

H.H. Franklin Club
August 9, 2011 Board Meeting Notes

President Marv Gage opened the meeting at 3:08 PM

Roll Call

Present:

President Marv Gage, Vice President Bob Harrison, Secretary Janet Kilmer, Treasurer Mark Chaplin, Board Members Tom Annas, Lloyd Davis, Dick Moffat, Lee Schopmeier, Bill Eby, Loretta Fusco, William Joline, Bill Woodcock, Bill Fields, Keith Kilmer, Dave Roberts and Karl Nippert. Also present was Brendan Hogan, the Mid-West Regional Director.

Absent: Past President, Bob Amon.

President Marv announced there is a quorum present.

A moment of silence was observed for the deaths of Robert Larrabee (5/8/11), Robert Feeley (5/24/11), Bob O'Mally (Oct 2010) and Sandy & Betty Bennett's son, Al Bennett III (8/2/11).

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting by Bill Fields, seconded by Loretta Fusco, and approved.

Treasurer's Report By Mark Chaplin

Mark noted that this is the time of year not many revenues are received and expenses are high.

We have a balance of pledges receivable, from donors, which is expected to be paid according to the terms of the individual donor's pledges. These are not reflected in our financial statements until they are received.

Assets have increased, from the prior year, due to the completion of the Collection building and Exhibitory, investment income and the receipt of pledges for the Collection at Hickory Corners.

Motion made to accept and file the Treasurer's Report for audit by Bill Fields. Bill Eby seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mark gave a breakdown of what the membership fee covers. \$4.62 FSS, \$14.00 ACN, \$2.00 Liability Insurance, \$1.30 Membership, \$1.88 Storage Facility in Manlius, \$1.41 Other (office supplies, phone conferencing system and board meeting supplies.)

Lee Schopmeier inquired if our club is currently a member of the Cazenovia Chamber of Commerce. Mark has not received or paid a bill to them. Lee will visit the Chamber's office this week.

Sinclair Powell asked about staffing at the Gilmore. He thought this would be a way to promote our club and educate the guests about the Franklin Cars. Bob Harrison indicated the staff is currently being trained. He will follow up to be sure this is being done.

Merchandise Report By Loretta Fusco

Good News..... Sales as of 11:00 this morning, \$4320.50. This total includes merchandise \$3,596.00, literature \$474.50, and posters \$250.00. Sales have exceeded expenses of merchandise at the trek.

The Gilmore is continually late sending quarterly reports and they currently owe us \$539.00. Loretta will continue to contact them.

Loretta brought the dash plaques from the air cooled meet back from Gilmore and does have them for sale. She also brought some other misc items back from the gift shop; they have been selling, including the umbrellas!

Motion made to accept the Merchandise Report by Bill Woodcock. Bill Eby seconded and it was approved.

Club Projects: By Bob Harrison

We now have 33 club projects. Two items are currently out of stock; the red inner lenses for 1930 S145 and the 12" Twilight lens. There are no immediate plans to make the Twilight lens as the mold is damaged and Bob has not been able to find anyone who will mold new lenses.

5 of the projects are being supplied by individuals. These items are being made available to club members through the Projects Program. There is no cost to the club for these items. These items are identified with the individual's initials at the end of the project number. For example, FCP-25DP is a fan bolt kit supplied by Dick Pratt. Sales continue at a steady rate throughout the year.

Bob is looking into reproducing S10 bumper / head light brackets, the S11 License plate tail light lens, and a few other small items.

A Motion to accept Bob's report was made by Keith Kilmer, seconded by Lloyd Davis and approved.

ACN By Chuck & Brian

They are focusing on the 60th Anniversary Issue. Bouvard Hosticka is currently writing a piece for the next ACN. They welcome any contributions for their next issue, including stories of the past and images. They want to also concentrate on the next 60 years of the club.

They asked to increase the number of pages included if they have the information to fill the pages. If they don't have the material, they won't expand. Brian felt the increase would be around \$500.00.

A motion was made by Tom Annas and second by Bill Fields to allow the ACN Editors to increase the ACN by a few pages and add some color if they have the material to fill the pages.

A motion to accept their report was made by Loretta Fusco and second by Bill fields. All approved.

Bill Joline inquired if we promote the club through any publications. Bill noted it should be promoted as a pre-war air cooled automobile club. Discussion was positive. All air cooled automobiles would be welcome. Mark Chaplin suggested appointing a strategic planning committee to work on strategies to increase the membership base and possibly expanding the Charter of the Club in concert with its current Mission.

Bill Woodcock asked if there was a brochure that included an application for our club that could be distributed at our own local car shows and events. Marv appointed a committee to work on this project to be chaired by Bill Woodcock and to include Tex Sorrell, Bryan Wacker, and Art Einstein.

FSS

No Report.

Library: By Lloyd Davis

Lloyd has found another printer, Norm Madsen, one of our members! He is very pleased with the results.

Literature has been selling steadily.

Jim Stevenson from Nova Scotia loaned us the price list for the Northeast Genuine Service Parts for series 9 & 10. Lloyd had it copied at the Cazenovia College Book Store. He also had them print the Series 11 & 12 oil check chart.

Lloyd is digitizing as he goes along.

Motion to accept by Lee Schopmeier, Bill Joline seconded and it was approved.

Club Historian:

By Sinclair Powell

Motion to un-table Sinclair's book printing proposal from the April 2011 meeting was made by Bill Fields. Loretta Fusco seconded the motion and it was approved.

Sinclair reported that he has not looked into electronic printing options. He has looked at printing on demand and this does seem to be the most desirable area to pursue. He has talked to printers and Mark Chaplin. This seems to be the best option to explore. Sinclair will get more information in the next few weeks and have more cost estimates for the November Board meeting.

Club Events:

Bob Metro said the plans are coming along for this year's Trek and should be ready in about a week. That comment had everyone in stitches!!! Things have been going along pretty well. A few bumps. The total costs won't be finalized until a few weeks after the end of the Trek.

Plans will begin right away for next year's trek and if you have any suggestions or recommendations for next year, please see them.

Lloyd called for a round of applause for the great job they have done.

Marv noted the Corning Museum has donated an item for our auction the past few years and have come through again. They have sent another glass piece and it will be auctioned at the banquet. It will be on display at dinner time. Please look it over for bidding.

Motion to accept the Trek report was made by Lee Schopmeier. Tom Annas seconded and it was approved.

The Westrek will be June 17-22, 2012, in Kanab, Utah. This report was provided by Marlene Zimmerman. She also noted that a DVD is being shown in Hubbard this week. A sign-up sheet and some hand outs are available in Hubbard too. Marlene asked for the club to sanction the event.

A motion to sanction the Westrek was made by Bill Fields and seconded by Bill Woodcock, and it was approved.

Ralph Gack reported the Midwest meet sign-up sheet is also in Hubbard. The meet is Sept 7-10, 2011, in NJ. There will be 2 days of car touring and one day to visit NYC. The trip into NYC will be by bus and is to the Statue of Liberty and Stanton Island. See Pat Hogan for more information.

The Spring meet will be in Tipton, OH, and hosted by Pam & Bill Wiesenbarger. They are planning for around May 18, 2012.

The Fall meet will be in New Castle & Pittsburgh, PA. The meet will be co-hosted by Loretta & Randy Fusco and Sandy & Betty Bennett. Details will be shared soon.

A motion to approve those reports for events was made by Bill Fields. Keith Kilmer seconded the motion and it was approved.

Registrar: By Chet & Marlene Zimmerman

The new roster is out. Marlene has been asked many times how many cars the club knows of.... The Roster shows just over 2300 cars. Since publication, they have learned of a few more and of a few changes. A motion was made by Bill Fields to accept this report, second Bill Woodcock. Approved.

Membership: By Marv Gage

Ann Russell's report, as of July 22, 2011, stated there are currently 730 members. 34 of these members are international and 23 are new members.

Motion to accept the Membership report was made by Dick Moffatt, seconded by Keith Kilmer and approved.

Preservation By Jeff Hasslen

The Board voted to preserve drawing files a few years ago and digitally scan the drawings. All drawings are complete and are on a thumb drive. The drive includes drawings, cards and parts manuals. The cost was about \$18,000. Sarah Hood & Paul Beckinham, Webmasters, feel we can get this information onto our website in the near future. Jeff wants the information available to all club members. Thumb drives could be available for purchase for about \$100.00.

A motion was made by Mark Chaplin to make the thumb drives available for sale for \$100.00. Seconded by Lee Schopmeier. Paul is willing to take the orders, purchase the drives, and send them out. After much discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Jeff would like to set up a committee to include Bob Harrison and a few others to help with the finalizing of this thumb drive project. Jeff will advise Janet of the other members.

Bob Harrison made a motion for Jeff Hasslen to proceed with this project with our webmasters, Sarah & Paul, to get the information that has been scanned up onto the website and made available to members with a members only password and for Jeff to be authorized to form a committee to execute all steps to make the above happen and to include the sale of the complete set of drawings to members, as an option. The motion was second by Loretta and it was approved.

Gilmore Museum
Advisory Committee

By Bob Harrison

The Gilmore Franklin Automobile has been restored by Bob Kern and is now on permanent loan to us and is currently part of our display.

Bob Harrison and Arthur Einstein, along with Michael Spezia, re-arranged the display and lighting this past June. This was necessary because the 1911 racer went back to its owner. We also wanted to display the Gilmore Franklin as well as the Kudreiko and Schmidt Franklins that were donated last year. It is also good to mix things up a little so the display looks new.

All items in the collection have had accession numbers assigned to them. This completes the inventory of all items in the building. Pictures were taken of every item for our records.

We have worked out an agreement about the \$7,000 electric bill with Gilmore. A separate electric meter is now in place and will record all the electricity we use for the HVAC system which is our responsibility. Gilmore is responsible for the electricity cost for the lighting. Gilmore will record the amount of electricity we use this coming year for the HVAC system and charge us that same amount for the past year. As a show of good faith we have paid \$3,000 towards that future bill. We have had some failures to the HVAC system amounting to about \$700 in charges. Bob will ask Jeff Hasslen, who helped us obtain the equipment to contact the suppliers and see if we can get some reimbursement for these failures as the system is quite new and components should not have failed so early.

There was an ALL AIR Cooled Car event on June 18, 2011, at Gilmore. We had about 48 Air Cooled Cars in attendance including Randy Fusco's and Sandy Bennett's Franklins. Everyone in attendance seemed to have a good time. Because, we started planning and advertising this event quite late, we decided to keep it small and not spend much on the event. We were authorized to spend up to \$5,000. We spent only a few hundred dollars and our net profit was \$153.50. About ½ of the people in attendance had never been to the Gilmore before.

The gate proceeds for our weekend was \$4,928.00. After paying expenses, mainly Gilmore staff, our net proceeds was \$3,364.62.

We plan on repeating The All Air Cooled Car show on our gate weekend again next year and will start promoting it early so hopefully more people will attend and drive the gate proceeds up.

We are in the process of looking for a qualified volunteer to chair this event. The new Gilmore Visitors center is well underway and is expected to open this November, which

will coincide with starting year round operations at Gilmore. Our museum is now open 12 months a year.

Attendance is up slightly this year and is expected to surpass last year's attendance as there are several significant events planned for the next several months.

The Cadillac La Salle club's museum building design has been approved by the Gilmore board. Cadillac La-Salle club has raised \$600,000 towards their goal of \$2 million.

Arthur and Bob met with the Lincoln committee at Gilmore. They are zeroing in on the design of their building.

The Model A Ford group is also well under way with their fundraising and they have their design in hand.

It is interesting to note that at present, Gilmore has the highest number of paid attendance of any car museum in the country. It should grow significantly with all these new partners.

Gilmore has changed the name of their publication to "The Industry Standard". The Franklin Automobile collection building along with 6 Franklins are on the cover of the first edition. Bob circulated a copy for viewing. This picture on the cover and new name "The Industry Standard" says it all.

Art Einstein noted there is a movie corner at the museum. We have a few items that are played there and Tom Rasmussen was able to get a piece from Jay Leno to include in our movie corner.

Motion to accept Bob's report was made by Bill Joline, seconded by Dave Roberts and it was approved.

Web-Master

By Marv Gage

Visitor traffic is up 23% from last year. There have been over 4,000 visits per month. 13,268 different people visited in the past year. Viewers are looking at more pages per visit. The average viewed is 2.33 pages, which is up from 1.6 in the past. Other countries are visiting our site too for a total of 96 countries visiting. The most popular pages seem to be the Main Page, Items for Sale and Pictures.

Loretta mentioned there is some old merchandise for sale on the website. She will have Sarah & Paul remove it, as it is no longer in stock.

Motion to accept was made by Bill Joline. It was seconded by Bill Fields and approved.

Old Business:

Inventory of club goods still need to be sent to Janet. These are needed for year end reports.

New Business

New board members for office of January 1, 2012, are Dennis Egan, Randy Fusco, Tex Sorrell, and Jim Stevenson with Vincent (Terry) Fitch as an alternate.

Closing

A motion was made by Marv to close the meeting at 5:27 PM. Bill Joline seconded the motion and it was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Kilmer
Secretary

Trek Banquet Notes:

The Annual Auction totaled \$399.00 for the benefit of the club fund.

There was a framed collage of photos of Franklin noses donated by Jim Danielson. It sold for \$220.00 for the benefit of the museum fund.

The Corning Goblet, donated by The Corning Glass Museum, courtesy of Dan DeRusha, netted \$320.00 for the museum fund.

A week stay in a home on Cape Cod was donated by Peg & Ed Daly. The auction added \$800.00 to the museum fund.

The Boyer Report, compiled and presented by Bill Woodcock, indicated there were 75 Franklins and 1 Knox in attendance.

Dot & Arnie Christiansen reported there were 302 Trekkers this year. That total included 26 first timers, 29 children, 8 infants and 5 teens.

Next Trek: August 4-11, 2012