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05-Jun-23 1L12 pm @home 81° F

Happy June!

Grapes

I planted my grapes about 10 days ago. The blue one has a few small leaves. On the other hand, the red and white show no growth!

Maybe it is the variety of the grapes. Maybe because they sat too long before getting planted. It was chilly weather.

In any case, two of them look like dead sticks.

I did all they told me about how and where to plant them. And I have been watering them regularly. I am stumped. Well, the grapes are stumps.

I went to the internet and did some research on the subject. It seems that if you try and grow grapes from cutting it could take one to two months before you have leaves. The blue one is a fast grower and the white and red one are not.

I will give them another week and see what happens.

X-Carve (CNC Router)

I cleared the junk from the CNC to see if it still works. It has been sitting there idle for over a year. I had to start slowly to refresh my memory on how to run it. The computer in the garage was so far out of date. It took a while to get it upgraded to current.

The license for the X-Carve software. I started with the free 24-hour version. I cannot stay up 24 hours like I used to in the olden days.

I worked on my walking stick that will also be a chair or just a stool.

EWT project

I started working on the project for EWT. When I got tired, I decided to hang it up for the day.

Yesterday, I went out and worked on my sample until my time on the license ran out. Then I decided I had learned/remembered for running and renewed my license.

I needed to round the edges of the sample part to make it look better. I remembered the Maslow CND router had a big router. I looked for it and it was still where I left it 3-4 years ago. All I needed to do was to find the parts for it that let me use it for a hand router.

I finally found them and figured out how to use the thing. I have not used a hand router for 25 years. It took a while, but I learned fast.

After I finished my sample, I quit to the day.

What's Next

I need to wet my plants then go work on my project for EWT.

Then, my Cloud server is still down. I keep missing something. I will figure that out.

I still need to clear off the Train table, flip it over, and figure out where I left that project.

Enough projects for now. 😊

6-Jun-23 8:13 am @EWT 60° F

Rough Day

Today is starting out a little rough. I looked at the lawn and it needs to be mowed.

When I got to Starbucks, they were working on the roof. Pounding, pounding, and more pounding. And the music was too loud! I read my book for a brief time and headed to EWT to work on my project.

On the trip out here, I noticed the sky was hazy. That is from the fires in Canada. I could taste it. Well, I think I could.

Then went I got to EWT, I had to walk from the street through the gravel to get to the front door. Oh yah, they are putting in a new parking lot. They have been working on it since the first of May. At this rate they will not be done until the 4th of July. We will have to celebrate when it is finished. In any case we will have a nice cement parking lot when finished. 😊

It would seem I am negative, but I am not. The grass has this nice white flours. The roof needed to be fixed. The smoke in the air needed to go somewhere. And the parking lot was getting bad.

Some things seem bad until you think about it a little.

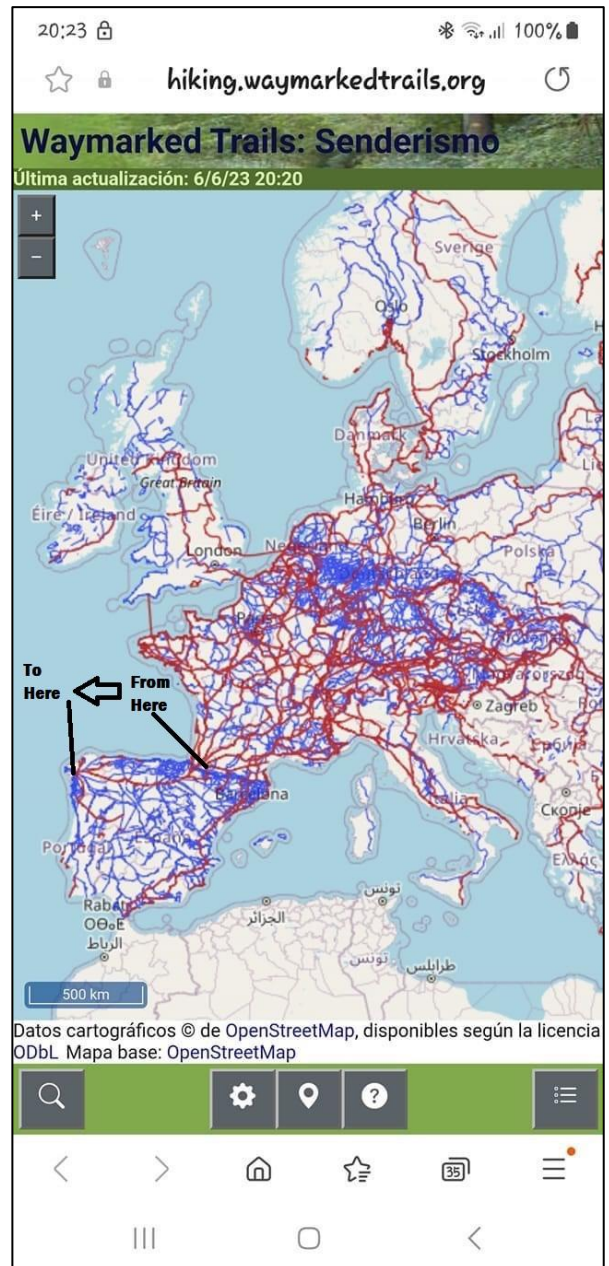
I must go and work on my project now.

Camino

I am still thinking about walking the Camino once more.

I found this map of all the paths that are marked as Camino paths. I do not think this is all of them. It is just that someone marked them.

Your Camino starts at your front door. Well, mine did in 2012!



I went to this web site and there are trails from northeast Maine to Oakland Calif. I think I will pass on that one!

I just checked my Virtual Walk log and from Mar-21 to yesterday, I have walked over 3,000,000 steps. That is about 1,200 miles!

9-Jun-23 10:14 am @EWT 72° F

What Next

The sun will come out tomorrow. Well, the sun is shining, but things are still in chaos.

The PC I use for the X-Carve failed, but it is fixed, but I cannot connect to its controller to do anything. I am working on that through X-Carve Support.

At EWT they are still redoing the parking lot. Looks like a few more weeks. We have been parking on the street.

Now the City will be redoing the street starting next week. Well, it needs it! We will not be able to park on the street. I wonder how that will work out. I am guessing they will be working on the street all summer.

Things will get better, won't they? 😊

EWT Project

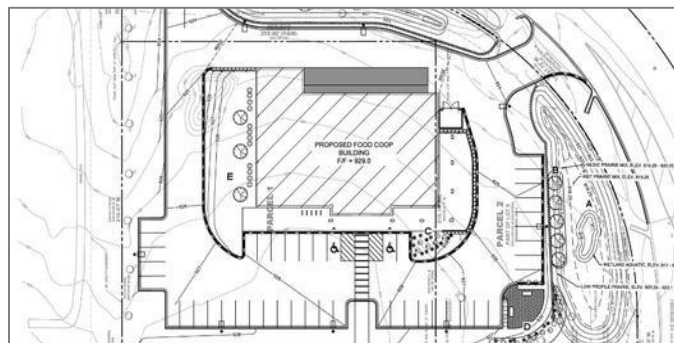
I have my first project finished. The other project I was going to work on with the X-Carve. That means I must do it by hand. It will take much longer. Oh well, it is what it is.

13-May-23 8:27 am @EWT 55° F

FoodShed.coop

I know I have not talked about our grocery store much lately. Here is the latest news.

"Exciting news! Construction for the Food Shed Co-op will begin around the end of June, that is right, in a few short weeks from now. Stay tuned for progress updates as we build the first community-owned grocery store in McHenry County! There is still time to become a FOUNGING Owner. Founding Owners will always be able to say they joined before it was cool. Become a founding owner at <https://www.foodshed.coop/become-an-owner>"



**Building Update:
Construction Begins Soon!**



We are moving the heavy equipment in to the side June 26th. It has been a long time getting all the paperwork filled out and approved.



14-Jun-23 10:49 am @EWT 67° F

EWT

The parking lot is almost finished. It may seem like it is taking forever but it is going to take a little time to cure. Some of the concrete is 10" thick because of the truck traffic. It was only asphalt before. Quite an improvement.

Now the City is rebuilding the street. So well through the summer we get to deal with more construction. They are going to replace sewer, water, and all the cables under the street.

There is truck traffic on the street. Asphalt just is not structurally sound for truck traffic.

This is another reason I should start walking out here. I think it would take 3 hours to walk here. I should try. Next week. 😊

EWT Project

The parts for the Swiss Ball rack are near completion. I need to make a small modification because PCV pipe will be a little weak. Then I would need to paint them.

We have the steel pipe form when we removed it from the McConnell gym. We just need to find it in the storage across the street and cut it to length.

Maybe touch up the paint a little.

Treadmill

I have been getting on the treadmill again. I was on it for 50 minutes straight, a while ago. I decided to start out at only one mile an hour.

I got something like from home to Starbucks then to the Dairy Queen. It is about another half mile to get home.

It is about 1-1/2 miles from my house to Starbucks, the Dairy Queen, and then home.

Well, it is a start. Michelle told me to stay away from the Dairy Queen, so I might take a short cut across the tracks and just come home. 🧑

Virtual Walking.

So far, I have walked 712,791 steps or about 281 miles. Last year I walked 1,429,926 miles or about 564 miles.

I need to get what I did all last year in about 90 days to even try to walk the Camino.

Model Train

I have the layout turned up now. I have been out of sight for so long I have to almost start over.

The track was only pinned and about a mile of track was laying on the floor from the pins coming lose.

I have the track laid into place but need to check all the connections.

I need to get it glued into place and then paint a base coat of paint to cover up the pink and white. I need browns, greens, and a few other colors.

15-May-23 11:08 am @EWT 71° F

Getting Caught UP

I received my new controller board for my X-Carve. I also picked up a new Shop-Vac. Then there was the Sand-Sealer of the boards I cut for the Swiss Ball rack. Seems I have all the parts to get the mess cleaned up and get back to the EWT project.

Wait there is more, I also picked up some paint for the train layout. I need an undercoat before I start putting down landscaping. I cannot have that pink foam showing through.

Now which to do first? I guess cleaning up the mess from the sawdust and drill shavings. Then do the priming of the boards.

I do not have any work for the X-Carve so I put it back together to get it recalibrated.

Then I can reinstall the Shop-Vac to the dust collector. I need to move that, so it is easier to empty.

Then, I can work on the train a little. I want to glue down the track before I do that painting.

Well maybe I need to finish the EWT project before the train. We will see!

Now I must go in for my annual checkup. Tomorrow, I need to go to the LVAD people to see how all of that is working. I think well!

20-Jun-23 11:06 @EWT 78° F

The garden is growing well, though I will need pest control soon. Few bugs and I think squirrels.

Petra

Petra sent me the following email.

Dear Marty,

We had a rest day here in Portomarín. Many people here from Sarria on. Will be in Santiago on the 25 of June. Mike's death day. It is wonderful.

Hope you are well!!!!

Sent from my iPhone and with love from Petra=

Google says that Portomarín is about 642-km from where Petra started. She has less than 100-km to reach Santiago. Unless she gets tired, she should be there in 4-5 days.

23-Jun-23 9:11 am @EWT 70° F

Good Morning

First the backpack I bought for \$3.50 was worth it. I found it on Facebook. It took 3 weeks to get it, and I changed it to hold my LVAD batteries and Controller. It needed a waist and chest strap.

After wearing it for about 6 weeks I was starting to like it.

Well last night one of the straps pulled through the seam. I need a while to put it back together.

There is something about a \$3.50 China backpack!

EWT Project

That is not going well either. I must cut one new board and re-drill the 1-3/8" holes. I thought I had measured 3 or 4 times and still needed to adjust.

Garden

I covered the Earth Boxes where the birds, insects and Squirrels like to get. That went well!

The Garden Tower is doing well. I may be eating radishes soon. Most everything is growing well too.

Facebook

I saw this on Facebook and thought you should see it.

**Important Facts to Remember
as You Grow Older:**

- Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
- Life is sexually transmitted.
- Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last that long.

Facebook by Iain Lewis, 6/23/23

25-Jun-23v4:56 pm @home 75° F

Only 6 Months to Christmas

Well, I need to start somewhere! 😊

Tammy is going around on a three-wheeled cart because she has a broken foot. Tomorrow she is going in for an MRI to see what could be done for her. She was still hurting Saturday.

Marie

When Cork sent the group an email to remind us for lunch Marie was not on the list. I thought that was unusual.

I sent her a text and she was already at the restaurant. I looked around thinking she must have been in the restroom.

Marie sent me a text saying she was in a restaurant in Kansas visiting Marcia. The family knew she was going, just not this weekend.

I did not think quickly enough, or I would have told her to bring Marcia along. Marcia will come to Woodstock on another Saturday.

Petra

Petra has made it to Santiago! After a day off she will be heading to Fisterra.

Petra has been walking the Camino in honor of Mike. He died 26-Jun-18, 5 years ago. Rest in peace Mike! †††††

Walking Stick

I worked on my Walking stick that is also a chair. It was hot and muggy this morning, so I did not work too long.

I will get this done.

Train Layout

I have been working on the railroad on and off all week. I have the first layer of under coat painted. I used brown, green, gravel and sand colors. Oh yes, I painted the base coat of the river with a mixture of black, blues, yellows, and cocoa. It looks a little like a dirty river.

Today, I started relaying the track before I start gluing it into place.

The lights flickered a of couple times while I was talking to Petra and watching TV. So here I am!

EWT Project

I almost finished the Swiss Ball rack on Friday. I was getting hot and tired, so I stopped for the day. I get tired much easier than I used to in the past.

Now, if I get tired, I Just take a break. 😊

Well, it is time for another of those breaks.

26-Jun-23 9:02 am @EWT 66° F

Whole Point

In about an hour and a half I will get a back massage at Whole Point. I think it will help to get rid of my back pain.

I do not want shots or surgery. Too many things can go wrong with that. The massage is better than taking a hand full of Tylenol every day.

EW Training

Today they are taking down trees on the property. This means we all must jam our cars into a small part of the parking lot. With them rebuilding the road and then blocking us out over the holiday weekend it is getting tiresome.

It will get better! 😞😞😞😞😞

28-Jun-23 9:06 am @EWT 60° F

Smoke

The last couple of days the air quality has been terrible. Those fires in Canada are said to be the cause. I know I can see it and taste it. I might even start wearing a mask. We will see. 😞

EWT Project

Today I should finish this Swiss Ball rack. It takes time because I must work around the classes. I cannot make noise when the gym is full of people. Well, I could but I might get yelled at, then I might cry.

I should finish in a couple of hours. 😊

AccuWeather

They say it is not nice out there. It is after 4 pm and I must agree with them. 😞

Current Air Quality

Very Unhealthy

Health effects will be immediately felt by sensitive groups and should avoid outdoor activity. Healthy individuals are likely to experience difficulty breathing and throat irritation; consider staying indoors and rescheduling outdoor activities.

I think I will be staying indoors until spring. Well, until the air clears up a little.

Camino Stats

So far this year 172,612 people have completed the Camino. The estimate is about 345,224 peregrinos this year.

Virtual Walk

My count for this year is 775,000 steps or 305 miles.

Round Trip

The cost today for a round trip plane ticket to Spain is about \$900.00 if I leave here around March 27th and return around June 5th per Kayak.com.

29-Jun-23 7:39 am @EWT 69° F

Well, we got drops of rain last night and now the smoke in the air has turned to mud!

On that note, I will end this issue with a picture of me!



Follow up.

- **EWT project:** The Swiss Ball rack is up and in use.
- **Camino:** I have not left for the Camino.
- **Model Train:** I have started gluing the track in place.
- **Garden:** is doing good. It has been so dry, I am watering it all the time.
- **Smoke:** is still here
- **Marie:** is in Kansas visiting Marcia & Edie
- **Petra:** is still in Spain.
- **FoodShed.coop** :The ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for July 18th. Be there or be square. 😊



Marty's Random Thoughts

The Backer Page

MY BOOKS



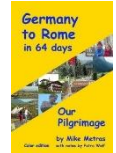
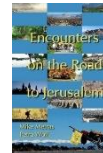
← MY CAMINO DE SANTIAGO ADVENTURE
WALKING THE WALK, CAMINO DE SANTIAGO 2012 →
2ND EDITIONS
(2021 MAY BE MY NEXT CAMINO TRIP)



My books are available online from Lulu.com, Amazon.com and from me personally.



Mike and Petra's Books
are on
LuLu.com and Amazon.com



FoodShed.coop

1725 owners 29-Jun-23

We are a group of regular folks working hard to open a community-owned grocery store in McHenry County, IL and we hope you will join us!



FoodShed.coop Location Video:
<https://youtu.be/Uc3-OlpXe-I>



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