



# The Owner's Manual/Newsletter

Official Publication of The Lone Star Packards



## KEELS & WHEELS SPECIAL ISSUE

April, 2026

### Director's Corner

#### The sun has set on the 30th Keels and Wheels Concours d' Elegance.

I think the Baccaro family has entered all but three or four of the yearly shows. We have collected **two Corinthian awards. one for our newly restored 1955** in one of the very early years and **one for our 1947 Custom Clipper** just last year. With various cars in our collection, we also **have four of the silver cups given for second place.**

#### THE INTERESTING PEOPLE WE MET

Having said that, getting trophy's is not the most important part of Keels and Wheels. We value being able to meet so many interesting people. One such man approached me Sunday morning. He said his grandfather was the Packard dealer in El paso for many years. He has some memorabilia and pictures from the dealership he would like to share with us.

He also said he has been keeping his eye open for a Packard belonging to one of our members that he would like to buy.

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### MAY MEETING

We 're getting together on Saturday, May 16 at 11:30 at Evelyn Timmins car barn. She's treating us to a catered lunch and will give us a tour of her car collection.

RSVP to Tommy by Wednesday, May 13 so that Evelyn can order enough food for everyone.

Evelyn's address is:  
2120 Lundy Lane  
Friendswood, TX 77546

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Since the person is a friend of mine, he asked me if the owner was tired of the Packard yet. I told him I knew of no reason why he should be, but if I ever heard different, I would let him know. I told him I would add him to our mailing list.

Another family came by to admire our 1954 Cavalier. It consisted of a young couple in their mid to late 20's and one of their mothers. The girl told us they were originally from California and her grandfather had been a Packard dealer in Santa Anna. He actually had several dealerships in the area and they were called **Ackard Packard**. I gave them all the information I could remember on our '54 but when I told her the original owner was a doctor in that area and the car was still there in 1972 when it was restored at Custom Auto in Santa Anna. Then they really got excited because there was a high probability that our Cavalier had been originally purchased at her grandfather's Packard dealership. They took pictures of the family by the car and they took pictures of the car by itself to share with other family members. We were really very happy to have made the day one to remember for this family.

#### ***FOUND A NEW MEMBER***

Another really great thing happened. We discovered that the couple showing the **black 1947 Custom Clipper lives in Kingwood**. They were most happy to discover there was a Packard club in Houston as they had only moved here a year ago from out of state.

Stephen got an application to them and they quickly filled it out and gave me their dues. **Please welcome Fred and Taffy Elchlepp to our club**. They are a nice couple and I think they will fit in nicely with our Packard family.

#### ***AWARD FOR EVELYN TIMMINS***

Evelyn Timmins got a special award for her years of service to the Keels and Wheels show and she was

also named the **Collector of the Year**. She displayed 8 cars this year and of course our favorite is the 1920 Packard Twin Six. It was placed prominently near the entrance where all could see.

You will find more details about the honors given to Evelyn on pages 3 & 4.

#### ***OUR CLUB WINNERS THIS YEAR***

**Stephen and Lyn Morris received a second in postwar class award for their 1949 Custom. It is well deserved.**

**First place went to a red and white '54 Caribbean that was entered in the post war Packard class.**

Members **James and Eileen Bartlett** did not bring a Packard but they did win with their Huppmobile. Beautiful as are all of their cars!

#### ***MAY LSP MEETING***

Speaking of Evelyn, she has kindly invited us to have our May 16th meeting in her car barn in Friendswood. If you have not seen the collection she and Tom, put together, you really need to try and make this meeting as she may be selling some in the future. She will provide a catered lunch in the barn.

**For June, the Orr's will arrange for us to meet in the Richmond/Rosenberg area.** If the private room of the Old Railroad Cafe is ready, we will meet there. If not, a suitable alternative will be found. The cafe is open following repairs from the fire but the private room is still being worked on.

Happy Packarding, Tommy



## Evelyn Timmins: Keels & Wheels Collector of the Year

Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance is proud to honor **Evelyn Timmins** as this year's **Collector of the Year**—a recognition that celebrates not only an extraordinary collection of pre-war automobiles, but also a lifetime of devotion, partnership, preservation, and generosity within the antique car community.

To know Evelyn Timmins as a collector is to understand that her journey into the hobby did not begin with a lifelong fascination for automobiles. In fact, by her own account, she “was never into cars.” That changed through her life with her husband, Tom, whose deep love for old automobiles gradually became a shared passion and, ultimately, a defining part of their life together. Over the years, what began with a single purchase became an eclectic and unforgettable collection of rare and unusual pre-war cars—many of them marques unfamiliar even to seasoned enthusiasts.

Their first collector car, purchased in 1995 at the Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg auction in Auburn, Indiana, was a **1931 Auburn seven-passenger sedan**. At the time, Evelyn did not envision a “collection” in the making. But as Tom's enthusiasm deepened, so did the couple's shared life in the hobby. The family fishing boat was eventually sold to fund the purchase of a second car, a **1929 Auburn Cabriolet**, and from there the Timmins collection continued to grow in its own distinctive direction.

If one word best describes the Timmins collection, Evelyn says it is “**eclectic**.” That is no understatement. Rather than chasing the obvious blue-chip classics, Tom was drawn to the unusual, the overlooked, and the historically fascinating. Evelyn recalls that many visitors, upon seeing the collection, would remark that they had never even heard of most of the cars. Tom liked it that way. He was not a “gotta have a Duesenberg” collector. As Evelyn put it, “give me a Dort!” That love of the uncommon became one of the collection's defining qualities and one of its greatest charms.

Among the many cars with memorable stories, two stand out especially. One is the couple's **1920 Packard Twin Six**, a grand touring automobile that Evelyn loved because it was, in her words, “a big car where I can wear a big hat and sit like a lady.” The other is the remarkable **1913 Trumbull**, a rare cyclecar with a story that connects automotive history to world history. Evelyn recounts how Isaac Trumbull, believing England would be the ideal market for his small economy car, set sail in 1915 with hopes of securing orders overseas—only to perish aboard the *Lusitania* when it was torpedoed off the Irish coast. The survival of a Trumbull today makes the car more than an antique; it is a rolling historical artifact.

For Evelyn and Tom, collecting was never just about ownership. It was about use, fellowship, and the joy of sharing. Touring, showing, restoring, and traveling became part of the fabric of their marriage. Tom handled the mechanical and restoration work, often doing everything short of painting in the early years. Evelyn helped clean, organize, plan trips, reserve lodging, care for the dogs, pack supplies, and do whatever needed doing to keep the adventure going. Together, they built not only a collection, but a life.

And what a life it was. Their travels took them across the country on tours, rallies, and concours events, always surrounded by the camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts. Evelyn remembers the antique car world as a place of extraordinary kindness and cooperation. If they ever pulled over with trouble, it would not be long before several people gathered around the car, diagnosing the problem and pitching in to help. That spirit of mutual support became one of the great joys of the hobby for Evelyn. Among all the events they attended, one stood apart: **Keels & Wheels**. Evelyn says it was the one event they never missed. She believes they began attending around the second year, and now, at the 30th anniversary, her connection to the event remains deeply personal. Even after Tom's passing, Evelyn continued bringing cars to the show, with help from the Keels & Wheels family.

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That perseverance speaks volumes about her loyalty, her strength, and her belief in the importance of carrying forward what she and Tom built together.

Tom himself clearly left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him. Evelyn describes him as a “super people person,” someone who loved talking with others about the hobby and who would do anything to help. He delighted in reviving old machinery, in finding unusual cars, and in seeing others enjoy them. Whether helping a neighbor celebrate a birthday with a ride in a seven-passenger antique or using one of his cars to make a wedding day special in exchange for a charitable donation, Tom lived the hobby with generosity and heart.

Today, Evelyn sees herself as owner, caretaker, and historian all at once. She loves telling the stories behind the cars, and those stories are inseparable from the story of her life with Tom. The collection represents more than machinery or milestones. It represents shared happiness, hard work, companionship, discovery, and memory. It represents long roads, laughter, setbacks, friendships, and the beauty of preserving pieces of the past for others to enjoy.

When asked what she hopes people remember about her and Tom as collectors, Evelyn’s answer is simple and deeply moving: that they were “just plain folks enjoying a wonderful hobby together,” and that they were always glad to share the stories and the cars with others.

That spirit is exactly why Evelyn Timmins is such a worthy **Collector of the Year**.

Her collection is remarkable. Her stewardship is admirable. But above all, her story reminds us that the greatest collections are never just about the cars. They are about the lives built around them, the people who keep them alive, and the love that gives them meaning.

**Congratulations, Evelyn Timmins—Collector of the Year.**

**Congratulations Evelyn from LSP**



Evelyn’s 1920 Twin six Packard



Evelyn and Tom



Driving to K&W



Our new members Fred & Taffy Elchlepp 1947



Stephen's 2<sup>nd</sup> Place award



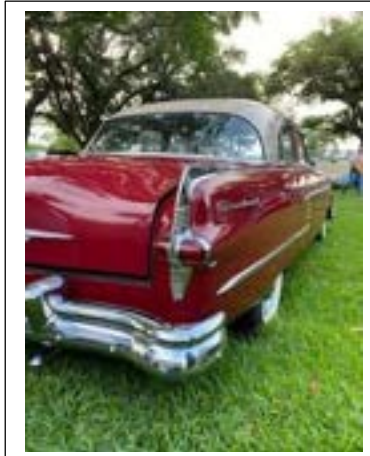
Stephen's 1949 Custom



Baccaro's 1940 160 Club Sedan



Baccaro's 1954 Cavalier front view

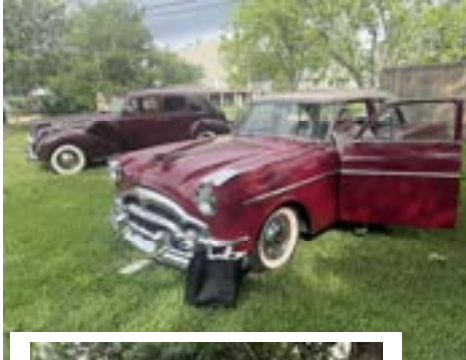


Baccaro's '54 Cavalier rear view





Tommy talking to judges



### Regional Officers

<b>Director:</b>	<b>Tommy Baccaro</b> 832-905-3904
<b>Assistant Director:</b>	<b>John Lortz</b> 832-746-8078
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Tony &amp; Shirley Darrow</b> 713-449-8803
<b>Secretary/Benevolence:</b>	<b>Carol Baccaro</b> <a href="mailto:baccaro3@verizon.net">baccaro3@verizon.net</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Stephen Morris <a href="mailto:siamorris@hotmail.com">siamorris@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Publications:</b>	<b>Janice Carter</b> <a href="mailto:Janice.carter25@yahoo.com">Janice.carter25@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Activities:</b>	<b>Chris Baccaro</b> 281-796-9131
<b>Historians:</b>	<b>Carol Baccaro</b> <b>Anthony Baccaro</b>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Doug Carlson</b> 281-391-6203
<b>Technical Pre-war:</b>	<b>Leon Ahlers</b> 281-324-9393
<b>Technical Post-war:</b>	<b>John Lortz</b>

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The Owner's Manual/Newsletter is published monthly. Editorial office located in Richmond, TX 77406  
[281-635-2267](tel:281-635-2267) [janice.carter25@yahoo.com](mailto:janice.carter25@yahoo.com).

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