

Tom started 'vacation' by spending about a week in Chicago with sister Nancy, family, and Dad's good friend John. Then on to East Coast adventure with sister-in-law Natalie. We saw much history about the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, and Civil War.

Here are some photos of my trip posted on my Flickr account. After getting to the album, select a photo to see details in the descriptions.

ILLINOIS

Union

Illinois Railway Museum with Nancy, There were many running trains on this special day for the museum. This was a special day as they had most everything running: Steam Engine 1630, Nebraska Zephyr, 2 streetcars, CTA train, and electric bus.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWXb8y2>

Chicago

Pullman National Monument was recently [dedicated](#). We saw the process for building Pullman carriages, Porters, Hotel Florence, Greenstone Church, and murals. This business was the brainchild of George Pullman building luxury train cars to a company town. This day was spent with John and Natalie. We met a new Kruse cousin who worked in the gift shop.

Then we went to the National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum it was closed, BUT two kindly ladies

offered to open for us. Then John mentioned meeting A. Philip Randolph in the 60's which excited the two ladies.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmX1UZoo>

Mt. Prospect

Had short visit with cousin Chuck Rateike. I did meet more cousins Everett Kruse and Nancy Zimmerman at Mrs. P and Me (formerly known as Kruse's Tavern).

MAINE

Portland

The East Coast trip starts here. After arriving at airport, it took 2 hours to leave. Car rental swamped with customers picking up their vehicles. First, we saw the Portland Head Lighthouse.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW4ewF>

Saco

We stopped at Thornton Academy and spoke with a Development Associate named Giselle who was excited to see the old picture postcards we had from 1906-1907.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWwZZC>

Durham

Birthplace of my grandmother Mary Bailey Adair. We were guided around the area by Tia, who runs the [Durham Historical Society](#). She told us of Stephen King who grew up here and inspired some of his books.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW31GQ>

Alna

Running [steam engine](#)

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWX9dQ3>

Vassalboro and Augusta

Old post card photograph and the Capitol of Maine

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWX94tY>

Farmington

Visited with cousin Russ and spouse Deb who took us around University of Maine to match old photos. My grandmother graduated in 1915.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWX8qkp>

Bangor and Brewer

Visited several sites including transportation museum, Paul Bunyan statue, memorial to USS Maine, and the Duck of Justice. Also had lunch with another cousin Nancy and spouse Bob in Brewer.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmX1RQ1m>

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWuFRh>

Damariscotta and Pemaquid Point

Frances Perkins lived in this town and later was Secretary of Labor under FDR. The lighthouse grounds had many monarch butterflies.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWoxbU>

Brunswick

Visited Joshua Chamberlain museum and home of Harriet Beecher Stowe. Met with another cousin Judi and spouse Bill who showed us her translation project from 1700's. Saw house of Lucy Graham, daughter of my grandmother's 1st cousin.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW3Epe>

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWo7CR>

Bailey Island

This island was purchased by my 5th great-grandfather, Timothy Bailey, for his wife, Hannah Curtis.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWnQTe>

Southport Island

Rachel Carson lived here; she wrote *Silent Spring*

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWZALA>

Wiscasset

We saw another of the narrow gauge WWF trains here.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWGwXC>

Freeport

Check out the McDonald's

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW5riN>

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Lee

We saw the Cartland house. Across the road was a Quaker meeting house used as a stop on the Underground Railroad.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVJLL3>

Dover

My 8th great-grandfather, [Richard Otis](#), had one of the garrison houses that was burned to the ground in the night attack. He was killed with his son and daughter. His wife, daughter, and 2 grandchildren were taken captive to Canada. Photos show only surviving garrison house.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVzbL1>

Concord

Saw another state capitol. This has 4 statues in front including Franklin Pierce.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWd7En>

MASSACHUSETTS

Lenox

Visited the Ventfort Hall [mansion](#) of the gilded age. House was built for sister of J.P. Morgan and later rented to Margaret Vanderbilt.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW4xKT>

Wahconah Falls

Saw the beautiful falls in Dalton, not far from home of my 1st cousin's family and aunt.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVyx7i>

Keystone Arch Bridges

Great railroad arches with waterfalls.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWEGuc>

Mount Greylock

Visited the highest point in Massachusetts with my aunt and her family.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWWEwk9>

Edith Wharton home

Visited her home with my family including niece and spouse from New Mexico.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVGoEd>

Hinsdale

Saw some nice nighttime skies.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW2USM>

Herman Melville home

The book Moby Dick was written here.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmX1oxZ2>

VERMONT

Manchester

Hildene was the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the president, who was a successful lawyer and later president of the [Pullman Palace Car Co.](#)

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmX1onxf>

St. Albans

This was the northernmost [engagement](#) of the Civil War. We loved the 'artwork' in the city park with scarves, mittens, hats.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWZYpZs>

NEW YORK

Miscellaneous

Viewed some leaves changing colors.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWV7HzV>

Fort Ticonderoga

Visited [fort](#) with action in the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWW2kUT>

Point au Fer

This was another important military [post](#) in the French and Indian War.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVFwfa>

[Point au Fer history](#)

Plattsburgh

We saw the Air Force Base Museum across from the War of 1812 Museum.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVgzMo>

Lake Champlain

We drove all around this lake.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVB4ZQ>

Ulysses S Grant Cottage

President/General US Grant wrote his memoirs here.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWV6R7k>

Albany

We saw the impressive State Capitol and the Empire State Plaza. Met with Ashley and Adam.

With our Avis auto rental, we drove 1,700 miles.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVAjUm>