

Memorial Day Tour

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Well, it all started out when my dad's friend Don was coming out from California. Don thought it wasn't a very good idea but his wife Joanne said, "Donald just go!" So...he did and he had an awesome time on this tour but I will tell you more about that later. Anyway, on Friday night before the tour on Saturday, Jim Hess came to stay at our house. He got to know Don and he really enjoyed him. So we had a very nice dinner at our house which included smoked pork sandwiches. By the way, those sandwiches are REALLY GOOD!!!!!!

On Saturday morning, Kevin Brusco came to our house because he was driving our car since something came up with my dad and he could not go. After we packed our luggage up and got everyone loaded up in the car, we were off to Baraboo where the tour was. On our way, we stopped at a gas station in Pardeeville and there was a ton of traffic. Also, there were A LOT of rummage sales!!!! I never have seen so many in my entire life! It seemed like it took forever to get to Baraboo but actually it wasn't that far. We took a lot of back roads to get

there. When we finally arrived in Baraboo, my brother, Paul, couldn't find the other half of his map. So we had to pull over so Jim Hess could give it to him. Then, we got back in our cars and went to the hotel. When we arrived the lady at the front desk said, "Nice car out there." She really liked it. I mean...who wouldn't? So we unpacked and went into our rooms to get situated. Then we had to wait for everyone else to get there so we could go to lunch.

It turns out they were already at the park, so we got in our cars and went to Haskins park, which isn't very far from where we were staying. We went to a winery and when we got there it was really big!!!! I didn't even know there were existing wineries in Wisconsin. Anyway, my brother and I went on a tour of the winery. First, they showed a video of the history of the winery. Then we went downstairs to where the gift shop used to be and the tour guide said that the floor we were standing on was the original flooring. You could see marks in the flooring from the horse carriages and some imprints of horse hooves. After that we went outside to where the vineyards were. There was a cave but we could not go inside. Then we went back inside to another building where we watched a video of how the wine is made. When we were done watching the video, we went down to the cellar where all the wine was in the wooden barrels. They had a sign that said, "Shhh wine sleeping." I thought it was kind of funny. Lastly, we went up stairs to where they had wine tasting and showed us the proper way to drink wine. Of course my brother and I didn't try it but the tour guide asked if we wanted any non-alcoholic wine but we said no. Finally we left the winery and headed back to the hotel.

After we had gotten back to the hotel, some of us decided to eat in the hotel restaurant. After we finished eating my brother and I decided to go swimming. A few minutes later Katie Stock

came down and we talked then Paul left. So then Katie and I talked and swam until about 10.

The next morning we got up to shower then we went down to eat breakfast. After breakfast we headed out to the car so we could get ready to go. We went to The Mid-Continent Railroad Museum. But when we arrived, there was no one there. While we waited for someone to arrive, all the cars got lined up for a really neat picture. They looked very nice. When we were done with the picture, we went into a big railroad museum shed where they had lots of restored trains. You could actually look into them and when you did, there were manikins wearing old clothes.

When we all got done looking at them, it was time to go. But Greg (aka “Rock” Zangl) was missing and nobody could find him. They looked all around the building and inside too. Nope, still couldn’t find him. So then a few cars stayed back and the rest of us went to lunch. On the way, as we were coming down a hill, Kevin noticed that we had no brakes! So he had to pull the parking brake. I knew something was not going right. Then there was another problem. The left rear wheel kept making a clicking noise. So we had to pull over and so did a few other people. At the time we thought it was the spokes. After that stuff was fixed, we made our way back to lunch. When we arrived there, it was a little bar with lots of rifles and pistols on the walls, and they had sandwiches, so that was our lunch.

When we were done with that, Kevin decided it was too dangerous for anyone to ride in the car. So he very carefully drove it back to the hotel and Beatrice (our Model T) was not able to make it through the rest of the tour. Paul, Don, and I were able to find different rides so we could still continue on the tour.

Later, when we got back to the hotel, my dad and my sister were going to come and visit us. When they came, we went to a restaurant across the street and a few minutes after we were in there, it started to down pour. It was still raining when we left. But when we got back to the hotel, we went swimming. Me, Paul, Katie, Greg, and Ford all decided to make a whirlpool in the pool since there was no one down there. It was a lot of fun. We had to run really fast and when you got to one corner you would get sucked in and had trouble getting out.

Then the night had ended and we woke up the next day and started all over again. We went on the car ferry across the Wisconsin River, and I had never been on one before. I thought it was cool but it didn't seem like we were moving.

When we got off, we went to Portage and some people split off from the group because they had to get home. When we got there we went to the Surgeons Quarters and it was kind of interesting. There was an old cabin and an old school house. We had a tour through them and it was very interesting listening to what the lady had to say. After that, we went to lunch in a nearby park where they were having a fund raiser for someone. They had hot dogs and hamburgers and soda.

Also, there was a little place nearby that was selling ice cream. There were only a few cars left and they couldn't fit all of us in. So Katie, her grandmother, and I had were stuck where we had lunch. There was a lady who had an older daughter there and Sandy asked her a favor. She asked her if she could drive us in her car to where the motor home and trailer were parked to see if we would beat the guys back. As we did, we were on the main highway and they were on a side road. They didn't see us but we saw them. We arrived about 1 minute before them. It was really funny!

This trip was a lot of fun and I would like to go on something like this again sometime.