



Time to take the kids along!

What's so great about summer travel – besides the weather? Family travel, of course! The kids and grandkids are out of school and are always ready to head out on a great adventure with Mom and Dad or the Grandparents – or anyone else who will take them.



The best part of taking them, besides their unbridled enthusiasm for life, is the opportunity to “sneak” some education in when they aren't looking. This month's “More Road Tripping Ideas” has ideas on this subject.

We hope you are all enjoying your summer trips.

Live Your Dreams!

Phil and Carol White



A Grassroots selling idea for you.

We know that many of you are big fans of *Live Your Road Trip Dream* and already tell your friends about it. We've now devised a way for you ardent travelers to *put a little money in your pocket* at the same time.

It's simple. Refer people to buy the book on our website using a unique promotional code just for you, and we'll give *them* a 10% discount off the web price and give *you* a few dollars for your efforts.

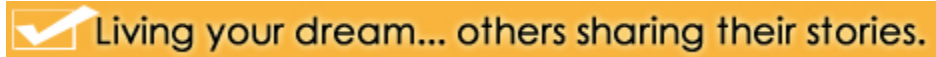
We'll even give you bookmarks with your code and the website address to hand out to people, and you can advertise it on your

website if you want.

It may be a way to pay for that increased cost of gas!

See an example of how Howard is doing it on his [blog](#): Scroll about 2/3 the way down on the page on the right under "RV Related Products."

Just [email us](#) if you would like to participate or want more information.



Another Fan Leaves on her Big Trip

Dear Carol,

We met at one of your talks at the AAA in Lake Oswego, OR. I'd read your book twice in prep of meeting you and Phil. It has really come in handy helping me stay on task.

Well everything has fallen together. My house sold and I found the perfect Class A. I leave a week from today on my way to the Life on Wheels class in Idaho. (If you ever do a second edition, suggest RVers try to get into that program.) Then the sky's the limit.

I really could not have done it without your newsletter and book.

I also took your advice and joined mytripjournal. If you have a wild hair my site is called Barb's Big Trip. I owe it all to you and Phil.

Thanks for everything.
Barb Davis

WOW! How fun is that? – She owes it all to us? I doubt that is exactly true, but it is great to know that we have inspired Barb and many others of you to actually make it happen for yourselves. Live Your Dreams!

Reader responds with Summer Travel Plans

RV sightings have been sporadic as I drive around the highways north of Boston as a result of inclement weather. Although today, I did spot a few campers in the rare sunshine on I-95. (Editors note: I think Barb is probably now hoping for some relief from the heat!)

I'm heading out for a trip next week but I'm praying for sunshine. I hope to drive to Lake Ontario and north-east towards upstate NY. I will return driving the back roads of VT, stopping when I want. That's what I love about Rving !!! Over

Memorial Day weekend, I cruised the coastline of Maine just north of Freeport and home to LL Bean Store. That store and their outlet stores are a magnet for me! We finally have a Camping World Store in New England so I'll detour over to NH to check it out also!!

After my part-time summer job is over in early August, I'm planning a trip to St. Felicien Quebec which is 200 miles north of Quebec City and about 500 miles from my home. This destination was a result of watching the Animal Planet TV show on fostering baby moose at the St. Felicien Zoo, a very popular site with 100,000 visitors a year and on Lake St. Jacques. According to my research, there are 5-10 campgrounds on the lake which is about 20 miles long.

So I continue to work for gas money until I fully retire next year and drive around the USA!!

Your Happy Camper,

**Barbara Bonney
Poodah318@msn.com**

Barbara offers several good ideas of places to go on your summer adventure along the eastern seaboard. Thanks for reporting in Barbara, and enjoy your summer travels – we're all looking forward to hearing that you've headed out on your big trip next summer when you retire.



Idea of the Month

Tips from the Road

This month I also heard from my good friend, LeAnne Mantero from Florida who is taking the summer to travel around the US in their newly-acquired motorhome with her daughter Adriana. Hubby, Joaquin, is joining them for a short time during his vacation this month.



We visited with them on our year long trip and you'll find LeAnne's name in the acknowledgements as one of our valued coaches on the book. I guess we really got her thinking...

LeAnne followed the southern route from Florida to Oregon and learned how to maneuver their 26' Class C RV in the wind across

Texas. She offers up some good advice on things she, as a first-time RVer, has learned on their adventure:

- If you are map-challenged, traveling solo or with children – get a GPS to help navigate. LeAnne says it has saved her from being hopelessly lost several times. “It is so forgiving and polite when you mess-up” she says. “It never gets mad like a spouse, it just says ‘recalculating’ and re-routes you!”
- If you are parking in a large parking lot, especially in the evening, try to park your vehicle such that the RV door is visible from the street and keep the doors locked even when you are in it. LeAnne had a bit of a scary incident along the way that reinforced this idea to her.
- The book called “The Next Exit” by Mark Watson has been an invaluable guide in decision-making along the highways, and the “Trailer Life Camping Guide” with their excellent rating system is also a valued addition to the trip.



LeAnne will be heading back through Yellowstone, the Black Hills, St. Louis, Nashville (Graceland here we come!), Atlanta and back into Florida.

Best wishes LeAnne - stay in touch as you go!

 **More Road Tripping Information**

Traveling Family Comes to Visit us along the Way!



You may remember the Gregorich family – Mark, Cricket, Adam & Lewis – and Jake, the dog who stayed behind at the local campground. They were passing through the beautiful Pacific Northwest on their way to Alaska, when they agreed to stop and visit for lunch. They have been on the road for a year now – and aren’t done yet.

Although we could have talked for hours about life on the road, "roadschooling" the boys, working on the road and much more, we had to be content with a long lunch as we were both really busy that particular day.

You can keep up with their adventure at <http://www.awaywego.us/>. Be sure to read about their Alaska adventures – it seems the weather isn't all that great at this time of year.

Summer Travels with the Kids and Grandkids

Speaking of taking your children or grandchildren on the road, here are some ideas for making the trip enjoyable for everyone.

- **Make sure you are well-stocked with healthy snacks.** Sugary ones just make them more hyper and less able to enjoy the trip. Things like grapes, carrots, raisins, trail mix, nuts, bananas, and celery with peanut butter and all reasonably non-messy, healthy and enjoyed by most kids. Get the kids to read the labels and compute the calories, or fat content, etc. Discuss the health implications of various choices.
- **Have a cooler full of bottled water.** Again, juices and soda pop aren't as good a choice, and, if it gets spilled, water is a "no harm, no foul" item! Do a little science experiment. Why does the water get warm? How fast? What affects that? Where does it get warmer faster in the car? Your questions can have them thinking and busy for hours!
- **Keep a good supply of wipes and waterless hand cleaner.** Both of these items have multiple uses and can save a lot of mess and aggravation along the way.
- **Zip-loc bags are a must.** Those of you who have read the book, or who followed us along on our trip, know that I'm the "Queen of Zip-loc". I don't know of another item that has as many uses and keeps things tidy and contained as those bags! Write the kids names on the bags of their treats to avoid disagreements about "who ate my stuff?" and to allow each child to feel like they have control over when and how much they eat. This is another chance to talk about nutrition.



- **Ban electronics from the vehicle.** The kids are along to interact with you – leave the Game Boys home! They need a break from that constant barrage anyway and you can teach them some social skills and fun games along the way. The license plate game and the ABC game both teach geography and

place names. The “and then” add-on story game helps with creativity, thinking on their feet, listening skills and memory.

- **Have them prepare for your destination.** Assign each child a question to research prior to leaving on the trip. With small children, have them draw a picture about where you are going and describe what they visualize in their picture. With older children they could do an oral report in front of the others about their question. Vary the difficulty of the research project depending upon age. This gets them interested and vested in the trip. Yes, they’ll squawk at first, but they do all get into it when the time comes. We usually do the project reports over pizza or something one night.
- **Have a contest.** This year another couple and Phil and I are taking 11 of our combined grandchildren (ages 5 to 15) on a guided whitewater rafting trip. We are having a “River Rat Hat” contest for the person with the best river hat. Should be fun! The crazier the idea the better they’ll like it. Even give them a budget, so they have to work the numbers in addition to the creativity in designing their hats.
- **Assign each of them a day to plan.** From about age 8 and up, kids are pretty much able to plan out a day’s adventures. What time will we leave? What will we have for breakfast/lunch/dinner? Do we need groceries for that? How much will that cost? Do we need to get gas? Have them compute the cost. Math, organizational skills, reasoning, and planning skills are all involved. You may have to prod their thinking at first, but pretty soon, they’ll get better at it, and isn’t the whole idea?



Most of all have a great time with them – they all grow too fast.

Don’t forget!

Personally autographed copies of the book are always available on our website

www.roadtripdream.com

They make perfect retirement gifts too!

 **Tell Us What You Think**

Send us your tips and questions!

Always feel free to [email us](#) with your road trip questions or tips, or thoughts about the book. We'll be printing some of your comments in the months to come.

Where have your dreams taken you?

Please [send us](#) your travel pictures taken on your road trip dream. We want to share stories of trips that were inspired by reading *Live Your Road Trip Dream – Travel for a year for the cost of staying home.*

Upcoming Appearances

July 31 - 9:00am (PDT) - *The Good Life Show* - Sirius Radio - Jesse Dylan, host

July 31 - 12:00pm (PDT) - *Escapes with The Trip Chicks* - Atlanta AM 1620 - Ann Lombardi, host

Until next time.. Keep Dreaming...