

## Issue # 126

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### 22-Oct-14 10:09am @EWT

#### Big Spill

So today started a little late as I woke up around 8:30. Even with that, things were going smooth. I even feel a little better and breakfast was good. Well as good as Oatmeal can be. I usually go EWT around ten o'clock so I texted Michelle to see if she wanted some tea. I went to Starbucks and then headed to EWT as I normal do. I picked up the tea using my iPad as a serving tray.

I got to Michelle desk I found a spot to set her tea. Then I looked for a spot for mine and when I picked it up the lid was loose and the whole drink went all over her desk. She was in the back of the gym and heard it. And so the rest of the 30 minutes I spend cleaning up the mess. I always amazes me how you can spell that much tea and not get much wet.

The laptop was only wet on the edge and there one small piece of paper. Maybe this

whole exercise was to clean part of the desk and a big spot on the floor. I swear most of that tea hit the desk!

Now I start coughing!

### 26-Oct-14 7:51am @\*\$

#### New Processor

I thought I would stop using "Pages" on my iPad to enter my thoughts and start using "Word". Work is what I use to proof and edit it before I publish it.

When I use Pages I must convert it to Word before I send it home to preview. The conversion takes a lot of the formatting out and I need to put it back. Maybe with Word I won't have to do so much of that. We will see how that goes.

[Note: This was written with Word](#)

#### Email

I just received an email from Tim. He retire a year or two ago. He and Iris have been living

the retirement. World traveling and going from the far south to the far north with the seasons change. Way to go Tim & Iris!

On the other hand I haven't got out of county for quite a while.

### From the INBOX

#### About walking the Camino in 2017

"...On the Camino again in 2017? With others? I will to do it again. Maybe at 75, definitely at 80. But I think I would like to do it all alone the next time. And I think the French way (your way) is out—too over used. I think it will be the Via de la Plata or the Camino del Norde. Or maybe even the Camino de Levante again—this time all the way without others waiting at the end of the path forcing me to speed up or stop. ..."

From Mike

### 31-Oct-14 1:08am @Home

#### Happy Halloween!

It is very windy today. It is coming from the north. This will make the leaves blow back over to Bob's where they came from. I keep telling Bob to get his leaves. After a while his leaves and my leaves get all mixed up and it is easier to just rake both of them to the curb.

Either that I would have to sort them out. It's really hard to tell Bob's leaves from mine. ☺

Anyway it is too cold and windy to rake leaves today its 37° and 27 MPH wind is not a day when I will be raking leaves. Tomorrow the wind will let up and it will be a little warmer. I hope!

### 3-Nov-14 11:36am @EWT

Good morning all. How are you doing?

Now that my chair is gone I almost fall out of the straight chair I watch TV. Hmmm...I guess I need to look for another chair or maybe a day bed. Yah right, I need a chair/sofa to watch TV in with my eyes closed.

### Software

I have been sitting here at EWT for a few hours looking for software to help Michelle run the business. The software company we have been using for the last few years has a lot of features. Many of them even work. Yes the software has a lot of nice features but there is a lot of bugs. Most of them just add you to the list and you never hear anything back on them.

The latest one makes me wonder if they are fixing them.

We don't use a lot of the features the software has to offer. But the parts I am using I keep finding little things that are not right.

I won't get into all the problems we are having but it is enough that I have started looking for a replacement for the software.

The other companies out there that have the same pricing and may even work correctly. The problem with the company we are using now is the largest and best known. They trend to cater to big clients. So it is a case of finding the right fit for us.

Isn't it about lunch time?

Anyway I looked a bunch of software companies and paired it down to 5 to look at more closely.

Oh, Lunch!

### 7-Nov-14 7:23am @Home

I just saw this in GnuCash;

*There is a theory that if ever anyone discovers what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced with something even more bizarre and inexplicable.*

*There is another theory that this has already happened.*

*Douglas Adams, "The Restaurant at the End of the Universe"*

Like my Restaurant list it is ever changing.

**My POTS Line**

I have said that my home phone would be disconnected at the end of the year. Well it will have to wait until April 2015. Seems I have a 12 month contract with the phone company. In any case I have started this morning changing over to my new MagicJack phone number. That is all the places where they need a real phone number.

I will have two phone numbers. One for friends and family. The other one is for everyone else. The MagicJack number will allow incoming calls go to a message and I will deal with them as needed. These message is emailed to me.

One the other hand Friends and Family can call me on my mobile/cell phone. I ask all my friends and family to not share that number with anyone. If some wants my phone number they can call the MagicJack number and

leave a message and I will call them back with my mobile number.

In the month of October 2014 I received 95% junk/spam phone calls. I do not like the interruptions. For now my cell phone seems to only getting about 1% junk calls.

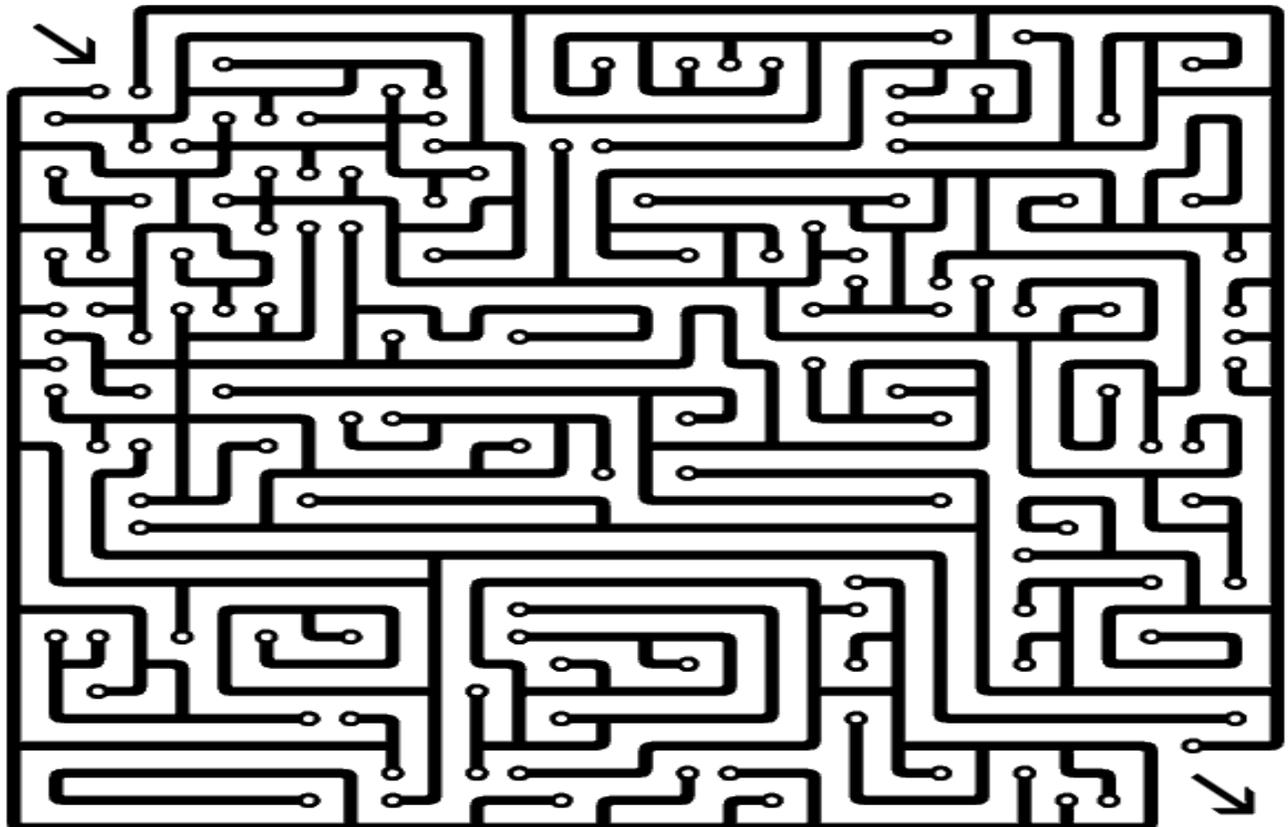
I will miss my hardwired phone number. I have had it for about fifty years. Maybe it is time for a change.

Friends and family call me on my land line and leave a message if you do not have my new number. I will get back to you. All spammers go the Heaven Eating Lavender Lilacs!

It is time now to take a break.

**9-Nov-14 9:50am @Home**

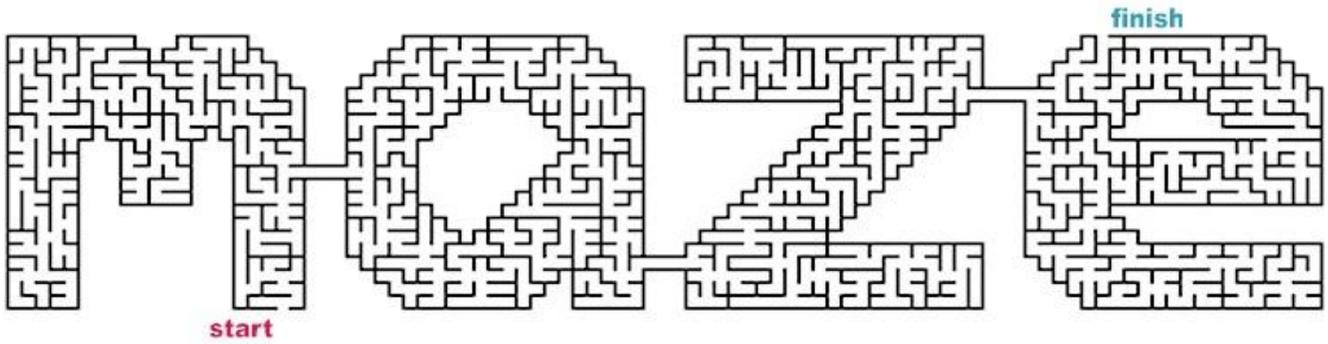
I was just going to go to Starbucks for my break when I thought I would check to see what is happening in the computer world. I found some amazing on my laptop screen that I thought I should share with you.



Yes, it was a maze! ☺

It is amazing how many different mazes I could find with Google.

I thought this maze was amazing too!



Ok, I'm done Mazing. I will go to Starbucks now!

@\*\$

Oooo, that was hot! My tea in an insulated cup. It is still way too hot to drink!

Some little kid kept trying to see what I was looking at on my iPad and her mom and dad kept pulling her away. Parents I would let her watch. Kids and Parents are funny how they react to stranger. :-)

I wonder if my tea is cool enough yet. Nope but it is getting there.

Word and OneDrive

It is nice using OneDrive! OneDrive came with Office 365. It is an online storage for Office. I can open this newsletter while at home or while at Starbucks and it is then same document. No more emailing it to myself.

iCloud is online storage to but it is too hard to use. I also have DropBox that is the same kind of thing. I haven't been using it because hadn't worked with the mobile Word. With the last update it now works. Maybe I could go between the two of them.

"Why?" You may ask. Well it would be called "Backup." If OneDrive fails I have another copy in DropBox. I don't like losing stuff!

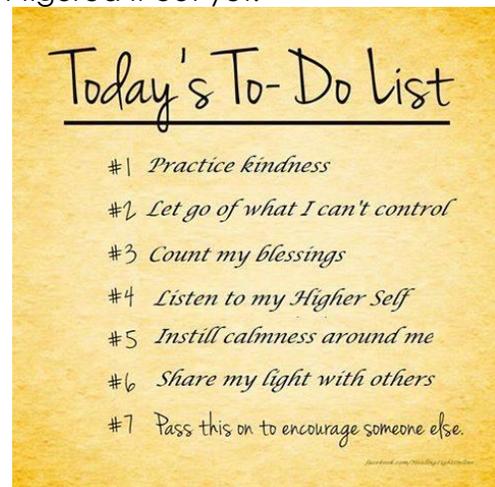
I also have EverNote that another online storage. It too does not hook up to Word. Maybe later.

*Note: These are also called "Cloud Storage." I am working on my own cloud.*

In DropBox

I found this picture in the DropBox folder...Guess not! Hmmm...

Well I got this one from my iPad. Maybe I haven't figured it out yet!



**19-Nov-14 11:27am @EWT**

So I just got a notice from UPS that they delivered a package. I hope it is the power supply for my server. The bearing in the fan has

been driving me crazy! I ordered it on Monday it should be what is sitting there on the porch. I need to get it changed after lunch so it stops driving me batty! Well battier. ☺

### 30 Days Left

In 30 days Michelle will be getting married. For the last two months she has been planning and planning and planning. We guys just let it happen. Don't you guys? Come on it is the women that do most of the work. Guys just don't do those things. We don't! Yes there are guys that do but they are rare.

Anyway there is only one month until the happy day!

### 20-Nov-14 8:23am @\*\$

Hay what happened? I just looked and Thanksgivings Day is next Thursday. How did that happen? Well I know how it happened but I think someone shortened the time so this year would go faster.

Aren't there support to be 100,000,000,000 nano seconds or something in each second? I think someone took out a few thousand out of each second. That would speed up time a little. Or maybe the earth is spinning a little faster. Don't the time gods set their clocks by the earth spin?

In any case this year has just zipped through. On the other hand I am sure some may say something like; "It's only the 20<sup>th</sup>!"

### Starbucks

It seems to be busier and busier every time I come up here in the morning. Maybe it is time for another Starbucks in Woodstock. Today they're very little room in here to sit. And people keep coming in. The chairs look like it is at 75% right now. A bunch just left.

Let's see where should we put another Starbucks in Woodstock? It needs another good location. This is a good location. It has no drive up window so all the people walk in the front door. If there were was room for a drive thru the inside would not need to be too large.

We had a drive up coffee shop out in the old K-Mart parking lot. It did not last very long. My thought was that it was on the wrong side of the highway.

In the morning people were heading to the toll way in Huntley (south) and Cuppy was on the east side of the road. Everyone going south in the morning would have to turn left leaving the highway and get there coffee and then turn left to return to their trip to the toll road.

I think left turns on a busy corner where there is not traffic light on a busy hig way to control left turn are unsafe. And if there was one thing you would still have to wait too long.

If Cuppy was on the west side then you could turn right in both directions.

I think most people would not stop for coffee on their way home at night. So you see there are closed down now. My opinions!

Now where would we put the next Starbucks? Maybe McDonald's parking lot. It is on the west side of Route 47. ☺

### 21-Nov-14 7:11am @\*\$

#### Shop Woodstock

The last few day I was thinking about Woodstock and how many stores and shopping places I don't know about. Woodstock has a lot of stores where many of us go to Crystal Lake to shop because we do not know what we have in our back yard. Yes, me too. There are many places in Woodstock where you might not like or are too pricy.

Anyway I thought we need a place to look up something we might want to buy and see if you could get it in Woodstock. Here is what I am thinking:

Make a "Shop Woodstock" directory that list the things you might seek. You should be able to type in the item name and see if there is a place listed to be found in Woodstock.

I was thinking a list the business name, address, phone number, internet address, and what the sell. Maybe a place for reviews.

What they sell must be simple like, clothes, computers, auto service, trucks, pencil, and

paper. But some things you might not list like spoons, bread, keys for your keyboard. These would be listed as silverware, food, computer parts. Some things require human intervention. You know a visit or phone call.

The input form:

Business

Address (link to map)

City, State, Zip (not needed as they all will be Woodstock)

Phone No

Internet address (If any)

Description (this should have the keywords for the search engine)

Reviews/coments:

Date of visit

Reviewer (first name, maybe email address)

Stars (maybe 5 stars)

How often do you visit?

Why did you shop here?

Your view

Pros (why)

Cons (why)

I think I will see if I can start thing.

The Steps

I see I can get a lot of internet addresses. ShopWoodstockIL.com, BuyWoodstockIL.com and WhereInWoodstockIL.com are available yet.

Now I need to see if someone has all read started doing this. There is no reason to do this is someone has done it.

*Note: I started but it still needs work.*

## **22-Nov-14 5:53am @\*\$**

### **What a difference a day makes**

First BEWARE of the black ice. It be slipper this morning. People are not hitting the curb out front so it must be getting a little better. I almost fell to my can when I first left the house this morning. It was nice just moving the ice scraper and sliding down the driveway without moving my feet. Anyway the salt truck just went by so it will get better. They say the temperature will be 45° so it will thaw soon.

Second thing that changed since yesterday is my "Where in Woodstock IL" project. I started working on it for a while. I very soon became to realize how big of a project it might become.

I setup a webpage that was very crude in a couple hours. Then I created a few places into the database. Then I entered a few places along with pictures. I put in a few keywords for one of the places to see how the search went. Then I looked for plug-ins to enhance some of the features. Somewhere along there it crashed. I recovered but have not checked out my work since it recovered.

After entering just three real places I realized that this would not be maintained. And the work it would need to set it up is more work that one person could handle. It would end up become a life time project working alone. So for now it is just an idea. My sample is at <http://doerofthings.com/wiwi> .

### **Hour Later**

Ok I started to recreate it after the crash. Please stand by...

### **Mike & Petra**

Mike and Petra are still in India. They are still enjoying their time there. Check out there blog for more details.

<http://walkingwithawareness.com/india2013>



*Petra is enjoying the morning with Coco in the breeze of the guesthouse roof terrace. (1 Nov 2014)*



*We enjoyed our late afternoons up on the roof also after the sun went behind the trees you see behind me here. I have a brand new shirt. (11 Nov 2014)*

Let me check on my backup now. The iPhone backup is ready. Now let me check out the iPad.

The iPhone update is finished and I have just started the iPad backup. And I see the time is only around 6 o'clock. What's up with the clocks today?

### **23-Nov-14 5:25pm @Home**

Today has been a very long day. It seems like every time I look at the clock only a few minutes have past. I decided to read some of my book. I finished a chapter and only a few more minutes had passed. So I grabbed the iPad and it was asking me if I wanted to install to IOS 8.1.1. I said "Sure do it!" That slowed the clock even more.

So I am backing up my iPhone. And yes, it even slowed the clock more. What is going on here?

Well while the backup is happening I'll check the email.

### **24-Nov-14 4:17pm @home**

Why is the TV so load? I guess it just got loader on its own. Well I know how to turn it down. It is set around 55 normally. I just turned it

down to 40. It is still a little load! Maybe it is the video. Let's see how it goes.

### **Where in Woodstock**

I started working on the "wiwi" directory. I moved it to doerofthings.com/wiwi. It did not make sense recreating it after it crashed. After starting working on it again I realized how big of a job it is going to be. My thought are first to just make a list of all the places in a spread sheet of database. There are thousands to enter. I need the data and then I can work on how it might be used. So I have backed off a little for a while. There are a lot of things to list. I'll start out with restaurants first. I have most of them already.

You may wonder why I am doing this. Well, I need something to keep me busy. If I am busy I am not eating so much. And most of the projects a EWT are finished now. There is only some ongoing computer maintenance left. I enjoy spending time keeping Michelle company but I need to keep moving.

Now I can start watching my movie playing again.

### **28-Nov-14 7:49am @\*\$**

So today is Black Friday. It is also Blue Friday at Brilliant Honda. I guess they have a bunch of blue cars to sell. I noticed they has a Honda Civic to lease for \$99 a month. A blue one!

### **Walking**

I decided it is time to start walking again. I have gotten very soft in the last year. My long distant walk was when I went out the front door to get to then car in the back. That is a long way from when I was walking 10 to 15 miles a day in the past.

This morning I got out my winter coat, scarf, hat, and gloves and walked up here to Starbucks. I is a long way form 10 miles but it is a place to start. While walking up here I noticed how slippery my shoes were. Maybe it was just slippery and it isn't my shoes. Or maybe it is that I just forgot how to walk in the snow. In any cast I must be a little careful.

When I walked in to Starbucks my glasses fogged up and I couldn't see. I ordered my tea and remove all of the warm close and sat down and read some of my book.

I am hungry now and I need to order some food.

Food is ordered. It is some kind of sandwich. I told Peggy to just give me something to eat. About 3 people were ahead of me so I am just waiting for it to get ready.

### **29-Nov-14 7:39am @\*\$**

This should be interesting. I got my Picture taken at Starbucks. Courtney told me I had to get it taken and it would be on the wall. They have a frame hanging over the counter just so they can do that. So now I'll see what happens with that picture in her iPhone.

#### **Eating Better**

This morning I decide to eat less food. I have been consuming too much. This morning I only drank a Spark and this cup of tea here at Starbucks. I figure I need to cut back 1000 to 1500 calories a day until Christmas. So I decided to start this morning.

#### **Time to Finish**

I see it is almost the end of the month. It may to start bring this issue to its end. Yup, I think it may give me enough time to do my Christmas Letter. I haven't thought much of it yet and it is getting near time to think about mailing them. How much is a postage stamp now days?

I wonder what I well write about. I am sure once started I will think of something. Well I best get started.

Bye, **Marty**

## **HOLIDAY SPECIAL**

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## THE RANDOM 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

**WALKING THE WALK  
CAMINO DE SANTIAGO 2012  
BY MARTY METRAS**

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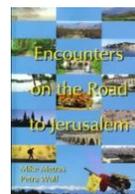


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*Marty's book is available in two media, paperback and eBook.*

*Paper books are available online from Lulu.com, Amazon.com, and from him personally.*

*You can download the eBook vision for Nook and Kindle from BarnesAndNoble.com and Amazon.com.*



### **Pilgrimage Creations**

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