

Travelling on the Mother Road - Route 66
November 8 through November 12, 2015

We are off to visit my sister Margie and her husband Larry Brown and then to visit an old friend of Diana's in Springfield, MO...

Sunday Nov. 8, 2015

Our plan was to leave at 5:00 AM but it took us awhile to get moving so the actual time of departure was 5:30 AM. We immediately encountered thick fog just east of Albuquerque which slowed us down a bit.

Travelling I-40 (the route that took the place fo historic Route 66) we passed through such town as Tucumcari, NM; Amarillo, TX; Oklahoma City, OK. In Oklahoma City we changed to I-44 and headed towards and just south of Tulsa, OK. At Broker Arrow we changed to highway 169 for the drive via Coffeyville, KS and on to Thayer, KS. Our trustee Garmin helped us and with Diana's expert guidance (this lane and that lane) we made Thayer in a little more than 12 hours.

Upon arrival we had a pre-thanksgiving dinner prepared by Margie and Larry. What a way to compete a long day of driving...

Monday Nov 9, 2015.

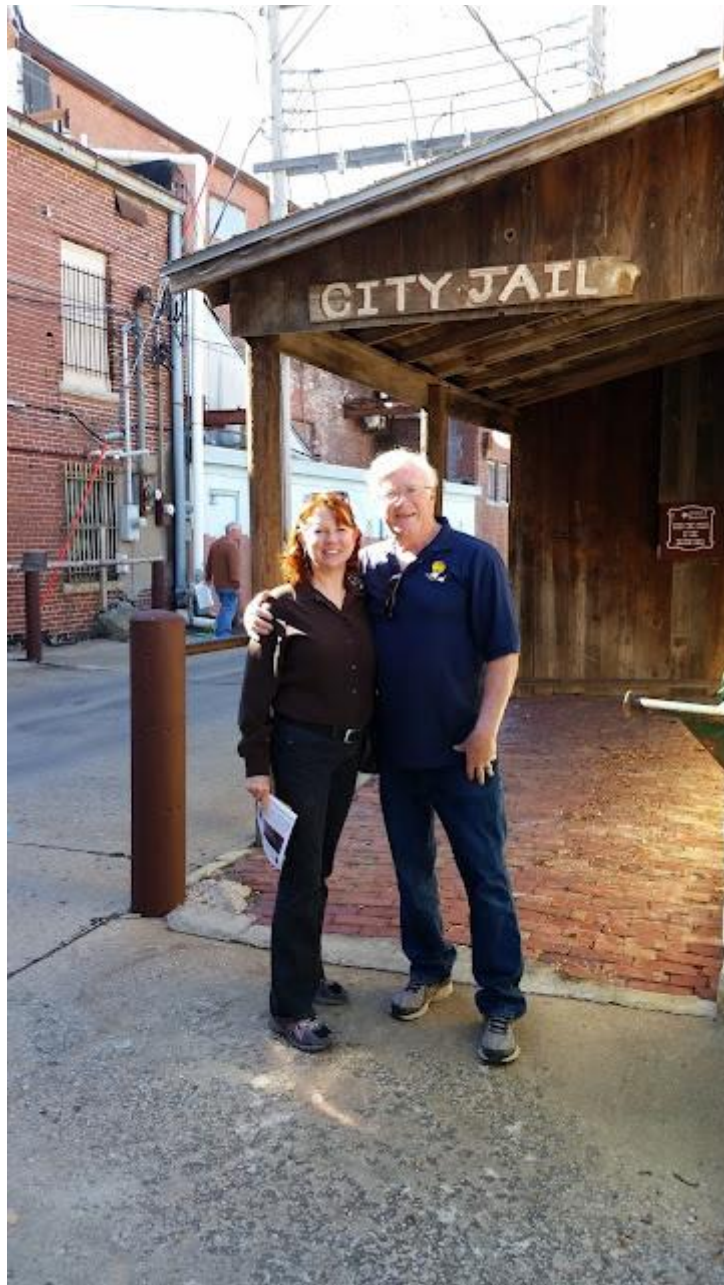
After a great nights sleep we are up early and did a tour at the Brown's property in the way of new buildings and projects.

I have passed through Coffeyville, KS many times over the years and this time we visited the site of the Dalton brothers failed bank robbery.



Margie, Tom & Diana

The Dalton Gang was a group of outlaws in the American Old West 1890-1892. They were also known as The Dalton Brothers because three of its members were brothers; it should however be noted that not all of the gang members came from the Dalton family, and not all of the Dalton brothers were in the gang. The gang specialized in bank and train robberies. During an attempted bank robbery in Coffeerville, Kansas in 1892, two of the brothers and two other gang members were killed; Emmett survived to be tried and convicted. He was paroled after serving 14 years in prison.



Diana & Tom



Margie, Diana & Larry

Their oldest brother Frank had been a Deputy US Marshal, but was killed in 1888. In 1890 three Dalton brothers turned to crime after not being paid as lawmen. They were Gratton "Grat", Bob and Emmitt, the youngest. Their middle brother William M "Bill" Dalton also had a career as an outlaw, but he rode with the Wild Bunch. The gang were related through their mother to the Younger brothers, who rode with Jesse James. One of the members of that gang that was not mentioned until now is shown below and to the left.



A unknown Dalton Gang Member



Larry, Margie & Diana

Larry was the cook for the evening meal and he barbecued steaks on the grill. They were fantastic... During the process the cooking oil was spread across the floor. Sister Margie leads the cleanup process.



The clean-up process

Tuesday Nov 10, 2015

We are off for a 2 1/2 hour drive to Springfield, MO via US 400 and I-44 to visit Dave and Kathy Hewbron. We had a wonderful visit. Dave and Kathy knew Diana from their working days so it was interesting to hear of their adventures during her working days before I met her.



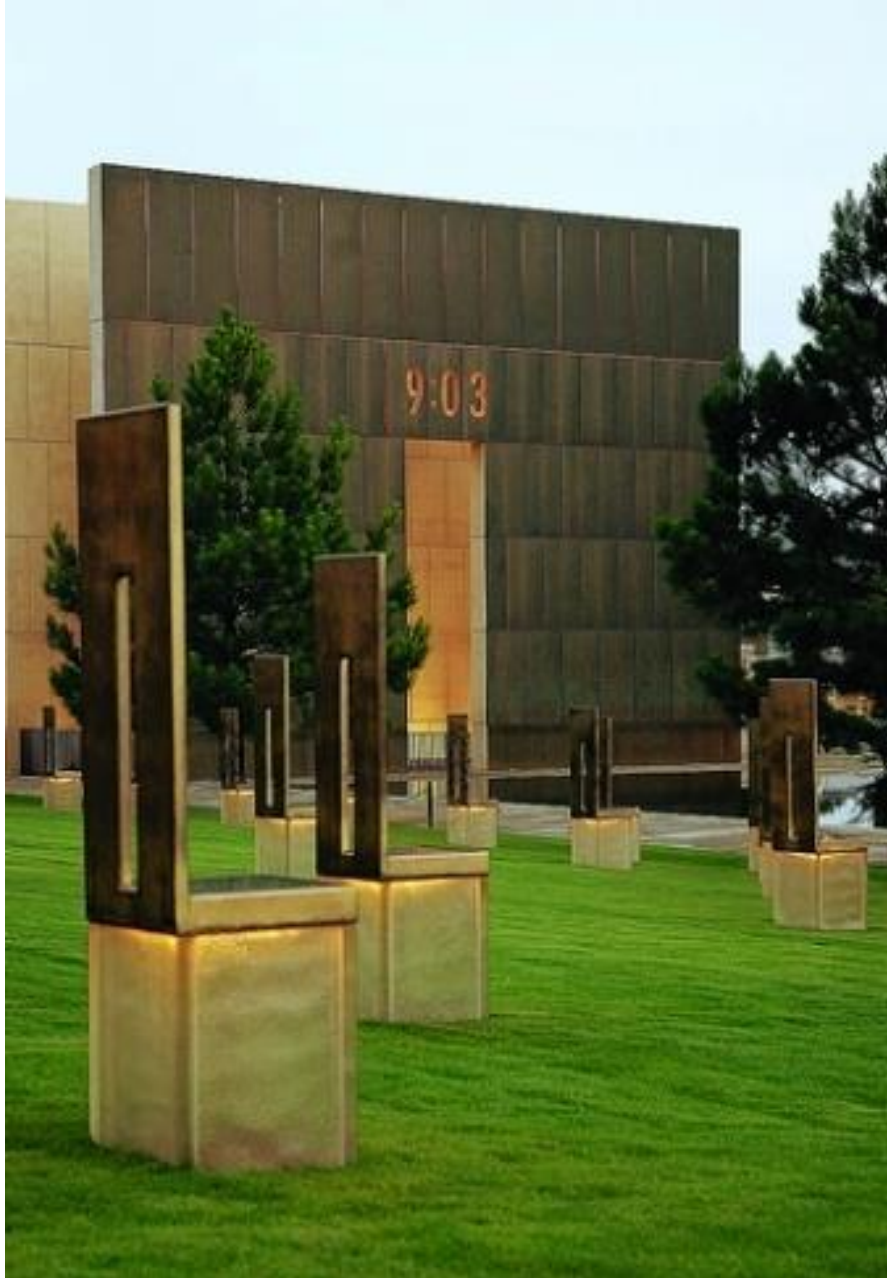
That night we stayed in a hotel in Springfield, MO and prepared for the trip home.

Wednesday Nov 11, 2015

We are headed form home and plan to stop at the Oklahoma City Memorial and then spend the night in Clinton, OK.



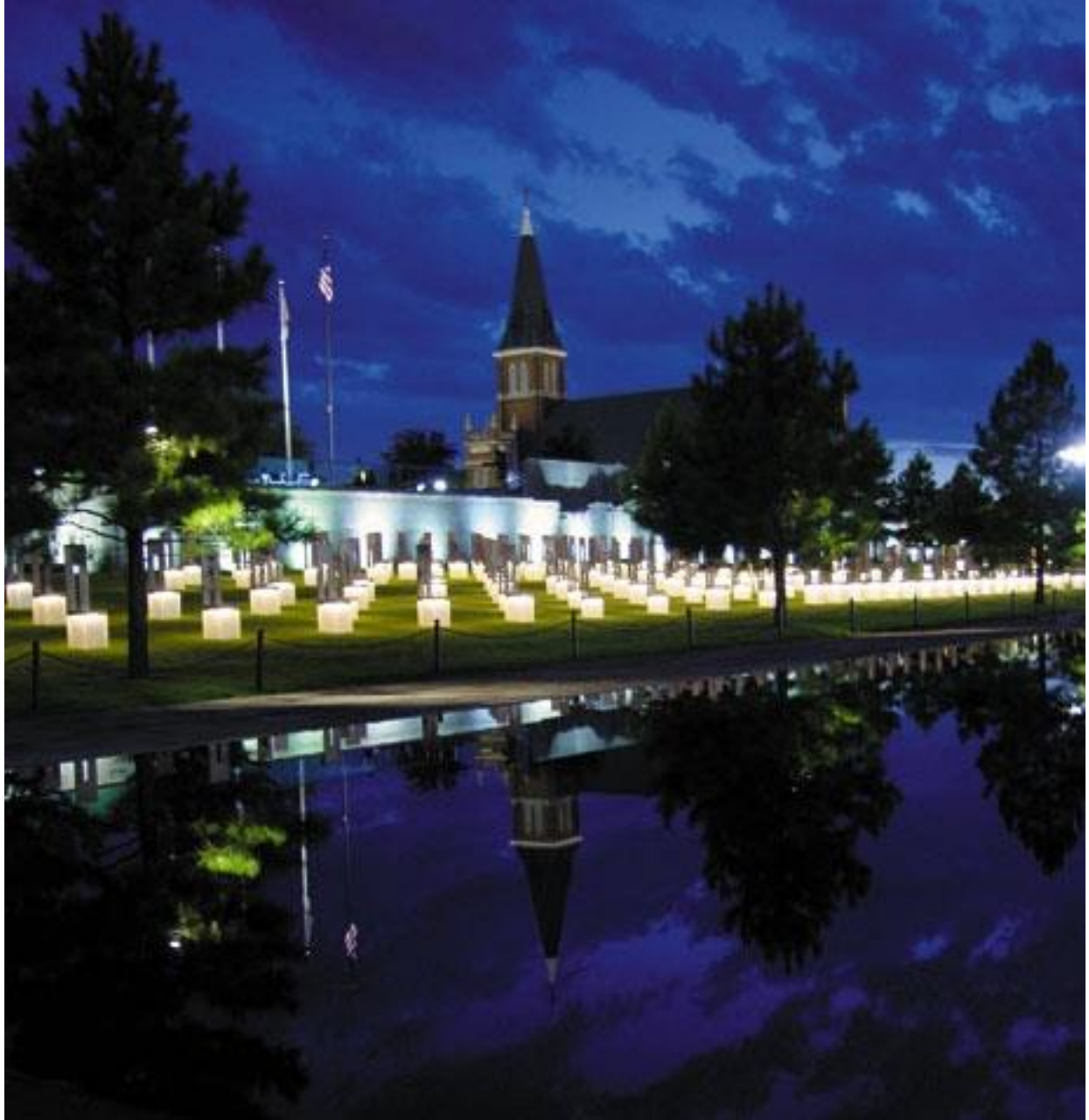
One of the Gates of Time, located on the grounds of the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, reflects on the calm surface of the reflecting pond.

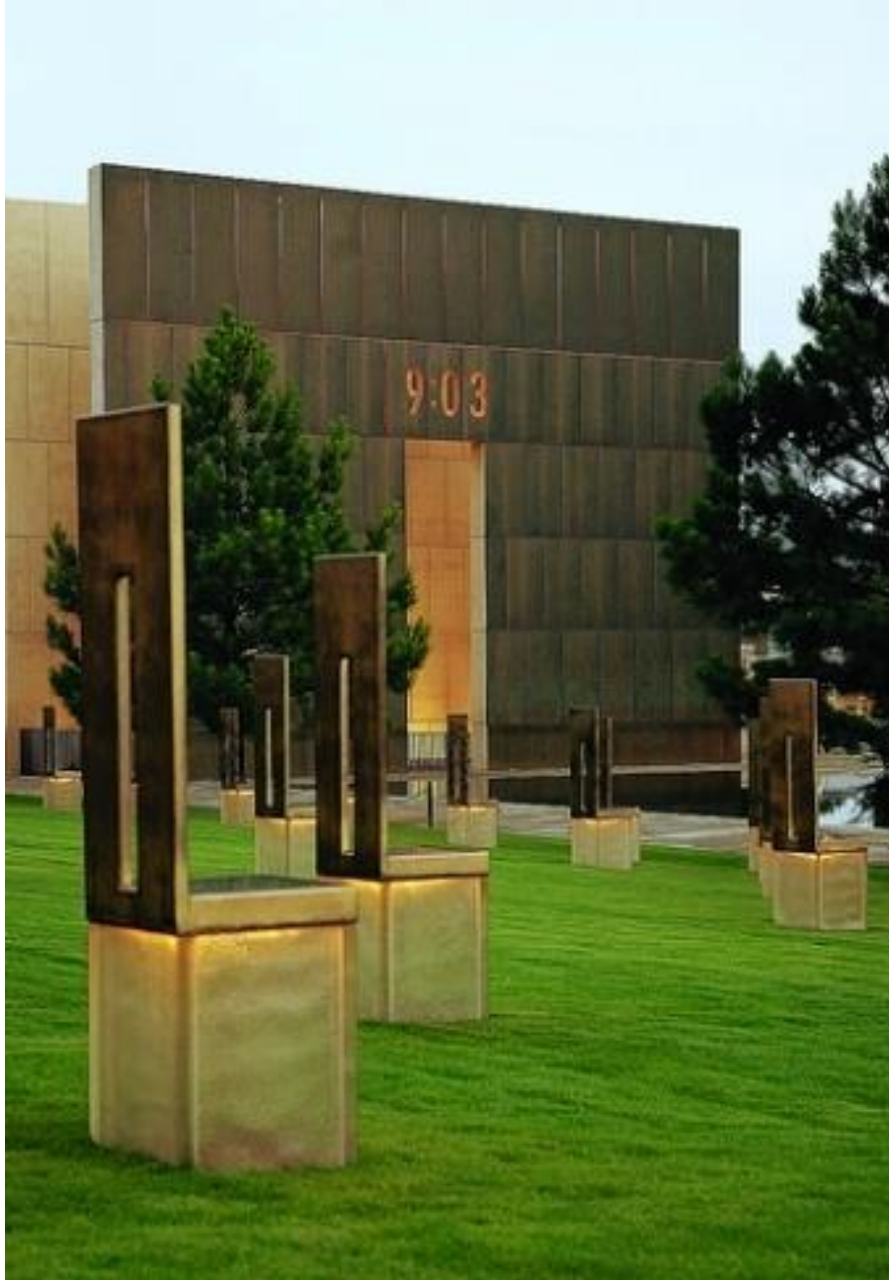


Prominent features at the Oklahoma National Memorial include the Gates of Time, located at both ends of the reflecting pond. The gates frame the exact moment, 9:03am, when a terrorist bomb ripped through the Murrah Federal Building and shattered the city's heart



Each chair in the Field of Empty Chairs on the grounds of the Oklahoma City National Memorial represents one of the 168 people killed in the Murrah Federal Building bombing on April 19, 1995





The monumental Gates of Time at the Oklahoma City National Memorial frame the moment in time when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bombed and we were changed forever.





Tom

Thursday Nov 12, 2015

After spending the night at a new motel in Clinton and enjoying dinner we are up and heading west to visit the National Route 66 Museum in Elk City, Oklahoma...



Inside this museum a road motif took us to all eight states along the "Mother Road" from Illinois to California. Another really nice feature of this location is that the site included the Old Town Museum, The Router 66 Transportation Museum, the Blacksmith Museum and the Farm and Ranch Museum.



Diana



Commotion - The Champion bucking horse of the year.

The veteran stock contractor and his partner, Ed Gaylord, are the proud owners of Copenhagen Commotion, one of the greatest bareback horses in professional rodeo. The nine year-old bay stallion was voted the PRCA Bareback Horse of the Year for the third straight year in 2000.





The original Railroad Station



The **Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad (CO&G)**, known informally as the "Choctaw Route," was an [American railroad](#) in the states of the [Arkansas](#), and [Oklahoma](#). The company, originally known as the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company, completed its main line between [West Memphis, Arkansas](#) and western Oklahoma by 1900. In 1901 the CO&G chartered a subsidiary company, the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Texas Railroad, to continue construction west into the [Texas](#) panhandle, and by 1902 the railroad had extended as far west as [Amarillo](#).

The Final Leg.

With the Garmin saying 400+ miles on I-40 we are set to make it home. We alternated drivers and set the speed for 80 MPH. It seemed the truck drivers where more aggressive as well as many drivers where pushing us to keep on moving... It was a 1700+ mile journey and the car was flawless...