

August 10, 2012 – KINS Community Comment to be aired in August.

Hello, this is Duane Rigge with a Community Comment.

In my July Community Comment I reflected upon my new found freedom of becoming officially “retired” and the opportunities this offers to me as a recovering workaholic.

My wife and I used July to rediscover the many wonderful things there are to enjoy and see in California. We invited our 16-year old granddaughter to share this road touring adventure with us. Well, I am here to report that California is one of the most fantastic and geographically diverse locations on the planet earth, and it is here at our very doorstep to enjoy and explore. Even after driving over 4,000 miles of highways and back roads, we are looking forward to exploring more of the many natural wonders and history of California in the future.


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We visited 18th century Spanish Missions; many of these are still holding regular church services. We rediscovered 19th century Russian and American forts and trading outposts. We reconnoitered a huge open pit mining operation in Boron and the early history of the “20 mule team” transport wagon trains. We traveled the arid eastern sierra mountains and their gold and silver mining histories. We toured a Japanese/American “relocation camp” of the World War II era and the contrast of the Japanese Tea Garden in San Francisco. We visited two different planetariums, one featuring the “Mayan Calendar” and the other featuring “Earthquakes and Plate Tectonics”.

We did a tourist cruise of Lake Tahoe and listened to the many different languages of the other tourists from numerous foreign countries there to see the marvelous lake. We explored the salt cones and depositions at Mono Lake. We visited the Lone Pine museum that recounted the numerous old western movies that have been filmed around that area. We were amazed by the Walt Disney Family museum at the Presidio in San Francisco. We saw the details of 15th century religious art at the Getty Museum in Malibu, an art museum that rivals both the Louvre in Paris or the Prado in Madrid and the admission is free.

~~We enjoyed the many different views of the Pacific Ocean and the coastline from North to South and North again.~~ ~~DELETED~~ We visited places where we used to live and saw how much they had changed or stayed the same. We drove the back roads in the vast California farm and ranch lands. We saw the four distinctive types of volcanos that are located all in one geographic location at Lassen National Park.

On our way back to our wonderful rural redwoods communities, we ~~collected our previously ordered hand painted and fired stoneware by a local artisan potter in Ukiah and~~ ~~DELETED~~ summarized our trip with a very leisurely drive through the "Avenue of the Giants".

~~California is a geological diverse and scenic place. We plan to continue our exploration and rediscovery of California in the future months and years.~~ 

This has been Duane Rigge with a Community Comment.

(About 3 minutes and 20 seconds elapsed time)