

A Passion For Parks!

I started collecting National Parks years ago. It seemed like the natural thing to do. Most people have visited at least one of the nation's national parks, and I'm certainly one of those visitors—the desert parks of the Southwest, the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Sequoia, Yosemite, and others. When my sons were younger, I took them on a grand tour of the Southwest, visiting parks in California, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Arizona, and more. The majesty and grandeur of such parks leaves a lasting impression...creating nostalgia...and creating a great reason to collect National Parks!

But, it was long before I began coming upon *other* national parks, parks from distant lands, parks with exotic names and scenes...so, of course, I added them to my collection, as well—Jasper National Park, Canada; Kosciusko National Park, Australia; Fuji-Hakone National Park, Japan; etc.

And *then*, I started running across *state* parks! Covers with wonderful names—Big Bone Lick State Park, Giant City State Park, Mohican State Park, Silver Creek Falls State Park, Starved Rock State Park, and so on...Well, I *had* to add *those* to my collection!

Thus, what started out as my National Park collection turned into a Parks collection. But, it didn't stop there...Oh, no....You can imagine my surprise when I discovered that there were covers from *city* parks! And covers from *county* parks! Ohhhhhh! And what about amusement parks? No, I draw the line there. Amusement parks go into my Famous Places collection

I still haven't decided what to do about National Monuments!

