

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE GREAT STATE OF WISCONSIN, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE PEOPLE OF INDIANA FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT DURING OUR FIRST 150 YEARS.

AS WE CELEBRATE OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL THIS YEAR, WE WANT TO REACH OUT TO OUR FRIENDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

EVERY YEAR, I LEAD A HARLEY RIDE ACROSS WISCONSIN TO PROMOTE OUR STATE AND HONOR THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOTORCYCLE. WE'RE PROUD TO BE HOME TO THE HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE COMPANY.

THIS YEAR, I DECIDED TO TAKE THE HARLEY RIDE TO WASHINGTON, D.C., AS A WAY TO ENCOURAGE THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO JOIN WISCONSIN IN CELEBRATING OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL.

THE HARLEY RIDE WILL CULMINATE ON JUNE 24 WHEN WE ROAR DOWN PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TO THE NATIONAL MALL, WHERE WE WILL KICK OFF THE SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL, WHICH IS FEATURING WISCONSIN IN HONOR OF OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL.

ALONG THE WAY, WE ARE STOPPING IN AS MANY STATE CAPITOLS AS POSSIBLE TO THANK THE

**GOOD PEOPLE WHO HAVE STOOD ALONGSIDE
WISCONSIN AND SHARED WITH US THEIR
FRIENDSHIP.**

**AND OUR TWO STATES HAVE A FEW THINGS IN
COMMON.**

- **DID YOU KNOW THE FIRST CAR RACE IN AMERICA
TOOK PLACE IN WISCONSIN. IN 1878, OUR STATE
LEGISLATURE PUT UP A \$10,000 PRIZE FOR THE
FIRST CAR TO MAKE IT FROM GREEN BAY TO
MADISON. ALEXANDER GALLAGHER OF
OSHKOSH WON THE RACE AT A TORRID SPEED
OF 6 MILES PER HOUR.**
- **AND WHILE MR. GALLAGHER CERTAINLY DIDN'T
BURN UP THE ROADWAY, HE PAVED THE WAY
FOR AUTOMOBILE RACING IN AMERICA AT
SPECTACULAR VENUES SUCH AS THE
INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY.**

- **WE'VE GIVEN THE NATION SOME GREAT RACE CAR DRIVERS – BOTH INDY CAR AND STOCK CAR. ARIE LUYENDYK, WHO CALLED WISCONSIN HOME, HAS WON THE INDY 500 TWICE – INCLUDING THE 1997 RACE. HERM JOHNSON OF EAU CLAIRE FINISHED IN THE TOP 10 TWICE IN THE 80S....**

AND IN LAST MONTH'S RACE, STEVE KNAPP OF SALEM, WIS., FINISHED THIRD AND WAS NAMED ROOKIE OF THE YEAR. NEXT YEAR, STEVE'S GOING TO WIN IT ALL.

- **SOME OF INDY'S EARLIEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL RACERS CAME FROM WISCONSIN, MEN LIKE TONY WILLMAN, FRANK BRISKO AND JOHNNY SAUYER.**

- **ONE OF THE AUTO RACING'S GREATEST PROMOTERS HAILED FROM WISCONSIN – TOM MARCHESE OF MILWAUKEE. HIS NEARLY FOUR DECADES OF WORK HELPED ELEVATE CHAMPIONSHIP RACING, SUCH AS THE INDY 500.**
- **BUT HARRY ARMENOUS MILLER MADE PERHAPS THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO INDY RACING OF ANY WISCONSINITE WITH HIS MILLER RACING ENGINE. THIS WAS THE PREMIER ENGINE USED BY INDY RACERS FROM THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR THROUGH 1938 – SOME TWO DECADES. HE DEVELOPED THE FIRST PRACTICAL CARBURETOR AND IS CONSIDERED THE VINCE LOMBARDI OF AUTO RACING. IN FACT, I UNDERSTAND HIS PICTURE HANGS HERE AT THE INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY.**

- **WE'VE ALSO GIVEN THE SPORT AND THIS RACETRACK SOME GREAT STOCK CAR RACERS, SUCH AS DICK TRICKLE, THE LATE ALAN KULWICKI, TED MUSGRAVE, RICH BICKLE, JAY SAUTER, MATT KENSETH AND NORM NELSON.**
- **A WISCONSIN MAN ALSO INVENTED THE SPEEDOMETER IN 1909, SO TODAY'S RACE CAR DRIVERS KNOW JUST HOW FAST THEY'RE WHIPPING AROUND THIS TRACK.**
- **WE ALSO HAVE STRONG TIES WITH ELI LILLY PHARMACEUTICALS. IN THE 1940S AND 1950S, THIS GREAT COMPANY DONATED A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO THE WISCONSIN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN AMERICAN HISTORY.**

**THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN AND INDIANA HAVE
BUILT TWO GREAT STATES THROUGH THE YEARS.
WE ARE SHINING STARS OF THE MIDWEST, FULL OF
HARD-WORKING, FUN-LOVING PEOPLE WHO
TREASURE THEIR FAMILIES AND VALUE A HIGH
QUALITY OF LIFE.**

**THANK YOU, INDIANA, FOR BEING OUR FRIENDS
AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO MAKING THAT
FRIENDSHIP EVEN STRONGER IN THE NEXT 150
YEARS.**

**(PRESENT GOVERNOR FRANK O'BANNON WITH
HARLEY JACKET, FAVRE FOOTBALL,
SESQUICENTENNIAL BASKET)**