

Nature Notes

by Patricia Clark-Gray

MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL PARK AND THE WONDERS OF YELLOWSTONE IN THE FALL

We just returned from a two week vacation visiting national parks. We visited Mount Rushmore which was on my husband Ken's list of parks to visit. We enjoyed watching the film of how the four figures were



carved. It was interesting to find out how they used dynamite to prepare the rock for carving and the types of tools they used.

My favorite national park

was Yellowstone. As a child I visited the park with my family and then we visited the park with our children and camped in a tent trailer. Since it was fall, we decided to stay in the park at one of the lodges. We were fortunate to call a day ahead and get reservations for a cabin at Mammoth Hot Springs. We had a nice dinner at the lodge restaurant. As we walked back from our dinner, I spent some time looking at the night sky and was amazed how clear the planets and the constellations were. When we woke in the morning we were treated to 8 elk resting on the lawn outside our cabin. We got some great photos of the elk.

During our drive through the park we saw a female grizzly and her cub off in the distance enjoying a meadow. We knew that there was something special to view as there were several people with spotting scopes. We were able to observe the mom and cub for about 10 minutes and I got some great video footage. As we continued driving we saw lots of bison. Later we also saw a female black bear.

The highlight of visiting Yellowstone is watching Old Faithful spout. When we arrived we saw crowds already sitting on the benches waiting so we knew that we had timed our visit well. We only had to wait about 15



minutes before we were able to view the spouting. Even though I have seen Old Faithful on previous visits it is always an exciting event.

We visited the new Visitor Center and enjoyed the exhibits. I especially enjoyed the children's room and the interactive displays.

There was a display that had the estimated time of the next eruption of Old Faithful. I liked that the sign had the next predicted time with a +/- 10 minutes. Even though the geyser is faithful it can vary between 60 to 90 minutes between eruptions.

Every time I visit Yellowstone, I am so grateful that we have preserved

these wild places so we can experience the beauty of the landscape and the magnificence of the wildlife. I hope that all of you will plan to visit my favorite national park.

For those who have families, be sure to purchase the National Park passport. When you visit national parks you take your passport and place a stamp that contains

the name of the park and the date you visited. I have had my passport for over 20 years and it is nice to have a record of when I visited a park. You can also buy stamps to place in the book. When our kids were young they enjoyed stamping the book. Then had a new version that is in a binder and it very attractive. It also contains a map of all the national parks.



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Joy from page B1

have had no damage to your nail bed or cuticle area from improper application or removal. I had mine on for at least 15 years! I wish we had shellac years ago; it's the best thing since stilettos! (smiles) Remember when everybody had the long acrylics with airbrush painting on every nail? Oh, and the piercing with little hoops on the end of the nail? Hahaha...times have changed! Well...I don't know... maybe

people are still doing that.

Some other changes in the beauty industry would be products. They are always getting better, I think back to the 80's and most people had big frizzy hair, big was good then but the frizz, not so much. Eyelash extensions are another fabulous new service over the years. They look amazing and if that's not your cup of joe, there's Revitalash to grow your own lashes!

I'm sure there are many more changes to the beauty industry but those are some that stand

out...and some that just make me laugh. A few trends are even coming back, like the crimper and feathers. It's always fun learning about what's coming out next and what is being brought back but with a little twist. I'm so happy to be in the business I'm in and thankful to all of those who have supported me and my Diva gals over the years. Feeling beautiful is being beautiful, cheers to many more years of divalicious glamour!

Send your beauty question to marina.divas@gmail.com

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