

NEWSLETTER



May 2016

In just four weeks, the 7th Annual BttB's Promo Tour, aka the "Friendship Tour," hits the road. Currently, registrations are about twenty-percent higher than last year at the same time. At this rate, we will break the two hundred mark, and set a new record for tour participants. Advance preparation/planning by the Promo committee promise to make this the best tour ever. Day Captain Keith Damon and Jerry Childs have worked diligently with the Army brass at Camp Grayling to arrange a tour of the base. Obviously, security was a major concern. The Army will provide us with an escort who will accompany us on the three-and-half mile tour of the base. Specific instructions will be included in the daily updates in your registration packet. You will notice a 'BIG' difference this year in the route instructions. Gone are the large tan envelopes. Ralph Messer has compiled a spiral bound tour book complete with daily driving instructions, maps, landmarks, emergency numbers, Baker College Service Vehicle Support phone numbers, hotel information, etc. The booklet will also include a complete listing of tour participants, make, model, and color of cars, and their hometown. It is exciting to see growing interest and participation from well beyond the Flint area. Currently, in addition to those from the neighboring state of Indiana, we have registrants from as far away as Texas, Tennessee, and Ontario.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION for those planning to attend Back to the Bricks this year. The Flint water crisis has made national and international news. The good news is that lead contamination due to Flint's aging infrastructure is being addressed, and visitors to Flint this year need not fear. These are the facts: 1. Bottled water and other beverages will be widely available. HAP, a long time and valued sponsor, has provided hydration stations in downtown Flint during Saturday's Main Event for 4 or 5 years, predating the current water issues, and will continue to do so this year. 2. All restaurants in downtown Flint have installed "state of the art" water filtration systems that have been tested and certified as safe. 3. All hotels, with the exception of one, are located outside the city limits, and are still on the Detroit water system which is not affected, and Holiday Express, located in Flint, was built long after lead pipes were banned.

So spread the word! No need to fear! Flint is ready, willing, and able to host another outstanding "Back to the Bricks." I am issuing a challenge to the car collector community to show up en masse August 16 - 20, to "see and be seen," share stories, and support the hardworking people and businesses in the Flint community.

The Vehicle City, birthplace of the automotive industry, is proud to host one of the biggest and best FREE car shows in America. Continuing in the twelve year tradition of Back to the Bricks, all activities of Main Event Week are free to both attendees and participants. Join us for a week of family-friendly camaraderie and fun. You will not be disappointed!

Finally, if you receive this via 'FaceBook' or email, please share or forward to others. BttBs is too good to keep to ourselves. Thanks for your help.

CORDially,
Al Hatch, Board Chair and Founder
Back to the Bricks, Inc.

P.S. A word to the wise from those bumper stickers we occasionally see on other cars that read, 'HONK IF YOU LOVE GOD, TEXT IF YOU WANT TO MEET HIM!' Cell phones and driving are a lethal combination. Safety First!