

# Bob's Corner

Spent the past several days among internationally recognized authors: Whitman, Twain, Tolkien, Hemingway, Dickinson, and Coleridge to name a few.

What, you doubt that? It's true. We were in San Diego County's city of Carlsbad in a neighborhood with the following roadways: Whitman Way, Twain Avenue (near Clemens Court), Tolkien Way, Hemingway Drive, Dickinson Court, and Coleridge Court. And it's funny in a peculiar way that I had forgotten how hilly the area is, rising from the Pacific coast as it does. You need good brakes on your car down south Carlsbad way.

Had a good time taking care of our two granddaughters; Natalie, almost 7, and Ella, who just turned 4. Their mom, Vicki, had a chance to visit France for a few days under a bargain arrangement with friends. So we said, "Go!" Our son-in-law, Matt, is busy with work, church and other responsibilities, so we used our Nonna and PopPop skills to hold the fort while Vicki was overseas. Reminds me of the line: Going abroad? Come back a lady.

Anyway, our adventures included a visit to the Museum of Making Music. It's a neat spot, and the girls enjoyed it, especially the interactive room where they



Natalie and Ella Kaplan at the Museum of Making Music. (Photo by PopPop)

could wear ear-phones and hear the music they were making on various instruments. I tried the banjo, and decided that Steve Martin has nothing to fear.

We also ate at Bobby's Hideaway Café on El Camino Real, which is now four lanes with traffic signals. Being a native San Diegoan I recall when it was a rural two-lane country road with maybe a couple of Stop

signs. Anyway again, my photo was taken at Bobby's for posting on the Wall of Bobs. There are many Bobs already up, including those whose last names are Stack, Newhart, Hope, Blake, Duvall, Culp, and Denver.

The café manager told us that when 500 Bob photos are displayed, there will be a Bobvention. Events will include bobbing for apples. Can hardly wait.

Took some long walks on this trip, including one on Carlsbad Beach; ate too much, but had a great time. And discovered again that what's worse than packing for a trip is unpacking.

# Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact, are strictly those of the letter-writers.)

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 Typed, double-spaced letters are considered for publication. Hand-written letters that are double-spaced and legible also can be considered. "Thank you" submissions are not accepted as letters.

**No Blackberry Festival? From Mark Russo, President, I.V. Wild Blackberry Festival Inc. Cave Junction**

I've gone over this plenty of times in my head. How last year's nonshowing of one third of the paying vendors affected the overall success of the festival.

How nearly a third of the downtown merchants refused to allow vendors to set up in front of their businesses, further hindering our efforts -- and how the free concert we put on in the park was only attended by a dozen or so people. Some nonprofit groups lost money supporting our community festival.

I thought I could blame the poor showing of paying vendors on the inflated gasoline prices last summer, but the majority of the no-shows were local. I've also put a lot of thought into the fact that all this

happened before the economy went south. Yet, even faced with the obvious, I find this letter hard to write.

This year, The Blackberry Festival was unable to secure needed financial support. Firewood we cut on the Lorna Byrne project went unsold. Expenses to put on a quality festival have increased. I couldn't with a clear conscience ask people, struggling to pay their own bills, to donate more money to us based on 2008 figures and this year's economy.

After much consideration

and faced with an unreliable source of funding, The Illinois Valley Wild Blackberry Arts & Crafts Festival Board of Directors has elected to suspend the 2009 festival. We regret any inconvenience this may cause. All we can do is be optimistic for a turn-around in the economy, and hope that our community will be more supportive and get involved for Festival 2010.

In the meantime, we ask that people instead support other community-based organizations that no doubt are struggling as well.

# HAPPY!

Dad would really like an Ice Cream Cake for Father's Day!



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**Happy Father's Day!**

Mon-Thurs, 6 am-7 pm  
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 (Dinner & Live Music Friday nights)  
 Sat, 7 am-7 pm; Sun, 8 am-7 pm  
 Downtown Cave Junction  
 592-5358