



MVC GETS A LESSON IN PACKARD AUTOMOTIVE HISTORY



One of the most beautiful cars ever produced in America had the name plate Packard. What is more amazing is it all started right here in Warren, Ohio. MVC members were greeted by Roger Phillips who is the Vice President and Treasurer of The National Packard Museum. Roger is truly passionate about all things related to Packard and gave us a very detailed tour of the beautiful museum located on Mahoning Avenue NW in Warren.



We learned about how the Packard brothers brought not only many innovations to the automobile industry but also provided thousands of jobs for the American worker including thousands right here in Warren.





Roger told us in this picture the line of people waited hours for an interview at this building in Warren. More than 90 percent of those who applied were hired.

Inside the museum there are detailed journals of the Packard brother's daily lives providing a unique insight not only into their lives but what life was like in the turn of the century in Warren, Ohio. There are also other priceless items that belong to the family including a pistol made with a custom ivory handle and a very original grandfather clock that was in the family's Warren home.

The list of items on display in show cases and on the walls of the museum are perfectly placed and truly give a unique insight at the family's legacy but the main attraction is the cars!



On display in the front window is the 1900 Packard Model B. A truly one of a kind Packard that set the tone for the company which would soon compete with major car companies in the U.S. and bring America into the horseless carriage age.





Also on display is a Packard that made its way across the United States to prove that Packard was a well built machine. It's a 1903 Packard Model F nicknamed "The Old Pacific". The car made its way from San Francisco to New York at a time when there were no roads. In 1983 a Warren man, Terry Martin, restored a very rare 1903 Packard Model F and made the same Transcontinental run! The car he did it in is on permanent display at the museum and still runs!





Move into the next wing of the museum and you'll find some of the most beautiful cars ever produced in pristine condition. Packards from the 20's and 30's with that unmistakable grille shine proudly in their museum display. You will find cars that have been taken apart piece by piece and restored to better than new condition. There are also very original cars that give you a true feeling of what these cars were like when they were brand new.



All of the vehicles are parked in a beautiful display with a lot of original items you would find in a Packard showroom.



There are also classic motorcycles, engines, Packard innovations and so much more to see.



I encourage you to stop in and see this beautiful display and a priceless piece of history in our own backyard.



The Packard Museum has displays that include unique cars like these early 1950's concept cars that would eventually become the Packard Caribbean. Look closely at the white vehicle and you can see where Ford got the idea for the 1955 Thunderbird!





Thanks again to Roger Phillips for a great afternoon!







There are more cars and displays not pictured in this article to see them all be sure to visit:

The National Packard Museum is located at 1899 Mahoning Avenue NW Warren, Ohio 44483. You can also find more information online at www.packardmuseum.org