



FREEDOM ROAD RALLY

“the classic car enthusiast’s
DREAM VACATION”

www.freedomroadrally.com

937 498 0748

P.O.Box 888 Sidney, OH 45365

**Newsletter
2014
3rd Quarter**

**Ohio River
Rally Aces
Georgia in October**

Cruising the Ohio River Valley

The staff could hardly wait for the June tour to get underway because we had a super surprise in store for the rally participants at the Victory Dinner. But, before we could do that we had to get through all the travel and activities that were planned for the first five days of the trip. We gathered in Dayton, Ohio, with all the usual revelry and anticipation that precedes each rally, hugging and greeting returning friends and meeting new ones. On Sunday we headed out to tour the Dayton area beginning with the Packard Museum and then Carillon Park. It was a nice warm sunny day for strolling around and exploring all of the historical buildings and seeing the collections of vintage railroad cars, and cash registers and the famous Wright Flyer. On Monday morning, we headed out of Ohio stopping

first at Brookville Roadster. The staff there was wonderful. They had donuts waiting for us and we were also treated with a terrific tour of the factory and private collection. From there, we motored west along The National Road, “America’s original Main Street”, into Southern Indiana and to The Model T Ford Club Museum in Richmond. One highlight of their collection is an airplane powered by a Model T engine. After admiring the museum pieces, we got to explore their warehouse. Then we walked across the street to lunch at the old firehouse, which has been converted to a barbecue restaurant. Leaving Richmond, we followed the National Road farther into Indiana, then turned South and after crossing some historic covered bridges, including a rare double barreled one, we arrived in Columbus at the perfect time for a stop at Zaharakos 1900 Ice Cream Parlor. There we not only partook of sundaes and shakes and the soda fountain museum, but were given guided tours of the fully restored and sumptuously appointed upstairs apartment. On the third day, we visited the Miller House and several other architectural landmarks that Columbus is famous for as well as the Cummins Engine International Headquarters before travelling a couple more hours to French Lick. After a day that included a lot of walking, it was nice to relax on the huge veranda at the French Lick Springs Resort and spend a night in luxurious comfort. The next morning we popped over to the nearby sister property West Baden Springs Hotel and took a guided tour of that fabulous historic property with it’s 200 foot domed atrium before heading southeast toward Louisville, Kentucky. As we made our way deeper into limestone country the trip became even more scenic



and the twists and turns of the Ohio River Scenic Byway made for a real driving experience. Crossing over the Ohio River dropped us right into Louisville where we toured the Louisville Slugger Factory followed by Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby Museum. We then travelled a little further south before wrapping up day four. Thursday morning found us on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail, but even better, it was finally the day of the Victory Dinner. The morning was great as we toured My Old Kentucky Home and Heritage Hill Distillery. Lunch was in Bardstown, one of the most beautiful small towns in America, and as luck would have it, a Model T tour was also having lunch there. Our cars combined with the T's made a wonderful swirling cacophony of vintage cars entering the traffic circle around the beautiful courthouse and heading off in all directions. After lunch, we headed northeast through the Bluegrass region, past the Kentucky Statehouse, and stopped at Rebecca Ruth candies for a tour and some of their famous bourbon ball chocolates. Finally, it was time to make our way to Newport for the banquet. Since this was a tour of the Ohio River region and the tenth anniversary of the rally, the staff had decided to plan something really special, by booking a hotel right on the riverfront and having the banquet on a riverboat, and keeping it a secret. Of course, plenty of time had been allowed for everybody to get



to the hotel well before the banquet. But, fate decided to torment us a little with a major accident that closed the interstate and turned our state routes and all of Newport, Kentucky into gridlock for several hours. While Tom and Donna frantically operated the chase truck and assisted lagging vehicles near the rear, Scott and Anna sat helplessly in bumper-to-bumper traffic fearing that our banquet would paddle off without us. Thankfully, everyone made it in time to catch the boat in spite of the horrendous traffic snarl up and the cruise was amazing. The weather was perfect. We enjoyed dinner on our own private deck as we cruised up the river then strolled the decks on the way back. We saw the sun set over the

Cincinnati skyline and arrived back at the dock with a great view of the city lights. In the end, we enjoyed one of the very best Victory Dinner's ever and there was still another full day of touring ahead. We ate breakfast overlooking the river then headed across the nearest bridge into Cincinnati. The first stop was Union Terminal with its' art deco architecture, soaring rotunda, intricate mosaic tile murals and extensive history museum. We got a behind the scenes tour of the president's office and other art deco treasures tucked away in the vast facility. It was a quick jump to the American Sign Museum with its' bright



neon and sign making demonstration. Our final stop on the way back to Dayton was EnterTrainment Junction, the largest indoor model train display. Their G (garden) Scale layout includes 2 miles of track. Owner, Don Oeters, led us on a tour through the underside of the massive layout and it's inner workings. Fascinating. The 'survivors' then made their way back to Dayton for another dinner. We were very pleased that our tenth anniversary tour had everything we strive to include, planes, trains, automobiles and boats, scenic driving, art, architecture, small towns, regional history, gardens, a house tour, ice cream, a 'Wow factor' hotel, a memorable banquet and a great group of car folks to enjoy it all with. Thank-you, everyone who joined us to celebrate.



Jerry, Mary and Lyle Honored as Ten Rally Aces

After ten years of touring, it is time to acknowledge those intrepid individuals who return time and again to adventure with Freedom Road. At the June Tour Victory Dinner, Jerry Fatkin, Mary Fatkin and Lyle Corey each received Rally Ace pins in recognition of completing their tenth tour. Special winged Rally Ace decals were also displayed on their cars through the week. Rally Ace pins are new this year and several people received Five Rally Ace pins. Ralph and Molly Merrill – 5 tours. Larry and Claudia Reichart – 6 tours. Brenda Letourneau, Ivo Sleezak Alice Wirth and Bob Wirth – 8 tours. Congratulations to all. We enjoy traveling with you.



Take a Fall Cruise Through Georgia

Sometimes it seems like it would be hard to top our last tour, but that doesn't stop us from trying and fall is a perfect time of year for traveling in a classic car. October 19-24 are the dates set for the upcoming trip to Georgia. The north Georgia mountains are scenic with winding drivers' roads and terrific small towns like the Bavarian themed village of Helen.



Warner Robbins Air Force Base is home to the second largest US Air Force Museum. The region is steeped in history and littered with Antebellum homes and beautiful gardens. Harlem is the birthplace of Oliver Hardy and home to the Laurel and Hardy Museum. There is space available on the tour and we are looking forward to touring this exciting region with the Freedom Road Rally participants.

Annual FRR Cookout

Mark your calendar. Fall is time for the AACA Hershey Meet and the annual Freedom Road Rally Cookout.

Date: Thursday Oct. 9

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: Hershey, Pennsylvania @ the
AACA Fall Meet Flea Market

Location: Spaces GDH 16-20

All Freedom Road Rally Participants Are Invited

