

H.H. Franklin Club
February 5, 2011 Board Meeting Notes

President Marv Gage opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

Marv pointed out the phone conferencing system. Several members were in attendance via the phone conferencing system.

Ken Hagberg died December 13, 2010
Gene & Ruth Kosche died in a house fire 1/17/11
A moment of silence was observed.

Roll Call

Present:

President Marv Gage, Vice President Bob Harrison, Secretary Janet Kilmer, Board Members, Lloyd Davis, Lee Schopmeier, Bill Eby, Loretta Fusco, Bill Fields, and Keith Kilmer.

Present via teleconference:

Past President Bob Amon, Treasurer Mark Chaplin, Tom Annas, Bill Joline, Dave Roberts and Karl Nippert

Absent:

Mid-West Region Director Brendan Hogan, Board Members Dick Moffat, and Bill Woodcock.

President Marv announced there is a quorum present.

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting by Bill Fields, seconded by Lloyd Davis, and approved.

Treasurer's Report By Mark Chaplin

Mark reported via teleconference, that the transition between him & Emmett is almost done. Emmett has prepared the 2010 Fiscal Tax return and it will be filed shortly. Mark noted the increases in the balance sheet, in the past fiscal year, as a result of the receipt of the final portion of the Kern Gift and the completion of the Collection building. He noted the collection has not been capitalized as is consistent with the FAS#116.

General operating expenses have been trending towards an increase this year as a result of shifting responsibilities within club functions and higher postage expenses. He noted our investment balances have increased due to favorable market conditions.

Motion made to accept and file the Treasurer's Report by Loretta Fusco, seconded by Bill Fields and approved.

Merchandise Report By Loretta Fusco

Loretta has received the 2nd check from the earlier order totals from the Gilmore. However, she has not received the next quarter's money yet and will be following up on them. She is working on the merchandise for the next trek. She has ordered Pocket Pads and is going to order the blankets that many asked about. Much of the nice merchandise she has ordered in the past has been discontinued from her supplier's catalog.

A tool kit is an item she is looking into. It snaps like a small briefcase and comes with tools. She is going to ask for a sample before she orders them

Bill Joline asked about trailer receiver plugs and Loretta indicated they will be ready for the trek.

Motion to accept Loretta's report was made by Bill Eby, seconded by Bill Fields, and approved.

Club Projects: By Bob Harrison

We now have 26 active club projects. The newest ones are both stainless and aluminized mufflers for side drafts as well as both stainless and aluminized exhaust pipes for side drafts.

The next project in the works is the venturi's for the Stromberg U-3 carburetor. He expects to have these by early spring.

Sales continue to be a steady trickle. Sales since the trek have totaled \$3,014.00.

Since the Trek, where sales are the greatest, we have sold:

- (4) Gemmer rebuild kits (sold 20 of the 25 we were committed to purchase.)
- (3) SS mufflers
- (2) SS ex pipes
- (2) Aluminized ex pipes
- (5) Lens's for Tresslite
- (3) S11 Stop light lens
- (36) Spring pivot washers
- (1) Push rod set

Bob continues to look at producing items people ask for. Part of the process is to do a little research into the actual need for an item being requested. If the quantity is not there then he does not take any action. He also doesn't take action if the cost does not seem in line.

Bob's pricing policy is to cover cost to produce the item on the first lot. Subsequent lots will be profitable because tooling has been paid for. This was the situation with the brake drums.

On some items, where the cost to produce is low and the value to the buyer high, he adds a profit margin that brings the cost to the customer to an acceptable level. If the cost is high and at or above value, he does not add any profit, but sells these items at cost. He doesn't believe these projects should be a money maker for the club but a service we provide to help keep Franklins safely on the road. On the other hand, we need to continue to fund the projects fund in order to complete more projects. This is a balancing act and for this reason he does make a profit on items where it makes sense to do so.

Bob Amon asked what the status was of ordering the lower glass for the series 11. Bob Harrison announced it is a future project.

A motion was made to accept the report by Bill Joline, seconded by Loretta Fusco and approved.

ACN

By Chuck & Brian

The ACN current issue is almost ready for the printer and should ship by end of March. Susan & Pierre have been very helpful with the transition. The 60th Anniversary issue will go out in the fall. Sinclair is working on an article for the anniversary issue.

A motion was made to accept this report by Lloyd Davis, second by Bill Fields and approved.

FSS

No Report.

Library:

By Lloyd Davis

Latest prints:

1912 Motor Car Construction book reprinted that was presented to him at the museum opening and a 1904 catalog and is far superior to anything we had before.

A motion was made to accept Lloyd's report by Keith Kilmer, seconded by Bill Fields and approved.

Club Historian:

By Sinclair Powell

Sinclair reported via teleconference, that his writing of the club history is moving along really well, and he is looking for people to add to this. Sinclair has begun writing his column "Historical Highlights of Franklin" for the ACN. He has been seeking bids for

the reprint of his book and currently has 5 complete quotations. One of his bids came from Lloyd's printer in VT.

A motion to accept his report was made by Loretta Fusco, seconded by Dave Roberts, approved.

Club Events:

Darla Metro said plans for the trek are going well. They are at about the $\frac{3}{4}$ point of finalizing things. Their next project is to set up some tech sessions and is currently looking for any ideas any one has. They are still looking for someone to run the children's activities. Chuck & Brian will add a note into the ACN that someone is needed for the children's activities. Sinclair offered to do a History seminar. Darla will contact Sinclair for information for his session.

Ann Russell suggested paying a college student and splitting the fees amongst the parents. Bob Amon suggested finding a student going into education. Darla expressed an issue with liability and background checks. Mark Chaplin said in a problem in the past was getting a commitment from a student. It was suggested to Megan Metro last summer that 2 parents per day be assigned to run the program. Mark Chaplin suggested narrowing it down to one specific task per day than being responsible for the whole week. Dave Roberts agreed to take a day. Darla will try to get a parent for each day.

Keith Kilmer wants no bikes or scooters around the cars. Bob Metro said if children want to bring other modes of transportation they are not allowed on the grounds around the cars or dining room. It is a safety issue for the population and the cars. Keith made a motion that the rules of bikes & scooters be mentioned in the registration packet. Bikes & scooters are only to be used in a designated area. Loretta Fusco seconded the motion and it was approved. This policy will be policed by the Trek Greensmen.

The Spring Midwest Meet will be held in Jackson, MI, May 11-14, 2011 and will be hosted by Bill & Wendell Eby. Registration should go out end of February, beginning of March. Justin P. Flemming was a member and a dealer in that area. Bill wants to add some micro history in the program for the week. Sinclair has some information he will share.

Release language for meets does not seem to be standard and Bill got some feedback from John Rendemonti and Bill Fields. Bill suggested we have a need for standard release language for all of our treks and meets. Sinclair offered to work with Bill Eby on a standard release. Mark Chaplin has the insurance information for JC Taylor. Bill Eby will contact Mark for information and what he needs for the Midwest Trek insurance.

A motion to accept the Midwest report was made by Bill Fields, seconded by Loretta Fusco and approved.

Registrar:

By Marv Gage

Marlene & Chet were not able to join us. They are currently working on the new register.

Membership: By Ann Russell

Ann reported via telephone conference, that renewal notices were sent out. 582 renewals were received and 98 of those renewed through Paypal. We have 2 transitional members and 13 new members. 235 have still not renewed. Ann is planning to send a reminder email and then a mailing. Mark Chaplin suggested if they renew late, they should not get missed periodicals. We are losing money on postage. Lloyd suggested sending documents via media mail. Media mail is not available for out of country.

Mark mentioned he would like this brought it up at the next meeting for a possible motion.

Bob has some student information he will send to Ann for a Transitional Member. Motion made by Lee Schopmeier to accept Ann's report, Keith Kilmer seconded and it was approved.

Preservation

No Report

Gilmore Museum
Advisory Committee By Bob Harrison

Display:

The 1911 Racer has gone back to its owner. The Vehicle Display Committee, Tom Rasmussen and Jeff Hasslen, has drafted a spread sheet listing all cars we own, what cars we want to display(loan cars), which cars we want to keep long term, which cars we want to eventually sell, and which cars we may want to place on loan in other Museums. This spread sheet will be reviewed by the whole advisory committee before it becomes our formal work sheet and guide.

Events:

We have decided to hold an All Air Cooled Car event on June 18, 2011, which is the weekend when we keep the profits from the attendance. The Mid West Region said this event will not conflict with their schedule. Gilmore has listed the event on their mailings. We will plan a simple one day car show for this event. Its success will dictate if we will hold the event in 2012.

We are a little behind schedule and need to find a chair for the event and contact all clubs we would like to attend before the end of Feb.

Titles:

We have titles for all but three of the Kern cars. These three are still being processed by the state of Michigan. We need to apply for titles for the two donated cars. (The titles we have were given to Janet Kilmer for safe keeping.)

Car Donations:

Bill Cardoza has donated his 1922 Franklin. The car is currently being stored in Bob's garage for minor repairs then will be transported to Michigan.

Other Donations:

Donna Kern (Bob Kern's daughter) has donated 50 copies of the book she had published on the Kern cars. These will be sold at the Gilmore gift shop for \$25. If you are interested in a copy of this book, contact the Gilmore and they will send you one.

Other activity at Gilmore:

The Model A Club will start their 12,000 sq. ft. building this summer directly across the street from our building. It will be modeled after a Ford Dealership and looks very similar to our building. The Cadillac LaSalle club has received preliminary approval for their building design; an early dealership design.

Gilmore has started construction on the new 40,000 sq. ft. American Heritage Center. They have raised \$10 Million for this project that will feature a large exhibit gallery, a state of the art multimedia theater, an expansive research library and archives, as well as educational interactive areas, a museum store, and artifacts storage area. The building will be fashioned as a recreation of an early 1900's brick factory building. It will feature modern innovations including energy efficient geothermal heating and cooling.

As you can see we, The Franklin Club, paved the way for others to follow, with a dealership, buildings, brick, and geothermal.

Brian McEntee will contact Bob with a possible collection that may be available for display at the museum.

Motion to accept the report was made by Loretta Fusco, seconded by Keith Kilmer and approved.

Web-Master

Sarah Hood, via phone conference stated we have 3000+ visitors per month. They look at about 1-2 pages per visit. The bulk of users are from the US, Canada, Netherlands, Norway and the UK. Many questions have come in to the webmasters regarding tech, membership etc. since she & Paul Beckingham took over.

Paul stated the demo seemed to be well received and they received many comments and questions. Bill Joline suggested making the museum picture more noticeable as a museum and not just an old building. Bob Harrison asked if changes after the rollout were possible and Paul said we can roll the whole thing back for changes or make small

modifications. Paul said we would roll out about 10 pages at the start up in a week or so and then change the other 700 pages over time.

A mission statement on the front page on what the club wishes the site to do would be helpful. Marv suggested a committee write a mission statement and present it to the board members via email & snail mail. Bill Fields, Bill Eby and Sarah Hood volunteered for the committee. Board members will attempt to approve it prior to the next board meeting. Bill Eby asked that suggestions be emailed to this committee.

A motion was made by Bill Fields to get the website put on line on a limited basis as soon as it is possible. Seconded by Loretta Fusco and approved.

Marv indicated his appreciation to Sara & Paul for their hard work on the new site.

Old Business:

Marv contacted Cazenovia College on the call conferencing system that we used today. Rent includes the set up, take down, toll charges, and equipment fee. We are being charged \$35 total for this service. Marv asked the listeners how the system seems to be working and all indicated it worked very well.

Marv indicated he only opened this up for board and committee members this time as he wanted to see how this service worked. We are limited to 99 participants. He is considering opening it up to club members if they are interested. Bill Eby said in past history with his job, conference calls can also breed a lot of background noise. He suggested conference call etiquette should be noted when giving out the number. Loretta made a motion for the club to continue with this service for our meetings, it was seconded by Dave Roberts and approved.

Sandy Bennett is heading the Nomination Committee for the directors for 2011 year. Sandy is away on vacation and will take care of this task as soon as he gets home. This will be presented at the April meeting and will be included in the trek registration mailing.

Established regions are required to present their officers and directors to be presented. Marv did receive the information from Frank Hantak, so he has complied with the by-laws.

The drawings were brought up as to what the status is with their digitations. Marv believes they are all digitized now. Bob Harrison will get with Jeff Hasslen on how they are going to be available to the club members. Paul indicated putting them on the website could incur some substantial costs.

Club Inventory was brought up again. Anyone having any club items please make a list and get it to Janet. Please turn it in by the April meeting. Mark needs this information for our Asset Sheet.

New Business

Assets will no longer be indicated in the meeting minutes as they will be posted on the website and it is not information we need to share with the general public.

Susan Roberts asked if the club is a member of the AACA. Bob Amon believes that we are not members. The AACA dues are \$35 for individuals. The club may have the opportunity to purchase a spot at Hershey, but can only participate if they are members of the AACA. The cost of the space is \$75.00. Someone would represent the club by hanging a banner and talking about the club. We would also be listed in the program. Susan will take care of procuring the spot and manning the booth. Our booth could be in Hershey row, at the end of red field.

A motion was made by Dave Roberts for our club to become a member of the AACA in an effort to be more represented at Hershey. Seconded by Bill Joline and approved.

Susan will take care of applying for the membership.

Closing

A motion was made by Bill Fields to close the meeting at 11:35 AM. Lee Schopmeier seconded the motion and it was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Kilmer
Secretary