

Earl's Diary - Thursday - May 23, 2013

Dear Loyal Readers,

Still no pictures. Today was a "down" day since we didn't go into Hannibal. Instead, this afternoon we took a drive around the countryside here in Monroe City (about 25 miles west of Hannibal). This sure is farm/rural country. The landscape is scattered with small towns.

The first town we visited was Monroe City. It is an older town and looks just like pictures we have seen of midwest towns. (Houses and grain elevators.) They have a main street with a few local shops. There are a couple gas stations - AND one Hardee's Hamburger with internet connection. Today was the final day for the high school students. Monroe City has a population of 2500+

About 25 miles away is the city of Perry. Now THAT city is full of old buildings - a lot of them empty. Several are home to antique shops. Nearby is Mark Twain Lake. Apparently this is a large resort area and fisher people come during the summer. I guess while the hubbies are fishing, the wives come into town and visit the many antique shops. One of the merchants was bemoaning the fact that this year spring has been delayed and business hasn't been too good. Perry has a population of 700+.

Although it has been cloudy and cool, we have enjoyed the green of the countryside. In the summer the temperature has been reported to be near 100 AND very humid - Uggg. In the winter as much as 22 inches of snow is reported - more Uggg!!! I'll take good old central California.

The rolling hills and many farms dotting the landscape are a delight to see. In some ways, the countryside reminds me of times we have been in northern Wisconsin, and also in the Chapel Hill, North Carolina areas. Trees, trees, and more trees with homes and farms spread among them.

Tonight the sun finally came out and we were able to eat dinner outside. Alan BBQd chicken, Michele fixed salad, rice and string beans. Umm Good! We also played a game of cards. That's all for this day. Thanks for coming along with me. - - Earl