The





# Northern California Packards

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

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#### *The Pious Pelican* July - August 2016 Volume 55, No. 4 **Director's Report**

Having just returned from the Ironstone Concours in Murphys, I can tell you that it was once again a great show. Put on by our own Nor-Cal Packards' Chris Bock, year after year it's a wonderful event where our Packards and many other cars make for a great weekend in Murphys. Congratulations to Larry and Susan Nannini who brought the 2014 Ironstone Best-of-Show Winner, their 1934 Packard Super 8 Dual-Cowl Phaeton, back to the field where it took a first-in-class. Many other members had their cars on display including Chris Bock, Bill Ramsden, Paul Williams, George Beck, Clint Moore, Robert Reed, and others. Best-of-Show for 2016 was a Duesenberg Model J.

The write-up of the show will appear in the next issue.

After having a busy year of events, Nor-Cal Packards is taking it more slowly for the last quarter of the year. The one official event planned is our Holiday Luncheon on Sunday December 11 in Mountain View. It is here where you can see old friends, make new friends, vote for the best tour/event of the year, and have a delicious lunch at Michael's restaurant. We would encourage you to bring your Packard to the luncheon where it can be enjoyed and admired.

During the course of the year, I've written to the Club about helping and being helped, without much response. So, I write now to make a renewed pitch to remind you that if you have a car which is stuck in the garage and you'd like to see it move again on its own power, let me know so I can put you in touch with some club members who may be able to assist you.

If you've never restored a car before, you should . . . at least once. Putting a car, which has been off the road for decades, back on the road is an experience that is both rewarding and exhilarating. I'm working on the restoration of a 37 Twelve coupe which I've written about in the past. It's moving along nicely and should really begin coming together in the next few months. I've been shipping parts (steering wheel, horn button, wiper motor, dash, etc.) to specialists all over the country and have had enjoyable conversations and experiences with them all.

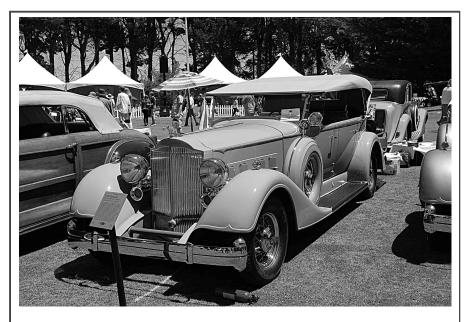
Thanks go to club members such as Don Sears and Robert Barton who have really helped me out. Speaking of Robert, we will soon be seeing his work of art completed. After over a decade of dedicated work, his 37 Twelve club sedan is on the road and looking beautiful. This restoration has been a real service to the Packard world—Robert took a car that was in very rough condition and has brought it to a state of beauty. Congratulations to him and to all who work to restore cars which remind us of the styling and craftsmanship of a bygone era.

Jeff Mihaly



*Above:* John Kilkenny's '34 Dietrich convertible sedan. *Below:* Jim Hussey's '37 Twelve coupe roadster.





Larry Nannini's '34 dual-cowl sport phaeton.



Don Sears' '33 Twelve coupe roadster.

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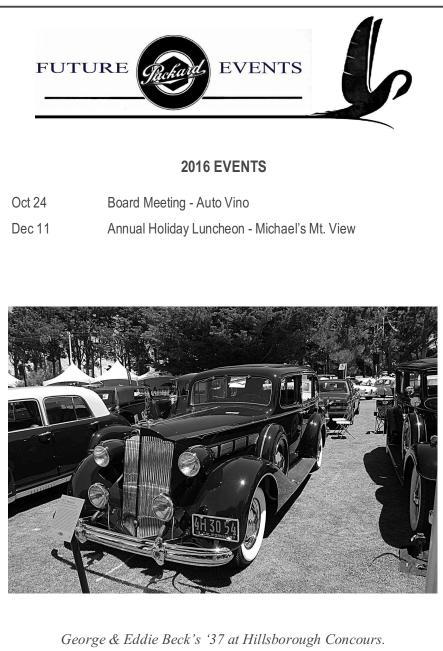
We thank the fellow club members listed below who have offered to try to help solve problems encountered by others when working on their Packards. If you can help with a certain area of expertise, please let Chairman, Bob McCoy know, so he can add your name to the list. Although they will do their best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

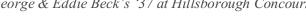
Chairman: Bob McCoy, 925-518-5909, email: r-mccoy@sbcglobal.net

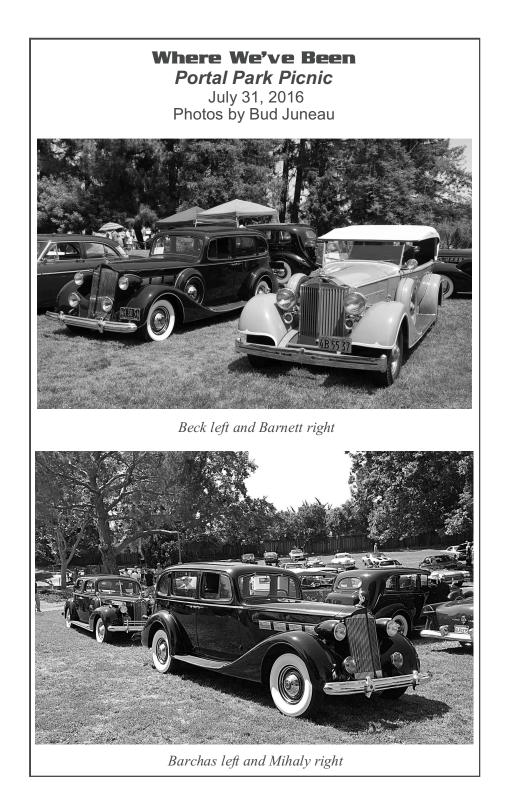
'32-'39 Senior: John Kilkenny, 408-779-6777, email: jkilkenny@juno.com

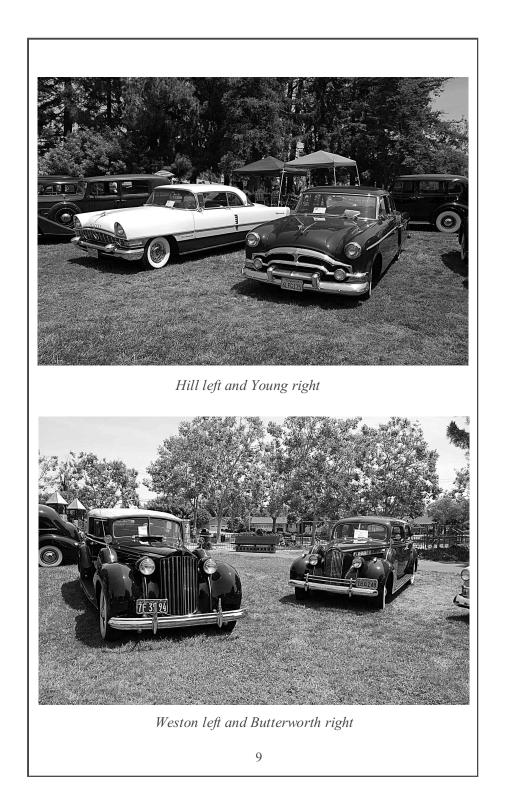
'38-'50 Junior: Ron Carpenter, 925-933-1486, email: RCarp1940@aol.com

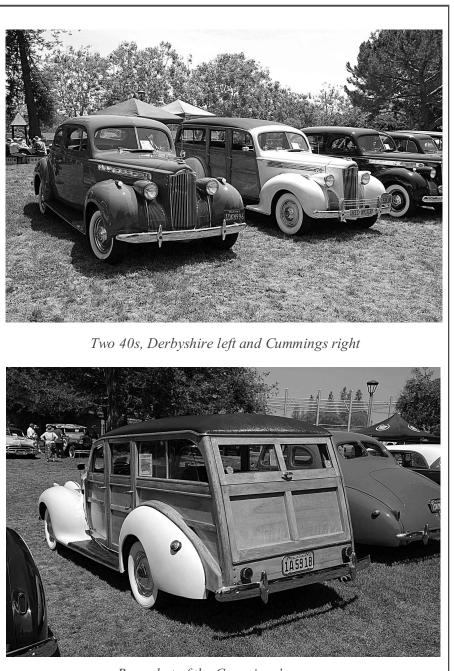
**'55-'56 V-8:** Fred Hill, 925-934-3471, email: echohillpackards@comcast.net











Rear shot of the Cummings' wagon





Barchas, Weston, and Barnett

Blake Weston's '39 Twelve



Weir, Parsons, and Moore.



There were more Packards at the picnic than any other make.

### Where We've Been

Trailers in the trees August 6, 2016 Tour Leader: Mark Barchas Write-Up: Kay Barchas Photos: Bill Young

On a foggy Saturday morning the Packards assembled in Los Gatos for a caravan down to Felton, in the redwoods. Seven Packards and two Brand X's set out from Starbuck's at 8:45 AM and were joined by two more Packards in Scott's Valley. Our route took us down Highway 17, which was fortunately totally open, and had us arriving at Smithwoods RV Park before 9:30. Smithwoods has been owned by the same family for 100 years! We were led through the redwoods to park on the road in the middle of the display of vintage campers. At least two other car clubs also had brought vintage cars, some as old as a 1906 Cadillac. The campers were adorable! Some of our members were pleasantly surprised to find them lovingly restored and displayed with vintage everything. One of our members said, "I have never seen so much chenille in all my life!" The bathrooms sometimes even had bathtubs; pink was popular. The campers ranged *(Continued on page 15)* 



Vintage trailers were pulled by vintage cars.



Mark & Kay Barchas' '36 120 with the Packard group.



Ron & Mary Carpenter's '41 wagon parked by one of the vintage camping setups.

### (Continued from page 13)

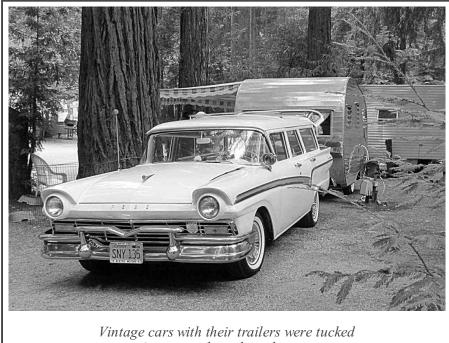
from pop-up tent types to fully furnished towable homes with ice boxes. Some of us purchased home made jams and crafts sold by the ladies with the vintage trailers. We enjoyed the coffee shop's donuts and muffins while anticipating lunch.

At 12:20 we headed off to lunch, just as the sun popped out of the fog and the day warmed up. Back we drove on Route 9 a few minutes through the darling town of Felton to lunch at Rocky's Cafe, in an old house that has been owned by three generations of the same family. They had tables ready for us on the porch and served our hungry crew brunch dishes from an extensive menu. Everyone ate well and set off for home having enjoyed the camaraderie, cars, and vintage trailers.

If Packard folks want to join us next year, mark your calendars, because we can assure you Mark and Kay will be returning to Felton the first Saturday in August to enjoy the vintage campers again.



*The tour began in Los Gatos, so this photo of Fred & Pam Hill's* '55 400 seems appropriate.



Vintage cars with their trailers were tucked in among the redwood trees.

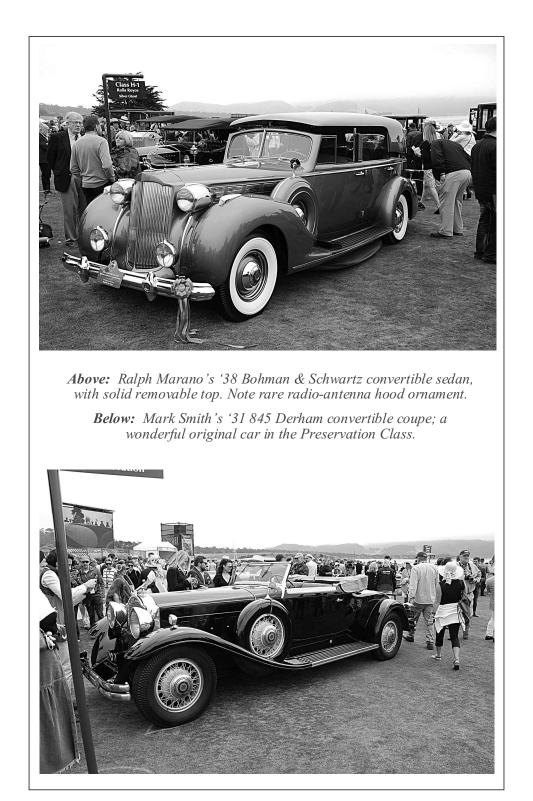


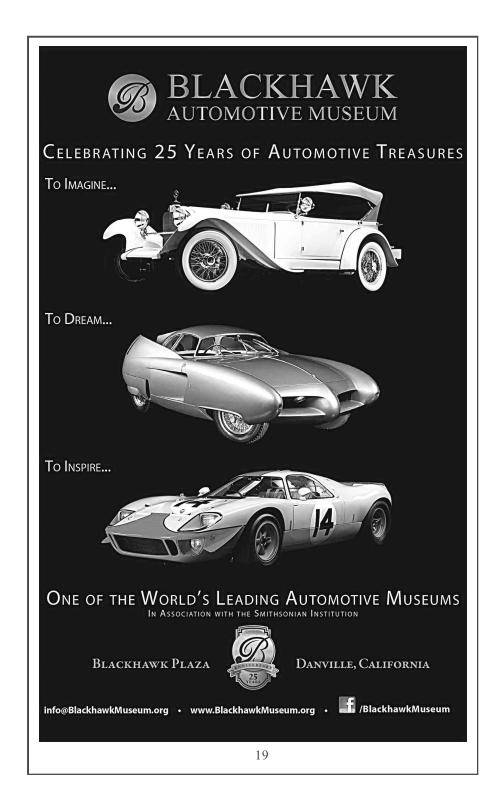
Jim Laughlin's '41 convertible coupe.



*Above:* Mark Smucker's '31 840 all-weather sport landaulet. *Below:* The Matthews family '12 Thirty brougham.







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