

THE BRANSON ODDESSEY

We pointed the rig to the Northeast with a target in mind, of Springfield, MO. Of course, the ulterior motive was Branson, which is a mere 40 miles away! It has been six or so years since we were last here, and I can tell you that they still have the same traffic jams on the main street of town. In fact I think that I saw one of the cars that was stuck in the traffic with us at that time. He was still stuck!

They will do anything to put on a spectacular show, or an unusual showroom. Shoji Tabuchi has a men's restroom with easy chairs and a fireplace and fresh flowers on the lavatories. They even put colored ice in the urinals! In the entrance room they have a Billiard table with a grandstand of seats for watchers!



We scheduled four shows in the two days allotted, and for the third day we drove to Arkansas to the town of Eureka Springs. It is an old town built along the highway, which is the only street in town. You can imagine that the biggest business in town is parking. All lots are \$5 a day! The rest of the stores are tourist traps. The town has a lot of old restored Victorian homes and it is a unique and quaint setting, nestled in a very narrow valley smothered with trees.

The town is about 50 miles from Branson, and we took the back roads to get there. The roads here run the ridges when they can. They twist and turn and when the ridge ends, they dive into the valleys. The locals ride your tail and there are no places to turn off and let them pass.

The place we are staying is called the Fall Creek Resort. It is an RCI timeshare condo resort that also is a home park for Coast-to-Coast camping. We could use our exchange to stay here for four days. They kept a large area for guest RV's, unlike some other places that allow only a few guest members and keep the rest for their own.

Sunday we will leave for Little Rock, then Memphis, and on to Huntsville, AL. Our friends there are scheduled to leave the 6th of July. We will alter our route and go to Nashville after we visit them.

The weather here has been very pleasant and not humid, for the last couple of days. We have not had to keep our air conditioner running all the time.

Dave & Bonnie
6/28/03