



# de Stolfe Journal Candid

## Spring Has Finally Sprung!

Well, it's been May! We're past the snows and had times of sunny and warmish weather with occasional days of rain and coolish weather. Spring seems to come relatively late here as compared to places more south. While Colorado Springs had May temps in the 60s and 70s mostly, Lubbock was in the 90s mostly and even triple digits! (I remember those from the past, yuk!)

### May Showers Bring June Flowers

This month, I've been busy planning the plantings for this year. I've already got most of it done. I created three new planting areas

and added a new walking path from my parking spot to the front door. I planted a whole bunch of plants and mulched them well. I did very well in buying cleared plants or some of low prices.

### Comment on a Comment

I briefly want to comment on last month's post. Understandably so, I was quite angry and disgusted with my job search results, as I stated. People always mean well when they try to give advice about a situation. However, I have found that advice based on limited information of a situation was dangerous



RG de Stolfe

and was usually misleading, like a rabbit trail. In addition, it gave me a false hope of something I really didn't need to be focusing on. Having said that, I am not rejecting advice, but blind advice is useless. That's where knowledge is power!

### Mystery Game

What game for the iPhone features this animal?

*Hint: His name is McDivot, and he's a gopher.*

The game is quite unusual in that it's a hybrid of what two games? I play this game fairly regularly, and it's fun.



[http://www.facebook.com/rg\\_destolfe](http://www.facebook.com/rg_destolfe)



<http://myworld.ebay.com/cowboyrg>



<http://pinterest.com/cowboyrg>

### Inside this issue:

Spring Has Finally Sprung	1
Mystery Game	1, 4
News Briefs	2
Merry Heart Doeth Good Like Medicine	3
No Matter How You Fold It	4
Contractions	4
Squirrel Report	4
U.S. Acres	5
Photos of the Month	5
My Educational Journey	6
Time to Plant Flowers!	7
Signs of Jimmy Johns	8
The Day Was Golden	9
Back Page Literature	10

### Robert-George de Stolfe

4542 Del Verde Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80918  
806.470.5867  
[rgdestolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:rgdestolfe@yahoo.com)

# Branding Breaks *or* Digital Shorts *or* News Briefs *or* Miscellaneous

## The Day Was Golden

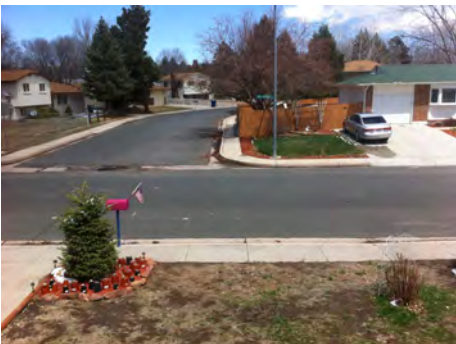
On May 23, 2013, I went to Golden, Colorado to catch up with some friends from Texas who were vacationing along the Front Range. I was only up there for a few hours, but it was nice to get away on a mini trip. We went to the Colorado Railroad Museum, had lunch at the Old Capitol Grill in downtown Golden, and went through the Coors plant. More info is found elsewhere in this issue!

## To Snow Or Not To Snow

Contrast of weather just between two days!



May 1, 2013: Snow and cold



May 2, 2013: Sunny and clear



Mom, here is the African Violet I have.

## Summer Youth Classes 2013

As I mentioned in the last issue, I am teaching a class during the Summer Youth Classes at the National Ranching Heritage Center. Last year, I taught the rodeo class, which I originally created and developed in 2006. I decided to retire that class this year and instead go with another new class about horses. The class is called *Horsing Around* and the description is:

*"Before cars existed, people used horses for transportation. Today, people use horses for competitions, breed shows, and even as pets. Learn about the many breeds and colors of horses, proper handling and care, and the types of saddles and tack they wear for different uses. Make your own horse projects and play horsey games!"*

## A Year Already??

As of June 4, I will have been in Colorado Springs for exactly a year now. Also, I have not been back to Texas anywhere since mid July 2012! As I was implying in my commentary in the last issue, I have no idea what or where things will go next from here.

## Texas Tech Rodeo

I found out not too long ago that some major changes are happening with Tech Rodeo. The primary change is that the current coach is leaving after 15 years! He was the first coach ever of Tech Rodeo since the team started in 1948. Tech did hire a new coach who was the existing rodeo coach at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, New Mexico. So, this now ushers in a new era with another seasoned rodeo coach.

In other rodeo news, several of the current team members are going to the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming June 9-15, 2013. I actually went to the finals in June 2009. I wish good rides and good runs to this year's finals contestants! Go Tech!

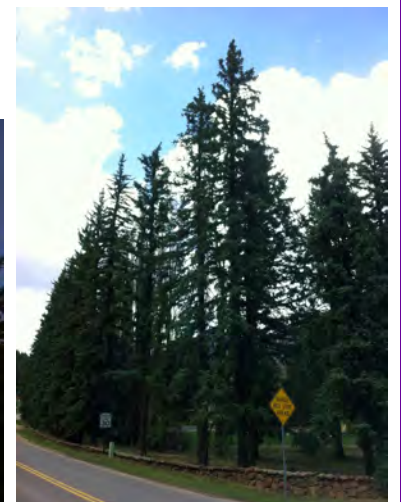
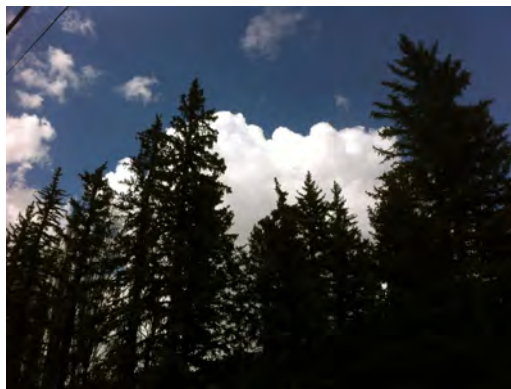
## New Article Published

The spring issue of the *Ranch Record* arrived, and I am pleased in how my article turned out. The article title is *The Wild Life of Bone Mizell*.



## Cascading Around

*Tall pines and blue skies with white, puffy clouds met us on a brief excursion with friends to Cascade, Colorado on May 10, 2013.*



# A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like A Medicine (Proverbs 17:22)

*This is a collection of true statements recorded by court reporters (old term: court stenographers) during court hearings. (Note: No offense meant to attorneys! These 're from actual court documents!)*

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?  
WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: What is your date of birth?  
WITNESS: July 18th.  
ATTORNEY: What year?  
WITNESS: Every year.

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?  
WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.  
ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?  
WITNESS: Forty-five years.

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?  
WITNESS: Yes.  
ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?  
WITNESS: I forget..  
ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?  
WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?  
WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?  
WITNESS: Are you shitting me?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?  
WITNESS: By death..  
ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?  
WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?  
WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard  
ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?  
WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?  
WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?  
WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM  
ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?  
WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

***If spiders could talk, here's how a conversation would go.***

Man: Hey! Whoa! This shower is occupied!  
Spider: Oh man, sorry! I didn't see you there.  
Man: We cool?  
Spider: Yeah, yeah, we cool. I'm just coming down to scope out the tub.  
Man: Oh, okay. That's legit. Hey, you wanna move over some—you're about to go right into the water flow. You don't wanna drown, do ya?  
Spider: Thanks, bud. I got it.  
Man: So, can I get out now?  
Spider: Sorry, Sure! I'll just move over here.  
Man: Thanks. You have a good night. Don't come into my bedroom, okay?  
Spider: No Prob! That's your space. We cool. Have a good night.

***Now, since spiders can't talk, here's what actually happens.***

Man: (Sees big, hairy, ugly spider in shower.)  
Aaaaaaaaiiiiihhhhhh!!  
Man: (Various sounds of slams, slaps, and water splashing everywhere!)

*Editor note: This did not actually happen to me (although, I've heard some women did exactly this!) Also, I cannot take credit for writing the top part, but I did change a few words (nothing bad, just thought is sounded better.) However, I did write the second part!*



*Any idea what this item is I sold on eBay?? :-}  
And yes, the Post Office took it with no problem!*

## No Matter How You Fold It

If you were to tell someone that you got a three fold return of ten dollars, most would think that you got back \$30. However, that assumption of three fold is WRONG! The terms "fold" and "times" are NOT the same as most assume (x fold ≠ x times)! Times simply means something times that number, while fold is exponential. Look at the chart below.

Fold	Times
1	2
2	4
3	8
4	16
5	32
6	64
7	128
8	256
9	512
10	1024
11	2048
12	4096

Notice how the times column grows exponentially while the fold column is sequential. Think of it like folding paper. If you fold it once, you have two parts; fold it twice, you have four parts; fold it thrice, you have eight parts; and so on. (Go ahead! Get the paper and try it! You know you want to! It'll help you understand it better anyway!)

Mark 4:8 states, "But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased, and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

Again, most people just think that this means they got a return of 30 times, 60 times, and 100 times. But, that is also wrong! Here are the real returns:

30	1,073,741,824 (over 1 billion)
60	$1.152921504606847 \times 10^{18}$ (over 1 quintillion)
100	$1.267650600228228 \times 10^{30}$ (over 1 nonillion)

I like the fold returns much better, don't you??

Now if you think the names of these high values are made up like "gazillion", here is the order of the place names every three digits: [one], [ten], [hundred], thousand, million, billion, trillion, quadrillion, quintillion, sextillion, septillion, octillion, nonillion, decillion, undecillion, duodecillion, tredecillion, ...

Fortunately, the national debt has not gotten anywhere near these high amounts!

## Contractions: Must've miss'd it?

Not long ago, I came across the topic of contractions and decided to see exactly what types existed. The most common ones were ones like can't for cannot, I'll for I will, you're for you are, and they've for they have. Following, however, are some of the lesser common ones, some not really used much at all.

it is	'tis
what are	what're
when will	when'll
why will	why'll
how will	how'll
it would	it'd
might not	mightn't
must not	mustn't
might have	might've
must have	must've
she would have	she'd've
it is not	'tisn't
of	o'
of the clock	o'clock
madam	ma'am
never-do-well	ne'er-do-well
cat-of-nine-tails	cat-o'-nine-tails
jack-of-the-lantern	jack-o'-lantern
it was	'twas
because	'cause
cannot have	can't've
could not have	couldn't've
he will/shall have	he'll've
shall not have	shan't've
you all	y'all
you all would have	y'all'd've

## Mystery Solved!

If your guess to the front page game mystery was Fairway Solitaire, you are right! The game is a combination of solitaire and golf. I just play the free version, which is limited. But, there is a pay full version.



## Squirrel Report



*What is this squirrel thinking?*



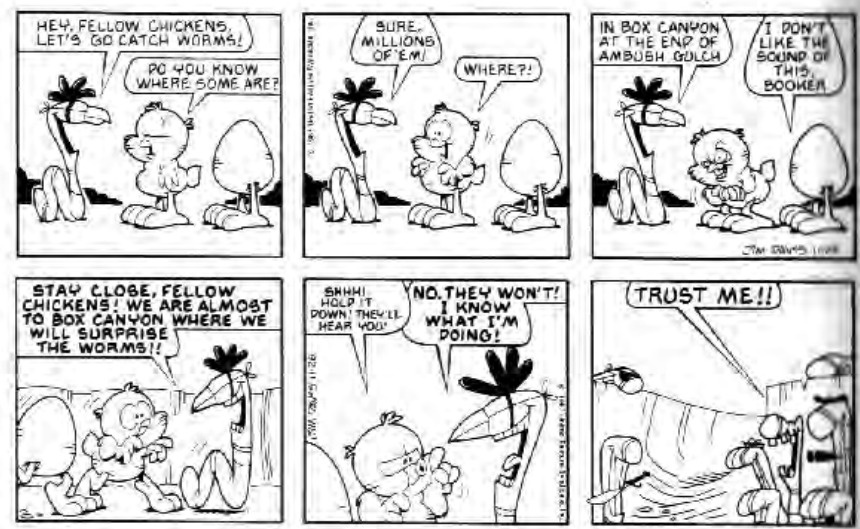
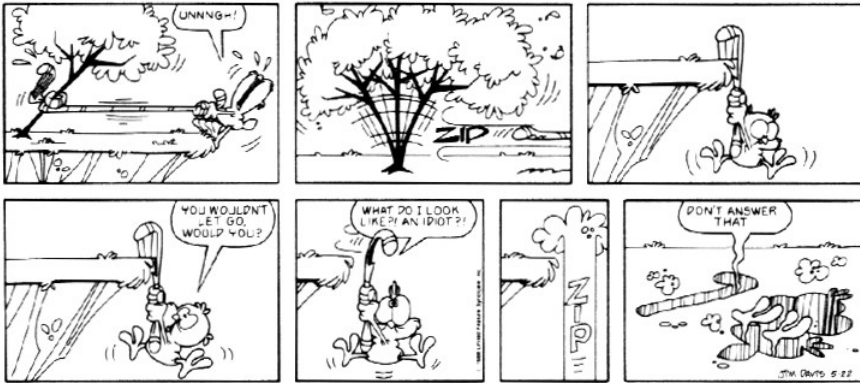
*"Now watch. This is how you eat corn."*



*Why do I think of a question mark?*

## U.S. Acres

This is Harold. Harold is a worm. He's one of many, many worms —named and unnamed— found on *U.S. Acres*. This is a farm themed comic strip series that started in the mid 1980s. *U.S. Acres* was also featured as a cartoon on *Garfield & Friends* from the late 1980s through the early 1990s. One clip of *U.S. Acres* featured on every 30 minute program. (The rest were Garfield clips.) Here are some of my favorite comic strips of *U.S. Acres* that featured the worm(s).



<http://www.garfield.com/usacres/todayscomic.html>

## Photos of the Month

As I was driving through southeast Colorado Springs, I drove past this place. I came back on another day to photograph this sign. It is apparently an RV park, but I really don't know anything about its history. Obviously, the sign has seen much, much better days!



# My Educational Journey

I started public school I think in fall 1978. I graduated high school in June 1991. Now, if you did your math, yes, that's 13 years. I repeated the 4th grade for some unclear reason.

I went to Emerson Elementary (1st through 6th grade) and went somewhere else for Kindergarten. (It was some sort of church is all I remember. I don't think I went to any kind of preschool or daycare before that. At that time, it wasn't that common.) Fall 1985, I started at South Miami Junior High (7th through 9th grade). In the summer 1988, I started with some summer classes (PE classes), then 10th grade in the fall. Now this requires some explanation. Normally, I would have gone to South Miami Senior High. But I didn't want to go there. During 9th grade, SMJH had an auditorium presentation about the International Baccalaureate program at Coral Gables Senior High. I was accepted in the program and started pre-IB classes in the fall, which were advanced classes to bring the students up to speed before the full IB classes. CGSH was the same school my cousin, Noelle, went to a few years earlier. However, I was not doing well in the program for various reasons related to school and not related to school. It was bad enough to require a change of schools. So, what I did is actually move. On February 22, 1989, I moved to Jacksonville, Florida and finished high school at Robert E.

Lee Senior High. Incidentally, this was the same high school my mom went to and graduated from. I graduated in June 1991. I really could not ask for a better high school experience!

In the fall, I started going to Florida Community College in Jacksonville. I was there through the summer 1996. I got an Associate of Arts degree and an Associate of Science (CADD) degree. I heard about some extended studies trip that the college offered during the summers. I was particularly interested in one that was to go to Arizona to learn about Indian cultures and about a special method of firing pottery in a wood burned kiln. That was a pretty cool summer (read my back page literature titled, My Bus Trip to and from Arizona, I wrote as part of a class in 1995). I went that summer and again in summer 1995 and summer 1996 (only pottery classes those other two years).

By the 1996 trip, I already planned to move to Flagstaff and go to college at Northern Arizona University. This was a complete change in just about every way possible! For all but the last year, I lived in the dorms. The last year, I lived in an apartment off campus. I was at NAU from fall 1996 through May 2001. I got a Bachelor of Science in Arts Management and a Bachelor of Fine Arts. During the spring 2001, I knew I needed to get more

museum specific education because the arts management classes were too general in relation to museums. I applied and was accepted to the University of New South Wales in Australia! However, I had no clue how to pay for it! I decided that I needed to stay within the US instead. I narrowed down the options to two universities, ruling out all options in New York and Washington, DC (I was not interested in going there). The two main options I considered were Baylor University in Waco, Texas and Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. I wasn't interested in going to a Baptist university, So I went to Texas Tech.

Knowing nothing, really, about Texas and having never been to Lubbock. I knew I needed to visit the place first. When I drove down Clovis Highway which turned into Avenue Q, THAT was my introduction to Lubbock! (Now for those in Lubbock who were there in 2001, you know exactly what I'm referring to and why that was the worst introduction to a city!) I thought, "What did I get myself into!" Well, it all worked out fine, and I went to Texas Tech from fall 2001 through December 2003, when I graduated with a Master of Art in Museum Science degree. After I graduated, I simply stayed until June 2012.

And now, you know THE REST OF THE STORY!



High school grad photo with principal, June 1991, Jacksonville, Florida



2nd graduation at NAU with my BFA, May 2001, Flagstaff, Arizona. This was a department specific ceremony.



Master degree graduation at Texas Tech University, December 2003, Lubbock. (Will Rogers and Soapsuds sculpture)

# Time to Plant Flowers!

Last summer, I created a long, narrow planting area in front of the house (you can see part of it in the below photo, top right). I planted annuals and perennials and a few transplants from a neighbor. This month, I watched the perennials grow back, and they should make nice flowers. I was a bit more adventurous this year and added a

bunch of new stuff: three new planting areas and a walkway from my parking spot to the front door. I planted salvia, various daisies, pansies, nicotiana, black eyed susans, senetti, gazania, celocia, cosmos, and gaillardia, among many others. More to come!



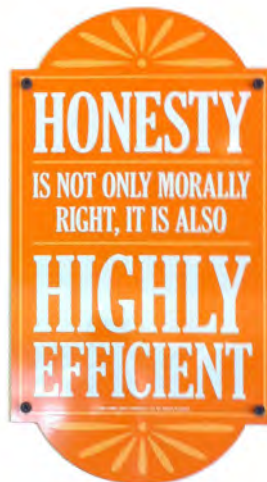
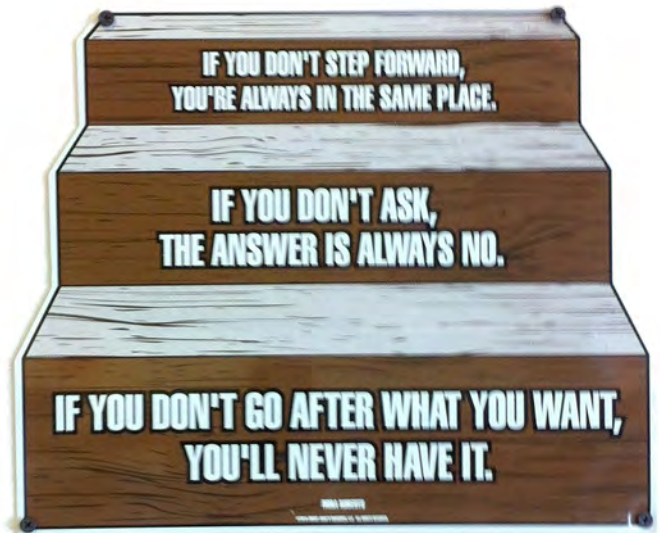
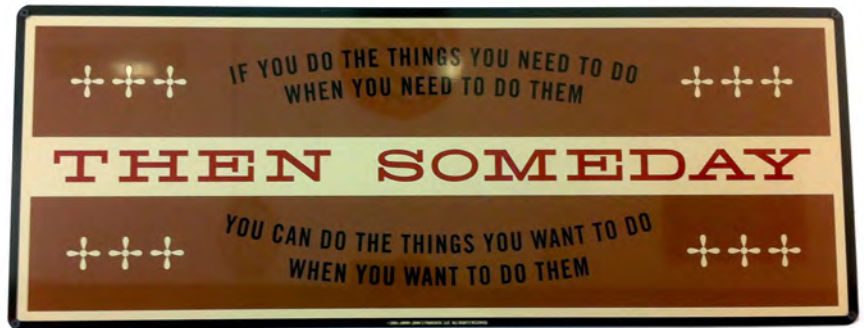
This year's lilac flowers on the side of the house.



This plant is called a Martha Washington Geranium, or a Regal Geranium. However, this variety is not actually a geranium, but rather called pelargoniums, native of South Africa.

# Signs of Jimmy Johns

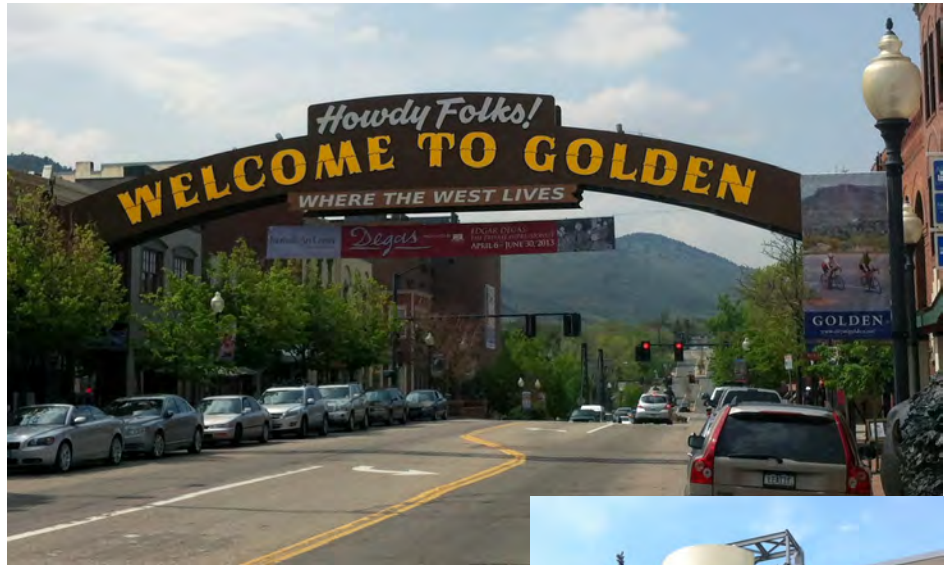
In case you have never heard of this place, Jimmy Johns is a sandwich restaurant that makes simple, but yummy and fresh sandwiches. They are known to be “freaky fast” and are a little quirky. All around the restaurant, they have various custom signs that define a sort of aesthetic. Most people probably don’t read the signs even though they certainly see them. Most of them are clean and are actually of good ideals, but I left out a few of them because they are not as ideal.



*And by the way, you can get day old bread for 50¢ a loaf! (And it's still good.)*

# The Day Was Golden

On May 23, 2013, I went up to Golden, Colorado to catch up with some friends from Texas. We made a part day of it by doing several things. We first went to the Colorado Railroad Museum and saw many types of train cars and various elements of trains like signals, signs, models, water towers, et cetera. (See photos for details.) We then went to downtown Golden to get lunch. We ate at the Old Capitol Grill. This is called such because this building was the actual capitol of the Colorado Territory for about five years. After lunch, we decided to hop over a couple of blocks to catch the Coors bus for the free tour of the Coors plant. What was interesting about this tour is that it was set up similar to a museum in that they gave us audio guides and had various stops to explain the process of making beer. The place smelled much like warm bread. At the end of the tour, they gave free glasses of beer to those 21 and over (punching special wrist bands they gave us at the start). [A note to a few who would think it: DON'T JUDGE ME!] Not long after, my friends had to leave to another destination, but I stayed in Golden for another hour to explore the downtown. At some point, I think I'll go back and see the other museums and the red rocks and the mountains near the area.



*Welcome to Golden sign in the middle of downtown*



*Above: At the Colorado Railroad Museum, they were moving this narrow gauge kitchen car to the round house as we were leaving.*



*Above: At the MillerCoors plant, they use copper kettles like this one to ferment the grains to make mash.*



*Left: The Santa Fe Super Chief observation car with drumhead.*



*Left: Three interiors of passenger cars. The third car is set up to be rentable for private functions. Note the speakers in between the lights.*

*The transom windows were used for ventilation as well as for additional light.*

# Back Page Literature—My Bus Trip to and from Arizona

*I wrote this for a class in early 1995 while I was in community college. This writing is specifically about my "adventure" of riding the Greyhound bus from Jacksonville, Florida to Flagstaff, Arizona and back. Realize that this was by no means my best writing! I made this writing into a little booklet that was a design project for a graphic design class. I made a second booklet the next year about my train trip to Flagstaff.*

## The Setting

During the summer term of 1994, I went on an FCCJ Extended Studies trip to Flagstaff, Arizona. The first three weeks were spent in Jacksonville with my two classes making pottery and studying Indian literature. The second three weeks were spent in Flagstaff to fire our pottery in the Anagama kiln located at Northern Arizona University and also to see the sights. In my case, I took a Greyhound bus to Flagstaff because I could not afford to take the plane or to drive. Bob, Carol, Robin, Katee, Nathan, and I had no idea how the bus trip to Flagstaff would be like.

## Ticket Trouble

When I arrived at the downtown Jacksonville bus station Thursday, July 14, 1994, we were told about a problem with our tickets. Our tickets showed that we were taking a route the station said did not exist. As a result, we were going to wait for the 3:00 AM bus until I mentioned a detail about the route on our tickets. We decided to take the midnight bus to New Orleans. In the early morning, we went through Mobile, which looked a lot like New Orleans with its iron railings and the old, southern buildings. Biloxi and Gulfport looked similar but had a lot of casinos. These cities also had white, sandy beaches that we traveled beside. Once we got to New Orleans around noon, we straightened out our tickets and checked in our bags, which were previously carried on the bus with us.

## Dallas Roundup

The next bus we took was really crowded. Not one seat was left available until we got a Baton Rouge. After Baton Rouge, the bus driver seemed to randomly zig-zag all over Louisiana. However, he certainly knew where he was going. By 3:00 AM, probably because of the meandering, we arrived in Dallas forty-five minutes late. Because the next bus we needed to catch left, the bus station rounded up three taxis for us to take to Fort Worth, where the bus was held up for us until we arrived there. In one taxi, Mindi and I raced down the curvy highways at seventy miles per hour listening to reggae while the cool air mixed with cigarette smoke blew through the cab. We arrived in Fort

Worth to find that the bus was again very crowded. We then left towards our next change destination, Amarillo.

## Almost to Flagstaff!

Since leaving Fort Worth, I awoke, after sleeping a few hours, to a pleasant sunrise and a landscape of interesting buildings and wavy plains. Around 8:30 AM, we stopped at Olive Oil's twenty-four-hour truck stop cafe in Estelline, Texas for breakfast. I just could not eat even though I was really hungry. I think it was the weak coffee or the loads of grease. ... After leaving Amarillo around 12:15 PM and on the way towards Albuquerque, the land started breaking from flat lands to rolling hills and then to plateaus and mesas. I wished I had my camera handy to get a few pictures of these great landscapes. The sun started to set after we left Albuquerque around 5:30 PM. We would arrive in Flagstaff in just a few hours! We arrived around midnight, and Mr. Wetherell, our pottery professor, was at the station to greet us and take us to the dorms.

## Headin' Back

During the almost three weeks in Flagstaff, we (the group) fired our pottery, saw the sights, and visited the city among many, many other events. I made arrangements to take the bus back to Jacksonville on Thursday, August 4, 1994, since I would end up traveling by myself. Robin, Mindi, Katee, and Nathan decided to leave late Tuesday night, and Bob and Carol planned to sight-see for a couple of weeks. I left around 12:40 PM and travelled back towards Albuquerque. On the way around 6:30 PM, we arrived in the city of Grants. Located here is an old lava bed spanning several miles. This lava bed is one of the el Mal País (Spanish for Bad Land) Lava Beds in New Mexico. According to an old Indian legend, a giant was slain and his blood flowed across the land (the lava). The blood was stopped by the fearing Indians close to their source of water in order not to contaminate it. The Indians considered the blood as poison.

## Landscape Details

In the early morning on the way to Wichita Falls from Amarillo, I saw many, many little oil pumps all over the landscape. Some were even located right next to the roads. ... I noted that the landscape of northern Texas was interesting and in a way very similar to Jacksonville, but with fewer and smaller trees. Shreveport on was the part of the route that was different from before; I would go to Jackson, then to Meridian, Montgomery, Tallahassee, and Jacksonville.

## Midnight Hold-up

Between Shreveport and Jackson was the most interesting part of the trip home. Around 9:00 PM, we stopped at one small station where a band of police were waiting. They came on the bus and said to get off so they could search the bus and cargo. They frisked a few people then searched all of the bags inside the bus. After doing that, they went through the luggage underneath and had a police dog sniff out the bags. The dog was really wild about one bag. Unfortunately, I did not find out if there was anything unusual in it. I think the police were probably looking for drugs. Later, we crossed the Mississippi River where lasers were flashing in the sky which were probably part of some casino show.

## Close to Home

Through the night, the fog was really thick in many places as we headed towards Meridian. I arrived in Montgomery around 4:00 AM and since the bus was late, I only had to wait an hour instead of two hours for my next bus. After leaving Montgomery, I rested for what seemed like hours but was just an hour or two. I woke up in the early morning seeing some very pretty areas in southern Alabama and northern Florida. After leaving Tallahassee around 12:30 PM, it felt like forever before I would get back to Jacksonville. Because the bus did not take I-10, it seemed like we stopped at every little town and hole-in-the-wall in existence before getting even close to home. The rain, thunder, and lightning was really heavy at this time and got worse as we neared downtown Jacksonville. Once finally downtown, Mom was waiting for me when I got off the bus. I then went to get my bags, but only one came with me on the bus; the others came during the night.

## Remembering the Trip

As I look back on the trip, I remember the mix-up with the tickets, the casinos of southern Mississippi, and the zig-zaging through Louisiana. I liked the exciting round-up from Dallas to Fort Worth. Also, the changing landscapes from Texas to Arizona were great to see. I very much liked the time I spent in Flagstaff firing the kiln, visiting the sights and looking around the city. On the way back, I remember seeing the lava beds in New Mexico and the little oil pumps in Texas. The hold up by police in Mississippi was interesting as was the fog that night. The whole trip was really great, and I certainly would go again. This was just the vacation I needed to get away from everything!