

# KANSAS

KORN, SunflowerSeeds, Wheat, Tricale

PRAIRES AND FOOTHILLS

WINDS

SPIDERS

ANGUS COWS

CITY PARKS

## DAY 34 Pittsburg Motel 8 Kansas to Safari Roadside Park Chanute

May 8/08 Thursday D 102.86 km M 38.8 A16.2 T 6h 22 TT8h total 2499.3 km

**Temp** 63F not raining but overcast They got 5 Inches of rain yesterday and it is running in al the ditches

**Wind** N 15

**Food: Breakfast** Motel 8 bagel and jam with oj

**Lunch** At our first Lutheran Church... they were having a “lunch” and we stopped and made our bagels with them. Enjoyed talking to the Pastor and an 83 yr old fellow

**Supper** potato salad, coleslaw and tomato/cheese sands

**Road Conditions** very good had to detour off KS 7... maybe due to the rains; on 69, divided and busy then 47 which was a 2 lane speed 65miles / hr with no shoulder! Not fun much better after that. Easy grades all day, but not all flat. Roads much more ‘straight’ like in Alberta with gentle rolls

**Accommodation** Well we added a few km going around the park twice looking for the tenting sites as the sign said RV’s in one spot and tent in designated area only.... Never did find it so set up under a small shelter as might rain/hail

**Overall:** left a little later as waited to see if was going to rain... off at 9am headed to Girard to find there was a detour up the busy 69 for 8.5km[ it had 2 lanes our way so lots of space to pass us]; turned on 47 to Girard where we stopped for lunch at the Lutheran church. The pastor was very interesting. His son is on his second tour of duty in Iraq hoping to be home by August. He said an interesting thing... “all they need is Christ”... well we didn’t send him... maybe they should send ministers instead of young men/women and it might be more successful. He has a garden beside the manse which he said is very therapeutic for him. He offered us “green onions” as that is all that is ready so far. We had an interesting conversation about being vegetarian... he said jokingly... I think that’s against my religion! He asked what I didn’t eat and I said anything with a Mother.... There’s a them for Mothers day! He laughed. Also there was a woman there who’s daughter is very interested in the cycle tourists that come by, so I gave her Mom my card so they could access the logs... I hope she emails me as I didn’t get her name. She is in grade 4 I think and says when she is old enough she and a girlfriend plan to take a tour. I told her Mom to tell her if she comes to Canada, I will have a meal and a bed for them... would be cool to hear from her a few years down the road.



We went on to see where they are raising Buffalo and Elk... the Elk were just as funny as the young heifers... they run along beside us in a 'stampede', lots of horses once again; no cow pokes though; A few dogs, but did back off without incident.

Chanute is a really historic town where the Santa Fe Railway had a hub. Lots of old restored homes. Interesting the Wright brothers mentor was Octave Chanute who built in 1896 a biplane glider and this town is named after him.

Well they thought there would be a thunder storm tonight, but no sign of it as yet [2100] but last night must have been 3 am and it was thundering. Tomorrow is to be a nice day, but I think rain again on Saturday...

There is a little notation on the map 'LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE'... maybe it is where the tv show is filmed? Well off to be as another 100km day set for tomorrow.

#### DAY 33 Motel 8 Pittsburg to Safari Roadside CG (Chanute KS)

North on Hwy 69		8.5km
Left on Hwy 47 toward <b>Girard</b>	12.2 km	20.6 km
Rt on KS 7 at Girard	11.3 km	31.9 km
Turn left at KS-146 CR 680	11.4 km	43.3 km
Turn right at KS-146/KS-3 Continue to follow KS-146	25.6 km	68.9 km

<b>@9 km Walnut SS/R/G (limited)</b>		
Continue on 160th Rd <b>4km south Erie AS</b>	17.7 km	86.6 km
Turn right at 59	4.2 km	90.8 km
Continue on S Santa Fe Ave <b>Chanute AS</b>	1.7 km	92.5 km
Turn right following the RV parking signs thru town	2km	94.5 km

Super 8 3502 South Santa Fe Chanute, KS 66720 (620) 431-7788  
 Safari Inn 3428 S Santa Fe Ave Chanute, KS 66720 (620) 431-9460  
 Wal-mart and Dollar general very close to CG



I had to stop and kick turtles off the road as they are getting squished... I don't know why they are coming up on the road... I guess there brains are relative to the size of their heads! Also Armadillos and possums are not too bright!



The heifers are so inquisitive!



Chanute Roadside CG: shelter is not rain proof!

**DAY 35 Safari Roadside Park Chanute to Eureka City Park [Eureka means "I found it"]**  
**May 9/08 Friday D 98.47 km M30.2 A14.5 T6h 47 TT9h total 2598.1 km**

**Temp** warm morning 18C up to 25C and sunny... supposed to storm tonight

**Wind** into the wind all morning and then a side wind all pm ... northwest wind

**Food: Breakfast** cottage cheese, apples, bananas, cheese wrap Ken

**Lunch** Yates Center at the Coneco... very nice lady let us make our hoggies inside at her table to be out of the wind

**Supper** picnic supper of cheese hoggies... both too tired to make anything else

**Road Conditions** left Chanute on route until 200 crossed 75 and the lure of the shoulder took us off route and north to hwy 54 which also had a decent shoulder. We asked at the service station on 200 and they said the county roads are very poor and as there has been a lot of flooding we took the busier, but better road for the same distance pretty well.

**Accommodation** Chanutes RV site was okay, but the showers had no privacy and the door didn't lock but it was hot. Tonight the park is well used by locals. The pool is closed until Memorial Day, so no showers tonight. Set up in the shelter as calling for rain, but clear sky. The toilets are clean, but no lights and old... could have made a better choice maybe of a state park, but this seems to work. It is grad night, so we are hoping no late night visitors.



**Overall:** long day as Ken had a flat tire #3 on rising so left at 9am. Into the wind most of the day. Lots of "pumpers" in the fields... taking gas or oil we are not sure. Gas is up to over \$3.50/gal so they seem to be starting up old sites. Never really flat, but at one point before Eureka is a high Prairie where it said 7million acres is used by 7 million cows each summer for grazing It is the largest "feed Lot" left in Kansas. The grass is so green it almost hurts your eyes!



Also very wet and flooded in the trees. Lots of creek crossings and they are really brown waters.



DAY 33 Safari Roadside CG (Chanute KS) to City Park CG (Eureka KS) 102.0

Head west out of CG	55 m	1.1 km
Turn right at S Plummer Ave	1.1 km	2.2 km
Turn left at W 21st St	1.6 km	3.8 km
Continue on 200th Rd @ <b>14km R/SS</b>	14 km	17.8 km
Right on hwy 75	29.2 km	47 km
Turn left at US-54 <b>Yates Center ss/R/g</b>	49 km	96 km
Turn left at S Main St <b>Eureka AS</b>	2.5 km	98.5 km

Blue Stem Lodge 1314 E River St Eureka, KS 67045 (620) 583-5531  
 Carriage House Motel 201 S Main St Eureka, KS 67045 (620) 583-5501  
 Eureka has Howard's AF Super and Dollar General on East River st.(US 54)  
 and G & w Foods and Eureka Thriftway on S Main St

**DAY 36 Eureka City Park to East Lake Harvey County Rec Site**  
**May 10/08 Saturday D107.47 km M37.6 A17.4 T6h10 TT7.5h total 2705.6 km**

**Temp** Cool morning 18C but humid; warmed up but wind cutting; hot in the sheltered sun

**Wind** well we had a great tail wind or side wind until the last 35km then into a wicked wind and once in camp it just built up and built up ; the clouds were going 2 different directions... pour for few minutes and blew over

**Food: Breakfast** yogurt, bananas, apples, Ken still with cheese bun

**Lunch** stopped for pancakes and I had a waffle at El Dorado at 1030 then that was lunch

**Supper** very hungry, had beans and cheese hoggie buns and junk food

**Road Conditions** US 54 good shoulder to Rosalia so we stayed on it to El Derado [cyclist suggested] then turned north on 77 [also good shoulder] to 150 st with no shoulder, but county road and poor patched surface with more hills and into the wind so no fun. Improved at end when entered Harvey county. Lots of oil pumpers.



**Accommodation** I would have stayed in the ditch soon... we were headed to Newton's city park, but just got to be too much in the wind so stopped at the rec site and it is very nice on a small lake. The wind is blowing so much we are hiding in the tent. The showers were well set up and very clean. Ken asked the warden if we could set up in a shelter as it was forecast for hail, but he said no... not very nice.. said they were for day use... well I don't think anyone is coming now in this storm, anyways tent snugged up beside a covered table and some trees so out of the wind a little. Ugly American #2 on our trip!

**Overall:** Long day, but first half good. Mostly with a side, tail wind so had a great average of 19.5, which just fell as we went over hill and dale the last 30km. Stopped to talk to a fellow who works at a ski hill in Utah [Tagt?]. He said this is his 19<sup>th</sup> cycle trip... he was going on a short trip I think just a couple of weeks. Never enough time to stop and talk...he was struggling into the wind which we enjoyed later!



No dogs. Someone called out to us... "where are you from" More bicycles seen beside homes and lots of kids in Eureka riding bikes.

DAY 34 City Park CG (Eureka KS) to Harvey county Rec Sit on East lake

Head north on S Main St toward E Vermont St	0.4 km	0.4 km
Turn left at W River St/US-54 Continue to follow US-54	29.0 km	29.4 km
Stay on 54 after Rosalia [NS]	18 k	49.4
Turn Rt on 77 <b>El Dorado AS</b>	17 km	66.5 km
Left on NE 150th St	40 km	106 km

Days Inn Newton (316) 283-3330 105 Manchester Ave, Newton, KS 67114

lots of other Motels in Newton 7km ahead also another CG

Not many Groceries better bring **from Eureka**

**Three CG: Harvey Rec site, +3km will be Waltons Rec Park +10km City Park in Newton**



Can you see the wind in the tree?

Clouds going by at rapid pace.



## DAY 37 Eureka City Park to Nickerson City Park

May 11/08 Sunday D 96.48km M 26.5 A 13.8 T6.5h TT9h total 2802 km

**Happy Mother's day to all the Mom's in my life!**

**Temp** Very cold in the morning 10C in tent; 5C outside! Warmed up to 20C

**Wind** Blew all night I thought the tent was a gonner! 45mph winds were predicted. No rain

**Food: Breakfast** went into Newton for pancakes/French toast

**Lunch** late had picnic in Buhler at a closed down church... I was about starved by 2pm

**Supper** made kd at the city park

**Road Conditions** most were good until after Buhler became very rough and washboardy

**Accommodation** City Park was not in the spot the GPS has it, but a woman directed us to the Webber Park, as did a fireman, so we are fairly sure it is the one. Nice park with a large playground so lots of kids coming to talk to us... only portapotti so not so good. Met Wendy a mother she was meeting her 2 kids here for a picnic (14 daughter and 12 son) kind of sad on Mother's day! She lives in our next stop, Larned, and works in a psychiatric hospital they are studying if mental illness is first and then people take the drugs or visa versa... interesting concept. She said Meth usage is a big problem in all farming communities due to the availability of ammonia hydroxide? Used by farmers is one of the ingredients in Crystal Meth.

**Overall:** started out a first... with long underwear on under my long pants! It was COLD! The wind was from the north west and bringing all that Canadian cold air down on us. Headed toward the campsite we had planned for yesterday to find it closed down.... Maybe not opened yet for the year..... looked like hillbilly heaven! Newton is the first place we have seen a "homeless" person with a cart... no a "wagon" of stuff. 2 young women ran after him and gave him breakfast from McD's... was nice to see. I really like the look of Newton. Very clean. Lots of older homes redone. Large treed streets. Overall what we saw was inviting. Our breakfast stop was good as we were hungry and cold. Warmed up rapidly.



Lots of the covered wagons around in pretty good shape ready for heading West!



# HESSTON

In the 1870s this area was settled by people with diverse backgrounds who shared the promise of the land. With an influx of those of Mennonite faith and the railroad's birth in the 1880s, success of the town was very likely. Hesston's name honors 1884 settlers Amos and Abraham L. Hess, owners of the land on which the city was platted in 1886. In 1908 A.L. Hess donated 80 acres for Hesston College. Its first building "Green Gables" opened in 1909 with D.H. Bender as president. In 1995 the Gables was torn down. Early town builders were Rapp, Randall, Wenger, Grabill, McNutt, and Shaver. Three homes built from cement blocks made by Lyon Bros. (Hesston's first factory) and C.T. Barton's 1886 grocery store still exist. Businesses that have impacted the growth of Hesston are Hesston Corp., King Construction Co. and Excel. The pioneers' legacy of perseverance thrives in Hesston today.

ERECTED IN 1988 BY THE HARVEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have been seeing Mennonite churches the past 2 days... and lots of them. Got to Hesston and nothing open not even a gas station. Went on to Buhler and the same thing... met a fellow who offered to go home and get us some food! He said he didn't think anything would be open in Nickerson either. We pressed on and found a small corner store open 24 hours in Nickerson and we just missed the IGA closed at 4pm. Amazing we didn't give any thought to this area having no open businesses on Sundays. We are not carrying an extra meal like we usually do, so will rectify that tomorrow. Also with it being Mother's day we thought restaurants would be open, but I guess not. Like riding thru a ghost town... no one walking around, no one in their yards... cars in the driveways but just no one around. Would have like to go to the "carriage factory" to see what they are making. Also they don't let you buy beer on Sunday even though the 24hr little corner store stocks it! Maybe they should impose that on cigarettes. Boy do they smoke down here....no smoking bans at all... some restaurants have a non-smoking room in the back... it is tiny so reflects the number of non smokers. Also the cigarettes fill a full wall behind the cashier in the corner store. Gas is up to 369/gal and are they ever complaining. Met a fellow who was waiting at a rest stop for his daughter to meet him, he

had her horse and tack... he was only driving it so far and she had to come the rest of the way to get! He said he was walking a lot more than before and that gas is going to hit \$4 by summers end.



Still seeing lots of wild life.... Wild turkeys running like the roadrunner across a field, horses, raccoons [all dead], frogs croaking in the flooded ditches, deer, squirrels, birds of all types [emu's were at a wildlife B&B], no bugs which is nice. I had an ice crème pig out on arrival 1 pint [600 calories] was cheaper than a ice crème drum stick so .....

Expected low 44F tonight and no thunder storms until Thursday with wind out of the south tomorrow!

DAY 35 **DO** County Rec Site(Newton KS) to City Park CG (Nickerson KS) 95km

Right on 1 <sup>st</sup> st toward Newton		3.5km
Head west on E 1st St/CR-570 toward CR-831/S Rock Rd Walton's CG closed	7.0 km	7.0 km
At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit and stay on E 1st St/CR-570 Continue to follow E 1st St	2.0 km	9.0 km
Turn right at KS-15 <b>Newton AS</b>	1.6 km	10.6 km
Turn left at W 12th St	7.2 km	17.8 km
Turn right at CR-811/N Ridge Rd	8.7 km	26.5 km
Turn left at CR-1892/Hesston Rd/S Old 81 Continue to follow CR-1892/Hesston Rd <b>Hesston AS [closed Sundays]</b>	1.4 km	27.9 km
Turn left at CR-556/Dutch Ave/Lincoln Blvd Continue to follow CR-556	23.1 km	51.0 km
Continue on E 82nd Ave @ <b>7km Buhler G/R/SS [closed Sundays]</b>	11.1 km	62.1 km
Slight right at N Mayfield Rd	0.4 km	62.5 km
Continue on E 85th Ave	1.4 km	63.9 km
Turn left at KS-61	0.5 km	64.4 km
Right at E Frisco ST; right at Medora Rd	1.5 km	65.9 km

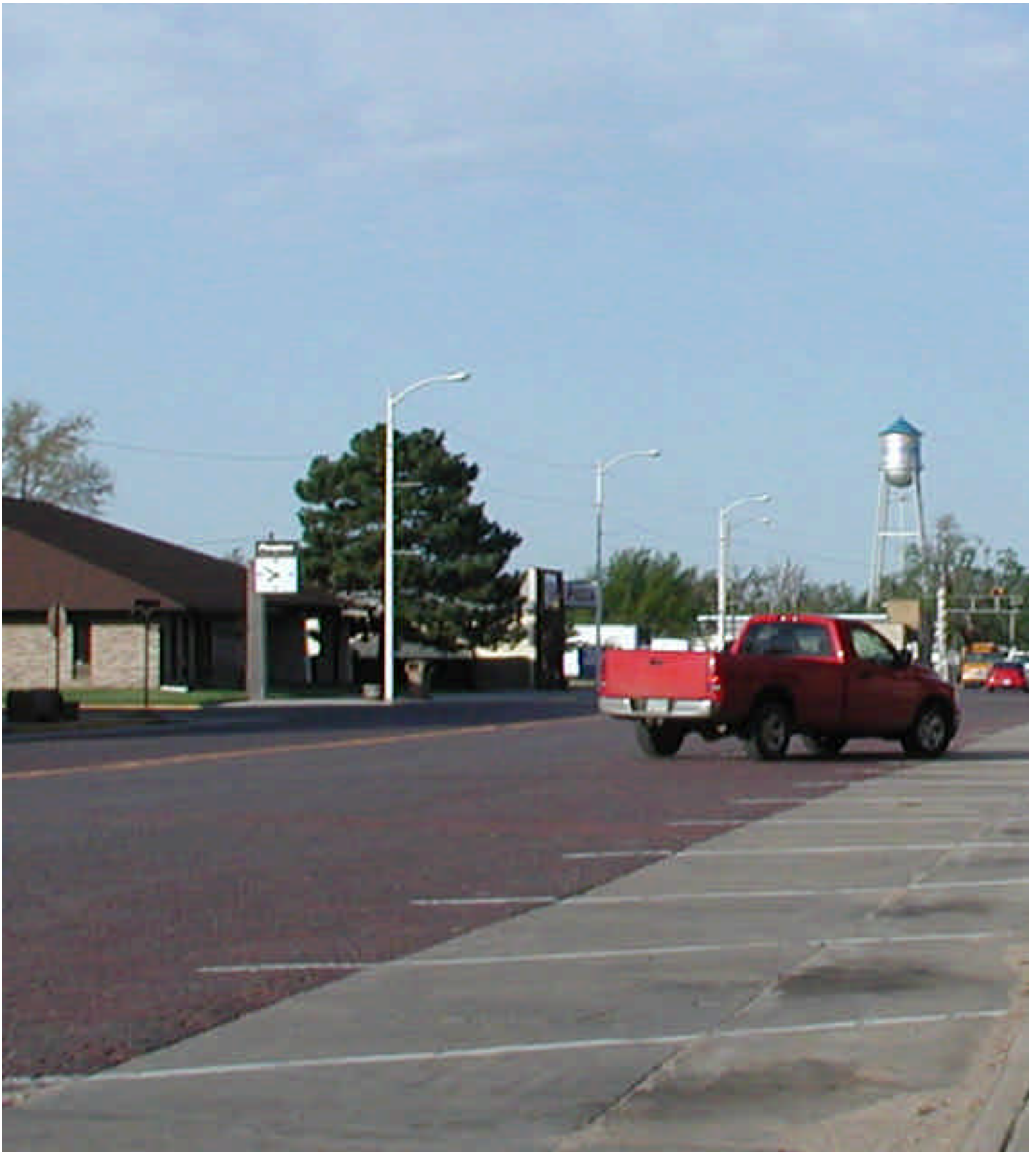
Turn left at E 95th Ave	6.4 km	72.3 km
Turn left at N Plum St	1.6 km	73.9 km
Turn right at E 82nd Ave	13.6 km	87.5 km
Turn right at E B Ave	0.3 km	87.8 km
Stay on Nickerson street over the tracks to gas station <b>Nickerson AS</b>	0.9 km	88.7 km
Turn rt on W ave A to Burr St Webber Park	0.1 km	88.8 km

Hedrick's B&B (Exotic Animals)\$99.00 (620) 422-3296 7910 N Roy L Smith Rd, Nickerson, KS 67561

Dillon's Grocery on KS-15(n. Main) in Newton

Hesston Food Market left on West Smith ST. in Hesston [closed Sundays]

Nickerson has IGA on ave B and 2 cafe's on Nickerson St.[closed at 4pm Sunday]



Note the brick road surface in Nickerson. We have see this surface throughout Kansas

**DAY 38 Nickerson City Park to Larned City Park**

**May 12/08 Monday D 97.8 km M35.4 A14.7 T6h TT8.5h total 2899.9km**

**Temp** 10C blue sky day... much warmer than yesterday Got up to 30C by 1500h

**Wind** Oh do I have to remember it.... Gusting and constant south winds and we are going West! So side blown

**Food: Breakfast** off to the IGA first thing... should have stayed in bed for an extra 1/2 hour as no opened until 8am.

**Lunch** well not one town on the whole route so we stopped beside a gas tanks for the pumpers to get out of the wind, but it didn't help much. PB, banana bagels tasted good anyways

**Supper** we cooked good tonight... veggie burgers on bagels with coleslaw... and birthday cake from a party beside us... he was turning 5 years young!

**Road Conditions** Quiet roads thank goodness as every time a truck went past towards us they almost threw me in the ditch and when passing me drew me in like a leaf. It was very stressful. If I didn't have Ken to be my 'windshield' I never would have made the day. We compared it to leaving Medicine Hat on the trip to Winnipeg and the wind was worse today... so that's really bad. The roads we are on are paved to varying degrees of smoothness, but all the side roads are dirt, varying degrees of mud actually. They still have a lot of water sitting everywhere.

**Accommodation** The park is beautiful. It has a real welcome feeling. The guy setting up the pool came over and offered us to use the showers... no hot water yet as he is just setting up but welcome just the same. A woman stopped and let us know we could stay in the shelter, where the grocery was and café. Wendy came down and we spent an little while talking. She is a very nice woman. The park is the end of main street so everyone in town does the "50's" turnaround right in front of our tent! The police come once per hour and then all the souped up cars... one guy did a 3 wheelie twice for my benefit I'm sure



Met this fellow from Colorado who was struggling into the wind rather lightly loaded going to meet his buddies in Little Rock Arkansas. He was going 10mph into the wind, which is our usual pace. He was going to St Augustus Florida for his final destination. I'm sure he will get the wind at his back soon!

**Overall:** Well I'm tired after the constant sound of the wind and I'm sure Ken is more tired as he was my wind break most of the day. We did ride thru a Wildlife Refuge and saw 2 deer before they saw us and ran off jumping 2 fences at least 6ft high. I don't understand the Refuge term as they allow hunting? Lots of people raise goats here... saw a sign... Dairy Goats so they must sell the milk. Not many farms as we were thru the refuge, but the farms were large and far apart when seen. The farm houses are more fancy... brick and larger newer homes. The streets of Nickerson and here in Larned are brick... I don't know if they were covered with pavement and returned to the brick state or have never been changed. There are lots of snakes here... I missed running over one by millimeters.

Just before our arrival at Larned there is a huge "feed lot" which had a disgusting smell... Guess what we are smelling tonight! The wind changed and has brought the smell into town!

Tired eyes, tired hands, tired ... tired... tired.... Off to bed

**DAY 36 City Park CG (Nickerson KS) to City Park CG (Larned KS) 94.0**

W Ave A and Burr St... go down Burr to KS 96	0.5 km	0.5 km
Turn right at KS-96	12.6 km	13.1 km

Turn left at 101st Ave <b>5km North is Sterling AS</b>	2.4 km	15.5 km
Slight left at N Peace Rd	0.7 km	16.2 km
Continue on W 95th Ave	20.8 km	37.0 km
Continue on NE 140th St	24.1 km	61.1 km
Continue on KS-19 <b>2km North Seward R</b>	30.7 km	91.8 km
Turn right at KS-19-SPUR	1.3 km	93.1 km
Turn left at SW Trail St/US-56 <b>Larned AS</b>	0.4 km	93.5 km
Turn right at W 1st St	0.4 km	93.9 km

Note the lack of services until we get here Country Inn Motel 135 E 14th St Larned, KS 67550(620) 285-3216  
 Best Western Townsman Inn 123 E 14th St Larned, KS 67550 (620) 285-3114  
 Rodeway Inn 902 E. 14th Street Larned, KS 67550(620) 285-2300  
 Should take day off here in stead of Nickerson  
 Looks like 2nd CG (Larned Village CG) but no info  
 There is a Dillons on 4th and Main and a Dollar General on 14th and Fry



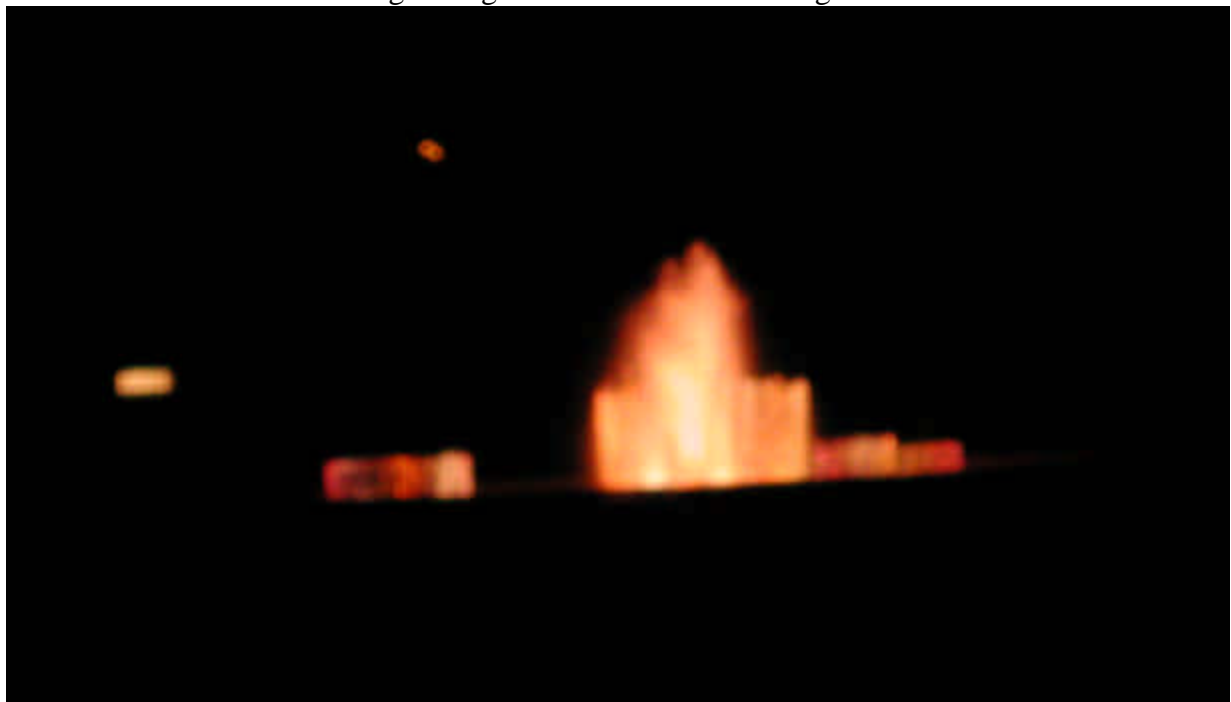
Lunch stop... does that really mean little old ME?



Irrigation set up in every field awaiting the end of the rainy season I guess... we can only hope for sooner than later!



This is a great sign on the side of a building in Larned



This is the light fountain after dark at our camp site in Larned

**DAY 39 Larned City Park to Alexander Rest Area Kansas**  
**May 13/08 Tuesday D 73.18 km M25 A10 into wind 11.4 overall T6 ½ h TT9h total 2973.1km**

**Temp** not so cool this morning, tent dry as under cover so no dew warmed up to 25C  
**Wind** worst ever 35-40mph from North if Ken wasn't in front I couldn't get much speed



Note Ken's slash vest blowing out in the "breeze"!

**Food:** **Breakfast** yogurt with banana and nuts, Ken his cheese sand and apple  
**Lunch** sat on the prairie beside an old building to try to be out of the wind Usual PB/banana sand  
**Supper** turned out good, veggie burgers and baked beans with beer



Enjoying the view at lunch stop



Only CowPoke I've seen



**Road Conditions** started off from Larned with no shoulder, wind from our right side pushing me into the traffic when gusts... not nice. Contemplated going back to town and sitting in a motel for a day or so. Traffic minimal so struggled on and got a kind of rhythm where when the gust blew me into the traffic I turned into the wind, kind of like turning uphill when skiing to get control. After 20km we turned north into the wind! Average dropped to 8kph as if going up hill with no reprieve ! Ken being in front helped me some but I need a new partner who weights more so can block the wind! Took us 3 hours to go 30km It was excruciating to say the least! We stopped at Rush Center where they have a campsite listed, but it is picnic tables beside the hall, but no bathrooms! Could go north into the wind for 7km or turn west with a side wind again for 22km to the rest area where we are welcome to camp.

**Accommodation** Came on to the rest area, which has nice washrooms, picnic tables, barbeque stands and power for our computer! We had planned to go on to Elaine's Bicycle Oasis B&B another 12 km but it just wasn't in me.



Our little tent snuggled up behind the Rest Area shelter



The picnic shelter at the rest area

**Overall:** The roar of the wind is hard to take and going into it is like hills with no satisfaction of reaching the top! Gusty wind is the worst especially in traffic. The day wasn't as bad as I had thought when we started out. It definitely is the prairies with the farm houses miles apart... maybe 4 in 360 degree as far as the eye can see. Mostly crops, some cows...some cows were in the crop! Oops fence must be down. Neat fences... stone posts. Never seen them before. I don't know how they put them into the ground, but they are solid.



Large turtles in the mud puddles in the ditches. They have huge claws... they dive into the water when we get near so I can't get a photo.

When we stopped at Rush Center we went to go into a restaurant for coffee when she locked the door on Ken... closed 2-4pm NO EXCEPTIONS! Also Sundays and most Mondays closed

Note on City Parks. We have stayed in a lot of them. None in the south here seem to have signage to let us know we are allowed to camp, but when we ask either a policeman or a local they say oh yes that's all right. They are all free, some with showers in the washrooms, some not, most have covered picnic table shelters, which we use for our tent as keeps the dew off. They seem to be the hub of family entertainment for these small towns. Last nights had a swimming pool [opening memorial weekend], duck pond with all kinds of ducks [Canada geese too] with clipped wings, memorial rose garden, covered picnic shelters with lots of tables throughout the park, skateboard park, "light" fountain, tennis courts, play ground, walking paths, etc. they keep street lights on all night. The youth drive thru or walk thru all thru the evening. They have 0 transients, homeless or druggies hanging around. We have met lots of locals young and old who just want to know where we are going and where we have been. It's kind of neat. Maybe we will encourage someone to ride a bike to work or on a trip.

Day 37 City Park CG (Larned KS) to Alexander Rest Area

Head north on Carroll Ave toward W 2nd St	0.1 km	0.1 km
Turn left at W 2nd St	0.6 km	0.7 km
Turn right at Morris Ave	0.7 km	1.4 km
Turn left at W 8th St	3.4 km	4.8 km
Turn right at KS-264 no shoulder	0.9 km	5.7 km
Turn left at KS-156	14.4 km	20.1 km
Turn right at US-183 small shoulder	30.9 km	51.0 km
Turn left at KS-96 <b>Rush Center G/R/SS @22km Alexander NS</b>	22 km	73 km

Bring Groceries from Larned

We could stay at Alexander 12km earlier next day is 69km

Elaine's Bicycle Oasis B&B/CG (785-398-2231) 215 W Washington St Bazine, KS 67516

**DAY 40 Alexander Rest Area Kansas to Dighton Shay's Inn**  
**May 14/08 Wednesday D 80.88 km M26.5 A15.9 T 5h TT8h total 3053.9km**

**Temp** 8C up to 20C

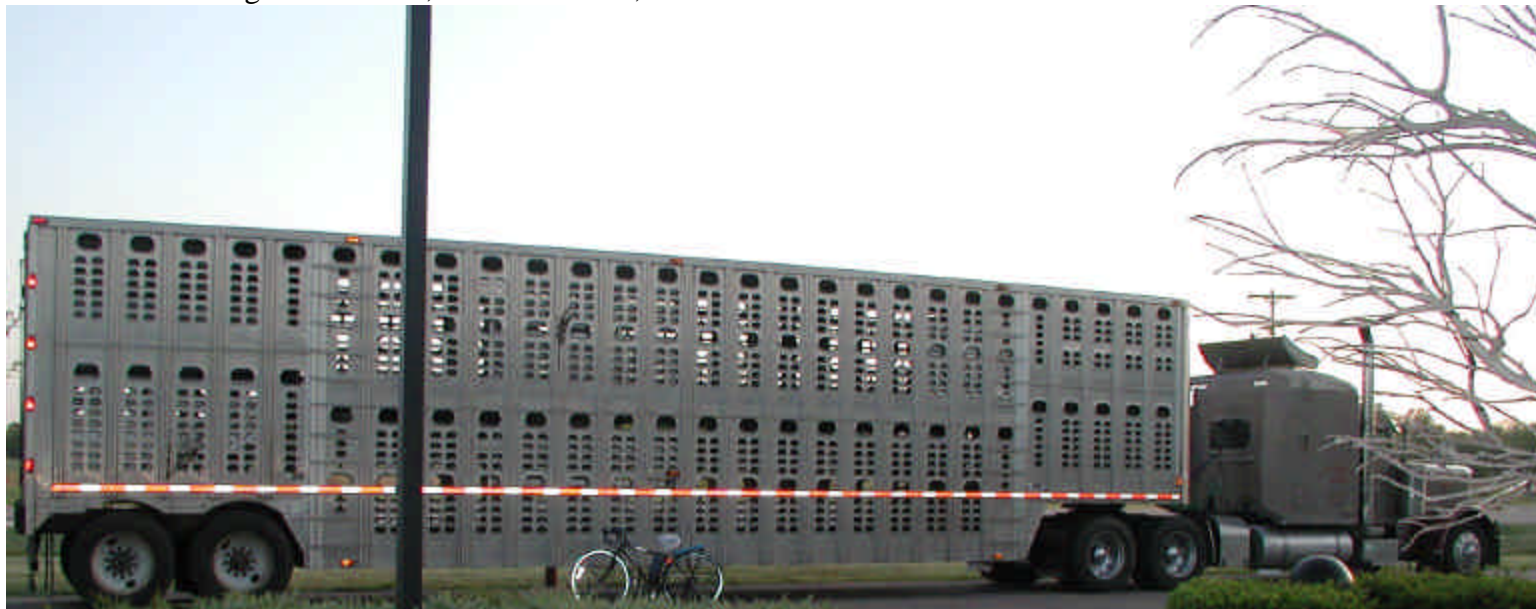
**Wind** None! Great day

**Food: Breakfast** regular with a trial of porridge with banana and a apple.... The porridge was as bad as I remember

**Lunch** restaurant in Ness City: run by a group of women who have a special everyone comes in for daily

**Supper** cheese wraps, coleslaw, salsa and chips

**Road Conditions** great shoulder, minimal traffic, no wind



Lets get a little perspective as to the size of my bike and the size of a cattle carrier!

**Accommodation** intended to stay at the city park but they were painting the pool and bathrooms so we are at the Shay's Inn motel, which is clean, but Ken has a chair against the door! Locks need a little repair! She did our laundry for \$2 too.

**Overall:** good day. Overnight at the rest area was good... dew on tent as not under cover. No shower, but the washrooms were impeccably clean. The woman who was the janitor had the right attitude "it's a job security thing... if you didn't make them dirty, I wouldn't have a job"

We met a fellow on a Penny Farthing bike in Ness City. He has been on the road for 2 years. He is from London England. Had to take a layover day as he has a knee injury. Check out his site: [www.pennyfarthingworldtour.com](http://www.pennyfarthingworldtour.com) I wish I could have tried out his bike... he said it isn't great on hills as it is one speed, going up or down! He goes 40miles a day but when he tried to increase to 50-60 he hurt his knee. It does have breaks but no gearing! Fun



Look at the height of his pedals compared to Ken's bike and the seat height!



This looks a little heavy on the back end and the seat looks really uncomfortable!



He is 17,000miles into his around the world trip on this thing! He said he has to do a lot of pushing!

We did meet Elaine from Elaine's Bike Oasis. She came up to us on the street to give us her card so we could pass them on... we didn't make it to her place to stay, but here is her info if anyone else reading is on our route.  
 Elaine's bike Oasis B&B /CG hwy 96 Bazine Kansas....785 398-2231d or 731-5190 Or 731-5174 was to be \$10each.



DAY 38 Alexander Rest Area to City Park CG (Dighton KS) 69.0

Turn left KS 96 from Rest area Alexander	0km	12km
Turn left at KS-96 <b>Bazine R/SS @18 km Ness City AS</b>	68.6 km	80.6 km
Turn right at N 2nd St <b>Dighton AS</b>	0.1 km	80.7 km

Heritage Hotel 244 E Long St Dighton, KS 67839 (620) 397-2599  
 Shay's Inn 215 W Long # 1 Dighton, KS 67839 (620) 397-5860  
 Ralph's Supermarket in Ness City is 2 blocks North on N. Iowa



I thought they were going to be Cowboys!





This guy doing CROP DUSTING was incredible flying so so close to the crop and over our heads too!



It was really fun to watch him swoop and dip over the oil donkeys and hills.

**DAY 41 Dighton Shay's Inn to Scott City Park****May 15/08 Thursday D44.05 km M20.3 A12.9 T3 ½ h TT4h total 3098 km****Temp** we it was warm in the motel! Came out to 8C warmed up to 20C but clouds developed No rain**Wind** out of the north slight east so a side wind all morning**Food: Breakfast** usual cottage cheese with bananas; Ken's apples and cheese sand**Lunch** jalapeno cheese and pb sands waiting for the museum to open. Try them you might like it!**Supper** Out to Pizza Hut**Road Conditions** great minimal traffic with small shoulder even I had to ride in the lane to get any benefit of Ken for wind protection. Seems that they are really moving cattle. At least 7 cattle trailer trucks pass us every morning.**Accommodation** well we opted for the City Park under a shelter with power Looks like rain even if not forcaste**Overall:** Nice easy ride. Decided 113km wasn't in us today so did a short one and will do the rest tomorrow as we were to take a day off and haven't done it.

We went to the El Cuartelejo Museum, which was so very interesting. El Cuartelejo means "coming home" they think. They give you a guided tour which help one get a lot more out of the exhibits. He was so very knowledgeable about the area. The museum is fashioned after the only known Indian Pueblo in Kansas found just north of Scott City and in the State Park now. It is 12miles north into the wind so we are not going to go see the archeological digs but they had all the artifacts and great exhibits depicting the pueblo [house] built in 1664. It was built with no outside doors, one used a ladder to enter via the roof, by ladder to the inside. There were tiny windows, maybe 6 x 3 inches and the house was multifamily stone walls of 2 ft thick I think he said 30 x 20 ft in size. Stone from the surrounding hills were used to build it and the walls were plastered inside and out with adobe and the roof was made of willow poles or brush covered with mud. It is thought that it was destroyed by fire. There is little left of it, but the foundation, but archeologist suggest what it was like. It would have had no doors so the ladder could be pulled up for security. The museum also had a "shoe" display, which was kind of interesting to see thru time the types of torture shoes that women have chosen to wear. They also have some old farm equipment, lots of fossils from when this area was covered by the sea etc.

Our guide told us the Scott City is on a hill. Ken had notice we have been come up gradual across the state and we are at 900meters now . He said when it floods the White Woman basin fills and the town is surrounded like a moat. The white Woman Creek just ends in town... disappears underground. The last time it flooded to that extent was in 1951 so doesn't happen often.

We sent mail to Mom, wandered about the town, set up camp and vegged.. and now it is raining at 5pm. So much for the forecaste.

DAY 39 Motel (Dighton KS) to City Park CG (Scott City KS) 40km

Head south on N 2nd St toward KS-96	0.1 km	0.1 km
Turn right at KS-96 <b>@40 km Scott City AS</b>	40 km	44 km

Motels in Scott City

Caspar Foods on route 1 block before Main St. in Scott City

Denny's Thrift Way 1km south on Main St in Scott City



Must oil those chains daily



Lots of Indian art for sale in Scott City





Really neat name for a shop



Here we are right at the play ground.... Can just see the top of our tent inside the shelter!  
They said it was not going to rain, but it pour really good after we got all set up so we were glad we opted for inside the shelter. We asked some families that were here having a kindergarten year end party if cyclists ever set up in this park and they all said oh yes all the time. It amazes us that there is no objection. I know in Kelowna they wouldn't let anyone do it... they turn on the sprinklers at 5 am!

We decided to post this as everyone is asking us where we are... one more day in Kansas so will put up a temp file tonight... hope some of it makes sense... most of the time I think of stuff to write while I'm cycling and forget it all once I'm in camp.

Lots of Children in the playground tonight all asking where we are from and going. They finish school here next week so we should see more children around earlier in the day. This is a bigger town , but a working mans' town as we might say. Lots of Hispanics... the grocery store had every kind of stuff for Mexican food!

**DAY 42 Scott City Park to City Park CG Tribune KS**  
**May 16/08 Friday D76.13km M23.1 A14.4 T5h16 TT7.5h total 3174.1 km**

**Temp** A cool morning at 10C in tent and 8C in the park.... Layers put on... warmed up fast to 25C by 1500  
**Wind** would take some getting used to this constant wind... out of the north and west... we are headed WEST  
**Food: Breakfast** yogurt, bananas, pepper slices, apples, cheese/buns a menagerie  
**Lunch** pb buns, somores, pop  
**Supper** bean soup, cheese sands, pringles  
**Road Conditions** very nice with shoulder all the way on 96, climbing gradually all day now up to 850m

**Accommodation** very nice shelter by the pool so get showers, power, water and free

**Overall:** Ken has had a tooth ache upper left molar for a few days... started on the antibiotic we were carrying for our chest infections on departure so not really the drug of choice, but might help. Using oragel and Ibuprophen. No dentists until maybe Pleublo Colorado in 2 days. Got up to the most God awful smell you could imagine and I shoveled a lot of human \_ \_ \_ \_ in my day but this was terrible. We thought it was the cattle trucks that parked across the street overnight, but not so fast. There are about 5km of FEED FIELDS and pig farms along the road and I guess when the wind blows from the north! Angus would say it is the smell of \$. I could not live here due to that. The only thing worse is if a cattle truck passes you in the rain! We had a chicken truck pass and it sounded like the driver had on some foreign language radio station! Cluck, cluck, cluck.....



Lots of "1/2 buried "homes here They are like our hill side bungelo with the front all open but mostly covered on 3 sides. Must be for cool in summer and low heat cost in winter.

Mike from New York caught up to us and road a ways together. He is on an 18speed home geared so has as many usable gears as I do.



Yes Paula there are some Catholic Churches here, but not many!

In Leoti met a father and son [Bill Streetman and Tom from Columbus Ohio] with broken spokes. They were lucky that Mike had some as no bike shop in Leoti They are going east from Pleblo Colorado and renting a car to drive home. Both very big men.. They were pulling a Bob trailer and had a full size pump! This is there first unassisted trip so they are learning as they go.



Time changed back to Mountain Standard time just before Tribune.



DAY 42 Scott City Park to City Park CG (Tribune KS) 76km

Head north on Main St toward KS-96	0. km	2 km
<b>Modoc</b> @ 16km NS <b>Marienthal</b> NS @ 26k	40 km	42 km
@ <b>40kmLeoti</b> AS	15 km	57 km
<b>Selkirk</b> @ 55 NS	km	km
Turn right at KS 27 <b>Tribune</b> AS	22 km	75 km

Trails End Motel 110 W Kansas Ave Tribune KS 67879 620 376-4236 was not very inviting looking

Grocery store expensive

Only 25km to the Colorado boarder so will end Kansas today.