

Lode Fest 2010 – June 10-13, 2010

I would like to announce the plans and schedule for the 2010 Lode Fest. The dates picked are Thursday June 10th thru Sunday June 13.

Location will be the Lenape Heights Golf Course, in Ford City, Pennsylvania. This golf course has a restaurant, bar and banquet facility, capable of seating 350 people. It is owned and operated by the company I am part of, Herkules Maschinenfabrik GmbH. I think this will be a very nice setting for our yearly meet. There is a big parking lot that will facilitate our cars, there are different areas where we can have simultaneous technical sessions, we will all be able to sit down for our main dinner event, and we will be within 3 miles from our company, where we will have at least one car lift and hopefully two. For those of you interested in taking a peek: www.lenapeheights.com

At this moment plans are as follows:

Technical sessions:

- Theory of automatic transmissions in general. (The idea is to make it simple enough for all of us, even if you never have any plans to take apart a transmission)
- Theory and rebuilding of M100 transmissions
- Rebuilding the 100.980 and 100.981 and 100.985 M100 engines
- Rebuilding the 6.3 front and rear suspension
- Rebuilding the 6.3 differential
- Everything you ever wanted to know about the 6.3 electrical system

The sessions will take place in one of our large rooms, and there will be many parts available to take a good look. Anyone with ideas on other subjects, please let me know.

'On the lift' sessions in the afternoons. Hopefully we will have two lifts, but for sure we have one. I will do whatever I can to get our top M100 technical guys involved, like Gary Ensor and Stu Doanes.

Other ideas include actually doing some practical work on my cars, like replacing an air bag, a hydraulic switch, shocks, brakes, etc, etc. Probably my 1965 SWB 600 will be there, completely stripped of its interior. There might be another technical session possible on how things look in the 600...

With the help of our German friends I will try to get some of the old MB guys here again, that actually were around when these cars were manufactured.

I will try to get our local MB dealers involved, and will also organize other activities. One of these will be golf for the experienced golfers, and maybe some sessions with golf teachers for the beginners.

I welcome any comments, criticism, ideas, help, etc. Please contact me at aplekker@kpminc.com

Hotel Information:

For the hotel we picked the Quality Inn Royle in Kittanning, PA. This hotel is located around 7 miles from the Golf Course where the main events will take place. It is a simple, but clean hotel, with a restaurant and a bar.

This hotel has around 60 rooms available, and we have reserved 40 of these for our Lode Fest event. This was not easy, since a major motor cycle event will happen during the same days. Everyone should probably get a reservation soon, before the pressure from the motor cycle event gets too high.

For those who want a better hotel, there is a Fairfield Inn in Butler, PA, and there are all kind of hotels located closer to Pittsburgh.

Room rates are around \$80.00, please mention "Herkules Car Fair", that was easier to explain than Lode Fest or M100 Meet.

Quality Inn Royle
405 Butler Road
Kittanning, PA 16201
724 543 1159

Air Travel:

For those flying in: The main airport is the Pittsburgh Airport, 62 miles from the Golf Course. Unfortunately this airport is not a hub anymore, so most flights to it are served through other cities, like Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, etc. Airport code: PIT

Anyone needing any help, just contact me.

Albert Plekker November 7, 2009