



Director's Corner

PACKARDS WEEKEND IN SALADO

**47th Annual Texas Packard Meet
is now in the rear-view mirror**

Despite all the ominous weather forecasts for the weekend, the weather conditions held up beautifully – at least until Sunday morning when we were headed home.

We had 87 attendees at the banquet and 22 Packards in the parking lot, though 27 had been registered. Forecasts had consistently predicted heavy rain, between 60 and 90 percent for the weekend. While we still enjoyed a strong turnout of people, those predictions clearly affected how many cars made it to the Holiday Inn grounds.

As expected, the rain finally arrived Sunday morning, and depending on your route, the drive home was a very wet one.

Years ago, we installed two speed electric wipers to our '55 Clipper- this trip proved just how worthwhile that upgrade was and how much we appreciated them!

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Join the Baccaros and other LSP members at **Keels and Wheels Saturday and Sunday April 25 and 26 at the Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook.**

This event draws thousands of visitors and participants from around the country who enjoy the over 200 cars and boats exhibited each year. Keels and Wheels is dedicated to the preservation and recognition of antique, classic, vintage, collectable, and prestigious automobiles, boats, and other vehicles.



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HEART OF TEXAS

As in years past, the **Heart of Texas Region** kicked things off Thursday evening with Packard Bingo, along with prizes, ice cream and cookies. Many thanks to **Princess Miller and her team** for another fun and welcoming gathering.

EARLY BIRD TOUR

Friday morning's "Early Bird Tour" organized by **Gordon Logan** was outstanding and he really outdid himself this year! This year's destination was Lampasas. The route through the countryside was a winding road through some really scenic areas including large hills (this coastal native considered some of them closer to small mountains than hills!) One unexpected steep descent followed by a sharp climb caused me to cross my fingers that our "treadle vac power brake " wouldn't fail and fortunately it did not.

Lampasas is the home of the Ford Museum located in a late 1800 building that housed the second Ford dealer granted a franchise in the state of Texas. It was just 4 months behind the first to get a Texas franchise located in Houston. In those early days, Model T Fords were shipped by train in partially assembled form and the dealership was located near the tracks. Therefore, there was a room set aside for final assembly (1913).

We were treated to a guided tour of the facility including the show room, shop, and the assembly room. The museum houses a number of remarkable vehicles, and we enjoyed the curator's presentation that explained what was special with each of the cars. This museum is well-worth a trip to Lampasas.

Seventeen Packards participated in the tour.

EVENING AT BARROW BREWERY

Friday at 5:30 we paraded out of the Hotel parking lot escorted by three Salado Police Cars heading to the Barrow Brewery. Once there, we parked along the grassy area next to the Salado Creek near the Brewery. Our display drew plenty of attention from locals to see our cars and the cars were easily visible

to those passing over the bridge, Last year it was too wet to park on the grass so we had to stay on the pavement. Friday it was all dry and a perfect place to show cars.

After the cars were parked, we were entertained by a band at the brewery, and we had the choice of walking to several nearby restaurants or visiting one of the food trucks serving at the brewery.

SATURDAY CAR SHOW AND SWAP MEET

On Friday night, there was a light shower, so we had to wipe down our cars before the annual Saturday show and display. Fortunately, the grassy area at the hotel was dry enough that we could still have our swap meet.

In addition to the members voting for their favorite cars, more locals came out to look at the Packards. Unfortunately, due to the forecast, our Saturday morning food truck failed to show. That did present a problem, so we will do our best to have that covered during the show next year.

DIRECTORS MEETING

As usual, the 4 directors plus **chair emeritus, Beverly Clark Teel** met during the morning show to discuss matters dealing with this meet and the 2027 meet.

We were privileged to have **Steve Christy and Christopher Slater** present. Both are vice presidents of PAC. **Steve** discussed up-coming national meets plus they clarified some matters for us.

We agreed that **Chris Stathopulo** would research the possibility of **online registration for the meet** and report back to the other directors by conference call or maybe Zoom.

We also decided that at least for next year, the dinner price would be underwritten from the meet treasury. The price per meal will be capped at \$25 and the balance paid from the meet treasury.

We also acknowledged we will need a new meet registrar for 2027. I asked that there be a box on the

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application form that asks if you are going to drive a Packard on the Friday tour and how many passengers you anticipate will be coming. This info is needed by **Gordon** as he plans our yearly tour and all agreed to add it to the form.

We discussed our agreements with the Holiday Inn and agreed to make no changes. We stressed that the last day the hotel will guarantee rooms can be added to our block needs to be published and emphasized. After that date, they will sell rooms to first come first served. We agreed to stress that date to members so they don't wait too late to make reservations. With the 72-hour cancellation policy, there is no need to wait so late to get lodging.

TECHNICAL MEETING

Terry Weiss as is tradition gave another educational and sometime humorous session on maintaining our Packards.

Special emphasis was on electrical systems, some lubrication issues, and the scarcity of good quality ignition points. **Terry** has a wealth of knowledge and we really appreciate him sharing it with us each year.

NATIONAL PACKARD MUSEUM

Following Terry's program, **Mary Ann Porinchak** and **Charles Ohlin** from the National Packard Museum in Warren, Ohio took over.

Mary Ann discussed building plans and the need to expand in order to adequately store and maintain Packards donated to the museum.

Charles read letters and various documents from the teen years of Packard detailing what customers actually thought of their automobiles and some of the factory communications between principals of the company spoke to the level of quality they were seeking to attain and maintain. Very interesting!

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET

The Saturday awards banquet was another success as 87 guests were treated to some

of the best BBQ Texas has to offer thanks to Johnny's BBQ and Steaks.

Your director had a few opening remarks and shared some history of the meet. We asked our own **Stephen Morris** to lead us in a prayer.

The first guest we recognized was **Salado Mayor Pro-Tem, Zach Hurst** who welcomed us and thanked us for continuing to make Salado our home base. We then introduced guests from the National Club and **Steve** spoke briefly as well as **Mary Ann**, the director of the National Packard Museum.

AWARDS BY NORTH TEXAS REGION

Following the introductory program we had our meal.

Once everyone had finished eating, the **North Texas Region** took over by presenting the awards. Many of the 30 plus LSP members present got awards. Thanks to **Chris Stathopulo** and **Mark Wilson** for again creating the slide show featuring the winners and every car in the meet.

Sunday morning, we finally got the rain the weather people said was coming, but thankfully it held off until our meet had concluded.

We all said goodbye and see you next year, April 1-4, 2027. Tommy



From your Editor....

For the first time in LSP history, the Owners Manual has used AI for writing assistance. Not all of Tommy's article is AI, but I just wanted to see how AI works. See if you can tell where AI sentences were used.

So here we are - Tommy's caricature picture is ChatGPT created by his nephew. I can compress a pdf file and learning how to ChatGPT!

I am a technically challenged senior citizen, but you can teach an old dog new tricks.



- 1 Carol Baccaro
- 1 Evelyn Timmins
- 7 Trudy Hammac
- 7 Paula Holzband
- 13 Bob Supina
- 19 Dixie Grimes
- 21 Doug Carlson



**Our April birthday folks
Doug and Carol at Salado!**

Going down the road 2026....

- January 19** - San Jacinto Monument
- February 21** – Funeral Museum in Spring, TX
- March 22** - Skeeters Grill in Kingwood, TX
- April 9-11** - 47th TX Packard Meet Salado, TX
- April 25–26** Keels & Wheels, Seabrook, TX
- May TBD



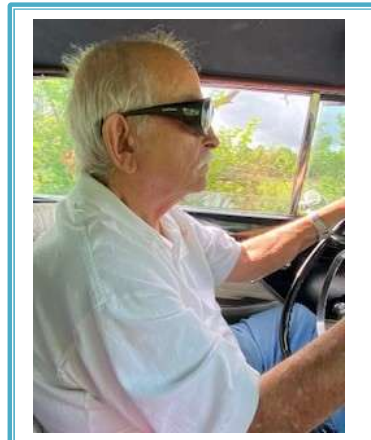
**Your LSP
Market Place really works!**

Recently our member **Bob Bucher** bought **Sherry's** 1955 Caribbean!

Some months ago, **Jay Mathews** bought **Ed Flemings's** 1929 8 Cyl 626 Series, model 339 Conv. Coupe.

Herman Dentler bought Jack Sartin's ?? Packard just before the other cars went to the Mecum auction.

This publication helped to find new homes for these three Packards and keep them in LSP!





Lining up for Early Bird Tour



In Lampas at the Ford Museum





Terry Weiss leading technical session



???



Salado Mayor???



Regional Officers

- Director:** Tommy Baccaro
832-905-3904
- Assistant Director:** John Lortz
832-746-8078
- Treasurer:** Tony & Shirley Darrow
713-449-8803
- Secretary/Benevolence:** Carol Baccaro
baccaro3@verizon.net
- Membership:** Stephen Morris
sjammorris@hotmail.com
- Publications:** Janice Carter
Janice.carter25@yahoo.com
- 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
- Technical Post-war:** John Lortz

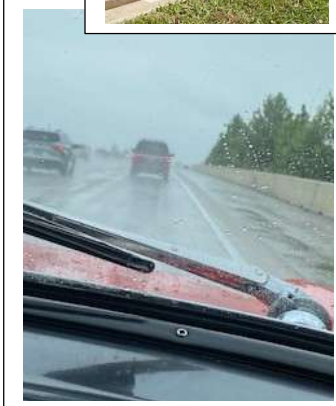
Lone Star Packards was chartered by Packard Automobile Classics (PAC) in 1964. Our charter requires that Lone Star Packard members also be members of the Packard Automobile Classics. For information, please contact our treasurer.

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281-635-2267_janice.carter25@yahoo.com.

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AND NOW ASK THE WOMAN WHO OWNS ONE**



The wet drive home!