



THE FRANKLIN LINE

HHFC MIDWEST REGION REPORTS FALL 2015

Greetings Franklin Friends,

Well another year has almost come to an end. We had two great meets in the Midwest Region one in Minnesota and the other in Missouri and we had a lot of first timers came to those meets. I want to thank Linda and Dennis for the great job and I think I gained 20 lbs.

Some of you might not think you have interesting things to do in your area but they are always interesting to the rest of us who don't see them every day and some of the owners of these collections have more fun than we do when we visit them.

Planning a meet is not that hard and some wonderful people have stepped up to host meets through 2017. Heck, even I had a part in hosting the Minnesota Meet but Susan & Eric Swenson did most of the planning. Thanks Guys.

One of the highlights of this year was going to Bakersfield California for the swap meet and getting to drive a car on the tour. Also going to the Webb's Mini Meet and seeing all the Franklin people in Southern California. Can't wait to get back there! The other, unfortunately, was at the same time as the Trek, is the New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run held in our back yard. We need to get some more of the Franklin people to join us next year for the 30th and it's not going to conflict with the Trek. Cinda and I did a lot of touring this summer with some of the other clubs we belong to and the summer has gone by way too fast. Looking forward to seeing all of you next June in Lincoln, NE and in Troy, Ohio for the Fall Meet, I know they will be "Great" meets.

Till next June have a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

Dean Dorholt (deandorholt @frontiernet.net
Aura Vincit

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES, Fall 2015

A) Call to Order by Dean Dorholt, President. Thank you to our hosts, Linda and Dennis Radford.

B) Host Report: Linda Radford gave a summary of attendance—35 people attended—11 States were represented including MN, WI, IL, MO, NE, VA, TN, FL, LA, OH, and TN

C) Recognition:

- First time attendees Phil Vicory and his son -in-law Paul from Joplin, MO were "so excited to get here we forgot our car"

- Nine (9) Franklins were at the meet

- Jeff Hasslen with Bob Erickson, Richard and Kathryn Harry, and Gary Edwards drove their Franklin to the meet (NOTE: Gary "drove" 2 Franklins to the meet)

- Jeff Hasslen drove his Franklin the furthest at 540 miles followed closely by Richard Harry at 530 miles.

- Ralph and Karen Gack traveled the furthest totally 1,344 miles from Florida to attend the meet.

D) Secretary's Report: We currently have 118 Midwest Region members. The newest member is Jim Danielson of Lincoln, NE who joined at the Trek. We hear he is in the process of acquiring a Franklin.

E) Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$1,298.52. Expenses since our meet in June totaled \$85.21 for printing and mailing the last Franklin Line. Linda said she was going to have some money left over and asked what to do with it. Lee Nelson made a motion that the money be turned over to the treasury. Motion passed.

F) Midwest Region News:

-Hazel Wade (Franklin Line Editor): Loves to get stories and pictures; starting with the next

Business Meeting Minutes, Fall 2014 (Cont'd)

issue of the Franklin Line we will feature one vehicle.

-Roy Nelson (Midwest Region History): Continues to accumulate information on the history of the Midwest Region.

G) Future Midwest Meets:

-Spring 2016 in Lincoln, NE on June 2, 3, and 4 Hosted by John Moss and Jason Newby

-Fall 2016 in Troy, OH hosted by Rand and Carolyn Patterson

-Spring 2017 in Kalamazoo, MI in conjunction with the Aircooled Gathering

-Fall 2017 in Manitowoc, WI by Doug Rohde

H) HHFC Region Board Rep: Jeff Hasslen reported the meet that Jack and Mary Stang offered to host in LA will be a HHFC sanctioned meet. Jack Stang reported it will be in Hammond, LA in April 2017.

I) The Franklin Collection: Phil Weisenbarger reported that an original Franklin sign was purchased and will be on display at the Collection in Hickory Corners. One of the cars from the Collection is going up for sale with a sealed bid. Watch for more information in the ACN

J) HHFC News: Bill Eby, National Club President:

- Changing over responsibility to monitor the website to Megan Metro and Darla Metro

- Missy Brown and Andrew Sullivan, Trek co-chairpersons, are ready to step down and are looking for someone to run the trek. They will be available to consult and assist in the transition year.

K) New Register: The 2015 Register of Franklins and Membership Directory has been published. Remember that when a Franklin is bought or sold, the past/current member lists the change on their HHFC renewal notice and email to Marlene Zimmerman (CA) to ensure that the future register updates are correct.

L) Additional Announcements:

- Motion by Jim Wade to have Max on the roster of those attending the meet

- Glen and Janice Pykiet took their Franklin to Europe in 2008. Glen shared some highlights from the trip with the group. France and Switzerland were just two of the countries they visited. Twenty-two classic cars and (1) Franklin made the trip.

Thank you again to our hosts Linda and Dennis Radford for a great meet!

Minutes taken by Cinda Dorholt in the absence of Joan Hasslen, Secretary/Treasurer

2015 Midwest Fall Meet Hosted by Dennis and Linda Radford

The Midwest Meet, September 16-19 in Clinton was a huge success even with the inclement weather. If you were not there, you missed a great meet and a good time. There were nine cars and 35 members present. Members came from ten different states and as far away as Florida. Two Franklins were driven all the way from Minnesota, a nine hour trip.

Day 1

The Franklin family started arriving in the afternoon (Wednesday). Drinks, popcorn, and snacks were available in the lobby of the Hampton Inn. Everyone had gathered in the lobby waiting for late arrivals. Jeff Hasslen with Joan #2 (Robert Erickson) and Richard and Kathryn Harry were the last ones to arrive driving their Franklins. Robert was introduced as Joan by Jeff upon arrival as Joan #1 was unable to attend!

Day 2

Three good museums were visited (Thursday). The first stop was Bucks Car Barn which is a converted horse stable. He has a very neat collection of memorabilia including cars from several different manufacturers which included a 1915 Franklin, Auto Car Taxi, a truck, electric car, American Underslung and a Dayton Reliable plus numerous other cars and memorabilia including antique toys and trains. As you enter his barn you follow the yellow brick road painted on the floor to see his collection. The next stop was the town square and the cars were parked in front of the court house where the cars were displayed during lunch at the Ben Franklin Bistro. Many walked around the square while shopping. There was a good crowd that stopped by to see the Franklins. The two most asked questions was how fast will they go and who made Franklins. We then drove to a restored DX Gas Station/Soda Shop where ice cream and 6 oz. cokes in a glass bottle were served by Linda and Ally. Dennis put on a DX work shirt and pretended to wash Franklin car windshields during the photo shoot at the gas pumps; price on the pumps was 29 cents. Then it was off to a BBQ restaurant called Sugar Foot in Osceola for supper.

Day 3

We toured the Henry County Museum (Friday) that consisted of 4 buildings. It is a fully restored Anheuser-Busch distribution center and serves as the main building of the museum. We ate a very good lunch there that was served by the ladies

2015 Midwest Fall Meet (Cont'd)

of the museum. We also held our Business Meeting at the museum. Then it was on to Jim Raysik's Downtown Desoto Car Museum. He has approximately 40 cars on display plus numerous antiques. The entrance is set up as if it was a 1953 Desoto dealership with two extremely low mileage original cars on display. Then an unscheduled trip to Dennis Rayford's shed was requested by members where he is restoring a Franklin Model 151 5 passenger sedan. Then it was on to Charley's. Due to the inclement weather with rain and a tornado threat in the area, modern cars were driven to Charley's Buffet. People were told to stay close as we drove to Charley's as cell phone service is poor to no service at all. This is where our first complaint happened, a member stole a piece of pie right off of another members plate. The other part of the story is the member requested that the pie be removed from his plate so he would have room to put Goose Berry Cobbler on his dinner plate. Remember there are always two sides to every story. The buffet had only a thirty foot dessert bar!

Day 4

The last day (Saturday) started off with an unscheduled trip to the Radford farm to look at a Franklin Model 152 Linda had purchased along with horses, cows, and chickens. Then it was off on a cruise to the winery for a tour and excellent lunch and wine tasting. The second complaint was everyone was going to have to go on a diet when they arrived home.

9 Franklins at the Meet

1923 Demi Sedan	Alan Finseth & Max
1926 11A Sedan	Glen & Janice Pykiet
1927 11B 4 Door Sedan	Jack & Mary Stang
1928 12A Coupe	Gary Edwards
1929 135 Victoria Brougham	Dennis & Linda Radford
1930 145 4 Door Sedan	Gary Edwards
1931 153 Club Sedan	Richard & Kathryn Harry
1932 16 Club Sedan	Jeff Hasslen
1934 Pickup Rio/ Franklin Engine	Wes & Betty Scott

Other Attendees were:

Jim Danielson (1st time)	Bill & Geri Eby
Ralph & Karen Gack	Gloria Rittenberry
Lee & Nancy Nelson	Robert Erickson
Joey & Debbie Quebedeaux	Roy Nelson
Jim & Hazel Wade	Phil & Pam Weisenbarger
Jim & Ally Edwards	Phil Vicory
Dean & Cinda Dorholt	Paul Zuraw



A Tour We Will Remember Forever, The Classic Europe CARavan

By Glen & Janice Pykiet

On Sunday May 4, 2008, an adventure of epic proportions began for 57 brave and hardy CCCA members and their 22 Full Classic® automobiles. It was to be the first day of the first ever Classic Europe CARavan. Because of a hiccup at Heathrow 21 members from the west coast and midwest were delayed a day, but since the cars weren't to be picked up until the 5th it all worked out.

Monday the 5th - The cars were retrieved in Bassel, France. All came to life and our adventure began. The weather had been terrible prior to our arrival but luckily we had a complete turnaround; blue skies, light breezes, and plenty of sunshine; perfect for us and the Classics! We drove through the lovely Alsace-Lorraine area of France that afternoon. That evening we toured the Schlumpf Museum which houses the largest collection of Bugattis in the world. We had a fantastic meal sitting between two gorgeous Bugatti Royales!

Tuesday the 6th - In the morning we were the guests of Bugatti at Ettore Bugatti's Chateau St. Jean. Classics were parked on the grounds in front of and behind the Chateau. Quite a sight! We toured the assembly building where the \$2.2 million Bugatti Veyron is built; had a wonderful lunch and wandered the grounds. That afternoon we drove through the Black Forest of Germany on our way to Tubingen, a lovely town on the Neckar River where we sat for hours on the river bank enjoying drinks and the atmosphere!

Wednesday the 7th - We were off to the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart. Our Classics were parked in a semi-circle in front of the museum! We all made it there even though some resorted to different means, such as hiring a taxi to follow! The afternoon was wonderful touring through the German countryside to the walled city of Dinkelsbuhl where we had a twilight walking tour of the city.

Thursday the 8th - We drove the "Romantic Road", a trade route during the Middle Ages which

winds through the countryside past countless villages and farms, to Oberammergau, a picture-perfect Bavarian town on the Ammer River. We had our first look at the Alps which still had snow on them. Awesome!

Friday the 9th - We are on a bus today to see the "Mad King's" castles, Linderhof and Neuschwanstein (the Disney Fairy Castle). Ludwig may have been mad but could he spend money! The castles and their furnishings and grounds are unbelievable, the views breathtaking and the bus drivers crazy.

Saturday the 10th - In the morning we toured Swarovski Crystal World which is indescribable. Then we crossed the Alps for the first of four times, once on the autobahn and three times through the mountains! It was decided to take the autobahn through the Brenner Pass to Italy and, believe me, in a Franklin with a top speed of 45-50 MPH the autobahn is exciting, to say the least! We arrived in Arco Italy, palm trees and beautiful floral displays. Loved it all!

Sunday the 11th - Finally a day of rest with a wonderful cocktail cruise on Lake Garda that evening. Fellow CARavanner Wink provided guitar music for us in the lake's park while we sang along!

Monday the 12th - On the road again! Driving through the tunnels around Lake Garda on the way to Verona, with a stop at Museo Nicoses, a privately owned museum that had five floors of collections of EVERYTHING - cars, motorcycles, cameras, etc.

Tuesday the 13th - A day of glorious driving, beautiful scenery and navigating to the sea resort town of Lido di Jesolo on the Adriatic Sea. Post cards don't do these places justice!

Wednesday the 14th - We ferried to Venice for two days. Imagine sitting in San Marco Square sipping espresso and listening to an orchestra at twilight. We did that! Not to mention a goldola ride, exploring, and great gelato (ice cream)!

Thursday the 15th - We took a water taxi to Murano to tour a glass factory and then more exploring. Unbelievable city - Venice!

The weather had been terrible prior to our arrival but luckily we had a complete turnaround; blue skies, light breezes, and plenty of sunshine; perfect for us and the Classics!

Friday the 16th - We returned to Lido de Jesolo to pick up the cars and hit the road again. A day of driving lovely mountain roads. No boring roads here!

Saturday the 17th - Ferrari Day! What a day! First we toured the Ferrari Gallery, then to a preview of an RM Ferrari auction at Pisto Track. I have a picture of a Ferrari Spyder that auctioned the next day for the highest price ever for a Ferrari - \$10.8 million euros! Then on to a fine lunch at the Ferrari restaurant followed by the factory tour. Absolutely great! The only problem was that after all this we had to drive 150 miles to the next stop and didn't allow time for us to run out of gas on the autostrada, be towed, get lost in the rain and still get there before dark! HELP! It came in the form of our ever-present "Angel", Carla, our tour director. We finally arrived at 11:30 P.M.! Missed supper!

Sunday the 18th - This day was a bus tour to Florence and our first day of rain! It was still a great walking tour and a visit to Michelangelo's David!

Monday the 19th - A well-earned day of rest and time to walk the town of Montecatini and clean the car! Lost one Classic to unknown causes.

Tuesday the 20th - A drive to Pisa in the rain and a tour of the Leaning Tower and, boy, does it lean! The afternoon was a gorgeous drive through the Apian Alps and marble quarries. The vistas are everything you'd imagine. We arrived at Lerici which overlooks the Ligurian Sea. OH MY! The view from our room was picture perfect and so is the weather again! Some of the larger cars are having problems with the narrow roads and some kissed the sides leaving paint here and there!

Wednesday the 21st - We took a boat ride along the Cinque Terre coast (the five lands) known for its scenic beauty. We stopped at several towns and walked along the Lovers Walk. The loading and unloading of passengers is a feat that has to be seen to be believed.

Thursday the 22nd - Another breathtaking drive from Lerici to Santa Margherita/Portofino.

Friday the 23rd - A day to relax and people-watch in Santa Margherita or boat or drive to the playground of the rich and famous - Portofino. Or possibly leave a little clutch and a little paint on a Portofino mountain as one of our members did!

Saturday the 24th - We delivered the Classics to Genova for their return home - only two not

under their own power. We then boarded a bus to Milan for an evening bus tour and dinner before arriving at Lake Como.

Sunday the 25th - We took a slow boat tour on Lake Como to Bellagio, where I would have been happy to stay! We took the fast boat back for the farewell dinner and awards. Tom Kidd was awarded the Deutsch Award, Steve Trott the Dudney, and Johnny Crowell the Crossett.

After 1400 miles of touring, 57 participants and 22 Classics had completed the first Classic Europe CARavan. We learned there was always more than one way to reach our next stop when directions and maps failed and the GPS laughed at you and said "Oh Yeah!" We learned old cars and a smile broke down any language barrier and that there are good people everywhere! It was truly a learning experience as well as a test of mental and physical stamina!

Our Franklin performed outstandingly well and I learned that even though she growled like a lion in second gear, she climbed like a mountain goat! Hopefully the imprints of my fingers on the windowsill will fade away, but our memories will stay forever, along with approximately 700 photos! When's the next one? ❖



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**Pictures below shows Glen and Janice
Pykiet and Franklin Car that went to
Europe.**



1934 Franklin "Speed Wagon" brought to the Fall Midwest Region Meet by Wes and Betty Scott. Read the complete story in the forthcoming Air Cooled News.



