

# BRITISH CAR DAY

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY STICK HOLMES



*This is my MK IX, the largest car on the field*



*We had the most canopies and the most fun*

The San Diego Jaguar Club had an excellent turnout Sunday, October 7th, at Liberty Station for British Car Day. The day started pleasantly under overcast skies with the weather clearing in the late morning in time for the awards ceremony. The field of approximately 300 cars sported 17 Jaguars of which 14 belonged to SDJC members. The event this year lasted 2 days with activities and a BBQ dinner the previous day.

The Rummells, Woolleys, Vic and I attended the IEJC Concours in Idyllwild the day before and missed out on Saturday's BCD festivities. Not wanting to miss one of our favorite events, we drove down from Idyllwild that morning. It was an early wakeup, but well worth it.



*Jack Rabell then Rex Ryan lead the line of older XKs*



*Grant and Nedra Rummell drove down from Idyllwild that same morning in their beautiful 2007 XK*



*Paul Novak's extremely rare 1990 V12 Vanden Plas in British Racing Green*



*Vic Chang's 2005 XKR fresh from Idyllwild*

Two of our Club members were intimately involved with British Car Day. Craig McLaughlin is the president of the San Diego British Car Club Council and ran a well-planned and highly successful event. Rex Ryan served as master of ceremonies.

Bill and Debbie Woolley brought a 2002 XKR 100 and XJR 100. These cars were built to celebrate the centenary of Jaguar's founder Sir William Lyons' birth. They both featured an Anthracite paint finish and many other special features. Only 500 were produced of each model worldwide.

The Jaguar Club of Southern Arizona (the Tucson club) president Doug Dechant and his wife Shirley were there and joined us at our canopies. They had attended the previous day's events also, and had such a good time, Doug said he would try to make it a Tucson event next year.

The Club, as is customary, had canopies set up with our



*Bill and Debbie Woolley's XKR 100 and XJR 100  
What a special treat!!!*



*JCSA President Doug Dechant with his 2003 XK8*

SDJC banner in place. The Club provided members and guests with assorted hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Several non-members came by and picked up new membership brochures. We hope to see them join us in the future. New member, Kurt Astroth, showed up but without his Jaguar. It seems his beautiful 1974 XJ6L had a mechanical glitch the week before and was awaiting parts. So, Kurt made it to the event and his Jag was there in spirit.

Members finally got a peek at the Partian's new 2004 XJ8 Vanden Plas. If you will recall, they have been Jaguar-less since their accident a year ago, so it was extra special to see them there with a cat.

As far as the Jaguar marque goes; there are 7 categories for which a trophy can be won at this event. The problem is, in order to be eligible for a first or second place award, there has to be 3 Jaguars in a category and they must have PRE-registered; that is, they cannot have arrived on the day of the show unannounced.



*The Partian's new 2004 XJ8 Vanden Plas*



*That's Walt Lima's yellow 1967 E-Type Coupe gleaming in the sun*



*Chuck Leuthen's rare 1976 XJ6 Coupe*



*Lloyd Prosser with his award winning 1970 E-Type Coupe*



*The Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band lead the McLaughlin's Sunbeam to receive the **Best of Show** trophy*

Therefore, we only had 3 categories eligible for awards for our marque: D2 (Saloons 1970 thru 1992), D5 (Touring/Sports E-Types), and D6 (Touring/Sports 1976 to Present). Here is the outcome: Club members Chuck Leuthen and Paul Novak took 1st and 2nd respectively in D2. Long-time friend of the Club, Wright Benson took 1st Place in D5 while Club member Lloyd Prosser took 2nd. Non-members Lynn and Howard Stark were awarded 1st Place in D6, and the president of the JCSA, Doug Dechant, took 2nd.

The Founders Trophy went to Joe Cibit for his 1933 Austin Seven. Now get this: Club members Craig and Dannie McLaughlin did not bring their Jaguar this time. They brought a 1953 Sunbeam Alpine MK 1 which cleaned up with a 1st in the Sunbeam class, 1st in the Still British class (a tie), and Best of Show!!!



*Craig and Dannie McLaughlin's 1953 Sunbeam Alpine MK 1 took 3 awards!!!*

I did not go to British Car Day to win an award (although I should have for "Largest Car On The Field"). I went for the fun and camaraderie and there was **plenty of that**. I think most of us feel the same way. It was a very busy, very fun day for the Club. Thanks to all at the BCCC, especially Craig McLaughlin, for such an exciting and memorable event. We look forward to participating in both days next year.

