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Danielle and Steven Okert in front of the PPG Lodge.

Vincent Family Member Visits the PPG

By Kim Parr, PPG Curator

Danielle Okert, wife of Minnesota Twins baseball pitcher and great-great granddaughter of Charles and Lucile Vincent, visited our Packard Proving Grounds on Thursday, July 25th.

It was a first time visit for Danielle and her husband, Steven. They live in Arizona and decided to visit while in town for a game he was pitching in against the Detroit Tigers.

Danielle is descended from Dorothea, the eldest daughter of the Vincent's three daughters. Dorothea was born on January 18, 1917 and lived at the Packard Proving

Grounds from 1927 to 1936. She married Roger W. Carothers, a metallurgist, while working as a secretary. They tied the knot on September 14, 1940 at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. Together they had three children. Roger, who is still alive, was born in 1942. In 1944 their daughter, Joan Kathleen, was born. Two years later their daughter Christine was born. They resided in Palm Desert, California.

Dorothea's youngest child, Christine, is Danielle's grandmother. She had married a farmer from Ohio, who served in the military, and now lives in Alaska. Dorothea eventually moved to Alaska to be near her family and where Danielle was raised. Danielle has fond memories of her "Nana" and appreciates all of the family history that she shared with her. Sadly, Dorothea passed away on July 29, 2004, but her memory lives on within the history of our beautiful Lodge.

Danielle's visit enabled her to learn so much more about her family. She expressed her gratitude for all we do to keep the history of her family and the grounds alive.

We hope that Danielle and her husband, Steven, will remain connected and visit us again.



Dorothea Vincent

*Left to Right: Lucile, Cornelli, and Dorothea Vincent
Bottom: Roberta "Bobbie" Vincent*

2024 PPG Upcoming Events

Saturdays - Shelby Farmers Market

Sunday, August 4th - Chic & Unique Handmade Market

Saturday, August 17th - Mom2Mom Sale

Sunday, August 25th - Wedding Garage Sale

Wednesday, September 11th - Impact Networking Event

Sunday, September 22nd - Rosie Luncheon

Sunday, October 20th - Annual Fall Open House

Saturday, November 1st - Day of the Dead Celebration

Volunteer Spotlight - MEET PAT PRISBE



By Marci Fitch, Volunteer Manager

Pat Prisbe's journey as a volunteer at Packard Proving Grounds (PPG) began one year ago. While attending an event at Packard, she met another volunteer who asked if Pat could help water the flowers. Living nearby, Pat agreed, and this set the stage for a deeper involvement with the PPG.

While volunteering, Pat learned of the need for more flower gardens to beautify the grounds. Initially, she saw an opportunity to contribute by donating flowers from her home, which she was selling. She then started attending Foundation Meetings to learn more about the vision for flower gardens throughout the site and how her skill sets could help. As she learned more, she collaborated with other gardening volunteers. This led to the development of new gardens, including a beautiful space at the front gates, a new Rain Garden, and many other flowers planted throughout the site!

One of Pat's most heartwarming moments as a volunteer was seeing a group of young ladies take pictures in the Rain Garden she helped develop. Transforming an

unsightly gravel parking area into a picturesque photo spot is a testament to her hard work and dedication.

In addition to her gardening efforts, Pat has also taken on the role of managing the gift shop inventory. With her background as an interior design retailer and visual merchandiser, she has effectively overseen the ordering of new items and updating displays, ensuring the gift shop remains inviting and well-stocked.

Outside of her volunteer work, Pat enjoys gardening, traveling, reading, and home remodeling. For 20 years, she and her husband have been buying and flipping houses, a passion they continue to pursue. She and her husband also love to travel out West!

Pat's career in Interior Architecture, after graduating from WSU, and her many years of experience in building construction design have equipped her with a wealth of knowledge and skills that she brings to her volunteer roles at PPG.



Volunteering at PPG has been a fulfilling experience for Pat. She has met wonderful people, contributed to meaningful projects, and witnessed the positive impact of collective efforts on the grounds and the community. Her story is an inspiring example of how one person's dedication and passion can make a significant difference.

We thank Pat for all her hard work and significant contributions!

[Learn more about Volunteer Opportunities at the PPG](#)

The Packard Powered Miss America X



Miss America X

By Kim Parr, PPG Curator

One of the first things to notice upon entering the Tank Test building at the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site is the 38' by 10', eight-ton race boat built by racing legend Garfield Arthur Woods. Its impressive size with four huge Packard engines jutting out of the top instantly draws you in to take a closer look.

This race boat represents a significant piece of our local history and is significant to world history in terms of what an advancement it was in mechanical power. **CLICK HERE** to read more..



Share the PPG with your friends and family! We're counting on these little ones to care about the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site in the years to come.

SAVE THE DATE



Rosie the Riveter Garden Memorial Luncheon

Don't miss the unveiling of our **Rosie the Riveter Memorial Garden** that was recently planted to honor the memory of Packard "Rosies" who contributed to the war effort.

Please join us for Debra Wake's program titled "*Heroes of the Home-front*" while enjoying a luncheon to include Chicken Marsala, Penne Pasta with Palomino Sauce, Santa Anna Potatoes, Green Bean Almondine, Salad, Rolls and Dessert.

We welcome you to dress in patriotic colors or as a "Rosie".

Generously sponsored by:

The General Josiah Harmar Chapter NSDAR
The Old Settler's VFW Post 4659
Packard Motor Car Foundation



**Sunday,
September 22
1 pm**

Tickets \$35 per person
for Friends of the PPG members

\$40 per person
for not yet Friends members

Learn more about Friends
of the PPG membership at:
**PackardProvingGrounds.org/
membership/**



49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby TWP, MI 48317

Call or text (586) 739-4800

Purchase Tickets @

packardprovinggrounds.org/RosieMemorialGardenEvent

Meet the Speaker - Debra Wake

By Kim Parr, PPG Curator



Debra Wake is currently the Education and Volunteer Coordinator at the Holland Museum in Holland, Michigan and is a member of the American Rosie the Riveter Association. She worked for 25 years at The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan, retiring in 2020 as Manager of Youth, Family, and Camp Programs. She is also the former vice president of the Southeast Michigan “WOW” chapter of the American Rosie the Riveter Association and a former Tribute Rosie at the Yankee Air Museum (now the Michigan Flight Museum). **CLICK HERE** to learn more.



1956 Packard Patrician could be yours for as little as \$30

Purchase one raffle ticket for \$30 or two for \$50. The winner will be drawn at the Annual Fall Open House on Sunday, October 20th - you need not be present to win.

Click here to purchase tickets online, or stop by the site to buy some in person. Proceeds benefit the Packard Motor Car Foundation a 501c3 nonprofit to help fund restoration work onsite at the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site.



THE GIFT SHOP

AT THE
PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS



LOCAL PICK UP &
DIRECT TO DOORSTEP AVAILABLE



Summer is in full swing. Stay cool in a Packard tee!

Sizes run XS to 3XL and are available in Classic Red and Deep Royal Blue. Inventory is moving fast so order yours today!

GIFT SHOP



IMPACT
BUSINESS COMMUNITY



VENDOR SHOW SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

*This Vendor Show offers **B2B networking** & a great opportunity to **expand your customer base** all in one! There will be extensive advertising to the public to ensure we have a great turn out!*



- ✓ Raffles
- ✓ Corn Hole
- ✓ Food Trucks
- ✓ Music



PACKARD PROVING GROUND

49965 Van Dyke Ave
Shelby Twp, MI 48317

Vendor Reception 3-5pm

B2B NETWORKING

Vendor set up, networking, food & drinks- get to know local business owners!

5-8PM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MEET THE BUSINESS!

TABLE
INCLUDES 2 PEOPLE

\$100

EXTRA
PERSON

\$25 each

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
INQUIRE FOR DETAILS

Help us support iCare of Michigan!

To Register:
WWW.BIZIQ4U.COM/EVENTS

More Information: Contact Alisha Congiolo
Call 586-804-1616 Email: consulting@BiziQology.com

Click on the flyer images to save a .jpg file to share with your friends & family!

PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS

MOM2MOM SALE

June 22nd & August 17th, 2024

Next to the
Shelby Farmers Market
Spaces are 10x10ft OUTDOOR spaces
Bring your own tent/tables/chairs
\$20/space
May park 1 vehicle next to your selling space.
Setup from 7:30-9am • Sale runs from 9am-2pm
Strollers welcome, leashed dogs welcome!

Scan the QR code to purchase your space!

Packard PROVING GROUNDS
49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby TWP, MI 48317
Call or text (586) 739-4800

PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS

Wedding Garage Sale

August 25 & November 24, 2024
1-3 pm

Free to PPG Couples or \$25 donation/table

REUSE • RECYCLE • REPAIR • REPOSE

To register or for more information visit
PackardProvingGrounds.org/WeddingGarageSale

Packard PROVING GROUNDS
49965 Van Dyke Ave, Shelby Twp, MI 48317
Call or text us at 586-739-4800

PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS

Annual Fall Open House

You Are Invited!
Join us for the Packard Proving Grounds Annual Open House

Sunday, October 20
1 pm - 5 pm
Rain or Shine | FREE Admission

Event includes:
Cruise-In Car Show
Packard Taxi Rides
Bake Sale
Food Trucks
Vendors
Live Music: Belgian American Association Band
Gift Shop Open

Packard PROVING GROUNDS
49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby TWP, MI 48317
(586) 739-4800 | PackardProvingGrounds.org

Donations graciously accepted. Proceeds benefit the restoration on the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site.

PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS

1956 Packard Patrician RAFFLE

• 64K original motor!
• Column selector!
• Good Running Car!

Tickets \$30 Each or 2 for \$50

Need NOT be present to win!
Winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, Oct 20th at the PPG Annual Fall Open House @ 3pm

Purchase tickets at:

- Shelby Farmers Market on Saturdays 9am-2pm May 18 - Oct 19
- Sunday June 9th at the Cars 'R' Stars car show 8am-3pm
- Easy Rodders car show July 21st 8am-3pm
- Stop in at the PPG office open everyday 9am-3pm
- Or purchase online at: PackardProvingGrounds.org/1956raffle

Maximum of 3,000 tickets to be sold.
If minimum of 1,500 tickets are not sold, this will be a 60/40 raffle. License #R75422

All proceeds benefit the Packard Motor Car Foundation 501c3

Packard PROVING GROUNDS
49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Twp, MI 48317
(586) 739-4800

Photos courtesy of Rick Meyer

Harvest Holiday Market

November 3rd

12-4pm

Kick-off this holiday season by shopping local small businesses

- Farmers
- Artisans
- Fresh Baked Goods
- Handcrafted Jewelry
- Unique Crafts
- Handmade Soaps
- Holiday Gifts
- Historic Site Tours
- 50+ Vendors!
- & so much more!

\$1 DONATION ADMITTANCE

Packard
PROVING GROUNDS
NATURAL SITE

49965 Van Dyke Ave.,
Shelby Twp, MI 48317
Call or Text (586) 739-4800

Vendor Space Available
Visit our website for more info
PackardProvingGrounds.org/HarvestHoliday

VENDOR SHOW

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Vendor Reception 3-5pm

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PACKARD PROVING GROUND
49965 Van Dyke Ave
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TABLE INCLUDED PEOPLE \$100

EXTRA PERSON \$25 each

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
INQUIRE FOR DETAILS

Help us support iCare of Michigan!

To Register:
WWW.BIZIQ4U.COM/EVENTS

More Information: Contact Alisha Congiolo
Call 586-804-1616 Email: consulting@BizIQology.com



Help drive the PMCF into the future.
Donate to the NOW Fund

DONATE TO THE NOW FUND

Great Gatsby Gala Images



We were thrilled to find some images from the 2024 Great Gatsby Gala in the August issue of Hour Detroit magazine! It brought back lots of great memories.

CLICK HERE to see a photo gallery by photographer Erin Marie Miller

It's not too early to start thinking about the 2025 gala which will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025 - save the date!

Have a question?

You can text us at the PPG main phone #586-739-4800



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Our mailing address is:
Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site
49965 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Twp, MI 48317

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