
Marty's Random Thoughts

Volume 07 Number 07a

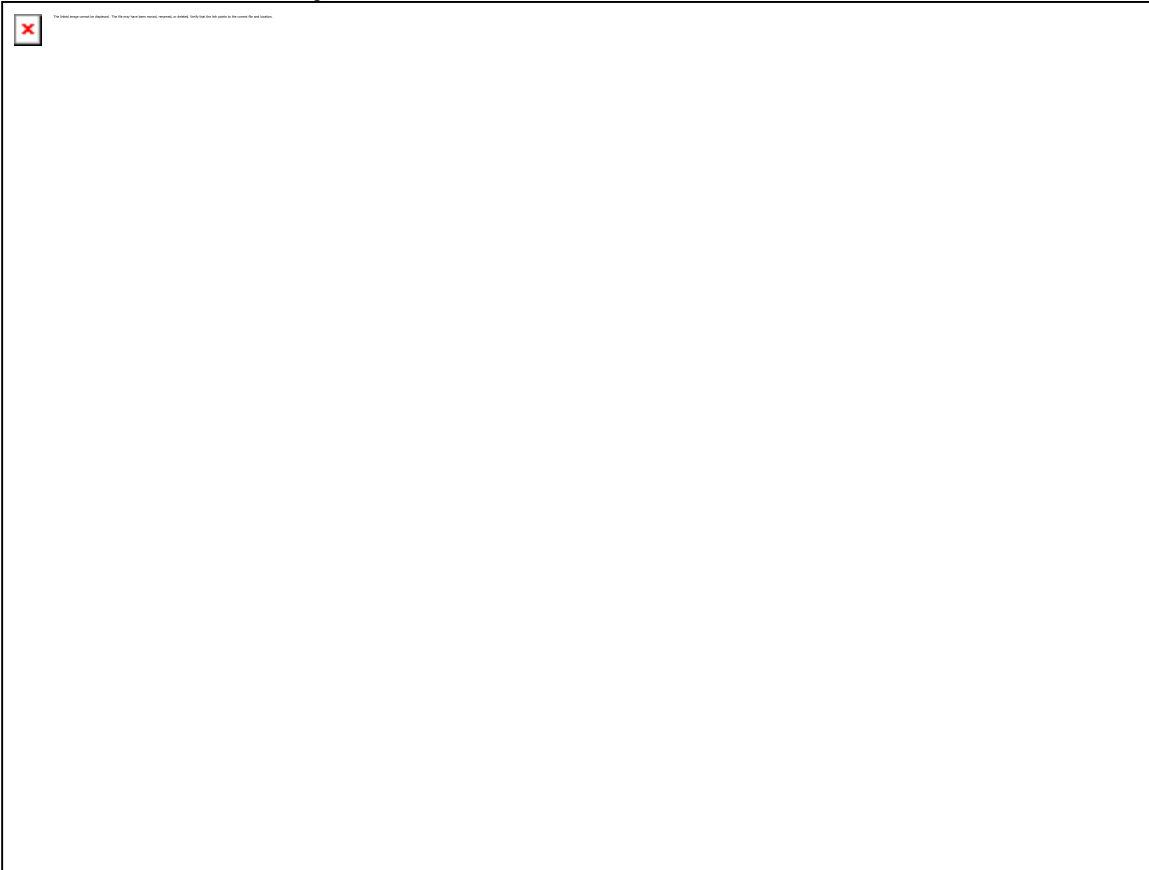
Woodstock, IL

July 23, 2007

11-July-2007 9:34 am, Woodstock

Well I am printing the last issue today. Heather has edited it for me so it is not full of my typos. After looking it over, it looks great to me. Thanks Heather!

I have been doing a little landscaping in the front yard. It looked a little bare with those trees gone. I started with Betsy's tree.



(Picture by Marty)

Well it's mine now. It was from my niece Betsy. It was just a twig when she gave it to me. It is a full-grown tree now. I think it is a wild cherry tree. If you know trees, take a look when you drive by and let me know what it is. I put a border around the trunk and a few pots with some green things in them. I have been very slow at doing any landscaping. Maybe now that I am retired I will do a little once in a while. There are many projects that I have started over the years. Maybe I might finish one once in a while.

The new people at Vaughan's are David, Tristan and Sharon. I have also heard about Trent, Sue and Chad. I guess I will start writing about them too. I have talked to David, Tristan and Sharon. It seems like us customers, along with the other help, are doing a good job of training them.

Today Sharon and David were figuring a price for a large order. And just like Bob and Shirley, they were not using a computer. Some things don't change.

Lucy has been waitressing on Tuesdays for 3 weeks now. I think she likes giving her Dad orders. Her dad is Pedro, and he works in the kitchen.

Something is going on with the Breakfast Club. The last few days no one has showed up but me. Wait, maybe it's me? What is going on Kim, Bill and Steve...what did I do?

Aunt Annie his been home with a cold or flu or something for about a week. She has her second doctor's appointment tomorrow. Everyone has wished her to get well soon. Get well soon Aunt Annie.

Mike is just about ready with his new book, Sicily's Historic Coast. To read about go to: <http://www.worksandwords.com/sicilybook.htm>. I read part of the draft copy while I was at his house in Germany last month. I may buy the first copy when it is ready.

Charles Schultz Philosophy

The following is the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the "Peanuts" comic strip. You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just read the thing straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners .

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with .

Easier?

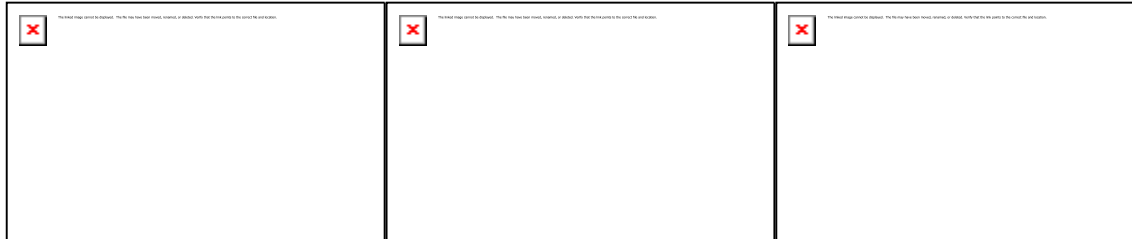
The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care .

Pass this on to those people who have made a difference in your life.

"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia " (Charles Schultz)

Thanks Arlene.

Mike and Petra will be back in the states in September. They will most likely relocate to California. They will be looking for a car. Mike says they are looking for a small station wagon kind of car. Below is a picture of their car now. It is for sale.



(Pictures from www.worksandwords.com)


**1998 Fiat 600
TÜV bis Juni/2009
Mit elektrischem Faltdach, CD player
vier neue Winterreifen, 105.000 km,
2500.00 €.**

Sorry, it is in German. The car is in Germany, hence it is in German. I think they are looking for something larger than this. Maybe like a Ford Escort Wagon size of a car.

12-July-2007

After Shirley and Bob sold Vaughan's and took off to the beach, we all figured they would check in regularly as the did before when they would go on vacation. Well, the head of rumor control told me that they have been calling in 2-3 times a day. Before I put this in the newsletter, I checked. Right after closing there were a few calls, this is normal. But since they went to the beach, I can only find one time they have called Vaughan's. It was right after the power outage. Somehow they knew about that. Bob and Shirley just keep enjoying your beach house. You can see how it is going when you get too sun burnt and have to return to the north to cool off.

Thinking about cooling off, the weather has been quite warm around here. In June there was 3 days that broke 100 °, the 14th, 16th and 17th. In July there has been 3 days already the 7th, 8th and 9th. It is only the 12th and they are calling for more heat soon. There were 6 days in July last year over 100 °. Only 3 days in 2005 and none in 2004.

I found out what happened to the Breakfast Club today when I delivered the newsletter. One has been on jury duty, and the other two went to  and

I have been trying to figure out how to print the newsletter like a book. Something like the "Chicago Suntimes" only smaller. I went out and downloaded some software to see how it is done. After doing that, I found if I converted the file to a PDF, I could do it with what I have. I do not need anything new. The newsletter might look a little bit better as a small booklet than loose pages. I will try this with the issue. Let me know what you think.

I think I will see how my garden is doing that I planted before I went to Europe. I'll bet it's full of weeds...yup, weeds. I got rid of most of them. Bugs ate some of them and grass consumed some. Some just never showed. Carrots look good. It might be time to redo the soil.

Cathy, Aunt Annie's daughter-in law, called and said that Aunt Annie is in the hospital. She has been fighting a cold or flu for a week. The doctor put her in the hospital and it looks like it might be Pneumonia. I talked to her for a while and she said she will know more tomorrow.

7:30 pm Vaughn's

I let everyone know about Aunt Annie. They all wished her well.

Things were strange out there at this time of night. It was like a big party was going on. I hope I was invited because I was there. I usually am not out there this late. I wonder if there is a party ever evening. Anila invited me for tomorrow night around the same time.

In case you don't know what Pneumonia is here is what I found on the Internet:

Pneumonia is an illness of the lungs and respiratory system in which the alveoli (microscopic air-filled sacs of the lung responsible for absorbing oxygen from the atmosphere) become inflamed and flooded with fluid. Pneumonia can result from a variety of causes, including infection with bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites, and chemical or physical injury to the lungs. Typical symptoms associated with pneumonia include cough, chest pain, fever, and difficulty in breathing. Diagnostic tools include x-rays and examination of the sputum. Treatment depends on the cause of pneumonia; bacterial pneumonia is treated with antibiotics

[Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumonia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumonia)

Friday-the-13th July-2007

I was out visiting Aunt Annie at the hospital today. She seems to be in good spirits. I think she will get well soon.

No Friday the thirteen stuff has happened yet. Wait, I went to Wal-Mart and I used checkout number 13. Nothing bad happened for me. Email me your Friday the thirteen happenings at the email address on the bottom of the page.

Tomorrow is Sharon's birthday. Well, after this is printed it won't be tomorrow any more. Today's tomorrow is July 14th. Let me know early if you want some one's birthday in the newsletter due to the randomness of this newsletter.

Here are the birthdays for the newsletter players that I know about for July and August:

| <u>July</u> | | <u>August</u> | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|-------|
| 7 | Doris | 9 | Tammy |
| 9 | Diane | 23 | Mary |
| 14 | Sharon | | |
| 30 | Aunt Annie | | |

I can't find my list. I know there are more than these. If you want me to post someone's birthday please email me.

From RV Travel Newsletter

Bumper Snicker

"Four out of Three People Have Trouble with Fractions"

"So many stupid people, and so few asteroids. "

Worth Pondering

"Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories" -- John Wilmot

"A true friend is someone who is there for you when they would rather be someplace else." -- Len Wein

Source: <http://rvtravel.com> Issues 283 & 284

14-July-2007

Talked to Aunt Annie around lunchtime. She is doing much better and hoping to get out Monday.

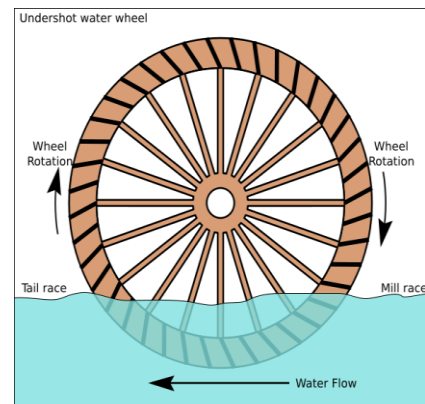
16-July-2007

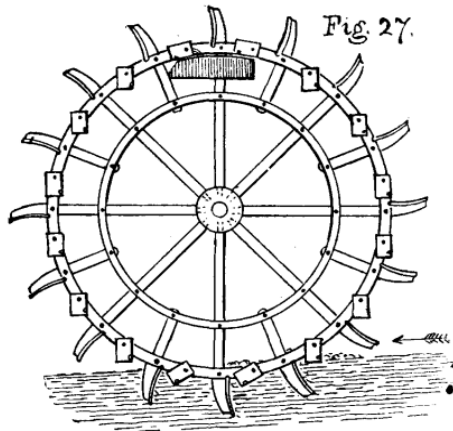
Well part of the Breakfast Club was back this morning. Two of them were missing. I guess there job commitment is more important. There is a good possibility that we will all be back in the morning. Hope I remember to wake up on time.

Aunt Annie went home this morning. When I talked to her, she was tired. Tired from being the hospital that is. After being there just a week ago myself, I can relate to that. Just laying around for a week makes you tired.

She called me tonight and said her roommate was Mary's mother. I thought Mary's mother lived in Michigan? She said she thought that too. Maybe we are not talking about the same Mary? So Mary is your mother's name Etlel? Does she live in Woodstock and go to Vaughan's? Or is this some other Mary's mom?

I want to build a water garden with a river and a water wheel that lifts water. I am thinking the water wheel could be around 18" in diameter and it might look some thing like this:





(Pictures from: Google images)

18-July 2007

Rachel was telling me that they took her 3 kids to the Renaissance Faire in Kenosha. I guess the five of them had a great time. I have never been there myself. I went to their website and I see you can download discount coupons there. Check it out if you are so inclined. Here is what they look like:



Source:<http://www.renfaire.com/bristol/index.php>

After returning from dinner at Vaughan's tonight we got hit with some rain. In the last 1-1/2 hours we have got about 1-3/4 inches of rain. Where does all this rain go? It is not in my basement.

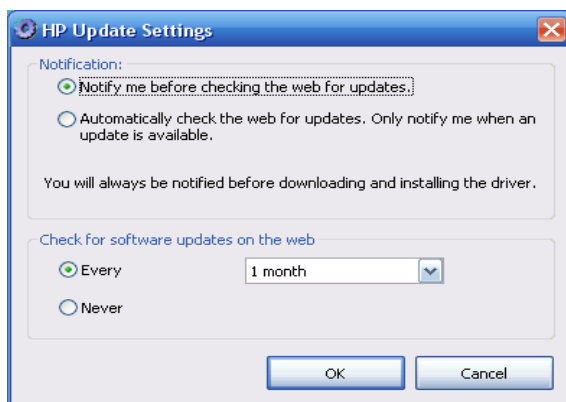
19-July-2007 7:59 am, Woodstock 70 ° F

I just came back from breakfast and checked the rain gauge in the garden. It shows 2-1/4 inches of rain. My weather station showed 1.82 inches. Is there that much difference

between the roof and the garden? The rain gauge in the garden is one of those plastic tubes with the numbers on the side marked every half-inch. The rain gauge on the weather station is one those fancy weather instruments that measure rain water to 0.01 inches. Which one should we believe? When it dries off a little I will check out the one on the roof and make sure it isn't full of leaves or spider webs or bird poop or something.

While I was having breakfast, Kim was messing with this jackass and then later was getting a charge out of these other guys. John was having trouble with the HP update program eating his racehorses on his computer. I told him just disable it and see what happens. You can always turn it back on. On my HP computer it is in the "HP Solution Center" area. I found this in [Start], [Run], [All Programs], [HP Solution Center]. Then [HP Software updates], [Settings]. In that window I can make settings for when I want it to run. Mine is set like this:

I want my HP update to operate, but only once a month. I also want it to let me know before it does anything. The reason I want it to run is to remind me that there might be an update of fixes for my HP related programs. HP has a lot more people working on fixes and upgrades. When there is one, I might want to download the update to keep my computer running as good as it can. It is like taking you car for a tune up. When you drive it every day, you do not see the slow changes happening and a tune up will help some of these things. If

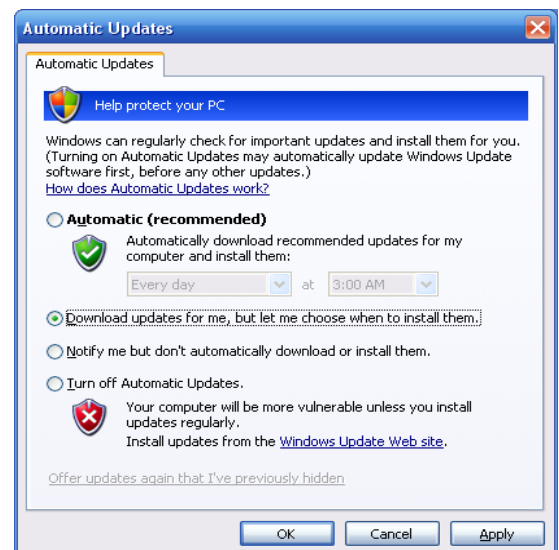


you have a dial up connection to the Internet, you would also want this setting so it doesn't just dial up on its own. Setting it to "Never" is disabling it, and then you would have to do it manually. The other reason I have mine set this way, is so I know when it is running. Sometimes the computer will get slow or seem to lock up even though all it is doing is updating itself. If you know when it starts checking you will know what might be making it slow for a while.

There is also a Microsoft update program that deals with the Microsoft stuff. I also have this set to notify me when there are updates. I let this go out and get the updates and then let me know when there are some to install. In all the years I have been using the Microsoft updates, I have never had one that messed me up. If you do, you can always uninstall them. You get to the Microsoft automatic updates by going to [Start], [Control Panel], Automatic Updates. My setting looks like this:

You could turn this off if you want. If you do, you will not get the updates automatically. If you are on a dial up connection, you might want to have the "Notify me but..." selected. This will not download the update until you are ready. Some of them are very large and will take a long time to download.

If you have it turned off you can do it manually by opening up Internet Explorer and going to [Help] or [Tools] and clicking on Windows updates. This might be in other places depending on which version of Internet Explorer you are using. You may have to look around for



it. Or you could go to Microsoft's web site and find it there.

I try to keep my computer tuned and updated as often as I can. There are security patches that will also help to keep it running smoothly. I also keep my Anti Virus program updated. I have this automatically updated. I do not want to get any virus on my computer and have it in the hospital to get fixed.

10:30 am

While I was retuning home in the car I was listening to the "Cathy & Judy" show on WGN.

They were asking people: "What is the meaning of life to you?" I thought that would be a good question to ask my readers. So here is the deal. I would like you to email me or write it on a piece of paper and give it to me. This may be different for every person. If I get any replies to this question, I will put them in one of the upcoming newsletters. It can be real or funny or just whatever you have to share. I will not put your name on it unless you want me to. You don't even need to have me know who you are if you don't want me to know.

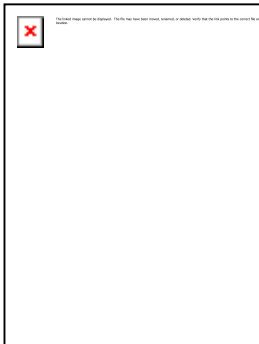
You can give me almost anything you would like to share with the readers. As always, I will only use your name if you tell me it is ok. I just ask that you give me your news through email if you can, so I don't have to retype it. I know some of you do not have computers, so for you I will take it written on paper. I can read a little yet. Email me at: thoughts@doerofthings.com



(Pictures from: Google images)

3:17 pm

I just got an email from Mike. He has his new book ready. It is called "Sicily Historic Coasts." Here is a short description from his email:



"Take a look, read about it, and view a preview at <http://www.WorksAndWords.com/sicilybook.htm>. Then consider buying it and coming with me as I make my way around the coast of Sicily from Palermo to Palermo visiting extinct cities, collections of ancient coins, Mt. Etna (Europe's largest volcano), and many other corners of this island with a thousand faces. Walk with me through this series of essays and pictures, each a snapshot of a town, a city, a train, a beach, a haphazard pile of rocks--each a glimpse current life, of a long ago civilization, of Sicilian nature. They are my view of an October, turn-of-the-century Sicily."

20-July-2007

Kim was telling me this morning that today was her favorite radio station 7-20 or AM 720 WGN Radio. Wow, I just checked out the WGN Radio Web site and they know today is "720 Day" too. Nice Kim.



I got up late today 7:20 am I think it was. It was a fantastic morning for walking, so I walked out for breakfast. I should do that more often. I guess the only thing that keeps me from doing it is the car. I walk out the back of the house and there is sits. The door pops open and I jump in and away I go. Once I can

change that habit... well you know. Wait I got up at 7:20 today! Hummm... Pick-3 time! For a buck, why not?

7:00 pm

I got Aunt Annie to go to dinner at Vaughan's tonight. This is the first time in over two weeks. She is feeling much better though she says she still has a ways to go. When I took her home she said that she might stay home tomorrow because she was a little tired. I was the same way after I laid around in the hospital a couple of weeks ago. It takes a while to get back near normal. Rest up Aunt Annie.

At the restaurant there was a couple there that we were trying to figure which was the guy and which was the gal. He looked a little like a female and she looked a little like male. Yes, we didn't have anything better to talk about. We got 5-6 people trying to figure this out. Then they left. Guess it was a slow night.

Oh, I forgot to stop and get my lottery ticket. Hope I was right when I didn't get the ticket. This morning the Pick-3 drawing was 7-8-8. Maybe 720 will still come up.

21-July 2007

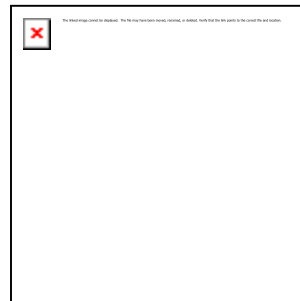
One third of summer is over with. On the bright side there are 60 more days of summer.

I checked yesterday evening's Pick-3 numbers and they were 8-7-3. So I guess I saved a buck by not playing.

This morning at breakfast, Chad told me since the Cubs were doing so well I should put something in the newsletter. What can I say about the Cubs? Let's see...

Chicago Cubs Web Site: <http://chicago.cubs.mlb.com>

- ***They have won more than they have lost 51 wins, 44 loses or 53.7%***
- ***They are in second place in the National League Central***
- ***They are in sixth place in the National League out of 16 teams***
- ***They are only 10 teams wining more than losing out of all 30 teams in both leagues***
- ***Best of all they are doing better than the White Sox! Sorry you White Sox fans!***



**(Cubs logo from: <http://www.hoinews.com/uploadedImages/whoi/Sports/Stories/Chicago%20Cubs.jpg>)
(Sox Logs from: <http://www.celebopedia.com/chicago-white-sox/images/chicago-white-sox.jpg>)**

3:47 pm

It looks like Aunt Annie is going to be back to normal soon. She drove herself to lunch today. And I walked out for lunch and hitched a ride home from her.

The editor, her daughter and mother are out of town this weekend seeing mother, grandmother and great grandmother. So I might as well put one into these pages.

22-July-2007

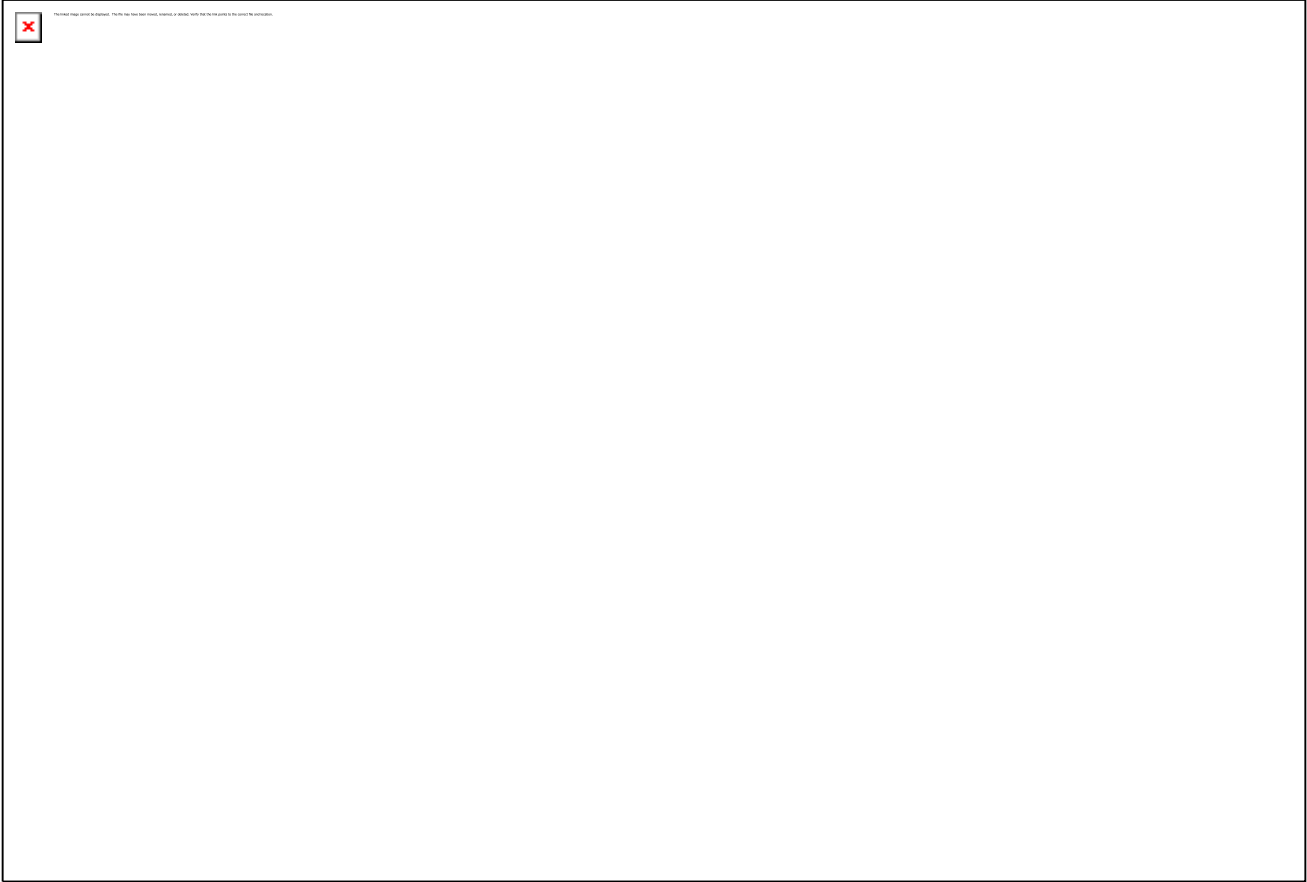
I went to Walgreen's with Aunt Annie this afternoon and I saw a display full of "Church keys". I said to Aunt Annie that these "Church keys" look neat. But what do people use them for now-a- days? The guy in the check out lane said he bet most people don't even know what a "Church key" is used for. So if you know what a Church Key is used for and you are under, say 30 years old, you can get some fancy ones at Walgreen's in the check out lane next to the west wall.

23-July-2007

This brings this issue to an end. I haven't got any more Random Thoughts for this issue. Well, maybe just a Random Thought from the Internet. This one will do:

"It's always in the last place you look. Well no kidding, you stop looking once you find it."

And I leave you with this sweet picture.



And some blank space for you.

***The Random end,
Marty***