

NEWSLETTER



May 2019

Dear Friends!

Spring Has Sprung

Spring has finally arrived. The grass is green. The flowers are blooming, and although the temps are a bit chilly, it's time to get those collector cars out of storage and ready for a summer of fun. With all the rain, perhaps I should write a newsletter about boats instead of cars. On second thought, I'll stick to cars!



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Up Close and Personal



The 10th Anniversary "Celebration" PROMO TOUR is less than 3 weeks away, and a record number of participants, including Chuck and Nancy SeKrenes from Burton, are getting their prized vehicles ready for the "long haul." Tour veterans, Chuck, a skilled trades retiree from Buick, and Nancy who retired from Chase (Genesee) Bank, have been on every tour so far. Their black 1932 Ford with a tan deer-hide interior is a "retro-mod." The 3-window coupe, completely original on the outside, is powered by a 1994 V-8 Mustang engine, equipped with full power, and modern creature comforts like air conditioning. For them, the Tour is an annual event for family and friends. Chuck says it would be impossible to recount the highlights from the last nine years, but they love traveling the scenic roads and visiting different cities and towns along the way. Shopping is a favorite activity on the tour, and he admitted they do their part to boost the economy of the host cities. They are excited about touring the "Soo Locks" this year.

Promo Tour



The fun begins on Friday, June 7th at St. John's Parish Hall in Davison with a lavish breakfast buffet, sponsored again this year by our friends at [ELGA Credit Union](#). After breakfast, the "blessing of the cars" by Father Andrew, and a prayer for safe travels, good weather, and no breakdowns, more than 300 vehicles, nearly 600 humans, and a few canines head north. Our first overnight stop is downtown Clare. By Friday mid-afternoon, BUS127 will be blocked to regular traffic, and cars will be allowed to remain on the main drag overnight until our departure on Saturday morning. On-site security will be provided by the City of Clare. REMINDER: Tie-Dyed T-shirts and Bell Bottom Pants might just put you in contention for the "Peace" themed Costume Contest in Clare.

Saturday is the longest leg of the Tour as we travel from Clare across the Mackinac Bridge to Sault Ste. Marie with a lunch stop on the way in Roscommon where we will enjoy expanded parking, more food vendors, and entertainment, and participate in a downtown car show. "Rusty Nuts" Car Club will be our hosts and will direct parking for Promo Tour participants. Be sure to check out the local businesses before you continue your journey to the "Soo!"



We expect to arrive in Sault Ste. Marie around 4PM on Saturday. No events are scheduled for the first evening. Tour participants are encouraged to explore the oldest city in Michigan and the surrounding area, have a leisurely dinner, and relax. Sunday morning in the "Soo," our "official" Back to the Bricks® pastor and fellow Tour participant, Dr. Stephen Anthony, will conduct a brief non-denominational church service at the host hotel, and if previous years are any indication, he will include at least one of his great car stories. The big car show in downtown Sault Ste. Marie is set for Sunday. Consult your tour booklet for more information and details.



After two nights in the "Soo" (June 8 & 9), we travel back to the Lower Peninsula for a doughnut stop in Cheboygan and a noonday car show. From Cheboygan, it is a relatively short drive to Gaylord, our host city on June 10th, for an evening car show, street dance, and costume party with a 50's and 60's theme, so pack accordingly. For some of us, that might be

difficult since everything from that era seems to have shrunk! In West Branch, always a favorite, we will have a police escort on the 11th from the north side of town to [Hodges Chevrolet](#) for lunch prior to the car show later in the day.

It's "on the road again" Wednesday morning the 12th with a doughnut stop in Standish hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and Visitors' Bureau on the way to Bay City where we expect to arrive around 11:00 AM. We have it on good authority that the Promo Tour is the inaugural, the very first, event to take place at the brand new Waterfront in [Uptown Bay City](#). Our "End of the Road Luncheon" at Noon will be hosted by our long-time sponsor, [Graff Chevrolet of Bay City](#), and by 2:00 PM, the [2019 Promo Tour](#) will be history.

Down the Road

'Tis the season for cruising and car shows. For example, Davison's first car show of the season was Friday, May 17th, and there was a great response. Between now and the Promo Tour, and between the Promo Tour and the Tune-Up Parties leading to the Main Event in August, Back to the Bricks® encourages you to check the "[COMMUNITY CAR EVENT](#)" [CALENDAR](#)

on our website regularly for cruises and car shows in your area, and support our friends in the Classic Car Community.



15 Years & Going Strong

STATUE PLAZA



The MAIN EVENT in August promises to be more spectacular than ever as we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Back to the Bricks®. The [STATUE PLAZA](#) on the Flat Lot in Downtown Flint has been spruced up for spring. It's a great place to learn about some of Flint's important automotive pioneers!

LAPEER DRAGWAY



The five-day extravaganza which normally begins on Tuesday, is expanding to six days with the addition of special activities on Monday, August 12, 2019 at the [Lapeer International Dragway](#), one of our newest sponsors. Stay tuned for information about that, and more in future newsletters, on Facebook, and our website as details become available.

"Bricks Flicks"



Join us on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at the nostalgic US 23 Drive-In theater on Fenton Road for the 10th Anniversary of "[BRICKS FLICKS](#)." To celebrate this milestone, this year's feature film is "American Graffiti," the timeless coming-of-age story that we showed the very first year. Collectible T-shirts commemorating the 10th Anniversary of "Brick's Flicks" will be available for purchase.

Cruise "N" Concert



We are excited to announce that our special musical guests for the **CRUISE"N" CONCERT** will be two amazing tribute bands. The "bricks" on Saginaw Street in front of the Water Street Pavilion in Downtown Flint will become a sea of lawn chairs as fans gather to listen and enjoy the biggest and best FREE outdoor concert ever.



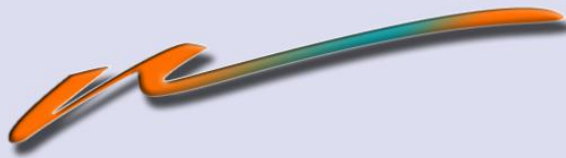
An up and coming local group, the Chicago tribute band, "**OLD DAYS**," will open our MUST SEE show, followed by this year's headliner, LIVE and on stage, "**SURF'S UP**," the nationally acclaimed Beach Boys tribute band. Join us for a night of fabulous music, and more, Friday, August 16, 2019!

Thank You ABC-12

Finally, I would like to salute **ABC-12**, "YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE," for their community involvement, and for excellent and timely coverage of all things Back to the Bricks® for the past 15 years, and for being embedded on the Promo Tour every year for 10 years. We are blessed to have ABC-12 as a Premier Sponsor!



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



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