In August 2025, Brenda and I travelled to Colorado to visit sites, friends, and relatives.

First night, August 4, we drove to Albuquerque; we stayed at usual hotel next to Dickey's BBQ. On this trip we found out that Dickey's closed that location. Further aggravation that evening when we found out the A/C was not working. So, we are off to bad start.

Second day we tried to visit 1129 Spirit and Eatery in Pueblo, but found out it was on the riverfront requiring long walk. Instead, we ate lunch at Black Eyed Pea – great food.

At hotel, I saw a wild turkey scoping out the parking lot. Next day we drove to Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. This geologic formation has insect and plant fossils. There are fossils of redwoods, sequoias, and tsetse flies, which existed about 34 million years ago. Photos here: mailto:https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD2Bie

Also, on this day we visited Calhan Paint Mines seeing hoodoos, colored clay, and sandstone-capped spires. Photos here: mailto:https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD2FoF

Third day, August 6, we drove to Rocky Mountain National Park, but due to fires, the scenic views were disrupted. Photos here: mailto:https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD2Fpnb. Returning, we saw Big Thompson River. Brenda remembers the 1967 river flood causing at least 144 deaths.

The remainder of trip was visiting friends and family before driving home.