

The Packard *Virginian*

The Newsletter of Packards Virginia - Winter 2015



“Jump Start” - March 8th



Shall we give it a go??

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From The Director



It's always hard to believe, in the middle of winter, that spring is around the corner and it will be another season for Packards Virginia. But the calendar tells us it's true, and this year promises to be a particularly exciting and busy year for our chapter.

In addition to our usual spring events, including the Jump Start Brunch and the Swap Meet, we'll be hosting the Henry Joy Tour in mid-September. This will be the first national event our chapter has hosted since we hosted the National Meet in Williamsburg in 2012, and it will be a great opportunity for the chapter to show its energy and hospitality to new members and Packard devotees from around the country.

In July, the Packard Club National Meet will also be relatively nearby in Reading Pennsylvania. That's only about 150 miles from the Virginia border, which means that many Packards Virginia members will be able to attend.

In addition to these major events, PV is also planning some smaller-scale tours. For example, the DC Union Market recently opened a drive-in movie theater summer series. It's the first drive-in movie in years that is close to our many members in the greater Washington DC area. When the 2015 schedule is announced, we'll plan a Packard Club drive-in movie night.

Finally, don't miss our new website, packardsva.org, created by new member Robert Scott. Thanks to Robert for all of his hard work in creating the website, and be sure to visit the site for information about events and member cars.

The first event of the year, of course, is the Jump Start Brunch. If you have Packard-related news at the Jump Start Brunch, let me know and we'll make sure you get time to give an announcement to the group. We're always interested in hearing about new cars, ongoing restorations, clever repairs, and new experiences you've had with your Packards.

See you at the Jump Start Brunch.

Orin Kerr
Director,
Packards Virginia

News – Notes – New Members



RENEWAL NOTICE

A new year and a new plea for membership renewal and dues!! The good news is that we have reduced dues to only \$5. We don't know of any other clubs whose dues are so cheap. So please renew and send your dues to Packards Virginia, P.O. Box 4012, Falls Church VA 22044. Thanks.

2015 Renewal Notice -- only \$5!!

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2015

We will present the 2015 slate of officers for membership approval at the Jump-Start Brunch on March 8th.

Your 2014 officers were:

Director: Orin Kerr

Deputy Director and newsletter editor: Tim English

Treasurer: Hal Hermann

Membership and activities coordinator: Tom Brooks

A REQUEST FROM THE EDITOR

We are always in search of new Packard-related news, stories, and pictures! Did you make a new friend on the road? Did you get a picture? Could you share your story? Always keep your digital camera handy when you are out and about with your vehicle. This newsletter is the perfect venue to share your experience and thus build excitement within the hobby. You send it and we'll publish it!

NEW MEMBERS

Brant and Elinor Vitek
7318 Statecrest Drive
Annandale, VA 22003

Email: bvitek2@cox.net

Phone: [703-626-0890](tel:703-626-0890).

* Brant & Elinor own a 1927 Model 443 Ambulance (Canteen) Packard.

Donald Cochrane
Front Royal, VA 22630

Email: bvitek2@cox.net

* Donald is the proud owner of a 1938 110 4-door sedan. Read his story in this issue.



MARCH 8: The Jump-Start Brunch!!!

When: 8 MAR 2015 at 11:30 AM
Where: Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Rd
Alexandria, VA

Cost: \$35 / person



Come join the membership of Packard's Virginia at the Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria Virginia for the club's kick-off of the 2015 touring season!! This annual event is your chance to engage with your fellow Packard Virginians, swap news and stories of the past few months, find out what is on-tap for 2015 – AND to GET MORE INVOLVED with your club!

Enjoy a delightful buffet breakfast while overlooking the club's golf course complete with a view of the Potomac river. It's a super way to start the day, get your car out from the Winter's chill , and get in a road trip!

The country club is located just moment outside the Washington DC beltway in Alexandria, Virginia.

Cost: \$35 / person

RSVP : Helen or Paul Delaney

Phone: 703-768-0367 or

Email: helala1213@aol.com

Upcoming Events



Old Cars & Toy Train Day!

When: 22 FEB 2015 at 12-5PM

Where: The Clement Home
12106 GARY HILL DR
FAIRFAX VA 22030



Cost: FREE*

A favorite appetizer, finger food or dessert brought for sharing would be gratefully appreciated.

RSVP: Clem & Sandy Clement at
[703-830-5597](tel:703-830-5597) or clem.clement@cox.net

Orphan Car Tour

June 6 (Saturday): 26th annual Orphan Car Tour, Howard County, Md.
Tour starts at Howard County Fairgrounds (West Friendship, MD).
Open to all "orphan" (discontinued-make) vehicles at least 25 years old.

Further information will be posted on website when available at www.orphancartour.org .

Info: phone Jon Battle at (540) 364-1770 or e-mail TourDirector@orphancartour.org .

One Man's Bucket List



By Donald Cochrane

I have been surrounded by and loved antique cars of one brand or another my whole life. My infatuation has always been with pre-war cars and in particular, anything with headlamps on fenders and running boards. This last birthday hit me rather hard for some reason. I've never been able to rationalize age. If you don't feel it, or look it, or most importantly, act it, then it can't be. But, for some reason, this one came home to roost. I've always had a bucket list, even before we knew what the term was. I have always been realistic with my list and had realized everything on mine, but one. A Packard! I had always heard how special and elegant Packard's were but never thought I would own one but, I wasn't getting any younger so, the hunt began.

I started looking on Craigslist all over the east coast. I found cars in all kinds of condition. I'm very good with my hands but, other than changing oil or spark plugs, my knowledge of cars is fairly limited.

The first car I found was a 1939 Super 8. This entire deal went down as fast as the Lusitania... Then I decided to watch Ebay. I very quickly learned the difference between what I liked and what I could afford. Shortly, I found a beautiful 1938 Packard 110 in my price range. What an elegant automobile. Headlamps on the fenders *and* running boards and visually, in very nice condition. I followed the auction to completion and the car didn't meet reserve. I waited until the next day and sent the owner a note, inquiring about the reserve. He told me what it was (I was surprised it would not require quantities of blood or any of my limbs) and I made an appointment to fly out and see him on Thursday. I flew to Hartsfield early Thursday morning and called when I arrived. I don't think he believed I would show and I think I surprised him a bit when I said I was in Atlanta. I had to explain I was a flight attendant and we're able to do crazy things like this. I rented a car and arrived about an hour later. The car was every bit as nice as the pictures had shown.

The gentleman explained that the car had belonged to his father and he had passed away two years earlier. His father had owned two vintage cars, a model T Ford and the Packard. He had sold the Ford before passing away and that was the only car the son had any interest in. We drove around the block and I noticed a pull in the steering wheel when the brakes were applied. I guessed one or more of the brake cylinders had seized from sitting for the two years. Also, when we returned to the garage the overflow from the radiator made a piddle/puddle... He made the comment, "That wouldn't have happened if my father were still here."

One Man's Bucket List



Undeterred, I made an offer. He said he would talk it over with his mom and would call back when I arrived in Virginia. I was on pins and needles for the return flight thinking, "what the hell did I just do?" I called as soon as I landed and was told the car was mine. I made arrangements to have the car shipped to Virginia and sent off a cashier's check.

About a week later, I was on a flight with a good friend. She came up and said, "I heard about the car, where's the pictures?" I pulled them out of my flight bag and showed them like a proud new papa. She said how nice the car looked and said, "ok, so, what was the age crisis?" "58", I said!" She paid me a compliment saying I didn't look my age at all. "Really" she said... "What year were you born?" "1957" I said. "Donald, your an idiot." she said. "I was born in 57 and I just had a birthday in May. I just turned 57. Your only 57! You'll have to give the car back."

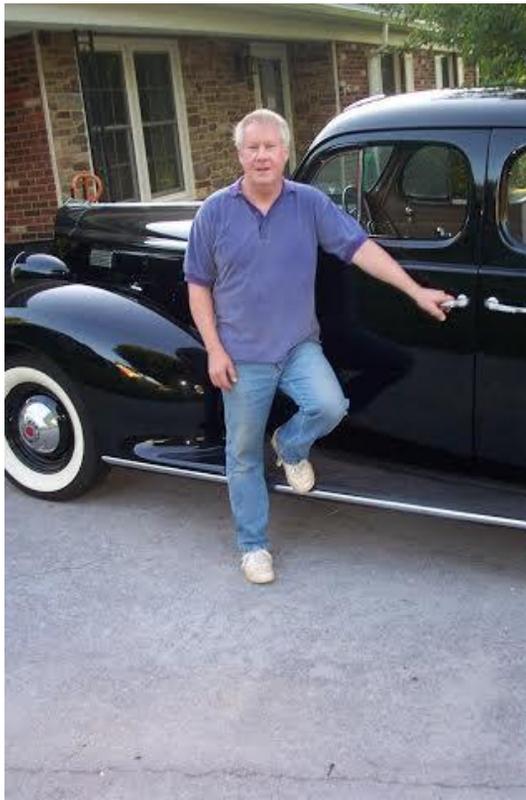


Donald's "Bucket List" beauty

So, I get to be 57 all over again. And as for the car, she sits proudly in the garage I had built for her. I named her Beulah as she's big, black, and beautiful. I managed to find an original pair of 1938 Virginia license plates and after sandblasting with walnut shells and repainting, she displays them well. As for the piddle/puddle, it turned out to be a stuck butterfly valve in the exhaust manifold.

The car has been one learning experience after another. First, I hadn't driven a stick in over thirty years. After several trips around the neighborhood and some slightly embarrassing gear grinding, it finally came back.

One Man's Bucket List



Donald with "Beulah"
at home in Front Royal

I understand Packard experimented with aluminum heads for a couple of years and Beulah still had hers. In learning how to replace head gaskets, I learned I would have to replace her head (for some reason, that just doesn't sound right) as it was very badly etched. I have to be careful driving her at night as the headlamps were never retrofitted with sealed beams and (like me at times) are not to bright.

I have also learned how to replace window regulator mechanisms, replace foggy window glass, and rubber window seals. I have learned that any accessory on the 110's had to be purchased and the only accessory purchased for mine was the heater, of which I also had to overhaul. Both the heater and defroster motors had completely frozen up. She is also sporting an original Packard accessory clock now.

I have a few feathers in my repair cap now and continue to learn and, most of all, enjoy the heck out of my entry level 1938 Packard 110.

I live in Front Royal Virginia and look forward to meeting everyone who attends the Henry Joy Tour in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.



Editor's note: Thanks for sharing this great story, Donald. And welcome to Packards Virginia!

20th Annual All Packard Indoor Swap Meet

Friday May 8 - Saturday May 9, 2015, 8am - 5pm Daily



SWAP MEET:

**Francis Scott Key American Legion Post #11
1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, MD 21701**

LODGING:

**Frederick Travelodge (behind Costco)
20 Monocacy Blvd. Frederick, MD
301 663-0500**

**All the parts and vendors you walk miles to find at Hershey.
Plus the fun of great Packard friends
from all over the U.S. under one roof.**

Come join us and be a part of it all!

**Contact: Bill or Sue Johnson at 301 384-4433 or billnsuer@aol.com
or visit our websites:**

**www.midatlanticpackards.org
packardsvirginia.wordpress.com**



Mid Atlantic Packards
& Packards Virginia

**20th ANNUAL
ALL PACKARD
INDOOR SWAP MEET
& PACKARD CAR SHOW
MAY 8 - 9, 2015**

Dear Packard Parts Vendor and Buyer:

The 2015 20th All Packard event will be held at ~~LAST YEAR'S LOCATION~~—the Francis Scott Key American Legion Post #11, 1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, MD 21701. The American Legion Post is climate-controlled, has an in-house restaurant. The host hotel is "Frederick Travelodge", 20 Monocacy Blvd. (behind COSTCO).

See hotel reservation information below. **Special early-bird dinner on Thursday evening;** dinner location: Alexanders. **Friday's** dining venue is "Dutch's Daughter". **Saturday's** closing dinner together to be held at a MAP favorite, "Monocacy Crossing".

Driving directions:

The Swap Meet is in Frederick, MD, just north of I-70, along US 15, at exit 16, which is Opossumtown Pike (northbound) and Metzer Ave. (southbound). Get off US 15 at exit 16 and proceed north on Opossumtown Pike. Turn left at the third light, Thomas Johnson Dr. Immediately turn left onto Taney Ave.

The American Legion entrance is two blocks ahead on Taney Ave., on the left. Vendor trailer parking is available at the American Legion Post's rear-most parking lot. Vendor load in/out is at the double doors at the rear of the building. Nearby conveniences include a Roy Rogers fast food restaurant, several more restaurants, and a Weis grocery store.

Load-in time: Thursday, May 7, Noon to 5 pm.

flea Market open to public: Fri. & Sat., 8 am to 5 pm.

Tear-down time: *OPTIONAL:* Sun., May 10, 8 am to Noon.

Packard Car Show: Friday and Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm.

Please make hotel reservations directly with Frederick Travelodge, (301) 663-0900.

Mention The Packard Club to receive special rate, starting at \$72.00 per night, plus tax.

Hotel Reservation deadline is April 10th

Vendor registration deadline is May 5th

Dinner reservations determined daily. *Don't forget Saturday Dinner at "Monocacy Crossing".*

Call or email with questions or further information: Bill or Sue Johnson (301) 384-4433.

billjohnson@pack.com



**20th Annual All-Packard INDOOR
Swap Meet & Car Show
May 8 - 10, 2015 in Frederick, MD**



**Plan on joining us Friday & Saturday, May 7 - 9, 2015
in Frederick, MD. at the American Legion's indoor
climate controlled event room, 8 - 5 daily.**

NEW HOST HOTEL

**The new host hotel will be "Frederick Travelodge",
located at 20 Monocacy Blvd., Frederick, MD.
\$72.00 per night (double), \$79.00 (for Queen or King)
plus state and local hotel tax. (301) 663-0500
Call before April 10th for this special club rate.**

The American Legion is located at exit 16 off US 15.

Once again special dinners are planned for each evening.

We hope you will join us.

Sponsored by:

Mid Atlantic Packards

www.midatlanticpackards.org

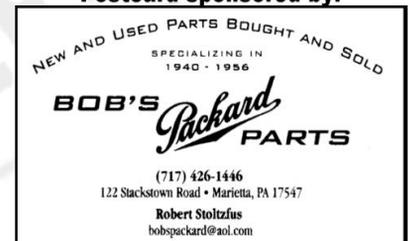
Packards Virginia

Packardsvirginia.wordpress.com

For more information call (301) 384-4433

or billnsuer@aol.com

Postcard sponsored by:



Vendor Registration

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Email – please print! _____
Phone – a/c _____ / _____ Mobile-a/c _____ / _____

Vending Space, size 10' X 8' deep How Many? ____ @ \$55.00 each = \$ _____
Vending Space, size 30" X 8', with 1 table, placed against wall -space is size of table only,
chair (included) space is in aisle - limit one-----@ \$25.00 each = \$ _____

Vending Space, outdoor parking space – limit one-----@ \$25.00 each = \$ _____
Tables, size 30 inches by 8 feet -----How many? _____ @ \$10.00 each = \$ _____
Chairs -----How many? _____ @ \$3.00 each = \$ _____
Car Corral -----How many? _____ @ \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Load-in time: Thursday, May 7, Noon to 5 pm.
Flea Market open to public: Fri. & Sat., 8 am to 5 pm.
Tear down time:

Vendors tearing down **after** 2pm on Saturday receive \$5.00 rebate per space.
OPTIONAL: Sun., May 10, 8 am to Noon.

Packard Car Show: Friday and Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm.

Dinners: reservations will be determined daily

Thursday, May 7th Alexanders How many? _____
Friday, May 8th Dutch's Daughter How many? _____
Saturday, May 9th Monocacy Crossing Restaurant How many? _____

**Please mail this form and your check, made payable to Mid Atlantic Packards,
to Packards Virginia – P.O. Box 4012 – Falls Church, VA 22044-0012**

Make your hotel reservations directly with the Frederick Travelodge,
20 Monocacy Blvd. *behind Costco* 301 663-0500.

Mention The Packard Club to receive special rate of \$72.00 per dbl,
and \$79.00 for King or Queen per night, plus tax. Reservation deadline is April 10th.
Any questions call or email Bill Johnson 301 384-4433, billInsuer@aol.com.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SIGNUP !



The Favor of Your Company is Requested As We Celebrate

Our Third Sweetheart Luncheon

**On
Saturday . . .**

February 14, 2015

At The Bavarian Inn, Shepardstown W.V.

11:30 AM

**R.S.V.P.
billnsuer@aol.com**

301 384-4433



28 MARCH 2015



On the 28th of March , it will be SPRING and DAYLIGHT Savings time will be here!! How much better can it get? And a great reason to get out your Packards. The MAP group will visit two garages with Packards in the Gettysburg PA area, and then adjourn to feast family style at the Hickory Bridge Farm. Famous for their cooking, you will not be disappointed! Family style will guarantee that no one leaves hungry!



Corn Fritters



Transport Needed!



Transport Needed!

Transportation sponsor needed for 1918 WW-I Packard Army truck to Washington, DC for Memorial Day Parade for May 25, 2015 and also for the Philadelphia 4th of July Parade. The Packard is 10 feet tall and weighs 10,000 pounds and requires a lowboy, drop deck or Landoll type trailer. Sponsor can ride with in the truck for each parade.

Contact Dave Lockard @ packardtruckdave@embarqmail.com, telephone [717-528-4920](tel:717-528-4920) home or [717-357-7445](tel:717-357-7445) cell.

Truck is located in and would load out and return to York Springs, PA.



2015 EVENT CALENDAR

JAN



FEB

14 Sweetheart Luncheon
(Shephardstown, WV)

22 Train & Old Car Day
(Fairfax, VA)

MAR

8 Jump-Start Brunch!
(Alexandria, VA)

28 Barn Tour and Lunch
(Gettysburg, PA)

APR

24-25 ODPC Tour
(Lancaster, PA)

MAY

8-9 All-Packards Indoor
Swap Meet
(Frederick, MD)

JUN

1 Packards Virginia
Picnic at the Virginia
State Arboretum
(Boyce, VA)

6 Orphan Car Tour
(West Friendship, MD)

13-15 Elegance at Hershey

JUL

12-18 PAC National
(Reading, PA)

AUG

SEP

13-17 Henry Joy Tour
(Front Royal, VA)

OCT

7-10 HERSHEY!

11 Packard Truck Show
(York Springs, PA)

17 The Rockville Show
(Rockville, MD)

NOV

DEC

**HAPPY
PACKARDING!**