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02-Feb-2008 12:15pm 28°

Ground Hog Day

Phil Says Six More Weeks of winter! This is from the official web site:

<http://www.groundhog.org/prediction/> Yes even the groundhog has a web site.

What of Woodstock's ground hog? I was sleeping when he tested to sun light so I had to search the Internet. Here is what I have found:

Byline: Max Seigle Daily Herald Staff Writer if legend has it right, we're in luck. At precisely 7:07 a.m. Sunday, Woodstock Willie took center stage at Woodstock Square. The crowd cheered after the groundhog did not see his shadow when he emerged. That means spring will come early this year.

Source: http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_hb5273/is_200302/ai_n20742603

I know only one thing for sure. Either, there will be six more weeks of winter or it will be six more weeks until spring. We will have to wait until March 20th, 05.48am or so. Leap year so I think it is a days earlier this year. We will have to see.

05-Feb-2008 3:56pm 31°

Busy morning! I had a dentist appointment this morning to adjust these new teeth. They were just not right. I was eating soft food since I had them fixed. Even a hot dog was hard to eat. After returning I went and ate a tuna fish sandwich. I could do that yesterday. Thursday I will go back for some fine tuning. Right now I think that will be a minor adjustment. Thursday is still 2 days away.

It started to snow around 2:00pm when I went to Vaughan's to get that tuna salad sandwich, and there was be an inch on the ground when I left.

It is snowing so hard now, I cannot see across the street. They are calling for up to 15 inches of snow. 15 inches might be just a little too much for my snow blower. I am still going to give it a try.

Pension

I finally received some paper work about my pension from Woodstock Die Casting. Remember I have been trying for year and a half to get information about it. This is the first paper work I have seen. They are asking me the same information I have been telling them on the phone. I guess it needs to be put to paper. So I am digging out old W-2's back from 1966. One good thing about never throwing things out is that I needed something this time. I found income tax papers back to 1965. I started to work in 1964. The old W-2's do not copy very well. I need to work on then. I have to get back at that so I can send them this information. Maybe I will get enough to buy a few cups of coffee a month.

06-Feb-2008 7:17pm 21°

Wow, what a day! We got a lot of snow today. I moved 12-15 inches of the white stuff today. Enough about that snow, I think all of you saw it too.

RV Travel Newsletter

Chuck Woodbury

I am sure you do not know him. Maybe you do. Chuck is the editor of the RV Travel newsletter. When I read though it I keep remembering I have that big house on wheel parked in from of the garage. I am watching "Cash and Treasure" on the Travel channel. And they are in Jamestown panning for gold near Wood's Creek. I think it is getting near time for another field trip. Woodbury is in Bakersfield, California. That made me thing I should read his newsletter and see what he is up to.

Incredible RV is made out of a single log

I came today upon an incredible RV -- a travel trailer built entirely of a single redwood log. That's right -- just one log. Back in 1946, before I was even born, it took two months of hard labor for Art Schmock and a helper to hollow out a 42-foot section of a 2,100-year-old redwood tree to create the 32-foot log house, which today we would call a trailer because it has a trailer hitch so it can be pulled.

On the web site is a video showing the inside. I am sorry but I can not put videos on paper. Here is the link and the rest of the story.
<http://rvtravel.com/blog/chuck/2008/01/incredible-rv-is-made-out-of-single-log.html>

**Trivia...**

Jockey Frank Hayes died from a heart attack during a race in 1923. His horse, Sweet Kiss, won the race, making Hayes the only dead jockey to win a race.

RV joke<http://www.rvjokes.com/>

An RVing couple, both born the same year and month, were celebrating their 60th birthdays. During the celebration, a fairy appeared and said that because they had been so good she would grant them both one wish. Very excited, the wife said that since she had already visited most of North America in her RV, she would like to visit Europe. The fairy waved her magic wand and airline tickets instantly appeared. Then it was the husband's turn. He paused for a moment, and then said with a sly look, "Well, I'd like to have a woman 30 years younger than me." The fairy waved her wand. And presto, he was 90. From RVjokes.com.

Bumper Snicker

Remember you're unique, just like everyone else.

Worth Pondering

Whatever course you have chosen for yourself, it will not be a chore but an adventure if you bring to it a sense of the glory of surviving, if your sights are set far above the merely secure and mediocre. -- David Sarnoff

07-Feb-2008 10:50pm 22°

Yes, it is late! I just started Printing the newsletter and wanted to see how the ink in holding up. Issue # 28 is being printed with a new color cartridge. The one that was in there was streaking. I needed to see how a new one works. The refill that was in there was full and streaking. I have looked up on the Internet to see how to clean it manually. The software for the print will let you do it with a click of a few keys on the keyboard. It is not cleaning this one. Now that I know how it is done I will try it in the morning. I have to get some distilled water first. You need to use distilled water because when tap water dries it leaves mineral deposits. That would make it worse. It might cost a buck for a gallon of water and it could save a fifteen buck cartridge. We are printing fine so it is time for bed. Goodnight

08-Feb-2008 9:54am 32°

Thirty-two degrees, that why it was raining a little earlier. Issue twenty-eight is printed and ready. Thank for there editing Heather. I know you are very busy.

No sleep

Last night around eleven they decided to remove all that snow piled up in the school parking lot right outside of my bedroom window. Normally that would not keep me awake. It did last night! Anyway, they were out there two or three hours. They had a front end loader that was almost as big as my house andnd twenty-yard dump trucks. Frank told me this morning they haul the snow out to City Park. I will have to go out and see where they dump it. Right now I am guessing they dump it where you sit to watch the 4th-of -July fire works. Maybe so the ground will still be cool in July. ☺

Woops

I noticed when I posted the newsletter on MartysThoughts.info that there was an error if you wanted to view one page at a time. This means that either no one is using it or you did not want to tell me. In any case I am working on it now.

Forbidden is no more

I have fixed that error "403 Forbidden" error when you try to view fewer pages. Some of you do not have a broadband connection to the Internet. I want to make it possible for you to read my newsletter without spending a long time opening my pages. I try my best to fix things right away. Some times I get busy and forget. If you see a problem, go to my web site and click on the contact me link and email. Or just tell me when you see me. I will take care of it.

A Note from the Universe

sm ...

It's the thirst for approval,
validation and justification,
from sources outside of yourself,
that blinds you to the fact that
they need not be earned.

Document Not Found

I found some "404 Document not found" errors too. I think I have all of them fixed to. These were links back to the list of my other web sites. Sorry about that.

Email Notices

I just sent out the email notice. Do you know I send out seventeen emails to people that want to hear when the new issues are ready. If you are on the list and want off email me and let me know. If you know of some one that would like to be added to the list, have them email and I will add them.

09-Feb-2008 6:19pm 26°

So far today I have been to the restaurant 4 times. And that is enough of today. After all they close in 3 hours. How could I squeeze in another trip? After breakfast I went to Sam's to get some supplies. It seems like every time I go there, I spend a small fortune. I think I have enough for the next two storms. Then it was lunch time. Then I went to Crystal Lake with Aunt Annie. We had to stop for coffee on the way back. Well, didn't we? A couple hours later I had to return to the restaurant to give Bill and Arlene a copy of the newsletter. There you have it. Four trips!

It is snowing again. Wonder how much this time? Well, I have enough food for days, weeks, and maybe month. Boy did I buy a lot of food!

Book

When I started working on my book after I returned from Germany and Spain I figured it was going to only take a couple months. Then it was Labor Day, Thanksgivings, Christmas, and now it is near Valentine's Day and I won't be finished. Writing it took long enough. I am still going through the editing. Every time I look at it I find a lot of thing that are just plain wrong! Melody has been editing it. She has most of it gone through and I am making the corrections. And with my grammars and spelling there is a lot to fix. Melody has done a good job. If I had paid attention in English class in school it might have been easier. I am learning now. And I have to get back at it.

RV Travel newsletter

Bumper Snicker

Everyone Is Entitled To My Opinion

Worth Pondering

Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted. --

David Bly

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue313.shtml>

11-Feb-2008 1:23pm 5°

I have had enough of this cold stuff. Looks like it will go up to just cold tomorrow. It looks like it might be in the 50s where I was in Spain last year. Oh well, I am here now.

Wa La

I think I have been using "Wa La" wrong. I have been using it for a long time as "So be it" or "Wow" While editing my book, Melody tells me I might want the word "voila". So I looked it up and can not find its meaning. Not to give up too quickly, I looked up "Wa La" and I can not find it either.

After that I looked up different spellings and I think what I want is the work "Walla" I found this meaning: "An Arab word (used a lot in Israel al well) representing a sense of wonder. Most of the times it is used as a question." Source: <http://www.urbandictionary.com/>

This tells me that "Wa La" or "Walla" might mean about what I was using if for, a sense of wonderment. I will keep using "Wa La" until I learn more....Ah, maybe Mike has some thoughts on this. I think he is a wordologist.

Three Letter Acronym

Since I am trying to get some thing right let me talk about some TLA or three-letter acronym. They are 3 letter abbreviations for a few words like, "GOP" and "DNA".

Kim asked me about GOP and I didn't know what it stood for. I know what it meant but not what the word were. Kin said that GOP was "Grand Old Party" I guest maybe.

I went to the Internet and looked up "three-letter acronym". Wouldn't you there is a web site called www.tla.org/tla.html. Yes, that is all that is on that web page, just TLA's.

I looked up GOP. Kim, you are right, Grand Old Party.

DNA is Deoxyribonucleic Acid.

DSL is Digital Subscriber Loop

DNS is Domain Name System

URL is Uniform Resource Locator (I use this. It is the Inter address like www.MartysThoughts.info)

There are 1444 TLAs listed on this web site. They go from AAA, American Automobile Association to ZRT, Zero Retention Force. Thanks www.tla.org/tla.html.

Laurie's Car

In case any of you wanted to know, Laurie's car is being used as a reef now. It will most likely never be removed from Lake Woodstock.

ETC or ECT

I think it is "etc" not "ect"

Bisque

The question was "What makes a soup a "bisque'?" I found this on Google: "A thick, cream or milk-based shellfish soup, usually made with crawfish, shrimp or oysters."

Bistro

The question was; "What makes a restaurant a bistro?" I found this on Google: "a small informal restaurant; serves wine" Oh!

Election Year

I almost forgot this was election year. Yah, right! There has been so much in the media, how could I forget. On January 1st I decided to run for office. This is my official notice I am in the race for office.

Party

Every one running for office needs to belong to a party. Since I starting this project, the name has to be the "Smarty Marty Party". I have used this before. I ran for president when I was 34 years old. I dropped out when I found when I found out you needed to be 35.

Platform

I know I need a platform from my campaign. Since I do not have a platform to campaign from I think I will need an orange crate. If you have one some where, could I use it?

Aunt Annie

I was looking for some one to be my running mate. So far Aunt Annie has agreed to run with me. Maybe she will run from me after I get going. That's what happened in 1980 when I was in the race. I showed Laurie the sample of the bumper stickers. She agreed they looked good., so I had a couple hundred printed. When I gave her half, I never saw her again. I guess she didn't believe I would really do it.

Promises

All people who run for office promise something. "No new Taxes", "More Jobs", "Less inflations", these are some of the promised I have hears. Well, the only promised I am going to make is that I am going to have fun with this. As long as it is fun I will be running for office. So my promise is; I promise nothing. If something happens you like, it is a plus.

Bumper Sticker

I need a bumper sticker. How about one of these? I think the one on the right is reasier to read.

**Register to vote.**

If you do not like who is running for office. Vote for some one else. If enough people do that they might not be voted in to office by all the people. If you are not registered you can help keep them out. You know you do not have to tell any one how you vote. If you like some one because the hair is red, you can vote for the reason. If you do not like any of the other write in you own name on the line. It is just saying you do not want any one that is running for office. It is up to you how you vote. You even can vote for us if you do not like any of the other.

12-Feb-2008 9:25am 18° Snowing

Happy Lincoln's Birthday! Has anyone seen my old list of birthdays? I am talking about from 5-10 years ago. I missed Laurie's and Kim's. That is Laurie with the car that is now a reef and Kim the owner of the Three Brother Restaurant. I know there are many others on that list that I would like to add to my master list.

Wa La

Ok the word is not "Wa La" it is "voila". I asked Mike if I got it from him and I was just spelling it wrong. Here is what he told me: "You are correct. You probably heard it from me around 50 years ago. I used it a lot when I first learned it in my French class. It is spelled "voila" and pronounced "vwa-la." It is used as an explanation point meaning basically, "That's it!" or "There it is!" or "Exactly!" It is the same as the German I now use "Genau." It means the same."

Now I have learned three new words. "Voila", "Walla", and "Genau" We will have to see how long I remember these words. It is kind of like when Nora gives me 3 new Spanish words at one time. I don't remember any of them. But I will remember one of the most of the time if that is all she gives me.

Lincoln Birthday

I was talking about Abraham Lincoln, the six-tenth President, not the Lincoln car. They look different.

**Newsletter Stuff**

It has been a long time since I have had any gossip, rumors, or happenstances in the newsletter. This is partly because of the weather. I have been staying in door at home. And maybe you have been doing the same. So if you see me feed me some fun stuff that I might want to put in the newsletter.

Mike and Petra

Mike told me the other day that they were waiting for the stuff to arrive at their new home. Did I tell you they have a place? Well they do, in Paso Robles, CA

Turkey

Did you know in 1920 they produced one turkey each for ever 29 people. Now days, there is one turkey for ever person. I watched Modern Marvels on the History Channel about cold cuts.

13-Feb-2008 08:17am 5°

Are we sure the Ground Hog did not see his shadow? It is still very cold out there. Maybe I need a trip out to see Mike and Petra in California. I see I am at the last page of my note book so I got out a new one. The new one is yellow. The last page says "I wish Sharon would iron 'Feather Friends'". Sharon, do you know what this means?

I think I left my gloves at Vaughan's this morning. I guess that gives me a reason to go back out for coffee. Like I need a reason!

15 feb 2008 1:40pm**Yesterday**

I took yesterday off and did nothing. I thought that someone might have came over to help me do nothing. Nobody showed up. I guess you to do nothing of your own. If some day you find yourself doing nothing and you think you may need some help, remember I am good for nothing.

From The Email

I just got this from Arlene. It needs to be put in the newsletter.

Life before electronic toys & things

I THINK THIS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO EVERY FIRST GRADER.

MAYBE THEY CAN TURN THINGS AROUND WHEN THEY BECOME ADULTS.....RESPONSIBLE ADULTS...

TO ALL THE KIDS WHO SURVIVED the 1930's, 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's!!

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant.

They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes.

Then after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-based paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking.

As infants & children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, booster seats, seat belts or air bags.

Riding in the back of a pick up on a warm day was always a special treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle.

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE actually died from this.

We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank Kool-aid ma de with sugar, but we weren't overweight because,

WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on.

No one was able to reach us all day and we were O.K.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, no video games at all, no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVD's, no surround-sound or CD's, no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet or chat rooms.....

WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, made up games with sticks and tennis balls and, although we were told it would happen, we did not poke out very many eyes.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them!

Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!!

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever!

The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL!

If YOU are one of them CONGRATULATIONS!

You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives for our own good.

While you are at it, forward it to your kids so they will know how brave (and lucky) their parents were.

Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it?!

The quote of the month is by Jay Leno:

'With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?'>

For those that prefer to think that God is not watching over us...go ahead and delete this.

For the rest of us...pass this ON!

Source: Email from Arlene

16-Feb-2008 10:09 20°

Birthday

Today is Devyn birthday. She is 16 today. I hope her mother, Tammy, can handle that. Happy Sweet Sixteen Devyn!

Breakfast

I just came back from Vaughan's. I had to park in the back and when I came in someone had my spot. It was ok because it was Heather, Olivia and Mark.

I had heard a rumor about Nora, so I asked her if it was true. She said; "Yes, who did you hear it from?" I told her; "You can guess!" I asked if she wanted to tell me more. She said, not until next week. Watch this newsletter for details a little later.

Ear Rings or Hair Cut.

The last week or so I noticed I need a hair cut. After breakfast I headed to the hansom shop. Ladies have beauty shops so I guess a barber shop is a hansom shop for guys. Anyway, on the way up there I was think that I needed to get my ears lowered. Then I was think that if I wear ear rings and they were heavy enough they would pull my ears down and then I might get another or week or two on a hair cut.

I drive to the barber shop and just before me was a big SUV parking. Six people get out and go into the hansom shop just as I parked. That is more waiting. So I just left. If they were busy it meant maybe a two hour wait to say the least. There were a lot of cars parked out front and nothing else is opened that early in the morning. I guessed that meant they were busy.

17-Feb-2008 1:49pm 41°

It is nice it is 40+ degrees. It would be nicer if it wasn't raining too. It has been raining off and on all day. So far today there has been almost an inch of the wet stuff. I think I have to think field trip to Arizona. It was 55° in Sedona at 1:00pm and the sun was shining!

Sub-pump

With all the water around are sure you sub-pump can get the water outside where it belongs. Is your discharge hose frozen. Ask Aunt Annie about frozen her hose.

Retraction

Aunt Annie was trying to think of a word today is was "retraction". It was not any of the other words we came up with.

18-Feb-2008 8:48am 18°

Woops, Maybe

Shirley, I have may have your birthday as the 19th. Aunt Annie said it is the 26th. One of us is right. I am going to use the 19th until one of us hear from you.

Babies

I can tell you now. You may already know. I know of two babies on the way. Tristan and Heather are both going to have babies. I couldn't tell you earlier because I wasn't sure it wasn't just a rumor. There enough rumors going on and I don't like to spread too many of them myself. I had to wait until I heard these things from the source, at least from a more reliable source. Congratulations ladies!

10:52am

Aunt Annie just called and said; "Ha! Ha!" She had called Bob and found out that Shirley's birthday is indeed the 26th. I guess Bob and Shirley had a good laugh that I had it wrong. I guess even I can have something wrong once in a while. I wonder who else I have wrong. For you who have the Internet please check my master list at <http://www.martysthoughts.info/randomthoughts/html/Birthdays.html>. If you see one wrong let me know. I will fix it right away. Sorry Shirley!

Email just in

I just got this email from my sister Marcia. I think it would be a good idea if every one was using it. On the other hand I hope you never have to have anyone use it.

GOOD IDEA! Marcia

ICE Campaign - " In Case of Emergency "

We all carry our mobile phones with names & numbers stored in its memory but nobody, other than ourselves, knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency?

Hence this "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) Campaign, the concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name "ICE" (In Case of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital Staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialing the number you have stored as " ICE "

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc. A great idea that will make a difference! Let's spread the concept of ICE by storing an ICE number in our Mobile phones today!

Please forward this. It won't take too many "forwards" before everybody will know about this. It really could save your life, or put a loved one's mind at rest.

ICE will speak for you when you are not able to.

Source: Email from Marcia

Rumors

Remember a couple months I was talking to you about telling rumors. This was in the in the Sep 11th, 2007 issue. Telling rumors that can hurt someone are not good. I made a mistake and let someone know something that I shouldn't have. It came back and hurt someone. I told someone, they told someone, and then they told some one else. Maybe the story didn't get told the same each time it was passed along. I heard that it got passed along and back and forth a couple times. I am sorry I ever told some one in the first place. I didn't think I was doing any harm by telling just one person. I guess even thought I knew better. And still slip up. I am sorry. I will try harder to keep my mouth shut.

In case you do not have a copy on the September 11th issue here is what I wrote:

Reprint

Rumors

Only spread happy rumors. Repeating rumors that could hurt others is bad Karma! Even fact should not be repeated if it could hurt someone.

Karma

Some people might not really know what Karma means. Karma kind of means "What goes around... comes around!" The theory is that whatever negative or positive energies one sends out will come back to the sender in like kind. The "Three Fold Law" is a version of this belief. It says that if you do something to or for another... you get it back 3 times what you did. Getting even is not how it works. Karma is a checks and balance kind of thing. If someone does something bad to you, you may have had it coming to you from something you did in the past. If you do something good, it does not always mean good is going to come to you, it just helps.

Source: www.martysthoughts.info/ September 11, 2007 issue

19-Feb-2008 1:06pm

Birthday and Not

Happy Birthday Chad! I think I have yours right. And happy not-your-birthday Shirley.

As seen in the newspaper.

A lot of times I look at the want ads in the paper while having coffee. Mostly I like to see what kind of stuff people are trying to sell. Today I saw an ad that starts out "Twin bed, Elect..." This struck me funny. I thought maybe is should have been an electric chair. If it was an Electric bed and you wet the bed it would do the same thing. Well, won't it?

20-Feb-2008 6:45pm

Hotdog

Did you know that they process 300,000 hotdogs an hour during manufacturing?

22-Feb-2008 10:00am 22°

Woops Birthday Wrong

Jessica's birthday is February 20th not March. That is the second one I have wrong. I asked her mom, Kim, if she was sure. I guess she was there when Jessica was born. So I guess she may have some insight in this matter. Sorry Jessica. Happy late Birthday!

Car Service

I got a service notice for my car. It was about the CRV transmission slipping sometimes when you start out from at a stop. I thought that this was normal. This car is my first car with a CRV transmission, hybrid, and Honda, so what do I know. I also had my SRS light on and needed the oil

change. When they were checking it out I found that I needed new front brake pads and the rear brakes needed to be cleaned.

I got a rent-a-car from Enterprise. You know they do come and pick you up, but not like in the TV ads. The car was not wrapped up with a bow on it. And it was not one of those Sebring convertibles. It was a new Chevy Cobalt with only 70 miles on it. The Honda dealer paid for the car. I just had to pay for a couple gallons of fuel. One thing that impressed me on this car was the my head on the side of the door jam when I got into it and it told you how much air pressure was in each tire and the outside temperature. My car does not do any of that. Other than that, I like mine better.

So I had the brakes, transmission, and the seat belt fixed along with an oil change, in under 20 hours.

Washington Birthday

Yes, today is George's birthday. Are any of you old enough to remember when he died in 1732? Washington was born 92 years after the Pilgrims landed in 1620. Later he became our first precedent. Then in 1783 he retired TO Mount Vernon. Happy Birthday Mr. Precedent where ever you are!

Marcia and Dan Travel

I just got an email ,Tuesday Marcia and Dan went to Italy to see Samantha and her family. Like when I was in Germany last year, she has found things are very different in Italy. Marcia has a Blog site if you want to see pictures and read her notes. Here is the address:

<http://www.giveawaycity.blogspot.com/>

23-Feb-2008 6:38pm 21°

All day I have been thinking that I have forgotten another birthday. Is it yours? I have been thinking I can remember without looking a lot of then on the 23rd of some months. Kevin's on May 23rd, Mary's in August, Sandy's was in September Not Sandi's, hers is March 9th. Annette's is in October. Now I will look and see how many I missed. Oh, yes, Ethan's in January, Sue in June. I draw a blank. I wonder who Sue is. That is it for now. If I missed your , I'm sorry, my psychic powers do work sometimes. I do not always know what these feelings mean. So you have to tell me so I know.

Family trees

I got a letter from Pamela today asking if I have any information on the family genealogy. I have parts of one available for Mom's and Dad's sides of the family. Both were done years and years ago. Has anyone updated any of this information? Does anyone planning on doing work on this in the future? I don't think it wouldn't be too hard to do from Mom and Dad to the last one into the family. Has anyone done a genealogy search that could guide someone who would like to try this? If someone would like to do this or help let me know and I will pass it on.

Who has a copy of the Family Tree that Mom did? I do not think I have seen any of it since we lived over the White House. Not that White House! The other one!

25-Feb-2008 3:09pm 33°

Well it is that time of the year again. Yes, it will be March and a few days and I have had enough winter. What about you? I heard it will raining, freezing rain and maybe 12 inches of snow in next few days. I think it is time to think about a trip to Arizona. If I get a dry day after the snow is off the motorhome cover I can remover the cover and get it ready for a field trip. I will have this in the back of my mind while I am moving the snow that is coming.

Maybe I could sell tickets. There may be someone else that might to get out of this weather. The Old Farmer's Almanac has its weather forecast for the lower Great Lakes area.

February 2008

Avg. Temperature: 22.5° (avg. east, 3° below west)
Precipitation: 1.5" (0.5" below avg.)
Feb. 1-10: Lake snows, cold
Feb. 11-13: Sunny, mild
Feb. 14-17: Rain and snow, then snow squalls, very cold
Feb. 18-22: Snow, then lake snows, cold
Feb. 23-29: Snow, then periods of rain, milder

March 2008

Avg. Temperature: 41° (5° above avg.)
Precipitation: 2" (1" below avg.)
Mar. 1-4: Rain and snow, then sunny
Mar. 5-9: Rain and snow, then sunny, cool
Mar. 10-16: Rain to snow, then sunny, cool
Mar. 17-24: Showers, warm
Mar. 25-28: T-storms, very warm
Mar. 29-31: Sunny, seasonable

Source: <http://www.almanac.com/weatherforecast/us/6>

Snowing

I see it is snowing now. I can't see the blacktop now and it is hard to see through what is coming down. Come on March!

26-Feb-2008 7:45am 22°

I looked out the window and I see it is still snowing. I thought at first it was just blowing off the trees. No such luck. So I ate a couple eggs and a cup of milk. I checked the weather map and it looks it is almost finished snowing. I guess I need to dig out the car so I can go for coffee.

A Birthday or maybe not

Today is the day Shirley was born. It use to be she didn't like it when I would reminder her. You know me, I would just keep reminding her. Now I make sure she knows that is her special day. So, Happy Today Shirley!

Yesterday, Aunt Annie and I went down to IHOP to wish her a Happy Birthday. We found out that no one at IHOP knew. I told them, to keep Shirley smiling. I did tell them it wasn't Monday but Tuesday Shirley's day off.

If you see Shirley, wish her a happy day and do not let her know I told you. ☺

Coffee Time

I removed the snow. There was 6-7 inches and again the wind was blowing the wrong way. I think I will move the house to the other side of the driveway. That way the house won't be in the way. If I move the house to the other side of the driveway it will be in the schools parking lot. That would be a different problem. Maybe I will just keep doing what I am doing now.

So I went for coffee. After 14 years Nora has left Vaughan's. She will be working uptown at the Woodstock Public House. We wish her good luck with her new career. We will miss her at Vaughan's.

Mary told me that her hours have changed. She will still be opening in the morning but only working until 11:00 to help Heather with Olivia. Grandmothers do those things. It is hard to think of Mary as a grandmother. I guess knowing Mary, Heather, and now Olivia, for so long they are like family not just friends.

I guess this means we will be seeing some new faces around Vaughan's. We have Allison who started working with Mary today. I hope I have you name spelled right. If not, put me straight. We will see who comes on board to fill some of the voids.

Income taxes

I think I will start working on Income Taxes this week. Maybe I have them mailed of by April 15th.

27-Feb-2008 8:17am 17°

I see even the newspaper is talking about the weather. At MCC (McHenry County Collage) they we are near the record snow fall. They clam we are at 69 inches this year and the records shoe 74-1/2 inches in the 1978-1979 season. I remember that year season or was it the next one when I spent twenty-three hours in the country with all four tires off the road because of the snow. That year I was driving an

orange, 1978 Ford Fiesta. Wasn't the last big snow when I made a garage out of the snow because I had no where else to put it. I remember 200 inches of snow that year. Maybe that was in Chicago. Chicago gets lake snow and we only have a fifty foot lake out by the Three Brothers. We don't get much snow from that one.

28-Feb-2008 10:10am 25°

Only one more day to go and it is Leap Day. It will be the last one this decade. That is right you won't get another one until Feb 29th, 2112. I hope you enjoy it.

Kim Asked

Where is Fitzgerald's Restaurant near Geneva but in Wisconsin?
Here is one: Fitzgerald's, 3112 Parmenter St., Middleton, WI 53562. Here is another: Fitzgerald's Genoa Junction Restaurant & Gift Shop, 727 Main Street (Highway B), Genoa City, WI 53128. I hope that helps.

29-Feb-2008 7:27am 30°

What, more snow! Guess breakfast is going to be late this morning. I am getting tired of the snow! Maybe it is time to go elsewhere. Anyone want to go along? Later I will start looking for a less snowy place. Well, I have to finish my income taxes first. For now I must get dressed to move some snow and go have breakfast.

Now that the snow has been removed and I have had some breakfast. I feel better. How do people go without breakfast? I moved that snow and was just drained. I usually eat some thing to get my system going. Today I thought I would just move the snow and then have breakfast. I was dragging for a long time even after having breakfast. I am fine now. Maybe that is why they say, "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day."

There was only 2 inches of snow today. And this time the wind was blowing the right way.

Nora stopped by while I was having breakfast. She looks good. Maybe it was the new job or maybe it was that she was wearing street clothes. In any case she said; "Hi."

Leap Day

In 1940 on February 29, 'Gone With the Wind' won eight Oscars at the annual awards banquet, including a Best Supporting Actress award for Hattie McDaniels, the first black performer to be so honored.

Did you know that Jimmy Dorsey, Dinah Shore, and Dennis Farina all were born on February 29?

Source: The Old Farmer's Almanac newsletter

Didn't Dennis Farina play Captain Adam Greer in 1999 film The Mod Squad?

Leap year day birthday

Are there any of my readers that know any one who was born on February 29th? How do they deal with their age? If they were born in 1976, are they 8 or 32? One thing if you count your birthdays you will get older much slower than the rest of us.

Mary told me today she knows someone that's birthday is today. She has had 20 birthdays. I guess that makes her 80 years old.

This would be a good day to work on my income taxes. Maybe I will not have to do them for another 4 years.

Jenae

I was out to lunch and ran into Jenae and some of her friends. I didn't get all of the names. Maybe Jenae will let me



know them later.

Gender Identity

If you're like most people, common everyday items look inert to you. But what you may not know is that many of them have a gender. For example...

Ziploc Bags -- Male, because they hold everything in but you can see right through them.

Copier -- Female, because once turned off, it takes a while to warm up. It's an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed, but can wreak havoc if the wrong buttons are pushed.

Tire -- Male, because it goes bald and often it's over inflated.

Hot Air Balloon -- Male, because to get it to go anywhere you have to light a fire under it. . . and, of course, there's the hot air part.

Sponges -- Female, because they're soft and squeezable and retain water.

Web Page -- Female, because it's always getting hit on.

Subway -- Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick people up.

Hourglass -- Female, because over time, the weight shifts to the bottom.

Hammer -- Male, because it hasn't evolved much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.

Remote Control -- Female . . . Ha! You thought it'd be male. But consider -- it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying.

A System for Camping

A loaded mini van pulled in to the only remaining campsite. Four children leaped from the vehicle and began feverishly unloading gear and setting up the tent. The boys rushed to gather firewood, while the girls and their mother set up the camp stove and cooking utensils.

A nearby camper marveled to the youngsters' father, "That, sir, is some display of teamwork."

The father replied, "I have a system; no one goes to the bathroom until the camp is set up."

Source: <http://www.rvfunandgames.com/Blog/index.cfm?catID=8>

Birthdays

Feb 2	Josh H	Mar 1	Jenae	Mar 13	Sandi's Anv
Feb 16	Devyn J	Mar 6	Marie K	Mar 13	Steve S
Feb 19	Chad P	Mar 8	Bruce M	Mar 16	Marcia G
Feb 19	Shirley M	Mar 8	Taylor B	Mar 20	Jessica Mc
Feb 20	Jessica Mc	Mar 9	Sandi P	Mar 21	John K
Feb 26	Shirley M			Mar 30	Christine P
		Mar 20	Victoria		

If you don't see your birthday or you want to make sure I have then let me know.

My master list is at <http://www.martysthoughts.info/randomthoughts/html/Birthdays.html>

This is the end of this issue. Heather has been caring for her family. That is like working 2,3,10, maybe more jobs. This gave me a chance to edit my one newsletter. Heather has been a lot of help.

Being single for over sixty years I can only guess how hard it must be to take care of a family these days. Mom and Dad had seven of us to take care of in the 40's, 50's, and 60's. I don't think it is any easier in this century. Thanks again Heather.

Until next time, happy trails to you.

Marty