



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

2008 Christmas is here. I hope all is well with you and yours.

Let's see what has happened this year...

I figure after retiring last year I would have sixty-five extra hours a week for do things. It is over a year and a half later and I am looking for more time. I always am busy doing something. Sometimes it is easy things like sitting in the chair watching TV with my eyes shut. Other times it is things a little harder like siding the garage.

I saw my first robin of the spring in April. This made me want to go for a road trip. I got in the motorhome and went to Kansas and saw my two sisters Marcia and Edie, Sedona AZ for a week, then to Mike and Petra's. From there I headed to Yellowstone to find out it wasn't open on the east side that earlier in the spring. So I came home.

When gas prices went over four dollars and my electric bill went to one hundred fifty dollars I decided to do something about it. I started to drive less and decided to start conserving energy. I put up a clothesline, fixed the A/C, and started to unplug things I wasn't using. In four months I had my electric bill below 60 dollars. I still have many more things to do.

My health is fine and I hope all of you are doing fine too. When I was twelve years old people were trying to live to see the year 2000 I decided I would like to see the year 2100. I have a little over 92 years to go. I will only be a little over 154 years old. I am taking it one day at a time. As of Christmas 2008 I have 33,244 days or so to go. If you have any ideas how to get through another day let me know.

I had no idea how much work it was to write a book. I published a book of my newsletter titled *Marty's Random Thought Book 1*. Go to MartysRandomThoughts.com for more details. Now I am back working on a book about my adventures when I walked across Spain last year. I am continuing with my newsletter *Marty's Random Thoughts* and I will publish book 2 contain all of the 2008 issues sometime in 2009.

This year after fourteen years, I decided to side the garage to make it match the house.

My brother Mike and his wife Petra were settling in their new home. Marcia and Dan moved too. Mike published new book *Germany to Rome in 64 Days: Our Pilgrimage*. Marie and Al still live in PA. Cork and Diane still live on the other side of town. Marcia and Edie are still in KS and Aunt Annie in Greenwood. My niece Samantha had a baby boy, Travion this year, and my nephew, Erik was married.

And the last I heard all the other friends and families are doing well.

Merry Christmas
And a
Happy New Year to All