ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Kurt and I recently took a road trip with fellow MVCC member Marc England and a few other members of the CMHG to Dubois, WY, site of The National Museum of Military Vehicles. This is a new museum that opened August 2020 after a delay due to covid.

It was a long drive. We left home at 0630 Friday morning, July 16 and arrived in Dubois at 1600. We immediately went to museum and met our contact for a pre-arranged private tour of the facility, including some behind-the-scenes areas currently under development. The quantity and quality of the displays is the equal of some of the finest museums we have been to in recent years, including the WWII Museum in New Orleans, the WWI museum in Kansas City and the Navy Aviation Museum in FL. The museum covers 140,000 sq ft and the collection currently includes 450 vehicles. It is the largest private collection of military vehicles in the world.

The Gen George C Marshall Gallery covers WWII, the Gen "Chesty" Puller Gallery covers the Korean and Vietnam conflicts and the extensive fire arms collection includes the flintlock rifle that fired the first shot of our Revolutionary War. In addition to the displays in the museum building, there is a covered display area with many vehicles not currently under restoration. There is also another outdoor storage area with more vehicles and equipment, all worth a visit.

They have a web site, <u>www.nmmv.org</u>, where you can take virtual tours of some of the galleries and get additional information. The museum is open every day from 1000 to 1700. Admission is only \$15 for adults. Vets and active-duty personnel are free. Parking is also free.

I can't recommend a visit too highly. We are lucky to have such a facility so close to us here in the mountain west. My only caveat is to make motel reservation well in advance since accommodations are limited.

Frank Scholer