



Ox Tales

About Blue Ox & Its Travels

June 2007

New Heavy-Duty Gooseneck Hitch

Blue Ox' Diamond Hitch™ is convenient, strong and safe



Blue Ox has added a premium heavy-duty gooseneck hitch to its portfolio of products. The Diamond Hitch™ is convenient to use, has great safety features and is designed for easy installation.

Blue Ox, a manufacturer of towing, braking, steering and hitch systems, acquired Diamond Hitch from Paul Roberts this past fall. "The Diamond Hitch fits well with the other products we offer. This new product allows us to offer a hitch solution for heavier trailers," said Jay Hesse, president of Blue Ox. "This hitch is a great option for people who have to haul heavy work trailers. This includes farm and ranch trailers, construction trailers and auto haulers."

Two features that make Diamond Hitch an exceptional premium product are its unique Inverta™ Ball design and the spring loaded locking ball system:

- The Inverta Ball design allows you to easily remove the ball, flip it upside down and store it in the hitch, leaving the bed of the pickup unobstructed and flat.
- The lock to hold the ball into place is designed into the ball. No more reaching into a muddy fender well to pull a lever or release a lock or cable. The spring loaded locking system also eliminates any chance of forgetting to

engage a fender well locking mechanism. A locking tab allows visual verification that the ball is locked into towing position.

Its modular design allows for quicker one-person installation and added

**Need to find a Blue Ox dealer.
Call us at (888) 425-5382**

strength. The hitch bolts directly on to the frame of the pickup under the bed. There is no need to remove the truck bed and no welding is required.

With the Diamond Hitch's below the bed design, only one four-inch hole is drilled into the truck bed. The Inverta ball design allows for complete truck bed use when not towing a trailer.

For more information on the complete line of Blue Ox® towing systems, braking systems, steering controls, carriers, weight distributing hitch systems, gooseneck hitches and accessories contact us at the phone number or e-mail address shown in the box below. 🌐

**"The key to customer service is being accessible,"
Call (402) 385-3051
E-mail: info@blueox.us**

Dick and Laurie Lundy are Blue Ox's roving correspondents. They are full-time RVers who travel everywhere Blue Ox products are used. They write on things of interest to RVers and anyone interested in travel.



**Dick and Laurie
Lundy's
Travelin'
Tales**

Oklahoma's Turner Falls

Idon't think we've ever driven past the Turner Falls sign on I-35 in south central Oklahoma without thinking, "We need to stop here sometime."

Getting there

I-35 southbound, take exit 51. Drive south on U.S. 77 about a mile. Well signed entrance to the park on the right side.

I-35 northbound, take exit 47. Drive north on U.S. 77 about 3 miles (to the bottom of the hill). Entrance to park on left.

We finally did. With two of our grandchildren, we visited Turner Falls Park for the first time on a beautiful fall weekend.

Driving from the fee kiosk to the RV park, the kids got their first excitement. We had to ford Honey Creek. It's called a "low water crossing." I take it this means it isn't meant to be crossed when the creek is running high; not unless you actually intend to use your RV for a houseboat. Leaving Honey Creek, we turned southwest and forded another stream, then drove up a steep hill to the RV park.

Contact Susan for subscriptions for friends, reprints, answers, etc. Phone (888) 425-5382, Fax (402) 385-3360, e-mail oxtales@blueox.us Subscriptions are also available at www.blueox.com.

It was nearly dark by the time we got set up, so we ended outdoor exploring and just enjoyed each other.

Next morning, we continued exploring. Across from the RV park is a large parking lot. At the east end is a hidden stairway leading to trails down the

What's there

Camping, hiking, swimming, picnicing
32 pull through RV sites with water & electric only, RV dump

Tent camping

Cabin rentals

C-stores, restaurant, church

Bathhouses, laundry, restrooms, showers

Police station, 24 hour security patrol

steep, rocky, tree covered hillside leading to the precipice overlooking Honey Creek. Footing is rough because of the rock formations. Good hiking boots and a walking stick would be suitable for the terrain. With many signs of human degradation the hillside is not pristine by any stretch of the imagination. However, the rocks here can withstand a lot of punishment before the area's natural beauty is ruined. We explored a cave the size of a small bedroom in a rock for-



A sample of the terrain. The water is the falls viewed from above.

mation near the precipice. The cave has two entrances, one a crawl space, the other a walkway. It also has a chimney like hole in the ceiling, and a window looking out onto the Honey Creek gorge. This is one of three caves in the park - small and great for kiddy exploring.

We found ourselves in a couple areas on the hillside where I was uncomfort-

Copy or print-out interesting articles and pass them along to friends. Or, call or e-mail and ask us to send a copy of the newsletter to your friends. Have your friends call for a free subscription.

Call Susan at (888) 425-5382 or e-mail her at oxtales@blueox.us

able because I fear heights, and I was wearing tennies rather than hiking boots. For the most part, though, this part of our exploring was a lot of fun for both adults and kids. The kids were excited and enjoyed it greatly.

We returned to the RV for lunch, after which we elders took a nap and the kids played games. After the naps, we continued exploring. First, we took a driving tour of the tent camping sites. There are about 500 of them. We've tent camped a lot, so we're always interested in what's offered tenters. These look like camp sites we would enjoy. All seem to be private and nicely shaded.

Next, we drove to the base of the hill to explore the castle and the falls.



The falls. Note the swimming hole at the base.

First the castle. This is an extraordinary structure built into the heavily wooded hillside, about 50 yards above Honey Creek, maybe a quarter mile below the falls. The castle has long been unoccupied, and its interior was badly vandalized before the windows and doors were removed and replaced with iron bars. You can see enough of the interior to pretty much guess what it was like. The exterior, all stone (probably native limestone), gives an impression of a much more grandiose and spacious interior than is actually the case. The exterior does, indeed, look like a castle. It and various out-buildings are topped with battlemented parapets. The windows are small, as if the owners expected attack from invaders. Extensive garden walls and walkways are also battlemented. Great place for kids to explore. How often do you get to climb onto a castle's battlements?

The castle was built in the Depression of the 1930s by a Dr. Collins of Oklahoma City. He hired a couple from the Turner Falls area to live on site and do the actual construction. When the castle was completed, Dr. Collins used it as a summer home. Later, it was used as a ranch headquarters.

Leaving the castle, we walked upstream to the falls which give Turner

What we thought

It seemed to us like a great place for family fun. Overall, we liked Turner Falls, and would visit again.

On the dark side: This is an old park. It seemed a little shopworn. Also, it seemed a little pricey to us. The RV site was \$25 per night, plus \$3 per night for each person, all plus tax. The tab for two nights was over \$80.

Falls its name. They are the tallest in Oklahoma. Cascading over and around huge rocks, the falls is split into three

Got a technical question. Call Blue Ox at (888) 425-5382.

waterways dropping 77' into a natural swimming hole which is enormously popular in the heat of summer.

With its mowed lawns, cement walkways and retaining walls, life-guard towers, bathhouses, etc., the area downstream from the falls is more like a city park than the wilderness area implied by our morning explorations. Downstream from the entrance gate are several more natural swimming holes, ideal for summer enjoyment.

Although uncrowded in the fall, Turner Falls Park leaves the impression of being a very, very popular summer destination for folks from Dallas/Fort Worth to the south and Oklahoma City to the north. © 2007 *Travelbug Enterprises, LLC*



Ox Tales

About Blue Ox and Its Travels January 2007

Ox Tales is published every other month by Blue Ox Products, One Mill Road, Industrial Park, Pender, NE 68074.

Free subscriptions are available by calling or e-mailing Susan at (888) 425-5382 or oxtales@blueox.us, or on our website at www.blueox.com.

Articles indicated to be separately copyrighted have been used with permission. All other content is copyrighted by the publisher.

© 2007 Blue Ox Products