

2011 CFO ANNUAL CONVENTION - A CHILDS VIEW

by Hannah M. Floyd, with Ted Floyd

This is a verbatim transcription of an account by Hannah Floyd, age 6 at the time, of the 2011 CFO Convention at Grand Junction. A few misspellings and orthographic infelicities have been corrected. [And Ted Floyd's editorial clarifications are provided in brackets.]

Friday, May 20th

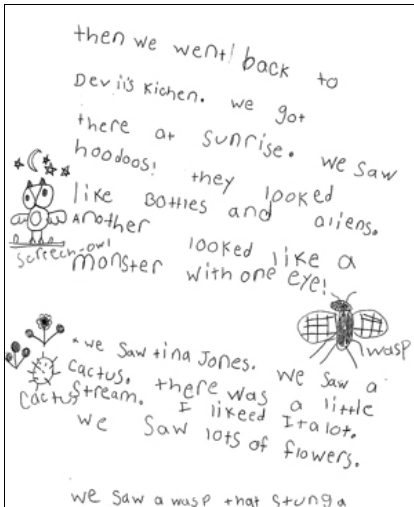
We left Boulder. It was kind of raining and snowing. Then it started to SNOW in the mountains. We went through lots of tunnels. Especially EISENHOWER Tunnel. Then we went over Vail Pass, and it was snowing very hard. All the trucks very going very slow. We called Mama.

We followed [ABA President] Jeff Gordon's car.

We got to our hotel and we heard a bird talk. It was a bird contest. [Colorado Birds Editor] Nathan [Pieplow] was in charge. Our team was named the owls. I went to bed late.

Saturday, May 21st

The next day we went birdwatching [at Connected Lakes State Park, Mesa County]. We saw Gambel's Quails. They ran like crazy. They looked like balls. They were white, black, orange, and gray. And they had little things on their heads!!



Excerpt from Hannah's notebook

aliens. Another looked like a monster with one eye!

We saw [Calliope Hummingbird enthusiast] Tina Jones. We saw a cactus. There was a little stream. I liked it a lot. We saw lots of flowers.

We saw a wasp that stung a caterpillar so it could lay its eggs in it. The wasp dragged the caterpillar into a hole.

We saw Black-throated Sparrows. Their bellies were gray. Their heads were black and white and gray.

Then we went back to our hotel. We got ready to go to the swimming pool. When we got there, I went to the deep end with Papa. We went to the hot tub again.

Then we went home. We went to Dillon Reservoir [in Summit County]. I loved the playground there. There was something that spun around and around and around. You had to walk on it to make it spin. I did NOT want to leave. Papa was watching phalaropes. They also spin around and around and around. It was cloudy and cool.

My favorite birds of the whole convention were the [Gambel's Q]uails! My favorite place was definitely Devil's Kitchen. My favorite person [other than Ted Floyd??] was Nathan Pieplow.



Ted and Hannah Floyd -
photo by Tom Wilberding

When we got back to the hotel, we went to the swimming pool. I was scared when Papa took me into five feet. There was a hot tub!

We ate lunch at Subway.

Then went to Devil's Kitchen [at Colorado National Monument, Mesa County]. On the way there, I got a special stuffy, and it was a rabbit. We saw big rocks, including rocks stacked up. They were brownish-orange. We saw bushes and sand.

We saw all kinds of birdwatchers!

Then we went back to the hotel, and then we went to a banquet. We ate chicken. Jeff Gordon gave a talk. [Xcel Energy engineer and CFO award recipient] Dave Madonna's daughters were there. Again, I went to bed late.

Sunday, May 22nd

The next morning we woke up very early, and we went to go see [Western S]creech-[O]wls. I thought Papa was making the noises. I said, "Papa, are you doing that?" He said, "Shh! Shh! Shh!" They were real screech-owls. They sounded like bouncing balls.

Then we went back to Devil's Kitchen. We got there at sunrise. We saw hoodoos. They looked like bottles and



Field trip participants -
photo by Tom Wiberding