

Pere Marquette Luncheon and Grafton Winery Tour

Finally, we had a weekend that was nice weather and, boy howdy, did we take advantage of it!! April 29 was the date, Sunday was the day. Last year was an absolutely miserable weather day and we even encountered a tornado on our way home. This year, however, the weather could not have been more beautiful. We all met at the Pitstop gas station in West Alton to begin our day. We were graced with 5 Buicks—Steve Dodson’s ‘68 Electra, Bob Windal’s ‘70 GS455, John Lasinski’s ‘71 GS455, John Midkiff’s ‘66 GS and Geoff Lockett’s ‘49 Super. We were joined by Howard Hesketh as the guest of Steve Dodson with his really nice ‘75 Bricklin.

Heading up the River Road, we were in a veritable traffic jam of motorcycles and various vintage cars on their way up to Grafton for a day of outdoor enjoyment. Speedometers hit 70 at one point, but Geoff’s ‘49 kept up with the pack in impressive fashion.

Our first stop of the day was at the Pere Marquette Lodge. If you have never been there, it is an extremely impressive structure, having been built by the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) during the Great Depression. It is all stone block with a high ceiling great room and a chess board with 3 foot high chess pieces. We were escorted to the dining area for a delicious family style fried chicken meal. There were 20 seated with us, which is the largest turnout for this event in recent memory.



Look at those gorgeous Buicks in the Parking Lot



Grafton Winery

We then capped off our day with a trip to the Grafton Winery for some fine beverages to satisfy our taste buds. We all sat out of the deck enjoying our beverages and the fellowship of our car club friends.

All in all, a very nice day that left everyone with a smile on their face at the end of the day.

