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THREE RIVERS, FOUR DIAMONDS, AND A PRESIDENT

UPDATE THRU March 25, 2014

FLASH: The safety briefing has been changed to 0800 hrs with depart at 0830. This is a change from last year.

We are so glad to have you

Brenda & I look forward to ya'll joining us on the Heart of Georgia Railroad on April 26-27, 2014. We are very excited about this being our tenth year running our motorcars on this very fine railroad.

Pitts, Georgia

Mr. Delano Braziel is President of the Pitts Downtown Development Authority and is very enthusiastic about us coming and visiting his town. There is plenty of parking alongside the tracks in Pitts and I expect many of you will leave your trailers in Pitts while you go back and forth to Cordele. There is also plenty of parking for RVs, Fifth Wheels, and Travel Trailers in Pitts.

Final Letter

You will receive a final letter a couple of weeks before our excursion. This letter will contain the latest news, the set on sites for both days and maps.

Refunds

In the event, you need to cancel your registration; you will receive a full refund by notifying me prior to March 20, 2012. There will be no refunds after March 27, 2014.

TRACK AND BRIDGE WORK ON THE HOG

The Heart of Georgia has recently rehabbed their track and rebuilt many of their bridges between Cordele and Alamo. I really look forward to riding on this new track. With new track, there is a tendency to want to go a little faster and to not pay as much attention to potential problems that may occur. No more bouncing from side to side and no more of your car, 'hunting' as is the case of wide gauge track. Course if your car is still, 'hunting' maybe you need to look at the contour of your wheels. We do not plan to increase our speed. Increased speed is certainly a safety issue as well as an enjoyment issue. There is no sense to try to hurry to get there and to hurry to get back. Let's all go a safe speed and enjoy our two full safe days on the Heart of Georgia.

NARCOA and Special Rules

All NARCOA rules and regulations will be in effect. In addition all attendees must wear a REFLECTORIZED safety vest/shirt while on railroad property.

Motorcar Inspection

Please remember that we will inspect all cars. The most common reasons for motorcar failure are listed below. If your car does not pass inspection, we will try to find you a ride on another motorcar. YOUR car will NOT be allowed to participate.

Need two red flags First Aid Kit-Non-Charged 'ABC' Fire Extinguisher Thin wheels or rims

Brakes out of adjustment-must not go to end of travel (second most common failure)
Failure to have an automatic brake light

Failure to have working head and tail lights

Failure to have an audible turntable alarm (third most common failure)

Failure for all attendees to wear a REFLECTORIZED safety vest

Failure to have a wheel gap in you have a wheel deadener device that's prevents gauging your wheel (most common failure)

Failure for hi-rail vehicles to have the required FRA inspection form on board

Motels

On our motorcar excursion survey, the closest motels are in Cordele, which is about 20 minutes west of Pitts. None of the motels have a lot extra room for parking cars and attached trailers. These motels are within site of Interstate 75.

Hampton Inn: Connected to the Comfort Inn. Reasonable parking

Comfort Inn: Reasonable Parking.

Best Western Inn: Okay parking

Ramada: Probably best parking

Holiday Inn Express (behind Ramada)

Fairfield Inn (across from the Ramada)

209-273-8775

229-273-0042

Country Inn & Suites (exit 99) 229-273-7117

Meals

Meals will be discussed in detail on your final letter. Lunch will be in Milan on Saturday and in Plains on Sunday. I am looking into finding a nice restaurant near Pitts so we can get together as a group on Thursday and Friday night.

Our Very On Web Page

Kenneth Huffines has allowed me to piggyback his web page. He has done a wonderful job and when you look him up you can appreciate the tremendous effort he has done for us. If you don't look us up on the web page, shame on you. For the latest information check out us at: www.salembranch.com/motorcar

Questions

Please don't hesitate to call me. I'm sorry but I cannot return long distance calls. Home phone is 770-457-6212 and my CAR phone is 770-851-5665 and Brenda's cell phone is 770-851-5664.

HAVE A SAFE TRIP TO PITTS