

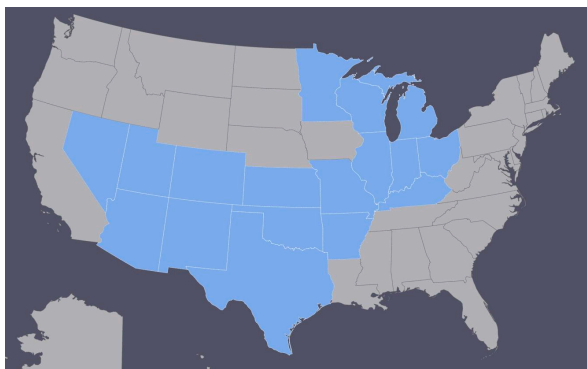
Since purchasing our Utah property in 2006, we've spent much of our time enjoying life in the foothills on Boulder Mountain. When Annette received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant in January, we realized we would be tied to home for a few years. So, we ordered a new tiny trailer and decided to spend six months traveling. Since we needed to pick up 'Nemo' (our new trailer) in WI, we decided it would be the perfect time to tour the Great Lakes.

Our six-month adventure took us to some beautiful and often-overlooked National Parks, National Lakeshores, State Parks, Provincial Parks, and many other amazing places. Below are some of our favorites adventures:

<b>Best Lighthouses</b>	<i>On a Rock:</i> Split Rock Lighthouse, MN <i>In Open Water:</i> Rock of Ages (Isle Royale), MN <i>On a White Beach:</i> Little Sable Lighthouse, MI	<i>At Sunset:</i> Point Betsie, MI <i>As Fog Rolled In:</i> Crisp Point Lighthouse, MI <i>On a Tiny Island:</i> Cana Island Lighthouse, WI
<b>Best Canoe Experiences</b>	<i>All Day River Trip:</i> Brule River, WI <i>Lake Trip:</i> Mijinemungshing Lake, ON	<i>Half Day River Trip:</i> Peshtigo River, WI <i>River Float:</i> Platte River, MI
<b>Best Waterfalls</b>	<i>Huge:</i> Tahquamenon Falls State Park, MI <i>High Waterfall:</i> Pigeon River High Falls, MN	<i>Series of falls:</i> Dozens along Hwy 61 in MN
<b>Best Drives</b>	<i>Lakeshore:</i> Keweenaw West, MI <i>Nature:</i> Seney National Wildlife Refuge, MI <i>Park:</i> Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, MI	<i>Backroad:</i> Crisp Point Lighthouse, MI <i>Trees:</i> Tunnel of Trees, MI <i>Isolated:</i> Silver Islet, Sleeping Giant Park, ON
<b>Best Beaches</b>	<i>Black Beach:</i> Silver Bay, MN <i>Rocky Beach:</i> Gay Lac La Belle Road, Keweenaw Peninsula, East Shore, UP MI	<i>Walking Beach:</i> East Shore of Lake MI
<b>Best Bridges</b>	<i>Iron:</i> Chutes Provincial Park, ON, CA <i>Longest:</i> Mackinac Bridge, MI	<i>Swinging:</i> Tettegouche State Park, MN <i>Covered:</i> Lockport, OH
<b>Best Bike Rides</b>	<i>Island Bike Ride:</i> Mackinac Island, MI <i>Long Bike Ride:</i> Heritage Bike Trail, Sleeping Bear Dunes, MI	<i>State Park Bike Ride:</i> Peninsula State Park, WI
<b>Best Boat Tours</b>	<i>Lakeshore:</i> Pictured Rocks Cruise, MI <i>Ship Wrecks:</i> Flowerpot Island Cruise, MI	<i>Sea Caves:</i> Apostle Islands Cruise, MI <i>Ferry Ride:</i> Madeline Island, WI
<b>Best Hikes</b>	<i>Short Hike:</i> Potholes Provincial Park, ON, CA <i>Sea Stacks:</i> Flowerpot Island, MI <i>Boardwalk:</i> Indiana Dunes NL, IN <i>Nature:</i> Ridges Sanctuary, Door County, WI <i>Lake Overlooks:</i> Apostle Islands, MI	<i>Island Hike:</i> Isle Royale, MN <i>Waterfall-River Combo:</i> Kakabeka Falls, ON, CA <i>Dune Hike:</i> Sleeping Bear Dunes NL, MI <i>Slickrock Hike:</i> Killbear Provincial Park, ON, CA <i>Spectacular:</i> Pukaskwa National Park, ON, CA
<b>Best Historical Sites</b>	<i>Dress as a Voyageur:</i> Grand Portage NM, MN <i>Remote:</i> Whitefish Point Museum, MI <i>Tourist Experience:</i> Sauder Village, OH	<i>Interact w/ Re-enactors:</i> Fort Wilkins HSP, WI <i>Structures:</i> Fayette Historic State Park, WI <i>Biggest Complex:</i> Fort William Historical Park, ON, CA
<b>Best Animals</b>	<i>Wolves:</i> International Wolf Center, Ely, MN	<i>Bears:</i> North American Bear Center, Ely, MN
<b>Best Festivals</b>	<i>Impromptu:</i> Strawberry Festival, Chassell, MI <i>Car Show:</i> Kruisin Classics, Escanaba, MI <i>Pageant:</i> Fort Michilimackinac, MI <i>Tulips:</i> Holland, MI	<i>Encampment:</i> Madeline Island, WI <i>Parade:</i> Mackinaw Memorial Day Parade, MI <i>National:</i> National Morel Mushroom Festival, MI
<b>Best Farmer's Market</b>	<i>City Market:</i> Thunder Bay, ON	<i>Small Town Market:</i> Bayfield, WI
<b>Best Mine Tour</b>	<i>Modern:</i> Soudan Underground Mine Tour, MN <i>Historic Tour:</i> Quincy Mine Tour, WI	<i>Self-Guided:</i> Delaware Mine Tour, WI

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<b>Best Libraries &amp; Wifi</b>	<i>Murals:</i> Massey Public Library, ON, CA	<i>On a Lake:</i> Mackinac Island Library, MI
	<i>Building:</i> Petosky District Library, MI	<i>Internet:</i> Grand Marais Library, MN
	<i>State Park Wifi:</i> Tettegouche State Park, MN	
<b>Best Camping</b>	<i>City Park:</i> Washburn City Park, WI	<i>County Park:</i> Castle Rock Park, Friendship, WI
	<i>State Park:</i> Indian Lake State Park, WI	<i>National Lakeshore:</i> Sleeping Bear Dunes, MI
	<i>Beach:</i> Mears State Pk, Pentwater, MI	<i>Provincial Park:</i> Killbear Provincial Park, ON, CA
	<i>Near the Beach:</i> PJ Hoffmaster SP, MI	<i>Bathrooms:</i> Cascade River State Park, MN
	<i>Overall:</i> Wells State Park, MI	
<b>Best Food</b>	<i>Swedish:</i> Swedish Pantry, Escanaba, MI	<i>Pasty:</i> Betty's Pies, Two Harbors, MN
	<i>Pickarel:</i> Gilly's, Snug Harbour, ON, CA	<i>Dining Room:</i> Naniboujou Lodge, Grand Marais, MN
	<i>Craft Beer:</i> Black Cloister Brewery, Toledo, OH	<i>Island:</i> Yankee Rebel Tavern, Mackinac Island, MI
	<i>Atmosphere:</i> Father John's Microbrewery, Bryan, OH	<i>Donuts:</i> World's Best Donuts, Grand Marais, MN
	<i>Polish Hunter's Stew:</i> Leg's Inn Restaurant, MI	<i>Brunch:</i> Bimbo's Octagon, Chisholm, MN
	<i>Local Polish:</i> Polish Kitchen, Harbor Springs, MI	<i>Ice Cream Parlor &amp; Diner:</i> Wilson's, Ephraim, WI
	<i>Cherry Turnover:</i> Cherry Point Farm Market, MI	<i>Burger:</i> Slabtown Cafe, Traverse City, MI
	<i>Small Burger Chain:</i> Clyde's Drive Inn, MI & WI	<i>All American Restaurant:</i> Darrow's, Mackinaw City, MI
	<i>Birthday Meal:</i> Kinniwabi Pines, Wawa, ON, CA	<i>Breakfast:</i> Julianne Tomatoes, Petoskey, MI
	<i>Thai Food:</i> Thai Orchid Cuisine, Petoskey, MI	<i>Fish Tacos:</i> The Stray Dog Bar & Grill, New Buffalo, MI
	<i>Grilled Tenderloin:</i> Lemon Drop, Anderson, IN	<i>Small Plates:</i> Taste, South Haven, MI
<b>Other Bests</b>	<i>Best Rock Art:</i> Agawa Rock Pictographs, Lake Superior Provincial Park, ON, CA	
	<i>Best Cemetery:</i> Old Indian Burial Ground, Bay Mills, MI	
	<i>Coollest Monument:</i> Somewhere in Time, Mackinac Island, MI	
	<i>Outdoor Workspace:</i> Picnic table south of Copper Harbor, Upper Peninsula, MI	
	<i>Best Murals:</i> Ashland, WI	
	<i>Best Interactive Museum:</i> Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, MI	
<b>Biggest Food</b>	<i>Burger:</i> Brown Bear, Pentwater, MI	
	<i>Ice Cream Cone:</i> Sherman's Ice Cream, South Haven, MI	
	<i>Pasty:</i> Muldoon's, Munising, MI	
<b>Worst</b>	<i>Mosquitos:</i> McCarthy Beach State Park, MN	
	<i>Midges:</i> Mackinaw Mill Creek Campground, MI	
	<i>Rain:</i> Petoskey State Park, MI	



Beyond our Great Lakes adventure, we also visited family in Texas, Missouri, Kentucky, and Illinois during the year. We enjoyed a January trip exploring rock art sites at Hueco Tanks State Park & Historic Site in southwestern Texas.

On our way back to Utah this Fall, we camped near Grand Lake, CO to explore the west side of Rocky Mountain National Park during the elk rut. We also enjoyed a short trip to Grand Junction, CO and the Colorado National Monument. In October, we hosted three friends and colleagues who came to visit here in the Teasdale; we spent some time exploring Capitol Reef National Park with them. And we spent another wonderful day photographing the annual cattle drive through Capitol Reef National Park.

By the end of the year, we will have traveled 25,000+ miles (Truck is broken in) and visited 17 states and 1 province. During the summer tour, Annette made a work trip to Washington DC and a family history trip with her sister, Arrion, visiting another three states: Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

We plan to spend the next few years a little closer to home, but ‘Nemo’ is ready to go for short escapes! Come visit us.

Have a Holly Jolly Christmas! Annette and Larry