

8/6/2011

HALIBUT HEAVEN

After leaving mayor Stubb's town of Talkeetna, we stayed for a couple of nights in the big town of Anchorage, AK. While there we had lunch with Linda, the daughter of our friends in Bothell, WA, the Andersons.

We then proceeded down the Kenai Peninsula to the town of Seward. The Celebrity ship, the Millennium was docked and loading passengers for another 7 day cruise south. The ship was bigger than the town!

We stayed a couple of days and then headed over to Homer. We stayed at a park where the "Eagle Lady" had her year around camp site. She spent winters feeding hundreds of eagles in their sparse winter months. She passed away several years ago and the eagles were left to fend for themselves. The park cleared off her home and all that is left is this tree trunk that was the centerpiece of her feeding station. A city ordinance now prohibits the feeding of eagles, gulls, crows and ravens.



The cliffs north of Homer that face Kachemak Bay, are rife with coal seams. Erosion of the cliffs breaks off large amounts of coal that many residents use to heat their homes in the winter. In the early 1900's, coal mining was a huge industry here. A railroad took the coal to the docks on the Homer Spit where it was loaded on vessels for shipment. This industry is now gone, as we now depend on oil. It is calculated there are 400 million tons of coal remaining to be mined!

Homer claims to be the Halibut and salmon capital of the world. We purchased over 2 lbs. at \$17.50/lb. The fresh cooked halibut is out of this world! Most of the RV crowd is here to go fishing for halibut, and each morning, dozens and dozens of small boats leave the harbor and return in the evening. With the charter fishing fees, I calculate their price per pound comes out to be \$150/lb.! Our neighboring RV folks are from Florida and spend the summer here every year. Their RV has 2 5 cu. ft. freezers and a refrigerator freezer full of halibut!

Dave & Bonnie

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