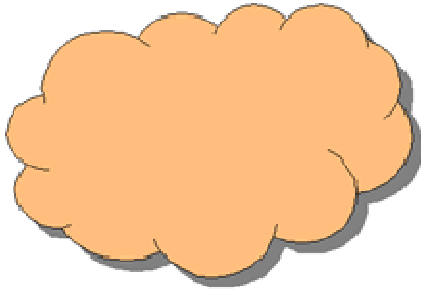


Wednesday April 29, 2009



Woke up to fog again, so delayed moving until 9:15 am. It was much warmer up to 12 C, and once the fog cleared the sun shine nicely. Noted that the Canadian dollar is now up to 83 cents American! Diesel prices around \$2.20 about half of what we were paying last spring.

We stopped in North Platte to see the Golden Spike, a tower the locals put up to give people a bird's eye view of the Union Pacific train yards. As this is the centre of the United States, it has traditionally been a place where trains are sorted. It is the world's largest Railroad Classification yard, covering 2,850 acres (enough room to enclose 2,800 football fields).

About 3,000 cars are sorted daily on 18 receiving and 16 departing tracks. Trains are also repaired here with 3 acres of housing.

We had difficulty finding the 8 story tower as our GPS sent us to the wrong end of Homestead road (a dead end gravel road).

We finally found it by driving into town and following the signs.





*Inside, on the first floor, we saw memorabilia, maps and model trains.*



*We were  
greeted by  
volunteers who  
answered our  
questions.*



*Panorama shot of train yard*



*It was lunch time, so we went looking for a place to stop.*

*After getting lost once we finally came to a pretty little park with a very large locomotive where we had a pleasant rest.*

*We tried to make some phone calls but AT&T does not have coverage here. (Another reason for us to change providers next year!)*



*Following the advice of the people at the Golden Spike, we continued on the side roads and finally arrived at the Fort Kearney State Recreation Area.*

*There were plenty of campsites, most of them situated on pretty little lakes*

*scattered throughout the park. A little pricey (\$21 for electric only) but the view and the quiet made it all worthwhile.*

*We chose number 27 and after setting up headed off to the bridge to see if we could see some of the migrating cranes that we read about in the travel books.*





**Another clue to the "What'z Dat?"**





*Unfortunately we were too late for the cranes, but we had a pleasant 2 mile hike and saw lots of other interesting things*







*The North Plate River is a perfect place for migrating birds.*





*Percy enjoyed the hike too.*



*During the night there was a very heavy thunderstorm that dumped ½ inch of rain on us.*



### *Thursday April 30, 2009*

*We were tempted to stay another night at our pretty little site, but decided to keep moving, as Ontario is still a long ways away.*

*Still avoiding the Interstate, the 2 lane roads took us north-east through rolling plains and many quaint little towns and villages.*



*We crossed lots of train tracks, but only had to stop a few times.*



*The land flattened out as we neared the river again.*





*Passing through Wahoo Nebraska, we were closing in on our destination for the next three nights.*

*Down a gravel road the Woods Landing Sign welcomed us.*

*The friendly manager let us pick our own sight number 66 on the river. There are many large trees and lots of green grass on the generously sized lots. This park is a little busier than the State Park, but just as pretty, and only half the price with both water and power (Coast to Coast).*



Friday May 1, 2009



*In our book 1000 Things to See Before You Die , the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha was on the list and Travis highly recommended it, so off we went to see the animals.*

*Outside the sun was shining and the trees were blooming.*

*Inside our senses were treated to many sights, sound and smells (not all of them wonderful). Each section had its own unique way of showing off the creatures and plants.*

*In the Geodome we felt like we were back in Arizona very hot and dry. The Cat building was more like a traditional zoo with wire cages, but the rest of the displays made us feel like we were in the natural habitat of the animals showcased there. We walked through tropical rain forests, jungles and gardens as we got up close and personal with animals both familiar and never seen before. The only negative was a group of school kids who were mostly interested in making noise. It is a shame that a few inconsiderate individuals can spoil things for the majority.*

*Here are a few of the pictures we took.*







**Hey Honny, What's for Dinner??  
(Water Monitor)**





Oink????



**And, Whom is for Dinner?**



**Now,  
When the big hand points to the 4,  
It's dinner time.**



Sunshine on my shoulder  
makes me happy!









**Just hangin' out.  
Waitin' for the babes.**











Oh! Yes! I almost forgot! The What's Dat?

OK, one more time



And TWO Hints!



Well - of course - It's the 6th green on the Frisbee Golf Course!