Great Escape #79 (La Pine, Oregon)

July 9, 2009

Dear Friends.

Greetings from La Pine, OR.

Travel Plans

The great trek to South Dakota has begun. We are going there to see the Black Hills, Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Deadwood, Badlands National Park, Wind Cave and Jewel Cave, and more. If that's not enough, we get to experience the unbelievable Sturgis Bike Week. Can a sane, middle-aged couple riding a BMW find happiness among 500,000 Harley-Davidson fans? I guess we will find out. To add to the fun, we will meet our old Weaverville friends, Keith and Vicki, at Sturgis. Plus, we'll get to see our RV friends, Nullet and Sandi, and perhaps Tim, formerly of Weaverville. And if that's not enough, we may be able to visit with Lois and Harry, formerly from Weaverville, in Missoula, Montana.

Well, we could have just hopped on Interstate 80 and rolled from Reno through Salt Lake City, past Cheyenne, and then north on Hwy 385 to Rapid City and Sturgis. That would have been the easiest and fastest, but hot and boring. We are taking a longer and more scenic route. We are going north and then east to **Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**. We'll get to see **Missoula, Montana**, as well as **Glacier National Park**. Then, if we have time, we'll cruise through North Dakota and then down into South Dakota. We are hoping to hit the Sturgis area by July 23. Oh yeah, this will be some serious traveling!

Front Sight

But we still haven't finished telling you about Pahrump, Nevada. Heck, we haven't even told you why we went there in the first place. Yes, we went to visit our friends, **Robert and Natalia**, formerly of Chico, and to check out foreclosed housing in the area, but that wasn't the main reason.



One of the many shooting ranges at Front Sight.

We went to Pahrump primarily for defensive handgun training. Probably the best shooting school in the United States is Front Sight, which is located just outside of Pahrump. If you really want to learn to shoot fast and accurately, this is the place to go. We took four full days of defensive handgun training. When we say full, we mean full. The first day lasted 12 hours. You are either in class or on the range. Not a minute is wasted. Donna put more than 1000 rounds of .40 caliber ammo through her Sig. Chuck also shot up 1000 rounds of .45 caliber with his

Kimber.

We shot with civilians, cops, and military. We are now as good as any of them. From a concealed holster, I would say that we are better than a uniformed officer or a Navy Seal. From the sound of a buzzer, we can consistently draw from a concealed holster and put two rounds into an attacker's chest in less than 1.5 seconds. Give us another quarter of a second and we can add a third round to his forehead. We certainly hope that we will never have to use these skills. But we now know we can defend ourselves with considerable expertise. We were so impressed with our training that we spent thousands of dollars to become lifetime members of Front Sight.

Bargain Firearms Training

If you would like to check out Front Sight for yourself, we have a few promotional certificates for sale. The cost is only \$200 per certificate and they have no expiration date and can be given away or resold. The only restriction is that the user may not have previously taken any classes at Front Sight. Here is what one certificate will get you:

Two people for two days of Defensive Handgun or two days of Tactical Shotgun or two days of Practical Rifle, or

One person for four days of Handgun, Shotgun, or Rifle.

If you're interested in handgun training, we recommend the four day class because it is a lot more fun. The first couple of days are spent with a lot of slow motion, step-by-step drills. But the second two days has lots of fun stuff, i.e., moving targets, speed drills, competitions, and a shoot house. The certificates are an unbelievable bargain. You will get about \$2,000 worth of training for \$200. You can't beat this with a stick. If you want to know more, give us a call at (530) 524-5020.

Great Pistol for Sale

We also have a brand new .45 caliber Springfield XD pistol kit for sale. \$600, no tax, we pay the shipping.



.45 Caliber Springfield XD with accessories.

Brand new gun, never fired.

Nice, lockable case.

Two each 13 round stainless steel magazines.

Cable gun lock.

Belt holster.

Belt pouch for two magazines.

Speed loader to make loading magazines easier.

All paperwork and manuals.

This is a polymer framed gun very similar to a Glock. It has several features that we think make it superior to a Glock. One of our instructors had exactly the same gun and loved it. Chuck shot many rounds through another XD and liked the gun very much. However, Chuck has rather small hands for a man and the grip was a little too big for him. It is fairly easy to transfer this gun from us to you unless you live in California where it is difficult, but not impossible. We are quite familiar with both Federal and State gun laws. Call us if you're interested. (530) 524-5020.

Cowboy Action Shooting

Pahrump has a very active Cowboy Action Shooting Club. The realtor that we were using and her husband are extremely active in the club so we had the pleasure of going to a local competition at the Pahrump Gun Club. Robert and Natalia are members of the gun club and went with us. Wow, Cowboy Action is a whole different world of shooting. It is always done in period costume and the guns are either from the Old West or replicas. Yep, single action six shooters, lever action rifles, double barrel shotguns, etc. All of the shooters are registered with the national Single Action Shooting Society (SASS). Interestingly enough, they all have registered names that they go by. One of the best shooters in the U.S. is "Evil Roy." He shoots with his wife, "Wicked Felina," and his granddaughter, "Holy Terror."



"Sacramento Johnson"

The gal in the above picture is "Sacramento Johnson" who is an expert on Western costumes and

guns. She was wearing and shooting a pair of single action .41 caliber revolvers. She was really fun to talk to as her knowledge was extensive to say the least.



"Penny Pepperbox" and "Lash Latigo" (center and right).

In the above picture, our realtor is in the center and her husband is on the right. They both compete every week. We also had the opportunity to shoot computer simulated courses at their home. Absolutely unbelievable! They actually built a long narrow building with a movie screen at the end that must have been about 8 by 8 feet. A computer with 500 different kinds of targets and shooting games projected to the screen through a good quality projector. You shoot at the screen using special laser pistols and rifles. They shoot these simulated targets every night! What a huge investment in time and money, but, oh what fun!



Gun carts at the Cowboy Action Shoot.

Most of the Cowboy Action Shooters compete with multiple guns. Most of them come with several pistols, a double barrel shotgun, a pump shotgun, and a couple of lever action rifles. This, and a lot of ammunition and cleaning kits, is so much to carry, that most of them build special carts to carry their gear. Usually, the carts are homemade and are consistent with the Old West. Certainly the people we watched must have invested at least \$20,000 each, and that doesn't count the price of ammunition which is considerable. Almost all of them have big investments in reloading equipment. Wow, these people were enthusiastic and dedicated to their sport.

Bedroom TV

While in Pahrump, we finally finished the great bedroom TV project that we had started in Palm Springs. The new self seeking satellite dish with five heads is on the roof and the finest 32 inch high end Sony TV is mounted in the bedroom. We also have a new high definition digital recorder, a high definition Blu-Ray playback unit, and a high end Bose surround sound system all in a new cabinet where the old TV used to be. In Palm Springs, we had hired a cabinet maker to build shelves and to build new doors. The only problem is that he couldn't measure, he couldn't cut straight, and he was unreliable. Chuck finally finished the shelving, but did not have the tools or skills to build the new ventilated doors. Fortunately our wonderful friends, **Robair and Monique**, from Las Vegas, drove over, took measurements and went home and built us new doors. Then they came back and installed them. We are so grateful to these two. Finally, this three month project is over. Is it good? Oh yeah, the best you have ever seen or heard. We love it!



New ventilated cabinet doors by Robair and Monique.



New high-definition television as seen from our bed.

Well, that's it. We have finished our travelogues concerning Pahrump. You are probably saying, "Yeah, enough already."

Until next time, home is where we park it.

Chuck & Donna (530) 524-5020