



Tuber Times

Colorado Gators

After two years of planning, we were finally able to go to Mosca, Colorado. This is where Colorado Gators is. The only place that you are able to learn how to handle alligators and work with them one on one. It is referred to as "gator wrestling"; however, in this situation it is an educational opportunity for the humans involved and the opportunity to give the alligators a medical exam. The alligators do have fights amongst themselves causing injuries that must be attended.

If you think this is always an easy task, it does depend on the alligator you are working with. Each of the board members of the museum had the opportunity to work with the

smaller alligators and had different responses. Jacob had relatively calm ones, Todd had ones that liked to hiss, and Erin had the alligator rodeo on her hands.



American Alligators

We also had the opportunity to work with a Nile Crocodile, snapping turtles and were provided much information needed regarding reptiles as pets. This information will be used wisely in the future.

Anyone may take the opportunity to visit this farm. It is recommended.

Historical Stops

There were many stops along the way as we traveled across country. Dodge City, Kansas was along the way. This was the famous town of television and movies that the "Wild West" mentality was a reality. The Boot Hill Museum on Front Street is a great place to visit. A recreation of the western town that

once existed here has been built.

There is the opportunity to see museum exhibits or wild west skits. The famous Boot Hill Cemetery is here as well. Those men who met their end of life in a gun fight are buried here with memorial headings on the wooden grave markers.

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Special points of interest:

- Gulfarium and its Ocean Odyssey
- Toltec Mounds
- Natural Wonders in Colorado
- Four Fort System in Pensacola, Florida
- History in Natchez
- Working with Alligators
- Boot Hill Cemetery

Toltec Mounds

As the travels continued, we finally reached the Toltec Mounds. This archeological dig site is about seventeen miles from Little Rock, Arkansas. Please visit the website to receive directions to arrive here



Toltec Mounds

because if you use a GPS mapping device you will end up viewing a field. We took the short walk around the mounds due to the heat that day. The Park Ranger advised that it would be best for the weather.

The small museum provided great

insight into life of the Native Americans that build these mounds in this area. There are these wonderful mounds throughout this state and some in Mississippi as well. This was a nice place to stop, gather information, stretch our legs and view the mounds and the surrounding wildlife.

We definitely would want anyone traveling near Little Rock to stop here and visit. Also, go ahead and buy the turtle feed. As part of your walking adventure, you go on a boardwalk at the river's edge. When you start walking along, the turtles swim up to say, "Hi, it is alright to feed me."

Natchez

In Mississippi, there is the town of Natchez. This town is on the main river and is filled with so much history that it would take days to see it all.

There are many tours to see the main history venues you wish to see. Please stop at the main Visitors Center and Convention Hall to book the tours. There are tours for the architecture for the area. Both federal and antebellum style of plantation houses are

located here. There are heritage tours that show the history of slavery that was in this area as well. Information regarding the riverboats, is also everywhere. More Native American mounds are in the vicinity, too.

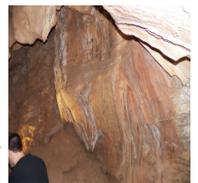
"so much history it would take days to see it all"

Natural Wonders - Garden of the Gods and the Cave of the Winds in Colorado

There are many natural wonders throughout our nation. Garden of the Gods and Cave of the Winds are two of them. These stops were a delight. The Garden of the Gods with its prominent red grained rock were magnificent to view.

Then shortly after we went underground to view how water shaped and formed beautiful displays inside a mountain. Each person who visits these won-

ders will leave with a different impression. Photographs only capture the image and not the feeling of the individual taking time to view the scenery.



Cave of the Winds

Both sites have wonderful guest centers and information as well.

Four Fort System in the Panhandle of Florida

When taking a history class in school, whether it be the Revolutionary War or the Civil War, some forts are always mentioned. Very few realize that in the Panhandle of Florida was a very important four Fort System to protect that harbor. Fort Pickens, Fort Barrancas, Fort McRee and The Advance Redout, an infantry fort. These forts were built by slave labor to protect a naval yard.

Fort McRee is no longer available to visit as the shifting sands of the barrier island have it underwater (hurricane Ivan assisted with this). Fort Pickens is included as part of the National Seashore Park and

is available to tour. Fort Barrancas and The Advance Redout are on the Pensacola Naval Base and are accessible for tours as well. As part of the original Spanish fort system, Fort Barrancas, protected Florida from the English.



The Advance Redout

This system shows an incredible attention to detail regarding how a fort system works. One must visit the three remaining forts to get the entire history.

Gulfarium

Another wildlife course was scheduled as we journeyed. The Gulfarium at Fort Walden, Florida offers an Ocean Odyssey course. This course always you to work with dolphins, interact with a Sea Lion and Harbor Seal, feed a sea turtle, work to help train young sea otters, feed young sting rays and go snorkeling with rays and some sharks.

Each step along the way you are provided with information and education about the animals. The Gulfarium is also a rescue center for injured creatures and is a resource for its local human residents and animals of the area.

The experience provided is a once in a lifetime treasure. After three hours of "being immersed" in education and water, you are able to tour the park and visit the exhibits.

If you wish, you are able to select the animal interactions that most interest you instead of the three hour course.

"The experience provided is a once in a lifetime treasure."

Too many stories...too little space

We had so many adventures along the way that we are not able to describe every event. Our journey has been well documented so we are able to share more history, education and places in the future in another newsletter.

For the time being we are continuing to work to receive our final non-profit status by acquiring our 501C3 documentation from the Federal Government

and this will be our main focus over the next few months.

Of course, we are working on the butterfly project, salt water car project and a marine hermit crab project. When these are completed we will be happy to share the final results.



Mount Rushmore

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A child's education is
not small potatoes.



Spectacular Spud Museum

Spokes Spud Corner

What a journey it has been. Over 6000 miles of travel by road through beautiful country, historical sites, natural wonders and we had educational stops along the way. I did not have the opportunity to have as many photo options as was planned along the way. There were high winds, tornado warnings, heavy rain and lightning and I was almost picked up and whisked away by a young admirer.

There are so many adventures to tell. IN FACT, we are not able to list everything we did in this newsletter. Many of the stops will have to be documented for you when we have a museum location.

Items for exhibits were purchased for the museum as we traveled. Instead of just posting these on our website or other social media for you to view, we are going to keep them secret for the time being. As we approach the final stages of having a physical location, less of our displays will be on line for viewing. It will be our surprise for you when we reach the day of Grand Opening. Please stay tuned for more developments in the future.



It is amazing how much information is provided at simple rest areas these days.