

6/11/2007

## AMERICA DISCOVERS COLUMBUS

We left Pennsylvania and drove to Akron, OH. We found our Indian Statue here, and then traveled to Ft Clinton, OH for the night.

The following day we drove to Lansing, MI and found our Indian in the Potter Park Zoo! Had to pay \$5 to park the rig, and was going to have to pay admission to the zoo to get in to photograph him! I took my book of pictures and the sweet little girl at the booth let me in free for a few minutes. She looked at my pictures and must have thought I was a professional or something.

We then proceeded to Kalamazoo, MI to the driveway of Margene Fuller, a friend of Bonnie's. We will park here for four days.

Sunday, we had a spare day, and we decided to drive to Lake Michigan, to a town called South Haven. The town spent \$27,000 to have three tall ships visit for three days. They charged \$10/person to tour these ships. Besides a copy of Columbus's Nina, there was the Red Witch and the local sloop, Friends Good Will. The town also had a Blueberry Festival going on. Of course we bought a Blueberry pie!

Pictured here is the Nina. A lot of our luxury cruisers today are as large as, or larger than, the boat Columbus discovered America with.

This exact replica boasts a speed of 6 ½ knots. It has visited 8 countries and over 600 ports since it was built in Valenca, Brazil in 1991. It has a permanent crew that sails it about. It was staffed by a crew of 25 sailors in the 1400s to the 1500s. It has been visited by more than a million people since it was built.

The Red Witch was named for a ship in the novel on which the movie was based. It was typical of the type of schooner that starred in the movie "The Wake of the Red Witch", with John Wayne. The Nina starred Christopher Columbus. The town has a beautiful sand beach, but the lake is too cold for swimming!



Dave & Bonnie

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