



THE FRANKLIN LINE HHFC MIDWEST REGION REPORTS FALL 2014

Greetings' Franklin Friends,

Well it's been a year since I was elected to be president and it sure has gone by fast.

I want to thank Lee and Nancy Nelson for hosting our fall meet; we saw a lot of neat collections and some very tall corn, not to mention beans also.

We have had some of the best meets this last year and our club members are really stepping up and wanting to be a host of a meet in their area. We have meets planned through 2016 and thoughts for 2017 already.

Our 1907 Model G is running at its best and this winter I hope to get some much needed work done on the Olympic and also work on the Series 10. It sure makes a good shelf though.

We are still looking for your stories about you and your Franklin and how you acquired this love for such a great automobile.

Hope everyone has a Great rest of the year and we will see you in Rochester, MN for the Spring 2015 Meet.

Dean Dorholt (deandorholt@frontiernet.net)
Aura Vincit

Secretary/Treasurer Report, 2014 Fall Meet

A) Call to Order: Dean Dorholt, President. Thank you Lee and Nancy Nelson for hosting: excellent job; good touring roads; interesting stops.

B) Attendance at this meet: 29 people (plus 9 on Saturday) from 10 states; total of 7 Franklins. (See details in the Meet report.)

C) Upcoming Meet: Dean & Cinda Dorholt and Eric & Sue Swenson will host Spring, 2015, in Rochester, MN, June 3 - 6. Dean said there are many options for interesting sights as we tour the beautiful valleys and rolling hills of SE Minnesota. Easy access off the freeway. All should come.

D) Secretary Report: 1) Current membership - 122. Recently joined for 2014: Bob & Darla Metro, Ballston Spa, NY; Jim & Debbie Reed, Morris, IL. 2) 57 will accept *The Franklin Line* by e-mail. Next *Line* will be sent electronically using e-mails listed in the 2014 Directory. The other 65 members will receive *The Line* by regular mail. 3) In October, Midwest Renewal forms will also be sent

E) Treasurer Report: 1) Current balance is \$919.60.

2) Expenses since the June meet totaled \$110.18 printing/ mailing *The Line*, copies, misc. postage.

3) Thank you Jim and Hazel Wade for donating the cost of the colored insert page in the last *Line*. We all enjoyed the pictures and appreciate their donation.

F) HHFC Region Board Rep: At the Trek, Jeff Hasslen presented to the Board our vote to add 4 more states to the Region. The Board will review the By-laws and make a final decision at the November Board Meeting.

G) The Franklin Collection: Phil Wisenbarger (Chair) reported 1) Lincoln building (connected to The Collection) now open to the public; Cadillac building opens Sept 25; Another building is being planned just east of the Ford building. 2) Walt Schmidt donated a '28 Sedan to The Collection. By closed bid, it was sold this week to Gary Greenwood, Leslie, MI.

H) Region News: Roy Nelson gave update on MW History: He contacted Milt Asher's family and located movies of Region Meets from the '60's. They have been digitally copied onto DVD. He will pursue further and make other discs until project is complete. Jeff Hasslen suggested the goal for completion be Spring, 2015, so a presentation could be made at the Spring Meet. Bill Eby commented that this information could also be a link on The Club website.

I) Recognition: Members who brought a Franklin were recognized (see Meet report). These members **drove** their Franklin to the Meet: Richard and Kathryn Harry, Jeff and Joan Hasslen, Jim and Debbie Reed. Hasslens drove their Franklin the furthest - 457 miles.

J) Comments/Announcements: 1) Bill Eby was acknowledged as the next President of the HHFC beginning January, 2015. 2) Ben Oakes, TX, is the new Club webmaster. Contact him at "webmaster@franklin.org". 3) Jeff Hasslen: we all need to keep ideas flowing for the Region - tours, locations, etc. 4) Bob Erickson: we need to encourage younger people to get involved. One problem mentioned - younger people have jobs that conflict with meets. 5) Sandy Bennett relayed a story from this year's Trek: Chuck Johnson advertised his '31 Sedan free to a good home. Matt Goist, a young new member and 2013 scholarship recipient was given the car. As a McPherson college grad, he will work to restore this car. This is a true and generous example of how to encourage the participation/ interest of the younger generation. 6) Greeting to the group from Bill Fields. Greg Drufke passed along greetings from Scott Dwyer. Lee Nelson mentioned the serious health issue of Jim and Hazel Wade's daughter, Diane. Prayers were requested.

Special Notes

Region Renewal Form was sent out in October by e-mail or regular mail. Please return by December 31st.
Thank you, Joan

The HHFC Board of Directors at the Nov. 1 meeting approved adding Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota to the Midwest Region.

Upcoming Midwest Meets

Spring 2015, Rochester, MN, Hosts—Eric & Sue Swenson and Dean & Cinda Dorholt

Fall 2015, Clinton, MO, Host—Dennis and Linda Radford

Spring 2016, Lincoln, NE, Host—John Moss and Jason Newby

Midwest Meet in Plano, Illinois Hosted by Lee and Nancy Nelson

Summer was ending, but the Midwest Region gathered on September 17-20th at the TimberCreek Inn, Plano, IL for one last fling. The weather had been cool and wet, but became sunny and warm for registration on Wednesday afternoon. Hosts, Lee and Nancy Nelson were delayed in arriving, as the battery in their modern car died when they were delivering supplies to one of the attractions for Thursday's tour. Luckily, they were able to borrow a battery to continue on to the hotel. No one minded as the early arrivals were enjoying refreshments in the sun on the hotel's back deck.

Thursday's tour began with a short run to the Smallville Museum in Plano. A Superman movie had used Plano as Smallville, KS, and 1/2 of the railroad depot was dedicated to the event. The second stop, after a short drive, was at the Farnsworth House, a mostly glass structure on the north bank of the rural Fox River, designed by the famous architect, Mies Vander Rohr. Following a video, the guide walked the Midwest Region down a half-mile path, to the marvelous house.

Before entering, everyone had to remove their shoes, or put on cloth booties. The house was constructed as a weekend retreat for a lady doctor, Dr. Edith Farnsworth, from Chicago, and contained many innovative features, such as a custom designed wardrobe now housed in its own custom designed building.

From the Farnsworth House, the tour continued to the private automobile collection of Glen Eisenhower and where a catered lunch was served, among the mostly low mileage 1920's—1980's original condition cars. Glen was building an addition to his storage barn which drew the attention of most of the male Franklineers.

Following lunch, the Midwest Region continued on to the Air Classics Museum, that featured aircraft and memorabilia from WWII, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The planes were outside and the other exhibits, which included uniforms, equipment, and aircraft engines from WWI to modern jets.

After viewing the museum's artifacts, a pleasant drive delivered the Franklineers to the private automobile collection of Ken Nagel. His vehicles were 1950s, 1960s and 1970s and all in better than new condition. His car barn also contained lots of memorabilia, including a wall of 50s, 60s and 70s record album jackets that had many of the ladies reminiscing and identifying the recording artists pictures. Mr. Nagel's parents were dairy farmers and the walls were festooned with old dairy farming equipment.

As the Nagel collection was on the north side of Plano, a short drive brought everyone back to the hotel. Dinner was on our own at any of the nearby restaurants.

Friday began with a lengthy tour through endless corn and soybean fields to the Auto Meter Company in Sycamore where the company manufactures automotive instruments, including tachometers, ammeters, oil pressure and temperature gauges. After an introduction from the company Vice President, guides led the Franklineers through the facility, stopping at various work stations to have the workers explain what they were making and demonstrate the process. Afterwards, souvenir caps were distributed and the guides were taken outside to see the Franklins.

A short scenic drive brought the Midwest Region to the car collection of John O'Halloran who has contributed material to Air Cooled News. John is a Hudson Collector and the librarian for the National Hudson, Essex, Terraplane (HET) Club. Upon arrival at his home, the Franklineers were greeted by a large assortment of 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s automobiles parked on his lawn. John had unexpectedly arranged to have his local antique car club greet the Franklins. The Franklineers enjoyed examining the car club cars and the car club members marveled over the Franklins. The cars in John's car barn and restoration shop were visited as was the little building that house the national HET club library.

From the O'Halloran Collection, the tour continued onto the campus of Northern Illinois University where Lee, Nancy and Roy Nelson graduated from college. A brief drive by some of the university buildings and on into DeKalb brought everyone to the Hillside Restaurant. After a delicious lunch, a very short drive ended at the Glidden Homestead. Joseph Glidden was one of the premier inventors and manufacturers of barbed wire. Until recently the house was occupied by one of his female descendants who donated it to the State of Illinois. The house, barn, and blacksmith shop have been restored and were opened on a usually closed day just for the Franklin Club. A short video on the history of Mr. Glidden and barbed wire was shown followed by a guided tour of the

Midwest Meet in Plano, Illinois (Cont'd)

premises. From the Glidden Homestead, the Franklins proceeded to the Elwood Mansion. Isaac Elwood was a business partner of Joseph Glidden and used his barbed wire profits to construct a three story mansion, complete with an upstairs ballroom. The Franklins parked in front of the visitors center, which contained a Waverly car and then the Franlineers were guided through the grandeur of the mansion.

A very long drive brought everyone back to the hotel. Dinner was again was on their own. The hospitality room was open in the evening.

Saturday began with a short commute to a large natural gas pumping station. The facility was down for maintenance which allowed the tour guides to show the disassembled parts of the huge V-16 natural gas powered pumps. Climbing a ladder to the cat walks brought your eyes level with the valve covers. The lower engine inspection plates had been removed and the enormous connecting rod bearing caps were in plain site. The workmen were happy to explain the parts and their functions. While the ladies were interested, the men were fascinated. Complimentary wrenches were given to everyone at the conclusion of the tour.

Traveling on a tight schedule, the Franklins and a few local Antique Automobile Club of America members, in their old cars, were invited for Saturday's tour at the Rich Harvest Farms Private golf course. Mr. Jerry Rich, the owner, has a more than an outstanding vehicle collection. Mr. Rich normally opens his collection only three times a year and just on Sundays. The Midwest Region scored a real coup by gaining access to the collection on a Saturday! After clearing the Security checkpoint, the Franklineers drove up to the huge museum building where they were greeted by Mr. Rich. He and his son personally conducted a tour of his vehicle collection which was eclectic. It contained beautiful antique automobiles, such as a Model J Dusenbergs, Ferraris, Mustangs, an Amphicar, and even a Morris Minor. There were several restored horse drawn vehicles, including his specially commissioned collection of over 100 scale model horse drawn ones. The building was as spectacular as the vehicles. In the back was a carnival ride— Tilt-A-Whirl! His wife wanted it!

From the Rich collection, the club traveled a very short distance to the Round-up Restaurant for lunch. Then, the Franklins headed for Sandwich and its many antique stores and malls.

A short drive brought everyone back to the hotel to freshen up for the banquet. The banquet was held in one of the hotel's several banquet rooms. Following a

plentiful feast, Midwest Region President, Dean Dorholt conducted a brief business meeting and later a game was played with the winners being awarded the floral center pieces.

Franklin Members in Attendance:

Sandy and Betty Bennett	Dean and Cinda Dorholt
Greg Druflke	Bill and Wendell Eby
Alvin Elmore	Al Finseth and Max the Dog
Ralph and Karen Gack	Richard and Kathryn Harry
Jeff and Joan Hasslen	Lee and Nancy Nelson
Roy Nelson and Floss Smith	Norm and Rhonda Olson
Rand Patterson	Jim and Debbie Reed
Don Rhode and Jan Hurst	Phil and Pam Weisenbarger
Bob Erickson and Gracie Knoblauch	

Franklins in Attendance:

Alvin and Marie Elmore	1923	Opera Coupe
Jim and Debbie Reed	1924	10 C
Bill Eby and Jerry River	1928	12B Victoria Brougham
Norm and Rhonda Olson	1929	Series 13 Sports Sedan
Phil and Pam Weisenbarger	1930	Victoria Brougham
Richard and Kathryn Harry	1931	153 4 Dr. Sedan
Jeff and Joan Hasslen	1932	Series 16 Club Sedan



ATTENTION ALL FRANKLIN MEMBERS
If you have a wonderful Franklin story, please feel free to email it to me at hjwade29@att.net or you can snail mail it to me at the address shown in the Midwest Franklin Directory. We are looking forward to publishing your story.

Hazel Wade, Editor

In Remembrance of our Franklin Friends
Betty Eby—April 2013
Roline Milne—July 2013
Alice Gray—August 2013
Norman Fizette—January 2014
Daniel Rhoades—November 2014

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See Insert for additional photos of Midwest Meet



Mr. Jerry Rich Collection Building



Planes at Air Classic Museum



Mr. Glen Nagel Collection Car Barn



Mr. Joseph Glidden Homestead