

## John's Journey - Day 7

April 7, 2009

New Madrid, MO to Malden, MO

I got up early this morning, fed the mules & pulled out at 7:50 AM. It was just a little cool but an awesome morning.

Up on highway 62 there must have been 50 or more semi-trucks passing us in both directions. After a few minutes Jack had enough & threw just a little fit. I knew he had never seen so many trucks one right after the other ever before. They are both getting a lot of road savvy & nothing should shake them before too long.

Two ladies stopped me and asked me to pull into Howardville Head-Start School in Howardville, MO.





The principal's name was Mrs. Wilma Woods. We spoke for a few minutes and she gave me a rain suit, and gloves. She called her husband & he brought them over to me at the school. After the past few days of rain and bad weather, I couldn't thank her enough.

I met the entire staff. They sure were nice folks. They have an enrollment of 60 children.

I also stopped at Risco Elementary School in Risco, MO.



I met Shelia Halford, one of the teachers and talked to the kids & told them all about the mules & a little bit about my journey west.



Somewhere on the road between Risco & Malden, MO, I drove past a VOR aircraft navigational site. As a pilot, I knew what it was immediately, but I had never seen one from the ground.

I drove on to Malden MO. There were several people around and a little boy from the Risco elementary school handed me a dollar to help me buy feed for the mules - I did not get his name and I'm sorry about that, but I want you to know that I really did appreciate it.

I am parked tonight at the Rubber Duck Package Store. Robert & Inez Hankin are the owners of the store and they are allowing me to stay behind their place.

I got the mules all settled & noticed that Britt could hardly walk. I walked over to her & instantly saw that the problem was sand spurs in her paws. They were all over the ground so I took a pair of pliers and pulled

them all out & then put a tarp on the ground for her.  
I know she really appreciated that because she didn't  
walk off that tarp.

We travelled about 26 miles today.