

American Coach Travels by Susan Gesford

We started our trip on Wednesday May 7th headed to Goshen Indiana for or the 25th Anniversary Rally.

Our first stop was in Texarkana, Texas for a short visit with Lamar and Kitty Nicholson. They were unable to join us on this trip to the Rally.



Thursday we headed to Decatur for some service work on our coach. While we were there we met up with others getting work done before the rally.

On Saturday 4 coaches left headed to Goshen. The Rally was great.

There were a lot of vendors. If you were looking for a new coach that was the place to be.. 3 dealers and 22 coaches to choose from.

Several went to the big Flea Market in Shipshewana to shop for Amish wares.



The ladies luncheon was held at the Old Bag Factory. We were treated to an array of beautiful handmade Amish quilts to look at and buy.

I believe everyone enjoyed the Rally. We really missed the members that were unable to attend due to illness or other commitments. We are looking forward to seeing them at the next one in Myrtle Beach, North Carolina May 2016.

After the Rally several of us decided to go on to New York to see Niagara Falls, so the Gesfords, Andersons, Atkins, and Peebles were off on a road trip!

First stop Sunday May 10th was Erie Pennsylvania where we visited Prisque Isle State Park. Fun to see the sandy beaches and dip our toes in Lake Erie.

Monday May 11th we arrived at Niagara Falls RV Park in Niagara Falls NY a very nice clean park9-10 stars.



Tuesday we toured both the Canadian and US falls.

We rode the Maiden of the Mist boat, walked into Cave of the Winds, went up in the Skylon Tower. And much more (8 hrs worth). We were exhausted but had a fun day.

A beautiful amazing site. 10 stars !!

Wednesday we headed to Letchworth State Park about 20 miles away on the recommendation of Rex Mullinex whose wife Sally is from the area.

The Park is called the Grand Canyon of the East. Has beautiful waterfalls and canyons.

Also the highly rated Glen Iris Inn where we enjoyed a delicious lunch..(Thank you Rex)10 Stars.

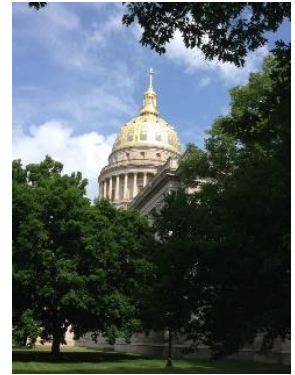
Thursday May 28th the Atkins and the Peeples left headed back to Arkansas to make preparations for their parents' 75th wedding anniversary. Wow what an accomplishment! Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Atkins.



The Gesfords and the Andersons headed to Charleston West Virginia to see the 23K gold dome on the historic court house.

NOTE! Plan ahead when going down I-79 in West Virginia, there are no RV parks.

We found a KOA in Milton 30+ miles west of Charleston on I-64. It was nice but a long way to drive back to Charleston. However, the drive down Interstate 79 was beautiful.



While in Charleston we also visited the city market. It had fresh vegetables, WINE, and beautiful flowering plants of all kinds. I was quickly reminded that we did not have room in the coach for plants!

On Sunday May 31 we headed to Louisville Kentucky. We arrived early afternoon so off we go to Churchill Downs. I was so excited to see this icon. We enjoyed a tour of the grounds, explored the museum, gift shop and even got to see a race. This was a dream come true for me.



To top it off we were told that American Pharaoh was there and would be leaving Tuesday for the Belmont Stakes. (we now know he is The Triple Crown winner)



Monday June 1st it was on to St Louis, Missouri to see the Arch, "Gateway to the West". We stayed at the Casino Queen RV park 10 stars.

After figuring out how to use the Metrolinc Rail System and walking many blocks we made it to the Arch. We first went on a River Boat tour. A lot of info about the city and the Mississippi River. Then on to the Arch.



You haven't lived until you get into a pod 4x4x4 with 2 men over 200 lbs and one 6'2+.

A lot of laughs!! The views were breathtaking, and I highly recommend doing this.

Tuesday went on a tour of Anheuser Bush Brewery. Arlion and Gene loved it! Free beer, oh yeah !!!!!

Wednesday May 3rd continued on south to Searcy Ark for a nice overnight stay at the Adcocks . Thank you Charlie and Gloria.



Thursday May 4 we made a short trip to Texarkana where we met up again with the Atkins and the Peebles at the KOA. Later that evening we were joined by Kitty and Lamar Nicholson. We all went to the La Fogata Mexican Restaurant where we were joined by Jerry Atkins family and Kitty and Lamar's family to celebrate Jerry's XX birthday . It goes without saying that we all had a good time dancing and singing!

Friday May 5th before all going our separate ways, with heavy hearts and some with heavy heads we all met at 8:00 AM at Shortys Diner where Lamar and Kitty treated everyone to breakfast. Thank you!

All said our good byes with hugs and kisses and promised to do it again soon.



How fortunate we are to be able to live in a country with the freedom and opportunity to see the beautiful creations God has made and the structures built by men God gave the intelligence to build.

Every day we should thank the men and women of our armed services and our Creator for a job well done!!

Blessings and safe travels to all.
Susan and Arlion Gesford

