

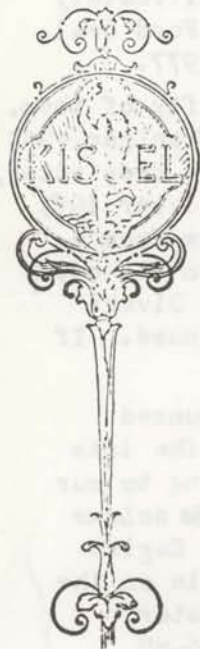
# The Kisselgraph

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Official Publication of the Kissel Kar Klub, 109 North Main Street, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027  
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## CONFIRMING PUBLISHED ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1981 75th Anniversary KISSEL Homecoming to Hartford (Wis.)



Celebrating the incorporation on June 6, 1906 of the Kissel Motor Car Company with \$15,000 paid-in capital (but billion-dollar Ford started with \$30,000!), our 24-year old Klub will have its third five-yearly Homecoming on Saturday and Sunday, August 22 and 23, with Friday before reserved for those who may wish to get settled in advance. The late summer dates were selected to fit dates of a large car and swap meet in Hartford, organized by the local Chamber of Commerce, Dale W. Anderson, Executive Director, so that our members attending will have the benefits of a major Wisconsin meet and the Kissels on hand be seen and appreciated by the large number of people present. While it should be understood that our Kissel Kar Klub meet is separate and independent of the main one, the sponsors are providing secure and safe storage for Kissels in two hangars at the Hartford Airport where our cars will be displayed, AF Reserves as guards. On Saturday afternoon around four p.m. the Kissels will assemble for a parade of Kissel Kars and Kissels only timed to pass through the business center shortly after the 5 p.m. closing of stores. We then proceed onward to the Hartford Country Club for cocktails and a business meeting, followed by dinner which we hope all will attend. Please address a card to the address at the top to register. Identify your car, and please mention the number of people in your party who will attend. We would like the number attending, too, for those who may come without a Kissel. There will be a plaque and souvenir historical folder for each car present.

Since Hartford is only 30 miles from Milwaukee, plenty of accommodations are available. Those wishing the nearest rooms are directed to the following motels, early reservations suggested, of course:

Hartford House, Hartford WI 53027  
414/673-2232

Dillon Inn (lg. Best Western)  
West Bend, WI 53095 (17 miles)  
Toll Free 800/528-1234; local  
is 414/338-0636

(20 miles)  
Holiday Inn, Hwy. 41  
Menominee Falls, WI  
800/238-8000; local  
is 414/255-1700

Do note the name change for the newsletter. It is that of Kissel's house organ for a few years, started in World War I to provide news to the considerable number of employees who went to war. Robert E. Kissel, Jr., of Green Bay, Wis., had the original Kisselgraph logo copied for us. For the report of the 1971 Homecoming included with this mailing and other Homecoming extraordinary expense we are indebted to the Burrichters of Boca Raton, Florida, dealers in collector cars; Dr. Art Burrichter and the active operators of the business, his sons Cal and Ken. They contributed a "finder's fee" for the introduction to the surviving spouse of our former member in Orlando, the late Hugh Reeves, Jr. (1928 8-80s Brougham with wire wheel and side mount option). Some 200 cars and a warehouse full of parts accumulated over the years were involved in the transaction -- and several years of hard work, said Dr. Burrichter!

As both times before, Delyle G. Beyer, prominent in AACA activities, Milwaukee Region, is in charge of hospitality for our Kissel meet. Need directions or have a problem, one of us will be available at

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673-2561. But no calls, please, before the 22nd. Del's industrial construction business is busiest at this time and his time at a premium. His house is in the beautiful glacial rolling country of the Kettle Moraine, near Holy Hill east and a little south of Hartford. Another Kissel besides Del's 1923 6-55 Phaeton in the area is Henry Schwister's 1924 6-55 Speedster. This "Kissel Gold Bug" spent most of its career in New Zealand where "Mick" Robinson took it to many meets and toured with it. The next owner, lawyer H.D. Kidd, raced it in competition actively, competing with the best British thoroughbred cars. Ultimately he sold to David Stone who brought the car to the U.S. where Henry, who though a Ford dealer had wanted a "Gold Bug" all his life, bought it at the Disneyland auction in 1977.

For years there has been much interest in the 1925 Kissels and Nashes, perhaps fifty of them, in the hold of the Lakeland off the mouth of the canal at Sturgeon Bay, in Lake Michigan, sunk December 3, 1924. A first attempt some years ago to raise the vessel, which is in deep water, resulted in splitting the vessel instead and bankruptcy of the salvager. In September 1979 another group headed by a veteran salvager tried to bring up cars by winching them from a second vessel. Only car brought up turned out to be a 1924 Rollin with 22 miles on the odometer, so badly damaged by dragging on the bottom as to be useful only for parts. Divers reported that the hold was full of cars but this second attempt was also discontinued. If anyone has further information, we would like to have it for a further report.

Holiday Inns as new owner of the huge Harrah Collection in Reno, Nevada, has announced that it will sell off the collection, starting with an auction on September 12. The late Bill Harrah was a genuine Kissel fan and has had seven in the collection, according to our records. Remaining ones are: '29 White Eagle 8-126 Speedster; '28 8-90 White Eagle deLuxe Brougham-Sedan, the only survivor of the first run of 100 "specials" termed White Eagles (normal 1928 lines, including typical Kissel arched radiator but with a heavy eagle on the flip-top radiator cap); '22 6-45 deLuxe 7-passenger Touring; and a '19 6-45 Speedster. Where John Price is discontinuing his Roadster Museum in Salt Lake City, his '20 6-45 "Gold Bug" is for sale, a car which placed second nationally in Canada one year. While there are authentic headlamps to go with it, we last understood that E&J aluminum "football" headlamps were installed which we do not think go back before 1922. Then in Maryville, Tenn. the late 1925 8-75 Speedster of the "Standard" type with wood artillery wheels is for sale by Austin K. Mitz. Mrs. G.H. Scott is handling calls at 816 582-7437 or 582-8092 evenings for him. Three Argentine Kissels are for sale: 1928 8-80 Touring, rough and unrestored; 1929 8-95 White Eagle with special roadster body, possibly German, radiator mounted on slant; and 1930 8-95 Tourster with rear-mounted, raked spare wire wheel, a rare and beautiful, restored car. Contact us for information as to owners of the '28 and '29. '30 Tourster may have been brought to U.S.A., being advertised by Paul Moser in Cal., tel. 805 682-2058 evenings, \$28,000 f.o.b. where?

#### Obituaries:

We have mentioned the passing of Bill Harrah which is not news to any of you, having had wide publicity. He was certainly a towering figure in the car hobby. Sadly, we have to report that Mrs. Blanche Kissel, widow of the company's President, George A. Kissel, Sr., died last February at 92. She it was whose insurance money enabled a smaller business called Kissel Industries to reopen part of the closed plant and provide employment to some of the work force. The original work to develop the Burlington Zephyr, first streamlined train, was done there and false starts made in several other ventures before good outboard motors were developed for Sears and later others. After her husband died in 1942 she took full charge at a time torpedo parts were being turned out in World War II. Then in 1944 she sold the business and plant to a friendly company in nearby West Bend who later sold it to Chrysler. Though expanded and long active, it is now on the market. It has been a great misfortune for us to lose old friend G.P. "Dick" Hovey as of March, one of our best and most faithful members. He was the original owner of his 1925 8-75 Speedster, always maintained but not "babied," which he drove all over the U.S. in over 55 years that he owned the car. It now passes to his brother Leon, who survives him and with whose family he resided in Dunedin, Florida. We wish, like the good Kissel automobiles, they could all go on forever.

The V&COA's Bulb Horn, Winter 1971 issue, wrote up our first homecoming. A copy is provided herewith, with the permission of the Editor, Walter O. MacIlvain. Pictures which didn't take are available from us at xeroxing cost plus postage. SEE YOU IN HARTFORD!