

April 2025

THE JAG RAG

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ILLINOIS
JAGUAR Club





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The Jag Rag is published about four times a year, depending on events, April, June, October and December.

Color Newsletter Online:

At our Websites

www.ijc.clubexpress.com

www.jcna.com

The Jag Rag

Another year of driving events is starting up. Which means I need to get out another Jag Rag, so here it is!

Speaking of the Jag Rag, I looked back thru old issues, all the way back the Jaguar Club of Greater Chicago (before we merged with Northern Illinois Jaguar Drivers Club and became the Illinois Jaguar Club). I found out that my first issue I did was May of 1998.

Wow! I can't believe I have been doing this for 27 years! Another couple years and I catch up to the great Dick Howe, our only other editor we've had. Rod



Facebook Page

Yes, we have a Facebook page. Look up Illinois Jaguar Club on Facebook and join the group. If you have trouble finding it thru Facebook, you can also get to it by going to our www.ijc.clubexpress.com site and clicking the link there.

Done something interesting with your Jag or taking a drive, post it on Facebook.

Cover Photo

2005 Spring drive on Route 66. We lined up all the cars on an old section of Route 66 and snapped some photos.





The Official 2025 Club Calendar

Watch www.ijc.clubexpress.com and your emails for updated information on these coming events.

Month / Date / Time	Event	Location / Contact
April 27th: 10 am	Illinois Railway Museum & Lunch	Union, Illinois Glenn Barickmann 630-364-8568
May 17th: 8:30 am	I&M Canal Boat Trip	LaSalle, Illinois Glenn Barickmann 630-364-8568
May 30– June 1st	Champagne British Car Festival	Champagne, Illinois www.iflbcc.club
June 14th 9 am	Rally to Yerkes Observatory.	Lake Geneva, Wisconsin Greg Korak 847-909-3875
July 26th	Annual Concours d’ Elegance	St James Farm, Winfield Illinois Rick Gunther
August 24th	Geneva Concours	Geneva, Illinois
September 7th	British Car Festival www.britishcarunion.com	Harper College, Palatine Mark Havemann 847-888-3924
September 27th	WW2 Re-Enactment	Rockford, Illinois TBA
October 11-12th	Fall Drive	Galena, Illinois TBA
November		
December 13th	Holiday Party	TBA

Other Events You Might Be Interested In: See www.ijc@clubexpress for more info.

June 14th 9 am: British Car Show/Scottish Games: DuPage County Fairgrounds.

July 12th-14th: Maddogs & Englishman Car Show, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

August 2nd: Heartland British Auto fest: LaClaire, Iowa.

Spring Drive Photos from 20 years ago. “Route 66” 2005



Illinois Railway Museum & Lunch. April 27

Sign up now! Time is running out! A place we have visited before and its worth it to go back .

Sunday April 27th, we will meet at Holiday Inn & Suites – 495 Airport Rd, Elgin at route 31 just north of route 90 at 10:15 for a driver meeting. We will leave at 10:30 for a 40-minute drive along some interesting back roads to the museum in Union, Illinois.

The Illinois Railway Museum has the largest collection of historic railway equipment in America. From horse-drawn streetcars to million-pound steam locomotives, from sleek streamliners to workaday box-cars, there's a LOT to see! The Illinois Railway Museum strives for an immersive experience: you will feel transported back into the glory age of rail travel aboard our rolling time machines. The centerpiece of the museum experience is the train ride. One or more authentic, historic trains will be in operation during our visit.

The highlight of the Illinois Railway Museum is its collection of historic railway equipment – the largest collection in North America, in fact. On our visit you'll have the opportunity to tour several large exhibit buildings packed with antique trains.

After our visit to the museum, we will have lunch at Copper Barrel on State in Hampshire.

Sign up: www.ijc.clubexpress.com



I & M Canal Boat Trip, May. 17th

Join us for a thrilling drive in our Jaguars as we embark on a picturesque journey starting at 8:30 from behind The Buttermilk Cafe, 7 W State St, Geneva, IL 60134 to LaSalle. Our destination? The I&M Canal Visitor Center in LaSalle, IL, where we'll experience a unique boat ride powered by mules.

We'll start our adventure at 8:45 am, cruising through beautiful back roads, covering a distance of about 70 miles. Arriving at the visitor center at 11:00 am, we'll indulge in a fascinating exploration of the history of the I&M Canal. This historical waterway played a significant role in the development of the region, and we'll have the opportunity to learn all about it.

We will then board the one-hour "mule-powered" boat, gliding through the canal. This traditional method of transportation gives us an authentic experience of the past, grasping the importance

of the canal in shaping the area.

Following the boat ride, we'll have a delicious lunch at a nearby restaurant. **Lunch is not included in the registration fee.** Once we've satisfied our hunger, you'll have the freedom to either explore the surroundings at your leisure or find your own way home.

Don't miss out on this unforgettable day filled with scenic drives, historical insights, and a unique mule-powered boat ride. Join us on this journey through time and reserve your spot

now.

Relive the fateful turning point in our history that led to a new era of transportation and the growth of our region by taking a trip on The Volunteer, our Canal Boat. This vessel is not only a replica of those from the 1840s. It also runs on the same energy source: mule power!

Your journey includes: a "Mule Tending 101" class in which you'll meet Moe the Mule, interact with crew of period dressed guides, hear tales of the canal's heyday and enjoy a 60-90 minute boat ride.

Sign up:
www.ijc.clubexpress.com



Champagne British Car Festival, May 30th – 1st

What's happening at the Champagne British Car Festival THIS YEAR?

Welcome Reception & Event Packet Pickup – Friday, May 30, 2025, 5:00 to 9:00 PM – We'll be keeping the popular Friday evening Welcome Reception & Event Packet Pickup sponsored by the Illinois Flat Land British Car Club ([IFLBCC](http://www.IFLBCC.club)) at The Chateau Hotel and Conference Center. Pre-Registered entrants will have the opportunity to pick up their weekend information packet and stay for our British Pub Mixer. Along with the cash bar, we'll be providing a variety of pizzas and snacks to enjoy as you renew old friendships and make new ones. We'll have lots of group parking outside the Conference Center where an impromptu car show is sure to develop.

Cars & Coffee at the Chateau Hotel and Convention Center – Scavenger Hunt and Special Activities – Saturday, May 31, 2025 – 9:00 AM –

Our 2025 Scavenger Hunt and other Special Activities will take advantage of the area's lake roads, small town sights and area restaurants.

The Boot Sale/Swap Meet IS BACK! The Chateau's parking lot will be an excellent venue for that, once the Scavenger

Hunter's are back from their drive. Watch the What's New? section of the www.IFLBCC.club website for more details.

CBCF Banquet & Silent Auction – Saturday May 31, 2025 – 5:30 PM

CBCF Banquet featuring professional car restoration and Jaguar Specialist, Jeff Homsher, owner of [It's Alive Automotive](http://www.ItsAliveAutomotive.com) – Saturday May 31, 2025 – 5:30 PM –

Jeff Homsher, owner of [It's Alive Automotive](http://www.ItsAliveAutomotive.com), will be our banquet's Guest Speaker. You're sure to enjoy Jeff's unique perspectives on all aspects of classic car repair, restoring and marketing classic British and European cars.

Our Charity Silent Auction will be BACK for 2025! The CBCF British Car oriented Silent Auction will also be available throughout the evening.

CBCF Car Show – Sunday June 1, 2025 – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM – The weekend culminates with the Champagne British Car Show on beautiful Clover Lawn of David Davis Mansion, Bloomington, IL. The David Davis Mansion provides a wonderful backdrop to display over 125 British cars at this popular annual event, organized by members of the [Illinois Flat Land British Car Club](http://www.IllinoisFlatLandBritishCarClub.com). The festival includes music, vendors, food and beverage options, tables and chairs to enjoy your meal and drinks.

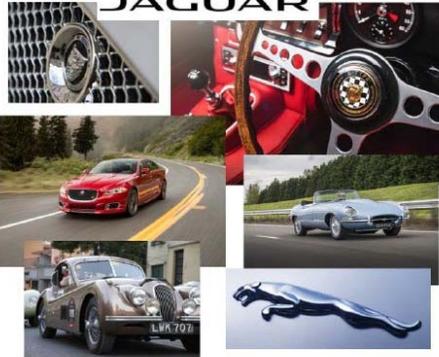
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Save the Date!



2025 FEATURED MARQUE

JAGUAR



CBCF-Bloomington.com

May 30 to June 1, 2025

Rally to Yerkes Observatory and lunch. June 14th

This Gimmick Rally has something for everyone – backroads driving, masterpiece architecture, the “Birthplace of Modern Astrophysics”, lush landscaping, fascinating historical characters, art and engineering. We invite you on a drive and tour of the Yerkes Observatory in Williams Bay on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Learn about the history of:

- Astrophysicist and observatory founder George Hale best known for his discovery of magnetic fields in sunspots.
- The Great Refractor Telescope, the largest of its type in 1897 at 63 feet long and weighing 20 tons, is so perfectly balanced it can be moved by hand.
- Financier Charles Yerkes was convicted of larceny and evicted from Pennsylvania, moved to Chicago made a small fortune in controlling street railway systems through bribery and blackmail, then bankrolled the observatory in an effort to improve his public image.
- Chicago-based architect Henry Ives Cobb, who designed numer-

ous buildings at the University of Chicago and Lake Forest College, is responsible for the Romanesque and Beaux Arts styled observatory with Greco-Roman terra-cotta architectural details.

- Notable students and visitors of the Observatory including Albert Michelson, Edwin Hubble, Gerard Kuiper, Carl Sagan and Albert Einstein.
- Ownership of the Observatory by the University of Chicago since 1897, the near demolition, and ultimate transfer to the Yerkes Future Foundation and ongoing restoration activities.

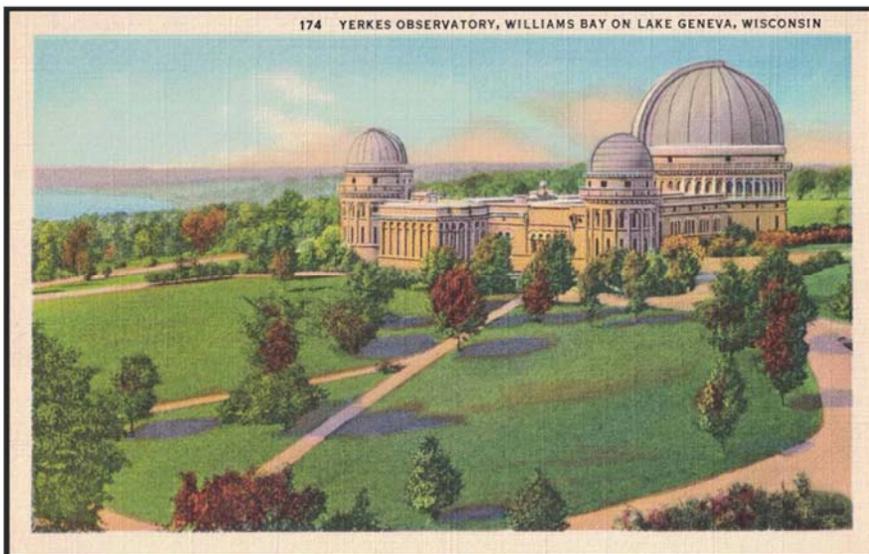
Oh, and there’s the drive to and from the observatory. We depart from the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn, 800 South Route 31 at 9:00am. You’ll enjoy the two-lane backroads starting out from Crystal Lake and head north into southern Wisconsin in the glacier-formed Kettle Moraine area in Walworth County. We’re making the driving directions easy to follow so you can enjoy the scenery and watch for answers to the gimmick questionnaire. Given the destination, many questions will be



geared towards astronomy – planets, stars, physics, and related topics. We’ll have a meal at the picturesque Pier 290 restaurant overlooking Lake Geneva. We think you’ll find this Gimmick Rally “Out of This World”. Event fee covers entrance to Yerkes Observatory only. Fee does not include lunch.

There are forty tickets available for the 12:30 tour and IJC has bought a block of twenty. If you want to guarantee entrance to the Observatory tour, we strongly suggest you buy your tickets NOW. Once the twenty IJC tickets are gone, you will have to go to the Yerkes Observatory website to buy tickets and the tickets could very well be sold out. The observatory tours are very popular, especially in the peak summer months, and they sell out every tour. Registration and tickets are available for \$50 per person starting Tuesday, April 1 at 8:00am. DON'T WAIT.

Sing up:
www.ijc.clubexpress.com



Annual Concours d'Elegance, July 26th

Saturday July 26th, Save the date: More information coming



Photos from 2005 Concours, Lincolnshire, Illinois.

Geneva Concours, August 24th

Sunday August 24th, save the date for the famous Geneva Car show. We will have spaces reserved for our Jaguars. Always a nice show to attend and if you get bored by all the cars, you can go shopping!



Phots from 2017 Geneva Concours

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**I HAVE DIALED A ROTARY PHONE (THAT DIDN'T HAVE AN ANSWERING MACHINE),
RECORDED A SONG THAT I LOVE OFF A TRANSISTOR RADIO ONTO A TAPE RECORDER,
WATCHED A BLACK AND WHITE TV (WITH LESS THAN 10 CHANNELS) THAT HAD FOIL ON THE RABBIT EAR ANTENNAS, TAKEN A LONG WALK WITHOUT COUNTING THE STEPS, AND EATEN FOOD THAT I DIDN'T TAKE PICTURES OF.**