
Marty's Random Thoughts

Volume 07 Number 04

Woodstock, IL

April 3, 2007

03/25/07

Tomorrow Mike and Petra will be here and I told them they could use my car. I took the pickup out for a drive to make sure it was working. Well after driving it a while I found that the thing was sticking on the carb. The when I stepped on the clutch the engine would keep running at very high RPMs. Jiggling the gas peddle would clam it down for a while. I drove home and checked it out. I forgot you get all dirty when you work on engines. It has been a while since I have worked on my own stuff.

Anyway after an hour or so I think it is fixed. It was just some of the linkage that was all gummed up.

03/26/07

I went to work and dropped of some insurance paper work that will let me be insured (COBRA) until I get some new insurance.

I visited with a few people and let Matt know that I no longer work there. So if they need help they would have to pay me now.

I picked up my nameplate off my office cube. After a while will be saying "Marty who?" So I am not working at Knaack any more.

When I left there I went to the airport and picked Mike and Petra. It took them an hour to get of the plane and get to me. They said that it was very busy in Customs. After we got back and eat I dropped them off at Cork and Diane's. This will be there home base while they are here.

03/27/07

I had breakfast with Mike and Petra and gave them my car. I need to fix the inside rear view mirror on the pickup. That is another thing I tried to fix Sunday that didn't work. I will try to glue that thing to the glass again today. Some time it works and some tine it does not. We'll see!

Later I had the oil changed in the engine on the pickup. It was way over due. It runs better now. I put on new wiper blades. They were very bad. I guess if you don't use thing much things still ware out.

Bumper Snicker

"My wife says I never listen, or something like that."

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue268.shtml>

Worth Pondering

"There's no trick to being a humorist when you have the whole government working for you." -- Will

Rogers

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue268.shtml>

03/31/07

I just finished reading about Mike and Petra's *Pilgrimage to Rome* on Mike's web site. I don't know if I am up to walking from Kisslegg, Germany to Roma myself yet. But I may be up to trying a few days while I am over there visiting them next month. Even it you are not up to a 774 hike it is very good reading of the trip. I really enjoyed reading this. I almost thought I was out there with them. Check it out if your are so inclined. It starts at this web site:

<http://www.worksandwords.com/romewalk.htm>

Mike and Petra have been up in Steven's Point, WI giving a seminar on their pilgrimage. After talking to them last week I am starting to understand what it might be like to go on a pilgrimage. I just thought they were out hiking before reading this story. It looks like when you go for these long walks you get a lot of time to do some thinking. I know when I go hiking when I am in Sedona I do some thinking. I am only out there for 2-3 hours. I guess if you are out there for weeks at a time you get to do a lot of thinking.

Mike and Petra should be back in town on Sunday. Maybe you will get to see them before they return to Germany.

04/01/07

Well it happened. The Day Light Saving change hit again. Remember last month I thought it might. Well I need to reset the clocks on my PDA, Windows 2000, and Red Hat Linux 8.0 computers. These are older operating systems and are out of support so there are no updates available for the newer Day Light Saving configuration. Check your clock on the stuff that automatically reset itself. Lets start a partition to leave the clocks alone. I wonder how much energy we saved over the last 3 weeks. Or is this just a big April Fools joke they are playing on us? Errrrrr!

Good morning. How are today?

Here is what good Uncle Sam has to say about Day Light savings:

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Daylight Saving Time Saves Energy



One of the biggest reasons we change our clocks to Daylight Saving Time (DST) is that it saves energy. Energy use and the demand for electricity for lighting our homes is directly connected to when we go to bed and when we get up. Bedtime for most of us is late evening through the year. When we go to bed, we turn off the lights and TV. In the average home, 25 percent of all the electricity we use is for lighting and small appliances, such as TVs, VCRs and stereos. A good

percentage of energy consumed by lighting and appliances occurs in the evening when families are home. By moving the clock ahead one hour, we can cut the amount of electricity we consume each day. Studies done in the 1970s by the U.S. Department of Transportation show that we trim the entire country's electricity usage by about one percent EACH DAY with Daylight Saving Time.....

Source: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/daylightsaving.html#earlydst>

Well anyway they say that we will save energy. I did not want to post the whole things because this is one of those "What is" things that I cannot change. I am better working on things I can change. So it is 9:30am and time for breakfast.

It is time for a few things from the RV Travel newsletter.

Bumper Snicker

"If God didn't want us to eat animals he wouldn't have made 'em out of meat."

Worth Pondering

"It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his job depends on not understanding it." --
Upton Sinclair

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue269.shtml>

The way things are looking now I do not think I will get in bunch RVing in before I go to Europe. After having the checks come in ever payday you need to make some adjustments. We get use to have some money being added to our pockets ever week and then after a while you notice it isn't just happening. We need to adjust to having the money flow from different sources. I guess even though I knew this it took a

month to sink in. It in not that that I am broke. It is that the flow is different. You just have to adjust to things.

As I have always said, "I have enough money to last the rest of my life...That is if I die tomorrow."
04/03/07 07:30am 42°

This morning at the restaurant they told me it stormed last night. I knew it rained a little and it is going to do it again real soon now. My rain gauge in the back yard only says we got a half inch since yesterday. My weather station says 0.22 since midnight and 0.04 yesterday. Well it is April and we all know *April showers bring may flowers that bloom in June*. Guess we will see what happens.

In April 2004 I recorded 1.34" of rain. 2005 there was 1.73", 2006 we did a little better with 2.37" and this year only 0.30" so far. We will see how we do by the end of April. Here are the heavy months with rain since I started recording it in 2004.

Whole Dep. from				
Rain Month	Year	Year	Normal	
7.25"	May	2004	27.87"	-5.63
3.28"	Aug	2005	18.11"	-15.39
3.29"	Mar	2006	27.74"	-5.76

You can get this data from my web site:
www.doerofthings.com/weather/

Here is a hiking trail for you.



The **American Discovery Trail** is a coast-to-coast hiking and biking [trail](#) across the mid-tier of the [United States](#). It starts on the [Delmarva Peninsula](#) on the [Atlantic Ocean](#) and ends on the northern [California](#) coast on the [Pacific Ocean](#), and is signed on over 6,800 miles of trail (about

11,000 kilometers). This includes the doubled trail stretches. It is possible to complete the coast to coast hike by covering just over 5,000 miles of trail. It is the only non-motorized coast-to-coast trail.

The trail passes through 14 [national parks](#) and 16 [national forests](#) and utilizes sections of or connects to five [National Scenic Trails](#), 10 [National Historic Trails](#), and 23 [National Recreation Trails](#). For part of its distance, it is coincident with the [North Country Trail](#) and the [Buckeye Trail](#). From western [Ohio](#) to northern [Colorado](#), the trail has two parallel stretches.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Discovery_Trail

The End for this issue. Marty