



Packard



PELICAN PAPERS

SPRING 2019



THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF
NORTH ATLANTIC PACKARDS

A Region of Packard Automobile Classics, Inc.



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Editor: Drusilla Carter

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North Atlantic Packards

2019 Activity Calendar

date *activity*

July 7 **Bay State Antique Auto Club 48th annual Antique Car Show**
Endicott Estate, Dedham MA

July 21-22 **Misselwood Concourse**
Endicott College, Beverly MA

July 22-27 **PAC National Meet**
West Lafayette, IN


August 17 **NAP Summer Picnic**
 Bloomfield, CT

September **Covered Bridge Tour**
 Vermont

October 9-12 **AACA Eastern Division Fall Meet**
Hershey, PA

October 20 **Studebaker/Packard Day**
Larz Anderson Museum, Brookline MA

November **Tech Seminar**
 Parker's Packards, Holden MA

December/January **Holiday Banquet**
 Details TBD



Director's Comments

I'm very excited to start off the 2019 driving season! We had a great time at the Dust Off Tour in May. It was nice to see the cars out and have our first Membership Meeting of 2019. Joel Stern did a phenomenal job on pulling everything together. We as a club need to a better job at attending these events that are voted on in November. There is a lot of work involved in pulling everything together. We hear a lot of comments from the membership about why they don't attend events, but we really need more people to step up. If you feel we should be doing something different/different location/etc. please reach out. We want to keep hosting events that pull in good crowds.

Our next Membership Meeting will be at the NAP Picnic on August 17th. It is always a great turn out and Fran and David do a spectacular job of feeding our bellies.

Some exciting news that I'm very proud to share is that Fred Breimyer has agreed to step up as Vice Director. The Board was unanimous in their decision to vote him in. So welcome to the Board of Directors Fred, we are very excited to have you on board.

If you have something Packard related that you want featured in the Pelican Papers, please send over to Drusilla Carter at packardgirl@hotmail.com. She's always looking for articles and pictures from the Membership. Please also take a look at the enclosed roster and make sure that your information is correct. If you notice any issues, please reach out to Sheri Roaf.

Now get out there and drive those cars!

Parker

*Why do chicken coops have 2 doors?
Because if they had 4 doors they'd be a chicken sedan*

A dad is washing the car with his son. After a moment, the son asks his father, "Do you think we could use a sponge instead?"

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather.. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

*Why did the snail paint an S on the side of his car?
Because he wanted everyone to say "look at that es-car-got"*

Car puns are exhausting!

From the Desk of
Drusilla Carter, Editor

Many thanks to everyone who has submitted articles and photos for this issue of the *Pelican Papers*!

This is the annual roster issue, so you'll notice that you are receiving it in print instead of by email. Please hang on to the roster so you have contact info for your fellow NAP members.

As always, this publication is only as good as you make it, so please continue to send in your articles, photos, and stories. And happy Packarding!

- Drusilla



2019 Dust Off Tour

Text and Images by Joel Stern

May 19, 2019 has now come and gone and with it, the Dust Off Tour of 2019.

Sunday, May 19, 2019 we had nearly 23 people arrive at the Holiday Inn located in Peabody MA. It was a very nice hotel and provided the group with clean, spacious rooms and a very complete buffet breakfast. Various groups formed and found a nice selection of local restaurants to have dinner.

Monday morning a caravan of 9 autos left the parking lot of the hotel and headed to Salem Ma. Included in the group were three Studebakers from the Ocean Bay Studebakers. About 45 minutes later we arrived at The House of Seven Gables where parking was ample and a warm welcome was extended towards our group.

The guided tour was given by a fellow who was a bit of a historian. He pointed out many interesting features in the home as well as giving us a history lesson about the owners of the home. Some of us "big boys" had to twist and bend to navigate through some of the hidden passages and stairwells. After 90 minutes, we all started up our engines and headed down the road. We drove along a scenic route and arrived in Gloucester about one hour later. We stopped along the curb and got out of our machines and visited the Fisherman's Wife Monument. It was erected in honor of the women and families and survived while their husbands were out fishing. More like hunting, for their favorite catch of the day, were Humpback whales. It was a job for the not so faint of heart and required a lot of male testosterone. The whalers were a husky breed with challenges that most of us will never realize.

About 200 yards down the road we stopped once more at The Fishermens' Monument. This monument has brass plaques attached to some granite boulders that lists the names of some 1900 men from the area who have been lost at sea. The records go from the 1600s to about 1985. A very surreal moment, looking at all of those names. Men who have gone down to Davy Jones' locker.

After a short stay we drove about six or seven minutes and arrived at the Seaport Grille. They had a prepared menu for us of various sandwiches and fish. The food was excellent! They got us in and out right on schedule and the waitress was spot on. No one lacked for anything. A great place to revisit sometime in the future.

From there, we drove a short five minutes and arrived at the Maritime Museum. The director of the museum was kind enough to be our tour guide. It was amazing to learn of all the different programs they provide to the local school kids. From charts to live aquariums to schooners at the dock to experiments at sea to the dory shop, it had it all! It was a fun tour that was both informative and very interesting.



At about 4:15 pm we left the area and drove for nearly an hour and arrived back to the hotel with enough time to relax a bit before the festivities began.

At 6:30 pm the bar was opened! Trays of appetizers were served and the bar was fully stocked. Beer, wine, alcohol, soda, whatever you desired. The dinner was attended by 24 of our biggest enthusiasts. Included in that number were three fellows from the Ocean bay Studebakers along with one spouse. It was a pleasure to have them join us. Paul Dutton donated an additional amount of dollars to our treasury above and beyond the cost of attendance. Really quite nice of him to do so.

Steven Wolf and David Weill, members of our club, should be recognized for doing the same. They both contributed to the cause above and beyond their obligation.

After the cocktail hour ended the dinner was served, buffet style. Stuffed chicken breast, eggplant parmesan and baked haddock were the main courses. Side orders of rice, broiled potatoes and a vegetable were on the menu. The dinner line started with soup or salad and ended with carrot cake. The hotel did a nice job putting the dinner together.

After dinner we had our infamous raffle. A \$25.00 gift certificate and a coffee caddy from Tom at Then and Now Automotive in Weymouth, were great gifts to give away. A couple of antique posters were given to the first Packard and the first Studebaker to sign up for the tour. The posters were of a Packard and a Studebaker so they were very appropriate. We then raffled off six North Atlantic Packard coffee mugs. Our grand prize was a \$50.00 gift certificate provided by Max Merritt auto supply. Then we had a 50/50 raffle and one lucky member got his dinner paid for! It would be nice if we remember those who contributed to our cause when it comes time to purchase parts that we always seem to be needing.



After the good times, we had a general meeting that was directed by Parker Roaf. It was a typical meeting with financial report, membership report and a treasurer's report. A discussion took place regarding next year's dust off tour. We agreed that it would be best to have the tour on a weekend rather than during the week.

Once the dinner meeting was adjourned we were off to bed, preparing and gathering energy for the next event. BREAKFAST. Yes, more food!

So, we all enjoyed the breakfast buffet, again, and gathered in the parking lot getting ready for day two. We drove out of the lot and retraced our steps from Monday heading back to Salem. We arrived at the public parking lot at 9:30 am and walked over to the 1629 Witches Museum. Our show started at 10:00 am and lasted just about a full hour. It was a very interesting, well designed and creative show. We sat in the middle of a room and listened to a prerecorded narration. As the narration continued, various displays surrounding the perimeter of the room would light up and come to life to fit with the narration. A unique and well done exhibit.

At 11:15, after visiting the museum's gift shop, we were all free to walk around the town and find a place to enjoy lunch, more food!

We all gathered at the exit of the parking garage and took a scenic ride back to Gloucester. Arriving about an hour later we parked in the parking lot of the Hammond Castle Museum. We were welcomed by two young ladies who gave us a wonderful tour of the castle. As you might imagine, anyone who was so eccentric as to build a real castle for his wife, had a few unique household items, like an organ with 8000 pipes. The history of the museum, the history of its owner and the vast collection of artifacts was quite interesting to all of us.

The tour of the museum ended at around 4:00 pm and along with it, the end of the Dust Off Tour 2019. Hopefully, more of our members will be able to plan ahead and join us for, the exciting, the unique, the informative Dust Off Tour2020!



Robert W. Valpey

Bob Valpey passed away last March 19th. His full obituary was printed in the May Issue of the PAC Cormorant Newsletter. I am not repeating that obit but would like to talk about my knowing Bob over the past 20 years. Bob was an excellent man, as reflected by his values, openness, and family. He and his wife, Alice, supported each other for 57 years. Bob was a car collector for most of his life and his collection reflected his varied interests. Among many other memorabilia, he had a 1931 Studebaker 8 President Race, 1918 4 S Bearcat and several Packards, including a 1930 734 Speedster, 1929 645 8 Murphy Town Car, and a 1931 840 Convertible Coupe. He was a long-time member of Packard Automobile Classics and North Atlantic Packards. I saw him at a number of PAC National meets as well as NAP events. He was known to let others borrow his cars if they didn't have one. Ralph Turner was able to borrow his Town Car when Ralph's car was in the shop for a major repair during the Tom Mix tour. Bob's town car was at the 2018 National Meet in Columbus; it earned a First-Place award and was considered for the Best of Show award. Unfortunately, he was not able to attend that meet due to illness. I was able to go to his house several time and visit his underground car storage facility. He had an amazing collection of cars and automobile memorabilia. I really enjoyed our talks about North Atlantic Packards as well as things in general. His advice was always spot-on and gave much to think about.

We shall miss Bob's ability to teach, advise, and his quiet manner.

- Dave Robinson



Above: Robert Neal, Bob Valpey, and Ralph Turner at PAC Meet in Detroit, MI in 2013



Right: Ralph Turner and Bob Valpey reviewing some changes to Ralph's 1929 640 Super Eight Roadster.

DAM COVERED BRIDGE TOUR

13-14 September 2019

by Dave Robinson



I am offering a Fall tour for some of the many varied dams and covered bridges of southern Vermont and New Hampshire.

The tour will be based at the Saxtons River Inn, a New England Inn in Saxtons River, VT. There are 16 rooms and the prices range up to \$169. (I should warn you that all the rooms are on the 2nd and 3rd floor, and the building does not have an elevator.)(802-869-2110) Backup place to stay is Moore's Inn a short walk away(802-869-2020). Again, no elevator. Meals will be ala carte in at least three restaurants. Some of you may remember the meal at my house, which was catered by the Saxtons River Inn. The two other meals will be lunch at local diners.

The tour on Friday will be in Vermont driving through a number of bridges, some as old as the late 1800 and one as young as three years old. That last one is the replacement for the one lost during Hurricane Irene. Many of you may remember the news video during the day. We will also visit several dams during the drive. Saturday we will meet at 11:00 am at the Best Western Motel in Keene, New Hampshire. This will allow members who can not join us on Friday to join us. After leaving we will drive through many covered bridges, many on the Ashuelot River. By the end of the drive we will again be in Keene seeing several dams.

This tour is covered by individuals paying for their own lodging and meals. Other than that, there are no NAP costs.



Greenwich Concours de Elegance

by Parker Roaf

This year we attended our 6th consecutive Greenwich Concours de Elegance. What a great display this year! My head was spinning as I tried to decide what to look at first, they were all so spectacular!

Friday June 31st we finished detailing the 1929 645 Packard Roadster that we were bringing for display, and backed her out of the garage to load into the trailer. About half way up the ramp the engine died and wouldn't restart. After some investigation we found the vent needle in the vacuum tank had broke (these things always seem to happen at the worst time). Luckily we had a spare vacuum tank in the shop, so after a fairly quick swap we were loaded up and on our way (only about 1 1/2 hours later than anticipated!).

On Friday evening we ran over to the Bonhams auction tent for a preview of what was to be sold off this year. Among all the beautiful European cars were 2 Packards. A lovely 1947 Custom Super Clipper ready for touring and an original 1955 Caribbean. Once we got our fill of the lots, we headed back to our hotel for a good nights rest.

The next morning all went very smooth. The car started right up and made the drive across town to the entrance to the show field. Once they placed us in our class we were treated to the beautiful lines of the car parked next to us, Ralph Marano's 1938 Super 8 with coachwork by Mayfair of England. Doug Fernandez of CT had just finished his 1934 1104 Convertible Coupe earlier in the week. What a beautiful job he did! The Dragone brothers also of CT brought 2 Packards; 1932 904 convertible coupe and a 1930 745 Phaeton. LaVine Restorations of Indiana brought a stunning 1934 1107 Convertible Victoria. This car stopped me in my tracks it was that good!

Ralph Marano also brought the 1952 Packard Macauley Coupe which spent much of it's life in Massachusetts prior to Ralph's acquisition and restoration of the car. If anyone recalls this car from 20 years ago it was re-powered with a Chrysler drivetrain. It's completely back to it's original configuration now and is absolutely fantastic.

The judges came over to our car, asked some questions while I opened the hood and talked about the car. Within 10 minutes they were done and so were we. We wandered around on what turned out to be a beautiful day, saw all the cars participating and once they finished announcing the winners we headed back to the trailer. Another great Greenwich Concours in the books! Until next year!!



Scenes from the Greenwich Concourse





PROJECT CARS

Because clean fingernails, free weekends, intact knuckles and financial stability are totally overrated.

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