

The curtamous page

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July 31, 2011 - ***Jak se maj! Howdy everyone! Sorry about the two week hiatus, but I was a bit "under the weather" last Sunday and an update just wasn't going to happen... More on that later... It's Sunday night and it's late, so I don't know how far I'll get or how much I'll include, but let's get at it and see...***

Big news of the last two weeks was the big crabbing fest last weekend. Kinda a small crowd as everyone has a lot going on in summer, but the FDA Chairman led us well and we came home with a nice potful of crabs. They are DELICIOUS! Pretty average sized, but REALLY good stuff... Had a nice little crowd with special guests (the weatherman's sidekick's parents came over) and we ordered up some Suster's to make sure everyone didn't starve, and along with the beer had a great time. The problem was, we didn't stop... They boys, the sidekick, and the sidekick's parents took ma and pa out on the town... I'm pretty sure we hit all the taverns in the vicinity and the last thing I remember was having a campfire at the house after bar time... So Sunday was a little rough around the edges, hence the lack of an update last week. So bad I even missed church, so that just goes to show you... But it was a great time, and I'm looking forward to next year already...

Two Thursday's ago was the annual Kapinos reunion along with Mass for Ma and Pa Nelson and all the Kapinos's. Had a really nice time out at the Librarian's, and the weather even cooperated as it wasn't 100 degrees out. They are a nice crew and it's good to visit with them at least once a year...

Work's been CRAZY busy, and last week I was in Chicago for two days. Nothing crappy has been going on, just a lot of stuff all at the same time. Hard to believe, but I'm actually hoping it will slow down "just a little" bit... It's August already tomorrow, and I've gotten almost NOTHING done off my summer list so far. I gotta get busy... I at least have to get the deck and fence stained and some wood made... No small projects in themselves... We'll see...

This weekend the Colorado duo moved back to God's Country and will be residing in the Milwaukee suburbs. My dear blonde sister was texting me updates... Not really sure if they were meant for me, especially the one at 12:15am this morning, but it was nice to hear from them and that the move was going well. I'm sure my sisters will be glad to get back to work...

Not much biking going on lately. I got out yesterday morning for a nice 75 mile ride, but that was about it for the last week or so. Pretty sad... I am hoping to take it to work a day or two this week, but that's only if the weather cooperates... No progress on the trunk rack either, but I am pretty much ready to assemble.

Got this from the SEC-M/W... Pretty funny...

Letter to the Men's Helpline:

Hi Guys,

I really need your advice on a serious problem: I have suspected for some time now that my wife has been cheating on me. The usual signs: if the phone rings and I answer, the caller hangs up; she goes out with the girls a lot. I try to stay awake to look out for her when she comes home but I usually fall asleep. Anyway last night about midnight I hid in the shed behind the boat. When she came home she got out of someone's car, buttoning her blouse, and then she took her panties out of her purse and slipped them on. It was at that moment, crouched behind the boat, that I noticed a hairline crack in the outboard engine mounting bracket. Is that something I can weld or do I need to replace it?

Please help!

I like that one...

So what's on the drink menu this week? Let's start with August 1st!

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

2 Peter O'Toole's Birthday (1932). "I was so drunk I thought I was Peter O'Toole."—Richard Burton. **Irish whiskey.**

3 Feast of Caligo (Roman). All hail the Mother of Chaos! **Mix whatever's on hand in a bucket.**

4 St. Sithney's Day. Patron saint of mad dogs. **Something frothy.**

5 Andy Capp debuted in Britain's Daily Mirror (1957). Best comic strip ever. **As many pints as your lady will buy you.**

6 Robert Mitchum's Birthday (1917). "The only difference between me and my fellow actors is that I've spent more time in jail."

Extended Jail Sentence

1 oz Jack Daniels

1 oz Southern Comfort

1 oz Gold tequila

Flash blend with ice, serve.

7 Customer Appreciation Day. Hip your bartender to this one. **One on the cuff.**

Hmm... I'm all for a free drink, but nothing else catches my eye... I think I'll eat some more crabs washed down with Miller High Life this week!

Hay, I was doing some picture stuff on my phone the other day and ran across this. If you're a BBC member, you'll know the view... It was taken during Turkey Hunt 2011. (Click on it for a full sized view)



If you download that, it makes a nice windows desktop background...

Speaking of the cabin on A, have you heard that The President has installed air conditioning? I was lead to believe that he installed a small window unit of some sort... But I should have known better... (Click on it for a full sized view)



Yes, those are ice packs in front of a cheap Walmart fan... Way to go BOB!!!

Oh yeah, there are some unsubstantiated rumors coming from the Woochuck ranch concerning our beloved President, but they aren't worthy of reporting here... Just more poppycock about the President being "whipped"... Not that the FM wouldn't know all about that...

Not much else going on... I'm sure there's some family camping coming up, maybe a booyah or two... The family and my cash are going to the State Fair next weekend, but I'm on call and staying home... That'll be nice anyway... Hope to get some project work around the house going soon, and as always, hope to put a lot more miles on the bike...

Otherwise, that's it... Pretty pathetic, but as I often say, you get what you pay for... In closing, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members...

"What dreadful hot weather we have! It keeps me in a continual state of inelegance." ~ Jane Austen

That quote came to mind when the hot weather rolled into Chicago while I was there... Lots of hot sweaty people down there, but the ladies sure do dress nice... :-)

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

curtamous

July 17, 2011 - Jak se maj! Happy hot and muggy Sunday everyone! Boy, it's a think warm day out there today... Maybe I'm just beat, but it almost feels like it saps your strength going out in this stuff... I think it's almost as bad, if not worse, than those 20 below days in January... At least then you can bundle up... Oh well...

Pretty tired today after quite a day yesterday... As I mentioned, I had to work, and it turns out I had to go on site in Milwaukee, Sussex actually, and arrived around noon, which meant I had to leave around 10am... I figured if all things went well, I'd be out of there by 6pm or so... If not, maybe 10pm or so... I didn't get out of there until AFTER midnight! Ouch... Then a 2 and a half hour ride home left me pretty wiped out today... So far I got to church, watched some soccer and that's about it... Pretty much a wasted weekend, which sucks, cause I wasn't even on call this week...

Good news on the work front... If you check out today's Green Bay Press Gazette (Sunday July 17th) you'll see our company on the front of the business section. We had a press release that

we're moving to the Smet building on Highway 41 just south of Depere (off the Freedom Hwy S exit). So we're graduating from the "business incubator" into the real world... YEAH!!! Great news for us and I'm glad it's finally official... It's a neat place, good location, and we're really looking forward to it! We hope to be in the new building in early October...

Really not much else going on over the last week... Skipper stopped over Monday and we built him some new planer boards for his boat. That went pretty well and we had a few beers after. He's buying a new house, so that's pretty exciting along with everything else going on in his life, so good for him!

Took the bike to work one day this week (Tuesday when it was supposed to rain, but didn't, thankfully!) but that was about it for rides... It's a "big" maybe, but perhaps I'll take a short spin later this evening when it cools off a bit... I did make some progress on the new trunk rack... I'm pretty much at the point where I can attempt to glue in the new ABS support, but to do that, I had to figure out how to clamp it... No ideas, so I made one... I hope I make The President proud!



Basically it's just a big C-clamp made out of 2x4's, 2x3's, 2x2's and a homemade hinge... Plus a little carpet to so I don't scratch to outside... Its big enough to get over the sides of the trunk but still put pressure on the ABS on the bottom when its glued... I'll use real C-clamps to on the long extended pieces to bring them together to clamp the rest... Now I just need time, and extra set of hands, and a cool shop to try one... I hope it works... I'll have pics if it does...

Oh yeah, the weatherman and his sidekick were home this weekend too, which was nice... But that's about it for the week... Boring, huh?

Beertender is still working well, but let's see what else is on tap...

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.**

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.

Hmmm... Not a one interests me... I think I'll stick to New Castle on tap!

Did forget one item... Ma Nelson's birthday was Friday... I DID have a taper in her honor... :-)

Quite a bit coming up this week... Besides the hot weather... Thursday is the 5th annual Kapinos Reunion out at the Sausage Stuffer and Librarian's abode... That's always a nice time, but I bet it'll be hotter than heck... We have Mass that evening for Ma and Pa Nelson too, so I'll even behave...

Next Saturday's Crabbing fest is ON!!! We're going to meet up on Saturday around 1pm and whoever shows up shows up... We'll go get some crabs, clean 'em and cook 'em, drink some beer, and maybe get some Susters... If it's a REALLY good day, maybe we'll head over to the Lion's Weekend Tractor Pulls down at the park after. We shall see...

Actually, I guess that's not much going on, but GOOD stuff anyway... Pretty weak update, but that's pretty much my life... All my excitement this summer was over the 4th... Oh well...

So I'm out... To close, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members..

"When I get away from home for too long I start to get crazy, so I need to get back, ... We have to get back just to get our feet in the mud, in that crawfish juice, or something." ~ George Porte

Not quite sure what that means, but I think it's a positive spin on crawdads... Personally, I was surprised I could "find" a quote about crawdads...

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

curtamous

July 10, 2011 - Jak se maj! Howdy all! Welcome to July! It certainly has been a hectic month already, but mostly in a very good way. Missed last week's update due to a wonderful four day weekend that had me busy enjoying a great time... which means I have a LOT to catch up on... Here goes...

I took Friday off before the 4th of July in order to get myself refreshed with a nice four day weekend. Friday I started off by getting my front porch floor painted. It's been two years since I re-did that flooring, and the paint held up REALLY well, but it was time for another coat. Hate painting, but it went well!

From there I cleaned up and headed north for Jenny's birthday at Kingsbury Kottage. Had a bit of an issue getting there as my truck was overheating, but I made it ok and had a really nice time. Jenny was in her glory (and decked out in yellow) and the Librarian made an AWESOME taco supper! I was VERY sad to leave as I would have loved to stay the night since the company was splendid and the beer tasted SO GOOD, but my list of "things to do for the weekend" was long, so I headed home... but it was well worth the trip... Happy Birthday Jenny!!!

Saturday morning was more "work" stuff... Got the lawn work done, and then I began "phase 2"

of my patio brick, which is a small section next to the deck, and got that dug out and leveled with sand and ready for the pavers. I figured I'd let it settle and finish it later in the weekend... Pretty much took up the day... Made it to church and then took it easy for the evening... Nice day!

Sunday morning I was up early and got the bike ready for a trip. I had some issues with the bike the weekend before, but I had her out every night that week and all was well, so I headed out for what I called my "Lake Winnebago Circle" tour. I've had this planned for a bit (wintertime dreaming you know) and planned on heading south on the back roads to Fonddulac, north along the west shore on Hwy 45 and A, and then back home. The weather was PERFECT and the trip turned out excellent!!! It was about 3 and a half hours, 138 miles, and a TON of beautiful roads and scenery. So far, might be the BEST bike trip I've made... Only regret was not stopping more and not getting any pictures... Maybe next time...

Just as I got home I got a call from Skipper to go out fishing on Lake Michigan. YES!!! I could actually go! He's had his boat for 3 years now and this would be my first chance to get out there with him. I met him and his cousin (his first mate) and his cousin's buddy in Trivers around 3:30 and we headed out. To be honest, I didn't expect much other than a nice time. I consider Lake fishing pretty tough and Skipper is usually saying how they don't get much, but boy was I pleasantly surprised! We stayed out way past dark and got in around 10:30-11:00PM and we had 4 fish and missed 3 more. Plus, the weather was darn near perfect... Not too hot or cold. Of course, spending any time with Skipper is always a blast, so that was just icing on the cake. Also, I was extremely impressed with their setup and fishing ability. They KNOW what they are doing and really have things figured out. I just can't put into words what a great time it was... Skipper even sent me home with fish!!! I was hoping to get it fresh smoked the next day, but other "plans" foiled that idea, but they are in the freezer just waiting to get on the smoker. Skipper, THANKS for a GREAT time!!!

Great bike trip and Lake Michigan fishing with Skipper... It could NOT have been a better day!

Monday I kinda slept in after the late night, but then I headed to Menards to get my brick pavers and get phase 2 of the patio done. The Chief Inspector helped out again and pretty soon I had it all done. Since it was a smaller section I could really get it leveled out nicely and it turned out pretty good... Here's a pic for your approval... (Click on it for a larger view)



Monday afternoon we headed to Green Bay for my nephew Jay's (the grocer's son) birthday. Nice get together with a nice lunch and some really good Ice Cream cake, which was perfect for a warm afternoon... Had a nice time to cap off the weekend... Happy Birthday Jay!

With the two week span here, I'm having a tough time remembering what happened when, but I did get my Father's Day present setup and operational somewhere along the line. Its tapped and working great. It's not in the "best" spot in the house, in the basement next to my workbench, but it's handy and works great... Here she is: (Click on it for a larger view)



The little mini-kegger of New Castle is "almost" empty... Yum!

This past week was pretty crazy work-wise... Had a short week to start with, and then I had to head to Manteno, IL for work on Thursday and Friday, actually heading down on Wednesday night. Good trip though and got LOT'S done, plus I got to stop off in Milwaukee and have a couple beers with the Weatherman and his sidekick on the way home Friday. That was cool... But with the short week and business trip, I am massively behind at work... Been trying to catch-up this weekend, but it's not going so good...

Spent yesterday (Saturday) doing yard work and then work-work... Got to church out at Stark, and that was pretty much it... Not too eventful... This morning I was up early again and took a quick trip on the bike and stopped in at the Cruise Inn Diner in Kaukauna for breakfast... Saw the rain heading in from the west though so I headed back home from there... Pretty warm and muggy, but still a nice spin...

Now, it's time for the "Weekly Diatribe" update and more work-work... Better than a hospital stay or the morgue, but not by much... :-)

Hey! Good news with my glasses... Called the eye doc two weeks ago wondering where my glasses were, and they said they had been trying to call me as they were in... (They had the wrong cell number) Stopped over and they fitted them and guess what? They're OK! I'm about two weeks wearing them now and I'm pretty much used to them and they are fine. Good vision for far, medium, and close up, so that's about all you can ask for. The biggest complaint is the "field of vision" is smaller for whatever you're looking at, but I guess that can be expected. Took a bit, but I'm pretty much happy with the results... Good news for a change!!!

With my Brewtender tapped, I really don't need a schedule, but you might...

10 National Pina Colada Day. "Yes, I like Pina Coladas, and getting caught in the rain. I'm not much into health food, I am into champagne."—Rupert Holmes. **Pina Colada.**

11 Buffalo Bill Day. Saved our young nation from marauding bison. **Buffalo Trace Whiskey.**

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**

Not a bad list... You know, if they made Pabst in those mini-kegs, I'd run right out and get one...

On to the "no-update" updates... No progress on the [BBC Newsletter](#)... I may get back to it this summer, but I doubt it... Might be a fall project, with the hope to have it done by Deer Camp

2011... No progress on the [bike trunk rack](#) either... Well, a little progress, as I did get the ABS glue for it, but no actual work done. I need to figure out how to "clamp" it, and I've gotten ZERO suggestions from my loyal readers... I may just clamp the sides and use a heavy weight in the middle... We'll see...

Big birthday today! The SEC-State turns another page today! I assume he's up celebrating at Kingsbury Kottage, but where ever he is, if you see him, wish him a great day. Happy Birthday Keith!!!

This evening we're heading out to Eddie Whipp's to celebrate my mother-in-law's birthday. Nothing like family style chicken... Hope the in-law's show up en-masse so there aren't any "issues"... Should be fun either way though... Happy Birthday Joann!

Well, it's July, and you know what that means.... Time to catch some crabs... Friday is Ma Nelson's birthday, and it looked like I'd be able to do the crabbing thing on Saturday, but work has totally messed that up as I have a client cutover schedule that day. It should go fine without any intervention on my part, but it's one of those things where I need to be available to pretty much drop whatever I'm doing if it goes bad and I need to help out. Sunday's is out as the Chief's sidekick has her graduation party scheduled, so it looks like this weekend is out. I'm on call the following weekend, but I think we're going to shoot for that anyway... I'll check with the FDA Chairman and go from there... I hope it works, cause I could REALLY go for some crabs...

Is it just me, or is it hard to believe Ma and Pa Nelson have been gone 5 years...? I think that they are so much a part of our everyday life and in our siblings, nieces, nephews, grandkids, friends and relatives, that it's like they really are here with us... Yeah, we miss them, but as a family we are really lucky with what they left us... Thanks Mom and Dad!

Well, I think that's everything... Don't think I left out anything big, so I'm gonna call it "good"... Not a bad update if I say so myself... If you have anything to add, let me know...

But I head out, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members...

**"People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy."
~ Anton Chekhov**

Year, we all love summer, but that quote sums up life in general...

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

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