

MISSOURI

MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN FLOOD

HILLS

DOG S Snarling

STRONG HEAD WINDS

FLOODING

TURNING AND TWISTING AND UP AND DOWN

RIVERS IN FLOOD

INCLINES STEEP



Note the price of gas!

DAY 26 Cole Memorial City Park Chester IL to Wilson-Rozier City Park Farmington MO
April 30/08 Wednesday D 78.07 km M 46.1 A 12.6 T6h12 TT9h total 1902 km

Temp No frost last night... 10C in tent... 8C outside and then up to 25C thru the day

Wind Yes and lots of it from the south West and we are going WEST! Hard strong head wind.

Food: Breakfast Apples, yogurt, [cheese: Ken] stopped at Hardees to have breakfast and added 2 cinimon biscuits

Lunch Picnic along the way.... I had a pb/cream cheese bunwich and Ken had his usual pb/jam

Supper we made our own... sands as we are too tired to make soup! [tomato/ crème cheese bagels]

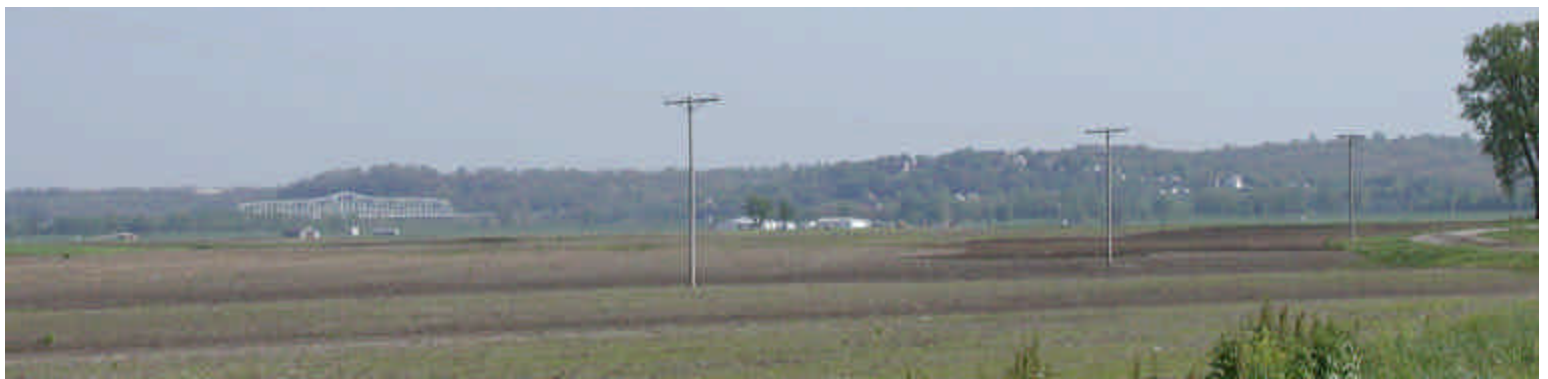
Road Conditions: Well hilly in Chester, Flat on MO-H then US 61 started the hills and we went up, down all day

Accommodation Well we are at the Farmington City Park with a AAA baseball ?tournament going on 500 ft away. There are no signs indicating camping is ok, but we asked at the grocery and a fellow here playing baseball and they both okayed it so we are under shelter again tonight. Still really windy at 2030, but no sign of rain yet. Really nice park with tennis courts, a skate park, play ground, picnic shelters and lots of grass. Baseball expected to go on until 10



Overall: The day started off packing up in Chester City park with Robins and squirrels all about. We stopped at Hardees for our breakfast and talked to a couple. He was maybe 75 and was telling us about living here all his life and all the deer that are

about. Nice old guy. A hard day... Ken keeps promising "PRAIRIES"... left Chester to cross the Mississippi River which is in flood.... The fast flowing part was ½ the size of the Lake Okanagan crossing and the entire crossing is at least the Okanagan Bridge crossing. Could not take a picture as no shoulder or sidewalk on the bridge and so had to just keep pedaling as a 2 lane bridge. Interesting as we entered Missouri the side roads are all known just by letter names. IE. We turned on "H" road which was flat all through farm country.. look like really prosperous farms too. Then we turned onto US 61 which was straight up to St Mary's and continued Hills onto Z and N and P and B was the most hilly. Narrow narrow roads with not a lot of traffic, but when it came some we none too patient. A woman came right up on my tail as we are crawling up hill into the wind and she "beeped" the horn... real friendly! There were no services today. We passed Vineyards and stopped to go to Coffman and a fellow cutting the grass told us there was a pop machine beside the B&B so saved us a few KM. We rested there in the shade for a few minutes.... Had some fruit cake I have carried from home... oh so good and continued on. I'm sure glad Ken didn't plan 100km days or we would be dead for sure. Ken noted that we went up from 125m to 275m so about 500Ft but we did this more than once! overall



Looking back at the bridge over the Mississippi River and the town of Chester



Weird to Letter Roads instead of name them!



Nice little lunch spot



Looking back at "Kens Prairie land" Note the road coming from the left down the hill!



More prairie Lands!

DAY 26 Cole Memorial Park CG (Chester IL) to Wilson-Rozier City Park CG (Farmington MO) 77.3

Head north on Pool Dr toward Deer Path Ln	0.2 km	0.2 km
Turn left at Great River Rd/IL-3/Opdyke St	1.0 km	1.2 km
Turn left at IL-150/State St Continue to follow IL-150 HILLY	1.6 km	2.8 km
Turn left at Bridge Bypass Rd/IL-150 Bridge over the Mississippi River	0.8 km	3.6 km
Continue on MO-51 (Enter MO G/SS)	5.7 km	9.3 km
Turn right at MO-H [flat]	11.0 km	20.3 km
Turn left at US-61 St Mary G/R/SS [HILLY]	1.6 km	21.9 km
Turn right at MO-Z	6.9 km	28.8 km
Turn right at MO-N	3.4 km	32.2 km
Turn left at MO-P (Ozora G/M/R/SS) 1.4km off road	8.8 km	41.0 km
Turn left at MO-B [really hilly]	12.4 km	53.4 km
Slight right at MO-F (Coffman G)	6.1 km	59.5 km

Turn left to stay on MO-F	13.0 km	72.5 km
Turn right at E Karsch Blvd/MO-Oo	1.5 km	74.0 km
Turn left at MO-W/Ste Genevieve Ave Farmington AS	1.1 km	75.1 km
Turn left at S Long Ave	75 m	75.2 km
Turn right at E 1st St	0.5 km	75.7 km
Turn left at S Washington St	0.5 km	76.2 km
Turn right at 6th St	0.6 km	76.8 km
Turn left at Perrine Rd	0.2 km	77.0 km
Turn right at Virginia St	61 m	77.1 km

Days Inn 1400 Liberty Street Farmington, MO 63640 (573) 756-8951

Also 10km further on is: St Joe State Park (573) 431-1069 2800 Pimville Rd, Park Hills, MO 63601 Save-a-Lot Grocery and Dollar General are on OO Ave on way into town



CENTERVILLE CITY PARK ON THE COURT HOUSE SIDEWALK!

**DAY 27 Wilson-Rozier City Park Farmington MO to Centerville City Park
May 1/08 Thursday D 80.91 km M49.2 A 14.2 T5h41 TT7h total 1982.9 km**

Temp was nice and warm overnight 10C and up to 25C with clouds all day... threat of rain now at 1945h
Wind Constant and gusty brisk wind from the south west... oh that just happens to be our direction all day!
Food: Breakfast Apples, [cheese bagel: Ken] Sissies Café in Bismarck was a stop for Ken's pancakes and eggs and I decided on a biscuit egg/cheese sand Not very good The food choices are beyond me... everything is fried or meat
Lunch stopped along the road for bagels and crème cheese with coleslaw boring
Supper Decide to go out for diner.... No veggie choices so Grilled cheese and onion rings Ken and I had a baked potato with cheese and onions... oops I forgot to say cooked onions... They had a stir fry as the special but the chicken was already added and they couldn't make me a veggie one! Tofu is non entity here as are any meat alternatives

Road Conditions: We were in 0800 rush hour so busy start, then quiet thru the St Joes State Park to Bismarck and on to Graniteville; the last 30km on Mo-N was death awaiting to happen... they are rebuilding a State Park that was destroyed when a levy or dam burst 2 years ago.... 20 gravel trucks coming and going and going and coming past us every few minutes and the road was both twisty and turny, and rolling up and down with no shoulder and just enough room for 2 trucks to pass each other... guess where that leaves us! When 10 dogs started to come out of a yard, 2 truckers were our friends as they blew their horns to scare off the dogs..... the owner was there, but the dogs were not listening to him.

Accommodation Tonight is weird... we had planned to stay in the city park so when we arrived in this tiny city we stopped to ask one of the Sheriff's Deputy's where it was and he pointed to a area of grass in front of the police station and county office building.... No getting into mischief in this town. Restaurant right across the street and washrooms in the Police station. What more could one want and the price is right. Free

Overall: Tired this morning as last night the baseball went on until after 10pm and then at 3am a couple came and argued by the baseball fence for a while and then a little later it sounded like someone was stealing a car... the horn beep beeped and then the doors opened and closed many times and they tried to start it over and over... I was not looking out of my tent to see what they were up to! Anyways up just after 6 am... oh and Ken had closed the men's room and locked himself out so we duck taped the ladies in the open position so the same wouldn't happen... and by the way they are the cleanest bathrooms since home! Anyways we left at 0815 to a terribly busy road had to cross over Interstate Hwy 57 and everyone was in a hurry. The rest of the ride was good, but I think I need more protein and I don't want to go to powder. It's impossible to find nuts that are not salted or oiled, tofu is non existant, and beans all have meat added. My allergies abound... reactine and decongestant having little effect. As we move along it is spring over and over so the pines are in bloom and the flowering trees are just budding out. Never thought of this when I left home and I think Reactine is a prescription drug here... will have to look for an alternative if I run out.

"I stink therefore I am" That's Jessie's saying and today I believe it. It doesn't seem that warm out but with all the hill climbing we have been really sweating! A good day, but I am very very tired.

Dogs I thought I was going to never have to use the HALT as dogs seemed to be listening when we yelled to GO HOME... but today Ken sprayed a dog twice and when he hit him on the nose that dog was gone like a shot and rubbing his nose so it really does work although for me my hands just grip the handlebars and I pedal to the metal so Ken will have to be the "Sprayer". I would use it if I had to stop or one was biting me I'm sure. It is kind of hard to keep it close at hand. Ken seems to be able to get it out of a shirt pocket under his jacket.

DAY 27 Wilson-Rozier City Park CG (Farmington MO) to City Park CG(Centerville MO) 80.6

Turn left from Campground		
Turn left at W Columbia St/MO-W Continue to follow MO-W	1.8 km	2.5 km
Turn right at Bray Rd [quiet few dogs]	0.4 km	2.9 km
Turn left at Pimville Rd [Road along St Joes State Park has CG]	3.5 km	6.4 km
Turn right to stay on Pimville Rd	7.2 km	13.6 km

Turn right to stay on Pimville Rd	0.2 km	13.8 km
Turn left at Bob Ward Hwy/MO-32 Continue to follow MO-32	11.1 km	24.9 km
Turn left at MO-N Bismarck G/R/SS [2h to here]	7.2 km	32.1 km
Turn right at MO-W	8.1 km	40.2 km
Turn right at MO-21/Veterans Memorial Hwy (G/R/SS) Graniteville	0.7 km	40.9 km
Turn left at MO-N [should have stayed on 21 as +++Gravel trucks 0 shoulder]	30.5 km	71.4 km
Slight right at MO-21/MO-49/MO-72 Continue to follow MO-21/MO-72	9.3 km	80.7 km
Turn left at Pine St Centerville G/SS/R [camping on County Office lawn]	46 m	80.7 km

I think we pass this before town if need a hotel: Trump Lake Resort (573) 648-2428 Highway 21, Centerville, MO 63633
Centerville is tiny should get Groceries in Farmington or Bismark



LONELY LOOKING RAILWAY TRACKS

DAY 28 Centerville City Park to Scenic Rivers Hotel Ellington MO
May 2/08 Friday D 23.34 km M44.7 A13.7 T1h42 TTh total 2006.2km

Temp 10C to 20C

Wind Head wind.... Threat of tornado

Food: Breakfast Apples, yogurt [cheese bagel: Ken]

Lunch wraps

Supper macaroni with red sauce and salad

Road Conditions: gravel shoulder on 21 and large trucks

Accommodation the hotel needs new carpets, but otherwise very nice NOT ... the bed was way too soft!

Overall: We got up to very cloudy sky... it only rained a few drops last night, but tent dry this morning. Had breakfast and one of the women working at the Court House told us there was a Tornado warning for the area and we were welcome to come inside. Within 3 minutes it started to pour. There is no hotel in Centerville so our only option was to sit and wait the storm out. We worked on the computer and read and knit for 1 ½ hours and the rain stopped so off we went to Ellington. Got here dry, but the trucks are tremendous....that and the dogs [none today] could turn me off from this activity.. there was only a gravel shoulder which is soft so not conducive to riding on and when your going fast not conducive to just jumping off on.... The truckers will move over, but if someone is coming they expect you to get off the road and they blow their loud loud loud horn! Anyhow we had a shower, washed our clothes and had a good supper. Feeling much better. Ken says I just don't seem to have enough energy and he is right. The wind and hills are hard on me too. Just Whining....

They have had bad floods here.... There is a housing shortage so I'm surprised we were able to get a Motel room. The poverty is beyond my understanding in one of the richest country's in the world... Jessie you wouldn't believe it.. Old 50's mobile homes just trashed with old cars and baby buggies and chairs and all the accumulation of lifetimes strewn all over the year... looks worse than a garbage dump and someone is living there! Their cars don't look to to bad, but a fellow told us the cars are leased so they don't care about them, they all have cell phones... pay as you go and they are all apparently in dept and on assistance. There are very few jobs to be had and the ones there are not great. We had Ken's bike fixed at a shop and there was a young boy there doing work experience from high school... besides that he did nothing while we were there 2 hours... he told Ken he was going to go in the navy so he could get training and get out of here. It's really depressing when we think what advantages our kids have.

DAY 28 City Park CG(Centerville MO) to Ellington MO Scenic River Motel

Head west on Pine St toward Water St	46 m	0.0 km
Turn left at MO-21/MO-72 Continue to follow MO-21	23.3 km	23.3 km
Turn right at MO-106 Ellington AS Scenic Rivers Motel 573-663-7722 Ellington, MO	0.7 km	24km

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CYCLIST:



Wake up to the birds singing and do a little Callestetics... packing up all this stuff



Have a little Breakfast!



OH oh it's too hot, Peel off a layer or 2



Write the log before bed

DAY 29 Scenic Rivers Hotel Ellington MO to Summersville City Pk
May 3/08 Saturday D 73.18 km M48.8 A11.7 T6h16 TT8.5h total 2079.4km

Temp cool morning leaving motel... 10C up to 20C thru the day



Not very promising weather... all the red is tornado watches and I put US above Alexandria Louisiana in Missouri

Wind head wind, but the trees sheltered us a lot of the day

Food: Breakfast apples, yogurt, Ken added cheese sandwich Snacks of banana, oatmeal cookies

Lunch crème cheese salad wrap and pb banana sandwich, Ken just sticks with pb and jelly

Supper Yummy macaroni with red sauce Hot chocolate and of course Mountain Dew!

Road Conditions: Great surface, very minimal traffic, but ++ steep grades first 40km to Alley Springs there were 13 times as short as 15 steps to 30 steps I had to push and then the prize of the day out of Alley Springs was steep steep about ½ km hill which Ken made, but came back and helped me push up. I never have pushed so much. Not even in the Rocky's... I just have no energy for the steep stuff... well I am a year older in a few days! The last 20km the grades slacked off, still hills but more reasonable into Summersville.

Accommodation Summersville City Park is a cute park behind the "Green Roof Inn" Has a cute duck pond, out houses, electricity and water so works for us. No close to town camping otherwise.

Overall: Well I sang... I know I don't sing well but "The Bear went over the Mtn..... to see what he could see" That got me up most of the hills. I found it an incredibly difficult day from the start. Got ready to go early at 0730 and Ken couldn't find his GPS so he unpacked and found it not where it should be... better than lost! Off we went over dressed as it was up up to start with on 106 thru Deer Run State Forest and Ozark Mtns. I don't know if it is the

Reactine wiping me out, but I just have no extra umph. **No dogs** today, well tied up or caged ones. One cute hunting dog... sort of a beagle... came running out and stopped “howled” and then pointed at us like he was flushing a bird!

There is camping in the park which looked pretty nice, but we needed to go on as there is still tornado warnings just to the east of us [where we came from the last couple of days] so we are hoping to get away from this unsettled weather pattern.

DAY 29 Ellington Motel to City Park CG(Summersville MO)

Turn right at MO-106 Ellington AS @40 km Eminence AS @50 km Alley Spring No S	72km	72 km
Turn left at Elm St Summersville G/R/SS	1 km	73 km

Rose's Green Roof Inn 103 North Highway 17, Summersville, MO 65571

City Park available for camping for cyclists behind Green Roof Inn has pit toilets, power, water, no showers, picnic shelter with tables and small lake

Summersville Junction Grocery is on Hwy 17 and grocery in town



NO HORSES, BUT CAN BICYCLES GO HERE?



CURRENT RIVER... VERY PRETTY



THIS IS A PLACE TO GO ONLY IN THE CAR AS THE GRADES ARE WAY TO STEEP FOR A TOURING CYCLIST!



WAR MEMORIAL IN SUMMERSVILLE MISSOURI... VERY NICE



CAMPGROUND COMPANIONS! SUPPER IF THEY MAKE TOO MUCH NOISE!

DAY 30 Summersville City Pk to Courthouse lawn Hartville MO
May 4/08 Sunday D 97.45 km M48.1 A 14.6 T6h39 TT10h total 2176.9 km

Temp Could see your breath this morning at 7am...was to be 38F.... did look like frost on the roof tops... got up to 20C or 70F which is higher than they expected Clear blue sky all day... no fear of tornados today

Wind no wind until late afternoon the a little head wind

Food: Breakfast lets see-yogurt, [cheese sandwich for Ken] apples, grapes, granola, - kind of cold for eating out

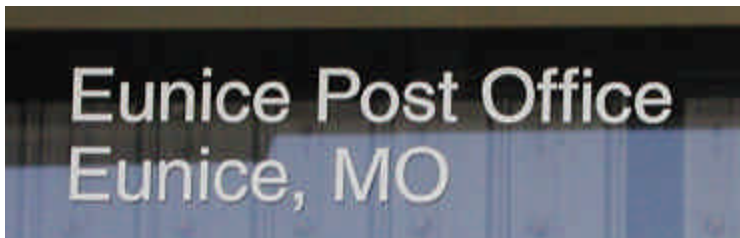
Lunch we stopped in Houston as no services prior [Walmart] and bought coleslaw, stuff for wraps and had another picnic lunch out in the warm sunshine

Supper Pizza

Road Conditions: at first I wasn't too happy with the road, but it was quiet, no shoulder but only one tough hill

Accommodation .Well we are on another court house lawn... only thing is no bathroom 10pm-6am ... I think we can handle it. No camping or motels anywhere near here

Overall: I have to say I surprised myself, I was really dreading today as I didn't think I could make the 97km as I have been a drag but lately. Surprise surprise I did just fine... no pushing today. The town of **Eunice** was very tiny with no services except a post office. I wish I had gotten my mother's day cards as would have been fun to have that postmark, but today is Sunday and nothing open when we left and no services so far.



Continued on the **Yukon** with no post office either; **Houston** had all services with a Walmart, fast food stuff, but no bike shop we saw. We continued on over hill and dale; down down to 7 river crossings today and of course up up away from them. **Fairview** was interesting.... Only had a metal recycler with acres of metal junk... he told Ken with the price of metal he is a millionaire, but he has to get it to market... first thing he should buy is a set of teeth! Amazing how many people just let their teeth go. He did have a "store" of sorts... Ken went in and bought a pop, but I had no desire to enter it as it looked condemned. Ben davis @ 65km was to have a campground, but we saw no signs

for it and the grocery was closed as it is Sunday. It was a long 60km to Hartville with nothing but farms, graveyards and one church stop. Pretty nice day. Makes me remember why I like this form of travel. Oh and NO Dog chases!
 DAY 28 City Park CG(Summersville MO) to Courthouse Lawn CG (Hartville MO) 97.7

Head north on Elm St toward MO-106	82 m	0.1 km
Turn left at MO-106	0.8 km	0.9 km
Slight right at MO-17 @15 km Eunice NS	22.3 km	23.2 km
Turn left to stay on MO-17 Yukon NS	13.6 km	36.8 km
Turn right at US-63 Houston AS Walmart	0.3 km	37.1 km
Turn left at MO-17/W MO-17 Continue to follow MO-17	12.3 km	49.4 km
Turn left at MO-38	12.2 km	61.6 km
Turn right to stay on MO-38 Fairview Junk dealer has pop 65k Ben Davis has grocery closed Sundays No CG	35.9 km	97.5 km
Turn left at Ct Square Hartville G/R/SS	0.1 km	97.6 km

No Motel in or around Hartville Wal-mart 0.2km Left(in stead of Right) on US 63 in Houston Town & Country Supermarket on way into town; Subway and Dollar Store



Drying the tent in the morning



Watching the humming birds



some dogs are friendly and some are not!



Finally prairie like roads



Walmart is taking over the USA small town america



Black Angus cows are everywhere

**DAY 31 Courthouse lawn Hartville MO to Fair Grove Wommack Mill site
May 5/08 Monday D 68.34 km M 48.5 A 13.8 T5h TT7h total 2245.2 km**

Temp cool 8C in am but warmed up fast to 78F or 25C

Wind morning great, afternoon a slight head wind

Food: Breakfast we took our food to the Coneco station so Ken could have coffee... apples, tangerines, bananas etc

Lunch stopped in Marchfield at the Uptown Café serving breakfast until 2pm... Ken's usual 2pancakes2 eggs

Supper waiting to find out Ken went to the store: Crème cheese tomato sand; carrots with ranch still hot so not interested in cooking anything... black flies are hatching out!

Road Conditions: good quiet route few pesky dogs but not chaisers

Accommodation Really nice spot. A Flour Mill that is being restored in Fair Grove. They have a shelter they use for Farmers market every Weds so we are set up inside it as 60% chance of rain tonight! 1850 and no clouds! Have showers and wash house. The Lions club/ historic society own this site and the phone number is 759-2185 or 839-1748 Carl to have the wash house opened. It is a free site, but a fellow came and gave us a private tour of the mill and out buildings so we were happy to give a donation. Once again the red winged black birds and others are singing up a storm.

Overall: Good easy relaxing day. Signs for Amish families. Must do some research to find out exactly what they believe. This Darryl [mid 70's] who gave us a tour said they still use horses for all their farming and that their homes are just wood frame houses. A tornado tore one down and by the next day they had a new house built so he is unsure if they put in wall board inside, but they don't have power, water or sewage, so very simple houses.

The lilacs are blooming! The 18km Grocery stop is interesting to say the least. No groceries that aren't expired I'm sure... mostly a junk shop that a very obese woman runs who didn't seem to notice that it really isn't a "shop". She was friendly enough but a little strange... she kept watch on our pop cans so we didn't leave with them... as soon as we were done she crushed them and threw them on the ground to be returned for aluminum scrap at some later date.

Lots of horses seen. Signs indicating "Quarter horses for sale". Lots of wood sales. We are seeing the outside wood furnaces once again as in eastern USA.

Had a private tour of the Wommack Flour Mill. It is on it's original site, but had to be jacked up and restored as the foundation was originally flat large rocks layed one on the next with no mortar and it was listing, so they dug out deeper and put it on the same rocks with cement to hold in place. Originally built in 1883, Darryl was very knowledgeable about how it works. It is run off a wood fired steam engine. They have a 2 day festival where they run the mill every year. It is the last full weekend of September. They also rent it out for weddings and parties.[reunions] They have wooden pews for outside services. They have restored a log house that was made from 3 decrepid ones. A lot of time and money has been spent on this site already. They have some old farm equipment ie a steam tractor that is restored. This gentleman, Darryl, said he could remember his father and mother owned one which was bought in 1917 and his father picked it up at some train station with a threshing machine and he did farmers fields all the way home. It took him 6 weeks to get home! He said he can remember his father crying when they crushed that tractor for scrap years later. It was his first tractor.

We are pretty well straight north [150miles] of where George Tomlinson [Grampa T's dad] was born at Protem in Taney County Missouri.

One of the few nights warm enough for us to be sitting outside at 2000h with no real bugs to speak of and it is warm enough.

Day 29 Courthouse Lawn CG (Hartville MO) to Historic Site CG (Fair Grove MO) 67.4 km

Head north on Ct Square toward MO-38/W Rolla St	0.1 km	0.1 km
Turn left at MO-38/W Rolla St Continue to follow MO-38 @18 km G limited	28.5 km	28.6 km
Turn left to stay on MO-38	13.5 km	42.1 km

Turn right at S Crittenden St/MO-38 Marshfield AS [pop 6000]	0.2 km	42.3 km
Turn left at E Jackson St/MO-38 Continue to follow MO-38	2.6 km	44.9 km
Turn left to stay on MO-38	9.5 km	54.4 km
Continue on MO-E/E MO-E Fair Grove G/R [pop 1600]	13.1 km	67.5 km

If needed Motel could go to Springfield via Mo-H

Super 8 Motel Springfield North /I44 (417) 833-9218 3022 N Kentwood Ave, Springfield, MO 65803

Summer Fresh Supermarkets 1 block off route in Marshfield also pass Wal-mart on Route

Summer Fresh Supermarket in Fair Grove Flour Mill contact numbers 759-2185 or 839-1748Carl



conservation sites all along the way



the price of metal has skyrocketed so on trailers everyday



Amish homes in Missouri too



Tornado shelters seen all along this way



Very modern farm for those that shun the modern age Amish owned farm



The horse carriage



Cool old silos everywhere The Amish buy the old barns for the wood for their homes so you see the silos with no barns left These silos were built by pouring the first ring, raising up the form, pouring the second ring and up and up to the hight the farmer requested. They had an interior wood frame for the builder to work on and this was burnt before the roof was put on.

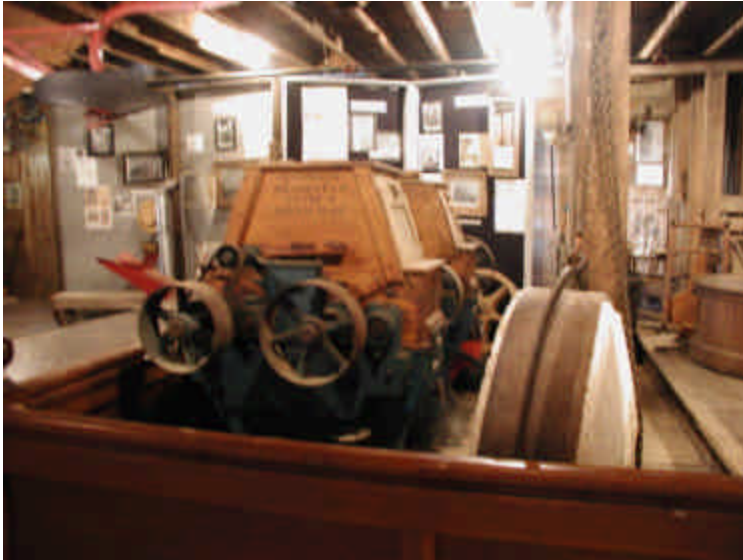
Tour of the Old Mill in Fair Grove



Ken and Darryl in the grist mill



the stones for grinding the corn for corn meal



the wheat flour sifters



on the roof is the grass wheel barrow seeder



Prelim to a multi tool shop thingy.... Need to show to Stew... had a circ saw , drill, band saw, 7 items run by a tractor



One silo for corn and one for wheat



They operate this mill on the last full September weekend by making corn meal and wheat flour. They have a huge Crafters Fair that about 40 thousand people come to. It is an incredible undertaking for a small town. We really enjoyed seeing the old place and appreciated Darryl giving us the personal tour.

DAY 32 Fair Grove Wommack Mill site to Golden City Park

May 6/08 Tuesday D 92.91 km M51.6 A15.4 T6h TT9h15 total 2338.1 km

Temp 59F or so the Bank across from the Mill site says.... Up to 70F

Wind not really a factor... did help us a little come the end of the day as we raced to beat the rain into Golden City

Food: Breakfast apples, yogurt with granola, Ken cheese nothing special

Lunch raced to Bolton's Grocery at 27km to sit inside and wait out the rain so had cheese, tomato lettuce sands

Supper Ken made great KD with the kettle

Road Conditions all roads were good US 160 got a little busy at the end of the day, but became much more flat so enjoyed the speed we got

Accommodation The Hostel here closed and there is no hotel so we thought we would stay in Greenfield... think again the motel was closed, so we decided to make a run for Golden City 20km further on as it has a city park with a shelter. Called to a warm showers Paul 417 537-4200 who said would provide towels for a shower at city pk His wife told Ken we would have to stop at city hall to get the shower unlocked... too late as city hall closed. The city park is really nice with a large shelter that we set up in has power, water and tables. The wash house ladies very clean... mens needs help... the shower was open, but NO hot water so a rather COOL shower! Also full of leaves, but no broom. Oh well I cleaned it out and No Paul with towels so I used mine. Ken opted out for just a shave... I shouldn't have told him the water was cold!!

Overall: Rolling hills up down up down in am. Decided to change from Adventure cycling route as 10miles shorter to go straight. We stopped at Bolton's Grocery just as it started to rain. Mike a fellow from New York came in ½ hour later soaking wet. He said an interesting thing that one doesn't think about... he said he has been following us for about a week and at every town they told him about our trip and how amazing it is what we are doing. He is going NY to LA rather lightly loaded on an older bike but hey he just graduated... oh minus 3 credits from university of Patterson where we used to live in New Jersey... we were hoping he would come to Golden City so we could talk some more. Might run into him again as he is going our route as far as Colorado. We headed off from the Grocery to Walnut Grove... had to stop in a church overhang to put on all our rain gear as it really had not stopped raining. Wasn't long and the rain stopped.... Didn't rain enough to get cool. We went on to Greenfield which is a Kelowna in the making... 980 people with it all spread along the hiway for a couple of miles. Had a nice grocery, dollar store, but the motel was closed. There was one 8 miles north on a lake, but that wasn't in our plan. Went on thru Lockwood which had no camping or motel. The rain clouds darkened the sky once more and we thought for sure we would get soaked before our destination. Luck held out and the clouds just blew over. The night calls for thunder showers and rain tomorrow. There is no motel here so we will go on into Kansas which is supposedly the PRAIRIES! The last 20km of today was mostly straight and slight up or down all the way so I think we could be headed for flat land... hoping the westerlys are not blowing!



Flooding is part of life



another tourer Mike from NY



rocks are used for corner posts

DAY 33 Golden City Park to Pittsburg Motel 8 Kansas

May 7/08 Wednesday D 58.31 km M34.6 A16.6 T3 ½ h TT4h total 2396.4 km

Temp 18C and started raining with thunder and lightening as we pedaled along as fast as possible as tornado watches

Wind a side wind that seemed to help us a bit

Food: Breakfast apples, yogurt with granola, Ken cheese nothing special

Lunch on arrival at the motel

Supper “chicken nuggets” with roast veggies and a chocolate cake for my birthday Way to tired to go out!

Road Conditions no traffic... everyone off the road due to STORM WATCH! Slight grades but fast ride

Accommodation decided to head out this morning as no motel in Golden City and storms all around so came to Kansas for a Motel 8... arrived cool, soaked and in need of food and a Hot Hot shower

Overall: Not a bad day as warm enough when cycling, but got very cool as soon as stopped. Glad that the Grocery at 35km was out of business for if we had stopped we never would have gotten back on the road. We will have 20km to add to tomorrows route. Expecting more rain later in the week. Tornadoes all over Texas to the southwest and east of us.



Golden City Park shelter in the morning Lots of Pollen on everything: tables, cement, etc



Bike Hostel closed so off we went to Kansas



Now that's WET!

Day 31 City Park CG (Golden City MO) to Pittsburg Motel 8 Kansas

Head west on Parkview Dr toward US-160	64 m	0.1 km
Turn left at US-160	0.1 km	0.2 km
Turn right at Main St/MO-126 Continue to follow MO-126 @35km G/SS	46.9 km	47.1 km
Continue on KS-126 Kansas/Missouri State Line SS/G	7.9 km	55.0 km
Turn right at Broadway Pittsburg AS Hotels on Broadway	1.6 km	56.6 km

Correspondence with home: emails for birthday great to get. Another year older, just don't look in the mirror!