

The curtamous page

July 2010 Archived Notes

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July 26, 2010 - Jak se maj!!! Howdy folks! Looks like a Sunday evening update this week... Got a pretty full day tomorrow, and time tonight, so it looks like a late supper for me... Not that there's much to eat anyway...

Big news from west of the border! I received a text message last Thursday evening that the SEC-State and his beautiful bride will be supplying a chicken dinner soon! Yes, word is that their youngest Alicia accepted Andy's request for marriage, so soon the FDA Chair will again be dancing barefoot! I have not heard any details, but I'm sure the whole clan is quite excited! More info to come I'm sure, but for now, congrats to the future couple!!!

Last week was much of the same as the previous week. I was bacheloring it! My lovely bride and the Chief and his main squeeze headed south for a couple days to deplete my financial accounts and to enjoy the local water parks in the Dells. Considering how much rain we've gotten, they could have saved me a few bucks and swam in the backyard, but I guess that wouldn't be the same. All in all, it was a nice vacation for me too...

Speaking of rain, I got a call from the weatherman on Thursday night. He was on his way home and was in need of "assistance". He works in the western suburbs of Milwaukee and lives just north of downtown, and he needed guidance in getting home through flooded Milwaukee. He was already over an hour into his journey and getting anxious that he might not get home. He had already turned around numerous times in areas too flooded to get through, so he needed some "eyes in the sky" and I was his man. I got on Google Maps and weatherchannel.com and guided him home. He had to go all the way north to Mequon Road and cut across to Lakeshore Drive to get there, but in a little over three hours total, he made it. DEFINETELY the longest phone conversation WE ever had. LOL! VERY glad he made it home safe. After seeing the aftermath of the storms that cut through that area, he was probably lucky.

Tuesday night I was invited out to Zumbo's ranch for a homecoming for Laura and Al. They traveled home from Colorado on their summer vacation and it was great to get to see them. Zumbo and his beautiful bride put on a great spread and we had a really nice visit with the young couple. They are taking a bit of time off before getting back to school! Hope they had a great vacation and have a safe trip home!!!

This weekend was "Liuns" weekend in Denville, so we had ALL THE CROWDS to deal with! Actually, it turned out to be a pretty good weekend for the local festival with the weather cooperating for a change. Haven't heard exactly how everything turned out, but I have heard that the crowds were actually somewhat down this year. I sure hope they still managed to make some money. They're a good group and do a lot of good for our little community. Thanks guys!

Got out on a couple of rides on the bike this week. One short and one long... The long one on Saturday featured a tour of the swollen Fox River. I followed it all the way from just south of

Depere to Kaukauna and it was pretty amazing. I'd say the water is up a good 5 to 6 feet with a lot of flooding and docks and such underwater. The damn in Kaukauna was pretty amazing with that much water going through that narrow stretch, and the 1000 Island area, which usually looks like a gravel pit, was pretty much underwater. That was the first time I ever saw that. Funny what Mother Nature can do...

Work is still pretty busy and getting "better" (or worse, depending on your perspective). I have a lot of irons in the fire and it's pretty darn hectic these days. I've got a busy schedule during the day and always quite a bit of stuff that spills over into the evening hours, when I can get to it of course. As summer is usually a somewhat slow time (at least it was in the old days) I can't imagine what it's going to be like later in the year... We shall see!

Two weeks ago was the Annual Kapinos Reunion, and my cousin Lyle had a good one... He's a master at one liners...

How to stop the Gulf Oil Leak

Every married man alive has known the secret for years: Put a wedding band around the well, and it instantly stops putting out.

With that, let's see why you're fat...



Nutella Ice Cream Sandwiches

Tell me THOSE don't look good!

...and on with the weekly drink menu!

26 Revolution Day (Cuba). Fidel continues to revolt. *Cuba Libre.*

27 National Scotch Day. "Well, between scotch and nothin', I suppose I'd take scotch. It's the nearest thing to good moonshine I can find." —William Faulkner. *Scotch (if there's no 'shine on hand).*

28 Hurricane Supplication Day (Virgin Islands). Fight fire with fire. *Hurricanes.*

29 Rasputin's Birthday (1871). Wino monk held sway over the Russian empire. *Madeira wine (his favorite).*

30 All American Soap Box Derby Day. Recapture those forgotten memories of childhood glory. *Gin and ginger ale.*

31 Jimmy Hoffa disappears (1975). Left behind a lotta outstanding bar tabs. *Union-made beer.*

1 Modern Drunkard Magazine was unleashed on the drinking public (1996). Rise up, boozehead! *Anything and everything.*

Not only is that a surprising menu, but it also shocks me that NEXT WEEK IS ALREADY AUGUST! Where is the time going???

I'm sure most of you have forgotten your New Year's Resolutions, but here's a good set for anytime!

Resolutions

- Call your family often.***
- Each day give something good to others.***
- Forgive everyone for everything.***
- Spend time w/people over the age of 70 & under the age of 6.***
- Try to make at least three people smile each day.***
- What other people think of you is none of your business.***
- Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.***

Sounds like a pretty good task list to me!!!

Tough world out there... Can you believe someone tried to steal my bike?



Luckily there was no damage... the culprit is still waddling away...

Next weekend is the annual Nelson Family Camping expedition. Not at all sure what my schedule is, but I hope to make it up there for at least a day or so. We shall see... Certainly is a good time, but I haven't had a very good history of making it there... Hopefully this year is different...

Well, that's it for today... Hope you enjoyed! Here are my weekly words of wisdom for our junior members...

"You can tell the size of your God by looking at the size of your worry list. The longer your list, the smaller your God." ~ Unknown

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice"!

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July 19, 2010 - Jak se maj!!! Good morning all... I'm a bit behind schedule, so this may be a bit of a quick update...

This weekend I was bacheloring it! My beautiful bride headed south with her sister to spend the weekend with the weatherman and his lovely sidekick, so I was the man of the house for the weekend. Well, it was me, the Chief, and the dog... The dog kinda rules the roost, but I like to think I do... For the most part, it was a pretty nice quiet weekend...

Except of course, for the annual crabbing! Saturday the Nelson clan gathered (along with assorted tag-alongs) at my place to catch some crabs and to celebrate Ma Nelson's birthday. We headed out to the local crick and found it quite swollen from the recent rains. Definitely higher than I remember for quite some time, but at least a foot lower than it was when I checked it on Friday. Normally I would say the hole we go to is on average knee deep. It was over waist deep, cold, and up to our chest in places. It also made crabbing MUCH more difficult than normal. I'd say we typically catch 3-4 gallons of crabs in 20-30 minutes... This year we caught

about 30 crabs TOTAL in about an hour. But they were delicious!

We cleaned them right in the crick since we had so few, and it was the quickest cleaning and cooking job I EVER remember. My lovely sisters also acquired some fresh peas, carrots, and potatoes, and along with a big bunch of parsley, threw together a DELICIOUS batch of Ous Mous Nous. It was FANTASTIC! The FDA Chairman brought some garden fresh kohlrabi, and the librarian brought a BIG batch of cookies. Suster's chicken finalized the menu, along with beer and drinks of course, so we had a fine feast. I'm sure Ma (and Pa) Nelson was proud looking down on us... I know we sure had a good time. Thanks to everyone!

Sunday I headed north of GB, almost to the polish capital of Pulaski, to help celebrate my cousin Gutter's son's graduation. By the time I arrived, the weather was pretty much beautiful, if not a bit muggy. Feasted on local fare and Gutzman beer and had a really nice time. Congrats Tyler!

This past Thursday was the annual Kapinos Orphans reunion held at the Sausage Stuffer's ranch in suburban Glenmore. Really beautiful weather that night and it was once again great to see all the relation from that side. We even had Mass that night for Ma and her brothers and sisters, so I actually waited to have a few beers AFTER. Had a nice time and I look forward to next year!

Certainly has been a bit wet lately hasn't it. We had the REALLY big rain that came through on Wednesday that obviously caused our little crick to become a river. We got around 2 to 2.5 inches, but the FDA Chairman reported he got around 4 inches just west of Wrongstown. Definitely enough to soak the already saturated ground. Then we got another good soaking Sunday morning, right as I was going to church, that helped keep EVERYTHING moist. It was raining so hard I actually used an umbrella. Amazing... Let's hope for a little drier spell for a week or so... Oh wait; I just checked the forecast... More rain in store for tonight and tomorrow... Great... Well, I guess it's better than the drought conditions we've had the past few years...

Found a couple good ones lately, and hopefully this will help fill out the update...

One of the junior members got a new vehicle... This is his favorite feature!



I know more than one of my nieces would go for this one! We'll use it for this week's "THIS IS WHY YOUR FAT"...



And finally, to kick off this week's drinking schedule, did you hear this one?



So, onto the drink menu...

19 St Arnold's Day. The patron saint of beer spent his life teaching that water was dangerous and beer was dangerously delicious. **Chimay Ale.**

20 Cockney Day. Get Brahms and Liszt down at the rub-a-dub-dub. **Giggle and titter.**

21 Ernest Hemingway's Birthday (1899). Celebrate the man who taught two generations how to drink.

Papa Doble

2 1/2 ounces White Bacardi Rum

Juice of 1/2 grapefruit

6 drops grenadine

Mix with half scoop of ice in a blender. Garnish with a cherry.

22 John Dillinger is gunned down outside a movie theatre (1934). Should have went to the pub.

Gangbuster Punch

1 1/2 oz vodka

1 1/2 oz peach schnapps

1 oz cranberry juice

Splash 7-Up

Shake well, strain.

23 Raymond Chandler's Birthday (1888). Literary father of the booze-belting P.I. **Rye whiskey.**

24 National Tequila Day. AKA Wake Up In Jail Day. **Tequila.**

25 St. Christopher's Day. Patron saint of bikers and bachelors.

Confirmed Bachelor

1 1/2 oz Gin

1 tsp Grenadine

1/2 tsp Rose's Lime Juice

1 Egg white

Shake with ice, strain.

Hey, I didn't know St. Christopher was the patron saint of bachelors and bikers! What a great guy! Don't forget your Tequila shooter on Friday Night!!!

Got an unsubstantiated report from the FM that The President has installed CENTRAL AIR in the cabin!!! Now, I just don't know what to make of this, especially since the report came from the FM during his week (or month) of vacation, but I know The President has mentioned in the past that it might be nice to have some air at the cabin during the summer months. Perhaps the FM actually deemed this as a request, because as the story goes, he supplied the AC and Whitey installed it. Kinda hard to believe, but he says it's true. The President and First Lady are north this week at an undisclosed vacation retreat, so I was unable to verify the claim, but to be honest, I wouldn't be surprised... I'll have to check it out soon and report back...

Other news... Zumbo picked up a new bike for Captain Chuck. Seems the skipper is kinda outgrowing his Sportster and has moved up to a Wide Glide... Not sure how the two are going to make the swap, but I sure would like to go along on that ride! Too bad work is a little too busy to pull that off... Anyway, I would guess the new bike looks something like this:



Here's a biker's prayer to keep in mind...

**Grant me O'Lord
A Steady Hand
And A Watchful Eye
That No One Shall Be Hurt
As I Pass By...**

Can you believe the summer is HALF OVER!!! Cripes sakes, it just STARTED!!! I sure have a lot to get done and no plans to do any of it. That can't be a good combination. I just checked my "Summer 2010" project list and I have one thing checked off... Not a real good percentage... Oh well, I'll get back to it...

Not much else going on I can think of... Liuns Weekend in Denville coming up, as is Nelson family camping... Work is still really busy and we're making progress on the church web site... Other than that, I have nothing going on...

Not a half bad update considering the rush and how busy I am... But, you do get what you pay for... As always, before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Four wheels move the body. Two wheels move the soul." - Unknown

Very true!

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice"!

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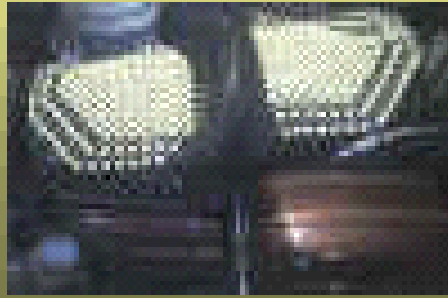
July 12, 2010 - Jak se maj!!! A lovely, but stormy, Sunday evening to all... Raining right now and we've had some little cells go through with some associated lightning and thunder. Nothing big, but it has cooled things off a bit again. Very nice...

Coming to you early this week as I once again missed last week's update, and I want to make sure I get one in. Work was really rough last week, and I've been "monitoring" issues all weekend. Thursday things came to a head and a pretty important network system at a client site went "ca-plooey"! (Yes, that is a technical term!) The issues resulted in a very late night (4am) and a pretty long day Friday to go with it... Things magically calmed down Friday afternoon, but

we're not sure why, hence the "monitoring" all weekend. I very much hope and pray for a better week coming up!

So what's been going on other than the dreaded work thing?

Quick update on the bike project... My new beaded seats are securely attached, tested, and I am certifying them a complete success. I may still work on improving the attachments on them a bit, but for the most part they are excellent. They definitely work. They somehow provide some ventilation and kinda keep you from "adhering" so much to the seat, if you know what I mean. Took them on a couple trips and I really like them. My biker wife even tried hers out and concurred, which is hard to believe... Here they are...



Travelled to Green Bay on the first of July for Jenny's first annual birthday party. Very nice time and she was a great host. Little does she know we plan on showing up EVERY July first from now on... Actually, maybe she does, as they plan on going to Vegas for her next birthday, so if we don't go, we'll be waiting at her place when she gets back. Happy Birthday Jenny!!!

Had a nice extended 4th of July weekend. Pretty low keyed. Really the only thing planned was to head out on Lake Michigan fishing with The Skipper on Monday the 5th, but we cancelled due to the crappy weather going through. Other than that, we didn't do too much. My beautiful bride and I did take a spin on the bike out to the Sausage Stuffer's abode for a nice evening of conversation on their deck. That was REALLY nice, and it was certainly the highlight of the weekend. So everything turned out pretty good.

I did get out to Zumbo's to make a little wood over the holiday weekend as well. Dropped a couple trees and stacked 'em, but I need to get out there pretty regular if I want to get enough wood stored up. At least as much as last year I hope...

This past Wednesday the in-law's through a nice surprise party for my mother-in-law. We were in charge of getting here to The Right Place for the party. My lovely bride was all worried about getting here there, but she was pretty much as oblivious as I expected. She was quite shocked and we had a very nice time. Took a while to eat though so I soaked up a couple old fashions... OK a few... Yeah, more than 4... So Thursday I felt a little tired... Go figure...

Heard from The President the week before last. I called him to check on the status of the cabin after those really bad storms went through the Crivitz area. No damage or issues to report, but he DID just get someone to take down that tree that was leaning over the cabin, so that might have been PERFECT timing!

Rough news on the financial front. Both the car AND the truck needed new brakes the last week, so I made my contribution to the Randy Watruba Children's College Fund. The truck brakes were really bad, which I knew for the past few months, but I've been avoiding the issue. Wednesday night they started grinding AND clunking, so it was time. But both are as good as new now (I hope).

More work done on the church web site... Just seems to be going REALLY slow... I hope we get

it done soon...

So, how come you're fat...?

Red Velvet Pancakes

Red velvet pancakes served with whipped cream cheese and butter pecan syrup.

(submitted by strawberries via [TheBreakFastCook](#))

Too hot to eat this time of year, so let's see what's on the libation menu:

12 Milton Berle's Birthday. "If it wasn't for the olives in his martinis, he'd starve to death." **Martinis, extra olives.**

13 Fool's Paradise Day. See you at the bar. **Whatever you're buying.**

14 Bastille Day (French). Fourth of July for francophiles. **Cognac.**

15 Respect Canada Day. Okay, but only because of hockey and the Mackenzie brothers, eh? **Molson.**

16 Anniversary of the Whiskey Rebellion. In 1794 American farmers rose up against the federal government to protest new taxes on liquor. **Bottle of liquor from the duty-free shop.**

17 St. Alexis' Day. Patron saint of panhandlers. **PBR draft.**

18 Hunter S. Thompson's Birthday (1937). "I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence or insanity to anyone, but they've always worked for me." **Wild Turkey.**

Hey, starting off with martinis with EXTRA olives tomorrow. I AM IN FOR THAT!!! We'll see about the Wild Turkey though... Maybe in an Old Fashion...

Big news!!! The SEC-STATE'S BIRTHDAY WAS YESTERDAY! HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR. SEC-STATE!!! I hope you have yourself a GREAT DAY!

I gotta send out an email shortly to see if anyone is up for going crabbing this coming weekend. The FDA Chari and I kinda set the day for Saturday, but we'll see how that works out. If you're out and about, stop on by!

This Thursday is the annual Kapinos Orphan Reunion. We'll head out to the Sausage Stuffer's abode and see a bunch of the Kapinos clan. Always a good time, and then we head to church at 7:30 for Mass. Actually, it doesn't really make that much sense knowing that bunch, but somehow it works out just fine. Looking forward to seeing all the Gosz's and Mellen's and Shimack's and assorted relation.

Well, not much of an update. Seems I'm awful busy doing nothing that needs to be reported on. Strange... Well, as always, before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"The man who smiles when things go wrong has thought of someone to blame it on." - Robert Bloch

Sad... But true!

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice"!

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