

New England RV Trip

Friday, July 31 thru Thursday, October 29, 2009

Day 1 - Friday, July 31, 2009

We got underway before noon after working all morning (and for the past two weeks) packing the RV and double checking to make sure we had all we need. Being gone for three months means we need to take more of our "stuff" than we do for shorter trips. We are pretty sure we have everything, we will know for sure when we get home OR find we did forget something.

Our first stop was in Jacksonville, FL. We camped on base at the Naval Air Station JAX. Many military bases have campgrounds. We are particularly looking forward to returning to Quantico Marine Base near Washington DC. That campground is one of the most picturesque of all the places we have stayed.

Day 2 - Saturday, August 1, 2009

While in JAX we meet for lunch with a couple of Del's best friends; Betty and Sue & Paul. We had lunch at the European Street restaurant, very good!

We also met with Del's daughter, Leslie, and her friend, Doug, and Leslie's sons, Tyler and Jordan and their girlfriends. Leslie had cooked some delicious chilli.

Day 3 - Sunday, August 2, 2009

Today we moved to Brunswick, GA. We arrived around 11:00 AM and there was church service at the campground. After church we got checked in and then drove to Douglas for a fantastic visit with two of Del's friends (and former patient) Robert & Grace. We had a great lunch including a desert with black berries (even Jerry liked the black berries).

Day 4 - Monday, August 3, 2009

Today we moved the North Myrtle Beach and an other very nice campground. Our reliable GPS got us lost a little (or maybe it was Jerry) but we made it to the Briarcliffe RV Resort. We plan to see some of the sights here in Myrtle Beach on Tuesday. We will be here until Wednesday when we leave for Virginia.

Day 5 - Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Today we drove to the beach at Surfside and Myrtle Beach. The beaches are very nice, however, there are condos and houses all along the beach. We did find some public parking at \$1.00/hour. We walked on the beach, lots of people and some parasailing.

Day 6 - Wednesday, August 5, 2009

We left Myrtle Beach and drove to Roanoke Rapids, NC. We stayed in a brand new campground which was still being built. No Pool, however, the sites were nice and we did not have to unhook the car.

Day 7 - Thursday, August 6, 2009

We left Myrtle Beach and drove to Fredericksburg, VA. We checked into the KOA campground. What great place this is. Lots of trees. We may even have a fire. We drove into town to visit the James Monroe's house and museum, however, it is closed for renovation. We did visit the home of Mary Washington (George's mother). A very interesting house and story. It was here where George visited his mother to get her blessing as he was waiting to be inaugurated. This was his last visit with his mother. She a few months later, so she did know he had become our first President.

Day 8 - Friday, August 7, 2009

Today we are still in the Fredericksburg KOA. We are planning to drive to Quantico Marine base to visit the Marine Museum. However, we are waiting for the RV repair man. We are unable to access the storage area under the bed and hopefully he will be able to repair it. We do need to get access, because that is where we put our winter (cold weather) clothes. We are sure we will need them as we get farther north. We hope the repairs are completed in time for us to get to the museum. Tomorrow we leave for the Philadelphia area. We plan to stay four days and see as much of Philly as we can

Day 9 - Saturday, August 8, 2009

Today we left Fredericksburg, VA and drove to a campground (Lake Kandel) near Glassboro, NJ (also near Philadelphia). The good news is we solved our bed access problem so now we can get to our winter "stuff" so we will be ready to take on the winter cold up north. We plan to stay here for the next three days and leave on Wednesday, August 12. What a rain we had this night. All night until around 11:00 am on Sunday. About 7:00 am we heard a load "BANG" on our roof. When the rain stopped and we investigated, we found a couple of small limbs had fallen on to the RV and then to the ground. So, No Worries. Today we got settled in. This a very unique campground, it is also a Swim Club. There is a lake and beach and lots of family swimming, diving, and other water activities. The RV sites have lots of trees and a very nice vegetable/produce farm and store next door. This is a good selection to spend a few days.

Day 10 - Sunday, August 9, 2009

Today, after the rain stopped, around noon, we drove to Chadds Ford, PA. Del visited the Brandywine Art Museum. The museum features mostly Wyeth art and Del enjoyed it very much. Jerry took a tour of the Brandywine battle ground. We did not know the significance of this battle until now. Even though General Washing and his troops had to retreat, the battle showed the Americans could take on the more organized British troops and make a good showing. After the battle the French entered the war against the British as our allies. This proved to be invaluable as the war progressed.

Day 11 - Monday, August 10, 2009

Today we drove to Camden to visit the Camden aquarium (Known as Adventure Aquarium). We had decided to visit the aquarium and not Philadelphia due to the forecast of near record heat in the city. We finished with the aquarium and had lunch in the café. We then decided to go to Philly anyway, since we had the time. There is a shuttle bus (\$2.00/round trip per person) from the aquarium to the city, which is a very good deal considering the concerns and cost of parking in the city. Parking at the aquarium was only \$10.00 for the day. So for \$14.00 we parked all day and had transportation to and from the city. What a time we had. It was very ho (near 95 degrees), but we were able to duck into air conditioned building several times, which made the heat less oppressive. We saw the Liberty Bell, with no waiting. It gives one pause to think about the significance of the bell. It was this bell which rang to announce the approval of the Declaration Of Independence. We also visited Independence Hall, where the Continental Congress meet to discuss and argue about the issues facing the colonies. It was in this room where the Declaration of Independence was approved and later the US Constitution. What a feeling to be in the same room where it all began and to realize the risk all the signers faced for signing the Declaration. We also went to Betsy Ross's home (Jerry was not impressed). We also found the US Second Bank which contains a virtual treasure of original oil paintings and sculptures of many of the "Movers & Shakers" of the independence movement. If you have not yet visited Philly, we certainly recommend it highly.

Day 12 - Tuesday, August 11, 2009

We are still camped near Philadelphia. Today we again drove to Camden to Adventure Aquarium. We parked there and took the shuttle bus to Philly. We arrived around 11:30, just as the city was heating up. Another scorcher at nearly 95 degrees. We visited the first capitol building. This is where the first U.S. Congress met until the Constitution was signed and the Congress moved into the new capitol building in Washington DC. What an extraordinary experience it is to visit these building and to know you are in the place where so much history was made. After a half hour tour and lecture we decided it was lunch time. So -- When in Philadelphia what else for lunch? A Philly Cheese Steak sandwich! What else? The sandwiches were good and messy, just as advertised. After lunch we hopped on the PHLASH (the historic district shuttle) Free to "old fogies" like us. A very good deal. This afternoon we took in a couple of ART Museums. Del really enjoyed them, Jerry was able to sit and rest. After leaving the Philly Art Museum we stopped at the "Rocky Statue" near the museum. The museum was the scene where "Rocky" ran up the stairs in the first Rocky movie. This has finished our Philly experience. Tomorrow we are off to Pocono Pines, PA to visit long time friends John & Freddie Kaltenthaler.

Day 13 - Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Today we left Sewell, PA (Near Philadelphia) and drove to Mt Pocono, PA (near Pocono Pines). We stopped here to visit our long time friends John & Freddie Kaltenthaler. John was the CALLERLAB Executive Director during the early days of CALLERLAB and was very instrumental in the development of the organization. He administered the organization from Pocono Pines for over 10 years. As you know, Jerry was the Executive Director from 1999 until 2009. We had a very nice visit and dinner with them. We enjoyed the evening and are very glad we made this stop. Can you believe it, we did not discuss square dancing nor CALLERLAB - unbelievable. Just a very pleasant visit.

Day 14 - Thursday, August 13, 2009

Today we moved to Newburgh, NY. It was a short drive. The camp ground was very nice and we wished we had had more time. It was a KOA with lots of activities AND FREE POPCORN (Jerry's favorite).

Day 15 - Friday, August 14, 2009

We left home two weeks ago today. Today we moved the Clinton, CT. We stopped here to visit with David, our long time neighbor in Rockledge who moved back up here a couple of years ago. Thank goodness for our TomTom GPS. Some of these campgrounds (including our stay here) are off the beaten trail. Clinton in on the Long Island Sound. This evening we drove over to the coast and took a walk, just at sunset. Our trusty GPS got us home safe & sound. I am not sure we could have found our way home without it!

Day 16 -Saturday, August 15, 2009

We are still in Clinton, CT. We met our friend David for lunch and then visited the Florence Griswold art museum. We enjoyed the visit with David and the museum. David gave us a very informative tour of Clinton, including a stop at the Hall mark Ice Cream shop - - VERY GOOD!

Day 17 - Sunday, August 16, 2009

Today we left Clinton, CT and moved to Mystic, CT. Del had read about Mystic in one of our travel books. The book discussed the Julia Roberts movie "Mystic Pizza" which was set in the town of Mystic and the surrounding area. We arrived at our campground (Seaport Campground) around 11:30 AM to find out we could not check in until two. So, what else to do in Mystic except go to Mystic Pizza for lunch and that is what we did. The place has done well with the notoriety. The walls are full of memorabilia from the movie and pictures and Julia and others from the cast. The pizza was OK too. After lunch we returned to the campground and got settled in. We then visited the Naval Base at Groton, CT. There is very interesting museum featuring the US Navy Submarine Service. The USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear submarine was moored at the museum and open for tour. Very interesting. The museum also had some "hands on" displays as well. All in all a VERY interesting experience.

Day 18 - Monday, August 17, 2009

Today we are still in Mystic, CT. We drove to Newport to visit some of the very famous mansions. We visited "The Breakers (the Vanderbilt Mansion). The mansion cost \$11 million to build. I am not sure what that is in today's dollars, but I suspect it would be over 100 million. Marble and gold everywhere. We had lunch at one of the roof top outdoor eateries near the harbor area. Del tried a Fried Clam roll. This is supposed to be one of the Connecticut specialties. Del was too impressed, but we did find out what she had was not as authentic as from other eateries. We also went on a harbor cruise. It was overcast and foggy so we did not see as much as we would have liked to. We did see the site of the wedding of John & Jackie Kennedy. Newport is the home of the America's Cup Yacht activity and we did see several of the contender yachts. All in all a very interesting place to visit.

Day 19 - Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Today we left Mystic and drove to the Boston/Cape Cod KOA . We have a long stay here until August 24. We plan to visit Cape Cod, Boston, and Mathas Vineyard. It took longer to get here then we thought it would. So we just got settled in and went for a swim and the rested.

Day 20 - Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Today we drove to Cape Cod. It was quite a drive and a LOT of traffic. It was a very hot day. We are still waiting for that "Cool Northern" weather. We did visit the site where Marconi made the first trans-Atlantic wireless radio transmission. We also saw some interesting lighthouses.

Day 21 - Thursday, August 20, 2009

Today we planned to go to Marthas Vineyard to tour the island and visit with Friend Don Beck & Gail Gordon. Unfortunately, we did not know the routine for parking to catch the ferry to the island. Boy what a crowd of people and cars! By the time we were directed to the parking area we determined it was too late to get parked and ride a shuttle back to the ferry landing. Then take the 45 minute ride to the island. So we drove to Braintree and caught the train to Boston. We arrived in time to get a Trolley Tour ride. We visited the Old North Church. This was the church tower which the light for Paul Revere to begin his ride to warn the colonists of the British attack. We also visited the Naval Base where the USS Constitution, also known as "Old Ironsides" is moored. This is the oldest commissioned US Navy ship. The rest of the day we finished the narrated tour on the trolley. Some very interesting sites and stories. Again there is a lot of history here. We had dinner in Cheers in the Quincy Market area. There were several street performers to entertain the crowds.

Day 22 - Friday, August 21, 2009

We left home three weeks ago today. We are still camped in the Boston/Cape Cod KOA. The campground is filling up for the week end. Today we made it to Marthas Vineyard. We had figured out the parking and ferry situation. We caught the noon ferry to the island. Don Beck met us at the ferry landing and we began a very interesting and informative tour of the island. Don & Gail have a very charming B & B in Chilmark. They were gracious enough to take the afternoon to shoe the island. The island is much bigger than we thought. There are six different towns and each has its own atmosphere and distinct look and feel. There are many - many beaches. Some private and some public. There are many celebs with summer homes on the island. In addition to the regular VERY large crowds, a big fair was also going on.

Day 23 - Saturday, August 22, 2009

Today we rested. Jerry caught up on some RV chores, rearranging stuff in the basement. And Del was busy with the laundry. Just a very restful day. Tomorrow we plan to go into boston again. Del wants to visit the Boston Art Museum.

Day 24 - Sunday, August 23, 2009

Today we took the "T" (the Boston Rapid Transit) into Boston. Del had been looking forward to visiting the Boston Art Museum. We spent about three hours in the museum. Del enjoyed the tour she took and the art exhibits. Some very interesting and fantastic exhibits from all over the world. Some interesting stories too. Jerry enjoyed some rest, relaxation, and "people watching." As we were heading home after our "T" ride out of Boston, we noticed a familiar sight (Smoky Bones - BBQ) so, what else we stopped and had dinner.

Day 25 - Monday, August 24, 2009

Today we moved to York Beach, Maine. We will be visiting long time fiends and CALLERLAB Members Jim & Jo Ann Mayo. We arrived in Mid-afternoon and got set up in a very nice campground. Our spot is surrounded by trees. We hope is be cool enough while we are here to have a campfire. Up til now, it has been too hot. Jerry has been looking forward to some cool weather. Maybe now that we are in Maine we will get some. After we get settled in we drove to the beach and visited the Nubble Lighthouse. Reportedly, this is the most photographed lighthouse on the east coast and we can see why. Set on its own little island, it is VERY picturesque. Jerry plans to post some photos of the lighthouse and other spots on our tour so far.

Day 26 - Tuesday, August 25, 2009

We are in York beach, Maine today. We drove to Ogunquit (about 15 miles north) to get our bearings. We visited with Jim & Jo Ann Mayo this evening and are looking forward to a "Lobster feed" on Thursday..

Day 27 - Wednesday, August 26, 2009

Today we drove to back to Ogunquit. We visited the Ogunquit Art Museum. This is a local and impressive museum featuring local artists. There is a fantastic view of the Atlantic Ocean out the back of the museum, which also includes an outdoor art display. We also visited the Barn Gallery, also in Ogunquit. This is another local art gallery, very impressive. From Ogunquit. We dove up the coast to Perkins Cove. This is a small touristy fishing harbor with numerous shops (including one most interesting candy store. There are several tours offered from here and we may take one before we leave for Rockport. We had lunch in the Maine Dinner. Del had read and heard this is good place to get as Lobster Roll. Del says it was indeed very good.

Day 28 - Thursday, August 27, 2009

we, the cool weather finally caught up to us. This morning the temp was about 56 (Jerry thinks this is just fine - even though it is still a little warm). Today we went shopping at the Kittery Trading Post which is near the Kittery Outlet Mall. We did lots of looking and some shopping. The highlight of today was our visit with Jim & Jo Ann Mayo and "the gang". We enjoyed a true "Maine Lobster Feast" including lobster (of course), corn on the cob and all the "fixins" This was our first experience with cracking open and eating lobster. Quite an experience and VERY GOOD. If you travel to Maine, make sure you try the lobster.

Day 29 - Friday, August 28, 2009

We left home four weeks ago today, so we are 1/3 through our trip. Today we drove to Portland and had a very nice visit with Skip & Betty Ann Brown. Long time friend and CALLERLAB Member. We met them for lunch at DiMilos floating restaurant for as great lunch and great views of the Portland harbor. After lunch Skip & betty Ann gave us a grand tour of Portland. We saw many light houses and parks, and an "Observation Tower" which was used to spot incoming ships and signal to the docks to prepare for the ship's arrival. This is very unique building. It is built with ballast instead of a normal foundation. It has been standing for over 100 years and has not tipped over. They believe this is the only building with a ballast foundation in the country (maybe the world). Del and Betty Ann also took in the Portland Art Museum, which is quite impressive. All in All a great day!

Day 30 - Saturday, August 29, 2009

Today we "enjoyed" an all day rain! Jerry had been looking forward to the cool weather - - well it came and today the rain arrived as well. We have been very lucky with the weather with only two days of rain. So we stayed indoors all day and got caught up on some Email and other book work.

Day 31 - Sunday, August 30, 2009

Today we moved to Rokport, Maine. Del is looking forward to visiting the Farnsworth Arts Museum. This museum has a fantastic show of Wyethe art. All in all - an uneventful day.

Day 32 - Monday, August 31, 2009

We are in Rockport, Maine today. This is a very nice area. The two towns (Rockport and Rockland) are on the Maine sea coast. They are small towns and very enjoyable. Del visited the Farnsworth Art Museum. The museum features an excellent exhibit of Wyethe and. Del has been looking forward to this museum since before we left home and she thoroughly enjoyed the museum.

Day 33 - Tuesday, September 1, 2009

Today we visited the Owls Head Transportation Museum. They have an outstanding collection of automobiles, planes, motorcycles, and other modes of transportation. This day was "Volunteer" day, so we were able to see the airplane restoration workshop and visit with some of the volunteers. Quite an amazing collection..

Day 34 - Wednesday, September 2, 2009

Today Jerry stayed home while Del returned to the Farnsworth museum for a guided tour. She also explored the local shops and area.

Day 35 - Thursday, September 3, 2009

Today we took a Lighthouse cruise from Port Clyde. This is a 2 1/2 hour cruise to three local Maine coast lighthouses. Actually quite a ride. They also pulled several lobster pots to show how they collect the lobster. Very interesting.

Day 36 - Friday, September 4, 2009

Today we move to Bar Harbor where we will visit with friends Everett & Mary Fog. They also dance with us in Florida during the winter. I am writing this report before we leave, so will need to report more if anything interesting happens during our drive to Bar Harbor. From Bar Harbor we plan to venture into Canada We plan to visit the Bay Of Fundy while in Canada..

Day 36 - Friday, September 4, 2009

Today we moved to Trenton, ME (near Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park). We are camped at Timberland RV Park. A nice and not so expensive privately owned park. After getting settled in Del did the laundry & Jerry did some more computer "stuff". We met our RV neighbors and learned a lot about this local area. The cool weather is here for sure and Jerry was able to enjoy a campfire with our RV neighbors. (Del was bust with the laundry)

Day 37 - Saturday, September 5, 2009

Today we drove to Mt Desert Island. This is where Acadia National Park is. We took a short drive and visited a Bass Harbor Lighthouse at the south end of the island. Then we drove a short way along the coast. Maine certainly has very interesting and beautiful coastline. Along our drive we actually ran into our RV neighbors from the campground where we are camped. They had told us about a restaurant in Bass Harbor overlooking the harbor. It was lunch time, so we all went there for lunch. Bass Harbor is a working fishing village with a small ferry landing which services Swan Island. After lunch Del & Jerry drove to the top of Cadillac Mountain in the park. WOW! What views, the day was clear and we could see for miles & miles. Cadillac Mountain, at 1540 feet and is the tallest mountain on the east coast (or so we were told). Absolutely incredible views.

Day 38- Sunday, September 6, 2009

Today we visited Everett & Marry. They have a wonderful summer home of a lake, what a place and what a view. They dance with us in the winter in Florida and come up here in the summer. They drove us to ????????. This is a small fishing harbor with plenty on fishing boats and some pleasure boats as well. This is not a big tourist area and has a very nice feel. We drove through the Eastern Maine country side. Lots of trees and "rock Farms". As least we guessed they were rock farms. The fields are almost filled with rocks (BIG ROCKS!). After our drive, we returned to Everett & Mary's home on the lake. We were treated to an OUTSTANDING surf & turf dinner. We had a delicious steak and then Ev says "OK we are done with the turf, now for the surf" and he brings out the lobsters. WOW what a treat. We topped it all off with blueberry or apple pie and blueberry ice cream. All of this with a backdrop of a truly spectacular sunset over the lake. The perfect ending to w wonderful day. Thanx again to Everett & Mary.

Day 39 - Monday, September 7, 2009

Today we drove back to Acadia National Park. We visited the Visitor Center and watched an interesting movie with highlights of the park. This park is unique in that it is the only National Park consisting ENTIRELY of land donated by private individuals. There were many fantastic mansions built by the rich and famous in the early 1900's. Unfortunately, there was a massive fire in 1947 which destroyed a good portion of the island and all of the mansions.

Day 40 - Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Today visited Bar Harbor, this is a very nice harbor town with lots of shops and eateries. There was a cruise ship in and many of the shops were offering specials for the passengers. That night we went to Acadia Park for a talk by a park ranger called "Stars Over Sand beach. This is a fantastic talk and star show on the beach which was about an hour & 1/4 long and ended around 9:30 PM.

Day 41 - Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Today we visited Elsworth about 3 miles form our campground. This is an inland town on a very picturesque river. Del enjoyed the local Art Gallery. Jerry enjoyed some interesting people watching.

Day 42 - Thursday, September 10, 2009

This is our last day in Trenton. Tomorrow we put the RV in temporary storage and begin our Canadian Adventure. We spent the day getting ready for our trip to Canada. Some shopping and laundry..

Day 43 - Friday, September 11 2009

Today we moved our RV to temporary storage and drove to St. John, New Brunswick, Canada.. St John is the oldest town in Canada. It is also home of the "Reversing Falls". This is a unique phenomena where the St John River and the tremendous tide from the Bay Of Fundy collide. Twice each day during low tide and again at high tide the river reverses itself over the "Reversing Falls" we had dinner in the Falls restaurant overlooking the river and falls..

Day 44 - Saturday, September 12 2009

Today we visited the City Market in St John. This market was built specifically as a public market around 1875. Some very nice fruits and vegetables and many other interesting items for sale. We had lunch at an interesting small eatery in the market. After lunch we visited New Brunswick Museum. This museum features historical, geological, and art facets of life in New Brunswick province. After the museum we returned to the "Reversing Falls" and saw the river/tide during high tide, which was GREAT because when we visited the falls on Friday it was during low tide. To appreciate the falls, one must visit during both high and low tides. If you can also see this during "Slack Tide" all the better. We were able to see all tree.

Day 45- Sunday, September 13, 2009

Today we visited took the ferry from St John to Digby on Nova Scotia. Our friend John & Gail had recommended the Dockside Suites and we were able to make reservations. What a wonderful location, right on Funday Bay. From our back door balcony we can see across part of the bay. THANK, John & Gail. What a view - - wish you were here. We took a walk around town. Digby is a small fishing & tourist town. Things have slowed down now that it is after the first of September.

Day 46 - Monday, September 14, 2009

Today we visited our friend and long time CALLERLAB Member Gloria Roth. She has lived in Nova Scotia for many many years and has taught hundred of dancers to square dance. We enjoyed our visit very much.. After our visit we drove north to Annapolis and saw the Annapolis Tidal Generating Station. This is the only working tidal generating facility in North America. Twice a day it can generate electricity based on the tidal waters of Funday Bay. After here we drove further north and visited the Port Royal National Historic site. This is a reconstructed French Fort originally built in the 1600's and later destroyed years later by the British. The fort was reconstructed using original plans and notes.

Day 47 Tuesday, September 15 2009

Today it rained and rained. So we drove toward Sandy Cove. We did not make it all the way. It was raining quite heavy and it was much further than we thought. So we turned around and returned to Digby. We did travel though a very remote area with few houses. When we got to Digby the rain had slowed some, so we headed north to Annapolis Royal for lunch and a visit to the Fort Anne. This fort had been occupied by both the French and the British over many decades. After lunch, the rain stopped and we drove to Greenwood and visited the Greenwood Military Aviation. Museum. Very interesting museum of Canadian military aviation history. Jerry enjoyed the Flight simulator, however, he did crash twice and managed to land only once. Tomorrow we take the ferry back to St John to get ready for our return trip to the US and Trenton, ME and our RV

Day 48 - Wednesday, September 16 2009

Today we had a minor medical emergency and had to take Del to the Emergency Room (DON't WORRY - She is OK). This our introduction to the Canadian health care system. WOW - We went to the Emergency Room in Digby and found a sign stating they were closed (in fact they are closed almost 1/2 the days in each month). They directed us to drive to Annapolis Royal ER, which is about 30 miles away. So that is what we did. All this took all morning. Thankfully all is well now.

We caught the ferry back to St John, New Brunswick. The 3 hour ride got us back around 7:30 PM. We went back the Reversing Falls restaurateur for dinner, then to our hotel for the night. As we reflect on our trip to Nova Scotia, we remember the great time and wonderful sights we experienced. We especially enjoyed our visit with our friend and long time caller, Gloria Roth.

Day 49 - Thursday, September 17, 2009

Today we drove back to the Trenton, ME (near Bar harbor) in the good old USA. At the border they asked if we had any fresh fruit or plants. Well we did have some fruit, so we had to show the apples and pears to the Agricultural Agent. No problem we were cleared and did get back into the country. The drive to Trenton was about six hours. We got back to the Timberland Acres RV park, where had put or rig in temp storage and got set up for the night

Day 50- Friday, September 18 2009

Today we spent all morning at a walk-in clinic for some test & such. Please don't worry - we are both OK. We rested for the day and planned our next stop which will be Augusta, ME. Jerry has been enjoying the cool temps at night (some nights into the low 40's). We have even had to turn on the furnace! Jerry SEZ - GREAT.

Day 51 - Saturday, September 19, 2009

Today we moved on to Augusta, ME. Augusta is the capitol and we plan to visit the state museum and the capitol building. The drive here was very short so we did not leave Timberland until after noon. We took our time getting to Augusta and found an OUTSTANDING RV campground. We are right on a beautiful lake with lots of trees.

Day 52 - Sunday, September 20, 2009

Today we explored Augusta, ME which is the state capitol. Unfortunately, the capitol building and the museum are both closed on Sundays. So no visit. We did find a gem however, in Fort Western. This fort is on the river and served as a military fort for a period of time and then was a major trading center. The original main building is still standing and has been restored. The other fort fixtures, fence, block houses, and guard towers have been reconstructed. The volunteers were very knowledgeable and provide entertaining and informative talks about the fort and the people who lived here.

Day 53 - Monday, September 21 2009

Today we drove to Littleton, NH. Littleton is in the White Mountain region and is surrounded by mountains and forest. We found another jewel of a campground. Crazy Horse Campground in the forest and our site is surrounded by trees. Very nice. We are camped next to two German couples in two RV's. They are in the USA for a six weeks vacation. Del has had a great time practicing her German. Jerry has also been pleased with the cool (very cool) temperatures at night. We are looking forward to exploring this part of New Hampshire.

Day 54 - Tuesday, September 22 2009

Today we took a trip on the Kancamagus Hi-Way. Marvin told us about the drive and he was CORRECT!. A fantastic drive, especially at this time of year when the leaves are beginning to turn. We made several stops along the drive to enjoy the views. We visited the Fadden General Store in Littleton. This is a typical General Store for many years past. The family also collects sap and make their own maple syrup. We had lunch in "Pegs" café. Well we actually had breakfast for lunch so we could try the Maple syrup. DELICIOUS!! This night we joined our German neighbors for a visit around the campfire. Wolfgang entertained us with some very good guitar and singing. We introduced them to "S-Mores" which they did enjoy and even got some pictures.

Day 55 - Wednesday, September 23 2009

Today we are still in Littleton. We had planned to leave tomorrow, however, we have decided there are more sights we want to take in while in this area. It has rained nearly all day, so we stayed in most of the day. We need to take a day just to relax now and then, so today was one of those "relax" days. Speaking of rain, we have been VERY fortunate, weather wise. With only two or three days of rain. The weather has been OUTSTANDING!

Day 56 - Thursday, September 24 2009

Today we decided to take a tramway ride to the top of Cannon Mountain. We had thought of taking a ride up Mt Washington, but found out the cost would be almost \$130.00 for both us. We decided - - NO! The trip to Mt Cannon was very nice. The mt is just over 3,000 feet. It was around 43 degrees cold at the top. What a view on this clear day. Over 70 miles. We could see into Vermont, back into New Hampshire and even as far as Canada. The hot chocolate at the top tasted REAL good. After our trip to the top we enjoyed another drive through the forest and the turning leaves, What a sight. During our drive we came upon Clark's Trading Post. Unfortunately, the show part of the complex was closed, so we just did some shopping. After our drive we returned to Littleton for a walk, where we were "adopted" by a beautiful black Lab dog. He led us through town and showed us some of the stores, include a very interesting antique store. What a DOG! Tonight we enjoyed supper in a local diner in Littleton. After dinner we went to a movie. Julie & Julia - Del enjoyed it and Jerry admits he enjoyed it as well.

Day 57 - Friday, September 25 2009

Today we decided to stay one more day in this great place. Del found an other adventure for us. It is called "The Flume Gorge". This is a 1/2 mile OR 2 mile walk up the gorge along side a very nice river, with lots of water falls and wonderful views. Wow, what a walk (over 130 stairs!) And a lot of uphill walking. Jerry opted for the 1/2 mile and Del took the long walk. After our walk we enjoyed some ice cream. On the way home we took a "shortcut" which was not so short, but it did lead us through some more wonderful scenery.

Day 58 -Saturday, September 26 2009

Today we left Littleton to moved to Stowe, VT. Along the way we stopped at the Rock Of Ages granite quarry and memorial manufacturing facility. We took a very interesting tour of the quarry. This site has been yielding granite blocks (up to 250 tons each) since the mid-1800's. We learned a lot about the granite business, including the many uses of granite. We arrived at the Gold Brook campground late afternoon. This is a nice campground, but not nearly as good as Crazy Horse in Littleton. While here in Stowe we hope to visit the Von Trapp Lodge.

Day 59 -Sunday, September 27 2009

Today was overcast and dizzily. We saw an ad for October Fest and decided to check it out. The October Fest was in the local arena. There were many vendors and an "OMPA" band playing lively German music. And, guess what! They even had German food and beer! The event was a fund raiser and we did have a good time. After the October Fest we visited the Von Trapp family lodge. The family fled Austria and settled in Stowe. They were a musical family which toured the country. They now have a fantastic lodge and resort in Stowe. The family was the basis for the movie "The Sound Of Music".On the way back to the campground we stopped in at the Ben & Jerry Ice Cream factory. We went on the factory tour (and got a couple of free samples). The Ben & Jerry story is a true American dream come true. They also make some GREAT ice cream.

Day 60 -Monday, September 28 2009

Today was still overcast and dizzily. We visited the Vermont Teddy Bear Company. What a collection of teddy bears they have. We passed on the factory tour, but did enjoy the showroom. After the VTB company we visited the Morgan Horse museum. The Morgan horse was the only breed created in the US and the Morgans were the best in all categories, including stamina. There were also the fastest. They were used extensively in the calvaries of both sides. Unfortunately the museum was not open on Mondays, but we did get a wealth of information from the attendant. On the way home we stopped in at the Cedar Hollow Cider Mill and learned a bit about how to make apple cider. Thee were some more free samples and we had some hot cider and a coupe of apple cider donuts.

Day 61 -Tuesday, September 29 2009

Today we moved to Brandon, VT (near Rutland). We found the Smoke Rise campground. This is a nice campground, however, there is only one other RV here and they are seasonal, so they are here almost permanently. We got settled in and prepared for our stay here. We visited the new England Maple Museum. A very interesting display of maple products and some VERY tasty sample of many maple products (YUMMY!)

Day 62 -Wednesday, September 30 2009

Today we visited the Norman Rockwell Museum in Rutland. This the first of two Norman Rockwell Museums we plan to visit. The other is in Stckbridge, MA. The museum was small, but very interesting. Most of the displays were of his work on magazine covers. Of course he is best known for his work with the Post, however, the extent of his work is truly amazing. There were several stops with recorded messages which provided a glimpse into his life. After the museum we visited the Middlebury College arts museum. They have an unbelievable display of religious art known as "Art of Devotion" from the 1400's. It is truly amazing how these art pieces (paintings) are still new looking after over six hundred years.

Day 63 -Thursday, October 1, 2009

Today we moved to Henniker, NH. This is about halfway between Manchester, NH and Marlborough, NH. We found another great campground and our site is surrounded by trees. We have cable here so we can catch up on the news. This is another overcast and rainy day. When we look back on our trip we marvel at the GREAT weather we have had, with only the past few days of bad weather.

Day 64 -Friday, October 2, 2009

Today we drove to Manchester, NH to visit the New England Square Dance Foundation (NESDF). Anna and Mil Dixon and Dick (sorry Dick, but I forget your last name) were kind enough to meet us at the Foundation and give us a tour and extensive history of the how the Foundation was formed and its many accomplishments over the year. It is truly amazing what a small group of people have been able to accomplish. They are in the process of moving to a new location, so we were not able to see the final setup. But, the dedication and love they have for the activity is abundantly evident. We thank them for their hard work in preserving the activity.

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Day 65 -Saturday, October 3, 2009

Today we drove to Marlborough, NH. To visit our long time goos friends and CALLERLAB Members, Bill & Peggy Heyman. Those of you who are callers will remember when Bill & Peggy owned Hanhurst Tape & Record Service and provided record distribution for the entire Square and Round dance community. Bill & Peggy have given tremendous support the CALLERLAB and the CALLERLAB Foundation over many years. We visited their home "Shaker Brook", which is a historical home and FANTASTIC!

Day 66 -Sunday, October 4, 2009

Today we moved to Becket, MA. On the way we drove through some very picturesque roads. Again it was overcast, so we were not able to fully appreciate the fall foliage. But even with this, the scenery is amazing. On one particularly long downhill road we decided it would be a good idea to stop and let the brakes cool down. WOW, what a find, we stopped at a roadside turnout which was a State park. We took a long walk down to the river. What a very nice location. We met a very interesting couple who were interested our RV and have been thinking about getting one in the future. It is always a pleasure to discuss our favorite past times (square dancing & Rving).

Day 67 -Monday, October 5, 2009

Today we are in Becket, MA (Near Stockbridge). This is where Norman Rockwell lived and worked for many years. Del visited the Norman Rockwell Museum. This museum is MUCH larger than the Rockwell museum in Rutland. Del visited the museum here and was VERY impressed. Most of us are familiar with the work Rockwell did for the Saturday Evening Post covers, however, his work went far beyond magazine covers (he also did work for Boys Life). He did most of his work and made most of his money doing advertizing. The museum is located on a beautiful estate. They have also relocated his studio to the estate. Jerry enjoyed the afternoon walking around Lee, MA (near Stockbridge) doing some window shopping, etc. We also visited the National Shrine of The Devine Mercy. We attended the Chaplet Of Divine Mercy in the shrine. Mas sis also celebrated in the shrine and Dell attended mass on Tuesday.

Day 68 -Tuesday, October 6, 2009

We are still in Becket. Today Del attended mass in the National Shrine of The Devine Mercy. She also spent time taking photos and of course visiting the gift shop. We also went back to the grounds of the Rockwell Museum for more photos. After lunch we spent time walking around Stockbridge in the shops, of course shopping some more. We were impressed with the number of tour buses and tourists coming to Stockbridge. The big draw, of course, is the foliage and turning of the leaves. On the way home we found "Joe's Diner" What a find! Very generous servings and very low prices. Can you imagine a regular size hamburger for less than \$2.00? Well, you can get one at Joe's. This is a real jewel of a find.

Day 69 -Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Today we moved to Elizaville, NY, in the Hudson River Valley. We are now out of the "high country" so not so many big trees. We found another great campground. We will be here for about 14 days, so we are glad it is a good one. We have a meeting in Newark, NJ (about 3 hours away) and another in Albany, NY (about one hour away). So this is a very good base camp for the next couple of weeks. We plan to take it slow and easy while we are here (except for the meetings). We should be able to catch up on some house cleaning chores, laundry, etc, etc. The weather is better here (So far) very cool (40's at night and 60's in the day).

Day 70 -Thursday, October 8, 2009

Still in Elizaville, NY. Today Del had some blood work done (routine) and was able to do some shopping (for food this time). Jerry spent the day working on CALLERLAB tasks. It is nice sometimes nice to just stay in veg. We probably won't have much news for the nest few days as we relax and enjoy the campground.

Day 71 -Friday, October 9, 2009

Still in Elizaville, NY. Today we drove to the new Super Wal-Mart (about 30 miles away) to do some more shopping. We passed through some very charming rolling hills country. When we back to the RV our neighbors had just about finished putting up their "haunted house" for the Columbus Day week-end here in the campground. It is quite impressive. a huge black cat "tunnel" guards the entrance. Inside there will be goblins & such. This is the third year they have set this up. It takes a full day to complete. Today the campground started filling up for the week-end. Lots of rigs and lots of kids to enjoy the haunted house. We leave for Newark, NJ on Saturday, so we will miss the festivities.

Day 72 -Saturday, October 10, 2009

Today we drove to Newark, NJ. We have a meeting of the Alliance for Round Traditional and Square Dance (ARTS) on Sunday. We plan to drive home after the meeting. The ARTS meets three time a year, and this year the Fall meeting is in Newark. Today the RV park filled up even more with lots of RV's and travel trailers arriving. And MORE kids. The park offers hay rides and there were lots of takers. Our trip to Newark took a little over three hours (including a half hour lunch break). What a place to navigate! Glad we did not have to bring the RV AND VERY glad we have the GPS.

Day 73 - Sunday, October 11, 2009

Today we are in Newark, NJ for the Fall meeting of The ARTS. We always enjoy the meetings and seeing our friends from all around the country. There are Members from as far away as California and Oregon, as well as Missouri, Alabama, and here in the North East.

Day 74 - Monday, October 12, 2009

Today we drove back to Elizaville, NY. We had a very successful ARTS meeting. It is always nice to see our square dance friends form all over the country during these meetings. We will now rest more and prepare for the CALLERLAB Executive Committee (EC) meeting next Sunday.

Day 75 thru Day 78

Tuesday, October 13 thru Friday, October 16,2009

Today we are in Elizaville, NY. During this week Jerry was preparing for the CALLERLAB EC meeting. We are almost alone here in the Brook-N-Woods campground. After the Columbus Day week-end, there are only one or two other campers here. We were fortunate to find such a great campground for this long stay..

Day 79 - Saturday, October 17,2009

Today we drove to Albany, NY for the CALLERLAB EC meeting.

Day 80 thru Day 83

Sunday, October 18 thru Wednesday, October, 21, 2009

During these four days we were in Albany, NY. Jerry was in the CALLERLAB EC meeting with the other EC Members. Unfortunately, Del came down with a cold on Sunday and was in bed most of the time Sunday thru Tuesday. She was much better on Wednesday and was able to visit another art museum called The Clark, this was a very impressive private arts collection..

Day 84 - Thursday, October, 22, 2009

Today we moved to Clarksboro, NJ (near Philadelphia). We checked into another very nice campground (Timberlane). We also filled our propane tank (again) as we checked in. We have gone through about 30 gallons of propane since the cold weather came to us. Jerry doe enjoy the cool weather, Now we are. back in the not so cold weather.

Day 85 - Friday, October, 23, 2009

Today we still in Clarksboro, NJ (near Philadelphia). We drove into Philly for a second look at the city (actually the Philadelphia Art Museum). We rode the Philly Phlash (around town trolley/bus). This is a free for seniors ride and covers all the big interest sites in downtown Philly. We visited the Rodin museum, we were both impressed with the sculptures. This very impressive collection of Rodin sculptures is the largest outside of Paris, This was a private collection which was donated to the city. After the Rodin we rode the Phlash to the Philadelphia Art Museum for lunch. Jerry returned to the visitors center and Del spent the afternoon in the museum. This was her second visit to the museum. She was able to spend more time this day and again enjoyed the vast collection of art.

Day 86 - Saturday, October, 24, 2009

Today we still in Clarksboro, NJ (near Philadelphia). We plan to do some laundry and prepare for our trip home. We plan to be home around or just after November 1. We have had a wonderful trip but are looking foreword to getting home.

Day 87 - Sunday, October 25, 2009

Today we. drove from Clarksboro, NJ to Roanoke Rapids, NC. We stayed in the same campground where we stayed on the way North back in August.

Day 88 - Monday, October 26, 2009

Today we drove from Roanoke Rapids, NC to Yemassee, SC. We are about 30 miles from the Georgia border. We are camped in "The Oaks" campground. This is another very nice campground with lots of trees. Too bad we are here only one night. Tomorrow we move to Jacksonville. We plan to visit with del's daughter and her new husband.

Day 89 & Day 90
Tuesday, October 27 and Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Today we drove from Yemassee, SC to Jacksonville. We are camped at the JAX Naval Air Station. This is the first campground we stayed at on our way North back on July 31. We will be here until Thursday, when we will drive home.

Day 91 - Thursday, October 29, 2009

Today we drove home from Jacksonville. This is our last report on our absolutely FANTASTIC and OUTSTANDING trip. It is almost unbelievable, when we look back on the last three months. We met with many good friends along the way. We saw a part of the country we had not visited before. We saw mountains, dozens of lighthouses, many art museums (Del really enjoyed these), Funday Bay, Marthas Vineyard, The Maine Coast, the Atlantic, the turning of the leaves, and so much more we can not mention it all here. We took hundreds of pictures of some interesting and gorgeous scenery. We hope you have enjoyed our trip as much as we have.

IT IS VERY GOOD TO BE HOME!!!
