

Drive to Campo

SDJC Drives to a Train Ride and Lunch

Article by Diane McDonald



Jaguaventurers muster for the drive



Jaguadventurists who Love-To-Drive-Their-Cars assembled early May 12th in front of Starbucks in Grossmont Center. Four perpetual new members: Kathleen & Al Steele were there along with Ali & Bob Proctor who drove their E-type. Tim & Sandy Woodard graced the group with their gorgeous green MK 2 and for newest member Tom Stoddard it was the first drive in his new XJS convertible! There's nothing like a little mingling and caffeine to put some pep in the pedal before a fun drive. Member Robert Buchanan arrived with a Packard instead of his Jaguar, but because we were oohing and aahing over it and since he was a Railroad Member AND knew exactly where to go, we gave him the honor of "leader of the pack."



Vic Chang and Diane McDonald standing with Robert Buchanan and his Packard



Ali Proctor with Kathleen Steele



Dan Jensen with Kathleen Steele and Diane McDonald



*Kathleen took this hanging out the sunroof.
Kids, don't try this at home!*



Milling about smartly on arrival in Campo

We had glorious weather and a wonderful drive! The group stuck together this time -- and thoroughly enjoyed it! All the pristine jags-in-a-row with the sun gleaming off their shiny finishes navigating the twisting turning roads! Finally we all took the turn to the train station and wildly kicked up as much dust as possible on the long dirt road! It was Cats

Gone WILD for awhile just enjoying playing in the dirt.

We were greeted by an Engineer who gave us some background on the area. Evidently the last two Calvary units in 1943 were stationed here. Also for some extra moolah you could ride on the little yellow fire watch car in front of (or behind) the train, but there weren't any SDJC takers.



John Gilligan and Vic Chang



The Engine

Photos provided by the McDonalds and the Steeles



Al Steele and Bob Proctor



The Coach Car



Sandy Woodard shows her ticket to the Conductor



Diane, Shadow, Vic and Roger relax and enjoy the ride



The Gang. That's Tom Stoddard in the blue shirt. He is our newest member!

Mike Smith distributed the train tickets and we boarded the two car train to head to the Mexican Border. The steady clickity clack and continuous desert scene outside the windows relaxed the passengers...some couldn't keep their eyes open. There was a bit of excitement inside

when the 'chicken Ranch' sign appeared, but then things quieted down again. We arrived at a tunnel into Mexico. The train went up to the border, then shifted into reverse and we took the ride back. This time we actually got a PICTURE of the Chicken Ranch sign. At the end we were offered a stop at their railroad museum, but hunger seemed to win out over curiosity except in the case of Kathleen & Al Steele who went to see it. They must be very intelligent. Either that, or they brought something to eat with them.

After the train ride, there were plans to go back 15 miles on the twisty road to Barrett's Junction for lunch. Some of us took the straight road back home. Our little four-legged passenger (Shadow Dog) didn't fare so well on all those curves in the car. Luckily we had a Jag Tracks on the floor. Sorry, Stick. We're looking forward to the next issue!

