

The curtamous page

June 2011 Archived Notes

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June 26, 2011 - ***Jak se maj! Hey everyone! Welcome to summer! Be-A-U-TI-FUL day today... So I hope this is a quick update...***

Sorry about missing last week, but it was Father's Day, so I played hooky and skipped the update... Had a great Father's Day weekend though! My lovely bride and the Chief went up to Mall of America for the weekend, so I had the house to myself and enjoyed it thoroughly! Work interfered a bit on Saturday, and due to that and the iffy weather, I missed the first booyah of the year up at Kingsbury Kottage. (Luckily, I have a great brother and he delivered! What a great guy!!!)

Father's Day itself was great! Started out slow as we had Mass at our little church on NN at noon, but then the weather man's sidekick's parents invited me over for early dinner. And WHAT a dinner it was!!! It was awesome... Roasted onions, Jackie corn (corn and bacon together... Awesome!), roaster baby reds, and the BEST ribs I've had in a long long time! They were truly awesome! Along with a few beers and a lovely dessert, it could not have been better... But I was stuffed, and that contributed to my not getting an update done last week. Thanks again to the weatherman, Jackie, and Jackie's parents Dan and Cathy for making Father's Day a great one!

Tuesday we headed south to Brew-town for the Brewer's game and had a real nice time... My lovely bride rigged up the plans with her brother the grocer, and we all headed down and met up with the weatherman and sidekick. Other than some heavy rain on the way down and REALLY heavy rain during the game (they had to close the roof and it STILL leaked) it was a great time... But it was a long ride home and late, so Wednesday was long...

Sad news from the Zumbo ranch... Zumbo's mom Adeline passed away last week and the funeral was Wednesday. She was a fine lady and lived to the ripe age of 95, but I was kinda surprised she was that old, cause she never "seemed" that old, even in the last few years as she was failing. But I think any of us would take 95... Good journey to her, and my condolences to her family and friends...

With the sad news came some good, as the distant Larsen kids, the Caption and A&L Bush, were home for the funeral and were able to spend some time. The captain had time off and is here through the weekend and A&L are here through next week job and home hunting. My blonde sister and Zumbo had us over Friday for Susters and the whole gang was there, including all of the next generation. Little Noah (George) and his little sister Quinn, Adelyn and Jack... Quite the cute little crew... Can't wait for Christmas!!!

Since Jack was there, obviously got to see the Sturgeon General and he lovely bride too... Nice cause even though they live close, we don't get to see them much due to his schedule... He's still Tony Baloney though, which is good... :-)

Let's see... Weather sure was crappy last week, but this weekend made up for it... Saw The President and FM yesterday when I dropped off some booyah for The President's mom, but got away with only one starter beer... They were off to a ball game to kick off the FM's oldest's bachelor party. Kinda wonder what those two felt like today... They SAID they were going to behave... Might even have done so, but if they got back to Denville in good shape, I bet they stopped, and then all bets are off... :-)

With the crappy weather, didn't get out on the bike much the last two weeks, but I have over 100 miles on this weekend... Had some issues today though, where the bike was sluggish and was acting like it was running low on fuel... I had just filled up though, so maybe I got some bad gas... Threw in some Sea Foam and gonna take another spin tonight...

Got some work done on her this afternoon too. Working on the ABS re-enforcements on the trunk, and despite getting some flack about making a mess of it from the crew Friday night, it went pretty well. Here's what it looks like: (Click on it for a larger image)



The ABS strips are the two pieces on the left and right. Now I need to figure out how to clamp it when I glue them in... Kinda weird shape for a regular clamp, so I might have to jury-rig something. If anyone has any ideas or a wide clamp, let me know...

Hey, I forgot to mention the AWESOME Father's Day present I got... It's a "brewtender" which is a setup for holding those Heineken and New Castle mini-kegs. Chills them and keeps 'em cold for up to a month and looks like a regular tapper. It's AWESOME! Can't wait to get some brew for it...

Speaking of brew, what's on tap this week?

26 Bicycle patented (1819). "Scotch needs water like a fish needs a bicycle."—W.C. Fields. **Fat Tire.**

27 Death of Julian the Blessed Festival (Roman). Jules, baby! We never even knew ya, kid! **Strega.**

28 Paul Bunyan Day. Imagine that poor bastard's bar tabs. **Beer, straight from the pitcher.**

29 St. Peter's Day. Patron saint of clockmakers, fishermen, Russia; against fever, foot trouble and wolves. **Red Wolf Red Ale.**

30 Superman debuted in print (1938). Booze 'til you're bulletproof.

Kryptonite

1 oz Midori melon liqueur

1/2 oz Rurple Minze

1/2 oz Goldschlager

1 oz shot Bacardi 151

Pour into shot glass, layer with 151.

1 The Feast of the Most Precious Blood. Creepy Catholic celebration celebrates Christ bleeding. **Rusty Nail.**

2 National Literacy Day. Attempt to write the Great American Novel on bar napkins—one drink at a time. Booker's Bourbon.

3 International Civil Disobedience Day. No, I will not show you my ID! Screwdrivers at home.

4 Independence Day (USA). Celebrate our freedom to drink crappy American beer. Bud.

Hey, the 28th is "Beer from the tapper"! Time to fire up the beertender!!!

No update on the glasses saga... They haven't come in yet... should be here this week...

This weekend is the 4th of July weekend! Can you believe it!?!? Might head up to Kingsbury Kottage for Taco's Friday night and to wish Jenny Penny a happy 30th! Yes, it's true, little Jenny Penny is turning 30 this weekend, so if you see her, please wish her a happy day!!!

The Sausage Stuffer is up in Canada this week... Turns out all his buddies backed out, so he went alone... Interesting and very attractive idea... I hope he has great weather and enjoys himself immensely... Whether he deserves it or not... :-)

Well, a crummy update, but its nice outside and I don't feel like sharing anymore... So I'm outta here... No idea if there will be an update next week...

But before I go, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members...

"What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfillment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade." ~ Gertrude Jekyll

How PERFECTLY fitting is that?

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

curtamous

June 12, 2011 - Jak se maj! Hi all... Man am I tired! It's been quite a weekend, but before you hear my complaints, we have big news!!!

BABY GIRL THOMPSON BORN!

The first Thompson girl in quite some time joined us this past Thursday, on her father's birthday no less! Little Quinn Marie graced us with her presence at a respectable 8 "something" pounds and 20 "something" inches. Happy and healthy, which is all that really matters. Congratulations to Mom and Dad, big brother, and of course the Mayor Grandma herself! Welcome aboard Quinn!

More good news out of Colorado... The "Bushes" are moving back to Wisconsin... Word is they've been looking and now they've landed at least one job and are their way back this summer... Home they have good luck selling their house and that the second teaching gig presents itself soon... Good luck and Welcome home!

All wonderful news no doubt, but it makes me no less tired... Spent yesterday moving the Weatherman and his sidekick down in Brewtown. Actually went very well! Just had my Dodge and the Weatherman's car, so we made a lot of trips, which resulted in many small breaks and

easier work. But we DID move that couch... Down 8 flights of stairs, and then back up one to its new home. NOT a lot of fun, but it worked and we got it in and out... Next time "Two Men and a Truck" can move it... But they are good hosts and we had a nice time with them... We were down there early so we were done early too and got home before 7pm... I slept like a rock...

Felt OK this morning, did the church thing, and then decided to attack those darn "whirly birds" that have descended off the massive maple tree in the back yard. The plan was to clear the gutters and roof, literally shave the lawn (I usually cut it as high as possible) to get all the "birds" in the bagger... Then rack and be done... Well, I used two 40 gallon garbage cans, a 20 gallon can, and two 5 gallon pails, and I STILL made five trips to unload. It took me over 5 hours to get it all done... and I AM done! Gonna sleep good tonight!!! (As long as I remember to take some Advil...)

Really not much else going on... With the cold weather and busy schedule I only got out on the bike once this week and not at all this weekend. But it IS running good! Also got my hair cut... Yes both of them... Otherwise, not much else...

Is this weather crazy or what? 90's to 50's in a day... Unreal...

Oh yeah... My saga with my glasses continues... Went to see the eye doc this week and he was an old guy that talked REALLY fast... Funny dude... Anyway, he wears "progressive" lenses, and pretty much said his eyesight was the same as mine and I'm screwed... With my eyes the way they are and really needing to see three different ranges that need correction, it's just never going to be "good"... Just gotta get used to it. We talked about my options and to consider what I have versus getting single vision lenses for most things and just take my glasses off for reading... Problem is, working on computers all day makes it so that neither of those options are great... So after talking, he checked my glasses, and guess what? They're wrong... Some measurement is wrong, so they are going to re-do them... He explained that I shouldn't expect miracles, but that they will likely be better... We shall see... In another 7-10 business days... More to follow...

Saw The President Saturday morning at the gas station when we stopped as we were leaving for Milwaukee... He reminded me of something I had TOTALLY forgotten about... (We discussed it at Fish Camp, so go figure) Besides that, I got away unscathed...

I saw a picture of a "Banana Car" somewhere on the internet and now I can't find it... Not a skiing banana, but close...

Speaking of The President, what's to drink?

13 Alexander the Great drinks himself to death (323 BC). The "I Just Conquered The Whole Damn World Party" got a little out of hand. **Brandy Alexander.**

14 Che Guevera's (1928) and Donald Trump's (1946) Birthdays. Pick a fight with yourself. **Expensive champagne and cheap tequila.**

15 Waylon Jennings Birthday (1937). Outlaw musician was one of Buddy Holly's Crickets. **Moonshine.**

16 Day of the Rat (Buddhist). "Never rat on a rat."—Rat Pack's official motto. **Whatever you can steal.**

17 Battle for Bunker Hill Day (1775). Defend your barstool to the bitter end. **PBR.**

18 Battle of Waterloo (1815). **Reenact the battle in your stomach with cognac and**

gin. You heard me.

19 Miller High Life unleashed on the drinking public (1903). Named after a brand of cigar. *Miller High Life*

WHAT? Miller High Life was born on June 19th 1903? And it's not a National Holiday??? I've contacted The Caption (I assume he has the proper connections) to get that oversight rectified!

Not much else going on, but a few events coming up... Kingsbury Kottage is hosting their first Booyah of the season on Saturday, so if you're not invited, you may want to crash the party... Father's Day on Sunday... My family will be out of town... (Weatherman will be around on Sunday, and I'm invited over to his squeeze's parents for a cookout and High Life, so I got that going for me...) Happy Father's Day to all you Dads!

Work is busy as usual, but not ridiculous... At least not right now, but it could be if I let it... LOTS to do, but nothing that urgent that I'm back to working 70 hours a week or anything...

Need to get back to the newsletter... Actually got another article submission this week... IT'S EXCELLENT! Gotta make time...

Well, it's time to finish this up, spell check, and post... I'm outa here! But before I go, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members...

"I have a few words for you, but propriety prevents me from saying them." ~ Dr. Quinn - Medicine Woman

Not sure of what to say about that... It just seems "wise"... and appropriate...

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

curtamous

June 05, 2011 - Jak se maj! Happy Sunday! Coming to you on a Sunday morning for a change... Got lots of little stuff going on today, so I figured I'd get the web update done early while I'm sipping my coffee and then just get to it... Plus, I haven't had much going on or to report on, so it should be a quick update...

Been beautiful weather, so we'll start out with a motorcycle update... I had the old girl in the shop this week and she's back home now and in good shape... I stopped over at my mechanic's on Tuesday night to have him replace the battery and check the back brakes, and the news wasn't good. Didn't have the battery ready, and I NEEDED new back brakes. Pads "and" rotors... So I dropped it off the next night and he figured he'd have it ready Friday/Saturday for the weekend. Well, he called Saturday morning and the brakes were done and fine, but I didn't need a battery... That was in great shape, but I had a starter that was REALLY bad. Yeah, the same one I swapped out last year. Well, he had a spare used one he could put in, so he went ahead and by noon I had my bike back. But my checking account was definitely at a lower level... Ouch...

But she is working beautifully now and one of the reason's the update is coming to you early today is that I plan on a nice ride this afternoon... Not sure which direction I'm heading in yet, but it will likely be north, east, west, or south... I have a route from here around Lake Winnebago planned, but I'm not sure if I have enough time to dedicate to that yet, so I think I may just pick a direction, drive for an hour or so, loop around, and head back... Should be fun based on the beautiful weather...

To be honest, other than the bike and work, I haven't done much this week. Work was rough with a late Tuesday night and really early Thursday and Friday (3:30am starts) combined with a short week... Plus with summer I'm trying not to put too many hours in so it makes thing pretty hectic... Nothing wrong with that, but it can be a little stressful... Stress and hectic probably aren't the right words, but you know what I mean... Just not enough hours in the day I guess...

Got a call from [Skipper](#) this week looking for someone to fill a seat on his boat... Didn't have the time to open up that big a slot, but hopefully I'll get out with him soon. He has a bunch of time off this month and next, so we'll see what we can rig up... Maybe we'll even get the Sausage Stuffer involved... Looking forward to it after trying to find time to go the last two years... Hope it works out...

With the summer in full swing, let's see if the drink schedule conforms...

6 Anniversary of D-Day. Fullbore drunkards FDR and Churchill drive stake in that evil teetotaler Hitler's heart. **Steel Reserve 211.**

7 Dean Martin's Birthday (1917). "I feel sorry for people who don't drink. They wake up in the morning and that's the best they're going to feel all day." **Scotch rocks.**

8 Name Your Poison Day. Build up your immunity to the nasty stuff. **You name it.**

9 The Witch Is Dead Day. Hatchet-wielding, saloon-smashing prohibitionist Carrie nation croaks in 1911. **Saloon whiskey.**

10 Alcoholics Anonymous established. Where the bad drunks go.

So Long Sucker

1 oz Absolut Kurant

1 oz Absolut Citron

1 oz Apple Pucker

1 oz Blue Maui

Shake with ice, strain.

11 Ferris Bueller's Day Off. Fake a note from your doctor. **3.2 beer.**

12 Baseball is invented (1839). Drinking beer takes on a whole new meaning.

Pitcher of beer.

Seems like a pretty "summer-y" list to me... I especially like the Dean Martin quote...

Haven't talked to The President for a while, but perhaps I'll stop over there today after my ride to say Hi.. But here is an "ingenious" invention that he no doubt came up with. I really think it's a great idea! (Click on it for a larger view)



Not sure if that's up to code or not, but it kinda makes sense...

Big plans next weekend as on Saturday we head south to Beer-town to move the weatherman and his sidekick to new digs... I am hoping for good weather as all the big stuff is being transported in "The Dodge"... I hope it makes it there... Should be fun, EXCEPT they want to move that FREAKING couch. If you remember the [story of us getting it moved in](#), I thought I was

VERY clear in that it was never going to come out... Well, so much for my opinion... But, in theory, down should be easier than up, so we'll give'er a try.... Everything else should go smoothly, assuming the weather is at least decent... I'll update you next week...

The "glasses" saga continues... Went to talk to the manager at the eye doctor this week and everything "kinda" checks out, so I have an appointment with the actual doctor next week setup. I hope they are working on this and not just stringing me along... More to come on that...

"Hopefully" a big birthday week this week... The SEC-Transportation turns another page this Thursday, and I am assuming he hopes he has another little Thompson in his arms by then. THAT would be the best birthday gift of all, but they come when they are darn good and ready... So Happy Birthday Greg! As "The Stones" say, I hope you get what you need...

That's it... Not much, but that is my life... Before I shuffle off, a few words of "wisdom" for our junior members...

"But if you try sometimes... well you might find... You get what you need..." ~ The Rolling Stones

Too true!

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

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