

THE DATA PLATE



The Data Plate is the Official Publication of Mid-America Packards – A Region of Packard Automobile Classics

Our Program This Month

We will kick off the New Year at the January 27th meeting with our annual planning session. Come with ideas for upcoming tours and activities.

The January program will turn the spotlight on the ladies of our club, and feature any current projects, interests, hobbies, or activities they would like to share with the group. We invite all of the ladies of the club to bring whatever pleases them for an evening of Show & Tell!

Mid-America Packards sends its condolences to:

Sharon and Joe Weinrich, on the passing of Sharon's mother last October,

George Penniston, on the recent passing of both his wife and mother,

Denise and Jack Reese on the passing of her mother Dorothy Smith, who was 94,

the family of Gene Schild, a member of Chicagoland Packards. Gene was the brother of former MAP member Ray Schild, and

the family of Wendell Hawkins, a good Packard friend from Texas, and the last Packard dealer of Houston. Many may have met Wendell at the spring Salado meet.

Visit Mid-America Packards at our newly revised website:

www.midamericapackards.org



**Refreshments for
January Meeting**

Ulam, Weinrich

February Meeting

Booth, Christy

Dues Reminder

Have you renewed your Mid-America Packards membership? Perhaps you would consider doing so while at the next meeting, or by mail for your convenience. Dues are still \$20 for 12 months of the Data Plate, and 12 months of Packard fun.

The national Packard Club would like to remind you that all members of PAC regions like ours are required to be members of Packard Automobile Classics. Don't forget to renew your PAC membership for 2011 as well!

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THE DATA PLATE IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MID-AMERICA PACKARDS (MAP), A REGION OF PACKARD AUTOMOBILE CLASSICS. OUR PURPOSE IS TO SERVE, PROMOTE AND REPORT NEWS ABOUT MID-AMERICA PACKARDS IN PRIMARILY A 75 MILE RADIUS OF KANSAS CITY.

TO BECOME A MEMBER OF MAP, ONE MUST ALSO BE A MEMBER OF PACKARD AUTOMOBILE CLASSICS. WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERSHIPS FROM OTHER PACKARD REGIONS. OWNERSHIP OF A PACKARD IS NOT NECESSARY.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE TRAILSIDE CENTER, 9901 HOLMES ROAD, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI AT 7:30 PM ON THE FOURTH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

~~DIRECTOR~~----- STEVE CHRISTY
(913) 677-0593 shc2020@linkcity.org

~~ASSISTANT DIRECTOR~~----- MARSHA NORMAN
(913) 649-8383

~~SECRETARY / TREASURER~~----- MIKE SNEED
(913) 299-6133 papasneed@hotmail.com
8517 ANN AVE., KC, KS 66112

~~PROGRAM DIRECTOR~~----- JON ROOT
(913) 381-4994

~~TOURS & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR~~----- TOM NORMAN
(913) 649-8383 tnorman@everestkc.net

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

PRE-WWII----- BILL CARNEY
(785) 272-9109

EDITORS, THE DATA PLATE----- JEFF PACHL
(816) 628-0003 pachlj@hotmail.com
STEVE CHRISTY
(913) 677-0593 shc2020@linkcity.org

NOTICE!

ALL MATERIAL FOR THE DATA PLATE MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EDITORS BY THE 10TH OF THE MONTH!

17704 PLATTSBURG ROAD, HOLT, MO 64048

OR EMAIL TO pachlj@hotmail.com

Director's Column

January 2012

By Steve Christy

(Continued from last month's Director's Column.)

I was positive that the Adriatic Blue Patrician in the "bone yard" was the same car I had looked at over 30 years ago and did not purchase because the owner of the car at that time was asking a price that was totally unreasonable. Over the years I had often wondered what had happened to it and assumed it was long gone. The week before Christmas 2011 finds me standing in a salvage yard once again looking at the car that I had wanted to purchase so many years ago. I know the manager of the salvage yard thought I was nuts. How could I possibly "know without a doubt" (and not having the serial number to prove it) that a 56 year old car sitting in a junk yard was the same car I had looked at 30 years ago? If that was not enough, for me to say "I personally know the person that special ordered this car new from the factory." I decided to take a copy of the picture of the Packard I had when the car was approximately 10 years old and was still owned by the original owner to the manager of the salvage yard so that he wouldn't think that I was some "nut case." My son Andrew was home for the holidays and several days after my initial viewing of the Packard he and I went back to the salvage yard with a copy of my picture of the Packard and my business card. The manager walked with Andrew and me out to the fenced off area where the two Packards sat. My picture of it when it was approximately 10 years old showed where the script "The Patrician" on the right front fender had been broken and there was a slight defect in the "Reynolds wrap". The Packard sitting in the salvage yard had the exact same defect. The manager, who was a body man, said there was no doubt in his mind that this was the same Packard. I climbed inside the car and the mileage showed 43,000. I'm sure it was 43,000 versus 143,000 and the car had been garaged the majority of its life. However it was looking pretty sad at the moment.

(See photos on Page 3! *To be continued!!*)



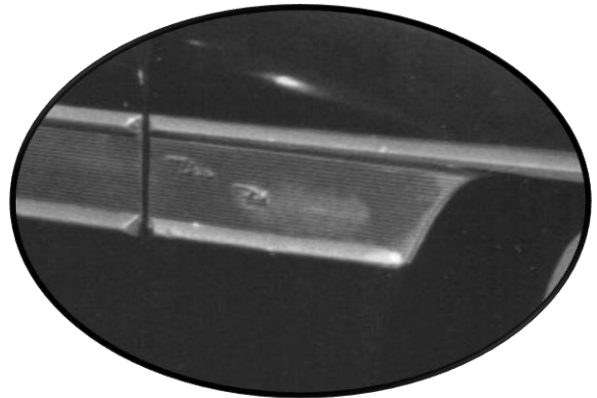
Valentine's Day Brunch



Join us for the first MAP event of the New Year, our annual *Valentine's Day Brunch*. It's a great way to get back together after the holidays! We will be dining at *Paulo and Bill's Restaurant*, which features one of the best brunches in the entire Metro area. The restaurant has set aside a private room for our use.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 12th, 2012, from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. You will find *Paulo and Bill's* at 16501 Midland Dr., Shawnee, KS 66217 (just east of I-435 at Midland Dr., sharing parking with the shopping plaza on the corner of Renner and Midland). The price will be \$25.00 per person.

Please RSVP by Friday, February 10, 2012 by contacting Marsha Norman at (913) 649-8383



Positive ID! – The Patrician on Bill Rodekopf's used car lot had the exact same broken "Patrician trim piece, unchanged after all these years!



Ever wonder what's lurking...

Behind Those Barn Doors



Our club was recently contacted by a nice couple with a Packard for sale. This car had been in the family for over fifty years, in need of restoration, and thought someone in the Packard world might find it of interest. Turned out they lived only a very short distance from Kearney, so I paid a brief visit.





This car, currently owned by Jim and Dea Carlson, has been in Dea's family for over five decades. It was purchased from a salvage yard all those years ago for \$20, and was in basically the same condition you see here. It is a 1936 14th Series Packard 120-B 999 2/4 Passenger Convertible Coupe, and was originally delivered in Jacksonville, Florida. It is missing some components, such as the windshield frame, front left headlight assembly, the right rear fender and decklid. It appears to have an Eight with a high-compression head in place of the original engine, which was running when parked many years ago.



I don't know if these photos stir the same excitement in you as I felt while looking at this wonderful car, but perhaps they will serve to remind us all that there are some great cars still out there waiting to be found and hopefully put back on the road!

If anyone is interested in knowing more about this Packard, or making an offer, please contact Jim or Dea Carlson at (816) 628-6621, or at carlson.dea@gmail.com



Automotive Engineers of the Future

Text by Steve Christy, photos courtesy UMKC SAE Student Chapter

Our last monthly meeting featured three members of the University of Missouri - Kansas City Student Society of Automotive Engineers. The three students were Jesus Zamarripa, Oscar Vallecillos, and Aaron Bentley. They discussed the Baja buggy they have designed and are building to compete with other SAE students around the world.

The goal in Baja SAE racing is to design, build and race off-road vehicles that can withstand the harshest elements of rough terrain. All cars must adhere to SAE's rules. The engines are an unmodified Briggs & Stratton Intek 20 single-cylinder with a displacement of 300cc and a power output of 10 bhp.

This spring Baja competitions will be held in Alabama, Wisconsin, and Oregon. There is a limit of 100 vehicles at each competition.

We have been invited to tour their facility while they are building their vehicle. Upon completion we plan on having a joint showing of our Packards and their Baja racer on campus. This will provide an opportunity for our members to see future engineers' involvement in the automotive industry and for the students to see our Packards and some of the automotive firsts from Packard Motor Company.

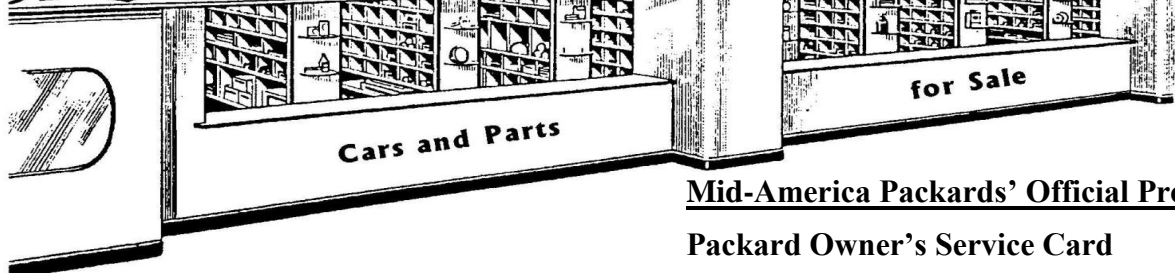


Pictured at left is the Baja Buggy at the Kansas Speedway, surrounded by (from left to right) Oscar Vallecillos, Jesus Zamarripa, Francisco Garcia, and Brian Huff.

Pictured below are two variants of the Baja Buggy, now known as The BOSS, in action!



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For Sale: Items from the Charles Hoyle literature collection. Please direct inquiries to Carol Hoyle or Steve Christy.

Mid-America Packards' Official Projects

Packard Owner's Service Card - \$3.35

Data Plate Name Badge - \$8.00
(Specify Clip or Pin-Back Style)

Packard Accessory Catalog #600 - \$17.50
(Nov. 1, 1929) (Reprint)

Master Serviceman's Training Manuals
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Volume 3 contains items referred to in Volumes 1 & 2, from PMCC, the Studebaker-Packard Corporation, and vendors including Remington Rand, Masterbilt Uniforms, Manzel, and Reynolds & Reynolds.

A Packard employee from 1949 to 1956, Bob accumulated a wealth of original Packard documents. Now, through the generosity of the Aller family and PAC Technical Advisor Gary Thomas, his collection is being made available to you, with **proceeds benefiting the Packard Proving Grounds** through the Packard Motor Car Foundation.



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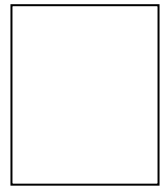
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