

# PACKARDS VIRGINIA NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2010

### PACKARDS VIRGINIA PICNIC SEPTEMBER 25 POHICK BAY REGIONAL PARK

The annual Packards Virginia Picnic will take place, Saturday, September 25, at Pohick Bay Regional Park, picnic shelter #2 from 11 AM to 3 PM.

Pohick Bay Regional Park is on Mason Neck near Gunston Hall in southeastern Fairfax County. To reach the Park, take US Route 1 south from Fort Belvoir (or north from Woodbridge depending where you live) to Route 242, Gunston Road. Follow Gunston Road east to the Park entrance on the left. If you are a resident of a local jurisdiction (Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax City or County, Falls Church or Loudoun County) there will no charge for entrance to the Park. Residents of other jurisdiction will receive the discounted fee rate of \$4 (normally \$7) by simply informing the gate attendant that you are attending the Packards Virginia picnic. For further information about Pohick Bay Regional Park including a map and directions from I-95, please see the following website:

[http://www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick\\_bay/](http://www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/)

After entering the Park, simply follow the main road until you find Picnic Shelter No 2 on your right. We'll supply the food but you can bring along your favorite dessert to share. We'll also pass the hat for donations to help defray the food and shelter rental expenses.

Please e-mail your plans to attend so we buy the right amount of food and drink. You can do so by emailing or calling [hal.hermann@verizon.net](mailto:hal.hermann@verizon.net), 703-978-8690 **ASAP**.

#### 1955 CARIBBEAN FOR SALE –

Bob Powell ([rlplkp@comcast.net](mailto:rlplkp@comcast.net)) is selling his '55 Caribbean convertible. \$65K OBO. For details, visit [www.packardsvirginia.wordpress.com](http://www.packardsvirginia.wordpress.com)



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE FROM PAUL DELANEY: A TALE OF TWO PACKARD CLUB NATIONAL MEETS

That the name Gettysburg will live long in the memories of Packard Club members, can now safely be said. The 2010 PAC National Meet traveled to one of America's greatest historic locations for a week this past June. Packards cruised along Gettysburg's scenic trails, past the hundreds of monuments to the incredible struggle that filled the local fields with two great armies of Americans in a contest that continues to fascinate to this day.

Attendees visited the site of Pickett's Charge and the wonderful new Visitor Center, that displays the freshly restored Cycloramic oil painting that captures the event at the very moment when the Virginians breached the Union lines, before being swept away into history. Truly affecting and extraordinary and for me, having seen the painting on numerous occasions in the past, it offered an opportunity to see how others reacted when the lights went up and they saw the enormous image for the first time.

We toured the battlefield and several others nearby, as well. Of course, no Packard Club Meet would be complete without a visit to an automobile museum and The AACA museum, near Hershey served admirably in that role.

The car show was held at The Lutheran Seminary, above the town, along a line which was once filled with Confederate artillery batteries. The Packards were beautifully displayed and the turnout was near 150 cars, about one quarter of which were judged.

This years meet marked the end of Donald Taccone's Presidency of the National Club and Bonnie Franco took the reins at the Awards Banquet, on Friday evening. Our thanks to Donald for his great leadership, through some difficult times, and best wishes to Bonnie on her new endeavor.

Thanks, also, to Bill Johnson, Meet Chairman, Susan and the entire committee, whose tireless labors paid off beautifully. Some who deserve particular mention: George Hamlin, Rodney Hobbs, Hal Hermann, Bob Stoltzfus, The Robbs, The Blonds, Miles White, Rick Parker, Tom Brooks, the members of Keystone Packards and Packards Virginia, my dear Helen and so many others whom I have neglected to mention only because I am old and distracted.

So, that was then: this is now.

*Packards Virginia is pleased to announce that it will be the host region for the 2012 National Meet. As history is our neighbor in this neck of the woods, we picked Williamsburg, Virginia.*

Bob Robb is our Meet Chairman and the Committee, which, of course, includes our Executive Board, will be filled out later. The host hotel has been chosen, a great rate negotiated and we will look forward to sharing that info and much, much more with you soon.

*--Paul Delaney, Director*

## 2010 VERN PARKER “OUT OF THE PAST” SHOW

Vern Parker, who writes the syndicated “Out of the Past” column featuring antique cars, hosts an annual show for all cars that had been featured in one of his articles. The show is always on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend at Spring Hill Recreation Center in Vienna, Virginia. The weather is usually sunny and warm, but this year’s weather was spectacular, with temperatures in the high seventies and a light breeze. Perfect Packard weather!



There were probably close to one hundred cars in attendance, and Packard was well represented. Packards Virginia members who brought cars included Tom and Betsy Bradley ('47 Super Clipper), Tom and Clare Brooks ('55 Caribbean), Clem Clement ('29 Eight Phaeton), Paul Delaney ('54 Caribbean), Tim Dudley ('41 “160” coupe), George Hamlin (Packardless, but drove a Studebaker truck), Hal and Kathy Hermann ('33 Eight), Bill Johnson ('28 Six Phaeton), and Rick Parker (Packardless, but we allowed him to sit with us despite having driven a '36 Lincoln).



Another Packard present was a beautifully restored 1937 “120” convertible coupe, which is one of two (both black) owned by the late Art Weber. Although Art and his wife both passed away several years ago, we were delighted to see that their children have kept the cars and brought one to the show.



PACVA Packards have won either Owner’s Choice or People’s Choice at a number of previous Out of the Past Reviews, but the awards went to brand-Xs this year. Nonetheless, it was a great day for socializing, enjoying a preview of lovely Fall weather, and giving the Packards some exercise and fresh air!

## PACKARD AUTOMOBILE CLASSICS 2010 NATIONAL MEET AT GETTYSBURG

Many members attended the National Meet at Gettysburg. Unfortunately, your Newsletter Editor had a computer malfunction and lost of his pictures from the day of the show. However, here are a few remaining pictures from before and after – many from the parking lot of the Eisenhower hotel.





# PACKARDS VIRGINIA NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2010



The Packard Virginian  
P.O. Box 4012  
Falls Church, VA 22044-0012