

Issue # 56 Woodstock, IL May 31, 2009

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18-May-2009 3:48pm 62°

From the INBOX

I don't care who you are or what you believe in, this is funny.

Gun Control

Barack Obama at a recent rural elementary

school assembly in East Texas, asked the audience for total quiet. Then, in the silence, he started to slowly clap his hands once every few seconds, holding the audience in total silence.



Then he said into the microphone, 'Children, every time I clap my hands together, a child in America dies from gun violence.'

Then, little Richard Earl, with a proud East Texas drawl, pierced the quiet and said: "Well, dumbass, stop clapping!"

Source: Email from Steve

It is break time

5 MINUTE CHOCOLATE MUG CAKE

- 4 tablespoons flour
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons cocoa
- 1 egg
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 3 tablespoons oil
- 3 tablespoons chocolate chips (optional)
- A small splash of vanilla extract
- 1 large coffee mug (MicroSafe)

Add dry ingredients to mug, and mix well. Add the egg and mix thoroughly. Pour in the milk and oil and mix well. Add the chocolate chips (if using) and vanilla extract, and mix again.

Put your mug in the microwave and cook for 3 minutes at 1000 watts.

The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed!

Allow to cool a little, and tip out onto a plate if desired.

EAT! (this can serve 2 if you want to feel slightly more virtuous).

And why is this the most dangerous cake recipe in the world?

Because now we are all only 5 minutes away from chocolate

cake at any time of the day or night!
Source: Arlene I think

Doer of Things

Many of you might not know that I have been Doerofthings for over 30 years. In 1979 I had some "Doer of Things" coins minted. I see I have a few of them left. That was 30 years ago!

When did I publish my first issue of my newsletter? Wait, I'll go look the first one up and see when it was....Wow again! The first issue was dated December 1999. I think I will have to make a commemorative metal, coin or something to mark the mile stone.

Where has this time gone?

19-May-2009 9:30am 65°

Back when I worked in the shop at Knaack this was Pick on Marty Day. On one day in early May it seemed that all morning people were picking on me for one reason or another. There wasn't any thing bad going on just seemed like one of those days when people were picking on me more that other days.

Well just before lunch that day I started telling people to stop picking on me. Pick on Marty Day was May 19th. I even marked it on my calendar so everyone couldn't miss. Well I noticed the date today and remembered it. So now you know it too. And I will see if I run in to anyone remembers it too.

Web Calendar

While printing the newsletter I see the Calendar of event didn't print very well. I guess you have to wait for this issue to get the events and birthdays.

I'll have to find a better way to handle this stuff when it is printed.

Walking Around

Fork in the Road

I decided go for walk this morning. I came to a fork in the road. You should not hesitate when this happens. I stumbled and could have been run over by a car. When you come to a fork you must decide what to do as quickly as you can. So after stumbling I bent over and picked it up.



The Fork in the Road.

Pond

I walked by the pond at the Three Brothers and saw there was a lot of stuff that has washed up on the breach.

That makes my walking at around 7 miles today.

20-May-2009 12:27pm 78°

I thought I might go out and find Westwood Nature park today. I thought about it last week but never happened.

This morning I walked up to Star Bucks and had coffee with Bill and Steve then asked Bill to drop me of on his way to work. Yes I felt lazy. Thanks Bill.

My lawn mower is giving me problems. I think I might go get a new one. This one is 20+ years old so it is about time to replace it. I paid \$100 back when I bought the house making it about $1-1/2 \not\in \text{per day}$.

I guess if it was \$100 twenty years ago with inflation it would cost about \$180.00 at today's prices. I wonder what I can get for \$200.00

Later

I had to get a new mower. I bought an electric cordless model. So I have it on the charger now and tomorrow I will see how it works.

It is not self propelled like I wanted but that would add another \$150 to the price and the reviews aren't very good for them yet. So basically I have to push this just like the old one.

It should hold enough charge for me to mow the whole lawn. I won't know that for sure until after I cut the grass a few times. Cross your fingers!



21-May-2009 9:05am 69°

I just came in from mowing the grass in the back of the house where I stopped because the mower died yesterday. I used the new electric mower and it seems to do just fine on grass that is six inches tall. I had about half of the lawn that wasn't mowed before.

When pushing it you can that it is much heaver than my gas powered mower. This makes it just a little harder to push. On the other hand I was pushing it through tall grass.

I'll give you another update after I do a normal mowing a few times.

23-May-12:19pm 78°

I see nothing happened yesterday. Maybe it is one of those long weekend things that start on Friday.

Over Sleeping

I know when you start your morning at 10:30 the day will go fast. Maybe I should go do something so I have something to tell you about later. I just returned from breakfast and now it is about time for lunch. See how fast it is gone already!

RV Travel Newsletter

There was nothing to exciting in there this week.

24-May-2009 10:30am 68°

I was up town earlier this morning and there were horses of a different color in front of the old city hall building. The battery in the camera was almost drained so I have onlyone picture to show.



I went back up there later after getting another battery and the horses had fled. Linda from Angelo's said they would be back next week.

I had forgotten about the horses coming to town. I wonder if these are the same horses.

Flowers

I planted some old flower bulbs and none of them came up. I think I will go out and plant some new ones. They should bloom from July to September if I get them to grow. Maybe I could go till the ground now.

27-May-2009 9:21am 58°

It rained a little last night. Woops! I see the weather station hasn't been updating since the 20th.

...I'm working on that now.

Yesterday I went hiking with Bill at Westwood Nature Area. This is another park that I didn't know existed. Bill had to show this one. I wasn't sure how to get in. This is a nice park even though there was some standing water on the trails. Thanks for coming along Bill.

Geocaching

While at the Westwood Park I placed another cache. It is out there for you to try to find.

Later I met up with John. Him and his family have been geocaching for a while. We had coffee at Star Buck's and he told me some of the ins and outs of geocaching. He gave me a hint about the cache he had out near Duffield's lake that I couldn't fine. He met me out there just after I found it.

John did a good job on this cache. I don't think I would have found it with out his hint. Thanks John.

Weather Station

It looked like the weather station PC has a message on the screen waiting for me to click yes to update it since the 20th. I did that and now it is going to take me a while to update the data onto the internet. Then I can check to see if it recorded the rain yesterday.

The rain gauge out by the solar panel showed about 1-1/4 inch since the last time I emptied it, when ever that was.

I am still updating the Weather Station. I had switched that PC to old one while I was doing regular maintenance to that one that doesn't use very much power. The old one wasn't set to automatically say yes to the updates. Now it is way behind and I have to baby sit for a while until it is caught up.

I have the other computer ready to swap out when I get finished. It is better to get the to PCs synced up before making the change that way if one breaks you can just switch them after you copy the current data to the replacement PC.

After all it is raining outside and you wouldn't want me to go outside and melt? While I wait for that I will have to find something else to do.

1:00pm

I have the weather station all straighten out. Now I can see if it thinks it rained or not.

28-May-2009 4:12am 52°

While going through old paper work I found Jerry Sirucek name written on an index card.

Many of you might say "Who?" When we lived on the farm Jerry was the owner. I remember Dad saying that Jerry used to say his music got in the way of his farming. I remembered that he was the dean of music somewhere. Being a good internet user I looked up Sirucek name and found this nice story about him. Here is the link

http://www.reedmaker.com/Sirucek.pdf

Geocaching

Bill and I went out on the 26th and placed that cache in Westwood Park and before the day ended someone located it. The guy that found it went out after 8:00pm and found it in the rain. He uses the log name "*rocky is a very good doggie*" and this is his 1,238th find. I am not too surprised he was the first finder.

This is John the same guy I had coffee with the other day. I learned some

things from him that might me better with the next cache. I am going to make the next one a little less easily.

Paperwork

Again I have paper work to get done. Where does all of the paper work come from?

I'm Hungry

I have been working too long before breakfast. I think I will go out and see Sandi and Kim before I do any more.

29-May-2009 9:45am 65°

I have a lot of things to do so here I am typing at the computer. I had to come home and get the pickup and thought I would check my email first.

Horses in Town

I see they have started putting those horses around town. I have only seen 5 of them myself. Cork said that they saw 12 of them. Now I am searching the internet trying to see how many are out there. I got this link from Cindy at City hall www.hodc.info.

So I am trying to navigate through it to get a list of all the horse's homes. It looks like the information is incomplete. I will come back to this later.

All I can glean from the web sit is the horse's names and the artist names. One of the links says the site should be available June first. I guess I must wait.

News Video

 $\underline{http://ssm.nwherald.com/multimedia/videoplayer}.\underline{php?id=20090414Horses/}$

News Stories

Northwest Herald

http://www.nwherald.com/articles/2009/04/13/r_ptudi4oyso43s7uflc7pg/index.xml

The Woodstock Independent, April 8, 2009 http://www.thewoodstockindependent.com/news/story.ph p?id=83

More Info

Check out http://www.hodc.info/cgi/wp/

New Project

I went and bought some seal coat stuff for my driveway and a few plants for near the front of the house today. Now I have to get some nice weather so I can do it.

People have been telling me that I need to buy new shoes after I sealcoat the drive. Maybe I will do it bare footed and buy new feet. ©

30-May-2009 9:02am 58°

I don't think the powers to be want me to work outside too much. I got up earlier enough to be able to cut the grass and plant those plants I bought yesterday. So it rained. For you who got up later the sun is shining now. Maybe I will get out there later.

Planting

I planted three grass plants (Red Star Spike) by the front porch then a little Stonecrop. We'll see how those grow in that spot with little or no direct sun light.

It says the grass (*Cordyline* australis) will grow in the shade and is winter hardy.

The Stonecrop also known as *Sedum Sexagulare*, says it likes sunlight and will grow like a weeds. For now I only planted some of them near the fancy grass plants.

I also bought some Baby 'Tut' (*Cyperus*) grass. This needs a wet spot like my basement maybe? Just kidding! It looks like the Pampas grass Mike grew in a glass of water many years ago. It jumped off the shelf and in to my shopping cart when I got those other plants so I had to buy it. Well didn't I? I

better get it in a pail of water for now. It needs a boggy spot with some sun.

Maybe I should put my water garden back up again.

31-May-2009 10:05am 63°

This morning I thought I would walk uptown and have breakfast on the way I could walk by some of those horses. Cork said that he and Diane saw 12 of them. I counted 10 yesterday.

Horses of a Different Color

I think there will be 27 horses when they are all set out. I didn't even find half of them. Here are the ones I found today and where I saw them.



South and Dean



W. Jackson and Johnson



N. Throop near Washington



E. Jackson and Benton



W. Calhoun and N. Throop

There is also one in front of the Police Department on Lake Street. (Sorry no picture yet)



South, Jefferson, and Lake



Dean and E. Calhoun



Dean and Van Burn



Cass and Main



Main, Church, and Washington



Clay, Church, and Benton



Madison, Newell, and McHenry



South near S. Throop

I started getting the driveway to seal coat it when I remembers I had a party to go to. So I shut down that project.

The family got together at Tammy and Alex's for two graduations. One was from high school and one from grade school. There were many people there and I think we all had a good time. I know I did.

Random Pictures

I see my camera has some more pictures and it is the end of the month and eight pages is enough.



Gerry Street Nature Area



Spring along Route 47



Betsy's tree in my front yard

See you next month Marty