

9/30/2008

A TIME TO REMEMBER

We have decided to use Yellowstone Park as the place to kill time while we wait to pick up sister Marti at Billings MT. We will be here 4 nights.



We arrived at Old Faithful in time to view the eruption after a 30 min wait.

We then decided to visit the Old Faithful Inn. It was there that the past caught up with us. It was 59 years ago, on our honeymoon, that we came here. They were full up and were remodeling. They put us downstairs in the old kitchen. A small area in the middle was sectioned off with sheets. Our bed was in the middle of it. (two army cots!)

The next morning we were awakened by the sound of hammering and sawing, as workmen remodeled the cabinets.

The great fire of 1988 destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres of forest land. Twenty years later the pine trees are standing about 8 to 12 ft. tall. It looks as if the land was seeded from the air, but we were told that when a fire burns the parent tree, all the pine cones explode and scatter seeds all around the base of the tree. The forest is then perpetuated.

The Park is preparing to close for the winter. The one we are in now will close on Sunday. We leave Saturday. The grocery store is not restocking perishables, so we cannot buy any milk.

The Park used to abound with the classic tour buses. They were 1936 White coaches. There were over a hundred of them, and now there are only ten. They were recently restored completely at a cost of millions, for continued use as narrated tour vehicles. In prior times, people arrived at the Park by train and airplane and commercial bus lines, so they needed many tour buses. Now people have their own cars and motorhomes to tour in

Dave & Bonnie

#5

9/30/2008

#5