

2009 travels started for Chuck with John Deere Drive Green in Houston. Cindy headed to Atlanta for the International Poultry Expo while Chuck went to Phoenix for the National Cattle Industry Convention. In February, Cindy traveled to San Francisco for the National Biodiesel Conference, to Louisville for the National Farm Machinery Show, and with Chuck to the National Ethanol Conference in San Antonio and Commodity Classic in Grapevine. Chuck also went to the Weed Science Society annual meeting in Orlando and to Ft. Worth and Murphreesboro for John Deere Drive Green blogging. In March, Drive Green took Chuck to Raleigh, NC and Danville, KY. Cindy was in Dallas for a Boehringer-Ingelheim swine health event. Chuck visited Oxford, PA and Monkton, MD on the Drive Green circuit in April, we both went to Atlanta for NAMA, and Chuck went to DC with NAFB. In May, Chuck was in Fresno, CA and Lynden, WA to wrap up his Drive Green experience. He also went to Lexington, KY for Alltech. Cindy stayed close to home with only day trips to St. Louis for World Ag Forum, Columbia and Warsaw for the Missouri Beef Industry Council. In June, Cindy was in Des Moines for World Pork Expo and Nashville for New Holland at the Country Music Festival. Chuck went to the ribbon cutting for the new Novus building in St. Charles, MO, to Boston for an American Farm Bureau meeting, and then to Denver for both AFBF and the Fuel Ethanol Workshop.

July saw Chuck's travel severely curtailed after a trip to Springfield, IL for Leah Guffey Bannister's wedding. He spent the majority of July in and out of the emergency room, the hospital and doctor's offices as he fought a weird pneumonia that required surgery. Cindy picked up the slack, however, covering the Southern Peanut Growers meeting in Panama City with daughter Carly, the Cattle Industry summer meeting in Denver with freelancer Amanda Nolz, the US Grains Council meeting in San Diego, a BASF field day in Belleville, IL and on to Ft. Worth with Carly and Joanna Schroeder for the IFAJ/AMS meeting. She still managed to be home for most of the 10 days Chuck spent in the hospital! In August, Chuck was still recovering, so Cindy went to Portland, OR for the American Phytopathological Society annual meeting, to Carolina Beach, NC for Boehringer-Ingelheim, and to Washington, IA for PIC International.

Chuck got back in the saddle again at the beginning of September as we traveled with daughter Carly to Farm Progress Show in Decatur, IL. We both went to Des Moines for a Pioneer Forage Media Day, Cindy went to Minnetonka, MN for the Syngenta Seeds grand opening, and Chuck went pheasant hunting in South Dakota. In October, Chuck went to San Francisco to learn about Fluidigm while Cindy traveled to Madison with Carly for World Dairy Expo. Chuck also went to Lexington again for Alltech, Las Vegas for Blog World, and Moultrie, GA for Sunbelt Ag Expo. November was mainly spent in Missouri for both of us, from Purdy to Chillicothe for BASF Headline Harvest reports to Kansas City for NAMA, NAFB and BIVI to Pilot Grove for hunting. Chuck also went to the POET Project Liberty field day in Emmetsburg, IA.

The beginning of December saw Chuck in Casablanca, Morocco with the US Grains Council Corn Mission. He also visited Cairo, Egypt and Amman, Jordan on that trip – along with a bunch of other cities and little towns in those countries. Except for a trip to Springfield, MO for the Missouri Cattlemen's meeting, Cindy spent most of the month in Illinois and Iowa – from Champaign for the University of Illinois AGMasters conference, to Chicago for a BIVI PRRS seminar, and then the great adventure of BASF (late) harvest interviews in West Union and

Conrad, IA and Kankakee and Cullom, IL. We also spent a fabulous few days of R&R in Panama City Beach.

Not even counting multiple trips to St. Louis and Kansas City during 2009, that totals about 60 different cities this year. We'll try to do better in 2010!