The

Pious Pelican

2015



Northern California Packards

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A Region of The Packard Club, Packard Automobile Classics, Inc.

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PIOUS PELICAN

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The Pious Pelican

November - December 2015 Volume 54, No. 6 Director's Report

I know that what we experience in Northern California isn't really "cold" but lately, it's certainly felt cold to me. I have an annual plan of spending lots of time in the garage during the winter getting all the issues sorted on my Packards in time for the touring season starting in very early Spring, though this cold weather has dampened my enthusiasm. Trudging out to an unheated garage takes courage, which I can hopefully find soon.

Congratulations are certainly in order for George and Eddie Beck & Fred and Pam Hill for the recent Christmas party at Zio Fraedo's restaurant in Vallejo. I think No-Cal Packards is unmatched when it comes to this year-end celebration. This year, we had double entertainment with our own Milton Wheeler directing the Bay Area Men's Chorus who really made me smile with the beautiful "What Sweeter Music" by John Rutter among others. Following the Chorus and a delicious meal, Pam booked a magician who came to entertain us with many tricks that I still can't figure out. He was a real hit with the children there including my 6-year-old, Lukas. The silent auction was great as usual and this year, I was able to acquire a book on the history of Tucker thanks to the donation of a club member.

As you are probably aware, Nor-Cal Packards is a very active club and we encourage all to attend our Board meetings which occur 4 times per year. Our next Board meeting is Sunday January 31 at the Blackhawk Auto Museum, which is also the day after the Turlock Swap Meet. Earlier in January on Sunday the 17th is our first event of the year: Day at the Movies. This year, we will be showing Chinatown, complete with Packards, of course. See the flyer on the website at norcalpackards.org. Then February 28, Jerry Wuichet and Milton Wheeler are taking us on a driving tour in the Napa area to a secret garage location where we will view a private collection. Two weeks later, on March 12-13, David Pava is leading an overnighter headquartered in Cameron Park which is 30 miles east of Sacramento on Hwy 50. David has put together a first-class event for us and you can view the flyer and description on the Nor-Cal Packard website.

Finally, I want to encourage your participation in the Alameda Point Concours d'Elegance which is having its inaugural show on June 12, 2016. Steve Pedone is a key planner of this event and a new member of our board. He is organizing a special Packard Showcase area which we hope to populate with <u>your</u> Packard. This event shows great promise and is an opportunity for educational outreach about our cars. Bill will be there with membership applications, I'm sure. You don't need a "show car" to show your car at the Packard Showcase. Contact Steve Pedone if you have any questions; his email is in the directory.

With all the upcoming events, I can't wait for warmer weather to get to the garage; I need to bundle up and get out there now! I hope you'll also be heading to your garage soon to get your car ready for a fabulous 2016.

Happy New Year from the Board of Nor-Cal Packards.

Jeff Mihaly

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Technical Advisors

We thank the fellow club members listed below who have offered to try to help solve problems encountered by others when working on their Packards. If you can help with a certain area of expertise, please let Chairman, Bob McCoy know, so he can add your name to the list. Although they will do their best to help, neither the club nor the advisor can accept responsibility for or guarantee the accuracy of suggestions.

Chairman: Bob McCoy, 925-518-5909, email: r-mccoy@sbcglobal.net

'32-'39 Senior: John Kilkenny, 408-779-6777, email: jkilkenny@juno.com

'38-'50 Junior: Ron Carpenter, 925-933-1486, email: RCarp1940@aol.com

'55-'56 V-8: Fred Hill, 925-934-3471, email: echohillpackards@comcast.net



2016 EVENTS

	LUIULVEITIO
Jan 17	Day at the Movies at the Blackhawk Museum
Jan 23-24	Turlock Swap Meet
Jan 31	Board Meeting - Blackhawk Museum
Feb 28	Napa driving and private-collection tour
Mar 12-13	Joint Nor-Cal Packards and Pacific Packard Classics Tour
April	South-Bay tour (Details to come)
Apr 17	Board Meeting - Auto Vino
May 18-20	Western Regions Tour (Details to come)
Jul 10	Board Meeting - Blackhawk Museum
Jul 17	Hillsborough Concours
Jul 12-18	2015 Packard Club National Meet - Traverse City, MI
Jul 24	Annual Membership Picnic - Portal Park, Cupertino
Aug 6	Trailers in the trees - Felton
Aug 16-21	Pebble Beach Concours week
Sep 4	Packard and Classic Car Swap Meet - Vallejo
Sep 24	Ironstone Concours - Murphys
Oct 2	Niello Concours Serrano at El Dorado Hills
Oct 24	Board Meeting - Auto Vino
Dec 4	Annual Holiday Luncheon (Details to come)

Where We've BeenForest Homes Historic Park

October 24, 2015

Text by Joe Munsch Photos by Joe Munsch, George Beck, and Bill Young



Munsch '40, Young '54, Carpenter '41, Annereau '38, Beck '37, & Reed '37.

On Saturday, October 24 2015, Nor-Cal Packards participated in Forest Home Farms Historical Park's Vintage Vehicle day. Just to change things up, we met at a McDonalds near by and then toured a whole nine-tenths of a mile up San Ramon Valley Blvd to the Park. The Park is a San Ramon city park, but really exists due to the efforts of the volunteers of the San Ramon Historic Foundation. The charter is educational, and as such, is used by grade schools in the area to help make local history real. As the name suggests, the Park was a working farm, originally 600 acres, in production from 1850 into the 1950's. In later years it was a walnut processing operation, servicing farms as far away as Walnut Creek and beyond. As housing and tech became the big thing in the San Ramon Valley, portions were subdivided and sold off for housing and office parks, and for that strange street in the farms front yard, simply called 680. The last of the family, Ruth Quayle Boone, bequeathed the farm to the City of San Ramon, to be used to show young people how life was in a simpler time.

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New members, Bob & Karen Reed's '37 1500 Super Eight sedan. Welcome to Nor-Cal Packards.



Horseless Carriage Club cars with a bus from the Freemont Bus Museum in the background.

(Continued from page 6)

The farm included a few acres, the Boone house, ca. 1900, a number of out buildings, and some of the furnishings and equipment used on the farm. Along the line, a neat Italianate home, the Glass House, was moved to the site from a nearby farm that was being turned into a subdivision. Members of the San Ramon Historic Foundation took on the gargantuan (and ongoing) task of restoring the farm, developing it as a educational resource, finding furnishings, and restoring the Glass House. They also have been acquiring a neat collection of vintage tractors, farm implements, hit-miss engines, and vintage appliances. All in all a really neat place for any gear head or history buff to visit.

We were able to see the tractor collection, and check out their machinery restoration shop, where a Case tractor was in pieces. The clubs also got a tour of the Glass house. It was a very faithfully restored example of a place where a successful farmer made a home for the family. Saul, our volunteer told us about the history of the place and the history of the restoration. Great tour. If that wasn't enough, a relaxing lunch was enjoyed in the walnut barn. Everyone had exactly what they wanted as they all brought their own picnics. The Horseless Carriage club folks joined us and all got to chat and enjoy the cars and the day.

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The McCoys' '36 120B 999 convertible coupe.



Ron & Mary Carpenter's '41 1901 station wagon.



Armand & Linda Annereau arriving in their '38 1601 convertible .

(Continued from page 8)

We, Nor-Cal Packards, included George Beck with his '37 1500 touring sedan, Bob and Mary Jane McCoy with their '36 1208 convertible coupe, Ron and Mary Carpenter in their '41 woody wagon, and Bill Young with his '54 5401 Clipper. Steve Weir had more problems with his '40 sedan, so he, John Hemm, and Tony showed up in Steve's '66 Caddy convertible. These usual suspects were joined by Armand and Linda Annereau with their '38 1601 convertible coupe, seldom seen but long-time members. Here's hoping we see more of you guys. New members Robert and Karen Reed joined us with their '37 1500 sedan; beautiful car. Rejoining member Dave Wooldridge joined us, in brand X as his Packards are in need of some resuscitation. Great to have you back, Dave. Pat and I brought our '40 110 sedan. Joining us at the park were a couple of vintage tour buses from a bus museum in Fremont, and a delightful group from the Horseless Carriage Club. All in all, it was a relaxing day down on the Farm.



Bill Young's '54 5401 Clipper sedan.

Where We've Been *Marin County Cheese Tour*

November 8, 2015

Text & Photos by Bill Young



Seventeen fearless, intrepid Packard enthusiasts and two Packards met on a drizzly morning at Starbucks in Novato. Milt Wheeler brought his 1947 Custom Super 8, and Bill Young with his 1954 Clipper Deluxe. There were hopes that there would be a break in the clouds as we started to the Marin French Cheese Factory. As we moved on, the weather cleared; by the time we arrived, it was clear enough to congregate outdoors. At the Marin French Cheese factory we were joined by George Beck with his 1937 Super 8, and Andrew Sinclair with his newly acquired 1955 Super Clipper.

This is a very nice venue, with a lake, space for parking and many picnic tables. We need to do this again when the weather is better. The manager described the variety of their cheeses. There were plenty of samples. She was very good, as was the cheese. A video presentation was shown in lieu of a physical tour.

About 10:45, off we went on our drive to Occidental for lunch. Apparently, I was hungry so we went a little fast. The forty-five mile drive is all paved two-lane, as we passed some of the best of Marin and Sonoma countryside. There were cows, sheep, farms, schools, ranches and finally a redwood grove. This is a very picturesque drive,

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The Holiday Luncheon room was warm and inviting.



The raffle table always holds treasures.



Milt Wheeler directing the Men's chorus.



Brave members proved that Packards don't melt in the rain.

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and because of the weather, very few bicyclists. There were 23 at lunch in Negri's in Occidental. The Italian food, as always, was great. Soup was served in a tureen, very family style.

Those in attendance:

 Tim & Kathy Toland who brought Bruce and Rhonda Cumming Andrew & Amy Sinclair

Ladd & Maggi Stephenson

Jerry & Linda Wuichet

Milt Wheeler, who brought Roy Brett

Steve Weir who brought John Hemm and Tony Butey

Ron & Mary Carpenter

Bill Young & Ellie Power

Phil and Susan Sherman

George and Eddie Beck with guests Don and Jeanann Davis

On the way back, your tour leader missed a turn and got everyone lost. The basic principle is: *The tour is not complete, until there is one U-turn.* Due to a miscommunication, we were not able to visit Dan Shanahan's shop after lunch, but will include it on another tour.



The Becks' '37, Wheelers' '47, Young's '54 & new members, Andrew & Amy Sinclair's '55.

Welcome to Nor-Cal Packards.



Tourmaster, Bill Young's '54 5401 Clipper sedan.



George & Eddie Beck's '37 1501 Super Eight sedan.

Where We've Been Holiday Luncheon

December 6, 2015

Text by Pam Hill Photos by George Beck, and Bill Young

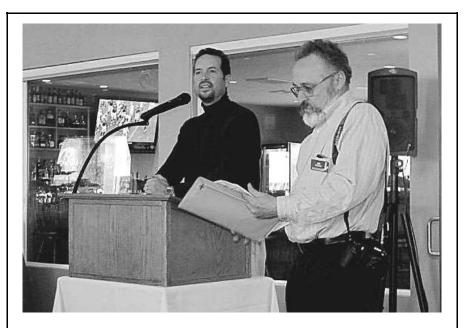


Ellie Power & Eddie Beck were our 'Welcoming Committee."

This year's event took place at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant in Vallejo on Dec. 6. Even though it rained the night before, several members brought their cars. After enjoying hors d'oeuvres, attendees browsed the auction table. In addition to Packard memorabilia, many edibles and holiday items were donated. After a buffet luncheon, we were treated to a presentation from the Bay Area Men's Chorus, led by Milton Wheeler. This awesome group has performed for us in the past.

Our director, Jeff Mihaly, gave a recap of the year's events, and awarded the tour masters with certificates of appreciation. Members voted for the tour they enjoyed the most, and there was a tie! The Machine Shop Tour in Martinez, organized by George Beck and the Tesla Tour, organized by Phil Sherman were the favorites! George & Phil will share the trophy for one year. Jeff

(Continued on page 17)



Jeff Mihaly and Joe Munsch at the lectern.



Irina D'Amato waiting for magician, Frank Star, to reveal her marked card.

(Continued from page 15)

encouraged members to plan tours for the club. The special entertainment of the day was a performance by Frank Star, magic and comedy. The show was enjoyed by all.

This year's attendees were Kay & Mark Barchas, Nancy & Robert Barton, Eddie & George Beck (who brought their 1937 1500 Super 8), Mary & Ron Carpenter, Cindy & Rod Dahlgren, with guests Eric and Gayle Grantz with their trailered 1939 opera coupe. Also in attendance were Irina D'Amato & George Smith with Anthony & Cristina D'Amato, Alex Smith, Barbara & Neil Gapoff, Pam & Fred Hill, Merna & Jack Holmes with Nancy Boraas, Bud Juneau, Lorraine & John Kilkenny, Warren Lubich, Mary Jane & Bob McCoy, Beth Eng & Jeff Mihaly with son Lukas. Others were Pat Shriver & Joe Munsch, Carol & Bill Norton, Wayne Parsons with Allen Nixon, Patricia & Dave Pava with Jeanne Kissel. In addition were Kathy & Steve Pedone, Glenda & Don Sears, Maggie & Ladd Stephenson, Kathie & Tim Toland, Blanche Korfmacher & John Ulrich, Steve Weir & John Hemm, Carolee & Milton Wheeler, driving their 1947 Custom Super, Dave Wooldridge and Janet Blyer, Linda & Gerry Wuichet driving their 1950 2302 Super Deluxe, and their guests, Erin and Adam Simms with their 1953 Caribbean convertible. Ellie Power and Bill Young brought his 1954 5401 Clipper Deluxe. Thanks to Bill for taking photos, setting out signs, and directing the parking.



Eric and Gayle Grantz' newly-painted '39 club coupe on Rod Dahlgren's trailer in the parking lot.



Long-time members Jack & Merna Holmes, Wayne Parsons, Bud Juneau, and Warren Lubich.



Our dining room included a Christmas tree in the corner and a nice view of the boats in the Marina.



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APPLICATION TO JOIN

It is not necessary to own a Packard to join, but membership is required in the National Club. New members may include National dues of \$40 with first years Regional dues of \$25.

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