

## Table of content

<b>BIRTHDAY LIST.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SNOW REPORT.....</b>	<b>2</b>
December .....	2
<b>01-DEC-2007 .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Birthday.....	2
<b>02-DEC-2007 6:01PM 30°.....</b>	<b>2</b>
Weather .....	2
<b>3-DEC-2007 YESTERDAY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>04-DEC-2007 9:52AM 27° .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Birthday.....	3
05-Dec_2007 8:00am 19°.....	3
Birthday.....	3
Snow Report 21° .....	3
Snow Update Still 21° .....	3
<b>06-DEC-2007 7:35AM ONLY 5° .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Christmas get to gather.....	3
Birthday get together.....	4
<b>07-DEC-2007 9:00AM 27° SNOW 1-2" ..</b>	<b>4</b>
Strange last 24 hours .....	4
Fifty Dollar Tip or Not.....	4
<b>8-DEC-2007 12:57PM 16°.....</b>	<b>5</b>
Keeping Warm .....	5
<b>09-DEC-2007 8:14AM 16° .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Birthday.....	6
Firewall .....	6
<b>10-DEC-2007 9:19AM 21° .....</b>	<b>6</b>

Question .....	6
Anila told me to write this .....	6
Baby Jesus .....	6
<b>11-DEC-2007 9:57AM 30° RAIN.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>12-DEV-2007 9:45AM 20° CLEAR .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Birthdays .....	7
<b>13-DEC-2007 10:17AM 28° OVERCAST7</b>	<b>7</b>
1952 Green Giants.....	8
Birthday.....	8
<b>14-DEC-2007 10:09AM 13° SUNNY.....</b>	<b>8</b>
Birthday .....	8
Winter.....	9
<b>15-DEC-2007 12:15PM 26° SNOWING ..</b>	<b>9</b>
Snowing .....	9
11:59pm 24° .....	9
<b>16-DEC-2007 9:01AM 14° 7-8" SNOW ..</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>19-DEC-2007 1:51PM 29° .....</b>	<b>9</b>
RV Travel Newsletter.....	9
Trivia. ....	9
Bumper Snicker.....	9
Worth Pondering.....	9
Trivia. ....	9
RV from 1929 at nation's capital	9
Trivia. ....	10
Bumper Snicker.....	10
Worth Pondering.....	10
Ice Storm in Kansas.....	10
Beer .....	11
<b>22-DEC 2007 5:54PM 4° FOG .....</b>	<b>12</b>

RV Travel newsletter.....	12
Survey .....	12
Trivia. ....	12
Bumper Snicker.....	12
Worth Pondering.....	12
Seeing Strange Pictures. ....	12
<b>23-DEC-2007 9:59AM 12° WINDY .....</b>	<b>12</b>
Number 3 on the list .....	12
It is Windy.....	13
9:33pm 16° and Windy.....	13
<b>25-DEC-2007 9:00AM 20° .....</b>	<b>13</b>
Christmas Lunch .....	13
<b>29-DEC-2007 11:57AM 25° .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Snow.....	14
Smoking .....	14
Smoke Free Illinois Act.....	14
<b>30-DEC-2007 10:04PM 29° .....</b>	<b>14</b>
RV Travel newsletter.....	14
Trivia. ....	14
Bumper Snicker.....	15
Worth Pondering.....	15
Gas @ \$4.00 / Gallon .....	15
<b>01-JAN-2008 10:08 21° .....</b>	<b>15</b>
New Years Resolutions.....	15
From the Farmers almanic.....	16
<b>BIRTHDAY .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>THE EDITOR.....</b>	<b>16</b>

## Birthday List

Dec		Jan		Newly added birthdays to the list		
1st	Jimmy W, Steve M	1st	Ned H	Dec	4th	Oscar
4th	Bill W	6th	Kim M	Dec	3rd	Donna, Steve's Sister
6th	Ryan S	15th	Tonya M			
9th	Flow	16th	Mike M			
12th	Marty	23rd	Ethan H			
12th	Teri	26th	Cheli M			
12th	Linda's Sister	31th	Steve B			
12th	Melody					
13th	Arben					
14th	Ed					

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>

**Snow Report**

This is the weather report not just snow.

**December**

DAY	MEAN TEMP	HIGH	TIME	LOW	TIME	HEAT DEG DAYS	COOL DEG DAYS	RAIN	AVG WIND SPEED	HIGH	TIME	DOM DIR
1	23.6	32.1	12:00m	16.7	5:30a	40.5	0.0	0.88	1.1	20.0	7:30p	ESE Rain, Wet Snow 2-3"
2	32.9	37.9	10:00a	24.1	12:00m	32.1	0.0	0.11	3.5	29.0	11:30p	W
3	21.4	25.7	2:00p	14.7	8:30a	43.6	0.0	0.00	4.1	28.0	2:00a	W
4	23.3	30.7	4:00p	17.4	4:00a	41.7	0.0	0.15	0.8	8.0	6:00a	N Snow Started
5	18.7	25.5	4:00a	8.7	11:00p	46.3	0.0	0.04	3.8	19.0	9:30a	N Snow about 6 inches
6	14.9	24.4	1:00p	3.7	7:00a	50.1	0.0	0.06	0.5	13.0	12:30p	S
7	24.9	29.5	3:00p	18.9	11:30p	39.3	0.0	0.01	1.6	13.0	2:00p	WSW Snow 1-1/2 to 2"
8	13.5	19.7	12:30a	7.3	8:30a	51.5	0.0	0.03	1.9	11.0	9:30a	N
9	18.5	22.8	4:00p	14.1	12:30a	46.5	0.0	0.01	2.6	12.0	8:00a	N
10	24.8	30.6	3:00p	18.6	7:00a	40.2	0.0	0.00	0.2	7.0	4:00a	N
11	29.3	33.9	12:30p	25.8	12:00m	35.7	0.0	0.57	0.0	5.0	2:00a	SW Rain
12	23.1	29.5	2:00p	18.6	8:30a	41.9	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0---		---
13	26.7	28.9	11:00a	23.8	12:00m	38.3	0.0	0.00	0.9	14.0	11:30p	SSW
14	16.8	23.9	12:30a	10.9	9:00a	48.2	0.0	0.00	1.5	13.0	12:30a	SSW
15	23.1	29.1	3:00p	15.2	12:30a	41.9	0.0	0.16	1.2	11.0	10:30p	SSW
16	18.8	24.5	2:00a	14.3	9:30a	46.2	0.0	0.02	4.0	19.0	8:00a	SSW Snow 7-8"
17	17.4	21.6	2:00p	14.3	4:00a	47.6	0.0	0.00	2.5	15.0	1:00p	SSW
18	26.0	34.7	2:00p	17.7	12:30a	39.0	0.0	0.00	1.8	15.0	2:30p	SSW
19	22.8	29.3	2:30p	17.2	8:30a	42.2	0.0	0.00	0.8	9.0	12:30a	WSW
20	29.5	38.8	3:00p	21.2	12:30a	35.5	0.0	0.03	0.7	15.0	9:30p	SE
21	33.1	35.8	1:30p	31.6	5:30a	31.9	0.0	0.01	0.4	10.0	2:30a	SE
22	38.6	43.1	11:30p	33.1	12:30a	26.4	0.0	0.03	1.6	16.0	8:30p	SE
23	20.5	45.4	3:30a	11.2	12:00p	44.5	0.0	0.16	10.5	35.0	8:00a	SW
24	19.5	25.4	1:30p	16.2	12:30a	45.5	0.0	0.00	4.2	23.0	12:30a	WSW
25	27.6	36.6	4:00p	19.0	8:30a	37.4	0.0	0.00	1.6	14.0	8:30p	S
26	31.9	40.3	2:30p	25.2	5:30a	33.1	0.0	0.00	0.6	10.0	12:00p	S Snow 6-8"
27	29.1	33.7	12:30a	26.0	10:30p	35.9	0.0	0.05	1.6	13.0	9:30a	WNW
28	29.6	33.4	4:00p	26.3	12:00m	35.4	0.0	0.23	1.1	9.0	11:30a	WNW
29	23.3	28.0	3:30p	18.3	7:30a	41.7	0.0	0.00	1.8	13.0	3:00a	W Snow 5-6"
30	27.1	35.8	2:00p	19.7	2:00a	37.9	0.0	0.00	0.3	9.0	12:30p	W
31	26.9	31.3	1:00p	23.5	11:30p	37.3	0.0	0.15	0.9	16.0	11:30p	NNE Snow 3-4"

**01-Dec-2007****Birthday**

Jim's birthday is today. He is spending his birthday in the hospital getting his head fixed. I hope it goes well. Happy Birthday Day Jim.!

**02-Dec-2007 6:01pm 30°**

Fun Weather the last couple day. Rain, snow, sleet, and freezing rain yesterday. Then at midnights it got above freezing and stayed the until about now.

**Weather**

Nice thing about it I got to try out the new snow blower. It moved that wet sloppy stuff this morning with little effort. And other than dragging that extension cord, It is very easy to use. After I use it a little more I will get use to the extension cord. The cord was a new one so it was folded up so it was full of sharp kinks. This makes it a little rough dealing with. The kinks will go away and then I think it should not be a problem. All in all I am happy with it. It blew the snow 15-20 feet. That is great for heavy wet snow. I can wait to how it works with normal snow. It was raining a couple hours ago. I see it has stopped. We had about an inch of prescription in the last couple days. Nice it is melted and gone for the most part. That would be about twelve inched of snow.

**3-Dec-2007 Yesterday**

What happened yesterday? Oh yes I need a bunch of supplies so I went shopping and I was working on Melody's PC trying to find some of stuff that got lost on it. I guess I got lost in her computer for a while.

**04-Dec-2007 9:52am 27°**

I woke up late today and found my PC off then next thing I remember is that air raid siren. I think not going to bed until 2:00am might have something to do with the over sleeping.

**Birthday**

Today is Bill's birthday. Bill is one of my friends that are older and wiser than me. It is nice to have an old friends. Happy Birthday Bill!

**05-Dec 2007 8:00am 19°**

Have your looked out the window yet? It snowed! My weather station says only 0.20" of precipitation. That is melted snow you know. I wont know how much that is until I get out there and start moving it.

**Birthday**

Yesterday was Oscar's Birthday. Sorry I didn't know. Oscar is one of the cooks at Vaughan's. He cooks the food I eat. Happy Birthday Oscar!!

**Snow Report 21°**

Now 9:03am and half of the driveway is cleared. I got cold so I am in here typing so to get my fingers moving. In the driveway I have from 4 to 8 inches of snow. My driveway is open so the snow blows in and drifts some places making is hard to really know how many inches we got. I would guess 6 inches. So my driveway is 1400 square feet and the motor home is blocking about 300 Sq. Ft. So say I have about 1200 Sq. Ft. including the walks and patio to move that is only 600 cubic feet of snow. That about 40 Cu. Ft. water if melted. My pond only holds about 16 Cu. Ft.. So that means I moved enough to fill my pond 5 times. Well I am warmed up now so I have to go move the other 600 Cu. Ft.

**Snow Update Still 21°**

Now 10:30am and all the snow is moved off the drive and the walks. I even cleared a path for the mailman. The shoveling is finished and the salt is spread. I only use salt where ice builds up. I use to use sun flowers seeds because the bird pecking would keep the ice broken up. But that is too oily and gets slippery when wet. I do not want any one to get hurt.

I thought I had a problem when I came in. My glasses kept fogging up because of the blowing snow so I put then in my pocket. I put my glasses on and the screen was blurry. Think they were just wet I or on upside down or some thing I adjusted them and still blurry. So I tried wiping them down and then I noticed a lens was missing. First thing I thought; "Lost in the snow?" I got lucky it was in my pocket. Some day I will have to put a little super glue on that screw. These frames are quite old and that is the only problem I have with them. Well that is a project for another day. Now I have the snow off car is it is closer to where I am going for breakfast so I best go have some coffee.

**06-Dec-2007 7:35am only 5°**

Good morning and berrrr! Kind of cold out there. But the sun is out and no wind so it isn't too bad. More snow or rain by this weekend. Sorry, I only report what I hear.

**Christmas get to gather.**

I went to a gathering on with a couple friends at the Garden Restaurant in Arlington Heights. Pam, the owner, knew Melody and Sharon. Denise and Joe Anne(I think), were there.

Sorry I did not remember your name. Sharon and Melody have been friends for a long time. We had a nice dinner and talked a lot. As much as I avoid these kind of gatherings, I always enjoy myself, as I did last night. Thanks for inviting me I enjoyed myself.

### **Birthday get together**

Sorry Bill I missed your birthday party last night. I am glad I had time to stop and wish you happy birthday. I guess I will see you Friday. Did Anila bake you a cake?

### **07-Dec-2007 9:00am 27° Snow 1-2"**

Yes, I woke up to 1-1/2 to 2" of snow. It all moved and I am ready for coffee. 27° is a little warm for moving snow. I am hot. Maybe I didn't need to dress so warm. It only took an hour to do what I did the other day. Yes, there was less snow. But this time it was sticky because of the salt I had spread. Where there was no salt it was just wet. The salty snow was clogging up the blower. I guess I have some to learn about plastic snow blowers. Then kinks are working their way out of the extension cord so that is getting easier to work with. I am running on empty. So I need to put on my shoes and go see Kim and have some coffee.

### **Strange last 24 hours**

I am leaving names and place out of this because I do not want anyone to think I am a mad or pointing a finger at any one. It is just things as I have noticed them since yesterday. Things seem to group up like this and I notice them happening and wonder where they are going.

I tend to order diet coffee instead of decaf coffee. I sometimes refer to it as "break fluid" because I am on a break. Yesterday they were busy and I was taking a break and thought I need a snack. So said I need some kind of "break pads" to go along with my "break fluid". Being that I was goofing around and they were busy, I never got anything but coffee. I let it go and finished reading the paper and left to do other things.

Later I went to eat and heard some say they had cream of broccoli soup with cheese. I did not know what I wanted to eat so after a while I thought grilled cheese on whole wheat. Then I changed to grilled ham & cheese on whole wheat and a cup of the soup. So when it was my time to order I order I order the third soup meaning the cream of broccoli and a grilled ham and cheese on whole wheat. All sounds normal, doesn't it?

I am eating the soup thinking about how busy they were. Then I nixed the broccoli soup for something different. "Ah!" I said, "It is bean soup. Oh well, I like that too!" and went on eating. So my sandwich came to the table and I started eating it. It tasted different too. "Oh, No Ham! Oh I guess I really ordered a grilled cheese. I didn't care because I eat too much anyway." When I asked what I order it was ham and cheese. I said to let it go I ok. I ended up with another sandwich. I thought; "Oh, this is going to be one of these days." Then let it slide.

There is more. This morning, after moving all that snow I decided to go eat breakfast. A bowl of All-Brand is not enough for me. So they are busy and I order my breakfast without toast. Well I got toast. This time I saw them write it down and let it slide. I figured they were going to eat it for me. They do it some times where they are busy and need a quick bite to keep their energy up. After that is why I go these places to help them make it through the day. I am part of the entertainment. And I get entertained as well. I love going and see what the day will bring me. I would hope they enjoy my visits. I feel I am family and not a customer when I go there. Even family members have to pay their dues.

So it has been about 23 hours since this all started So let's just see what else happens.

### **Fifty Dollar Tip or Not**

One of my waitress friends waited on a group that she never saw before. She said that they were nice people but that she knew that they were new to the restaurant and no one knew them. She said they left a fifty dollar bill. She was busy and didn't see them leave so she could

catch them to make sure it wasn't a mistake. She said that a five dollar tip would have been in order with they had ordered. Now she hopes they come back so she can make sure it is not a mistake and make sure this money was not for buying their children new toys for Christmas. I guess getting big tips happen because it is getting near Christmas. So she is waiting to see it they come back. Good luck which ever way it goes.

### **8-Dec-2007 12:57pm 16°**

Oh, It is time for lunch. I'll comeback and finished this later. Don't let me to forget to tell you about my firewall problem last night..

### **Keeping Warm**

#### ***Foods that would keep you warm this winter***

If you want to stick to comfort foods this winter you may but what about eating foods that actually keep you warm this winter, yea I mean internally. There are 'n' numbers of foods, which have the capacity to deliver you the heat in winters. Root vegetables and winter veggies like carrots, potatoes and sweet potatoes, and hearty winter greens like kale and cabbage tend to keep you warm in winter.

Vegetables cooked with grains and vegetables also keep you warm in winters as they are most easily digested, emitting the heat to keep your body warm. Apart from vegetables there are certain spices that keep your body warm like ginger, garlic, cinnamon, turmeric, cloves, cumin, coriander, fennel, dill seed and anise seed, mustard seeds and peppercorn. These spices not only keep your body warm but can also avoid digestive and whooping cough. A bite of ginger and peppercorn every morning can cure you from cold and fennel, dill seed and anise seed can cure your digestive problems this winter. You can rug ginger paste over mutton and barbecue it to have a warm and healthy food this winter or you can stir fry cabbage and potatoes with a pinch of turmeric powder and a dash of cinnamon powder and salt, for a comfy casserole.

You can amply use herbs like basil, mint, coriander leaves and bay leaves in your food or have a concoction of all the herbs along with tea leaves, to keep out the chill. You can have an herb and tea concoction in place of tea this winter.

Meats like goat, beef and deer meat and other red meats can keep you warm because of the fat content, but it is advisable to take grilled chicken rubbed with spices or lean beef to keep the chill away from health too. You just have to combine, mix-n-match the ingredients that keep you warm and prepare your meal of the day.

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Source: <http://www.foodmall.org/entry/foods-that-would-keep-you-warm-this-winter/>



### **09-Dec-2007 8:14am 16°**

Cold again! I woke up to the sound of "Beep, Beep, and beep! This morning. I thought I was still sleeping. Then I heard the answering machine reset itself. Guess the power was out. After getting up I walked around and things seemed normal. When I got to the computer room I saw the computer had restarted. Yup! power was out. After getting them going I looked out the window to see how much snow I had to move when I see the Commonwealth Edison trucks, 3 of them, with there lights just flashing away. There are gone now. Must have been something going on over there. I best give the house a once over again to see what else is off...Well it

looks like everything that needs to be powered up is on. The light in the frig works too. And these sliced peaches jumped out in my hand so I best eat them. But there is a stone or some thing in my boot so I best fix that before I start out to move that snow...Ahhh, that better! The peaches are good too!

It looks like there is only a little snow to move out there. Maybe less than an inch. As soon as I finish these peaches I will go check it out. I like to eat some thing before I go move the snow. It is kind of like tossing a log on the fire to keep you warm. It might be an hour or so before I can get out to see Anila for breakfast Or should I go see Linda today. We'll see.

### **Birthday**

Today is Flo's Birthday. Flo is Kim's mom. Happy Birthday Flo!

### **Firewall**

I didn't tell you 'bout that yesterday. Friday night I decide I noticed that the PC that acts as my firewall was acting up. The firewall it the computer that helps to keep the bad stuff out of my computer network and only lets people to my web site and email. It is basically a network security cop. Anyway it was making funny noises. When I went to check it out I saw the monitor looked fussy. Three other computers use that same monitor and they seemed ok. So I thought it was the video card on the Firewall PC. So I decided to change it. This PC is quite old. I am done with my peaches so let me shorten this story so I can get out there and move that snow. The video card was ok. The monitor was bad, one Network card was bad and I had to reload the software to get it to see the new hardware. It isn't some thing I wanted to do on a Friday night. I got it back running about 1-2:00 in the morning. With this not working, then no web site, no email, and no sleep. I committed a long time to keep these thing running all the time. And now that I am going to host a web site for some one else I need to have it running 7/24. That is 7 days a week 24 hours a day. I try for 8 days a week and 25 hours a day. I have to go move that snow!

### **10-Dec-2007 9:19am 21°**

So where is my Auto-Lite (Woodstock Die Casting) pension? I have been trying to find it since Feb-2006. I do not know if I have one, I should. I worked there for 15 years. That is October 10, 1966 to April 30,1982. Yes, that was a long time ago. Maybe before some of you were born. If there is a pension out here I am going to try and get it. Well, I am still waiting for information they are going to send to me, some day.

### **Question**

When some one says "darn it!" do they mean to fix a sock?

### **Anila told me to write this**

"I hate when somebody makes Anila mad. Everybody stop making her mad! I go to see Anila at Vaughan's all the time."

### **Baby Jesus**

It was the day AFTER Christmas at a church in San Francisco .. The pastor of the church was looking at the manger scene, when he noticed that the baby Jesus figure was missing from the cradle. He immediately turned and went outside and saw a little boy with a red wagon walking down the street. And in the wagon, was the figure of the infant Jesus.

So he walked up to the boy and said, "Son, where did you get that little baby Jesus that's in your wagon?"

The little boy replied, "I got him from the church."

"And why did you take him?"; asked the pastor.

The little boy replied, "Well, about a week before Christmas, I prayed to the little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it."

Smile!

Source: Email From Arlene

Thanks Arlene

### **11-Dec-2007 9:57am 30° rain**

This morning when I went for breakfast there was ice all over the car. It removed very easy. The temperature was hanging around freezing so it wasn't too bad getting it off the windows. The roads were not so bad either. There was just slush on the roads. On the way home the police had route 47 blocked at Irving. There was a Comm. Edison truck there too. I had to take a detour.

I just came back from Wal-Mart and it was still blocked. So I detoured down E. Judd, to South Seminary then up near the 6 corners. (120 and 47) I saw a mess of Comm. Edison trucks down there. I turned on Huthins Street and back home. I figured that Nancy must have called Aunt Annie and I could find out from her. Nancy is slipping up. Guess she has a cold or something. Anyway she knew it was the second house on the left on 47 just south of 120 where they were working. Thanks Nancy for making sure we knew.

### **12-Dec-2007 9:45am 20° Clear**

Good morning. I am waiting for Cork. We are going for breakfast. I have a little time so I thought I would say "Good Morning!" Good Morning!

#### **Birthdays**

Today we have a bunch of birthdays. There is Teri's. Teri use to work at Vaughan's a long time ago. Later I heard that she had opened her second Pizza place. I have heard any thing in the last year or so. Happy Birthday Teri! Linda's sister birthday is today. I remember Linda but not here sister. So Happy Birthday Linda's sister. And Melody's is also today Melody the friend that that I am helping to build a web site. Happy Birthday Melody! Oh yes, There is another one today. Yes, it is mine. Happy Birthday to me. Happy Birthday to all of you who I share my birthday.

### **13-Dec-2007 10:17am 28° overcast**

After finding this picture I think it is time for coffee.

This spot is empty.  
I guess I couldn't think of anything to put in here.  
Maybe next time.

1952 Green Giants

★ 1856 — WOODSTOCK DAILY SENTINEL — 1956 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# ins State Cage Championship —

Hebron's 'Famous Green Giants of 1952' — State Champs



HERE ARE THE HEBRON GREEN GIANTS, who thrilled state cage fans in 1952 by capturing the state basketball title. This is the only McHenry county high school team and also the only district winner ever to win the crown. In rear row, left to right: Coach Russ Ahern, Kenn Spooner, Phil Judson, Bill Schultz, Paul Judson and Captain Don Wilbrandt. Front: Jim Bergin, Jim Wilbrandt, Joe Schmidt, Clayton Ihrke, Bill Thayer and Phil Hadley, assistant coach.

temporarily by Alderman Ray- FROM SENTINEL OF 1862

Source: Woodstock Daily Sentinel Centennial Edition (1956)

**Birthday**

Today is Arben's birthday. Happy Birthday Arben!

**14-Dec-2007 10:09am 13° Sunny**

It looks nice and warm out there but it ain't!

**Birthday**

Today is Ed's , Birthday (aka California). I'm guessing it is a lot warmer in California. Since you are here you should have a Happy Birthday!

**Winter**

Yes, Winter is closing in on us. It will be here at the end of next week. I hope you are ready.

**15-Dec-2007 12:15pm 26° Snowing**

Well, there was about an inch of the morning. It's all moved but more is trying to get itself trying to cover my driveway again. Guess I will just let it do it thing. Not much I can do about it anyway.

**Snowing**

I just looked outside and you can't see outside. it is snowing!

**11:59pm 24°**

I just looked out side and it looks like it finally stopped snowing. There is a bunch out there. I guess I should go get some sleep so I can go out and play in it tomorrow. Good-night!

**16-Dec-2007 9:01am 14° 7-8" Snow**

That is why my fingers are cold. I have been out moving snow and the wind is blowing the wrong way and my fingers are cold. I am typing to get them warmed before I go back out and finish the job. I have been trying to throw the snow to the north between the drive and the school fence. The wind is telling me to put it in the front yard. Guess who is winning?

My fingers are warm now but I left my jacket on to long when I came in. Now I am sweaty. Not good to be sweaty when you are in the very cold weather. It just makes you colder. I am only 1/2 -3/4 finished so I must get it done. The sun is out and it will meld the snow dust that is left over. Besides, I haven't had any coffee yet!

**19-Dec-2007 1:51pm 29°**

It is nice and sunny out side today. No snow in a few days. That is fine with me. We have enough that it will last us through Christmas. There are only 6 days left now. I think I have to check out the RV news letters. I am 3 weeks behind.

**RV Travel Newsletter**

This newsletter has a lot of neat things in it. They are not all 'bout RVing. I can only put a few things in my newsletter.

**Trivia...**

A typical lightning bolt is two to four inches wide and two miles long.

**Bumper Snicker**

There are two types of pedestrians, the quick and the dead.

**Worth Pondering**

The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time. --*Abraham Lincoln*

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue303.shtml>

**Trivia...**

New York City's bus line M-14A is the slowest route in the city, earning it the most recent "Pokey" award. The bus travels between the heavily congested West Village and the Lower East Side. Its average speed is a whopping 3.9 miles per hour, just slightly more than an average walking speed of three miles per hour.

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue304.shtml>

**RV from 1929 at nation's capital**

This family was photographed in Washington, D.C. in 1929. Not you're typical Winnebago, but way ahead of its time. . .



#### Trivia...

Motor vehicle rollovers are more likely to occur on rural roads and highways -- particularly undivided, two-way roads or divided roads with no barriers. When a vehicle goes off a rural road, the vehicle can overturn when it strikes a ditch or embankment, or is tripped by soft soil. Nearly 75 percent of all rollover crashes occur in rural areas.

#### Bumper Snicker

A Waist Is A Terrible Thing To Mind.

#### Worth Pondering

Be not afraid of growing slowly, be only afraid of standing still. --

#### Chinese proverb

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue305.shtml>

### **Ice Storm in Kansas**

My sister Marcia lives in Kansas and these are some pictures from the ice storm last week.





Here is her description of these pictures.

"...Here are a few pictures from our ICE STORM last week! There are still places around the states without electricity!! The electric contractors have done a FINE job!

First one I took traveling down the highway the sun was shining on it, I thought it was pretty!

Second one is the back yard, limbs pulled the line down. When the electric co. came back to pull it up, it sparked on the pipe on the roof, so they cut the line. We had to get our electrician out to repair. He came the same day!(Monday) This is him on the roof doing the repairs in the next picture. Called the electric co, they came right out the next day which was yesterday Tuesday! Oh it's so nice to be back to normality! We were out of electricity for one week!

Note the last picture, the leaning pole 2 houses down from us. It sat like that from Tues to Saturday, 'til they could get to it! They were and are very busy!

I have never seen or experienced anything like this in my 49 years! Simply amazing, and the devastation ICE can cause!..."

Marcia

All I can say to this is "Wow!"

## Beer

Well they got here license to serve beer now. They put up a sign. And tonight many



people were trying the beer to see it taste better. For me I have passed on the beer for now. Maybe when I will be driving I will need one more beer. For now I am riding so I think I will hold off on



the beers. But I think I will have just like to have one more cup of coffee.

**22-Dec 2007 5:54pm 4° Fog**

Yes people it has been foggy for the last couple days. I think Aunt Annie is the smart one. She stays home when the weather is bad. The rest of us just go and drive in it. I think she may be safer than the rest of us. .

**RV Travel newsletter.**

**Survey**

They have a weekly survey and this week they asked people "How would \$4 a gallon gas or diesel affect your RV travels?" With **1933** responses thus far, here's how the voting is going:

I'll stop traveling with an RV.	9.31%	(180)	*****
I'll cut back in how many miles I go.	25.40%	(491)	*****
I'll cut back on how many trips I take.	10.71%	(207)	*****
I'll cut back on both miles and time I RV.	21.11%	(408)	*****
I'll cut back a little but not much.	19.66%	(380)	*****
I'll travel as I normally do.	13.81%	(267)	*****

**Trivia...**

More than half the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.

**Bumper Snicker**

One more repo and I'll be debt free!

**Worth Pondering**

What a man thinks of himself, that is what determines, or rather indicates, his fate. -- Henry

David Thoreau

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue306.shtml>

**Seeing Strange Pictures.**

There just has to be something wrong with this picture of a new toy at the school next door. Ouch!!! ----->>>

**23-Dec-2007 9:59am 12° Windy**

What happened? It was 44° when I went to bed last night! Wait, that was this morning when I went to bed. I guess it is winter, isn't it. One gets this kind of weather is the winter.

**Number 3 on the list**

I found this a long time ago.

Safe driving is no accident, it happens when drivers practice a safety-first initiative and common sense decision making. For the millions of motorists who think accidents are random, uncontrollable events, consider these sobering statistics published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on traffic fatalities that define the most dangerous driving days. A clear pattern has emerged over 25 years since the NHTSA has been tracking this data. The pattern proves that drivers, not weather or fate, control the number of traffic fatalities.

"Top 10 Deadliest Days of the Year to Drive" Based on 25 years of research statistics July 4, July 3, Dec. 23, Dec. 24, Dec. 22, Aug. 3, Jan. 1, Sept. 1, Sept. 2, and then Aug. 4 are the days to be more carefull than normal.



This goes on to tell about the "Deadliest Days of the Week to Drive" Saturday, Sunday, Friday, Thursday, Monday, Wednesday, and Tuesday. Then "Deadliest Times of the Day to Drive" 3PM- 6PM, 6PM- 9PM, 9PM- Midnight, Noon - 3PM, and then Midnight - 3AM.

The Source in part came from: [http://www.freecarcity.com/deadly\\_days\\_to\\_drive.htm](http://www.freecarcity.com/deadly_days_to_drive.htm)

You may ask why am I telling you this. Well, it is cold and windy out there if it is a bad day to be driving then just stay home and curl up in a nice warm blanket and have a drink of your choice of brew.

### **It is Windy**

I just check and the wind and it is averaging 9-1/2 MPH with gust to 35. This is the windiest it has been all month. and it is COLD at only 13°. With the wind out of the Southwest shouldn't that be warm. Guess not because the wind chill is **minus 4.6°**

I think it is time for another log on the fireplace. Wait I don't have one. ☺

At least the forecast is for some snow this will be nice for Christmas.



#### **Rest of Today**

Windy. Cloudy with scattered light **snow showers**. Much colder. Temperatures nearly steady 12 to 16. Wind chills as low as 1 below to 11 below zero. Southwest winds 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 45 mph at times.



#### **Tonight**

Windy. Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of **snow showers**. Cold. Lows 11 to 15. Wind chills as low as 8 below to 2 above zero. West winds 20 to 30 mph. Gusts up to 40 mph until early morning decreasing to 30 mph during the predawn hours.

### **9:33pm 16° and Windy**

I just got home from a party and the snow is blowing all over the place. I was in town so I can only imagine it must be bad in the country areas. I think this is our first snow blow this winter. I hope you are all at home and warm.

### **25-Dec-2007 9:00am 20°**

Merry Christmas! I had a nice time at Bill and Kim's on Sunday night. It is always good to get together with friends and family around the holidays.

Christmas eve I spent at Jeremy and Tonya's. I met Tonya's twin brothers. I hadn't remembered that her was from a family of twins. These guys do look alike. There was whole a bunch of family at this gathering. And I had a dead battery in the camera. Nice going Marty!

I noticed the battery was almost dead Sunday so I grabbed the other battery and it was dead-dead. I put the low one on the charger for a short while before going to Bill's and thought I would have enough for the night. It went dead anyway. So I only got couple pictures. Last night I went to get the other battery and it was still dead. Hence, no battery, no camera! This morning I noticed that the charger needs to be plugged in to work. So, no pictures from Tonya's party. Sorry! If some one has some that you would like all to see, send them along. In the mean time here is a picture from Kim's.



### **Christmas Lunch**

Aunt Annie and had a nice Christmas lunch then we drove around to see what what changed in town. Nothing much happening out there. today. Holiday, nothing open. Lot of cars out there.

**29-Dec-2007 11:57am 25°**

Wennesday Moring I had breakfast with Tim. You may remember Tim, he is my friend that moved to Michigon a couple years ago. It was good to see him and catch up.

**Snow**

Yesterday was a nice moring. When I returned from breakfast it was snowing. By 2:00pm there was 5-6 inches or the wet, snowman snow out there. After a while I had it moved of the drive and walks. It is still a fun playing with the snow blower.

**Smoking**

Now let me talking about the new No Smoking law that starts New Years Day. Most of you know I do not smoke and I do not think people should smoke. I do not let people smoke in my home or car. This is my right. Now we let the people in government make a law to make peoples choices for them. I have the right to go to or not go to a place where are smokers. A lot of my friends smoke. Most of them know I do not smoke. And I know they smoke. If they are smoking and it bothers me I can move to a different place. If I am in a restaurant I can sit where I want. Most restaurents have ares of smokers and non smokers. I see people moving out of the smoking area because they do not want to be in the smokey area. If the Restaurant has a no smoking policy there are smokers that still go to the restaurant and just don't smoke.

I guess what I am saying here is, it should not be up to out law makers to tell a restaurant can not have smokers in there restaurant that are smoking. It should be up to the owner and the people who go there.

I have a bigger problem dealing with peoples using cell phones in restaurants. In most cases the phones ring too load. And the person using the phone it talking way too load. Yes, these people has rights too. But turn down the ringer and leave the room when use the phone.

Maybe we need separate rooms for smokers and cell phone people. While we are at it with noisy kids, people who ware too much prefume, and people who fart.

Let us just get along and quit making so many new laws. This is election year. Lets electic new people!

"Vote for Marty. A vote for me is a vote nobody."

**Smoke Free Illinois Act**

If you want to see the Illinois Smoking Act I have posted it on my web site. It is "Public Act 095-0017" and is at:

<http://www.martysthoughts.info/randomthoughts/pdf/20080101/PublicAct095-0017.pdf>



The Snow Looks Nice

**30-Dec-2007 10:04pm 29°**

Here it is the last day before the last day of the year. Yes there is only about 26 hours left in 2007. This year started out a little slow the speeded up and zipped right through untill a couple weeks ago when it started to slow down and now there is only one day left. I have been retired since March and I like my freedon from the work force. I miss the routine a lllittle but am getting use to it. We will see what tomorrow bring. and I need to stay home and pratice writing "08", "08", "08". ☺

**RV Travel newsletter**

Trivia..

In the 1870s, William Russell Frisbie opened the Frisbie Pie Company bakery in Bridgeport, Connecticut. His lightweight pie tins were embossed with the Frisbie family name. College students started tossing and catching the empty tins as a pastime. Today, in the USA, more Frisbee discs are sold each year than baseballs, basketballs and footballs combined.

### Bumper Snicker

Support bacteria! It's the only culture some people have.

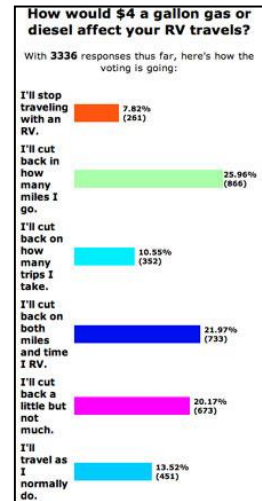
### Worth Pondering

As you get older three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two... --Sir Norman Wisdom

### Gas @ \$4.00 / Gallon

*Here is the result of the four dollars a gallon question from last week. I think I might travel more than I have. This year I might have gone a total of 100 mile. I don't think I have 4500 mile since I bought it. It will be 2 year in March since I bought it.*

Source: <http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/newsletter/issue307.shtml>



## **01-Jan-2008 10:08 21°**

Wow! I typed 2008 the first time. Happy New year! Maybe it helps to stay up all night and practice. ☺

So I woke up to more snow this morning. Looked like 3-4 inches of the white stuff. There is some more light snowing out there even as I type.

### **New Years Resolutions**

If you are making resolutions this year make it something that you might be able to do. Many people make resolutions that are impossible to obtain. If you make a goal like I will win the lottery or get married to a millionaire or I will be rich when my rich uncle gets out of the poor house, you are just setting yourself up for defeat. Try goals that you can do that may be hard but you can do them. Something like I am going to look for a relationship that will grow as we can work together to make our life rich. How about paying yourself by saving a few dollars a week and watching it grow. Just a little builds up after a time. Say the price of 2 cups of coffee a day. (about \$5.00) is about \$18,250 in 10 years. That isn't much now days. It would buy you a small car. And if you want an expensive car, try a little more savings. As for you rich uncle in the poor house, he may have had some bad luck and is a great man. Maybe you should help him out. Maybe he just needs a little boost to get him started again. It may get him started out to be the next Bill Gates and wouldn't that be great if you know you were the one to get some one started to be the millionaire. People of power and money always have some one helping them to the top. You can not get to the top with out help.

So what is your resolution? I think I will look for the millionaire to join up with. As for the lottery, a dollar a week is enough to invest on that. And I think I am the uncle in the poor house.

Well realistically I think I am going to try to spend less money on things I can get along without. Maybe do a little more traveling. Last year it was nice to go to Europe. There is a lot of things to see in the good old USA. There are a bunch of states where I have friends or family that I could visit. Illinois, Iowa, MO, KS, CA, MI, and PA. Oh yes, there is AZ

**From the Farmers almanic**

## Proverbial Weather Forecasts

Keep these time-tested adages in mind over the next few weeks:

*Always expect a thaw in January.*

*Fog in January brings a wet spring.*

*He who drops a coat on a winter day,*

*Will gladly put it on in May.*

*If on January 12th the Sun shine, it foreshows much wind.*

Source: *The Old Farmer's Almanac* newsletter

**Birthday**

Ned's Birthday it today. Happy Birthday Ned where ever you are.

**The Editor**

This issue's editor is me. Heather is moving to a new home. The best way I can help her is to stay out of the way and do the proffing myself. Thank you help all year heather. I will get the next one to you.

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR  
TO ALL