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**Pious**  
**Pelican**

**February 2020**



**Northern California Packards**

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

## 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Any changes, additions or corrections to the Pious Pelican should be directed to Clint Moore at batbuick@yahoo.com.

***The Pious Pelican***  
**January—February 2020**  
**Volume 59, No. 1**  
**Director's Report**

We're off to a fantastic new year. For starters, we had our traditional Day at the Movies which is reported on in this edition. George Beck "championed" this event for many years. Day at the Movies is designed to bring new club members to a social event to meet "seasoned" members. Christopher Slater took on the responsibility this year. He and his team did an outstanding job.

New members included the family of Orin Kerr who attended our Holiday Party and the Day at the Movies.

Your Board of Directors has been busy getting ready for the 2020 National Meet in Rohnert Park. Jeff Mihaly, who chairs this event, is busy planning what will be an epic Meet (see his report in this edition).

The Board has voted to "lend" \$10,000 to the 2020 Meet committee to meet expenses that are incurred before our revenues begin to flow. The Board also voted to have our own Hagerty insurance policy. We are required to have \$2,000,000 in coverage and the current insurance policy is for \$1,000,000. For \$382, we have a year's coverage at the \$2,000,000 level.

The Board also voted \$500 (a traditional amount) to the Packard Proving Grounds. The Board also voted to make Bud Juneau an Honorary Club Member recognizing his outstanding contributions to our local and national club.

Our Club remains dynamic and vital. According to Bill Young, we have 173 members representing 285 cars. And, we gain members throughout the year.

Orin Kerr was approached to see if he had interest in serving on our Board. He agreed and was unanimously voted in by the Board as a Member at Large. Orin attended Harvard, Stanford and Princeton, and now teaches at UC Berkeley School of Law (nice that he finally landed at a good school). He also has experience serving on the board of one of our sister PAC regions.

Make sure you reserve your 2020 Meet hotel room AND let's get those registration forms in so we can plan ahead!

Happy Motoring!

*Steve Weir*

*Ask the man who owns one!*

## 2020 Packard National Meet Update

Good news on all fronts regarding the National Meet! Our registration numbers and hotel reservation numbers are ahead of where we were at this time in 2003, the last time we hosted the meet. I get emails and calls almost daily from Packard Club members all over the country who are filling out their applications to come to Rohnert Park. Just yesterday, I spoke with a member in Arizona who is trailering his '34 1101 Standard Eight Club Sedan. You may have seen an ad in the latest *Cormorant News Bulletin* by a member in the Southwest who is trying to fill up a car hauler with 6 Packards from Arizona and New Mexico areas.

We are working on getting some early cars, that is, pre-1910. If we are successful, this will be a real attraction for our members! Our tours are set, our meals are set, lodging and parking are all set. What do we need? YOUR registration and YOUR Packards. Have you signed up yet? The registration is online at [packardclub.org](http://packardclub.org) or in *The Cormorant News Bulletin*. The hotel is 80% booked so if you want a room, please contact them soon.

We have three great tours planned (Monday, Wednesday and Friday), so we hope you'll have your car in great shape mechanically so that you'll have successful tours with your Packard. As I've said before, we want you to bring ALL your Packards to the meet so if you need help getting multiple cars to the meet, please contact me. On Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>, several of us are taking cars to Rohnert Park, and I've arranged a driver to bring us back so that we can bring a second car to the Meet. If you want to participate in this day, please let me know.

If you don't have a running Packard, I hope you'll join us. What a great way to see old friends or make new ones and see some wonderful cars! Remember that we are going to the Academy of Art Collection on Tuesday.

Invite your car friends to the meet! Get your car ready! Send in your registration! It will certainly be a week to remember!

Happy Motoring!

*Jeff Mihaly*

510-501-0415





March 14	Paramount Theater Tour with Freewheelers Car Club
April 5	Board Meeting - Blackhawk Museum
April 19	Visit to Wayne Parsons - Sacramento
May (tba)	National Meet Work Party
June 28 - July 3	Packard National Meet - Rohnert Park
July 26	Annual Portal Park Picnic - Cupertino
August 2	Board Meeting - Blackhawk Museum
September (tba)	Annual Swap Meet - Vallejo
October 4	Driving Tour with Mercedes Club
October 11	Board Meeting—Blackhawk Museum
December 6	Annual Holiday Luncheon

For a complete and up-to-date list of events along with non-club concours and shows, please visit our website at [www.norcalpackards.org/calendar.php](http://www.norcalpackards.org/calendar.php)

# ***Where We've Been*** **Annual Movie Day**

January 12, 2020

Text and Photos by Christopher Slater



The first event of 2020 was an entertaining success. Again we returned to the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum but this year we shook things up and featured the comedy “Some Like It Hot” in which two Chicago musicians witness the infamous 1929 St. Valentine’s Day massacre and try to escape the town by hiding out in an all-girl jazz band.

Our annual “At the Movies” event features fun movies and good food, and we always make sure that the movie theater is decorated for the occasion. Kirby Wiley, John Hemm and Tony Butay arrived early to help decorate the buffet tables. John created an eye-catching table centerpiece with a figurine of Marilyn Monroe dressed exactly as her role in *Some Like It Hot* with a black dress, a tiny ukulele, and silver hip flask. Kirby surrounded Marilyn with additional film-related decorations, and then we all loaded the buffet tables with donuts and coffee, macaroni salads, popcorn chips, root beer, and sandwiches from the Niles Cafe.

Outside the theater the historic streets of Niles were attractively decorated with our Packards. Even though the weather was on the cool side, the hot coffee and donuts kept our spirits high as we engaged the residents of this quaint town and answered their many questions about our classic cars.

The event in the theater kicked off with a short presentation from Jeff Mihaly on the 2020 National Meet. Our event host Christopher Slater provided three short movies and a cartoon to kick off the film festival. First was a

Packard Clipper commercial from 1953 that introduced power steering, automatic transmission and power brakes to the potential Packard buyer. Next was a 1920s Movietone news short that toured the Hollywood homes of three famous movie stars, Clara Bow, Joan Crawford and Jean Harlow. The final short film showed a 1929 Packard with a unique accessory wheel which managed to make parallel parking both easy and frightening.

Our cartoon short titled “Bugs and Thugs” was given two enthusiastic thumbs up by our new members Orin and Ainsley Kerr, and their two sons, Jonah and Levi who were equally delighted to show off their newly acquired Packard Club name badges.

As soon as Bugs Bunny left the screen we started our feature movie presentation “Some Like It Hot” starring Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon. Much of the early scenes of the movie take place in Chicago in 1929 and it was an exciting challenge to identify the many 1920’s era classic cars that lined the streets. To the delight of our audience an important scene in the movie features a parking garage filled with 1920s era Packards. The movie continues with a madcap romp of Jazz Age Chicago in the 1920s and eventually our characters travel to Florida to evade the Chicago gangsters, Marilyn Monroe finds love, and Osgood Fielding III reminds us that “Nobody’s perfect”.

*(Continued on page 6)*



*Charlie Chaplin’s tramp character stands watch near a vintage projector in the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum.*

Our January event is always a wonderful way to kick off the year. Thanks to everyone who joined us for this relaxing yet entertaining event.

**Members who brought Packards**

1935 1207 Twelve Coupe Roadster - Orin, Ainsley, Jonah & Levi Kerr  
(new members)

1937 115C Six Business Coupe — Ladd and Maggi Stephenson

1940 120 Touring Sedan - Steve Weir & John Hemm

1941 1901 Station Wagon - Ron & Mary Carpenter

1954 5401 Clipper Deluxe - Bill Young & Kirby Wiley

**Other members and guests who attended**

Warren Martin (1951 Lincoln Cosmopolitan Derham)

Tony Butay & Gwen Fenolio (guests of Steve Weir)

Ron MacDougall hosted seven friends

Michael Solomon

Kelly Monaghan and Marilyn Volcke

Jeff Mihaly

Christopher Slater



*John Hemm's Marilyn Monroe figurine is ready to entertain the members who attended the Day at the Movies.*





*Left to right: The Kerr family 1935 Twelve Coupe Roadster, the Carpenter's 1941 Station Wagon, and The Stephenson's 1937 115C Business Coupe grace the parking lot across from the Essanay Silent Film Museum.*



*Practicing for the show: Tony Curtis as "Josephine" on saxophone, Jack Lemmon as "Daphne" on bass, and Marilyn Monroe as "Sugar" on ukulele in the hilarious movie day feature film Some Like It Hot.*



*New members Orin, Ainsley, Jonah and Levi Kerr's stately 1935 1207 Twelve Coupe Roadster that Orin's grandfather purchased new.*



*Flashback! NorCal Region founding members Wayne Parsons, Bud Juneau and Jack Price visit the Lodge of the Packard Proving Grounds at the 2006 National Meet.*



*Frank Giordano's 1930 745 7-Passenger Sedan in front of Rob Guzzetta's 1928 526 Sedan on display at a recent fundraiser in Campbell.*



*Mrs Mildred Parker  
Moore McNally Hannah  
observes Packards  
motoring the tree-lined  
backroads of Northern  
California's Napa Valley  
- roads that will be a  
highlight of the 55th  
National Packard Meet*

EACH year brings us a new opportunity to enjoy the Packard National Meet. This year's event takes us a little nearer to that perfect combination of fine qualities which is the Packard Club goal.

For in 55 years the Packard Club has learned how to achieve the right balance of drive tours, entertainment, and concours judging without loss of relaxing comfort.

The 55th Packard National Meet offers you an exceptional balance of activities. Drive tours to Napa Valley, Sonoma Valley and the Pacific Coast. A day trip to San Francisco via luxury motor coach. Fine dining at Northern California's award winning wineries and restaurants. Private tours of acclaimed classic car collections. The fashion and talent shows. And the friends that make the Packard Club uniquely special.

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# CALIFORNIA CALLS ...

**SUNDAY** early bird events provide visitors with a day to explore the Luther Burbank Home & Gardens, Charles M Shulz Museum, and the California Railroad Museum.

**MONDAY** a drive tour of Napa Valley explores the Silverado Trail with stops at world famous wineries, lunch in quaint Calistoga, and a stroll in a Petrified Forest.

**TUESDAY** a luxury motor coach tour of San Francisco features the traditional sights of the Golden Gate Bridge, Victorian mansions, Chinatown, the original Earle C. Anthony Packard dealership, the Academy of Art Automobile Museum, Golden Gate park, the waterfront, and shopping and lunch at Fishermans Wharf.



**WEDNESDAY** morning starts off with the traditional national meetings but continues with a drive tour of Sonoma Valley that includes Glen Ellyn, Jack London State Park and dinner at historic Sonoma Plaza, the crown jewel of Sonoma. The evening activities include speakers on topics of interest to Packard historians.

**THURSDAY** the park-like setting of the concours provides a relaxing location for our National Judging day. Afterwards we offer the grand opening of a new Packard museum and an evening of entertainment provided by the talent and fashion shows.

**FRIDAY** a drive tour of the Pacific Coast begins in a towering grove of redwood trees, hugs the rugged Pacific coastline, and stops for lunch in Bodega Bay, continues with an ice cream social at a significant car collection, and concludes with the Awards Banquet.



## 2020 National Meet

Sunday June 28 to Friday July 3, 2020

REGISTER TODAY at [www.packardclub.org](http://www.packardclub.org)

## ***Technical Update*** **Pot Metal—Oh, NO!**

by Bob McCoy

Early pot metal can be a real problem and difficult to get right. Starting with a bad part can lead to a lot of money and poor results. Pot metal fails over time the older it gets, especially if it is kept in less than ideal storage conditions. Why? Pot metal is a zinc die casting material often believed to be melted in a “pot” and poured into a mold, however it really is more complicated than that. In the 1920s, there were no standards for zinc materials, and trace amounts of impurities like lead, cadmium, and iron got into the zinc resulting in porous metal. Here’s the good news: After 1935, there were better standards for the metal and parts improved.

So, what are the stages of a bad part? The first stage of failure is swelling and warping: knobs don’t rotate, pieces don’t fit together perfectly, etc. The second stage is noticeable as plating chips and parts crack or even break. If this is the case with a part that you have, my advice is to look for a replacement in better condition or a reproduction. Trying to repair your part will only be throwing good money away.

Parts showing the first stages of age can often successfully be plated and seem to hold up well. I have door handles on my 1926 Buick which have been replated for 20 years with no problems. On the other hand, parts in the more advanced stages failure may show bubbles under the replating in as little as a week. This is because of the porous nature of the metal after being soaked in a chemical tank before the final plating metal is applied. If you have no alternative but to continue using your failing part, try using well-known plater but be aware that you may end up with mixed results.

So, what can you do? Your best bet is to find a better part that was maybe made at a different plant, manufactured with better metal or stored in good conditions for years. The Internet is quite adept at helping you find that gently used or NOS needle in the haystack. Next, if the problem is common enough, you may find that the part has been reproduced. Reproduction parts usually work fine, and many are indistinguishable from the true original. A third alternative is to get the part recast in brass and plated, or to get it cast in stainless steel. Remember that any part recast from your original will be slightly smaller due to the shrinkage.



One final comment. Don’t try to save every pot metal part you find! Let some be thrown away.

*Impurities in pot metal can cause pits, chips and bubbles, but sometimes it can be repaired and replated.*

***NorCal Club Business***  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

October 13, 2019

Submitted by Milton Wheeler, Secretary

Members present Steve Weir, Phil Sherman, Ladd Stevenson, Tom Beidleman, Dave & Janet Wooldridge, Bill Young, Clint Moore, Bob McCoy, Jeff Mihaly, Christopher Slater, Mike Solomon, Milton Wheeler

Voted – To approve the August 4, 2019 Board Minutes

Membership Report – We now have 171 active members with 285 Packards. Bill said he has 22 people signed up for the Cheese Tour. We have added Ladd Stevenson to our Board list.

Health & Welfare: Nothing to report.

Projects – Phil Sherman said we are out of Packard caps. He ordered more but has a problem with the company. They took our money but sent no caps and we discussed the problem about the Packard Logo for the caps. Janet said she would work on the problem.

Treasurers Report – Janet said she is working on the Meet Account. There is a lot of activity but is working out. Our quarterly account is balanced.

Technical – Bob talked about our Packard batteries, how to keep them charged. He brought a 6/12 bolt charger to show us. It was a Viking charger.

*Pious Pelican* – Clint Moore is now the Director of the *Pious Pelican*. He talked about keeping current with our club activities and the rest will stay the same including the Advertisers. He asked the question, should we raise the price for the advertisers? The Board answer was YES. The yearly fee for advertisers is now \$30.00.

Tours – There will be NO Western Regions Tour for 2020 because of the National Meet in July. Cheese Tour October 20. Then a Veterans Day Tour on Sunday November 10. Holiday Party on December 7. Discussed the program and Silent Auction. January Movie Day and February Maritime Academy Tour. April Tour to see Wayne Parsons in Sacramento and May will be a working day for the National Meet.

Website: Christopher Salter is now the new Website Coordinator.

National Meet – Christopher presented a video advertising the National Meet. Then Jeff Mihaly gave more information about the activities for the week of the National Meet. He recommends that we make our reservations at the hotel ASAP!

Calendar – The Board wants a new calendar starting in July 2020 and ending December 2021.

Audit Committee – This committee consists of George Beck, Chair, with Michael Solomon and Ladd Stephenson.

Adjourned at 12:50pm – Next Meeting January 19, 2020 at 10:30am

# ***NorCal Club Business***

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

January 19, 2020

Submitted by Milton Wheeler, Secretary

Members Present: George Beck, Steve Weir, Jeff Mihaly, Clint Moore, Phil Sherman, Bill Young, Tom Beidleman, Bob McCoy, Christopher Slater, Dave & Janet Wooldridge, Mike Solomon, Ladd Stevenson and Milt Wheeler

Voted: To keep all former Board Members on the Board.

Voted: To approve the current Board Officers

Voted: To approve the minutes of the October meeting.

Voted: To approve the Trailer Parking Policy for the National Meet.

Voted: To donate \$500 to the Packard Proving Grounds.

Treasurer's Report: We are doing well. We received \$750 from the auction at the Holiday Party.

Projects Report: Phil Sherman does not want to continue as our projects director. We will have to get a new director. The National Meet committee will order Packard hats for the meet.

Membership: Bill Young said he is working on the 2020 Packard Club Directory. It should be out soon. We currently have 173 members, which 152 have paid and 285 Packards cars.

Voted: To make Bud Juneau an Honorary Club Member.

Health & Welfare: Cards were sent to Phil Sherman and Pam Hill. Bud Juneau is doing better.

Tours: Clint Moore said we had a good Holiday Party with 69 members and 2 Packards. Movie Day at the Niles Museum, there were 25 attendees and 6 Packards. Clint is working on a tour to see Wayne Parsons in Sacramento in March or April. In May we will have a working day for the National Meet. Clint is working on a tour for the fall season. After much discussion, it was decided to not have a Swap Meet in September this year. [Editors Note: the Swap Meet was reinstated on the fall calendar after the meeting. See calendar of events on p.3]

*Pious Pelican*: We had 4 issues of the *Pious Pelican* in 2019 and in 2020 we should have an issue every 2 months.

Website: Christopher Slater is now operating the Website.

National Meet: Jeff Mihaly suggested that the club members should register ASAP to get your hotel rooms. Bring your Packards!

Voted: To transfer \$5,000 from our Packard Account to the National Tour account.

Next Meeting: April 5, 2020 at 10:30am

Adjourned at 12:30pm



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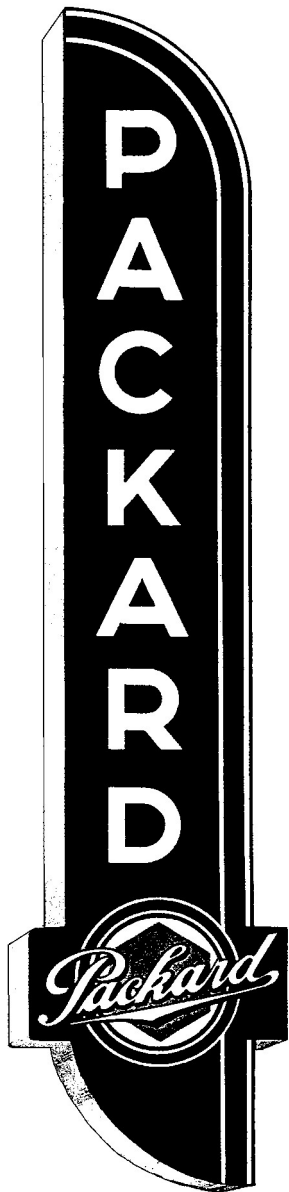
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