

Tripping in a Miata *continued from page 6*

National Park. Another four hours up. We looked at each other and said, "Why not?" Driving on Highways 1A and 93 North is another 200 solid miles of seeing huge mountains and ice fields on each side of us and of saying "wow" at every turn or peeking over a hill. There were many glaciers and one that you could drive up to and walk on. We also took in Lake Louise while in the area and it was a beautiful emerald color. This entire area is in the heart of the Canadian Rockies. Another must see if you are even near this part of the country.

While in Jasper, we remembered what one of the Kentucky men had said. "If you want to see wild life, get up early and on the road before day break." Taking his advice, we were on the road at 5:35 the next morning and it paid off. We immediately saw three elk, one was a big bull with a beautiful rack right along side the road. Within two miles of that, a pack of three wolves were at the edge of the road, one was the largest wolf I had ever seen. From 60 yards, I first thought he was a small pony. Also, we saw other wildlife including big horn sheep, mountain goats and pronghorn antelope. We spent two days touring Alberta, Canada and headed back through Montana trying to avoid all the smoke there. It was not pleasant nor scenic with the top down.

We then headed towards the Little Big Horn Battlefield to see the site of Custer's Last Stand and learn its history. Another good stop with lots of detail and information. Over 5,000 books have been written on the subject by no one who was there at the time. We then headed to Watertown, SD to visit our favorite artist's museum and his collections, Terry Redlin. It was worth the long drive just to see all his original paintings. He was voted America's favorite artist the last eight years running by a poll of national art galleries.

Then on toward home with a stop at Wisconsin's number one attraction, House on the Rock, just north of Dodgeville. This is a must see if you ever do a three day weekend tour to the Wisconsin area. You just can't believe what is there and how it was accomplished.

Finally, it was back home to Indiana. Ten states, two countries and 8,000 miles culminating in one of the best vacations we have ever taken. We found that by staying away from the bigger towns and finding quaint little places, we were able to get nice rooms from \$45 to \$65 per night. We found that little mom and pop eating places had the best food and lowest prices. We stayed on our diet, never got hungry and lost eight pounds between us. What a vacation.



Norm and Susie set up their GPS on a recent tour,

In our entire 15 day trip we saw only five Miatas and only one of the two traveling had its top down. Our Miata performed perfectly except for the gas fumes problem and we averaged just a little better than 30mpg. The GPS Pilot III was a wonderful gadget to have on the trip. Several times we were on empty and programmed it to find gas. It kept us on the right roads and was also great to locate lodging, food and rest stops, as many times we had to travel 40 to 60 miles to find services. I soon learned that a half a tank of fuel meant it was time to fill up. Susie kept a daily detailed log on the roads and happenings during our trip. She is deeply involved with scrap booking and "Stampin Up" and will have a beautiful scrapbook soon with detailed accountings of the entire trip, which I hope many of you may see one day.

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