

The
Pious
Pelican

March—April
2023



Northern California Packards

PAC's First Region
www.NorCalPackards.org



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

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Pious Pelican

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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.

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March—April, 2023

Volume 62, No. 2

Director's Report

My apologies for the brevity of this edition of *The Pious Pelican*, but there is little on which to report besides our ramp-up to the national meet. It is my duty to publish our newsletter every other month, but I also have many responsibilities for the meet keeping me otherwise occupied. (Plus, I also have to make a living!)

Speaking of the national meet, I can't tell you how excited I am to see how many members of our Packard family have answered the call of California! My fellow chairmen and I are now meeting weekly as we make final decisions and wrap up loose ends. As you'll read in the meet update, our attendance has ballooned, and our Friday car show/judging day will likely surpass our goal of 100 cars on the show field! We are expecting Packards of all eras and models from 1902 to 1956. That's right: 1902!! And this leads me to my next point...

While you are preparing and packing for the meet, you should also make sure your Packard is equally ready for the week. Here's a quick list of things to check at the very minimum:

- Make sure your parking brake works and carry a wheel chock.
- Check the battery.
- Change or check all your fluids.
- Check your fan belt, distributor cap, rotor and spark plugs (and carry spares!).
- Carry a membership card for your preferred roadside assistance service.
- If you plan to drive the car on the tours, take it on a couple of healthy test runs *before* you depart for Rohnert Park.
- Check your fire extinguisher to make sure it hasn't expired.

On a different note, I'm extremely happy to report that the Cadillac-LaSalle Club was finally able to secure Cupertino's Portal Park to restart my favorite annual picnic. Since the pandemic, the organizers have encountered hurdle after hurdle trying to get the permits through the city, and they finally prevailed! The event will be held on its traditional last Sunday in July, and they promise the return of trophies for all class winners. I can't wait to see everyone there!

Happy Motoring!





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|----------------|--|
| May 13 | Nat'l Meet Tour Testing—Rohnert Park |
| May 21 | Friendship Day |
| June 25-July 1 | PAC National Meet—SF Bay Area |
| July 30 | Portal Park Picnic—Cupertino |
| August 20 | Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance |
| September 9 | Antique Autos in San Jose History Park |
| September 23 | Ironstone Concours d'Elegance |
| November 11 | Veterans Day Visit—Yountville |
| December 10 | Holiday Party—Mountain View |

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

2023 Packard National Meet Update

Countdown to the national meet: less than 2 months!!

If you haven't yet done so, it's time to send in your registration!

You may have missed the deadline for the early bird discount, but most events still have space, and there are still a few rooms with our group rate at the hotel. Visit <https://bit.ly/2023PACKARDMEET> for the latest information and to fill out the online registration or download the paper registration form. The link to reserve your hotel room is also on that site. *Note: Despite what the website may say, there is no daily parking charge!* Remember, your master registration covers the administrative costs of the event as well as one 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.

The meet book is one of the most important items in the registration packet for all participants because it not only includes maps and directions for the drive tours, but it also details valuable information about the calendar and surrounding area. In order to produce a high quality publication, we are hoping to offset the cost with advertising. If you know of a business that may be interested in purchasing ad space, please direct them to Christopher Slater (408-599-9103 or gladstone.cottage@gmail.com) We also invite you to purchase a quarter page ad for \$50 in which you can include a personal greeting to welcome our friends from across the country.

Your planning committee has the following updates:

- As of the writing of this publication, the numbers are:
 - * 130 Master Registrations (245 total attendees!!)



*Silver Circle Member Greg Titus' 1940
120 Coupe parked at our host hotel.
(Photo: Craig Handley)*

Continued on page 4

- * 120 70th Anniversary Dinner attendees
 - * 193 Awards Banquet attendees
 - * 87 Packards (35 to be judged)
 - * 11 Vintage Fashion participants
 - * 14 Vendors for the swap meet
- All of the driving tours have been finalized and associated reservations have been made. We are planning to have a drive tour testing day on May 13. This can be done either in your Packard or a modern car. Watch your email for details or contact Clint Moore (408-426-0741).
 - We have hired security to monitor the parking lot every night, so you can feel safe about your car.
 - We are in final negotiations with the city of Healdsburg to reserve about 40 parking spaces around the town square for our Wednesday evening excursion there, creating an additional opportunity to show off your Packard!
 - British Motors of San Francisco (originally the Earle C. Anthony Packard dealership) on Van Ness has agreed to clear their cars out and allow us to park Packards in the grand showroom the day of our bus tour to the Academy of Art collection. Contact Clint Moore (408-426-0741 or batbuick@yahoo.com) if you would like to be part of this display. It would be especially interesting to feature cars that were purchased new at that location! To participate, you must be willing to drive or trailer your car into the city during rush hour for a 9am arrival, and you will not be able to ride the bus to lunch at Fisherman's Wharf.
 - We have secured a few notable raffle prizes for the final banquet, including a Packard neon sign and a custom Packard quilt made by Mary Carpenter!
 - Bob Reed and Michael Solomon have graciously offered to drive the "trouble truck" on our tours. They will have basic tools and fluids as needed to try to get people back on the road, but they will not be able to perform major repairs or tow people back to the hotel. Always carry a membership card for your preferred roadside assistance/towing service!
 - We have volunteers signed up to help in nearly every capacity, but that doesn't mean we can't use more. Please call or email Jeff Mihaly (510-501-0415 or jeffmihaly@yahoo.com) to offer assistance. And at the meet, just ask one of the chairmen how you can lend a hand!

See you in Rohnert Park!!!

Upcoming Event **Friendship Day** **Sunday, May 21**



A photo from Friendship Day 2022 showing the variety of cars in attendance.
(photo: mpotac.com/gallery)

Join your friends from Nor Cal Packards as we participate in the 60th annual Friendship Day organized by the Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto Club on Sunday May, 21. Arrive as early as 8am and stay through lunch! If turn out is anything like other similar events this year, it should be packed! This is a casual event for all Bay Area clubs, and there is sure to be a wide variety of cars.

Zane Buck will be getting there early to try to secure some spaces together for our group, so please RSVP to give him an idea of how many people to expect.

Event Details:

What: Friendship Day

When: Sunday, May 21. Gates open at 8am

How Much: \$25/car

Where: 459 Seaport Court, Redwood City

(take the Seaport Blvd exit from 101, proceed east for 1 mile)

RSVP to Zane Buck xanoozs136@comcast.net or 415-215-8590



*Outside the building that houses the Bertolotti Collection
and Clint Moore's 1932 903 Eight Deluxe C*



*Members showing off their non-Packard loves at the Bertolotti Collection: Zane Buck's
Hudson Hornet and Warren Martin's Kaiser Manhattan. (Photo: Clint Moore)*



*Collection: Rick Fontaine's 1933 1001 Eight 2-4 Coupe
Vintage Convertible Sedan (Photo: Clint Moore)*



*A sneak peek inside Ralph Geissler's Rohnert Park Packard Museum that will
have its grand opening during the national meet! (Photo: Clint Moore)*

Where We've Been **Berolotti Collection**

Text by Clint Moore



Nor Cal Packards Regional Director Clint Moore (left) talks up the national meet we will be hosting in June to anyone who will listen! (Photo: Ed Holloway)

A much-needed break in the rain gave us a chance to visit the amazing collection of John Bertolotti. Organized by Ed Holloway and our friends in the Classic Car Club of America, it was a friendly gathering of all local “big iron” clubs, including Antique Auto Club of America, Horseless Carriage Club, Cadillac-LaSalle Club and Pierce-Arrow Society. A few classic and vintage cars made the trek, including 2 Packards!

Once everyone was gathered inside, representatives from each club gave an update on local events, including Clint Moore who was armed with flyers for our national meet. Many people are excited to stop by our show in Rohnert Park on June 30!

Next, John Bertolotti took us on a tour of his amazing array of Brass Era cars. The warehouse is packed with makes like Thomas Flyer, Pierce-Arrow, Maxwell, Simplex, Locomobile and of course Packard. Of note were a 1902 Packard that will be at the national meet, and we are truly hoping we can convince Mr. Bertolotti to bring his 1907 Packard “Mother in Law” Roadster. Unfortunately, no photos were allowed inside the collection, so there are few images to share here.

After the tour, we headed off to lunch at Pedro's just a short drive away. Those who joined us enjoyed the Mexican fare of the establishment that has been a local favorite for decades.

Many thanks to Ed Holloway for organizing the day and to John Bertolotti for opening his warehouse to us! Bring that Packard to the national meet, John!

As always, we look forward to more joint events with other clubs later this year!

Members who brought Packards:

Clint Moore	1932 903 Eight Deluxe Convertible Sedan
Rick Fontaine	1933 1001 Eight 2-4 Coupe

Members who came Packard-less:

Zane Buck & Miriam Katz	1953 Hudson Hornet Sedan
Warren Martin	Kaiser Manhattan

Markus Woehler & Kristi Ward	Ralph Geissler & his niece Cathy
Bill Price	Tom & Jo Ann Martindale
Gary Humecke	John Ulrich & Blanche
Kelly Monaghan	Korfmacher



Enjoying chips & salsa at Pedro's: (l to r) Bob Jacobson, Clint Moore, Bill Price and Gary Humecke (Photo: Ed Holloway)

Remembering Dan Shanahan

Submitted by Sam Cohen

Packard Club member Dan Shanahan passed away on September 2, 2022 from pancreatic cancer. He was 78 years old. Dan was born on April 22, 1944 in Rochester, Minnesota. He moved at age 5 to Modesto in California's Central Valley, which was home for 50 years before moving to Sonoma County. Dan was always a car guy. At age 11, an elderly lady in Modesto said he could have the car sitting in her garage if he could get it started. Dan promptly did and this was the first of hundreds of cars he would go on to own. Dan particularly loved Packards and V12 Ferraris. He had a shop and enjoyed figuring out old mechanical equipment. Dan especially loved to make stock looking cars really fast and scare unsuspecting passengers. I'll never forget asking Dan how the motor was in a 34 Packard Twelve, which led to a 90 mph nighttime test ride. I came back the next day for a much more sedate test drive and bought the car. Dan also loved to fly and kept his Cessna 185 and hangar immaculate. Of course, he hot rodded his plane too and was able to fly up to 23,000 feet. Dan flew up to the Yukon and all over the U.S. to events. He is survived by his sister, Sherry Shanahan. Donations in Dan's memory can be made to the Sutter Santa Rosa Regional Hospital, Office of Philanthropy/Attn: Lisa Amador at 30 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. List cancer care donation in the check memo.



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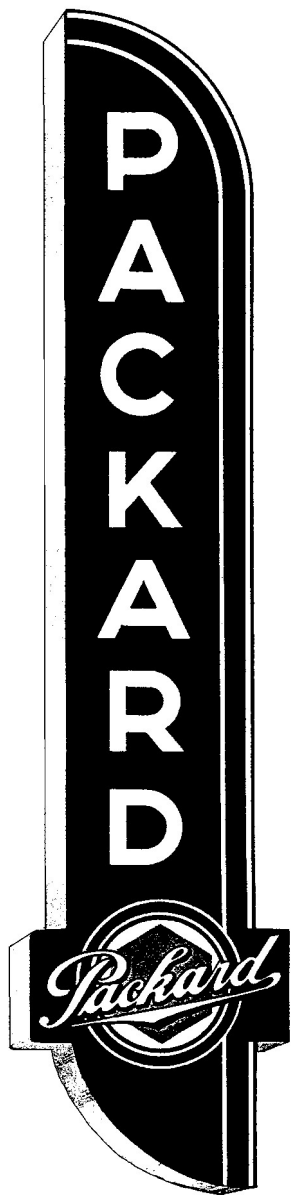
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Business-card type ads (one-eighth page) are at the rate of \$10 per issue or \$50 per year for six issues.

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