

## 2014 Spring Mystery Run – Smithfield, RI Area

By Joe Howard

After a long cold and snowy winter (someone was heard to say horrendous weather) the sun arrived in time for our Annual Spring Dust Off Mystery Run on Sunday May 4th. This year's Spring Run was planned by Bob & Henny Majeski and Frank & Corinne Craveiro.

The starting point for the Run was the All Seasons Inn & Suites parking lot in Smithfield, RI. Twenty folks met at the hotel Saturday evening and enjoyed a relaxing dinner at the nearby Faial Restaurant and Lounge - a Portuguese/American Restaurant endorsed by the Godfather himself, Frank Craveiro. It was a great time with good food.



Sunday morning everyone gathered in the parking lot at 9:30 AM for registration and rules review. Twelve cars and 40 people participated in the Run which started at 10:00 AM.

The clues took the participants through scenic Rhode Island countryside while answering trivia questions and finding answers to an information scavenger hunt. The first stop was unusual for the area, a stop at a Buddhist Monastery. The Wat Lao Buddhovath of Rhode Island was founded in 1986 and is dedicated to members of the Lao community. It is also home to several Buddhist monks.



Different activities occur at the temple such as religious ceremonies, cultural preservation youth programs and festival celebrations. Truly a beautiful place to visit.

Next the mystery run clues took us to an austere state airport and then for a drive through elegant neighborhoods. Then we had to find a cemetery within a State Park and calculate the birth year of one of its residents. There were lots of joggers and walkers to admire our cars as we drove in and out of the Park.



After more clues and turns we found ourselves at the Hannaway Blacksmith Shop where we took a short tour with the Blacksmith and had to have him show us his “Twitch”. The Blacksmith is holding it in the picture. We then had to guess what it was used for (answer at the end).

A short distance down the road we next visited and toured the Hearthside House in Lincoln, RI. Hearthside is a unique stone mansion built in 1810 on pastoral Great Road, the first road through the wilderness between Providence and Mendon, Massachusetts, and one of the oldest thoroughfares in America. There are 10 fireplaces in the 10-room home, hence the name "Hearthside". Hearthside is beautifully preserved and had been a private residence until 1996, when the Town of Lincoln purchased the property. In 2001, a group of citizens formed "Friends of Hearthside", a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to serve as stewards of the house and help preserve the property, while promoting its historical significance and accessibility to the public.



This was the last stop of the Mystery Run and at 1:00 PM we drove a short distance for lunch and storytelling at the Lodge Pub & Eatery in Lincoln, RI. Recognition was given for:

- Best Mileage: Jim & Donna Peloquin
- Worst Mileage: Joe & Janet Wilcox
- Best Time: Adan & Sarah Martineau
- Worst Time: Joe & Janet Wilcox
- Most correct answers: George & Donna Berube

Thanks to by Bob & Henny Majeski and Frank & Corinne Craveiro for planning this successful event. And thanks to all that participated.

Answer: Twitch is a holding device for horses and bulls that attaches to the nose

