

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

**June**  
**2025**



**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***

**June 2025**

**Volume 64, No. 3**

## **Director's Report**

I am back on schedule filling almost this entire issue with a recap of the national meet in Kansas City. What a fun time! And for those who have never attended one, I highly encourage making the trek. There is absolutely no pressure to take a Packard. As a matter of fact, it gives you the opportunity to experience riding along in someone else's! Next year it will be held in Rhode Island on July 12-17, 2026, and there are already plans to visit the Audrain Auto Museum and the Gilded Age "cottages" in Newport.

Coming up, you won't want to miss our local events like the annual picnic in Portal Park on July 27, and the swap meet on September 7. See info in these pages!

On a sad note, I'm sorry to announce the passing of longtime member Jim Bulls. A lifelong lover of all things Packard, his wife told us he took his "last ride" to the cemetery in the 1940 coupe they used to own, which has now been restored and turned into a hotrod.

And on a happier note, newer members Tommy & Victoria Suehiro of Hercules won an award for their 1936 120B Convertible Sedan at the Pinole Car Show. Congratulations!

Happy Motoring!

*Clint*



*Left: The Suehiro's award-winning 1938 120B Convertible Sedan at the Pinole Car Show.*

*Below: The 1940 hotrod that once belonged to Jim Bulls.*





July 13	Board meeting—Blackhawk
July 27	Portal Park Picnic—Cupertino
August 17	Pebble Beach Concours
August TBD	Post-Pebble Beach Day—Blackhawk
September 7	Annual Swap Meet—Vallejo
September 13	Cars in the Park – San Jose
September 27	Ironstone Concours—Murphys
October TBD	Garage & Shop Tour—San Jose
October 12	Board Meeting—Blackhawk
November 9	Rosie the Riveter Tour—Richmond
December 7	Annual Holiday Party—Mountain View

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



## ***Upcoming Event*** **Portal Park Picnic** **Sunday, July 27**



*Bill Young's 1954 Clipper Super and John & Judi Higgins' 1940 110 Sedan head our display of 9 Packards at the 2024 Portal Park Picnic. (Photo: Clint Moore)*

Our friends from the local Cadillac & LaSalle Club region invite us to join them for the annual Don Frolich Memorial National Meet on July 27 in Cupertino's Portal Park. Winchester BBQ will be supplying the lunch, and it should be a great time. As usual, our other sister clubs such as CCCA, Pierce-Arrow and the Freewheelers will be on display as well.

Bring chairs and an umbrella or tent since shade is at a premium. A cooler of drinks is always a good idea as well!

Registration is required by July 24 to show a car and get lunch, however the event is open to the public, so invite your friends to stop by!

### **Event Details:**

**What:** Portal Park Picnic

**When:** Sunday, July 27. Gates open at 9am

**How Much:** \$15/car + optional BBQ (\$17/kid or \$32.00/adult)

**Where:** 10225 N Portal Ave, Cupertino

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY JULY 24!** If you didn't receive the registration form in your email, contact Clint Moore 408-426-0741

## ***Upcoming Event*** **Annual Swap Meet** **Sunday, September 7**



### **A 30 year Tradition - The Annual Packard Swap Meet**

Announcing the Annual Packard Parts Swap Meet, hosted by Nor Cal Packards. For one day only the large paved parking lot of the USA World Classics Event Center in Vallejo is filled with vendors selling everything your Packard needs. NOS parts, tune-up and maintenance items, memorabilia, and life-times of Packard knowledge is yours for the asking (and the right price).

Bring your Packard to the swap meet - we have spaces reserved to show or sell your classic. As is our tradition, the Packard Swap Meet welcomes our fellow Classic Car collectors with room for all makes of CCCA Classic Cars.

Whether you want to show your Packard, buy a Packard, Packard parts, or setup a table and sell your Packard parts, there is room for you. Plus, coffee and donuts will be served!

When: Sunday, Sept. 7th, 8am to 1pm (vendor setup 7am)

Where: USA World Classics Event Center parking lot

1525 Sonoma Boulevard

Vallejo, CA 94590

Cost; Free to all attendees

Swap meet spaces (10'x20') are \$25.00

For Sale cars \$10.00 per car

Want more details? Contact Christopher Slater  
408-599-9103 or [gladstone.cottage@gmail.com](mailto:gladstone.cottage@gmail.com)

## ***Where We've Been*** **Kansas City National Meet** Text & Photos by Clint Moore



*Nor Cal Members who attended the national meet: (l to r) Christopher Slater, Doug Moore, Clint Moore, and Chikako and Patrick McNamara*

Almost everything was up-to-date in Kansas City for this year's national meet, which happened June 1-6 at the Courtyard Marriott in Shawnee, KS. The last time the meet was held in the area was 1990, and those of us who attended back then were surprised at all the changes and modernization that's happened over the last 35 years. Packard enthusiasts from all over the country attended, and owners as young as 17 proudly brought cars for all to enjoy. It's heartening for those of us who have been club members for so long to see new blood in the club in their teens and 20s!

Sunday morning had us boarding buses to visit the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, which has been recently renovated. Fascinating displays helped us recapture what it was like for Truman to be plucked out of relative obscurity to become the Vice-Presidential nominee. Then, mere weeks into his term and at the height of World War II, he became president





*Clint Moore poses with our former leader in front of the Truman Presidential Library.*

and learned of the Manhattan Project, about which he had been kept completely in the dark! We also saw a couple of his vehicles (not Packards!) and were able to visit the gravesites of both him and Bess. Sunday evening was our first taste of Kansas City BBQ when we met for the welcome banquet at the Tomahawk Hill Golf Course. Club President Craig Handley took a few minutes to express how pleased he was to see everyone – espe-

cially the large number of people attending a national meet for the first time – while we enjoyed pulled pork, turkey and all the trimmings!

Monday took us on our first trip into downtown to see the Steamboat Arabia, which was a paddlewheel ship that sank in 1856 and was entombed in the mud of the Missouri River so quickly that nearly all of the cargo was protected and preserved for more than 100 years. When the ship was unearthed beneath a cornfield (the river had shifted), a time capsule of clothing, boots, building materials, china, and even canned goods and champagne were extracted, all originally destined for stores supplying wagon trains heading West. That evening was our first adventure in the Packards to enjoy the Trustee Appreciation Din-



*Packard Club members relax in front of the restored paddlewheel of the Steamship Arabia.*



*Above: Getting a luxurious ride to the Trustee Appreciation Dinner in Larry & Shirley Snuttjer's 1934 1100 Sedan from South Dakota.*

*Below: 19-year-old new PAC member Grant Flaisher from Michigan was all smiles when he got to drive Spencer Barrowes' 1954 convertible from Colorado.*







### *What a week in*

*Clockwise from top left: The  
Show Postwar winning 1951  
owned by John and Jeanne  
(photo: John Maxson) The  
Show Prewar winning 1935  
owned by Paul and Jan G.  
amazing Cycle-Car showea  
ard's Torsion Level suspen  
day. Some of the Packard  
the host hotel. Packards  
square at Shawnee 1929. .  
reflected in the window of  
in Shawnee*





## ***ack in Kansas City!***

*Left: The James Nance Best in Show 1948 Custom 8 Victoria Anne Bowron of Minnesota. The Alvan Macauley Best in Show 1932 902 Coupe Roadster in Grant of Wisconsin. The award went off the origins of Packard's suspension system on judging grounds that arrived early at the grounds lining the quaint town of Grant. A 1953 Cavalier Sedan was awarded a vintage grocery store award in 1929.*







*Left: The beautifully restored Union Station.*

*Below: Patrick and Chikako McNamara chat with PAC President Craig Handley at a section of the amazing model train layout at Union Station.*



*Bottom: Vintage Fashion show participants pose for a group shot after the competition.*





*(Continued from page 6)*

ner in the quaint historic town square of Shawnee 1929. The cars looked great parked in front of the vintage businesses and gas station while we dined on tri tip and chicken.

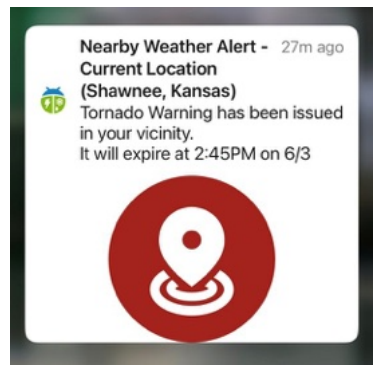
Tuesday was truly a day of adventure when we got the full Kansas experience! First the buses took us to Union Station, an incredible train depot that has been completely restored since we last visited. Now a museum, gathering place and mall, it even features a massive model train layout, which attracted many of our group. Next we were bussed up the hill to the internationally renowned World War I Museum, which made an interesting juxtaposition to what we had learned about WWII at the Truman Library just two days prior. The real excitement came when many of us received notifications on our phones of a



*Mark Allison smiles for the camera after his Cycle-Car demonstration while Jay Hubbard and George Holinga inspect the wood model.*

tifications on our phones of a

tornado warning! Some people even heard the outdoor sirens, and shortly thereafter museum staff ushered us down into the tornado shelter areas while we waited for the storm to pass. Once we were allowed back upstairs, we continued our tour only to be sent back downstairs just 20 minutes later. Fortunately, there were no injuries or damage to cars, and kudos to the museum staff for their practiced and calm coordination of the evacuations. Tuesday evening Mark Allison gave a fascinating talk about the storied Cycle-Car his father invented and li-



*Top: Uh-oh!*

*Above: PAC's Tom Brace stands among friends in the tornado shelter while we wait for the "all clear."*



*A fascinating early Philco radio in a 1933 coupe roadster at judging day.*

censed to Packard as the basis for the Torsion Level suspension implemented on the 1955-56 cars.

Wednesday was "Meeting Day" when the business of the club is conducted, but the evening brought us the vintage fashion show and competition. Host Rob Signom III announced the contestants

as the men and women paraded their stunning outfits. Many thanks to Jan Grant for organizing the display!

Much handwringing over the weather prediction for judging day had been for naught as Thursday morning brought sun with a light breeze to the shores of Quivira Lake, where nearly 50 Packards were displayed. This also gave us a chance to inspect the Allison Cycle-Car up close. With no body, all of the suspension elements are exposed and easily seen, making for a fascinating treat! Back at the hotel in the evening, a program was put on by the Packard Proving Grounds, America's Packard Museum (Dayton, OH) and the National Packard Museum (Warren, OH) to highlight how the Packard name is being preserved for future generations.

Friday took us on our final bus tour, this time to two car collections. First stop was the Kansas City Automobile Museum, which featured cars of all varieties, including Packard, and highlighted the history of the automobile



*Some Packard paraphernalia on display at the Kansas City Auto Museum*

in the area. While it is in a somewhat small facility, they've raised nearly all the money needed to build a world-class facility in downtown that we hope to visit the next time the national meet is held nearby. Next we visited the Armacost Museum. Started by the local Studebaker dealer, the collection includes a huge variety of Studebakers as well as other vehicles, bicycles and toys. No photos were allowed inside, however you can see much of it if you look online.



*Doug Moore contemplates how to get into the 1957 Messerschmidt at the Kansas City Automobile Museum.*

The awards banquet brought us back to the Quivira Lake Country Club for a wonderful buffet dinner and traditional awards presentation. Congratulations to all the winners, including the Alvan Macauley Best in Show Prewar car, a 1932 902 Eight Roadster owned by Paul and Jan Grant, and the James Nance Best in Show Postwar car, a 1948 Custom 8 Victoria owned by John and Jeanne Bowron.

Many thanks for meet organizers Craig Handley, Steve Christy and everyone else that made for a wonderful week of sight-seeing and visiting with our Packard friends old and new!

Now we look forward to 2026 in Rhode Island!



*17-year-old PAC member Luke Fields of Missouri driving his 1955 Patrician after judging day.*

## **Local Events**

### **Cars & Coffee Schedule**

Compiled by Clint Moore & JJ Morrissey



*Clint Moore's 1932 903 Convertible Sedan between a Porsche 911 and a Mercury Comet at a recent Cars & Coffee in Menlo Park.*

Since the end of the pandemic, local “cars & coffee” events are popping up all over the Bay Area. Typically starting around 7am and completely done by 10am, it's a great way to get your Packard out without completely disrupting other weekend plans. It's also a fantastic way to keep the Packard name alive and promote our storied brand to young people and potential new members. Here's a list of monthly events in the South Bay and on the Peninsula. If you know of some in the North and East Bays, please share the info with me, and I will publish a more comprehensive list in the coming months!

#### **First Sunday:**

Willow Glen Bank of America, 1245 Lincoln Ave, San Jose  
Menlo Park Coffeebar, 1149 Chestnut St at Oak Grove Ave

#### **Second Saturday:**

San Jose “Ronnie's Get Together,” Lowes 5550 Cottle Rd

#### **Second Sunday:**

Redwood City Lucky Supermarket, 270 Woodside Rd

#### **Third Sunday:**

Morgan Hill Hobby Lobby, 990 Cochrane Rd  
San Carlos Auto Vino, 380 Industrial Rd

#### **Fourth Sunday:**

Milpitas “Exotic Cars Only,” 760 E. Tasman



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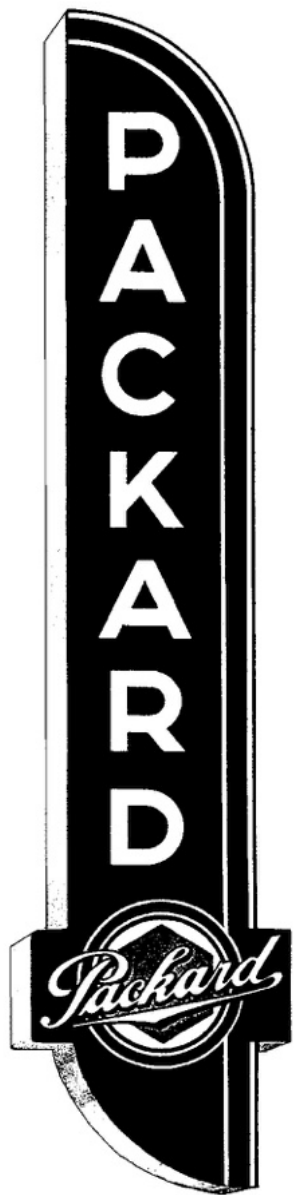
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