

Issue # 73 May 2010 cont.

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23-May-10 12:32pm 89°

I just woke up in the chair again. I think I fall asleep too much. I think over the years I have trained my body to fall asleep easily.

I have never had any trouble sleeping at night in bed. If waiting somewhere for any reason I use to take a nap.

It seems that in the last year or so I have been sitting in the chair while watching TV I would just fall asleep then sleep for hours. I am not sleeping at other times during the day or night. I have gone without for long periods of time without getting tires. In fact I am almost never tired unless I sit in that damn chair.

Maybe I have programmed myself to fall asleep in that chair. I remembered when I bought that chair. I bought it with the thought of watching TV with my eyes closed. Maybe over the years I have started to believe it subconsciously. That means it is now a habit

and needs to be broken just like any habit like drugs, smoking, or drinking too much coffee.

What I need to do is something else when I get an urge to sit in the stupid chair in front of the television to watch a movie. Maybe I could just walk around the block. Hummm...

Birthday

Happy Birthday Kevin C.!

24-May-10 8:09am 77°

I walked uptown for my morning coffee and it feels like it is going to be another nice warm day today.

Visitors

Yesterday while was sitting here at the computer I noticed it was very warm humid. I kept hearing a quite beep, beep, beep. It sounded like a car next door in the school's parking lot. I was about to go look when the phone rang. I had visitors and they didn't want to wake me up.

Viollcaand Anila with her 2 kids were out for a drive and stopped by to say "Hi!"

Protest

We visited for a while when we saw a whole bunch a people could be seen walking down the sidewalk from downtown on the other side of the street. We saw the police sitting on the corner of 1st Street watch them. I didn't know what was up so I just watched

Anila said it was some kind of protest. They quickly got near and Viollca saw some people she know and had to wave to them. I just wave because they were waving at me.

The signs were in Spanish so I did not read them. Anila said that protest was something about immigration. They were chanting something in Spanish. I am guessing the parade had 150 to 200 people. They were very orderly and peaceful. The police followed them as they went down Clay Street and out of sight..

My car full of visitors headed down the street to follow the parade and I declined to go along.

Dose the A/C work

It was near 95° and I thought I should close up the house and start the air conditioner. It was already almost 85° inside so I figure I should find out if the thing worked.

I switched the thermostat to A/C and saw it pre set to 75°. I thought 75° was just fine to see if it would dry the air in the house. 85° is not too hot for me. It is the humidity that gets to me. I can live with the heat. I think that why I like Arizona and not Florida.

The A/C seems to be working just fine. I will leave it one for a day or so to see it is ok before turning it off until I need it.

Right now I think I will go mow the grass in the back yard. I didn't do it yesterday because the grass in the front was so long I would have only been able to half in back before the battery needed to be charged. That is my battery not the mower's battery. ☺ I know, stop typing and get out there!

Birthday

Holly (Mary's Sister) birthday is today. Happy Birthday Holly!

The Pilgrims

I just got off the phone from talking to Mike and Petra. They are still having a good time walking east. I asked why they were not posting updates as often as they did in the past. Mike said that they are in a remote rural area of France and most places do not have Wi-Fi. He said ever the few hotels where they have stayed had none.

He said that in the next few days they should be in Toulouse, France. There they may take a break for a few days.

They said to say "Hi!" to everyone. So if I forget to say "Hi!" to you in person I'll do it here.

Hi everybody from Mike and Petra!

25-May-10 12:11pm 92°

92° is a little better than yesterday. I showed that it got up to 99° 3:30 yesterday afternoon. I think that might be why I still am using the A/C.

This morning I cut the grass in the back while I it was still a little cooler. When I was finished I went out on the front porch and read my book while waiting for Becky to bring the mail. It is cooler when you are reading a book about a dog's adventure in Alaska. It makes you feel cooler. Well doesn't it?

Becky told me it would also be ok to watch a movie in the A/C while eating a gallon of ice cream. So I have to get some ice cream a little later.

After Becky left to give other people their mail I continued reading my book and cooling down after mowing.

In a short while a couple of squirrels came to play in the front yard and then next thing I knew there were seven of them running around and under the porch playing tag..

One ran across the porch near me and didn't see me. Later he ran up the stairs where I was sitting and stopped dead in his tracks. It was



funny because the look on his face was something like “Whoops, Marty is sitting there! What do I do now?” I just smiled and went back to reading my book. They played around the front until I went inside.



Squirrels at play

Garden

Yesterday I harvested the rest of the Radishes in that one EarthBox. They have seemed to stop growing and it is a little late in the season. Radishes like cooled days of spring. I have another EarthBox that is full that I planted a couple of weeks ago. They are doing fine. I will see how they hold up in the warm weather.

Fresh Salad

When I noticed it was too late to go see Mary, I made another salad of Lettuce and Spanish. I had forgotten how good food fresh out the garden tastes.

Town & Country

Did I tell you that Town & Country Family Restaurant is now open until nine at night? Being that they open a 6:00am they now serve breakfast, lunch and dinner all day.

I am sure they will give me a hard time that I didn't make it there the first night. I have been asking every day for months when they would be open at night. They would give me a date then the new help would show or only want part time work so it wouldn't be put off another week.

This morning Anila told me they were really open last night so I have to get out there and see for myself.

Last night it was 6:30 when I remembered and I was too comfortable to go outside in the heat. Sorry Violca!

Dinner

Well Town & Country was open tonight. I sat there until about 5:30 waiting for that storm to hit. Nothing happened so I went and bought a lottery ticket and came home.

The Mega Million could yield as much as \$64,000,000. A dollar or two a year isn't too much to spend for some pocket money. Is it?

So here I am! I wonder what is on TV tonight.

Birthday

We have Birthday today, Sophie. Sophie is Anila's mother-in-law. You may remember her when she worked at Vaughan's a couple years back. She prepared the salad bar. Happy Birthday Sophie!

26-May-10 11:15am 84°

Not so warm today but it is early! The last 2 days I have not watched TV with my eyes closed. I tried a couple of time but I resisted. Maybe I had programmed myself to just fall asleep in the chair. I am trying to change that.

Maybe I will try another chair for watching TV and see what happens. Right now I have a case of the sleepys. So I think I will go water the garden. With all that heat the last few days the plants need a drink. Maybe that will wake me up a little.

Birthday

Marge's Birthday is today. I am going to break tradition today and tell you Marge's age. She turned 90 today. I met Marge about a year ago when she, Aunt Annie, and I went out to lunch. Marge and have been friends ever since.

Today I found out that moved into Woodstock twelve years before me and has lived here since. Happy Birthday Marge!

Another birthday today is Granma Jan.
Happy Birthday Jan!

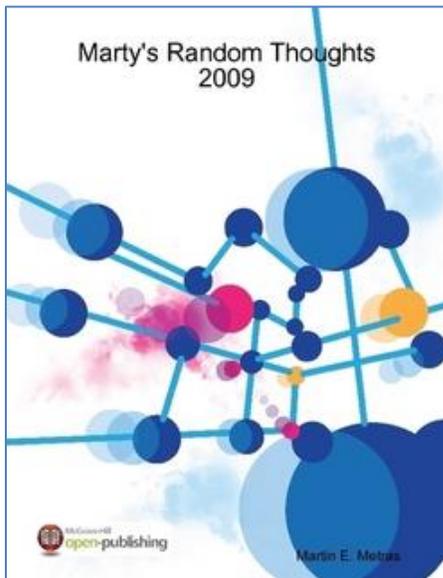
Marty's Random Thoughts 2009

I have the proof copy of Marty's Random Thoughts 2009 at the printer and I should have the first draft in a week or so.

This will be all of the issues of this newsletter in a book for the 2009.

It makes it easier for you to keep all the back issue together. I have found it is much cheaper to publish a book of the back issues than to print it on the printer myself.

I think the cover will look like this;



This should be released in the next few weeks. I will keep you posted.

27-May-10 5:47pm 81°

It was sure nice today. I went out to the garage to see what I should do there after cutting the grass in the front of the house. I bought an electric scooter about 6 years ago and haven't used it much. After charging the battery I noticed that the tires were flat. I had to put a new tube in the front tire.

While I was installing the new tube I was trying to remember when I used it the last time. You know it was about April 2008 when I went to California to visit Mike and Petra.

I was in Sedona at the RV Park and it had so much trouble getting up the hill out of the park I had to push it. It was a BIG hill! After

a couple times trying to make the hill I just parked it. I don't remember if I had it out of the garage after that.

Anyway today I fixed and aired the tired, greased the chain and took it for ride down the driveway and back into the garage. I checked things out and found the head light was broken and the battery in the speed-o-meter was dead. It looks like one I might have laying around. I think it is the same size as # 675 hearing aid battery that so many other things I have use #675.

I'll look around and see if I can find one tonight during commercials so I don't have to watch too many commercials. ☺

Maybe in the morning I will take it for a drive for breakfast with me. When the batteries were new they claimed 12 to 15 miles on a charge. It should get me to The Three Brothers and back. That is about 3-3/4 miles when I walk. Hummm...I wonder which route I should take. It is not a car but is not a bicycle either should I take sidewalks or the streets? Wait I am out of practice so I will take side streets and sidewalks and back allies and few short cuts across parking lots. Either that or just forget in the morning and drive the car.

Well I have to go look for that battery now.

28-May-10 11:09am 75°

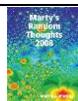
Birthday

My niece, Tammy's daughter Arianna's birthday is today. Happy Birthday Arianna!

The Pitchfork

I was going to turn my compost pile yesterday and remembered how hard that was to do using my fork. My fork is called a spade garden fork. It has wide tines and only four of them. It also has a very short handle that is hard on my back when using it to just flip over the compost.

This fork is really good for turning dirt like digging potatoes.



I had been thinking about getting a more suitable fork for a year. I checked on line to get an idea what was out there and didn't know that there were so many different kinds of them. I decided I would go to Farm & Fleet and see what they had. Looking at them while it was in my hand would help me decide better than a picture.

I looked at a silage fork but they have very short handles and figured I would have very heavy full. I used a silage fork on the farm and they work fine for silage and if you need to pickup leaves where you have a hard surface like cement. My compost is one the ground. I also looked at the light weight plastic forks that are for mucking out horse stalls.

Then I saw this six tine fork and remembered we had we had a five tine fork on the farm that did a much better job the then four tine fork we used for cleaning out the barn. It the six tine fork was the same overall width as the four tine but the tines were closer together and would hold the compost in it a little better. So I got the six tiner!



I tried it this morning and it is going to work just fine after it is broken in. Now my compost turns much easier. I might turn the compost more often as I should now.

Two Books this Year

I finished the book "Call of the Wild and White Fang" by Jack London. This was a very good book and makes my second book this year that I finished.

This book is about a dog from the south and his life and travels to the far north from the point of view to the dog. I had trouble putting this book down. I think most of you would enjoy it.

I have started another book "Solutions to a Health Lawn & Garden" by Dr. Myles H. Bader. This is a small book and I am half way through it already. It tells about all-natural gardening.

29-May-10 3:20pm 85°

Where's George

I haven't told you much how I have been doing with me currency tracking project lately. My George Score is 670.18. I have entered 1,317 bills since July 2009 and 52 bills have been spotted and 4 of them have been spotted twice. Two of those went over 200 days before they were spotted. I told you a while back that one has travelled 8,641 miles to Vietnam. It was spotted in Vietnam again. I have no other bill come close to beating that yet.

I am getting wary entering these bills in to the Where's George log. I don't know how much longer I will continue to do this. One think that keeps me doing it is that my state rank is: 265 out of 5,657. Maybe someday I could be closer to number one.

Number one in Illinois has entered 139,896 bills so far. He has been doing this since 2001, 9 years. I have only doing it a year.

In 11 months I entered 1,300 bills. At this rate I will have entered about 12,800 in 9 years. I best get some help. Maybe if I used more cash in more places I would have more to enter.

Third Book this Year

I just finished my third book this year. That was the "Solutions to a Healthy Lawn & Garden." It was only 114 pages and easy to read. It was a fun book to read and supplied a lot of information to help me without getting too carried away with a lot of technical stuff.

Now I can move on to book four.

I just pulled my box of unread books and removed eight of them. Here is a list of the titles and maybe why I bought them in the first place.

1. "1001 All-Natural Secrets to a Pest-Free Property" I bought this book to try to get rid of some of the weeds from the yard and never read it. It has been sitting around here for about 2 years and came with that last book I read.
2. "How to Write Your Own Life Story", That right I started writing my life

stories a couple of years ago and bought this book to help me. I think I read 10 pages and set it aside.

3. "Sole Psychology, Keys to Ascension" I see I read the introduction. It was published in Sedona, Arizona and that may be part of the reason why I bought it. Every once in a while I buy a self-help book and read it. They help to guide me through life.
4. "The Zen of Organizing" This book is about creating order and peace in your home, career, and life. I don't remember reading the first four chapters but that is where the book mark lies. The © is 2002 and I could have started to read it that long ago. It is a book about de-cluttering you house and your life. I am sure that is why I bought this one.
5. This is two books "My Camino" and "Confessions of a Pilgrim" by Sue Kenney. I met Sue at the 2009 American Pilgrim's gathering when I was there with Mike & Petra last year. She told the group a story and I was impressed with her. Since she and her mother sat at the table with us I decided I would like to read her book. It also helped that she wasn't married and good looking. 😊
6. "Perspective s" by Hugh Downs. This book Mike left here and I was always going to read it. I think I opened it up once or twice and didn't see any pictures and set it aside.
7. "The Independent Scholar's Handbook" Mike gave this to me a long time ago. The sub title reads "How to Turn Your Interest in any Subject into Expertise." I don't think I have read a word of it. The book marker is in the acknowledgements page. Maybe it hasn't been read yet because it is a hard cover book. Aren't hard covers hard to read? 😊

I have many books the box but these eight said; "Read me, Read me, I'm next, Pick me..."

So it is down to these 8 books or maybe one on the book shelf. I have many, many computer

books on the shelf I am not interested in right now. There are books on a lot of subject matter on the shelf and maybe many more in boxes I don't remember about. For now I will pick one of these eight.

I'll start with "How to Write Your Own Life Story" by Lois Daniel, 1997. I will see if this leads me to work on my life stories.

30-May-10 10:29am 84°

My Life Story

I started reading a book today about how to write my life story today. I may ask many questions of you as I do this. There are many of you that knew me years ago. This is going to be an ongoing project as it took me over 63 year to make up these stores it may take me 63 more years to them all written down. This book may guide me through the process to get a little organized.

A few years back I started to do this but put little thought in to the process. After a while I just put it aside. I just looked it up and the last time I looked at was September last year. There are 24 pages in what I have so far.

I have setup a binder so I can jot down notes as I think of things.

I don't know where this will lead me. It is just one of those project that has been nagging at me for while to work on.

Back Issues of Random Thoughts

I still have printed copies of back issues of my newsletter that never delivered. I was going to put then in the recycle bin when I thought you may want some them. If anyone wants any you can have them free. Just let me know and I will save them for you.

I will the old ones until July when I will recycle them. If you don't tell me you want any of them they're into the recycle bin.

Stuff to go

Free paper

I have almost a case of 8-1/2x11 inch white paper. It is clean and is heavy. It looks like it would make good typing paper or just scratch paper. You can have any or all of it.



Yes I said typing paper. I know some of you are still using typewriters. I still use a pencil and keep my shoes on my feet with strings. ☺

More Free Paper

I see back in the corner two packages of 8-1/2x11 inch paper with the tractor feed on the sides. For you people that still use tractor feed paper this could be good deal for you.

Some of are too young to remember what that means to have the tractor feed down the edges on the sides of the paper. This is ok it will mean something to the ones that know can have first choice to this. There are about 1000 sheets. Just tell me if you want it and it yours.

Free Printer Ink Cartridges

Well if you have one of those tractor printers and it happened to be a Radio Shack Line Printer VII, I have a box of eight printer cartridges for it. They are each wrapped as I

received them. I have no way to test them so you get them as is. If they work you win and if not you will have the cartridges to have them re-inked. That is a win too.

You want them they are yours

Why I have this Old Stuff

Last weekend I took a truck full of computer stuff to the recycle center. This other stuff was hiding behind the computer stuff. It takes up space where I could store other stuff that I probity will not use for years and years. ☺

31-May-10 4:43pm 79°

Happy Memorial Day

Thank all of the people who helped to keep this country free

Marty's Random Birthday Calendar

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Independence Day * Annette's Mom
6	7	8	* Diane 9	10	11	* Sadie (2008) 12
13	* Sharon P 14	15	16	17	18	19
20	* Carol's Sister's Birthday 21	22	23	* Renee H 24	25	* Marc * Lillian P -2008 26
27	28	29	* Aunt Annie 30	* Carol's Other Sister's Birthday 31		

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Independence Day * Annette's Mom	6	7	8	* Diane 9	10
11	* Sadie (2008) 12	13	* Sharon P 14	15	16	17
18	19	20	* Carol's Sister's Birthday 21	22	23	* Renee H 24
25	* Marc * Lillian P -2008 26	27	28	29	* Aunt Annie 30	* Carol's Other Sister's Birthday 31

Marty's Random Thoughts

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11th Year

Woodstock, IL

Marty Metras

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Note from Marty. You never know where my random thoughts might take me. If I am thinking it or see it I might write it down.
If you have ideas for my newsletters go to www.MartysRandomThoughts.com and click on "Contact Marty" or just tell and make sure I write it down.