



# THE FRANKLIN LINE

HHFC MIDWEST REGION NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022

**Greetings my Franklin friends,**

From the pictures I've seen posted on the Franklin web page and others on Facebook it looks like Cinda and I missed a great meet hosted by Anne and Dan Russell. Unfortunately, I'm still working and getting time off is limited. Just the traveling time would have taken too long to get out east.

**It sure looks like the Russells hit this one out of the park.** Since I wasn't there for the meet, I'm going to let the pictures submitted and the write up Anne did explain what we missed.

Speaking of out east someone asked the question when did Maryland become part of the Midwest? Well, we have decided that every now and then we will have a meet on the east side of the United States if someone wishes, we have a lot of faithful members out east that join us on our tours in the Midwest, and it just so happens there are a lot of great places and things to see in the east.

We currently have meets lined up for 2023, the first will be hosted by Angie and Jason Newby in mid-May in Nebraska.

The Fall meet will be hosted by Geri and Bill Eby in the Keweenaw Peninsula in the UP of Michigan, October 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. I've only snowmobiled in the UP and that was a long time ago.

I believe we also have some things lined up for 2024 so stay tuned.

This Fall we lost another member of the Region, Bob Erickson. Bob was a long-time member and was very active for a number of years. I am sure many of you have fond memories of Bob and Gracie.

The annual dues notice is on Page 11 of this issue please use the form to update any information and get your 5 dollars in the mail to Joan as soon as possible.

*At the end of 2023 it will be my 12<sup>th</sup> year serving as president and it's time to pass the torch. If your interested let me or Jeff know.*

That's all for now, have a safe and happy Holiday Season and New Year.

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**Aura Vincit  
Dean Dorholt  
612-803-0836**

# MIDWEST FALL MEET 2022 IN WILLIAMSPORT, MD

SEPTEMBER 29 –OCTOBER 2

BY ANNE RUSSELL

The 2022 Midwest Region fall meet was held on September 29 through October 2 based in Hagerstown, MD. A total of 55 people attended, 12 Franklin cars, and one Dodge truck.

On **Thursday**, our first day of touring, was a guided tour of the **Antietam Battlefield** followed by lunch in Sharpsburg, MD explaining the fascinating history of the battle where over 20,000 people lost their lives or were injured in one day.

For the afternoon several activity choices were available with the majority of people visiting the **Crystal Grotto Caverns** followed by either wine tasting at **Big Cork Vineyards** or a tour of **Rob Burchill's restoration shop**.

On **Friday** we toured **Fort Frederick**, a fortification active in the French and Indian War and the American Revolutionary War, located in Big Pool, MD with a guided tour and musket demonstration. We then toured to the **Hagerstown Aviation Museum** where the Experimental Aviation Association (EAA) provided lunch, a guided tour of the facilities and airplanes in the collection. We had the opportunity to get pictures of the cars with the airplanes in a very large hanger. One of the guides was dressed in period attire as Rosie the Riveter. We next gathered at the **Russell's home** for a view of their car collection and garages. Dinner was provided by a local barbecue who provided a trailer on site. Finally, **Brian Caron** gave a talk on the history of high wheel bicycles as well as a riding demonstration.

On **Saturday**, despite the rainy remnants of hurricane Ian, we toured to the **Conococheague Institute** located in Mercersburg, PA. This 30-acre site is dedicated to displaying colonial life in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Here we learned about all of the facets of living off the land in these times. A boxed lunch was provided on site. After this several people drove to the nearby **Mercersburg Academy** for a drive through view tour of the beautiful campus. For the afternoon there were two choices to attend. The first was a discussion held at the host hotel by tea expert **Paulella Burchill** author of the books "Tea for Every Occasion: A Book of Wonderful Ideas for the Tea Lover" and "Antwon's Tea". She provided three different teas to sample along with finger foods. After the tea, we had a Zoom painting lesson with Les Tryon, where she guided us through watercolor paintings of samples and then notecards. Also, at this time a **tech session** was held at the Russell's home where **Bouvard** discussed concentric valves and a hands-on attempt to get a Series 9 brougham running.

**Sunday** was another rainy day however most of our activities were held indoors. An hour-long morning **yoga** class was offered with instructor **Beth Hanna**. We then toured the **collection of Don Bowman**, a local business man and owner of Bowman's Trucking. Here we viewed his many antique and modern automobiles as well as a collection of large antique trucks. Our next stop was the **Washington County Rural Heritage Museum** to see Dagmar cars, made in Hagerstown, as well as several other unique vehicles, bicycles, and farm implements. Our banquet was held in the evening at the **Elmwood Bed & Breakfast** in a lovely recently renovated barn. A region business meeting was conducted by Roger Moffat.

**This was followed by a wicked paper airplane fight!**



# MIDWEST FALL MEET 2022 IN WILLIAMSPORT, MD

SEPTEMBER 29 –OCTOBER 2

HOSTED BY ANNE AND DAN RUSSELL

Franklins at the meet:

- Betty & Sandy Bennett's 1920 Franklin Two Door Sedan
- Jim Bockin's 1931 Franklin Four Door Sedan
- Sigrid & Kent Carpenter's 1928 Franklin Convertible Coupe
- Bob Cornman's 1931 Franklin Series 153
- Tim Coyle's 1913 Franklin Three M
- Geri & Bill Eby's 1928 Franklin 12B
- Matt Joseph's 1923 Franklin 10C Touring
- Janet & Keith Kilmer's 1931 Franklin Four Sport Salon 152
- Kathy & Norm Madsen's 1925 Franklin Runabout
- Darla & Bob Metro's 1926 Franklin Oxford Sedan
- Anne & Dan Russell's 1930 Franklin Speedster
- Jon Perry & Bill Woodcock's 1925 Franklin Sedan

And Special Guests with vehicles of note:

- Kyle Blake's 1920 Dodge Brothers Truck
- Brian Caron's 1882 Columbia Expert High Wheel Bicycle



**MIDWEST FALL MEET 2022 IN WILLIAMSPORT, MD**  
**SEPTEMBER 29 –OCTOBER 2**  
**HOSTED BY ANNE AND DAN RUSSELL**

Photos courtesy of Darla and Bob Metro and Anne Russell



**MIDWEST FALL MEET 2022 IN WILLIAMSPORT, MD**  
**SEPTEMBER 29 –OCTOBER 2**  
**HOSTED BY ANNE AND DAN RUSSELL**

Photos courtesy of Darla and Bob Metro and Anne Russell



## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

**Call to order:** Roger Moffat called the meeting to order and thanked the meet hosts: Dan and Anne Russell.

**A moment of silence** was observed for recently deceased long time Region member Bob Erickson who passed away August 27.

**Recognition: First time attending a Region Meet:** Kent & Sigrid Carpenter, John Giltinan & Don Gilbert, Matt Joseph, Kathy & Norm Madsen, Jon (J.P.) Perry, Camron Rogers.

**Brought a Franklin to this Meet:** Betty & Sandy Bennett, Bob Cornman, Tim Coyle, Bill Eby, Matt Joseph, Janet & Keith Kilmer, Kathy & Norm Madsen, Darla & Bob Metro, Anne & Dan Russell, Jon Perry, Bill Woodcock & Monty, Kent & Sigrid Carpenter, Jim Bockin.

**Drove a Franklin to this Meet:** Bill Eby, Kent & Sigrid Carpenter, Anne & Dan Eby.

**Drove their Franklin the furthest to attend:** Bill Eby.

**Traveled the furthest to attend:** John Giltinan & Don Gilbert.

**Hard Luck Award\*:** (\*for a Franklin driver who had a breakdown or needed assistance.) Matt Joseph (*Matt forgot to bring the key to his trailer one morning and had to saw off the latch to get his car out of the trailer*)

**Host report:** 1) Dan and/or Anne thanked everyone for coming. 2) There are six couples who are known to have met at the Trek. Three of them attended this meet: Anne & Dan Russell, Norm & Kathy Madsen, and Susan & David Roberts. 3) There is no truth to the rumor that Dan & Anne will how the Fall Midwest Meet every year.

**Secretary report:** We currently have 120 members.

**Treasury report:** Current balance is \$987.26 in the treasury.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Other Business:** 1) Franklin Collection - Roger Moffat: Roger's report will be in the Franklin Service Station. 2) HHFC President - Bob Cornman: Bob gave us a short history of his time with the club. This is his last year as President. 3) Franklin Service Station - Bill Woodcock: you should find the latest issue of the Service Station in your mailbox when you get home. If you have an article that could be published in the Service Station, please send it to Bill Woodcock.

**Future Meets:** 1) Spring Meet in 2023 - Hastings, NE. Jason & Angie Newby are hosting. 2) Fall of 2023 - Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Bill & Geri Eby are hosting.

**Additional Announcements/Comments:** 1) Cinda Dorholt, **editor of our Region Newsletter** needs pictures and stories from this meet. Please email her and tell her a story of two, plus let her know what you enjoyed most about this meet. Her email is : [midwestfranklin@gmail.com](mailto:midwestfranklin@gmail.com) (her email is also in the Region Directory, page 2. 2) **Congratulations** to Sarah Schopmeier - She received the HH Franklin Service Award at the last trek. 3) Recognize Region members new to the HHFC Board - Connie Roth, Ryan Nippert, and Bill Fields

**Thanks hosts again**

**Adjourn:** The evening was concluded with a 30 minute paper airplane competition/fight that was initiated by Ryan Nippert

Roger Moffat on behalf of Joan Hasslen, Region Secretary



Bob Erickson - August 27, 2022

## A TRUE CONFESSION—FRANKLIN STYLE

My name is Tom, and I am an autoholic. It probably hasn't been long enough since my purchase of yet another car...

Truth be told this disease started many years ago, and in it's earliest stages was – perhaps unwittingly, perhaps not – helped along by people whom presumably loved me.

The first three movies I can ever remember seeing as a child, were Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (originally written as a children's story by no less than Ian Fleming of James Bond fame), The Gnomobile and The Love Bug. The blame for the last two films can be laid squarely at the feet of Disney Studios. These films were (O.K., are) the groundwork for the automobile sensitivities that rule my thought processes to this day. These are - 1: Old Cars are far better and much more interesting than new cars. 2: Old cars will always be capable of things new cars are not. 3: The most popular makes of car are hardly ever the most interesting.

Much later in high school for example, I had zero interest in Camaros, Firebirds, Mustangs or Dodge Chargers, and instead became enamored with MGs, Triumphs and Austin-Healeys – despite living in a small town where no such cars existed, and where even fewer places to service them existed, should you be fool-hardy enough to actually buy one. Being someone who accepts fool-hardiness as a sort of badge of honor, I bought a Triumph TR4-A as my first car, which meant I rapidly became a self-taught mechanic and body-man. I became a fairly good amateur mechanic. 45+ years later I am still waiting to become a fairly good body-man.

Flash forward a few decades and by now I have had one of just about everything – at least in my price range. From Corvair Monzas to Model T and Model A Fords, one or two old Mercedes, various and sundry MGs and Triumphs, a Packard 200, 1950's Buicks, BMW 2002s and Bavarias, a Morris Minor saloon with right-hand-drive – and even a Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow – but I had yet to own anything approaching a CCCA Full-Classic – until my dentist and fellow MG nut friend of mine, Dr. John Bloom suggested I have a look at Franklins (his enthusiasm is helped along by the fact that his in-laws live in Tucson, AZ. – very close to the late Tom Hubbard's Franklin Museum.

Now, since I have been a car nut since about the ripe old age of four, I knew what a Franklin was – but I was sure I'd never seen one in person, just in one or two of the hundreds of car books which by now were part of my personal collection. My initial research intrigued me even more – air-cooled engine technology, a respectable race history, limited build numbers and an eventually unhealthy devotion to quality even in hard financial times just made Franklins even more appealing to me. Dr. Bloom also suggested that he knew of a Franklin several miles from his home in Libertyville, IL that had been advertised but, he believed, was still available – even though by now I was combing all the on-line and in-print classifieds for Franklins, and doing what additional research I could on my own. Most other Franklins I considered were many miles away, and even if restorable, would require an expensive shipping bill to get home. I settled on the Libertyville car, being very close to me in Crystal Lake, IL. I was happy she was a 1931 Model 153 sedan after my own research left me wanting a steel-chassis car with enough performance potential to keep up with modern traffic. I was also looking forward to a collector car that wouldn't be as intimidated by giant SUVs as was my diminutive Morris Minor.

In the meantime – sometime in April of this year – I had joined the H.H. Franklin Club, had started bothering several members for information, and had found “my” Franklin in Club records going back to 1968/9 with long ownership by Frank Beck (if anyone remembers him, please let me know). The first newsletter I read mentioned a Midwest gathering in and around Winona MN coming in June. I knew where Winona was as I had been there on business years before, it was within a reasonable drive from my home, and I also had a good friend in Minnesota that I hadn't seen in far too long – so this would be a perfect opportunity to catch up with some old friends, see some Franklins in the flesh, and make some new friends.

While I was there, I met many helpful and friendly Franklin owners, and in particular Tom Rasmussen from Odyssey Restorations who not only let me sit in his '31 153 sedan (I'm 6'4" and wanted to check for leg room), but later that day took me for a ride and even let me have a turn at the wheel. Now convinced that the 153 was the car for me, I immediately went ahead with the purchase of the Libertyville, IL car and got it shipped to my mother's previously empty garage very near my house.

## A TRUE CONFESSION—FRANKLIN STYLE (PG 2)

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Work has just begun. First will be removing the rotted tires from the wire spoke rims, and getting new tires and tubes fitted to sandblasted and powder-coated wheels. Next will be brakes, then comes the drivetrain, and on and on... It’s going to be fun – right? RIGHT???

Tom Webb



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### 2023 Midwest Meets

#### Spring Meet

Nebraska

Tentative dates: May 17-May 20

Hosted by Jason and Angie Newby

#### Fall Meet

Keweenaw Peninsula, in the UP of Michigan

Dates TBD, around the first of October

Hosted by Bill and Geri Eby

## **FRANKLINS FOR SALE**

### **1921 FRANKLIN, SERIES 9B 2 PASSENGER RUNABOUT (Roadster)**

Once owned by Henry Austin Clark Jr. and Jeff Hasslen!

**“SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED”**

From the Estate of Bob Erickson

Bob restored many parts and pieces for this car, rewooded the body, had engine machine work done including rod and main bearing babbitt poured machined, line bored and the camshaft ground. (by Odyssey Restorations)

Price \$5,000.00

### **1923 FRANKLIN, SERIES 10B 4 DOOR SEDAN**

**NOT AS MUCH ASSEMBLY REQUIRED**

Also from the Estate of Bob Erickson

Bob restored the engine, chassis, wheels, interior trim, instruments, installed new top and headliner.

Price \$2,500.00

**For more information call Jeff Hasslen 612-720-4090**

*These are wonderful handling air cooled automobiles.*

## FRANKLINS FOR SALE PG 2



What "1921 EMMA" aka Roadster runabout looks like today.



What Bob saw that "1921 EMMA" could be and still can be with your TLC!



1923 Series 10B

## UPDATES AND OTHER REGIONAL INFORMATION

### It's time to renew your Midwest membership for 2023!

To keep dues low, the renewal form is included on the next page of this newsletter. I know how quickly emails get buried and mail piles up, so I encourage you to read over the form and renew right away. Two great meets are planned for 2023, so I hope to hear back very soon from all you faithful Region members!

Thank you!

*Joan Hasslen*

***If you receive The Line via email and do not have a printer,  
you can call or email me with your changes.***

***763-441-7815***

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

H.H. Franklin Club  
**2023 Midwest Region Membership / Directory Update**

**\*\* By-Laws require that you be a National Member to join the Region \*\***

Hello Region Members,

I hope you were able to participate in Club and Region gatherings this year. I also hope you plan to renew your HHFC **and** Midwest Region membership. In 2023 we publish a Region **Addendum** – not a complete directory.

- 1) Please **read over your information** in the 2022 Midwest Region Directory.  
(Light yellow cover with color picture)
- 2) If there are **No Changes**, just send the \$5.00 dues – no form needed.  
(Your name will be on the check and/or return label)
- 3) If you have **Changes**, print this form & list only your NEW information.  
Return the form along with your dues.  
Your changes/additions will be printed in the 2023 Region Addendum.

**\$5.00 dues by December 31, 2022** would be appreciated. **Thank you!**

*Joan Hasslen*  
Midwest Region Sec/Treas.  
763-441-7815  
jhasslen@gmail.com

**Check payable to:/Mail to:**  
Joan Hasslen  
13311 95th St NE  
Elk River, MN 55330

\*\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**Changes for 2023:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly

**Changes to your Franklin Collection:** Provide serial numbers if missing in the Directory.  
Use the back of this form for additional changes.

	Year	Model #	Body Style	Serial Number
Add:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

Delete:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

## **2023 Midwest Meets**

### **Spring Meet**

Nebraska

Tentative dates: May 17-May 20

### **Fall Meet**

Keweenaw Peninsula, in the UP of Michigan

Dates TBD, around the first of October

**SEE YOU SOON!!!**



HHFC Midwest Region  
**The Franklin Line**  
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