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16 Mar-2008 2:37pm

Birthday

Marcia's birthday is today. Cork just reminded me that she is the big Five-Oh! Happy 50th Birthday Marcia!

Motorhome

Cork left a little while after helping me take that cover off of the motorhome. Boy is that big! I had bought the biggest tote at Wal-Mart thinking it would be big enough. No, not big enough! Cork and I went to Farm 'n Fleet and got one of those 50 gallon wheel carts. I figured it would have plenty of room. No again! I had told Cork I had got up on the roof and jump on it. I would have missed and landed on the black top and broke my head so I didn't do that

It did go in there after getting up on top of tote and cramming the cover into it. It is bulging out on the side. With a little packing much harder the next time I think it will be easier. Or I will have to get a 60 gallon the next time. Thanks for you help Cork.

17-Mar-2008 11:46am 37°

Happy Saint Patty's day

Irish Oatmeal Scones**Yield:** 8 scones

- 1/2 cup currants
- water to cover
- 1-1/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 stick butter
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1/3 cup buttermilk
- melted butter and coarse-grained sugar

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Combine currants and water in Pyrex measuring cup. Microwave to boiling point, cover, and let stand.

Combine first 5 dry ingredients in large mixing bowl or Cuisinart bowl. Cut in butter with pastry knife, or pulse in Cuisinart until it resembles coarse meal. Drain currants, and then add to mixture with oatmeal. Stir in buttermilk until dough is barely moistened.

Turn dough onto floured board and knead 6 to 8 times. Roll or pat into a circle, place on ungreased baking sheet, and score into 8 wedges. Brush the top with melted butter and sprinkle with coarse-grained sugar. Bake for about 15 minutes.

Source: Farmers Almanac; <http://www.almanac.com/recipes/search/onerecipe.php?number=208>

RV Travel Newsletter

I am a little behind reading these newsletters. There are 3 for me to review.

Trivia...

Despite the large rat population in New York City, rats bite only 311 people in an average year. But 1,519 residents are bitten annually by other New Yorkers.

Fire Safety Tip

from Mac McCoy

During your monthly inspection, check the fire extinguisher gauge to determine if there is pressure in the extinguisher. If the gauge indicates empty or needs charging, replace or recharge the extinguisher immediately. To test non-gauged extinguishers, push the plunger indicator (usually green or black) down. If it does not come back up, the extinguisher has no pressure to expel its contents. If you need help testing your fire extinguishers, check with your local fire department.

Bumper Snicker

All Men Are Animals, Some Just Make Better Pets

Worth Pondering

Eighty percent of success is showing up. -- Woody Allen

Trivia...

The "huddle" in football was conceived because of a deaf football player who used sign language to communicate. The team didn't want the opposition to see his signals and in turn huddled around him.

Bumper Snicker

All stressed out and nobody to choke!

Worth Pondering

My wife was afraid of the dark...then she saw me naked and now she's afraid of the light. --Rodney Dangerfield

Bumper Snicker

Give Me Ambiguity or Give Me Something Else

Worth Pondering

It is enough that I am of value to somebody today -- Hugh Prather

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com> issues 316, 317, and 318

Camera Mount

I have the camera shoulder mount finished. It works so I have to go for a walk and see how it works. Since this is the prototype I have already have ideas for changes. One thing it needs is a way to make it fold down flat when not in use. It needs away to move the camera. I made it ridged and the video makes it look like I waddle like a penguin. Maybe after I loose a little weight that waddle will smooth out.

19-Mar-2008 7:31am 32°

Awake early this morning. I am going to have breakfast with Christine this morning. I used to work with her and I have to catch up on what I have been missing.

Breakfast

Christine and I have a nice long visit. We had a very good time. She reminded me that the motor home has not moved for a long time. I agreed and told her it would be moved soon.

Field trip

I have been talking a long time about going some where with the motorhome. I plotted a big trip. It goes from Woodstock, St. Louis, Lyon, Sedona, Paso Robles, Yellowstone, Maquoketa, Iron Mountain, Philadelphia, and home. This is about 7,400 miles. And at \$4.00 a gallon would cost about \$3,500 for fuel. The 7400 miles are not allowing for any side trips like detours or sightseeing. That is about 135 hours of driving. At 40 hours a week that would be over 3 weeks. That would be a little much to do at one time. I spent a month in Europe last spring so it is possible. Today, I think it is a little much.

While I am typing I am think I might like to take a long trip. It isn't like I have to come back and go to work. I am free to travel. And I would like to see Mike, Marcia, Marie, Steve, Wally, the other Steve, Tim, Sedona and Yellowstone again. That is a very long trip. Here is the map for the long trip. We will see if I go that far in one big trip or make it smaller ones.



21-Mar-2008 11:13am 27°

Boy, did I mess up. Yesterday was the first day of spring and I did not try to see if I could balance an egg on its end. I always want to try that. On the time of the start of fall and spring it has be told to me that it is the only time you can do this. Of coarse, I have never remembered to try is on those days or any or any other day as far as that goes.

Maybe that is the reason spring left us so quick. Have you looked out the window? A little while ago I looked outside and I could not see very far because of the snow. What happened to that global warming?

Anila

Anila said she is mad at me again. I guess I didn't put anything in the last newsletter about her. So, I need things to put in here about her. Does anyone have anything that I can repeat?

Jenae

Jenae tells me that Monday night she is going to Ireland. She is a part of singing group that is going there for a week to sing. I will see her again Saturday afternoon. I need to remember to tell her to have a good time. If I forget, I will ask her when she returns,

Stock Market

I have been watching the stock market for a very long time. I have even posted some companies I thought might be going up in price. In the last six months I haven't see any thing I wanted to buy. The government keeps sticking it noise in and things it is going to straighten it out the market for us. Many people think that might help. In the end it is that more people are selling than are buying.

I have a program that watch 3327 random stock prices. Yesterday 2089 were higher and 908 were lower leaving 269 unchanged. That tells me the market as I see it was higher. And the DJII showed it was up 261 points. Did that happen because the government lowered interest rates? Maybe! We will have to see what happens Monday. The markets are closed today. Good Friday!

Why "Good" Friday

I was wondered why it is called "good" Friday. After it is the day they kill The Man. Out to the Internet to see. Here is one of the things I found.

Calling the day of the Crucifixion 'Good' Friday is a designation that is peculiar to the English language. In German, for example, it is called Karfreitag. The Kar part is an obsolete word, the ancestor of the English word care in the sense of cares and woes, and it meant mourning. So in German, it is Mourning Friday. And that is what the disciples did on that day—they mourned. They thought all was lost.

I've read that the word good used to have a secondary meaning of holy, but I can't trace that back in my etymological dictionary. There are a number of cases in set phrases where the words God and good got switched around because of their similarity. One case was the phrase God be with you, which today is just good-bye. So perhaps Good Friday was originally God's Friday. But I think we call it Good Friday because, in pious retrospect, all that tragedy brought about the greatest good there could be.

I can see virtue in either terminology. If we call it Mourning Friday, as in German, we are facing reality head on, taking up the cross if you will, fully conscious that the Christian walk is seldom a walk in the park. But if we call it Good Friday, as in English, we are confessing the Christian hope that no tragedy—not even death—can overwhelm God's providence, love, and grace. Either way seems fine to me!

Source: <http://www.kencollins.com/question-11.htm>

And in another I fine this question.

Question: "What is Good Friday?"

Answer: Good Friday is the Friday immediately proceeding Easter Sunday. It is traditionally the day on which Jesus was crucified. Please see our article that discusses the various views on which day Jesus was crucified. Assuming that Jesus was crucified and died on a Friday, should Christians remember by celebrating Good Friday?

The Bible does not instruct Christians to remember Christ's death by honoring a certain day. The Bible does give us freedom in these matters, however. Romans 14:5 tells us, "One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind." The Bible instructs us to remember Christ's death by observing the Lord's Supper. First Corinthians 11:26 declares, "For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Why is Good Friday referred to as "good"? What the Jewish authorities and Romans did to Jesus was definitely

not good (see Matthew chapters 26-27). However, the results of Christ's death are very good! Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." 1 Peter 3:18, "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit."

Many Christian churches celebrate Good Friday with a subdued service, usually in the evening, when Christ's death is remembered with solemn hymns, prayers of thanksgiving, a message centered on the Messiah's suffering for our sakes, and communion. Whether or not Christians choose to "celebrate" Good Friday, the events of that day should be ever on our minds because the death of Christ on the cross is the paramount event of the Christian faith.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Good-Friday.html>

22-Mar-2008 9:33am 28°

This morning I have already moved all that that snow from yesterday. It looked like 8-10 inches. It was wet snow so the snow blower kept telling me. It plugged up many times and I couldn't just push through it like I did most of the winter. At the end of the driveway at the street I had to make 4-5 passes to cut that stuff loose. And when I got all finished the sun came out. Maybe if I would have waited until noon it would have been all melted away. All in all I am happy with this with this snow blower.

Price of gas

The other day someone told that they were cutting down on traveling because of the price of fuel. Here is my response to that.

"The price of fuel does not affect me a whole lot. Price on everything has gone up ever since I can remember. When I was 16 cigarettes were 30 cents a pack if they had filters. I didn't see any reason to pay 30 cents for those coupons, so I quit. Now they are \$4.00 or more a pack. When I started buying fuel gasoline was 28 cents now it is \$3.40 here. My first new car was a 1960 Opel I paid \$1960.00 for it and in 2002 I bought this Honda for about \$22,000.00. On the other hand I paid about \$2,500 for my first computer in 1978 and now they are around \$500.00

Some thing cost more and some thing cost less. Cigarette went up 13 times in 45 years and they are still not good for you. Fuel cost is up 12 times in the same time. Cars went up only 11 times as much in the last 40 years and the gas mileage is about the same but the quality is better. I got 39 MPG on that Opel and get 45 on the Honda on the open road.

As for gasoline that price went up 12 times over the years since I started driving.

And now for my hobby the computer; 10 years before I bought my first computer it would not fit in my house. The first one I bought cost about \$2,500. Then next one 3-4 years later was about the same, then another and another. Then I got smart and got a job using them. Now you can get a computer 2000 time faster, 32,000 more working memory, and 50,000 or more time storage, and a big times better quality picture. And a lot more stuff for around \$500. So some things got better and some thing just cost more.

So you see I do not care that price of one commodity. We just see those sign all of the place on the streets that remind us that prices are changing ever 5 minutes."

By Marty Metras

What if it snows Tomorrow

Tomorrow is Easter Sunday. I have been told since I was a little guy that if it rain on Easter Sunday it will rain the following 6 Sundays. And for the most part I think this has happened. The weather forecast in the newspaper says it might snow tomorrow. Does this mean it might snow for the next 6 Sundays or does that only work for rain? I checked Weather underground and it says ice pallets for tomorrow. Weather Channel is forecasting snow too.

After searching the Internet for a while I do not find much more than what I have said. "If it rains on Easter Sunday it will rain on the next six Sundays." On place it says; "If it rains on Easter Sunday it will rain on the Seventh Sunday." This is basically the same thing.

I did find this 48-page document on the Internet that I have put on my web page for your amusement. "Signs, Omens, and Portents in Nebraska Folklore" if you go to my web site at this address: <http://www.martysthoughts.info> and follow the links to the newsletter. There is a lot of other neat stuff in it.

In the mean time we will have to wait and see what happens with the snow.

23-Mar-2008 8:46am 27°

I had my eggs this morning and did not dig them out of the snow. It was cold in the frig, but there was no snow in there.

Since I know some people who came from other countries, I would like to wish you Happy Easter in your language.

Gëzuar Pashkët

Froh Ostern

Cáisc Shona Dhuit

Felices Pascuas

Kaló Páskha

Happy Easter

Translation form: <http://www.omniglot.com/language/phrases/easter.htm>

Others Field trips

Looks like Jenae is not the only going for a trip out of the country. Yesterday I heard that Voviollca is going to see family in Albania. And Taylor is going to see a friend in Germany. Looks like many of my friends will be out of the country for a while this year. Take pictures, notes, and have a lot of fun!

For you who get lost when you are out of Woodstock here is a map of Europe with some of the places marked for you. And me!

Yesterday's Snow

I spent all day yesterday moving snow, first at my house then again at Aunt Annie's. We got hit with about ten inches of heavy wet snow. My snow isn't so bad to move though the snow blower thought it was a little heavier than it wanted to move. I just babied it and got through it. At lunch time the driveway was mostly dry. Aunt Annie had called and said that she wasn't coming in for lunch because she didn't think she could get out.

After lunch I thought I would drive out there and see what was up. On the way out I saw no snow on the roads or drives, so I thought it would be ok when I got to her house. I was going to pull out front and call her up and say; "Well I got this far." When I got



there it didn't look that bad so I decided to pull in the driveway and go in and give her a hard time about it. Big mistake!

I hit the end of the drive hard to get through what the snow the plow leaves and got in the drive and all four wheels were off the ground. Yes, there was a lot of snow and I was stuck!

I went inside and told Aunt Annie; "You're right, you are not going any where. There is a car stuck in your driveway." She said some thing like; "Who is it?" I said "Me!" She laughed.

So I called Cork and asked him to bring out my snow blower, extension cord and boots. Thanks Cork!

I spent the next hour-and-half moving Aunt Annie's snow. It was very, very, wet and heavy and 40 degrees. I wasn't cold but boy was it hard pushing through that snow. You know I had to do this because we do have to go for our coffee. Well, don't we?

My car wasn't stuck to tight and the extension cord is 4 feet short to get to the road. All in all it went well. Besides I need the exercise.

Now it is Easter and they are telling us we would get more snow.

Later 4:00pm

Aunt Annie and I went to Friday's in Crystal Lake for Easter lunch and had a nice visit. On the drive home we noticed how much of that now has left us. The sun has beeb out most of the day and it got up to all most 40° at noon. There has been no snow yet! Maybe we won't have the 6 weeks of rain. The forecast still is calling for some precipitation.



Tonight

Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. A chance of flurries early in the evening. Lows 17 to 21. North winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable after midnight. Source: <http://www.wunderground.com>

Bumper Snicker

I just let my mind wander, and it didn't come back.

Worth Pondering

Never go to bed angry. Stay up and fight! -- Phyllis Diller

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue319.shtml>

23-Mar-2008 8:24am 27°

No precipitation yesterday! Does that mean no rain for the next Sundays? I think we will have to wait and see. Right now I think I will go up to Angelo's and see that coffee in my cup.

Angelo's didn't get to see me for breakfast. There were no parking spaces on the square this morning. Hummm, wonder what was going. Maybe it was just my timing. I did get breakfast at the Three Brothers. You did know I wouldn't go with my morning coffee.

I went shopping after breakfast because I remembered that I need some supplies. Wouldn't you know it? I had a list and didn't get any thing on the list. Better yet I had the list with me. Maybe I need a list of things to do. The first thing on the list should use the list!

George Carlin on age

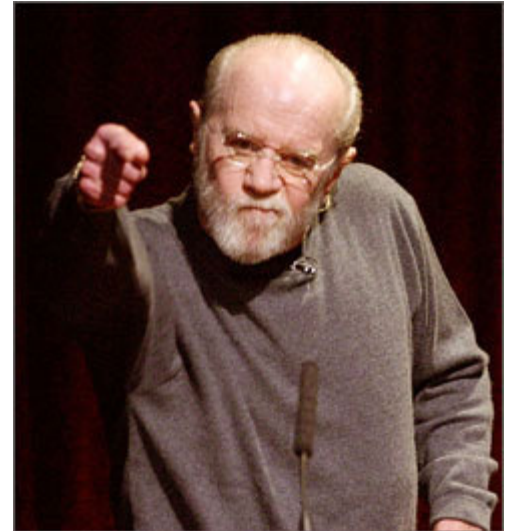
IF YOU DON'T READ THIS TO THE VERY END, YOU HAVE LOST A DAY IN YOUR LIFE. AND WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED, DO AS I AM DOING AND SEND IT ON.

George Carlin's Views on Aging

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.

'How old are you?' 'I'm four **and a half!**' You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five! That's the key

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead.



'How old are you?' 'I'm **gonna be 16!**' You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life.... You **become** 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony. **YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!!**

But then you **turn** 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! He **TURNED**; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're Just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong? What's changed?

You **BECOME** 21, you **TURN** 30, then you're **PUSHING** 40. Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you **REACH** 50 and your dreams are gone.

But wait!!! You **MAKE** it to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you **BECOME** 21, **TURN** 30, **PUSH** 40, **REACH** 50 and **MAKE** it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you **HIT** 70! After that it's a day-by-day thing; you **HIT** Wednesday!

You **get into** your 80's and every day is a complete cycle; you **HIT** lunch; you **TURN** 4:30; you **REACH** bedtime. And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; 'I **Was JUST** 92.'

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. 'I'm 100 and a half!'

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

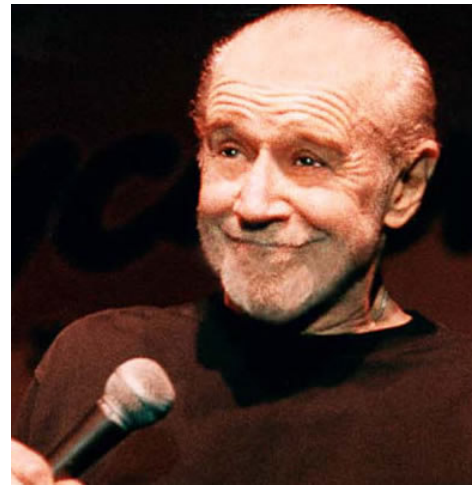
1. **Throw out nonessential numbers.** This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay 'them.'
2. **Keep only cheerful friends.** The grouches pull you down.
3. **Keep learning.** Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop.' **And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.!**
4. **Enjoy the simple things.**
5. **Laugh often**, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. **The tears happen.** Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
7. **Surround yourself with what you love**, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. **Your home is your refuge.**
8. **Cherish your health:** If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. **Don't take guilt trips.** Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. **Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.**

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

And if you don't send this to at least 8 people - **who cares? But do share this with someone.** We all need to live life to its fullest each day!!

Source: Email from Mike



25-Mar-2008 9:15am 38°

Well there are only 9 months until Christmas. Are you ready?

Heard on the radio

On the way out to breakfast I heard the baseball season opened. Yes they did, but not in the USA! I guess we are playing in China. So what other things are going to China. Anyway, that is not what I was going to tell you. I hear there is some one working of the

Cubs that is sitting on the bench and making \$9,000,000.00. If I could get that job I think I would come out of retirement.

What to do

If someone drives by and yells something out the window of the car at you and it is an asinine remark at you, try just wave and smile at them. You can only control how you react to things. Just have a laugh at how stupid some people act. I think this is George Carlen's #5

Woops

Yes, only woops! My computer caught a Trojan horse.

26-Mar-2008 9:27am 35°

This morning I gave Cork a ride and then he gave me a ride. We were getting our vehicles serviced, that is Cork's van and then my motorhome. When we came back for McHenry I dropped Cork off to get Diane's van so he didn't half to walk. When I left Cork I headed home and you know my car seems to not be able to turn right on Grove. Well, it seems like never. When I come in on Seminary (Rt. 47) from the north I forget to turn on Todd. It would be only one stop sign to get home. Then I think about it too hard and forget to turn on Grove where there are only two stop signs. I end up going to the light that would be a light and two stops signs. Anyway, this has happened many times. When I come from the north on Route 47, on the other hand when I come from the south I always turn on Grove to the left. Why is this?

Motorhome

Yesterday I finally took it for a drive. I seemed to still be working fine. I took it in for an oil change because I think is a hundred miles since the last change. That is a year and a half too. It is a just-in-case oil change this time. This means I may be getting closer to that field trip I have been talking about forever. There is another reason out of the way.

Trojan horse

Yesterday I only told you I had a Trojan house. For you non-computer, that is a bad computer virus. Trojan horses kind of take over you computers and do bad things. This one was called "dropped.agent.HHK." I know it was there because my anti-virus program AVG stopped it and put into quarantine so it could not do any damage. I use AGV from Grisoft because it works so good and it is FREE. After using is for about 5 years I found out it does a super job of stopping computer viruses, worms, and Trojan horses. What it doesn't do or I can't figure out, is to remove the Trojan Horse. It stopped it but is kept coming back. And it kept stopping it and putting it into quarantine. That is really good because not damage happened.

After checking to find out what "dropped.agent.HHK." was and how to get rid of it I looked like the easiest way is to buy AVG because the \$34.99 s a small price to pay to get the support when you need it.

So I ran a scan on the computer and found the Trojan and parts of it in twenty-three places not just the seven I thought. There even was a part that was hidden that

downloaded itself if you deleted it somewhere else. It was a tricky little Trojan it was! I am doing a full scan now to make sure it has been put out of my misery.

Right now I think all is well again. Thanks AVG

Strange Things

I was thinking about going to bed after watching things about UFO on T-V. I wonder if there was any things strange happened in Woodstock. I only found a couple things easily on the Internet. One I knew about, the other was new to me. I thought I would share them with you.

Elvira

Located northwest of Chicago, is the small town of Woodstock, Illinois. The tallest structure in the turn-of-the-century downtown is the Woodstock Opera House, a restored building which looms high above the streets below. It has played host to a number of celebrities over the years and is home to one young and attractive ghost.

Legend has it that the ghost, dubbed "Elvira" by the local theater folk. She was once a beautiful actress who was up for a lead part in a ballet. She was said to have been crushed when she didn't get the part and she committed suicide by jumping from the tower of the theater.

From the time of this event, the theater has been haunted by her spirit. She even has a favorite seat in the theater, number 113, and many have witnessed this spring-loaded seat slowly lower as the ghost comes to rest there. Strange sounds have also been heard coming from the vicinity of this seat, including sighs of impatience or approval whenever the show is or is not to her spectral liking. Odd occurrences sometimes take place during performances too, like props falling and disappearing from the stage. Actors and staff at the theater also claim to occasionally catch glimpses of a phantom with long, golden hair.

The Bull Valley Police Station

*Woodstock - The Bull Valley Police Station (Stickney Mansion)



Recently saved from the wrecking ball by local government, this oddity of a home was built in the mid 1800's by a couple who was in to "spiritualism" and frequently held séances in their isolated palace in the Great Plains. Because of a belief they held, they had the house built with no 90 degree corners,

"so the spirits wouldn't get stuck in them" or have "a place to hide". The legend says that the builder left one upstairs corner in the house with a 90 degree angle, and later Mr. Stickney was found dead in that corner. Most of the haunting stories came from a resident who bought the then dilapidated home in the 1970's, who claimed it was "tainted" by "Devil worshippers" and that he had heard unexplained noises. *1904 Cherry Valley Rd*

I do not remember hearing about the Police Station. Good-night!

27-Mar-2008 8:30am 32°

There is a little rain this morning. And I saw a couple snow flakes. It feels cold and damp. Maybe I got spoiled already with fifty degree weather for a couple days.

After driving the motor home for a few days it seems to be running ok. This means I can start thinking hard about taking a field trip some where. I need to start using it.

I think I have that Trojan Horse problem fixed. So I can forget about that threat.

I see I missed another birthday last week. Sorry John, Happy Birthday a little late. I should put those birthdays in order and then look at the list so I remember. Maybe some of you should remind me.

Jeremy and Tonya

Did you know Jeremy and Tonya are in Hawaii? They will be there all this week. Did you know Jim and Cathy have been there and will for the whole month of March? Did you also know that I am not there and have never been there?

29-Mar-2008 2:58pm 48°

Tomorrow is one week after Easter Sunday. It did not rain last Sunday so will it be dry tomorrow? We will have to wait and see.

Lights out at 8:00pm

Did you remember to turn off your lights from 8:00 -9:00pm in support of all the energy we waste? It might be a good idea to do it once a week just to save a little. I wonder how many energy that will be saved? I am going to try and remember and shutdown do as much as electric things I can. Yes that means the computers too!

Bumper Sticker I saw

The Party in Hell was Cancelled do to Fire.

Motorhome

I went to Crystal Valley RV this morning to see what they had and to get one of those free cookies they always have. I looked at this one RV that you could have put mine inside of it. It was really nice. It has three T-Vs running in it and so. I had to look it over. I think it had 3 rooms. And yes, each room had its own T-V. In what I would call the living/dinning room there was a fireplace. Yes, I said "Fireplace!" I think this RV was priced at only \$97,000.00 Wow, and no money down!

Wrong Car

I left Vaughan's after lunch time and tried to get in my car and it was locked. The first thing I thought was; "I wonder why it is locked?" So I reached of the remote and pressed the button and nothing! Then I noticed there was a box in the back seat. I wondered what it was doing there and who put it in there. The next thing that I thought was: "Is this my car? I looked like my car." I stepped back and it looked like my car.

A Note from the Universesm ...

Isn't it strange how once you set
your "gaze" upon something or someone,
you get to decide what you'll see; good, bad or ugly.
Yet still, you think "it" or "they" has something
to do with your feelings and moods?

Don't fight it.

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That where I always park. I turned around and one parking space over was another white car. It looked like my car too. It was mine. I looked over and Anila is just laughing and laughing. She saw me and just kept laughing. I started to laugh and got in my car to drive off and looked back at the other car and it was mine. It was a white, 2003, Honda Civic hybrid. It even had scuff marks like mine. And if you don't believe me here are the pictures.



Right: You can see me in my rearview mirror taking the picture. Left: You can see a reflection of my car in the door. Maybe you can see Anila laughing in the window to the right of the door.

So there you have it a picture of my car's twin.

Birthday

Today was the day my youngest brother was born. He is no longer with us. I think you all would have liked him. I know I did. I hope he is enjoying himself. Happy Birthday Jake where ever you be!

A Note from the Universe sm...

Whosoever may torment you,
harass you, confound you, or upset you,
is a teacher.

Not because they're wise,
but because you seek to become so.

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30-March-2008 10:18am 35°

Well there is it Sunday again.

Earth Hour

Last night we had Earth Hour where they were asking every one to turn off their light from 8:00 – 9:00pm. I hear on the radio this morning that ComEd said that we used 5% less electricity in northern Illinois than we did last week at the same time. That means we all saved money and energy. I like saving money and energy.

I went one step beyond just turning the lights. I shutdown all the power to my computer s, the T-V, VCR, DirecTV turned, and a mess of other things. I left the Frig and furnace running. Then I lit a candle or two and turned on WGN on the radio. I got a glass of wine and sat and listened to the radio. When it was time to power things back up I was

fast asleep in the chair. I woke up at 1:00am. So this goes to show I can go four hours without those things.

Instead of watching T-V with my eyes shut, maybe I should try sleeping in the chair with the T-V turned off. And as for the computer, maybe I could rethink that too. What does it really cost to host my own web site and email server. Hummm...I guess that gives me a new project.

Birthday

Christine has a birthday today. Or is it tomorrow? I guess her family wasn't sure either. When she was a kid her family playing games with her birth date and she has to check to make sure. Christine and I worked together at Knaack. Happy Birthday Christine! Or is it tomorrow.

Lawnmower

This winter I used an electric snow blower. I used a twelve gauge extension cord that was 100 feet long. And even though the cord was a little in convet, it worked out great. I think a battery operated snow blower might have been too heavy. I couldn't find one anyway. They say with the cold they wouldn't work that great.

You may ask; "What does this have to do with lawnmower?" I will be mowing my own grass again. I need the exercise and cutting my own grass is a good place to start. There are 2 electric mowers out there that run on batteries. The idea of a sharp blade and an extension cord scares me a little. I think you would have to be very careful and it is still possible to have an accident. I do not want to go that way.

I don't think electric mowers are good for every one. If I had a big lawn I would have a gas mower. If remember when I use to cut my lawn it took 15-20 minutes. A cordless mower makes senses to me for my small lawn.

I have received information on two electrics so far, Remington and NEUTON. Both of them look like they would do the job for me. Both will run about an hour on a charge. You can swap the batteries easily if you need more time. Both have accessories you can add on like bagger, side discharger, etc.

Remington says you can buy it from places like, Ace, True Value, and Menards. I do not remember where you could get a Neuton. I think it is by phone. No not on the Internet that I could see.

Today I am looking around because I think Black & Decker and Toro make them too.

Neuton cuts a 14" path, Remington is 17" and, Black & Decker (BD) 19". BD is said to run up to 16 hours on a charge. Neuton cost way too much and cuts to narrow of a path. Remington and BD cost about the same and BD could be bought at Lowes. I tend to the BD because it uses a 24 volt battery. It would be easy to adapt a solar panel to charge it. On the other hand the Remington could be used with an extension cord if you forget to charge the 60 volt battery. It is a case of finding the Remington or BD mowers and seeing what they look like in person. Or maybe just fixing the gas mower I already have.

I will let you know what I find.

31-Mar-2008 8:27am 37°

Oh, I have to go to Harvard and pick up Aunt Annie at 9:00am. She is getting her car fixed. I almost forgot. Later...I'm home and Aunt Annie is home and her car should be ready late this afternoon.

The Rain

All morning it has been raining. I checked and we did not have any rain before midnight. This means that the first Sunday after Easter without rain there was none.

On the other hand we are getting rain today! I show over a half an inch already today. Aunt Annie has said that we could get 3 inches today.

Woo Thunder!

Birthdays

Mar 1	Jenae	Mar 13	Sandi's Anv	Apr 4	Lucy
Mar 6	Marie K	Mar 13	Steve S	Apr 11	Heather L
Mar 8	Bruce M	Mar 16	Marcia G	Apr 11	Roxanne M
Mar 8	Taylor B	Mar 20	Jessica M	Apr 14	Jeremy M
Mar 9	Sandi P	Mar 21	John K	Apr 18	Petra
		Mar 30	Christine P	Apr 19	Dave S
Mar 20	Victoria	Mar 10	Sandi' other Anv.	Apr 30	Janet J
Mar 2	I retired				

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>