

Earl's Diary - Monday - February 25, 2013

I'm homeward bound! This morning I left Yuma at 9:15 heading north on U.S. 95. Actually I'm retracing my tracks through Quartzsite and Parker, AZ. I crossed the Colorado River at Parker and instantly regained the 1 hour I lost about a month ago. This was to be my shortest (in milage) drive day. I had plenty of time to spare so I stopped at a small crossroads community of Vidal Junction on the California side. The only thing open in this out-of-the way spot is a gas station/mini market and California Agriculture Inspection station. Oh yes! There is a closed (for sale) restaurant, and a closed motel. Some community, eh?

I pulled off the road in a wide spot (along with several large trucks and several large motor homes) to have lunch AND take the requisite nap. Lots of large trucks use this road. The must start in Blythe, CA and head for Needles, CA and I-40. Their zooming past didn't seem to interfere with my nap!

I arrived in Needles at 1:30. That was an hour earlier than I originally expected. I suppose that's because I gained the hour crossing the river! Anyway, I'm now parked at Desert View RV Park. (Not High Desert Park as I reported yesterday.) I knew where I was supposed to be going, so it's a good thing you weren't going to meet me at High Desert RV Park!) The weather here is perfectly delightful. Not too hot and not too cold! There's a slight breeze.

I arrived here without incident. As I traverse the California side of U.S. 95, I always marvel at the movement of the sun as the shadows seem to make ever changing patterns on the mountains. Since I had extra time I stopped to take a few photos.



Yuma is surrounded on the north and east by rugged mountains. I stepped into the street at Caroline's home to capture this scene.



Along U.S. Highway 95, between Vidal Junction and Needles. Traveling through this part of the country always reminds me of Death Valley. Of course, I guess it should since it's all part of the great southern California Desert!



Tomorrow is another long travel day (273 miles) as I head across the desert. My ultimate destination tomorrow will be Bakersfield. There will surely be more picturesque mountains to photograph.

That's about it for today. Thanks for traveling along with me. Bye for now - - Earl