

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

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

A Moment of silence was observed for the deaths of Franklin Members Alice Gray on Aug 13 and Roline Milne July 25.

Tex Sorrell also noted Anna Miller passed away October 24. She was the wife of long time FSS Editor, Tim Miller.

The President's report moved to New Business.

Roll Call

Present:

President Bob Harrison, Vice President Bill Eby, Treasurer Mark Chaplin, Secretary Janet Kilmer, Past President Marv Gage, Board Members; Keith Kilmer, Randy Fusco, Tex Sorrell, Mike Reeve, Dan Ferrara and Bob Metro.

Absent: Brendan Hogan, The Mid-west Regional Director, Board Members, Bill Fields, Dave Roberts, Karl Nippert, Dennis Egan, Jim Stevenson 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 Tex Sorrell, seconded by Bob Metro and approved.

Treasurer's Report

By Mark Chaplin

We've seen a very strong increase in the FACHC fund this quarter a result of improved equity market performance and to a lesser extent the receipt of revenues from our weekend at the Gilmore. This has resulted in the balance in our FACHC fund increasing to \$959k from \$914k in June and \$874 at the start of our fiscal year. We'd expect these balances to continue to fluctuate based on market activity. As noted in our financial report in prior meetings we expect actual donations not to cover our expected operating costs beginning in fiscal 2014 with a growing disparity in the years ahead, as pledge receipts decline and operating costs increase in line with our operating agreement with the Gilmore. As such we continue to seek to grow the FACHC fund towards its self-sustaining level (estimated to be \$1.2 million) and to generate revenues from the sale of cars donated for such purposes. An offer was accepted to purchase the '28 Franklin being sold by the fund late in the quarter for just above \$10k, in line with our expectations.

Balances in the Club's other funds are consistent with expectations with \$119k in the General Fund vs. 119k in June, \$32k in the Trek Fund vs. \$69k in June (\$32k at the start of the fiscal year), and \$5k in the Mackey Fund vs. \$5k in June.

Mackey fund is a little lower than we would like to see and would like to see the board authorize, as needed, up to \$5000 to continue with the club projects.

In the next quarter we will continue to see seasonal declines in the operating fund for normal expenses.

We have a balance of pledges receivable from donors of \$86k, which is expected to be paid according to the term of individual donor's pledges. *Note: We do not reflect these on our financial statements, as we are a cash basis taxpayer.*

The Trek broke even in the current year.

A motion made to accept and file the Treasurer's Report for audit was made by Tex Sorrell, seconded by Mike Reeve. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Mike Reeve to add \$5,000.00 to the Mackey Fund from the General Fund. Randy Fusco seconded the motion and it was approved.

Merchandise Report

By Loretta Fusco

An inventory list was submitted to Janet Kilmer including items in stock at the Gilmore and merchandise Sue Robert's had for Hershey.

There is a limited supply of trailer decals in stock. There are currently (5) gold and (4) black at \$25.00 each. Loretta doesn't plan to order more unless there is a demand for them.

She recently sent two hats to the Netherlands to fill a member's order. A brass plaque went to the United Kingdom, a sweatshirt to Missouri and some decals to Virginia. Loretta reported storage at her home is not available for inventory. She can accept orders at her home when she can drop ship from the vendor, or get the item when she is in Cazenovia for the board meetings. If anyone has any suggestions, she is willing to consider them.

Loretta ordered some pens and brought a sample. It has ink on one end a stylist point on the other. She got a great deal for 50 pieces at about \$2 each.

Mark Chaplin noted Loretta's sales were over \$6,000.00 this year. Great Job!

Club Projects:

By Bob Harrison

Sales were good at the Trek as usual, and were handled by Randy Fusco. Randy sold over \$3,000.00.

Sales so far this year exceed \$7,500, which shows how much these projects are a benefit to the membership. As a reminder, we do not make much money on projects, they are a service to the membership, and we break even on most items.

Bob has worked with the supplier of the exhaust pipes made for side drafts so that the turn around time is about two weeks. It had been several months prior to this.

This same supplier can make other pipes for us, such as tail pipes or exhaust pipes for other series. All he needs is a good original sample.

There are 5 new projects with parts now in stock:

FCP-35 Pinion Dust Seal Cover # 35110 (S-12 to S-16)made of aluminum and will accept modern lip seal @ \$85 each Comes as a kit including seal #21069 and a gasket # 35111.

FCP-35-1 Gasket # 35111 for pinion seal Cover @ \$4 each.

The cover was made by Dick Pratt and the gasket was made by Abby Nesbitt, Bob's daughter, a family project!

FCP – 36 Brake line fitting kits for S12 & S13 that contains Long Tapered flair nuts like the originals , (10) 1/4" & (2) 5/16" sizes, to replace all nuts in the brake system. Cost \$18.00 for kit.

FCP-36 -1 Brake line fitting kits for S14 to S19 that contains Long Tapered flair nuts like the originals, (10) 1/4" & (4) 5/16" sizes, to replace all nuts in the brake system. Cost \$21 for kit.

FCP-37 3 ft. length of 5/16" Cunifer brake line for S12 & S13 cost is \$8.50. Note: Two 3 ft. lengths required for S14 to S19 Franklins.

FCP-38 1/4" Cunifer brake line material. Cost \$ 2.50 per foot.

Bob is currently working on the 1930 hood ornament.

The inventory is in good shape.

ACN

By Chuck Richardson & Brian McEntee

No report

FSS

By Scott Dwyer

The December Service Station went to the printer November 1 and should be in the hands of the membership by December 1.

Scott has had 2 requests from other newsletter editors to reprint his editorials; specifically the one entitled "Twilight Zone." He granted permission. It is always good to get our name out there.

One request was from a club in central California and the other from Fairbanks, Alaska.

Library: By Lloyd Davis

This year has been similar to the past few years. Trek sales were just over \$700, in line with other years. Lloyd recently sent a publication to Germany.

The Group leader from the Ford museum and restoration wanted to know what support we could offer them. Lloyd will help them all he can.

The library transfer to Bouvard & Trillion Hosticka will take place when all parties are in agreement.

Club Historian: By Sinclair Powell

With respect to a second edition of the Franklin book, Sinclair has decided a chapter should be added at the end. This chapter will be entitled "Time Line of the History of the American Automobile and Franklin's Place in It". He thinks this will provide enough difference from the first edition to make many persons want to purchase it.

He spoke to Mark Chaplin a few days ago, and Mark reports that he has the text into consolidated chapters. Many pictures from the first edition are yet to be located and substitute images will have to be inserted. Once all the images are located and scanned the text and images need to be put into a publishing program, an index prepared, and the document uploaded for print on demand.

On items other than the book, Sinclair is preparing articles on one or two subjects for the Air-Cooled News, and will be submitting them shortly.

He plans to keep in close touch with everyone.

Scholarships: By Mark Chaplin

Contact Mark if you know of anyone interested and he will send you an application form. Mark hopes to continue relationships with Gilmore and McPherson. Scholarship recipients receive a 3-year membership.

Club Events:

The Mid-West Fall Meet was held in RI, and was hosted by Bob and Pat Harrison. It was successful at 55 attendees. There were 14 Franklins. Bob had a copy of their local paper that had a story of the event. The group also visited a museum and was featured in their magazine. Bob received many thank you notes from the venues they visited. The notes mentioned how happy they were to experience the enthusiasm of the club members.

The Westrek will be held June 14-19, 2014, in Sonora, California, under the leadership of Sheldon and Tricia Ball. (A one-day tour to Yosemite Valley will be included.). Note: this is the same weekend as the Air Cooled event at the Gilmore.

Our 2014 Trek Chair Team includes Dan Ferrara, Missy Brown and Andrew Sullivan. Trek dates are August 2-9. Dan reported the team has a good head start on the plans. The venues have been chosen and they are contacting those places now. The budget is similar to 2013 and they are working within that. They are having fun with the plans.

Bob mentioned to 2013 Chair team, Melissa and Dan Ferrara, that there were very minimal complaints. There was a negative comment with vegan choices at outside meals. Loretta mentioned enjoying the email “trek teasers” and asked Dan if he could continue with those as things progress. Dan agreed.

There was lots of information in the Trek reservation booklet and that was great.

Melissa has not written any thank you notes to any of our hosts. Sara Schopmeier volunteered to help her with those.

Bill Eby reported the Midwest meet would be held at the Gilmore in conjunction with the Air Cooled Event. The details are on the website. Sandy Bennett suggested the literature needs to mark the date change for the other Air Cooled attendees as it is being held on June 14, 2014 and not on Father’s Day this year.

Registrar:

By Chet & Marlene Zimmerman

Everyone should have received the 2012 / 2013 Register Update with the last ACN. Chet & Marlene continue to receive corrections, additions and deletions from the membership.

Membership:

By Ann Russell

As of 10/19/2013, there are 794 members and 15 are gratis.

The renewal notices will go out with the next issue of ACN. A renewal email was sent October 19, 2013, and had one renewal within the first 20 minutes.

There were no new members or renewals made at Hershey this year.

Preservation:

Forum Update

By Bill Eby

There has been increased traffic. They do not have the “how to use” posted yet. Steve Braverman, Moderator, has had good things to say about the forum. Bill noted he will write some articles to boost the ACN.

The AACA had to fix the forum when it was recently hi-jacked. Everything seems to be going well now.

Tex Sorrell asked how the traffic compares to the old way. Bill Eby thinks fewer members are looking at the forum as it isn’t as easy to get to. If you register for the forum, you receive emails on what is newly posted on the forum and then you are able look at what interests you. Registration also allows you to post questions or comments.

Bob Harrison thinks many are looking at the forum but there is far less participation than the old system. Marv Gage noted the forum is being skipped and members are going directly to Jeff Hasslen and Tom Rasmussen.

Franklin Collection:

By Phil Weisenbarger

The advisory committee for The Franklin Automobile Collection at Hickory Corners held a regular meeting in conjunction with the Annual Franklin Trek in Cazenovia, NY.

The Gilmore Car Museum continues to grow and improve. The Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Museum has steel erected and is under roof as of the end of October. They are planning to be finished by the middle of May 2014. This will not affect the Franklin Collection until their building is enclosed and heated. At that time they will open the west wall of our building and complete the walkway between the two structures. Pictures and vehicles will need to be relocated to provide access to the Lincoln museum.

The Cadillac- LaSalle Museum hosted a Gilmore groundbreaking ceremony September 29, 2013. Holding true to the Franklin established dealership theme, plans call for a recreation of a late 1940's Cadillac dealership.

The collection completed the sale of the 1928 12 B Franklin that had been donated to the museum by Katherine Kudreiko. The car spent over three years on the floor as part of the exhibit and was shown at the Air Cooled Gatherings. The committee would like to thank Kay for providing this vehicle to the Collection and would encourage others to exploit this opportunity to both benefit the Franklin Museum and themselves by donating to a tax-free organization.

The car was sold for \$10,126.00 to Marshall Larson from Foley, MN. He was provided a year's membership in the Franklin Club and the Midwest Region as part of the sale. We look forward to meeting Marshall, and seeing the Franklin back on the road.

Advisory Committee

By Phil Weisenbarger

The Advisory Committee of The Franklin Automobile Collection at Hickory Corners for the year of 2014 is proposed as:

Bob Harrison	Club President	Ex-officio
Mark Chaplin	Chair of Finance sub-committee	Ex-officio
Tom Rasmussen	Finance sub-committee	Class of 2014
Marv Gage	Finance sub-committee	Class of 2017
Sandy Bennett	Renewed	Class of 2017
Art Einstein	Renewed (Comm. Publicist)	Class of 2017
Jeff Hasslen	Renewed	Class of 2017
Chuck Johnson	Member	Class of 2016
Eric Macleod	Member	Class of 2016
Randy Fusco	Member	Class of 2014
Phil Weisenbarger	Member	Class of 2014

Article II, Section 2.02 of the Principles of Operation of the Franklin Automobile Collection at Hickory Corners states that the Librarian of the club serves as an ex-officio voting member of the Club (The Advisory Committee).

As the position of Librarian is in transition, I would request that the Club's Board of Directors, as stated in Article II Section 2.02 (b), appoint Lloyd Davis to the advisory committee, as Librarian Emeritus for his experience, wisdom, and years of service. I would also suggest, at the board's discretion, that Bouvard Hosticka be given one voting seat, ex-officio, on the committee as librarian.

This action, if approved, would place the committee number in violation of the stated "no more than twelve" in Section 2.01. However, the same section provides the Board of Directors the right to increase the number of Advisory Committee members if they so see fit.

All members have been contacted and have cheerfully agreed to service on the committee. It will depend, of course, on the board's actions.

It is exciting to look forward with this strength of support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Weisenbarger, Chairman

A motion was made by Mark Chaplin to appoint and add those names, motion seconded by Keith Kilmer and approved.

Bob asked Phil to call Doecent about once a week if the heat or air conditioner is running properly or if there are any issues. Phil will take care of that.

Sandy Bennett mentioned the club had a fundraiser about 5 years ago for the Gilmore to raise funds to support it. New membership isn't aware donations can be made to the fund. Museum visitors noticed the plaque at the museum. Museum visitors are also unaware they can make donations too. Sandy thinks it is time to advertise the opportunity that donations can be made. He suggested a flyer be sent with the trek literature. Tex Sorrell recommended a flyer go out with the new member packets. Franklin members are fortunate to have 3 museums to support the Franklin History.

There is a need for a new informational flyer. Janet suggested Bill Woodcock would be a good candidate to put together a document to send out to all membership. Phil will contact his committee to put something together.

Melissa Ferrara suggested putting a fundraiser together with next year's trek.

Webmaster

By Sarah Hood & Paul Beckingham

Paul reported that with over three years of traffic statistics, which now includes half a million page views in total, website traffic remains flat. Despite the AACA forum taking some Q&A traffic away, people are still using the site to the same extent. The most

popular pages are still (1) the main page, (2) for sale and (3) pictures. Workload for Sarah has diminished with the Q&A going to the forum.

Since the club drawings became searchable online a year ago, there have been 28,157 searches performed. As a result of searches, there have been 70,627 downloads, of 19,344 distinct drawings. Currently 31% of the drawings documents have been seen. Paul noted that 2/3 drawings have not been seen yet.

Paul was asked if the number of visits on the AACA site were equivalent compared to old Q&A. He was not sure.

Marv Gage asked Paul if a member went to the website and then goes to the forum, if it is a hit to the website. Paul didn't know the answer but research.

New information is generated by membership for the website.

Bob thanked Paul & Sarah for the work they do.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Susan Roberts reported: Once again, the Franklin Club was represented at the AACA Fall Hershey in "Franklin Row" at space RNE 10. Even though it rained half the time, sales of Club merchandise totaled \$292.00. Thanks to Merchandise Manager, Loretta Fusco, for allowing official Club merchandise to be available.

Lots of Franklin Club members stopped by, including folks who regularly attend the Franklin Trek, and members from Alaska, Holland and Oregon! Only five membership applications were taken, but more informational brochures and Trekkers guidebooks were given out to curious passers-by. There was a poster for Franklin Club members to sign. A picture of that and the Friday Franklin Frankfurter Feast hosted for the kids at Hershey are on the Franklin Club website under news.

President Bob Harrison thanked outgoing Board Members Bill Fields, Keith Kilmer, Dave Roberts & Karl Nippert.

President and Vice President are appointed for one year. A motion was made by Mark Chaplin to reappoint Bob Harrison and Bill Eby for a second year. The motion was seconded by Marv Gage and the motion was approved.

2014 Board Meeting Dates:

February 1, April 26, During Trek, and November 1. Trek Chair Dan Ferrara was asked to have the board meeting later during the week at the Trek.

Closing

A motion was made by Tex Sorrell to close the meeting at 11:10, seconded by Dan Ferrara and the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Kilmer
Secretary