

**The**

# **Pious Pelican**

**November—December  
2025**



**Northern California Packards**

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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.

***The Pious Pelican***  
**November—December 2025**  
**Volume 64, No. 6**  
**Director's Report**

As 2025 draws to a close, I celebrate the success of another wonderful year of tours and events with our club. We enjoyed annual gatherings like the Portal Park Picnic and explored new destinations on the Western Regions Tour to Oregon.

In November we were able to step into the past aboard the SS Red Oak Victory, thanks to Bill Young's efforts in making the event possible, and this month we had another great turnout for our annual holiday party, which wouldn't have been possible without the coordination of Mark & Kay Barchas.

As most of us know, tragedy struck on the way home from the holiday party as Jeff Mihaly's 1937 1506 Twelve Sedan was rear-ended at great speed by some people racing through traffic on the Dumbarton Bridge. While Jeff and Lucas are ok, the car was consumed by fire despite the best efforts of Jeff and the fire department. We are deeply saddened by the loss of this vehicle which had been part of our Nor Cal Packards family for more than 50 years.

2026 is shaping up to be a great year of tours and events! We still don't know the details or destination of the Western Regions Tour, but be sure to attend the movie day in Niles on January 18 and the tour of Al Engel's crazy collection on March 14! Plus we hope to finally visit the museum at Travis Airforce Base in April after our outing was canceled in October due to the government shutdown. Stay tuned for more details sent via email and in future issues of *The Pious Pelican*!

Happy New Year and Happy Motoring!

*Clint*





January 11	Quarterly Board Meeting—Blackhawk
January 18	Annual Movie Day—Niles
March 14	Al Engel's Collection—Richmond
April 12	Quarterly Board Meeting —Blackhawk
April TBD	Travis AFB Museum
May TBD	Western Regions Tour
July 12-16	PAC National Meet—Rhode Island
July 26	Portal Park Picnic—Cupertino
August 2	Quarterly Board Meeting—Blackhawk
September 26	Ironstone Concours—Murphys
October TBD	Quarterly Board Meeting—Blackhawk
October TBD	South Bay Driving Tour w/ CCCA

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



***Upcoming Event***  
**Movie Day at Niles**  
**Sunday, January 18**



Join us as we return to the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum with our friends from the Horseless Carriage Club on January 18. We will enjoy coffee and donuts with some tire kicking to start the day, then lunch will be served before we watch Bette Davis terrorize San Francisco in a 1932 Light Eight Roadster in *Fog Over Frisco!* After the movie, dessert and camaraderie will continue at the old fire-house with HCA member Gary Mills.

A registration form was sent by email. **Please return it by January 11!** Call Mike Solomon with questions 916-365-1887.

When:           **Sunday**, January 18  
                    10am—Parking & Donuts begin  
                    11:30am—Lunch is served  
                    12 noon—Movie starts

Where:          Essanay Silent Movie Museum  
                    37417 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Cost:            \$20/person, includes lunch.

RSVP:          **Send registration form by January 11** or call Mike  
                    Solomon 916-365-1887

## ***Upcoming Event*** **Al Engel's Collection** **Saturday, March 14**



*Just one corner of Al Engel's "garage." Note the 1948 Packard Station Sedan rear quarter at the far left! [photo: Alfa Romeo Association website]*

For decades, Al Engel has been amassing an unbelievable collection of everything transportation-related, and on Saturday March 14, Nor Cal Packards will have the special opportunity to visit Al's garage and museum. Come see rare vintage cars, hot rods, motorcycles, large-scale model airplanes, engines and motors of all types, neon signs, clocks, gas pumps and more! And there's at least one Packard in there: a 1948 Station Sedan.

Al has been interviewed by many collector publications, and his collection has been featured on the Petersen Automotive Museum's YouTube channel. This is an event you won't want to miss!

Thanks in advance to Ron Simon for arranging our visit, and stay tuned for details.

# ***Where We've Been*** **SS Red Oak Victory** Text & Photos by Clint Moore



*Mike & Kimmie Leahy's 1936 1405 Super Eight Dietrich Convertible Sedan stands proud in front of the SS Red Oak Victory.*

The government shut down may have prevented us from visiting Travis Air Force Base in October, but fortunately the SS Red Oak Victory and its restoration is privately funded, so we were able to honor our nations heroes the weekend before Veterans Day with an outing to this venerable World War II ship.

Eighteen of our members and their guests arrived in six Packards (and a Thunderbird) for a guided tour of the last remaining ship of the 747 vessels built at the Kaiser Shipyard in Richmond. Commissioned in 1944, she served as an ammunition supply ship during WWII. After the war, the Red Oak Victory continued in service with a Merchant Marine crew through 1968, including supply runs during both the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

*(Continued on page 10)*



# ***Where We've Been*** **Annual Holiday Party** Text & Photos by Clint Moore



*Kelly Monaghan's 1937 Super Eight Victoria, George Newhall's 1938  
1604 Super 8 Club Sedan and Jeff Mihaly's 1506 Twelve Sedan in  
front of Michael's at Shoreline*

Early morning fog cleared to crisp sunny skies for the eleven Packards that brightened the curb in front of Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View for our annual holiday luncheon. More than 60 people arrived anticipating an afternoon of food, camaraderie and laughs on December 7 to commemorate an amazing year of tours and celebrations. The storied eatery provided a welcoming atmosphere where a saucy and sumptuous meal was prepared for everyone to enjoy.

The silent auction was another big hit making more than \$500 for the club! Long, linen covered tables were filled with car parts, ephemera and holiday treats. There were several notable items, but one in particular was a lighted shadow box with a Packard Automobile Classics bumper badge and Goddess of Speed hood ornament created by club member and artist Bill Rogstad.

The afternoon program started with introductions, including new member Fred Johansen, and opening remarks by Regional Direc-

*(Continued on page 12)*



*Above: Packards as far as the eye can see in front of the restaurant at the holiday party. Leslie Owen & Tom Beidleman's 1934 1100 8 Sedan leads the row followed by Ladd & Maggie Stephenson's 1937 115C Business Coupe and Doug Moore's 1950 Super 8 Deluxe Victoria.*

*Below: Don & Glenda Sears stunned the crowd with their 1941 180 Darrin Convertible..*







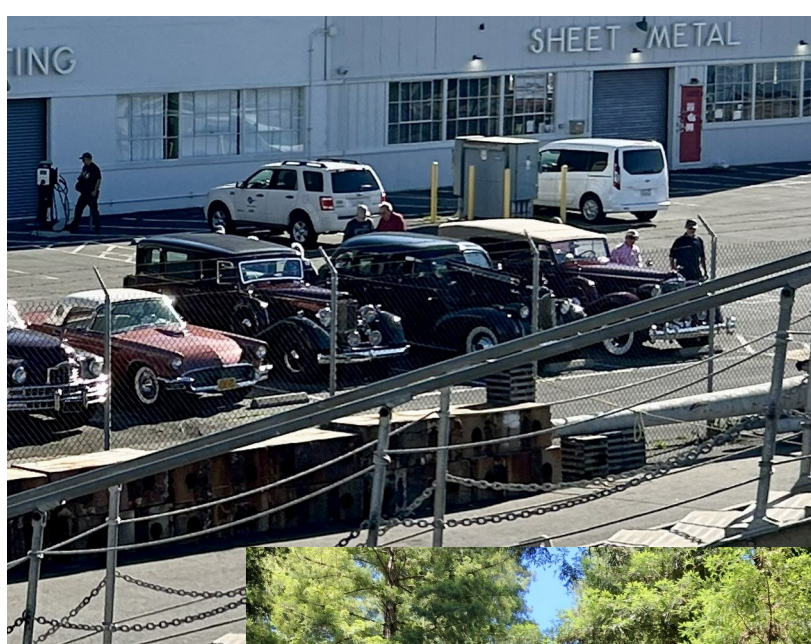
Above: Members dock at the SS Red to r) Ladd Stephen Hotrod, Fred Hill Hundred, Warren Custom 8 Sedan, Toland's Thunder Beidelman's 1934 Steve Weir & John 120 Sedan, Mike Leahy's 1936 1400 trich Convertil

Left: The vintage-l box created by club artist Bill Rogstad the silent auction party

Right: Jeff Mihal Twelve Sedan picture redwood trees on the coast during our al meet. The car v consumed by fire s dent on the Dumba the way home from party. Fortunately his son Lucas esca minor inju







bers' cars on the  
Red Oak Victory (l  
'ephenson's 1937  
'Hill's 1955 Four  
'ren Martin's 1948  
lan, Tim & Kathie  
underbird, Tom  
934 1100 8 Sedan,  
John Hemm's 1940  
Mike & Kimmie  
1405 Super 8 Die-  
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ately both Jeff and  
escaped with only  
r injuries.







Once decommissioned, she sat in the “Moth Ball Fleet” for nearly 30 years before being saved from the scrapper. Our tour guide gave very detailed descriptions of the ship, her equipment, and the restoration process as we explored from bow to stern.

The guide was so detailed, we had to cut the tour a little short to make our lunch reservation!

Back in our cars, we made the quick trip to Lara’s Fine Dining, where the helpful hostess awaited our arrival with a large table in a private room. The diverse menu provided myriad choices to please everyone, and the eager waitstaff efficiently brought fresh baked bread for us to snack on while we waited for our



*Top: Doug Moore and Mike & Kimmie Leahy listen to our docent give details about the ship’s galley.  
Above: Warren Martin and Steve Wier look under the hood of Steve’s 1940 120 Sedan.*



meals. The highlight of the experience was a visit to the table by Lara herself, who entertained and delighted us with her beautiful singing voice. What a treat!

As we departed the restaurant to head home, we promised we would come back the next time we had an event in the area. It's too bad there was no banquet room for a large event, like the holiday party!

Many thanks to Bill Young for the idea and making the arrangements. It's too bad he wasn't able to attend and enjoy the fruits of his labor!

Members who brought Packards:

Tom Beidleman	1934 1100 Eight Sedan
Mike & Kimmie Leahy	1936 1405 Super 8 Dietrich Convertible Sedan
Ladd & Maggi Stephenson	1937 Hotrod
Steve Weir & John Hemm	1940 120 Sedan
Warren Martin	1948 Custom 8 Sedan
Fred Hill	1955 Four Hundred Coupe



*Enjoying some conversation after lunch: (l to r) Christopher Slater, Doug Moore, Kimmie Leahy, Bill Price, Warren Martin, Tom Beidleman and Mike Leahy.*



*Fred Hill, Lynn Butterworth and Clint Moore were in the holiday spirit!*

tor Clint Moore. A moment of silence was observed to honor the members we had lost this year, including George Beck, Mike Hayward and Rick Fontaine, whose wife generously had people make donations in his memory to our club. This was followed by reports from Membership Director Bill Young and Assistant Treasurer Kelly Monaghan, who reported that the club is on solid financial footing after the annual dues increase. The program continued with a recap of the events of the year while ballots were distributed for people to vote for their favorite.

Next Clint Moore donned Steve Wier's old "CAR-nac the Magnificent" turban to lead the party in a game where the audience was asked trivia questions about movies with Packards in them. Christopher Slater delivered bags of candy to each person who was able to come up with the correct answer, and only one question stumped the room.

The program wrapped up with a preview of the events in the works for 2026 (can you believe it: 2026???), including a return visit to Niles for our January Movie day and a trip to Al Engel's eclectic collection of cars and more in the East Bay. And concluding the day after the secret ballots were tabulated, the Event of the Year trophy was awarded to Christopher Slater for organizing September's swap meet. Congratulations, Chrstopher!

As the day wrapped up, people packed their cars with their



*George Newhall, Don Sears and Kelly Monaghan "kicking tires" in the parking lot.*

new auction treasures and to-go containers, and headed off home to enjoy the rest of the holidays. Many thanks to organizers Mark and Kay Barchas for taking the lead on this smooth running event. Thanks also to Christopher Slater for the candy prize bags. We are looking forward to a busy 2026!



### Members who brought Packards:

Leslie Owen	1934 1100 8 Sedan
& Tom Beidleman	
Mark & Kay Barchas	1936 120 Convertible Coupe
Jeff and Lucas Mihaly	1937 1506 Twelve Sedan
Kelly & Marilyn Monaghan	1937 1501 Super 8 Victoria
Ladd & Maggi Stephenson	1937 115C Business Coupe
George & Julie Newhall	1938 1604 Super 8 Club Sedan
The Moore Family	1950 Super 8 Deluxe Victoria
Tim & Kathie Toland	1940 120 Convertible
John & Judi Higgins	1940 120 Sedan
Don & Glenda Sears	1941 180 Darrin Convertible
The Wheeler Family	1941 110 2-Door Sedan



*Top right: Ron Carpenter and John Ulrich inspect the silent auction.  
Above: Our private banquet room was packed with more than 60 attendees!*



## ***Out & About***

Photos submitted by members who have been “out & about!”



*Above: At the CCCA Annual Meeting, Kelly Monaghan and Tom Beidleman admire Christopher Slater's latest acquisition, a 1932 Light Eight Coupe Roadster.*

*Below: Last driven in 2019, Clint Moore's very dirty 1948 Deluxe 8 Sedan was pushed out of the garage to begin its journey to a rebuilt engine.*



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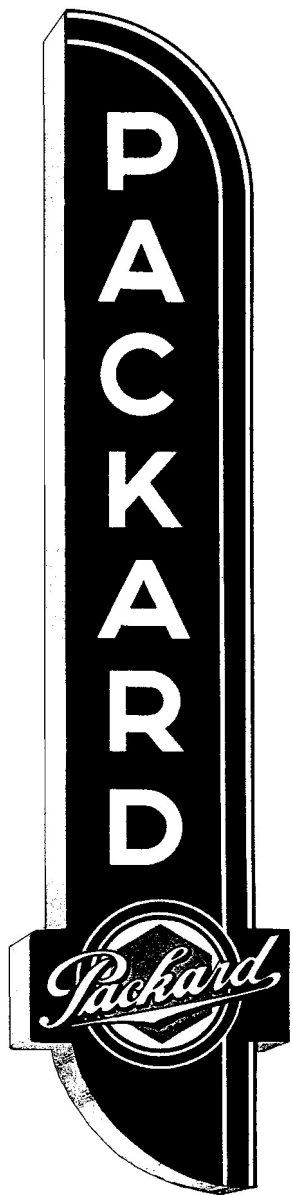
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