

# CITIZENS' QUARTERLY



WINTER/SPRING 2023

## Price Cobb to Headline 2023 Packard Spring Fling

The 2023 Packard Spring Fling, to be held on April 28 and 29, 2023, will feature the celebrated American racecar driver, Price Cobb, as our honored guest speaker. His remarks entitled *Life's Speedbumps, a Racer's Perspective*, will highlight Mr. Cobb's successful racing career, including his 1990 first place finish for Jaguar at the 24 Hours of Le Mans. *Life's Speedbumps* is the perfect focal point for this year's Packard Spring Fling theme: *Packard and Racing*. Mr. Cobb was born in 1954 to parents originally from Ohio and grew up racing karts in Texas. His family moved to Spain, and he fell in love with motorsports while watching cars race through the streets of Barcelona. As a youngster in Spain, he discovered the 24 Hours of Le Mans and made it a goal to participate.

After graduating high school, he went to the Bob Bondurant driving school which led to his first racing job, driving for Freeman Racing of Yellow Springs, Ohio in a Formula Ford. He soon transitioned to Formula Atlantic with races predominantly in Canada, and it was in this class where he met Robert E. Signom II, Founding Curator of America's Packard Museum.



Price Cobb in driving for Jaguar in 1990.  
Photo courtesy of the Racing Hall of Fame

The talent pool was huge and there was an emergence of several future superstars, including Ohio's own Bobby Rahal. His first full time professional racing gig was with Dyson Racing towards the end of the 1985 IMSA racing series at Watkins Glen. He was the recipient of the Porsche Cup North America award from 1986-1988 and became the first American to win the World Porsche Cup in 1994.

In 1988, he raced for Jaguar at Le Mans, and the following year he joined Jaguar full-time to race in the United States and at Le Mans. In 1990, the team of Martin Brundle, John Nielsen, and Price Cobb finished first at Le Mans driving a Jaguar XJR-12.

In 1996, he returned to Le Mans with Chrysler in a Viper, the first "official" American manufacturer return since Ford in the late 1960s. In 1997, he raced at Le Mans with Saleen Racing in the Ford Mustang.

Join us in Dayton to look back at Mr. Cobb's exciting racing career, which all started in Ohio.



### White-Allen European Auto Group Sponsors the Spring Fling!

White-Allen, one of the oldest and most prestigious auto dealers in Dayton, has graciously become a Producing Sponsor for the Packard Spring Fling.



Owner Tim White Jr. said, "we are pleased to support America's Packard Museum and the Spring Fling. Two great automotive organizations are working together to bring car enthusiasts to Downtown Dayton." Please visit White-Allen Euro Group online at [www.whitealleneuro.com](http://www.whitealleneuro.com).

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## CURATOR'S COMMENTS – Winter/Spring 2023

Some of you may be looking at your classic car projects and feeling a bit overwhelmed.



Sometimes it's like that at America's Packard Museum too. Since 2019, we have made a commitment to creating new exhibits, expanding our resources, decluttering, organizing, and identifying all of our collections for the benefit of the museum's visitors and the next generation. We've expanded our staff to include a Patron Services Team with longtime volunteer and patron Neil Webster as its chief. Our Patron Services Associates provide employee support at the front desk and help us raise our level of professionalism from the initial moment of the museum experience. In turn, this has enabled us to grow our Volunteer Corps, not only to provide valuable Docent support and

Packard education, but also energy for special projects, from our new V8 engine display to the preservation and preparation of the Automobile Quarterly Research Archive. All of these projects are making huge strides forward; you will see progress everywhere you look at America's Packard Museum. Yet as the British commander says in *Bridge on the River Kwai*, "just when you think you've done everything, there's always one more thing to do." That's the way of old cars – and life really. Hang in there. You've got this.

Some of you might be thinking that last year's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Packard Spring Fling might have been hard to top; and yes – it was a great success. We've made some real improvements and exciting programming choices for the 2023 Packard Spring Fling, themed "Packard and Racing." We will have a themed Pit Stop Reception on Friday evening with culinary delights from around the world's Grand Prix racetracks, complete with a book signing event and our new exhibit unveiling, *Pole Position Packards*, featuring Packard and modern race cars in the showroom. Saturday's Gala Banquet will feature a plated "duet plate" dinner, the "Sounds of Sinatra" with famed New York vocalist, Dominic Infrerra, and legendary racecar driver Price Cobb as our featured guest speaker! It's not to be missed. We encourage you to sign up today and join us at what will be the greatest Gala in America's Packard Museum's legacy. Come make history with us.

Drive on,  
Rob



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT – Kristina Heaton

**Kristina Heaton (Business Manager)** has joined the team as Business Manager. Kristina was born and raised in the Miami Valley, with a history in non-profit administration. She loves the Dayton community and is excited about the amazing projects happening in the area, especially in downtown Dayton. She's a firm believer that there's something for everyone in the area and is looking forward to using her skills to help the museum as it continues to be an elite car museum and exciting Dayton destination. She believes in the importance of storytelling and retelling our history, something that America's Packard Museum continues to do quite well. In her free time, Kristina likes to spend time with her family. With three adult children out of the house and in various parts of the country, she enjoys traveling to visit them. While home, she spends a great deal of time outdoors, gardening, and chasing after her eight-year-old. We will all miss Destinye Arnold, who has gone on to a great opportunity, but is staying on the Education and Spring Fling committees. Please warmly welcome Kristina to the America's Packard Museum team!



# PACKARD AND RACING

April,

28 & 29

## The 2023 Packard Spring Fling

Join us at America's Packard Museum on April 28 & 29, 2023!

Price Cobb, Speaker, Winner 24 Hours of Le Mans 1990

Gala Dinner Saturday & Dancing with the Kim Kelly Orchestra

Welcome Soiree Friday with Special Guests, Race Cars, New Exhibits!

Register today at [www.americaspackardmuseum.org](http://www.americaspackardmuseum.org)

### *The 2023 Packard Spring Fling Registration Form*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Guests \_\_\_\_\_ Names of Guests \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Packard Spring Fling Packages**

All Inclusive Spring Fling Package \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$200.00 per guest  
Patron VIP Inclusive Spring Fling Package \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$325.00 per guest

#### **A la Carte Flings and Things**

Friday Evening Welcome Soiree \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$65.00 per guest  
Catered Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 per guest  
Saturday Tour \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 per guest  
Saturday Evening Gala Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$135.00 per guest  
Patron VIP Saturday Gala Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$195.00 per guest

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check to The Citizens Motorcar Co. or register online at [www.americaspackardmuseum.org](http://www.americaspackardmuseum.org)  
**10% Discount by registering online with promo code GREENFLAG until 4/7**

For tables and groups of 6 or more, please call Kristina Heaton at (937) 226-1710

Please mail to America's Packard Museum, 420 S. Ludlow St. Dayton, OH 45402 – Please RSVP by 4/18

## 2023 Packard Spring Fling – Packard and Racing

### Schedule of Events

#### Friday, April 28

6:30pm Packard Spring Fling Welcome Soiree  
*Pole Position Packards* – New Exhibit Opening  
Cocktails, Hors d’oeuvres, Live music, Book Signing Event  
Remarks by Robert Signom III, Curator, APM  
and by Josh Russell, Director, Gilmore Car Museum

#### Saturday, April 29

9:30am “Up Close and Personal at America’s Packard Museum”  
An all-ages educational experience where families and friends can sit in  
Packards and learn more about styling and design with Rob Signom,  
Curator

11:30am “Back from the Barn” a discussion and demonstration with Pat  
Aldrich, esteemed Packard restorer on techniques, pitfalls and  
common misconceptions about preparing your collector car for winter  
storage and spring driving.

12:30pm Box Lunches at America’s Packard Museum

1:00pm Bus Departs for Automotive Collection Tour

2:00pm *The Robert McConnell Race Car Collection* – a tour of Ohio’s most  
significant private collection of racing cars. Bob McConnell is  
considered the leading collector and restorer of Indy Roadsters and  
has shown at Concours around the world. Sponsored by Max Merritt  
Packard Parts Co.

3:15pm Bus Departs for America’s Packard Museum

4:15pm Bus Arrives at America’s Packard Museum

6:00pm 2023 Packard Spring Fling Cocktail Hour  
“Sounds of Sinatra” Dancing to the Big Band sound of the Kim Kelly  
Orchestra, Dominic Infererra, award winning vocalist  
Silent Auction Begins

6:15pm VIP Reception in the Turnquist Packard Library

7:00pm 2023 Gala Packard Spring Fling Banquet  
Guest Speaker, Price Cobb, renowned Racecar Driver and winner of  
24 Hours of LeMans, “Life’s Speedbumps: A Racer’s Perspective”  
Fine Dining provided by Elite Catering

8:30pm “Sounds of Sinatra” continues with The Kim Kelly Orchestra.  
Dancing.

9:30pm Silent Auction Concludes, Winners Announced

10:00pm Farewell Toast



## Points and Plugs



### *“Check Out” the Turnquist Library!*

There is exciting news at the Robert and Sonia Turnquist Packard Library. In July 2022, Curator Rob Signom asked Development Director, Mark Vargas, what could be done with the library. Mark had a 35-year career in academic and special libraries, and the museum wanted to improve the look and functionality of the Turnquist



Catalogued books in the Robert and Sonia Turnquist Library are now accessible by online catalog and available for lending.

Library. Mark accomplished the museum’s goal by selecting a free cataloging system to organize the books, and then enlisted the help of extraordinary volunteers Mike Edgerton, Eleni Preito, and Thom Moon to input the titles into the software. Mark finalized the data, printed labels for each book, and the team completely reorganized the layout. Over 1,300 books are now cataloged and available, and more are added on a regular basis.

The online Library catalog is available at <https://www.americaspackardmuseum.org/library>.

In addition, every volunteer, Board member, and the staff can now borrow books from the Turnquist Library. Persons who live in the Dayton area and are on the Museum’s mailing list can also check out books! Please reach out to Patron Services Associate, Davneet Wadhwa, or email [info@americaspackardmuseum.org](mailto:info@americaspackardmuseum.org) for more information.



### *Pole Position Packards – a New Exhibition*

Opening in conjunction with the 2023 Packard Spring Fling on April 28, *Pole Position Packards* will feature Packard racecars, a Packard Indianapolis 500 Pace Car, as well as modern racecars. Among these are the famed 1923 Packard Indy Racer driven by legend Ralph DePalma and owned by museum patron and collector Dana Mecum. This one-of-a-kind racecar has been transformed through a meticulous restoration and will be on display for the first time ever. This may be the largest gathering of purely Packard racecars ever in history!

As Packard’s reputation for reliability, speed, and engineering preeminence grew, its need to prove itself on the racecourse diminished. Packard’s rich racing history was focused on primarily the 1910s and 1920s eras, and the exhibit follows this story closely. The Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan, has also graciously supported this exhibit by an inter-museum loan of its 1916 Packard Twin Six Indy Car. With these and modern GTP Tour cars on display, this will be an America’s Packard Museum exhibit like no other. Take a ride through history’s corners with *Pole Position Packards*.



# CITIZENS' QUARTERLY



The Citizens Motorcar Co.  
America's Packard Museum  
420 S. Ludlow St.  
Dayton, OH 45402

## Citizens Quarterly Winter/Spring 2023

### Museum Fall/Winter Hours

Wednesday - Sunday  
12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Groups Tours of 10 or more  
scheduled by Appointment

Closed Easter, Thanksgiving,  
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,  
and New Year's Day.

### Contact

(937) 226-1710  
info@americaspackardmuseum.org  
www.americaspackardmuseum.org

### Admission

Adults: **\$10.00**  
Adults w/ AAA Membership -  
**\$8.00**  
Seniors (65 and over): **\$5.00**  
Seniors w/ AAA Membership:  
**\$4.00**  
Children and Students: **Free**  
(Students require Valid ID)

### 2022-2023 Board of Trustees

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