



Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians

WSAH

President: Kenneth E. Nimocks
knimocks@netnet.net

Secretary: Dan W. Manola
sponge19501924@yahoo.com

Director: Jim Morris
jim@jetfire.com

Director: Don Luebke

Vice President: Michael E. Keller
mk612gp@gmail.com

Treasurer: Gary L. Koehnke
gary7140@att.net

Director: Donald E. Chandler
lrchandler@tds.net

News Editor: David G. Tesch
dgtesch49@gmail.com

News/Letter

Summer 2015

WSAH Annual Summer Meeting: The next meeting of the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians (WSAH) will be held **Friday July 10, 2015** at the **Iola Old Car Show** (Iola, Wisconsin 54945). **The meeting will be at 2:00 PM.** Members will meet at our table in the Theme Tent and then find a spot for a brief meeting.

Check the website at <http://iolaoldcarshow.com/> for information/directions if you are not familiar with the show ground location.

A Few Words from the President:

Iola Help is Always Needed and if you are planning to help and need a worker packet, contact Ken Nimocks at knimocks@netnet.net or call (920) 865-4004 home or (920) 655-2740 cell. He will provide entry passes and, on work days, food coupons.

We would like to hear from members who have not volunteered before. If you are new to WSAH or to helping at Iola, we welcome you to get involved. WSAH coordinates the feature vehicles display tent and surrounding parking area. This year's theme is "Pace Cars and Race Cars." We park the vehicles in their designated areas so they can have the best possible showcase. All duties are handled by volunteers and our efforts are rewarded by the show, making this our major source of income.

A change this year is that Sunday is no longer a show day, but is a tear-down day. Also, the number of show vehicles allowed into the grounds before Thursday morning will be very limited. There may be some other unforeseen changes this year, but until we go through it, we will simply adapt as needed and be well prepared for next year.

Here is what we need each day:

Wednesday: 1-5 p.m. This is very important as we set up the tent before vehicles start arriving, setting out stanchions, ropes, supplies and our tables. We would like at least four helpers.

Thursday: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. We could separate into three shifts, depending on your availability. This is when the parking of feature vehicles starts. We also need to staff the WSAH tables to offer help and sell show merchandise. Gates open at 6 a.m., so we will start getting busy. This year we will plan to sell merchandise from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Friday: Roughly the same as Thursday. Some vehicles may pull out the night before and we have to return them to their assigned spaces.

Saturday: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Same schedule as Thursday and Friday, but many vehicle drivers will know where to go.

Sunday: Tear-down day. This will be different than in the past, so it is difficult to set any schedule. Some help will certainly be needed.

The guys from Minnesota will not be helping this year, so we will need to have our own volunteers at our tables at all times. We are hoping that enough members will help out so that we have excess help and not a shortage.

If you have questions, please contact Ken Nimocks. Thank you in advance for your help with lola '15.

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

DVD Promotion/Sales: Promotion is continuing for the Gene Grengs Collection DVD project. A grand total of six DVDs were sold at lola 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.

Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians Minutes from Spring Meeting (April 11, 2015)

The annual meeting held at the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in Hartford, Wisconsin was called to order in the conference room of the facility at 2:00 p.m. Members present were President Ken Nimocks, News/Letter Editor David G. Tesch, Treasurer Gary Koehnke, Secretary Dan Manola, Directors Don Chandler and Jim Morris, and members Joseph Stawicki, Tony Bednarski, Gene Steinfeldt, Dan Sharpee, Phil Hall, George Tesar, John Gunnell. Guests included Jessica Zdanowicz (webmaster of the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians website), Erik Bannerman (friend of George Tesar), Carol Keifert (friend of Phil Hall), and Dawn Bondhus-Mueller (Wisconsin Automotive Museum Curator). Meeting was called to order by Ken Nimocks with a roundtable of introductions by each individual. A motion to accept last meeting's minutes after they were summarized was made by Jim Morris and seconded by Gary Koehnke.

The Treasurer's Report - - Presented by Gary Koehnke with some explanation as to current monetary amounts status including memberships, our lola Old Car Show contribution, and DVD sales. Expenses incurred since last report included our contribution to the Wisconsin Auto Museum, expenses incurred by Ken Nimocks in the making of the historical record DVD of the Gene Grengs museum in addition to the necessary costs setting-up a new bank account for the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians. Additional expense amounts included the creation of our website to Jim Morris, Michael Keller for the plaque awarded to Phil Hall, postage expenses for the Treasurer/Newsletter to Phil Hall, and postage/misc. expenses. Balance in checking account has increased slightly from 4/16/14 until 3/20/15. Motion to accept the report was made by Gene Steinfeldt and seconded by Dan Sharpee.

Old business - - We have discussed in the past our involvement with the Society of Automotive Historians and felt we should keep some participation short of paying their now \$50.00 annual dues. Jim Morris made a motion for our group to pay the president's dues to the National, and was seconded by David Tesch. A plaque honoring the many fine and wonderful accomplishments of member Phil Hall was presented with Phil's thanks for the honor of being with our group this many years *{pictures on following page}*. Gene Steinfeldt made a motion to give the Wisconsin Museum our yearly contribution, with Don Chandler seconding the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously passed. A question of who are current paid members and the acceptance of receiving our News/Letter by hard copy or getting it by e-mail was brought to our attention. Members who have not kept up with their dues may be dropped. Those members who welcome the News/Letter by e-mail will receive it when their e-mail address is confirmed.

New business - - Some discussion of our website and how well it is being viewed is notable. Jessica Zdanowicz (webmaster of the Wisconsin Society of Automotive Historians website) was complimented on the format she has laid out. Some content, such as who we should list as links and what we don't want presented was discussed. Dan Sharpee made a motion that we have a committee of members to decide what would be appropriate and what would not. George Tesar seconded the motion. We have been approached as to the job of assisting General Motors in the creation of a project in presenting what the Janesville plant contributed to their organization. More information to follow. It was made apparent that perhaps we should pursue a more aggressive approach in selling our DVDs with contact to libraries and museums being a good tactic. With some personnel changes and duties being handed to other individuals among the lola Old Car Show group we will be taking less of a concentrated act at the show. Larger groups will be deciding future themes and car show selection with a more added feedback as to choices. This year's theme will be Pace Cars and Race Cars. John Gunnell discussed the need to what should be done in acquiring new members to our organization. It was

agreed all his suggestions were good ones. Last, and certainly sad news, was the passing of member Duane Kasten as reported by Dan Sharpee. Duane was a treasure trove of auto history and an enjoyable member to share time with at Iola. We shall miss him. Summer meeting place and time will be announced via Newsletter.

Respectfully submitted
Dan Manola, Secretary

Phil Hall Award Presentation



Society President Ken Nimocks presenting Plaque/Award of Appreciation to former long-time Treasurer Phil Hall



+++++

Uncle Tesch's Historical Auto-Fact: Where did the word **Car** come from?

As far as patents go, **car** always meant **railroad car** but around 1904 automobile manufacturers started using "*touring car*" as a body style description. That said, **Word and Phrase Origins** states that "the word **car** comes from a Celtic word that sounded like **karra** to Julius Caesar, who gave the name to his chariots. **Karra** later was Latinized to **carra**. Surprisingly, the word **car** appears first around 1300; **carriage** evolved from it, then **horseless carriage**, and, finally, back to **car** again as a shortened form."