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**Pious  
Pelican**

**2014**



**Northern California Packards**

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### **2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Director, Jeff Mihaly	510-501-0415	jeffmihaly@yahoo.com
Assistant Director, Steve Weir	925-671-2080	steveweir@astound.net
Treasurer, Mark Barchas	650-941-1120	barchas@sbcglobal.net
Secretary, Milt Wheeler	408-370-6777	mecawheeler@sbcglobal.net
Membership, Bill Young	510-223-4303	wjyo@comcast.net
Health & Welfare, Irena D'Amato	415-826-7776	aanthonydamato@aol.com
Projects, Phil Sherman	925-418-4706	packard56@msn.com
Technical Lead, Bob Mc Coy	925-518-5909	bobmccoy3@gmail.com
Tour Director, Joe Munsch	831 234 0802	<a href="mailto:jmunsch@slvsoft.com">jmunsch@slvsoft.com</a>
Website, George Beck	925-827-1255	beck1584@astound.net
Historian, Fred Hill	925-939-4455	echohillpackards@comcast.net

### ***PIOUS PELICAN***

Editor, Bud Juneau	925-634-3730	cbjphoto@dslextreme.com
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***The Pious Pelican***  
**September - October 2014**  
**Volume 53, No. 5**  
**Director's Report**

As the year winds down and the holidays approach, I'm struck by the remarkable fact that the Nor-Cal Packard club is growing and expanding. I was recently discussing this intriguing fact with fellow board member George Beck and we were trying to figure out the reasons why it is so. While some clubs have shrinking rosters, Bill Young (our membership director) is looking to add more pages to ours. Reasons may include that our marque has a certain mystique around it which draws people in. After all, Packard is a well-respected car. It may also be that people of varying means can get a Packard; indeed, there is a Packard for almost every budget. And lastly, we discussed that our club makes a real effort to have interesting and adventurous activities about once each month. Whatever the case, we are so pleased to have seen so many of our club members participate this year in at least one outing. We would sure encourage those who didn't make it out this year to join us soon!

Our Holiday Luncheon is coming so please get your reservations to Mark and Kay Barchas asap. If you haven't been to a Holiday Luncheon, I assure you that it's anything but stuffy or dull. It's a great opportunity to celebrate our club and the cars while receiving a Christmas present from the club in the form of a \$5 discount off the price of the lunch. So, instead of \$40, members pay \$35. We hope you will all join us at Michaels on Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>. If the weather cooperates, please bring your Packard for a group photo and group parking.

All I want for Christmas is . . . The nagging issue of storage for our cars has been on my mind lately. One of the rules of car collecting is that you always have one more car than you have space for and such is true for many of us. Does anyone have any answers for this problem that plagues many collectors? Is there any reasonably-priced, safe collector car storage out there? What a great Christmas present that would be!

On behalf of the Packard Board, Happy Holidays.

Jeff Mihaly

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### **Technical Advisors**

We thank the fellow club members listed below who have offered to try to help solve problems encountered by others when working on their Packards. If you can help with a certain area of expertise, please let Chairman, Bob McCoy know, so he can add your name to the list. Although they will do their best to help, neither the club nor the advisor can accept responsibility for or guarantee the accuracy of suggestions.

**Chairman:** Bob McCoy, 925-518-5909, email: r-mccoy@sbcglobal.net

**'32-'39 Senior:** John Kilkenny, 408-779-6777, email: jkilkenny@juno.com

**'38-'50 Junior:** Ron Carpenter, 925-933-1486, email: RCarp1940@aol.com

**'55-'56 V-8:** Fred Hill, 925-934-3471, email: echohillpackards@comcast.net



### 2014 EVENTS

Dec 14, 2014 - Annual Holiday Luncheon, Mountain View

### 2015 EVENTS

Jan 11, 2015 A Day at the Movies - Blackhawk Museum

Jan 25, 2015 Board Meeting-Blackhawk Automotive Museum

Feb 7, 2015 Santa Cruz/South County/Salinas Tour

Mar 22, 2015 Napa /Yountville Veterans' Hospital/Mercedes Benz Collection

Apr 19, 2015 Board Meeting - Auto Vino

Apr 25, 2015 Livermore Duarte Garage/Restoration Shop Tour

May 15-17, 2015 Western Regions Tour

Jun, 2015 (tba) John Muir House-Martinez

Jul 8, 2015 Lincoln Highway tour arrives at Blackhawk

Jul 12-18, 2015 2015 Packard Club National Meet - Redding, PA

Jul 12, 2015 Annual Picnic, Portal Park, Cupertino

Jul 26, 2015 Board Meeting-Blackhawk Automotive Museum

Sep 6, 2015 Packard and Classic Car Swap Meet - Vallejo

Oct 17-18, 2015 Mt. Lassen Overnighter

Dec 6, 2015 Annual Holiday Luncheon - Zio Fraedo's in Vallejo

**Where We've Been**  
**Carolands Chateau**

August 6 & September 10, 2014

Text by Bud Juneau

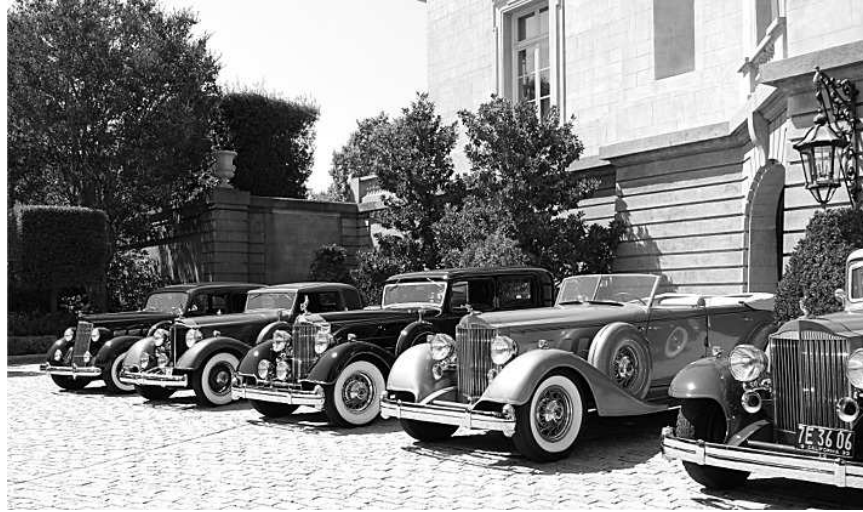
Photos by Bud Juneau & Kathie Toland



*The west façade with one of the small tour groups.*

The Carolands tours set up by Lorraine and John Kilkenny were outstanding and enjoyed by two groups in an effort to allow more Nor-Cal members to attend. The Carolands Mansion (Chateau) itself is a magnificent Beau-Arts creation that is now owned by the Carolands Foundation and used for local and charity events. Threatened with demolition several times, its history dates back to the 1890s when Harriett Pullman, daughter of George Pullman who made a fortune with his Pullman Palace cars on the railroads, married Francis Carolan of San Francisco and moved west with him. She had been actively planning to create a house and garden that would excite "the wonder and admiration of America" and reflect her refined and cultivated

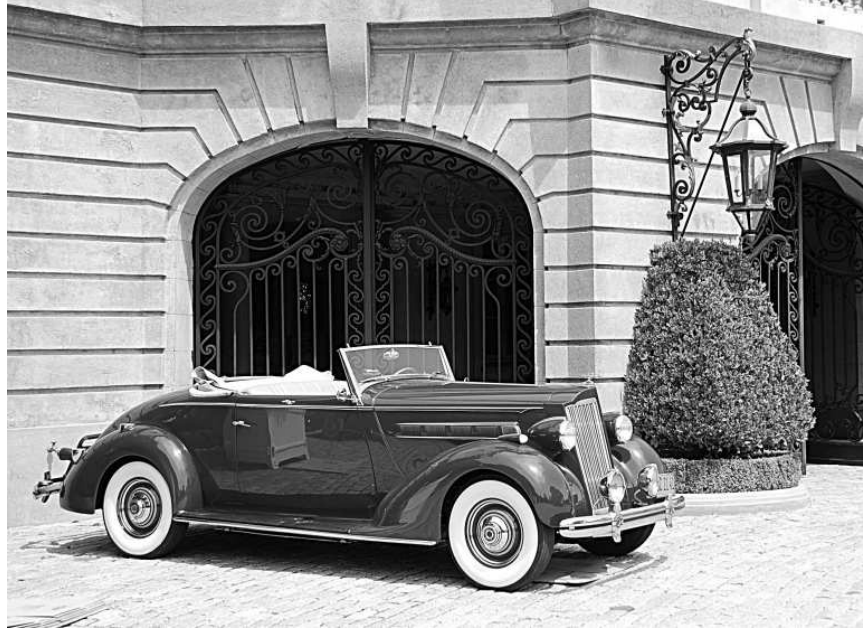
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*Henretty: '36 120, Wheeler: '34 Super 8, Nelson: '34 Twelve  
Kilkenny: '34 Twelve, & Monaghan: '33 Twelve*



*Tom & Jo Ann Martindale's '30 740.*



*The Barchas' '36 120 by the Porte-cochere exit.*

*(Continued from page 6)*

interests. The result was an authentic Beaux-Arts architecture masterpiece, inspired by the court architecture of Louis XIV. The 550-acre property was situated at the highest local geographical point in Hillsborough in order to command the best views of the Bay and surrounding hills.

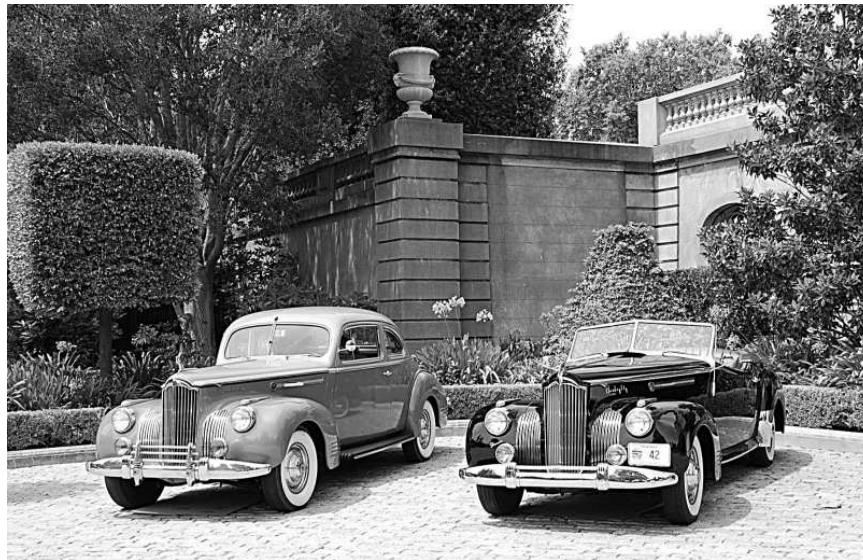
The Chateau exterior was inspired by the 17th century designs of Francois Mansart. The project was executed by famous San Francisco architect Willis Polk, following plans commissioned by Mrs. Carolan from the Parisian architect Ernest Sanson, who was at the time one of the foremost designers of prestigious private homes in France and perhaps the world. The gardens were designed by the leading French landscape architect Achille Duchene. He was inspired by the great 17<sup>th</sup>-century works

*(Continued on page 10)*





*Bill Young's '54 Clipper DeLuxe.*



*The Gapoffs' '41 club coupe and the Sears' '41 Darrin.*

*(Continued from page 8)*

of Andre Le Notre, whose most famous creation was at the Palace of Versailles.

Soon after the land was secured in 1912, Duchene arrived in San Francisco and laid out the grand gardens. Only a portion of the elaborate landscape plans were completed. Late in 1913, Sanson was given the commission to plan the chateau. One aspect of the project was to incorporate into his design the three exquisite period rooms that Harriett had purchased in Paris. In 1914, the grading began on the great terraces planned by Duchene. Willis Polk designed an unusual reinforced concrete superstructure with walls using brick infill, and exterior walls of concrete, sanded and scored to resemble natural limestone. In mid-1916 the elaborate interior elements were arriving on the site. The plans, as completed, include 9 bedrooms and baths for the owners and guests; each bedroom has an antechamber to guarantee quiet and privacy. The service accommodations are equally elaborate; these include a remarkable kitchen with walls and a ceiling made of white milk glass, a servants' elevator

*(Continued on page 11)*



*Our tourmasters' '34 Dietrich convertible sedan.*



*Fred & Pam Hill's '55 400.*

*(Continued from page 10)*

serving all floors, and a grand butler's pantry with a mezzanine level and walls of Delftware tile. In all, there are 98 rooms. Harriett and Francis Carolan moved in with their staff in the autumn of 1916.

In 1918, the Carolans closed the Chateau; Harriett moved to New York City and Frank remained in California. After Frank's death in 1923, Harriett married Colonel Arthur Schermerhorn in 1925. Although the new couple occupied Carolands on occasion, it would remain only sporadically inhabited until 1928 when Harriett removed her original furnishings and put the property up for sale.

In 1945, Harriett sold the home and surrounding 550 acres for development. In 1950, Countess Lillian Dandini, a San Francisco heiress, purchased Carolands Chateau and the last 5.8 acres around it, and saved it from demolition by promoters more interested in developing the land than in its historic architecture and significance. The 23 years she lived in the chateau were a period of entertaining and holding charity

*(Continued on page 13)*



*Both tours enjoyed a sit-down lunch in the Carolands formal dining room.*

*(Attendees Continued from page 11)*

benefits -- and she frequently invited the French community to the Chateau. When the Countess died in 1973, she willed the Chateau and its remaining 5.83 acres to the town of Hillsborough to be used as a French and Italian musical, artistic and literary center. Unfortunately, Hillsborough was not in a position to fund the use of the Chateau, and it was fenced off and abandoned for many years.

When the building suffered superficial damage in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, demolition was again considered. A 1991 Hillsborough Designer Showhouse revived local interest in the house and had thousands of visitors. Among the visitors were Dr. Ann Johnson and her renowned decorator, Mario Buatta who would later handle the challenge of restoration for her.

In 1998, after years of neglect, the Chateau and its remaining land were purchased by Charles and Ann Johnson. Dr. Johnson undertook extensive renovations to the building and meticulous restoration work to bring it back to the state originally intended by its architects. The Johnsons, like the Countess, enjoyed living in

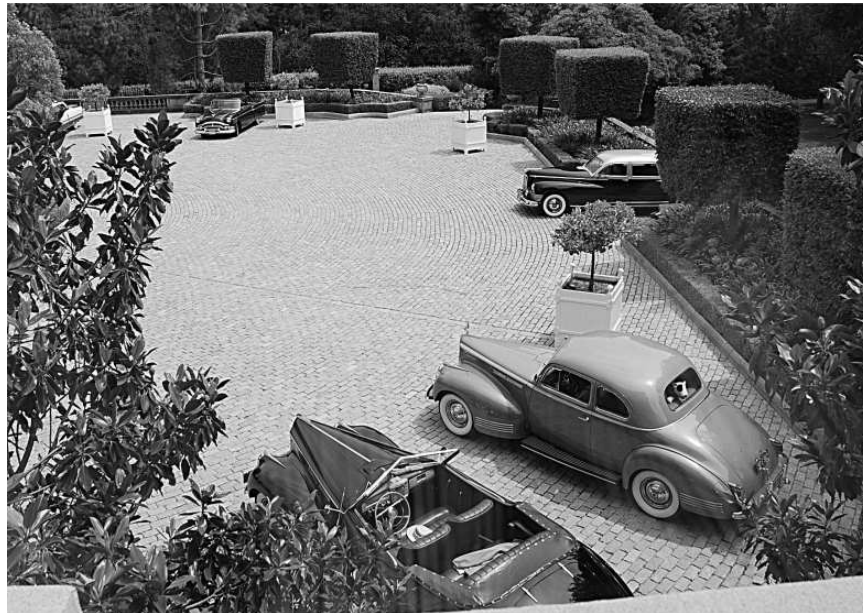
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*The Moores' '46 Custom limousine.*



*The Tolands' '40 convertible and  
Rod Derbyshire's '40 club coupe.*



*The view of the courtyard from the library.*

*(Continued from page 13)*

the home and often shared it for charity fundraisers and other worthy causes. The Johnsons created the Carolands Foundation and donated the Chateau to it in 2012.

### **CAROLANDS ATTENDEES**

#### **AUGUST 6**

Matt Kilkenny  
John and Lorraine Kilkenny  
Joe Munsch  
Tom and Joanne Martindale  
Don and Glenda Sears  
Neil and Barbara Gapoff  
John and Lorraine Blackburn  
Mark and Kay Barchas  
William Young and Ellie Power  
Bud Juneau  
Doug, Julie, and Clint Moore  
Robert and Marian Smith  
Rick Fontaine  
Fred and Pam Hill

#### **SEPTEMBER 10**

Rodney Derbyshire and Mary Ann Carmack  
Wayne Parsons  
Lorraine Blackburn  
Kelly Monaghan and Marilyn Voelke  
Joe Munsch  
Allen Nelson  
Roy and Elaine Brett  
Milt and Carolee Wheeler  
John and Lorraine Kilkenny  
Tim and Kathie Toland  
Bill & Barbara Henretty

## Where We've Been

### Niello Concours

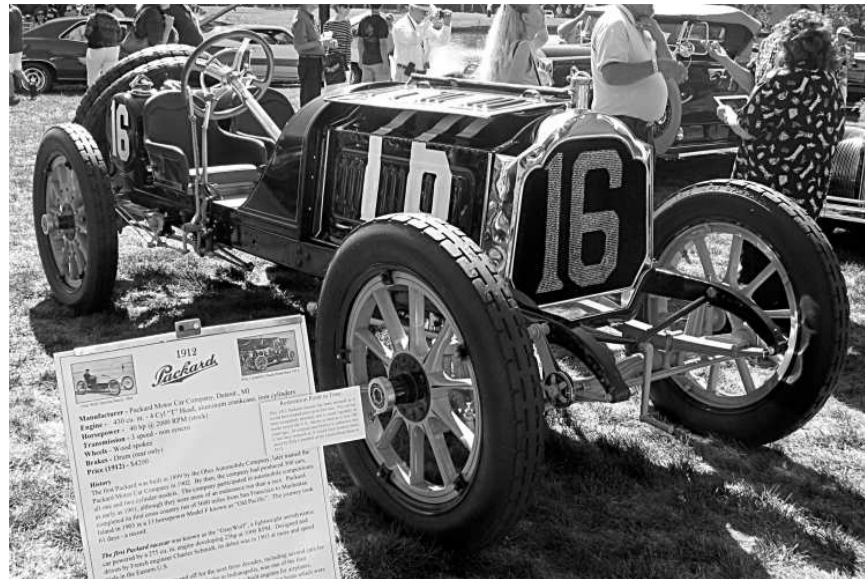
October 5, 2014

Text & Photos by George Beck

Packard was the featured marque at the Niello Concours, along with the celebration of 100 years of Maserati. The field included a strong representation from Nor-Cal Packards.

A very rare Packard, considered the oldest surviving racer in existence, was a 1912 Model 30 racecar owned by Brian Blain of Visalia, CA.

The "Most Outstanding Packard" award went to George Myers for his 1940 1801 1393 station wagon. First in Class winners included Larry and Susan Nannini's 1934 1104 dual cowl sport phaeton, Jon Fuiks 1948 Custom Eight convertible, and George and Eddie Beck's 1500 1003 Super Eight touring sedan. Others receiving awards included Fred and Pam Hill's 1928 526 309 convertible coupe, Ron and Mary Carpenter's 1941 1901 1493 station wagon, Bill Norton's 1949 2232 2379 victoria convertible and Don Sears' 1941 1906 1429 Darrin convertible.



*Brian Blain's '12 Model 30 racecar.*



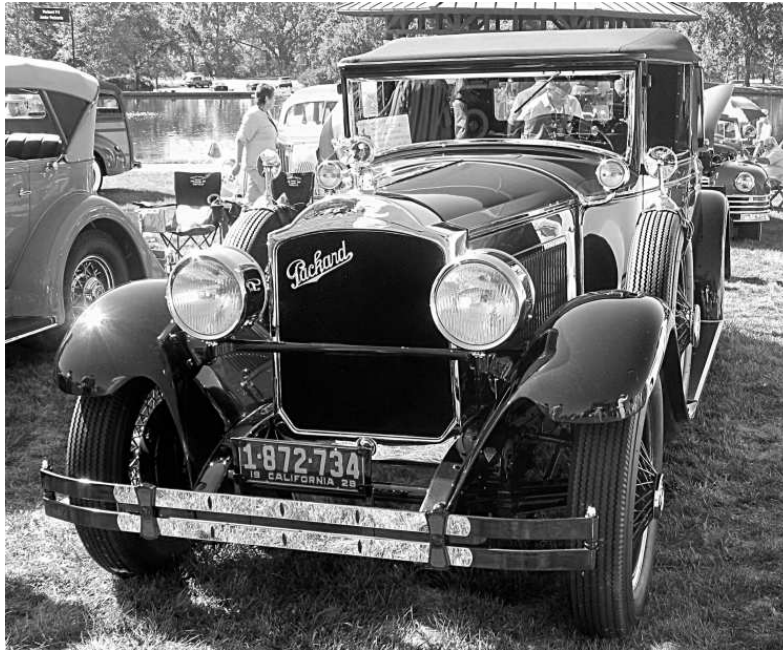
*Niello Concours continued*



*George & Eddie Beck's '37 Super Eight sedan.*



*George Myers' '40 120 and '39 120 station wagons.*



*Fred & Pam Hill's '28 526 convertible coupe.*



*Larry & Susan Nannini's '34 sport phaeton.*



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## Nor-Cal Packard Club Board Meeting

October 19, 2014 1:05 pm

**Members Present:** Mark Barchas, George Beck, Irina D'Amato, Fred Hill, Jeff Mihaly, Joe Munsch, Bill Young, Steve Weir and Milton Wheeler.

**Members Absent:** Phil Sherman and Bob McCoy.

**Voted** - To approve the July 14, 2014 Board minutes.

**Treasurers Report:** Mark Barchas said we had a good year with a positive balance for the year. **Voted** – To accept the Treasurers report.

**Membership:** Bill Young reported that we now have 151 members. Bill said he invites all new members to the next club event and the Board meeting. Bill also made a new membership renewal form that includes a liability release for activities of the Packard Club.

**Health and Welfare** – No Report - All members are requested to inform Irina D'Amato of any member who is sick or has passed away.

**Voted** – Steve Weir moved that the Nor-Cal Packard Club give \$50.00 to the Packard Proving Grounds in memory of the deceased. This program will be retroactive to January 1, 2014. Bill Young seconded the motion and it passed.

**Projects** – We were informed that Packard hats and Proving Ground hats have been purchased for the club inventory. Irina D'Amato volunteered to help sell our projects at our events.

**Tours** – Fred Hill gave a written report on all tours for the past five years. This includes where we went and who put on the tour. Joe Munsch reported on the tours in August and September including the Carolands tour and the Swap Meet. The Club will continue to subsidize the Holiday Luncheon by \$5.00. Joe Munsch proposed the following tours for 2015:

**January** – Day At the Movies at Blackhawk. **February** – Santa Cruz and South County Tour. **March** – Napa tour to the Mercedes 300 Collection and Yountville. **April** - Livermore Tour. **May** – Western Regions. **June** – John Muir House. **July** – Picnic. **August** – Open because of Pebble Beach week. **September** – Packard Swap Meet. **October** 17-18 – Overnight tour to Mt. Lassen. **November** – TBA. **December** – Annual Holiday Party.

**New** - Best Tour Trophy Award was redesigned by Fred Hill and approved by the Board.

**Web Site** – George Beck gave a report on our Web Site Activity for the past year. The report stated that we had 11,498 visits and 23,119 hits. This is fantastic for our Club. This information was received from Mark Wheeler, our Web Site host.

**Oversubscribed Events** – After much discussion about this subject, Irina D'Amato said she would have a proposal for the January Board meeting.

**Voted** – There was a motion to thank Lorraine Kilkenny for her work in putting on the Carolands Tours by giving her a plaque at the Holiday Party.

**Voted** - That the club will have a Packard event, for Packards, after the Lincoln Highway / Henry B. Joy Tour in July 2015. This event will be for Packards on the tour and Packards from all clubs on the west coast.

Adjourned - 4:03 pm

Respectfully submitted by Milton Wheeler - Secretary