

The curtamous page

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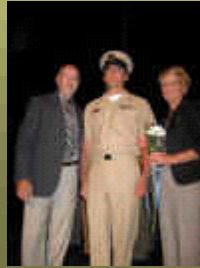
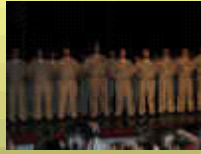
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September 19, 2011 - **Special Edition!!! I got the scoop on why Zumbo and the Blondshell were out east visiting the Captain... Turns out our Captain Chuck was "pinned" as a Chief Petty Officer this past week! Congrats Chuck!!! We are all very proud of you!!!**

United States Navy Chief Petty Officer Creed

During the course of this day you have been caused to humbly accept challenge and face adversity. This you have accomplished with rare good grace. Pointless as some of these challenges may have seemed, there were valid, time-honored reasons behind each pointed barb. It was necessary to meet these hurdles with blind faith in the fellowship of Chief Petty Officers. The goal was to instill in you that trust is inherent with the donning of the uniform of a Chief. It was our intent to impress upon you that challenge is good; a great and necessary reality which cannot mar you - which, in fact, strengthens you. In your future as a Chief Petty Officer., you will be forced to endure adversity far beyond that imposed upon you today. You must face each challenge and adversity with the same dignity and good grace you demonstrated today. By experience, by performance, and by testing, you have been this day advanced to Chief Petty Officer. In the United States Navy - and only in the United States Navy - the rank of E7 carries with it unique responsibilities and privileges you are now bound to observe and expected to fulfill. Your entire way of life is now changed. More will be expected of you; more will be demanded of you. Not because you are a E7 but because you are now a Chief Petty Officer. You have not merely been promoted one paygrade, you have joined an exclusive fellowship and, as in all fellowships, you have a special responsibility to your comrades, even as they have a special responsibility to you. This is why we in the United States Navy may maintain with pride our feelings of accomplishment once we have attained the position of Chief Petty Officer. Your new responsibilities and privileges do not appear in print. They have no official standing; they cannot be referred to by name, number, nor file. They have existed for over 100 years, Chiefs before you have freely accepted responsibility beyond the call of printed assignment. Their actions and their performance demanded the respect of their seniors as well as their juniors. It is now required that you be the fountain of wisdom, the ambassador of good will, the authority in personal relations as well as in technical applications. "Ask the Chief" is a household phrase in and out of the Navy. You are now the Chief. The exalted position you have now achieved - and the word exalted is used advisedly - exists because of the attitude and performance of the Chiefs before you. It shall exist only as long as you and your fellow Chiefs maintain these standards. It was our intention that you never forget this day. It was our intention to test you, to try you, and to accept you. Your performance has assured us that you will wear "the hat" with the same pride as your comrades in arms before you. We take a deep and sincere pleasure in clasping your hand, and accepting you as a Chief Petty officer in the United States Navy...





(Click on them for larger images...)

PS. I kinda wonder who the cutie is on those two pics... And I don't mean the Blond Bombshell... :-)

September 18, 2011 - Jak se maj! Happy Sunday everyone! I'm a VERY tired and sore puppy today, but have a great weekend to report on... Please excuse any typos, as it actually hurts to type...

This weekend we put in Uncle Jerry's sidewalk, and what a project it was! I took the day off Friday to get the project started and the boys I and hit the local coffee shop for breakfast (excellent by the way) and were on the farm by 9am. BE-A-U-TI-FUL weather to work in, and everything went just about perfect! The old concrete flaked right off, the old flagstone came out without an issue and with that out of the way, we really had very little digging. We had all the excavating done by lunch and the entire sidewalk in by supper. The only real screw up was a trip to get extra sand that we really didn't need. After a few beers we headed home and pretty much crashed... We were ALL VERY BEAT!

But Saturday we were up early, hit breakfast again at the coffee shop, and het the farm again by 9am to finish and clean everything up. By noon were had everything in, all the landscaping done, and all the old rock and concrete hauled away. Look beautiful too! For lunch we all headed to Kolb's Corners and feasted on their cheap but very good food. Overall, we did a pretty good job, and had a REALLY great time doing it. Uncle Jerry and Diane were excellent hosts, kept us well feed and watered (or beer'ed in this case) and I think they enjoyed it as much as we did. I think they like their sidewalk too... Overall, a great job done...

Here are some before (1) and after (2) pics to prove it... (Click on 'em)



By the time we got home after lunch (just in time for the Badger game) we were pretty much hurting units. Since the Badger game was only on the internet, we hooked my computer up to the Chief's TV and sat upstairs in his bedroom and watched the game... Three lifeless blobs for the most part... But it was a good game...

I try not to speak too highly of my boys, but the weatherman and chief were pretty awesome this weekend and I had a pretty darn good time with them... Pretty proud of their work ethic too... Well, they were probably in cahoots with my beautiful bride and were trying to kill me by outworking me (We just re-did some life insurance so they know what I'm worth...lol!)... Either way, thanks guys!

I may be sore for a week though from that much work... I was too sore to even take a ride on the bike today, so with that and the cool weather, I haven't been on her in over a week... Poor thing must be lonely... Maybe I'll go sit on her for a bit after I'm done with the update...

Actually a pretty good week for getting stuff done... Good month if you include the deck staining... Not only did we get the sidewalk in, but I also got my entire shop floor repainted this week too... Just finished up the last small section this evening... That last section, as small as it was, was the hardest part considering how sore I am! So I have that crossed off my list too, so now it's down to making some wood before I begin the "Fall Checklist"...

Hard to believe, but I have all my weekends booked until freaking middle of October! The next two weekends we have customer moves at work (more on that later) and then the FDA Chairman just called and he said the World Championship Booyah Cook-off is scheduled for the following weekend... So I don't have an open weekend until 10/16... Sheesh!

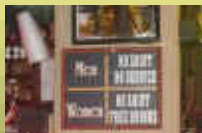
Haven't heard from the Sausage Stuffer or Librarian, but I assume they came home from Canada this weekend. Looks like they had a good week weather-wise... Cold but otherwise OK... I think... Either way, Happy Birthday Larry!

Word from east Denville is Zumbo and his blonde bombshell (that's kinda funny) were out east this past weekend to visit Captain Chuck. Sounded like a quick trip of sorts, but I'm sure it was a nice time. Hadn't heard anything so I assume the Captain survived the hurricane, but I'm sure they had a lot of rain to deal with out there... Gotta get the scoop from Zumbo this week if we get out there to make some wood...

Decent football weekend with the Badger game as the highlight... They looked pretty darn good... Let's hope they don't stub their toe like usually this year. Packer game was a bit frustrating, but a win is a win... Denville got beat again, but only by ten this week, actually scoring 19! Major moral victory... More big games next week!!!

Bunch of hunting seasons opened this weekend... Bow, small game, goose, etc... I did not partake... Weird...

Speaking of hunting, here's one from the Jack/Ass team... Sounds like there's a discrimination problem up in downtown Athelstane! [\(Click on it for full size\)](#)



Drank quite a bit of beer this weekend, but worked it all out, so it was kinda pointless... So let's see what's on tap...

19 Feast of Thoth (Egyptian). The god purported to have taught the Egyptians how to make beer. **Pyramid Pale Ale.**

20 Alexander the Great's Birthday (256 BC). Conquered the world while on a bender. **Tequila Alexander.**

21 Swiss National Yodeling Festival. You never know until you try. **Longneck bottled beer (to defend yourself).**

22 National Wine Week begins. Week-long bender! **MD 20/20.**

23 John Paul Jones victorious (1779). Declare, "I have not yet begun to drink!" at last call and see how far it gets you. **Boston Lager.**

24 F. Scott Fitzgerald's Birthday (1896). "Sometimes I wish I'd went through those good times stone cold sober so I could remember everything—but then again, if I 'd been sober the times probably wouldn't have been worth remembering."
Champagne Cocktail.

25 William Faulkner's Birthday (1897). "There's no such thing as bad whiskey. Some just happen to be better than others." **Well whiskey.**

Hey, National Wine week kicks off Thursday (weird) but that should keep my sisters happy for a bit! MD 20/20 for everyone!

Hey, anyone in the BBC think that "Tequila Alexander" is a good idea for Deer Camp? Let me know... I can't even find a recipe...

I mentioned the moves coming up for work... This coming weekend we are moving the client out of the building we are moving into. Nice huh? Starts Friday and with any luck, we'll be done Saturday, but obviously there's a lot of prep work before and follow up after. Then the weekend after our company will be "graduating" out of the NWTC Business Assistance Center into that same building. Again, a LOT of prep work (since we have little to nothing done ahead of time since we have real work to do) then the move starting Thursday, and then of course follow up after... Should be a couple of REALLY busy weeks!

Of course, with this weekend being booked, the FDA Chairman also has an extra ticket to the Badger game this weekend... CRAP! That hurts... I get "another" a chance and I can't go... I haven't been down to a game in years, literally, and I really want to get back down there... Maybe my next life will be less hectic...

Well, if next weekend goes well (the move that is) we may head down to Milwaukee on Sunday to visit the weatherman and sidekick and their new addition... Yeah, they are already expanding... They're getting a puppy... You'd think they'd know better... LOL! Hopefully things work out though and we get down there to visit, see the game, and then head home... Trying not to jinx it...

Been pretty nice out, but certainly has cooled down, hasn't it? Sad to see summer gone already and fall is already flying by... But that means Deer Camp 2011 is RIGHT around the corner... Dang! I better get that [newsletter](#) done! lol!

Well, on that note I'm gonna call it a week...But before I go, a few words of wisdom for the junior membership.....

"Folks who never do any more than they get paid for, never get paid for any more than they do." ~ Elbert Hubbard

I was looking for something on "hard work" and found that... A good one!!!

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

curtamous

September 11, 2011 - Jak se maj! Hi everyone! Been a LONG LONG time, hasn't it? I had a short update last week, but in all reality, I had my first ever 3 week layoff. I am pretty sure that's a first since 2003! Now THAT is hard to believe... Good to be back though... Let's see what's going on...

Actually, not much... I looked back through my calendar and such, and I haven't really been up to much... Good thing too, as I don't have a lot of time for tonight's update...

Couple weeks ago we did pull off a VERY successful church picnic. The FDA Chair made his world championship booyah on Saturday and that went well. Except he had to call me to get me out of bed so they could get started. Turns out the night before my wife's little card party for the in-laws turned into a late night bar hopping episode with the boys and girls. Ouch... So I was a little tired, but I did show up on time to help (a little) with the booyah. Turned out fantastic as usual, perhaps a top ten all time batch. The picnic on Sunday was a great as ever, but VERY unusual for me, as I did NOT have a single beer... Good thing too, but more on that later. Nice turn out, and the mom-in-law as well as weatherman and sidekick accompanied my beautiful bride as well. But it was kinda nice to be sober at the end of the day...

Sober was good to as the next day I headed to Philly on a business trip. Flew out of "Origami" airport (as TWO people referenced the airport on the trip) and that was kinda nice. Obviously a little further for me to drive too than the GRB airport, but nice non-the-less. Had a VERY successful trip and got home late on Wednesday. LATE as in after midnight, which made for a long day the next day... But I survived...

Last weekend, Memorial Day weekend, I planned on finally staining my deck and the short section of fence between the deck and garage. (The large section of fence will have to wait for next year) I figured with three days, it would be a snap... As usual, I was wrong... Saturday was a wash, literally, as it rained. Staining in the rain doesn't work, so I postponed. Since I had nothing else planned, it kinda wrecked the whole day. Got some "work" work done as well as some stuff on my home network, but that was it... Sunday was better, or so I thought, so by 10am I was out staining. All the spindles and trim work is REALLY time consuming though, so it was slow going. I was just getting in a groove when all of a freaking sudden, out of nowhere, it started raining! Well, it actually started pouring. Checked the radar and there were a bunch of what looked like little rain cells, most of which were going right over Denville. So I got a tarp, covered what I could, and then took a long break... REALLY cutting into my ability to get done... By 6pm or so the radar looked clear, so I got back at it... I had most of the trim done so I started on the floor boards and I was about half done when it FREAKING started raining again!!! So I took another short break, but a little bit of it got some rain marks. I ended up finishing the floor and then stained until dark... Not nearly as much done as I had hoped.

Monday was much nicer so I was out there by 9am staining again and by 2pm I had the deck pretty much done, including all the darn lattice which is a BIG pain... Since it was only 2pm, I decided to tackle the rest of the fence... Good move/Bad move there... Good in that I got it done by dark... bad in that it took a lot and I was BEAT by the time I was done, hence the lack of an update last week... But here's a picture from today... With the wife's flowers on it, it looks pretty nice... (Click on it for a bigger view)



Last night we went to a wedding for the boss's daughter in Neenah and had a nice time... Spotted Cow on tap though, so I was a little slow this morning. Ended up going to 10am church

slow... the weatherman and sidekick stopped in this afternoon so that was nice, but otherwise just a slow lazy day...

Oh yeah, forgot about the NFL kickoff in sunny Green Bay Thursday... I didn't go to anything, but did watch it on TV and caught the game, and an awesome game it was. I very much enjoyed the game and have pretty high hopes for the Green and gold 11 this year... The Badgers are also looking REALLY good this year, so it might be a pretty fun fall from a football perspective... Forgive me, but I doubt I'll report much on the Denville gridironers as they are now 0-3 and got crushed every game so far... Not going well there...

No major trips on the bike, but I have gotten in a few nice local rides as well as to work twice. With the nice expected weather this week, I may take it to work a few more times... The mornings are DEFINETELY colder now, so I won't have a lot more time to ride, so I better get them in when I can...

The librarian and Sausage Stuffer are in Canada this week for their yearly trip to celebrate Larry's birthday... I definitely envy them and hope they have a RGEAT week!

Let's see what's "on tap"!

12 H.L. Mencken's Birthday (1880). H.L. estimated that 17,864,392,788 cocktails could be conceivably mixed from the ingredients a well-stocked bar. **#5,054,458s and lots of 'em.**

13 National Peanut Day. And you know what goes with peanuts. **Draft beer.**

14 Slaughter of the Pig at Santa Maria delle Grazie (Italian). When the Italian's have a pig roast, they really do it up. **Negroni.**

15 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Perk her up by picking up the tab. **Whatever the lady wants.**

16 Day of the Great Mother (Pagan). We all know a few. **Gran Ma.**

17 M.A.S.H. debuts (1972). "Swill gin? Sir, I have sipped, lapped, and taken gin intravenously but I have never swilled." —Hawkeye. **Gin martini, Sahara dry.**

18 Captain Nelson discovered Jeannie in a bottle (1965). Was only slightly disappointed she wasn't bourbon.

Jeannie's Dream

4 oz Malibu Rum

2 oz sloe gin

2 oz orange juice

2 oz pineapple juice

2 oz 7-Up

Mix Malibu, juices and 7-Up. Gently top with sloe gin.

Hmm... Saturday, I "may" have a martini the way IT'S supposed to be... Sahara dry!

Speaking of next weekend, the boys and I have volunteered to help out Uncle Jerry and put in a new sidewalk. He had heard of our expert ice with brick work and we're gonna go out and help remove an old broken up sidewalk and replace it with a brick one. Getting the old one out should be very interesting to say the least, but I am hoping the new one goes in well. It'll be a lot of work but should be fun... We are hoping to start Friday since both boys don't have school and with any luck (and assuming we get the old one out) we hope to be done by Saturday... I'll

get an update out next week...

I was supposed to track down The President this weekend to check on his interest in an old refrigerator, but I never caught him at home... Either just bad timing or he's out of town... More on that next week after I do track him down...

OK, quite a few of the BBC like their food spicy... Tell me, would this work?



I kinda doubt it, but what do I know...?

Not much else going on, but I do want to mention the 10 year anniversary of 9/11 today. Kinda done up a little too much, but I guess there wasn't anything too gaudy. But our thoughts and prayers still go out to those affected by that evil attack, which was pretty much every single one of us to varying degrees, but most of all to those that lost loved ones that day or since in the war on terror... Never is a long time, but the whole "We will never forget" slogan is pretty much right on, at least for the current generations...

So that's about it for this week... But as always, before I go, a few words of wisdom for the junior membership...

"Our enemies have made the mistake that America's enemies always make. They saw liberty and thought they saw weakness. And now, they see defeat." ~ George W. Bush, President of the United States

Yes, our country may appear to be weakening and having issues that every generation sees, but the (other) President got that one right...

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

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