



Left to right: Henry and Arlene Zerphay and Charles and Marlene Drace

Zerpheys, Draces cycle country

On Friday, August 8, two couples climb aboard their Hondas (GL 1000) and rode off for a "wonderful vacation" through this country's Southland. The couples were: Henry and Arlene Zerphay, 154 North High St., Mount Joy; and Charles and Marlene Drace, 117 South Barbara St., Mount Joy.

First stop was LuRay Caverns, Virginia, where they toured the sites; on to Gatlinburg, Tennessee and across the Great Smokies.

While in the Smokies, the four visited the Cherokee Reservation where they purchased some beautiful handmade jewelry.

As they rode on across the mountains, they spotted three bears and stopped to observe them. Zerphay said, "There we were, out in the open, not confined to an automobile, just nature and us. It was tremendously beautiful sight."

After the travelers left the reservation, they went to the Cowee Valley Ruby Mines

where they panned for gems, finding rubies, sapphires, and kyanite, which is used to make tiger-eye jewelry.

From there they went into South Carolina, Georgia, and began their return trip home.

On their return, they visited Winston-Salem for a tour of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, where they learned the company pays two million dollars in taxes every working day. They found the tobacco company tour fascinating as they did the tour of Busch Gardens.

In Wilmington, North Carolina, they toured the historical U.S.S. Carolina. They found the size of the ship surprising but learned she had 2,000 men living on her while she was in service.

Everywhere they traveled "people came over to look at the Bikes", which, they claim, ride "like a Rolls-Royce".

The couples feel they were treated extra nice and attribute that treatment to that "ol Southern hospitality".

In fact, Zerphay was so impressed with the southern people he has a flag in the rec room. You guessed it? Right! It is a Confederate flag.

Asked if they had any trouble on their trip, they answered, "No! Except one day in Virginia we had some light rain, but that did not stop us. We put on our rain outfits and kept on!"

The four have taken short trips on their cycles in the past 5 years and now since the new bikes performed so well they are eying a trip to the western part of the United States.

And what about the wives? Well, riding is not new to these gals. They each have smaller Hondas for their own use, using them for shopping and pleasure riding!

As a final note - The price of the gas for the entire 2,100-mile trip came to \$32.00.

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