

# Marty's Random Thoughts

**I have  
Random  
Thoughts**

Be carful Your thoughts could go  
random too!

Printed  
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## Random Big Stories

- Mike & Petra, See Stories: "New Car in the Family"; pg 1, "The Nomads have Left"; pg2 and 7
- Guess I am in trouble now, See Story: "Spelling Names"; pg 5
- Pickup News, See stories "Pickup is still here"; pg 9, "Pickup and Motorhome" and "Exercise"; pg 12

## Birthday List

Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec	
1st	Bob	3rd	Matt	1st	Tristan	1st	Jimmy
13th	Dennis	18th	David	2nd	Erik	4th	Bill
15th	Anila	23rd	Tom	12 <sup>th</sup>	Olivia	6th	Ryan
15th	Corky	23rd	Annette			12th	Melody
17th	My Dad					12th	Marty
18th	Edie					12th	Teri
30th	Cork & Diane's Anv.					12th	Linda's Sister



If you don't see you birthday and you want to make sure I have then let me know.

My master list is at <http://www.martysthoughts.info/randomthoughts/html/Birthdays.html>

## 12-Sep-2007 1:38pm 63°

Very nice day out there guys. You want to try to go out and enjoy these before Summer returns.

## New Car in the Family

Looks like Mike and Petra might be leaving tomorrow for California. They are sorting through things and packing their new car. They bought a Honda Fit that looks some thing like this one.

It this is a new model for Honda this year. I got a ride in it up to the square and it is nice and roomy inside. And the seats lay down flat so they could make it into a camper of sorts. ☺ I only road uptown to the Square so I am not sure how the ride is. It seemed ok for the 6 blocks I rode in it. It is not yellow, but I think they like it anyway. That is it in the picture. Petra says it is her first new car ever. She is all excited. She was wiping my finger prints off the door already.

**13-Sep2007 noon 70°**

Fantastic outside!

### **The Nomads have Left**

Mike and Petra just left the driveway for points west. They kind of are planning to go via US 14 and see the sites on the way to California. They were saying they might be there in 3-6 weeks. Their plans are open much as mine might be when I am on vacation. I was going to ride along but the new car is full. I do not think there was enough room for an extra can of Coke. This is their home for now.

**8:30pm**

### **From My Notebook**

I carry a notebook around with me and sometimes I forget to put my notes in the Newsletter. So it is cleanup time.

Date	Notes
Jul 4th	I have John's phone number. Who is this?
Jul 30th	Paint the Garage. I guess that is for me. And the area is 704 Sq Ft.
	Lucy's birthday was Apr 4 and she will be 18
No Date	Here is one with out a date. "When babies are teething, you get a bottle of Jack Denali's on their gums. Then you have the parents drink the rest."
Aug 5th	Questions for the psychic: What will the future health bring? When will have to start working again? What changes are coming I need to know about? What do I need to learn right now?
No Date	What is a trundle?
Sep 11th	Woops! I put ketchup on my hot dog. Not half bad. Next thing you know I will be putting it on my French Fries. I think not! ☺
Aug 16th	Jenae's birthday is March 1st, 1990
Aug 17th	Did not get my Spot 1:40pm
	Why do those water glasses have 7 sides?
Aug 18th	Voviollca does not spell here name "B-o-z-o"
	Sharon scarfed up the newsletter!

That got rid of 3/4 of the pages in that note book.

**14-Sep 2007 12:46am 60°**

### **Long Morning**

This morning I went to The Three Brothers to see that bunch. They have been on vacation for what seems like forever. They were busy or in a hurry. I only got a little catch up time. On the way home I saw no cars at Vaughan's, so I stopped to see if it was open. Mary said that they had just left. I had some coffee, visited and then left. Then I went to fix a printing problem Steve told me about. Then I could have walked to Kim's and stopped for coffee there.



### **Help supply me with ink cartridges.**

I have to get ink for the printer from time to time. If you have any old **HP ink cartridges #56(Black), #57(Tri-color), or #58(Photo)** you do not want, may I have them? It would be great! If you want to donate them. Please put them in a zip lock bag and give them to me when you see me. I only want the one you no longer want. I will either recycle them or have them refilled and reuse them. I use about 3 a month. Refills are working for me and it keeps my cost down. I had the last one refilled at Walgreen's. It as easy as having photos processed. If you donate I will put you on my supporter list.

*I am not looking for money here,  
just your old ink Cartridges if you  
no longer need them.*

**Marty**

I then saw Pedro. He looked relaxed and happy. Oh, maybe I didn't tell you that Pedro and Lucy no longer work at Vaughan's. Both of them needed a change. Back to my long morning. Then I drove by Vaughan's. Well, I drove to Vaughan's to see if I missed anything. Guess I missed nothing. When I left there, someone blew a horn at me. Guess that guy didn't think I had room when I pulled out in front of him. You know what the traffic is like on Route 47! I was in a hurry and I had room! Down the road there was car for sale. The guy in front of me decided to turn around in the middle for the lane and go look at it. Wait, I am still not to Lake Street. There is a little more yet. The next guy in front of me unlatched his trunk and it came open. I had the window open and heard the click when it released. I thought someone was going to jump out and say: "Surprise!" Nothing happened, just the trunk opened. I turned on Lake Street and came home after that and nothing else happened. Oh, yes something did happen. I just told you about pulling out in front of that guy. In the mail, I got a good driver's renewal form for my driver's license. Maybe I was right. I did have room to pull out in front of that guy.

### **15-Sep-2007 07:42am 35°**

Boy is it cold! I show it got down to 34.7° at 6:30 am this morning, but it sure looks like frost on the roof next door. I better have some hot oatmeal for breakfast to keep me warm.

### **Birthday's Today**

Corky and Anila are sharing birthdays today. Happy Birthday! and Gëzuar Ditëlindjen!

### **RV Travel**

#### **Two-story motorhome. Yes, it's real!**

*Yes, this is an honest-to-goodness motorhome. Put a key in the ignition, turn it, and drive this double-decker down the highway. But be sure to watch out for low overpasses. This "RV" was seen at the 2007 Burning Man celebration in northern Nevada.*

#### **Trivia**

*Beards are the fastest growing hairs on the human body. If the average man never trimmed his beard, it would grow to nearly 30 feet long in his lifetime.*

#### **Bumper Snicker**

*"You're entitled to your own wrong opinion."*

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue293.shtml>



### **Publishing a book**

I went out to LuLu.com where Mike publishes his books and I did a sample run to see what you have to do to create a book. Other than the upload, it does not take a very long time to get it ready. Tell them it is private to start with. That's the only way you can see it. You create a title for your book. Say, "Marty's Random Thoughts 2007". Then you upload the file, say a MS Word doc file. It gets converted to a book file like a PDF file. You select a cover style and cover image. You can even give them your picture for the cover. At this point you can buy a copy or download it to review and make changes as you will. When you are happy you can release it to the world to buy. They do more than just books at LuLu.com. I will be using them for my book on my trip to Europe. Think about that I think I have to get back working on it.

**16-Sep-2007 11:32am 63°**

### **Sometimes I'm Slow**

People have been telling me about Joseph's Marketplace in Crystal Lake for a long time. This morning I went down and checked it out. It is a small food store about the size of Wisted's in Woodstock. The difference is the amount fresh foods there and the size of the deli! There is almost anything you could think of there. There is something there for everyone, much as I saw when I was in Europe. If you are from Europe you will feel right at home. I will be going back to Joseph's. So I got some sweet potatoes and I am cooking up one now. Oh, they had white potatoes there that were white. I never saw potatoes that were that white! If you want to check out Joseph's they are in the old shopping plaza on West Virginia Street (US 14) in Crystal Lake.

### **Cooking Sweet Potatoes**

First I put a pan of water on the stove to start it boiling. While I wait for the water to heat, I wash the sweet potatoes and cut them into pieces about 1" thick. Then I cut them in half the other way. This makes the pieces about 1" by 2" and all about the same size. This way all the pieces cook in about the same time. Then I put them in the pot to boil for 15-20 minutes or until tender. Under cook them and they are still hard. Cook them too long and you get a mushy mess. I leave the skins on while I cook them. If cooked just right, the skins just fall off of them. When you are happy with the way they are cooked, you can dump the water and remove the skins. Now just add salt and pepper if you like, and eat them. I like butter too. Sweet potatoes are good with sugar too.

You kind of cook sweet potato like any potato. Try it, you might like it.

**17-Sep-2007 11:36am 69°**

Today was My Dad's, Lawrence Metras' (AKA Tom) birthday. Happy Birthday Dad!! He would be 96, if he was still living. I searched through old pictures and found this one dated 1968. This would be about 14 years before he died.

If someone in the family would like a full size copy of this I can email you the file. The picture is about 4"x4" and the file size is 79K. Just let me know.



### **Traffic**

Normally I am on time or early for appointments. This morning I was running late for a 9:00 am appointment. At 8:40 am I figured I would be ok. Well there is a lot of traffic at 8:30-9:00 am. At Newell and McHenry, cars were backed on McHenry from the six corners (Rt. 47) to Madison. Then the traffic on Route 47 was very heavy too. Kind of what it was like when I returned from work. I was on time but it almost took 15 minutes to go about five miles.

**18-Sep-2007 6:44pm 81°**

Today is my sister, Edie's, birthday. Happy Birthday wherever you are!

### **Air Conditioner**

Tom was here today working on getting the A/C compressor put back together and running. It is all back together. I am running it tonight and see how it is running. Yes, I know I do not really need the A/C tonight. I am just checking it out. We need to know if it does the job. I told Tom I need to get it cold enough to make ice cubes. Well, 68° if I want. Tonight I will try for 75° Tomorrow I will try a little cooler. If I can get it down to 68° and hold, I will know it is working well. Then I can put it back to 78° or whatever.



## Spelling Names

Couple issues back I asked if I had Tristan's names spelled correctly. I got told by 3-4 people tonight it is spelled "T-R-I-S-T-A-N" not "Triston" or "Tristin". I'm sorry I didn't get it the first time. As you all should know, I can't spell. Most names get through the spell check programs unchecked. So now I know how to spell Tristan. If any other names are spelled wrong please, please let me know. Your name belongs to you and sometimes you have to help me out with the spelling.

## Party night

I got called this morning and was told I had to go to Vaughan's. The message was something like; "There is this fruit that is like an apple but not an apple and not a peach, or a pear. Not sure what it is. You need to come out and tell me what it is!" So being a good guy I figured I would go check it out. Later, Aunt Annie called and asked if I was going out there tonight. I told her I was...and so we did.

This fruit looked like an apple to me. It had a tag that said; "Quince". I thought that was the company. It looked like an apple, but it was hard. I did not taste it. Tom said it smelled like apple and tasted a little like an apple. Aunt Annie said it was so hard she almost couldn't bite into it. Sharon didn't like it. Anila said she eats them all the time, but did not know what it was. She gets them at Joseph's (I talked about them earlier). The name in Albanian was "Flua". Maybe spelling is "frutë" this would be "fruit". "Ftua" has no translation from Albanian to English. Maybe it is a brand name.

More on this Ftua quince, apple or whatever it is...I searched the Internet and I found this blog that asked the question :

"Where would you really like to be right now?" One of the blog replies were:

*"I would love to be doing some rock climbing in the Albanian mountains with my dad and my cousins like in the old days (10 years ago). We used to wake up at 3:30 in the morning and walk all the way up to the Antenas (tek mali Dajti), by 12:noon. Then we used to camp there all night in the wilderness, and collect wild raspberries, and 'kulumbri' (I'm not sure what the English translation is, but I don't think it's blueberry) We used to also dig for Salep roots... (my specialty), and then at night among other food we would BBQ quince fruit (ftua ose ftoj ne Shqip) on the camp fire, and listen to stories about hunting, and other sorts or legends, a lot of which will remain engraved in my mind for as long as I live. What a bliss that was!!! The wilderness, the quietness.... all you could hear at night was the voices of the animals far away and sometimes surprisingly close by, and the only lights were that of the moon and the fire casting big shadows in the cyclopically giant forest trees.*

*What an idyllic time that was. I can not wait to go and experience it again! I hope Dajti has not changed that much since I heard they had declared it a national Park. Thank God for that!!!! I also want to visit the deep Malesia e madhe mountains in the Northern Albania. my dad has been there and he says its even more magical and fairy tail-like than Dajti, because the nature is so much more extreme and wild... I have seen pictures and if it is even at least the same as Dajti and let me tell you, I can't think of a better place for spiritual and mental relaxation than those rugged mountains."*



Quince Apple

Note both "Quince" and "Ftua" words are in this. You Albanian will need to translate for the rest of us. Here is some more. Translation for "Quince" in Albanian is "Ftua". and Definitions of Quince on the Web:

*This yellow-skinned fruit looks and tastes like a cross between an apple and a pear. Its texture and flavor make it better cooked than raw. Its high pectin content makes it ideal for use in jams, jellies and preserves. Introduced to Latin America by the Spanish and/or Portuguese; looks like a large pear, but is hard and very sour; usually cooked with sugar, after which it becomes faint pink.*

Enough on this fruit.

After tasting new fruit we just sat around partying. It was very slow so we just were tasting the new soups and making a lot of noise.

### **19-Sep-2007 09:03am 66°**

I got up late this morning and missed coffee with the guys. I bet I will hear about that!

#### **Driver License Renewal**

Now you can renew your drivers license over the Internet. You pay a \$2.75 service fee along with the normal \$15.00 and they send you a sticker in the mail. This is really handy if you don't like standing in those long lines at the DMV. For you non-Internet people you can do it by mail or the phone too. And you can always go stand in line if you want. All you need to do is have the form they send you and not have anything wrong with your license where they might need to see you in person. The form letter tells you all of the details. So I guess I keep driving for the next 4 years. I think I will test drive my license by going out for breakfast.

#### **Narcissistic**

Sharon asked what the word "Narcissistic" meant this morning. I told that I thought it meant something like doing something bad to other people and liking it. So here is another Internet or dictionary lookup. I prefer the Internet because it is much faster for me. Here are a couple things I found. Definitions of **Narcissistic** on the Web:

- *egotistic: characteristic of those having an inflated idea of their own importance*
- *Narcissism is the pattern of characteristics and behaviors which involve infatuation and obsession with one's self to the exclusion of others and the egotistic and ruthless pursuit of one's gratification, dominance and ambition. In everyday use outside the field of psychology, the word generally refers to people who just are inordinately fond of themselves, without the pathological connotations.*

Source: Goggle search: "define: **Narcissistic**"

Also a short answer is: **Narcissism** describes the character trait of self love.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narcissistic>

Guess I missed on this one!

#### **Jelly, Jam, Preserves**

We were talking about coating our toast will jelly today and the question came up about jelly and jam. I know the different between them. Jelly is some what clear like Jell-O™ and Jam has some of the fruit in it. But what of preserves? What is the different between jelly, jam and preserves? One answer is:

**Jelly** consists of the fruit juice, and only fruit juice that is clear, having no fruit particles, once it has been strained through cheese-cloth. **Jam** has fruit parts in it, though not rind or peel. Grape jam has the inner grape parts, without the peeling. (That slimy, mucous-like part that is so sweet and good.)

Source: wiki.answers.com

Here is another answer:

**Jellies** are made only from the juice of fruit, and they are typically the stiffest type of fruit preserves.

As a rule, a **jam** is a thick puree, made from fruit pulp or crushed/mashed fruit.

**Preserves** are similar to jams, except that they consist of chunks of fruit (or even whole fruit) in a thickened syrup (for the sake of convenience, the terms "preserves" and "jam" are used interchangeably throughout this article).

Traditionally, **marmalades** are **preserves**, but they're citrus-based.

And a **conserve** is a jam made from a blend of fruits. Conserves usually contain some form of citrus, as well as nuts and/or raisins (many contain alcohol, as well).

Source: www.thenibble.com

So now you have an idea.

## Words of wisdom, or Not

*We all want all of our friends to tell us our bad qualities; it is only the particular jerk does so whom we can't tolerate.*

*A lobster never comes ashore without great risk of getting in hot water.*

*What can you expect from a day that begins with having to get out of bed in the morning?*

*There is always room at the top be the top keeps getting higher all the time.*

*There is nothing like frankness if you want to create you own lack of opportunities.*

*Blessed are they who believe in something, even if it is in nothing.*

Source: I find these on the bottom of the Menards flies I get in the mail.

## **20-Sep-2007 9:34am 61°**

### **Fall**

Fall starts tomorrow, doesn't it? I started my Fall cleaning the other day. Fall cleaning is outside, isn't it? Spring cleaning would be inside. My first was the pickup. I cleaned it out and contacted Kars-4-Kids to take it away. They say; "When you donate a car to Kars-4-Kids you will benefit Joy for Our Youth". I donated my old motorhome to them a couple years ago. This time they get my pickup. I like doing this because we all win. They help people and I do not have to deal with selling it, and I get a little tax break. This time I find I get a voucher for a free 2 night and 3 day hotel stay. So it looks like I almost get a free vacation. If you want to know more about Kars-4-Kids you can call them at (877) Kars-4-Kids that is (877) 527-7454 or you can call them at (877) 2-DONATE. For you Internet users you can get information at [www.kars4kids.org](http://www.kars4kids.org)

They say they pick the cars up in 24-72 hours. I am going on about 36 hours right now. I am guessing it will be gone by Saturday.



After 7 years, it will nice to have a little more room in the driveway. Or is that a parkway? I am sure I will miss my pickup. It came in handy. I didn't use it much, but I did put 2 tank of gas in it a year. Good-bye old friend!

*\* Accept that some days you're the pigeon,  
and some days you're the statue.*

Wow! I just checked and I bought the pickup a little over 7 years ago and only put 7500 total miles on it. In 2005, there were about 2500 of those miles at an average of 15.25 MPG. (that must have been the time Mike was using it).

### **The Nomads**

Mike called to let me know all is well with their site seeing on their way to California. After visiting friends in Stevens Point they headed to South Dakota. They tell me that they have been to Wall Drug, Badlands and are in the Black Hills today. Also the new car is doing fine. More news as it arrives.

## **21-Sep-2007 7:57am 64°**

For the first day of fall, it looks nice out there. No rain in the forecast until Monday. And if it needs to rain, Monday is a good day for it. That is unless it is wash day for you and you hang your clothes out to dry.

### **Are You Smarter**



At dinner someone asked if I watched "Are you smarter than a 5th grader?", I did not. One of the questions was; "Where is the Gobi dessert?" I guessed Africa. Of course I was wrong, and so was everyone else we asked. I was told it is in Asia. That is correct, but it is really in China, as I found one on the Internet. Here it is:

*The Gobi is a large desert region in China and southern Mongolia. The desert basins of the Gobi are bounded by the Altay Mountains and the grasslands and steppes of Mongolia on the north, by the Tibetan Plateau to the southwest, and by the North China Plain to the southeast. The Gobi is made up of several distinct ecological and geographic regions, based on variations in climate and topography. This desert is both Asia's largest and the fourth largest in the world. As shown in this picture.*

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gobi\\_Desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gobi_Desert)



We asked young and old and almost everyone said Africa. No one got it right. We asked college freshmen, 9th graders, random people and people we would have thought had the answer. Maybe 15 people total were asked. No one had the answer. So I guess we all are not smarter than a 5th grader.

I have a question for you. If the Gobi is the forth largest desert in the world, what are the first three? Anyone know?

## **22-Sep-2007 09:42am 57°**

It feels a little like fall out there this morning. Nice cool clear morning happening.

### **Breakfast**

While having breakfast at Vaughan's (by the way, I had hash and eggs, raisin toast and coffee) I was sitting there and the people just kept coming in and coming in. I think half of Woodstock was there before I left. Voviollca was telling me that she needs to be off this afternoon and evening. She has a baby shower to go to today and she hasn't bought a gift yet. And then there is a birthday party she needs to go to later too. So I guess we won't be seeing her for lunch today.

With them being so busy there it is hard for me to get gossip. Maybe I need to start making it up.

### **RV Travel**

Here are a few things I got from the RV Travel newsletter.

#### **Trivia...**

*The Old Farmer's Almanac says that based on the Moon's signs, the best day to go camping in October is on the 19th and 20th. And, in case you are interested, astrologically, the best days in October to begin potty training a child are the 6th and 10th.*

#### **Janet Groene's Recipe of the Week**

#### **Janet Groene's: Bread Pudding Breakfast**

*The toast can be stale, so make it at home if you like. Don't butter it. It will keep in a cool, dry place for up to a week.*

*10 pieces dry toast*

*Butter or margarine*

*2 bananas, sliced*

*8-ounce milk chocolate bar, broken up*

*1/3 cup brown sugar*

*2 eggs*

*1 cup milk*

*1 teaspoon vanilla*

*Butter the toast, cut it into 5 "fingers" then cut each finger into 5 pieces. Put in a buttered casserole for oven baking or a heavy pan (preferably cast aluminum) for stovetop baking. Scatter the chocolate pieces and banana*

*slices over the bread. Whisk together the sugar, eggs, milk and vanilla and pour carefully over the bread. Let stand about 15 minutes until the mixture soaks in. Bake at 350 degrees or until the custard tests done. Mixture will be puffy and golden on top. For stovetop baking, cover and place over a very low flame. Test after 20 minutes, then continue cooking if necessary until the custard is "set". Variation: substitute a well-drained can of sliced peaches for the bananas.*

For more tips and ideas for your camping and RVing life, see *Cooking Aboard Your RV*, 2nd Edition. (800) 262-4729 or go to

#### **Fire Safety Tip from Mac McCoy**



*Grease, oil, and road dust build up on the engine and transmission, making them run hotter. The grime itself usually doesn't burn, but if combined with a fuel leak or short-circuited wire, a fire could start. Keep your coach's underpinnings clean, and it will run cooler, more economically, and longer. (Hay kids, this is no just for RV's!)*

#### **Bumper Snicker**

*"I'm always late. My ancestors arrived on the Juneflower."*

#### **Worth Pondering**

*Any word you have to hunt for in a thesaurus is the wrong word. There are no exceptions to this rule. -- Stephen King*

Thank you RV Travel of letting me reuse some of your stuff again.

Source: <http://rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue294.shtml#>

#### **A Note from the Universe <sup>sm</sup>...**

*Do you know why you are you?*

*Because no one else could be.*

©www.tut.com

#### **24-Sep-2007 08:30pm 68°**

Yesterday was a day of rest. That is what Sundays are for, aren't they? I woke up and did not want to get up. So I went back to sleep. Finally, I thought it must have been 8:00 am because it was daylight. After I was up a little, I saw it was 11:00 am. Now that is sleeping in! So I skipped going out to breakfast and just went to lunch around 2:00 pm. I hung around visiting the with Aunt Annie until the party wore down. They were slow so we kind of were partying while we were there. I guess you can have a lot fun without beer when you are with fun people in a fun place.

#### **Pickup is still here**

They have not called to pick up the pickup yet. I guess I need to call and see what is happening. After all they said that it would be 24-48 hours or call them after 72 if I heard any thing. It was 4 days ago and nothing except the confirmation that I said they could have it.

#### **Today's plan**

I have to go get my blood tested to make sure it is nice in thin so I do not have another one of those unexpected trips to the hospital.

I have to decide who will be managing my money. After being retired for 6 months I need to get my 401-k into an IRA. Then I can start making some spending money with it. When you retire or leave a job you should move your retirement or pension from the employer into something you can have control over. I have been checking out a couple of money managers (financial planners) to help me with this. When I first retired, it seemed like the retirement

money mangers all knew that I retired on the same day. I had people come out of the wall telling me that they could help. One guy I had not seen in 10 years and he was here to renew our "old friendship" and "By the way I also am a financial retirement advisor." Where was he the last 10 years? So out of 5 I have two to choose from. One good thing about all this is that I learned that I could do this all myself. I also learned that I do not have the self-discipline to do it right now. Leave this financial management to the people that have much more experience and time to do it. So I need to decide which one gets to watch my money.

I need to take out the trash today. Tomorrow is trash day.

Today it is "Wash day", so I should wash something.

Maybe that is enough for today. After all, I did retire. I shouldn't have to do too many things in one day. After retiring from work I would have thought I would have an extra sixty hours a week to do things. I wonder where those 60 hours went. So maybe a few of them went to this newsletter. Maybe I will see if I can figure where those 60 hours went. Or maybe not!

## **25-Sep-2007 09:31am 72°**

### **Other plans**

Well, I got some of yesterday's stuff done. I still have that wash day stuff to do. Maybe that is really tomorrow.

### **Drivers License renewal**

Friday I got that sticker for my Driver's License. When I peeled the sticker off the backing all the paper stuck to it making it useless. I tried to use it but with no luck. I had to go the DMV (Drivers License place) and stand in line and let them figure what to do. Well, I had to get a new license. From the time I walked in the door until I left was 15-20 minutes. It was between 1:00-1:30pm. Why does ever one tell me it takes so long there? I think the most time I ever spent there was a half hour.

### **They missed me.**

Anila and Sharon called me because they missed me. I guess I need to call in more often.

### **Wow, Rain!**

It just started to storm! I can not see the street! It is 2:34 pm. Woops, mail is still out there....Well that is nice in wet! Well that isn't off bad, it is mostly junk mail. The rain didn't last long, 10-minutes and it is all over. We got only a total of 0.14 inches of rain.

## **26-Sep-2007 10:55am 55°**

We got a little bit of rain yesterday. This month we have only received about 3/4 an inch. Nothing like the almost 11 inches last month. I think it is almost too dry now.

### **Back to School**

It isn't just the kids that have gone back to school this month. Sharon is taking a Class at MCC. Nora said she was going 2 nights a week. I have been thinking a thinking about taking a beginning class on Spanish. Maybe after the first of the year. You are never too old to learn new things. Even though I know it all, I still should learn to keep my mouth closed.

Maybe most of us have time for one class a year. I just flipped through the *MCC Continuing Education and College Events* schedule. Some of the classes at MCC are one day events. I see there is Beginning Guitar... woops too late for that one now. There is a class on Astrology that starts in October and how about Basic Golf? Here is one..."Tap Into Your Talent." It looks like a one day class in November. It says in part; "...We'll learn techniques to 'trigger' invigorating, fresh and exciting writing...." \$59.00, How about Belly Dancing, Aviation Ground School, or I Can Draw? For your old fart there are come Computer Basics for Seniors

and Internet for Seniors. There are also some outings in the "Sensational Trips and Tours" section to places like Drury Lane and I have seen some in the to Europe. I guess you need to look to see what they have to offer and see if it is right for you.

Oh, here is one I think is neat. It is a 5 hours course called "The National Safety Council's Flagger Training Course". I think you learn to stand in traffic at a construction site and flip those "GO/STOP" signs without getting run over. I guess you need to have the certification so best get one of these to stand in the hot sun and dodge cars all day.

### **Woodstock Archives**

Many years I bought a camcorder to archive Woodstock. That is to drive around the Square on the inside and just off of it and up and down Route 47 to video tape what is there. I would do this ever once in while just so I could look back and see what had changes over the years. I did that this morning again. It has been well over a year since I did this the last time. I do not spend a lot of time doing this as I just video tape out the window while I am driving. I have to get it copied on to a DVD so I can see what is there. Yes, this is another one of those projects that will be a while before it is finished.

I was checking the weather report for Woodstock and forgot to type in Illinois and it asked me which Woodstock. I did not know there was some many Woodstock's in the weather reporting area. Here is the list. I count 27! That is more than one for every other state. I think I

Woodstock, AL (Bibb County),	Woodstock, GA (Cherokee County),	Woodstock, VA (Shenandoah County),
Woodstock, MD (Baltimore County),	Woodstock, CT (Windham County),	Woodstock, NY (Ulster County),
Woodstock, VT (Windsor County),	Woodstock, NH (Grafton County),	Woodstock, OH (Champaign County),
Woodstock, MN (Pipestone County),	Woodstock, IL (McHenry County),	Woodstock, OR (Multnomah County),
Woodstock, UT (Salt Lake County),	Woodstock, TX (Bowie County),	Woodstock, TN (Shelby County),
Woodstock, SC (Charleston County),	Woodstock, VA (Northampton County),	Woodstock, PA (Franklin County),
Woodstock, NJ (Morris County),	Woodstock, WI (Richland County),	Woodstock, IN (Marion County),
Woodstock, KY (Pulaski County),	Woodstock, MO (St. Louis County),	Woodstock Court, DE (Kent County),
Woodstock Junction, AL (Tuscaloosa County),	Woodstock Valley, CT (Windham County),	Woodstock Village, UT (Salt Lake County)

should maybe go check them out. Anyone want to go along?

Oh, there are 3 Marty's too . ☺ Marty SD, OK, and MN

### **27-Sep-2007 09:04am 54°**

It got cool...wait, it got COLD last night. I show it was down to 48° before sunrise. That is not as cold as it got back on the 15th when it was 35° at 6:30 am in the morning. It looks like it might warm up a little between now and Monday.

### **Brakes**

Well Aunt Annie is going to get her brakes out this morning. She just called me and I am on standby to give her a ride if need be. Her brakes have been squeaking for what seems like forever since she had then checked a long, long time ago. I guess they have still been stopping the car ok. It is just the noise that we are all wondering about. Sometimes when she pulls in the drive I know it before I see her. Well, not quite. There is always something with the with these machines we drive.

### **Pickup and Motorhome**

Many people have been asking if they have picked up the pickup yet. They called and it should be leaving here today. We'll see if they show. Then I have this motorhome I need to take for a drive. I have to drive it to use up the gas before it goes bad. I think it is about a year it has been sitting in the tank. Gas does go bad when it sits for too long. I put stuff in the tank to help stop that from happening, but a year is a long time. I think some of us should go on a field trip just to burn off the old gas. I should be able to get 500 miles on the gas I have now. Where should I go? Where should we go?

I have  
Random  
Thoughts

**Car is back, Pickup is gone**

Aunt Annie took me for coffee to test out her new brakes and when I return the Pickup was finally gone. Good-bye old friend.

**28-Sep-2007 7:38am 47°**

Was that a full moon I saw in the western sky this morning? It was big sitting there in the clear sky. Isn't it the moon's job to light up the night skies? Isn't that where the term "moon lighting" came from? So I guess the moon is "sun lighting" today. ☺

**Exercise**

Now that the truck is gone I will get less exercise. The last thing in the drive is right next to the door now, which means less walking. When the truck was the last thing and I drove it, I would exercise one leg a little more because it was a stick shift. One arm would get more exercise because it did not have power steering. My hearing got better because no load radio blasting in my ear because the radio never worked. My body could adjust to the environment better because the air-conditioner never worked. And if it ever broke down and I didn't have the handy phone with me I would have to walk.

Now on the other hand, if I have to haul something now I will have to use the wheelbarrow and that will just break my back. Humm...does this mean I should seek out another pickup? Well, let's wait and see if I can live with out one. It was handy to have sitting around. I could go get that new water heater I need. It won't fit in the trunk of the car or through the door in the motorhome. And I need to get a pressure washer to prep the garage before I can paint it. and there are a couple boards I need to replace on the garage before painting. Marty, let it go! Wait until spring. Must be that full moon doing it to me. Go do some laundry or something.

**29-Sep-2007 09:52am 57°**

This page is getting full. And it is page 12 so it is a good time to cut off this issue. A parting thought - if you are looking for something or if you have something to give away or sell and you are not in a hurry, let me know and I will add it to the newsletter. Someone may be interested. I am going to start adding more pages and I will have a lot a space for things.

Until later, keep thinking those random thoughts. Marty

**Woops**

I went back and looked. And there was a big hole in the newsletter so I guess I have some more space to fill up. So here is some more stuff for you to read.

**Brakes**

Aunt Annie has to take her car back. The brakes make more noise than before they were fixed. Well, I think it is the brakes. The sound is coming from the rear of the car when she is stopping or as the car starts to roll, like when she starts to roll forwards. She is going to take it back at 1:00 pm, just before our lunch break. I will let you know the out come of this in the next issue. Unless I forget.



**Names in this issue**

I have indexed all the names in this issue and listed the page(s) they are located. I don't think I have missed any. If I miss one...sorry.

Birthday List, 2	My Dad, 2, 5	Jenae, 3	Nora, 11
Anila, 2, 4		John, 3	Pedro, 4
Corky, 2, 4	People List	Kim, 4	Petra, 2, 3
Dad, 5	Anila, 4, 6, 11	Lawrence, 5	Sharon, 3, 6, 7, 11
Dennis, 2	Aunt Annie, 12, 13	Lucy, 3, 4	Steve, 4
Edie, 2, 5	Aunt Annie, 6, 10	Marty, 2, 4, 12, 13	Tom, 5, 6
Lawrence, 5	Corky, 4	Mary, 4	Tristan, 6
The Random End, Marty	Edie, 5	Mike, 2, 3, 4, 8	Voviollca, 3, 9

**09-Oct-2007 11:43am****Added after returned from the editor.**

My newsletter got too long. to keep to 12 pages So I am adding a couple more pages.

I have added a first Page and a last page to get it to 16 pages. When I print this it works with 4, 8, 12, 16, etc, pages. This is # 14 so I think I will add the weather forecast and stop. then I can print it and get back to the next issue.

Like my thoughts right now this spot is a blank.

## **Weather Forecast**

Updated: 3:45 am CDT on October 9, 2007



### **Today**

Sunny until late afternoon then becoming partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the lower 70s. West winds 10 to 20 mph.  
» [ZIP Code Detail](#)



### **Tonight**

Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.



### **Wednesday**

Considerable cloudiness. Much colder. Highs in the lower 50s. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.  
» [ZIP Code Detail](#)



### **Wednesday Night**

Mostly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of showers after midnight. Lows in the lower 40s. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.



### **Thursday**

Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s. North winds 10 to 20 mph.  
» [ZIP Code Detail](#)



### **Thursday Night**

Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.



### **Friday**

Mostly sunny. Highs around 60.



### **Friday Night**

Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.



### **Saturday**

Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s.



### **Saturday Night**

Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.



### **Sunday**

Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.



### **Sunday Night**

Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s.



### **Monday**

Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

Weather Forecast came from: <http://www.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=60098>

**Good bye, Marty**

This page is also blank for you to add your thoughts.