



THE FRANKLIN LINE

HHFC MIDWEST REGION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025

Greetings My Franklin Friends,

During our Spring meet in Rockford, Illinois, Ann and Tom Kleinschmidt and Jody and Steve organized visits to fascinating attractions in this river town. We had a great turnout with excellent weather. Our re-built 19223 Demi Sedan performed well with four passengers daily.

My favorite part of our Region is reconnecting with friends that have traveled from near and far and getting to meet new friends.

At our business meeting, we addressed the usual items, and our Region currently has over 100 members. Despite losing some members, we continue to gain new Franklin owners and members each year. The Richard Harry collection is being sold, which has facilitated getting cars into the hands of new members.

Our Fall 2025 Meet, September 18 - 21, will be hosted by Greg and Rita Lundeen in the Iron Range country of Minnesota, more info to follow.

If anyone has questions, concerns or just want to say hi give me a call or write me a note.

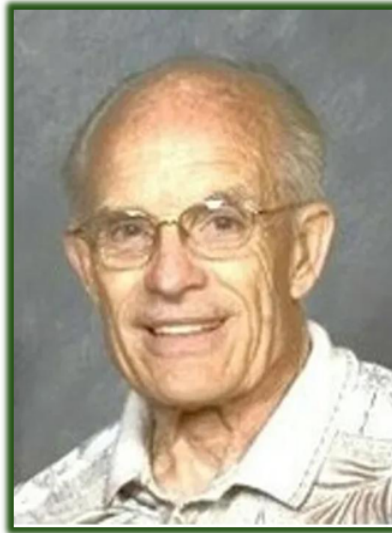
**Aura Vincit
Dean Dorholt
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In This Issue:

* President's Message	1
* In Memoriam	2
* Midwest Spring Meet 2025 Report	3
* Meeting Minutes	4-5
* Midwest Spring Meet 2025 in Photos	6-16



IN MEMORIAM



Roy Charles Bernick, age 95, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed peacefully from this life into God's loving embrace on Friday, February 14, 2025, at Quiet Oaks Hospice House.

Roy was born September 14, 1929, and was a lifelong resident of the St. Cloud/Waite Park area. He lived a very full life and was known for his friendliness and great sense of humor. He grew up in the family beverage business and worked there until his retirement. He was a founding member of the Minnesota Pepsi Collector's Club.

His true passion was collecting and restoring antique cars. He bought his first car when he was 25, and the rest is history. He was a founding member of the Pan Town Car Club, and a member of the Franklin Car Club, Curved Dash Oldsmobile Club, Minnesota Horseless Carriage, Antique Auto Club, and the Brush Auto Club. His highlights include flying his 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile to London, England, in 1996, and competing in the London to Brighton Car Run. This car run was replicated in Minnesota. He was very involved in the New London to New Brighton Car Run. In 1985 he drove his 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile from California to New York, which took 36 days. He was also invited to visit Jay Leno and got a tour of all of his cars.

Roy served in the Merchant Marines and later in the Army's Airborne Division. He was a paratrooper and completed 18 jumps. He served in the Korean War and was awarded the Bronze Star.

Roy was united in marriage to Rena Kuklok on November 9, 1957. They had four children-- Dean, Joy, Todd, and Lisa. They later divorced. He married Colleen Rawlings on June 14, 2000.

Roy is survived by his wife Colleen, children Dean Bernick (Lori), Lisa Bernick (George Penley), daughter in law Linda Bernick, grandchildren Dustin Helget (Becky), Leah Bernick Sutherland (Doug), Tara Bernick (Josh Kacures), Max Bernick, Morgan Bernick, Lauren Bernick, Ty Johnson, Bella Johnson, Dylan Johnson, Kendall Johnson, and seven great grandchildren Isabella, Dylan, Riley, Aria, Aurora, Levi, and Myles. He is preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Elizabeth (Betty) Bernick, twin brother Ray Bernick, brother Richard (Dick) Bernick, sister Rita Joy Kramnic, infant daughter Joy Ann Bernick, and son Todd Bernick.

A special thank you to the staff at Quiet Oaks and to Tracy Schill for their wonderful care of Roy. A celebration of life will be held on May 17th, from 1:00-5:00 in Dad's Car Building.

SPRING 2025 FRANKLIN MIDWEST MEET

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

Spring Tour and meet in Rockford Illinois Report

May 15-17 2025

By Ann Kemp and Tom Kleinschmidt—*your friendly tour guides*

It didn't rain during the day! Yeh! This time of year, Illinois is prime for rained-out events. There were threatening weather forecasts for some afternoons or evenings including severe thunderstorms and worse. Fortunately, all the bad weather went East of us, we just had light rain a couple of nights. There were no reported breakdowns during the tour! Three days of driving added up to about 180 miles on urban, suburban and rural roads. Much of the driving was on low traffic and lower speed roads. Steve Albertson has been crowned the wizard of Google maps. He "ran" the routes on his computer using Google Street View, then multiple volunteers from the Midwest Model T club – great to have friends to help - were navigators that verified and tweaked the routes. The routes were test run three times; the last run was on Friday May 9 before the meet check-in on Wednesday May 14. The unexpected happened at a key intersection. A utility truck set up just that day and quick-thinking Franklinites rerouted themselves through a shopping center.

Three touring Franklins drove to the event:

1916 9A Touring – Derek Kleinschmidt & Jen Czaji – Prospect Heights to Elgin to Rockford IL

1925 11A Hotrod – Monica Eby – Redington Beach, FL – long distance winner !!!

1929 130 Sedan – Jody Reeme & Steve Albertson – Chicago, IL

Eight touring Franklins came in trailers:

1921 9B Touring - Bill Fields - Hazard, KY & Greg Burnett – Ross, KY

1923 Demi Sedan – Dean & Cinda Dorhort - Minnetrista, MN

1924 10C Speedster - Tom & Barb Chandler - Elkader, IA

1927 11B - William J. Hupke Jr. - Combine Locks, WI

1928 Sports Runabout - Jeff & Joan Hasslen - Elk River, MN

1928 Victoria Brougham – Bill & Geri Eby – Broad run, MI

1930 Victoria Brougham – Phil & Pam Weisenbarger - Bluffton, OH

1931 153 Club Sedan - Gerald Harry - Nelson, WI & Tom Runions – Alma, WI

Two proud owners came with their "new" Franklins in trailers - *fresh out of 20+ years of storage*:

1904 Type A Two Passenger – Roger Moffit & Lisa Christiansen - Caledonia, MI

1933 18B Olympic Coupe – only one left! - Dan & Anne Russell - Williamsport, MD

Those that joined in just for the fun:

Roy and Cathy Canfield - Roseville, MN

Dwayne Carter - Johnston, IA

Greg Drufke - LaPorte, IN

Ray Hemmelgarn – Greenville, OH

Bouvard Hosticka - Charlottesville, VA

Dennie and Varlene Milne - Machesney Park, IL – town next to Rockford

Lee and Nancy Nelson - Lockport, IL

Gary and Barbara Ohnstad - Harrisburg, SD

James and Debra Reed – Morris, IL

Jack and Mary Stang - Hammond, LA

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Each of the three days of touring had destinations ranging from technical to cultural
and of course
an ice cream stop

Thursday

- * *Accelerated Machine Design* – A giant machine creates rocket booster connecting rings for NASA
- * *Historic Attractions Museum* – Acres of memorabilia – something for everyone Happy Birthday Anne Russell on May 14! Dan Russell ordered a cake from a bakery recommended by Varlene Milne. We pulled off the stealth operation with Varleen picking up the cake and we served it in the Historic Attractions meeting room where we all had lunch.
- * *Nicholas Conservatory and Gardens* – Formal gardens, and butterfly exhibit
- * *Last* - A nice drive along the Rock River

Friday

- * *Poplar Grove Airmotive* – Aircraft engine rebuilding and airplane repair
- * *Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum* – The name says it all
- * *Midway Village Museum* – Rockford history (sock monkeys invented here) and the Victorian village
- * *Cattle and Cream* — in historic Cherry Valley for ice cream

Saturday

- * *Little Hershey* – Car swap meet and car show put on by the Rockford Model T Club
- * *Illinois Railway Museum* – Rode in trains and trollies, saw loads of rail equipment
- * *Thunder Bay Grille* – for the banquet - right next to the hotel

As a thank you gift to our destination hosts and key volunteers, pens were created by our friend Andy Erbach from a Series 10 scrap Ash sill plate provided by Bob Metro.



Tour Participants

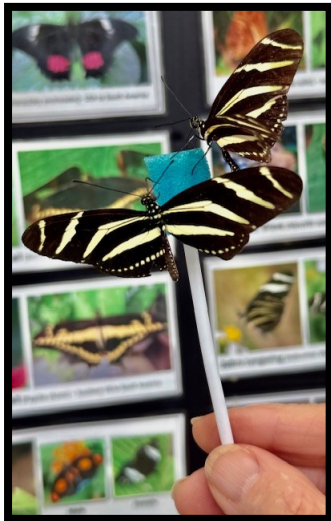
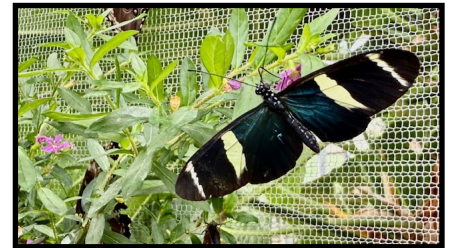
Steve Albertson and Jody Reeme
Roy and Cathy Canfield
Dwayne Carter
Tom and Barb Chandler
Greg Drufke
Dean and Cinda Dorholt
Bill and Geri Eby
Monica Eby
Bill Fields and Greg Burnett
Jeff and Joan Hasslen
Gerald Harry and Tom Runions

William J Hupke Jr and James Steinberg
Derek Kleinschmidt and Jan Czaja
Tom and Ann Kleinschmidt
Dennie and Varlene Milne
Roger Moffatt and Lisa Christensen
Lee and Nancy Nelson
Gary and Barbara Ohnstad
James and Debra Reed
Dan and Anne Russell
Jack and Mary Stang
Phil and Pam Weisenbarger

Bouvard Hosticka

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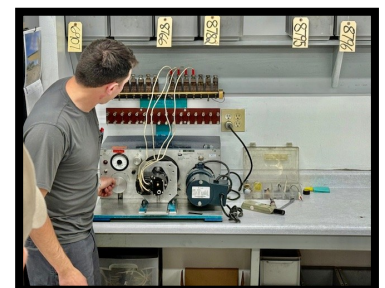
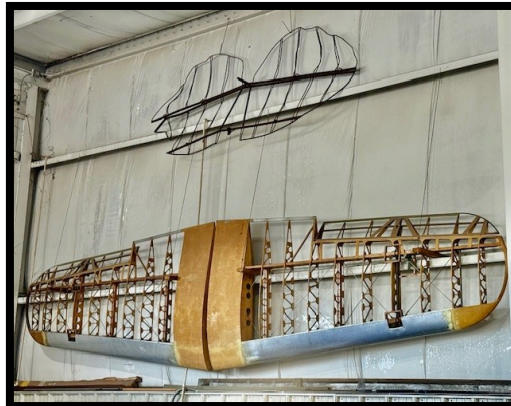
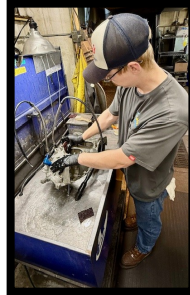
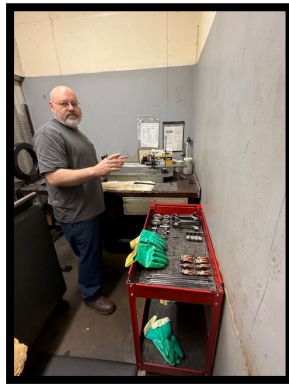
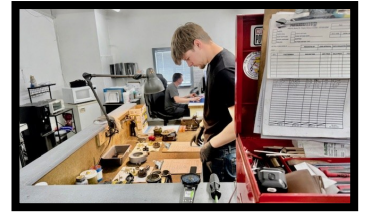
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Birthday Girl



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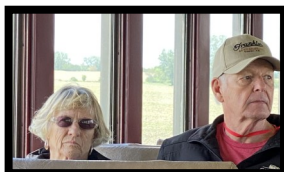
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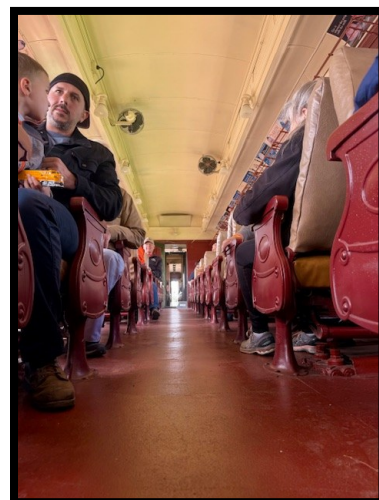
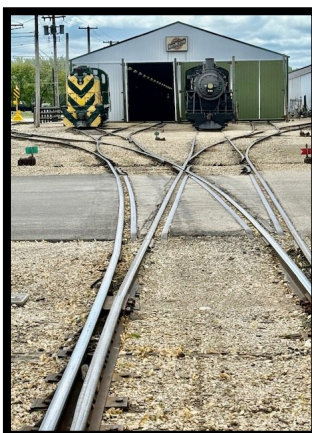
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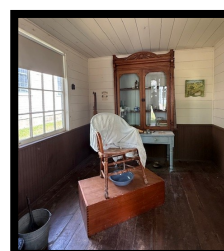
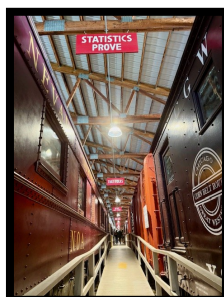
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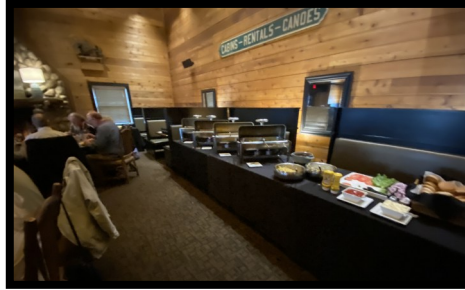
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See you in the Fall!



HHFC Midwest Region

The Franklin Line

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