



NEWSLETTER 189

September 2008



For the US, WWII began with the USS Arizona (memorial on right) and ended with USS Missouri (left)

DEBRIEFING

Prairie Command was invited to provide several vehicles for the 402 Squadron Annual Family Day, September 6. Two vehicles were displayed indoors (a hanger) while four more were made available outside to take visitors on tours of the base. Club members met at a local Tim Hortons then moved into position on the base. Staging was from 10:00 until 15:00, with Mike Wolter in charge.

The September (Ford Club) Car Show at Garden City in Winnipeg September 7th, had a good turnout of club members with over half-a-dozen vehicles. The show was a little smaller this year as rain threatened, our estimates put the total at about 700 participants. Derk got there first and set us up near a tree so he could demonstrate a winching system for his truck. Also a bit of nearby boulevard to set up his new "tent", good for rainy days! Which it did!

NEXT MEETING

October 6 at 19:00 hours. Meeting will be at Derk Derin's home at 380 Jackman Rd in West St. Paul (outside the perimeter). If you have not seen Derk's museum bring your camera and make sure you get to this meeting, you will not be disappointed!!

EVENTS

Member at large, Bill Spence has been approached by the City of Winnipeg with respect to providing a vehicle backdrop for the Brookside Cemetery on Saturday October 18. There is to be a show and tour of the property including the Military area for which they would like period representative vehicles. Also such kit as members may have, including uniforms, etc. They would like 6 to 8 vehicles. The event is from 10:00 AM until 1:30 PM. More information will be available after this newsletter, contact Bill at (204) 837-7706.

DISPATCHES

Rob Love reports he is down to his last trailer! (recent M100 style).

Mark Perry is very busy with his dacha and vehicles. The Rover and matching trailer made it out for the September meeting, Mark reports progress on his HUP as well as home and away properties. This is a busy guy!

Jeff Helps busy with carrier oriented tasks but also work and home projects. A new carb kit made the carrier perk up quite a bit, and set aside for pre-winter work about the shop.

Don Trueman has turn signals in his M38, feels really out of place. Still using that arm thingy...thanks to John McGoey and Doug Young for necessary parts. This addition uses the original wiring w/o cuts or splices to the original harness, but does require the left side rear lamp type also on the right side. Don also had a hood split in the usual spot on his M38 (slave cable

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outlet). This had been brazed in the past. Impossible to remove the braze and therefore welding was not possible. A patch was cut to re-enforce the inside and spot-welded (Jeff's portable spot welder) in place. The crack was then re-brazed and tidied up. New left front fender installed too...now about that paint?

Parker Fillmore has his A1 up and running...still a couple of details to work thru, the horn switch and a quirky gas tank sender.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

So why did you get into collecting military vehicles or equipment? Well for me it was two reasons 1) flat fender jeeps are COOL and 2) to get a tangible link with the history I had read in school and which my parents had lived. This link was heightened last year when I was lucky enough to be able to visit the airborne museum in Arnhem and tour the famous sites of operation Market Garden. So this year when my wife and I decided to go to Hawaii you can bet that Pearl Harbour was high on the list of things to see!

We chose as our tour company an outfit called Home of the Brave tours (<http://www.pearlharborhq.com/>) who sent a small bus, a knowledgeable guide and 20 of our closest friends (OK not really they were people we had never met before) to take us on a tour of Pearl Harbour, Wheeler Field, Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter (where we had lunch) and the Punch Bowl Military cemetery. The visit to the memorial took place early in the morning to beat the crowds. To look upon the remains of the ship with over 1100 crewman still interred within, was a very emotional beginning to the day. This was made even more so when we learned that crewmen of the Arizona who survived the war can at their request, join their shipmates and be interred on the Arizona upon their death.

I snapped pictures of oil still bubbling to the surface from the ship as it has for the last 67 years and is projected to continue for the next thirty or forty!

A special treat was the fact that retired BGen Jerome T Hagen was on hand selling autographed copies of his four volume set "War in the Pacific". His insight into the war is presented very clearly and provides details on well known events and also addresses events that have not been written about elsewhere. Needless to say a copy of the set now resides in my personal library.

The other stops along the way were made equally interesting by our guide, Brandon, whose knowledge brought the events of December 7th alive. It was clear that he had spent considerable time researching his subject.

We had a grim reminder at lunch at the Fort Shafter mess that sacrifices continue even without war, in the persona of

the Admiral in charge of the Coast Guard who was grabbing a quick lunch before returning to the inquest into the loss of a helicopter crew a few days earlier.

The tour ended mid afternoon at the tour companies private museum where we cooled off with a Coke (in real glass bottles!) in a reproduction of a Hawaiian WWII club and examined their collection of uniforms, equipment and vehicles including the Harley motorcycle used in the film "Pearl Harbour" (interesting side note - almost everyone universally panned Disney's version of the event - "From Here to Eternity" and "Tora Tora Tora" are considered the most accurate).

To soon we were back at our hotel, but getting the opportunity to visit sites that until then were only names in books, is something I won't soon forget.

TECH TIPS - Winter Storing your Jeep - Wes Knettle via G503.com (**Editors Note:** this article was first published in the Aug/Sept 2006 newsletter)

If your vehicle is going to be stored for the winter then start by getting her completely warmed up (small road trip). Pull the plugs and oil fog the cylinders, Spray LPS 3 on the plugs and re-install. Screen cover all intakes and exhaust openings to keep the critters out. Open the distributor cap and rotate engine enough to open the points. Make sure the coolant is full or at least fully covering the radiator core tubes. Jack the jeep off the floor and support it wheels hanging from the frame with jack stands or blocks. Grease the jeep. If canvas top is installed store jeep with top up and doors propped slightly open. Drain gas completely. Service brake fluid full. Disconnect and remove batteries. Clean terminals and posts and coat with LPS 3. Service batteries by cleaning case and filling with water and charging fully. Store batteries at home in a heated basement and put a small maintainer charger on them. Get a dozen little pot pie type tins. put a dozen little moth balls in each one and set several inside the jeep and under the hood and on the floor under the jeep. These will deter habitation by rodents.

