

The
Pious
Pelican

November—December
2021



Northern California Packards

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Pious Pelican

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Any changes, additions or corrections to the Pious Pelican should be directed to Clint Moore at batbuick@yahoo.com.

The Pious Pelican
November—December, 2021
Volume 60, No. 6
Director's Report

A somewhat unpredictable but active 2021 has come to a close. While we had hoped to finish out the year with our holiday luncheon, a vote of the membership determined it would be best to hold off on the traditional celebration. But the good news is we have already got it on the schedule for April 24 when we should be able to enjoy each other's company outside, weather permitting...

Also a recent change of plans has had our visit to the Candy Store in Burlingame moved to March. The board of that club decided it was best to see how the Omicron COVID variant plays out this month to make sure we are all safe when we visit. If you haven't been, the Candy Store is a very special place that houses many noteworthy collector cars in the building that was built for Earl C. Anthony as the Burlingame Packard dealer!

I am looking forward to many wonderful events in 2022 and remain optimistic that COVID won't continue to spoil our enjoyment of Packards. There are a number of events in the works beyond the Candy Store visit and the April "holiday" luncheon. Western Regions will be hosted by our friends from Silver Circle Packards in the Reno/Tahoe area, and they always put on a memorable event. Plus there is also the first national meet since our Nor Cal 2020 meet in Rohnert Park was postponed, It is scheduled for July in Alexandria, Virginia. (And that means our rescheduled meet is just 18 months away...)

Speaking of 18 months, I hope you all bought one of the beautiful 18-month calendars that Christopher Slater and Bill Young worked on. There are some stunning photos in it, including the January photo, which is of the Kerr Family's 1934 1101 Convertible Sedan.

Happy New Year and Happy Motoring!

Clint





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| January 9 | Board Meeting—Online |
| March 13 | Candy Store Social—Burlingame |
| April 24 | “Holiday” Luncheon—Mountain View |
| May 19-22 | Western Regions—Reno/Tahoe |
| July 4-9 | PAC National Meet—Alexandria, VA |
| August 21 | Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance |
| September 17 | Antique Autos in San Jose History Park |
| September 24 | Ironstone Concours d’Elegance |

For a complete list of events, please visit our website at
www.norcalpackards.org/calendar.php

Upcoming Event **Candy Store Social** **Sunday, March 13, 2022**

Text by Clint Moore, Photos supplied by Hal Schuette



The original Packard sign to be relocated to the showroom at the Candy Store in Burlingame.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 13, as Nor Cal Packards has been invited to an afternoon of camaraderie and light refreshments at The Candy Store to commemorate the relocation of the original Packard sign back to a place of prominence in the showroom!



The Candy Store, shortly after it was built as the Packard dealer in 1928.

The Candy Store was originally built in 1928 as the Earl C. Anthony Packard dealership for Burlingame, and in 1983 it was purchased and transformed into a private club for auto aficionados. It's a real treat to be invited for a visit!

Details to come in the next issue of *The Pious Pelican*.

Where We've Been **Clayton—Brentwood Tour**



Three Halloween munchkins pose with Steve Wier's 1940 120 sedan at Hannah Nicole Winery in Brentwood. (Photo: Christopher Slater)

Ghosts, Phantoms, Seraphs, and Shadows. All are things that go bump in the night and bring us a fright.

On Halloween we welcome these specters from beyond the grave as they roam freely through our mortal world - usually in the guise of children and adults in Trick or Treat costumes - ringing doorbells and asking for candy.

However, this past October 31st the Packard Club chanced to encounter otherworldly spirits of the automotive kind. For on this day Phil Sherman summoned the worlds of Packard, Rolls-Royce, and Bentley automobiles to be brought together in historic Clayton, California. And together our collector car clubs gathered to grace the streets and backroads of Contra Costa County.

NorCal Packards brought forth examples of the elegance and stately style spanning 1935 to 1956 to the parking lot of the Clayton Historical Society. Also slipping quietly amongst them were examples of some aristocratic British luxury automobiles; several with the Parthenon grill and Flying Lady that identifies a Rolls-Royce, and others with the rounded grill and flying B of its more sporting relative, the Bentley. This

included tour master Phil Sherman, who brought his Bentley to the event, an impressive black Bentley Brooklands.

Gathering us together, Phil Sherman brought us to the start of our tour, beginning with the historic buildings of downtown of Clayton, which were creating a somewhat spooky backdrop for the start of our adventure. A number of buildings remain from the original downtown of Clayton; the Clayton Club Saloon, a restaurant called The Growler, the Pioneer Inn, the Clayton Jail, and this morning's destination, the Joel Clayton Historic House and Museum.

Our tour of the John Clayton Historic House was without incident as our delightful pair of docents talked about some of the many historical objects that have been donated to the museum. Each room told a different story of the historic town of Clayton. At one time there was even a branch line railroad that connected to Clayton, and artifacts from that railroad covered the walls of the second house on the property.

Next, our tour director Phil Sherman provided directions to our next destination, the ruins of the John Marsh Stone House which are situated on Marsh Creek in Contra Costa County. One by one the Packards,



An appropriately garbed Lynn Kissel (right) discussing the expanding puddle under "Betsy," his 1937 120C Sport Coupe with Ron Carpenter (middle) and a Rolls Royce club member. (Photo: Clint Moore)

Rolls-Royces, and Bentleys left historic Clayton to enjoy the trip through rolling hills and grassy fields along Marsh Creek Road - a perfect road and a perfect day for a relaxing 30 minute tour in our cars.

Arriving at our destination we parked our conveyances, and as a group we yearned to have a closer look at the stately stone house, yet we would only be allowed to see the remains of the home across a barren field behind a chain link fence. As we leaned into a large hedge that separated us from the fence, much to our surprise up popped John Marsh himself! Looking remarkably fit, our “ghost” told us the tale of John Marsh, a native of Massachusetts and a graduate of Harvard University, who came west seeking his fortune. And quite a fortune he amassed, first as a medical practitioner and then as an investor in land and cattle, before being murdered just three weeks after moving into this 7,000 square foot mansion built using stone from local quarries

Of course, our ghost was not an apparition, but actually local actor Jeff Trescott, who enjoyed playing the role of John Marsh as a guest of Nor Cal Packard’s member Jerome Solberg. And while our “ghost” wasn’t real, the house is quite real and is becoming the centerpiece of a new California State Park when it opens.

After our experience with the ghost of John Marsh, we got back in our cars and made our way to the Hannah Nicole Winery in Brentwood for a catered outdoor lunch of panini sandwiches, with the winery furnishing us samples of their excellent wines as refreshments.

Thank you, Phil Sherman for a wonderful Halloween outing with the Northern California Rolls-Royce Club and the Northern California Packard Club.



As Atlas bared the weight of the heavens on his shoulders, so the beleaguered cormorant on the hood of Jerome Solberg’s 1953 Cavalier sedan was burdened with the spirit of Halloween. (Photo: Phil Sherman)



*Tour leader Phil Sherman stands at the foot of the stairs as our group lines up to wander through the John Clayton Historic House in Clayton.
(Photo: Clint Moore)*

Packards on the Clayton—Brentwood Tour:

The Kerry Family	1935 1507 Twelve Coupe Roadster
David & Patricia Pava	1936 1400 Eight Touring Sedan
Michael Solomon & Dee Webster	1937 120 Sedan
Ladd & Maggie Stephenson	1937 115C Business Coupe
Lynn Kissel	1937 120C Sport Coupe
Steve Wier, John Hemm and Tony Butay	1940 120 Sedan
Jerome & Hitomi Solberg and Jeff Trescott	1953 Cavalier Sedan
Zane & Miriam Buck	1956 Clipper Super Sedan

Attendees whose Packards decided to stay home:

Doug & Clint Moore	Bill Young & Kirby
Ron Carpenter	

Other Nor Cal members in attendance:

Bill Rogstad	Phil & Susan Sherman
Michael & Loretta Hayward	Christopher Slater



Above: Zane Buck's bright and cheery 1956 Clipper Super stood out on a spooky Halloween afternoon. (Photo: Clint Moore)

Below: The ghost of John Marsh (portrayed by local actor Jeff Trescott) appeared while we visited his famous stone house. (Photo: Clint Moore)





Above: Ladd & Maggie Stephenson's 1937 115C Business Coupe leads the row while Patricia Pava stands by the 1936 1400 Touring Sedan owned by her and her husband. (Photo: Phil Sherman)

Below: A costumed younger member of the Kerr family fidgets in front of his great-grandfather's 1935 1207 Twelve Coupe Roadster. (Photo: Bill Rogstad)





Above: Clint Moore (left) and Orin Kerr (right) discuss the importance of trick-or-treating in front of one of Orin's sons. (Photo: Bill Rogstad)
Below: David & Patricia Pava's 1936 1400 Eight Sedan (Photo: Bill Rogstad)



Where We've Been **Yountville Veteran's Home**

Text by Clint Moore and Photos by Tom Beidleman



Tom Beidleman's 1934 1101 Rumble Seat Coupe brought a smile to many veteran's faces during our November 11 visit.

As has become an honorable tradition, Nor Cal Packards made a trip to visit our nation's heroes at the Veteran's Home of California in Yountville on Veteran's Day. We had been unable to visit last year due to the pandemic, and logistics were tricky this year since the Home has very strict rules to keep residents safe including all visitors must have shown proof of vaccination in advance and be subject to temperature checks upon arrival. November 11 also fell on a weekday this year, making it difficult for many of us working stiffs to make the trip. Despite these obstacles, we still managed to put on an admirable display of four Packards and a Cadillac.

Of the day, display leader Tom Beidleman commented, "We had a beautiful day, the Vets were very appreciative and enjoyed our cars and the camaraderie."

To which Ladd Stephenson added, "There were lots of fun memories for the veterans. For me I enjoyed the gentleman that told me he went to his junior prom in my Packard. My first date was in a 1954 Packard going to my junior prom."

Many thanks to Tom for stepping up to coordinate the day!

(Continued on page 12)

Packards at the Yountville Veterans' Home:

Tom Beidleman	1934 1101 Eight Coupe
Ladd Stephenson	1937 115C Business Coupe
Steve Weir and Tony Butay	1940 120 Sedan
Jerry Wiuchet	1950 Deluxe Super Eight Sedan

Other Cars displayed:

Rod Dahlgren (driven by Fernando Sotelo)
1947 Cadillac Sixty Special



Above: Steve Weir's 1940 120 Sedan displays it's flags in honor of Veterans' Day.

Below: One of our nation's heroes visits Jerry Wiuchet's 1950 Deluxe Super Eight Sedan beneath the beautiful fall colors.





*Above: Ladd Stephenson's 1937 115C Business Coupe was displayed under the pavilion in front of the Member Services Center.
Below: Rod Dahlgren's 1947 Cadillac Sixty Special was driven to the event by Fernando Sotelo and provided some variety.*



Packard Quiz Answers!

Compiled by Christopher Slater.

No, your editor had not forgotten! At long last, here the answers to the quiz published in the February, 2021 issue of *The Pious Pelican*.

1. What is the first year of the Packard Twin-Six? **1916**
2. How was Henry Joy involved with chasing bandits? **27 Packard trucks were used to chase Pancho Villa in Northern Mexico and Henry Joy was part of the excursion.**
3. What year did Charles Nash and James Starrow (both recently retired from GM) offer to buy Packard? **1916. Henry Joy considered the offer seriously but by the end of the year Packard decided to turn them down.**
4. The Packard Twin Six was the basis for the design of which famous aviation engine? **The Liberty L-12 aircraft engine which saw wide use in fighter and bomber aircraft in WW1.**
5. What was the last year of Packard Truck production? **1923**
6. What is a common way that Packards were reconfigured and reused in the 1920s and 1930s? **Reconfigured as tow trucks**
7. What is the last year of Packard Twelve Production? **1939**
8. When was air-conditioning first offered by Packard? **1940—Packard was the first manufacturer to offer such a luxury.**
9. When was the first automatic transmission available in a Packard? **1949 on the 23rd Series for Packard's Golden Anniversary**
10. What was the last year for a Packard limousine? **1954 by Henney, including one for Mrs. Henry Joy.**
11. Which public works projects can lay claim to Packard influence? **Lincoln Highway (via Henry Joy) and the Golden Gate Bridge (via Earle C. Anthony)**
12. What was the name of the Packard push-button transmission, available with 1956 Packards? **Touch Button Ultramatic**
13. How many ways were Packard powered vehicles involved with racing? **Automobiles, Aircraft, and Power Boats**
14. Which Italian sports car manufacturer admitted inspiration from Packard for the basis of their V-12 engine design? **Enzo Ferrari**
15. Was Packard ever involved with NASCAR racing? **Yes, including a 3rd place finish in 1951 by driver Red Duvall at Mobile, AL.**

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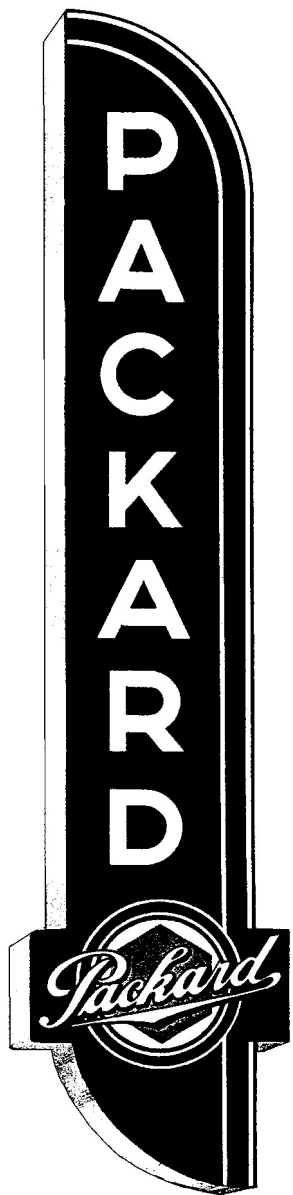
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