

August 29, 2001

After leaving Nashville we drove to western Tennessee and Kentucky. After winding around the Mississippi River and the Ohio River and the associated levees, we finally landed in Cape Girardeau, MO. We had a nice visit with Bonnie's cousins and then left the next morning for Springfield. We drove a route this time that took us through the Missouri countryside, as we have never been before. Back roads and dirt roads prevailed, and a different picture emerged.

Rolling hill country covered with forest, small farms, old and new farmhouses, a real rural area drive. Our friend Marie lives in this area on a 100-acre farm. It is a beautiful area.

Starting out the day we ran out of fuel in the motor home. Anticipating that I would drop the fuel tank to purge it of water, I calculated the mileage and fuel and ran it in on the fumes! A slight miscalculation of how many gallons the tank held, ran us short of enough to get to town. We did not drop the tank so I didn't know how much was left. Lucky that we have the Honda lifeboat to go after fuel!

Our destination today is Claremore, OK. It was the home of Will Rogers and the site of his museum. This town is a busy town and a mainline railroad runs through it full length. This is the only place that I have ever heard trains blow their whistles continuously for three minutes as they pass the many crossings in the town! All through the night this happens, and they have a lot of trains go through.



We visited the Will Rogers Museum this morning. It documents his life very well and I felt that I learned things about him I have never known.

The other museum we visited was the Jim Davis Gun museum. We have never seen so many guns at one time in our lives!

Dave and Bonnie