

On the road...The purpose of the trip...The Gathering... An APT Experiment

All, I am looking forward to my road trip to New Jersey. I'll be leaving on the morning of August 7, 2026, first stop in Mendota, Illinois then, Newton Falls, Ohio, finally arriving in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, late in the day on August 9th. It is very relaxing drive that I have done approximately 150 times since I settled in Wisconsin 55 years ago.

I've had the chance to notice changes in the landscape. Nothing too dramatic, with some features remaining the same for more than a half-century. A really nice aspect of the drive is that there are no red lights, just tollbooths. (Until I get to Philly.) And with a gadget that you can affix to your windshield you can pay your tolls automatically, not even having to stop.

The purpose of the trip...

I am looking forward to spending time with my sister Nancy, who lives in Cherry Hill, and her husband Fred. Also, a whole group of friends that I am looking forward to seeing and catching up with. Of course, I am looking forward to real Jersey food – cheesesteaks (with fried onions), true Jersey pizza, a corn beef, coleslaw, and Russian dressing sandwich, just to mention a few of the enjoyable edible highlights. Plus, I am looking forward to a Sunday morning with the congregation of the Little Rock Baptist Church, in Camden. [Note: Pastor Steven Mack delivers a message that always makes sense, is powerful, leaves the congregant (including me) with the feeling of, *I can do that.*]

The Gathering...

A very big event, that I will be attending, with my niece Ciara, is [*The Gathering*](#).^{*} It is an annual event.

The purpose of the event is both to commemorate and honor the memory of Albert Payson Terhune and promote the objectives of *The Collie Health Foundation*, as a fundraiser. In many ways *The Gathering* is a mecca for Collie breeders, owners, and everyone else likes collies. People attend from all over the world. Needless to say, I find it fascinating.

Something else that draws me to this place is the fact that Terhune had his home here. Although the home no longer stands, the grounds have been dedicated as the Terhune Memorial Park. The feeling conveyed by the landscape resonates with me, as he described it so vividly and movingly in his writing. I absorb the energy.

An APT experiment...

Often I am asked how I am able to remember all of the columns that I have written. I can't. Since APT began I have written 971, with an average word count of approximately 950 words per column. This amounts to close to 920,000 words. Some of the columns are good, some of them are okay, some of them are painful for me to reread.

My hunch is that the members of the APT Group would have as tough times as I do remembering them. Some might stick but I don't expect them all to. This realization led me to wonder if it would be possible, while I am on the road, for me to send out a few of the 971 to be revisited, hopefully enjoyed. (Not exactly the *Best of Carson*, but I was inspired by the

concept. (It just dawned on me that Ciara will not know what I'm talking about when I refer to the *Best of Carson*)).

Please be certain that I realize that there are far more intriguing and interesting writers than I who are doing a column. But there is something that I am certain of; Very few people who write have readers who are more fascinating than the APT Group.. You have no idea how much I appreciate the fact that each of you takes a moment or two during the day or evening or whenever to see what's going on with APT. We have created our own community. That's really cool.

First yawn...

Until tomorrow...

Ken

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[*Note: *The Gathering* is described here –
<https://www.colliehealth.org/sunnybank-gathering/>]