

# CITIZENS' QUARTERLY



FALL 2023

## *Four Strokes of Good Fortune*

We all know the story. James Ward Packard bought his 1898 Winton and had significant trouble with it. He attempted to return the car to Alexander Winton and get a refund, to which Mr. Winton said, "Well if you're so smart, maybe you should build a better machine yourself." And so, he did.

By 1901, Packard was building the Model F, 179 units in total, by far the most production during the Warren years. The Model F was offered in two body styles, the Rear Entry Tonneau and the Runabout. It was famously this Runabout, dubbed "Old Pacific" in which Tom Fetch traversed the United States. Traveling from San Francisco to New York in 62 days, the Packard Model F beat the previous transcontinental record—63 days in a Winton!

This 1902 Tonneau (pictured right), number 165, was originally owned by the Rockefeller family. Our research indicates that the car originally was used in Newport, RI, and subsequently on the West Coast. William Fisk "Bill" Harrah purchased the car in the second half of the last century, and it lived for years in the Harrah's Auto Collection, now known as National Automobile Museum, located in Reno, NV.

Marshall Mathews purchased the car from Mr. Harrah's estate in the mid-1980s and set about getting the single-cylinder Packard in motoring condition. With assistance from famed Hill & Vaughn restorers, Mr. Mathews took the Model F to the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run—not once but three times! The 1902 also completed the Royal Automobile Club's 1000-mile trial, from London to Edinburgh and back, using a circuitous British route. This horseless carriage, described by one Packard historian as the "most original Model F in existence" has been graciously loaned to America's Packard Museum and is being prepared for display this Winter. Come see the earliest car in the Museum as we tell an important and occasionally overlooked part of the Packard Story!



1902 "The Packard" Model F Tonneau on display at the 2023 PAC National Meet



12 Horsepower, Four Stroke, Single Cylinder Packard Engine (Above)  
Ohio Automobile Co. badge, and Chain Drive (Below)

### IN THIS ISSUE

- ☐ All New Museum Store!
- ☐ Volunteers & Service
- ☐ Development in the Details
- ☐ 1949 Studebaker Donation
- ☐ '24 Spring Fling Preview



## DIRECTOR'S DASHBOARD – Fall 2023



As I was driving from Cooperstown to Watkins Glen last month, I was reminded of the joy of going through corners at speed. Those upstate NY country roads are like those found all over the country, full of the thrill of the road, the wind, and the wheel. **We're turning corners in Dayton too.** We're re-booting the Turnquist Leadership Council to reflect their newly adopted mission, "to amplify the awareness and raise the resources of APM through strategic partnerships and outreach activities." We've got new cars on loan and have freshened up the walls in the service department. The library is better than ever, and we are approaching 2,500 titles available for your use. We've promoted volunteer Mary Ellen Armentrout, to the position of Head Librarian, and received funding to begin the process of categorizing and digitizing the *Automobile*

*Quarterly* Archive. We've received major financial contributions this Fall, from familiar and new donors.

**But we won't stop there.** This is the realization of the first phase in a three-phase process to bring APM back to the forefront of America's most significant automotive museums. I'm reminded of Churchill's remark, when staring down fascism in Europe. "This is not the end. This is not even the beginning of the end. This is merely the end of the beginning."

Drive on,  
Rob

### IN MEMORIAM – Dr. Charles Blackman – 1935-2023

Dr. Charles Blackman passed away peacefully on August 1, 2023; he was 97. Dr. Blackman was an impressive figure, a striking figure, supremely intelligent with a sense of calm and thoughtfulness. He had a truly heartfelt laugh, one that we will not soon forget. Dr. Blackman taught us about classic cars and the people who love them.

He was a giant among those. He loved cars.

At the age of 14, he set out from Columbus, Ohio to New York and New England in a 1939 Bantam. Upon arriving in New York City, it needed some necessary repairs. After the work was done, Dr. Blackman realized he didn't have enough cash to pay for it, so he left his spare tire as collateral and drove off up the newly opened Merritt Parkway to his aunt in Hartford to borrow the money. On the way, he prayed that he wouldn't get a flat tire!

Dr. Blackman loved Bantams, Buicks, and Oldsmobiles among others—but first and foremost, he loved Packards.

He bought his 1940 Packard All Weather Cabriolet in the late 1950s for \$250! A bargain, to be sure.

Dr. Blackman was an early member of the Packard Club and the Classic Car Club of America, joining in the mid-1950s. He was a charter member of Motor City Packards, the all-Michigan region of the Packard Club.

He served on the board of the R.E. Olds Museum in Lansing, as well as the collections committee of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum for 20 years. He was instrumental in the founding of APM, serving on the Board of Trustees, and later the Turnquist Leadership Council for over 25 years. Dr. Blackman was a founding member of both the Packard Motor Car Foundation, as well as the Packard Proving Grounds in Utica, further demonstrating his passion for historical preservation. He also played a pivotal role in the creation of the Motor Cities National Heritage Area. He made significant contributions to these and many other museums, including the CCA Museum in Hickory Corners, and Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, MI. He demonstrated leadership quietly, with humility, never seeking praise or notoriety.

As a consummate scholar, having spent almost 40 years on the Education faculty of Michigan State University, Dr. Blackman's work on the identification of late 1930s and early 1940s Packards is unparalleled. He spent decades tracking down virtually every individual Packard produced in the years before WWII.

You see, Packard was a natural fit for Dr. Blackman. Packard was elegant, classy, refined and well-built. It was the choice of the elite the world over. Packard had a unique personality, one that personified quality and excellence, but never overly ostentatious. Luxurious, reliable, and magnificent, Dr. Blackman was truly the Packard of men. Ask the one who knew him.



Dr. Charles Blackman with his 1941 160 Coupe in 2023.

# ***NINE MAIN BEARING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN***

The *Nine Main Bearing Capital Campaign* of America's Packard Museum is a Three-Year Campaign focused on the renovation and infrastructure improvement of the Museum's physical plant. The Main Museum was built in 1917, and the Packard Pavilion in 1932. Both structures are in need of physical repairs and upgrades to maintain the standard of excellence demanded by our mission and vision, other great cultural institutions, and the public. To that end, America's Packard Museum is seeking donors to provide major gifts, with the comprehensive Goal of \$200,000.00, to fulfill these immediate needs. The 9 Main Bearing levels of philanthropic support are listed below:

Head  
\$35,000.00

Block  
\$15,000.00

Pistons  
\$5,000.00

Arms  
\$1,000.00

Valves  
\$500.00

Plugs  
\$250.00



The projects that will be addressed by the *Nine Main Bearing Capital Campaign* are as follows:  
 Upgrade HVAC System in Main Museum - Complete Replacement of Roof for Main Museum  
 Restoration of North Area of Packard Pavilion - Mural Painting on Façade of Packard Pavilion  
 Renovate Administrative Offices & Upgrade Machines - Install New Catering Kitchen in Pavilion  
 Wall Refinishing and Floor Polishing of Service Department - Restore Freight Elevator

The names of the *Nine Main Bearing Capital Campaign* Donors will be proudly displayed on the America's Packard Museum Donor Wall of Recognition in their own category. A recognition dinner will be held at America's Packard Museum to celebrate the achievements of our donors and to celebrate the Museum they have helped to preserve.

Why *Nine Main Bearing*? Packard invented the Nine Main Bearing Straight Eight Engine in 1923 and it proved to be the hardest-working, longest-lasting engine ever built by an American automobile manufacturer. Nine Mains took the strain of the pistons and crankshaft and distributed it more evenly to provide greater strength and durability than other engines of the day. Our donors on this campaign provide the same strength and longevity to America's Packard Museum, so that it will endure for the next generation of Auto Enthusiasts. Mail your check today to America's Packard Museum to be part of the Nine Main Campaign!

**LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE & BE RECOGNIZED—CAMPAIGN ENDS 12/31!**

Name (as listed on plaque) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

## *Development in Focus* – by Mark A. Vargas, Development Director

It's been a busy Fall from the Development Desk! Here are some highlights for your edification.

**Adient Foundation Donation:** This September, America's Packard Museum received a generous donation of \$2,500 for educational support, from our friends at the Adient Foundation. The Foundation, based in Plymouth, Michigan, supports health and social services, education, culture and the arts, and civic activities.

We are very grateful for their donation!



**Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency:** Candid is a nonprofit organization that provides data and insights about the social sector, formed in 2019 when Foundation Center and GuideStar merged. Candid's mission is to provide the information needed to do good, and finds out where philanthropic money comes from, where it goes, and why it matters. In September, Candid awarded America's Packard Museum its very rare Platinum Seal of Approval, their highest-level award. The Platinum Seal is awarded to organizations that meet the highest standards of transparency and accountability, and shares clear and important information with the public about its goals, strategies, capabilities, achievements, and progress indicators. The Platinum Seal demonstrates our deep commitment to transparency, accountability, and inclusivity, and showcases our mission-driven goals and impresses donors with the difference we are making. Only 0.1% of charities nationally receive the Platinum Seal, so this is a remarkable award.

**Casey's Foundation:** The Museum received \$500 for educational activities from our friends at Casey's Foundation, which contributes to improving the fundamental needs in our communities.

We are thrilled to have their support!

**Charity Navigator:** Charity Navigator rates over 200,000 charities for their cost-effectiveness, overall health of a charity's programs, and measures stability, efficiency, and sustainability. Drawing from a knowledge base of research, analysis, and constituent feedback, Charity Navigator develops ratings

## • **Charity Navigator**

that are both analytical and responsive and informs donors of not just where their dollars are going but what their dollars are doing.

America's Packard Museum received an extremely rare 100% 4-Star Rating! Based on their metrics, the Museum is considered highly impactful in its given cause area, is fiscally responsible and transparent, and follows leadership and organizational culture best practices. Only 0.1% of charities nationally receive the 100% 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator.

**Culture Works:** The Museum completed a one-year grant from Culture Works and the Dayton Region Arts Renewal Grant. This \$14,000 grant provided funding for two part-time Patron Services Associates at the Museum's admission desk. With this support, the Museum improved training for and staff at Patron Services, while also allowing for additional time to conservation and preservation work, educational planning, and facilities improvements. Be sure to see their *2023-2024 Guide to the Arts and Culture in Dayton*, available online or at many locations.



**The Hodge Group:** APM has entered into a consultant relationship with The Hodge Group, an Ohio-based strategic development organization whose goal is to set the stage for giving. They empower museums to be well prepared to go into communities and be successful in soliciting gifts. Over the past 35 years, the Hodge Group has had the privilege to work with small and large nonprofit organizations and associations across the country.



They have raised close to \$1 billion, increased awareness and visibility through effective storytelling and have increased the membership base for many associations. Join us in welcoming The Hodge Group to APM's Development Strategy Team!



## Points and Plugs



### Host Your Event at America's Packard Museum

Are you still looking for a spot to hold your end of the year office party? We have the space for you! America's Packard Museum is a community favorite when it comes to hosting holiday or corporate



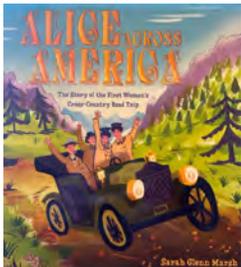
parties. Our unique space is sure to be the talk around the water cooler for months to come. By partnering with Elite Catering and Events and Little Miami Catering, we are able to provide you a magical experience!

Our space is flexible and can make the largest crowd feel comfortable in an intimate setting. Peruse our collection of Packards and artifacts, enjoying the art deco feel of our 1917 historical building while celebrating the year end with your team.

Visit our website today

at <https://www.americaspackardmuseum.org/privateevents> for more information and to book your event today. Our calendar is filling up quickly, but we still have dates available.

### North Pole on South Ludlow – Again!



After the success of last year's Black Friday event, America's Packard Museum hosted *The North Pole on South Ludlow* this November 24.

The Museum was expertly decorated by our volunteer corps; new packages were wrapped, giant bows topped many classic Packards, and bright lights festooned the windows. Santa Claus greeted our patrons of all ages and took

pictures with families in the back of the 1932 Twin Six Convertible Sedan, custom bodied by Murphy. Did you know that 160 Horsepower translates to 640 Reindeer power?

That one always sleighs us.



Mary Ellen Armentrout reads to our next generation



Stu Morris at the Dayton Children's Parade

We added to our numbers (twice as many as last year!), and our programming too, as Head Librarian, Mary Ellen Armentrout hosted Packard Storytime in the Junior Executive Board Room. All the youth loved the stories, especially *Alice Across America: The Story of the First Women's Cross-Country Trip* by Sarah Glenn Marsh and illustrations by Gilbert Ford. This beautiful children's book highlights the journey of Alice Huyler Ramsey and her companions who crossed America in a 1909 Maxwell! Find this and many other items in our Museum Store, in person or online.

That night, we also participated in the 2023 Dayton Holiday Festival Grande Illumination and Children's Parade. Stu and Rob braved freezing temperatures to wave at cheering crowds in the 1932 Twin Six by Murphy! Many thanks to the staff and volunteers who made this year's North Pole on South Ludlow a huge success. It's a great cultural alternative on Black Friday, although we might be willing to wait in line for a new Packard!

## *Volunteers Take the Wheel* – by Stu Morris, Curator

**In the last issue of the Citizens' Quarterly, I touched on engagement.** Engagement is something we are constantly thinking about and comes in many different forms. Our guests are engaged the moment they walk into our restored art-deco showroom. Our followers on social media are being engaged by our online outreach. You, dear reader, are being engaged by America's Packard Museum as your eyes move along this page. Finding ways to keep our volunteers active and engaged is something of which I have been conscious, since I was a volunteer myself.

**Volunteering at APM is a way for the Museum** to benefit from a wide range of skill-sets. We have volunteers who excel at construction, research, detailing, docenting, storytelling or mechanics. Often these individuals volunteer at other organizations as well, offering us fresh ideas and suggestions. They talk, and we listen.

**Many of our volunteers have become our friends,** and many of them know each other, but historically we have not all been in the same room as much as we would like. So, the idea was presented to start volunteer programming—Volunteer Social and Service—volunteer days held monthly to engage our dedicated corps, especially with each other. Getting everyone together to work towards a common goal seemed the best way to achieve this.

**The reason that most everyone starts** volunteering here can be attributed to one thing: our shared love of cars. However, I think that everyone of us involved strives to achieve a sense of pride and ownership in this excellent museum. And who among us doesn't love a good project? The next one became obvious with a recent Museum acquisition.



Denny Conger, Phil Eaton, Joe Lite, and Neil Webster improve the 1949 Studebaker

**Graciously donated to us by Naomi Jane Ewald,** along with Emmert and Jane Herring Studebaker, is a 1949 Studebaker Land Cruiser, the top of the Stude line that year. While it will eventually tell a larger part of the Packard story, the car itself had been sitting for a long time. So, after donuts and coffee we all gathered one Saturday to give the car some much needed elbow grease. I worked the tire machine to replace a leaky innertube while other volunteers cleaned the chrome and rubbed out the paint, all the while waxing-poetic about style and memories of the era. The car came out looking leaps and bounds better and everyone took away a sense of accomplishment and camaraderie.

**The car was not done—nor was it intended to be—that day,** but it inspired our volunteers to talk amongst themselves about the next direction for the Studebaker. A small group got together and rubbed the paint to a much more displayable state. The wheels have been removed, painted and sent to Dayton Tire & Auto Service Center (thanks to Don Sword and our friends there!) to get a fresh set of Firestones. Phil Eaton rebuilt the carburetor while Bob Lavieri and Jim Pugh have put in many hours on getting the engine humming and ready for display. These names are only a few of the great many engaged volunteers who have contributed to the Studebaker project.

**We could not be prouder of our volunteer's enthusiasm.** I am overjoyed to see them growing more and more as a community. Join us as we tackle new and exciting projects of many different shapes and sizes – our December Volunteer Social and Service will be held on December 16, 2023, from 10:30am to 1:00pm, in the Turnquist Library. Without a doubt, America's Packard Museum could not be where it is today without you, our volunteers, and we look forward to growing together.



## Points and Plugs



### APMs Museum Store – Upgraded and Online! – by Kristina Heaton

If you haven't been to see us lately, either in person or online, you may not be aware the the America's Packard Museum store is experiencing something of a renaissance. We've expanded what we have to offer in our Museum Store and it's full of great Packard and Packard inspired items. We're confident that you will find a treasure that will make a great addition to your collection or the perfect gift for the car lover in your life. We're stocked with apparel items that include t-shirts and neckties along with tote bags and metal models that are sure to be a hit. Our book selection is ever changing



as we cycle through non-Packard titles: you might find a book on the Chevy Camaro or the history of Oldsmobile. Crowd favorites are always on the shelf including *Packard: A History of the Motor Car and the Company* edited by Beverly Rae Kimes, and *Master Motor Builders* by Robert Neal. Pro tip: check after Thanksgiving to get APM Christmas ornaments!

We love to see the items from our store "out in the wild!" You are showing your appreciation of this one-of-a-kind destination and helping us by making fellow car aficionados aware of who and what we are. Do you have a photo of yourself or someone you love wearing one of our shirts? Drop

us a line. We'd love to see it, especially if it's some place as unique as we are. Visit in person or online at [www.americaspackardmuseum.org/store](http://www.americaspackardmuseum.org/store) and place your order today! -KH

### Operation Packard: For Your Eyes Only – by Paul Eppinger

After a few months of working at APM, I am starting to learn a few new tricks. Although my background is in History, car mechanics are a whole new circuit. Working with Packard cars has allowed me to learn a thing or two about mechanics, as well as learning about the background of each vehicle. Learning where it came from, its condition and how much restoration it has had, has been very fascinating. There is something special under the hood of each car.

We have been working on an application to the National Historic Register. In doing so, we have documented a history of the dealership and museum and its impact on local and national events. We compiled the building's architectural details as well. In completing the application, we sifted through a mountain of information to find the applicable facts. It's been an enlightening and enjoyable project.

With that said, the day-to-day operations of the museum continue to run smoothly with no major issues. We appreciate the input of our patrons, volunteers, and staff to improve the workflow and guest experiences at the Museum. If you have thoughts for us, we would love to hear your suggestions. Email me at [peppinger@americaspackardmuseum.org](mailto:peppinger@americaspackardmuseum.org).

SAVE THE DATE



PACKARD POWERS AMERICA



2024 PACKARD SPRING FLING – APRIL 26-27, 2024

Looking ahead...the 2024 Packard Spring Fling will be held on **April 26-27, 2024**. Mark your calendars now! The theme, *Packard Powers America*, will feature special guest speaker **John Davis, Host & Creator of *MotorWeek* on PBS**. **Tickets will go on sale on December 15 for what promises to be a fun and unique weekend for the Miami Valley!**

# CITIZENS' QUARTERLY



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The Citizens Motorcar Co.  
America's Packard Museum  
420 S. Ludlow St.  
Dayton, OH 45402

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Run Dullaghan  
200 Woodland Rd  
Mason OH 45040-1827



## Citizens' Quarterly Fall 2023

### Museum Fall/Winter Hours

Wednesday - Sunday  
12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

### Museum Summer Hours

Tuesday - Sunday  
12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM  
(begins May 7, 2024)  
Closed Easter, Thanksgiving,  
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New  
Year's Eve, New Year's Day  
Group Tours of 8 or more  
scheduled by appointment

### Contact Us

(937) 226-1710  
info@americaspackardmuseum.org  
www.americaspackardmuseum.org

### Admission

Adults: \$15.00  
Seniors (65 and over): \$10.00  
Children and Students: \$2.00  
(Students require Valid ID)  
AAA Discount no longer accepted

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Stu Morris - Curator  
Mark A. Vargas - Development Director  
Kristina Heaton - Business Manager  
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Our mission is to educate present and future generations about Packard Motor Car Co., its products, and philosophies.*

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Linda and Garry Moore  
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Children and Students: \$2.00  
(Students require Valid ID)  
AAA Discount no longer accepted

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Carolyn Beauregard-Shinkle,  
Chair  
Dan Bosch  
Richie Clyne  
Price Cobb  
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### America's Packard Museum Staff

Robert Signom III - Executive Director  
Stu Morris - Curator  
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# CITIZENS' QUARTERLY



NONPROFIT ORG.  
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DAYTON, OH  
PERMIT NO. 709



The Citizens Motorcar Co.  
America's Packard Museum  
420 S. Ludlow St.  
Dayton, OH 45402

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*MIXED AADC 430 3 5 643

Fred Hurst  
114 Stolz Dr  
Middletown OH 45042-3849



## Citizens' Quarterly Fall 2023

### Museum Fall/Winter Hours

Wednesday - Sunday  
12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

### Museum Summer Hours

Tuesday - Sunday  
12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM  
(begins May 7, 2024)  
Closed Easter, Thanksgiving,  
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New  
Year's Eve, New Year's Day  
Group Tours of 8 or more  
scheduled by appointment

### Contact Us

(937) 226-1710  
info@americaspackardmuseum.org  
www.americaspackardmuseum.org

### Admission

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Nathan Sponholz  
3109 Locust St  
Middletown OH 45044-7406



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Dayton, OH 45402

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*MIXED AADC 430 3 5 645

Mr. Eric Frey  
7105 Paul Ln  
Liberty Township OH 45044-8985



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Dayton, OH 45402

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*MIXED AADC 430 3 5 646

Joe Smith  
7893 Princeton Rd  
Liberty Township OH 45044-9413



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Josh Sharp  
6588 Silver Skate Dr  
Liberty Township OH 45044-9795



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