

BUFFALO COUNTY STAMPEDE II
(Or Shuffle off to Buffalo)
August 1, 2 & 3, 2014

Howdy buckaroos! Join the herd heading to Buffalo Country. Twenty-five count 'em, twenty-five switchbacks along this drive so sharp that they will prompt you to select second gear whilst negotiating them.

We meet at the ranch (AmericInn in Wabasha, Minnesota) Friday evening, Aug. 1. Saturday morning we will head 'em up and move 'em out to Buffalo County, located in the northern-most reaches of Wisconsin's driftless (unglaciated) area. Dare the drive through Beckman's Gap, climb Pretzel Pass, tame the tail of the alligator down Alligator Slide, (but look out! Don't run into the Trempealeau River at the bottom) or gaze at the church atop Holy Knoll in Independence. (This is Trempealeau County's answer to Holy Hill in Washington County.) Thus, the locals fondly refer to the parishioners of Holy Knoll as, what else, "Holy Knollers".

We will circle the wagons at high noon for lunch in Fountain City. Nosh at the Monarch, nibble at Zum Golden Frosch (The Golden Frog), or tickle your taster at any of the chuckwagons on the main drag. After lunch we will move the herd north, enjoying more seemingly endless vistas atop the high bluffs and the curvaceous twisties that connect to the valleys far below.

There will be a mid-afternoon break at the Danzinger Winery near Alma on the "Mighty Mississippi", the "Big Muddy", the "Father of Waters", so be sure to have your camera ready. We will also be able to enjoy the riverscape as we travel a bit of the Great River Road. Thence, back to the ranch before dinner.

Wabasha (home of the "Grumpy Old Men" movies) is situated at the southern end of Lake Pepin (a widening in the Mississippi River, which extends northward to Red Wing). This is a great vacation area with much to do, see and visit.

Lodging

Twenty rooms have been reserved at the AmericInn of Wabasha, Minnesota for August 1st & 2nd. The room rate is \$119.95 per night, plus tax. A hospitality suite has also been made available for our use. To make your reservations call 651-565-5366 by July 2, 2014. Indicate you are with the Badgerland Miata Club.

The drivers meeting will be at 8:45 on Saturday morning.

Directions

From the South & East:

Travel I-94 north to Tomah. At Tomah, take I-90 west to LaCross. Continue on I-90 into Minnesota to highway US 61 (exit 270). Go north on US 61 to Wabasha. In Wabasha, turn right onto Hwy 60 (Pembroke Ave). Go one block and turn left up the hill on Commerce St to the AmericInn.

From the North & Northeast:

Take Hwy 25 south from Menomonie to Nelson. Continue on Hwy 25 through Nelson and across the Mississippi River to Wabasha, MN. Highway 25 becomes Hwy 60 in Minnesota. At the "T" (Grant Blvd) as you come off the bridge, turn left and follow the Hwy 60 signs to US 61. Turn right up the hill on the last street before US 61 (Commerce St) to the AmericInn.

Dining

Dinner Friday night is scheduled for 5:30 at T-Bones Grill & Bar at 260 Main Street in downtown Wabasha. They have agreed to make up a 5 or 6 item special menu for us and bill couples individually. After dinner, "Music Under the Bridge" is scheduled, so we plan to go across the street to enjoy this event. You can bring your own beverages to enhance your listening pleasure.

Saturday night, dinner is scheduled for 6:00 at The Bluffs at Coffee Mill Golf Course in Wabasha. We will have our own dining room overlooking the Mississippi River. A special menu and individual billing will also be available here. When the menu has been set, a copy will be sent to all the participants, so you can choose your meal ahead of time. This information will be provided to the restaurant before the event.

The hospitality room at the AmericInn is available before and after each of these events. Please let us know **by July 2 if you are not** planning to join us for either of these meals, so we can get an accurate head count for our hosts & hostesses.

This drive will accommodate twenty cars, so sign up early, to join us in the roundup. Email us at bluefinnsail@hotmail.com or call us at 954-545-9744.

Your Trailmasters,
Ron & Paula Beckman