



March, 2017

Dear Friends,

It may look like winter today, but Spring is just around the corner. Consider the uncharacteristically warm days in February and early March a sign that it's time to get your collector car out of storage, and take it for a spin when the weather cooperates. Some of you have already done this, and enthusiasm is building for our next "Back to the Bricks®" sponsored event; the 2017 "Promo Tour," officially dubbed the "Heritage Tour." Rhonda Rau, co-chair Pete Cimbala, and the entire committee have been planning, organizing, and working hard since last July, and this year's tour promises to be the best ever with a more relaxed atmosphere, fewer total miles to drive, and a variety of activities designed to appeal to a broader range of interests.



The 8th Annual Heritage Tour begins in Flint on Friday, June 9th with our traditional breakfast buffet sponsored by [Security Credit Union](#) at the IINN building located on the corner of Saginaw Street and Hemphill. After breakfast and a short drivers' meeting, tour participants will depart for our first overnight stop in Clare, Michigan. On the way to Clare, we will make a mid-day stop in St. Louis, Michigan. The residents of St. Louis plan to "roll out the red carpet" for us. After lunch, for the first time, the Clare County Sheriff's Department will provide a police escort from St. Louis all the way to Clare. Once in Clare, tour participants can expect a great evening of food and entertainment with a movie/musical "Grease" theme. Costume and dance prizes will be awarded, and each driver will receive a photo magnet of their car. For the first time, there will be parking for the entire night until our departure Saturday morning on old U.S. 27 right in front of our host hotel, the [Doherty](#), and police security will be present the entire night.

Saturday morning, we begin our journey to Big Rapids with mid-morning stops in Hersey and Reed City to check out the vintage shops and museums. The small town of Reed City is ecstatic that the Heritage Tour will be visiting their city this year, another "first". From Reed City, we will travel to our second host city. Big Rapids will roll out the welcome mat with a downtown car show. Participants can expect "Goodie" bags and a police escort from our host hotel on this leg of the trip.



On Sunday, the tour will stop at the [Mid-Michigan Motorplex](#) in Stanton to watch drag racing, and we will have an opportunity to drive our cars on the track. Upon our arrival in Muskegon, the city will host a lunch for tour participants "on the beach." A free shuttle bus will be available to take us to a nearby WWII submarine display. The downtown will be cordoned off, and we expect several local clubs to join us for the Sunday afternoon/evening car show in Muskegon.

Monday morning, it is off to Coldwater, the longest leg of our journey between host cities, featuring approximately 180 scenic miles of back road beauty. We are encouraging every city on this year's itinerary to promote their unique "Heritage." Coldwater will offer tours and a chance to sit in on a rehearsal at the [Tibbits Opera House](#), and a trip down memory lane at the [Capri Drive-In Theatre](#). Parking for the show in Coldwater will be in the historic district just one block off US 12. [The Broadway Grille](#) will host a tent featuring a local Micro Brewery, and will stay open late for us.



On Tuesday, we travel to Adrian, stopping first in Tecumseh for lunch, courtesy of [Ididit](#), and a tour of their manufacturing facility. Ididit is a major supplier of steering columns and components for the custom and hot rod market. After lunch, we will proceed to Adrian, a city that is anxious to highlight its recently renovated historic business district. Tour participants will also have a opportunity to visit the [Lenawee County Historical Museum](#), the oldest active museum in Michigan.



This year's "End of the Road" Party and complimentary luncheon will be hosted by [Lasco Ford](#) and the Fenton Chamber of Commerce. Drivers who have completed the entire tour, our "long haulers," will receive a commemorative, collectible metal parking sign. To qualify, drivers must have a lanyard with all 5 host cities "punched" by our "officials," George and Peggy Patton. **No exceptions!**

ABC-12 will again provide coverage for the entire tour, and Baker College will provide emergency roadside assistance if necessary for mechanical problems. If you have not signed up yet, it's not too early to rally your friends, [register](#) for the "Heritage" Promo Tour 2017, and book your hotel rooms in the host cities. We have more than 100 committed participants so far which includes a number of first-timers. The experience is PRICELESS! Next



month's newsletter-breaking info [Tour](#), the roll out ty Car Event" Cal-new sponsors.

CORDially,

Al Hatch, Founder and Board Chair

Back to the Bricks™, Inc.