



# The Antique Expression

Gulf Coast Region, Houston, Texas

## My 1937 Packard Coupe



This was Packard's answer to making their cars competitive cost wise. It had a 6 cylinder vs the 8 cylinder and had a shorter wheel base than the larger coupe, therefore lighter.

I bought this car in a package (with a 1937 Hudson Terraplane convertible and a 1937 Chrysler AirFlow sedan) from a very noted restorer, Greg Tyree, from Turlock, California. He was just honored in Southern California for his 50 years in the auto restoration business. Among his numerous awards, most notable were 5 class wins at Pebble Beach. In fact, the organizer of Pebble Beach wrote an article about Greg and his winning formula - it was his "incredible command of colors."

The car was about 90 % finished and had over 3,000 hours in its restoration. When I received this car (I bought it from pictures.), I was overwhelmed by the quality and strict adherence to period correct detail. We finished the restoration in-house with a restorer that works for me full time. The only parts that were missing was the sun visors, but last year at Hershey on the very last day of the swap meet I found a pair that had a tag on them that said 1937 Packard Coupe. I thought one of my friends was playing a trick on me because what are the chances of finding a pair from a 1937 coupe as that was the only pair I even found in 4 days at Hershey.

My inaugural drive was to our local Lone Star Packards Club monthly meeting ( also my inaugural meet). The members were very complimentary and were amazed at the attention to detail that was evident in the car. I had planned on returning the car to its roots for the Packard International 57 th year meet, "Packards in Paradise," in Newport Beach, California, on March 15- 18<sup>th</sup>, but at the last minute it was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I was also signed up to show at Keels and Wheels on May 2 but now will have to wait until October. This is a car we will enjoy and it will not be just a garage junkie.

*John and Mary Ann Dalton*

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### Editor's Note:

I am grateful that John so willingly took on the chore of writing about his beloved car. He and Mary Ann just joined our club during this Covid era and we are glad they are here. Evelyn

## Never Underestimate Senior Citizens

The old lady handed her bank card to a bank teller and said, "I would like to withdraw \$500."

The female teller told her, "For withdrawals less than \$5,000, please use the ATM."

The old lady then asked, "Why?"

The teller irritably told her, "These are the rules. Please leave if there is no other matter. There is a queue behind you."

She then returned the card to the old lady.

The old lady remained silent ... but then she returned the card to the teller and said, "Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The teller was astonished when she checked the account balance.

She nodded her head, leaned down and said to the old lady, "My apologies, Granny, you have \$3.5 million in your account and our bank does not have so much cash currently. Could you make an appointment and come again tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked, "How much am I able to withdraw now?"

The teller told her, "Any amount up to \$300,000."

The old lady then told the teller that she wanted to withdraw \$300,000 from her account.

The teller did so quickly and handed it to the old lady respectfully.

The old lady put \$500 in her bag and asked the teller to deposit the balance of \$299,500 back into her account.

Don't be difficult with old people ... we can outwit the young and dumb.

Cheerfully submitted by *Diana Forbes*

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Robert Wheelless 281-380-4969

### Club Historian

Joe Vogt...281-496-7138

### Sunshine Representative

Diana Forbes 713-385-6947

### Club Hostess/Alt. Sec.

Sandra Johnston 713-340-0709



# ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

## June

John Dalton 6/8  
 John Sweney 6/13  
 Bea McLellan 6/17  
 Joan Eyssen 6/18  
 Carrie Huber 6/18  
 Sandra Johnston 6/21  
 Barbara J Wahlberg 6/21  
 Paul Tetrault 6/24  
 Robert Wheelless 6/26

## July

Elaine Bullard 7/7  
 Ferrell Moore 7/18  
 Bill Palmer 7/25  
 Nell Willis 7/27



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## June

Ferrell & Norma Moore 6/18 (#65!!!)  
 Clay & Amberly Kolby 6/22  
 Robert & Bea McLellan 6/27

## July

Chris & Jamie Baccaro 7/2  
 Louise & Barney Calvert 7/5 (#68!!!)  
 J.T. & Betty Gorrell 7/11 (#33!!!)  
 Larry & Carrie Huber 7/12  
 Timothy & Joan Eyssen 7/22  
 Dennis & JoAnn Husfeld 7/23



## Stephen F. Austin-Munson Historical County Park

### LOOKING FOR A SHORT TRIP??

Not that long ago (Oct. 26), Robert McLellan planned a short driving trip and on the way this was one of the stops. The museum hosts were very knowledgeable and the series sounds really good. Might be worth a trip.

**History Talks:** This Series is a discussion based on primary research-crowd participation is expected. Held on the second Sunday of each month from Jan. through Sept. , the talks are free/open to the public. The last recent (pre-Covid) one was Sunday, Feb. 9: Francis Adams—the Man Behind the Murder. “Discover an early adventurer, often-wealthy businessman, sometimes -shady dealer and influential settler of Austin’s Colony.

For more information, contact them at 979-849-5965. Address: 41885 SH 288, Angleton, TX 77515.



## NEW MEMBERS

Well, how about some good news!  
 GCR AACA has new members; check them out.

Recommended by the Smits, the Amos family, Cannon Ray and Debra Lynn, joined us.:

Ray & Debra Lynn Amos  
 3313 Westchester  
 College Station, TX 77845  
 979-450-6122  
 ray@hearnesteel.com  
 1970 Chevelle Malibu 55  
 1972 Pontiac GTO

John W. & Mary Ann Dalton  
 2302 Fannin Suite 550  
 Houston, TX 77002  
 713-906-2328  
 daltonjw@sbcglobal.net  
 Various Willys, 4 Hudson Terraplanes, 2  
 Chryslers and a Packard!  
 Full list in directory.

Returning from a short absence are  
 Micky & Don Bohne  
 P.O. Box 1567  
 18510 Bluffview Dr.  
 Crosby, TX 77532  
 832-236-8698  
 1910 Buick Model F  
 1931 Ford Model A  
 1955 Hudson Hornet  
 1987 Buick LeSabre LTD



There is no substitute for touring!

## AU REVOIR, JOY!

*In Memory of our Beloved*



*Joy B. Wheelless*

*September 10, 1927 ~ May 11, 2020*

On May 30th, at 2 P.M. club members came to The Chapel of Cypress-Fairbanks to be with Robert Wheelless as he said good-bye to our club "Mom," Joy Wheelless.

Joy Brannon Wheelless passed away on May 11. She was able to be at home with Robert in her final days. Robert's father, Bill, passed away in 2009.

Joy enjoyed riding in antique cars, attending car events and social gatherings. She loved spending time with friends and family and was a Mother to many. Joy said, "Every time you see a Cardinal/redbird, think about me." "That's me, saying Hello!" We will, Mom!

She is survived by Robert, her sister Judy, who often joined her in club activities, and many nieces and nephews.

**A graveside service will be on June 20, 2020, at 1 PM. Lamar Cemetery, 222 Hagy Drive, Rockport-Lamar, Texas, 78382, next to Stella Maris Catholic Church.**

## So, What's New from the Board?

As an FYI to all members, the Gulf Coast Region has begun a new way to have our board meetings. Due to the social distancing issues, your Board has begun having our meetings via conference call. We set up teleconferencing with a local company and board members dial in to our assigned phone number and access code, both of which never change. We must be patient with this type of board meeting, with a learning curve on getting to a point that we are not talking over one another.

We have had two such meetings so far and learned from each. For example, when we have a "motion" to discuss and vote on, the motion and discussion works out OK. But as the facilitator, I've learned, it's a lot easier to ask for who is opposed to the motion, instead of who is in favor for the motion. Seems the in-favor voters tend to be a little quiet. But the opposition voters speak right up, or NOT. By that I mean, we have not had any opposition voters yet, not even Wayne who always professes to guarantee us at least one opposition vote, HA HA!

The change to the conference call meetings was obviously COVID-19 driven, but we think it will make the General Meeting better. We feel we can start our regular meetings a little earlier for more time to work in possible programs. Also, it will enable us on the board to enjoy the other attendees' presence more. An added benefit is we will be able to get back on the road home earlier, which should make the late guy working the Tracy Gee Center happy.

Keep an eye out for an email or phone call with the information on the possible/probable new start times for the meetings.

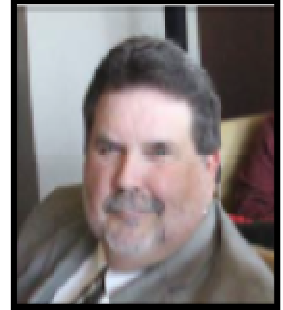
## More Tidbits from the Board

The Board would like to inform you of some calendar items. From the last few months, we now have several new members; we hope to see all of them at these up-coming events!!!!

July 5<sup>th</sup> - The planned July meeting has been changed because the Del Web facility in Richmond is still in the pandemic shut down mode. But not to worry! Ev Timmins reached out to Bill Thomas to see if he would be willing to host us at his place in Anderson. Bill was all-in for us to come out to his place for the event.

*Continued on pg. 7.*

*Moving on Down the Road.....* with Pres. Jim Johnston



## THE FUN OF OWNING AN ANTIQUE CAR

Last month I touched on what it means to own an antique car. So, this month I thought I'd expand on that via my trials and tribulations of "Henry The Ford," our 1942 2Dr Sedan Super Delux. Once again, I hope everyone can laugh at me and my shade tree mechanic learning experience. I thought I would again look for something that I could use to divert everyone's attention from our current COVID-19 situation, something that would give a good analogy of the old car hobby.

To set the scene, I recently had all the wiring replaced at a shop in Katy where once wiring work was done, I drove the car home to Pearland with my wife Sandra close behind in our Ford Explorer. The trip home from Katy to Pearland was uneventful. The next day I took Henry for a drive around our neighborhood and had almost made it home only to think I had run out of gas. Our resident neighborhood Marine, Earl, whom most of you have met for our toys for tots Christmas lunches rescued me and pulled me and Henry home.

After I found out Henry had plenty of gas, my next step was to put on a new fuel pump, which was done at a local repair shop in Pearland. Once that work was done, I picked the car up with Sandra again close behind on the drive home. And guess what, once again, Henry appeared to run out of gas. After the tow home via wrecker service and for a lack of anything else to try, I changed out the fuel filter and guess what, Henry started right up. I let Ole Henry sit there idling to see what would happen and just baby-sat Henry for a while; till Sandra called me in for some lunch. Checked on Henry a couple of times and he was still just sitting there idling. Then, as they say, "third times a charm" (not), checked on Henry again and guess what, Henry was sitting there not running and if I didn't know better he seemed to be sitting there laughing at me. However, I now have a new symptom that surfaced: the 6v battery was dead.

So, my next step, besides charging up the battery, was to change out the original type 6v coil with a new modern day 6v coil while the battery was charging. Once that was done, guess what, Henry started right up. But this time I checked my voltage across the battery with the engine running and it read 6.4 volts DC. Now my attitude is beginning to change, So, I let ole buzzard breath Henry sit there running, again. About 40 minutes later, Henry was sitting there, not running, and once again I am sure he was laughing at me.

Next step! I am thinking it must either be my battery or my voltage regulator. So my first step was to set up my battery charger on the battery.....again! But now I began looking for a 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion. So, I thought, Robert Bullard is just a phone call away; he is a smart guy and has a flathead V8 in his 35 Ford truck. So, I rang Robert up and I ran my sad story past my go to guy Robert. He agreed it could be the voltage regulator. So off to O'Riley's I go for a new 6v voltage regulator. Now with the new voltage regulator, I read my installation instructions and found I must set the polarity for the regulator. But the instructions were not kind enough to tell me why I had to do that. So back on the phone to my go to guy Robert. He was familiar with having to set the polarity and I asked if that was required for a vehicle that is positive ground? Robert agreed with my hypothesis. So, following the instructions to a T, I set the polarity on my new voltage regulator. Guess what, I may have success. Ole Henry started right up and has started up for the past 3 days since. You now might be asking if I have ventured out of the driveway taking Henry out for a drive? Nope, just having fun starting him up each day with success. But I did have a light that lit up above my head. I wondered if the guy that replaced all my wiring knew to set the polarity on the regulator once the new wiring harness was installed. He said he doesn't think he did. So now I am wondering if I ever had a real problem in the first place. Go figure, and so goes owning an antique car!!

See all y'all later, "Moving on Down the Road" and keep breathing good clean air!!

## What We Did on Our COVID-19 Stay-at-Home-Vacation

At the end of February we closed 2 of our storage units from the sale of our home and moved them into the smaller home we now own. This included Dean's 2 9x5 train tables, all of his train collection, car parts for Connie and all of my Christmas collection. Dean at least had the attic decked so hopefully the ceiling won't fall in over the cars. We spent weeks unpacking trying to find a home for things we no longer need or want, the disadvantage of moving without knowing where or what your next home will be.

Our community garage sale was cancelled so we have more boxes with "for sale" stuff lining the living room walls. It's was a challenge negotiating the room, but I finally made it "livable". Needless to say - unpacking was brought to a halt because we just ran out of room to put "stuff." Once donation centers open there will be a lot of boxes disappearing.

With the discovery of my baking pans and isolation from the world; my daughter Laura and I decided to hone our baking skills (While trying not to gain weight)! Over the course of the last 4 months, we started off with a simple crowd favorite - Rice Krispy Squares with chocolate drizzle no baking. One Saturday, Laura made some homemade bread.



I found my favorite cookbook and later in the month, we went for homemade cinnamon rolls!

Makes 3-1/2 dozen . We are not foolish enough to keep all 3-1/2 dozen, as I really don't want to buy new clothes at the end of quarantine, so most were given to neighbors, our favorite plumber, and friends. I have actually made these cinnamon rolls twice.



We give most of them away or freeze them.

One weekend Laura experimented with homemade pizza dough! Yum! Better than any pizza delivered. Yeast has become a popular item as more people

are baking. So when I run across some yeast, I now buy extra - sort of like toilet paper.

We have made the traditional standby, my Poppy Seed Loaf Bread and Blueberry muffins made with fresh picked blueberries from my friend's farm in Woodville. We recently capped the last week off with homemade banana bread.



We really have fared well during this quarantine. Laura was able to work from home. We've done "Zoom" meetings with our church and Bible study groups. Celebrated a 9th birthday for one of our grandsons via

zoom, worked around the house, and typed reams of letters for Dean (not fun). Live, in person, we attended our son's 40th surprise birthday party (family only) - mask and social distancing went out the window about 15 min. into the visit. Lots of hugs from grandkids was the highlight of the evening for Dean and me.

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> we celebrated our 45th Anniversary at Antonio's by Katy Mills, our first real intro into the public. We had a delicious meal and fun evening out.



Considering how long we have all been in quarantine together, I have yet to put a pillow over Dean's face while he was sleeping, to protect him from the Corona Virus - though I came close while typing his letters. I found that an adult beverage now and again keeps me from using the pillow.

Stay safe, wash your hands often, wear a mask, and practice social distancing - especially if you  
*(Continued on next page.)*

*(Covid Vacation, continued from pg. 6)*

want to do bodily harm to your spouse.

PS Dean's 2¢: He got the sending unit on Connie fixed and now we will be able to tell how much gas is in the gas tank

We look forward to seeing all of our GCR AACA friends soon!

Covidly submitted by *Diana Forbes*



**More Tidbits, continued from pg. 4**

Our plan is to have a July 5<sup>th</sup> Pot-Luck lunch. Bill has plenty of room for us all to have a good time with easy to maintain any social distancing concerns anyone may have. We will be reaching out to all of you regarding dishes you could bring. The club will furnish the meat, Should be a fun event we can all look forward to attending. Don't forget the \$100 drawing if you bring an antique car.

October 1<sup>st</sup> - 3rd - Pate (hopefully)

November 7<sup>th</sup> - We have a Bear Creek Park pavilion reserved for a Veterans Day lunch. Bring your old set of wheels. You too John Doerfler (and Dena) with your Chevy Truck!!

December 5<sup>th</sup> - And to close the year out, Elaine Bullard has us set up our annual December get-together, at guess where? YEP!!! You guessed it, our old faithful, THE MONUMENT INN!!!! So tune up the old wheels and gas the oldies because this will be a \$100 dollar outing to some lucky member!

And last, but not least, keep your eyes out for announcements for the rescheduling of the Texas Tour!! We should have more information within the next month, so be on the lookout.

*Jim Johnston*

## When Marriages Last More than 65 Years!!

They are doing something right.

Here is an excerpt from a letter Ferrell Moore wrote to his soon-to-be bride, Norma, on **Memorial Day, 1955**:

*"I had \$22.50 worth of work done on the car ('52 Ford Victoria) today. It was missing and I had to get a new head gasket - as well as spark plugs, points and condenser. It has plenty of get up and go now, but I still need to have the front wheels lined up. There goes part of my Income Tax return, honey."*

*"I didn't get to listen to any of the '500' race today. An hour and a half after Vukovich got killed, the whole story was in the Houston Press, one of the afternoon papers. That Speedway is just getting too little for the fast cars."*

*"Whoops, just killed a mosquito as big as my fingernail."*

The only thing that's changed is the cost of car repairs. FM

**Note from Ferrell:** I forgot to mention. I taped the mosquito to the bottom of the letter, and it's still there. And the letter was written when I was stationed at Ellington AFB and Norma lived in Fort Smith, Arkansas. FM



## 48<sup>th</sup> Pate Swap Meet

# The October 1 - 3 Dates Are Still A Go!

As Texas goes past the halfway mark of its phased re-opening after the lockdown for COVID-19, officials of federal, state and local governments and their experts are keeping close eyes on the health metrics from around the state at a micro-scale. Everything is looking good for the next re-opening phases that are scheduled for several weeks out in the early summer.

As best as anyone can tell right now, we are a "go" for the full Pate Swap Meet, as planned, for our October 1 - 3, 2020 dates.

### Hershey Has Been Canceled

Last Thursday evening, May 28th, the AACA Hershey Region Executive Board announced publically that the 2020 Hershey Fall Meet has been canceled.

Since the Hershey Fall Meet was scheduled to occur the week after our recently-rescheduled October dates of the Pate Swap Meet, the Hershey Region AACA announcement has naturally triggered a lot of our vendors and visitors to inquire about our status. We are making this announcement to let everybody know about our status so there is no misunderstanding.

To repeat the headline above: we are still a "go" for our October 1 - 3, 2020 dates!

### Our Local Conditions Are Good

In summary, the outcomes between Hershey and Pate are different because our local conditions are different. The local conditions for COVID-19 in Texas and our region are much better than in Pennsylvania and its region. The local conditions in Texas and particularly in Tarrant and Denton Counties (the immediate area around the venue) are very good as reported by our state and local health agencies.

Re-openings in Texas continues to expand. The phased re-opening plan in Texas is subject to the "ground-truth" of various monitored health statistics collected and reported by local health agencies. As long as the monitored health metrics remain within their proper bounds and trend in the anticipated direction, protocols will be further loosened and re-openings will be expanded.

In general, most of Texas hit the 50% capacity limits last week with some institutions were allowed to go to 100% of capacity. It is anticipated that most of the state will be back to normal in June or early July at the latest (subject to future evaluation.) Texas Governor Greg Abbott has stated publically that he expects Texas public schools to open on-time for their Fall term in mid-August.

Unless the government institutes another lockdown because of some unexpected turn in the monitored health metrics, the Pate Swap Meet will be conducted on October 1 - 3, 2020 as planned.

**We do NOT anticipate the need to cancel!**

SO BE SURE TOP SIGN UP WITH WAYNE SOON!!



# Down the Road

Underlined items are club (GCR AACA) sponsored activities.

**2020**

**We understand the Gee Center may open mid-June. We will send out notification as soon as we receive it so we can plan future dates for meetings.**

**July 5** Our celebration for the 4th will be a potluck lunch at Bill Thomas' home in Anderson. More info later.

**Oct. 1-3** Rescheduled PATE SWAP MEET: Sign up to work with Wayne Bartlett.

**Oct. 17-18** Rescheduled Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance, Seabrook.

**Nov. 7** Veteran's Day Picnic at Bear Creek Park; more later.

**Dec. 5** Club Christmas Lunch. More info. forthcoming.

As we schedule meetings, you will receive an email.

**Public Car Outings.....**

**Friday Lunch** - Car (& food) enthusiasts gather for lunch on Fridays at various restaurants. Contact Bill Cockrell 281-293-0842 for information.

**Friday evenings** Pearland Antique & Classic Auto Show (PACA) Cruise Night at parking lot behind Freddy's Hamburgers, FM 518 & Pearland Parkway. 6 PM

**Saturday evenings** cruise in at Chick-Fil-A in Home Depot's parking lot, 5 PM, Hwy 146 and FM 2094 in Kemah

**Last Sat. morning of the month:** Coffee, Cars, and Books from 8 - 10 AM in Barnes & Noble parking lot on Bay Area Blvd.

**Last Sat. morning of the month:** Coffee and pastries at Gateway Classic Cars, 71 Esplanade Blvd., Houston, 77060

**1st Sat. of the month:** Coffee and Cars. Free car meet from 8-10 AM at Memorial City Mall, south side parking lot.

***The Antique Automobile Club of America***

Is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration and maintenance of automobiles and automotive history. It is the country's oldest and largest automotive historical society.

**Gulf Coast Regional Meetings at Tracy Gee Center  
3599 West Center Dr.,  
Houston, TX 77042**

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. 2nd Monday of each month, Except for February, July and December, when special activities are scheduled.

**The Antique Expression**

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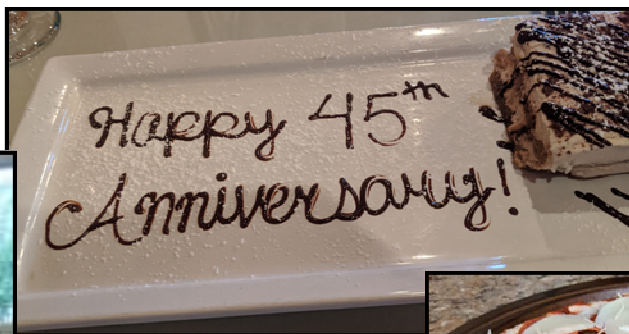
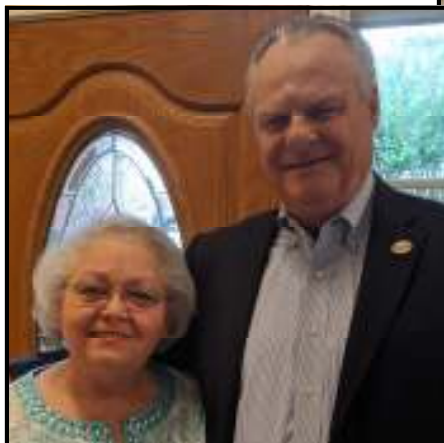
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**Out and about with members**



Read about the Forbes' covid 19 vacation on page 6.

All this sure looks good!



Even the inside of that Packard is really great looking!



Now you can see both sides of the John Dalton cover story 37 Packard Coupe.

