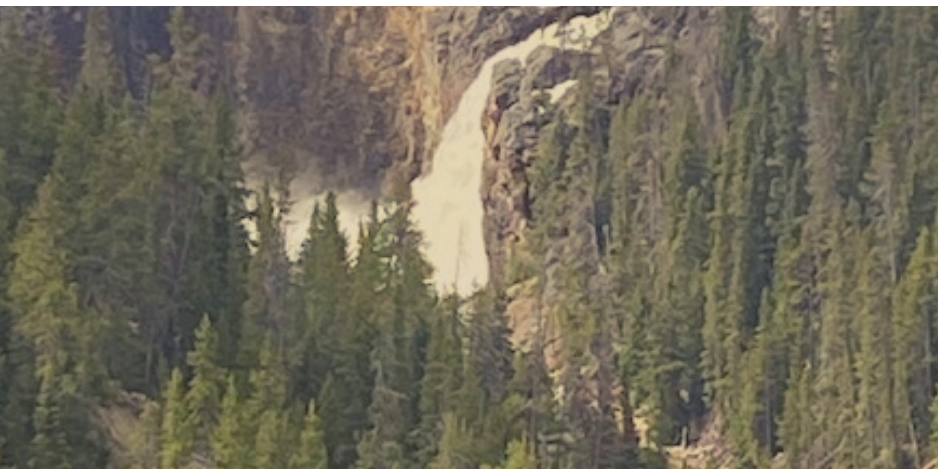




Westward Bound

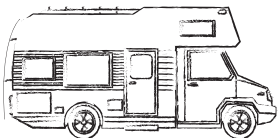
SUMMER ROAD TRIP 2021

with Janet Schmidt



I started out my **Summer of National Parks** at Yellowstone. Lots of people were out enjoying the hiking in this amazing park. Old Faithful did NOT disappoint!

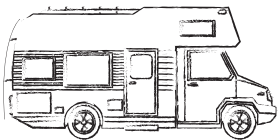
It snowed two nights (Did I say "summer" of national parks?), so we had to adjust to very different temperatures than Sarasota, for sure!





Morning Glory thermal spring is still as awe-inspiring as it was when I saw it as a small child.

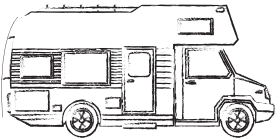
Being from Montana, I was lucky to visit this park often in my youth.





Incredible views all around us, like here at the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone!

The only signs of COVID here were **Help Wanted** signs everywhere. The park was very short-staffed, so many stores and hotels were still closed.





Grand Teton is an amazing park. The mountains are incredible!

While hiking the Moses Trail, we saw a moose. There are only 50 in the park, so I was so very fortunate to see one in the wild. Moose can be very dangerous, so I kept my distance.

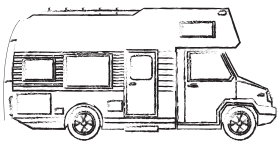




We explored Bryce Canyon on e-bikes to thwart the crowds. Best thing ever!

And of course we hiked among the Hoodoos - simply breathtaking!

Then we explored the bottom. Of course, what goes down must hike back up!





Red Canyon (left) is a smaller, less popular park in Utah - beautiful hiking, though!

Zion (below), on the other hand, was like going to Disneyland. The crowds on the trails were unbelievable! We used e-bikes again to get into the park; I have never seen so many people! The hikes were gorgeous, though.

And... we're off to our next destination!

