsin Jaguar family.

During the twenty years of racing, Mike found an SS1 on EBAY. History is a huge part of his relationship with cars. While researching the SS1 he contacted someone in Argentina who said he would help him find some of the car's history. He was a broker and would help if he could sell us a car. Mike said he would be interested in an old racecar. Well... he found an XK120 with race history. To make a long story short, we bought the car and it was the next in the restoration queue. We did end up showing this car in one campaign cycle. We met some more nice people but also found that many of the people we had met in the beginning were no longer with us. The XK 120 has a story all its own that we can save for another time.

Over the fifty years of our married life, Mike has restored eight cars while working full time and running a business. Since his retirement in 2017 he has been working on several cars including an Excalibur J Car and his completed 1934 SS1. After the war SS renamed the company, Jaguar. The Excalibur is getting ready for body work and paint. The SS1 was finished enough to show it at the WJL Concours. It scored a perfect 100 points. With that score we decided to compete in two more shows on a national level. That was not our intention. We went to the Illinois Jag Concours and had a chance to touch base with some of the friends we made many years ago. No perfect score here but it was still good.

September 1<sup>st</sup> we will go to Michigan to show the SS1 one more time. That is unless we get a perfect score. Then we could go to Indiana and try for one more!

The whole point of this story is to let you know how much we enjoy the friends we have made through this hobby and how important they are to us. While driving home from Illinois we realized this was a lifetime of memories and we wouldn't change a thing! Well... maybe a few scores!



## WISCONSIN JAGUAR LTD CONCOURS PICTURES



38 SS DROP HEAD COUPE JOHN & BONNI BOSWELL



E-TYPES ANDREA, TAMMI, KOEPLER, FINE



SANDY BLOCK, JUDGING BOB ROTH'S  
VERY PRETTY XJS



MIKE KORNELI SHARING THE 1934 SS1 STORY

## ILLINOIS JAGUAR CLUB CONCOURS



Three Wisconsin Jaguars in a sea of Illinois Jaguars.

Mike and Deb Korneli's Black 1934 SS1,

Rodney Westpahl's Winter Gold 2008 XJ8

John & Bonni Boswell's Red 1938 SS 3.5 DHC

## **JAGUAR HOLIDAY PARTY**

Saturday, December 14, 2024

6:00 p.m. Cocktails 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Cash Bar (no credit cards)

Westmoor Country Club

400 S Moorland Rd, Brookfield 53005

Dress Code Business casual to dressy

No denim

**RSVP By: December 1<sup>st</sup>.** Kristie Malone 414-378-0150 or kristie.malone@yahoo.com

Make check payable to Wisconsin Jaguar LTD for

\$60,00 per person

Mail check to: Kristie Malone, 803 N Bluespruce Circle, Hartland WI 53029

Westmoor is recognized as one of the premiere private country clubs in the nation.

It is known for its world class cuisine.

Westmoor has recently been renovated

Our event will be held in the

Terrace Room

It's a private dining room which will be decorated for the Holidays.

Special dietary requests and food allergies are happily accommodated.

### **Caesar Salad**

**Crisp Romaine Tossed in Classic Caesar Dressing,  
Grape Tomatoes, Parmesan Cheese, and Garlic Crouton Garnish**

### **Rolls from Our Bakery**

#### **Short Ribs & Chicken Piccata**

**Beef Short Ribs - Red Wine Sauce**

**Chicken Piccata - Lemon Caper Velouté**

**Chef's Whipped Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables**

#### **Berries and Cream**

**A Almond Basket filled with Strawberries and Vanilla Ice Cream On Crème Anglaise swirled with Chocolate,  
Fresh Raspberries, Blackberry, and English Toffee Garnish**

#### **Coffee Service**