## **MY 57'VET**



A few safety and comfort updates over the winter and the challenge would be on. It is a DPC so I added disc brakes to the front, a dual master cylinder, replaced those broken 60 year. old seat springs and the totally crumbling seat foam, halogen headlights (needed relays for current draw) and how about cruise control.

Yes, still mostly a 60 year old machine but maybe a bit safer now. Top leaks, you get wet when it rains, no windshield wipers (neither does my Harley Fatboy). When it is hot you get hotter, and it is a C1, rough riding, you bet, king pins and solid axle truck suspension.

The year started poorly. The 57 failed to carry me to Florida for the

Winter National meet in Ocala. Generator failed 100 miles from home. Got a jump start and brought her home. I was signed up to judge so I still had to make Ocala. I jumped in the C-7 corvette and off to Florida. No excitement here, get in and go there, no questions.

Next up, the Southeast Spring meet in Charlotte, only a couple hundred miles each way and the 57 did great. Then by trailer to St Louis and some camping in Missouri for 5 days and the 57 gets 500 miles too. Then to Auburn, IN for the Central Spring National in May, yes to the meet in a trailer but the return to NC is just the 57 and me. My truck/camper/trailer/motorcycle stayed in Auburn. The 800 miles home went flawlessly. Then in

June the 57 & I went back to Auburn, well almost. 4 miles short of it ran out of gas, (was the vet at fault?), coasted into the Indiana Welcome Center to find a state employee cutting grass. Thank you for that gallon of gas and we completed another 800 miles. The strapped into its trailer and everything is moved to Independence, the GN meet. Ok the 57 is a DPC so it stayed in the trailer as I Then on to the Great River Road where I alternated between the the 57, driving both sides of the Mississippi River. Adding about miles for the 57. Then on to Bettendorf, IA where a gracious



Auburn

Indiana 57 get MO for judged. bike and 700 AACA

member kept the truck/trailer/camper/bike while the 57 and I returned again to NC for about a month, added another 950 miles. We are doing great against the goal! 3700+ miles to date.

Then the biggie, from NC to Wisconsin and north to beautiful Door County. Then over the top of Lake Michigan to St Ignace for a trip across and back on the Mackinac Bridge and a ferry to Mackinac Island. Then on to Sault Ste Marie and into Canada. Over the top of Lake Huron and a ferry ride from South Baymouth to Tobermory, the 57 and I got needed rest. Afterwards dropping down to visit Niagara Falls. If you haven't been there, go! Not just for

your next honeymoon, do it for you. Then a drive between Lake Erie and Lake Huron to



reenter USA at Sarnia, Michigan we go to Sleeping western side of Michigan towns. Finally departing at Muskegon, the 57 got to Arriving in Milwaukee we headed southwest to



Canada. Heading north in Bear Dunes and then down the through all those quaint little Michigan on the high speed ferry ride again and I got to rest. Bettendorf for the Central Fall

National Show where the 57 was proud to be a DPC. We just did 3300 miles getting to that meet. Total now 7000+ miles.

The next leg was a trailer ride for the 57 to Fulton, Mo. To attend high school friend's eclipse party, dead center on the path of the eclipse. Afterwards, leaving the rig at her house, the 57 and I returned to NC, another 900 miles.

A month passes and it is time to go again. We drive 900 miles back to Fulton, put the 57 into its portable garage and head west. Yes, time to really enjoy the west! Camping in Sturgis, Deadwood, Black Hills and the Badlands. The 57 comes out of its trailer often, 500 miles. Ok the bike will get the twisty turning roads of the Black Hills but the 57 will get its share. It adds enjoyment at every stop. Can you believe it takes more than 30 minutes to put gas in that little car, seems it is a magnet for people of all ages. Everyone wants to talk, tell me their stories about cars they had or more often their dad had. I enjoy.

In Colorado, headed to Rocky Mountain National Park, the snow falls, heavy, nearly white out at times. Even though it is a 4 X 4 truck I stop and consider not going on. Then it slows and I make the last 30 mountain miles.

Overnight at Grand Lake road across the park is The road across the park is the park takes 4 hours. does its job touring the weather, but twice I was wet snowy roads like those. thought I was nuts. Next head to NC. The 57 is done



Get your old cars out of the garage, drive them. Live the dream. I'm betting 57 corvette on the road this summer, you saw me. And I saw the back side of cell phones.

As for the miles, 8800 miles in "MY 57'VET". Can I do a little rounding up to miles? NO?

and more snow. In the morning I learn the closed, we are on the west side of the park. a 45 minute drive; the detour to go around Once on the east side the 57 comes out and park and area. No motorcycle in this challenged about driving a car like that on



believe they toys and I this year.

if you saw a of hundreds

get to 10,000

**OK Next Year!** 





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