

Reported cases of malaria are on the rise

The International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers (IAMAT) warns that malaria is increasing among travelers to certain high-risk countries.

This warning is backed up by the World Health Organization, which has noted a dramatic increase in the number of malaria cases reported in the United States and Canada.

IAMAT, a non-profit organization which offers medical information and a list of recommended doctors world-wide, makes the following statement:

"With so many of us tripping off to the more exotic tropical destinations, the chances of contracting malaria are growing. Over 5 million Americans and Canadians traveled to the high-risk malaria countries last year. The result was a rise of 46 percent in cases reported in the U.S. and a startling 60 percent rise in those reported in Canada. The United Kingdom reported a 25 percent rise in reported cases resulting in 16 deaths."

The World Malaria Risk Chart, which is available from IAMAT, shows the high risk areas to be in Central America, northern South America, central and southern Africa, the Middle East, India and southeast Asia.

A pamphlet, "How to Protect Yourself Against Malaria," describes the nature of the disease and the preventive measures that can be taken by travelers visiting these areas. They recommend that you book your trip through a travel agent with a window sign that reads Alliance of Travel Agencies for Traveler Protection Against Malaria. They also

recommend that you ask your doctor for a preventive medicine called Chloroquine.

APPARENTLY malaria is different from other dangerous diseases in that it can usually be prevented by taking medication before, during and after exposure. Local inhabitants may be immune to malaria, but they still may carry the disease in their blood. A mosquito that bites such a person can carry the malaria to an unsuspecting traveler.

A resurgence of malaria in developing countries is also attributed to a growing resistance by the

carrier mosquito to insecticides. Health officials also blame ignorance on the part of travelers and the tendency of national tourist bureaus to play down the incidence of malaria.

I do not intend to alarm you with this information. I am not a doctor; I cannot evaluate the reports coming out of the medical community.

I can tell you, however, that concern has been expressed by the World Health Organization, city health departments, the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., or that you call your county health department for information they may have received from the World Health Organization. You can also contact IAMAT at 350 Fifth Ave., Suite 5620, New York, N.Y. 10001. This and other information is free from IAMAT, although they would love to have you as a member and would welcome a donation.



travel log

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Ozark Center working to keep folk arts alive

By IRIS SANDERSON JONES

ARKANSAS — We are heading north from Little Rock towards Greer's Ferry Lake and the Ozark Folk Center at Mountain View. The Ozark Mountains range across the north and west of Arkansas, highlighted by corp lakes and hot springs.

Corp lakes are those created by the Corp of Engineers for flood control, power and recreation. Greer's Ferry

Lake, 1½-hour drive north of Little Rock, is 40,000 acres of dammed-up water in the hilly, tree country near the town of Heber Springs.

The dam, which was created to hold back the Red River, one of the prime trout rivers in Arkansas, was dedicated by President John Kennedy a few weeks before his death.

The project killed some of the fish in the area, but it still contains plenty of bass, bream, crappie and catfish, and has been stocked with trout and walleye.

The Red River is liberally dotted with fishing resorts between the dam and Little Rock. They are cottage-style resorts that provide fishing guides and often canoe services. The Red is one of Arkansas' best float streams.

The shores of the lake are devoted to nature trails, campsites and developing tourist resorts, all run with gentle guidance from the Corp of Engineers. The corp has introduced solar energy into some of its camping buildings, and will pioneer new energy conservation techniques here next year.

Arkansians recommend a small resort called Red Apple Inn on an island just west of the town of Heber Springs. It was described to me by several people as a wonderful small inn, with a good dining room and three dozen individually furnished rooms at reasonable rates.

We are staying at a major retirement and recreational resort called Indian Rock Resort on Fairfield Bay, owned by a company that has several such resorts across the United States.

IT IS STRANGE to drive out of wilderness hills into a man-made village full of shops, condominiums, villas and a conference center, but it provides a needed full-service facility in the area. Land and water sports facilities are available.

Indian Rock has an unusual arrangement of villas for travelers who rent rooms by the night or for conferences. Each villa contains two large bedrooms divided by a lounge-kitchen-terrace. Two people can rent a room for about \$45, or you can rent the room with lounge suite for \$65.

The Corp of Engineers and the residents of Greer's Ferry Lake have won several awards for their annual cleanup campaign, which literally clears the shore of cans and other debris every September.

It is a one-hour drive through steep hills from Greer's Ferry Lake to the Ozark Folk Center at Mountain View, a small town in a basin of green trees and one of the traditional places for an Arkansas hootenay.

"Musicians just come out of the hills to play together at a hootenay."



Potter David Dahlstedt carries a tray of hefty ceramic mugs, a product of the Ozark Folk Center. At the site in Mountain View is an auditorium where musicians regularly gather for country jams, plus craft cottages, a restaurant and lodge. (Photos by Micky Jones)

The Mountain View Folklore Society still meets on Saturday night at the town courthouse, where the crafts people and musicians of the area first began to talk about preserving all these old folk arts in a permanent center.

It is a two-mile drive from Mountain View, past the Delimeter Shop, to the Ozark Folk Center. The center is 80 percent federally funded and 20 percent town funded, but it is operated by the state Department of Parks and Recreation.

Mountain View actually owns the land and buildings. The state pays rent every year to help them pay off their 20 percent investment. The 80-acre hilltop site includes a 1,045-foot auditorium, several dozen craft cottages, a conference center, restaurant, and lodge. It is open through Labor Day, with limited operations in September and October.

Travelers park and ride an open tram up a steep hill that rises through heavy forest to the center. As you enter the complex through the craft shop, you can see the mountain crafts being made in small buildings all over the

hill: brooms, dolls, quilts, cane-back chairs, wood carvings, pottery.

If your ears are sharp, you can already hear the music and the foot-stopping coming from the auditorium to your left.

There are 139 musicians under contract to the center, and some of them are always picking and plucking up a storm there. We were there for the annual guitar-picking contest, but you might hear anything from famous country music musicians to groups of Ozark musicians skilled at fiddle and guitar.

Simeon Magby, who learned to fiddle at age 14 in the town of Mountain Top, can be seen fiddling on stage or making music downhill in the craft cottages where Monty Avery, another musician, is retuning a violin.

Nearby, violin-maker Fairfax Abraham is working with an apprentice under the center's apprentice program, which is designed to teach a marketable skill. Short-term craft classes are also available at the center.

The crafts people at the Ozark Folk Center range from those who learned

their art at their parents' knees to those who learned it after the center was built. One of the goals of the center is to preserve folk art; another is to improve economic conditions here in the mountains.

WEAVER IDA BRANSUNC has been doing this since she was 7, but Jim Nelson started carving wood seriously when he was 27. Until then he "ran a bulldozer, worked on a ranch, cut cordwood."

Carl King, who is part Greek and runs the Indian craft cottage, worked on a drilling rig before he started doing beadwork here just after the center opened in 1973. He works now with several older Indian men and women, who are now teaching crafts to the young.

Vernon Roper, who grew up in these nearby hills, and spent his earlier adult years farming and running a bulldozer, is now the jack-of-all trades at the center. He stocks up the craft buildings and builds log cabins when necessary.

For information, write the Ozark Folk Center, Mountain View, Ark. 72560, or call 1-501-269-3881.



Quilting and woodcarving are two crafts practiced and studied at the center. Lois Dodson works on a quilt while woodcarver Les Richardson prepares a log.

tripping

See a little or a lot

• Detroit by bus

Between now and Sept. 30, Gray Line Tours will operate three bus tours of the Detroit area, giving conventioners and home-own-ers a look at each other.

The Detroit is a four-hour trek to and through Greenfield Village/Henry Ford Museum and the Ford Rouge complex. The International takes a three-hour ride to the major drawing cards — Civic Center, Hart Plaza, Renaissance Center and Belle Isle — and winds up with a trip to Windsor via the tunnel or bridge. The Highlighter combines the two and runs about seven hours.

Advance reservations are recommended but not required. Prices range \$7.50-\$15 for adults and from \$3.75-\$7.50 for children 6-12. Special rates available for groups of 25 or more. For schedules and other information, call 224-1555.

• Blue water boogie

The fastest drag boats in the U.S. and Canada will compete for American circuit points and a guaranteed purse of \$1,500 and plaque awards in the Blue

Water Classic at Holloway Reservoir June 21-22 in Columbiaville, Mich., north of Flint.

Time trials begin at 11 a.m. Saturday with elimination rounds scheduled for noon Sunday.

The boats will race side-by-side along a straight quarter-mile course. For information, call 334-4971 or 623-9647.

• Pier pleasure

Visit Chicago during June and you'll find on the Navy Pier jazz, bluegrass, country or blues concerts from 7 p.m. to midnight Thursdays-Saturdays. Soon to be there, "ChicagoFest '80" running Aug. 1-10 and 13-17. Agenda-wise, Pablo Cruise, Rufus, Crystal Gayle, and Dick Clark's "Rock & Roll Spectacular" with Chuck Berry. Other main-stagers: Sonny Rollins, Spyro Gyra, the Brecker Brothers, Art Blakey, Aaleap at the Wheel, the Chieftains, Earl Scruggs, Doug Kershaw, Belbert McClinton and Etta James.

• Hydroplane races

The Spirit of Detroit Hydroplane Race will happen on the Detroit River near Belle Isle Sunday, June 29.

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