

Tour Spirits Not Dampened By Rain

The sun was bright and shining as we headed south of Indy, driving to Nashville, IN. We were meeting other club members for brunch and then heading south on the 4th annual Huber Winery Tour, hosted by Chuck and Teresa Wills. Clouds soon moved in, a light mist hit us, but nothing could dampen our spirits.

Seventy people showed up and immediately got to the business at hand, eating and talking. The largest turnout of the year included the Serwatkas and Bali's from northern Indiana and members of the Cincinnati Miata Club. Around 11:00, a driver's meeting was held and people readied their cars for the tour. Some brave souls dropped their tops, but most road with tops up and heaters on. Chris Poglitsch and Carol Roth acted as starters, sending cars off in 30 second intervals. Of course, the best laid plans....things fell apart at the stop sign at the bottom of the hills as cars waited to turn onto SR46. Too many leaf peepers!

Once on the way, drivers and navigators were treated to some new roads and different sights. At one point, a compass would have shown we were heading north. Yes, there were lots of twists and turns! The leaves were colorful despite the dry summer we had, and were just peaking. As we drove through Vallonia, they were celebrating Fort Vallonia Days, cars parked alongside the road, hundreds of people walking around and a band was forming up for the parade.

The rain turned from a light mist to larger drops, and most of the cars that had started top down, pulled over and buttoned up. The Arbuckles were one car that drove the entire route top down!

After arriving at Huber's, we parked in our reserved parking area by the pond. Folks scattered to go through the farmer's market, grab a bite to eat and sample the wine. We eventually met under a tent outside the store and a drawing was held for "fabulous prizes". Normally, most of us would picnic by the pond, but only Eric and Ann unfolded their chairs under the large tree and opened a bottle of wine.

Folks were on their own in returning to their starting points, and as we headed north, we were greeted by the sun when we neared Indianapolis. Despite the rain, it was a good day shared by friends and their Miatas.



Chuck goes over directions in the Huber Tour drivers meeting.



Above: Al Jennings, Susan Koerner, Susie and Rick Booe enjoyed the brunch and conversation at the Seasons Lodge in Nashville.



Right: Damp roads didn't dampen the driving enthusiasm of the Tour drivers. Thirty plus cars, including this Mahogany Miata, made the trip.