

Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians

wisconsin-auto-historians.org

April 2024 Newsletter

Officers

President: Ken Nimocks
Vice-President: Don Gullikson
Secretary: Dan Manola
Treasurer: Gary Koehnke

Directors

Don Chandler
Jim Morris
Jessica Zdanowicz

April meeting/event announcement and details

President's message

Minutes from January 20, 2024 meeting

APRIL WSAH MEETING/EVENT, SATURDAY APRIL 13, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

Our annual WSAH spring meeting will be held at the Wisconsin Automotive Museum, located at 147 North Rural Street in Hartford. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m., however you can be there as early as 10:00 a.m. when the museum opens so you have ample time to view the vehicles and other exhibits. Members and an interested guest will be admitted at no charge (covered by WSAH as a benefit of paying your dues); just tell the person at the ticket window that you are with the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians. We will plan to wrap up the meeting early enough that those who wish to go as a group to eat and get on the road at a decent time can do so.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I intend to make this brief, and maybe this time I can do it. In our January newsletter, I asked that anyone who will consider becoming an Officer or Director, or wishes to nominate someone for a position, contact me and I will list the nomination in this newsletter. The results? Nothing. In that same newsletter, I summarized most of what I do as President, then suggested that one person doesn't have to do all those things...several willing members, especially Officers and Directors, could divide the work and make it a great deal easier than leaving everything to one. I encourage you to re-read that section of the January newsletter and we will discuss it at the upcoming April meeting.

I was somewhat surprised at how much I enjoyed our Lambeau Field event. With a Green Bay mailing address, people assume that I'm a Packers fan, but I haven't paid attention to sports in many years. I loved playing sports in high school; we played eight-man football against other small schools and someone my size could be competitive. Now, like any others my age with overhauled knees, spine, and heart, those days are

far back in the rear-view mirror, so instead of watching sports, for entertainment I'd rather read about the aerodynamic theory behind the Kammback automotive design. Enough of that...I was really impressed with the massive enterprise that Lambeau Field, the "Stadium Area," and the Green Bay Packers have become. Lots of history and behind-the-scene details, without a single mention of automobiles, still made it a very interesting day. Thank you, Gary Koehnke, for your work and taking charge of setting up this day. (You probably don't know that Gary, in addition to his work as our treasurer, is treasurer for another automotive group, files our non-profit tax reports, mails the newsletters, tracks membership and dues, and much more. We could use more like him!)

At our April meeting in Hartford, we will have a lot to discuss regarding the future of our WSAH. I hope to see many of you then.

MINUTES from WSAH Winter Meeting, Saturday January 20, 2024

Our winter meeting was held in the atrium area at Lambeau Field, Home of the Green Bay Packers. While this venue is not related to automotive history, it is certainly very much a part of Wisconsin, and especially Green Bay area, history. After a guided tour of the stadium, including sky boxes and field level, and then self-guided touring through the Packers Hall of Fame, the meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by President Ken Nimocks.

Those in attendance were President Ken Nimocks; Vice President Don Gullikson; Treasurer Gary Koehnke; Director Jim Morris; Director and Webmaster Jessica Zdanowicz; and the following members: Gene Steinfeldt, Gary Kaphingst, Dan Sharpee, Rueben Johnson, Russ Schultz, Wally Heil, and guests Lyn Kaphingst and Dale Hintz.

Gary Koehnke presented the Treasurer's report, including a printed copy, and a motion was made by Jessica Zdanowicz and seconded by Don Gullikson to accept as presented; the motion was unanimously approved.

In the absence of Secretary Dan Manola, President Ken Nimocks recapped the minutes of the autumn meeting held at the Hill & Valley Car Show and Tour. The minutes were also published in the January newsletter. (Wally Heil volunteered to take notes for minutes at this meeting.)

Old Business: Don and Ken gave a review of the expectations of, and changes to, our participation in the Iola Car Show. As mentioned at our previous meeting, we will no longer be selling merchandise at our tables, so we will likely only need two members there much of the time. However, we will still need help with parking on show days – Thursday, Friday, and Saturday – as well as help with setup on Wednesday and takedown on Saturday afternoon. This year we will need to have a much better system

for knowing who will be available, and when, to have enough help for busy times and then fewer volunteers in slack times. We can possibly have two-hour shifts if that would be a better way to get coverage as needed.

Jessica reviewed the status of our website and suggested a second URL to have better access for those trying to find our group. There was discussion of options and the value of adding a URL. It seems it is challenging to get to our site, so there is agreement that Jessica can pursue the options and select something to help.

New Business: The suggestion was made to add a forum, that is, a question-and-answer site. Discussion followed and several challenges were brought forth, especially concerns about the accuracy of responses, who would monitor the forum, and who would handle responding. Discussion faded and no motion was made.

Discussion of the next (Spring) meeting date and place resulted in agreeing to go to the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in Hartford and seeing if Saturday, April 13 works for the museum. Ken will set up the meeting this time, but future meetings will have to be coordinated by others; possibly this should be the responsibility of the Directors. Ken noted that some of the usual venues, such as the Wisconsin Automotive Museum, are simple to set up. Russ brought up Alfa Heaven in Aniwa as a potential meeting/event venue and he will explore that possibility.

Nominations for officers are needed! Ken is stepping down as President after our July meeting and his concern is that WSAH continues to thrive...for that to happen, leadership is needed. Don Chandler has said he will vacate his Director position, if someone will step up to fill it. The question was raised as to whether we should establish a protocol for filling positions; a review of our rarely-used bylaws may be in order.

Don reported on Iola '24, with "The Meeting of the Muscle" theme. There will be guidelines as to what vehicles will be considered muscle cars, limiting entrants to 1964-1972 passenger cars with high-performance engines and a few other stipulations. All registrations will now be online. A suggestion is to have a chart at our table to log parking volunteers for specific times.

The meeting adjourned and several members went to nearby Kroll's West for food and conversation.

Meeting Minutes Courtesy of Wally Heil