

Saturday April 18, 2009

*We decided to forget the bus and took our truck to **The Rally** today. That way we would avoid the line ups and we could take Percy with us as he had a date with the CEO of "Dogs for the Deaf". Robin usually has a demo dog with her but not this trip and she needed a dog to demonstrate with at her Obedience Seminar. Percy was happy to help.*

We followed our GPS instructions down the interstate where they have huge pink overpasses.



We were able to get a parking spot fairly close to the buildings.

At the Guide Dog booth Percy met a new friend.



We had to wait for a while in the Seminar Room before it was show time for Percy.



Robin demonstrated how to teach dogs to sit and lie down.



*When she talked about how to use a spray bottle
Percy wanted to eat it.*



*Off the table Percy was good at Heeling,
but not so good at the "Stay" command. (we use "Wait").
When Mike put a treat on Percy's paw and asked him to "Wait"
the audience gave them both a round of applause.*



*On the way home we drove past the Balloon Museum. Unfortunately
we did not have time to see inside but will plan to do that next time we
are in the area.*

In the evening we listened outside to the Rita Coolidge concert and then watched as four tethered hot air balloons put on a Balloon Glow show.



Sunday April 19, 2009

We took the bus back to The Rally and did not have to wait long at all, as there were plenty of buses waiting for us on both ends. The sun was shining and it was quite warm.

At night the Osmond Brothers entertained the crowds. Again, we listened outside for most of it, but did catch the last few acts inside the big tent. Afterwards Bev and Amos (friends from Viewpoint) joined us for some R & R back at our rig.

Monday April 20, 2009



In the morning we looked out our window and saw four balloons heading our way.

At one point we thought that one was going to land on top of our neighbours rig, but it went back up and safely landed in the field.





Percy could not figure out what all the excitement was about but he sure enjoyed the sunshine.

Tuesday April 21, 2009

The Rally rules stated that we all had to be out of the park by 10 am. A few rigs left the day before but most waited until today so we were expecting a huge traffic jam. Most of our section pulled out around 9 am and we headed for the gates. Things ran fairly smoothly until we reached the Interstate, but even that was only a short delay, and we were on our way north.

We decided to only go a short distance and stop again so all the others could get ahead of us. We stopped at a Casino just north of Albuquerque. It was small but had electric hook-ups and nice long pull thrus for 50 rigs. At \$10 for 24 hours the price was certainly right! There were half a dozen others from the rally who stopped overnight with us.





For lunch we went to the restaurant and had a feast of Mexican food with lots left over to put in the fridge for supper.

*Maureen had fun at the Casino,
Mike worked on the taxes and Percy stood guard.*



Wednesday April 22, 2009

Time to put on some miles. We pulled out at 7:40 a.m. under sunny skies. The temperature was crisp at 8C, but warmed up nicely as we travelled through New Mexico. The terrain was hilly and there interesting subdivisions with houses that looked like Haciendas.



Further north the landscape became flatter and the roads straighter.





Mike did most of the driving. As the mountains appeared in the distance we noted white on the tops but the temperature was a pleasant 23C on the plains.

We stopped at a rest stop near the border and talked to a local who warned us about the steep decline on the other side of the Raton Pass.





Going up was not too bad



Then we entered Colorado and started down a 6% grade.



There were a few difficult spots but the truck and fiver handled them well.



The trees, mostly conifers, were greener (REALLY) and taller on this side of the mountain.



Stopped to fuel up and admire the mountains in the distance. Fuel prices sure are much better than last year at this time but the Canadian dollar is not as good, so it all levels things out.



At 3 PM we stopped just north of Pueblo at a nice little KOA. We will stay for two nights and catch up with the laundry and paperwork. It's almost Tax Time!

