



THE FRANKLIN LINE

HHFC MIDWEST REGION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019

Greetings Franklin Friends,

I hope everyone had a great winter and spring so far, and that you have your Franklin running in tiptop shape. The spring meet was held in Virginia and Geri and Bill Eby provided all that attended an outstanding meet. The weather was perfect, and the sites and roads were the best, not to mention Geri and Bill for opening their home for the Saturday banquet. Thanks Geri and Bill along with Haley.

October 3 thru 5 Barb and Tom Chandler will be hosting the fall meet in the Northeast corner of Iowa in some very beautiful country along the Mississippi river. I encourage you to join us in IA!!

Spring of 2020 will bring us back to the Air-Cooled Gathering and we are working on something very special for the fall 2020 meet that will take us to some amazing place in our Region. It sure is nice to have some future meets planned - I always look forward to seeing my Franklin friends.

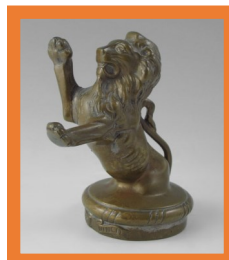
Roy Nelson compiled the next installment documenting the history of the Midwest Region for this issue, thanks Roy. I look forward to your continued stories.

If anyone has ideas for a Meet please let me know, we have been to a lot of places and it has probably been a long time since we were in your back yard.

Don't forget we now also have our very own Midwest Franklin Club shirts available from an embroiderer in Minnesota, they have our artwork and they have picked out some very nice shirts for us to choose from. Info is included in this issue of The Line on how to work directly with the company, [Bagy-Jo](#). My wife showed off her collection of [Bagy-Jo](#) shirts by wearing them in Warrenton.

That's all for now. Feel free to contact me, Joan or Jeff if you are interested in hosting a meet in your area, **THANK YOU** for helping us keep this great Region active and strong.

Have a Happy and Safe Motoring Season



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Dean Dorholt
Aura Vincit
612-803-0836

Midwest Franklin Spring 2019 Meet in Warrenton, VA

By Bill and Geri Eby

The Spring Midwest Region meet was in Warrenton, Virginia. Geri and Bill Eby and their granddaughter Haley Spoeneman were the hosts. There was a great turn out for the meet. Between Club members, Midwest region members, and guests 66 people attended all or part of the meet. There were 14 Franklins, a 1921 Dodge, and a 1930ish Ford Model A. All in all, it was a successful meet, and everyone had a good time.

Dinners, starting Wednesday when folks started arriving, were on our own for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There were lots of little bistros and restaurants in the neighborhood of our host hotel. One favorite was a nice short Franklin drive to a place called **Harry's**. Harry's is a restaurant in Airlie, a resort and conference center that used to be a 19th century farm and estate. Dinner each evening was followed by snacks and drinks at the hotel where everyone caught up with one another, sharing stories and swapping whoppers.

Each morning started early with a driver's meeting at around 7:45 and the group hit the road at 8:00 or 8:15. Warrenton and Fauquier County and the areas around have some really nice touring roads, winding through the Blue Ridge foothills, wine and horse farm country. We enjoyed some spectacular vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains, big fancy equestrian estates, and wineries on the south facing hillsides.

THURSDAY the group made a 50-mile drive past Bull Run Mountain (made famous by the Civil War battle of the same name.) The route goes through Thoroughfare Gap, named that because it was the only easy route for the Colonial era farmers to get their produce from the fertile Shenandoah Valley to the towns of Georgetown and Alexandria and the new federal capital City of Washington. We crossed the Shenandoah River at a place called 'low bridge.' And it was low - only a few feet above the water. Good thing it hadn't rained in a while and the river wasn't running high. This took us to **White Post Restorations**. This is a world class

classic car restoration shop that has been in the restoration business since 1940 and has restored over 1,000 cars in that time. The 3rd generation owner of White Post, W.R., was one of the tour leaders as we broke into a couple of groups to wind through the shops and look at some of the fantastic cars there. Some jobs are for a full top to bottom restoration which might take 4,000 hours. One surprise was to meet Matt Joseph, a McPherson College grad who is one of the 17 employees.



White Post, VA

Leaving White Post, there was a 25-mile drive back across the Shenandoah River to the town of Middleburg for lunch. Middleburg has colonial roots but now has acquired the reputation as the "Nation's Horse and Hunt Capital." Middleburg is small, but there were plenty of dining opportunities for the group up and down main street. After lunch it was a short 10-mile tour to the home and farm of **Jim and Edna Cross**. Jim and Edna were great hosts who graciously guided us through their unique car collection and shop, including a couple one-of-a-kind classics. Some of the group got drenched by a pop-up thunderstorm that swung through towards the end of our time there, and others stayed late to follow in the wake of the storm back to Warrenton. The drive back was 40 miles on damp and twisty roads, but so picturesque.

If you have pictures to share from the Midwest Spring Meet, you can send them to Bill Eby for posting on the HH Franklin Club website. weby5320@gmail.com

Midwest Franklin Spring 2019 Meet in Warrenton, VA (Cont.)

FRIDAY's first destination was a short hop to **The Wright Experience**. It is an amazing place! They focus mainly on recreating flyable airplanes and gliders as built by the Wright brothers. The visit started with a talk from Shirley Girard about how to cover classic airplane wings with fabric. She led us through the steps to make an airworthy and historically correct wing. It was a fascinating demonstration from someone who is highly skilled in what are essentially obsolete manufacturing techniques. The second portion was in a hanger with 3 complete Wright flyers where Bill Hadden, a pilot himself, demonstrated how to fly the Wright airplanes. He noted how difficult it would be for a pilot today to fly one because the controls are so foreign, what with unconventional stick movements and the Wright's 'wing warping' to turn the plane. The third stop was the machine shop where Greg Cone discussed recreating the engines that power the Wright flyers, maintaining their four original Wright engines. He tries to use the same tools that the Wrights had in their time; just a lathe and a drill press. He ended with a story about a V-8 engine that the Wrights built for a race but which was lost because the plane crashed on the way to the race. Greg was able to find two pieces of information, a cam blueprint and a bearing mold from which he has built and almost completed a replica. Finally, Greg wheeled an original Wright bros engine from 1910 outside, which he ran for the group. It was amazing to consider the historic technology that we were seeing. It was tough to leave after that splendid visit.

Lunch Friday was 30 miles down the road in Culpeper another small but booming town with lots of good eating options in oldtown. After lunch it was 24 miles to **Montpelier**, the estate of James Madison our 4th president. The tour was in and of the house and grounds, but focused on Madison himself and how he came to be so influential in the creation of our Constitution. It was an interesting and informative tour that makes one consider how special Madison's time was and his accomplishments

and that of his peers. After our tour some grabbed a snack or a cold drink at the visitor's center before the 50-mile drive back to the hotel.

SATURDAY's first tour was a 20-mile drive with stunning views of the Blue Ridge mountains. Our destination was the collection of **Dos Hatfield**. Dos has built from parts about 7 Model T Fords. Some of these are of his own design, including a Conestoga wagon-covered T. Dos also had several other cars, trucks and tractors of various vintages and styles throughout his property. After enjoying Dos' hospitality and some of the snacks he provided, we next went on a 22-mile scenic drive, including Dos as tail-end-Charlie in his Model A. The drive could be described as an hourglass jaunt. The roads got narrower and narrower, eventually becoming an unpaved 2-track trail, leading some to wonder where they were being taken. But as the road widened, became asphalt, eventually returned to 2 lanes and all was well. This brought the group to the **Queievremont Winery** and the great views afforded by lounging on the back porch. The winery manager Karl gave us the history of winemaking in Virginia, followed by a talk by John Guevremont, the owner of the winery, who discussed the care and feeding of the vines and in particular how the unique climate and conditions of Virginia dictate certain things. Some of the group were able to fit in a tasting in the tasting room with satisfying results.



*Betty & Sandy Bennett
Randy & Loretta Fusco*

A couple miles more took the group to **Headmasters Pub** in Sperryville, an old schoolhouse converted to a restaurant and art gallery. There our group was treated to a buffet with an enormous amount of food which was devoured in no time. There were no afternoon stops after lunch, so it was a leisurely 52-mile tour through the backroads and byways to Warrenton.

Midwest Franklin Spring 2019 Meet in Warrenton, VA (Cont.)

The banquet Saturday night was hosted at the **Eby's house** about 8 miles north of Warrenton. The banquet was partially catered by a local Bar-B-Que house, with the appetizers, desserts, and several tasty sides prepared by Geri and her granddaughter Haley. The Eby's houseguests also pitched in to bring it all together. The banquet was country-fancy, with linen and checked tablecloths and flowers in old watering cans as centerpieces. Dinner was set in a party tent out in their yard, which was convenient because the weather decided to turn nasty and thunder and rain for a little while while everyone was eating. Folks stayed nice and dry in the tent, and about the time the heat and humidity got bothersome, it stopped raining and we got a little cool

breeze to refresh everyone.

Dean Dorholt, Midwest President, presided over the Midwest business meeting after dinner. The award for driving the farthest to the meet in a Franklin went to Jim Eby for driving 1,334.5 miles from his home in Florida in his 1919 Series 9B Touring. Haley Spoeneman got the award for having come the farthest, from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Everyone had a good time and got to sample some of the Northern Virginia climate, terrain, highways and byways, and cuisine. There was lots of good conversation as folks caught up with one another and renewed our Franklin friendships.

CARS:

1912 Series 1	Rand and Carolyn Patterson
1915 Series 8 Touring	Jeff and Joan Hasslen
1919 9B Touring	Jim and Therese Eby
1920 9B 2Door Sedan	Sandy and Betty Bennett
1921 9B Touring	Bill Fields and Greg Burnett
1924 Series 10 Speedster	Tom and Barb Chandler
1925 10C Sedan	Mark Chaplin and John Strawway
1926 Series 11A Oxford Sedan	Bob and Darla Metro
1927 11B Sedan	Jack and Mary Stang
1927 Coupe	John and Joyce Rendemonti
1928 12B Victoria Brougham	Bill and Geri Eby
1931 153 Club Sedan	Gib and Karen Godwin
1931 Sport Sedan	Keith and Janet Kilmer
1934 Airman	Dan and Anne Russell
1921 Dodge Touring	Greg Cone and Barbara Wilcox

ATTENDEES:

Sandy & Betty Bennett PA Betty's sister Trudy & friend Steve	Mark Chaplin & John Strawway NY	Tom & Barb Chandler IA	Greg Cone & Barbara Wilcox
Tim Coyle	Dean & Cinda Dorholt MN	Bill & Geri Eby VA Haley Spoeneman NM	Jim & Therese Eby
Bill Fields & Greg Burnett KY	Randy & Loretta Fusco PA	Marv & Jeanette Gage NC	Gib & Karen Godwin
Bob & Pat Harrison	Jeff & Joan Hasslen MN	Bren & Pat Hogan NJ	Trillian Hosticka VA
Keith & Janet Kilmer NY	Bob & Darla Metro NY	Roger Moffat & Lisa Christensen MI	Bill & Pat Musto NY
Lee & Nancy Nelson IL Roy Nelson IL	Carol Norton NY	Rand & Carolyn Patterson OH	Joey & Debbie Quebedeaux
John & Joyce Rendemonti	Joseph Rendemonti & Samantha Rendemonti	Mariella Rendemonti, Michael Ren- demonti, & James Rendemonti	Dan & Anne Russell VA Andrew Russell
Lee and Sara Schopmeier NY	Tex and Linda Sorrell NJ	Jack & Mary Stang LA	Bob Sturge

Business Meeting Minutes – May 25, 2019

Call to order: After the pounding/thundering storm passed, **President Dean Dorholt** called the meeting to order and thanked our hosts Bill and Geri Eby and their granddaughter Haley Spoeneman.

A moment of silence was observed for recently deceased Region members: Madge Vicory, Garnet Hantak and Joan Doman.

Recognition: HHFC Past Presidents in attendance were recognized: Bill Eby, Marv Gage, Bob Harrison, Bren Hogan, Bob Metro, Tex Sorrell. **Midwest Region Past Presidents in attendance were recognized:** Lee Nelson, Roy Nelson. **First time attending a Region Meet:** Greg Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio; Gib and Karen Godwin, Aldie, VA; Samantha, Mariella, Michael and James Rendemonti, Malvern, PA. **Brought a Franklin to this Meet:** Sandy & Betty Bennett, Tom & Barb Chandler; Mark Chaplin & John Strawway, Bill & Geri Eby, Jim & Therese Eby, Bill Fields, Gib & Karen Godwin, Jeff & Joan Hasslen, Keith & Janet Kilmer, Bob & Darla Metro, Rand Patterson & Carolyn Greshemer, John & Joyce Rendimonti, Dan, Anne & Andrew Russell, Jack & Mary Stang. **Drove a Franklin to this Meet:** Bill & Geri Eby, Broad Run, VA; Jim & Therese Eby, Redington Beach, FL; Gib & Karen Godwin, Aldie, VA; Dan Russell, Williamsport, VA. **Drove their Franklin the furthest** to attend: Jim & Therese Eby drove 1300 + miles from Redington Beach, FL. **Traveled the furthest to attend:** Haley Spoeneman from Las Cruces, NM

Host report: **Bill Eby** thanked everyone for coming and made comment that they had a great time planning this meet. He gave credit to Geri and Haley for all their help and hard work. At this meet there were 14 Franklins, 65 people and 15 states represented - FL, IA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MN, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA.

Secretary report: a) **Current membership is 117.** Newest members: Rick & Kristie Nelson, Kingston, WI. They own a 1933 Olympic Sedan; Colby and Amber Votava, Battle Creek, MI. They have a 1933 183 Sedan. Varlene married Dennie Milne (Machesney Park, IL) so she is also a new member. b) Please review the 2019 Addendum. 37 changes are listed. c) Six letters have been sent to new HHFC members living in our Region.

Treasury report: Current balance is \$1,241.87. Income totaled \$664.51; expenses totaled \$668.91. Before the first class postage increased, 2 years worth of stamps were purchased for use by The Line editor and secretary.

Old/New business: None

Midwest Region Reports: 1) **Regional Director - Jeff**

Hasslen: a) The Club has 696 members. b) In April all members should have received the new website password. c) Members can read the board meeting notes on the website in the “Members Only” section. Jeff is willing to answer any questions about what went on. **2) Midwest Region history update - Roy Nelson:** Watch the newsletter for another installment of our history. It will be about the 3rd Region meeting in 1959. Cliff Boram (a Region founder) was active at that time. Lee Nelson said Cliff came to the Hastings Meet. Bill Fields added that he also showed up at the Hazard Meet. **3) The Franklin Line - Cinda Dorholt:** Email your pictures from this Meet to Cinda at midwestfranklin@gmail.com. Cinda will get Bill’s pictures and those of others and decide which to send along to ACN.

Other Business: Franklin Collection: a) In Phil Weisenbarger’s absence due to a heart attack, Jeff Hasslen reported that Phil is doing well. The Air Cooled Gathering is Sat. June 15. b) The V12 is out and running. c) We are in negotiations regarding income from Father’s Day weekend.

Future Meets: **1) Fall, Oct 3 – 5 in Elkader, Iowa, Tom & Barb Chandler hosting.** With pictures and brochures, Tom invited everyone to come to their wonderful town. He reported their area is wooded with crooked back roads and beautiful scenery. We will tour several historic sites, travel to Pikes Peak (named for Zebulon Pike), take a Mississippi boat ride, enjoy a play at their world class opera house and visit Tom and Barb’s shop and car collection. Restaurants are good. Motel is small but clean and there are several B&Bs available. Tom announced he will “pay for your trip if you get stopped at a stop light”. (Secretary’s note: come visit Elkader and see why Tom is so generous!) **2) Spring 2020, June 18 – 20, return to Gilmore Museum area, host TBD.** We tour a few days then participate in the Air-Cooled Gathering on Saturday. **3) Fall, 2020 – Keweenaw Peninsula, MI** is a possibility.

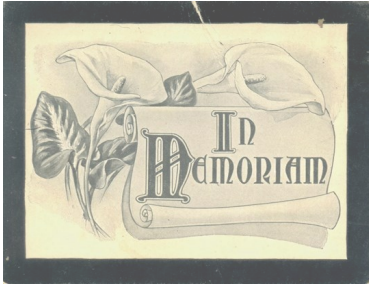
Additional Announcements/Comments:

1) Jeff Hasslen thanked Roger Moffat for his many volunteer hours at the Franklin Collection and attending their board meetings. **2) Geri Eby expressed thanks to Haley, Pat & Bob Harrison, Therese & Jim Eby** for their hours of work for this meet. **3) Bill took a call from Betty Bennett.** Due to the storm, there was NO POWER at the hotel!

Meeting adjourned. Thanks again to Bill and Geri for a terrific meet.

Joan Hasslen, Region Secretary

UPDATES



Madge Vicory, December 2018

Joan Doman, January 2019

Garnet Hantak, January 2019

Change of Address:

Richard and Connie Roth
3046 Noble Rd
Williamston, MI 48895

Dennie and Varlene Milne
10427 Jubilee Dr
Machesney, IL 61115

PLEASE NOTE:

You are asked and encouraged to review your 2019 REGION ADDENDUM for updated information on all our members. There are 37 entries reflecting new members and changes to address, email, Franklin collection, etc.

SAVE THE DATE

MIDWEST REGION MEETS

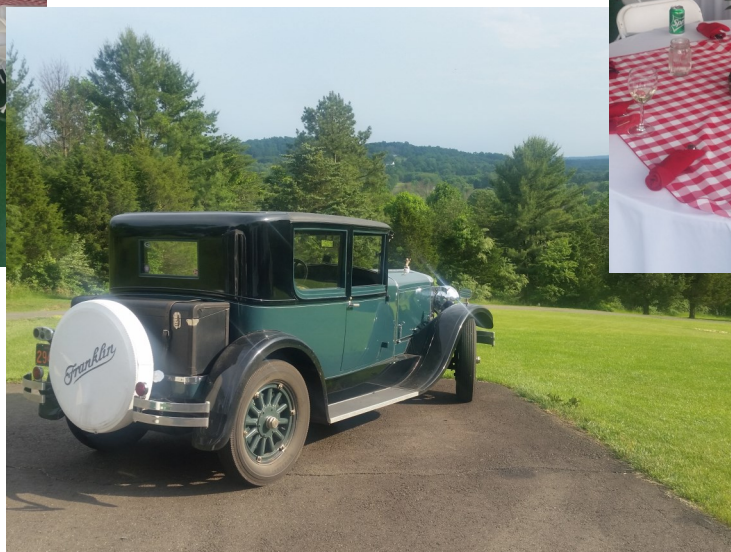
Fall 2019 — Elkader IA — October 3 thru October 5

Spring 2020 — Hickory Corners MI — June 18 thru June 20 (day 3 is Air Cooled Gathering at the Gilmore)



An Atypical Banquet and Business Meeting

Thanks to Geri & Bill Eby



FROM OUR REGION HISTORIAN

Roy Nelson

After the initial picnic in Galesburg, Il., the newly organized Midwest Region had a gathering in the summer of 1959 in Maywood, Il.

It was hosted by Dr. Catherine Logan & her son Clifford Boram at their home near Chicago.

This was a one-day event, & 6 Franklins attended: Harold Finley with Frankie (a '25 S.10-C), Eddie Landmichl with his S.135 convertible coupe, and Kenny Hakes drove his Olympic all the way from St. Louis. Next to & inside the carriage house Cliff had an 11-B coupe and 2 S.19's: a '34 club sedan, & a 7 pass sedan. In addition, Harold Overdeck drove his almost new '56 VW from Minneapolis. It was his second beetle; a storm felled a tree on his first one!

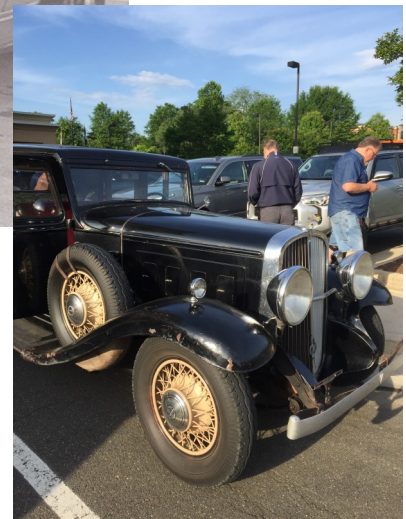
After a late arriving catered lunch on the patio, the group motored to nearby Chicago to see more Franklins. Here Ed Landmichl, the well-known Franklin mechanic, showed the group his cars and his "stash" of parts.

One shed had several rear ends stacked like cordwood and pairs of headlamps hanging on the walls. A '22 S.9-B, co-owned by the Finleys & Nelsons, had to stay at home because of a stuck needle valve, causing the carburetor to flood. The vee-windshield sedan was previously owned by Clifford, and he DROVE it from Chicago to Syracuse and back to attend the 2nd Trek in 1955!

Cliff joined HHFC in early 1952 and is the longest standing member. He is still in good health at the age of 85 and is pleased to say that he was born when Franklin was still building cars!



Photo taken 1955 ↑



← Photos taken 2019 →

FROM OUR MEMBERS

It all happened pretty fast, but we got a new Franklin! Several of you knew Al Finseth and the many cars that he owned.

In 2013 we had the opportunity to buy the 1907 Model G from him and in just the last week of June we purchased another one of Al's cars. This fine **1923** all original **Demi Sedan** has a new home. Al's daughter Jill was very happy it went to a good home and friend of her father's.

You can expect to see Cinda and me touring in this one regularly.



Dean Dorholt

Another new acquisition happened earlier in 2019 when Bill Fields purchased his 1913 M Victoria Phaeton. He traveled from Kentucky to Minnesota for a driving lesson. Teacher Tom Rasmussen was impressed by Bill's stylish cold weather togs!



PHOTOS

Courtesy of Greg Burnett Photography, LLC

Franklin Automobile Club Midwest Region apparel available online at Bagy-Jo. On the website you can see styles, colors, sizes, and cost of clothing available with our own unique to Midwest Region logo. You can also always contact them by phone at 763-479-3848 or by webmail at bagyjo@aol.com. Just make sure you mention Franklin Club Midwest Region in any communication.



The Wright Experience



Culpepper VA



Bill Fields and Bob Sturge

PHOTOS

Courtesy of Greg Burnett Photography, LLC



PHOTOS
Courtesy of Greg Burnett Photography, LLC



HHFC Midwest Region
c/o Cinda Dorholt
7895 County Road 15
Maple Plain, MN 55359

PHOTOS

Courtesy of Greg Burnett Photography, LLC



See you in Elkader!!