

CBX *Travel: Fave Rides & Eats*

Team Leader: Rick Pope

Team Member(s):

To join this team or submit an article please contact Rick Pope at RickEIEIO@aol.com

GOAL: Members all over chronicle their fave rides and eating places in North America. After we collect a 100 or so any member contemplating a special ride can count ICOA and these articles to help them find the best roads and eating spots along the way.

SUBMISSIONS due for next Express 4/15/2003. Current article format/content, but be creative. 250-500 word count in MS Word or Email format preferred. Jpeg pictures please. Regular mail/photos acceptable.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY ***“Buffet Racers Delight”***

Ah, it's a beautiful winter's day. It's only mid February, but the sun's up, and the weatherman promised a clear day with a high temp. of over 50 degrees. Time to call a couple of riding buddies and blow the cobwebs out of a certain CBX.

Ten minutes on the phone to Ed Perkins and Dave Lowe and it's all settled. We'll meet for a ride. I inform my blushing bride of 28 years what's afoot, and she smiles, knowing I really need a day with the guys.

I think I'll keep her.

I start gathering my riding gear. It's going to be cool the first hour or two, so I put on a pair of ski socks, t-shirt, long sleeve t-shirt, and my riding sweater, along with my jeans and riding boots. Then out in the garage, I don the riding pants, lightly insulated thank-you, and my jacket. With the layering effect, and my abundant natural insulation, I'll skip the jacket liner today. I'll throw the insulated gloves in the tank bag though, just in case.

The X fires right away, settling into a fast idle. I have no idea why this particular CBX starts so easily, but I'm glad it does. I hop aboard and ease it into gear and we're off. I haven't ridden for a couple of weeks, and take it easy for a while, trying to resist the temptation to fly on the familiar roads close to home.

The tires are cold, the engines not warmed thoroughly, and I'm rusty. At my age, falls hurt, so I'll ease into today's ride.

About 1/2 hour of 4 lane later, I pull into the Shell station on KY Rt. 9, near Cincinnati. Dave and Ed are already there, sipping coffee and chatting with some other crazies. We recognize some, and meet some new faces.

All are about to assault the locally famous "Route 10." It's not Deals Gap, but hey, it's close to home. Rt. 10 follows the ridge tops, connecting farms and small towns, which you'd expect to have a lot of slow traffic. But the state of Kentucky put in a new 4 lane, running parallel to Rt. 10. New and improved, it runs straight across the countryside, leaving the "old road" to a few locals, and us. Ye-Ha!

Now, you gotta be careful in Northern, KY. The highway dept. puts up signs warning about how sharp the turns are, and normally you can double the suggested speed. But not always. Once in a while, they throw in a sign that's on the money. I keep that in mind as Dave leads us at a nice clip along the ridge tops.

Well, okay, it's really more of a fast pace. Gotta be smooth. CBXs don't like rough inputs. Keep it in 4th, letting the engine sing its song. The speed limit's 55mph, and many of the corners have us near our limits to maintain that pace. We don't accelerate much between corners, just maintain a near legal speed, so when



the Highway Patrol goes by, they leave us alone.

After about an hour of enjoying the curves, we arrive at “Bonnie’s Country Grill” in Germantown, KY. It’s a little local place, decent food, and reasonable prices. *(Translated: Rick has been banned from every “all you can eat” franchise breakfast eatery in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky...as such has to seek out local eating spots...editor)* It’s almost too late for breakfast, but a bit early for lunch. Hmm. Whatever we get, it’ll include the biscuits. So light, they put a napkin over them so they don’t float out of the basket.

After we’ve had too many biscuits and too much coffee, we saddle up again, and turn off Rt. 10 and onto Rt. 875. It’s easy to miss, and most of the squids from Cincy don’t know about it. Therefore, there’s no reason for the cops to be there, so we can pick up the pace a bit.

We sail along, enjoying the road, with its excellent sight lines and smooth pavement. Even in the summer, with the leaves on the trees, you can normally see at least one full curve ahead, but in the winter, we can really see our lines and plot our course. Good stuff, especially when following a smooth leader.

KY 875 ends at KY 165, another great road. We head north, back in the general direction of home. With the days still being short, and the nights cold, we want to be near home when the sun goes down. KY165 intersects with KY19, right at KY22, which is fun and smooth. It goes west to Louisville, but we’re only going to follow it as far as Falmouth today.

Then it’s up US 27 a short bit to KY 17, another road with just a few signs which mean it when they say 15mph. The one in the valley by that little brown house is particularly severe. Don’t ask.....

Now we’re back to the South side of Cincy, and have a decision to make. If the days were longer, or we’ve not dawdled too much, we can slip over the hill past Beaver Lick, Big Bone Lick State Park, and on to Rabbit Hash. Ya think I’m making this up? *(Our investigation found this sign pointing to Rick’s driveway entrance!!!editor)*

Just look at a Kentucky map, south and west of Cincinnati, along and just to the North of US 42 . If there’s enough daylight left, when we get to Rabbit Hash



General Store, we’ll have a soda and watch the riverboats go by on the Ohio River.

We’re now across the river from Rising Sun, Indiana, only 25 miles from home as the crow flies. I’ll stretch that to 50 miles though. We leave Rabbit Hash and take KY338 and KY 20 to I-275, the loop around Cincinnati.

Time to say so-long and head home. I cross the Ohio River and exit onto Indiana 1, and head North, and to the same backroads which carried me this morning. If I timed it right, I arrive home with some daylight to spare, before the winter chill can get under my jacket.

Who says ya hafta put your CBX away for the winter?

I Really Like The Team Concept Since I Don’t Have A Lot of Time...How Do I Join

At the top of each Xpress article are instructions for joining that team

You can join multiple teams, but to join you must submit an article and after that help out with proofing other submissions in the future

The goal is many, many more ICOA members spending less time helping the club . . . here is your chance to take 5-10 hours a year and in the process ensure the ICOA/CBX Destiny