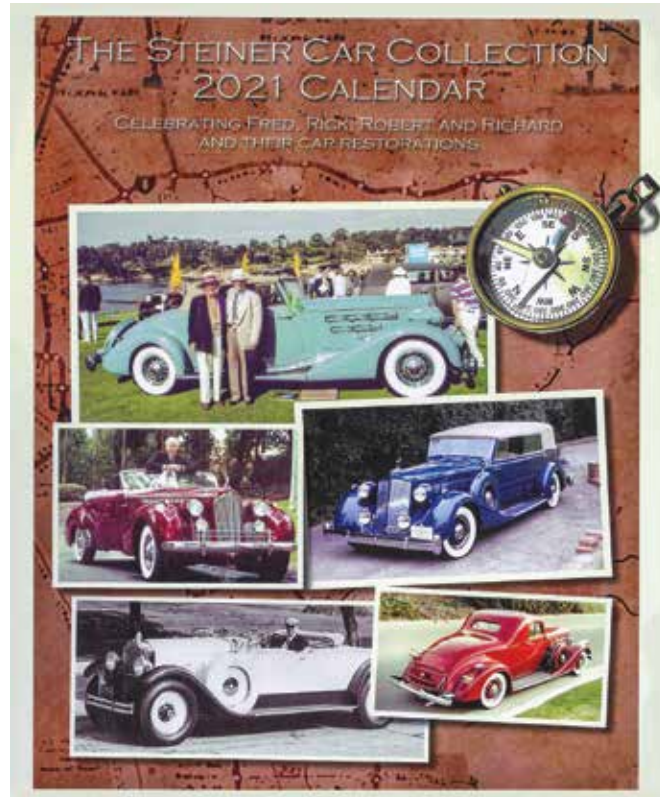


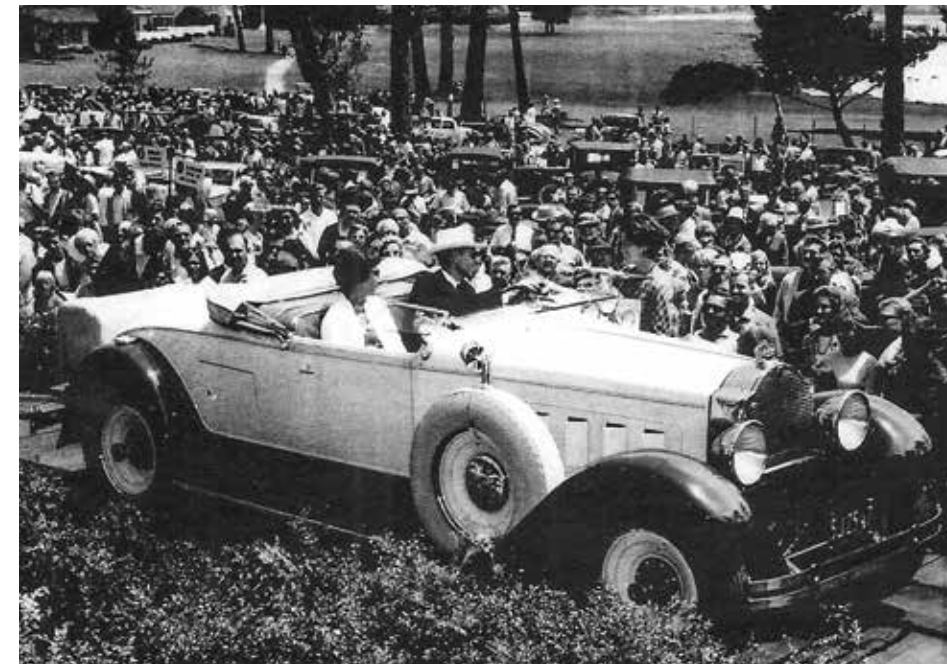
STEINER FAMILY CLASSICS



Do you ever think about the origins of your interest in Classic cars? A childhood memory of something spectacular driving down the street? A neighbor who let you sit behind the wheel of a Classic or maybe took you for a drive? A Classic making an impressive entrance in a motion picture? The Steiner Brothers—Bob, Dick and Fred—represent evidence that genetics play an important role in one’s fascination for Classics.

Youngest brother Dick was inspired to create some lasting memories of the many cars, Classics and others, that passed through Steiner family ownership and created a calendar for 2021 featuring each of those cars.

In chronological order, a brief description of the Steiner Classics is presented here.



Photos this page from top: The 1929 645 at the 2006 Rancho Santa Fe Grand Classic; 3 - 1929 Packard 645 Dietrich Roadster on the ramp at Pebble Beach in 1966.

Photos opposite page from top: (l-r) Fred, Dick and Bob Steiner; Steiner calendar cover.

1929 PACKARD 645 ROADSTER, DIETRICH CCCA SENIOR CLASSIC #268SP

The 645 series was Packard’s top-of-the-line offering for 1929, this one bodied by Dietrich in Roadster form. Fred is credited for finding it in a sand pit pulling a water trailer. The car was all there, but in sad shape. It served as Fred’s daily transportation for a while until Bob led the charge to restore it to perfect condition.

The process was a family affair with Fred providing sound advice, Bob overseeing the restorers and paying the bills and Dick lending a hand in getting the intricate details correct. It served as the template for future restorations, putting the family in touch with expert restorers and resources. Upon completion, it garnered Best in Class honors at the Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance in 1966 and then served as Bob and Ann’s Classic of choice for many, many CCCA CARavans. ➤



1935 PIERCE-ARROW 845 COUPE

This Classic was another one of Fred's finds and he purchased it from a physician during the 1950s. The Pierce was used regularly but when it broke down, Fred stored it behind his home in Whittier for several years. Dick bought the car based on his memories as a passenger and treated it to a complete restoration. It won several trophies at car shows and was featured on television and in local publications.

Photos from top: 1935 Pierce-Arrow 845 Coupe at the 2005 Newport Concours; 1935 Pierce-Arrow 845 Coupe winning an award at the Palos Verdes Concours.



**1936 PACKARD 1405 SUPER EIGHT CONVERTIBLE SEDAN
CCCA SENIOR CLASSIC #1865SP**

This Packard was found in Orange County and had been used as a family vacation car by the previous owner. Bob had the car restored and it features a division window, dual side mounts, an accessory trunk and driving lights. Bob and Ann entered it at the 1995 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

Photo right: 1936 Packard 1405 Super Eight Convertible Sedan



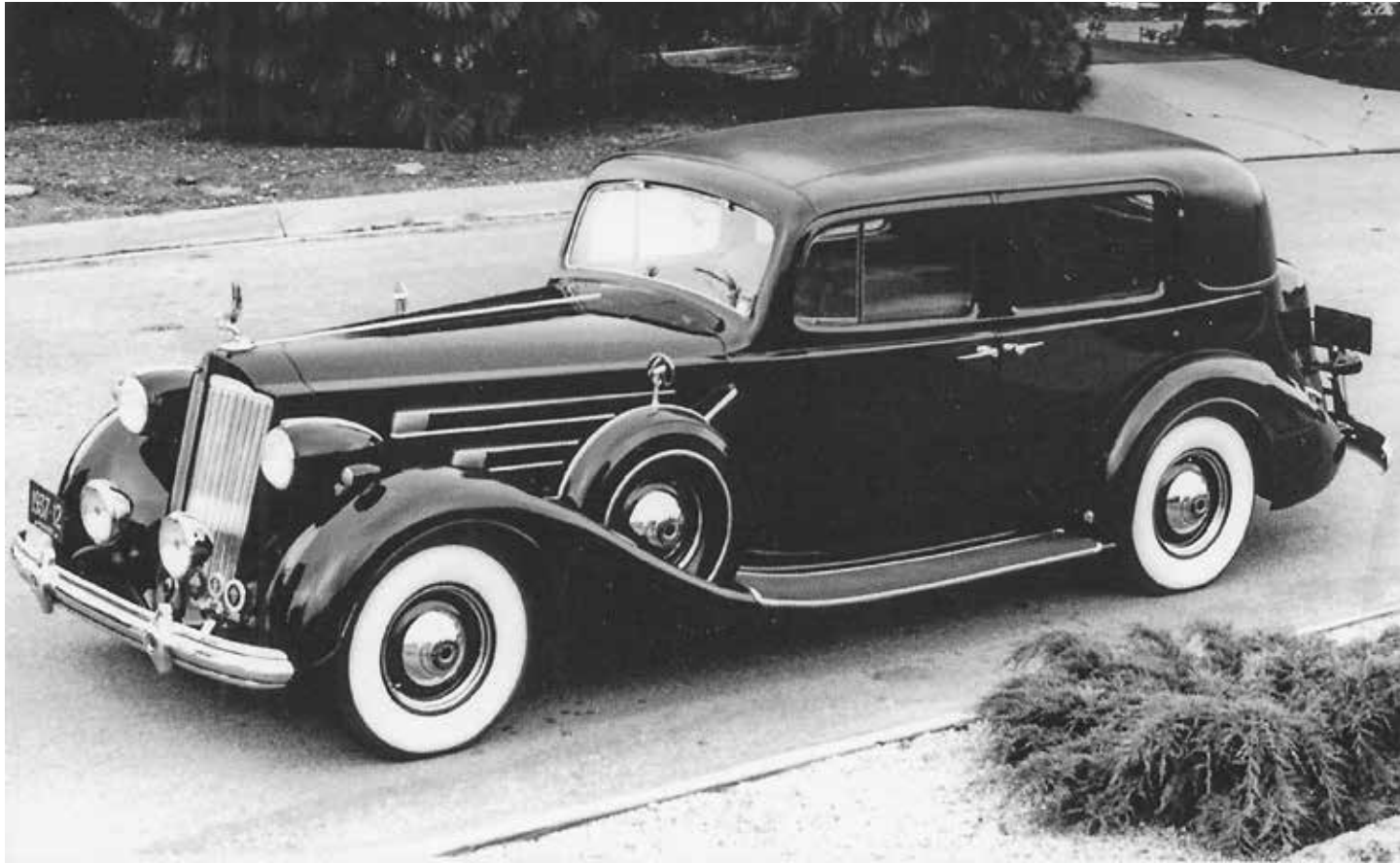
Ann's 1936 Packard Twelve in Idaho on the 2013 Sun Valley CARavan

**1936 PACKARD 1407 TWELVE COUPE ROADSTER
CCCA SENIOR CLASSIC #2603SP**

This car was found in a vacant lot, submerged in mud up to its axles. It was impounded at the request of the lot

owner and Bob took on this challenging restoration. Throughout Steiner family ownership, it was affectionately known as "Ann's Car" and listed as such in CCCA directories as she selected the light blue paint for it. Note the rear-mount spare

tire which allows for those front fenders to gracefully flow to the back of the car. It was shown at the Pebble Beach Concours in 2003 and then proved its roadworthiness on a number of CARavans. >



**1937 PACKARD 1507 TWELVE
FORMAL SEDAN
CCCA SENIOR CLASSIC #546**

Dick found this car in Pomona in tired condition. Interior features included a division window and jump seats. It won Best of Show honors at the 1972 LeCercle "100 Car Invitational," staged at the Ambassador Hotel on Wilshire Blvd. It was a twin to Packards owned by Ginger Rogers and John Barrymore and following restoration, made its own silver screen debut in the 1976 motion picture, "Gable and Lombard" by Universal Pictures.

**1940 PACKARD 1803 ONE-EIGHTY
CLUB SEDAN**

The One-Eighty Packards were its top-of-the-line offering for 1940 and while this car was discovered by Bud Cohn, it was Bob who determined it would serve as an excellent introduction to automotive restoration for brother Dick, who engaged Jenard Loken to assist with the project. Interestingly, Dick employed some of his expertise as a dentist in the car's restoration. He finished the dashboard with dental acrylic to make it

appear as new—perhaps the first time this technique had an automotive application (literally). The restored car appears on the cover of the *Side Mount Mirror* more than 50 years ago in January 1968.

**1940 PACKARD 1807 ONE-EIGHTY
CONVERTIBLE SEDAN BY DARRIN
CCCA SENIOR CLASSIC #1898**

The full history of this custom-built Packard was published in *Side Mount Mirror* issue #3, 2018, but a brief recap is in order. Dick found the car in a weed patch in Central California in 1967. Describing its condition as rough would be a compliment, but Dick was not daunted. He contacted the original designer, Howard "Dutch" Darrin, who was living in Santa Monica at the time and Dutch was happy to share his knowledge regarding authenticity issues. It participated in the 1995 Rose Parade and was shown at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in 1996. Beverly Rae Kimes used an image of this Packard on the back cover of the Fall 1994 issue of *The Classic Car*.

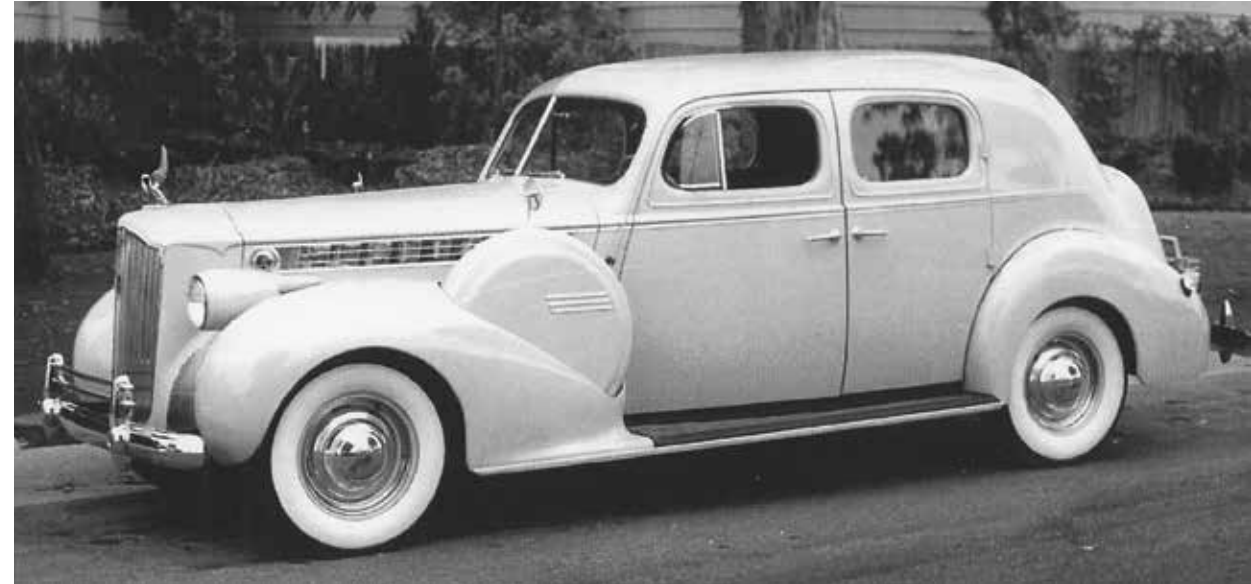
Many other cars found homes in Steiner garages and the ones featured in the calendar include these. A most interesting tribute to

the front-wheel-drive Cord is Dick's **Cord Beverly Sedan**. At a glance it appears to be a stock 1936 Cord 810 Westchester, but closer examination reveals that underneath that original body, lies a modern Oldsmobile Toronado drivetrain.

From the 1960s were three luxury cars that Bob owned: a **1964 Lincoln Continental convertible**, a **1965 Cadillac Eldorado convertible** and a **1967 Mercedes-Benz 600**. That accounts for 11 of the 12 cars shown, but the last car described has significant connections to the Steiner family.

That car is a 1955 Ford Thunderbird that was owned by Nell Steiner, Fred, Bob, Dick and sister Nancy's mother. Nell was a World War II widow and school teacher who made sure her four children received college educations. When Nell died in 1961, it passed to daughter Nancy and eventually found its way to her nephew and Nell's grandson Rick. Rick, assisted by his father Fred and uncles Bob and Dick restored the car, another true family project. The Thunderbird's license plate is "773N", which spells "Nell" backwards.

Thanks for sharing the backgrounds of these cars Dick. A true example of Classic family values. ●



Photos this page from top:
1940 packard 1803 Club
Sedan; 1940 Packard 1807
Darrin convertible sedan
on the back cover of the
Fall 1994 issue of The
Classic Car.

Photo opposite page:
1937 Packard 1507
Twelve Formal Sedan.

