

PREDICTOR

PACKARDS
INTERNATIONAL
MOTOR CAR CLUB
SAN DIEGO REGION

JUNE'S FEATURE CAR: KEN YANKEE'S

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JUNE 2000

Ken Yankee was born in Detroit Michigan. As a young man he worked at Kaiser Fraiser in 1947 on the assembly line. In 1948, Ken worked at Ford Motor in the steel mill. And by 1956, Ken was heading to San Diego and has been here since.

His first Packard was purchased in 1976 just north of Escondido. That Packard is the 1955 400 that myself and Cary presently own.

In restoring the '55, Ken striped it down to metal. A old-timer, Ed Hunnenberg, agreed to help Ken with restoring the Packard, but first Ken had to go to night school to learn about carburetors. Ed would only help people who were serious. The transmission was rebuilt, new bearings put in, and an electric windshield motor installed. The front seat and door

panels had to be replaced but the backseat is still the original. Ken primed the car himself and then the vehicle was sent out to a local body shop in El Cajon. He sold that car in February 1999.

During the Big 3 Swap Meet in February, Harry Trout stopped by the booth looking for hubcaps, Harry left the information to be printed in the newsletter. He also mentioned that he would be wanting to sell his 1940 120 Business Coupe soon. The information was printed in the March Predictor. Ken called Harry, who is 85 and has owned the 120 for the past 15 years. Ken bought this beauty without even driving her.

Ken took her on her first long road trip up to March Air Force Base. A few minor clinches

added for excitement on the tour - a little vapor locking. But Ken was a real trooper and survived with his great sense of humor.

Ken learned to drive on a 1931 Chrysler and has owned a '37 Plymouth, '39 Mercury Club Coupe which was the first year for the Mercury, '47 Fraiser, '51 Ford, '55 Mercury, '65 Buick Riviera and a '72 Buick Boat tail Riviera along with several other vehicles.

During his retirement which began about 10 years ago, Ken stays busy with gardening, hiking, swimming and now the 1940 120 Business Coupe.

Ken is an active member of Packards International and attends most meetings and tours.



Let's face it - - English is a crazy language

There is neither egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; or apple or pine in pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.

Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preacher praught?

In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship?

Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways?

How can a "slim chance" and a "fat chance" be the same, while a "wise man" and a "wise guy" are opposites?

How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while "quite a lot" and "quite a few" are alike?

How can the weather be "hot as hell" one day and "cold as hell" another?

Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent?

Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, grunted, ruly or peccable?

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Mark Chandler: 10190 Palm Glen, #62, Santee, CA 92071

Ms. Mera Kelley: P.O. Box 3123, La Jolla, CA 92038 (new member)

Robert & Ann Steiner: P.O. Box 514, Chula Vista, CA 91902

George Gerrodette: 6333 La Jolla Blvd., Unit 171, La Jolla, CA 92037 - Correct phone # 858-454-5788

NEW P.O. BOX FOR THE PACKARDS INTERNATIONAL SAN DIEGO REGION:

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CAR FOR SALE

1955 Caribbean Convertible

RARE 3 speed manual factory/dealer installed transmission. Bad health forces the sale. Current Arizona plates and tags. Auto runs very well. New radiator, water pump, rear seals, stainless exhaust system, all power and the radio works. Carpets are very good. Seats, top and paint are all very serviceable. Color is Sea Green and White, although it needs detailing. The car is located in Palm Springs. I will

send pictures to interested parties. Asking price: \$22,500. Call Stanton Platt at 760-323-9988 or STANTON-JAY@PRODIGY.NET.

If you have parts or vehicles for sale or need to locate certain parts, this is the place to advertise - contact Nancy at 858-486-0664 or fax your information to 858-486-0660 to be printed.

For work on speedometers, tachometers, gauges, cruise controls, clock repair contact:

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VAPOR LOCK

The terms vapor lock and percolation are generally used to describe the vaporizing of the fuel before it has passed through the carburetor.

In general, percolation is used to cover the premature vaporizing of the fuel in the carburetor itself, while vapor lock may describe a situation in the carburetor or in the fuel pump and the fuel lines. There is no sharp distinction, however, between the two terms.

The condition usually occurs during the first warm days of the late winter or early spring and will be found in those localities where winter gasoline has lasted longer than the cold weather for which it was intended.

When the winter gasoline works out of the picture the vapor lock usually disappears. A second epidemic sometimes follows during the extremely hot mid-summer weather. By that time the winter gasoline is gone but temperatures may be high enough to vaporize even a summer fuel.

When trouble is experienced the first step is to make sure that motor temperatures are not unnecessarily high. The high temperature heater thermostats should be removed from the cylinder heads and heat control valves

should be checked in order to make sure that they operate freely. **Control valves which stick in the closed position will deliver so much heat to the manifold hot spot that trouble is almost sure to follow.**

The following procedure has been suggested :

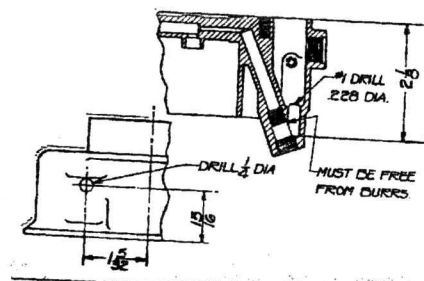
1. Replace the air horn gasket with a new gasket which has been cut out to provide easier disposal of any fumes which may collect in the float chamber.
2. Drill an additional vent hole in the air horn, as shown in the illustration. This is for the same reason.
3. Replace the main metering jet with the latest design. This new design prevents gas from pocketing. While doing this, make sure that the passage supplying the fuel to the main metering jet has no overlapping burrs at the lower end which will enable a gas pocket to form. If necessary, the passage should be drilled out with a No. 1 drill, .228 in diameter, making sure not to drill so deeply as to injure the seat. Do not drill deeper than 2 1/8" from the upper face of the carburetor body.

4. Replace the die cast spacer between the float chamber and the carburetor throat with three of the new throttle body gaskets. These are used to provide insulation between the float chamber and the body. Be very sure that the three screws are perfectly tight, otherwise the gaskets will pound out and air leaks will develop.

In addition to the above, further insulation of the carburetor can be provided by increasing the number of gaskets between the carburetor and the exhaust manifold.

The measures outlined above will take care of any vapor lock or percolations unless the fuel used has an unusually high vapor pressure or unless the motor adjustments are not standard.

Packard Service Counselor - July 1937



UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

Sunday, June 11, 2000 - 25th Annual Swap Meet and Parts Exchange. Note the new location at Kennedy High School, 8281 Walker Street (between Lincoln Ave. and La Palma).

Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 18th, 2000—30th Annual CHVA Father's Day Car Show. 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Cal Oaks Sports Park in Murrieta.

Sunday, June 25, 2000 - 18th Annual

Literature Faire & Exchange - Irwindale Speedway.

Restricted to automotive literature, memorabilia & small collectibles.

Call 714-229-9100 for more information.

Tuesday, July 4th - Participating in the 4th of July Parade at 1:00 p.m. in Rancho Bernardo. More details at the next meeting on June 7th.

October 16-20 National Tour 2000

Laughlin, Nevada

Come join your fellow Packard enthusiasts as our cormorants migrate to the Colorado River in the fall to bask in the warmth of one of America's great rivers. Days trips will include visiting: Route 66 Tour to Kingman, Lake Havasu and the London Bridge, Lake Mead and Hoover Dam and much more.

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