

## **RETURN OF THE PUDDLING MIATAS**

*Saturday, August 26th*

*by Linda McCann*

The second attempt of the rainy Puddle Dock III event of May 20th was deemed a success by those of us who enjoyed the laid back and picturesque ride through the pastoral hills and valleys of Green and Dane counties.

Lead by Henry & Laura N. along a route mapped out by Terry R., the group of seven cars included newcomers Kevin & Sheryl S., Paul & Jenny F., plus BMC veterans Ron & Paula B., Jim & Joanne T., Don & Linda M., and Terry - minus wife, Kathy, who unfortunately had to miss the fun. We were thinking of her, though.

A small and friendly group, we were looking forward to the ride when we met in Fitchburg to begin the first leg of our trek, our destination being New Glarus. Culver's for lunch helped in fortifying us for legs two and three to come.

We then enjoyed a relaxing, and surprisingly low traffic adventure, except for some intermittent bicyclists in one small section. The scenery was beautiful and the roads were hilly and curvy. At one point Don M. even burst out with a "whoopie!" over his CB radio.

We drove along country byways bordered by swaying goldenrod, blue cornflowers, white queen Ann's lace and tall yellow daisies.

Some of the roads had picturesque names also, such as Spring Rose, York Valley, Yankee Hollow, Vinegar Road, Skinner Hollow, Lee Valley, and of course, Puddle Dock. You get the picture. Holstein cows, sheep, horses and fields of tall corn were an added plus, too.

Although the temps were mild, the sky was cloudy, so tops down for quite a bit of the ride before it started sprinkling on our parade. It didn't dampen our zooming spirit too much, and by our next stop in Monroe it had quit for a while.

We enjoyed a fine 1 1/2 hours in the unique and historical town square area of Monroe, walking around and perusing the interesting stores. Some headed to the Minhas Distillery and Brewery to partake of sample brews/free root beer, and to browse the well appointed store. They even had a winery across the street. What more could you ask for?

More sprinkles as we made our way for supper at the Sugar River Pizza Company in Verona. Food and service was good and camaraderie even better!

It was a great and delicious way to end a wonderful and fun day. Everyone agreed, a small group all eating at the same table, talking and getting to know each other better, was the perfect way to end our adventure.