



**BLACK  
HORSE**  
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES, INC.



THE BLACK HORSE GARAGE  
**BULLETIN**

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COLLECTOR CARS RESTORED, PRESERVED, REPAIRED, BOUGHT, SOLD, CONSIGNED,  
RESEARCHED, INSPECTED, APPRAISED AND TRANSPORTED WORLDWIDE

## The First Decade of the New Millennium

It's difficult to believe the first decade of the new millennium is already behind us and 2010 has arrived. We're happy to say 2009 was a good year here at Black Horse Garage,

however our thoughts are with those less fortunate.

During the past twelve months, we've had some wonderful new restoration projects come our way. From vintage Ferraris and Mercedes 300 SL roadsters to a Jaguar XJ 220, we're busily returning these amazing vehicles to show condition. We're also working on a large array of Astons, Porsches, Bentleys and other marques that have all of our workshops bustling with activity and excitement.

The past year also saw our never-ending quest to assemble the most experienced and

talented team of craftsmen available today produce great results. We're delighted with the additions we made to our existing world-class team and firmly believe there's no better group of specialists anywhere.

Today, as we set our sights on the year ahead, we are grateful for the high level of trust our clients from across the country, and around the world, continue to place in the Black Horse Garage organization.

Please allow us to extend our most sincere thanks and warmest wishes to all for a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.



## Porsche Club Meeting Set for January 12, 2010

ON JANUARY 13TH OF 2009, BLACK HORSE GARAGE WAS DELIGHTED TO HOST MORE THAN 100 MEMBERS OF THE CONNECTICUT VALLEY REGION CHAPTER OF THE PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA.



Despite bitter cold and snowy conditions, these hardy individuals made their way to our facility for an evening that turned out to be great fun for everyone.

This year, we're pleased to announce that more than 120 members of PCA/CVR visited with us once again on the evening of Tuesday, January 12th. Beyond enjoying lots of hot coffee, good food, and great conversation, the evening gave club officers an opportunity to conduct their kick-off meeting of 2010 while providing an open forum in which members discussed business matters, upcoming club events and many other items of interest.

Attendees were also treated to an in-depth tour of the 40,000 square foot Black Horse Garage facility and the more than 80 fantastic collector cars nestled within the company's many workshops. The guided tours conducted by John Buonanno, President & Chief Operating Officer, and Mitch Marsico, Vice President, were a lot of fun and very informative for everyone.

Thanks to the PCA/CVR for helping us to kick off the new year in such an enjoyable way!

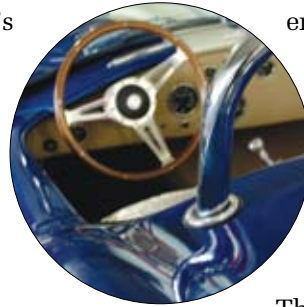


### INDUSTRY UPDATE

## “What’s it worth? The Importance of a Pre-Purchase Inspection

Here at Black Horse Garage, people frequently ask how much a collector car they're thinking about buying is worth in today's market. While we try to give anyone asking that question a good sense of the vehicle's value, we make sure to remind potential buyers that it is impossible to accurately estimate how much money a collector automobile is worth without first having in-depth knowledge of the vehicle's condition.

Here's a good example. Some time ago, it just so happened we had two Austin Healey 3000s come into our facility within a matter of weeks. The cars were the same model, same year, and same color. To the untrained eye, they looked remarkably similar, however they were, in fact, very different. One had undergone a professional mechanical and cosmetic restoration several years before arriving here at Black Horse Garage. The engine and gearbox had been properly rebuilt, the frame was correctly repaired, the body



and interior were nicely restored and the body and paint were in great condition. The other Healey looked quite good on the surface as a result of a new paint job, however, the engine was worn, the gearbox was noisy, the frame was bent, the body had rust, and most of the brakes, lights, gauges and switches were inoperative. What did the difference in the condition of these two “identical” Healeys mean in terms of actual market value?

The quick answer is about thirty thousand dollars. Obviously, the important lesson to be learned here is that one cannot begin to accurately estimate the value of a collector car without first accurately assessing its condition. So, regardless of the values quoted in price guides, or what a seller may tell you about a car they have for sale, be sure to have a reputable shop perform a thorough PPI (pre-purchase inspection) before investing your hard earned dollars in any collector automobile. It just may be the smartest money you've ever spent!

## 2010 Cavallino Classic – Fantastic Ferraris!

The Breakers Hotel in opulent Palm Beach, Florida is one of the most beautiful properties in the world. Combine the elegant buildings, manicured lawns, and magnificent oceanfront setting with some of the finest vintage Ferraris ever made and the scene becomes a dream come true for collector car enthusiasts. This year, Black Horse Garage had the

pleasure of not only attending this fantastic event, but exhibiting a superb 1966 Ferrari 275 S owned by one of our favorite clients.



We also enjoyed seeing and hearing many of Maranello's best driven at speed during the exciting track day held at beautiful Palm

Beach International Raceway. For more information on this must-attend Ferrari event, visit [www.cavallino.com](http://www.cavallino.com)

# Black Horse Garage: In the News

When our valued client and dedicated car collector **Kjell Kjellberg** telephoned to inform the Black Horse Garage team his 1952 MG TD took a coveted “Best in Show” award at the prestigious 2009 Fountain Elms show in Utica, New York, we thought he meant to say “Best in Class”. However, we were delighted to learn the beautiful little TD had in fact been awarded the top honor over a field that included a wide range of spectacular American and European classics.

On Labor Day Weekend, Kjell, his MG, and the Black Horse Garage team were publicly recognized once again when the claret red and tan TD garnered a “Best in Class” award at the Fall Vintage Festival event held at the world-famous Lime Rock Park road racing circuit in upstate Connecticut. This distinction was especially important to us given that the group of individuals judging the event were

some of the most experienced and knowledgeable collector car experts in the country today.

Our most sincere thanks to Kjell for commissioning Black Horse Garage to perform the body-off restoration on his award winning MG TD along with restorations on his 1923 Buick Model 45 Touring and 1949 MG TC roadster currently underway.

Congratulations to Black Horse Garage clients **Frank and Pat Wismer** for taking a number of prestigious awards this season with their fantastic 1930 Packard “Eight” Sedan. The recipient of a labor-intensive two year body-off restoration performed by the craftsmen here at Black Horse Garage, the spectacular tri-color Packard earned its first National Award at the Antique Automobile Club of America meet held at Hershey, Pennsylvania in October

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## COLLECTOR INFO

## Autumn Collector Car Sales – Good News!

**WE'RE VERY PLEASED TO REPORT COLLECTOR AUTOMOBILE SALES DURING THE 4TH QUARTER OF 2009 SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE.**

Reports from all of the major auction houses indicate the number of consignments they received were up and final totals were higher than those a year prior.

RM's Icons of Speed & Style event took place on September 26 and 81 lots crossed the block for a total of \$6.7 million U.S. dollars.

The RM auction at the Antique Automobile Club Meet in Hershey during mid-October saw 128 of 136 cars consigned sold for a combined

total of \$8.7 million led by a stunning 1931 Marmon V16 convertible coupe sold at \$517,000. Mecum's annual auction in St. Charles was held during the first weekend of October with 414 of 747 lots selling for in excess of \$11.8 million.

All in all, we're delighted to see that collector cars of virtually every make and era are selling well and that more individuals

are investing in, and enjoying, these wonderful examples of automotive history.



## Black Horse Garage 2010 Calendar of Events

*(partial listing)*

- Porsche Club of America, CVR at Black Horse Garage (January)
- Ferrari Cavallino d'Eleganza – Palm Beach
- Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance
- Meadow Brook Hall Concours d'Elegance
- Wings & Wheels at Sikorsky Airport, Stratford, CT
- Greenwich Concours d'Elegance
- Wheels & Wings – New Milford, CT
- Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance
- Scarsdale Concours d'Elegance
- Fairfield County Concours d'Elegance
- Lime Rock Park Fall Vintage Festival
- Black Horse Garage Annual Autumn Open House

## Collector Cars for Sale:

*(partial listing)*

- 1931 Ford Model A Victoria Coupe
- 1953 Sunbeam Talbot Roadster
- 1963 Jaguar XK-E Convertible
- 1960 Austin Healey 3000 Mark II
- 1965 Austin Healey 3000 Mark III
- 1965 Shelby Cobra 427 Roadster by Mid States
- 1966 Jaguar XK-E Gold
- 1968 Mercedes Benz 280 SL
- 1970 Jaguar XK-E Convertible
- 1976 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow L.W.B.
- 1985 Rolls Royce Corniche
- 1987 Rolls Royce Silver Spirit
- 1988 Bentley Eight Sedan
- 1999 Rolls Royce Silver Seraph

## JOIN THE CLUB!

For those of you out there that own a sports or collector car, or simply enjoy being around them, becoming a member of a national, regional or local car club is inexpensive and just plain fun! Events held each year range from concours, car shows, rallies and picnics to dinner dances, fundraisers, charity events and more. Clubs are always looking for enthusiastic new members and helping hands so don't hesitate to get involved and bring your family and friends. Please keep an eye on the Calendar of Events section of the Black Horse Garage website [www.blackhorsegarage.com](http://www.blackhorsegarage.com) for listings on club related activities to take place in 2010!

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# Employee Spotlight: Jack Collins

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If you're looking for a master mechanic and collector car restoration specialist that is as comfortable working on vintage Packards and Bentleys as he is on American muscle cars, Jack Collins is your man.

Born and raised in nearby Milford, Connecticut, Jack has been passionate about working on all types of automobiles since he was a boy. From hot rods and customs to virtually every type of performance car that came out of Detroit in the 1960s and 1970s, Jack spent countless days, nights, and weekends tuning, building, and often racing these now collectable automobiles. "I've loved cars since I was a kid" says Jack thinking back to earlier days. "I honestly can't remember a time when I wasn't working on them."

Prior to joining the Black Horse Garage team more than 10 years ago, Jack was employed by local dealerships and smaller auto repair facilities. "My specialty was building and installing engines in all kinds of cars" he adds while thinking back to those days. "I love the process of disassembling an engine, determining how it could be improved, performing the rebuild, and then hear-

ing it roar back to life." Along with being our resident expert where muscle cars are concerned, Jack's expertise also extends to a wide range of post-war European sports and touring cars. At any given time, his work area within Black Horse Garage can contain anything from early Aston Martins and Ferraris to Bentleys, Morgans and more.



"One of the things I enjoy most about being part of the Black Horse Garage team is working on unique automobiles every day" Jack volunteers while scanning across the six vehicles currently in various stages of restoration within his shop. "Each one is from a different manufacturer, a different era, and a

different part of the world. Caring for these cars is a challenge that keeps me thinking and improving my skills and base of knowledge." Another valuable experience in Jack's more than 35 year career as an automotive specialist was being a senior race mechanic on a team campaigning a car in the highly-competitive ARCA Race Series events.

Thinking back, he hesitated to recall just how many weekends were spent at race-tracks across the country, however he readily admits that having his lovely wife, Karen, and children accompany him to many of the races made the travel and nights away from home much more enjoyable. Looking forward to the days ahead, Jack wants nothing more than to continue being a key member of the growing Black Horse Garage organization while continuing to restore and repair the world's finest vintage automobiles.

Yes, it's been a long time since he was a young boy working on those lawnmower engines out in his parent's driveway, however the passion in his heart for the truly exceptional work he does burns just as bright today as it did back then.

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# Employee Spotlight: Paul Skorupski

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It's been said that a company is only as good as its people. Here at Black Horse Garage we certainly agree. For us, having a master mechanic like Paul Skorupski on our team has helped to make our organization one of the finest collector car restoration and repair facilities in the country. For more than 12 years, Paul has been our lead restorer on most of the Jaguar, Aston Martin, and other vintage British automobiles we have brought from various stages of deterioration back to superb condition.

Although Paul readily admits he has a special place in his heart for Jaguars, he also loves the diverse range of great automobiles he gets to care for at Black Horse Garage. "It keeps you on your toes" he says with a broad smile while recalling the extensive work he has done on English makes as well as a wide range of spectacular models from Ferrari, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Rolls Royce, and many other manufacturers from around the world.

"I truly enjoy restoring and repairing all kinds of fine vintage automobiles" Paul adds since he truly enjoys the special challenges different cars from various eras in history provide. His interests beyond "spinning wrenches" are many and include all types of

fine woodworking. "People don't realize just how much wood went into the coach-built automobiles of the past" Paul says reflecting on the many intricate wooden components he has repaired or created during his 35 years of caring for collector automobiles.



"From the most beautiful decorative trim and veneers to strong structural supports"

Paul is a master at crafting and finishing wood of all types into the specialized and beautiful pieces required on many collector automobile restoration projects. As the lead restorer on the multi-year restoration currently being performed by the Black Horse Garage team on the historically important 1934 SS 1 "two seater" designed and owned by Jaguar co-founder William Walmsley, Paul

realizes his world-class craftsmanship will be not only be on display at the 2010 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, but well into the future. "The Walmsley isn't just a vintage car" he explains eloquently "it is an extremely important piece of automotive history, an art form, and a time capsule people will enjoy for countless years to come."

Another important aspect of Paul's responsibilities at Black Horse Garage is communicating with clients to ensure the restoration or extensive repairs he's performing are tailored to fit their specific needs. "It's essential for me to understand whether a client ultimately wants their collector automobile to be a Concours d'Elegance winner, a reliable driver, or one they will drive in vintage racing events or rallies." Paul says thoughtfully. "If I prepare a vehicle properly it will not only be successful at shows and other events, it will please the owner every time they drive the car. That's the best reward!"

Beyond his amazing skills with vintage automobiles, Paul takes great pleasure and pride in the special "warm blood" sport horses he and his girlfriend of many years, Jo Anne, breed on their Thomaston, Connecticut farm.

along with a Best in Class award at the Lime Rock Park Fall Vintage Festival event on Labor Day Weekend. The Wismer's are great people that enhance every collector car event they attend by dressing in superb vintage outfits and promoting a spirit of fun and goodwill. Thanks to Frank and Pat for allowing us to care for their wonderful automobile collection!

**M.S. Koly** is a gentleman and special friend of Black Horse Garage along with being a nationally respected automobile collector. In light of this, the Black Horse Garage team was delighted when Mr. Koly's lovely 1935 Rolls Royce 20/25 sedan took **Best in Class** honors at the Lime Rock Park Fall Vintage Festival. As the former President of the Rolls Royce Owners Club, M.S. has a highly developed appreciation for quality and we are truly honored he has relied on the Black Horse Garage team to care for his collection for more than 20 years.

This year's Festa di Ferrari event held at the Italian Center of Stamford, CT was a wonderful experience for Black Horse Garage clients and their vintage Ferrari automobiles. Produced and organized by **Paul and Darry Bova**, the gathering allowed the Black Horse Garage team to exhibit a number of fantastic cars on the expansive green lawns. From a 365 BB and several pristine "Daytonas" to a lovely 250 GTE and a spectacular 275 Spyder, our client's cars were part of a truly impressive gathering. A special thanks to **Michael Raduazzo** of the Ferrari Club of America/New England Chapter for all of his help involving this truly enjoyable event!

# Great People & Cars at Black Horse Garage

OUR TEAM TRULY ENJOYED MEETING HUNDREDS OF PASSIONATE COLLECTOR CAR ENTHUSIASTS AND OWNERS FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING THE PAST YEAR.

Whether at numerous club events, our Wheels & Wings show, or our annual Autumn Open House, people from throughout New England, New York, New Jersey, and other states have ventured to our facility and enjoyed speaking with our expert staff and viewing the amazing array of automobiles we always have on hand.

Looking forward to 2010, we hope you will make time in your schedule to stop by and take a walk back in time here at our shop. From our 40,000 square foot



pre-war industrial building with its original Maple hardwood floors to the many different shops in which our large crew of master craftsmen perform everything from frame-off restorations to routine service, Black Horse Garage is a very interesting and enjoyable place to visit. We sincerely hope to see you soon!



## Note from the Editor:

Although it was our intention to produce a quarterly issue of the Black Horse Garage Bulletin since creating the debut issue in early 2009, our hectic schedules and workload throughout the past year prevented us from doing so. In light of this, I hope you will accept my humble apology for failing to produce some of the issues promised in 2009 while continuing to enjoy upcoming issues on the many wonderful people, events and collector automobiles at Black Horse Garage.

*With sincere thanks to all, Mitch Marsico, Vice President.*



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