

**The**  
**Pious**  
**Pelican**

**November—December**  
**2022**



**Northern California Packards**

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\*Not an elected position

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

***The Pious Pelican***  
**November—December, 2022**  
**Volume 61, No. 6**  
**Director's Report**

The year has come to a close, and it feels great to have had so many successful events. The years of the pandemic made me very grateful for the times that our club gets to spend together, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the board members for their dedication to our club as well as all of you who volunteered at events in 2022. We could not have had such a fortunate year without your help!

As we look ahead to 2023 and the national meet, I hope we can all step up to make a memorable event as we host our friends and fellow car enthusiasts from across the nation (and potentially the world!). This is our chance to really shine and show off the beauty of our region! On the following page you'll find an event update which will continue to be a source of information from now until June. You'll find opportunities to volunteer as well as keep abreast of our progress on planning.

In November, I had an opportunity to sit in on a meeting of local representatives from our sister clubs, like Classic Car, Cad-LaSalle, Pierce Arrow and more. We discussed many issues including diminished attendance at events and waning membership. To this end, we will be hosting more joint events and trying some new outreach techniques. Look for some great events where we can make new friends in other clubs in the coming months!

Lastly, I hope that you all enjoyed your holiday season and are staying dry in the onslaught of storms pounding the area. We sure need the rain, but maybe not all at once! Please drive safe and stay aware.

Happy Motoring!

*Clint*



## 2023 Packard National Meet Update

We are entering the final months of preparations for the national meet! Thanks to all who signed up at the holiday luncheon to volunteer at the event. No contribution is too small! We will need people to direct traffic, collect tickets, count heads, work registration, monitor the parking lot and more, and the larger the pool of helpers, the smoother the event will go!

The big news is the meet website is now available! You can visit <https://bit.ly/2023PACKARDMEET> for the latest information and to download the paper registration form. We will be letting everyone know when the online version of the registration form is ready.

**Please sign up immediately to show your support for the event!**

The link to reserve your hotel room is also on that site. Remember, your master registration covers the administrative costs of the event as well as a banquet ticket and a copy of the new book on the history of the Packard Club, which started right here in our region! Participation in many of the other events is an add-on cost, just like shore excursions on a cruise.

We had a bit of good news during the holidays from long-time member Ralph Geissler. The Packard Museum he has been working on will be having its grand opening the week of our event, and best of all it's right there in Rohnert Park! That adds one more wonderful activity to our already impressive schedule of events.

### And finally, a few "pleases" from the committee:

1. Please stay for the entire week (if possible).
2. Please stay at the host hotel (Reservation link in the meet website above)
3. Please bring as many Packards as you can. Coordinate with club members for ferrying back from the area to bring multiple cars or call us for help.
4. Please attend as many events as you can.
5. If you haven't already volunteered, please send email or call Jeff Mihaly ([jeffmihaly@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffmihaly@yahoo.com) or 510-501-0415) to express your interest in helping.
6. If you have room in your car, please be open to taking passengers on the tours. It's a great way to make new Packard friends.
7. Please talk with your friends who are car enthusiasts of any make and encourage them to come to the meet.







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|----------------|--|
| January 8      | Board of Directors Meeting             |
| January 29     | San Rafael Car Museum Tour             |
| March          | Candy Store Social – tentative         |
| June 25-July 1 | PAC National Meet—SF Bay Area          |
| August 20      | Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance       |
| September 9    | Antique Autos in San Jose History Park |
| September 23   | Ironstone Concours d'Elegance          |

For a complete list of events, please visit our website at  
[www.norcalpackards.org/calendar.php](http://www.norcalpackards.org/calendar.php)

### **Corrections!**

**From the last issue, please accept your editor's apologies for the following errors:**

Page 10: First paragraph should read "Chris Bock never disappoints in fielding an impressive array of automobiles."

Page 12: Jeff Mihaly's car is a 1937 1507 Twelve, not a Super 8!

***Upcoming Event***  
**San Rafael Auto & Collectible Museum**  
**Sunday, January 29**



*Our host for the upcoming event Sheldon Donig poses with his Overland Speedster. (Photo: Marin Magazine)*

Eclectic collector Sheldon Donig is welcoming Nor Cal Packards to visit his museum in San Rafael on Sunday, January 29. Having only recently reopened since the pandemic, we will be among the first groups to enjoy Sheldon's hospitality since early 2020!

**MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED INSIDE THE MUSEUM** regardless of vaccination status. Please be respectful of Sheldon's desire to keep himself and anyone who visits his facility healthy.

We will plan for a lunch gathering at a local restaurant afterward.

**When:** Sunday, January 29, 11:00am

**Where:** 739 A Street at the corner of 1st St., San Rafael

**Parking:** Meters are free on Sundays, also you can park in the Safeway lot off of 1st St. between A and B Sts.

**Cost:** Museum is free, lunch on your own.

**RSVP:** Please call or email Clint Moore to let him know you will be attending. [batbuick@yahoo.com](mailto:batbuick@yahoo.com) or 408-426-0741

## ***Where We've Been*** **Yountville Veterans Facility Visit**

Text & Photos by Clint Moore

A break in the rain allowed Nor Cal Packards to spend a lazy autumn day visiting with our nation's heroes on Sunday, November 13 for our trip to the Veterans Home of California at Yountville. Our visit has become an annual event for the home, and they look forward to having us back each year.

Five Packards made the drive, and the residents at the facility really enjoyed talking to us about our hobby and sharing stories of Packards they once owned or knew of.

After hanging out at the home, we made our way into Napa where our miniature parade caught the attention of many people packed onto the busy downtown streets. One young person even asked if Helen Twelvecylinders was an electric vehicle because the engine was so quiet. We all had a good laugh about that! Rod Dahlgren ultimately led us to Big D's Burgers where we enjoyed a delicious lunch. Rod then invited us back to see his shop and collection, which was not far away. What a treat!

*Continued on page 6*



*Rod Dahlgren shared this stunning 1929 640 Touring at the Veterans Home.*



Many thanks to Sabrina Raudales at the Veterans Home for her assistance in coordinating the visit, and to Rod Dahlgren for his hospitality. Next year, we plan to invite other clubs to join us as we have done in the past so that our display can be bigger than ever!

Members who brought Packards:

Rod & Cindy Dahlgren	1929 640 Custom 8 Touring
Tom & Leslie Beidleman	1934 1101 Eight 2-4 Coupe
Clint Moore	1937 1508 Twelve Sedan
Steve Weir and Tony Butay	1940 120 Sedan
Gerry Wuichet	1950 Super Eight Deluxe Sedan



*Left: (l to r) Gerry Wuichet, Tom Beidleman and Rod Dahlgren discussing what's under the hood of Tom's 1934 1101 Eight Coupe.*

*Below: Two of the five Packards displayed at the Veterans Home. Gerry Wuichet's 1950 Super Eight Deluxe Sedan and Rod Dahlgren's 1929 640 Custom 8 Touring.*



## ***Where We've Been*** **Annual Holiday Luncheon**

Text by Clint Moore



*Bill Young's 1954 Clipper Deluxe is back on the road and was bedecked for the season at our holiday luncheon. (Photo by Clint Moore)*

Through deluges of rain and pummeling hail, five Packards and nearly eighty of our members braved the elements for the second holiday luncheon of 2022. Having had our "make-up" holiday lunch back in April to bring us up to date from the two years that were missed due to the pandemic, Nor Cal Packards returned to our regular schedule with an afternoon of food, camaraderie and laughs on December 4 to celebrate our first successful year of tours since 2019. Zio Fraedo's in Vallejo prepared a saucy and sumptuous meal for everyone to enjoy while catching up with friends.

The silent auction was another big hit! There was concern having just done one a short time ago that people may not have many items to contribute. It turns out these fears were unfounded as four long tables were filled with car parts, ephemera and holiday treats. There were so many items that event organizer Janet Wooldridge nearly ran out of auction forms! At the end of the day, more than \$900 was raised for the club's coffers.

The afternoon program started with introductions around the room, including new members Ron & Sarah Simon and Bill Schoemann. This was followed by reports from Membership Director Bill Young

*Continued on page 10*





*Above: Tom Beidleman's 1934 1101 Eight Coupe basks in the fall colors at the Veterans Home.*

*Facing Page: Wet Packards at the Holiday Luncheon! (top to bottom) Steve Weir's 1940 120 Sedan, Jerome Solberg's 1953 Cavalier Sedan and Mary Carpenter's 1949 Eight Club Sedan. (All photos by Clint Moore)*







*(l to r) Maggi & Ladd Stephenson, Rhonda & Bruce Cumming and Tim & Kathie Toland enjoying the holiday banquet.. (Photo: Janet Wooldridge)*

and Treasurer Ladd Stephenson. The program concluded with a lengthy update on the national meet, which is just 6 months away! Details were revealed about the updated event itinerary, registration fees and hotel reservations. The main push is for volunteers! Without the help of many members, the event will be difficult to pull off. Please contact Jeff Mihaly (510-501-0415) to find out how you can be of assistance. And concluding the day after secret ballots were tabulated, the Event of the Year trophy was awarded to Ron Carpenter for organizing the annual Swap Meet in September. Congratulations, Ron!

As the day wrapped up and the rain returned, people packed their cars with their new auction treasures and to-go containers, and headed off home to enjoy the rest of the holidays. Many thanks to main organizers Janet and Dave Wooldridge for taking the lead on this smooth running event. Thanks also to George Beck for creating the place cards and Packard chocolate bars for the tables, even though he couldn't stay for the event. We are looking forward to a busy 2023!

**Members who brought Packards:**

Steve Weir & John Hemm	1940 120 Sedan
Ron & Mary Carpenter	1949 Eight Club Sedan
Bill Schoemann	1953 Clipper Deluxe
Jerome & Hitomi Solberg	1953 Cavalier Sedan
Bill Young & Kirby Wiley	1954 Clipper Deluxe Sedan



## ***Out and About*** **Gatsby Summer Afternoon**

Photos by Jeff Mihaly

Several of our members attended the Art Deco Society's annual Gatsby Summer Afternoon at Dunsmuir House in Oakland on September 11.



*Above: Mark and Kay Barchas brought their 1940 1804 160 Touring Sedan.*

*Below: Jeff Mihaly's award winning 1937 1507 Twelve Coupe.*



## **Remembering David Pava**

Text & Photos by Lynn Kissel



*David smiles next to his 1936 1400 Eight Touring Sedan*

David, our good friend and past Director of Nor Cal Packards, succumbed to cancer on July 7, 2022. He remained active to the last moment, until the toll from a longer illness progressed to the point that he no longer had the physical strength to move forward.

He is survived by wife Pat, brothers Jonathan, Daniel and Alex, children Aaron, Adam and Michelle, and nine grandchildren. If you do an online search for his obituary, you will likely find the wonderful and heartfelt words of the family appearing in the *Sacramento Bee*. Here are some things we remember about David that complement those memories from the family.

He was energetic! David accomplished a lot of different things during his life and he approached each new adventure with strength and passion. Still more remarkable was his drive to succeed at these many endeavors. His friends have noted that he didn't just **do** a lot of things; he followed through and **accomplished** a lot of things. His lifetime of accomplishments sets an example for us all.

Did anyone mention old cars? At his passing he owned three wonderfully restored and tour ready vehicles, a **1936 Packard Series 1400 Sedan**, a **1929 Ford Model A Roadster Pickup**, and a **1910 Ford Model T Touring**. Driving these fine vehicles was his first pas-



sion, exhibiting and sharing them with others was a second calling.

In April, just three months ago, David and wife Pat drove their 1936 Packard over 300 miles from their estate in Shingle Springs to Mountain View and back. On their overnight outing they participated in multiple Packard events in the San Francisco Bay Area. David was extremely pleased with that trip, having recently heavily invested in the mechanicals of the Packard. With some pride, he reported that the car performed flawlessly.

Still, David did not like to sit idle. Within recent months he acquired a **1927 Ford Model TT Truck** project that he was actively restoring at his passing. The remarkable progress that he was making on the restoration came to a sudden halt in May as the burden of his illness became too great even for David's boundless energy.

His passion for old vehicles was life-long. David has owned an old car since the time he was allowed to drive them on public roads. His passion for old vehicles extended beyond automobiles to include a keen interest in steam trains and sailing vessels. His framed certification as a steam locomotive engineer was proudly displayed in his den.

Another major thread that runs through David's life was a passion for flying. Earlier he made a living as a flight instructor and used private aviation in his business activities. In recent years, he had renewed his private pilot license and flew leased aircraft for his personal enjoyment.

Being David's friend made one a better person. David's interest and high expectations helped animate others to action. We will all miss David's driving energy, encouraging presence and friendship. May he



*David, his wife Pat and their beloved Bogey pose in front of Lynn Kissel's Pierce Arrow.*

## ***Remembering Jack Holmes***

Information submitted by Deanna and Merna Holmes

We are sad to report the passing of long time, active member Jack Holmes. He is survived by his loving wife Merna, daughter Deanna and her family. Jack and Merna joined the Packard club more than 50 years ago and were heavily involved nearly from the start, including Jack's service as the Director of Projects for more than twenty years.

Jack and Merna attended their first national meet in 1982 in Detroit, towing their 1955 Clipper to the event. Over the years, they traveled to at least 24 more meets, often bringing their daughter Deanna and her family along. Two special highlights included their trip to the international meet in Australia and to the Packard Centennial in Warren, OH.

Locally, Jack and his family attended most Western Regions Tours and local events. Being his active and energetic self, when they joined the tour to Bishop and Manzanar in 2013, Jack tagged along with a small group who made the harrowing drive to the Bristlecone Pine Forrest at a dizzying 11,000+ feet elevation. On the trails while everyone else huffed and puffed in the thin air, Jack plowed right ahead not wanting to miss a thing—and he was in his 80s!

Jack especially enjoyed spending time with the many friends he made around the nation through the Packard Club. He visited as many private car collections as he possibly could. A special treat was riding in Bud Juneau's Helen Twelvecylinders and getting to spend time with his good friend.

Jack and Merna are best known for Merna's original condition Amethyst & Carnation 1954 Packard Pacific, affectionately known as "The Grape," which was donated several years ago to the Packard Proving Grounds.

Jack helped open the Fremont General Motors plant (now Tesla) in 1963 and worked there until he retired. Jack was a veteran of the Korean War, and just this year was able to participate in an Honor Flight to Washington, DC, where he met with other veterans.

Jack's smile, charisma and kindness will be greatly missed.



*Jack and Merna's (well, Merna's) 1954 "Grape" at the Packard Proving Grounds.*

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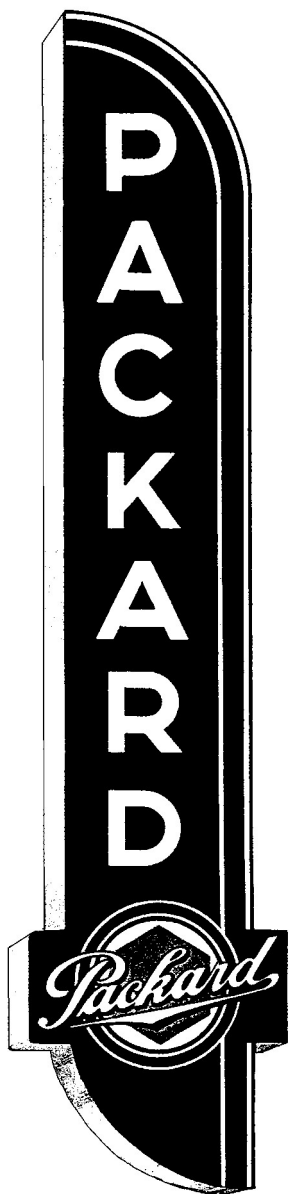
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