

Jeannie Harmon

1. Why did you sign up for hike and how old were you?
50 years old. I signed up because I ran into Glenn Seaborg who was scouting the CA route with his son. He told me about the hike and asked if I'd help with planning the hike through Mt. Diablo, which I led guided hikes in.
2. What is your favorite experience from the hike?
I had so many; Arkansas was nice. Really the scenery of the whole hike.
3. Did you have an "ah-ha moment" on the hike and what was it?
Not really an aha. Not like when I climbed Mt. Whitney.
4. What was your favorite state and why?
Tim and Terry made us feel good in AK, but really, all the good people and experiences I had the whole way.
5. What was your least favorite part of the hike?
Being lost a few times. Sometimes pathfinders didn't show up. Days of extreme cold.
6. How did the hike change you?
Gave me self-confidence.
7. What do you tell people about your achievement now?
I tell people I carried a 50lb pack across the country. That we met so many nice folks along the hike, on front porches, that offered help, food, etc.
8. What would you have changed about the hike?
Nothing. Maybe some weather along the way.
9. Did you pursue other hiking/backpacking afterwards? Long journeys or weekends?
I lead a few backpacks, mostly day hikes though. I did a lot in Yosemite and was Trail Chairman for Mt. Diablo Interpretive Association. I got a black belt in martial arts at age 60.
10. What did you learn about yourself that you are willing to share?
I learned to depend on myself and that I can do anything. Sometimes people held out a hand to help on scary, sheer drops. That felt good.
11. Did it make you a stronger person?
I have been active my whole life, no car, always walked or roller-skated where I needed.

12. Are you proud of your accomplishment
Oh yes. Mainly share it to inspire other people.
13. What was the dumbest thing you did on the hike?
I left it up to Cindy to tame rattlesnakes.
14. What was your most vivid memory from the hike?
They all blend together. Mostly the nice people along the way.
15. What was your funniest moment on hike?
One night Marce and I were late and got lost together. It wasn't really funny.
The Halloween outfits.
16. What was your most embarrassing moment on the hike?
Coming around the trail and seeing someone's rear end, as they had to pee.
17. What was your nickname on the hike?
Hot Lips.
18. Anything else you want to add?
It was interesting to hike with different people and watch people grow.