



DALENE ROVENSTINE
SPECIAL ISSUE
EDITOR

I learned at a young age how to vacation on a budget. Until I was in middle school, I thought a vacation meant driving 18 long hours from my house in Bartlesville, Okla., to my grandparents' house in Rapid City, S.D. Even though we went every year, it was always my favorite week during the summer.

We had our yearly trip rituals: stopping at an old-fashioned A&W in North Platte, Neb., fishing and panning for gold with my uncle and visiting Mount Rushmore. Sometimes my dad added extra adventures: visiting Carhenge in Alliance, Neb., detouring eight hours just to climb a sand dune in Colorado and taking the "faster" route through unpaved Native American reservations while my mom yelled in protest from the passenger seat.

Once we arrived in South Dakota, my extended family helped us save money, too. My grandma served us tasty meals of enchiladas or lasagna using my grandpa's elk or deer kill left over from the winter. My uncle would entertain us by shooting

the food we didn't eat out of a homemade potato gun.

The long drive and cheap recreation were fun, but it was a rare treat to go to Branson, which was closer to home. Even though our two writers (Page 8) experienced the real Branson, to me it will always be Silver Dollar City's silversmith and candy makers.

Wherever we went, my parents always tried to stay on a budget. Now I prefer my vacations to involve a plane, but I still like to keep costs low. Using travel sites, such as the ones listed on Page 4, and mini-vacays, such as our day trips on Page 12, are thrifty ways to have fun, which is ideal for people who prefer their money in the bank.

DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTURE • 4

New airline fees make it expensive to get out of town. Learn travel tips and tricks to keep your next vacation from breaking the bank.

OFF THE MAP • 6

Do you crave the smell of fresh air but hate the scent of bug spray? You don't have to be outdoorsy to enjoy glamping, a new spin on the traditional tent, water canteen and sleeping bag.

IN THE AIR • 18

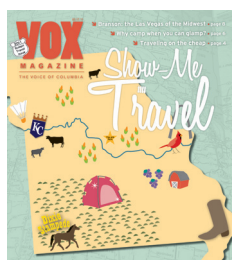
CoMo's changing weather has everyone singing the blues. Trade the slush for some live music and barbecue with a ticket to Memphis from Columbia Regional. Beale Street and Graceland beat freak temperature swings any day.

LAST EXIT • 21

Jill Allen creates travel dreams while averting vacation nightmares. As a travel agent, Allen sends people across the nation and around the globe with the click of a mouse.

CALENDAR • 22

FILM FARE • 23



on the
cover

DESIGN BY
Mary Delaware

FEATURES

BEST OF BRANSON | 8

Two Vox writers and a photographer experience Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede, the Hollywood Wax Museum and The Strip to find out what it's like to visit Branson. These are only a few attractions at one of Missouri's tourist destinations.



ALL IN A DAY TRIP | 12

A full tank of gas and a charged iPod can take food junkies, history buffs, art connoisseurs and nature enthusiasts on easy-to-plan trips from St. Louis to Kansas City and quite a few places in between.



MORE TRAVEL ONLINE

Suitcase stuffers

Before wearing those vacation clothes, you've got to pack them. Learn the best ways to get five pairs of shoes into a carry-on.

Pick your day trip

Antique-lovers and sports fanatics will find plenty to explore along Missouri's highways.

Around the world

Paris and Mexico are just a short drive away. Missouri boasts its own versions of these and other international locations.

Painful memories

Sometimes vacations don't go as planned. Read two Columbians' stories of misadventure.



March 17, 2011 | Volume 13, Issue 11
Published by the COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

VOXMAGAZINE.COM
TWITTER.COM/VOXMAG
FACEBOOK.COM/VOXMAGAZINE

EDITOR: Kelsey Whipple
DEPUTY EDITOR: Amanda Woytus
MANAGING EDITOR: Amber Wade
SPECIAL ISSUE EDITOR: Dalene Rovenstine
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Erica Mendez
ART DIRECTOR: Aaron Channon
ART DIRECTOR: Stefanie Kienstra
ONLINE EDITOR: Ileana Llorens
PHOTO COORDINATOR: Hayley Bartels
CALENDAR EDITOR: Theresa Berens

ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITORS

Robert Givens
Allison Tripolitis
FEATURE EDITORS
Zoey Larsen, Kaitlin Motley
SPECIAL ISSUE DESIGNERS
Erica Hunt, Nicole Malinowski,
Kaylee Nelson, Tanya Ortiz
INSIGHT EDITORS
Jessica Davis, Kaitlin Motley,
Lindsay Schallon, Christina Stiehl,
Jordan Wyner

SCENE/FILM FARE EDITORS

Robert Givens, Anna Moeslein,
Corey Motley, Ali Straka, Allison Tripolitis
MUSIC EDITORS
Caitlin Carter, Nick Friedman,
Mallory Gnaegy, Amanda Koellner

ARTS EDITORS

Amy Kluber, Megan Ogar, Trey Prothro
BOOKS/ENDNOTES EDITORS
Kelly Brdicka, Alison Jung, Zoey Larsen,
Dalene Rovenstine

DESIGNERS

Haleigh Castino, Ashley Cummins,
Sarah Morris, Danielle Rodabaugh, Chen Yao

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Josh Barone, Taylor Combs, Amber Dowler,
Samantha Highfill, Annie Hildebrandt,
Walker Moskop, Kelsey Mirando, Darren Orf,
Dustin Renwick, Nick Williams

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Jennifer Rowe
ONLINE EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Rhonda Prast
DIGITAL EDITOR
Kristin Kellogg
OFFICE MANAGER
Kim Townlain

CONTACT | vox@missouri.edu
(Phone) 884.6432 (Fax) 884.1870
320 Lee Hills Hall | Columbia, MO 65211
ADVERTISING | 882.5714