

Tuesday October 13, 2009

We packed up early to take a short drive to Trailaire in Goshen. In a very short time Ron had the leak in our suspension all fixed up.



Then we drove to Shipshewana and found a very nice spot in the South Campground.

On the way we admired the Amish farms, horses and the colours on the trees.



After lunch Mike drove up to Howe to talk to some folks at DRV and deliver a secret package from someone in New Palestine.

Maureen spent the afternoon happily perusing the many shops in Ship-see (that's what the locals call it). Not much was purchased but she really enjoyed the beautiful sunny weather and the stores filled with fall decorations.

Wednesday October 14, 2009

Spent a lazy day at home to avoid the cool damp weather. Made Macaroni and cheese for supper.

Thursday October 15, 2009

Up early again to take the rig to Indiana Interstate in LaGrange. Paul, Kay and crew fixed the ice maker and well as some minor problems while Maureen did the laundry at Dooleys Laundromat. Kay said we were welcome to stay in the parking lot overnight, so Maureen went to "All Cut Up" for a hair trim while Percy slept and Mike worked on the computer.



Friday October 16, 2009

Drove back to Moores Hill to stay at Bob and Cherri's place for a few days. This time we parked next to Bob's barn where he has full hook-ups.

The views from our rig.



Maureen took Percy for long walks down the country road to admire the trees and smell the flowers





Saturday October 17, 2009

Drove into Lawrenceville to pick up some groceries and rent a car.

Sunday October 18, 2009

Maureen and Percy stayed behind while Mike drove the rental car to Missouri to see Kara. Maureen gave the trailer a thorough fall cleaning during the day.

Bob and Cherri arrived home from the weekend away camping and joined Maureen for dinner (Stuffed Peppers, home made bread and fresh pumpkin pie).

Monday October 19, 2009

Maureen had fun sorting through the pictures she had collected from London in the morning and then drove into town to do laundry and shopping in the afternoon.

Tuesday October 20, 2009

While Mike was driving home from MO, Maureen did some scrap booking and reorganised some drawers and cupboards.

Wednesday October 21, 2009

Went out to dinner at the Reservation with B & C.

Thursday October 22, 2009

Visited Bob in the evening to see how he made out with his knee surgery earlier that day. Seems that all went well and he should be good as new in no time. We admired the ultrasound pictures that he brought home as a souvenir.

Friday October 23, 2009

Left in the rain at 9:45 am and headed Southwest. Stopped once for lunch and fuel and again to get the propane tanks filled arriving at French Lick mid afternoon. The rain had stopped but it was still



very overcast and grey outside. We came to see two old hotels that had recently been renovated.

Unfortunately the signage in this little tourist town was not very good and we missed both of them the first time through.

Eventually we found our way to a parking lot near one hotel.

Mike was a little tired so he had a nap while Maureen checked out the Casino. Lady Luck was with her for a while but eventually (as usual) the machines won.

On the way out Maureen saw a sign for a Friday night Seafood buffet that looked too good to pass up. It offered 10 different kinds of seafood as well as the usual fair.

Back at the trailer Mike agreed that seafood sounded good so we went for dinner and then a tour of the



French Lick Hotel. This majestic hotel was built in the early 1900s to attract visitors to the Pluto Hot Springs just behind. A train station nearby

would bring the tourists where they could engage in a number of activities including golf and tennis.

During the thirties the hotel was closed, but recently it was renovated and reopened. The interior is magnificently decorated in the old French Style with plenty of gold filigree.

Saturday October 24, 2009

Before leaving French Lick we wanted to drive over to Baden Springs to see the newly restored hotel there. Mike unhooked the rig from the truck and we put Percy into the trailer. Just then an employee from the casino drove up and parked almost in front of us. We were afraid that if we left the rig where it was, other vehicles might park there and we would be blocked in. A hasty decision was made to change our plans and take the rig with us to Baden Springs.

Maureen put Percy in the truck, Mike put the landing gear back down, but did not chock the wheels. Maureen watched from the front of the truck (not the usual spot) while Mike backed the truck up again. It sounded as if the hitch had engaged. Mike hooked up the electrics and the safety pin and we hopped in the truck. While we were deciding how to get to Baden we heard a very loud crash!!!



Jumping out of the truck we discovered that the fifth wheel had slipped off the hitch and landed on the sides of the truck.):

We have hitched the fiver up hundreds of times and always

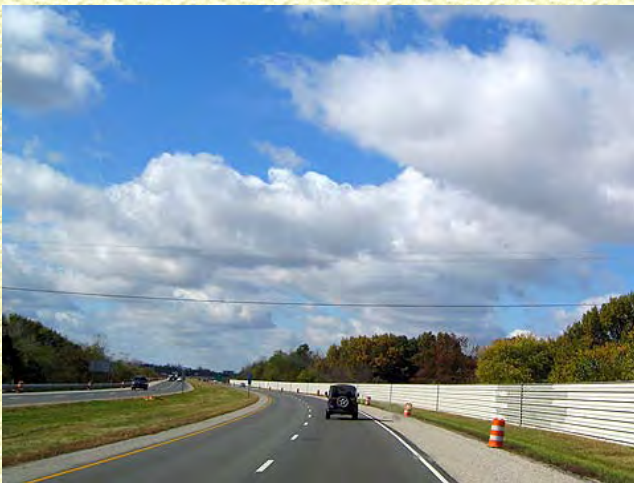


followed a routine that has worked perfectly for us. Due to a last minute change in plans, we changed our routine and a small catastrophe happened. Fortunately no one was injured, although our hearts certainly skipped a beat when we heard that awful crash.

After surveying the damage (and shedding a few tears) we were able to raise the rig up and get it back on the hitch. The tail gate would not shut so Percy's leash and lots of duct tape were needed to keep it up.

We were not exactly in the mood for sightseeing so we skipped Baden Springs and headed south at 10 am.

Driving through Indiana it was rainy but as we travelled through



Kentucky the sun came out and the temperature rose.



Travelling through Murray Kentucky, we admired the State University.



At 2:45 Tennessee time we rolled into Paris and parked in Dan and Betty's driveway. Just as we finished setting up they arrived home to welcome us and hear our story about the truck. We then

walked down to see Cousin Mary and Arthur.



That evening we dressed up in Halloween costumes and Betty

took our pictures. Maureen was a Geisha, Mike a Shogun, Mary did an excellent imitation of Tammy Fay Baker and Arthur hammed it up as a Car Salesman.

Arthur drove us to Pam and Rick's for a party that cheered us up immensely. They are really into Halloween in a big way!







Rick has a very old Samurai sword that Mike was quite enthralled with.





Pam had fun with the motion activated spider. Thanks to everyone for a great evening!

Sunday October 25, 2009

After Church we all went out to lunch at Tom's Steakhouse and Pizza. Mary and Maureen had a peek at Chelsey's new apartment (very nice!). For supper Jonathan grilled Veggies and Chicken on the BBQ.

Monday October 26, 2009

Mike made some phone calls to the insurance people and took the truck to a body shop for an estimate (over \$6,000 US). Maureen did some laundry while Mary worked on a newspaper article for the Arts Council.

Mary and Maureen made Tortellini with Meatballs and Tomato Sauce for supper.

Tuesday October 27, 2009

Spent the morning at the trailer. Mary came for coffee in the morning.



At noon
Lion Tim (who we met at the Halloween Party)
picked us up and took us to the Paris Lions
Meeting.

After feasting on pork tenderloin, rice pilaff,
a wonderful vegetable casserole and bread pudding
to die for,
we listened to a presentation on how Paris
is encouraging retail business to the town.



Thanks to the Paris
Lions for their
warm welcome
and especially to
Lion Tim for taking
us there!

Mary and Maureen
set up a scrap
booking station in the spare room and got some
pages scrapped.



Later in the afternoon we took a drive out to the lake to investigate campgrounds that we might consider moving to, as it will take a few weeks to fix the truck. Supper was Chinese food buffet. There goes the diet!

Wednesday October 28, 2009

Mary and Maureen went grocery shopping in the morning and then spent the afternoon cooking and baking and visiting.

Friends, Sheryl and Mike (another Mike) joined us for supper (Chicken Divan, Spinach Salad, Biscuits and Chocolate Soufflé) followed by an evening of jokes and reminiscing.