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Subject: Photography: Some Classic, Some Modern

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PHOTOGRAPHY: SOME CLASSIC, SOME MODERN, ALL INTERESTING

Last week, I was invited to visit the Archives at Jaguar/Land Rover in Mahwah, NJ. Of course, you would expect their archives to be chock full of books, photos, documents, and artifacts of all types about Jaguars and Land Rover vehicles...and you would be correct. But as they say on infomercials, "But wait, there's more"! Most British automobile companies when they entered the US market after the Second World War were quite small. Buying space at an American Auto Show like those in New York, Chicago, or LA was way out of their league...individually. So, they formed an organization named BAMA, British Automobile Manufacturer's Association. By pooling their money they could secure a space large enough to display at least one of each manufacturer's cars. As elite as Bentley and Rolls-Royce were compared to most British brands, they too benefited from BAMA's group purchasing power. My smiling face is shown below holding a BAMA literature bag, in perfect shape, from an Auto show in 1959. While the photo is not that sharp, my finger is pointing at the Rolls-Royce name, just one of many on this bag.



Most of the BAMA staff consisted of people who had experience working for one of the British car companies here in the US. John Dugdale was the Executive Vice President of BAMA for many years. When he retired, he took all the old BAMA records home in a file cabinet and put them in his garage. When he passed away, he left them to the Jaguar/Land Rover Archives. The good news is, all that history is safe...the bad news is it takes up a lot of room.....and Jaguar/Land Rover management has asked its Archive staff to find appropriate homes for all of the materials that are not related to their two brands.

Fortunately, I know Mike Cook who is the Head of the Archive, and his right hand man

Fred Hammond. Several times this year they have called and asked me to come collect old materials pertaining to Bentley and Rolls-Royce. Once I've collected them, I deliver them to the Rolls-Royce Foundation to add to their collection. Up to this point, it had been mostly press kits from the 60's and some old photos. This last visit yielded a few things I thought were even more interesting. Perhaps the most important was an official list of all US and Canadian Importers and Dealers for Rolls and Bentley generated in 1959! While the Foundation may have deduced who the dealers were by analyzing thousands of warranty documents...this apparently is the only list we have ever seen issued directly by the Rolls-Royce US organization during this era! It is definitely a great addition to the Foundations records! Arguable less important, but far more interesting is the photo below. Please take a moment to study it closely.



That is correct! Sitting in the golf cart beneath the Rolls-Royce sign are Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. The location was Chicago, and the event was the Chicago International

Trade Fair, which was designed to encourage two-way trade between the US and England. The date was June 29, 1959. While a broad cross section of goods made all across the UK were on display, this particular section of the trade show was devoted to the British Automobile Manufacturers. According to the press release, makes participating included: Austin, Austin-Healey, Hillman, Humber, Jaguar, Morris, Rolls-Royce, and Triumph cars. Sadly, most of those names have now reached collector car only status today. I thought you would find the photo interesting, none the less. I have included one more photo below that illustrates what a typical BAMA display would look like at an American Auto show. Note how the area of Rolls-Royce displaying its regal Silver Cloud is sitting immediately next to a small Ford sedan! Things were different in those days.



NOW FOR SOMETHING MORE MODERN...

Our 2017 Annual Meet in French Lick came to a close about 6 weeks ago now. It was a great Meet and I have only heard the nicest comments from those of you who attended. I wrote you about the Meet a few weeks back and included a few photos, like the one below, but I am far from a professional photographer. Special note: if you are interested in purchasing a Badge from this year's meet, please call us at Headquarters: 717 697 4671.



This week, the work of our Official Meet Photographers, Doug and Carole Gates is available for you to view. As always, Doug and Carole have done a wonderful job

documenting about as many of the activities that took place at French Lick as any two individuals could possibly have covered. Think about it, for about 4 days straight we had activities at as many as three different places at the same time! It is a huge challenge to photograph one of our Meets. But Doug and Carole have been doing it for years now and again, they have done a fine job. If you click on the link below and follow the instructions you can look through a vast collection of images.

French Lick Meet Photos

- Click on “See your photos from recent events” (A new window will open...)
 - **Select: 6/24/2017**
2017 Rolls-Royce Owners’ Club
66th Annual Meet French Lick

Upon entering the site you will have a choice of Galleries – each has categories to help you zero in on what you are interested in seeing.

- TIP: There are *a lot* of photographs! Create your own “Favorites Folder”; this makes viewing the photographs you are interested in quick and easy.
- Questions? Special Requests? Just give us a call or send an email.....we’re here to help!

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WHAT’S THIS ABOUT A TRANSITION?

Last week you received an email from our President, Sue Brooks. The email informed

you that I would be leaving in September and you will have a new Executive Director named Mark Lizewskie. I know this may come as a big surprise to some of you, but it is something that the Board of Directors and I have been discussing since last year. When I was hired at the end of 2013, I had told the Board that family obligations made it impossible for me to move to the Headquarters area...so I could only accept the job as a contractor using a combination of periodic visits to Headquarters along with tele-commuting.

By the end of last year, the Board believed they would prefer to have a resident Executive Director. They offered me the position, and I informed them that, family obligations still make it impossible for me to move to the Headquarters area. I offered to help them find my replacement, and offered to continue in my position until they could find the right person. Well last week they did find the right person, and he turned out to be someone I know, and I could not be happier!

I think Mark will do a great job for the RROC. He has a lot of experience in the Collector Car world. He knows many of the people in other Clubs and Museums. He even knows many of you as he had been the "independent/outside" Board member for the Rolls-Royce Foundation. Just this past Tuesday night Mark and I had a long telephone conversation about how we will work together to handle an orderly transition. I know we can do it. To be completely honest about it, there is another reason why I am sure the transition will be a smooth one and that is because the rest of the Headquarters staff will still be in place. They are the same people who showed me how the RROC works and helped me to figure out how things worked at this great 66 year old enterprise. They are the best and I thank them.

Several of you have called and written to wish me all the best and, I do appreciate that. But I don't want you to think I am disappearing from the face of the earth. You all have my cell phone number and my email address. I am not planning on dropping my membership. I had a very good time here as the Executive Director of the Club. I think I was able to bring something unique to the job because of my background in the industry. Each of us tends to bring something unique to our work. I am sure that Mark will bring something unique and different as well. The Club will grow, because they are the beneficiaries of everyone's unique knowledge.

I want to thank you for your friendship and support. I do want to remind you, we can still stay in touch even though I will not be your Executive Director. Instead, I will be the guy working on my cars that somehow have not gotten back together, at least in one case for

20 years now. I guess it is time to do something about that!

I will write again before I leave...

All the best,



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STAY CONNECTED



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