# Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the

Wasatch Mountain Jaguar Register

April 2021



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## Introducing Your New President and First Lady Marvin and Connie May

Publisher's note: this is an updated version of the profile published in the June 2012 newsletter.

This month's member profile features Marvin and Connie May, who have been in the club since March 2011.

Marvin grew up in Sacramento CA where his uncle ran a body and fender shop. His first car was a 1955 Chevy "kit car" from his uncle, which was

in pieces from a wreck. Marvin developed his love of cars by working on this off and on till it was done. It was his car in high school.

His first serious collector car



was his Mom's 1974 Nova, which she gave to him when she retired from driving. He still has it and proudly shows it at car events. He calls it his "family heirloom".

After service in the Air Force in Vietnam Marvin was stationed at Holloman AFB near Alamogordo NM, where he met his wife Connie.

After he was discharged Marvin got a computer science degree and worked in Houston, Tulsa, and Dallas before taking up consulting work in California. He soon learned he would be on the

road so much it didn't really matter where he lived.

Since Connie's family lived in Salt Lake City they

—cont'd on p. 2

# —Mzrvin and Connie May cont'd from <u>p. 1</u>

moved here in 1996 so their kids could benefit from having grandparents and cousins nearby. Marvin was hired by a local company in 2002. He retired last year so, hopefully, this summer he can enjoy camping and working on his cars.

Marvin's brother in law was in the towing and wrecking business (seems like a profession that runs through this family!), and once again Marvin became the recipient of cars needing TLC after trauma.

His first such was a 1975 Bricklin, which was treated to a frame off 5 year restoration.

This was successful and won several awards but Marvin grew tired of having a "garage queen", and sold it to a chap in Baton Rouge LA that has it in his personal museum.

Which brings us to their current pride and joy: a 1988 XJS, also sourced from his brother in law. The rodents had done a job on the engine wiring and it suffered from a hernia (bent frame member) caused by a low ride over a high bump. It took 3 years to get it drivable. As with any old car it still needs work, including an elusive transmission leak, but at least it runs and drives.

Marvin and Connie have 2

children: a daughter with 4 kids, and a son who seems to have inherited the car bug -restoring a 1985 Merkur XR4ti 2.3 litre turbo. His daughter is a photographer and his son-in-law does staging, lighting, and audio for concerts and events. His son got a degree in metalsmithing and owns Silver Wolf Artistry (www.silverwolfart.com). He fabricates jewelry, neck ties, and body armour from chain maille and various metals. .

Perhaps the WMJR could commission medallions or chain maille outer wear complete with the club logo? It would be just the thing for dealing with, or serving as, JCNA judges.



### First Club Event of 2021: Millstream Classic Car Museum Tour With Lunch at Maddox Ranch Restaurant

The first WMJR event of 2021 will be a treat for mind and tummy.

We will start the day with a drive north to the Millstream Classic Car Museum --an under appreciated car museum in Willard UT.

The BMCU visited this site several years

ago and it was huge fun. If I remember correctly, the owner had a Yellow Cab franchise and used mostly Hudsons which are loving-

ly represented in the collection along with other great cars.

The building is tightly packed but still navigable on foot; for relief one can tour the outdoor collection of cars awaiting restoration (or sale).

After the tour we will continue about a mile north along Highway 89 to Maddox Restauraunt, where we have arranged a private dining room for our group about 1:00pm. The menu is varied



and the food has a great reputation, so come hungry.



For club membrs in the Salt Lake City area, we will be traveling as a

group which will be fun. We will be on East Capitol Blvd. (due eas of the Utah State Capitol Bldg.) at 9:30am for a 10:00am departure. We will travel Highway 89 in order to avoid the heavy traffic and higher speeds on I-15. Our reservation at the car collection

is for 11:45am.

For those who'd like to travel on their own, here is contact

information:

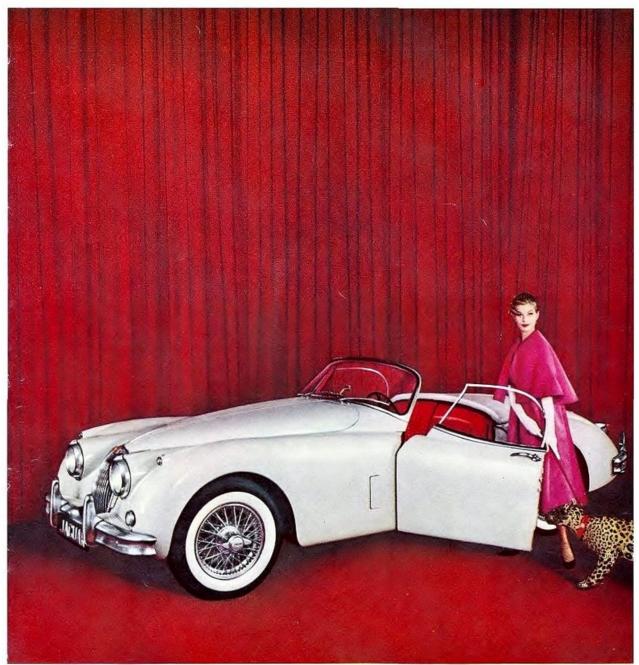
Millstream Classic Car Museum, 1112 No, Main (Highway 89), Willard UT.

Maddox Ranch House Restaurant, 1900 So Highway 89, Perry UT.

After a year of "drought" in more ways than one, we are all looking forward to our first

driving event of the year.

--Ken Borg



#### DAN RUBIN

### Only 7,500 Americans can get a new Jaguar this year . . .

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#### In case you need an excuse to buy a Jaguar:

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## Eleven Women Who Changed Automotive History And the Way We Drive

### by Racheal Colbert

The ClassicCars.com Journal, February 28, 2021

March is National Women's History Month. To celebrate, we're celebrating

women
whose ideas,
tenacity and
inventions
changed automotive history and the
way we drive
our cars:

Bertha Benz | Brake pads and the first road trip

Let's start with the

woman who put automobiles on the map.

Bertha Benz was born in 1849 in Germany when women were denied access to higher education. She married young engineer, Carl Benz, and supported his numerous career paths, emotionally and financially, including the invention of the automobile.

No one was very interested in his motorcar, until Bertha and their sons took a now-famous road trip. Without Carl's knowledge, Bertha and the boys snuck the car out of Carl's workshop and took it on the first-long-distance road trip, from Mannheim to Pforzheim.

It was a rough ride on roads built

for horses and carriages. She made several repairs during her cab.



journey and even invented the first brake pad, made of leather, when the car's wooden brakes failed.

Her tenacity and determination created the popularity the Motor Car needed to become the world's most important modern advancements.

#### Margaret Wilcox | Car heater

Margaret Wilcox was a trailblazer. Born in 1838, she was one of the very few female engineers of the time. In 1893, she received the patent for the interior car heater when she engineered a system that pulled the heat from the engine into the Wilcox's work inspired the air heaters found in today's cars making our cold winter drives more enjoyable.

Mary Anderson & Charlotte Bridgwood | Windshield wiper

Mary Anderson and her patent | Photo from En-

gineerGirl

We have both Mary Anderson and Charlotte Bridgwood to thank for our windshield wipers that help us to drive safely in rain and snow.

Anderson's idea for the windshield wiper came to her while riding on a trolley car to New York City in 1903. Due to the snowy weather, she couldn't look out the window and enjoy the sights, and the driver had to stop constantly to wipe the snow off the windshield.

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#### Eleven Women — cont'd from p. 5

### Charlotte Bridgwood | Photo from USPTO

Inspired by her less-than-ideal road trip, she designed a spring-loaded arm with a rubber blade that would wipe across the wind-shield and could be activated from inside the car. Building on Anderson's idea just a few years later, in 1917, Bridgwood up-

graded the wiper to be electrically operated, her design used rollers instead of blades to clean a windshield.

Anderson and Bridgwood were too smart for their

time because their patents expired after not getting enough attention from automakers. Little did they know windshield wipers would eventually become a standard feature in all cars.

# Florence Lawrence | Auto signaling arms

At one point in automotive history, brake lights and turn signals didn't exist – until silent-film actress Florence Lawrence saw the need.

Florence Lawrence behind the wheel of a Lozier open touring car | Photo from Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research In 1913, Lawrence invented a

device called the Auto Signaling Arm that, "when placed on the back of the fender, can be raised or lowered by electrical push buttons," she described.

When you pressed on the brake, the signaling arm would raise, indicating a stop.

Lawrence never received any patents for her design, but her down the center of the highways of the country as a safety measure."

McCarroll launched a letterwriting campaign that gained so much attention that painted lines became California law in 1924. The rest of the country quickly followed.

# **Katharine Blodgett | Nonreflective glass**

Engineer and scientist Katharine Blodgett is who we have to thank

> for creating nonreflective and antiglare windshields.

Born in Schenectady, New York, in 1898, she obtained

tained her bachelors degree at Bryn Mawr College and her masters at the University of Chicago. In 1926, at age 21, Blodgett was the first woman to receive a PhD in Physics at Cambridge University.

In 1938, she developed a liquid soap that, when 44 layers were spread over glass, would allow 99 percent of light to pass through. Her development paved the way for future engineers to create a more durable coating that wouldn't wipe off.

#### **Hedy Lamarr | Bluetooth**

> idea inspired the necessary turn signals and brake lights we have today.

# June McCarroll | Road markings

In 1917, while driving her Ford Model T down a California roadway, June McCarroll was inspired to create a safety measure that saves lives to this day:

"My Model T Ford and I found ourselves face to face with a truck on the paved highway," she explained. "It did not take me long to choose between a sandy berth to the right and a ten ton truck to the left! Then I had my idea of a white line painted

—cont'd on <u>p. 7</u>

#### Eleven Women — cont'd from p. 6

You might recognize Hedy Lamarr from the World War II film The Conspirators, but Lamarr was

more than an actress she was the inventor who created the technology in car's Bluetooth features.

In the 1940s, Lamarr invented

a device that blocked enemy ships from interrupting torpedo guidance signals. The device would take the torpedo signals and make them jump from frequency to frequency, making it near impossible for an enemy to locate the message.

It's this 'frequency jumping' technology we find in the Bluetooth features in our car letting us talk on the phone hands-free or stream our favorite music.

Her technology can also be found in cell-phones, Wi-Fi and GPS.

# Stephanie Kwolek | Kevlar tires and reinforced brake pads

In 1964 chemist Stephanie Kwolek discovered the synthetic fiber, Kevlar. This polymer fiber is five times stronger than steel but lighter than fiberglass. It's even bulletproof.

Her discovery has saved countless lives as Kevlar is now used to make bulletproof vests and



armor.

Today, we can find Kevlar in our tires and in reinforced brake pads.

### Mimi Vandermolen | Ergonomic controls

In 1970, Ford's Design Studio welcomed Mimi Vandermolen to the team as one of the first full-time female designers.

After her first project working on the 1974 Mustang II, she led the design team for the 1986 Taurus interior.

In the Taurus, Vandermolen created ergonomic controls, dials for climate function, buttons with raised bumps, and a curved dash to make it easier to reach controls. Her work made the car more accessible and accommodating to drivers.

She went on to lead all of Ford's North American small-car designs and the styling of the 1993 Probe, inside and out.

#### Gladys Mae West | GPS

As a mathematician who worked for the U.S. Naval Weapons Laboratory, Glady Mae West was the project manager for SEASAT, the first earthorbiting satellite measuring ocean depths.

The work on the 1978 SEA-SAT project helped West

and her team build the GEOSAT satellite creating computer simulations of earth's surfaces.

Her calculations and work on the SEASAT and GEOSAT helped make the GPS systems in our cars – we'd be lost without her.

#### About Racheal Colbert

An experienced writer and editor, Racheal brings her enthusiasm for collector cars to her role as the Content Manager of the Collector Car Network. Former Content Writer and Marketing Manager in the tech and publishing industry, Racheal brings a fresh perspective to the Journal and the automotive world.





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listed - 800.338.8034		Rear Seats	1595	

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### 2021 Club Calendar

Saturday April 17
BMCU Ogden Canyon / North Ogden Divide Run

Saturday April 24
Millstream Classic Car Museum
And Lunch at Maddox Ranch House Restaurant in Brigham City
See article on p. 3

Saturday May 1
BMCU Coalville / Chalk Creek Canyon Run

Saturday May 22
Drive to Silver Creek Café and Brunch

Saturday June 19—tentative British Field Day

Saturday June 26
Rally North to Sardine Canyon and Logan

Saturday July 17
Drive over East Canyon to Morgan and Lunch at Taggarts

Saturday August 7
Drive over Guardsman Pass to Heber for Planes & Horsepower

Saturday August 14
BMCU Trapper's Loop Run

Saturday August 21 Car Show in Midway UT Monday September 6
BMCU State Street Cruise

Saturday September 18 BBQ at Borgs Cabin

Saturday September 25 BMCU Alpine Loop Run

Saturday October 9
BMCU Nebo Loop / Fall Color Tour

Saturday October 16
Ghost Tour to Klekas Home

Monday November 29 International Jaguar Day

Monday December 6
Christmas Party at The Old Spaghetti Factory

### **Ongoing**

9am—noonish Third Sunday of Each Month
Park City Cars and Coffee
Hugo Coffee
1794 Olympic Parkway, Kimball Junction

WMJR members have a standing invitation to participate in events of the <u>British Motor Club of Utah</u>.

Here is their <u>calendar</u> of events

### Club Officers

President
Marvin May, 801-947-5980
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Past President Jim Klekas, voice or text 801-971-6060 jklekas@aol.com

Treasurer
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—Burma Shave, 1958

