

Earl's Diary - Friday - May 17, 2013

Dear Loyal Readers,

I had two adventures today. This morning I took advantage of a \$5 ticket I had for the IMAX show. The show was titled "Flight of the Butterflies". It's a natural history epic and a compelling detective story. It's also a scientific adventure at its best. It took Dr. Fred Urquhart almost 40 years to discover the monarch butterflies' secret hideaway and prove the most incredible migration on Earth. Following the year-long annual migration cycle of the butterflies, the award-winning production team filmed hundreds of millions of monarchs in their remote overwintering sanctuaries in Mexico. It was quite an engrossing 45 minute film and beautifully photographed.

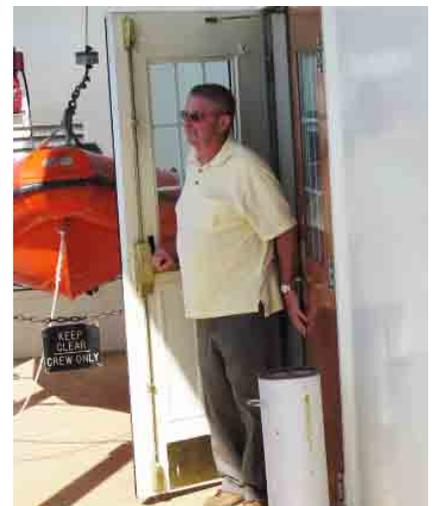
This afternoon we seven traveling companions boarded the Branson Belle show boat for a dinner cruise. We arrived at 3:00 and almost immediately started boarding. We found our seats at our appointed tables and enjoyed a three course meal of roast beef, chicken, garlic mashed potatoes and steamed pea pods. Dessert was a cheese cake. Following a turn around the deck, the main show started. It was quite entertaining. I took my camera and took a few photos. However, the boat was in such a position that I couldn't get a got full shot. I turned to the internet to find the ones I have attached to this letter. They are probably better than the ones I could have taken anyway.



Our group of 7 traveling companions aboard the boat



Alan and Michele



Guess who?

*We were entertained with a show titled "Made in America"*



After dinner we were entertained by comedian - magician Christopher James (whom I never heard of). He was quite entertaining and kept us intrigued with some of his illusions.

Also on the program was Janice Martin (whom I also never heard of).

She was very talented musician both on violin (or should I say fiddle?) and piano. She also sang, and did an aerial act while swinging high above the audience.



Also on the program were a group of young men who called themselves The Showmen. (I had never heard of them either). They were very good, had a well blended sound and had a lot of energy.



That was our trip on the Branson Belle. I'm not sure how far we traveled because the boat was moving while we were eating. We noticed a little movement along the shore as we looked out the windows. It was so smooth we didn't even know we were moving.

Tomorrow I take my backstage tour of the Sight and Sound Joseph production. I'm really looking forward to seeing how they made all the magic happen.

The rest of my traveling companions are off to see shows of their particular interest.

That was my day. Thanks for once again traveling with me. - - Earl