Gary C Worrell

From: Gary C Worrell [gcw@igx.net]
Sent: 12 January, 2010 00:27

To: 'Gary C Worrell'
Subject: Postcard

Attachments: Hello2010.jpg; Manatee01a.jpg; Manatee02a.jpg; BlueSpringLanding01a.jpg;

NewSmyrnaBeach05a.jpg; PonceDeLeonLighthouseA.jpg; Merrittlsland04a.jpg;

Merrittlsland08a.jpg; CanaveralNationalSeashore01a.jpg;

ShuttleEndeavourLaunchPad39A01a.jpg; DaytonaHiltonView01a.jpg; HalifaxRiver01a.jpg

Happy New Year, hope everyone is well.

Just got back from a week in Daytona Beach Florida visiting family.

I drove my trusty Tacoma, complete with TacomaCAM5. It's about 14 hours one way, and at one frame every two seconds, played back at 15 frames per second, it's about a half hour per leg to watch (and large download file sizes). So if you want to put yourself to sleep, just play one or both of these, prop your head on a pillow, and watch. Driving it kind of felt the same way. NOTE that on the trip down, I jumped off Interstate95 and cut across to the coast just South of St. Augustine Florida, and followed the coast to Daytona Beach. Along the way is Marineland, Matanzas Inlet Bridge (I sent you a Sunrise from the bridge last April), Hammock, Flagler Beach & Ormond Beach, among others. I followed nearly the same path back today, beginning at 4:30 AM. I also did some illegal shopping (shopping for illegals?) on the way home...

http://igx.net/Video/TacomaCAM/TacomaCAM5.0-100104-2sec15FPS.wmv (280mb)

http://igx.net/Video/TacomaCAM/TacomaCAM5.1-100111-2sec15FPS.wmv

An additional video from the hotel window looks over Daytona towards the Halifax River. It's one frame per minute for just under two days, played back at 15 frames per second. NOTE the daylight moon coming in from the upper left during the second midday in the video.

http://igx.net/Video/DaytonaCAM/DaytonaCAM100105-1min15FPS.wmv

Central Florida just went through a record setting cold spell (complete with sleet & snow) that encompassed the entire week I was visiting. I had hoped to get some sun while there, but the temperatures didn't allow me any quality outside time. So I had to settle for opening the SouthWest-facing balcony door in my hotel room and sitting in a chair in the room catching late afternoon rays when possible.

While there we visited Blue Springs Landing State Park, where an underground spring dumps 72 degree F water into the St. Johns River. The warmer water attracts Manatees during the Winter months, and with the cold spell, they numbered in the hundreds.

I also took a road trip to Cocoa Beach (been a decade since I'd seen it last) along the coast.

Along the way I drove the beaches of New Smyrna, and promptly got stuck in the sand going to the furthest North reach to get a picture of Ponce de Leon Lighthouse. The picture is where the truck got stuck. Fortunately, I always carry TacomaTOW-STRAP.

Continuing South, I drove through the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Lots of natural beauty.

Then I visited the Canaveral National Seashore. From the South end of the park, Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39 Pads A & B are clearly visible, with Shuttle Endeavour preparing for a February launch.

Cocoa Beach was pretty much as you would expect after a decade of development and change - more crowded. I did have a hot dog at the Cocoa Beach Pier before I left.

Last but not least, a couple of night shots from the hotel balcony.

Cheers, G.

http://igx.net/Postcards























