



Tour of Battleship NJ & Bob P. Ice Cream Run

It was a long time coming but at 0900 hours on Sept.19, 2010 thirty-five people in eighteen corvettes & one pick up truck, headed west on Rt. 70 for Camden. As with most of our outings there is a story. This one goes back over six years. On July 18, 2004 the club was scheduled for a tour of the Battleship NJ. Bob Pellicano at the time had it arranged for the club to see the ship and park on the pier. This was all before an event like this was commonplace. But it was not to be, as Bob's contact at the ship had foot surgery the day before our tour. The tour was cancelled and for whatever reason never rescheduled. Bob had thirteen cars and twenty-three people signed up.

Jump forward six years. The weather on Sept. 19th was as nice as it gets. Club members and a few non-members met at Dunkin Donuts on Airport Rd. Lakewood. Fourteen cars & one pick up headed west on Rt. 70 for our sixty-mile trip. At Rt. 539 four more cars joined the caravan. Now we had all eighteen cars. Leslie who was in the truck because of leaving early, had some trouble keeping up but did very well. When you have that many cars in a row, you know it will be tough if not impossible to stay together.

To that end I would like to thank Barry Cohn, Bob Barkalow and Skip Allen for keeping things together in the caravan. The last thing I needed was to have someone lost in Camden. Thanks also go to Bob Schmidt for taking my son with him. Also thanks to Liz Benford for taking my son the last leg of the trip home. Again thanks to Skip for taking a non-member in his car. Little things like this really help.

We took lots of pictures of the ship & cars. The cars looked really spectacular on the pier. Every car had a windshield cling, so everyone knew who we were. Debbie Pellicano with her '96 Grand Sport was in the center & her daughter Amy, with her '82 Collector was next to her. Everyone thought the tour was very informative (I even think Leslie liked some of it). Lunch was on the fantail of the ship with a beautiful view of the Delaware. After lunch we had the second half of the tour. When the tour was over you could look at whatever you wanted. You could spend hours and hours looking there is so much to see. We finally left the ship at 1530 hours. By this time everyone was ready for ice cream.

The Bob P. ice cream run has become an annual event with the club. So with that in mind we made a stop on the way home. It just so happens that Sept. 19th was Bob's birthday. No one gave up the ice cream stop and went home. You could tell this day was special to Debbie & Amy. I have been with the club many years and this event was one of the best. I thank everyone that attended and hope all had a great day.

P.S. Pictures will be on the club web site soon.

Tom B.
VP







