

NBCC March 23, 2014 Drive, "To there and back to remember Jack" By: Mike & Carol Long

This drive was a tribute to our late friend and enthusiastic NBCC member Jack Coffey, as well as a partial revival of one of our joint drives w/Jack....circa 1997! Fortunately for all attendees, Mary Coffey and son Chris joined the drive in 2 of Jack's favorite cars ...the "Beastly TR250" and the "Super Vitesse"!

For a 50 degree day, we had a great showing of 14 cars on this inaugural 2014 club drive. Our starting point at 1:00 was the Pep Boys lot area at Old Hickory and Nolensville Rd.....actually we commandeered the Burger King parking lot so we could all get....and shed....morning coffee!



The route was a tortuous 68 miles of "mostly" Williamson County backroads to cover the 18 (as a crow flies) miles to our 3:30 dinner at Mimi's Café in Murfreesboro. This route has nothing in common with the County's image of Franklin, Brentwood, and Cool Springs Mallbut everything to do with Tennessee's beautiful ridge roads, creek paths, no traffic signals, and life behind the hype. The drive included a 16 question quiz to test the observational prowess of the driving teams....and their ability to write under stressful G-force conditions.

The halftime stop at 2:00 was The Mill Shops in Nolensville where everyone perused/purchased some of their exceptional vittles and were quite surprised to find Brenda Lee shopping there w/friends! Carol was ecstatic! Mike felt like an ogre beside the diminutive star! Ms. Lee was just as friendly as you might hope ... and quite charming/chatty!



After a quick pic of the Vitesse w/Chris and his girlfriend Kat, we set out again. While we had a slight malfunction of the Beld's Jaguar at the start, the second half was marred only by Mike's hat flying out of the Bugeye! After retrieval by the Thompsons ...the stop provided an "on the road" picture opportunity.....previously prevented from the Bugeye because the plastic windows distort the crap out of any view thru them!



After navigating the quirky Spanntown Road we finally hit some traffic lights on the outskirts of Murfreesboro. We got to Mimi's a bit early but they had a room reserved for us and we immediately scored our quizzes. With the Belds, Curtisses, Thompsons, and Damons tied w/perfect scores....Carol had them draw straws... making Tom & Mary Beld the big winners. First prize was a cheap bottle of wine, a left-over (but new!) Bridgestone hat and a Union Jack windsock that will look very sophisticated on the XK8. The Thompsons and the Damons got even less impressive prizes!



All in all, a fun drive w/good folks on a pretty day. Our THANKS to the participants:

Thompsons, Curtisses, Hanbacks, Coffees w/Kat,
Damons, Winfrees, Wally Wilson & Gary Templeton,
Belds, Dave Bishop & navigator Ann, Andy Adams,
Steadmans, and welcoming new members (and their Alpine)
Dave Swanger & Avis Kennedy (hope I remembered everyone!)

Mike & Carol Long