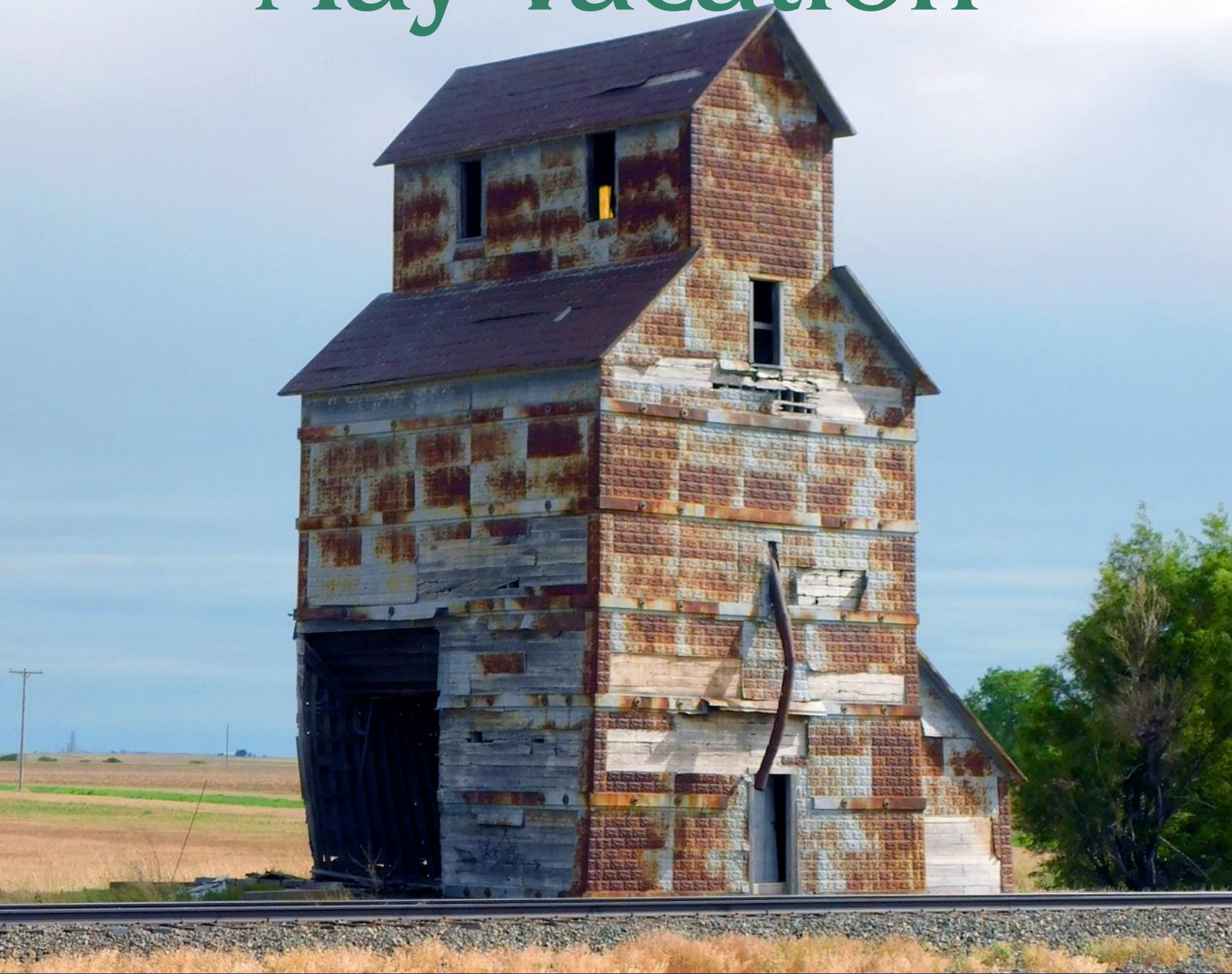


de Stolfe

Journal ●●●●●●●●

May Vacation



◆ ✨ Part 7 ✨ ◆

May Trip 7 2022 | 11.9

Contents

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*Covers vacation destinations, May 31 to June 5, 2022
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On The Cover



We were driving along US 50 in Kansas on the way to Dodge City when I saw these two structures and had to stop! They are some type of old style silos by the railroad tracks that appear were used for loading into train cars. Read more elsewhere in this journal.

We live in the 21st century! Anywhere you see a web link like this, click it to go automatically to the webpage that it references! (Try it now!)

www.destolfe.com



Comments by RG

Finally At The End!

Well finally, here is the last section of our May trip! I had no idea that it would take nearly six months and seven issues to cover a four week trip in May! Well, at any rate, this issue covers the last parts of the trip getting back to Colorado Springs and my trip back home. While these last few days were not as exciting as the main destinations, we did see quite a bit, as well as on my way back home. From Springfield, we would get into Kansas where we stayed a couple of nights before getting back to Colorado Springs. From there, I would leave after a day of rest to go back to Lubbock spending one night in Dalhart to break the run over two days. After getting to Lubbock, I spent the rest of the summer until late September at home with little

activity. In addition, I turned 50 in July but spent the day in relative quiet.

At the end of September, we went on another trip that Dad wanted to do. This fall trip was to explore west and southwest Colorado to go leaf hunting (as I refer to it) and to see some places we have not been to in many years. This trip will be in the next issue, but not as an extended special issue, but rather just featured in a regular issue.

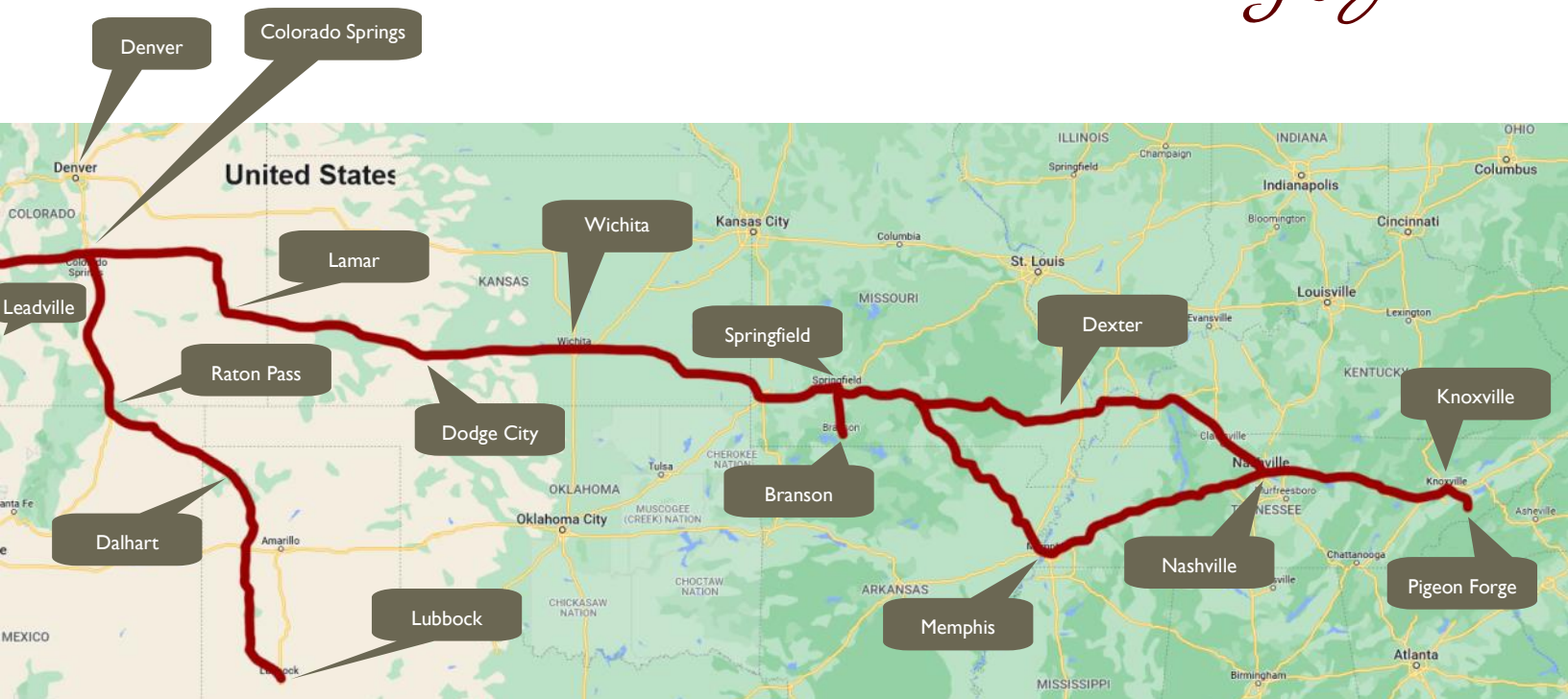
As I am catching up after these special issues, I will eventually get back to other things like I have included in past issues of the journal with things I did through the summer and into the fall.



Producer, RG de Stolfe

I still have a lot of small topics I want to include that did not fit into the May Trip issues. So, until the next issue, enjoy!

RG



Word For Life

Praying For The Right Reasons

For this issue, we take a break from the series about the Bible books that have no chapters to discuss a very small reference found in 1 Chronicles. About 15 years ago, these short verses became extremely popular among the church world, but not necessarily for the right reasons! This small section is referred to as the prayer of Jabez. Here is the entire section,

1 Chronicles 4:9-10.
*9 Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in pain."
10 And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You*

would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

Most people have the desire—if not from an earthly nature—to be given things and of wanting riches and prestige, among other things. But quite frankly, who generally would not want to be exceedingly blessed and be given greater territory! But the popularity of these two verses was not in understanding the message but of a shallow, possibly even greedy, wanting of increase or riches or

fame and the like, which is the kind of things that the world seeks. At the time, there was also criticism about misunderstanding or cherry picking this prayer that people were only liking the benefits of the prayer with no real understanding or care of the meaning and purpose of the prayer. So let us look a little further into why Jabez prayed this.

These two verses directly state why Jabez made this prayer. In verse 9, his mother named him Jabez, which means pain, because she bore him in pain. The end of his prayer states plainly that Jabez did not want to cause pain, or rather not to cause any more pain. The

whole point of the rest of the prayer was for the end goal of not causing any more pain to anyone else. Jabez's motive was pure and so God granted his request. The more important parts of this prayer and of his requests is for God's hand to be with him and for God to keep him from evil! And frankly, that part is what we should pray. When we choose to focus more on God's ways and his righteousness, then we can know that everything else God will add to us as He sees fit.

Matthew 6:33
But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

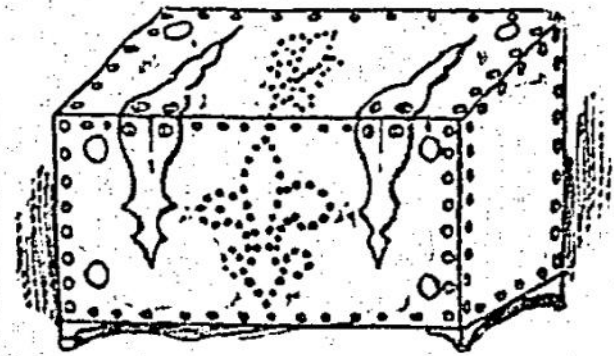


Random Things

A Useful Woodbox.

During the fall and winter a blaze upon the hearth is not only a luxury, but a needed comfort as well. The very commodious and handsome box shown in the illustration will hold in readiness a goodly supply of logs and will at the same time decorate the room.

The foundation is ordinary pine sufficiently heavy to withstand hard usage and large enough to suit the purpose for which it is designed. It is covered with



ARTISTIC FUEL BOX.

dark red cowskin before the cover is attached. Then its edges are finished with rows of large ornamental nails; and upon the front and top a single flower-de-luce is outlined with smaller nails of the same sort. Long brass hinges are used to hold the cover in its place, and to each of the four corners is secured a brass castor of appropriate size. The inside is stained and varnished, and when that is done the box is all complete.

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Artistic Fuel Box.

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*The Evening Chronicle. Saturday,
September 9, 1893. Page 4.*

JAMES O'CONNOR,
No. 113 E. Second St.,

LIVERY  **LIVERY**

Boarding and Sale Stables.

TELEPHONE CONNECTION.

*Leadville Daily Herald.
Saturday, August 6, 1884. Page 3.*

Random Things

Mac What?

If you have ever been confused as to which version of the Mac operating system is called what, you are certainly not alone! I first started using a Mac in the beginning of 1995, which was almost exactly 11 years after the Mac was first released on January 24, 1984. (I started the class in mid January of 1995.) So for your clarity, I present to you “the list” of all Mac operating systems* from 1984 to the current month, which is November 2022. Enjoy!

“Classic” Mac Operating Systems

1984	System 1 [the original Mac GUI system]
1985	System 2
1986	System 3
1987	System 4 (4.1 supported color monitors)
1987	System 5
1988	System 6
1991	System 7 - 7.5.1
1991	Mac OS 7.6
1997	Mac OS 8
1999	Mac OS 9 - 9.2.2

**Operating systems used by general Mac users, not including various specialized systems or server systems.*

“Modern” Mac Operating Systems

2000/2001	Mac OS X	Public Beta (Kodiak)
2001	Mac OS X	10.0 Cheetah [first of cats]
2001	Mac OS X	10.1 Puma
2002	Mac OS X	10.2 Jaguar
2003	Mac OS X	10.3 Panther
2005	Mac OS X	10.4 Tiger
2007	Mac OS X	10.5 Leopard
2009	Mac OS X	10.6 Snow Leopard
2011	Mac OS X	10.7 Lion**
2012	OS X	10.8 Mountain Lion
2013	OS X	10.9 Mavericks***
2014	OS X	10.10 Yosemite
2015	OS X	10.11 El Capitan
2016	macOS	10.12 Sierra
2017	macOS	10.13 High Sierra
2018	macOS	10.14 Mojave
2019	macOS	10.15 Catalina
2020/2021	macOS	11 Big Sur
2021	macOS	12 Monterey
2022	macOS	13 Ventura

***Steve Jobs died in October of 2011 after the release of Lion in July. Jobs handed over the CEO position to Tim Cook in August of 2011.*

****New naming direction to California place names.*

Own Your Own Home



WHY PAY RENT?

When a monthly payment of about the same amount will pay for a home in a few years? Borrow money of the FIDELITY SAVINGS ASS'N on their DEFINITE SINKING FUND LOAN CONTRACT. Loans in any sum on improved real estate, or to build with.

E. N. CARTER,

General Agent, Room 6,

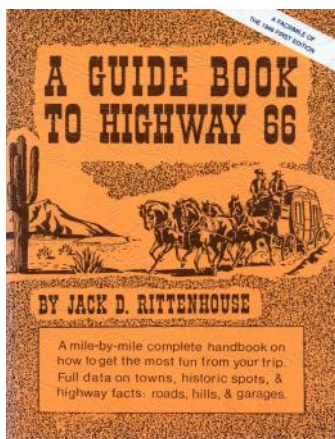
116 W. 6th St

May Vacation—Part 7

Day Of Light Travelling – Tuesday, May 31, 2022

As usual we got cleaned up and checked out of the motel. We drove over to the next town, Poplar Bluff (which was where the other more expensive hotel option), to find a grocery store for breakfast. We looked around town for a little while until we found a Kroger. We got our usual breakfast items and noted how much higher food was at that store as compared to Colorado or even my own stores at home. Then we continued on to Springfield, Missouri. Once we got there, we saw a billboard for a pizza place. The name was Arris' Pizza. It is apparently a Greek restaurant that has Greek pizzas and other options. We got the lunch special of 10" pizza with a salad, and frankly, it was really good!

There was no direct route from Springfield to Wichita, and we were still about halfway from Dexter to Springfield. We left taking a bunch of state roads and county roads according to what Google maps recommended, and it was a route similar to how we came going east at the start of the trip. Although, we did bypass Joplin this time. It was a very scenic drive even though it was quite a bit slower than if we had taken any bigger roads. Once we got into Kansas, we stopped at a gas station for gas and a bathroom break. The land was much flatter and had fewer trees, which told us that we were back in Kansas! We continued on and had some minor rain before getting to Wichita, Dad slept most of the way. We stopped at a Casey's General Store in a little town outside of Wichita. We have stopped at a Casey's multiple times with our trips over the last three years. We didn't have too far to go to get to the north end of the city and the hotel. By the time we got to the hotel, there was some good rain. Right next door to the hotel was a Braum's. At home, I will often go to Braum's for a dollar frozen yogurt cone. I wanted to go get one, but I didn't feel like dealing with the rain. So, I skipped it and soon went to bed.



Google Street View

Arris' Pizza



Casey's General Store is a gas station and convenience store found in the Heartland. Apparently, they updated their logo within the last couple of years (new one on the right).

I included this in Part 2 of the May Trip. We drove past Joplin instead of going through it, but I thought this note about Joplin was worth repeating. Route 66 went right through the middle of town. According to *A Guide Book To Highway 66*, the author Jack Rittenhouse stated,

“The Joplin district is one of the greatest producers of zinc ore in the world, and also leads in the production of lead ores. Several large quarries produce 99% pure limestone, from the limestone which underlies all southwest Missouri.”

While this book is from 1946, this is probably not the case anymore! I have included parts of this book before in previous journals over the last few years.

A Guide Book To Highway 66 by Jack D. Rittenhouse

May Vacation—Part 7

Travelling The Plains of Southern Kansas – Wednesday, June 1, 2022

This hotel room was large and comfortable, and we got cleaned up as usual. A couple of days earlier, I had sent an email to a person who has a starting Christmas tree farm south of Salina. Let's call his name *Chad* (not his real name). I checked my email but did not get a reply back from *Chad* about planning to come visit today. As it turned out, I sent the email to the wrong *Chad*! I have several people in my email named *Chad* (again not actual name), and I had no clue that I sent it to the wrong one until the "wrong" *Chad* emailed back making it clear of my mistake! I then sent a Facebook message to the "right" *Chad* explaining what happened and apologizing for the misunderstanding. He replied quickly, but said that he would not be home from work until 5:30 PM. The forecast for the extended

area was moderate rain all day. So if I still went, we would be rained out, which was no bueno. So basically I decided best to skip going with things considered and just continue on. I will just have to plan another trip sometime later to go to his Christmas tree farm. Before we left Wichita, we stopped at Sam's for gas. We headed north on I-35 to Newton, then headed west on US 50. Wichita to Dodge City is only about three hours, so we leisurely drove there. The rain continued for a good while after we left Wichita. Once we got to Hutchinson, we drove around the town trying to find some restaurants. Once we got to the side of town where the chain restaurants were, we went with Chick-fil-A and had a good lunch.

Originally on the way out, I wanted to stop in Hudson, Kansas to go to a flour mill there. But, they were closed because it was the weekend. So while we were not able to stop there before, I made a point to stop there on the way back because it was a weekday and because we had to cancel going to the Christmas tree farm. So, we had time. The name of the business is Stafford County Flour Mills and they sell a brand of the flour called Hudson Cream Flour. I had bought some of this flour years ago in Lubbock and found it to be nice soft flour to bake with. We diverted off US 50 to the north and made a couple of turns before getting to the mill. (On the way and at one turn, I stopped briefly at an abandoned church to get some photos.) Apparently, the mill did not do tours the time we were there (even though weeks earlier, they said they did!) because of something about needing to "improve visitor safety infrastructure" or something like that. I guess I can understand that since a mill can be dangerous for those not familiar with its structure. We went to the office and bought some flour, which I had intended to do anyway. I bought several packages of flour and a cookbook, while Dad bought a metal water bottle. Before we left, we took some photos of the plant from a distance.



Hudson Cream mills several varieties of flour including bleached, unbleached, self rising, whole wheat, bread flour, and white corn meal mix. I bought some unbleached and whole wheat flours.

May Vacation—Part 7



From their office, you can buy their flour and these items on this baking rack. The flour was very affordable for the 5# bag.

Learn More

- [Hudson Flour—www.hudsoncream.com](http://www.hudsoncream.com)



May Vacation—Part 7



Google Maps identifies this building as the New Hope United Methodist Church, but it appears more like they lost hope. :-)



If this marker still had the plaque, perhaps I could give some more information!



May Vacation—Part 7

On the way back to US 50, we stopped by a field near the church I saw earlier to look at what was growing in the field and to see the flowering weeds at the edge. After checking with my plant identification app, the field was growing alfalfa. I have seen the dry stuff baled as hay, but I had never seen it green and growing in a field. There were also some wildflowers (or weeds) growing in the shoulders of the road next to the field.



This was a nice field of flowering alfalfa.



*This plant is technically a weed. It is called Showy Milkweed, *Asclepias speciosa*. It is rather pretty for an undesirable weed growing by the field! (Milkweed is a great plant for butterflies.)*

From there, we backtracked on US 50 just a few miles to a rest stop we saw earlier. They had some nice informational panels in front not unlike we have seen at various other rest stops. Dad wanted to know type of trees he's seen that were sort of cone shaped we've seen along the side of the road. It turned out that they were probably eastern red cedar trees.



Informational signs at the rest stop.

May Vacation—Part 7

Then we kept going on US 50 west. By this point, the rain had pretty much stopped, but it was still cloudy. Roughly 20 to 30 miles east of Dodge City, we came to a place where I saw some old square silo looking structures that I could tell were quite old. They were right by the railroad tracks and looked like a bin used to load train cars with grain. I went right passed them but then turned around to go back to get photos of them. They were located about halfway between the little towns of Kinsley and Offerle on the south side of the tracks and of the road. I saw a train coming down the tracks a little earlier and realized that they were going to go right past the silos.



May Vacation—Part 7

A train that was just a pair of locomotives by themselves went by followed a short time later by another really long train. We stayed there long enough to get some photos and video of the train going down the tracks by the silos. Then we left and continued west, the same direction as the train, and sped up to get ahead of the train to get some more photos and video elsewhere. We stopped ahead of the train by an area where there were a lot of wind turbines—I mean all over the place on both sides of the road that probably went on for several miles—as a good backdrop for the train. We stopped at a spot just briefly ahead of the train, and we were able to get some photos and video of the train going by with the turbines in the background.



Which way is this “train” going? ;-)



The second train was much longer.

We caught back up to the train further down the road by a field of wind turbines.



May Vacation—Part 7

About 30 minutes later, we finally arrived in Dodge City, but I had sort of missed the turnoff we needed and ended up on another road to the town, instead of going along the main road we've taken several times before. On the way to the hotel, we passed by some stores Dad saw and wanted to go back and visit after we checked in. Once we got to the hotel, the same one we stayed in before, we brought our stuff into the room. Then, we left and went to go to the stores Dad saw earlier. We stopped at a Sutherlands (same

store that is in Lubbock) and looked around for a little while before leaving and also stopping at a Walgreens. We wanted to get something to eat, but not too heavy. There frankly weren't very many options, but we did settle with Jimmy John's because they had their slim sandwiches for Dad. However, I got a regular sandwich. After that, we went over to Freddy's for some frozen custard before heading back to the hotel for the night.

Back To Colorado Springs – Thursday, June 2, 2022

Today was the last day of traveling before we would get back to Dad's house in Colorado Springs. As usual, we got cleaned up and left the hotel. We needed to get gas before we left, but found that it was rather pricey, so we looked around and stopped at two other stations. We didn't want to pay those prices, so we found another one that was a good price and got gas there. We got on to US 50 and headed west. The travel was straight forward for couple hours until I came to a historical marker I remember passing on the way out and decided to stop. It was a historical marker about the Santa Fe Trail and the wagon ruts in the ground. However, this is a different marker and site from the one near Dodge City. I spent a few minutes there looking at things and getting a few photos. We continued on for about five minutes until we stopped at the next town, at Casey's, for a break. Further down the road, we came to an area of road construction where traffic came to a halt. It was down to a single lane with traffic alternating back and forth as manually directed. Once we got past that, we came to the Mountain Time Zone a little while later. While it seems strange and for no known reason, the time zone border is a good ways east of the state border. Before we left Kansas, we came to a large grass fire that sent lots of smoke into the air and made it rather toxic as the wind was blowing the smoke over the road. The fire was not near the road, but it was probably within half a mile to the south. I turned off the air conditioning until we were well past the smoke. After we crossed into Colorado, we continued on to Lamar, which was about another 30 minutes.



May Vacation—Part 7



Somewhere among the grass are wagon ruts from the Santa Fe Trail.

● ●

A large grass fire just before we got to the state border sent lots of smoke into the air and over the road.



May Vacation—Part 7

Once we got to Lamar, around 2:00 PM, we wanted to get some lunch. We thought we would go somewhere different from the place where we ate before in Lamar. Dad wanted to go to the Pizza Hut buffet only to find out that they have not had the buffet in many years. Dad remembered seeing a Quiznos on the way in, so we stopped there.

After we ate, we went a block over to an old train depot that was a visitor's center that had some outdoor and some indoor exhibits. Outside, they had a large wind turbine blade, along with a locomotive, windmill, and water tank. There were several historical markers and interpretive signs. We looked around and took a bunch of photos. While looking at everything, we came across and talked for a little while with a guy from England who was on a vacation to the United States. We talked about many things that were different between the United States and England. Then, we went inside the depot and talked with the lady there for a while, and Dad bought a few little things from their little gift shop.

After we left there, we stopped again a few blocks away at a True Value Hardware store so Dad could find some parts for a project. I looked around and didn't find something I wanted, but did find a few some other things. True Value still looks like the old hardware stores of fiftyish years ago.



The Lamar Depot with a visitor center & Chamber of Commerce.



Short Fuse on a Slack Rope by Justin Young Jr.



Near the Lamar Depot were these Tesla charging stations.

May Vacation—Part 7



Windmill (sans fan) with water tank.



Locomotive.



Wind turbine blade by GE.



"Madonna of the Trail" sculpture

May Vacation—Part 7

From Lamar, Dad did not want to go back to Pueblo (for reasons relating to the accident last year) and so we went back the way we left taking back roads through Colorado overall west to the Springs. We did continue on US 50 for a few miles past Lamar until we got to US 287 and went north. This road took us through Eads and Kit Carson. There were a couple of areas with road construction that once again had some single lane back and forth traffic. Then, we got to Colorado 94. This narrow and sparsely used two lane road goes straight west all the way into Colorado Springs through the middle of nothingness! That is, unless you count the cows, windmills, and an occasional abandoned structure as something. There was nothing except fields of grass and occasional little dirt roads that branched off from the county road. We saw very few cars on the road and passed through a very few minor towns particularly as we got closer to the Springs. But, no doubt that the plains of Colorado were very beautiful despite being very solitary, except for the cows. We were trying to

find a gas station and a rest stop, but there were none to find! I did pass a Love's in Kit Carson but didn't think to stop. So once we got on 94, we had no options until the Springs, about another hour and a half. We stopped at a little arroyo, or gulch, to take care of business in the bushes by a tree. This road is very narrow really had no shoulders, just bare minimum road width for a county road. The road was also rather rough all way until we got to El Paso County when the road got much better. Other than one more quick stop for Dad, we drove that little road straight to the Springs. Once we got to the US 24 in the Springs, we stopped at Circle K. We then went over to Powers and over to Costco. On the way, I stopped at the Chick-fil-A for some tea and mac & cheese. We got gas at Costco. From there, we went back to Dad's house and unloaded the car of the week's worth of stuff into the garage to sort through later. I did put a number of things in my car that were obvious that I was taking home.

Out on the plains of Colorado, there is much nothingness as far as the eye can see! Ha, ha...



May Vacation—Part 7

Boogieing Back To Texas – Saturday, June 4, 2022

With having gotten back to Colorado Springs on Thursday, this concluded the main trip to Missouri and Tennessee. However, I still had a few more days before I would be back home as the final end of my trip. I left home on May 3 and have been gone for basically one month, 30 days or so. I spent Friday to rest and left Saturday to go back home. During that full day in the Springs, I did a few errands and stopped at a few places where I wanted to go. I went over to Costco to fill up my car, I had lunch at Culver's, since there aren't any near me, I went over to Lowe's to get a few select plants, and I went over to King Soopers to get a few groceries I wanted that I cannot find at my grocery stores at home.

So on Saturday, June 4, I headed back to Texas! Instead of driving the whole 500 miles straight, I decided to stay the night again in Dalhart to break up the travel over two days because I could. Once I got cleaned up and got everything packed up, I left Dad's house by the early afternoon, but I did a few things before leaving Colorado Springs. First, I went over to Costco to make sure my tire pressure was good. (I have nitrogen in the tires, and Costco has nitrogen air pumps.) Down the road from there was Culver's where I had lunch, and yes for the second day in a row! After lunch, I could not leave Colorado Springs without going over to the cemetery to see Mom's grave. I decided to wait until after the trip to go to the grave instead of when I first arrived. From the cemetery, I made my way over to I-25 just north of Fountain but well south of Colorado Springs. I basically drove straight to Raton except for one short stop to get photos of the Spanish Peaks sign and those mountains.



While Mom was cremated, the box of her ashes were buried at the Pikes Peak National Cemetery southwest of Colorado Springs.

This area along I-25 in southern Colorado is referred to as Spanish Peaks, those mountains in the photo.



May Vacation—Part 7

Once near Raton after going through the pass, I thought I would take the first exit that goes through the actual old town. The old town is many blocks long and a few blocks wide near the base of the mountains and has many old buildings that probably go back to the 1800s. I did not stop anywhere in the old town, but made my way to the one road near the interstate where I've stopped many times before and stopped at a gas station for a break and water. I was okay on gas. After, I left on US 89 that cuts a triangle across northeastern New Mexico to Clayton.

I made various stops along this road through New Mexico. The first stop was to get photos of the entrance and of the hangar of the TO Ranch. Another stop was at a historical marker in Capulin just across from the Capulin Country Store.



*Entrance to the T.O. Ranch.
The TO is owned by Silver Spur Ranches, which also owns the Bell Ranch further south in New Mexico.*



Hangar on the T.O. Ranch.



Content cattle chewin cud.



New Mexico historical market in Capulin across from the Capulin Country Store.



May Vacation—Part 7

A little further down, I got two angles of the windmill and barn that I've photographed so many times before. Further down a good ways, I got various photos of the Bar Bar Seven Ranch along with the entrance of the Day Ranch, which I had to double back to go get. I also stopped at the rest stop where I stayed the night exactly ten years ago on June 4, 2012! (Well, late overnight from June 3 to the morning of June 4 and arriving to Colorado Springs later that day.) From there, I basically drove straight to Dalhart, arriving to the motel a little after 9:00 PM. The sun had set, but there was still a little light left before it got dark. I checked into the motel then soon left to go to McDonald's for gas and for some dinner, which I had to bring back to the room. Not long later, I called it night.



I decided to get photos of this windmill and barn from two different angles.



This is the Capulin volcano. It is a national monument.



Not far from the windmill and barn were these grazing horses, of three different colors!



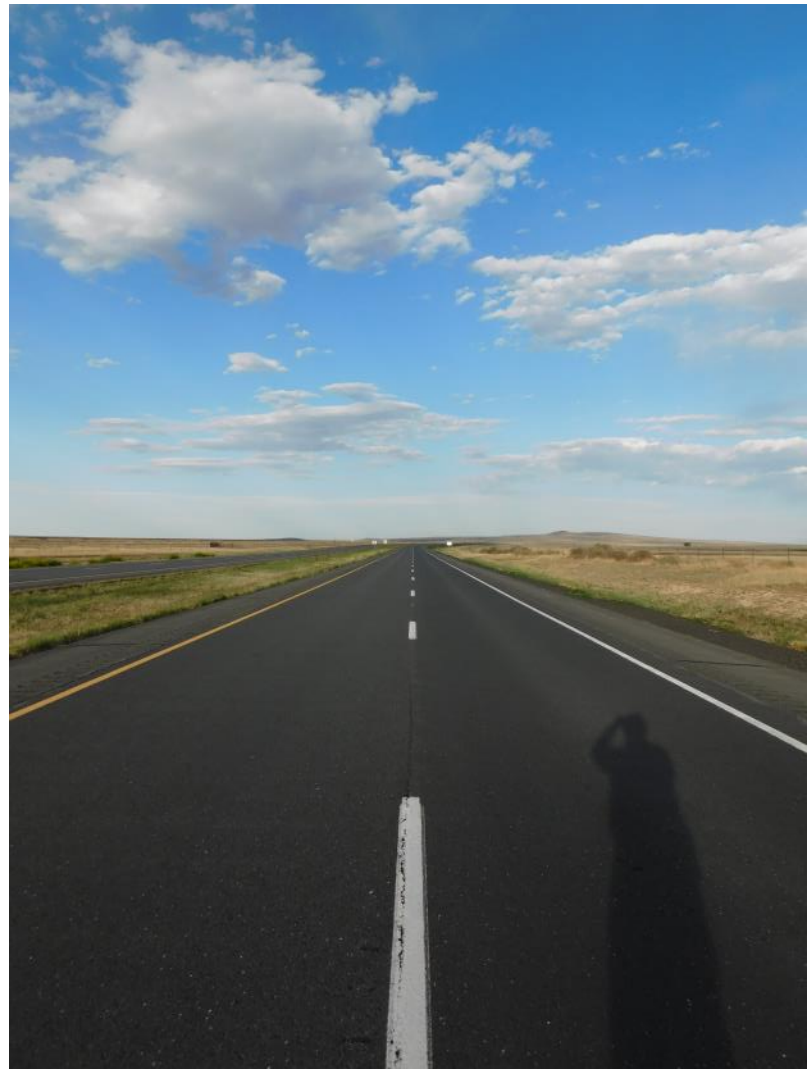
This view is on the other side of the street from the windmill.



May Vacation—Part 7



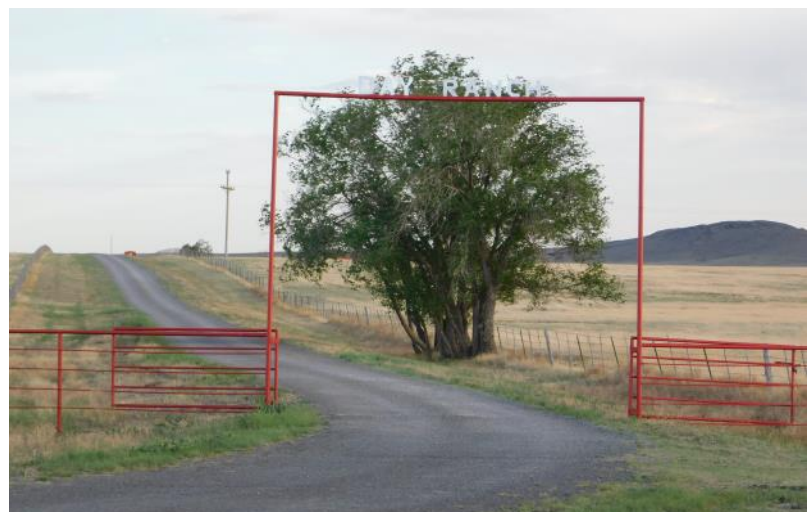
The Bar Bar Seven brand of the Volner Cattle Company and the Day Ranch



Not much traffic on the highway.



A barn of the Bar Bar Seven brand. The first time I recall seeing this building in the late 2000s, the building was in rather poor shape and was not at all the red and white building it is now. It's probably used for storage now, but was obviously a working barn at one time.



Entrance of the Day Ranch in New Mexico.

May Vacation—Part 7

On the way back home, I drove by a rest stop in New Mexico, the only one on this road, called Sierra Grande Rest Area near Des Moines. This was the rest stop that exactly ten years ago to the day I had stayed the night when I moved from Lubbock to Colorado Springs for an undetermined length of time. (Understand that it was never meant to be permanent move!) That July, I brought back some last things I couldn't fit before. Well, ten years later, I parked my car by the same tree where I slept that June for a few hours until morning. By the morning, there was a spectacular sunrise! I continued on to Raton, where I had a good breakfast at Denny's.



Early morning on Monday, June 4, 2012.



Sunrise on Monday, June 4, 2012.



Mid afternoon on Sunday, July 22, 2012.



Early evening, Saturday, June 4, 2022.



Early evening, Saturday, June 4, 2022.

May Vacation—Part 7

Easy Rural Roads Drive Back To Lubbock – Sunday, June 5, 2022

This day I got back to Lubbock, but I still had a few hours on this last leg before I would get home. Dalhart to Lubbock only takes a little over three hours. But of course with stops, it takes a little longer. I left the motel around 11:00 AM after sleeping in and getting cleaned up. After taking a few minutes to decide how I wanted to go home, I drove over to a doughnut place. After finding out that it was closed (not open that day, probably because it was Sunday), I then drove over to a nearby truck stop, a Toot'n Totum, and got a bottle of cold espresso latte and a hot brisket and potato burrito for breakfast. The burrito was really good actually. Part of this way was US 87 and US 385, but I would take US 385 south all the way to Littlefield before I would get on US 84 the short ways back to Lubbock. While the route was straight forward, I did make a few stops along the way. The first stop was about 30 minutes down the road for a historical marker. It must have been one missed driving up because I don't remember having seen it before.

Texas historical marker telling about the Fort Smith-Santa Fe Trail

Behind the historical marker was a large area of wind turbines. Also, cattle obviously roam here.



May Vacation—Part 7

Only a few minutes further from there was the town of Vega. Now Vega is a town right on I-40 which was an old Route 66 town. I spent about 30 minutes looking around at the historical markers by the Oldham County courthouse, at an old somewhat restored Magnolia gas station, and at a few things outside near a museum. I've seen this town many times before when I've travelled this way, but I have never stopped to look at them. Once I left there, it was about another 30+ minutes before I came to another historical marker. This one I did stop at on the way up, but there was road construction before keeping me from getting a clean photo of the sign. After that, I just kept going and I did not stop anywhere else until I got home. I got home a little before 4:00 PM and so it did take a bit longer than three hours. But I had no rush to get home by any specific time, and the sun was still out. Once I got home, I was like yay! I'm home! Everything felt familiar, of course, as it should have, but I did feel like was gone for a long time. (Well, 30 days!)



The town of Vega, one side of the courthouse square.



Various markers by the courthouse.



Gazebo by the county courthouse.



Oldham County courthouse.

May Vacation—Part 7



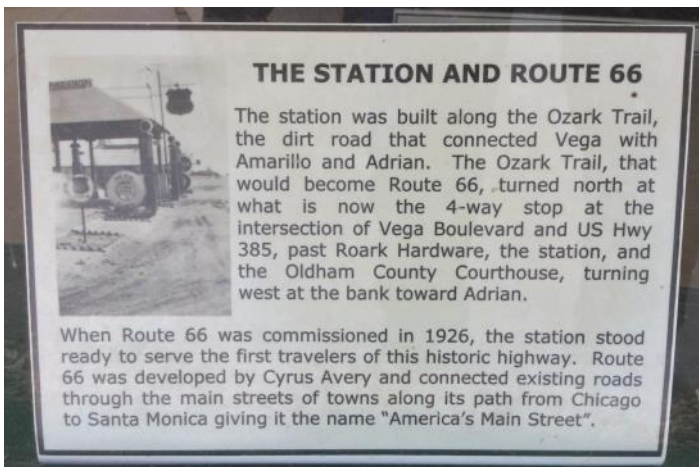
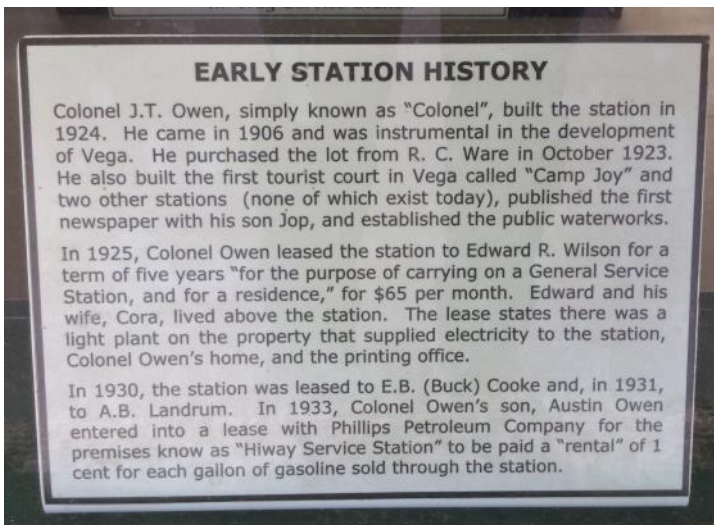
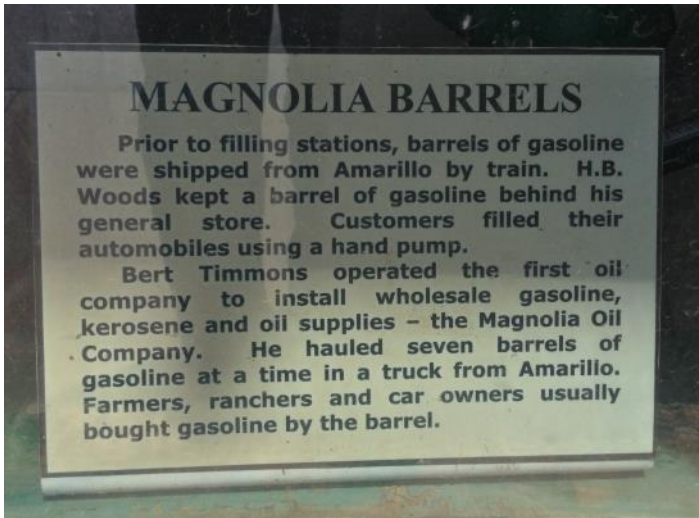
Quanah Parker Trail arrow marking a historic spot relevant to the Comanche Indians. (There are many of these arrows.)



An old Magnolia gas station from 1924 that looks partly restored. Looks as if the cement and rock siding was done in the 1960s or 1970s as the structure would have been wood originally. However, the second floor is unusual but a unique feature of this particular station in being a residence.

May Vacation—Part 7

(Read the text in the photos.)



May Vacation—Part 7



World's largest branding iron.



Milburn Price Culture Museum



Moo!

Oldham County Courthouse is a Route 66 Roadside Attraction.

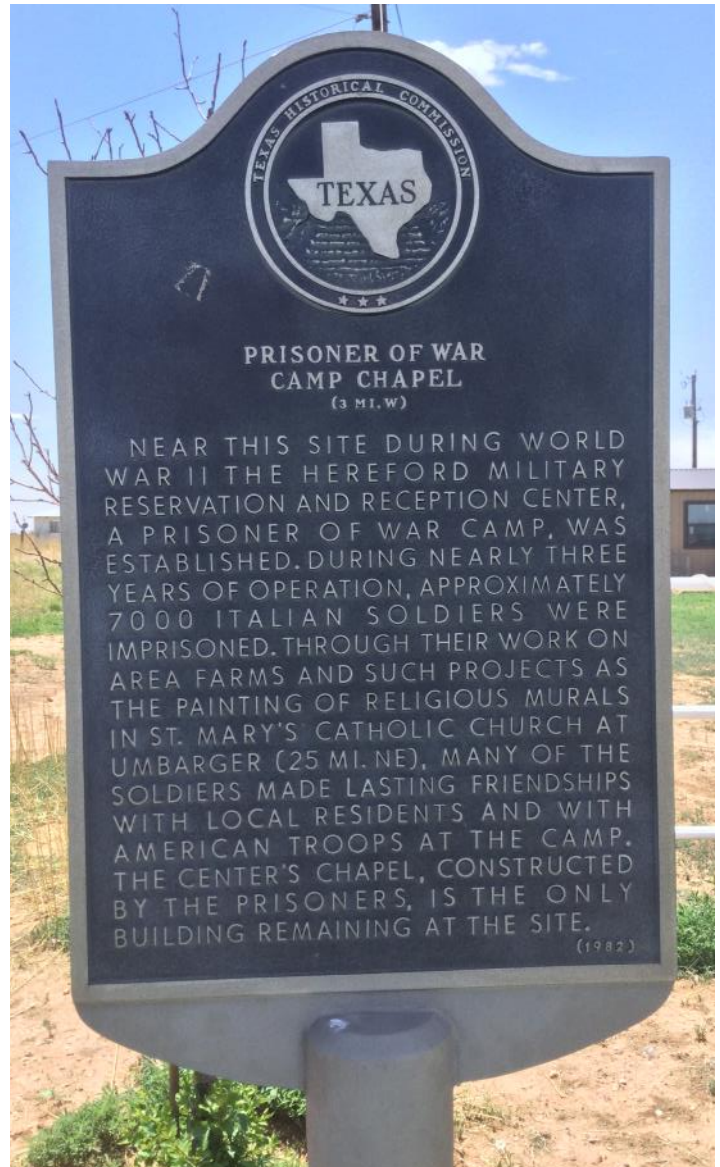


May Vacation—Part 7

Back Home and Final Thoughts

Once I got settled in the house for a brief time, I then tackled unpacking the car. The temp was well over 100°, and so I went back and forth many times bringing in everything from the front of the car, the back of the car, and the trunk. It took me about an hour by the time I finally got everything unloaded and in the house. Then I rested in the house for a little while to cool off as well as to just kind of mentally rest. After that, I had a few errands I wanted to do, including getting some dinner since I had not eaten since breakfast in Dalhart. I went to Rudy's BBQ. I got the turkey sandwich with a side of coleslaw, which I ended up not liking and switched it for the buttered boiled potatoes instead, which tasted really good with butter, salt, and pepper. I spent the rest of the evening sorting through everything, putting many things away, and setting up some of the things I bought.

This concludes the trip from the time I left home until the time I returned back home a month later, May 3 to June 5, 34 days. In reflection of the trip, any number of places where we went could have been a vacation destination of its own! But instead, we kind of strung them together and visited a bunch of different places! It was a wonderful trip seeing places I have either never been to or places I have not been to in a long time. I had never been to Nashville (not including the airport) nor to Dollywood nor anywhere in Tennessee for that matter, except for Memphis. I was glad to visit again Dodge City, Springfield, and Branson with Silver Dollar City.



Historical marker along US 385 south of Hereford.



May Vacation—Part 7

Will The Circle Be Unbroken?

In the last issue, I told about how we went to the Grand Ole Opry for a second time and also how we took a back stage tour of the Opry. Ever since the Opry moved to their current location and created a circle of wood out of the Ryman Auditorium, it has become a major theme for the Opry even to use the song Can the Circle Be Unbroken? So, I looked up some information on Wikipedia about the song, and here is the origin of it.

“Will the Circle Be Unbroken?” is a popular Christian hymn written in 1907 by Ada Ruth Habershon with music by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel. The song is often recorded unattributed and, because of its age, has lapsed into the public domain. Most of the chorus appears in the later songs “Can the Circle Be Unbroken” and “Daddy Sang Bass”. Here are the lyrics.

55 Will the Circle Be Unbroken?

ADA R. HABERSHON.

CHAS. H. GABRIEL.

1. There are loved ones in the glo - ry Whose dear forms you oft-en miss,
2. In the joy - ous days of child-hood, Oft they told of wondrous love
3. You re-mem-ber songs of heav-en, Which you sang with childish voice,
4. You can pic-ture hap-py gath'rings Round the fire-side long a - go,
5. One by one their seats were emptied, One by one they went a - way,

When you close your earth-ly sto - ry Will you join them in their bliss?
Point-ed to the dy - ing Sav-iour, Now they dwell with Him a - bove.
Do you love the hymns they taught you, Or are songs of earth your choice?
And you think of tear-ful part-ings, When they left you here be - low.
Now the fam - i - ly is part-ed, Will it be complete one day?

CHORUS.
Will the cir - cle be un-brok-en By and by, by and by?

Is a bet - ter home a-wait-ing In the sky, in the sky?

Copyright, 1907, by
Charles H. Alexander,
International Copyright Secured.

There are loved ones in the glory
Whose dear forms you often miss.
When you close your earthly story,
Will you join them in their bliss?
Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, by and by?
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky, in the sky?

In the joyous days of childhood
Oft they told of wondrous love
Pointed to the dying Saviour;
Now they dwell with Him above.

You remember songs of heaven
Which you sang with childish voice.
Do you love the hymns they taught you,
Or are songs of earth your choice?

You can picture happy gath'rings
Round the fireside long ago,
And you think of tearful partings
When they left you here below.
One by one their seats were emptied.
One by one they went away.
Now the family is parted.
Will it be complete one day?



Ada Ruth Habershon
1861-1918

May Vacation—Part 7

May Vacation Gas Summary

I thought it would be interesting to track the gas usage of the May trip to see what the gas totals would be. Here is the chart showing my vehicle and Dad's vehicle, each with the rate of gas, the volume of the gas, and total cost. You can see that over a

month, the cost of gas went up, but also that as we went east, the cost of gas varied in the different locations. Also, here are the milage totals:

Dad's car: 3791 miles

My car: 1301 miles Total: 5092 miles

Dad's Vehicle

date	station	city	state	rate	total	Gallons	
5.13.22	Casey's General Store	Dodge City	Kansas	\$3.95	\$44.40	11.214	
5.14.22	Quicktrip	Wichita	Kansas	\$3.95	\$25.65	6.478	
5.15.22	Pete's	Fredonia	Kansas	\$3.99	\$22.85	5.513	
5.15.22	?	Branson	Missouri	\$3.99	\$36.43	9.110	
5.19.22	Casey's General Store	Springfield	Missouri	\$3.99	\$26.35	6.590	
5.19.22	Circle K	Memphis	Tennessee	\$4.19	\$43.28	10.308	
5.20.22	Mapco Express	Nashville	Tennessee	\$4.39	\$27.88	6.337	
5.21.22	Valley Market Exxon	Nashville	Tennessee	\$4.53	\$21.99	4.844	
5.22.22	Jimmy's Market	Seymour	Tennessee	\$4.17	\$28.98	6.934	
5.24.22	Murphy Express	Sevierville	Tennessee	\$4.02	\$30.48	7.565	
5.26.22	Love's	Baxter	Tennessee	\$4.19	\$27.79	6.618	
5.29.22	7-11	Hermitage	Tennessee	\$4.23	\$13.83	3.874	
5.30.22	Flying J	Charleston	Missouri	\$4.15	\$29.93	7.196	
5.31.22	Pete's	Cherokee	Kansas	\$4.17	\$26.88	6.414	
5.31.22	Signal Food Store	Mountain View	Missouri	\$4.19	\$27.31	4.199	
6.2.22	Circle K	Dodge City	Kansas	\$4.18	\$36.44	8.698	
6.2.22	Costco	Colorado Springs	Colorado	\$4.12	\$45.86	11.187	
					17	\$516.33	123.079

RG's Vehicle

date	station	city	state	rate	total	Gallons	
5.2.22	Costco	Lubbock	Texas	\$3.61	\$2.35	0.649	
5.2.22	Costco	Lubbock	Texas	\$3.61	\$15.86	4.382	
5.4.22	Allsup's	Dalhart	Texas	\$3.79	\$32.89	8.658	
5.6.22	Costco	Colorado Springs	Colorado	\$3.79	\$41.31	10.873	
5.10.22	Loaf'n Jug	Buena Vista	Colorado	\$4.34	\$35.02	8.052	
6.3.22	Costco	Colorado Springs	Colorado	\$4.12	\$18.62	4.509	
6.4.22	Frontier Fuels	Dalhart	Texas	\$4.29	\$44.94	10.454	
6.6.22	Costco	Lubbock	Texas	\$4.19	\$37.81	9.004	
					8	\$228.80	56.581

All Totals 25

\$745.13

179.660

May Vacation—Part 7

May Vacation Stats

States Travelled

9 states: Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Illinois.

Total Miles Travelled

5092 miles

Stops For Gas

25

Total Gas Bought

≈ 180 gallons

Total Spent For Gas

≈ \$745

Maybe you have noticed or may you didn't, but on the covers of these seven issues, I have shown various icons that varied with each issue. These icons are part of the font Zapf Dingbats.

✧ ✧ Part 1 ✧ ✧

★ ✨ Part 2 ✨ ★

✿ ★ Part 3 ★ ✿

✨ ✿ Part 4 ✿ ✨


✿ ✨ Part 5 ✨ ✿

✨ ★ Part 6 ★ ✨

✧ ✨ Part 7 ✨ ✧

Final Thought

**SYRUP OF ...
.. BANANA**



TRADE MARK.
**THE Great Fruit Laxative for the Permanent
Cure of Constipation—Biliousness and
all disorders of the Bowels, Liver and
Kidneys.**
PRICE 50c.
**THE W. L. COOK MEDICINE CO.,
MANITOU, COLORADO.**

For sale by Geo. E. Taylor, druggist.

*The Herald Democrat. Leadville, Colorado.
Wednesday, August 30, 1893. Page 6.*

Dyer's Hotel and French Restaurant
Meals at all hours, Day or Night.
Eddy St., between Sixteenth and Seventeenth
CHEYENNE, WYO.
The table supplied with all delicacies of the season
T. DYER, Proprietor.

*Daily Rocky Mountain News. Denver, Colorado.
Sunday, March, 9, 1879. Page 3.*

de Stolfe Journal.....

The de Stolfe Journal is a publication made by Robert-George de Stolfe. The first issue was published in March 1986 as the de Stolfe Journal and published irregularly until 1998 (17 issues total). The *Candid* variety of the Journal started in July 2012, with a production of over 60 regular and special issues, with now the *Candid* dropped from the name. Archives of all issues—including the original ones (1980s-1990s)—are available on the website: www.destolfe.com

Publisher/Owner/Editor
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Robert-George de Stolfe

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Robert-George de Stolfe
PO Box 16156
Lubbock, Texas 79490
806.470.5867
rgdestolfe@yahoo.com