

Issue 83 November 2010

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1-Nov-10 9:31am 29°

I don't know about you but I am already tired of the cold weather. I am not going to dwell on that because it will just depress all of us.

De-cluttering Project

A while back I read that big book about de-cluttering. I was all gung-ho about it for a while. I got rid of a bunch

of boxes of stuff. Since then I lost interest like many other projects.

So I started reading another book on the subject and have a renewed interest in de-junking wait it isn't junk it is clutter. Or is it?

This book is about losing 200 pounds next weekend. The first part of the book tells the cost of having all of this stuff and when are you going to start de-

cluttering. The real answer to when is NOW!

I don't know if you really want to hear all about my de-cluttering but it makes me feel better to talk about it. So talking about it I will.

Where to Start

My computer room is a mess. Clutter, clutter, clutter all over my desk. I use to say there was no room to put down a check to pay bills. Maybe that is why I pay all my bills online. The real reason behind paying online was to save money and time. That is a form of de-cluttering too. No stamps, no envelopes, no checks, no pen, and no service charge.

Wait I get off subject there. Maybe that is where the clutter is coming from my mind wonders too.

Ok my computer desk is a mess and I have to start somewhere. I cleared a bunch of stuff off of it the other day and still I almost don't know what color the top is.

My computer desk is about 24"x48" or 8 square feet. I spent a lot of time sitting in front of it. You would think it would be easy to keep it cleared. Well right now I can only see about 10% of the top. That is less than one square foot. It is just a table so there is no draws to hide any clutter.

There are thing that may belong on the desk. The phone, desk lamp, monitor, keyboard, and my crystal ball may all belong on top.

Before I start clearing I thought I would show you what is on there instead of listing all of it.



Figure 1 Desk top after initial de-cluttering two days ago.

Now you see this small task I am dealing with. The desk is only 8 square feet on top and another 8 under it. You can also see a little of the shelf above it. Yes I know I should have been able to clear it in the time I typed this into the newsletter. In that case why is this stuff still here?

My house is about 1,200 square feet and if you think of in cubic feet it is about 10,800 cubic feet plus the garage making it over 15,000 cubic of space for me to de-clutter. It becomes a little over whelming.

Today right now I am working on my computer desk. Not the other desk next to me or the space above or below this desk but just the computer desk itself.

I am going to weigh and list this stuff while I de-clutter it just so I get a feel for how bad of a packrat I have been.



I will not bore you with all of the detail of things on the desk. I just need to vent for now any you can turn a death ear to my recovery process. Wait I mean a blind eye to my writing.

The time is NOW to start!

Filtered from my Desk

Item	What happened to it
9 volt battery	Dead, recycle
AAA battery	Dead, recycle
Setup Guide	Recycled
Security card	
Old Camera	donated
4 more AAA batteries	Dead, recycle
Roll of Scotch tape	moved to its home
A pen top	Recycle
2 Packages of Post-IT page markers	one remains and one goes with the others
3 shinny pennies	put with other change
2 paper clips	put with other clips
Broken Rubber band	Trashed
A little bearing	Trashed
Expires credit card	
3 working Bic pens	Put in the cup
Hi-lifer	Put in the cup
3 working Sharpies	Put in the cup
Pen top	Recycled
One broken pen	Trashed
A bunch of postage stamps	Put in the cup
And a dead bug!	Trashed
Check Stamp	Put by the mug

OK I need a break

I went through a space 8" by 14" and there a mug full of things a check stamp and those post-it markers left in there these is still about 1,100 square inches of junk to process.

It takes too much time to list all of this junk I will just de-clutter my desk and show you the results. First I have to check the mail for clutter and eat something. I'll do some more later!

Leaves

Well I moved a bunch of leaves to the tree bank. Now I just have to wait for the wind to blow some more into the yard.

Birthdays

There are two birthdays on my list today. Happy Birthday Tristan P and Tom H's dad!

2-Nov-10 10:33am 40°



I hope we get what we want out of this election.

Birthdays

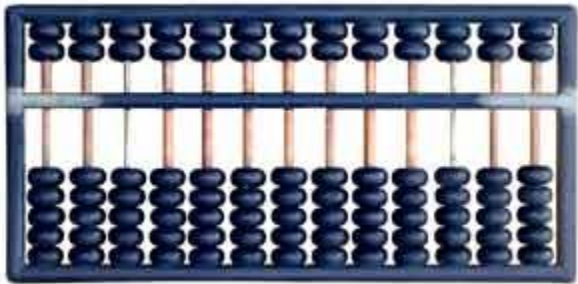
Today is not only Election Day but it is my oldest nephew, Erik's Birthday. Happy Birthday Erik!

Funny Ad

I keep seeing these ads in the paper for sporting goods with guns and clothing. I keep wondering since they have guns why don't they have ski masks. I would think you could go to a sporting goods store and buy a gun and a ski mask at the same time. But I never see an ad for both of them in the same flyer. ☺ (see "Funny Ad" , page 10)

Calculator

While clearing my desk I found my calculator. You may say; "So!" Well it looks like this.



And Yes I know how to add and subtract on it. I kind of understand how multiply but not how to divide.

I went to the internet to seek answers. Interesting things I found that this Abacus is not a normal lay out. It could be used for our base 10 numbering system as well as Hex a decimal (base 16) for our computer geeks that want to use it.

The more modern Abacuses use only 1 bead on top and 4 on the bottom. This one could of use by computer people because it has 2 bead on top and 5 on the bottom.

Each upper bead has a value of five and each lower of one.

I found the 2/5 configuration is normally used for weights as in 16 ounces to a pound. And the 1/4 is used for calculating.

The one I have could be used for both. And it could calculate out to 9,999,999,999,999 and does not require batteries.

The next question is; "Why do I have this." Mike had one a long time ago and maybe still does. I used to be pretty good on it. It is neat to have it but all it is just another piece of clutter I have to dust and store. Maybe I can use it to figure out what to do with all of this clutter. I guess it was just another one of those things that jumped off the shelf in the store and said; I'm going home with you."

Come on, you have done it too. It may have been a cat, dog, new dress or table saw. We all do it from time to time. Now what do I do with it?

Funny Stuff

I have been working clearing the clutter out of my computer room. It is going slow but I keep workings on it.

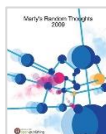
I keep running into things that make me laugh. I found a note pad where I started writing about when I had my by-pass. It is dated 4-21-1998 4am. That is funny because I thought I had my by-pass April 1999. I guess I am psychic. The notes were not finished.

Another thing was three pages printed from CBSI. There is a picture of a billboard that says "How do they get the Teflon to stick to the pan?"

In the text it says: "Make a Turkey. Send out Pizza."

CBSI went bankrupt in the late 1990s.

That pile of papers that I trashed was all dated 1996 and there was a mess of junk hiding it. Along with the June 1996



issues of Tool Box Times newsletter (Knaack's)

Old Notes

I found a picture I wanted to share with you and was looking for a copy on my hard drive. Well I didn't find that but I found a system log note I left on the computer a while back. It will show you I had trouble back in 2002.

Nov. 22, 2002.

After returning from Colorado I found that the server was locked up again. I replaced a bad Harddrive and it looks like we are good to go again.

Marty

Nov. 11-17th, 2002

I found the doerofthings.com email was not working.

I have it running again now. If you send any email from Nov. 11th thru the 17th it would have been lost. I think I have the problem corrected.

Marty

Source: System DoerOfThings.com

Old Picture

So I will be scanning this picture instead of digging through other clutter to find just one picture just to show where I would like to go for a rest. ☺



Figure 2 Red Rock State Park at Sedona Arizona

Marty's Vacation Spring 2003

This is Cathedral Rock (Courthouse Rock on the old maps) I have been looking for this spot for years. Every time I been to Sedona I have not found it. What a nice spot to just be.

And there are so many things happing.

In the foreground on the right there is a lady doing some artwork. There is a couple children running having fun, There is a guy in the middle building something with the river rocks. He isn't getting much help from his sun behind him. There is a group just sitting there talking. Way back in the picture you might be able to see the people playing in the water with their dogs. (Mid pictures next to the trees on the left)

The water is going by making water sounds, there is a light breeze, the temperature is around 75, and the sky is clear and sunny. And you can see Cathedral Rock in the background. Guess you think I like it here. Right!

Sedona, AZ

Picture by Martin E. Metras 5/10/2003

After finding this picture I am ready for a vacation. I wonder what is stopping me. Maybe it is this recipe for Kidney Bean Salad I found.

3-Nov-10 1:31pm 50°

So my desk top is not cleared yet. I can see it is a nice wood grained finish. That mean I removed a lot of stuff from the top of it. There are thing here I am not sure where they go yet. And there is that Kidney Bean Salad recipe.

Thinking about Clutter, remember when I went to Rockford to pick up the motorhome and I had to buy some jumper cables. Well I know where there are 3 pairs now. And I know there is another set somewhere because remember I have one set that is very long somewhere. TOO MUCH Stuff!

One place at a time, I have to go back to clearing the computer room now.

For what It's Worth

While clearing the desk area I found 8 USB flash drives that were missing.

Now I wonder why I was looking for them.

I found about 200 greeting cards being held up by 8 empty floppy disk boxes. No they weren't the 5-1/4". These are the 3-1/2" ones.

And maybe in this pile of old business cards and expired credit cards is maybe 5 pounds of more clutter.

This is only in the area in that picture. I did trash or recycle 20 to 30% of what I picked up. I am still working on it.

Maybe I should stop putting this in the newsletter and write another book. What would I title it, maybe "Look What I Found?"

4-Nov-10 12:21pm 46°

Busy Morning

This morning has been a little busy. That is more than most of my mornings. I woke up way too early to start with. 4:30am is way too early!

I was up drinking coffee and reading my book at Starbucks by five o'clock and having breakfast at Town and Country about six-ten.

Art was talking about a signup sheet for turkey dinner so I came home and made up a sample and then at 8:30 I was back out there showing him a sample. I returned home to make some corrections and was back there before eleven.

I was going to take a picture for a back ground for the signup sheet and the battery was dead in the camera.

So I visited with Chris for a while and returned home to get my spare battery.

Now it is 12:30 and I have to go help Anila buy a laptop. Wait I have an hour and a half so I could go out and have lunch and take that picture.

Oh, I forgot I stopped and had some coffee and visited with Mary at Vaughan's along the way.

I must it because I have been in eateries 5 times before noon.

I need groceries too. Maybe I could go have lunch, take my picture, help Anila with her laptop, and get some groceries in one trip.

I am getting tired thinking about this!

Much Later

I went to Wal-Mart and did my grocery shopping and Anila called while was there and could come and look at laptops.

I haven't looked at laptops very much in a long time. The one I have been lugging around I think I bought well over 5 years ago. So I went over to see what Wal-Mart had to offer.

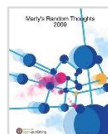
Anniversary

Aunt Irene & Uncle Bud Anniversary (1944)

Things Changed

After working on my laptop I was going to upgrade it. After seeing what they cost and what is offered that isn't going to happen to my laptop.

At Wal-Mart I saw they had one laptop priced at less than \$250. The



most expensive one on display was less than \$800.

They had one there for about \$300 that makes mine look like is a Abacus. I told you about the Abacus a couple days ago.

Any way I pad around \$1,000 for my laptop then add a \$150 Wi-Fi card. It has a 40gb drive, maybe 512 megs of RAM, and a CD burner.

Well the \$350 laptop had a 250gb drive, 1gb of RAM, build in Wi-Fi, and DVD burner, Memory card slot, and a DVR to say the least.

That is about ten times the hardware as my old laptop for only about three-hundred-fifty dollars.

Maybe I could replace the hard drive for that. I would just have an old laptop with a bigger hard drive.

So I will live with my old laptop until I really need to replace it.

Deep Space Nine

I just finished watch the lest episode. I watched all seven seasons. Yes all 49 DVDs. That is about 200 hours of Star Trek, Deep Space Nine. Enough!!!!



5-Nov-10 10:56am 33°

Gossip

On WGN Radio a few minutes they were talking about the origins of the work gossip. This could be true so I repeat it here for you.

Back in medieval days when the king wanted to know what the people thought he would send the court jester and servants out to find out. They would

go to the pubs and drink with the commoners and listen to what they were talking about. The King would tell them to "Go Sip." Yes this became "gossip" believe it or not.

After hearing this I can believe it because I get most of my gossip while sipping on a brew of cup.

Time Change

Remember to set you clocks back an hour Sunday.

Was that Snow

Yesterday I saw all the white stuff falling out of the sky. The first round of that I didn't get outside to see for sure if it was snow or sleet. When I came out of Wal-Mart I got to be in it and it wasn't really snow or sleet. It was soft frozen rain. This means I can't tell you we had our first snow yet.

My definition of snow is white fluffy stuff that moves around in the air currents. Yesterday's white stuff came down fast and did not waver in the wind. So it was "Sain" or Rnow" not Snow.

Thinking about snow I have a snowball in the freezer form the first snow last year. I found the other day in the back when I was seeing if there was food in there. Does anyone want it?

Birthday

Uncle Bud (1918-1985)

6-Nov-10 10:55am 35°

Birthday

Patty, Mary's sister has a birthday today. Happy Birthday Patty!



Leaves drift too

When leaving the driveway the other day I saw the leaves were starting to fall again. The wind was blowing and I see they had drifted across the driveway much as the snow does in the winter.

Has the leave learned that trick from the snowflakes? Or is this an omen of things to come?

In any case those leaves that have been holding on have been letting go of the trees the last few days. Next week we may be able to get in one last racking. Well, maybe two!

Seen in the Paper

The Northwest Herald (NWH) had a two page ad of hearing aids. The first thing I wondered was if you could use those hearing aids with your music players or your cell phones.

There is so many things you can do with Blue Tooth now days. Maybe no one thought of it yet.

It would be funny to see someone with those hearing aids that is invisible walking down the street talking to them self. You wouldn't know for sure if they were using their cell phone or just talking to their self.

What about someone dancing down the street? Did they fall in love, win the lottery, or just listing to music?

So is there hidden hearing-aids with blue Tooth?

Birthday notes

I mostly put people I know or people the people they know in my list. Sometimes I put people I would like to

know in there too. I see the NWH has a birthday list and I look at that just to see who is in there and then before I get home I forget.

Today I noticed that Sally Fields' birthday is today. She is 64 years old now. She looked a lot younger. Remember the Flying Nun, Gidget, and Norm Rae. That was Sally Fields. I use to have a crush on her. Oh well that another story.



Figure 3 Gidget

At Lunch Time

Aunt Annie arrived on time for lunch.

Take your Time

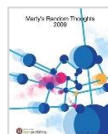
Cork said he was delayed and then got stuck behind someone that was driving just a little slower than the limit. And when he finally could get around her she still was at the next turn ahead of him.

I have had cars pass me going very fast when I was going to work and when I got to the stop light they were 4 cars behind me. I have to laugh when this happens.

French Fried

Viollca tried to remind me that I hadn't taken here picture last week showing you her tan. If you remember there is a picture in last week's tan. Her and Yvette picture were in the previous newsletter. Tomorrow is week number three.

Anyway Viollca was on her way to get French fried some more at the



tanning salon next door when I left. Or maybe she was going to a saloon.

Another Birthday Today

Cassie H. and her husband stood up for my Mom and Dad when they married. I think Cassie is 96s now. When you are that old you brag about it. ☺

7-Nov-10 10:27am 45°

Clocks and more Clocks

What do we have to do to get them to stop changing the time? I'm talking about Day Light Savings time.

For me it saves me no time or daylight. There has been 24 hours is ever day since I was born. And I am guessing there will be 24 hours until I die in 2100. The sun come up in the east every morning and sets in the west ever evening. In the summer the sun is up around 14 hours and in the winter 9 hours.

Changing the clocks does in no way give any more day light than that. We just shift the time around so we think we are getting more day light. If we need more time when there is day light why not just start a little later or stay out a little later.

Now that we changed the clocks the sun is still coming up as it did before we changed the clocks. Why didn't we just get up an hour later? If you don't want to drive in the dark of the morning reschedule you time.

If you want more day light after work to do your thing then start earlier in the morning and get your work done earlier in the day.

I guess I don't like changing all of those clocks. I had to change five already, I guess I should move to Arizona because they don't change their clocks.

I guess that is enough ranting & raving about my dislike of daylight savings time. Anyway it is 12:26 not 1:26! On to better looking people!

Week three

I wonder how tan she will look at the end maybe the color of my desk.



Figure 4 Violca tanning week number three.

Where's George

This morning I see my Where's George score is up to 732.13. This may not see much to you but the top score is only 1,653.37. Gary had been doing this since 2002. I only have 921.24 to catch up.

Can't Win Sometimes

I went to the internet to see how you get rid of the blaws. I find a site that talked about the Monday blaws when you want to go out in the woods hunting something. I never had trouble

with Mondays so I continued my search.

The next site let me know that Blaws is another way to say "By Laws." I smiled and went looking for what I wanted the Blaws to mean.

The next things I found it the Blaws is a name of a rock band. I listened to that for a few seconds.

Then I thought of a cure! Yes I went out and cleaned the scum out of my rain gauge. Now it is as clear as glass. The blaws are gone!

Now that I am back in here in front of the computer I find that the word Blaws is the right word for what I feel. The work is yucky. Maybe I will go rake leave now.

Funny Ad

In the paper there was one of those sporting goods ads when I see you could buy a ski mask that had a camouflage pattern. You could buy gloves, pants, jacket and boots all with camouflage. I see they had big tents with a hole in the top for a stove pipe. In this same flyer was everything you needed for hunting and processing your own food. There was a pistol with a 10-1/2" barrel.

Wait, I have an idea that might almost work. Buy the ski mask and the gun, rob the bank, with the money go back to the outfitter and get the other stuff and head for the woods.

The problem with this is if you aren't too good handling guns you might

shoot yourself in the foot and leave a trail of blood and get caught.

You see those boots don't have steel toes! ☺

8-Nov-10 11:55am 56°

Petra just called and is recovering but slowly. She said to say: "Hi!" So Hi!

Me or not Me

I was thinking I should look myself up on the internet. I found two of me.

When I did the search I found places that I knew was me. Then there are many places where there was another person who has the same name. He uses both Marty and Martin and the same last name.

As near as I can find the other Marty is in the Greater Boston Area. So if you are ever out there you could look for me and find out I am someone else. ☺

Leavings

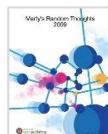
Remember those trees were holding on hard to their leave. They must have given up because they were all over the lawn again. I cleaned up a bunch of them and the ones the wind didn't like I raked up last week.

Maybe the City will suck them up before the wind starts playing with them again.

9-Nov-10 9:54am 52°

I am not use to this time change thing yet. I was up at five again and at Starbucks at six o'clock.

One nice thing today I left Town and Country before I got there. I noticed



they missed one of their clocks. I called them on it.

That means I got there at ten after nine and left there at ten to nine. Talk about saving time!

Weather Forecast

I haven't given you the forecast for a while. I got this from online at the Farmer's Almanac I bought the almanac for 2011. Now I have to read it.

Forecast for Midwest/Great Lakes U.S.

November 2010

8th-11th. Increasingly cloudy, but pleasant.

12th-15th. Some rain Great Lakes, then fair.

16th-19th. A storm out of Southwest dumps snow and rain through Great Lakes.

20th-23rd. Fair, cold.

24th-27th. Thanksgiving sees light snow through Michigan, Ohio, then fair.

28th-30th. Fair, turning stormy.

December 2010

1st-3rd. Snow Great Lakes, with accumulations of 2"-4".

4th-7th. Fair, Cold.

8th-11th. Light snow, then turning fair.

12th-15th. Stormy.

16th-19th. Dry, turning colder.

20th-23rd. Light snow east through Ohio River Valley, then becoming fair.

24th-27th. Fair, cold for Christmas.

28th-31st. Some snow showers, flurries.

Source: <http://www.farmersalmanac.com>

So they say a storm around the 16th. I just can't wait!

11-Nov-10 11:31am 59°

Veterans Day

Thank your Veterans!

Birthday

Happy Birthday Sally H!

Leaves

Is the City finished picking up those leave? I have more to rake I hope they take them. I guess if they don't take them they can become compost instead.

MRT 2010 the Book

I worked on the next book version of Marty's Random Thoughts. I am learning new stuff ever day on how to make all of these newsletters into a book. I know how to make it a master document with a Table of Content (ToC) and an Index in each newsletter. I can also have a master ToC and index for the book.

12-Nov-10 9:14am 46°

I Have No Excuse

Yesterday was Veteran's Day. I have two brothers and a sister that served to the service of our country. That is the service of us. I also have a niece and nephews that server. I am sure there are uncles & aunts and cosines I never thought about it much. They don't talk about it much and I don't ask.

In any case Thank You!

Birthday

Today Olivia K was born back in

2006. This makes her 4 years old. I have watched her grow. It is amazing how fast they go from a little one to start to have a mind of their own.



Figure 5 Sadie on the left Olivia on the right.

Happy Birthday Olivia!

What will today Bring

Today is the first day of the rest of my life. I wonder what is in store for me today. I see they are out there working on Clay Street. Bob who lives a couple doors south cannot get in his driveway. When they working on the street, they put a curb across both driveways. And I hear there were a lot of those handicap ramps installed wrong.

For 3 days Bob and the other people have been driving across the lawn to get to the street. Today there are a couple guys breaking up the new sidewalk to fix those ramps.

Aunt Annie called to invite me to lunch. You know I said "Yes!" Nancy and Marge are going too. Looks like I will be out numbered 3 ladies to the one me. Yup, I love it they're all single too! ☺

New Working Hours

Kim told me that she switched her Wednesday's day off for Friday. This means she will be off Friday through Monday and working three days in a row, Tuesday through Thursday.

I don't know if this is temporary but for the next couple weeks it is the way it is.

Disrupted routine

I use to be in rut. I would get up and have breakfast and go to work. After work I would stop for dinner on the way home. That was much my routine.

When I retired I slowly changed my routine and now there is no routing.

I get up some time between five and 8 eight in the morning. Some time I have coffee uptown other times it out on the edge other times I stay home.

Some days I have to drag myself away from front of the computer or the TV to go out for lunch.

When dinner time comes around I don't really feel much like leaving the house.

The routine I used to have when I had a job is gone and I need to start a new routine to replace it.

I think this new routine needs to be a productive routine for me. I know I live a random life but there still need to be a little routine in all the randomness.

I see I haven't added anything to my wish list yet this month. I think I know something I will add now.

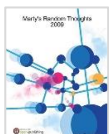
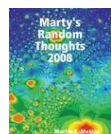
13-Nov-10 3:10pm 47°

It feels cold outside this afternoon. It is damp and windy.

The Pilgrim

I talked to Mike and Petra for a long time yesterday. Petra was telling me all the details about her rescue from the trail. I guess the helicopter could get right where she was waiting. They had to carry her back up the trail a way before they could lower a rope to hoist her into the air. Then they flew a long ways to get her to the ambulance to and then off to the hospital.

In the last couple of days she had the stitches staples removed. Then they told her to start putting some weight on



the leg to help it heal. I guess you must put some weight on the bones to help them know to grow. The part of the leg is all black and blue from all the banging around when she fell and the operation when she put her leg back together.

Petra say the bone is bolted together and will be fine she has to take it easy while the rest of her leg mends itself.

We talked for a very long time and I think she is going to be back walking across the world very soon.

Clutter is not Clutter

I grabbed a box of stuff to go through to decide if it was clutter. The box was marked "Wall Hangings."

There was only picture in this box. I did find an old radio I have been wondering where it was. The radio is a battery operated vacuum tube radio. It is a Philco Sportster E-675. It was made about 1956. It uses four vacuum tubes not transistors or integrated circuits. Yes, vacuum tubes!

You can run it on batteries or AC. When I first plugged it in it was dead. Today I worked on it and found the AC/DC switch was dirty so with a little WD-40 the radio came right on. And it was tuned to WGN and it sounds great.

It has a leather case that needs a little TLC. All in all it is in very good condition. I have some spare parts, and a repair manual with a parts list.

I noticed a little hum mixed up with the audio. I am sure I can leave with

this for now. It is most likely the electrolytic capacitor that it has dried up with age. I have a new replacement. The one I have is very old and may be bad too. In the 1960's when I picked up this radio the capacitor cost less than \$2.00.

14-Nov-10 11:51am 41°

Old Radio

I played the radio all day yesterday and more this morning. I am sure that capacitor is bad because the more and more it is on the loader the AC hum becomes. That means I may have to do the surgery on it soon and install a new one before it causes other problems. I guess there is no time like right now.



15-Nov-10 7:37pm 37°

Radio Repair

After my morning coffee I worked on the radio. I made sure all the parts were re-soldered any weak looking connections and all the screws were tight. Then I drilled out the screw I broke and re-tapped the hole. I even lubed the turner. You know the turned has roller bearings!

Then I turned it on and make sure I had not messed anything up like I did yesterday. Yesterday after I replaced the electrolytic capacitor it was dead. I rechecked my work and could see that I did anything wrong. I even look down twice to make sure the plug was in the power strip and the power strip was

turned on. After unplugged the cord from the power strip I noticed the soldering iron was hot. I rechecked very thing again.

Then Da! When I looked down to the power strip I saw the cord was plugged in. It was, but it must have been the soldering iron. Both cords are the same. But there was only one before. I replaced the parts without a problem.



Figure 6 Whoops!

You really do need it plugged in for it to work.

Cabinet Repair

After I was happy with the radio was working well I had to work on the way it looks. The case on the radio is made from rawhide and sewn. Two areas needed to be re-stitched together.

I took the case up to Sewing Concepts to ask Lynda if she had thread and a curved nettle. She had both so I thought I was read.

I very quickly realized that the old thread was very weak and the two small repairs had turned into two large repairs. After removing the rotten thread and removing the backing that was glued tight over where I had to sew.

I struggled trying to use the curved needle. It was too big and very hard to get throw the holes without damaging the leather. I changed to a smaller straight needle. I had trouble with it too.

The problem was also holding things in place while I stitched it together. I needed a better way so I didn't make of mess of it.

I thought a crochet hook would work if I have a very small hook. I use a very small hook when I am thread the needle on my sewing machine, big fingers. Even though my Crochet hook is very small I found I need a very, very, small hook.

I went to four stores in Woodstock and Crystal Lake. I took my very small hook along and it was already smaller than what could find locally.

So to the internet I thê went. Amazon.com will send me a number 14 and I should get it soon. I'll work on something else until it gets there.

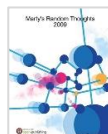
After Thought

On my way home from Crystal Lake I thought was funny. I drove twenty-five miles and spend a few hours of my time for a tool that I'll have in five days that cost me less than \$6.00. Now I wait!

Book # 10

Yesterday I finished my tenth book. This one was another De-Clutter book called "LOSE 200LBS THIS WEEKEND."

This book got me to open a couple boxed. One of them had that radio. The box was under 2 others. One box was not really clutter yet. The other box had shelf brackets and those outside lights that I bought about 5 years ago and not installed yet. That is another story.



This book is about the cost of clutter. Not just money but energy, health, safety, as well your freedom.

16-Nov-10 7:42am 33°

Next Book

My trip to Starbucks this morning let me finish a couple of chapters in my next book. This book is titled "THE SECRET POWER WITHIN, Zen Solutions to Real Problems" by Chuck Norris. It has been sitting around here since the late 1990's so I figured I should read this one next.

Only just starting to read it I am not sure what it is going to teach me. So far it has been about Chuck Norris and how Zen got into his life.

It is an easy read so I will see what becomes of it.

The Pilgrims

Mike said they were going to go to a less costly place to stay while Petra mends. Some of those places they choose don't have internet so I don't hear from them as much. That may be the case now. No news is good news?

Time Flies or Does It

It is fun to notice that sometimes time flies and other times it just seems to drag on and on.

Last month seemed to be one of the very fast months for me. It was like October was only seven or eight days long.

On the other hand November seems to be already thirty days long. I looked at the calendar and thought Thanksgivings Day was this Thursday,

and it is really next week. Why is this month dragging?

Well I went to the internet about time speeds and came up with this;

This is something I have been thinking about for some time. My theory: the young mind is processing much of what is experienced consciously (that is, they actually have to think about standing upright and making the spoon hit the mouth), and thus events are all presenting themselves to the mind. This causes each moment to be filled with events that must be inspected by the mind to understand, and time crawls because the mind is so busy.

As we age and gain experience, more and more events are not surfaced to the mind - they are intercepted by subconscious processes that 'recognize' the pattern and only present an abbreviation of the experience to the active mind. Less of the 'bandwidth' of the conscious mind is occupied by the data from the passing events which are barely even noticed. The conscious mind has less direct external new experiences to process, so time seems to fly by.

At least, this is my theory and it is mine. Ah hem.

- JSinAZ

Source: boingboing.net/2010/02/01/why-does-time-fly.html

My Wish List

My wish list is continuing. Check out Issue No. 82 for what the first six items that are on my wish list

7. **A little routine in my random life.** I need to have something with a little more routine in my life. It might make me feel a little less Ho Hum. I don't think I need to deal with this because writing this down should help me get this wish started.

8.

Calendar

November

Nov-01 Tristan P
 Nov-01 Tom H's Dad's
 Nov-02 Erik T
 Nov-02 Daniel Boon
 Nov-04 Aunt Irene & Uncle Bud
 Anniversary (1944)
 Nov-05 Uncle Bud (1918-1985)
 Nov-06 Patty (Mary's Sister)
 Nov-11 Sally H
 Nov-12 Olivia
 Nov-26 Scott M
 Nov-28 Norma Lee
 Nov-30 Miki

Last update: 11/5/2010

More Birthdays added to the list

Nov-6 Cassie H

December

Dec-01 Steve M
 Dec-01 Jimmy W
 Dec-01 Tom H
 Dec-03 Joe Anne
 Dec-03 Donna, Steve's Sister
 Dec-04 Bill M
 Dec-04 Oscar
 Dec-04 Tammy & Alex Anniversary
 Dec-06 Ryan S
 Dec-09 Flo (Kim Mc's Mom)
 Dec-12 Marty M (me)
 Dec-12 Linda's Sister
 Dec-12 Melody W
 Dec-12 Teri Z
 Dec-14 Ed P
 Dec-16 Arben & Anila's Anniversary
 Dec-21 Marty A
 Dec-22 Angelia K
 Dec-23 Arben G
 Dec-26 Tip & Mary's Anniversary
 Dec-28 Vicky M

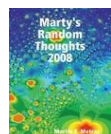
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I have a collection of newsletters I wrote for my amusement and had them made into books for my friends and famil enjoyment.
 Check them out at www.LuLu.com/metras3



Also read about me walking across Spain

