

The Kisselgraph

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SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL BANQUET MEETING:

Annual Banquet Meeting for 2001 was a success with a fair amount of attendees enjoying the atmosphere and display's. We had a special guest speaker that talked about another collectible. Something a little bit larger than what most of us are used to. Burt Maul represents an organization that owns and operates 250 ton operating steam locomotive. He gave us allot of information, on not only the engine, but what it takes to actually operate one on today's rail system. All the problems that are encountered with rules and regulations, finding fuel and water, that appear to be significantly more difficult to operate the steam engine than most of us imagine. Members in attendance included those from Florida, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

KISSELS BOUGHT AND SOLD:

Recently a collector found the Kissel of his dreams. Tom Harrington who is from the United States and does business in Paris, France, is a collector of exotic cars, and Nash cars. He has been to the museum on several occasions and we have had some of his Nash cars on loan. Once seen, he really liked the looks of Kissel Speedsters. He asked us to see if we could find a suitable Speedster for his use in Europe. Well, it turns out that Gerd Kellers in Germany owns a Speedster that was actually owned by a museum in Canada, and then went to another collection. Through various dealers it ended up in Switzerland and Gerd Kellers bought it there. Tom was looking at two different Kissel Speedsters. Ultimately I received an e-mail that said he had purchased the one that was in Germany. As some of you were aware, that particular car had allot of extra items on it

This is the '29 8-126 C# 1071 B# 1067

which were after market items and really not Kissel. He is going to see to it that the car is brought up to the normal equipment available to Kissel at the time. Based on the restorations that Tom has done on other vehicles I have seen, I am sure it will be in an excellent example of a Speedster. Welcome to the Kissel Kar Klub Tom!

MUSEUM BOARD DIRECTORS:

The board of directors of the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in their recent elections has put Douglas Kissel on the board. He's the first Kissel family member to be part of the museum board. As I had reported in previous newsletters, he purchased two Kissel cars, both of which are normally displayed at the museum. Of course he has a local interest in the museum project. We're happy to have him aboard the museum structure. For those of you that may be unfamiliar, the board has eleven seats for directors ten of which are filled at present time. The board is made up of a mix of car collectors and non-car collectors to give it a good balance to our operations.

TWO HUNDRED FIFTY TON ADDITION TO OUR MUSEUM:

The latest addition to the museum is a steam locomotive. It is two hundred fifty tons in weight and eighty two feet long. It's an operating locomotive owned by a L.L.P. Corporation, and we have an arrangement with them so that it will be displayed for several years here. It does go out for excursion two to three times per year. The engine was built in 1913 at a cost of twenty five thousand dollars. It's considered a medium duty freighter with a 2-8-2 wheel configuration. The engine was used for hauling freight in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, covering nearly two million miles during its life. The locomotive was retired and given to the City of Superior, Wisconsin in 1959, and in 1994 the engine was purchased and restored at a cost of over three hundred thousand dollars. The engine will be on display to the public, hopefully by Spring of 2002, as part of our automobile collection. For those of you that have never been here, the museum covers two floors. This was a former canning factory, as such there is indoor loading dock, and rail sidings, so the engine is inside. It is just a matter of time for us to provide a safe area for the general public to view this excellent addition.

WORK NOT YET STARTED:

The Grant that I reported on earlier to make improvements to the museum has run into a few snags, mostly with timing at the State level. The money of course will be coming to us, but the actual construction may not start until the middle of 2002, that's the bad side. The good side is that gives us additional time to raise money for our match, since it is a matching Grant. During this time of the year perhaps you can help us in making a donation which is fully tax deductible. It would be greatly appreciated by the museum.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

