

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE—October 2010

This way, Lewis! No, no, this way, Clark!

Chalk up another triumph! This year's National Tour leaders led a procession of 41 vehicles over the rivers and through the woods along a trail first blazed by Lewis and Clark *without losing anyone along the way*. Judy, Tolly, Pat, and Harvey—*thank you* for a grand time. The complete story will be available for your perusal on the CHVA National website soon and, later on, in *AEV Magazine*.

Now, for those who missed the recent tour as well as those who enjoyed it, our **2011 Tour** leader, Dolly Hebert, has a glorious assortment of activities lined up for us. Details about “**A Search for the Fountain of Youth**” are rapidly firming up. Keep the week of May 12 –22 open, and continue to monitor our website for changes/additions.

Next, give a big “Yippee” to our contingent from the Great State of Texas! It is with great pleasure that I can announce that the **National Tour in 2012** now has leadership. Dick and Charlotte Klaas and Terry and Judy Borgmann have volunteered to lead us through the Piney Woods of East Texas, around “mysterious” Caddo Lake, and on to other peculiar sites Lewis and Clark never found. Again, keep abreast of the news from our 2012 leadership via the CHVA website.

And, that isn't all the news fit to print! Holler a “Yee-Haw” to our friends in the Middle-West. The **National Tour for 2013** is in the works with many, many details already in place thanks to the preplanning efforts of Ray Council. Ray, who lives in Shawnee, KS, frequently travels across Eastern Iowa to visit family. En route he visits many sites and also attends what must be the largest car show in the Midwest that occurs annually in Minnesota. In the process, he has worked out sites enough to keep a tour group busy for weeks! I have seen a CD produced by Ray that shows how much work he has completed on this project. Frank and Norma Snyder and Kevin Stilley will provide additional support to Ray's advance planning. (I grew up in the Midwest and never knew there was so much to see!)

Now, by having tours in place for the next 3 years, you can all advertise CHVA's most appealing venue, our annual *national* tour. Many of us have participated in at least one and most have “done” multiple tours.

These tours are not suited to everyone; most mean one must take a week off from all other activities; plus there is travel time to get “there” and back. Fortunately, larger regions sometimes offer mini-tours that are ideal for CHVA'ers with time constraints.

Last, but not least, an election to choose new board members is just around the corner. We have a slate of six candidates signed up to run for four openings. (One of the six has yet to confirm his candidacy with a bio, but that may be due to the fact that he was playing around in Montana with a bunch of AEV fanciers until about a week ago.)

The current board has yet to decide how ballots will be sent to the membership. That decision should be decided within the next three weeks. When you receive your ballot, mark it and return it without delay. Last year approximately 42% of the membership voted; in earlier years we were lucky to receive half that number. Let's go for at least 50% this year!

Now—it's time to ready your old iron--and any other aged possessions you love--for cold weather. Winter is nigh. BK