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PACKARD MOTOR CAR FOUNDATION PRESENTS

THE

APRIL 2026

PACKARD PULSE

HONORING HISTORY, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS



Welcome to the newest addition to the PPG Fleet, this beautiful 1940 Packard 160 Convertible - a one-of-a-kind design by Rollson which was generously donated to the PMCF by Don Garheeb.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun, Apr 12th
Sun, Apr 12th
Sun, Apr 19th
Mon, Apr 20th
Sat, Apr 25th
Sun, Apr 26th
Sun, May 3rd
Sat, May 16th
Sun, May 31st
Jun 3rd + 4th
Sat, Jun 13th

HSS: DeLorean Motor Company
Wedding Garage Sale
Spring Fling Handmade Market
Blood Drive
Great Gatsby Gala Fundraiser
HSS: The California Gold Rush
North Oakland MOPAR Car Show
Packard Farmers Market KICKOFF
Simply Unique Market
3rd Annual Packard Salon
Packards & Pours

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Meet Dennis Kuhn.

Some volunteers discover the Packard Proving Grounds later in its journey. Others have been part of it from the beginning — helping shape what it has become today. Dennis Kuhn is one of those people.

Dennis first became involved in 2002 through his work with the Motor City Packard Car Club, where he served on the board of directors. That role led him to early project meetings at the Proving Grounds, where he found himself working alongside a small but dedicated group committed to preserving the site.

“I was following up and supporting the efforts of John MacArthur, Bruce Blevins and Dave Dolby,” he said. “Those guys are terrific guys. We’ve all worked together for a long time.”

In those early years, the work was simple — and often uncertain. Projects were small, resources were limited and the focus was on maintaining the site and keeping it moving forward. Dennis contributed in the same way many volunteers did: hands-on work, including repairs to the Lodge and garage structures.

Over time, the Packard Proving Grounds evolved.

As the organization grew and developed new ways to generate revenue, the nature of the work shifted. What was once about simply sustaining the site became a matter of planning its future — determining which projects to prioritize and how best to balance preservation with long-term sustainability.

That evolution is something Dennis has been part of every step of the way.

He was a proud member of the core team behind Cars R Stars, one of the Foundation's early large-scale fundraising events, which played a significant role in supporting the site before the development of its current event model.

Today, Dennis serves in a leadership role as part of the Site Planning Committee, helping organize and prioritize future projects across the grounds. Working alongside a group of experienced, hands-on volunteers, the committee ensures that the people closest to the work are part of the planning process.

His perspective also reflects a broader shift in how people connect with the Proving Grounds. While Packard's automotive legacy remains central, Dennis has seen a growing appreciation for the site's deeper historical significance — particularly its roots in Detroit history and its connection to the surrounding community.

"People are relating to the history... that surpasses the premium car part of it."

For Dennis, volunteering has never been about recognition. It's about contributing where needed and being part of something larger than yourself.

"It doesn't mean getting patted on the back. It means giving of yourself."

That mindset has carried through more than two decades of involvement.

Outside of the Proving Grounds, Dennis built a career in the automotive machine tool industry, running his own business for 25 years. Today, he remains active through his church and spends time with his family — including three children and eleven grandchildren, all of whom live nearby.

He also maintains a personal connection to the automotive world through his own collection, including a 1948 Packard Custom and a 1967 Chevelle convertible — a car he once owned in his youth and later found again.

Looking back, Dennis doesn't overstate his role. Instead, he points to the people who influenced him and the work that continues to move forward.

For those considering volunteering, his advice is straightforward:

"Give of yourself."

Dennis Kuhn's story is not about a single moment or achievement — it's about consistency, commitment and the steady work that helps sustain a place like the Packard Proving Grounds

over time.

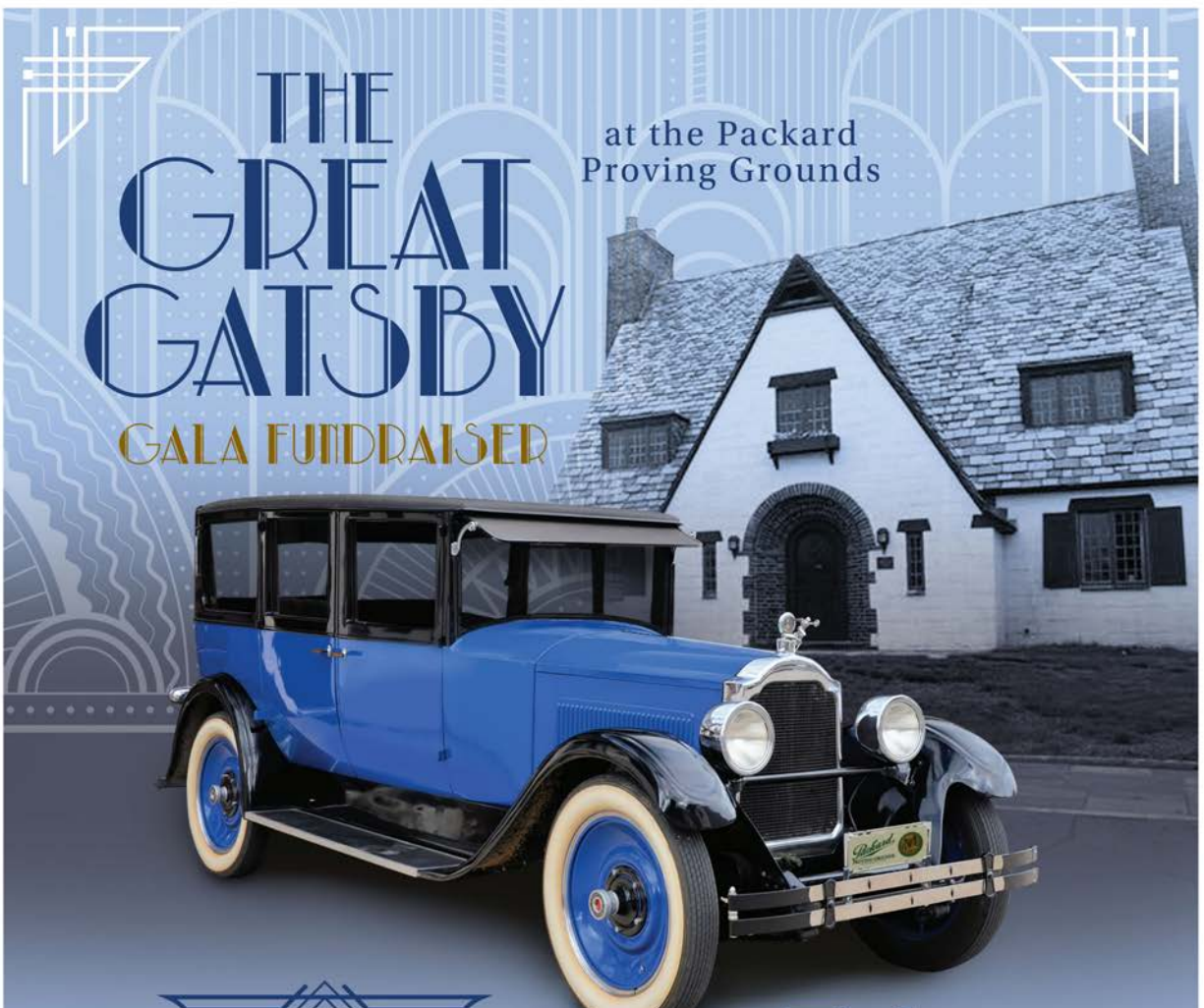


Get Involved - Explore Volunteer Opportunities at the PPG

PACKARD IN THE PRESS



Check out the wonderful article about our Great Gatsby Gala Event in the **Mount Clemens magazine!** [Click here](#) to view the article full size.



THE GREAT GATSBY
GALA FUNDRAISER

at the Packard
Proving Grounds

Saturday
April 25, 2026
6-11 PM

Tickets
\$100 Per Person

Dinner, drinks, live music,
and a roaring night hosted by
Roop Raj
from Fox 2 News

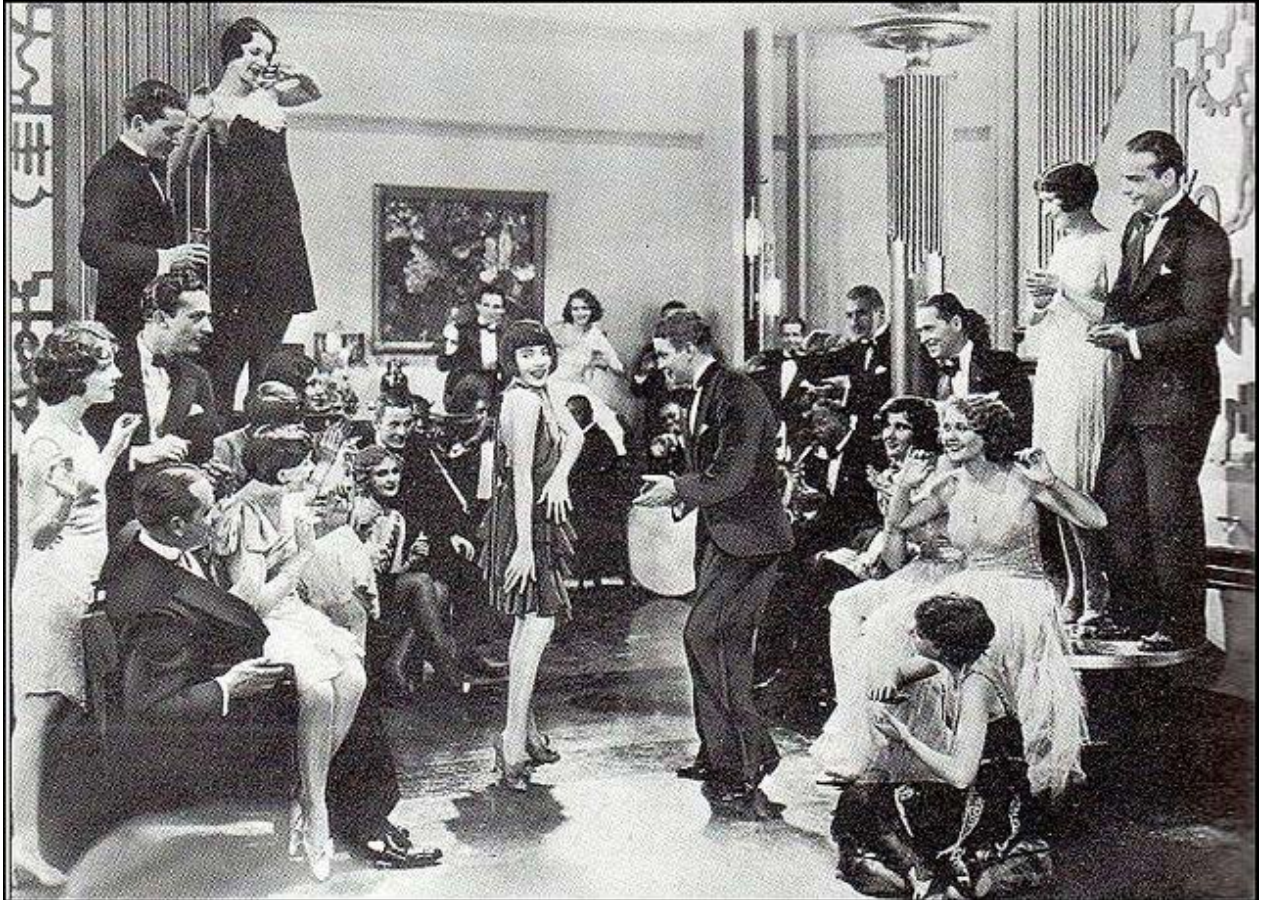


More info @ PackardProvingGrounds.org/GreatGatsby
49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Twp., MI 48317 | Call or Text (586) 739-4800

FROM THE PACKARD BLOG

GLAMOUR, INDUSTRY, AND THE SPIRIT OF THE ROARING TWENTIES

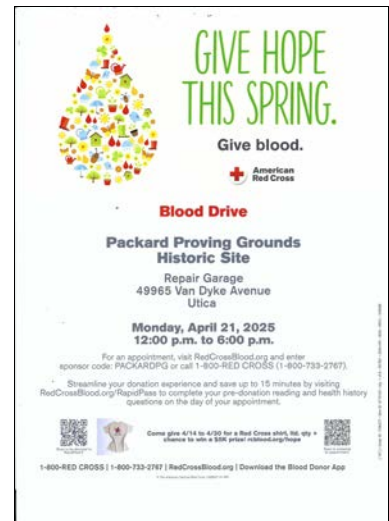
by Amanda Demo



There was a time when the details we now call vintage were simply everyday life. Silk dresses moved easily through new, electricity-lit rooms. Jazz drifted from radios and open doors. Detroit was growing quickly and confidently, with industry shaping both its skyline and its identity. The late 1920s carried a particular kind of energy — refined yet ambitious, elegant yet forward-looking. It was during this moment of expansion and possibility that the Packard Proving Grounds opened its gates, shaped by the same spirit that defined the Roaring Twenties.

Each spring, that spirit is revisited during the Great Gatsby Gala — a fundraiser inspired by the decade that helped shape the grounds. But to understand why that celebration resonated, it helps to first understand the era itself.

Read more about the Roaring Twenties and the annual Great Gatsby Gala fundraiser [here](#).



Click on the flyer images, then right click and select 'save image as' to save a .jpg file that you can share with your friends & family and help us spread the word!

HISTORICAL SPEAKER SERIES



and engineering and 2. how the company came to be manufactured in Ireland and the growing pains that the company could not overcome. He will end with what is going on with the current DeLorean community.

**Sunday
April 12th
1-2pm**

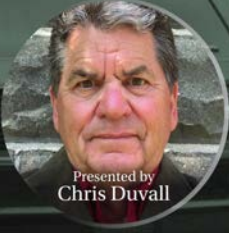
\$5 for not yet members
(FREE for members)

Presented by
Chris Duvall

Purchase Tickets @
[PackardProvingGrounds.org/
Apr12-HSS-PPG](http://PackardProvingGrounds.org/Apr12-HSS-PPG)

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and examining what they encountered once they arrived in California.

By looking beyond legend, the program reveals what the Gold Rush truly demanded of those who took the risk -- and what was discovered when they reached the other side.

**Sunday
April 26
1-2pm**

\$5 for not yet members
(FREE for members)

Presented by
Debbie Remer

Purchase Tickets @
[PackardProvingGrounds.org/
Apr26-HSS-PPG](http://PackardProvingGrounds.org/Apr26-HSS-PPG)

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Purchase Tickets

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT

Trio Events llc



We're grateful to Trio Events LLC for their support of our recent Diego Rivera

Historical Speaker Series lecture, where they generously provided seating for our guests. Specializing in elevated rentals for weddings and events, Trio brings a thoughtful blend of style and function to every celebration. As a preferred Packard Weddings vendor, they continue to help create seamless, beautifully designed experiences.

Interested in learning more? Visit trioeventsllc.com.



Packard Farmers Market

Where History & Harvest Meet

The Packard Farmers Market returns for the 2026 season on the front lawn of the PPG bringing together local farmers, artisans, bakers, makers, and local businesses in a one-of-a-kind setting where history and community meet.

Formerly known as the Shelby Farmers Market, the newly rebranded **Packard Farmers Market** reflects its deep connection to the Packard Proving Grounds and its mission to support the Packard Motor Car Foundation.

Vendor Application





SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



PRESENTING SPONSOR

"History & Harvest Partner" – \$5,000

BENEFITS:

- "Packard Farmers Market presented by [Business Name]" recognition
- Logo featured prominently on:
 - Farmers Market webpage
 - Market signage at every market
 - Social media sponsor thank-you posts (minimum 4)
- Dedicated Sponsor Theme Day at the market (branded signage + shout-outs)
- Vendor-style booth space at up to 4 market days
- Opportunity to host a complimentary private event at the Packard Proving Grounds (ideal for client appreciation, staff gathering, or customer event – date coordinated)
- Recognition in press releases and media outreach
- Verbal recognition during market announcements throughout the season



GOLD SPONSOR

Community Champion – \$2,500

BENEFITS:

- Logo on website and seasonal market signage
- One sponsored theme week at the market
- Booth space at up to 3 market days
- Social media recognition (minimum 3 posts)
- Inclusion in sponsor thank-you signage
- Opportunity to include branded giveaways or coupons at the market
- Recognition during weekly market announcements



SILVER SPONSOR

Local Supporter – \$1,250

BENEFITS:

- Name/logo on website sponsor page
- Booth space at up to 2 market days
- One social media spotlight post
- Sponsor signage at the market
- Verbal recognition during the season
- Option to sponsor a specific feature (kids' activities, music, dog-friendly day, etc.)



BRONZE SPONSOR

Small Business Ally – \$500

BENEFITS:

- Name listed on website and sponsor signage
- Booth space at 1 market day
- Social media thank-you mention
- Recognition as a supporter of PPG preservation



MARKET FRIEND

(Entry-Level /Add-On) – \$250

BENEFITS:

- Name listed on website sponsor page
- Group sponsor signage at the market
- Ideal for small businesses wanting visibility and goodwill

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

(Any Level)

- Sponsor a specific market feature (music, kids' crafts, dog-friendly day)
- Co-branded giveaways or sampling
- Sponsored hydration station or seating area
- Cross-promotion with business social media

To secure your sponsorship or for more information, contact Mary Anne Demo
maryanne@packardprovinggrounds.org or (586)-739-4800

GEMS FROM THE VAULT

by P.H. Connell



An owner in the Los Angeles area bought a huge lot of some Mohave Desert Packards from another collector and hauled them back to his wrecking yard. He started selling them off.

The classic V12's, Super Eights and 120's as well as some post war models went first. When the local board of supervisors demanded it the decision was made to get rid of the remainder of the Packards.

An auction was to be held but with his allegiance to only one of the two California Packard clubs only one club was notified with sufficient time. The club left out pleaded for more time but negotiations fell through. Of the 100 or so cars involved only a small percentage were sold including 18 Caribbeans.

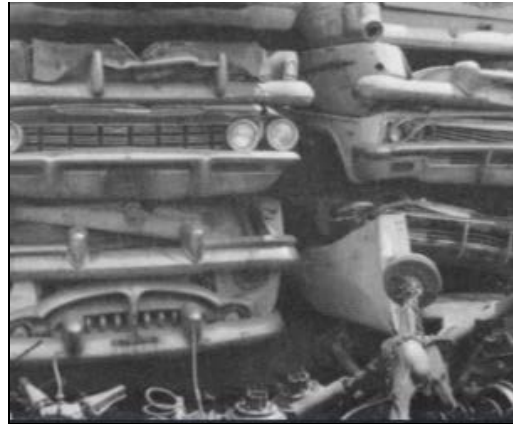
Due to club rivalries in southern California some 50 Packards were needlessly crushed. Some only need a new battery to start. After they were crushed they were immediately hauled off the shredder. Most were rust free California cars. Club rivalries kept many of these Packards from being saved.

This incident was covered in Special Interest Autos Magazine #41 August - October 1977 by Leon Dixon. He was then the editor of the Southern California Packard News. See the article for additional information.



Every picture tells a story. History is wonderful. These photos and 14,000 more are on file in the Vault at the Packard Proving Grounds.

Every picture tells a story. History is wonderful. These photographs - and more than 14,000 others - are preserved in the Vault at the Packard Proving Grounds.



THE PACKARD PROVING GROUNDS GIFT SHOP

PACKARD KEY RINGS & PATCHES



Stop in, take a tour and pick one up today!

Gift Shop purchases directly support the Packard Motor Car Foundation.

Shop Now

Preserve the past.
Fuel the future.



SUPPORT
THE **PMCF** MISSION.

Donate Today



586-739-4800 Call or text us
We're happy to help!



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