



# The Owner's Manual/Newsletter

Official Publication of The Lone Star Packards



SEPTEMBER 2022

Issue 8

## Director's Corner

Greetings, LSP family!

Late Saturday morning, we had 18 LSP members brave the heat and construction on the Gulf Freeway to meet at Rudy's in Webster, Texas. We started out with about 30 RSVPs, but things do come up and many could not make it. A big thanks goes to **John** for bringing the beautiful '56 400, **Lonnie** for bringing the nicest '55 Clipper hard top you will ever see, **Stephen** for bringing the stately prize winning '49 Deluxe and **Carol** for driving her sporty red and white '55 Clipper Custom, **Anthony and I** drove the rare '40 160 Club Sedan. I think 93 other LSP Packards were there in spirit!

We did make this an informative and fun meeting.

I read a story from a recent issue of the Hagerty Driver's Club which revealed that Cadillac was originally a Ford Motor Company product. Who knew?! It was bought by William Durant in 1909 and since has been closely identified with General Motors.

**Stephen** also gave out some info on a car show he is organizing in his neighborhood. See his flyer on this page.

*Continued on page 2*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Directors Corner Continued
- 3** Pretty Good Steering Wheels
- 4** September Birthdays, Calendar of Events
- 5** Pictures from Saturday
- 6** More Pictures
- 7** John & Lynn Eanes Business Recognition



**Saturday, October 1**

**10:00 am until 4:00 pm**

Canyon Creek Park in Ponderosa Forest subdivision  
(north of 1960 between Ella and Kuykendahl)

In conjunction with our Fall Festival, Ponderosa Forest subdivision is sponsoring an auto show. The festival is a KID-FRIENDLY event — with face painting and food — and the crowd will be mostly people who would not otherwise attend a car show. So this is an opportunity to hook new people and a younger generation on our hobby. Audience Choice awards will be given in two categories — over 16 and under 16.

No registration fee — but let us know you are coming: Please send your Name, Email, Car year and make to:

**PonderosaAutoShow@outlook.com**

We will send you more information closer to the show!

## LSP September Membership Report

We have **53** families and a total of 99 people on our roster.

**49 Pre-War**  
**49 Post War**  
**98 Total Packards**

Email Ben if you have acquired another Packard or let one go. Also, any other information that needs to be changed. We want to keep our records as accurate as possible.

Thank you for your assistance.

*Continued from Page 1*

I asked **Lynn Eanes** to tell us about the award she and **John** recently received for excellent business management. Congratulations! See more on page 7.

**John Dalton** shared his experience at the auction held in Auburn, Indiana. His intention was to buy a Packard but it went higher than he was willing to go but he did bring home a "boat tail" Hudson. **John** also related how much help LSP member **Mike Grimes** has been to him in securing parts for his Packard restorations. **Mike** now works in sales at Max Merritt. **John** also told of his success in utilizing the information available to us in the Cormorant's list of Roster Keepers that can assist with each year/model of Packard. This has been a beneficial resource to him and others may need this as well.

**John Lortz** told about the trip, he Donna and John II made to a car festival in Tennessee. They had a great time.

**Jan** reported the September birthdays and included a short humorous poem she wrote on reaching age 80!

#### **Upcoming Meetings – Mark your calendar**

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, October 15th**. We will meet at 11:30 at the Spaghetti Western Restaurant, 1608 Shepherd Drive, in the Heights area of Houston. Following lunch, we will travel a short distance to 1401 Yale where Ed Fleming will have his car collection displayed on the back parking lot of Fleming Instrument Repair. He will also take us for a tour of his business which I know a lot of old band people like myself will enjoy seeing. Might be interesting to find out how many of us did play in either high school or college bands and what instrument we played.

**Saturday, November 19th** we return to the Ole Railroad Cafe in historic downtown Rosenberg. We always have a great turn out of people and Packards when we meet here! The weather should be cooler so bring your Packard!

We will return to Porter, Texas for our Christmas get together at the Pueblo Vejo Restaurant on **SUNDAY, December 4th at 1 PM**, More details to follow on these up-coming meetings.

Now that we have scheduled all our meetings for 2022, we need to start thinking of 2023. Anyone with an idea for an interesting place please let Chris know.

I must apologize for our abrupt departure. We had out of town relatives who were here for a medical checkup on Friday and they were planning on seeing us after they got the results Saturday before heading back to Henderson. The report from MD Anderson was excellent and they finished earlier than expected. They were already waiting at our house so we needed to cut and run.

Happy Packarding..... Tommy



***Pumpkin spice and everything nice, that's what fall is made of***

***Fall begins September 22***

**If paying a cashier a living wage will make prices go up. Why doesn't replacing cashiers with Self Checkouts make prices go down?**

*They should bundle all the streaming services together and call it cable.*



### **Pretty Good Steering Wheels** *We Make 'em Ourselves - We Don't Have to But We Do and This is the Way We Do It*

The mahogany in rims of Packard steering wheels comes from Mexico. The aluminum comes from one or more of eight or ten Bauxite mines, located in different parts of the United States.

#### ***The Spider***

Cast in the Packard Foundry.

Spruce, fins, etc., are chipped off.

Spider is sent to rough stock department and from rough stock to machine shop.

Whole surface is ground to find if there are any blow-holes.

Hole bored through center of boss for spark adjusting rod.

Upper side of boss, rim, arms, and lugs are faced in lathe.

Wheel is reversed in lathe, and the underside of boss and rim are faced.

Boss is counterbored to form socket for flange on steering column,

The small boss, where spark lever is attached is milled.

Side surfaces of spider-arms are milled to finish dimensions on two different machines, milling cutters of proper size being used to machine the inner and outer corners on the correct radius.

Entire wheel is surfaced with file and emery paper.

Multiple drill is used for three small holes part way through throttle quadrant lugs.

Remainder of holes are made with smaller drill.

These three holes are countersunk, and tapped.

Four holes are drilled for attaching steering post.

Those four holes are countersunk and tapped.

Wheel is polished and enameled.

#### ***The Rim***

The mahogany covering of the wheel is made in two rings, upper and lower and assembled over the aluminum rim of the spider.

The top and bottom rings are rough cut to shape on a band saw, in quarter sections to run with the grain all around.

Ends are trimmed on sliding knife cutter to make perfect joint.

Ends are joined with glue and fastened with draw clamps.

When the glue is dry, the rings are fastened to a form, and put in lathe; one side of the upper ring is turned and faced to make even contact with the aluminum ring of the spider; in the lower ring a groove is cut for the reception of the rim of the spider. A slight lateral play in the groove is allowed to prevent splitting of the rim from swelling of the wood.

The lower section of the rim is drilled in a jig for twelve screws, the head of which are countersunk. These screws pass through the rim of the spider into the upper ring.

The upper and lower sections are assembled on the spider, glued, clamped, and screwed together and the counter-sinks filled with mahogany plugs.

Left to dry for three to six hours.

Wheel is mounted on a lathe and turned to its final diameter.

"Gaining" for joints, where the wooden rim extends onto the arms of the spider, is done on a machine made in the Packard tool room especially for that purpose.

The arm extensions of rim are put on in the same manner as the rim proper, in top and bottom sections.

Carvers trim the rim, extensions, and joints.

The wheel is stained, filled, shellacked, rubbed down with pumice stone and finally polished.

#### ***34 of the 57***

The list of various metals regularly carried in our store rooms, for use in the construction of Packard cars, includes:

lead, copper, tin, zinc, antimony, aluminum, three grades of brass, five varieties of bronze, domestic and imported iron castings, steel castings, domestic and Swedish wrought iron and fifteen distinct grades of special steels.

*Reprint of article in the July, 2021 Cormorant News Bulletin*

This should make you think more of your steering wheel when you realize the time, effort, materials, and craftsmanship it took to create this part of your Packard.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

September Birthdays

- 1 Ed Fleming
- 3 Martha Roberts
- 4 Johnny Scott
- 5 Gregg Jeter
- 9 Bill Osborne
- 13 John Lortz
- 15 Janice Carter
- 15 Cathy Grilli
- 15 Tommy Lortz



Three of our September birthday folks at the meeting  
Jan Carter, Kevin Lortz & John Lortz

**2022 Lone Star Packards Calendar of Meetings and Events**

- January Canceled due to Covid considerations
- February 26 Lunch @ Pizza Shack-tour of Bob & Gayle Bucher's home and car collection in Willis, TX.
- March No Meeting – Several Members Working on Salado
- March 31-April 3 Texas Packard Meet – Salado, TX
- April No Meeting – Several Members Attending Keels & Wheels
- April 30-May 1 Keels & Wheels Seabrook, TX
- May 21 Lunch @ The Kenney Store. Tour Jay & Mary Matthews car collection in Belleville
- June 18 Pueblo Viejo, Porter, TX hosted by John Lortz
- July 2 Summer Picnic at Sartin's Car Barn
- July 4 - 9 PAC 55<sup>th</sup> National Meet in Old Town Alexandria, VA
- August 20 Lunch at the 401 in Bellaire & Jeff Pate's Elite Car Facility
- September 17 Rudy's BBQ in Webster
- October 15 Ed & Mary Fleming in The Heights - Lunch at Spaghetti Western
- November 19 Ole Railroad Café, Rosenberg, TX hosted by Patricia & Ron Orr
- December 4 Christmas Lunch @ 1:00 PM Pueblo Viejo Porter, TX

**If you have an idea for a meeting during 2023, contact our Activities Director, Chris Baccaro.**



Tommy's '40 160, Carol's '55 Clipper, Stephen's '49 Sedan



John Lortz 's '56 400



Lonnie's '55 Clipper Hardtop



John Dalton,  
Ben Carter,  
Bill Anderson



Lortz table



John Dalton, John Lortz II, Robert Quinn, Lynn Eanes, Ben Carter



Stephen Morris, Reed Simpson, John & Kevin Lortz



Baccaro's Cars



Bill Anderson, Carol, Anthony, Tommy  
All listening to John Dalton



Tommy's National Packard Club Hall of  
Fame Pin. That was awarded to him at  
the July National Meet.



Certificate awarded to LSP at the Packard National Meet in July. This is not the first time our club has won this award. Several times in the past when Mike Rigsby, Mike Calistrat & Mike Grimes were editors they brought this award home to LSP.



### A SMALL BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY!

John Eanes, owner of Galveston Automotive Professionals is a member of *Drive* (formerly Management Success), the leading high-tech automotive, collision and truck repair management training company in the United States.

The mission of *Drive* is to arm shop owners with executive and management tools needed to grow and thrive in today's business environment.

At the August 2022 *Drive* convention in Orlando FL, John received the prestigious *Master Elite Award* which recognizes him as the owner of a top performing automotive repair shop.

Only 14 other shop owners have ever received this award in the history of the Drive organization and John was proud to become the 15<sup>th</sup> member of this elite group of business owners.

Our congratulations to the Eanes in receiving this recognition from their peers. When you visit Galveston stop by his shop.



### 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> 832-286-1276
<b>Secretary/Benevolence:</b>	<b>Patricia Orr</b> 281-342-3855
<b>Membership/Publications:</b>	<b>Ben &amp; Janice Carter</b> 281-341-6595
<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>

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](mailto:ben.carter47@yahoo.com).

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

**Packard**<sup>®</sup>

**ASK THE MAN WHO OWNS ONE  
AND NOW ASK THE WOMAN WHO OWNS ONE**