

H.H. Franklin Club
February 2, 2013 Board Meeting Notes

President Bob Harrison opened the meeting at 10:01 AM.

Bob announced that he is in general, a rule breaker in life, not always following the rules. Because of this, he has decided he will be running the meetings and all business of the club by the By-Laws, which he has been studying. He has suggested that any motions to be presented, be presented to Janet in writing. If they are not presented in writing, he will have Janet read motions back for clarity and accuracy.

Roll Call

Present:

President Bob Harrison, Vice President Bill Eby, Secretary Janet Kilmer, Board Members Keith Kilmer, Karl Nipper, Randy Fusco, Mike Reeve, and Brendan Hogan, The Midwest Regional Director. Attending via teleconference was Past President, Marv Gage, Treasurer Mark Chaplin, Board Members Bill Fields, Dennis Egan, Tex Sorrell, Jim Stevenson and Dan Ferrara.

Absent: Board Members, Dave Roberts, Bob Metro and Chuck Steffensen.

President Harrison announced there is a quorum present.

Secretary's Report

A Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made by Keith Kilmer, seconded by Randy Fusco, and approved.

Treasurer's Report

By Mark Chaplin

The Club's long form IRS 990 tax return is complete and has been filed.

I have included a Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet for the first two month's of the club's current fiscal year. Significant items to note are dues revenue is ahead of last year as the renewal notices were mailed earlier this year, pledges received by FACHC fund are less than last year a result of timing in the receipt of pledges which should be received this month, and performance of the FACHC fund was a positive 8k in unrealized gains this year vs. 16k in unrealized losses last year in the same period.

The Club's Assets at its fiscal year end (October 31, 2012) increased from the prior year, primarily a result of an increase in the FACHC fund, a decrease in the Trek fund (which includes a transfer to the general fund in November 2011), and by increases in the General Fund (which includes the transfer noted above). These increases were offset by a reduction for the annual depreciation charge for the structure at the Gilmore.

After the receipt of year-end pledges, we have a balance of pledges receivable from donors (as of January 1, 2013), which is expected to be paid according to the term of individual donor's pledges. At year-end we had in excess of a half dozen donors who had not yet fulfilled their 2012 pledges, which includes an unpaid pledge balance from a deceased donor. I mailed pledge statements to all donors showing their unpaid balance and activity to date in November. Most of these 2012 pledge payments were received in January 2013. Pledge statements to all donors showing their unpaid balance and activity to date were mailed in November. *Note: We do not reflect these on our financial statements as we are a cash basis taxpayer.*

Also attached are comparative Income Statements for the end of the fiscal year at 10-31-2012, as well as a detail income statement detailing every categorized expenditure of the club for its fiscal year. The major changes are:

- a reduction in Trek revenue
- a reduction in FACHC contributions
- a reduction in realized investment income for the FACHC
- a reduction in Mackey Fund revenue and an increase in Mackey fund expense primarily the result of project revenue and expense timing
- a reduction in dues revenue; the result of a decline in membership dues.
- General Fund expenses declined; the result of elevated expenses from the prior year for the printing of the roster.

Also inserted into the package as pages 7 & 8 are summary reports that show GOF and FACHC performance versus budget and forecast, the prior year & 2013 budget.

Please feel free to contact me in advance of the meeting if you have any questions about any of the Club's revenues, expenses, etc.

Bill Eby thanked Mark for putting the budgets together; they are very easy to read.

A motion was made to accept and file the Treasurer's Report for audit by Karl Nippert and seconded by Dennis Egan. The motion was approved.

Merchandise Report

By Loretta Fusco

She has requested catalogs for this year's merchandise inventory. The Tool Roll orders were completed and shipped out. She received a request for a t-shirt and one for a license plate holder from out of the country. The license plate holders are out of stock. The customer admired Marlene Zimmerman's shirt and wanted to purchase one. Loretta suggested she contact Marlene directly for the shirt information.

Loretta provided a list to Janet of what she sent to the Gilmore. She is looking into logos for the car trailers. She is coordinating with Melissa Ferrara on the 60th Anniversary logo. She wants to do the kids t-shirts with the logo.

Club Projects:

By Bob Harrison

Items continue to sell throughout the year, averaging about 1 to 2 sales per week and there is a big increase in sales at the TREK.

Exhaust flanges for the side draft exhaust pipes are on order. Once they are in, he will order the exhaust pipes, as there are at least 3 on back order.

Mark Chaplin cautioned that the Mackey fund is at a low point, around \$4,000, down from its high of about \$10,000 and asked me for an explanation. The explanation is with close to 35 projects the value of the in stock inventory is significant and represents the discrepancy. For example, the value of the push rod kits, mufflers, Gemmer kits and Brake drums in stock add up to \$5,000; and there are many more items in stock.

This situation of having inventory on so many items has created a problem in the funding of future projects that could have significant upfront costs. At this point he plans to continue taking on small projects that will further drain the Mackey fund. At some point in the future the Board may have to make a decision on additional funding for the Mackey fund.

ACN

By Chuck Richardson & Brian McEntee

They are currently in the middle of the Non-Franklin issue. There has been great participation from club and non-club people. There are enough items that they may need to add a few pages to the publication. They will print a few extra copies and may go over budget by a few hundred dollars. The participants will each get a free copy!

FSS

Tim Miller has asked to be relieved and Scott Dwyer will take over.

Library:

By Lloyd Davis

Lloyd indicated there is nothing special to report.

Ron Andrew traded some items with Lloyd.

He noted we don't have a late 1930 catalog. Keep your eyes open for one.

He has not heard from newer member, Joe Young, in Tasmania and has been trying to contact him. Lloyd doesn't want to send out published material and information if he isn't available.

Lloyd reported digitizing is slow right now. Jeff is working on the dealer bulletins.

Club Historian:

By Sinclair Powell

No report

Scholarships:

By Mark Chaplin

We have one student so far. Mark is going to send the form in the FSS and will be contacting McPherson. Scholarship fees are currently spent from the Trek receipts. It was discussed to have this expense to come out of the general fund.

Jim Stevenson made a motion for the scholarship funding to come from the general fund instead of the Trek funds effective at the discretion of the treasurer. Dennis seconded the motion and it was approved. Mark reported he will make that effective this year.

Club Events:

The Midwest meet will be May 22, 2013, in Pontiac, IL. Alan Finkenbinder is hosting the event.

The Westrek will be held June 23-27, 2013, in Pendelton, OR, under the leadership of Chad and Carla Windham.

Melissa Ferrara reported on the upcoming 60th Trek. She brought a sample of the water bottle and pointed out its features. It has the logo on it that Loretta will also be using. Melissa & Dan are trying to promote “being green” as is all of society these days! The college will have water available in each dorm. Every person attending will receive a bottle.

Melissa still needs help with the children’s program. Please contact her if you could be in charge of one program. You would not responsible for the whole week.

Periodically Dan & Melissa will send out emails to the membership to promote the Trek and let them know how the plans are progressing.

The Schopmeiers are replacing the Hufnagels for the meal ticket punching. The Metros are in charge of the parade and the picnic. The college & community have requested Lake Side Park for the parade conclusion. The park has a pavilion, playground, and restrooms. The college will provide the picnic. The Metros are replacing the Rendemontis for the Olympics. The Olympics will be held on Sunday this year.

Bob Harrison will help with a children’s trivia program. The program is designed to promote driver and children interaction. The details are still being worked on.

Melissa has kept President Bob current with the planning details for this year’s Trek.

The Mid-West Fall Meet will be held in RI, hosted by Bob and Pat Harrison. Registration will be on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, with the last day’s events on Saturday, September 21st. Plenty of driving and sightseeing, a cruise and a clam bake in the back yard. More info will be on the website and in the FSS. Meet information will be mailed to those that signed up at the 2012 Trek, as well as any others that contact the Harrison’s at 401-667-0214 or at hfranklin21@verizon.net.

Lee Schopmeier noted there is a special display in Mystic, at the conclusion of the RI Meet, on Sept 22, 2013. President Bob said he would include information on this event with his mailing, and you can contact Lee for information.

Brendan made a motion for the board to sanction the Midwest Regional Spring and Fall Meets for 2013. The motion was seconded by Bill Eby and approved

Registrar:

By Chet & Marlene Zimmerman

A one-page 2012 update to the Register will be sent out with the first ACN mailed in 2013.

Membership:

By Ann Russell

Currently as of 1/28/2013, there are 573 paid members. There are still over 300 members who have not renewed. There are 12 gratis.

The renewal notices went out with the last issue of ACN. A reminder email was sent after that. On January 15, 2013, 330 reminder letters were sent. On January 26, 2013, a second reminder email was sent to just the members who hadn't paid and did not receive the letter. I still have 20 reminder letters, which I plan on sending in the middle of February, as the finally reminder.

President sends out letters to new members. He has sent at least a dozen and found that to be interesting.

Preservation;

Jeff Hasslen has the dealer bulletins and has started to scan them. These will be available on the website.

Forum update by Bill Eby:

The Forum has been started on the AACA website and we have our own section. As of last night, there were 274 threads and almost a 1,000 posts. We are starting to get some activity. Steve Braverman is our moderator. The Club Website has been updated and has links to send members to the forum or to the AACA help screen. An announcement, written by the board to advise about the conversion from the Q & A to the forum, will be posted on the Website. Steve is writing a "how-to" to use the forum, and hopes to have it done this month. It will be posed on the website, and in the forum.

Tim Miller does not see any problems with using the forum. Paul Fitzpatrick will get back to us to advise how much he can help with the forum. A sub-thread or sub-forum for "items for sale" will go into a separate section from the questions. This should make things easier to follow.

President Bob said the "items for sale" section of the forum could give more exposure to the public and possibly more opportunity for scamming. He advised to be aware and be careful. Sarah Hood has posted a caution on the website.

Franklin Collection:

By Phil Weisenbarger

Hickory Corners is the place to be this summer! Planning is well underway for the 3rd annual *Air Cooled Gathering* on June 15, 2013. Thank you letters and save the date flyers have been sent to last year's participants, and pre-registration forms for this year's event will be emailed soon. There will be a link on the club's homepage so people will be able to download the registration form and return it by mail.

Located across the street from The Franklin Automobile Collection, the Model A Ford Museum's Grand Opening is May 18, 2013, with Bill and Edsel Ford in attendance. They are already talking of expansion.

The same day, The Lincoln Museum will have their official groundbreaking ceremony. They will have started construction in March and are planning for an area of approximately 14,000 square feet. Our west wall will open through to their space and then there will be a return back to the Steam Barn. This will allow visitors to complete a circle and not have to backtrack. There will also be an enclosed courtyard for displaying automobiles and resting between the buildings.

Also beginning construction in March, and located next to the Model A Building, will be the Cadillac-LaSalle Club Museum. They are using the same contractor as the Lincoln builders, and are basing the design on the 1948 Pemberton Cadillac dealership that was located in Toledo, Ohio.

All three of the new museums echo the standard and style set by The Franklins Automobile Collection. Kudos again, go to the visionaries and builders of our museum. We are what others want to emulate.

In 2012 donations totaled \$38,554.00. These monies are primarily payments on previous pledges for construction, and with a few un-pledged donations.

New LED lighting in our exhibit, partially funded by The Collection, has 80 fewer lights and better illumination at one-fourth the cost to operate.

The archives agreement for storing the drawings and future acquisitions has been completed and signed. The drawings are online and are invaluable for reference.

The green, 1928 Series 12A Airman, pictured on the trailer on the museum's "View The Cars" page, will be sold this spring. It will be listed on eBay. Club members will be given prior notification regarding the sale's date.

Melissa confirmed with Phil that he will do a museum presentation on Wednesday, Aug 7, 2013, at the Trek.

Bill Eby noted the Gilmore is planning to do some landscaping after all these dealerships are finished. Bill also did a video of the Gilmore while he was there and has sent it to Sarah & Paul to put it onto the website.

President Bob asked Phil if there are plans to build any hotels or motels in the area. Phil reported there is a plan for one in a neighboring town, but ground has not been broken yet.

Attendance is running 100-150 average on weekends. There is more advertising now that Gilmore is open year round.

Web-Master

By Sarah Hood & Paul Beckingham

Paul and Sarah are on vacation.

The Forum is all set on the website. They've added links to the homepage, in the Tech section, and on the Q&A page with notes about finding the Forum and how to register.

Overall, they reported there are no issues with the website. They are getting very few Q&A type requests and when they do, they refer people to the Forum; no one has come back with any issues. They still get the occasional question about how to find something in the Q&A and they help them run searches to find what they need.

Paul has an outstanding item to put the drawings behind the login — he's on it, but no the ETA at this point.

Old Business:

Betty Bennett is the chair of the nominating committee. Biographies for this year's election were received from Bouvard Hosticka, Melissa Ferrara, Darla Metro, Bill Joline and Bill Woodcock.

New Business

A motion was made by Dennis Egan for the following appointments, second by Bill Eby. The motion approved.

Non Voting Officers were appointed as follows; ACN Editors – Brian McEntee & Chuck Richardson, Central NY Hosts – Dick McKnight & Hank Manwell, Club Historian – Sinclair Powell, Club Photographer – Andy Wittenborn, Club Projects – Bob Harrison, Drawing Files Manager – Jeff Hasslen, Franklin Service Station – Scott Dwyer, Legal Advisors – Sinclair Powel & John Rendemonti, Librarian – Lloyd Davis, Membership Recruiting – Susan Roberts, Membership Services – Anne Russell, Merchandising – Loretta Fusco, Mid-West Region President – Ralph Geck, transferring to Dean Dorholt Registrars of Franklins – Marlene & Chet Zimmerman, Trek Chair Family – Melissa & Dan Ferrara, Trek Registrars – Dot & Arnie Christiansen, Trek Treasurer – Mark Chaplin, and Webmasters – Sarah Hood & Paul Beckingham.

The Midwest Region “Acting” Secretary, Joan Hasslen, submitted a list of the officers and members. “Acting” President Dean Dorholt, Vice President Bill Eby, “Acting” Secretary Joan Hasslen, Regional Director Brendan Hogan and a Franklin Line Editor is to be determined. The “Acting” status officers will be voted upon at the Spring Meet in Pontiac, IL.

The Midwest Region has fulfilled the requirements of maintaining their status as an active region by submitting the list of officers and members and a motion to accept the

report as presented from “Acting” Secretary Joan Hasslen was made by Brendan Hogan. It was seconded by Mike Reeves. The motion was approved.

FSS update by Scott Dwyer:

Scott noted Tim has published the FSS for 18 years. Tim mailed the December issue this week. Scott has the next issue written and plans to mail it around March 7, 2013. He wishes to change the FSS mailing dates. He is asking what information you’d like to see. The format will be a bit different. Please let him know what you think after you receive his first publication. He asked where the funds come from. Scott has done some research and does have a printer at home. He found a printer and the fees are less than the publisher Tim has been using. The pricing he received includes stamping and folding. Scott will use new printer for first one to see how it goes. The Printer will send the bill directly to Mark Chaplin for payment.

Scott has also updated the FSS index through issue 176. This document is 305 pages long. He got pricing to print 50 copies at \$17 each. 25 copies would be around \$18 each. Scott asked if the board would like to print copies to be available through merchandise and the library. Lloyd Davis made a motion to print 25 copies for future sales. Randy Fusco seconded the motion and it was approved.

Past President Marv Gage suggested getting the updated index information to Paul & Sarah so they can update the website. Scott advised he would take care of that.

While Scott was doing the index, he got an idea to separate the history items that were in the original publication, out of the original index and print it separately.

Scott’s publisher quoted 50 prints at \$3 each. Scott suggested these could be sent to new members. Mark Chaplin asked Scott to forward this document to the board so it could be discussed at the next meeting.

Closing

A motion was made to close the meeting at 11:33 by Dennis Egan, seconded by Keith Kilmer and the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Kilmer
Secretary