

## Wandering Indiana . . .



Spring appears to finally be here and I'm loving it! With the nicer weather comes the opportunity of more wandering. Not that winter months don't present good opportunities, it's those potential lousy driving conditions and shorter daylight hours. Here are just a few suggestions of places to visit.

<u>Hoosier National Forest</u> - My youngest son Michael is moving south to work for the Forest Service in Hoosier National Forest. Ever been there? It's amazing the expanse of nature we have within this state treasure. I suggest taking in areas along the Ohio River where the redbuds and dogwoods are in bloom. <u>Buzzards Roost</u> is one of my favorites. I can't wait to explore other areas within the forest that I've never seen before. I am sure we will take a road trip or two over the next several months to visit.

Tell City - Michael will be living there during his time with the Forest Service. What a quaint river community. As you might imagine, being along the Ohio, the history is very rich. Ever heard of William Tell? How about Johan Heinrich Pestalozzi? Pestalozzi street is the street Michael will live on. The community has streets named for many interesting people of history. Well worth the research to read about and definitely a place to take a visit, have a meal at one of the many local eateries, or to marvel at the awesome beauty of the Ohio River.

French Lick/West Baden Springs - Not being a gambler or golfer, this area has another appeal to me. History! It is so hard to imagine what this place looked like and felt like back in the early 1900's. People filtering in mostly by train to get an opportunity to spend time in the spas with the "stinky" Pluto Water that supposedly healed and refreshed you. To see the magnificence of the French Lick Resort and Hotel or to see the West Baden Dome are both awe inspiring.





Did you know that Major League Baseball teams such as the Cincinnati Reds actually held spring training here in the past? There was a 1/3 mile two story covered track for bicycle and pony racing. Major Taylor (who the velodrome in Indianapolis is named after) raced here. The hotel was called "the eighth wonder of the world" because of its expansive dome which also is a civil engineering award winner (see my photo). While there last week we were also able to see a lot of flooding that occurs periodically and has caused issues in the past.

Can't wait for the next wandering adventure. Send on those places to visit. Would love to wander along a path one of you have suggested to try out.

