

## *2018 North East Regional*

*By Diana L. Duffee*

The weekend started off with a meet and greet at the host hotel which is the brand new Homewood Suites Center Valley. Great chance for folks to meet up with people they only see once a year at this event. Saturday breakfast at the host hotel with plenty of food, if you left hungry it was your own fault, and instructions for the drive were handed out along with mugs and window stickers. Dan spoke about the drive and stops. Everyone out to the parking lot to start the drive by 10:00 a.m. by grouping up behind the shopping center across the street. Everyone in their cars ready to go..... but wait..... Denny's 2016 Shelby GT350 won't start. Get the jumper cables quick! Denny is to take up the rear of the tour group to help keep people from getting lost. How many people does it take to jump a car, two with the cables and four more to shout out instructions 😊. Whew, now we are on our way.

The drive had many nice long stretches without any stop signs or traffic lights allowing the group to stay together with many places having lots of curves and twists along fields and farm lands. A stop at Eastwood for lunch and folks to check out Eastwood's products for sale. Great hoagies from the caterer, hang out for awhile then off to the second part of the tour. Lots more of those get roads, a little detour then re-group at the base of the road that is used for the Pagoda Hillclimb. This section of road is extremely twisty and a lot of fun in any car. Up and over the mountain then back to the hotel for a few hour's break. Gather at the NB Center for our evening program. The NB Center only allows entrance at a specific time and everyone leaves at the same time otherwise you are locked out. A spectacular dinner with a nice variety of food and plenty of it in their main building which in its self is a site to see. Mingle for awhile until it started to get dark to watch 'Gumball Rally' on the big screen (the old Allentown drive-in screen which has been restored). One person told Dominic, 'I thought the movie part was going to be a little hokey but I really enjoyed it'. It was a perfect evening for sitting outside, clear sky, no bugs, fairly low humidity and warm temperature.

Sunday morning was foggy to start but burned away quickly and the sun came out which we haven't seen much of this year. What a great day for our car show. We had a nice turn out especially with a bunch of older cars showing up. We had five 1966 Shelbys, two 1967 Shelbys, five 1968 Shelbys, two 1969 Shelbys, one 1969 Boss 429, two 1970 Boss 302s, one Boss Cougar and 32 cars under 1971. It was a nice blend of older and newer Shelbys, Boss, and yes, we even had a 2017 Ford GT. There were lots of nice door prizes given out, trophies and the gift basket monies are 100% going to the charity Ronald McDonald House.

I hope everyone had as good as time as we did.