This document (hopefully) will provide some assistance to you so that you can browse the Franklin clubs Q&A forum. You can use the forum in a variety of ways.

Orientation

But first a little orientation. Prior to 2013 the club website had Q&A's that were submitted to the webmaster, forwarded to Tom or Paul, answered by them, and the answer then posted on the club's Q&A page. In the forum process begun in 2013, club members (or, well, any Franklin owner) with a question about their car posts their question directly on the forum, and then any other registered forum user can post an answer. Then, if someone else has a clarification, expansion, or correction they reply to the reply. And so on. Each time someone puts something on the forum, it is called a post. All the comments or replies to the original post creates what is called a thread. Each thread has a title that conveys the topic of the thread. The Franklin forum is housed within the AACA forum. That has a lot of benefits for the Franklin club, and it means that anyone browsing the AACA forum can see and post on the Franklin forum. To further confuse you, there are also sub-forums that can be established. Within the Franklin forum, there is a sub-forum that is used for 'For Sale' items. The objective for that is to keep the discussions about things for sale (or needed to buy) separate from the discussions on maintenance and repair; hopefully making the forum less confusing. (For Sale items can also be posted on the Franklin web, which is probably more effective). So think of the forum as a hierarchy, which is organized kind of like this (using random topics merely for illustrative purposes):

- 1. Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) main web site.
 - 1. AACA Forum
 - 1. Buick Forum
 - 2. Chevy Forum
 - 3. Franklin Forum
 - 1. Ouestion about brakes
 - 1. Answer about brakes
 - 2. Another answer about brakes
 - 3. Correction of answer 1 about brakes
 - 2. Electrical problem question
 - 1. Comment about having the same problem
 - 2. Answer to electrical problem
 - 3. Query of original questioner about the problem
 - 4. Another answer
 - 5 etc
 - 3. etc... (More Q&A's and discussion threads)
 - 4. Sub-Forum with items for sale or needed cars/parts
 - 1. Car for sale
 - 2. Horn for sale
 - 3. etc...
 - 4. Studebaker forum
 - 5. more forums, etc.....

So that gives you an idea of how the forum is organized. Finally, the forum is monitored by Steve Braverman, our club forum moderator. He assures that all of the posts on the forum are relevant and keeps spam and other inappropriate material off of the forum.

Browsing

OK, your next decision is how you want to use the forum. If you wish to just browse other folks questions and answers, or browse the 'For Sale' items, then you don't need to become a registered user

of the forum. This is how many of us used the old Q&A pages on the club web site. This is not a very organized way to view the information, but if you value the serindipity of browsing through the posts to see what might be interesting, this is your best bet. The posts are organized cronologically based on the most recent answer of the posts. Therefore, if you browse often, you may feel you are reading the same thing over and over again. To just browse, click on the 'Read Discussions' link on the Franklin club web site. You will be taken to the Franklin forum where you can click on any thread that looks interesting.



Searching

A search function within the forum will be helpful to both registered and un-registered users who don't want to just browse. Many of us are familiar with searching for words or phrases on the pre-2013 Q&A's using your web browsers 'Find' function. The AACA forum has two searching approaches. One is a fairly simple search and another is an advanced search. If you use the simple search, you type in one or more terms (like Tires or Plating or Stromberg) and you will get a list of every thread in which that term occurs. There are two 'Search' fields that you can use, one searches the entire AACA forum (e.g. looks through the posts for every make of car on the AACA site), the other field searches just the Franklin posts. If you type in a simple term you get a ton of hits (e.g. searching the entire AACA forum for 'tires' and you get over 500 hits - not that helpful). However, searching the entire AACA forum may be helpful depending on what you are looking for. More than likely you will want to search just the Franklin forum. Click here to see how that works.

Advanced Searching

The advanced search can be more helpful. Even an unregistered user can narrow your search to just the Franklin forum, narrow to terms used in just the titles, and not the whole post, certain dates, and other forum attributes. Sometimes the person who posts something on the forum uses 'Tags' to help with searching, and you can try using them. You can also filter for posts by certain users if you are looking for something by a particular person. If you would like to see how to do this click here.

Options as a Registered User

There are other things that you can do with the forum once you become a registered user. One function that is used by a lot of folks because of its efficiency is to have the forum send you an e-mail whenever there is a posting made on the forum. This function is called a subscription. Within each email is a hyperlink, and if you click it, you will be taken to the thread that is new or updated for you to review. The subject of the thread is in the email, so you can decide whether or not to even click on it depending on how interesting it sounds.

The other things that you can do as a registered user is to post questions, put a for sale item on the forum, or reply to an existing post.

Register as a User

Before we explore how to get emails or post something you first need to register as a forum user. <u>So click here to see how to register</u>.

Subscriptions

<u>Click here</u> to tell the forum to send you emails when there is an entry in the forum.

Making a Post on the forum

The benefit of having a Franklin forum is your ability to post a question or make a comment so you can get help or feedback from other members. Making a post is easy. You will need to give your post a title, which should be a concise description of your topic. Most forum users will decide whether or not to look at a post depending on what the title is, so make it descriptive. 'Carb question' may not get a lot of interest, but 'How do you set the idle on an OE-1 carb' will probably give you better results. The title you choose will be the beginning of a thread with your question on the top, and other posts will follow. You will have room for a good long question. You can put tags in your question to help folks that are using forum searchs; it's optional, but may be helpful to get folks to look at your post. You have the option of attaching a photo to your post, too. Click here to see how to make a post in the forum.

Replying to Posts

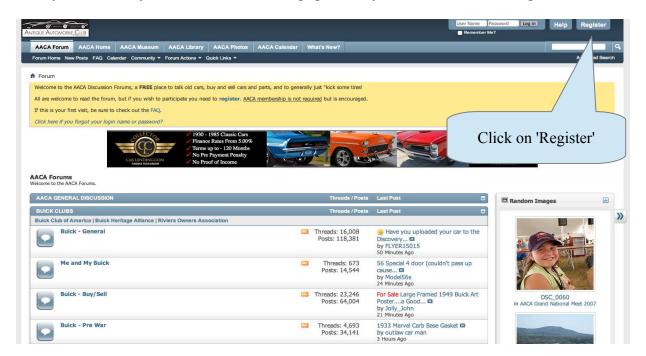
One last option we will cover is how to make a response to a post on the forum. Replying is easy. We have covered how to get to the forum, so we will assume that you have gotten to the forum, found a thread, and want to make a reply. You can reply at the end of the thread; that is, after the last post. Or you can reply to one of the posts in the middle of the thread. Both work the same way. Click here to see how to make a reply in a thread of posts.

We hope that you use and enjoy using the new Franklin club forum.

To register yourself with the Franklin Q&A forum that is housed within the AACA's forum click on the link on the Franklin club web site in the Franklin Forum section (as we saw above). Or you can start at the AACA's main web page (www.aaca.org):



Either way, it will take you to the Forum's main page. Here you want to click on 'Register.'

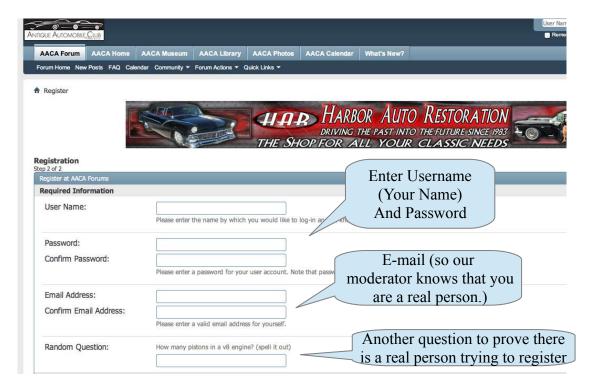


OK, You are on your way now...

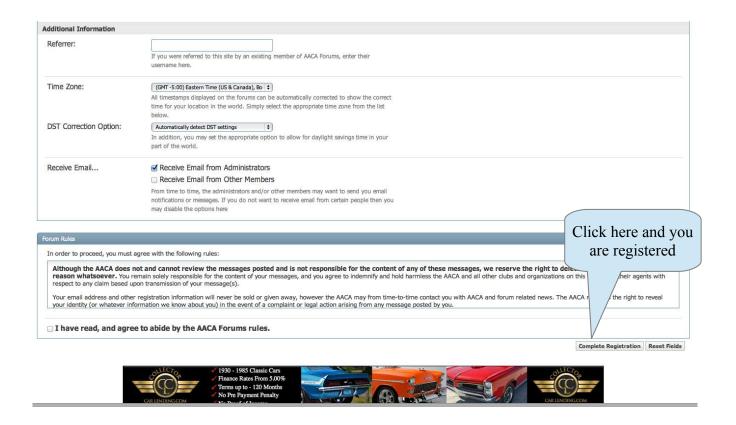
Next, for some reason they want your birthday. Go figure. So this page will come up next and you enter your birthday then click on 'Proceed.'



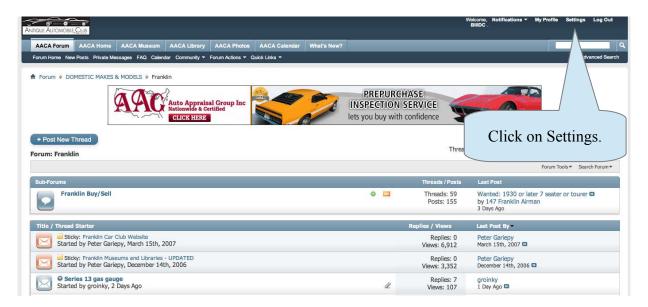
Now we are getting to the meat of the matter. The next thing that you will be asked is for a username, and password. The username is the name that others will see if they are looking at stuff on the forum. Password, well, we all know we have too many of these, but you need one more here. You will use your username and password to get into the forum to ask a question, answer a question, make a comment, or post a 'For Sale' item. Although you can use any old made up user name, we would appreciate it if you used your real name, or something close to it, so others will know who you are. So this is what the top of the next screen will look like:



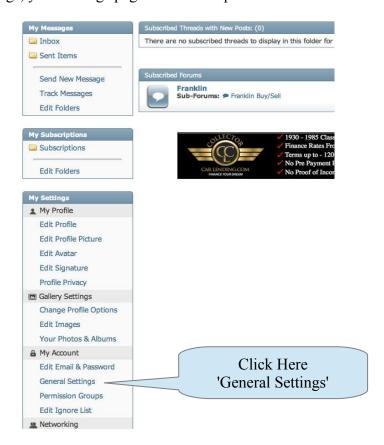
The bottom of that screen asks a few more questions to help the forum operate, and whether or not you want other users of the forum to send you email messages (if you select this, users can send you email from the forum, but they do not see your email address when they do it according to the AACA FAQ pages.) Finally you have to agree to the AACA forum rules.



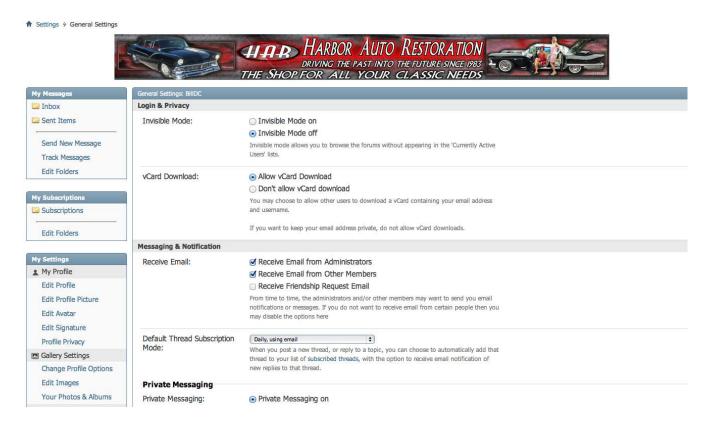
Once you are registered, you should review your settings to assure that any privacy concerns you have are reflected in the forum. Once you are logged in, click on the 'Settings' option in the upper right corner of the forum web page.



When you click on Settings, your settings page will come up. From there click on General Settings:



Next your general settings page will pop up. Select the options most appropriate for you.



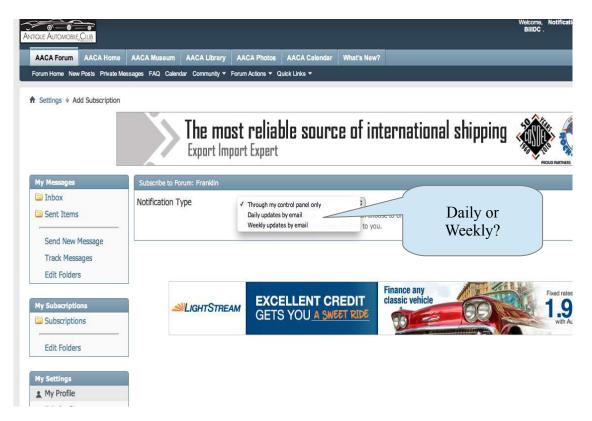
There are other options to explore now that you are a registered user that you can browse at your convenience. One thing you might want to do is to click on the 'Edit Profile Picture' to put a picture of your Franklin in your profile. That picture will then appear in any posts that you make in the forum.

<u>Click here to return back to the top</u> of this help document to explore other options now that you are registered.

Registering for email notifications is easy. Once you have registered in the AACA forum, you should log in, and navigate to the Franklin forum. You will go to a page like the one below. Click on the 'Forum Tools' link. A drop down will appear and you should click on the Subscription line:

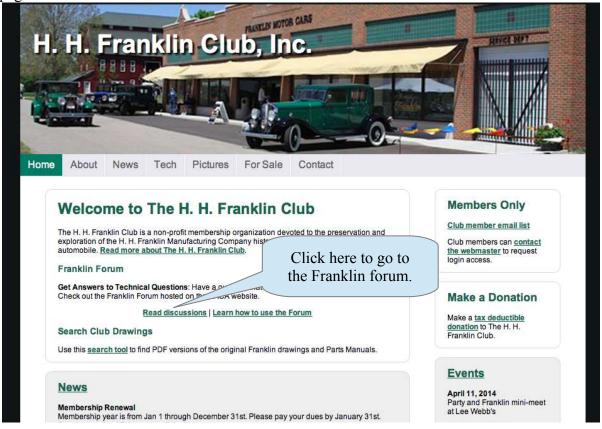


The next page gives you a couple options of how to be notified. Click on Daily or Weekly as you prefer.

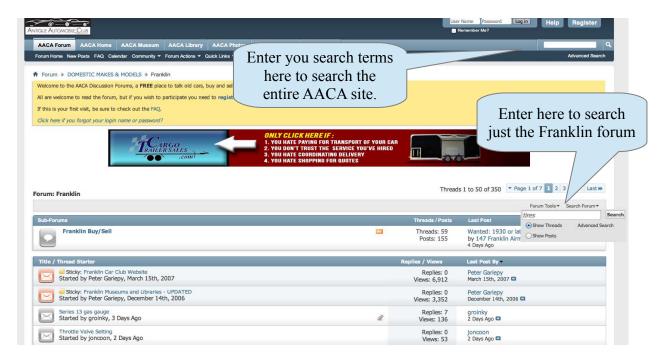


And that is it. Watch your inbox as changes are posted by other users. <u>Click here to return to the top</u> of this help document to explore further options.

To search the entire AACA forum or just the Franklin forum, the process is the same whether you are a registered user or not. Navigate to the forum by clicking on the forums link on the Franklin club web page:



Once the forum page comes up you will see two search fields, one is for the entire AACA forum, the other restricts the search to just the Franklin posts. Enter one or a few words to describe the topic you wish to see.



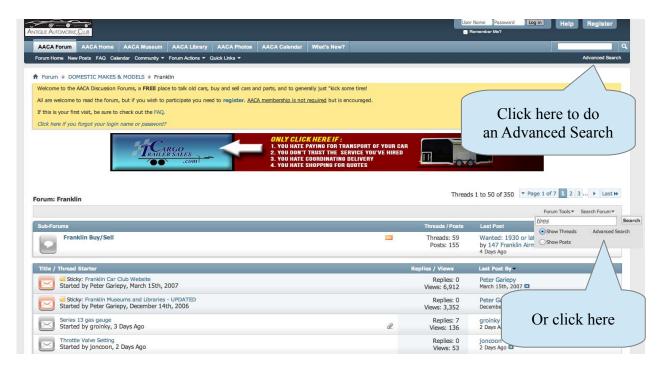
The results of your search will show up as one or more threads that you can explore to see posts that used your search term.

Click here to return to the top of this help document to explore further options in our forum.

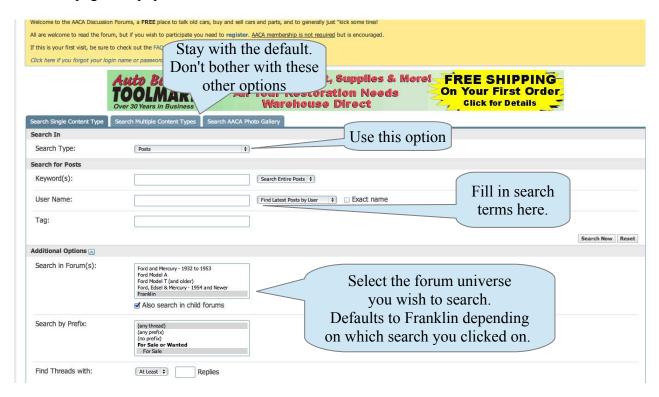
To do an advanced search, go to the Franklin forum by clicking on the forum link on the club web page:



That will bring up this familiar web page on the Franklin forum. You can click on either of the 'Advanced Search' links. The search page that comes up is the same, with one exception. If you click the lower 'Advanced Search' button it will default to searching only the Franklin forum.

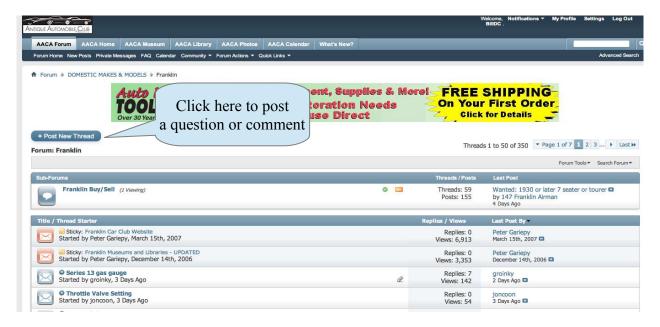


The search page that pops in looks like this:

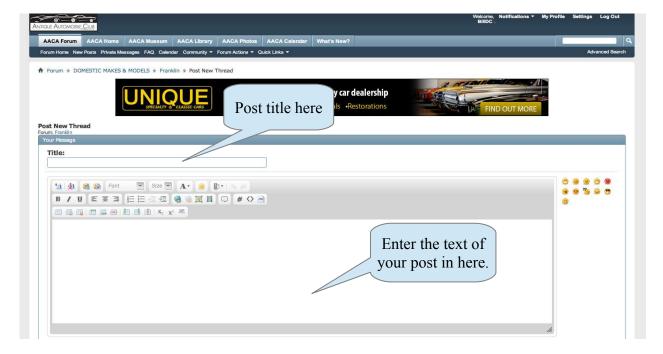


Good luck with your searching. <u>Click here to return to the top</u> of this help document to explore other forum options.

It is easy to make a post, We have already covered how to get into the forum in other places in this help document, so go to the forum and click on 'Post a New Thread.'



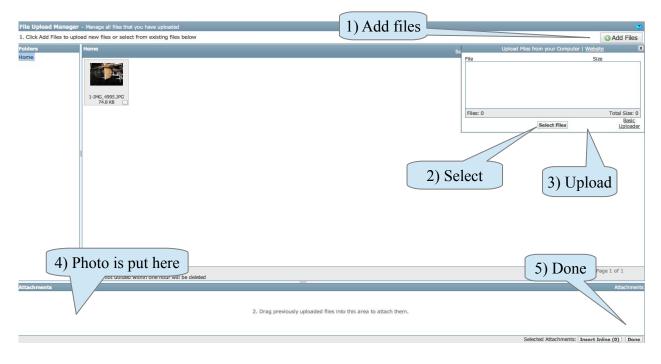
Your next screen will have fields to fill in for your post. This is a picture of the top half of the screen. Enter your title, and post your question.



Once you have entered your post, the bottom of this screen has a few more options to choose. At your option you can enter some tags to make finding your post easier for others. Usually you would leave most of the defaults, except to add a photo, and/or to tell the forum to email any of the responses people make to your post. Click on 'Submit...' when you are done with your post.

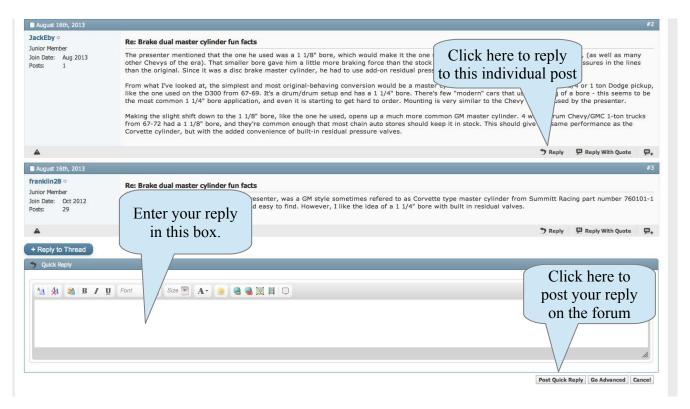


If you don't want to attach a photo, your post has been submitted. Sit back and see the advice roll in. Click here to go back to the top of this help document and see more options. If you want to attach a photo, and had clicked on the attachments button above, you will see the screen below. Click on 'Add Files', and another small window will open. Click on 'Select Files' and you will be taken to your computer's filing system. Select a file. When you have selected a file an 'Upload' button will appear. Click on 'Upload' and you will see a thumbnail of your photo down in the attachments section at the bottom of the screen. Click on 'Done.'



Now you have a photo with your post. Click here to return to the top of this help document.

Making a reply to a post within a thread is easy. Just click on 'Reply.' You can reply at the end of the thread, or after a post in the middle of the thread. There are more advanced options for replying, but we'll cover the easy way here. When you are in a thread, it might look like the screen below. There is a dialog box open at the bottom of the thread. To make a reply there, just enter your response, and click on 'Post Quick Reply.' If you click on 'Reply' in the middle of the thread, a dialog box will open up there for your response. And again enter your reply and click on 'Post Quick Reply.' You probably should not click on 'Reply with Quote,' that makes the thread a little redundant.



Congratulations, you are now a Franklin forum power user. <u>Click here to return to the top</u> of this help document to review other forum options.