

Dear Friends,

Greetings from **Dodge City, Kansas.**

Before we tell you why we are in Dodge City, we need to bring you up to date on our travels. We left Rapid City, South Dakota, a couple of weeks ago and after three long days on the road, settled down at the KOA park in Topeka, Kansas. We went to Topeka to take a two and half day class describing the merits and pitfalls of becoming a registered investment advisor for stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. We may or may not persue this additional license. We are just not sure yet.

From Topeka, we drove to Kansas City, Missouri to see our old Trinity County, California friends, Keith and Vicki. They showed us around Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri. The two towns of the same name are separated by the Missouri River. The "Mighty Mo" has been described as, "too thick to drink and too thin to plow." Many a riverboat has sunk in this grand old river and we had the pleasure of spending a few hours visiting the remains of the Steamship Arabia, which was salvaged after sinking in 1856.

From Kansas City, Missouri, we drove a little over 400 miles west on Interstate 70 to visit our friends, Merle and Helen, in Brewster, Kansas. After a great three day visit, we got back on Interstate 70 and backtracked east to the town of WaKeeney and then south to Dodge City, Kansas.

The minute we finish this short note, we will head into town in search of Matt Dillon, Miss Kitty, Festus, and Doc. These were the principal characters of the TV series, Gunsmoke. Gunsmoke was an amazing TV production in that it went on for 20 years, which has got to be some sort of a record. Will we find these characters? Not likely. Even though the show was about Dodge City, no episodes were actually filmed here. Almost all of the episodes were filmed in Southern California. But interestingly enough, two episodes were filmed in Hill City, South Dakota, which is quite close to Rapid City where we spent the whole summer.

In future newsletters, we will tell you more about our discoveries in Dodge.

Until next time, home is where we park it.

Chuck & Donna Cole
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