



Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians WSAH

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News/Letter

Spring 2015

WSAH Annual Spring Meeting: The next meeting of the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians will be held **Saturday April 11, 2015** at the **Wisconsin Automotive Museum** 147 North Rural Street, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027. Telephone: (262) 673-7999. Check the website at www.wisconsinautomuseum.com for information/directions if you are not familiar with the museum.

The museum opens at 10:00 AM and has two floors of displays. Tell the person at the ticket window that you are with the Wisconsin Auto Historians to be admitted at no charge. Feel free to bring an interested guest. **The meeting will be at 2:00 PM** in the back meeting room. After the meeting, those who wish to will gather at Hank's Restaurant & Eatery for food and more conversation.

Agenda / Items for Discussion at the Meeting:

Getting WSAH reorganized after last year's changes.

Changes at the Iola Old Car Show and our involvement. SAH Britain.

Clarification on President's SAH dues. only.

Wisconsin Historical Society request for information on Janesville production and our possible participation in a future project.

Donation to the museum.

Activity at SAH ("the national") and

Progress on News/Letter by email

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A Few Words from the President: You are receiving this WSAH News/Letter whether or not you have renewed your membership in the past year or so. With the change in the treasurer and News/Letter editor positions, we did not get reminders out when dues were due and were unsure if our membership mailing list was up to date. Therefore, in order to get things back on track, I am proposing that we somewhat "start fresh." We need to make certain that everyone knows that if they wish to keep up their membership, their dues (still only \$5!) are due at the September meeting or mailed to the treasurer by then. It would be nice if we didn't have to send out individual reminders. Also, members should keep their contact information updated by contacting the president, secretary, treasurer, or editor with changes to their phone, email, regular mailing address, etc.

Dues are Due: *Please Note:* If Dues for 2015 are still owed at this time they may be paid at the spring meeting or mailed to the treasurer. Make checks payable to WSAH and mail to Gary Koehnke – WSAH, 931 Beta Street, Neenah, Wisconsin 54956-1357.

News/Letter Via Email: If you continue to receive a paper copy of this News/Letter by US mail, it either means that you do not use email, or I don't have an active email address for you, or you have not responded to my recent request. (For some members I may have missed adding you to my email list. I have updated as of this writing so you may also

receive a paper copy.) Nearly half of our current membership responded, so to you, thank you very much! Printing and mailing the News/Letter takes time and money, and when it is so easy to save both, why not?

News/Letter Editor-Publisher Position Filled: David Tesch has officially agreed to step-up/take over the duties of News/Letter editor/publisher. He has developed, constructed, and produced newsletters for a variety of classic/antique automobile clubs in the past. His first publication issue of the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians News/Letter will be spring 2015.

DVD Promotion/Sales: Promotion is continuing for the Gene Grengs Collection DVD project. A grand total of six DVDs were sold at Iola 2014. A number have been individually requested/sold since. David Tesch has promoted them to local libraries within his region resulting in the purchase of three. In addition, he plans on contacting several local museums promoting these DVDs in his area. WSAH members are strongly encouraged to promote this unique/historic WSAH publication/production within their personal communities {libraries, museums, etc} as well.

WSAH Website: As mentioned previously in the last News/Letter, Jessica Zdanowicz did an outstanding job of professionally developing our Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians website. This extremely impressive interactive/highly informative website may be accessed at <http://wisconsin-auto-historians.org>.

Minutes from Fall Meeting (September 20, 2014) Located at the annual Wisconsin Hill & Valley Antique Auto and Americana Show in Cross Plains, Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians met for the Fall meeting. Surrounded by a vast array of autos, trucks, tractors and assorted early transportation machines our group gathered with less than favorable weather. Meeting was called to order by president, Ken Nimocks at 1:10 p.m. Members in attendance were: President Ken Nimocks, Treasurer Gary Koehnke, Secretary Dan Manola, David Tesch, Mitch Swenson, Gene Knutson, Director Jim Morris, George Tesar, Director Don Chandler, Gene Steinfeldt, and new member Randy Nimocks, brother of Ken.

Past meeting minutes were read and a motion to accept was made by Jim Morris and seconded by Dave Tesch. There was no treasurer's report due to the transitioning which is taking place from member Phil Hall to Gary Koehnke. Ken spoke of Gary Koehnke's agreement to accept the treasurer's position. Treasurer Gary Koehnke collected yearly dues from members wanting to update.

Ken showed the members a plaque which had been contracted to be made by our group to honor member Phil Hall's long and excellent service to our group.

Old Business - Time was afforded to discuss the possibility of doing another DVD of another noted individual who has an auto and truck collection. It was noted we should also try to do retail sales with the Wisconsin Historical Society. Aggressive sales of the DVD have not been attempted since it is not our intention to necessarily profit from this endeavor. It was determined that we would have to sell 267 DVDs to fully pay for our project.

Interest in our involvement with the Society of Automotive Historians ("national") and what benefits exist in being or not being a member were discussed. The cost of a yearly membership may be prohibitive for some members. A motion was passed that the president of our group would have his or her annual dues paid for by our chapter.

Director Jim Morris, who has been doing work on getting our website up and running, discussed our choice for a domain name. He gave several choices and spoke of the benefits of some over others. A vote by members chose "wisconsin-auto-historians.org".

New Business - Mention was made of Honorary Members who we count amongst our membership. These include Duane Kasten and Chet Krause. It is well to consider members who have devoted a great loyalty to our group and years of service.

Member Dave Tesch has agreed to become our News/Letter Editor after Ken told of what duties would be required.

Iola Old Car Show information was presented and Ken expressed a desire to become less involved with some aspects of the show. For example the retail sales of posters, commemorative coins, medals, and promotional autos or trucks were thought to be possibly transferred to the area known as "Teamed to Learn." This would relieve our group of the set up and collecting of cash monies and set up and take down of tables for this endeavor. Ken spoke of how much participation has been required on his part as meeting in Iola prior to the show and involvement with tent set up. More involvement by our own members or others would be needed. We already are receiving help from several non-members in this capacity. Further discussion of what can be done to assist Ken will be brought up at the next meeting. A motion to adjourn meeting was given by Dan Manola and seconded by Gary Koehnke.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Manola, Secretary

Weird But True Did you know that one of many spectacular methods used to demonstrate the strength of cars, when testing them was in its infancy, was to **Place an Elephant on the Roof** ????

