



# *Salado e-Letter*

*June 2014*

## *In This Issue...*

The subject of this e-Letter is to give participants an accounting of the discussions and decisions made at the Sunday Morning Meeting. A small group of participants attend, representing the four Regions plus a few interested parties. It is an important organizational session that influences what will be done in future Meets and a critique of the activities that just took place. This meeting had several agenda items that you may find of interest. The following is based mostly on my notes with input from Beverly Clark (HOT) and Tommy Baccaro (LSP). We have exchanged our recollections of the meeting and believe the following meeting notes are a good representation of the proceedings. Jim Hill gave a brief summary of the meeting in his June 2014 edition of *The Stagecoach*. This is to provide the participants with a more comprehensive view of the business items discussed and decisions made concerning them. Lastly, all participants are invited and encouraged to attend the Sunday Morning Meeting.

### *Notes from Sunday Morning Meeting - April 6, 2014*

\$15 - For each additional attendee (same as 2014)

#### **Opening Remarks**

Beverly Clark opened the meeting with a brief report on the numbers of registrations and attendees.

- 112 - Total master registrations
- 99 - Prior to Meet
- 13 - On-site

#### **Finances**

Beverly spoke to the group about Meet finances saying that estimated expenses for this Meet would cause a cut into the \$5,000 balance that is carried over from year to year. A discussion followed about registration fee amounts. It was decided to raise the fees for the 2015 Meet.

- \$35 -Per master registration prior to cut-off date
- \$45 - Per master registration after cut-off date and on-site

#### **Friday Night Buffet**

Next subject was the Friday night buffet and bar. It was decided to continue with them. There were also many critical comments made about the service at Saturday night dinner. Beverly said she would talk to Inn management about improving service for next year.

#### **Parking**

Beverly thanked Larry Myers (LSP and Ark-La-Tex) for the job he did organizing the parking for this year. Having assigned spaces for each car for the Saturday display worked well with participants cooperating with the plan. The group decided to continue with this method. The group also thanked Billy Vitcalos (Ark-La-Tex) for his many years of heading the Saturday parking.

### Vendor Solicitation

Beverly asked the group if they wanted to continue soliciting vendors for goody bag items. She said that most of the items offered were of little value and use. The group decided not to actively solicit vendors for item donations.

### Publicity from Salado

There was a discussion about publicity the Meet receives from the village of Salado, and support from its merchants. Tommy Baccaro and Gordon Logan (HOT) said they would work on this and see if they could gain support from the Chamber of Commerce and merchants.

### Room Rates

Room rates at the Inn were discussed. A comment was made that the Cadillac club that meets at the Inn gets special rates. Beverly said she would talk to Inn management about this.

### Meet FaceBook Page

Steve Christy, PAC president, presented Anthony Baccaro (LSP) with a certificate from the club recognizing his efforts in establishing a Texas Packard Meet page on FaceBook.

### Early Bird Tour Fee

Early Bird Tour fee collection was discussed. Gordon Logan, who organized this year's tour but missed last year, said he did not collect a fee to offset the expense of having a chase vehicle. It seems we forgot to inform Gordon about collecting the fee. There were no breakdowns on this year's tour. The need for a chase vehicle and fee for the 2015 Meet was left open.

### Cormorant Article

Tommy Baccaro said he would submit an article to *The Cormorant News Bulletin* on the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meet. He said it takes about three months for the article to appear in the CNB.

Note: The article is now scheduled to appear in the June issue with an interesting side bar.

### Hard Luck Award

Beverly said that John Lawrence (HOT) would take custody of the Hard Luck Award trophy and get tags with recipient names made and attached. The trophy is to be returned to the Meet each year for all to enjoy. New recipients, if any, receive plaques (like class awards) to take with them. Lesslie Reagan was the recipient this year due to engine damage his 1952 200 suffered. Lesslie was presented with a plaque at the awards banquet recognizing his hard luck.

### 2015 Early Bird Tour

Gordon Logan said he would plan on organizing and leading.

### Number of Awards

Beverly asked about a subject discussed last year concerning to only award a 1<sup>st</sup> place for each class. This subject seemed to have no support last year and has gained no further support this year. We will continue with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place awards for each class.

### Early Registration

The early registration on Thursday evening will be continued next year with the same 7 - 9 p.m. hours. Registration staff will also be available prior to the Early Bird Tour on Friday morning to hand out packets to those who have pre-registered.

### Ballot Counting

There was a serious discussion about ballot counting. The Ark-La-Tex region had the responsibility, but failed to appoint anyone to the task. Two non-Ark-La-Tex volunteers did the counting and tabulating. In spite of all the hard work and good intentions, there were some errors in the tabulation that led to some confusion at the awards ceremony.

The Ark-La-Tex region has agreed to perform the task and will manage it.

### **Publications**

There was a discussion about whether to continue the expense associated with *The Stagecoach*, a long-standing publication Jim Hill does for the Meet. His expenses were just over \$300 for the past year, but he received a \$100 donation leaving a little more than a \$200 expense for the Meet. Also discussed was whether to continue with the e-mail distributed newsletter that John Lawrence started this past year. John said he started the newsletter on his own as a quick way to get information on the Meet to participants at no cost to the Meet. He said he would continue or stop distributing it based on what the participants want. It was decided to keep both publications. It was suggested that Jim look in to e-mailing his publication to those with e-mail addresses to reduce postage costs.

### **Number of Classes**

John Lawrence talked to the group about the work he and Tommy Baccaro did on the display classes. He said they worked well last year, the first time they were used, with Packards in each of the 19 classes except for the very early 1899-1914 and the late 1957-58 years. He thinks it will be similar for this year. He suggested that the group might want to consider combining the open and closed cars in the same years for fewer classes and more Packards in each class for more competition. One person pointed out that everything being equal the open cars always trump the closed cars and therefore he was not in favor of combining open and closed classes. It was decided to continue with the display classes as is.

### **Region Contacts**

Beverly asked for primary contacts in each region. The following were named.

Ark-La-Tex Packards  
Todd Bates  
Heart of Texas Packards  
Beverly Clark  
Lone Star Packards  
Tommy Baccaro  
Packards of North Texas  
Mark Wilson

Note: There may have been changes since these contacts were given.

After this last item, the meeting was adjourned. As you can see there are many business items to consider with operating the Meet. Be a part of it and plan on attending next year.

I can't say goodbye without a photo from the Meet.



Two 1947 Clipper Customs a blue club sedan and the writer's maroon touring sedan

***Until next time, take care, stay healthy, drive safely, and have fun...***

John Lawrence  
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