



The Owner's Manual/Newsletter

Official Publication of The Lone Star Packards



March, 2021

Issue 2

Director's Corner

Greetings LSP family,
On Saturday, 3/20 we had our second "zoom" meeting. While these are not as much fun as our in-person meetings, they do give us a chance to actually safely see and talk to each other, bring us up to date on how our friends are doing during the pandemic, meet new members, and check on the progress of some of the more than 80 Packards in our region.

The biggest news coming from this month's meeting is the group decision to continue to be cautious and have the April meeting on Zoom. We will watch the news on the several flu variants that have appeared before we make a final decision about May. It is hoped that we can accept **the Daltons' invitation** to meet at their ranch in Cleveland to see their collection on **Saturday, May 15**. **John** said if enough members bring a Packard, he will arrange with the area Constable to lead us in a parade through the scenic woods in the area. When we finally meet there, please bring a Packard if you can.

I offered up several names for a guest speaker at our April meeting and the members present asked me to contact National Director, Craig Handley. I did reach out to Craig and he replied that he would be happy to attend the meeting by Zoom and speak to us.

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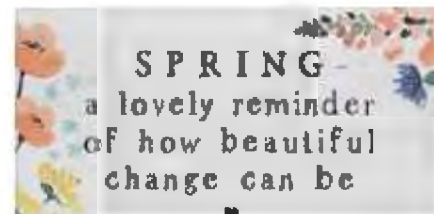
IN MEMORIAM

During the past two months we have been saddened by the passing of two of our former LSP members and an old friend of the Arklatex Packard Club.

Jacqueline Bruns, wife of **George Bruns**, was a lovely lady known as "Jackie". George, Jackie and their family were transferred to the Houston area in the 1970's when George was working for Shell Oil Company. Before George passed, they were very active in our club and hosted several meetings in their home during their active years. **Jackie** passed away Feb.27, 2021 at the age of 92. They also brought Doug and Rich into LSP.

Otis Gaston was a long-ago past member. He worked in the auto industry and retired as a parts manager at one of the Lincoln dealers. He kept his father's '52 Packard, but eventually sold it and bought a '47, which he later sold to the **Baccaros**. When he was active in the club he served as the technical director.

We found out recently that **Billy Vatalos** passed away shortly after being admitted to the Hospice program. Many of you who have attended the Texas Packard meets held in April will remember Billy, as he was in charge of lining up the Packards for judging until Larry Myers took that responsibility. Billy always had a smile for those he met and he enjoyed a good laugh.



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We reminded members that just because we cancelled the 2021 TPM, it does not mean your hotel reservations were cancelled. You need to call the Holiday Inn Express personally to cancel your room reservation or you will be charged for at least one night.

We also announced that the biggest Texas Packard Meet ever will be April 1 -3, 2022 in Salado. Most of us come on Thursday the 31st, to be ready for the "early bird tour" on Friday morning.

Ben announced that Keels and Wheels is still on for the first weekend in May and the deadline for registrants was today, the 20th. He also shared that you could do it all on line and he would be happy to share the link.

Jack reminded everyone that the annual Second Baptist West Campus Car show will be held next **Saturday, March 27 from 10 to 12**. This is basically a "show and shine" event with no registration. It typically has more than 100 cars on display. It is outside so it should be safe and there will be food and drinks for sale.

I asked members to send pictures and stories to **Jan** for the newsletter and also to **Doug** for the website. Jan said she would send Doug's contact info to each of the new members. Once they send a picture or a write-up, he can post it on the member's car section and/or the Packard "feature car of the quarter" page.

Tony reported we have not spent any money since last month and we have been reimbursed the Salado refunds. **Ben** reported we currently have 55 member families, and **Jan** read the list of March birthdays.

We had 15 families represented this time and our last item of business was a round table. Since the screen looked like Hollywood Squares, we went left to right and asked each family to tell what they had been up to and inquired if they had any Packard stories to relate. That was fun.

Since we had a smaller number for our meeting, some suggested that maybe we need to publicize it closer to the time of the meeting. I feel as though I have sent out more LSP emails since the Covid 19 has kept us home and I hope that our members computers will not start treating us as spam. I think there may have been just one reminder this time, therefore I'll try to get an email out closer to the meeting date. Zoom is a great way to have a meeting. There is nothing to download on your

computer. Just click the link, join the meeting, and see your friends.

Get your Packard road worthy for the trip to Cleveland in May. Hopefully we will be able to make it a date.

Happy Packarding, Tommy



HOT WHEELS & HEROES

Saturday, March 27 - 10:00 AM - Noon

Awards presented by 1:00 pm

Held at Second Baptist - West Campus - South Kingsland parking area

Free - no entry fees - family friendly

Honoring local heroes - first responders (fire, law enforcement, helicopter, K-9, etc.) to participate with their displays.

There will be coffee/beverage food trucks and 20+ vendors to sell their goods.

Expanded children's section to ensure family entertainment - something for everyone.

Will follow state and CDC Covid-19 guidelines of masks and social distancing.

Thanks to Steve Wanderman for sharing the link to these photos. Many more photos and historical information on the Packard Motor Company can be found at <http://usautoindustryworldwartwo.com/packard.htm>.

The Packard Motor Car Company in World War Two

Detroit, MI
1899-1958
Rest in Peace

Updated 4-21-2020.

During the Second World War Packard built both marine and aircraft engines in its huge plant on East Grand Boulevard in Detroit, which was a legacy of its WWI job of building the famous Liberty engine. Packard introduced American mass manufacturing techniques in to the British Rolls-Royce 1650 Merlin inline aircraft engine. Rolls-Royce built engines were hand built and parts hand fitted, making each one different and the parts not interchangeable. Packard using the techniques the US auto industry had been using for years of standardized components that were interchangeable from engine to engine, started cranking out the engines that were desperately needed for the US war effort. These went into the P-40, P-51, Lancaster, Mosquito, Spitfire and Hurricane aircraft.

The other engine built was for marine purposes and three each of them went into the famous American PT boats of which Elco, Higgins, Huckins, Vosper and Scott-Paine all built. Vosper built PT boats built in the United Kingdom. In the United States 85-foot and 104-foot US Army and Navy Rescue boats were also built using the 4M-2500 engine.



This photo shows the Packard built Merlin on display next to its most famous American application, the North American P-51 Mustang. Author's photo at the National Museum of the United States Air Force.



The Packard Marine Engine Division won the Army-Navy "E" Award four times during WWII.

Packard Motor Car Company World War Two Production Statistics: (12,700) 4M-2500 Marine Engines, (54,714) V-1650 Packard Rolls-Royce Aircraft Engines, (4,597) Snow and Petrelli Joe's Gears Reversing Gears for PT and Rescue Boats.

*There is no mention of Packard building any boat reversing gears of any type during World War Two. Only the marine and aircraft engines are documented. However, I have found as shown in the Marine Engine section of this page two Packard-built Snow and Petrelli Joe's Gears Reversing Gears on Packard 4M2500 engines. The highest of the two serial numbers on the Packard data plate is 4597. Assuming production started with serial number 0001 Packard built at least 4,597 of these gear boxes.



This 1942 Packard was built before the government ended production of civilian production of automobiles in February 1942. From the collection at the National Military Historical Center, Auburn, IN. Author's Photo.

Besides airplane engines, Packard also built engines for PT boats. If you are ever in Fredericksburg stop by the National Museum of the Pacific War - Admiral Nimitz to see a PT boat with a Packard engine. You will also see a plaque the Texas Packards clubs donated to the museum. Also, hear the interesting story of how this PT boat got to Fredericksburg.

For Our Retired Senior Members Only.....

I am a Seenager. (Senior teenager) I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 65 years later:

- I don't have to go to school or work.
- I get an allowance every month.
- I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew.
- I have a driving license and my own car.
- The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and I don't have acne. Life is great!
- Of course, I talk to myself. I sometimes need expert advice.
- Old age is coming at a really bad time.
- When I was a child I thought "Nap Time" was a punishment. Now, it feels like a small holiday.
- The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
- I don't have grey hair; I have "wisdom highlights"! I'm very wise indeed
- At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in for.

SOMETHING FOR THE OLD SCHOOL GUY

WOODIES

Those were the days.... when, if you had an accident; you needed a good carpenter more than a mechanic. And when they were called automobiles, not cars! Aren't they beautiful?

1948 Chevrolet



1948 Ford



1951 Chrysler



1953 Packard



1950 Plymouth



1951 Buick



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

March Birthdays

9 Rena Sartin
13 John Eudy
16 Jeff Pate
27 Leon Ahlers



Regional Officers

Director: Tommy Baccaro
832-905-3904

Assistant Director: John Lortz
832-746-8078

Treasurer: Tony & Shirley
Darrow
832-286-1276

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: Leon Ahlers
281-324-9393

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/Newsletter is published monthly. Editorial office located at 1103 Pioneer Dr. Richmond, TX 77406 – 281-341-6595 - ben.carter47@yahoo.com.

It's more than a car...it's a

PACKARD

**ASK THE MAN WHO OWNS
ONE**