



Program Office

August 25, 2008

Dear Jeff:

Wow! What a wonderful evening in the Chautauqua Amphitheater. Little did I know that when you walked into my office in the summer of 2007 and filled me in on the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the New York to Paris 1908 Automobile Race, that together, we would execute such a fantastic evening at Chautauqua. The story of your great grandfather's adventures is almost beyond belief. It is one of those stories that take us on an incredible journey of human endurance and ingenuity coupled with amazing mechanical engineering and just plain courage.

You are an absolutely brilliant storyteller. The way you read your great grandfather's journal and kept the audience enthralled and thrilled was remarkable. My congratulations on a terrific performance that attained a very high level of inspiration and genuine emotional impact. The addition of the live music throughout the program combined with your incredible storytelling made the evening one of those to remember.

Your great grandfather would be proud of the way you have represented him and celebrated his accomplishments. Thank you for sharing those accomplishments with me and with the entire Chautauqua community.

Sincerely,

Marty W. Merkley
Vice President & Director of Programming

MWM/ams

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