

Merry Christmas 2020

Marty's Random Thoughts

This year started kind of like any other January. It started in the twenty's and sunny. As the month progressed, I started working with my new X-Carve as the weather permitted. I also started rehab after having another heart attack in October 2019.

February came around as I was learning to use the X-Carve a little more. It was still cold in the garage, so it was slow going. To stay where it was warm, I figured I would try selling my used books on Amazon. I also decided to see if I could get the old clock collecting dust on the shelf running. I found out it was 80 to 100-years-old. It worked but it would not keep time correctly. I finally got it running after a lot of time. I cranked it up every week, until I forgot, now it sits there saying it is one-twenty-seven. It is right twice a day! Before it had the wrong time most of the time.

After March and into April we all became quarantined because of the pandemic. Services stopped and many of us did not know what to do. It would put a lot of people in panic until we knew more of what was going on.

May came around and I found it was going to cost me \$13,000 to get my Honda in order. It was 18 years old and I decided not to fix it. I started looking for a replacement. I also sold 5 used books. Not enough to buy a new car, but a start.

I was getting way too tired, way too easy pushing the mower around. I decided to get a robot lawn mower. I called it/him "Herbie". It took time to get the perimeter wire staked down and a lot of adjustments. I also found a lot of holes in the yard that needed to be filled. It is working fine now.

Because I needed new transportation, I started making sure the Camper was working in case the Honda failed completely. The only thing I found was the hinge for the Cargo door. I had to do some hunting for it. The dealer could not find one. Well, the Camper is a 1994, so it has that going for it. It is all better now.

July and the pandemic are in full force. No paper products, no yeast or flour to make bread, most of the restaurants and bars are closed. And you need to wear a mask everywhere. People are learning to live with it.

I started to think about going to Spain to walk the Camino. It was 2012 when I went last. Europe does not want the USA people over there. Spain is on lock down because of the coronavirus. I can only think about it for now.

I bought the neighbor's 2007 Chrysler PT Cruiser. It got me back on the road. It is blue! I bought it on the 8th of August. The same day they turned the lights on in Wrigley Field! Did the Cubs play baseball this year?

While the COVID-19 gets a tight grip on us, I tried to find more things I could do. I spend more time keeping Michelle company at EW Training. It is a safe zone from the coronavirus. Michelle keeps this place clean and isolates her clients. We scrub the floors and disinfect everything after it is touched. The clients stay away if they get exposed to the virus and people wear mask. I get to hang out there too!

I had been using the X-Carve to make a coffee carrier that I liked. I designed it with a heater because the coffee got cold before I got it to Michelle's. When you hang out at Starbucks to visit, well the coffee gets cold. I was going to walk and would still need the heater. It is almost an hour to get to EWT. I thought about making one that attached to my walking stick. It got too heavy. After a while I tested my heater, and it did not heat well through the bottom of those cardboard cups. After testing this out I decided to drop the project and go with a thermos.

Now October, I thought about going on a road trip. Nuts, to that idea. Seems the pandemic cause most of the campgrounds to be closed.

Oh, they are working on the traffic circles. They are putting in two Turn-Abouts just one block apart. One at Route 47 & Lake Avenue. and the other at Route 47 and McConnell Road. That is on each side of the railroad tracks. That will throw people for a loop!

- Leaves are gone
- Houseplants are inside
- I am ready for a long winter inside and away from the pandemic
- See you next spring

I hope 2021 is good for you and yours!

*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*



Marty