## Spring Has Sprung in Amish Country

Written by Susan Hollingshead Sunday, 22 April 2007 06:26



Finally we are adjusting to the time change; not the most recent one but Central Time which we left behind in Alabama! We'll need to get into the swing of things pretty quickly though because tomorrow we will be awakened very early by the Travel Supreme service department. Around here things get started at the crack of dawn so if we aren't up, showered and dressed before we get the knock on the door we'll have to wait until we get our rig back later in the afternoon.

Today we took a leisurely ride around the area on the motorcycle, stopping in neighbouring Nappanee for lunch at <u>Mancino&#8217;s Italian Eatery</u> before continuing on. This must be the first great riding weekend of the season because bikers were out in droves and at one point Rick jokingly suggested we turn around. He was getting tired of acknowledging each oncoming biker with a customary wave, (something bikers do). Because of the lack of a helmet law, we loved not wearing a hot one on our heads and enjoyed the feeling of the wind flowing through our hair.

Our travels took us all around the many paved back roads of the area where we saw tidy Amish and Mennonite farmsteads with grazing horses and their new foals alongside them. Being a Sunday, the normally thriving businesses in the neighbouring Amish/Mennonite towns were closed for the sabbath and things were unusually quiet. Occasionally we would come across a family or two riding in their black buggies and a few folks riding on bicycles, possibly returning from a prayer meeting or on their way to a family gathering. At one house it was intriguing to see a group of teenagers enjoying a friendly game of volleyball dressed in dresses and bonnets or long pants and white dress shirts. What seemed odd is that just a few houses away we came across an apparently non-Amish woman mowing her lawn in a bathing suit!

We enjoyed our ride around the countryside helmetless, on our bike; seeing the obvious and welcome signs of spring and knowing tomorrow the cooler temperatures will arrive with some

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forecasted precipitation.