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### 1-June-17 11:06am @EWT 72°

Summer is coming. It is not quite here yet. I will take the 72°! I know Summer will not official be here until the 21<sup>st</sup> but Memorial Day it when it starts. School is out or about out for the summer and we need to watch out for kids in the street a little more than normal. Our traffic patterns change. Well, mine seem to!

I have already seen my normal routes changing. It seems like more traffic in some places and less in others. When I had to go to Elgin three days a week a few years ago it happened over night. I noticed there was no traffic. It took me a couple weeks to figure out what had happened. Traffic was heavy one day then the next nothing. It was the same time and the same route. I cut ¾ hour less time in less than a week. It was confusing.

It was that school was done for the summer and no parents driving around because kids were home. They couldn't go shopping because they need to baby sit their kids. Or they didn't have to drive and pick them up at school. In any case when school was finished traffic let up.

### 3 Jun 17 10:10pm @home 77° ☺

I just saw the time and decided to give up for today.

### Family Tree Progress

I have been entering names into the Family Tree and I noticed my butt went to sleep. I figured it was time to back this up and go to bed. First, I must tell you that there are many, many ways to spell names. Johannsen became Johnson and is was Johannsson and Andersen is also Andresen. For us guys who has trouble spelling it is tough or is it tuff! I think tomorrow is another day.

Tonight's count is of people in the Family tree is 220 + 515 + 228 + 71... Wait I could add then together if I wasn't so tired. It looks like I broke the one-thousand Mark or is it Marx. Yup, I have some Marx's and Mark's in the family tree.

Good Night!

### 10-Jun-17 6:54pm @home 87°

#### Get 'er Done

It has been warm. No, HOT! Well, anyway I'm not use to it.

I have been busy getting thing done. I decided it was time to make a list and work through the thing on it yet

My water valve has been leaking. With Cork's help, it is fixed. My Internet service was shut out because someone hacked it. That took a few days to get fixed, but done!

My Camper has been noisy I was thinking it might have been water pump. Then I thought

maybe it is the fan cluck, then I thought it might be a loose muffler clamp. I finally took it in and had then check it out. It was the water pump and it idler pulley making the noise. I had them flush it coolant, tune it up, clean the injectors and replace the oil coolant hoses that been leaking for a long time too. Now it is almost as quiet and my car.

Ok my mower started running rough so I had that services too. It is sitting in the back yard calling my name. 😊

I had to see my car insurance guy to adjust my insurance coverage. I got that done and am waiting for the confirmation on the results.

I finally removed those trees growing up through the bushes at EWT. I was keeping forgetting to take my loppers out there with me. Must have been wishful thinking.

And I built a place to plant some ground cover along the driveway. It is about 5 x 8 feet. It is a place for the ground cover to get started. It needs about 10 more bags of dirt. I don't like buying dirt! 😊

While doing all of that I am up to 1521 people into the Family Tree. It is starting to be work. I have 10 more pages from Mom's Andresen pages. Then I will need a break from that for a while.

I still need to replace some rain gutter, go see the dentist and make a pickup in Minneapolis for Michelle soon. Oh yes, I must go to Rockford tomorrow and the doctor on Wednesday. And continue to work on the family tree.

Who ever said retirement was the leisure time?

Now I need a break from all this. I think I will put the mower away and water my plants.

### **11-Jun-17 7:14am @\*\$ 72° 😊**

Here is another day! Looks like it might be quite warm again today.

I checked out my new plantings along the driveway as I pass it in the car and it could use some water. I know new plants like that TLC the first few days. I also saw the lawn mower sitting outside waiting for me to cut the grass in the back of the house too. I just walked by it and

patted it to let it know I do care a little. Yes, I still have unfinished things to do.

My priority was to move the clothes into the dryer. No, I haven't put the solar clothes dryer back into action yet. I should have taken the time. The clothes would have been dry by the time I got back from here. I used the reason when I cut the grass it would get all over my clothes hanging on the line. Funny, I just thought I want to dry my close "online", Internet? 😊

### **Listing**

I think I should start using a list to see if I can get more things completed. I have known a few "list" people that seem to be busy all the time. I have been a person that just does thing that come next. Maybe I have just a mental list. One of those peoples for the past had an 8-1/2 x 11" pad on his desk all the time. He listed the tasks he wanted to complete. He added stuff until the page was full. On Friday before he left work he rewrote the list of items he did not complete on the next page. Then he just would draw a line through the finished task.

Another person had a Day-Time with all the things she worked on. Her list was for the whole year. You never saw her without her Day-Time. I think it was 2" thick.

Another uses Post-Its and they are sticking all over the place. She also has a calendar with her appointments on it. She writes in pencil because thing change all the time. Like me she has a big eraser on the end of her pencil.

Not me, I will pick up a new 5 x 3" note pad when I get home and one of those small binder clips to mark the page. I will start listing the things I want to get done. I will try this for one pad note pad to see how it goes. When the page gets full I will re-write all the unfinished projects on to the next page. I will also start a page of ongoing projects like working on the family tree. This way I will have some things to work on when I have a little idle time. Maybe doing this I will get more of my stuff completed.

I want to get more stuff done. Maybe this method will help this happen.

Ok for me an 8-1/2 x 11" pad it too big. Also, a 5 x 8 and any other size I would have to remember to keep nearby. As for a Day-Time I

would have to keep it with me. Wouldn't happen! And those Post-Its, they cost too much and get lost. I think for me my 5 x 3" note pad I have been carrying around for years and years will do the job. 99.44% of the time it is in my pocket along with a pencil. It will be my list thing.

I will let it work for me!

### Where should I start

- Water the garden.
- Water the grass seed.
- Water the new plants.
- Replace the rain gutter over the bathroom window.
- Work on the Family Tree.
- Update the list.

I just looked at the note pad in my pocket. I don't need a new pad just yet. Most of this one is empty. I will just clip it together and remove the used pages. I think I am all set to become a "List Person"! Wish me luck.

### What people do

I was sitting here thinking about what people do as the walk into to Starbucks. Here are what I am seeing. Finger in her ear like itching it. Next one has her phone and keys in here right hand. This man keys are in his right hand. Next guy adjusted his hat and glasses. Next guy walks fast to the counter. This lady removed her purse to put her key in it. Lady just cared her phone and removed her sunglasses.

Lady fussed with her hair. This guy switched his keys from his right hand to his left to open the door. The next guy just opened the door and went right to the counter. No keys.

My drink is empty now I will have to go home and work on my list now. The people will have to enter Starbucks without my help. ☺ Bye!

### 13-Jun-17 12:51pm @\*\$ 87°

I finally got back up here but I had not planned to. I stopped a Menards to get a couple bags of dirt to finish my job. I walked into the house and it was nice and cool. I keep it 85° in the house but this morning I decided to cool it down to 70° while the cost of electric was down. The cost of a kWh of electricity was below 5¢ this

morning. The price start going up around 11:00am but I have my thermostat to set back to 85° at noon.

Anyway. I got the mail and tried to shred the trash the SPAM and I thought it was turned off. Not the case. I went over to turn on the fan and nope! The power was out. I see a ComEd truck parked out front. I went out asked; "How long it might be?" He replied: "It will be a while. A car took out a pole."

Since my house it the last one on the line I just must wait! I told him; "I guess I should go to Starbucks for a while. ☺"

Anyway, I just hear it is back on now! I guess I should go home and work on the Family Tree or watch some TV with my eyes closed. ☺

### 14-Jun-17 11:11am @EWT 88°

It isn't going to cool down soon, is it? Oh well, I did complain just a month ago that it was too cold. You need to be more careful what you wish for. I am going back to saying: "It is fine because it is summer. I'll live with it!"

So yesterday I picked up 12 bags of dirt and the new compost tumbler. The tumbler I have now works so much better than the compost bin I had before. The tumbler works! What else can I say. You fill it with grass clippings and/or leaves and tumble it at occasionally. Maybe water it from time to time. In a month or so you have dirt, well compost, to put into your garden. It works!

Now those 12 bags of dirt are for my new area along the driveway. Where I planted the ground cover and where I will plant the other stuff when it cools down a little. I only put what I had to start with. It was no way near enough to start with. I had to plant those other things because it was so hot and they needed to be planted. I need to plant the Periwinkles and English Ivy there too.

They say it might rain this afternoon. In the next half hour or so. The next cooler day will be Monday. The say the high will be only 79°. Until then it will be 66° to 93°. That means I will be sweating a little. Or I will wait.

### **15-Jun-17 12:16pm @EWT 81°**

Not so warm today. This computer and my cell phone have been acting up this morning. I got to phone call that right to voice mail and the phone never rang. I powered down the phone and restarted it and then called myself. It rang! How is that possible?

#### **Electronics**

This computer crashed and wat cation a little crazy too. Are there little gremlins floating around in those cottonwood fuzz? Yesterday during the storms, I thought I would wait with the one at home. It rained quite heavily. It shows we got 2" on my rain station. This morning a EWT someone said there was 3-1/2" of rain. In any case I got wet trying to go into and out of the restaurant.

#### **Family History**

I am up to around 900 people I have entered people into the Family Tree from Mom's Andresen history. That guess of 2,000 people count estimate maybe a little on the short side. I am still plugging away at the list.

#### **Car**

My Car is giving me problems. It gas mileage is dropping like a rock. Either the gauge is wrong of there is something else wrong.

### **17-Jun-17 6:19am @\*\$ 66°**

I woke up this morning and I feel like I have not slept. I am not tired just feel not like I have slept. I don't know how else to describe the feeling.

I decided to come up here and I think I forgot about the Farmers Market. They are just setting up so got to park right in front of the door. I like that!

#### **Honda Service**

I took my car in yesterday to be checked out. I told then it was getting lousy gas mileage. The first thing Joe asked; "How many miles are on it?" I told him; "It is near 90,000." He said; "It may just need a tune up. At 90,000 it is about do."

I got a tune up new air filter, new HEPA filter, and an oil changes. They also say that the belt was about worn out too. I told them to fix it. I may be rusting but I is a good car.

I need to go for a drive to see how it runs. Wait, I drove up here! ☺ After spending all my money on car and camper I can't afford gas to drive anywhere else. I will have to break into my piggy bank so I can eat.

The Camper runs quiet and smooth since it was services. I should be good for upcoming trip to Minneapolis.

#### **Garden**

My Peas look good. One plant not so much! The Strawberries look good and one plant is not doing well here too. Radishes went to seed. And the Pepper plant.

The ground cover plants I planted along the driveway seem to be digging in. Yesterday I pulled out a lot of the Periwinkles and English Ivy from the other side of the driveway and put it in there. I just pulled them out by the roots and stuck them in the dirt. What I mean it in the hot sun they looked backed. The rain last night helped.

As I clean these plants form the patio on the south side of the driveway I will plant then between the driveway and the school fence. Once established there will be less grass to cut. Hopefully less to maintain.

The Periwinkles and English Ivy and taken over on that patio. Yes, under that growth is a 10 or 12' patio. There is! If I remember there is a 4'x4' spot in the middle where there used to be a tree. It so over grown with the plants I am not sure. That is why I am clearing it out. Since I grows so good I decided to move it to over grow on the other side of the driveway!

### **18-Jun-17 6:59am @\*\$ 66°**

Here it is Sunday morning again. And it looks to be a fantastic day. The sun shines and there is a breeze. Those shore dwellers have nothing on us Woodstockians!

Tim was saying he had a bear family in the back yard the other day. He lives a long way from the shore too. And Jeremy & Tonya are in

Hawaii. Way too far for the weather we have this morning.

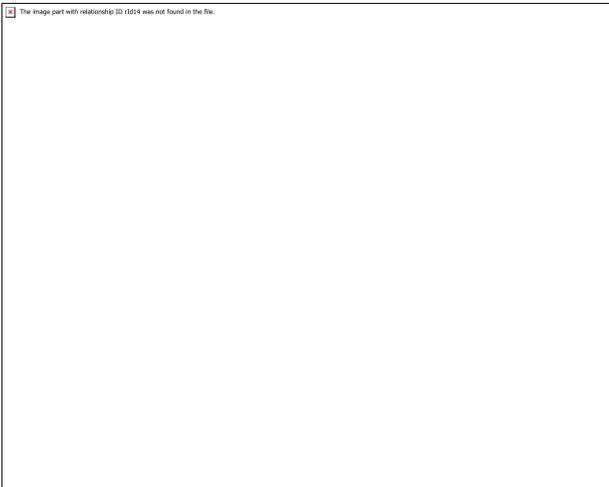
I think I need to plan another road trip. I still am going to Minneapolis soon to pick up a half ton of kettlebells for Michelle. I don't know how soon that will be just yet. I need to go somewhere. It is one of those ants in my pants things! 😊



The gas mileage is back up on the car since it was serviced. The Camper is running so quite I can't tell so I need to go somewhere to check it out. Maybe I will wait for the Minneapolis trip.

I am up to 1833 people into the Family Tree database now. It seems to be an endless number of Andresen's in the family. There maybe 8 more pages left in the Andresen history of Mom's. It may be too nice to work on it this morning.

I need to see if I can find one of these.



*Do you know what this is?*

### **23-Jun-17 7:33am @\*\$ 65°**

Since I last wrote I have merged to four family trees into one master and removed the duplicates. There were many people that I entered that I could not find before and them merging duplicated some. The total is not 1,939 people in Marty's Master.

Yesterday I decided I need another project. "My Camino des Santiago Adventure" my first book needed a rewrite. This book was written after I returned for walking the Camino in 2007.

After looking through it, it needs it! I have learned a lot since 2007.

After gown through it cleaning up what I can I need an editor to proof it for me. Who out there is a good proof reader. Does anyone that reads this want to tackle this for me. It is around 100 pages of text. (200 pages) I need somebody to read it make changes to clean up the grammar and spelling that Word and I missed. Some time it may need wording changes too. I need then noted too. I need to have it checked without removing the "Marty" from my story.

I have gotten through 1/3 of it so far. After it is corrected in the computer I will start looking for an editor. I have never used a real editor so I don't know for sure who to seek. Any ideas?

### **25-Jun-17 7:42am @\*\$ 55°**

Good Morning all! I just answered some email from Marie. She has been checking the family tree as she gets some time. I guess I still am doing some typos. Some of my typos are from the information I and receiving from other sources. But Marie is finding my typos.

I make corrections as soon as I can. Marie is of good help!

I posted what I have for Mom's & Dad's Ancestors and Descendants on this page. And I update it as I make changes to this information. <http://marty-metras.com/moms100th/family-tree-information-request/> . Feel free to send me anything you see that needs changing! I will fix it ASAP.

Thanks Marie, I appreciate the help!

I think I will head home and make these changes.

### **1-Jul-17 9:04am @\*\$ 71°**

Another Morning without Wi-Fi at Starbucks. The other day it was out too. I turned on my cell phone Hotspot on my phone to get what I needed then turned it off again to save money. Occasionally, Starbucks Wi-Fi doesn't work well. I can live with that. After all it is free.

I have been working on the Family tree and not putting much into the newsletter. I also started working on a re-write of my first book about walking the Camino.

## Marty's Random Thoughts

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It Saturday and the Farmers Market fills The Square. Starbucks if packed. I need to leave soon to make room for others. And then there the grass the need my attention too.

And Then this is July and I need to end this newsletter too.

So, Happy Fourth of July weekend!

Bye,  
Marty

**Marty**

# MARTY'S RANDOM THOUGHTS

## The Backer Page

### MY BOOKS

← MY CAMINO DE SANTIAGO ADVENTURE  
WALKING THE WALK, CAMINO DE SANTIAGO 2012 →



*My books are available online from [Lulu.com](http://Lulu.com), [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [BarnesAndNoble.com](http://BarnesAndNoble.com), and from me personally.*

### Mike's and Petra's Books Pilgrimage Creations

<http://www.walkingwithawareness.com/ourbooks.htm>

### EW Training

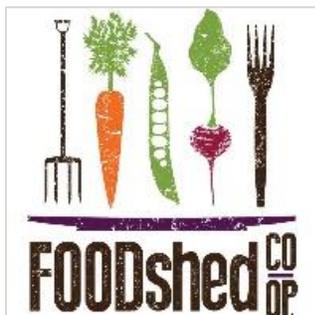
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