

YIPPEE KI-YAY

A DELIGHTFUL DAY AT THE LEUER'S WILD WEST TOWN

Saturday February 12, 2022

Gracious hosts Debby Leuer and son Robby Leuer treated our club members to an adventurous day. Husband Bill, now deceased, was an avid picker. He never returned home from a simple errand or a road trip across the county without something to add to his numerous collections. Size didn't matter. It could be a hat pin or an antique truck. There was always a place for a new treasure in their display.

Walking beyond the front gates of Leuer's property, we were at once transported back in time to the wild West. Creativity by this family was evidenced at every glance. Within the massive barn hangs a full-sized plane perched from the rafters. Cars, Dodge Brothers's cars of all body styles were housed here. Substantial sized gears were used as pedestals for glassed topped tables. Display cases held tin toys, dolls, miniature cars, mechanical banks, erector sets, etc. Walls were covered with vintage signs & neon emblems. Tables were decoratively set for lunch and the fresh popped popcorn aroma wafted throughout.

Situated around the grounds were various buildings, each displaying the artifacts from its former use. There was the Auto Livery with of course a car and various mechanics equipment of the day. The schoolmarm was seated at her desk with her array of teaching tools in the School House. Other buildings hosted the Bank, Laundry, Box Spring Station, Dress Shop, Newspaper Office and many more. Upon the railway tracks was a two person hand-car for those who wished to flex their muscles to make their way around more scenic views and through the mine shaft tunnel. The blacksmith, actual real person, was plying his trade over the hot coals and anvil hammering out a variety of items. The Dance Hall featured a bar and player piano.

Up the road, more "finds" are housed in what was once a water reservoir. Military vehicles, some original and some fabricated, enjoy the cool temperature of this underground setting. A full size officer's quarters is recreated with mannequins and copies of important documents adorning the walls. There are shelves and shelves of mysterious (at least to me) equipment, canons and cameras, and tires and wheels of various sizes. The list can go on as you make a path through door and all the areas.



Arriving for a fun-filled day (l-r) Bob Pritchard, Cathy Feldman, Duane Hinkle, Betty Green, & Howard Green





Linda enjoying the popcorn



Debby welcoming our club



more trucks...





General Store



Merchantile Store



Printing Press



Mine Shaft Entrance



Friendly Burros



Reservoir turned storage area