



FREEDOM ROAD RALLY

“the classic car enthusiast’s
DREAM VACATION”

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**Newsletter
2012
3rd Quarter**

Wisconsin Report

A Car’s Story

Carolina Bound

Wisconsin In the Rear View Mirror

With the sun shining bright on Sunday morning a stunning assortment of vintage cars were lined up for the Freedom Road Wisconsin Loop. Cars and occupants were ready to set out on an adventure through the back roads of Wisconsin. Over the coming week the group would enjoy a real road trip, taking in the beautiful sights and some of the best attractions the area had to offer.

Starting out near Milwaukee, we first cruised south to the Volo Auto Museum where hundreds of classic cars can be seen as well as four antique malls. From there we headed up through Lake Geneva to House On The Rock, which has been a Wisconsin tourist destination for more than 50 years. After a tour of this amazingly unique home and the astonishing collections it houses, rally participants headed off to Dr. Evermor’s Foreverton, which is a sculpture park like no other. Hundreds of sculptures all made from welded pieces of scrap metal range in size from a foot tall to the massive Foreverton, world’s largest scrap metal sculpture. There is a set of five 20-foot-long Komodo dragons. You can play ‘music’ on the dragons by striking them with any piece of metal. Some participants stopped off to tour Wollersheim winery, named best winery in the U.S.



In Baraboo, The Circus World Museum was the setting for a magic show and circus performances. The museum boasts the largest collection of circus wagons along with dazzling displays of costumes and other circus ephemera. From there it was on the Wisconsin Dells and a ride on The Original Wisconsin Ducks. The hour long tour on actual WWII amphibious vehicles, called ducks, has been voted the best ride in Wisconsin and did not disappoint. The energetic young tour

guides provide witty commentary while grinding gears and maneuvering the massive six-wheel drive vehicles through winding trails and water splashdowns. The duck tour was the best possible way to see the unique rock formations along the river and through a narrow winding canyon, which is barely wider than the vehicles themselves.



The tour followed more back roads north to an amazing private collection that included a dual cowl Deussenberg, V-12 and V-16 Cadillac’s, Packard’s, a Kissel and more. One lucky Cadillac actually resides inside the house. Then it was on to Iola for snacks and a chance to meet the staff of Old Cars Weekly and the Iola Show organizers. Traveling further East to Symco, the group got to explore the private collection of Larry Werth. Larry created his own little town, called



Unionville, to house his lifetime collection of antiques. With about twenty buildings it includes a saloon, school, church and train station. Unionville was featured on an episode of 'American Pickers'. Although Larry had recently passed away, his widow, Diane, graciously welcomed the rally participants and provided a tour.

Each Freedom Road Rally has a

transportation theme, so heading further East to Oshkosh, the tour stopped at the Experimental Aircraft Association's Airventure Museum, which is a world-class aviation museum. In addition to the main museum, several hangars were available to explore. In Green Bay, the route led to the National Railroad Museum, with its impressive collection of rolling stock and a train ride. Then it was off the shores of Lake Michigan and its gorgeous white sand beaches. In



'Friendly Algoma', participants were able to visit the Von Stiehl Winery and the Flying Pig, a unique arts and crafts gallery surrounded by gardens.



In Manitowoc, the Wisconsin Maritime Museum was the setting for the Victory Dinner, because to finish is to win. In addition to a catered dinner and run of the museum for the evening, participants were able to take a guided tour of a WWII submarine. The sixth and final day of the trip featured some of the best scenery, first driving south along the lakeshore then heading inland to Kettle Moraine Scenic Drive. After hopping off the scenic drive and a stop at the Ice Age Visitor's Center, it was on to Hartford and the Wisconsin Automotive

Museum. Hartford is where Kissels were manufactured.

Traveling a little further south brought the tour back to the starting point and another celebration at Quaker Steak and Lube where the management had reserved parking and tables for Freedom Road and a live band played throughout the evening. It was a great trip and a good time was had by all. A few car troubles arose through the week and a couple of the vehicles rode on the chase trailer briefly, but were fixed and back on the road the next morning and everyone went home happy.

Freedom Road 2012 By Dick Nelson

As an old DeSoto, I was so excited to be picked out of the warehouse to go on the Freedom Road Wisconsin loop that I developed a steering box leak. I made sure that even though my owner over drove the corners I wouldn't let those new Firestones squeal.

One day during a light rain I got to try out the new Trico wiper blades, which none of the big dinosaurs back in the shop would have the chance to do. Of course, to show off against the other cars - Chevys, Fords, and Tetra's, I burnt some oil, enough to let the "other" cars know I was mature - like 75,000 miles on my rings.

One day, while my owner was trying to pass a very attractive younger Olds convertible, I got loose belts. But later in the day things cooled off and tightened back up. As things would go, my owner just would not park me next to the younger red car at night. Instead, he would leave me by another old lady like the white '60 Lincoln, so we would just chat about old times all night long and await the next days adventures winding through those Wisconsin back roads.

In one small town my owner treated me to some 91 octane regular gas without corn, a special treat! Then he ran me up to 70 mph, which ended up blistering my front brake shoes on a hill and now we squeal a lot! Later in the day, I got tired and just couldn't keep up. Soon 50 became 40 and a big '59 White Pontiac pulled up behind me and became quite sympathetic. He offered suggestions but also followed me home so I wouldn't become a DNF. Later at a pit stop a '60 Red Chevy guy gave me a new fuel filter and I went ripping out of the parking lot like a teenager! Who was that guy????

Well, now it's back home again and no more fun for a while. I do hope he gives my rear end U-joint a shot of grease, changes my oil, and adjusts my trunk so it won't open when I hit a bump!

So.....where are my hubcaps anyway?! - "Sunshine"



Carolina On Our Minds

In September we'll be returning to the Carolina's. We ran this tour in June of 2008 and are looking forward to doing it again. The weather should be a little cooler than our previous

visit with daily highs in the 70's. Autumn is the driest season in North Carolina, so we're hoping for clear skies to accompany the nice temperatures. Of course we will be visiting the Biltmore Estate and it's



century old 250 room chateau and gardens situated on 5000 beautiful acres in the mountains near Ashville. Since our last visit, Biltmore Estate has added Antler Hill Village, with shops, eateries and historic exhibits. It is situated adjacent to the winery. Edith Vanderbilt's car is also now on display at the winery. It is a rare 1913 Stevens-Duryea Model C-Six. Other



stops will include the C. Grier Beam trucking museum, the Wheels Through Time Motorcycle museum in Maggie Valley, Nascar highlights, Punchy's Diner, the Dennis Carpenter factory and more. Of course, the scenic driving can't be beat, as we'll be traveling along miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway. We expect this trip to be even more fun than last time. If you didn't make it to Wisconsin, we hope to see you in North Carolina.

