

Earl's Diary - Friday - May 24, 2013

Dear Loyal Readers;

Today was a travel day. The weather was bright and sunny all day! Now THAT'S unusual! We left Monroe City and Mark Twain Landing RV Park about 9:00am. heading east on Interstate 72. Our plan was to cross the Mississippi River at Hannibal and travel a short distance on the interstate, then move southeast toward Litchfield (which is on Interstate 55 20 miles south of Springfield, Illinois.)

About 20 miles into Illinois we stopped for gas at a truck stop on the freeway and immediately headed south on ALL two lane state highways. By the way, gas at that truck stop was \$3.99/gal!! Ouch! I thought I was back in California!

On our way, we traveled through lots of Illinois farm country, just like Wednesday when we traveled from St. Louis to Hannibal. It was up and down hills, and through lots of curves in the road. When we would come to a road end, we would turn left or right and continue on. The countryside is pretty and green. Some fields have been planted, most have not. Still no pictures. We saw lots of beautiful old brick homes.

One of the things I noticed was out in the country on the state highways, towns are only about 10 miles apart. Away from towns, the traffic is light. Once in each of these towns lots of traffic suddenly appears. It's like everyone seems to go to their own town to do shopping, at mostly local stores.

We passed through towns with such interesting names as: Winchester, Manchester, Brussels, Detroit, Florida, and Whitehall. All these town are of varying population sizes.

What do think we happened upon in one town???? That's right - a Dairy Queen. Naturally it was lunch time, so we stopped and enjoyed one of their \$5 lunches. I had their quarter pounder burger, fries, ice tea, AND hot fudge Sundae. Alan and Michele enjoyed their chili cheese dog, fries, drinks AND Midnight Chocolate Truffle. They didn't consume their Blizzards right away. Instead they put them in their trailer freezer to save for a later time.

Our travels through the Illinois countryside continued until we arrived at our stopping point for 3 nights - Kamper Kompanion RV Park in Litchfield, Illinois. We arrived here at 1:30 with plenty of time to spare (or take a nap). Later in the afternoon we traveled into Litchfield to shop at the local WalMart. I offered to make pork stir fry for dinner that night. We found the right ingredients and our dinner was planned for the night.

I learned a new card game from Alan and Michele called Phase 10. It was fairly easy to learn so Alan and I tied for winning. I guess that's what you call beginners luck.

We have been invited by our park host to join them for breakfast tomorrow morning. It must be in observance of Memorial Day. We plan to arise and join other members of the park at the pavilion.

That was the day. It was fairly easy, and we only traveled about 150 miles. Thank you for once again traveling with me. - - Earl

P.S. I found these two photos as I was downloading from my camera recently. Several days ago I mentioned we crossed the flooding Illinois River on a ferry. It doesn't show too well but house on right photo has about 5 feet of water in it.

