



The Owner's Manual/Newsletter

Official Publication of The Lone Star Packards



September, 2019

Issue 7

Director's Corner

On Sunday, September 15 LSP met at Big Horn BBQ on Smith Ranch Rd off SHW 288. Despite the heat, we had 25 members.

Two brave souls brought their Packards. Many thanks to **Bill Anderson** who drove his cool '41 coupe and to **Tony Darrow** who arrived in style in his '57 sedan.

The meeting room is very nice at Big Horn and the food is great and restaurant wonderfully decorated for fall. There were televisions across the wall including several tuned to the Texans game. We are so spread out that Big Horn is also centrally located. We not only have folks coming from the coast and as far away as Orange but also from Kingwood and Katy. We may use Big Horn again.

Since we come from the opposite direction, I did not realize there were a lot of construction obstacles on 288 coming from the north. I apologize for not providing you with an alternate route.

We had our monthly 50/50 drawing. "Lucky" **John Eanes** won for the second month in a row. (Did you hear that **Caroline Calistrat**? somebody is challenging you for the most wins in the 50/50 drawing. We need to see you and Mike soon.)

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Salado Update

We're making progress on TPM for 2020!

- ❖ The Saturday night, April 4 dinner plans have been finalized.
- ❖ This event will be held at **The Stagecoach Inn** in their newly remodeled Longhorn Room.
- ❖ This will be a buffet dinner serving pork loin, sides, dessert, tea or coffee.
- ❖ Price will be \$24/each adult and \$12 for children 6-12, children 5 and under will be free.
- ❖ You can find the application for the 43rd Texas Packard meet next April 3, 4, 5 on the TPM website at www.texaspackardmeet.org.
- ❖ **Please call Brandi at 254-947-4004 to reserve your room at the Holiday Inn Express.** You must call her directly to get the TPM rate, which is the same as last year. It is not available from the national Holiday Inn reservation center. The sooner we fill up the hotel, the sooner we will know there will be no charge for the meeting rooms.
- ❖ More TPM information will be coming as we work on more events.
- ❖ My thanks to Rena and Jan for all their hard work getting this registration form completed.

Tommy....

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Jan read the monthly birthdays and she was included.

We welcomed new member **Robert Taylor** to his first LSP meeting. Read his information on the Courtlandt Place Christmas home tour on page 6.

We said goodbye to the **Chuck and Denise Fleming** from Baytown who are moving to Kansas. I told them our friend Steve Christy is in the area so they should get active in that Packard region.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, October 13 in Magnolia. **Ben** explained that we will meet at an area restaurant for lunch and then go to The Tony Gullo Museum. The club will pay the \$10/person donation which Mr. Gullo gives to charity. *See more info in next column.*

Tony and Shirley are handling the November 9 meeting. This will serve as our fall tour. We will meet somewhere on the north side and caravan to Willis, Texas to see a private collection that includes five Packards. Details are being worked out.

Chris reminded us that we will have the Christmas Holiday Brunch at the South Shore Harbor Resort and Hotel in League City. Following the brunch, we will drive the short distance to our house for fun and fellowship.

Registration forms for the Texas Packard meet were distributed. For those who could not make it, please go to www.texaspackardmeet.org to get a copy.

The weather in southeast Texas at mid-day during the summer months is just not conducive to driving non air conditioned sixty plus years old cars! Your director threw out the possibility of having some breakfast meetings next summer.

Think about it. How about "Cars and Coffee"?

See you in Magnolia if not before. ... Happy Packarding - Tommy

Officers' 2-Year Term Limits Reminder

At the meeting Tommy reminded us that the current officer's term expires this December. Officer nominations will be discussed at the November meeting.

I have said as Pope Benedict said, "I do not intend to die in office" so I am okay with a change. **Contact Tommy if you are willing to serve in any capacity.**

Lunch & Tour of Tony Gullo Museum

We have a special invitation from Tony Gullo to tour his Classic Car Museum on Sunday, October 13 at 2:00 p.m. in Magnolia, TX.

We will first meet at Rancho Grande, which is one of Magnolia's best restaurants at 11:30 a.m. in a semi-private room. You will order from the menu.

The restaurant is located at 18914 FM 1488 in Magnolia just south of the railroad track. Your only cost will be lunch.

After lunch we will caravan only .5 miles to the Gullo Museum located on Old Hockley Road.

This is easily the best car museum in East Texas. If you have never viewed Mr. Gullo's 200+ car collection, you are in for a real treat.

In addition to the collection, the air conditioned facility includes a Drive-In Theater, a 50's Soda Shop, a Gas Station and thousands of examples of auto related memorabilia.

This is something you will really enjoy. If you went with us about 6 years ago, there have been many cars added. There are several Packards in the collection.

Mr. Gullo and his team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Let's hope the weather will be cooler in October and this will be a good time to drive your Packard. Hope to see you there!

If needed, the restaurant phone # is 282-356-1700. You may want to look at their website at www.ranchograndebarandgrill.com to view their full menu. The lunch menu, which is very reasonable, is also offered on Sunday.

Let me know if you have any questions by email at ben.carter47@yahoo.com or 281-341-6595.

PACKARD OF THE MONTH

This month we are featuring Bob and Gail Supina's right hand drive 1937 Sedan.



Bob got interested in Packards in 1963 when he was 26. Bob and his brother, Lou, decided to restore Lou's 1947 Oldsmobile. The next day they found a **1937 Packard Twelve** in a junkyard and decided that would be more fun, so Bob bought the car for \$100.

His **Packard LeBaron Town Car** arrived as a shell on a rolling frame plus three truckloads of parts! For years it sat in his garage in Friendswood and LSP members advised...."Bob, it's too far gone...!" but Bob patiently put it all together!

Bob earned a Masters in Mathematics and taught college for a year before joining IBM where he spent 30 years, retiring as a Systems Analyst Manager. Most of his career was working on NASA contracts.

Bob and Gail's hangar has a mini-museum with all sorts of memorabilia, including a flight suit that was Gordon Cooper's...one of the original seven astronauts.

Gail grew up in Pelham NY and lived in the Hamptons until 1970 when she moved to the Washington D.C. area (where Bob was also living at that time) and became a residential property manager. In 1976 she moved to Houston as a single Mom with four kids, and acquired a real estate license and managed commercial properties around Texas for an investor from Finland.

Bob and Gail are long time members of Lone Star Packards and **have six Packards** along with a **1989 Lincoln Town Car**, **1981 31 foot Air Stream in original condition**, and a **1975 airplane** originally owned by the inventor of the Frisbee.

This affable couple loves to travel and has discovered the canal system in England. They enjoy cruising on the canals to get away from it all.

They stop at pubs for dinner, meet the locals and for two weeks are alone on a 9 x 45 foot boat going three miles per hour.



In addition, Bob and Gail fly their plane to Conroe where they are crew members of the B-17, "Texas Raiders".

He says his hobbies are the three Ps: PACKARDS – PLANES – PCs!

Now let's tell you the story of their amazing '37 Packard sedan.....

This right hand drive Packard was acquired in 1980 with less than 10,000 miles on the odometer. **This rare Super Eight Touring Sedan was shipped to England in 1937** and found its way back to the U.S. in 1968. This very low mileage Packard landed in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Bob has always been interested in **1937 Packards** which produced some of the finest Packards in its history. **Virtually all of the 1937 Packards left are sought after by collectors and Bob's rare Five Passenger Sedan is among the best.** The paint may be cracked but the interior is impeccable and drives like the new car that it is.

The car rides on a 127 inch wheelbase with hydraulic brakes and independent front end suspension first available on Senior Packards in 1937. Other unusual features of Bob's car are the sliding sun roof and the Bosch lighted-flipper turn signal (trafficator) referred to in England as semaphore signals.

Bob was able to acquire the car when the **Museum of Time and Travel in Odessa, Texas** closed its doors. At the time it only had 8,645.3 miles on it. It had not had its 10,000 mile checkup yet!

Apparently Packards shipped to England were without tires since the tires on it are Dunlop Fort tires made in England. The spare, which has never been on the ground, is an American Firestone. The trunk lining was in perfect condition including the original tool kit in its canvas pouch.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September Birthdays

Ed Fleming	1
Martha Roberts	3
Johnny Scott	4
Gregg Jeter	5
Bailey Pate	10
John Lortz	13
Janice Carter	15
Cathy Grilli	15
Denise Fleming	16
Jamie Roberts	19
Richard Mitchell	25

Head and Tail

What has a head, a tail, is brown and has no legs?

Answer: A penny

Welcome New Member

Dale Wilpers

Dale has been a good friend of the Trokeys, Carlsons and Andersons for many years.

Dale is a car guy and currently owns a '66 Corvette, and '57 Chevy. He doesn't have a Packard yet!

We are glad you joined Lone Star Packards.

2019 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS & EVENTS

JANUARY 19 – Hemi Hideout/Texas Traditions – hosted by Ron & Patricia Orr

FEBRUARY 17 – Red River BBQ – League City – hosted by Tommy, Carol & Anthony Baccaro

MARCH – Cancelled – getting ready for Salado

APRIL 4, 5, 6, 7 – Texas Packard Meet – Salado, TX

MAY 4-5 - Keels & Wheels – Lakewood Yacht Club, Seabrook, TX & Danny Dietz Foundation Car Show

JUNE 23 – Potatoe Patch Restaurant – hosted by John & Vivian Lortz

JULY – 54th PAC National Meet in West Lafayette, Indiana hosted by Wabash Valley Packards- No local meeting

AUGUST – Del Webb at The Lakehouse in Richmond, TX hosted by Lenny & Paula Holzband

SEPTEMBER 15 – Big Horn BBQ in Pearland hosted by Baccaros

OCTOBER 13 – Tony Gullo Museum in Magnolia & lunch at Rancho Grande hosted by Ben and Janice Carter

NOVEMBER – Fall Tour to Willis, TX private collection hosted by Tony and Shirley Darrow

DECEMBER 1 – Christmas Lunch at South Shore Harbor in League City and caravan to Baccaros for refreshments and fellowship.

The Black Cowboy Museum Fundraiser

This fundraiser will be held Saturday, October 12 at 1104 3rd Street in Rosenberg, TX from 10 am till around 3 pm.

The fundraiser is to raise money to move a building given to the museum.

Lunch will be furnished by Schulze's BBQ at \$10/person. The museum will be open free of charge that day.

There will be press coverage by TX station KRIV 26 and maybe one other.

Several old classic cars clubs in surrounding area will be there and Packards are invited to participate.

For further information, contact Ron Orr at 281-342-3855 or 281-236-9249.

Packard of the month Continued from page 3

Bob's research on the car found that its history was interesting and revealing.

In 1982 he received a letter from the first owner Gladys Carmichael. Gladys remembered the car well. Her late husband bought the car for her on one of his trips to London and it was used in her daughter's wedding. Their chauffeur had taken excellent care of their cars.

Bob called Mrs. Carmichael and it was an unforgettable experience to talk to the original owner of a **1937 Packard** that he now owned. A few weeks later he received a letter from Mrs. Carmichael's granddaughter, Stephanie Nicholson, who was most helpful in recreating early information about the car. She sent a photo of the back of the car with the same number plate it has today.

While visiting the family in Scotland in 2000, Bob was presented with a VHS tape of the Packard being used to carry daughter, Barbara, to her wedding in 1950. Barbara chose to go to her wedding in the Packard rather than the family's Rolls Royce or Daimler. Over the years he has maintained a friendship with three generations of the family that bought the car new, which adds a fourth dimension to the story.

Bob is very knowledgeable about all of his vintage collection and has interesting stories on them all.

His **'37 Super Eight Touring Sedan** is as original as a Full Classic Packard can be and should stay that way.

The provenance that Bob has discovered is amazing. We should all know that much about our Packards.



Regional Officers

Director:	Tommy Baccaro 832-905-3904
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Treasurer:	Tony & Shirley Darrow 832-286-1276
Secretary/Benevolence:	Janice Musgrove 713-304-7493
Membership/Publications:	Ben & Janice Carter 281-341-6595
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Historians:	Carol Baccaro Anthony Baccaro
Webmaster:	Doug Carlson 281-391-6203
Technical Pre-war:	Leon Ahlers 281-324-9393
Technical Post-war:	John Lortz

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](tel:281-341-6595) - ben.carter47@yahoo.com.

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

PACKARD

ASK THE MAN WHO OWNS ONE

Courtlandt Place Holiday Home Tour 2019



This home tour will be held **Saturday & Sunday, December 7 & 8**. The tour will include 6 splendid homes and 3 gardens of this gated, historic district of 21 homes.

The tour is from 11 am to 5 pm each day. Most of these homes were built between 1906 and 1925. Also included will be a superb collection of vintage Courtlandt Place photographs and period Christmas decorations. We are hoping for 6-8 Packards to be displayed in front of the homes, on the street or in the driveway. Security will be here day and night.

We expect 800 -1,000 visitors. The owners of the displayed cars will each receive 2 tickets for the tour. Ticket prices for visitors will be \$45 per person prior to the tour and \$50 at the gate.

If car owners are willing to have their cars here both days, the cars could be left on the street overnight since this is a gated community. Or, the cars could be parked behind homes on the drive. Most homes have gates at their drive.

Robert and his wife Amy live in a historic home in this gated community and want to include LSP members in their community event.

Proceeds benefit Preservation Houston.



Darrow's 1957 Clinger



Anderson's 1941 Coupe



More detailed information will be provided in the next couple of months.