The Owner's Manual/Newsletter

Official Publication of The Lone Star Packards

Lone Star Packards Houston, Texas Founded 1974

★ October, 2026 — Issue 9 ★

★ DIRECTOR'S CORNER ★

Greetings LSP families and friends!

On 10/24, **Jay and Mary Matthews** hosted us again in Bellville. First, we met at the Kenney Store in nearby Kenney, Texas. According to Google, the building which houses this unique former country store is 130 years old. It is now the home of a great country cooking restaurant, bar and entertainment center. This is our second visit and it was great. If you have not been, it is worth the drive. Thanks to Jay and Mary for again providing us with a fun and delicious eatery followed by hosting us at their nearby home for dessert and a tour of the car collection. We held our business meeting in their living room.

We were expecting 24 or 25 but circumstances interfered or as the saying goes, "life happens". Unfortunately, our assistant director, **John Lortz**, was hospitalized Friday and is still undergoing tests etc. **John** received a cardiac pacemaker 2 weeks ago but this latest episode does not seem related. Please keep **John** in your prayers for a quick recovery. **Evelyn** texted and let us know she has had a sinus problem and is still battling a sore throat and thus she and her guest would not be coming. Last but not least, membership chairperson, **Stephen Morris**, broke down in Waller with a cooling problem on his Packard. He let it cool off, added some more coolant and headed home. It does appear to

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★ LAST EVENT & LUNCHEON OF 2026 ★

Nov. 14 – Car Show w/Holiday Vendors - Spring

December 5 – Christmas Luncheon at BB's Restaurant @ 59 and North Park in the Kroger Center



The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.

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have a leak in the cooling system or possibly a thermostat problem. Counting our hosts, we had 20 at the meeting.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Let's give a big thank you to those who drove their Packards to the Kenney store.

Gordon Clunn and son Adam drove their beautiful **1941 160 convertible** from their home in Chapell Hill.

Jay brought the **'29 convertible** over to the store display and **Dave and Linda Richards** drove their very presentable **'29 mostly original Packard** all the way from Fred, Texas - that's a round trip of 350 miles!

Bob along with guest, Lee Brown, drove the beautiful **white 1989 Lincoln Town Car.** We had the privilege of driving that car from Bob's home all the way to Salado one year. We drove to his place in our '48 lwb but one of the rear wheel cylinders locked up and it was not drivable. **Bob** graciously let us drive the Lincoln and leave our Packard to deal with on the way home. Loved driving it!

I worked really hard Thursday getting a Packard ready to make the approximately 200-mile round trip from League City to Bellville but when the time came, we decided to ride in airconditioned comfort driving much faster (age is catching up to me). It is getting cooler now so maybe we will soon see more Packards at our meetings.

CLUB CHANGES

There are some changes that are coming to our club.

First, after 10 years as our editor, **Janice** will be stepping down as our Owner's Manual editor after the December issue. We owe Jan a lot for keeping us informed and really putting out a quality publication. She won the Snodgrass Award twice for the best newsletter in the national club. It takes her a good deal of time to put our little publication together. She deserves a rest, but we will always be grateful for her contributions to our success. If you are interested, please give me a call so we can discuss what it entails.

Second, we are moving the roster from the Membership chairperson to the new office of Roster Keeper. **Stephen** will remain the membership director looking for potential members and getting them signed up.

Former director and editor **Bob Supina** will become our new Roster Director. We appreciate Bob stepping up to fill this role!

Third, due to some health issues of her own, **Carol** would like to be replaced as the person who sends get well cards, sympathy cards etc. The club will pay for postage and the cost of cards. Please let us know if you're willing to fill this position.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Ponderosa Forest car show** on **November 14th,** which will be our meeting for the month.

December 5th we will have our **Christmas luncheon** at BB's in the Porter area. We hope to see you at these functions and many others in the future.

Happy Packarding, Tommy

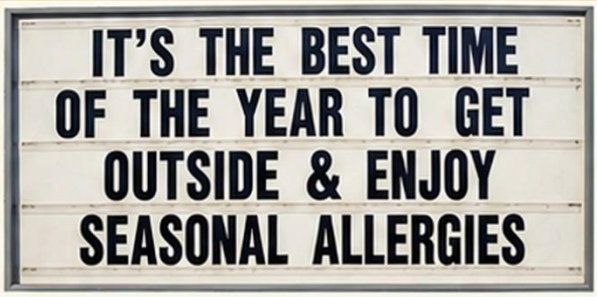


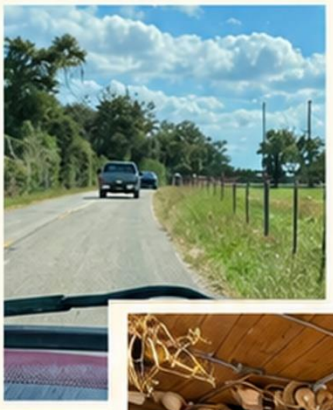
CONGRATULATIONS TO JILL BURTCHELL

She is happy to let us know her J8 took **first place in Division II, Post-war cars at The Studebaker International Show in Wajaahatchie.** Her '58 Packard Scored 360 out of possible 400.

The Studebaker club allows 57/58 Packards as they were built in the Studebaker plant on a Studebaker platform.







Driving down the road to **Jay & Mary's** house



Mary with Rita and Tony
Owners of The Kenney Store
wearing aprons she gave them from her mother and father's collection.





Dave Richards '29 Packard made the 350-mile round trip from Fred, Tx and enjoyed good ole country cooking! He says it was worth the trip!



The Darrow's
deciding what to order!



Jay's '29 Packard convertible, **Richard's** green '29 Packard, and **Gordon's** red '41 Packard convertible



Lee Brown, Bob Supina and **Jay** probably discussing the engine in his new '29 Packard he just added to his collection



October Birthdays
David Timberlake & Anthony Baccaro



4	Chuck Fleming
9	Richard Wilken
13	Fred Elchlepp
11	Trecy Wilken
15	Lisa Hackney
16	Barry Hackney
24	Robert Bucher
26	Anthony Baccaro
28	Herman Dentler
28	Cash Lortz
28	John Payne
30	Kim Ess
31	Christine Dover
31	David Timberlake



October Birthdays
New Members - Barry and Lisa Hackney
Standing by Jay and Mary's '48 Custom Packard Convertible

Editor's Note:

As Tommy mentioned at the October meeting, I will be stepping away from my editor role of the Owner's Manual with my last issue in December.

Ben and I took this position from Mike Calistrat and together we learned how to get this done. It has been enjoyable putting together all the photos, humorous snippets, car stories and working alongside Tommy and Carol. However, after doing this for 10 years, I'm ready to give it up as I just don't feel I can give the role the time and dedication it deserves.

I really hope someone else will step up and take over the editor position to keep our momentum going.

Please reach out to me as I'm happy to share my templates, notes and guidelines. I am ready to hand them over and make the transition easy for the next person to settle in. The club needs this publication to keep everyone connected and engaged.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR PACKARD V8

We drove our 55 Custom Clipper to Salado last April. Several times at stoplights, I felt it was running rough. It does have the Petronics Electronic Ignition that we installed years ago. I think that was at least 10 years ago and it has not had a tune up since.

My mechanic son Chris suggested we change the spark plugs and wires. John Lortz, our technical advisor as well as vice president, reminded me that Petronics recommends the carbon filament (suppression wires) be used with their units rather than the copper centered we are most familiar with. I had missed that important info.

I tried all the major parts stores in League City, and none had that kind of wire. I remember in my early driving days we would use the suppression wires to avoid static on our radios. I called the Petronics Tech line and they said they normally could help me but they were currently out of the suppression wires. However, they could refer me to someone that had all types. They told me to call Brillman Antique Wire & Supplies at 888 274 5562. They had both types of the wire but could only offer me the raw wire because they did not have a ready-made set with the end connectors installed for a 55 Packard. They offered to custom make a set at no extra charge if I would send them the measurements of each spark plug wire. I went out to the garage to measure. As I looked at the engine, for some reason I remembered the engine on the 56 Olds (one of the cars I wish I still had) that I drove to high school and college. I remembered the distributor was behind the carburetor on the Olds just like it is on my Packard. I called Brillman back and asked if they had the suppression wires to fit a 56 Olds. "Oh yes, we have both types ready made to fit the Oldsmobile". I told them I thought that would fit my Packard V8 so send me a set. She said please let us know if they fit so we can add that to our catalog. Sure enough, they were almost a perfect fit. All the wires were able to go through the wire brackets on our Packard V8 with the exception of the last plug on passenger side. It would reach the distributor without a problem but could not go through the Packard bracket that separate the wires and still reach the distributor. While the Olds distributor is directly behind the carburetor, the Packard distributor is just a little off towards the driver side. I let them know they could update their records and they were grateful. They said the Olds set is the same for 55-57 so if you need new wires for your Packard V8, you now have another source. I might add that some of our regular Packard parts vendors probably have ready-made wire sets for your V8 but might not have the suppression wires if you need them.

Note, this does not apply to the 57/58 Packards as those engines are actually Studebaker V8's. Pretty sure those are available through Studebaker vendors.

Tune 'em up! Tommy



Jay ready to eat!



Bob arrived in class in his 1989 Lincoln Town Car



Jay's new addition to his collection
'29 Packard convertible



Dave Timberlake
trying to read sign on Jay's Willis



Tommy Baccaro
Long time LSP Director



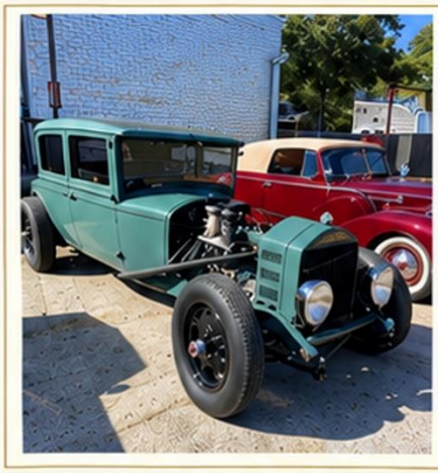
Adam Clunn
cranking up Jay's Buick



Bob Supina and **Lee Brown**



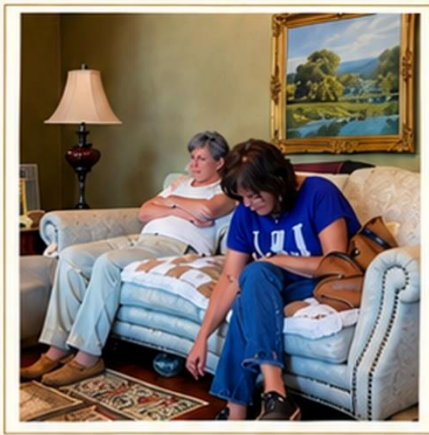
Tommy, Bob and Lee
waiting for the meeting to start



Gordon's red '41 and
Richard's green '29



Gordon, David, Linda & Adam
visiting while waiting for lunch



Barry Hackney and Sandra Lucas
getting comfortable for the meeting



Guys checking out the Packards



Ponderosa Forest Auto Show, 2026

Saturday, November 14, 2026, 10 am - 2 pm
Canyon Creek Park, 17907 Canyon Creek Rd., Houston
Antiques, Classics, Sports Cars, Hot Rods, Customs, Muscle Cars...
"All "Interesting" cars of any age are welcome"

Registration is $10 (pay & check) OR on unwrapped toy for "Santa at the Fire Station"
Registration/check-in updates and information. You may do either at the show.

Scan the QR code to go to the registration page,
or go to: **https://tinyurl.com/PonderosaAutoShow2026**
If you have questions, email:
PonderosaAutoShow@gmail.com
or TEXT: **713-597-1499**
For updates: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ponderosaautoshow



Tommy found a way to make a lift with Carol's suggestions to change the oil on his '55 Packard.

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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AND NOW ASK THE WOMAN WHO OWNS ONE