

The

Autograf



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Web Address- www.mvraaca.org
www.facebook.com/mvraaca



Kathy and Stu Etheridge won Best Of Show for their 1925 Willys Knight at the annual Bishop Hill Car Show, sponsored by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Association on July 26. Kathy was a shining example of grace and decorum, while it was all she could do to keep Stu from wanting to run around the bandstand with the trophy over his head. Just kidding – they were both very gracious and humble, and it was obvious to see from the continuous line of people looking at and asking about the car, that all the hard work that went into it was admired by many.

Submitted by John and Sandy O'Neill

Official Newsletter of the Mississippi Valley Region Antique Automobile Club of America



Franklin Bell

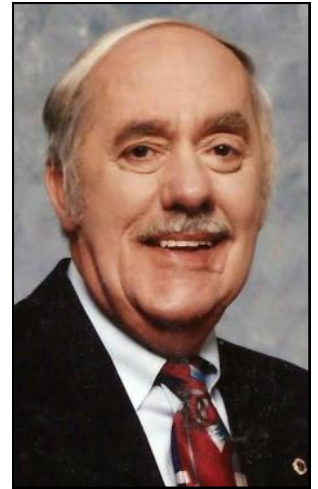
Franklin D. Bell, 78, of Milan, passed away at his home on Tuesday, July 28, 2015. Visitation was Sunday, Aug. 2 at Wendt Funeral Home in Moline. Services were on Monday, Aug. 3, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2810 5th Ave., Rock Island. Burial will be at Rock Island National Cemetery on Arsenal Island. Memorials may be made to Sacred Heart Church, Rock Island, or the Rock Island Evening Lions Club.

Franklin Delano Bell was born in Savanna, Ill., on Jan. 3, 1937, to Henry J. and Estella E. Farrell Bell. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served at Fort Carson, Colo., as part of a USAR control training group.

He graduated from Savanna High School and St. Ambrose College in Davenport. He was a certified life underwriter for Metropolitan Life Company. He was a member of Rock Island's Sacred Heart Church, a life-member of Rock Island Evening Lions Club and a member and past-president of Metropolitan Life Veterans Association. After retiring from Metropolitan, Franklin served 12 and a half years as executive director of Rock Island Clean and Beautiful. He was a member and past-president of AACAA/Mississippi Valley Antique Automobile Club of America and a member of the NRA.

Franklin married Constance Bower on Sept. 30, 1972. In addition to his wife, he is survived by sons, Scott Bell and Franklin T. (MeOsha) Bell, Fort Worth, Texas; stepchildren, Tina Bower, New London, Mo., Tami (Steve) Schmidt, Milan, Tony Bower, Suffolk, Va., and Frank T. (Lisa) Bower, Aledo; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a sister, Ruth French, Savanna; a brother, Wilmer (Marge) Bell, Grand Rapids, Mich.; sister-in-law, Nancy Bell, Anaheim, Calif.; and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Franklin was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Charles Bedford, Robert, James and Carl Bell; four sisters, Doris, Mary, Evelyn and Ferolee Bell; and in-laws, Ed French, Sally Bell and Josie Bedford. Online condolences may be expressed at wendtfuneralhome.com.



2015 MVR CHAPTER EVENTS

Monthly Activities:

- Aug. 21** - SABBE CHICKEN-OWL SURPRISE TOUR , FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 ([DETAILS ON PAGE 4](#))
- Sept. 27th** - Steak Fry hosted by Jim Smith ([SEE PAGE 6 FOR DETAILS](#))
- Oct.** - Fall Drive (Grinnell, Iowa)
- Nov. 14th** - Fall Banquet hosted by John Brewer

Become involved in YOUR club.....I believe that typically in any club when things run smoothly membership is satisfied and members can become complacent. YOUR club is in need of, as always, members taking part in active involvement. Us less experienced members need to look at our treasured experienced members and realize that they all did their part in contributing to YOUR club and many actively still do. Some members have been on the board a long time and many of us do it because no one else is stepping up. PLEASE step up!!!!

YOUR Autograf is transitioning in delivery method and should be easier to compose next year saving funds so we can subsidize more activities. It may take several contributing people, as has been suggested, in many different relevant subjects of interest. Each person on the Autograf staff could produce their field of experience producing a page monthly with one editor orchestrating it. If interested in contributing please let us know! Anyone can contribute stories to the Autograf and it is interesting learning about experiences from early club times. This is our main form of communicating with everyone along with E-Mail. Please keep us updated with current E-Mail addresses!

John Brewer

From Your President



Wow - When they thought about a garage tour who would have thought that we would have 41 cars and lots of people. My little neighborhood hasn't seen that much activity since the last garage sale. What a beautiful day and a great turn out. Thanks to Jim and Bev Smith for providing the meat and running to the grocery store before we got there for more. What a great location and beautiful house. Of course son Fred who uncovered and dusted etc. plus got all the literature together. I must admit I hadn't seen my autos for a long period of time especially the 61. It has had its place in the basement for many, many years but thanks to the climate control has held up well. Hope you all had a good time.

Moving on we have a Friday night tour coming up on the 21st from the Sabbes. Always a good time and we are taking part in the Football Re-creation on the 23rd. If you have a teens through 20's car to display please give Dick Perry a call at 309-792-6563. I'm told that antique dress would be nice if you have it. The football players will all be in early uniforms including helmets. Get your reservations in for the Steak Fry and the committee has determined the route and date for the Fall Tour Oct 17/18.

The summer is flying by. It's August already and I feel like I haven't had time to breath since spring. Since the National doesn't have anything local, I don't have anything major until Hershey. I am on the Strategic Planning Committee however so if you have ideas that can be put into motion Nationally please let me know. We are concentrating on new members. We receive 4 free National memberships for the club and as a Director I get 4 more. It's great to report that we have used all 8 this year for new memberships. If you know of anyone that might be interested, we will have more in January to use.

We have incurred another great loss with the passing of Franklin Bell. Franklin was our Club President when I was Secretary and served as the longest Past President in club history. Please keep Constance and family in your hearts and prayers.

It is close to election time for the club. Up for reelection are the Vice President, Secretary, and 3 Board Members. If asked please give it some thought. Also our Newsletter Editors would like to retire, so if you could help us out it would be stupendous! Even if you would be willing to serve on an 'Autograf' Committee, the job could be a group effort.

Hope to see you soon. Mary B

The Club will have positions open for the 2016 MVR Board. If you are interested in becoming a Board Member please contact your favorite Board member for full details.

MVR Board Meeting

ACA Board Meeting-August Meeting August 5, 2015
Butterworth Center Moline IL

Present:

Mary Bartemeyer, President
John Brewer, Vice President
Dick Perry, Past President
Jan Brewer, Secretary
Jim & Kay Scott, Editors
Fred Bartemeyer, Board Member
Steve Sabbe, Board Member
Jim Smith, Board Member

Absent:

Gary Gleason, Board Member
Barb Hansen, Treasurer
Jess Hansen, Board Member
Gary Smith, Board Member

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Bartemeyer

Minutes:

A motion was made and passed approving the July minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasury report was handed out in the absence of Treasurer Hansen. Report will be filed for audit.

Sunshine: One bereavement card sent.

Roster: Jan Patting was thanked for her work on the new roster.

Membership: We have 3 new applicants. Motions made and approved to accept memberships.

Web Master: N/A

Historian: N/A.

Old Business:

Thirty-two cars participated in the Car Collector Cruise Day. The QC Cruisers were invited and this will be a good event to repeat. The Garage Tour/Cookout had a record crowd with 35-40 vehicles counted. Motion was made and passed to pay the Smith's the monthly event allowance of \$50.

New Business:

August 21 we will have Steve Sabbe's Friday Night Drive ending up at Happy Joe's in Coal Valley. August 23 we are invited to participate by bringing cars to a Vintage Football Game held at Douglas Park. September 27 will be the Steak Fry/Auction. Cost for dinner is \$12.50 and with club subsidizing \$2.50. For members it will cost \$10. Overnight Fall Tour will be October 17th. Details to come. November 14 is the Fall Banquet. We had an entertainer in mind, but board decided he was too costly. We will pursue other entertainment. A motion was made and passed to send a \$25 donation to AACA in memory of Franklin Bell.

Motion made and approved to adjourn meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Jan Brewer, Secretary

SABBE CHICKEN-OWL SURPRISE TOUR AND DINNER FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

Yes, it's that time again, another non-club scheduled old car ride. This time we're headed out into the country, over hill and dale, where most of the chickens become close friends with the screech owls, due to loneliness. But it makes for a nice, leisurely, fun trip in an old car.

ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, WE'LL MEET AT ROCK ISLAND SUNSET PARK, ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE LAKE, LOCATED BETWEEN 18TH AND 31ST AVENUES IN ROCK ISLAND.

EITHER AVENUE WILL TAKE YOU TO THE MEETING PLACE. TRY TO BE THERE NO LATER THAN 5:45, WE'LL LEAVE ABOUT 6:00. CALL ME IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE A LITTLE LATE

----- WE'LL WAIT. DINNER WILL FOLLOW THE DRIVE.

IT'S MORE FUN TO DRIVE OUR CARS THAN TO LOOK AT THEM PARKED IN THE GARAGE! THIS WILL HAPPEN RAIN OR SHINE. SEE YOU THERE.

DICK SABBE 309-764-6676 (Bring your appetite !!!)



Car club members--
We are having OPEN BARN
2015 Sept. 13 from 1:00 P.M. to
4:00 P.M. All are welcome.

Kenny Bush Farm 6706 - 78th
Ave. West Milan, Il 61264
Regards,
Kenny Bush

From Your Editors

We hope everyone has had a chance to look at the e-mail version of our newsletter and also the newsletter on our website. You will find additional information in these formats such as photos, stories, maps and e-mail links, so be sure to look at the e-mail (PDF) or website version. Also, back issues of the Autograf will be on the website that you can view.

We are also looking for a new Autograf Editor starting next year. This is Kay & I's 7th year and it is time for new blood. The new Newsletter format will make doing the Autograf very easy. Most everything for the newsletter is sent to us, such as the Presidents column, the Minutes and future events, articles for stories. If you are interested in becoming the editor, please contact your favorite Board member.

So far it seems everyone is able to read the e-mail Autograf (PDF) and access the newsletter on the website. No one has let us know otherwise. Beginning January of next year, the newsletter will be an e-mail and website version only. If you are not getting monthly e-mails from us, please let us know or you will not receive the newsletter beginning January 2016!

OVERNIGHT FALL TOUR

October 17 & 18, 2015

This year we will be taking a relaxing trip along Route 6 between Davenport and Grinnell, Iowa. We will be visiting two automobile museums along with other stops at quaint points of interest. This will be a laid back trip with stops approximately every 25-30 miles for a total of 120 miles one way.

We will be staying in Grinnell at the Best Western Pioneer Inn. Reservations must be made by October 1st and rooms are \$89.99 plus tax. Call 1-641-236-6116 to reserve your room and mention it is with AACA Car Club for October 17th.

More details will follow and if you have any questions please contact Jan Brewer at 563-340-8516 or leesonrifd@aol.com

Web Address- www.mvraaca.org

On Friday July 10, 2015 to honor Collector Car Appreciation Day, at 6PM a convoy left the Moline Illinois K-Mart parking lot, headed west through downtown Moline and Rock Island, crossed the Mississippi River via the Centennial Bridge into Iowa, turned eastward through downtown Davenport, then looped back westward for several blocks before proceeding north and west to the many restaurants near the NW end of Kimberly Road.

Jim Conrad

Participants, vehicles, and represented car clubs include the following:

QC Cruisers;

John & Andrea Bain: '70 orange General Lee Dodge Charger.

Dennis Broughton: 2014 grey Mustang.

Tom & Michele Dayton: 2002 gold Chrysler PT Cruiser.

Dick & Mary Fisler: '73 red Pontiac Grandville Convertible.

Dave & Jean Klauer: '51 orange Pontiac Chiefton.

Paul Klauer: '50 Chevrolet.

Joe Lewis: 2007 golden-yellow Mustang GT.

Pedro Lopez: '55 blue/white Chevrolet.

Jim & Sue Peterson: modern vehicle.

John & Janet Mastin and Al & Angie Myrick: modern vehicle.

Independents;

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Grant: '60 red/white Corvette convertible.

Pat Sladt: '64 purple Pontiac LeMans.

Marsha Hamilton; '78 black/grey Indy 500 Corvette.

Mr. & Mrs. Andy LeMay and family: '60's/70's maroon American Motors.

QC Camaro Club;

Mike Dawson: '68 blue Camaro.

AACA-MVR;

Mary Bartemeyer, Fred Bartemeyer: '26 Ford Model T.

Jan & John Brewer: '78 Auburn 866 boatail.

Sue Collins & navigator: '68 red/white Mustang.

Jim Conrad: '75 maroon Nova.

Lee Dyer: '48 maroon Chevrolet Fleetmaster.

Jess & Barb Hansen: '31 tan/cream Ford Model A.

John & Mary Hazen: '30 maroon Ford Model A.

Myron & Carla Hazen: '28 green Ford Model A.

Sharon Hoaglund: 2001 black Chrysler 300 convertible.

Robert & Angela Kerr: '60 aqua/white Corvette convertible.

Kyle Krier & Son: '87 black Pontiac Firebird.

Diane Moore & Daughter: '70 green Dodge Polara.

Dick & Sandy Perry: '63 white Studebaker Gran Turismo.

Kent & Valerie Reedy: '34 black Ford sedan.

Dick, Diane, & Steve Sabbe: '63 Buick Riviera.

Jim & Kay Scott: '39 black Ford tudor.

Gary Smith & Allen Smith: '79 yellow Lincoln Towncar.

Jim Smith: '22 black Ford Model T.

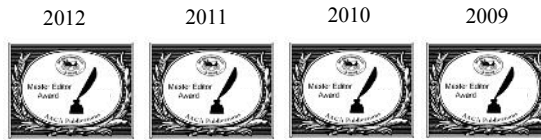
Ed & Marge York: '88 white/blue Pontiac Fiero.

At least Thirty Two Collector cars and Sixty Two enthusiasts participated in the honorary Cruise.

Regards, Jim Conrad.



The Autograf Jim & Kay Scott
P.O. Box 205 - Orion, IL 61273
Ph: 309-526-3295



MVR's Annual September
Steak Fry hosted by Jim Smith
Sunday, Sept. 27
IEBW Hall, 1700 52nd Ave., Moline
Arrive and display your car from 1-4
4 pm— We Eat

Menu:
Ribeye Steak
Or Chicken Breast
Salads and dessert

Remember to bring an item for the White Elephant Sale
It doesn't have to be car related, just something our mem-
bers may be interested in.

Please fill out the form below and return it with your check to
BARBARA HANSEN
4828 85th Ave. West, Milan, IL 61264

by **SATURDAY, SEPT. 14th**

MVR Annual September Steak Fry

MEMBERS — \$10.00 EACH (subsidized by your Club funds)

Ribeye steak number of dinners _____\$10.00 each

Chicken Breast number of dinners _____\$10.00 each

GUESTS — \$12.50 EACH

Ribeye steak number of dinners _____ \$12.50 each

Chicken Breast number of dinners _____\$12.50 each

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to MVR and return to
BARBARA HANSEN
4828 85th Ave. West, Milan, IL 61264
by **SATURDAY, SEPT. 14th**



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Mississippi Valley Region, AACA
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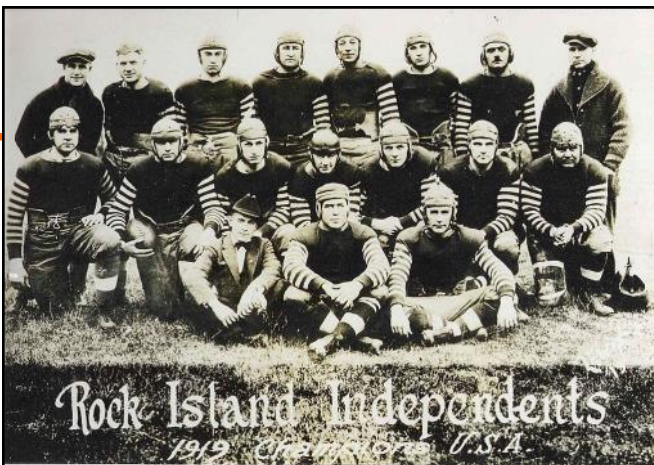
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(309) 788-6985



one of the original NL teams and the Moline Bears (at that time called the Decatur Staleys). They are hoping to have some 20's era cars to have on the sidelines to help create the true 20's atmosphere. If you have a car the is from this period and are willing to participate contact: Dick Perry 762-6563

20's Era Cars Needed

On Sunday August 23, 2015 there will be a vintage football game at 2 p.m. at Douglas Park in Rock Island. The Quad Cities had two profession football teams. The game, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Dept., will be between the Rock Island Independents and the Moline Universal Tractors (The Muts). It will be played using 20's rules and equipment. The Rock Island Independents were

Universal Tractors was the first opponent of the Chicago

Gypsy Coeds Ride the Silver Streak is an exhibition about a 1926 Model T and a changing group of girls around 20 years of age who drove it around the United States and into Canada and Mexico each summer between 1934 and 1942. One of the girls started a correspondence with Henry Ford, who provided letters of introduction for them and met them more than once, a relationship that is well documented in the Benson Ford Research Center files. The owners painted the car silver and it was "Lizzie labeled" each year. The current owner of the car, the son of one of the coeds, is writing a book about the "Silver Streak" and the girls; it will be published by the time the exhibition opens on October 16, 2015. You can visit his extensive website, <http://gypsycoeds.com/>, for more information. This is a great human interest story that deserves even more attention than we can give it. The exhibit runs through January 17, 2016.



1919 Utility Car *by John Nikodym*

This 1919 Velie model 38 Utility Car was purchased new by Augustus Eustis, Isle Au Haut, Maine. For a number of years it was the only auto on the island and was used to carry mail and passengers to the Point Lookout Club.

Don McFarland, Sedgwick, ME, purchased the car in 1960 and removed it from the island via barge. The car was painted gray and, to an extent, showed its half-century of age but was intact and original.

McFarland restored the Velie, painting it maroon with black fenders. In 1985 he sold the car to Randy Hodsdon, Hermon, ME.

Jolyon Hofsted, Shady, NY, purchased the car in about 1989 and again restored the car, now painting it dark green with black fenders. A connecting rod had gone out the side of the crankcase so a replacement rod was found and a patch placed over the hole in the side of the crankcase. In June 1995 Doug James, Woodstock, NY, purchased the Velie. Doug purchased the car for sentimental reasons since he is a grandson of Charles Deere Velie. Doug had the car sorted out mechanically by a local mechanic, then put it up on blocks until this year when he decided it was time for the Velie to have a new custodian.

I agreed to purchase the car from Doug and made plans to pick it up on my way to the Willys-Overland-Knight Registry International meet in North Conway, NH, in June. The Velie had not been run for 15 years so I brought along spare parts including the carburetor and vacuum tank off of my running model 38 touring car because I intended to drive the car on the tours at the meet, even though it was not a car recognized by that club. It was a pleasure to meet Doug and learn more about his Velie family connection. He has promised to provide more information to the Velie Registry on the Charles Deere Velie Family.

After arriving in New Hampshire with the Velie I was able to get it running. I did have to use the carburetor and vacuum tank that I had brought from home because both of these parts needed cleaning and rebuilt. The floats in both had leaks. After driving the car about 70 miles the engine began knocking very loud so I shut it down and had it hauled back to my trailer before more damage was done to the engine. After arriving home I removed the pan and found that number 3 connecting rod bearing had failed and bits of the bearing were found all over the bottom end of the engine. I had a useable old bearing so installed it and now have the engine running once again. Luckily the connecting rod and crankshaft were not hurt.

I found out that the "Blossoms at Butterworth" event was going on in Moline on Sunday June, 28th, the day that we would be traveling through Moline on the way back to Nebraska. This is an annual event at the Deere-Wiman House, Butterworth Center,



Doug James with the 1919 Utility Car

and Rock Island County Historical Society. Included at this event is a car show by the Mississippi Valley Region of AACA. What great timing to be able to display the Velie in Moline where it was built 96 years ago.

We have very little information on the details of the Velie Utility Car. The only original documentation that I have found is the magazine ad that is shown on the following page. The Utility Car does not show up in any of the standard sales brochures. It is not known if the body was built by Velie or some other body builder. The front seats appear to be the same as a four-passenger roadster with a aisle between two separate seats for access to the rear. The rear section is all wood construction with a removable double seat. This car matches the description in the magazine ad but the illustrations in the ad do not match the car exactly. Mr. Hofsted made several minor modifications to the car when restoring it including adding caning to the side of the rear section that would not have been there originally.



John & Joshua Nikodym in the Utility car at North Conway, NH

We would like to thank John for granting permission to reprint his article which appeared in the Velie Newsletter "Long Life"