

Marty's Random Thoughts

Whatever I was thinking

15th Year

Woodstock, Illinois, USA, Earth

Marty Metras

Issue # 124

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29-Jun-14 6:16am *\$

Book is Finished

Wow, I finished that book I was reading! I thought I would never finish it, but I did today. I wasn't a long book. I just could not get it finished. The book, "Grandma's On the Camino" by Mary O'Hara Wyman, (C) 2012, I received in March 2013 when Cork and I went to California to get Mike. Wow that was a year and a half ago. That was after I got read of the big motor home. It was that long ago! Boy does time fly.

I was thinking it wasn't only February this year when I sold that motor home but it was a year and a half ago. A lot of water has gone under the bridge since then. Or is it a lot of water has flowed over the dam since then? In any case it has been a while.

Oh, I have to head out to EWT to Yoga class now. The time is here.

11-Jul-14 7:04am *\$

Server is still broken

Maybe I haven't been doing anything with my newsletter because my server has been down all month. My file server is where all my data is stored and it has failed me. My backup is a little unstable and incomplete. So I am in the process of restoring it. I may have lost most of my newsletters, my pictures and most of my personal stuff. I am still working on reloading these things. The backup is old. It looks to be January this year but parts are June this year. I still am loading what I can after I have rebuilt the server. I am taking my time to get it as current as possible.

I also lost some of my network hardware. Yes my whole system is messed up and needs to be revisited. Some of this I need to think about. Much of it has been in place for 15 years without humid intervention. The file server was built in 2009 and other than a power supply and adding another drive it had been working just fine.

One of the problems I am having now is the lack of documents. This means I must remember how I had it setup or just start from scratch. It is a pain!

I preach "Backup, backup, backup!" I didn't say "Verify, verify, verify!" And there is another part of this. It is to write down what you have done. You will not remember all of what you have done.

Simple things like where you stored your stuff is a good place to start. It is a pain in the gluts to do this but it can save a lot of time in recovering. Well I should go home and see what I still need to do.

17-Jul-14 7:10am *\$

Lost Data

So I am still working on my file server. It looks like I lost much of my data. I am restoring some of the files from the two hard drives. Some of the backups help with that but I have too

much clutter on my drives. Like my house there are things I do not need. Today I think I will have all the data I can retrieve from the hard drive that crashed and I can decide what to just let go.

At some point in time you must just let go. You do not need all that stuff. The stress of trying to save everything is just not worth it. Life is too short and I need to move on to more enjoyable things. Like sitting around doing nothing.

Once the file server is up and running I need to restore all of my backups and get the last newsletter out to you. That is if it isn't one of the lost files. I am not sure yet. I have to take a quick review to see what else is lost and write it off. The set up the backup again.

Well I best go home and work on it.

28-Jul-14 4:03pm Home

Old Friend

I just had a thought about all my clutter. I know I am cluttered because I am emotional attach to so much of this stuff.

I just drink a cup of tea out of the cup that I got in Sky City. This is the oldest town in the United States that people have occupied continuously. I bought it from one of the Indian artesian who lived in this mile high city. I was camping in the Sky City Casino camp grounds in Feb-Mar 2009.

Hmm, what was the name of that village?



I was traveling with Mike and Petra while they were on their journey walking across the country. They were staying the in the hotel/casino and I had to walk through the casino to get to them. You know I needed put

some coins it those machines as I passes by them. Needless to say the casino took a lot of my money. The last time through I took 1¢ from them. Yes I put a dollar in and finally left with \$1.01. I quit! So I bought the cup and now I remember.

10-Aug-14 3:34am Home

Still not Ready

I know it has been a long time now since my last newsletter. I finished it and just before I published my server crashed. I lost my finished copy of the last newsletter. I have to re-edit it and get it to you. I have spent a month recovering what I could. In the end I lost the middle of two hard drives. Some of this was backed up but much was not.

I may find out what could be salvaged but at what cost. From what another computer person told me is may not be worth the money.

Anyway I have a new server up and running and a new backup started. Most of the jobs are running and things are coming to gather. Things were come back to normal when I hurt my leg last Tuesday.

Whoops

I got hit is the leg with a piece of plywood. I had the plywood cut to size and on the wall. The screws were out of reach. The plywood seemed like it would stay there for a few seconds. I turned around and stepped to the floor to retrieve the screws when I felt this sharp blow to the side of my calf. It hurt so bad I shouted out some very bad words. I pulled up my pants leg and there was a small scrap. I stopped the bleeding and covered it with a wash cloth and duct tape and limped back to finish my project.

When I took off the wash cloth it was stuck to the dry blood. I got in the tub and loosened it with water. Then I put on a real dressing. Yes my leg was sore but I would survive. Later that night I could not walk so I went to the hospital.

Six hours later the said not breakage, no blood clots, and nothing much wrong. Seems

like because I am on blood thinner I bleed little on the outside and mostly on the inside. My leg was very swollen making it very hard to walk. They told me to ice it down and go see the doctor.

So on Thursday I went to the Doctor and he told me I had two chooses and both would work. One was to cut my leg open and drain all of the blood out that was in there that shouldn't. The other chose was pack it in ice and keep it elevated. In either case they would both work. Getting cut open has never appealed to me and ice is cheap. I need to go back Monday.

So since Thursday morning I have been making ice and sitting around with my leg packed in it elevated above my heart and doing little else. And now that I need to go back to the doctor and have him cut it open and drain that blood out. No, I don't think the ice is working!

24-Aug-14 12:38pm Home

It Still Pains Me

On the 5th I hurt my leg. Tomorrow it will be 3 weeks. Well my leg is still sore. I am finally getting around without crouches so much. I love that! I still limp and it is stiff and sore.

It is starting to seem like it has been months. I am getting better and better each day.

The boredom set in a couple of days but I thought for a while and decided I still can read. I had been watching TV even that gets old after a while. So I found 3 books on my book shelves that jumped in to my hand and I started reading them. Now I read a little, watch TV a little, go to EWT and visit Michelle a little, and feel sorry for myself a little.

Oh yes, I feel sorry for myself a little too. Really not much of that. I know it was going to take from 2 to 6 weeks and it is 2 weeks now. And since tomorrow is the end of week 3 it means I am half the way to being back to normal. My leg that is! ☺

Tomorrow I'll see the doctor and see what I can do to make this get better faster.

Now I need to turn off the TV and go out and sit on the porch and read a little.

25-Aug-14 2:00pm Goodyear

Yes I am getting a tire leaker fixed. Both tires on the driver's side have slow leaks again. I was driver side fixed a couple of month ago so they are getting fixed again. So here I sit waiting.

27-Aug-14 8:39am *\$

For the hour this place has been hopping. I had forgotten how noisy it get up here when there are so many people bunched in line waiting for their morning coffee.

A few days I dropped my iPad and one of the keys on my external keyboard popped off. I got the part ordered but it will be a week or two before I see it. I could use it but it is the [' "] key. I know I would want to use it just because it is missing. It cost about 6 dollars to buy one hinge and key so I just ordered it. It is \$4.95 for one key then I think it is only \$2.00 plus shipping. A small price to pay.

Anyway I got spoiled using the external keyboard. I miss it already. I always amazes me when you don't have something how much you miss it.

When I stopped wearing a watch I kept looking for it. Then I looked for a clock on the wall somewhere. And all the time I had one in front on me in the lower right hand of the computer screen. Now I no longer think about the fact that I used to look at the time so much.

1-Sep14 8:28am *\$

Wow, it Labor Day, and 1st of September, and I have not published the April issue. Well my server is rebuild enough for now and I was going to review issue #123 and see how it looks. I know I did that all once before but it got lost along with everything that died in the crash. So I need to review it again. When I get home I will have it to be my holiday project. That is if I don't forget.

The server crashing has made me rethink the way I use computers. Then my laptop is starting to fail. My keyboard for this iPad is broken. And I don't have a PC. I guess I am just a messed up old fart. Wait, I'm not so old!

Here at Starbuck they are redoing the shelves with new display. The floor stand is an Opera based ad. You know if Opera's name is on it you must buy it. ☺ Yah right! The shelf is not long enough so I can tell what they might be pushing. It looks to be a more of a 3D display. In the past they have been nothing more than a magazine add. Peggy and Courtney have been working on moving the top shelf to hold the new display. This means that all the coffee and cups on the shelf needs to be moved to make it look nice. Oh well I have been here long enough. I will see it the next time I am here.

4-Sep-14 8:03am *\$

Many Steps

Wow, my sister Marie just logged 35,000 steps in one day. That is like 13 miles or more. I struggle to get 10,000 steps. Good job Marie!

Many of us Metras' are using the Fitbit step counters. Cork's family compete with each other. I just wear one to see how I am doing. I have been wearing a pedometer since I think the year 2002. The things break and then I stop until I find another cheap one. I think I used to buy 2 or 3 of them to have the plastic clip break and I would lose them. Now I have a Fitbit and it even tracks my sleep.

With my sore leg in the last month I have not tracked as many steps in a week as I used to track in a day. Yesterday I mowed the front lawn and got 5,000 steps. I was walking very soft so I did not hurt my leg again. I am not really ready to start doing that yet.

Newsletter

I finally finished re-proofing issue 123. I had done this back in July when the server crashed. It is ready for me to enter the corrections into the PC, if it does not crash too. My PC/laptop is

getting very slow and I very sure it is a hardware issue and not Windows. All my test tell me that there is something slowing it down. I just cannot put my finger on it.

Anyway I will have the Apr-May 2014 issue out soon.

Laptop

My laptop is getting ready to die. It has been getting very slow and it isn't the internet connection. I have tested the internet speed and it is 10 times faster than I might need to watch videos. Either these are faults readings or it is the rest of the laptop that is getting slower.

The laptop was a low end machine and it is 3 years old. I have had it apart in the past because of overheating. Overheating cause parts to fail. I think it is time!

I looked at the \$200 laptops and they have little is the way of features. I started looking in the 400-600 dollar range and they look to be nearer to what I had in mind. I am not sure I want to get up near the \$1,000 laptops but have not ruled it out yet. I spend too much time using the laptop to get a low end machine. After all \$1,000 is only a \$1.00 a day for 3 years. It is kind of a small price to pay for as much as I use it.

I have a blood test today around 1:00. Maybe I'll go to BestBuy and see what they have to offer after that.

The flies are bugging me in here I think it is time to leave.

5-Sep-14 8:27am *\$

So yesterday I was going to get the newsletter out. It didn't happen! I decided to rebuild my laptop and install Linux. I think I figured out something. It DVD drive sucks power.

The power consumed was greater than the power supply couldn't handle and it drained the battery to keep running. When I was finished installing Linux the power was lost and I only could run my laptop for 5 minutes.

Therefore I did not get finished. I just let it sit and charge.

I need to replace this box!

My Leg

I started using a heating pad on me leg. An hour while watching TV and an hour in bed. It feels like it got a whole lot better overnight. Maybe there is something to adding heat. In any case, I will try it sometime later today.

Bored

I am climbing the walls and need to start working out again. I am getting soft. I will have to start with one pound kettle-bells and piece of string. I was using 24kg/50Lbs kettlebells and 1-1/2" rope before this all started. I am soft!

8-Sep-14 2:15pm *\$

Well some things are getting better and others are just not. A couple days ago I decides to buy that new laptop. This is a good and bad thing. I is a great laptop but it has Windows 8 installed. I figured it would be easy enough to learn. Well most of it is works different so I am spending a lot of time finding how things work and where the put it. One of the good things is that you could do a lot of thing you can do just like Windows 7. But I do not learn anything that way.

So I spent this money and the next that happen was my trimmer died. I tried to fix it but the part that is broken is not replaceable on the one I have. I took it all apart and even bought a new tool. Well I find I could buy the part on the Internet but it was for a different model. I decided to just buy a new one.

The new one had a 2-cycle engine so I need to use mixed gas. 40:1 that is a gallon of gas and 3.2 oz. oil. This also means I need to have two gas cans. One for the mower and one for the trimmer.

Now about my leg. I went to EWT and walked across the room and noticed I was hardly limping at all. I had a doctor appointment after that. The Doctor told me I didn't need to come back to see him unless I had a problem. He told me to take it easy and

ease back into using my leg. Well that is what I have been doing. It still a little sore but I rest when it states to hurt. Like right now. The left leg is still a little sore from the injury and the right one is a little sore from using it more. So I will take it easy and let my leg get betterer. Yes I said betterer! ☺

Now I need to finish my tea and go get that gasoline. Oh, I still need to finish the issue# 123, don't I?

9-Sep-14 6:29am *\$

Speed

So I was reading my book, "Perspectives" by Hugh Downs and read something interesting. Hugh was in a taxi stuck in traffic. He remarked that 100 years earlier the average speed to get across town was about fifteen miles an hour using a horse and buggy. Now day's people have 4, 6, and 8 cycler engines commanding 100 to 500 horsepower yet the average speed is now 11 MPH. And it cost more now. Funny!

Memory

I was thinking about memory for computers. My first computer in the early 1980s cost about \$2,500 and had 64k of RAM. That is 64,000 bytes. That means I could have stored about 64.

I have had a 64 GB external memory in my pocket for years. 64 GB is 64,000,000,000 bytes. I just looked up 64 GB flash dives (Thumb drives) and they are less than \$35.00.

I wondered how much memory I could buy with it becoming a USB hard drive. I was amazed! You can buy a 1tb flash drive. That is 1,000,000,000,000 bytes. It only cost \$922.00 on Amazon. 512 GB are around \$450.00. But 256 GB are only \$110.00 Sweet!

I paid \$49.95 for my first memory. It was 1mb that is 1,000,000 byte. I had at the time to buy a set of four to make the computer work. I think that was in the '90s.

Flies

I'm home now. The flies at Starbucks were driving me out of there. It is funny that flies like to crawl all over me but Mosquito do not even land on me. Why is that?

Trimmer

Yesterday I found out my trimmer could not be repaired. So I went to Ace and bought a gas power one. I got it ready and started trimming with and found it eats those strings. I figured that would get better as I learned to use it. The whole thing started shacking. I thought it was going to blow-up in my hand. Well the spiny thing at the bottom had got so hot is melted. So I gather up all the packing and took it back to Ace and got a refund.

Then I headed to Woodstock Power and bought one of theirs. They filled it with fuel and showed me what I needed to do to you use it and I headed home to try it. In an hour I think I have all my trimming done. It was eating more string than I wanted but I think was the way I was using it. It will get better as I get used to it. If I remember correctly I used a lot of string with the little electric trimmer when I first got it too.

So I need to but some more string and I am all set for the next 5 years.

Laptop

Now that I am home I need to work on setting up my new laptop. But I have to start some laundry washing. I still have a lot of things to do on the laptop.

12-Sep-14 7:25am *\$**I think I can wait.**

Apple just came out with their new iPhone. Get this it is 5-1/2". That makes is almost a laptop. I looked at the specs on it and it is impressive! No I am not going to run out and order one. It is an iPhone 6+ with a screen res of 1900 something by 1080dpi. That is what my old laptop is. The technology is getting away from me.

Apple also say that ISO-8 will be our one the 17th. I just got used to version 7 and now they

are coming out with a new version. I'll wait as long as I can. I wonder how version 8 will work on my iPad 2. Version 7 has issues with the older iPads. Since I bought my iPad2 they have come out with 3 new ones. That is almost trying to watch color TV on a black & white TV.

Oh, do you remember black and white TV sets? ☺

Anyway I will wait on a new Apple phone.

My Leg

My leg is well enough to start back up with Yoga class at EW Training Sunday. I will just take it easy until my body gets back in shape. I thought I would go to Yoga on Sunday then the easier classes on Tuesday and Thursday for a couple weeks before going back to my regular schedule.

I am going to start mowing the grass at EWT and maybe my own too. ☺

My leg feel very well but after a long day it gets a little sore. It recovers quickly so I am still taking it easy. It will be six weeks on Tuesday since injured it so it is going well. It still feels better and better every day.

13-Sep-14 8:00am *\$

So I planned to read my book this morning but I was interrupted with friends. So I looked over the iPad and talked. I have time to talk now that I finally published Issue #123. Is that right...oh yes this is #124. So being this issue if filling up I think I well send it home and start #126.

Now that I have a new washer, trimmer, laptop, and water...Oh and my leg is feeling better I think I might as well get started on the newsletter again. I need to transfer my contact list to the Windows 8 machine so you know I published the Marty's Random Thoughts newsletter yesterday.

This is it. Bye!

Marty

Oh, did tell you I needed to buy a new washing machine last week too?

Marty's Random Thoughts

Whatever I was thinking

15th Year

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Marty Metras

The MRT Backer Page



Marty Metras

Marty has always been a doer of things. For the last 50 years has lived within a mile of the same place. When he retired in 2007 decided it was time to travel and see the world. His brother was living in German. Mike and his wife were planning to move back to the USA in a few months. Since he had only been out of the United States once in the 1960s on a trip around Lake Michigan it would be a new adventure.

Marty's brother Mike and his wife Petra told him he could walk across Spain while in Europe. Never being in a different country and not really being able to speak other languages there was a lot of fear. So he tried to learn a little German and Spanish. Then he committed to 5 days walking in Spain after Mike said he would walk with him for the first week. Even after Petra & Mike said it would take 10 to 12 days walking on the Camino to decide if you are going the whole 790 kilometers.

After a few days visit with Mike & Petra, Marty and Mike headed off to Spain and started walking the Camino de Santiago from Roncesvalles. This trip was Marty's first book, "My Camino de Santiago Adventure." Many things did not work out the best so Marty gave up and came home.

Then in 2012 Marty decided that he needed to finish something in his life. He booked a plane ride to France. He then walked down to the train station from home and headed to the airport. On the walk to the train he decided he would not turn back unless someone was injured. In the next 7 weeks he did not have a bad day.

This book is all about Marty Walking the Walk in the spring of 2012

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BY MARTY METRAS
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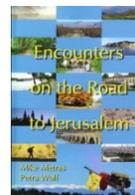


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