

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Arthur drove us out to the Lake to check out some of the local campsites. Unfortunately most of them are closed or closing and the ones that don't close do not have sewers. We decided to stay put in the driveway and keep our waste water to a bare minimum.

We took a trip out to see the Paris Winery

This display greeted us at the gate



The vineyards are very well maintained



The owner's daughter treated us to a wine tasting. She was very knowledgeable about her products.



The gift shop was full of many unique items



Mary liked the apple wine



Mike made friends with Rogerio, the owner.  
We were invited to take a peek at his rooms in the  
back.



At Jack's Java we met up with some friends for  
Thirsty Thursday, a weekly tradition.

The coffee is made to order.



The store displays many plaques with thought provoking sayings.



After supper, Chelsea brought her puppy, Alloy, over to meet to Percy.



Friday, October 30, 2009

Maureen and Mary spent a productive day scrap booking



Saturday, October 31, 2009

The highlight of our visit to Tennessee was a bus trip to Nashville to see a musical - Little House on the Prairie at TPAC (Tennessee Performing Arts Center).

Thirty of us left Paris at 10:30 am



On the way, Mary read trivia questions (made up by Arthur) about Little House. Prizes were awarded for the participants with the most right answers. Some of the questions were rather tricky but not everyone was stumped.



This was followed by Bingo with more prizes (donated by local merchants) handed out by Karen



As we arrived in Nashville an hour early,  
Mike and Maureen took a walk outside.







Across the street is the War Museum





Inside we saw many  
relics of the wars





□ Army kit

from bygone days



Little House was excellent, with a simple but effective set, great costumes and fabulous singing.



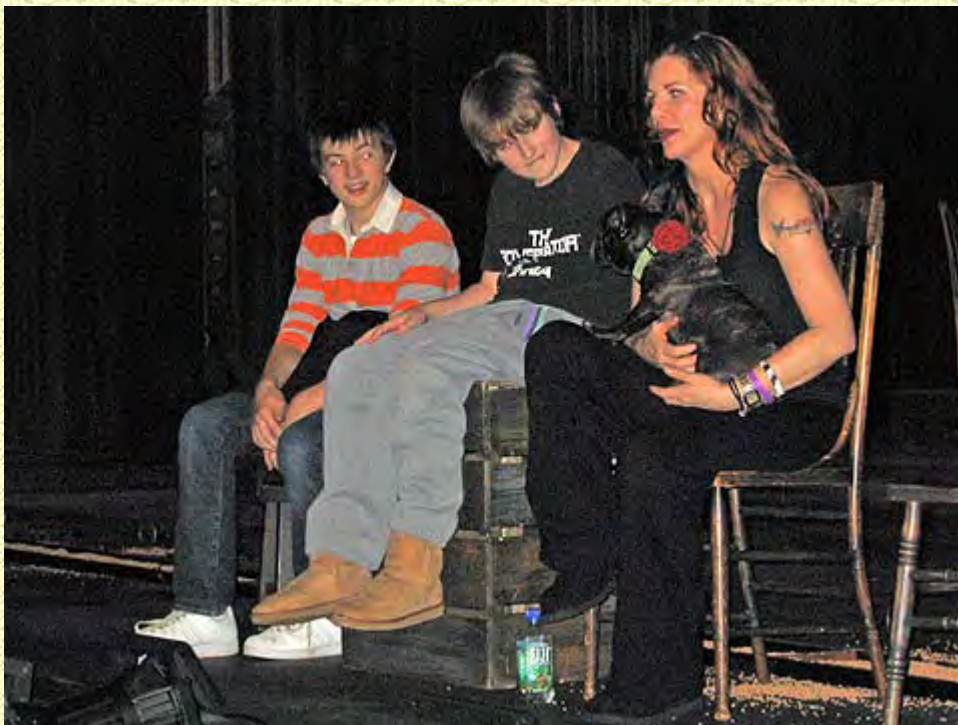
The icing on the cake was a prearranged question and answer session, just for the Paris

people, right after the play. Melissa Gilbert, her husband Bruce Boxleitner and their son Michael (who was also in the play) spent about 20 minutes talking to us.

Here Mary and Amy explain the rules for the Q & A.

It was difficult getting a good picture as the stage was dark.

Here is one with Melissa (holding her French Bulldog), and son Michael (petting the dog).



This is a shot of the drums used for the musical.



The happy Paris bunch smiling for the camera.



Mary and Karen thank Amy for allowing us the special privilege of talking to Ms Gilbert and family.



It was time to load up the bus again and head out to dinner.



Sunday November 1, 2009

It was All Saints Day. We attended church with the Lodges and then had lunch at Subway.

Wednesday November 4, 2009

We tagged along with Mary for some meetings. The first stop was at the Family Heritage Center



where Norma gave us a quick history lesson about nearby Camp Tyson, where soldiers were trained to operate Barrage Balloons. These were used in WW II to protect assaulting infantry and armour from being strafed by enemy aircraft.



There were lots of displays to provide detailed information about Camp Tyson during the war years



On the lawn outside of the Heritage Center there was a comical piece of □Art□



Next stop was a local spot that we cannot tell about because the art that is housed there has yet to be officially unveiled. It was exciting to see and we look forward to showing more when the time is right.



Here is a very small piece of what we saw there.

After lunch Maureen, Mike and Percy drove east to Dover to see Fort Donelson.





A monument honours the confederate soldiers who fought and died here in 1862.

----- HERE  
" WAS THE PLACE OF BATTLE. YOU WHO  
HAVE NEVER KNOWN THE SCOUR AND  
PIERCE OF BATTLE MAY ONLY  
REMEMBER MOMENTS BY NAMES,  
PLACES BY MONUMENTS, BUT I WHO  
WAS BORN BY THE BATTLE-FIELDS  
CANNOT ESCAPE A SORROW THAT  
DWELLS, A VALOR THAT LINGERS,  
A HOPE THAT SPOKE ON LIPS NOW STILL."





HONOR THEIR VALOR, EMULATE THE  
DEVOTION WITH WHICH THEY GAVE  
THEMSELVES TO THE SERVICE OF  
THEIR COUNTRY, LET IT NEVER BE  
SAID THAT THEIR SONS IN THESE  
SOUTHERN STATES HAVE FORGOTTEN  
THEIR NOBLE EXAMPLE.

The □Fort□ was made of dirt that was piled up to keep out the opposing forces. Erosion has reduced the height of the walls.



This is the car that we rented while our truck is being repaired.



A reproduction of one of the 400 huts used by soldiers many years ago.





Many cannons silently guard the river.





On February 14, 1862 the Union forces defeated the Confederate soldiers.

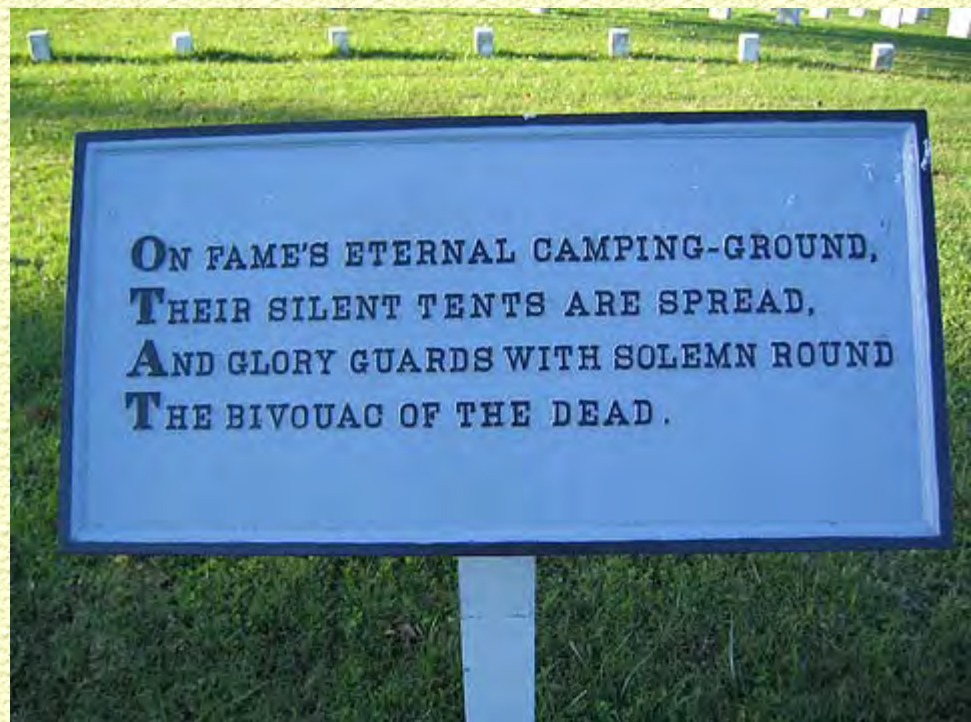
The peace treaty was signed at this hotel.



Today the river is fairly quiet, except for the occasional barge floating by.



Final stop was at the National Cemetery where the Union Soldiers were re-interred.





Thursday November 5, 2009

Maureen baked cookies for the Church Bazaar. In the afternoon we all went to Thirsty Thursday, followed by a Pancake Supper put on by the Rotarians. Then it was off to a reception kicking off the election campaign for the Sheriff. Who says there is not much to do in Paris?

Friday November 6, 2009

It was another beautiful warm sunny day, so Mike and Maureen drove to Paris Landing and played 18 holes of golf at the very scenic (and hilly) Tennessee Trails Golf Course. Even though Mike lost a few balls in the woods, it was a great golf game.





After supper Mary and Arthur took us to a party for contributors and sponsors of the Paris Magazine. It was held in a loft above a downtown store and provided the perfect venue for watching the tree lighting festivities. Mary and Maureen took a walking tour around the square to enjoy the Christmas Open Houses at the stores.

Saturday November 7, 2009

We all drove to Jackson (1 hour south) and met up with Carrie and Chris for lunch at Logan's Roadhouse to celebrate Carrie's birthday. Afterwards we all went shopping ☐ some more willingly than others!



Sunday November 8, 2009

Vicki and Barry, Suite owners from Indianapolis, invited us to join them for an afternoon at their campsite at Nathan B Forrest State Park. Barry was there for a Black Powder Rifle Competition.



This beautiful park is beside the Tennessee River, about 30 miles south east of Paris. Along with campsites it has a Folk life Center with a stunning view.





In 1862 battles between the Confederate and Union forces were fought here. Nathan B Forrest led the Confederate troops.



Inside is an old mussel fishing boat



The park rents out cabins. The most rustic one has a porch complete with rocking chairs overlooking the river.



On the way back to the campsite we stopped to see deer in the forest. There are at least 6 in this picture.



We also checked out the primitive campsites. They almost made us wish we were tent camping again.



