

# Two More Tours Announced! Something for Everyone!

story by Joe Morgan



**I**f your part of the world has been experiencing record-breaking cold temperatures this past month, please know that *we* are not responsible for sending them your way!

You can be certain, however, that members of both the Badger State Chapter POCI and God's Country Pontiac Association will look forward to welcoming you to Wisconsin this summer during the 2018 POCI Convention when much more pleasing weather is bound to take center stage.

In last month's convention preview, we introduced the first of three optional motorcoach tours planned for convention attendees. Allow us to now introduce two additional scheduled tours, each of which will be offered on both Monday and Tuesday.



## Harley-Davidson Museum Tour

Wisconsin has a rich history of producing motor vehicles. According to the Wisconsin Historical Society, over 80 different makes of automobiles were produced in our state since 1900. Vehicles that rolled-off Wisconsin production lines were both obscure and well-known, including Rambler, Nash, Kissel, American Motors and even Chevrolet. While we'd love to offer a modern-day visit to any one of these automotive facilities, sadly, all that remains of them today are

fond memories.

Instead, what we *can* offer is an intimate look at the production of some of the world's most-famous motorcycles. Even folks who are not "motorcycle fans" will readily recognize the Harley-Davidson brand from Milwaukee.

In 1903, William Harley, together with the Davidson Brothers (William, Walter and Arthur), designed and produced a motorized bicycle that featured a two-cylinder engine. Who could have guessed just how prolific their company would become within a few short years.

Indeed, Harley-Davidson grew rapidly, producing over 18,000 motorcycles for the U.S. military during World War

I. They were one of only two American motorcycle companies that managed to survive the Great Depression.

Harley-Davidson also produced motorcycles for the U.S. military during World War II. Following the war, H-D re-entered the civilian market, building a long line of motorcycles that were sold to the enthusiastic veterans who had ridden them during the war (as well as to those who wanted to simply experience the open-air freedom and feeling which can only come from riding a motorcycle).

Today, Harley-Davidson has grown to be one of the largest motorcycle manufacturers in the world, building over a quarter million motorcycles annually.



With this in mind, our motorcoach tours will transport us from Wisconsin Dells to Milwaukee's fabled Harley-Davidson Museum. The trip takes just under two hours each way, allowing us to relax and enjoy the beautiful Wisconsin countryside en route.

First opened to the public in 2008, the museum occupies a campus of over 20 acres along the Menomonee River. Over 450 motorcycles and hundreds of thousands of other artifacts are displayed inside a three-building complex. Today, it proudly celebrates more than a century of rich company history while welcoming over 300,000 visitors annually.

Plans are in the works for our group to experience a very special behind-the-scenes tour of the Harley-Davidson Museum. Lead by knowledgeable museum staff, this fascinating opportunity will allow us special access to private areas of the Harley-Davidson Archive and insights to the museum's important exhibits.

Lunch will be available at the museum's Motor Bar & Restaurant, complete with its diverse menu of American classics. There will be additional time to explore the remainder of the museum at your own pace.

The return trips to the Chula Vista Resort will find us arriving in plenty of time to catch the Drive-In Movie Night

(Monday) and the POCI Welcome Night sponsored by Ames Performance (Tuesday).

## Shopping and Antique Mall Tour

Our third and final motorcoach tour offering is geared towards those family members who may not want to spend every waking moment immersed in *all things Pontiac*. (Perhaps you might find this concept difficult to relate to, but please remember — our gathering should be fun and enjoyable for *all* attendees. Please pass these sentiments along to any such family members, letting 'em know that they won't be left out!)

This tour is ideal for anyone who enjoys shopping. A short motorcoach ride will take us to the Tanger Outlet Mall



in Wisconsin Dells. This mall, designed with a "north woods" theme, offers covered open-air walkways between the various shops. With over 50 different stores to select from, there will be something of interest for everyone.

Serious shoppers often work up a serious appetite, so our tour will also include a lunch at the adjacent Buffalo Phil's Pizza & Grille. Families know and love this local treasure for its "train delivered" food. Specialties include rotisserie chicken, BBQ, pizza, burgers, sandwiches, pasta, steak and even seafood. The youngsters are sure to enjoy the Lil Buckaroo Meals while patrons with food allergies will appreciate the special, dedicated menu.

Once everyone's hunger is under control, it will be time to load-up the coach for another short journey to the Wisconsin Dells Antique Mall. This venue, first founded in 1997 and then expanded in 1999, features over 250 antiques and collectibles dealers. Convenient nationwide shipping services are offered for those who find that special something that they absolutely must have but have no room to carry it back home!

Still craving an afternoon snack while at the Wisconsin Dells Antique Mall? Be sure to visit Cindy's Café with its diverse menu of sandwiches, wraps, paninis, salads and desserts... Just enough to hold you over until dinner.

After a full day of shopping fun, our luxurious motorcoach will bring everyone back to Chula Vista Resort in plenty of time for the evening activities mentioned above. **FIN**

*As described, all three of our motorcoach tours will be offered both Monday and Tuesday, allowing you the flexibility to partake of the many other on-site activities that are planned. A complete schedule of convention activities and events will be announced soon, but you've got to pre-register first via mail, phone or online. In the meantime, think ahead to "warm thoughts" and the great experiences sure to be had at the 46th Annual POCI Convention, June 24-28, 2018. We'll see you there!*