other craters spewing mud and mineral water and emitting sulfurous smoke all around. The Mammoth Springs has walkways encompassing the area, which allows one to spot the bright colours on the springs that are produced by algae and bacteria. While driving around, whenever we found a few cars stopping to see the animals, we would follow them. We were fortunate to see deer-some with big antlers, bear (we saw a not-so-big Cinnamon Bear but not the Grizzly), Moose and Bison, of which the last one was plentiful at most places, this being a Bison-country. Though there are 300 documented bird species in the Park, we did not see many birds.

The Old Faithful, true to its name, did not fail us. We were told that it erupted approximately



Jackson Lake, Mountains and clouds in Wyoming.

sixty to ninety minutes apart and it did just that. You sit on benches arranged as an amphitheatre awaiting the geyser to do its miracle. As it erupts it slowly starts by rising in a silvery cascade of steaming water up to ten feet but after a few such attempts, it rises higher and becomes bigger with a lot of sound. I estimated the height during our time there at 70 feet but records indicate heights of up to 150 feet. As in other parts of the Park, there was a General Store at this site selling souvenirs, gift items, food, drinks and groceries.

After two days, we reluctantly left the Park, exiting through its south gate towards Jackson Hole, 120 miles away. On both sides were high mountains. Sculpted by erosion, some of these had an elevation of 10,000 feet or more, with lingering snow and canyons, patches of plants in crevices and fragile meadows transitioning to bare rocks higher up. With magnificent views of the Lewis Falls and the Jackson Lake on the way, it was a pleasant and scenic drive. At an altitude of 6500 feet, Jackson Hole was a pretty little town chartered about a hundred years ago. The Grand Teton and Provence Mountains surrounded the valley. The town, popular for skiing and visited in the winter by the rich and the famous, has wooden structures, most of which were not more than two-stories high. Jackson Hole town square was most interesting with its fancy stores and restaurants arranged in straight blocks. Its unique sidewalks made of wooden planks were similar to the boardwalks along the beaches in the USA. The square and the shops were illuminated - perhaps it is so throughout the year and it was fun to walk around and dine.

The ski slopes, cut through the pine forests in straight lines, were clearly visible from our hotel. Our better halves wanted to see the rich man's abode but they lived far away from the ordinary crowd in gated communities, their big villas hidden in their private forests. Both in Jackson Hole and the Grand Teton Village, also an attractive Ski resort, we caught only glimpses of the these villas on the mountain-sides. Grand Teton Village had cattle and horse ranches as well as large resort-type hotels, chair lifts for skiing and other sports. From Jackson Hole we managed a quick trip to the National Museum of Wildlife Art at a truly unique site on a hill overlooking the meadows, the animals and the streams in the nearby mountains. The graceful museum building was decorated with life-size bronze sculptures of Bison, Deer, Moose and Wolves. Inside, were large paintings of these beautiful animals. An informal outdoor café provided us a restful, scenic stop for snacks and drinks in the lap of nature.

The six days passed quickly and pleasantly but the emotions and impressions of the trip would be recollected in tranquility for a very long time. ■