

Merrily Rolling Along in One and Two-Cylinder Cars



By Kelly Copeland

During the last week of June, we had beautiful weather for the "Rolling Down the Back Roads of Rural Medina" VMCCA National One- and Two-Cylinder Tour. The event started with the opening banquet at the Galaxy Restaurant complex in Wadsworth, Ohio, hosted by our wonderful directors, Dave and Debbie Vasel, along with Sally Foor and Mel Draper. Many new tourists joined the crowd of car enthusiasts.

Monday morning had us rolling up and down hills and roads to Seville, Ohio. We visited the Northern Ohio Railway Museum, which focuses on electric railway history. The group perused the extensive collection of restored, original, and unrestored rail cars. We even enjoyed a vintage electric trolley; it was a trip back in time. After our rail journey, the group visited the museum dedicated to the lives and history of the giants of Seville. Martin was 7' 9" tall, and Anna was 7' 11" tall. They were quite a pair! After our gigantic visit, we had a fabulous lunch at the Seville United Methodist Church. With full stomachs, we motored down the back roads to the Mishler Weaving Mill. The active mill looms and equipment produce various woven rugs, towels, and more. The day ended with an optional ice cream stop on the way back to the hotel.





Opposite page: Tim and Linda Jackson in their 1908 Northern with passengers Roger and Linda Byers joining them. Above left to right: Al and Mary Zamba with their 1907 Buick Model F. Herb and Sheila de la Porte are ready to go in their 1901 Locomobile.

Below left to right: Herb and Shelia de la Porte, 1901 Locomobile; Clem and Nancy Campbell, 1909 REO; Keith Billet, 1905 REO; Peter Jakab and Mike Zerega, 1908 Buick; John Guehl and Anna Silberman with Lauren and Henry Guehl, 1907 REO; John Tarleton, 1911 Maxwell; and Dave and Kelly Copeland, 1908 Maxwell.



Tuesday's adventures took us down those beautiful rolling roads to Medina. Boy, was there a lot to see and do there; who knew? Of course, our tour directors did! We toured the famous Castle Noel. This place puts Christmas and Christmas decorations on the map! If you have never visited, you missed out on a rare treat. Our group took a guided tour, which included displays from *Rudolph*, the *Red Nose Reindeer* movie, the *Santa Clause* movies, and many famous New York City store displays from places like Saks Fifth Avenue and more! Usually, these million-dollar displays are destroyed each year to prevent resale/theft, etc. However, Mr. Mark Klaus and his wife Dana, the Castle owners, worked out agreements to receive the set materials so they could renovate and display them at Castle Noel.

After our trip to the North Pole, tourists chilled out at the Little Wiz Fire Museum and shopped at the Sweets and Geeks shop. Following our fill of adventure and loading up on sweets, we had lunch in Medina at any one of the excellent eateries. Next, the group ventured to the historic McDowell Phillip House, toured the vintage home, and looked at its fine furnishings. Lastly, we visited the Root Candle Company. Here, we shopped for aromatic candles and so much more! The family-owned Root Candle Company has always focused on bee wax candles for their pure, clean burn with no "drips." Fifth generation family member, Brad Root, personally visited a few of us. He shared a family photo from times gone by and perused our cars during the visit.





Ones and Twos on a sunny summer Ohio day.

On Wednesday the threat of rain and possible hail kept some cars in their trailers. Thankfully, the weather held out with only light rain. And best of all, there was no hail! We rolled down those back roads to Millstream Park in Valley City. Here, everyone visited a log cabin built by the Vasel and Schaefer families and other community members. Valley City, the frog jumping capital of Ohio, is home to the annual Frog Jump Festival. This year was the 63rd year for the festival.

Next we drove to the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) Museum and Headquarters. LGAR is a congressionally chartered non-profit organization and is the oldest hereditary organization in the United States. The group aims to promote patriotism and education, and to preserve history. Afterward, we visited the Valley City Depot Museum, where many chatted with Paul Schaefer, who helped his father and other community members move the depot to its current location. Then it was onto St. Martins of Tours Church, for lunch from a local food truck.

After lunch, the group visited Paul and Karen Schaefer's car and truck collection and enjoyed some ice cream. Who doesn't love

ice cream? Next, we motored down more rolling back roads to visit Majestic Meadows Alpaca farm and boutique. The farm includes alpacas, kangaroos, miniature donkeys, horses, goats, and potbelly pigs. Tourists witnessed a newly born alpaca with its mom who vocalized often to bond with her offspring. Our last stop was to the McAnlis family automobile collection. Doc and Joan along with son Mac and daughter-in-law Chris, showed us their fantastic early vehicles.

Next page—

Top: Randy, Julia, Bill, and Vincent Salvatora enjoy their 1905 Cadillac.

Bottom row left to right:

*Gil Fitzhugh the Elder with his 1907 Cadillac.
Bob and Elizabeth Bailey's 1909 Maxwell.*





On Thursday the group ventured along back roads and stone lanes and headed to the Red Run Bison Farm where we learned about bison meat and products. There we enjoyed the views of wide-open pastures and roaming bison. Next we rolled on to J.M. Smucker Co. and shopped in their large store of many goodies. After shopping and lunch everyone rolled over to Kidron for a visit to Lehman's Hardware where we perused their impressive tool inventory.

That evening everyone gathered once more for our closing banquet. We enjoyed delicious food, wonderful fellowship, and honored two cars and their owners with the "Only" and Twoey" awards. The "Only" recipient was the 1906 Cadillac owned by Peter and Erica McIntyre. The "Twoey" recipient was the 1908 Buick owned by Peter Jakab. Milton and Charlene Bergman received the tour puzzle that featured their Curved Dash Olds from last year's tour. Congratulations!

Friday morning, the group traveled to Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens. Here, we had a guided tour of the 64,500 sq ft home, freely roamed the grounds, and took in its sights. The house boasts four floors and a basement with an indoor swimming pool. The house was built between 1912 and 1915 for Frank A. Seiberling, his wife Gertrude, and his family. Seiberling was co-founder of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. Stan Hywet staff graciously allowed us to drive one car up to the home for a quick photo op. Phil Jamison and his navigator Dorothy Grace, dressed in period clothing, posed for a photo in his 1911 Renault. It's featured on pages 24 and 25.

A big thank you to Dave and Debbie Vasel, Sally Foor, and Mel Draper for their hard work and dedication to putting on this amazing tour!

Please note that we have no host or tour dates for the 2025 tour. If you are willing to host, please contact Trisha Copley, the VMCCA Activities Vice President.

On a somber note, we all missed Bob and Louise Nunnink, who had planned to join us on the tour. Louise sadly passed away on June 18. The group signed a card and the Nunninks' tour banner for Bob. We will miss Louise.

(Photos by Kelly Copeland)



Above: At Red Run Bison Farm.



Right: Inside the music room at Stan Hywet Hall.





Above: Steven Williams with navigator Carol Teaney and back seat passenger Sherry Williams pull into the driveway at Stan Hywet.
Below left to right: Erica and Peter McIntyre hold their "Only" award. Peter Jakab smiles with his "Twoey" award.

