



San Diego Region

# Predictor



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## President's Message

As you know by now, the **Packards In Paradise** National Tour is a little more than 3 weeks away. This tour is without doubt the biggest, most spectacular event our region has planned and executed in many years. Co-sponsored with the SoCal Region, it will be the premier event of 2007 for all of Packards International. It is very discouraging, then, for me to report that, other than San Diego Region Board of Directors, only 6 San Diego Region members have sent in their registration forms and enrolled in tour attractions. Another 3 region members have signed up only for bringing their Packard to the Cruisin' Grand portion of the tour. With a membership of 62 members who own a total of 91 Packards, one would expect a much better showing for a tour as fabulous as **Packards In Paradise** promises to be.

While the deadline for making hotel reservations at Morgan Run has passed, there is still time to enroll in any or all of the Tour Attractions. We have until September 5<sup>th</sup> before we have to provide head counts to attractions like Hotel Del and the Tecate Train Ride. Now is the perfect time to send in your registration form with payment!

Also, for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Packard Night at Cruisin' Grand we again bring you the opportunity to show off your fine motorcar in the Parade of Packards down Escondido's Grand Avenue. The parade will start at 5:00 sharp and we'll have a Police escort through the heart of downtown Escondido to our reserved parking spaces on Broadway. Everyone that participated in last year's Parade of Packards said it was a blast. While we would like for you to sign up for other tour attractions in **Packards In Paradise**, you can still register for the Parade of Packards and display your Packard on Broadway for FREE! Please note, however, that you must pre-register to participate. All you have to do is fill out the **Packards In Paradise** registration form, circle the word FREE next to Cruisin' Grand and mail it to our P.O. Box. No payment is required (if you are signing up for this attraction only). Please pre-register in order that we can plan a space for you in the parade as well as on Broadway.

In 1941, Winston Churchill said; "Put every ship afloat to sea to look for the Bismarck". In 2007, I'd like to see our Region put every roadworthy Packard on Broadway at Cruisin' Grand. Lets get out in force and welcome our 35 PI visitors coming from all over the west with a strong showing of our Packards at Cruisin' Grand!

Now, briefly on to a different subject: It is again that time of year when we begin the process of nominating Region members to run for Board of Director positions. Elections will occur in October. If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or running for a position on the Board, please contact any Board Member with your specific interest or question.

In closing, while begging, pleading, and cajoling has never been my strong suit, I am openly doing exactly that in requesting the honor of your presence (and that of your fine motorcar) at any of the **Packards In Paradise** attractions. If you can't participate in any other event, won't you please join us in Escondido on September 21<sup>st</sup> for the Parade of Packards and Packard Night at Cruisin' Grand?

Happy Tours,  
Mark Burnside

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[packardsandiego.org](http://packardsandiego.org)  
Find links to P.I. Chapters,  
P.I. National Events





Do you recognize this couple? They are fellow Packards International San Diego Region members, Arvilla and Larry Johnson., owners of a 1949 2262 Deluxe Eight Sedan and a 1955 5587 Four Hundred. They live on their 100 acre ranch in Campo. In a recent article in the *San Diego Union*, Arvilla and Larry were noted to carry out a family tradition dating back to Arvilla's Great-Grandfather, Archibald Campbell, who started recording the temperature (high and low) and rainfall in 1891 for the National Weather Service for the Campo area.

Now, each day, at 3PM Arvilla or Larry records the data and phones in the results to the Weather Service. Arvilla's father bought property in 1930 and carried on the recording from his father. He was honored by the National Weather Service for 60 years of excellent, accurate and uninterrupted service. Arvilla's mother did most of the recordings until her death, and was also honored.

The procedure used to be more complex with five readings each day with the temperatures and rainfall data, but also included wind speed and direction, cloud height and type. In 1996, the Weather Service installed an automatic weather station near the Johnson's weather station. The Weather Service used the Johnson's readings to calibrate the new equipment. The Weather Service continues to use the Johnson's weather data daily. Arvilla is matter-of-fact about her contribution. She does the daily work because it needs to be done. The Weather Service continues to use this historical data to reconstruct what climate has done over these many years.

Arvilla hopes to be here in 2030 when it will be 100 years on the ranch. She also hopes her daughter and son-in-law from New Hampshire will move to the ranch and carry on the family tradition. If you note the daily weather page in the *San Diego Union*, Campo always has the recorded temperature. I cannot say the same for other reporting stations where their data is missing many times each month.

My Packard hat is off to the Johnson's for their most important long term dedicated service. This narrative is taken from the original article of July 9, 2007.

Oh yes, Larry has almost completed his restoration project on their 1949 Deluxe Eight. It will be ready for next years Cruisin' Grand, said Larry.

*Story by Karl Ramsing*

## FOR SALE – Cars and Parts

1949 Packard "2201" 4 Door Sedan, dark blue bottom, silver top (paint good), approx 48K miles, upholstery needs some repair, dual spot lights, stored for 14 years, good driver before storage. Contact: **Bob Boland 760 622-5876**

Located at 1302 Alta Vista Drive, Vista, 92084.

All fluids need to be changed and a brake check needed before driving any distance. (Previous appraisal: \$12K)

Fred Puhn is looking for a '32 – '36 Packard senior model, Club Sedan preferred, email [fredpuhn@cox.net](mailto:fredpuhn@cox.net) or call 619-475-1155

For PI-San Diego Region Members:

Do you have a collector car or parts for sale? To place an ad in our newsletter, email Gary Wysong at [gwysong@cox.net](mailto:gwysong@cox.net) or call (619) 267-8879

If you have an email address at home or work, but get your newsletter by regular mail, email Gary Wysong to be placed on our email list

Send your preferred Packard parts, supplies and services vendors information to Gary Wysong for us to update our Parts, Supplies and Vendors list

### New Members:

John & Anne Dyer  
1932 900 light 8 Roadster

Jack & Lynne Heacock [jackheacock@yahoo.com](mailto:jackheacock@yahoo.com)  
1953 "2602" Cavalier Sedan

Dean & Patti Beavers [deanbeavers@hotmail.com](mailto:deanbeavers@hotmail.com)  
1952 "2531" Patrician Convertible

### Address Changes:

Les Hill  
418 Alturas Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028

Craig Pearson  
10275 Old Fruit Road, Crofton, KY 42217-8236

Optional Event:

2007 Orange Empire Studebaker La Palma Meet

Date: Sunday May 27, 2007 Time: 8am-3PM Place: La Palma Park, Anaheim, corner of La Palma and Harbor, just north of the 91 Freeway. Car Fee: Judged Entry - \$25, All others - \$20. Parts Exchange: \$25/space

Open to any Studebaker related vehicle, Garford, EMF, Erskine, Rockne, Pierce-Arrow and Packard.

Contact: Gordon Bricken, Event Chairman at [GBricken@aol.com](mailto:GBricken@aol.com)

## 2007 Calendar

**Sep 20-25: PI National Tour in San Diego County**  
**Sep 21 4:00 PM Cruisin' Grand in Escondido**

**Oct 20: Tech Session #3, location TBA**

**Nov 10: Garage Tour, location TBA**

**Dec 2: Annual Holiday Party – Pauma Valley**

**Packard of the Month** We would like to feature **ANY** member(s) and their Packard. Please write a brief article about yourself, how you acquired your Packard, restoration progress, and anything else you would like to share about your Packard. Email one or two photos and your story to Gary Wysong



## PACKARDS SWEEP THE NEW YORK TO PARIS RACE

Six Packards from the Packards International Automobile Club, San Diego Region entered the New York to Paris race and finished leading the pack. Just after the break of dawn, three of the drivers and crew met at an undisclosed location in California to caravan to New York where the race began. President Mark Burnside arrived to "Ruffles and Flourishes" in his 1949 Limou, known as Miss Daisy. Mark was accompanied by First Lady Syd. Vice President Phil, "Big Phil", Pizzuto joined the caravan in his 1939 120, "The Blue Bomb". This was his second or third outing so he brought experience to the team. This is the second

**race the VP has run with one cylinder disabled! This did not seem to affect the performance.** Big Phil told the Times reporter that he liked to level the playing field. The third member and Treasurer, Steve Ross, "The Bag Man", was the first to arrive in his 1939 Super 8, "The Yellow Peril". Ross brought the entire club treasury in case funds were needed for this long and arduous journey. It came as no surprise that not one penny was needed for the Packard team to sweep the field. The Packard's headed east into the rising sun for New York, the great race starting point.

Arriving in New York the Packard team was joined by Jack Heacock in his 1953 Packard Sedan, Ken Yankee driving a 1940 120 Coupe, and Dean Beaver with his 1952 Convertible. In New York the Packard automobiles stood out in a field of lesser cars. There was a swarm of Model T Fords in the race and they did quite well. **It appeared that all of them finished. They of course were followed by their trailer and support teams. The Packards were solo all the way, as usual.**

We arrived in New Orleans in the midst of Mardi Gras. The team partied hearty and departed a bit tired for Flynn Springs, a rough place in the middle of nowhere. We were held up by bandits in Flynn Springs U.S.A. on our way to Mother Russia. Another close call came in Russia where some of the team members bet on an illegal race between a horse and a car. The car won, Duh! Arriving in Romania we were accosted by a band of Gypsies who extorted more money from us. At this point Big Phil had to be restrained as he is not the one who is usually getting extorted. Fortunately this was the last stop before arriving in Paris as many of us were running short of gold coins. Since there were no banks or money changers along our route each team member was **allotted a certain number of gold coins. Every check point along the way seemed to be aware of how many gold coins we had.** One team driver was heard commenting that the "fix was in" on this race. Arriving in Paris without major incident the Packards were met by a cheering crowd of Parisians and other Europeans. This was a red letter day for Ross as he finished the race! He has been plagued by misfortune on other events. This may be one reason he has been driving alone in the past few events. People grew tired of finishing the ride in a tow truck.

The Packard team was accompanied by a media group so there are several photos of the Packard entrants. – by Steve Ross



Packards lined up before the race



Mark briefs the racers before the start



Fun at the Mardi Gras



Robbed at Flynn Springs



Line up in Paris (Simpsons)