

Maritime Day 45    October 6, 2010    50 degrees F, Overcast

Breakfast out at Cracker Barrel got a 4-0 vote, so off we went at 9:30. Onward to the Civil War Battlefield at Antietam at Sharpsburg, Maryland. The battle fought here was the bloodiest one-day battle of the Civil War with 23,000 men killed, wounded or missing at the end of September 17, 1862. The site is a National Park that has preserved the landscape and a few bridges or buildings in their original form. It was after this battle that President Lincoln wrote and read his Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves in states in rebellion and giving the Union war effort two goals: preserve the Union and end slavery. Neither side was a winner at Antietam.

By the time we finished at the National Park, it was 3:00 and we were hungry. Bill found a Ruby Tuesday's on our route to the campground so we stopped and enjoyed their salad bar and other good food. We drove on to the KOA in Staunton, Virginia and settled in for the night.