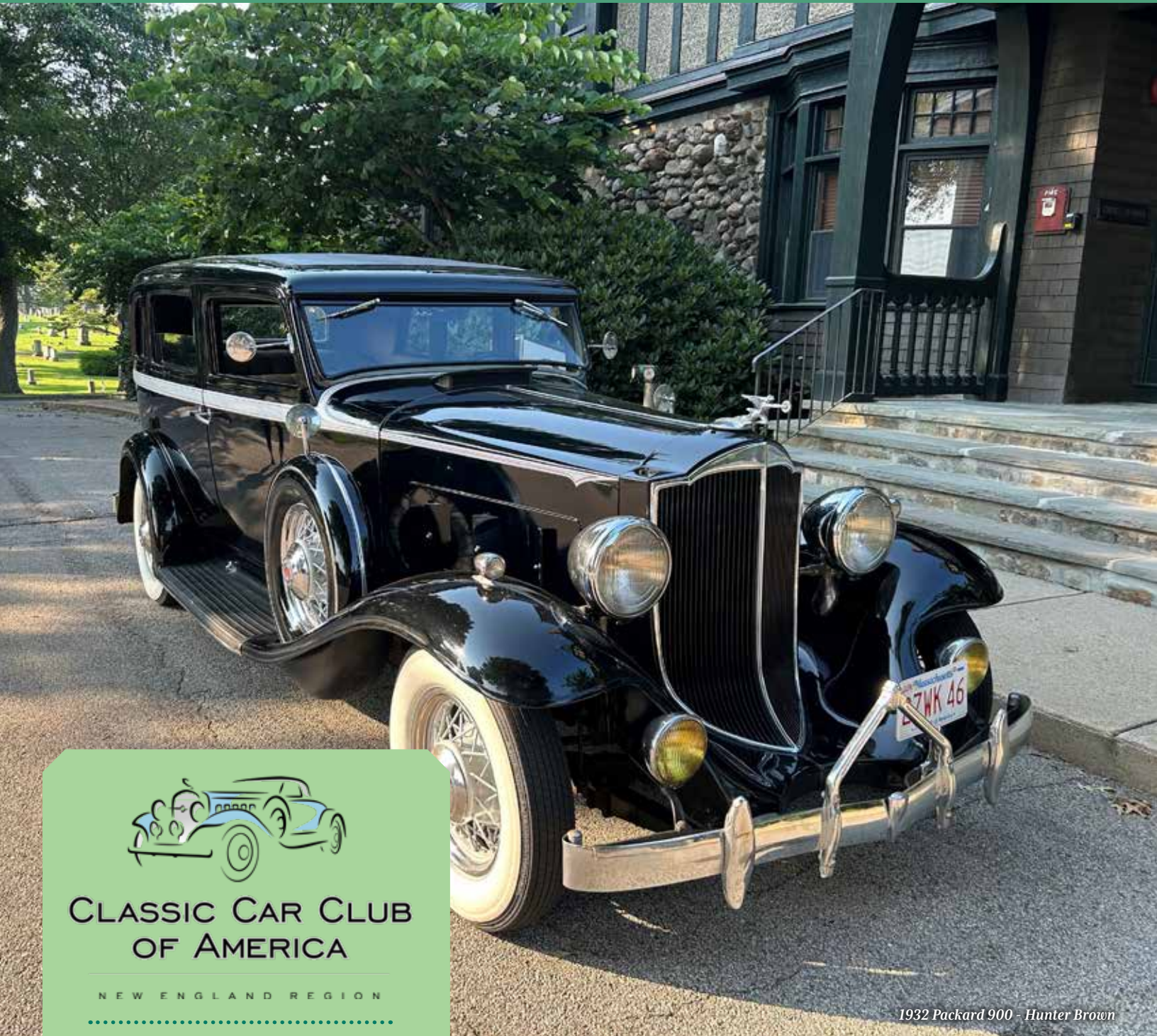


# NEW ENGLAND CLASSIC QUARTERLY & BULLETIN



CLASSIC CAR CLUB  
OF AMERICA

NEW ENGLAND REGION

FIRST QUARTER 2025

1932 Packard 900 - Hunter Brown



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**EDITOR’S NOTE**

Spring has sprung. Time to get our classics ready for the season ahead and to sign up for Mainly a CARavan in September 7-14, 2025, Rockland, Maine.

— Heidi Ann



**PUBLISHING DATES\***

JANUARY-APRIL | MAY-AUGUST | SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

\*Cutoff Date for Info/Ads is 15th Of month before publication



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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



This is my first official message to NER members. I am excited to be the new Director of our Region. I would like you to know a little bit about me and my background. I've lived in Maine my whole entire life and have been working full time at Classic Car Services in Oxford since 2011. I'm a McPherson College alumni with a bachelor's in Automotive Restoration Management during which my time in college I was introduced to full Classics and fell in love with them. After years of searching for a classic I found a 1917 Kissel Kar four passenger roadster which I'm now currently in a process of restoring. I've been an active member in the NER since 2016 in which I was the trouble truck driver for that years CARavan in NH/ME. Since then I've been on the board for the region and look forward to being the new director. We have some exciting events planned for the near future for our region including the 2025 Mainely a CARavan. I along with Natalie Murphy and Whitney Overocker are the Organizers of this National event. The board and I are also in the planning stages on some regional events so stayed tuned. I look forward to serving as the new Director of the Region. See you down the road,  
— **Ryan**

## 2025 Events

### The Amelia

*March 6-9, 2025*

### Classic Car Club of America Annual Meeting

*March 26-29, 2025*

*St. Louis, Missouri*

### Automobila Auctions

*April 25, 2025 Preview*

*April 26th, 2025 Auction*

*Plainville, CT*

### The Wilbraham Hillclimb

*May 10, 2025, Wilbraham, MA*

### Annual Tech Event

*Sunday, May 18, 2025*

### Greenwich Concours

*May 30 to June 1, 2025*

### The Boston Cup

*September 28, 2025*

### Springfield to Boston Foundation Tour

*TBA*

### New England Region Classic Car Club of America - Mainely A CARavan

*September 7-14, 2025*

### AACA Hershey Fall Meet

*October 7-10, 2025*

### NER CCA 71st Annual Meeting

*November, 2025 TBA*



# My First Packard

By: Hunter Brown

I grew up around classic cars in various conditions from early on as my father (75 this year) is an avid Anglophile who loves the small spirited British sports cars. MGs, Triumphs, and eventually transitioning into E-types and Morgans. An odd Ford Model A, Thunderbird, and Ward LaFrance pumper fire engine also speckled the growing collection.

Way back in a dusty corner, however, stood a stately red touring car with a white top: a 1921 Packard 121 Single Six with a red leather interior.

I blame that car more than any of the others for igniting my growing love for the old classics (which I'm working hard to pass along to my ten year old daughter!).

After many years of looking, and tinkering here and there on MGBs and old Buicks, and lots of saving, I spotted an advertisement from Tom Laferriere for a beautiful 1932 Packard 900 5-passenger sedan.

With daughter in-tow, we drove to Tom's Smithfield showroom and were escorted

through his unbelievable collection of Packards, Jaguars, Rolls Royces, and seemingly endless other classics to a garage door leading outside.

I was fully planning to play it cool, but as the door went up and the one-year-of-production-only shovel-nose began peeking out from under the door, I caved and began grinning from ear to ear. So much for any chance of a deal! It was expertly detailed and all the chrome glistened smartly in the sun. I instantly knew we had to be its next caretakers and much to my delight, my daughter seemed as star-

struck as I did!

After some friendly back and forth with Tom, we shook on a deal and my head reeled as I began to realize what I had just committed to.

A few weeks later, after all the paperwork was sorted, I convinced my patient wife to drop me off at Tom's to drive the huge 127.75" wheel based classic home on the backroads as its gear-ratio wasn't set up for highway speeds.

After fueling up nearby, I confidently typed my home address into GPS with the "Avoid





Highways” option selected, and set off on its suggested route, looking forward to getting to know my new beauty on tree-lined backroads with gentle curves and easy straights.

Back in reality, GPS routed me right through the center of downtown Providence, RI, through big city traffic, narrow side streets, construction zones, and precarious bridges. 45 nerve wracking and white-knuckled minutes later I arrived home and proudly parked on the street in my neighborhood and stretched my clutch leg after the workout.

Our neighborhood is on a circle and has several families with children about my daughter’s age. They all came out to see the new (very old!) car. Everyone wanted to pile into the huge back seat and go for a quick ride. And it wouldn’t start. Weighing in at over 4100 pounds, it also wasn’t going to be easy to push up our short, but inclined driveway.

Thankfully, with the help of the neighbors and a winch, we pulled it into the garage, where it was safe from weather and nine year olds, and

I set out to troubleshoot. A very few choke and carburetor adjustments later, it was running smoothly and ready to venture back into the world.

Some days later, I decided to address the pull to the right when braking. Wheels and drums off, I realized I couldn’t just buy new shoes and liners for this almost 100 year old automobile. Some internet sleuthing led me to liners and a specialty rivet supplier for a DIY adventure in old mechanical brakes.

Long (very long) story shorter, the brakes stop well now, the car runs beautifully, and my daughter feels like royalty whenever there’s a nice day to pick her up from school in our Packard. We even won “Best Trunk” at her school Trunk-or-Treat last year as we dressed as the Addams family and handed out candy from the only actual trunk at the event!

We are very much looking forward to staying in touch as my daughter counts down the years until she can take the Packard out on her own.

Best Regards,

Hunter and Savannah Brown





# BODIES BY GRABER

## BY GUNTHER HOYT

From 1926 until 1970 Graber built about 800 custom bodies for a wide range of marques including Alfa Romeo, Bugatti, Duesenberg, Chrysler, Panhard, Alvis, Bentley, Rolls Royce, Maybach, and Packard.

It was the close relationship between Hermann Graber and Werner Risch, the Swiss Packard distributor, that resulted in some eighty Packard automobiles with bodies by Graber.

I have a personal connection to Graber Packards: my first drive in a classic car was in 1984 at Sergio Franchi's farm in Stonington, CT. Sergio owned a wonderful '34 Eight Victoria, painted in two shades of blue. He explained the telltale three door hinges and showed me the body badge. I was completely hooked.

Franchi's Packard has survived, as have about ten known models, all open cars. I suspect many are still locked away in forgotten garages





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near Swiss villas on Lake Como, or in glorious spots like Lugano. I know of two survivors in Switzerland: an original 1934 Eight four door convertible in the Moscow Transportation Museum, and a very lovely cabriolet in Germany.

Packard collector Ralph Marano owns two, a '31 Eight Victoria and a "baroque" 1935 Packard commissioned for



Werner Risch. His WR monogram is literally all over the car.

The most beautiful Graber is the 1938 Packard Eight built for



the Geneva Auto Show. A winning restoration by Steve Babinsky led to Best in Class Win at Pebble Beach.

Graber's Duesenberg body won Best of Show at the 1934 Villa d'Este and it has gone on to win at Pebble Beach.

Most coachbuilders did not survive the war; but Graber had a long postwar relationship with Alvis. Open and closed Alvis four seaters with body by Graber are among the most beautiful of the 1950s.



## ANNUAL PARADE

AT BROOKSBY VILLAGE, IN PEABODY, MA  
FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025 AT 10:00 AM

**CALLING ALL NER MEMBERS TO JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL BROOKSBY VILLAGE**

ANNUAL PARADE - JUNE 27TH

Line up at 10:00 AM in the  
Walmart Parking Lot, Peabody, MA.  
The Parade starts at 11:00AM.

The residents love seeing our cars. Afterwards  
the village hosts us for a hot dog lunch  
(optional). Call Chris and Heidi Ann Charlton for  
details and sign up. 207-743-4991



NER Editor, Heidi Ann Charlton and Honorary Veteran in a 1934 Packard



NER member Bruce Weaver and his 1934 Packard



NER members, Chris Charlton and Jack Welch in his car







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### Members present:

Jeff DeMarey  
Chuck & Lisa Niles  
Tom Ellsworth  
David Greenman  
Jon & Barry Capistrone  
John Harris  
Jerold Maben  
Jack Welch  
Joe & Maureen Morgan  
Chris & Heidi Charlton  
Natalie Charlton Murphy  
Ryan Brown  
Jon & Diane Elmendorf  
Anastasia Elmendorf  
Richard Gersh  
Craig Kelleher  
Don & Kathy Mckennitt  
Joe Gildea  
Richie Clyne  
Len Worden  
Bruce Weaver

## RECAP OF NER CCCA ANNUAL MEETING

*held Nov. 10, 2024 at The Old Salt Restaurant, Hampton, NH.*

The Old Salt had a wonderful buffet that delighted our members with both hot and cold selections. After our brunch we got down to business. Diane Elmendorf reported that the books are indeed healthy. Natalie Murphy and Ryan Brown reported that the CARavan has been advertised in the National publication and on their web site and is filling up quite nicely. It was noted by Director Jeff DeMarey the under 40 organizers are doing a fantastic job. Publications reported that three editions of Magazine/Bulletin were published in 2024. And that more information and stories from members is needed. The National Annual meeting is in St. Louis, Missouri in March, 2025.



New Elected Director, Ryan Brown and outgoing Director, Jeff DeMarey



A perfect table setting for the NER 70th Anniversary Meeting at The Old Salt



Ryan Brown, Heidi Ann Charlton and Jeff DeMarey presenting History of NER Region



NER Members enjoying the Old Salt Restaurant buffet at the NER Annual Meeting



A beautiful "Autum" Day.



Present and Noted - Joseph Morgan at the NER Annual Meeting

# THE NOR'EASTER

## TECHNICAL NOTES:

The Joy of Touring book from the Classic Car Club of America has been totally updated. We encourage you to visit the web view of this publication to get your car ready for touring season.

[www.classiccarclub.org/joy-of-touring](http://www.classiccarclub.org/joy-of-touring)

Get your car tuned and cleaned for Mainely a CARavan.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As of the 2024 Annual meeting we have 214 current members and renewals have been coming in on a steady basis. We encourage you to make sure that your 2025 membership is up to date. If you have any questions about your membership please give me a call at 518-339-4451 and I will glad to help.

Thank you.

Elliot Friend, Membership



## NER ANNUAL TECH SEMINAR

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**  
**10:00 AM to 2:00PM**  
**at the Old Salt Restuarant**  
**490 Lafayette Rd**  
**Hampton, NH 03842**

**“The Joy of Touring” -**  
**How to get your classic**  
**ready for the road.**

**\$25.00 per person- Their**  
**Famous Sunday Brunch**

**Registration due by**  
**May 9th, 2025**



## Happy Birthday!

New England Region member Robert “Bob” Rooke celebrated his 100th Birthday in January of this year 2025. Bob has been a member of the Classic Car Club of America for 53 Years. He has served on both National and Regional Board of Directors for the club. The events and CARavans were family affairs and he could often be found at many other regional Grand Classics and National Concours events where he served as coordinator and or Judge. His commitment to the club has been inspiration to many young members to become involved. He was one of the early CARAVan participants to offer to host a young person to join him and his sons on tour. Please join us in thanking Bob for his dedication to our hobby and our congratulations on this memorable birthday.



*George Holman, JR, Jon Lee, Jack Cable, and Bob judging at CCA Grand Classic, at Bartlett, NH.*



*Photos were Provided by Grace Gluck, Metro Region Review 2025.*



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# Show Business



*CCCA Member Nancy Strong at Pebble Beach Concours 2024*



*NER Members, Nick Lupien and Ryan Brown celebrating award at Pebble Beach Concours, 2024*



*NER Member, Wayne Whittemore, Maine and President Vicki Zeiger at AACA Hershey Fall Meet 2024*



*Cathy Gano, Vicki Zeiger and Natalie Murphy at AACA Hershey Fall Meet 2024*



*1903 Curved Dash Olds – The Bahre Collection at  
ACA Hershey Fall Meet 2024*

*The Lehrman Collection, 1929 Rolls Royce PI York  
Roadster by Brewster at the Amelia 2025*



*Mr and Mrs Drew Betz  
with Mr Donald Osborne,  
Consulting Director of the  
Audrain Museum at the  
Moda Miami 2025*



*1934 Packard V-12 Sport  
Phaeton by LeBaron,  
Owned by Harry Yeaggy  
of Cincinnati, Ohio at the  
Moda Miami 2025*



*Ashley Charlton, Natalie Charlton Murphy  
and Whitney Overocker at the Amelia 2025*



*1928 Rolls Royce PI Darby Sport by Brewster,  
owned by Dr Veasey Cullen at the Amelia 2025*



*Len Worden of Hudson, NH and his 1929 Duesenberg  
J Sport Sedan by Murphy at the Amelia 2025*

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Contact Tom at Tom Laferriere Classic Cars  
401-651-2295



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1941 62 Series Cadillac Convertible in original driving condition. It is Black with Red Interior. Please inquire with Chris Charlton, 207-743-3101. 57,500.00 USD



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# 2025 Wilbraham Hill Climb

Saturday, May 10th, 2025



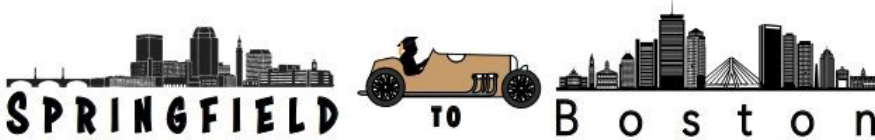
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