
Marty's Random Thoughts

Volume 07 Number 03a

Woodstock, IL

March 22, 2007

Random Retirement things:

03-Mar-2007

First day of retirement. This is how it started off. I woke up around eight o'clock. Went out and had to move some snow to get to the car. Went to Vaughan's for breakfast. When getting out of the car I stepped in some ice. Woops! No, didn't fall. I saw in the window that Anila was working. While wondering why she was there so early I tripped over one of those movable curbs that got pushed up to the edge of the sidewalk. Wait, there is more. When I stopped to find out why Anila was there a button on my jack got stuck in the showcase by the cashiers station. Woops again. I started to think this is number three. I hope that is it. Or maybe I should have not retired. I didn't have that much trouble getting around before I retired.

Thing smoothed down after that. I read the newspaper and eat breakfast. Then decided it was time for a haircut. There was a parking spot almost right in front. And there were only a few in front of me. So after that I decide to go home and move some more snow. When I turned off of Main Street a car backed out in front of me and I swerved to miss then had to swerve again to miss some people who were walking across in the middle of the street. I missed them all.

Maybe today is a test! I should check my psychic, numerologist, astrologer or my some one to figure out what is going on today. So I went out to the Internet and looked up my horoscope for today just to see what it said. Here is it is:

My Horoscope for March 3, 2007

Irritability will be the big danger for you today. Certain planetary influences will be making it difficult for you to settle and there is a chance that you will be tempted to take out your frustrations on those around you. The solution is to find some new activity to explore, the more exciting the better!

Source: <http://my.horoscope.com/getHoroscope.asp?sign=9&day=3&month=3&year=2007>

Well, there you have it. New activity. Well, that is new snow out there that needs my activity to move it out of the driveway. I should go do that activity now and stop writing this newsletter. It is not a new activity.

This afternoon it has been better.

Random Email from Arlene:

Subject: Sad news

This is really sad.

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed recently.

Larry LaPrise, the man that wrote "The Hokey Pokey" died peacefully at the age of 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in. And then the trouble started.

Shut up. You know it's funny. **LOL**

Source: Arlene

Bumper Snicker

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for one day. Teach a man to fish and you can get rid of him for the weekend."

Bill's Hints

"When done with your fresh water hose, coil it up and screw the ends together tightly to keep out bugs and dirt while it is stored." --From [Motorhomes Made Easy](#). *I already do this!*

Worth Pondering

"Age to me means nothing. I can't get old; I'm working. I was old when I was twenty-one and out of work. As long as you're working, you stay young. When I'm in front of an audience, all that love and vitality sweeps over me and I forget my age." -- *George Burns*
I like George!

Random RV Thought

Unless you want to risk being awakened in the middle of the night, do not camp within walking distance of a tavern. Some patrons will stagger back to the campground after closing time and continue the party at their picnic table.

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue265.shtml>

03/06/07

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Today's is my sister, Marie's birthday. She has always been younger than me. This is funny because she was born before me. Happy birthday Marie.

Lets see, who else has a birthday this month. My sister Marcia on the 16th. And Jake's was the 29th. I missed a mess of birthdays last month. I guess I should miss some in March too.

Yesterday, I lived through my first day of retirement. Even though you are retired you still have to do laundry. And they still get stuck at work and call you.

I went out and had coffee this morning just as if I was going to work. Bill asked if I had retired yet? I told him that old habits are hard to break. I still need my morning coffee. Some things still happen after you retire. I retired my car last month and it still gives me a nice ride. New tires that is.

I started to do some de-cluttering around the house yesterday. Boy do I have a lot of stuff! I guess this de-cluttering stuff is going to take a while.

03/09/07

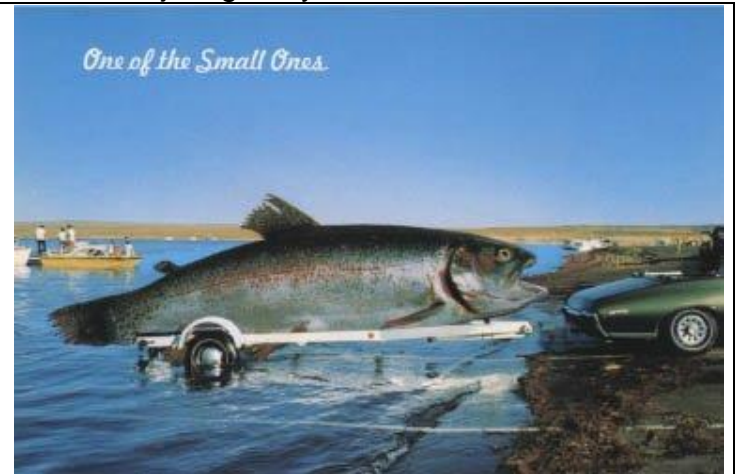
After getting up today I remembered it was Sandi's birthday. We all put on hats and sang Happy Birthday to her. Here is a picture:



Picture by Marty

03/11/07

Been retired a week now. I was thinking about going fishing. I do not think I have been since I spent a couple weeks at Aunt Betty's in the summer of 1957. So a little research was in order. It looks like it hasn't changed much. You still need a hook, line, and sinker. I don't remember they you still need a trailer! After seeing this picture, I think I will just get my fish in the restaurants.



Bumper Snicker

"Beer doesn't make you fat. It makes you lean (against doors, tables, walls)."

Worth Pondering

"If there are no stupid questions, then what kind of questions do stupid people ask? Do they get smart just in time to ask questions?" -- Scott Adams

Random RV Thought

Some RV dealers are advertising payment plans where you put no money down on a new RV and finance it for a long time. Sure, the payments are low. But if you decide to sell your RV after only four or five years you will almost certainly owe more than the RV is worth after its depreciation. The sad result: You will have to pay a dealer or whoever buys your RV to take it off your hands -- and sometimes that can be tens of thousands of dollars. So be careful. (*This is true for anything you buy*)

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue266.shtml>

What time is it at your house?

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Remember the clocks changed time today. Some one thinks we are going to save a lot of energy doing this 3 weeks early. I don't think so. I just spent an hour fixing clocks that didn't know it different this year. Here are the things that did not change automatic that have in the past.

These Computer operating system worked fine before.

[Windows 2000](#)

[Redhat 8.x](#)

[SuSE 9.x I think \(Linux 2.6.x\)](#)

[Window's Pocket PC \(PDA\)](#)

[Smoothwall \(I don't know the OS.\)](#)

These newer ones updated just fine.

[Redhat FC5](#)

[Windows XP](#)

For you none computer people I also have these clocks. [Camera, 2 wall clocks, the car radio, 2 Weather stations, answering machine all had to be reset](#) manually. [Atomic wall clocks and cell phone were ok](#)

I did not even look at any others yet. Other clocks you might check are on the stove, the VCR, Microwave, Digital Camera, Camcorder, Your watch, the clock on the bank, and what ever else you could think of. I think we are stuck in time!

I see that my lake in the front yard has come back. It was almost gawn yesterday. Today you can see the grass at the bottom of the lake. Even though a lot of snow has melted, there is still a lot out there. March 21 should be there soon. Then we can start planting our gardens. If you have a piece of land now you could plant some radishes. They don't mind the cool weather.

Later:

I was out side for a while. It is starting to look a little like Spring out there. Look at the grass out my back door.



Picture by Marty

03/13/07

Well this retirement stuff is starting to sync in a little now. That is if it isn't spring fever. It should be 70° out there today. Yesterday I just sat around and did just about nothing. This has to stop. I did a little de-cluttering. Today would be a good day to get the oil changed in the car and truck. Both are over due. The truck has to be way over due. I seams like I just filled it up with gas in October. Yah, I don't drive it much.

I also need to book my plane trip to Germany before the seats are gawn. Well I best get started.

03/17/07

Yesterday was my sister, Marcia's birthday. Every time I tried calling I got no one. So she got an email. Happy birthday Marcia.

I just got of the phone with my brother Mike. He is in Germany and will be here is a little over a week. He said I need to pick them up at the airport on the 26th. It will to good to see them again. Thought he will have a busy schedule, while he is here we will spend some time talking about things to do and see why I am in Europe in May and June. I need to come up with a list of things to do. We talked a little about going to Rome, and the Alps. There are so many thing to see and due if you have never been there.

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I have booked a plane ticket to leave here on May 17th and return June 15th. There are a lot of other things I have ready. I have my bank and credit card to work in Europe. They work over there I just need to let them know so when they see the charges they do not think they are stolen. I have a passport and my health insurance will cover what happens over there. I just have to pay it and I will get the money back later. The car insurance will not be valid in Europe. Mike tells me I can get an international drivers license through AAA.

So I need to work on what I need to pack to take with me. Mike says pack very light because you do not want to have to have a lot of extra stuff you haul around with you. He says they have washing machines so do not think about bring a lot of close with me. I figured a camera is a must.

03/22/07 2:30pm 56°

I'm a little behind here...wait! this is random so I am right on time. Today I see €1.00 (Euro) = \$1.33590 (Us Dollars) Or that is \$1.00 = €0.748559. What that means is I can get a \$1.25 cup of coffee for about €0.935698. If you need to print the Euro symbol on my keyboard I user [Ctrl]+[Alt]+[e] to get the "€" symbol. I'll bet a whole lot of you wanted this piece of information.

I have to pick Mike and Petra up at the airport on Monday. Their airplane is due around 4:40pm. That should be some kind of fun driving in the rush hour. They will be using my car while here.

I haven't been driving the truck much so I guess I will take it out for an exercise. I will get some exercise while driving it. You have an extra peddle to push and you need a strong arm to get fresh air. Boy do we get lazy with automatic transmissions and power windows. Well, guess I will live through it. I need the exercise anyway.

Aunt Annie got hit by lightening yesterday. Well, not her but her house. It knocked out a couple fuses and a telephone. The frig wasn't working but that was one of the circuit breakers

the got fried. I talked to her a little while ago and all seems well not.

I think this is enough for this issue. When I get from my dental appointment I'll load in a coupe pictures and finish off this issue.



Picture by Marty

I found this picture from my spring 2003 vacation to Sedona, AZ. This is Cathedral Rock. (Courthouse Rock on the old maps) For years I went to Sedona I couldn't find this spot. The water was making water sounds. There was a nice breeze. The temperature was is around 75. And the sky is clear and sunny. Guess you think I like it here. Right! What a nice spot.

One more Picture!

Hot Dog!



Source: Arlene

- That it for now -

Marty