

Indiana Motoring: Concours d'Elegance at French Lick

Video Treatment (Rev. 11/9/14)

Overview – In this premiere episode of Indiana Motoring, WTIU will take you on the road to French Lick for a classic car show, the Concours d'Elegance. These car shows take place across the globe and feature the very finest in automotive design and engineering. This year's Concours in French Lick features Shelby American, Shelby Cobras, GTs, Corvettes, and other high-performance muscle cars. The Concours also features historic Auburn, Cord and Duesenberg cars that were made right here in Indiana. There are more than 150 unique automobiles, motorcycles, and trucks being judged in 15 different classes. We'll take a close look at these fast and classic motor vehicles, look under the hoods, meet the owners, and take a few out for a spin. So join Indiana Motoring as we ride in style at the Concours d'Elegance in French Lick!

Notes: Concours d'Elegance at French Lick coincides with Indiana Automotive Heritage Day, which is Saturday October 4th.

Promo to shoot for Brent Molnar:

HOST Brandon VO: "They exemplify some of the rarest, most stylish, and historic collector cars from across the country."

Brandon MCU: "Hi I'm Brandon Wentz.

Join me as the beautiful grounds of French Lick Resort are transformed into an exhibition of automotive elegance."

Brandon VO: "And, explore the rich automotive heritage, technical merit, and style of some of Indiana's signature makes.

Whether you're a dedicated enthusiast, or just someone who appreciates automotive beauty, watch *Indiana Motoring: Concours d'Elegance at French Lick*."

Treatment with Narration

VO: Indiana Motoring: Concourse d'elegance at French Lick is made possible by Members Like You, Thank you.

ACT I -----

Scene 1 - Intro/teaser

Host Brandon (Nice EXT that's not identifiable as French Lick): "Today on Indiana Motoring we're going to head to French Lick for the Concours d'Elegance. It's a car show- celebrating the very finest in automotive achievement. We'll get

up close and personal with some classic cars, look under the hoods, and take a few out for a spin. So come along because we're going to ride in style on Indiana Motoring!"

[title sequence – which starts with montage of cars & sights with music under]

Scene 2 - An Ideal Location

Host Brandon (outside West Baden Springs Hotel): "We're at the historic and beautiful West Baden Springs Hotel, a part of the French Lick Resort in Southern Indiana. We're here to see some beautiful cars but it's hard not to also be wowed by the surroundings."

HOST Brandon (or Steve Rondinaro/Sandi Woodward interview): The West Baden Springs Hotel has been referred to as the Eighth Wonder of the World. It contains one of the largest unsupported domes in the world. The West Baden Springs Hotel and French Lick Springs Hotels are beautiful, historic landmarks set amongst artful gardens and rolling hills. [end on tidbit about beauty]

Scene - 3 What is the Concours d'Elegance?

HOST (starts on camera and then goes to VO): "French Lick is the perfect setting for the Concours d'Elegance- or Concours as many call it. The French phrase translates to "competition of elegance" and can be traced back to the 17th century, when well to do aristocrats paraded their ornate horse drawn carriages through Parisian parks. These classic car competitions are held all over the globe and are frequented by people who are extremely passionate about their cars."

[Interview with Pat Palmer and other key organizers, who tell us a little about the event and the people who come to it.]

Scene 4 - Concours at French Lick Highlights

HOST Brandon (start on camera – can become VO): "The Concours d'Elegance attracts rare and historic cars from across the country. The weekend event here at French Lick includes driving tours, a lecture series, 15-classes of competition motor vehicles, hundreds of beautiful, vintage, classic and historic cars, and thousands of car enthusiasts"

REVISED VO: "The Concours d'Elegance attracts rare and historic cars from across the country. The weekend event here at French Lick includes driving tours, a lecture series, 15-classes of competition motor vehicles, and hundreds of beautiful, vintage, classic cars, and car enthusiasts"

[a few brief testimonials from attendees on what they like to see]

HOST Brandon VO: “This year’s show features Shelby American, Shelby Cobras, GTs, Corvettes, and other high-performance muscle cars. It also features historic Auburn, Cord and Duesenberg cars – luxury cars that were made right here in Indiana.”

Scene 5 – Dawn of the Road Trip

VO HOST Brandon: “The first major event of the Concours d’Elegance at French Lick is the Saturday morning driving tour. In the wee hours of the morning, the brick boulevard leading up to the West Baden Springs Hotel fills with an interesting and impressive collection of cars.”

[Beauty shots of cars on the brick boulevards with the hotel and landscaping in the background. Montage of owners telling us the year and model of their cars.]

MCU HOST Brandon: “The driving tour will head out to visit two impressive car collections. I’m going to see if I can hitch a ride.” [Brandon exits frame- don’t follow]

Scene 6 – Drive & Talk #1

HOST Brandon [introduces Car #1 and her owner. [“Jackie” a 1972 Jaguar C12 and owner Carolyn]. **IMPROV**, something like: “Jackie is a 1972 Jaguar C12 and this is Carolyn who has owned her from day 1. I’m going for a ride in her preservation class Jaguar.” [gets in car – go to GoPro footage]

Scene 7 – The Lange Farm(s) (Pronounced “long-ee”)

HOST Brandon VO: “The two destinations for the Saturday driving tour are the father-son collections of Clem Lange and Joey Lange. Their collection includes more than 100 show-quality cars that some say rivals that of Jay Leno.

HOST Brandon & Carolyn talking as they drive [Brandon & Carolyn improv on car & favorite memories]

Host Brandon VO: After an hour drive through beautiful countryside, we reach Clem Lange’s collection of classic cars. Clem has more than sixty rare, vintage, and pre-World War II cars, all stored inside a climate-controlled building. He keeps his cars in running order- and in *mint* condition.

One of Clem’s favorites is a 1920 Essex, called the “Bullet Hole Special”. The car crossed the country six times without ever breaking down.

After serving in the army, Clem discovered his love of older cars- and began collecting vehicles in 1978. In addition to restoring the cars, Clem enjoys driving them, and sharing them with fellow car enthusiasts.

(Probably won't use but record anyway): Clem's son, Joey Lange also has an impressive collection of American muscle cars."

Scene 8 – Lectures & Experts

HOST Brandon MS (in/around the Events Center): "After the driving tour, lunch and a brief respite, the next item on our Concours agenda is a lecture series from some prominent figures in the automotive industry."

[B-roll of presentations, speakers & Brandon in audience. Some soundbites from each key presenter (Dennis Horvath, Donald Davidson & Hans Kellogg.)]

HOST Brandon VO: Dennis Horvath is a self-described "genuine car nut". He's been studying Indiana's automotive history for years and authored three books on the subject."

[Presentation & interview snippets from Dennis Horvath.]

HOST Brandon VO: "Donald Davidson is an author, historian, and expert on the Indy Motor Speedway."

[Presentation & interview snippets from Donald Davidson. Include how French Lick was once considered for the speedway. History of racing in Indiana.]

Scene 9 – Hans Kellogg & *Legacies of Perfection* (video documentary)

[Video excerpt from *Legacies of Perfection* showing vintage Auburn, Cord & Duesenberg automobiles.]

HOST Brandon VO: "Hans Kellogg's documentary, *Legacies of Perfection* was nominated for 6 regional Emmy Awards. Kellogg is a professor at Ball State University and produced the documentary with 13 of his students."

[Interview snippets from Hans Kellogg.]

Scene 10 – Get a Groove on Mad Men Style

HOST Brandon (MS in the atrium): "After all that driving and history, it's time to change gears. We're going to celebrate in style under the world-famous atrium of the West Baden Springs Hotel." (Camera tilts up to show space –or- Brandon exits frame.)

re-record HOST Brandon VO: This swanky affair includes a lavish, three-course dinner, silent auction, and cocktails..." [time with shot of Brandon or guest]

sipping a martini] “It’s all a benefit for the Children’s Hospital Foundation- raising funds for the Kosair Children’s Hospital.”

[Footage of folks having fun at MadVIN Gala.]

HOST Brandon VO: What a perfect end to a perfect day. Cocktails under the beautiful West Baden Springs dome.

ACT II -----

Scene 11 - Sunday is Game Day

HOST Brandon MCU (on the expo field): “Sunday is the big day- the day of the actual competition. Most of the cars weren’t driven here, but brought in on trailers during the wee hours of the morning

VO: All of these vehicles have been meticulously cared for, primed and pampered.”

[footage of setup, cars coming off of trailers, people polishing cars, etc.]

HOST Brandon VO: Vehicles are brought onto the field and arranged in categories. Carolyn’s 1972 Jaguar is entered in the Survivors class. Cars in this category must be original and unrestored.

HOST Brandon VO (re-record for consistency): “There are 15 different classes of cars in the Concours. These include several Shelby categories, American performance “muscle” cars, super cars, post war era vehicles, and cars made right here in Indiana. There are also categories for trucks and motorcycles.”

Before the judging begins, entrants make sure all is in tip top shape- after all it is a competition of elegance.

Scene 12 Meet the Cars & Their Owners

HOST Brandon MCU on expo field: “There are lots of incredible looking cars out here. Let’s take a look at some and meet some of the owners.” [exits frame]

We’ll interview about 4 owners and create stylistic “music video” segments for each auto. We’ll ask owners:

- Tell me about your car (year, make, model, etc)
- What are your favorite features?
- Can you tell us what’s under the hood?
- What do you like most about your car?

Scene 13 – Are You Judging Me?

HOST Brandon MS: “Judging a Concours is a serious and involved affair. Each class has its own judges. Many have been brought in from across the continent for today’s competition.”

[Interviews with Chief Class Judge, Hunt Palmer-Ball and William Jeanes. Touch on what they’re looking for and what is involved in judging a Concours.]

Scene 14 – Fanfare

HOST Brandon VO: “With the judging underway, it’s time to begin the official ceremony.”

[Footage of opening ceremony, flyover from Russian planes, national anthem, etc.]

Scene 15 - The Winners Circle

HOST Brandon MS (with the grandstand/stage behind him): “The judges have tallied their final scores and are ready to present the winners.” (turns to listen)

[Footage of awards presentation. Footage of winners accepting awards, snippets of thank you’s, and the Winner’s Circle Celebration.]

Scene 16 – Close/Wrap (two versions)

Version #1 - HOST Brandon (with cars/winner in the background): With the winner’s circle celebration now underway we have reached the end of the Concours d’elegance at French Lick.

VO: We hope you’ve enjoyed spending time with these rare, historic and fast cars and getting to meet the owners.

Soon, most of these fine automobiles will be carefully loaded onto trailers for the long ride home. They’ll be transported back to their garages and gently tended by their owners, who are dedicated to preserving a time when cars were elegant, motoring was a pastime, and the road was a highway to adventure.

Version #2 - HOST Brandon (standing next to Carolyn’s Jaguar): “Thanks for joining us on Indiana Motoring. We hope you’ve enjoyed the Concours d’Elegance at French Lick, celebrating fine engineering and craftsmanship of classic and beloved automobiles....”

[Carolyn from driver’s seat taps horn – “Are you coming, honey- I haven’t got all day”, smiles and starts to check her makeup]

HOST Brandon: “Thanks for watching- but now it’s time to hit the road.” (slight wink or smile to camera- before he gets in and they drive off into the distance.)

[If a scenic road, can stay on shot for possible credits.]