

The Kisselgraph

December 1997

Official Publication of the Kissel Kar Klub
c/o Hartford Heritage Inc.
147 North Rural Street
Hartford, WI 53027

Telephone: (414) 673-7999

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual Meeting for 1997 was quite well attended and was represented by members of the Kissel family and members from Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Our special speaker was James Dworschack. Jim was the organizer of the Nash Club. He organized the club before he even was able to drive. That club has now grown to be upwards of 2,000 people in the world. He gave an interesting talk to our group.

Next year's Annual Meeting may be a bit of a problem. There will be some construction going on right near the Museum grounds and we're not entirely sure what stage the construction will be in at the time when we normally have our Annual Meeting. Please look forward to dates in the next Kisselgraph.

EUGENE HUSTING PASSES AWAY:

Those of you that have been in the Kissel Kar Klub any length of time know full well how important Gene Husting was to the beginning organization of the Kissel Kar Klub and to his expertise in detail of the Kissel Motor Car Company and its products.

Many of us have missed being able to communicate with him over the last 3 or 4 years due to his residency at a nursing home. However, we all remember the efforts he put forth in the Kissel Motor Car Company and in his support of the Hartford Heritage Auto Museum.

This obituary is as it appeared in the New York Times, Saturday, November 22, 1997.

HUSTING—Eugene E. (Gene). Of Locust Valley, Long Island, died peacefully on November 20, 1997. Retired Vice President of the First National Bank of Boston, early aviation and antique car historian. Survived by his wife, Betty, and daughters Hillary C. Vander Stucken and Alison H. Zetterquist. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to The Hartford Heritage Auto Museum, 147 North Rural Street, Hartford, WI. 53027. There will be no service.

RECREATION CENTER/CULTURAL CENTER:

During the Annual Meeting I made a presentation about some of the projects that are going to be started on the Museum grounds. The number one project is the Recreation Center. This center should be in construction in 1998. I realize their target is to complete the construction and open in 1998 but we all know what 'building' can be like. In any event, the program was developed in the following manner. The Hartford Heritage Auto Museum Board of Directors has donated approximately 5 acres of land to the City of Hartford. The City of Hartford, then, will be building the Recreation Center which will bring more traffic to the Museum. It will also beautify the area and they will be able to do things on the grounds that we were unable to do because of financial restraints. This includes a brand new parking lot and landscaping which is all seen as a positive move. The parking lot, while the City will own it, we will have 100% rights to its use as long as the Museum is located here. And, in addition, we will have several areas of reserved parking. We certainly haven't given away all of the land. There's still plenty of land available for the Museum to expand to the west of its present building.

In addition, a secondary item has come up which is called 'The Schauer Cultural/Activity Center'. The Cultural/Activity Center is being funded by the Fred Schauer Estate and his wife, Beatrice Kissel Schauer, who put up approximately \$1,000,000 for the project. The key to this project, however, is that it will be located above the present Auto Museum. There is sufficient space that we used to rent out for warehousing that will be converted to what we feel is much better usage. The downtown museum complex area will become the Cultural Center of Hartford. The Cultural/Activity Center construction should be starting, perhaps, as early as 1998 and I believe their completion date is 1999. So, by the year 2000, this place is really going to look different to any of you that have been here before and will certainly be a great benefit to the Museum in the long run.

ANNUAL DONATION SOLICITATION:

I would like to take this time to express our needs for donations. We've been very, very fortunate and lucky to have had as many donations as we have had over the years. We need to increase, however, our cash donations. Through this interim period in negotiating and working on the Cultural Center and the Recreation Center, we have been unable to rent out space that we formally rented for warehousing. Consequently, this has had an effect on our cash flow. As most of you know, we are not tax supported and we have not received any federal or state grants. So, we would ask that, perhaps, this year you consider a donation to the museum.

