

Issue # 63 Woodstock, IL December 2009

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1-Dec-2009 12:40pm 48°

Welcome to December 2009! What will this month bring us? Oh Yes there is Christmas and about 15 birthdays. That should keep us all busy.

Funny Happening

I can think of something funny that happened to me this morning. On the way to the Three Brother's for breakfast I didn't know where I was until I pulled in the driveway. No it wasn't the frost on the window. It was I was thinking about something else and I cannot tell you if I drove through any red lights. Has that ever happened to you?

Is the time lose they talk about when you are abducted by a UFO? You got somewhere and the timing was off or you just do not know how you got where you were.

I remember when I worked in Harvard and we lived on a farm five miles south of Woodstock. I worked the night shift and got off at midnight. It was an 18 miles to get home.

Well I remember exiting Harvard where Route 23 runs in to US 14 on the south side of town. The next thing I remember was turning off of Perkins Road on to Sunnyside. I didn't remember a thing that happened for 17 miles of that trip.

I don't know what makes that happen. Was the car diving itself while I slept? It wasn't that I was thinking about something else because I didn't remember anything for the whole time.

What about you? Has anything like this ever happened to you?

2-Dec-2009 6:19pm 36°

For the last few days the wind has been blowing but the windmill has not been spinning. There has been enough wind but it has been in the wrong place.

I kept seeing the wind turbine turned to face the wind and once in a while the blades would turn a little. Today I saw the blat rotate a few times in a row.

Tonight the wind is out of the north at eight miles an hour. It is spinning like mad and it dark outside so I can't make a video of it. Well at least I know it is working.

I have to get the things I need in place so I can move it to the tower! The tower is open to about ³/₄ of the compass making it open to most of the wind.

I need a break in the weather so I can climb the tower to see what kind of clamps I need.

Snow and wind forecast for tomorrow and less wind and some sun on Friday. Saturday less wind with some sun with the temperature will be in the low 30s. Saturday night looks like snow after that it is too far out to believe the forecast.

Maybe I won't get this done until spring.

4-Dec-2009 7:39am 22°

The snow we got yesterday is still out there on the ground. It looks to be about one inch to me.

I thought I would get to dive my car in it today but that was not the case. I had my check engine light come on yesterday morning and now it is in the shop. I took it in to get that checked out, fix the wipers, do an oil change, and do the 60,000 mile checkup.

I only have 59,800 miles but it had to go in so it might as well be done while it is in there with all of that other stuff.

They called me yesterday afternoon and it looks like the check engine and wiper problems high cost fixes.

Since in 7 years I really haven't had and really problem with repairs I decided to go ahead and get them fixed. I just am going to have to pay about a month's pay to get it back. I wonder what those extended warranties cost.

Hummm...Maybe it is too late for that!

5-Dec-2009 9:12pm 21°

The morning was a fun morning. I stopped a Vaughan's to have breakfast, read the paper and visit with Mary and Heather. I picked up the paper and started to look at it and drink a little

coffee while Mary and Heather were taking care of other customers. Arlo came in and sat with me and we got to talking and I decided to wait with breakfast while we talked.

After a while I didn't really want any breakfast. Mary told me I should go to Town & Country and have breakfast with Anila. I told her I would need a not to go from one restaurant to another so soon.

She wrote me a note that went something like this. "Anila, could you let Marty have some breakfast because we did not feed him" and signed it.

So I went to Town & Country and gave the note to Anila. She got a kick out of the note and the fed me a sandwich.

It was slow so we did a bunch of visiting. It got near 9:30 and that is my normal break time. I told Anila I need a note to give to Mary and Heather that would let me have a break so soon after having breakfast. She did! And I took it back to Vaughan's and sat with Frank and gave the note to Heather and I got my coffee.

Well needless to say I had too much coffee this morning. Even though it was decaf I had way too much!

I finally got home around eleven o'clock. And yes I was back to Town & Country for our Saturday lunch. Aunt Annie, Cheli, Diane, Cork and I were there today. Anila had to get home and feed here kids so Lulu took care of us.

I just couldn't drink any more coffee. I ate a half of a sandwich and came home. I was full when I left.

After all those trips to the restaurants I came home and fell asleep

in the chair I watch TV in with my eyes closed. Now it is about time for bed.

Good night!

6-Dec-2009 12:47pm 34°

I went to Town & Country for Breakfast and found out that Voviollca was working there now. It was good to see her again. Since she left Vaughan's she had been just going to school. She hasn't bought that Jeep yet and she is only working part time.

Hay, I have time to go and see her again before the day is over. Town & Country is only open from 6am to 3pm except Friday night they are open until 8pm. I'm not really hungry yet but Aunt Annie is going to take me to Round-The-Clock with her today so I am on my own.

I just guess Anila will have to go without me at Round-The-Clock this week. She needs to be on her own once in a while. ©

8-Dec-2009 12:25pm 32°

I just got finished removing the snow from the driveway. I thought I would see how the snow thrower was working because I hadn't used it since last winter. That seems like a long time ago but it has only been only about eight months ago.

I drove on the snow twice before I decided to get it off of the driveway. The blower does not like driven on snow. I had to use the shovel to get it down to blacktop.

This was the first part of a three waves snow storm upon us. The next wave has just started it is forecasted at six to eight inches more. We just got

about 2 inches this morning and it is falling again.

It is that time of year so I will just let it fall. Like I could stop it!

9-Dec-2009 3:39pm 26°

I hope you all had fun moving snow today. I just finished up. Well almost. I see I didn't do the part that goes from the front porch to the street. It will wait until spring.

That was the heaviest snow I have had to move with the snow blower and it didn't like it. I broke the drive belt.

There was at least six inches of the wettest snow I have seen in 3 years. After getting the snow blower fixed there was the mess at the street and another inch on the driveway.

I spent 3 hours getting that stuff out of the way because they said it is going down to 4° tonight and stay below freezing until well into next week. They also say we will get heavy winds and more snow.

Heavy will be ok because I might see the wind mill spin a little. I didn't get it on the tower yet. I may have to wait for spring if the weather stays unfriendly.

The Pilgrims

Mike and Petra are resting up in Brooklyn and planning their trip east. Petra said they both are too tired to walk across the Atlantic. I guess they will take a plane or a boat. We will have to see what happens. Maybe they will take an ocean voyage for their anniversary.

Watch Mike's blog at WalkingEast.com and maybe you will know before me.

10-Dec-2009 2:54pm 5°

It wasn't too warm this morning. I showed minus 3° early this morning. I hope it was a lot warmer where you are.

*77 On Your Cell Phone

Kim asked me to share this.

I knew about the red light on cars, but not the *77 It was about 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon, and Lauren was driving to visit a friend. An

UNMARKED police car pulled up behind her and put his lights on. Lauren's parents have always told her never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather to wait until they get to a gas station, etc.

Lauren had actually listened to her parents advice, and promptly called *77 on her cell phone to tell the police dispatcher that she would not pull over right away. She proceeded to tell the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing red light on his rooftop behind her.... The dispatcher checked to see if there were police cars where she was and there weren't, and he told her to keep driving, remain calm and that he had back up already on the way. Ten minutes later 4 cop cars surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her.

One policeman went to her side and the others surrounded the car behind. They pulled the guy from the car and tackled him to the ground. The man was a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes.

I never knew about the *77 Cell Phone Feature, but especially for a woman alone in a car, you should not pull over for an unmarked car. Apparently police have to respect your right to keep going to a safe place.

*Speaking to a service representative at **
Bell ** Mobility confirmed that *77 was a direct link
to State trooper info.

So, now it's your turn to let your friends know about *77.

Souse: Email from Kim

Christmas Letter

I started working o my annual Christmas letter. I am going the try and send them out this weekend.

Thought of the day

"Life's tough...it's even tougher if you're stupid."
-- John Wayne

12-Dec-2009 11:15am 30°

Two hours and twenty-five minutes to go. Yes it was a cool afternoon at 1:40pm back in 1946 when it all started. That is at least for me. Yes that when I was born.

Today's project is to let you know some of the thing I am doing on this date when I become twenty-one for the third time.

After I got up I checked the temperature and saw it was 10° and that is much warmer than the last couple of days. I saw no wind and a bright sun in the sky. Nice!

I stopped out to Mary and Heather and have breakfast. They were a little busy at first so I sat with Arlo. He could sit alone on my birthday, could he?

Mary and Heather came over with a birthday muffen with a candle and started to sing Happy Birthday very softly. Very quickly most everyone in the restaurant began to sing. It was great!

After a while I head out to Cardinal Fitness and signed up to use some of that exercise equipment. I only signed up today. After all it is my birthday today. It is costing me money even though I am not using it. Tomorrow is a better day for me.

Then I came home to pay some bills and get the mail. Mail wasn't much...ad from "*Pier 1 Imports*" and a bunch of other ads. Bills are paid and I am sitting here typing.

Got an email from Mike, he and Petra are heading for Portugal on the 14th. He says he has the tickets in hand.

Today is also Mike & Petra's Anniversary.

A NOTE FROM THE UNIVERSE

One of your greatest challenges is realizing that the hurdles of Time and Space are simply reflections of imagined hurdles.

See no problems.

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Random Thought of the Day

Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional. Source: http://www.superlaugh.com/1/random.htm

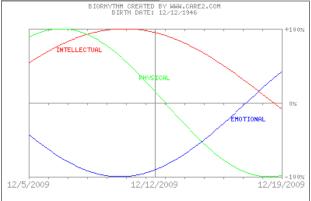
A Random Number for today

It was a little harder to find a random number for today than I thought it would be. I could find program to generate a random number but I was just looking for a random number not a program. It was just a Random Thought.

Here is that number "24798" This was said to be a random number from 0 to 32767.

Source: http://www.random.org/

My Biorhythm Today



Source: http://www.care2.com/greenliving/biorhythms.html

Today looks like <u>Smart</u>, <u>Cranky</u> and <u>Weak</u>. If I'm Smart I should keep my mouth shut and not lift anything.

The Weather on My Birthday

Today

Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy. Not as cold. Highs in the lower 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight

Light freezing rain and light snow or light sleet likely in the evening...then light sleet or light freezing rain... light snow and light rain likely after midnight. Little or no snow and sleet



accumulation. Ice accumulation of less than one quarter of an inch. Temperatures nearly steady in the lower 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Source: http://www.wunderground.com

That's enough of this for now I will fill up my birthday page more after lunch.

Afternoon about 4:30

I went to Town & Country and had lunch with the family and they sang to me. Thanks Guys!

Then Aunt Annie had to go to K-Mart So I tagged along. After that we head to Round-The Clock to see Anila.

They told me Anila wasn't going to be there until 5 o'clock so we just had drinks and soup and came home.

Just a little bit ago Anila called me and sang Happy Birthday to me.

I must have not listened very well when she told me she was working at Round-The-Clock and not Town and Country. Maybe she told me the time she was working. If so I must be losing it.

Thanks for the song Anila!

The Rest of the Day

Getting older lets me rest and take it easy the rest of the day. Yes, I did nothing the rest of the day.

13-Dec-2009 5:51pm 31°

Today was nice and warm and a lot of that snow left us.

16-Dec-2009 6:41pm 11°

I just got an email from Mike and they are in the rain in Lisbon Portugal tonight.

Not much happening the last few days. Tonight I have been thinking about Frito's and chocolate ice cream but it is cold outside tonight so I will just watch

Spiderman 3 and think about something else.

17-Dec-2009 8:06am 20°

It looks like we could get a little snow tomorrow. Maybe we will have snow on the ground for Christmas. There is only 8 days left.

As always I am not ready for Christmas. I remember one year that I was ready on Halloween. Yes once! Most years it is on the 25th or 26 of December when I am ready. Maybe I should skip Christmas one year. Then I would be ready way early.

Porch Cam

I found out a few days ago that my window cam hasn't worked since the first of the month. I brought it inside and checked it out and sure enough it wasn't working. It was dead. I set it aside to let it warm up thinking maybe it was just too cold. It isn't made to be used outside.

This afternoon I tried it and sure enough nothing happened. No lights or nothing. Then I thought it may be time to just get a new one. I like the new cameras because some them you cameras control them over the internet. It would be fun to tilt and pan it around to see what was going on while was in Timbuktu or somewhere. Hay even Mike and Petra could play with it while they are resting in Europe.

Anyway back to this camera. I checked the power supply and it was dead. Ah what does that cost? Well it is around \$25 on the internet for the exact same one. Well I got to checking around the house and found a couple 6vdc power supplies. I couldn't find one with the

right adaptor on it and I really wanted a 5vdc power supply to match the old one.

I looked and looked and could not find the right adaptor plug to match the old one on the camera but I did find a power supply with the same voltage.

So I could cut the cord on the old one and the replacement and spliced the wires together and the Window Camera work just like new. If it is still working in the morning I will reinstall it and I will be back in business.

If you have never looked off my front porch go to this URL, www.doerofthings.com/doerofnothing/nothing 01.htm

I just checked and it is still working so it is in side now and you could maybe see me enjoying TV.
Tomorrow it will go back outside weather permitting.

18-Dec-2009 9:48am 31°

Jokes for Today

1)What's on your back?

Three men are traveling in the Amazon, a German, an American, and a Mexican, and they get captured by some Amazons. The head of the tribe says to the German, "What do you want on your back for your whipping?"

The German responds, "I will take oil!" So they put oil on his back, and a large Amazon whips him ten times. When he is finished the German has these huge welts on his back, and he can hardly move.

The Amazons haul the German away, and say to the Mexican, "What do you want on your back?"

"I will take nothing!" says the Mexican, and he stands there straight and takes his ten lashings without a single flinch.

"What will you take on your back?" the Amazons ask the American.

He responds, "I'll take the Mexican."

2)English is really crazy

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins were not invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write, but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce, and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So, one moose, 2 meese? One index, two indices? Is cheese the plural of choose?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

In what language do people recite at a play, and play at a recital?

Ship by truck, and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another?

When a house burns up, it burns down. You fill in a form by filling it out, and an alarm clock goes off by going on.

When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.

3)Question and answer

Q: Did you hear about the Irishman who was tap dancing?

A: He broke his ankle when he fell into the sink.

Q: What's Irish and sits outside in the summertime? *A:* Paddy O'Furniture!

Q: What are the best ten years of an Irishman's life? A: Third grade.

Q: How do you sink an Irish submarine? A: Knock on the hatch.

Q: How can you identify an Irish pirate? A: He's the one with patches over both eyes.

Yes, I'll stop now! ☺

These jokes were on a demo disk I got. I don't know why they were there. I just thought I would share them with you.

Camera

The camera is re-installed and posting to the internet again. Now I can go have some coffee.

20-Dec-2009 10:17am 29°

I am glad that Mike & Petra got off to Europe before that big snow on the east coast. Hay, I wonder if Marie got any of that big snow in Philadelphia. I'll have to check.

Winter 2009

Tomorrow is the first day of winter. Are you ready? The time gets shorted from sunrise and sunset until the 21st. There are only nine hours and five minutes of daylight on December 21st this year. On the first day of summer this year there was sixteen hours seventeen minutes of daylight.

I may as well tell you that the first day of spring and fall were about twelve hours each. Sunrise in spring is about seven o'clock and in the fall it is about six o'clock. Maybe that is why they are messing with the clocks.

Christmas

Only 5 days until Christmas. Have you made your list and checked it twice?



22-Dec-2009 12:53pm 32°

Birthdays

Well I have 3 more birthdays to add to the list.

Oscar, cook at Vaughan's Dec 4th Mike, chief at Three Brothers Jan 6th Kelly, boss also at Three Brothers and Jan 6th too.

We now have something happening on the 6th of many months; Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, Sep, Nov, and Dec. Does anyone have something for the months of May, Jun, Jul, and Oct?

Is Spring Coming

I know spring must be about 90 days away. This is because I received my first seed catalog in the mail today. Yes, I got a *Jung Seed & Plants* catalog today!

Old Friends

The other day I was at Wal-Mart and I ran into Melanie. I don't think I had seen her in a year. It was good to see her again.

I talked to Pedro today and he said that Lucy is in the third semester at MCC and is working at McDonald's. Though he said she was working tomorrow morning she is working random hours.

George Score: 562.64

Snow

It looks like we are getting a little more snow tonight.

24-Dec-2009 3:55pm 31°

I hope Santa has a boat. I woke up this morning and there was to snow all over my driveway again. Well I thought it was just snow. When I got outside I found it was snow with a bunch of rain

on it. It was warm under the ice so it



wasn't too bad getting it moved.

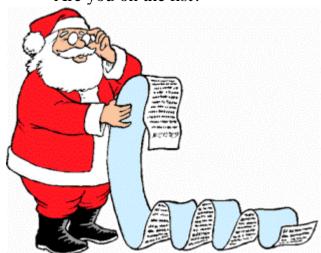
Then it decided to rain and rain and rain. I thought we had to get a bunch. I checked the rain gauge on the weather station and it shows we got ¹/₃" of precipitation yesterday and ¹/₄" today.

Yes I think Old Saint Nick needs to use his boat this year.

Santa Claus

Did you know you could track Santa location on the internet? I just checked and he is at Agadez, Niger right now. The web site is noradsanta.org.

Are you on the list?



25-Dec-2009 noon 40°

May all of your wishes come true!

Merry Christmas And a Happy New Yesr

Marty