

The Owner's Manual

The Official Newsletter of The Lone Star Packards



FALL 2018

Director's Corner

Greetings to our Lone Star family

Once again let me wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. We have had a wonderful year topped off by our party at the Hasta La Pasta restaurant and the Sartin's "Car Cave". We had a record 55 members in attendance. Thanks again to all who helped make it a success!

Because of our many activities plus the extra efforts we make at communicating with our members, we seem to be bucking the national trend of declining membership among the clubs that celebrate the American Classics as opposed to the younger generation who are into the muscle car era.

I am proud that we have at least six member families who are not on Medicare yet!! We actually not only maintain our membership of around 40 families but actually have shown some growth as demonstrated by the large turnout at the December meeting.

I think on the one hand our practice of moving our meetings around the greater Houston area means the same people do not have to drive their Packards long distances each month, but it ultimately often means the cars that are driven to the meeting are mostly the ones garaged in that area. An alternative would be to have a central location for every meeting, but then we would not have the variety of experiences we enjoy plus everyone except those who live inside the "loop" would have to travel a long distance. I'm not sure we even have anyone who lives inside the "loop" and we don't have many who live inside the "beltway". Anyway, we are willing to listen to new ideas.

Bringing the antiques out is not a problem unique to us, but it is one I have been concerned about for a few years. While we have spikes, like the half dozen or more we had at the Brookwood event, and at least that many at Keels and Wheels, the average number of Packards at a meeting is lower. The Baccaros as well as about six other LSP members also belong to the Gulf Coast Chapter of the AACA. They have regular monthly meetings on a weekday night but this is not conducive to bringing an old car through "H Town" rush hours. However, they have about 4 activities a year which are held on a weekend. To promote participation, they have a drawing among those who brought an old car for a \$100 prize. That club has a membership about 4 times our size and still had only six cars at the Christmas party this last Saturday. We almost always bring one and this time we brought the '48 long wheel base and it really got a lot of compliments. With the exception of a La Salle convertible, it was the oldest car there. We did not win the big prize but we won a nice Christmas decoration, which is a picture of an old red pickup with trees in the back. The queen drove like a dream on the way there!

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OLD PEOPLE'S QUIZ

1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child's name?
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and he wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?
3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
4. How much dirt is there in a hole... that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?
5. What word in the English Language... is always spelled incorrectly?
6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
7. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?
8. What was the President's Name...in 1975?
9. If you were running a race, and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?
10. Which is correct to say, "The yolks of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?
11. If a farmer has 5 haystacks in one field and 4 haystacks in the other field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?

What's the difference between a hippo and a Zippo?

Answer: One is really heavy; the other is a little lighter.

Answers on page 4 (how many could you answer?)



October Birthdays:

- 4 Chuck Fleming
- 9 Richard Wilken
- 10 Irina Mitchell
- 11 Tracy Wilken
- 17 Eric Holz
- 17 Robin Scarbro
- 23 J.C.(James) Hairrell
- 24 Larry Myers
- 26 Anthony Baccaro
- 30 Kim Ess

November Birthdays:

- 16 Tommy Baccaro
- 20 Sandra Lucas
- 20 Robert Quinn
- 21 Dick Bautch
- 24 Gail Supina
- 29 Tony Darrow

December Birthdays

- 4 Tracy Hammac
- 8 Ben Carter
- 18 Mary Matthews
- 16 Janice Musgrove
- 27 Jack Sartin

Don't forget Time to pay your 2019 LSP dues

Send check in the amount of \$10 made payable to LSP to our Treasurer, Rich Trokey at 4718 Grass Shadow Drive, Katy, TX 77493-1777 **by January 31.**

**TEXAS PACKARD MEET – SALADO, TEXAS
APRIL 4, 5, 6, 7, 2019**

We will finally be back in Salado for the 42nd Texas Packard Meet next year after a 3 year absence.

We are all aware of the difficult transition from Salado to Kerrville, but we are going back to our roots for the 2019 annual meet and we are working diligently with the town of Salado to make arrangements for us.

The headquarters hotel will be the **Holiday Inn Express**.

If you have not done so, please call the Holiday Inn in Salado at **254-947-4004** to reserve your room. You must call this number to get the TPM rate, as it is not available on the national Holiday Inn reservation number.

This year our club will be hosting the meet with the help of the other three regions. All important decisions have been made with the in-put of the four directors.

Heart of Texas has chaired this event for a number of years and we thank them and especially Meet Chair Beverly Teel. We will be taking on those responsibilities of chairing the event for 2019 and 2020 with the help of the other regions.

Rena Sartin has volunteered to be the Registrar for next year's TPM. The registration form can be found on the texaspackardmeet.org website for you to copy. Please send this to Rena

We will need a lot of help from the membership once we get to Salado, so thank you in advance.

There will be many opportunities for volunteering.



ME & MY PACKARD

By Bill Anderson

In 2014 I traded a 1933 Vicky kit car for a 1960 - 190 Thunderbird convertible. When I saw the car I realized it didn't have the correct exterior color. It was orangey red instead of the original Monty Carlo red that Ford painted it. So....I took it to paint and body shop to have the correct color applied, the upholstery replaced and chrome redone. This was only the beginning of repairs this car needed!

To shorten this long story, four years later the T-bird was finally completed in 2018. By this time I was disgusted with it along with all the experts I had taken it to for repairs.

Since I have lots of Packard friends, and already had the Packard bug, decided to join the Lone Star Packard club.

I had been searching for months for a Packard, but needed to sell the T-Bird first. I finally sold it to a man in Oklahoma June, 2018.

My extensive research led me to five coupes that I liked, and after showing them to Judy, she really liked a particular one. I bought it as fast as I could, before she could change her mind, because she has never shared my old car passion as strongly as I do. End of August, 2018 we received delivery of our beautiful 1941 - 110 Special Coupe Packard!

The moral to this story is – if she's happy, we're all happy and we love this Coupe Special!

It has a new leather interior, rare optional air conditioner and runs well.... after a few mechanical adjustments.

Judy and I are looking forward to sharing our Packard with the club.



After 2 other antique cars, I finally got a Packard!

Lone Star Packard Meetings & Tours in 2018

January 20 – Hal Naumann’s Shop Tomball, TX

February 17 - Spring Creek BBQ League City hosted by Chris & Jamie Baccaro

March 18 – Los Cucos in Kingwood hosted by Ron & Juanita Jordan and John & Vivian Lortz

April 5-7 – 43rd Packard Meet – Kerrville, TX – no local meeting

May 19 – Spaghetti Western Restaurant in Houston with guest speaker from Hagerty Insurance Company

June 16- BBQ and covered dish at Sartin’s Car Barn in Katy, TX.

July – no local meeting – National Packard Meeting in Columbus, OH

August 19 – Red River BB in League City hosted by Tommy, Carol & Anthony Baccaro

September 16 – Potato Patch Café in Houston hosted by Tommy, Carol & Anthony Baccaro

October 14 - Car parade at Brookwood Community in Brookshire with lunch at Swinging Door BBQ, hosted by Lenny & Paula Holzband

November 10 – Pappas BBQ in Houston and tour of Jeff Pate’s Classic Cars of Houston, hosted by Ben & Janice Carter

December 9 – Christmas Lunch at Hasta La Pasta in Katy with party at The Sartins. Hosted by Rich & Karen Trokey and Jack& Rena Sartin.

TRUE LOVE...

An 89 year old woman was arrested for lifting. When she was before the judge he asked her “what did you steal?” She replied, “Can of peaches.”

The judge asked her why she had stolen the can of peaches. She said she was hungry. Then the judge asked her how many peaches were in the can. She replied 6. The judge said, “Then I will give you 6 days in jail.

Before the judge could actually pronounce the punishment, the woman’s husband spoke up and asked if he could say something on his wife’s behalf. The judge said “what is it?” The husband said, “She also stole a can of peas. “

1. Johnny’s mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child's name?

Answer: Johnny, of course.

2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall, and he wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?

Answer: Meat.

3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

Answer: Mt. Everest; it just wasn't discovered yet. [You’re not very good at this are you?]

4. How much dirt is there in a hole that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?

Answer: There is no dirt in a hole.

5. What word in the English Language is always spelled incorrectly?

Answer: Incorrectly

6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?

Answer: Billy lives in the Southern Hemisphere.

7. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?

Answer: You can't take pictures with a wooden leg. You need a camera to take pictures.

8. What was the President's Name in 1975?

Answer: Same as is it now - Donald Trump [Oh, come on]

9. If you were running a race, and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?

Answer: You would be in 2nd. Well, you passed the person in second place, not first.

10. Which is correct to say, "The yolks of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?

Answer: Neither, the yolk of the egg is yellow [Duh]

11. If a farmer has 5 haystacks in one field and 4 haystacks in the other field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?

Answer: One. If he combines all of his haystacks, they all become one big one.

The Story of My 1953 Caribbean

By Jerry Erhman

In **August 1970**, we were transferred from **Parkersburg, WV to Victoria, TX**. The 1950 Deluxe Eight Club Sedan rode in the moving van. One of our neighbors in Parkersburg told me her cousin worked for DuPont in Victoria, and he was also 'into' old cars.

When I got settled in at work I went to meet George Van Cleave. At the time George was restoring a '29 Chevy Coupe'. A couple weeks later he asked if I'd go with him to a meeting to form an AACA group in Victoria. I went to the meeting and met many of the other local old car lovers. One of them was Ed Goetz. As is usually the case there was a lot of discussion about 'who' owned 'what'. Ed mentioned that he owned a lot of cars and one was a '53 Caribbean.

About the same time *Special Interest Autos magazine* featured a '53 Caribbean. From that article I decided I'd like to have a Caribbean. I'd drive by Ed's house and look at the car in the driveway. You couldn't tell much about it because of a makeshift car cover over it. Then it was gone.

The next time I saw Ed I asked what happened to the Caribbean, and he said he'd moved it to one of his storage buildings. We arranged a day and time that I could look at it. It was in rather sad condition, having sat outside with the top mostly gone. Lots of rust, but it appeared to be 'all there'. I told him I'd like to buy it, but he said it wasn't for sale. Every time we had a meeting I'd ask about the car, and his response was always the same—it's not for sale. After a couple of years he mentioned he'd found a classic era Packard that he wanted to buy, but would have to sell something to get the funds. I again offered to buy the Caribbean, and he finally sold it to me.

When we trailered it to the house (**September of 1973**) and got it unloaded, Nancy thought I'd lost my mind. Out in the bright sun it was a sorry looking specimen. Top falling off, the bows into the car, rust in the fenders, floors and rockers. If it wasn't a limited edition convertible it probably should have gone to the salvage yard.

At the time I had a job that was basically 8 hours a day. **In mid-1974** I changed jobs and was 'on call' 24 hours a day. That never ended until I retired. **In 1977**, the '50 and '53 went in a separate moving van to **Wilmington, DE**. **In January of 1979** they went back to **Victoria**. **In 1981** the '53 was towed to **Corpus Christi** while I drove the '50. **In 1987** I sold the '50 (bad move) and loaded the '53 in a moving van going to **East Amherst, NY (a suburb of Buffalo)**. **In 1991** back in a van to **Germantown, TN** and then **in 1994** back into a van to **Orange, TX**.



All this time the best I could do was work on it sporadically, and try to find and accumulate parts needed for the hoped for restoration.

When I bought the '50 we had two children. When I bought the Caribbean we had three children. By the time we moved to Orange, we had six children. Three had graduated from college, two were in college and our 'late life blessing'—Emily—was in preschool. So, still no money for the restoration project!

I kept following leads to find someone who was willing to take on the restoration. I finally found a body shop that was willing to take on the project. The owner was up front and said his main business was collision repair, but he loved doing restoration and building rods. It would take six to nine months to do the body repair the Caribbean needed. You've probably heard this story before—after five years I loaded it up and took it home.

The next step was **in 2018 taking it to Jeff Pate at Classic Cars of Houston** to correct what was done improperly, repair rust areas that hadn't been addressed, and get the body panels aligned. That's the car you saw at Jeff's during our November LSP meeting.

The color is unusual. The paint code is 'R'. According to Dale Musgrove 'R' was used for special colors. He thought there were only five produced in that color. One is in California, the former Mary Lou Wilson car, 'The Scarlet Lady'; one is the former Perry Como car that was at Keels and Wheels last May. When I bought the car it was black. When I started taking it apart for the restoration, every piece of trim I removed showed orangish red underneath.

The car was initially undercoated. When I removed the fuel filler door, the back side was covered with undercoat. I soaked it in kerosene and removed the undercoat to reveal a beautiful, undamaged sample of the original color. That's the color we matched for the paint. One paint supplier labeled it 'Tomato Red', another labeled it "Spice Red".

I found the original 'build sheet'. The main difference from the Perry Como car is the interior. The Como car is black and red, mine is maroon and white. Not sure how that's going to look, but I'm going back original. The one thing that will be different is the Ultramatic has been replaced with a three speed with overdrive.





October 11, 1934 – November 21, 2018

We were saddened to hear our member Bernie Stebenne passed away in November. He was a very talented gentleman. Wood working was his passion and a hobby in which he excelled. His wood working projects were truly a work of art.

Bernie had a 1930 Model A, and a 1940 120 Packard Coupe. The club is making a donation in his name to the Packard Proving Grounds.

Memorial Service for Bernie will be announced at a future date.



Humble, TX is a small town north of Houston where many fortunes were made with Humble Oil; how befitting that a 1941 open Packard should carry the Grand Marshall in the annual Christmas parade.

On Tuesday, December 4th, we participated in the Christmas parade in Humble.

Continued from page 1

However, we got there early (Monument Inn) so we could park the old cars together and there was no problem. But, when we left the parking lot was full and it was a real strain on this old man to get the limo out of its spot without customizing a BMW SUV or some other Yuppie mobile!

Anyway, my point is -- that if a club that big only has six antiques then I guess we are doing okay, but I want to do better in 2019. We will look at the calendar and add up the points for participation and announce the winner of the David McDonald participation award for 2018 at the January meeting.

We have our January meeting set but nothing scheduled for February and March. If you would be willing to set something up for those months, it will be very much appreciated. I do have idea for one of the months if no one comes forward. Just let Chris or me know what you have in mind. April of course, is our return to Salado after a three year absence. Please get your registration in early to Rena as that will not only help her but having numbers early will help us a lot in preparing for the meet. May is Keels and Wheels and we always have a big contingent of LSP cars and people helping out this worthy cause. Please consider exhibiting or at least coming out with your chair to visit with us under the Oaks on Packard row. FYI, we have arranged for the America's Packard Museum in Dayton to participate in K&W again this year. Last year they displayed Perry Como's red 1953 Caribbean and this year they will be bringing a 1947 Custom which was the last car owned by mobster Al Capone. We are months away but due to circumstances; we were unable to have our traditional fall tour this year. It's not too early to start planning one if you have an idea. I like the weekend ones but I think I might be in the minority so whatever is decided is fine with me.

Look forward to seeing all of you at our monthly meetings. Please don't hesitate to bring a friend if you know they have an interest in old cars. We might just pick up a new family as that has worked in the past!

Happy Packarding, Tommy

The Grand Marshall, Mrs. Jane Turner and her two daughters were my passengers. Mrs. Turner graduated high school in 1942, so she was right at home in the '41.

As we proceeded down Main Street, the crowds (yes, there were crowds) were in the spirit of the season. I did not hear a single "Happy Holidays" comment, just "Merry Christmas".

God Bless small town America, and to all of the Packard community, Merry Christmas!!

..... Leon Ahlers

Year in Review – A Few Photo Memories



January Tomball



Feb. Spring Creek BBQ/Chris Bacarro



March @ Los Cucos Kingwood



May Spaghetti Western



June Pot Luck Lunch@ Sartin's Car Cave



August Luna's/Baccaros



September Potato Patch



Oct. Brookwood/Swinging Door



November Pappas BBQ/Pate Classic Cars



December Hasta La Pasta/Sartin's



April - Kerrville Texas Packard Meet

Lone Star Packards was chartered by Packard Automobile Classics (PAC) in 1964. Our charter requires that Lone Star Packard members also be members of the Packard Automobile Classics. For information please contact our treasurer.

The Owner's Manual is published quarterly. Editorial office located at 1103 Pioneer Dr. Richmond, TX 77406 – [281-341-6595](tel:281-341-6595) - ben.carter47@yahoo.com.



Lone Star Packards
1103 Pioneer Drive
Richmond, TX 77406

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Regional Officers

Director:	Tommy Baccaro 832-905-3904
Assistant Director:	John Lortz 832-746-8078
Treasurer:	Rich & Karen Trokey 281-371-0498
Secretary/Benevolence:	Janice Musgrove 713-304-7493
Membership/Publications:	Ben & Janice Carter 281-341-6595
Activities:	Chris Baccaro 281-796-9131
Historians:	Carol Baccaro Anthony Baccaro
Webmaster:	Doug Carlson 281-391-6203
Technical Pre-war:	Ron Scarbro 281-579-8594
Technical Post-war:	John Lortz

