

THE FRANKLIN LINE
HHFC MIDWEST REGION NEWSLETTER
FALL 2016
TROY, OHIO

Greetings Franklin Friends,

Well, another GREAT season of meets is history! Our last meet in Troy, Ohio was an outstanding one. Rand and Carolyn did a tremendous job lining up some very nice Ohio countryside to tour and some wonderful stops along the way with two of them being a couple of very high end restoration shops. Of course, we would not want to forget about the airplanes and train museum. The food that is vital to any meet was fantastic! There were a lot of folks from the east side of the region, whom I don't always get to see. New to the Gilmore Collection was a 1925 Series 10 Touring that made a cameo appearance.

As far as a logo for the Midwest Newsletter, I have an idea and am having someone work with a local artist to redesign one that was not used for the Gillmore Collection.

On another note, if you remember seeing the t-shirts Cinda and I were wearing at the meet, we can get them made through a company here in Minnesota. No minimum order is required. If anyone is interested, please let me know. I can send you more information, i.e. options, etc.

Our next meet will be June 15-17 in Hastings, MI. It will be in conjunction with the Air Cooled Gathering. Bill Eby is putting together some places for us to visit before we go to the Gillmore on Saturday. I hope to see you all there. The Gillmore is one of the best places for any car person and it's a great way to support the Air Cooled Gathering.

I'm looking for some ideas for Midwest Meets in 2018. It is not that hard.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Gillmore in June.

Dean Dorholt
Aura Vincit
(612)803-0836



T-Shirt Logo

PLANES, TRAINS, & AUTOMOBILES
Hosted by
Rand Patterson & Carolyn Gershemer

This was the theme of the Midwest Region Fall Meet held in Troy, Ohio, September 15-17. 45 people from 13 states gathered for three days of touring through the Ohio countryside on Franklin-friendly roads. It was noteworthy that of 212 total miles, "main highways" were utilized for only 12 miles in rural areas and many complemented on the quality of the directions.

Thursday, the group heads west to Greenville to tour the KitchenAid factory and the local Garst Museum, with "bookend" stops at Bears Mill, a private car collection and Greenville Falls. The morning coffee stop was at Bears Mill, an operating 160-year old water powered mill where milling demonstration was given. The group then proceeded to the KitchenAid factory for a tour which belied the belief that "nothing is manufactured in the U.S. anymore," especially when observing a section running a product line **brought back** on shore.

Lunch on our own followed by a visit to the Garst Museum, an outstanding museum highlighting the rich history of the area. Of particular note were sections devoted to Annie Oakley, Lowell Thomas and the 18th century period.

Our 70-mile day wrapped up with a stop at a private car collection featuring diverse machines from the brass era to a diesel-powered Chevette (who knew!). The high point of the stop were the rides provided by our host's 10-year old son Nash (check out "1909 Brush Runabout" on you tube).

Friday was our long 90-mile run. Headed for Urbana, we made a first stop at the WACO Air Museum in Troy. Another excellent museum, it features two hangers of aviation historic artifacts and vintage WACO aircraft manufactured in Troy by the Weaver Aircraft Company. WACO was the Boeing of its day and produced more civil aircraft

2016 Midwest Fall Meet (Cont'd)

than any other manufacturer in the 1920s and early 1930s. We had the added bonus of seeing some of these beautiful planes coming in for a weekend fly-in.

After a 47 mile run to Urbana, we again had lunch on our own. En route, tourists were directed to take note of a notorious historical event which occurred in the southeast corner of Jefferson and Main Streets in New Carlisle. On June 10, 1933, John Dillinger made off with \$10,600 of the National Banks's money in his first bank robbery. Things were much quieter at the time of our visit to town.

After lunch, the group visited the Champaign Aviation Museum, which houses seven vintage aircraft including an airworthy B-25 Mitchell bomber. The B-25 was utilized on Doolittle's raid on Tokyo in April 1942. However, the most extraordinary "item" in the museum is the construction of the "Champaign Lady" B-17. The potentially overwhelming restoration of a vintage automobile pales before the restoration of a World War II bomber!

On our way out of town, we were treated to Mr. Robert McConnell's collection of beautiful race cars and memorabilia. The machinery ranged from a 1911 Stoddard-Dayton of the type used an Indianapolis pace car, up through the great "roadster" era to more contemporary racers. Mr. McConnell provided a talk about the cars and the people associated with them, which made them fairly come alive.

In spite of a very full day of touring, the gang gathered for hospitality after dinner to "kick tires" well into the evening.

Our final day was a short run of 52 miles. While we were favored with nice weather for two days, we contended with a bit of rain on Saturday but pressed on with grim determination! Our day started with a stop at the Glazier Pattern & Coach Works. Gracious hospitality was provided by our hosts Mr. Steve Glazier and his son, Seth, and wife Katie who nearly stole the show with a tray of delicious cookies! Mr. Glazier is a master pattern maker "descended from a long line of pattern makers and foundry owners dating back to the 1890's. For over 30 years, he has applied these techniques to the building of specialized patterns as well as re-coaching and detailing of fine automobiles,"

including Chrysler Town & Country models and various "Woody" station wagons. Mr. Glazier gave an illuminating presentation of the processes used in his work. It was a wonderful opportunity to have the experience of observing such craftsmanship.

The group proceeded to Bradford, Ohio. Bradford was at one time a major terminal and junction on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Today, all that remains is the operator's control tower. Commemorating this legacy, the community has created a museum featuring well organized exhibits of the town's railroad history.

Departing Bradford for lunch in Covington, our tourists gathered for lunch at Buffalo Jack's Tavern. Although a selection of sandwiches were offered, the vast majority ordered the signature buffalo burger. Pretty tasty! The day at Covington wrapped up with a shop tour of D&D Classic restoration. D&D offers full restoration as well as maintenance for prosaic models up to super-classic vehicles. Of singular interest was the design studio work and metal forming shop. Our "master of ceremonies" was Mr. Mike Ison and his tour was as entertaining as it was informative.

The meet activities wrapped up Saturday evening with more good food at La Piazza Restaurant downtown Troy. After dinner, Regional President Dorholt conducted our regional meeting and Mr. Jack Stang enticed with a presentation of plans for their Louisiana Toure next April. Later a few stalwarts held forth at the hotel for a "turn out the lights" hospitality finale. That is one of the genuine pleasures of the regional events—the smaller groups permit the opportunities to renew old friendships and make new ones.



2016 Midwest Fall Meet (Cont'd)

11 Franklins at the Meet

1932 163 Convertible Coupe--
Sandy & Betty Bennett
1928 12-B Victoria Brougham —Bill Eby
1919 9-B Touring—Jim & Therese Eby
1932 163 Coupe—Randy & Loretta Fusco
1925 10-C Touring—Bouvard & Trillian Hostika
1926 11-A Oxford Sedan—Bob & Darla Metro
1929 Series 1 Touring--Rand & Carolyn Patterson
1929 135 Sport Sedan--Dennis & Linda Radford
1924 10-C--Jim & Debra Reed
1928 12-A Sedan--Wayne & Janice Smith
1930 145 Victoria Brougham--
Phil & Pam Weisenbarger

Other Members in Attendance

Cathy & Roy Canfield
Dean & Cinda Dorholt
Greg Drufke
Ralph & Karen Gack
Marvin & Jeanette Gage
Jeff, Joan & Eric Hassler
Nancy & Lee Nelson
Roy Nelson
Sue & Sinclair Powell
Dan Russell
Jack & Mary Stang
Dan & Nancy Tomczak
Hazel & Jim Wade

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A) Call to Order: President Dean Dorholt Began the meeting by thanking our hosts, Rand Patterson and Carolyn Greshemer.

B) Recognition: Attending a Midwest Meet for the first time: Jim and Therese Eby, Redington Beach, FL; Wayne and Janice Smith, Palmyra, NY. **Brought their Franklin to the meet:** Sandy & Betty Bennett, Bill Eby, Jim & Therese Eby, Randy & Loretta Fusco, Bob & Darla Metro, Rand Patterson & Carolyn Greshemer, Dennis & Linda Radford, Jim & Debbie Reed, Wayne & Janice Smith, Phil & Pam Weisenbarger, and Bouvard Hosticka brought the new Gillmore Collection car. **Drove their Franklin to the Meet:** Jim & Therese Eby, Phil & Pam Weisenbarger. **Drove their Franklin the Furthest:** Jim and Therese drove about 175 miles from Goshen, IN. Then, after the meet, Jim and Therese continued driving the Franklin to their

home in Florida. Including miles during the meet, they drove their Franklin a grand total of 1500 miles! Congratulations to them! **Traveled the furthest to attend the Meet:** Ralph & Karen Gack drove about 1300 miles from Ft. Myers, FL. Honorable mention: Jack and Mary Stang drove from Hammond, LA.

C) Host Report - Rand Patterson: 11 Franklins, 46 people attended from 13 states FL, IL, IN, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NY, NC, OH, PA, VA. Rand thanked all for coming and gave special thanks to Carolyn. (Read Rand's complete report in this issue.)

D) Secretary's Report: **1)** Joan wishes to extend an apology for her mistake in the spring Franklin Line. She did not abbreviate Tom & Barb Chandler's story as mentioned in the Secretary's report. **2)** Total Midwest Region membership is **119** (revised Oct. 9). Newest members are Brian & Julie Johnson from Brighton, MI; The Russell family from Williamsport, MD - Dan, Anne, Samantha and Andrew; Bruce & Joy Feuerstein, Belding, MI; Mike Volz, New Carlisle, OH. There are 4 more new HHFC members who live in our Midwest area (revised 10/2016). A welcome letter and an invitation to join the Region has been/will be sent to them.

E) Treasurer's Report: **1)** Balance as of 10/9 is \$1,258.04. **2)** Expenses since the last meet totaled \$70.48 for printing and mailing The Line. Thanks to Hazel for finding a reasonable printer. Thank you Jim and Hazel for your donation of miscellaneous expenses related to The Line. **3)** Reminder: This is the year we do an addendum to the Region Directory. An update form and membership renewal will come in the next Franklin Line. If your information is current and correct, just send dues. If you have changes, send the form along with dues.

F) Old Business: Dean mentioned a previous discussion - Region members wanting Franklin merchandise available at Midwest Meets. Since it was determined to be a complicated issue, he asked members for their input on a Midwest Region logo for shirts. Now he is working with a commercial artist to create a logo, embroidered locally with a catalogue available and phone orders accepted. More information at a later date, (Secretary's note/opinion: Dean and Cinda wore some of the embroidered sample shirts during the meet.

2016 Midwest Fall Meet (Cont'd)

They looked sharp!)

G) Midwest Region News: **1) Hazel Wade**, Franklin Line Editor, reported "Good News" - Jim Reed will feature his car for an article in the next Line. If you have any pictures of this meet and/or a picture of Jim, Debbie and/or their Franklin, email them to Hazel at hjwade29@att.net. The deadline is October 17. **2) Roy Nelson** has a 1957 letter from Cliff Boram to all Franklin owners. Since Cliff started our Region, this is part of our history and Roy will submit this letter to The Line editor.

H) Other Business: **1) HHFC President, Bill Eby**, stated that topics of concern at the HHFC board meetings include a 10% drop in membership - why and how to remedy - keeping in mind that we, as dedicated members, are the best ambassadors to promote our club; and the scholarship fund - how to support recipients and keep them interested in the club. **2) Midwest Regional Director, Jeff Hasslen**, reported that "a beautiful 10C Touring was bought by Bouvard and donated to the Collection." (Applause for Bouvard Hosticka.) The Collection now has a horse collar and is looking for an Olympic and a '29. We should support the Collection because it is a tool to increase membership. People do come through our exhibit and then join the club. **3) Phil Weisenbarger, FACHC Chair**, reported The Collection sold 3 cars and there are 4 or more new members because of the Collection.

I) Future Meets: **1) Jack and Mary Stang** will host a **Louisiana Toure' April 20 - 22, 2017**. Jack reported lodging will be at Hampton Inn, **Hammond, LA** (NW of New Orleans). Points of interest include alligator farm, wholesale nursery, seafood dinner with crawfish/walleye and many other sites. Call Jack and Mary now to get on the registration list. Please make motel reservations as early as possible because there is a jazz festival one week after their tour. Check the Franklin website for more information. Jack also thanked the club members for their calls and cards regarding his health issues. He is thankful for the care and concern. **2) Spring Meet, June 15-17, 2017**, hosted by **Bill Eby**, in and around **Hickory Corners, MI**. Lodging will be Holiday Inn Express. We will tour the scenic roads on Thursday and Friday and attend the Air Cooled Gathering on Saturday at the Gilmore Museum. **3) Fall Meet 2017**, hosted by Doug Rohde, **Manitowoc, WI**.

Please contact Dean, Joan, Bill or Jeff if you are interested in hosting a meet.

J) Other Announcements: **1)** Jim and Debbie Reed celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary at the Region banquet - with all of us! Congratulations! **2)** Lee Nelson announced that Region member Bill Fields has moved to Palmer, Alaska. **3)** Rand told of a letter he received from two fellows who were young men at the 1954 Trek. Their father got the long distance driver award that year (from Ohio) and they had the opportunity to meet H.H. Franklin. **4)** Our group applauded and thanked Rand for all the "wonderful directions". **5)** Rand, in turn, gave a heartfelt thank you to a very capable and "generous friend who wishes to remain anonymous." (But we all know who that is!) **6)** Members asked Rand, "What WAS at the corner of Jefferson and Main?"

Answer: The first bank John Dillinger robbed on June 10, 1933! (Nat'l Bank, New Carlisle, OH)
7) Joan Hasslen read a Christmas poem written by Mary Rose Hufnagel, a very creative and long time Region member from Lockport, NY. All in rhyme, it told of Franklin enthusiasts preparing for and enjoying a Region meet included Christmas and New Year greetings. It was suggested this poem be printed in this issue or an upcoming issue of The Franklin Line.

K) Meeting adjourned: Thanks again to Rand and Carolyn. Safe travels to all.

Joan Hasslen Region Secretary

ATTENTION REGION MEMBERS

1) Midwest Region officers are at the end of their 3 year term. According to the by-laws, members need to vote in new or re-elect the current officers. Voting will take place at the June 2017 meet.

2) In this issue: Region Renewal/Directory Update form. Please return by Dec. 31.

A FRANKLIN FAMILY

BY

JIM REED



The Finkenbinder's and The Reed's



Sandy Bennett delivering the Franklin to its new owners (Jim and Debbie Reed)



The Franklin at its new home

Several years ago while I was at work, I was listening to a conversation about how neat a car gathering at Rockford, Illinois was. My boss was telling everyone that he was invited to go and I found it very enjoyable. Time passed and my boss, Alan Finkenbinder and his wife Liane had purchased a Franklin. Work ensued and eventually he was driving his car everywhere. I had never even heard of a Franklin before. But when I saw the car at a local car show that he attended, I was intrigued by the styling, poise and quality of this car. I was given a ride in the car and it sort of reminded me of the first time I rode in an airplane as I knew then that this was the type of car I could only dream to have. He opened the side cowl door and to my amazement there sat the prettiest engine I have ever seen. Air cooled, I couldn't believe it as Alan explained the workings of the engine. It so resembled an aircraft engine with its beautiful finned cylinders and cast aluminum block; I was in love with the engineering. So simple but yet so advanced for its time.

The invitation to the meet at "The Gilmore" by Alan and Liane came at a bad time with family issues and working two jobs at the time. I procrastinated for quite a while but after talking it over with my wife Debbie, we decided that we deserved a break. Alan loaded up his car and us up in Morris and away we went. The event was wonderful with many places to visit, well planned out and millions of tree lined winding Michigan roads to drive on. We had a blast and we will remember that meet forever. From the moment we unloaded the car, we started to meet other members of the club. I never really thought about it at the time but looking back it somewhat resembled a family reunion of some sort. When you arrive, club members curiously glance at your trailer, your tow vehicle and, of course, your car. Everyone is reacquainting and we talk in the parking lot about how our trip was and how we are doing. You start to relax after the drive to the hotel and people greet you with a handshake, or a hug. It's nice to see friends again after being apart for awhile. Everyone gathered and enjoyed that moment. We began the process as newbies of meeting everyone as well as people getting to know us. As with every passing mile, my brain kept nudging me to fall more and more in love with these cars. I have owned many cars although not big loud muscle cars but some vey nice original 60's and 70's drivers. My son and I keep them nice and we struggle to ensure they stay as close to original as possible. The originality of these cars as well as the amount of miles they are driven really drew me to the club among other things. These are not weekend wash and wax wonders, but rather beautiful driven daily collectible Franklins. I love it! A club that drives original air cooled cars. They use them like they were meant to be and everyone seems like one big happy family, this is too good to be true. I knew I would love to own one someday and my wife

A Franklin Family (Cont'd)

agreed. I was somewhat concerned to learn as I spoke with various people that these cars are not an easy catch. Not as abundant as the Ford Model A (how many times do you say, “no it’s not a Model A.”) Oh well, never being one to sit idle, we began our quest in search of a car that we could call our own. As fate would have it, we met Sandy and Betty Bennett, and during our conversation I mentioned how much I wanted to purchase a car for my family. What a nice couple and what a beautiful car they are driving. Not thinking anything of our conversation with them, we continued on our meet. Oh the wonderful sights, the smell of exhaust and a slight hint of burning oil, we drove around the countryside. The meet ended, we loaded up and headed for home and we were driving south, I finally realized how important not only the cars were but the people. How many different states, careers, cars and personalities were represented yet everyone met as one big family, The Franklin Family!

I believe it was over a month and I received a phone call from Sandy and to our surprise, he was calling to offer his 1924 10C and we were absolutely floored. Our quest was short lived and the car was destined for Illinois. The car is beautiful, it was well maintained by Sandy and Betty over the years giving their family miles of enjoyment. Now it has given my family several years of enjoyment. I was astonished when Sandy offered to bring the car to us, to visit our town and see for himself just where the Franklin will call home.

You know after he left town, that feeling that I had in Michigan crossed my mind again. It was not about the family the car was going to. My son Jake and daughter Katie ride and drive the car, (my wife Debbie I think is a permanent passenger) but the point is that Sandy took the interest to promote the club, sell me a car and to invite us into the family, “The Franklin Family”! As much as I know, it is a car club and without the cars there is no club and I truly believe that the number of cars driven needs to increase to keep the club healthy. I also know that no matter what, the sincere love for these cars will always keep everyone together like one big family.



Jim and Debbie driving their car at the meet in Ohio. (Notice Debbie is a passenger!)

Upcoming Midwest Meets

**Spring 2017 (June 15-17), Hickory Corners, MI
Hosted by Bill Eby**

Fall 2017, Manitowoc, WI, Hosted by Doug Rohde

Louisiana Toure’--April 20 - 22, 2017 Hosted by Jack & Mary Stang



The New Gilmore Collection - 1925 10-C Touring



Rand Patterson & Carolyn Gershemer - Hosts of Midwest Meet

Franklin Christmas Poem

By Mary Rose Hufnagel
December 2014

T'was the night before the meet.....And all thru the garages.....the Franklins all polished, so clean and so neat....The bolts and the wrenches all in a row.....to be put in the tool box ready to go....When out on the road arose such a clatter---- The 12B had a major motor matter! Out came the bolts, oil and the wrenches...and the Franklin guys jumped off the benches. They tightened and turned, gave a pat to the hood...This old Franklin is still very good! Down the road they all went to put on some miles...Heading for ice cream and all full of smiles. After a while, they all went to dinner---at a Midwest meet, no one gets any thinner!.....And so our dear Franklin friends, we wish to tell---keep'em air cooled, and running so well--- A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.....many blessing from above....Have a great year filled with grace and love.

John and Mary Rose XX



On the Road Again



Bradford Railroad Museum



Bill Eby getting a ride by 10 year old Nash



Visit to Ohio Waterfall

HHFC Midwest Region
C/O Hazel Wade
25 N. 31st Street
Belleville, IL 62226

To view additional photos, go to www.franklincar.org



Waco Air Museum



Champaign Aviation Museum- B-25 Bomber
utilized on Doolittle's raid on Tokyo



Glazier Pattern & Coach Works

