

Over the Hills and Through the Kettles

Saturday, July 27, 2013

By Paula Beckman

Twenty-one Miatas gathered at the McDonalds in Plymouth on Saturday morning, July 27, 2013, to traverse the Kettles with Jim and Mary Ann Hellwig. It was chilly and overcast with a few spits and drizzles. The breeze made for a definite nip in the air. Hmmmmmmmmmmm. We saw a Salvation Army bell ringer yesterday at Piggly Wiggly. Apparently it's Christmas in July, so maybe that's the reason for the cool weather!

Off we zoomed with Hellwigs in the lead; Tom & Nancy Boll sweeping us along and Dave and Lynn Bonfield monitoring all the action from the middle of the pack. Just a few brave souls (ahem) had their tops down.

We traveled the scenic hills through small towns, past Little Cedar Lake and an old covered bridge. We also learned that the reason for the covering was to keep the horses from getting spooked by the water as they crossed over the bridge. We almost went airborne on the great hills of Glacier Drive. Wheeeeeeee!

What do you call a bunch of sand hill cranes? A bevy? A covey? A pack? Whatever they are called, we saw them! There were two of them on a hill. Perhaps they were the lookouts for the bachelor flock down in the hollow.

Duke had a little mishap with his antenna. It wouldn't behave and was laying down on the job. There sure was a lot of chatter on the CB about antenna dysfunction and of course many suggestions on solutions. Never fear! Marcia got it upright with quick hands and a big smile.

We enjoyed a great lunch at the Water Street Brewery in Grafton. They were gracious enough to give us separate checks, which turned out to be quite a challenge for the wait staff. But everyone was patient and soon we were on our way for the next leg of our tour.

After lunch, it was still overcast and cool, but most of the Miatas were topless. The afternoon brought more great scenery, this time near Big Cedar Lake; one very dusty road; a field of rocks (I wonder how hard they are to grow....); and several road kill.

We finished the ride at Kelley's Ice Cream, near Fond du Lac. It is a family run business on their own dairy farm and they make their own ice cream! Most of the group seemed to choose one of the sundaes, but I decided on a waffle cone with "Stick in the Mud" ice cream, (chocolate ice cream with fudge and pretzels). Yummy!!

A big THANK YOU to Jim and Mary Ann for putting on a very fun event! Great food, beautiful scenery, good friends and of course.....zoom-zoom.