

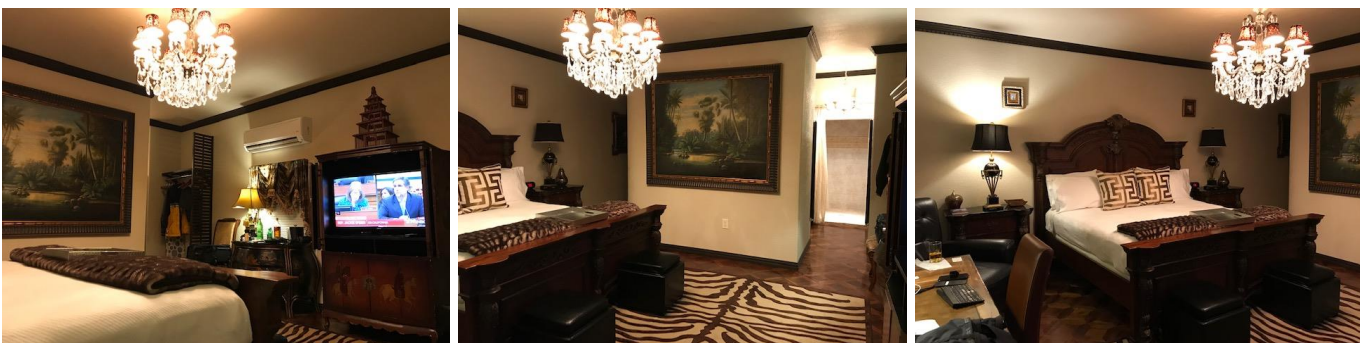


Tom to Bentonville Arkansas Trip Notes **February 27 – March 3, 2019**

I panicked Joseph by listing Bentonville Arkansas as AK vs AR. He said “Oh no, don’t go to Alaska” but how confusing to have AL Alabama, AK Alaska, AZ Arizona, AR Arkansas and maybe more. Fortunately I had the correct airport though I had to re-check since there are at least five Bentonville. This is Bentonville, home of Walmart. Home of Crystal Bridges Art Museum.

Now home to Joseph who moved there for a lovely looking young lady, a teacher with two children, which relationship didn’t work out. He got a job with the big shipping company, J.B.Hunt, and has stayed happily in a job that is basically a ‘break down coordinator’. So far. We shall hope. He is a smart kid (at age 33) and has his head on well.

Tom’s home for four nights is a lovely looking B&B. Tom says “The place looks old but the gal told me it was built in 2004 and was designed to look like this and was purpose built to be a B&B!” A bit eclectic but comfortable. Best of all he sent the message “Home is where the heart is -- and that’s why I’m there with you but here’s where I am temporarily”



He says the place is very nice, but I have the impression that the reviews (all #10s) were written by the owner’s relatives.

Home Alone – ME! I can’t remember being home alone other than a couple of Tom’s hospital stays. Since the 90s when Tom turned into a ski bum. Those were the days when the pond was new and every time (it seemed) he left there was a pond disaster. This time we lost lots of water but we had Adam on the job who hurried over and fixed the leak(s).

Restaurants: Upon arrival to Bentonville, Tom found the town square (only a couple blocks away from his B&B) and indulged in fried oysters at the Flying Fish. Subsequent meals would be a variety of Mexican restaurants. For most breakfasts the B&B supplied, but on Saturday they went to the Press Room on the square where Joseph gamely indulged in Gravlax for the first time. Then there was a steak house called Butcher & Pint. They did well.



Here is a before and after of one of his favorites – because it's Mexican (sort of).

For next trip, my sister who goes to Crystal Bridges every year on her birthday, suggests Preacher's Son restaurant which is in a church.

Weather stayed cold and overcast but who cares. One of those old ski coats was along for the ride.

After a gourmet breakfast the first full day, at the B&B cooked by one of the owners, a French fellow who Tom liked a lot and especially his accent, Tom and Joseph ventured to Crystal Bridges Art Museum, a free entry architectural extravaganza donated by one of the Walton girls. Though only a couple blocks walk, Tom said the return walk revealed a hill they hadn't so much noticed on the way there.

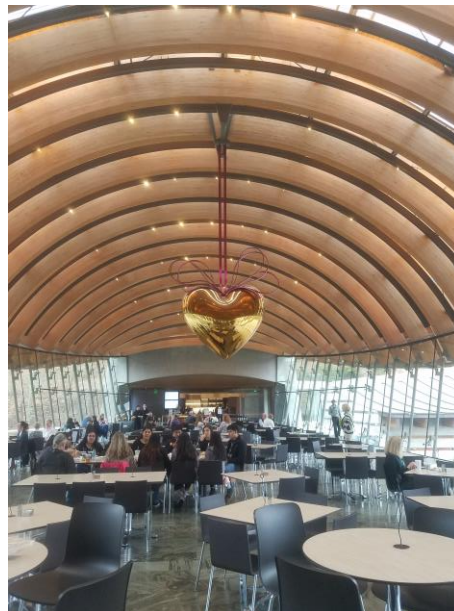
Crystal Bridges Art Museum from the website <https://crystalbridges.org/>

Architecture: The architecture of Crystal Bridges is as stunning and inspirational as the artwork housed inside it. In a ravine surrounded by native Ozark forest, the Museum's muscular gray concrete walls rise up from the bedrock, banded in rough cedar and curved to echo the shape of the hillside. The roofs of the Museum's bridges, covered in deep brown copper, rise like mounds of earth across the still ponds. Designed by architect Moshe Safdie, the structures are meant to provide views of the surrounding landscape and play up the interaction between architecture, art, and nature. Bringing people, art, and nature together is at the core of Crystal Bridge's mission, and nature-centric architecture is a key factor in that equation. For that reason, Crystal Bridges celebrates the visionary work of architects such as Safdie and Frank Lloyd Wright, whose buildings work in harmony with the natural environment.

Architect: Moshe Safdie - Crystal Bridges was designed by internationally renowned architect Moshe Safdie, who envisioned a building that would complement the surrounding Ozark landscape. Nestled into a natural ravine, the Museum integrates the element of water on the site through the creation of two spring-fed ponds that are spanned by two signature bridge structures and surrounded by a group of pavilions housing Museum galleries and studios.



While there they visited the Frank Lloyd Wright house. In 2013, Crystal Bridges acquired a classic “Usonian” house designed by celebrated American architect Frank Lloyd Wright and constructed in 1954. Known as the Bachman-Wilson House, the structure was dismantled at its original site in Somerset County, New Jersey, and reconstructed on the Museum grounds overlooking Crystal Spring.



Per Tom, this first picture looks like chain mail, but they are all army dog tags by a Korean artist and completely filled out just like the originals. The inside is shiny polished copper.

Obviously the café and only part of this unique building.

Alfred Maurer - painter of the lady painting

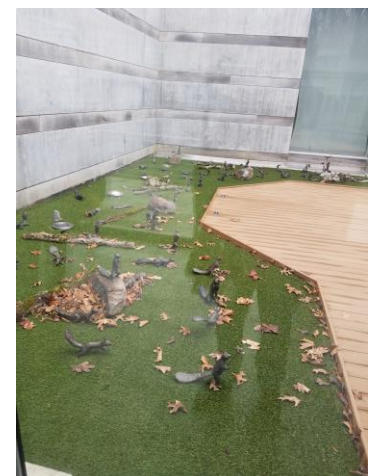
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Henry_Maurer

Thanks to Nola who dug up the Crystal Bridges library and sent a link. The lady picture in question is not at all like his other work. In the Crystal Bridges collection files.

<https://collection.crystalbridges.org/objects/79/jeanne?ctx=b13f2d27-e53d-4eb7-8925-d01a2ba333ed&idx=137>

Thanks to Joseph for taking the picture and sending it we had a little mental exercise and much enjoyment.

Don't you think she could have done well without the cigarette?



Tom and Joseph seemed to like the bronze squirrel garden. Me not so much so. Maybe you just had to be there, and I wish I were!

From Beverly who goes to Crystal Bridges every year for her birthday:

One of Seven sculptures and it's at Crystal Bridges, Bentonville. I knew I'd seen it, but not in DC. Tom will love the museum and seeing Joseph. Hope for good weather for his trip.

<https://crystalbridges.org/blog/welcoming-george-segals-depression-bread-line/>

From Diana to various:

Alayna, you may have seen this at what would have been the new FDR Memorial in Washington DC. when we visited.

Marie, you definitely saw it at the FDR Memorial. We walked all around an even larger display. Joseph and Tom spent the late morning and early afternoon at the Crystal Bridges art museum in Bentonville. It is quite the beautiful building and maybe we'll get some pictures of it for Tom's trip report.

Thank you Beverly for the picture and write up.

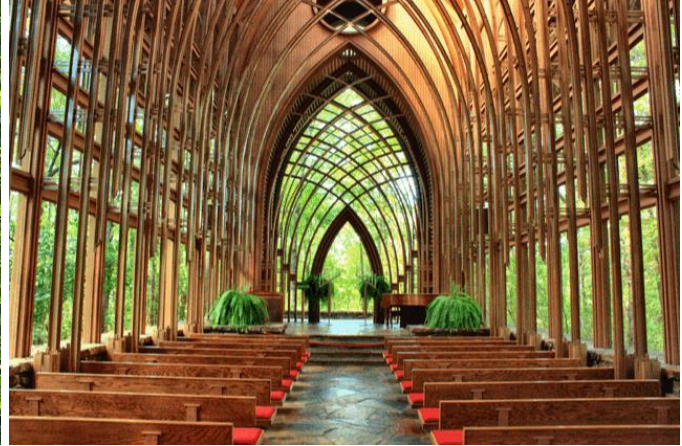
End

Another day, another time, and after oohing and aahing over Joseph's "new" Dodge Charger purchased by Tom for Joseph last year, they were off to more Mexican meals.



Tom says at the restaurant - 95% of the patrons were women! What could be better for a 33 year old single guy?

A drive through the area to the magical Bella Vista Cooper Memorial Chapel. Magical. Check out the website with pictures of the shadow play.



<http://beautifulbellavista.com/chapel.htm>

Mildred B. Cooper Memorial Chapel is a chapel located along Lake Norwood in Bella Vista, Arkansas, designed by E. Fay Jones and Maurice Jennings and constructed in 1988. The chapel was commissioned by John A. Cooper, Sr. to honor Mildred Borum Cooper, his late wife. Architectural style: Gothic architecture - Architect: E. Fay Jones

Home Alone – Longer than Expected

Tom might have voted to come home on Saturday instead of Sunday, but hedged his bet that there might be a need or more to do, he booked Saturday.

Our first hint that it should have been Saturday came from United after Tom had already checked into the airport and was waiting at the gate: “New York City Region Weather: sometimes bad things happen to good travel”

The flight was first delayed about 2 hours, then ultimately canceled.

The most local hotel was booked up but Tom found a DoubleTree by Hilton and seemed much calmer about it than I would be. I hurried to our 1K desk and got him booked on the next day’s direct flight.

End result? He got home by 10pm on Monday after starting his journey at 2pm on Sunday. All is well.

Itinerary

Wed Feb 27

7:30am Depart home

9:45am Depart Newark EWR via UA#3602

12:23pm Arrive Bentonville XNA

Car Dollar Rental Car from 1pm to Mar 3 at 3pm

Hotel The Victoria Bed & Breakfast – 4 nights
306 N. Main Street, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712 Tele: 479 273 3232
Thevictoriabentonville.com

Thu, Fri, Sat Feb 28, Mar 1 and 2

Meet with Joseph for a couple meals – off work Thu, Fri and Sat
6104 SW Rutland Road, Apartment 302, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712

Sun Mar 3

4:55pm Depart Bentonville XNA via UA#3679

9:00pm Arrive Newark EWR