

The curtamous page

December 2012 Archived Notes

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December 24 , 2012 - *Jak se maj! Merry Christmas Everyone!!! It's Christmas Eve and its snowing and life couldn't be much better. Beautiful day and Santa comes tonight! What else could we want?*

Should be a quick update, but you never know...

Nice snow storm last Thursday... Not as bad as they made it out to be, but enough to mess up the works. The early stuff was wet and heavy to the point the snow blower really struggled. But despite needing to clear the chute numerous times, I still have all my fingers, which is a good thing. The nice soft snow today should make for a really nice Christmas.

Saturday night we had a great evening celebrating the Librarian's birthday. Pizza, beer, and the Nelson clan. Doesn't get much better than that... Happy Birthday sis!!!

Football is going well with the Packers decimating the Titans yesterday... They appear to be on a bit of a roll, but that kinda thing can stop pretty quickly, but hopes are high! Badgers have a new coach, hopefully one with some integrity that won't go running after the nearest pile of cash. The Rose Bowl should be fun...

Busy at work despite the holidays, but that's OK... It's nice having the extra days off today and tomorrow...

Holidays' always involve great food and drink... Yesterday I got the shrimp ready for the Nelson clan festivities on Christmas Day, but we should check out what's on the drink menu... I cover this week last week, but we can stand a reminder...

*24 National Eggnog Day. Nog is an Old English word for ale, an original ingredient. **Bottle of scotch, then eggs for breakfast.***

*25 Shane MacGowan's Birthday (1957). "Whenever I need a light inside me, I walk into a pub and drink 15 pints of beer." **Fifteen pints of beer.***

*26 Henry Miller's Birthday (1891). "Ah yes, yes, once in a while indulge...spree and pee...a look at the girls and a brawl...not too bloody...ring around the rosie...you know...shake the bugs out of the rug." **MGD.***

*27 National Fruitcake Day. Fruitcakes survive so long because of the high alcohol content. **Fruit-flavored vodka.***

*28 Bairns' Day. Considered the unluckiest day of the year. **Lucky Lager.***

29 Rasputin assassinated (1916). He drank enough cyanide-spiked wine to kill six

men, partied until the wee hours, then finally succumbed after being shot three times and drowned in a freezing river. **Fortified wine.**

30 Miracle Day. Order a Pousse Cafe in a sports bar. **Pousse Cafe.**

31 Guinness Brewery was founded (1759). There are 20 different variations of Guinness worldwide. **Guinness by the gallon.**

Not much to comment on other than I could go with the 15 pints tomorrow, but will more likely stick with a few Old Fashions...

Just want to take a minute to send the website best wishes on its 10th anniversary. I've been doing this on and off for over ten years, starting in June of 2002. If you go back over the [notes](#) from years past, it's clear it has never been very impressive, but I must say I enjoy it... It's good to write things down and get your thoughts in order. If anyone else has enjoyed it, all the better. So this week take a minute to raise your glass to 10 Years of [curtamous.com!](#)

The holidays will start shortly with everyone getting ready for Christmas Eve Mass. We head to my lovely bride's sister's parish for 6:30 Mass and then to her house for a delicious Spaghetti dinner. It's kinda weird, but it is truly delicious and has been a nice tradition over the last 5-10 years or so... tomorrow we have Mass at our little church and then over to the Librarian and Sausage Stuffer's for the Nelson celebrations. GREAT food, drink and a fun gift exchange. Then we'll head home to check the dog and over to the mother-in-laws to visit for the evening. Should be a nice day...

The rest of the week is busy... Work, some church computer stuff, and more holidays I'm sure... I should be back next week, but perhaps not until New Year's Eve... Hard to say... But I do want to wish everyone in my life, and those that are not, a truly Merry Christmas...

That's it, but before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Unless we make Christmas an occasion to share our blessings, all the snow in Alaska won't make it white." ~ Bing Crosby

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

Merry Christmas!

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December 16 , 2012 - Jak se maj! Howdy folks! Deer hunting is over and Christmas is upon us! Let's get on with the show!

Once again another two week update... Last weekend was a busy one and an update was far down the last. Sorry... The plan last weekend was to head to Milwaukee to visit the weatherman and sidekick. That would have been enough, but monkey wrenches were thrown in the works and I ended up taking my lovely bride down on Saturday, driving home, doing a ton of work, and then going back on Sunday to pick her up... the Sunday trip was exciting due to the snow, but we made it safely... To add to the busy weekend was the Sunday night Packer game and that pretty much filled my schedule... At least the Packers won... It was a good weekend but obviously a bit wearing if you know what I mean... Keeps me out of trouble though...

As is my habit, I am not really ready at all for Christmas. I always have good intentions after Deer Camp to get right on it and then I never do... Well, I do have all week to get things done and my list isn't too long yet, so I should make it. Mostly I need to make sure I get the shrimp

cooked for Christmas day. Other than that, a few gifts and I should be good to go...

The weather has been interesting with the snow (finally) last weekend and the rain this weekend. Good news is that the snow blower works great and I was able to get it out and play a bit on Sunday. The rain knocked down what snow we had but I hear there is more on the way... It's just a matter of when, right?

Football has been fun with the Packers winning last week and another fantastic win today over the Bares. With the division championship in the bag now it's on to the playoffs. Let's hope the results are a bit more enjoyable than last year... College bowls are underway and New Year's Day will bring the Badgers to another Rose Bowl. With the Weasel Coach extradited to Arkansas we should stand a chance... Let's hope so because another Rose Bowl loss would be tough to swallow...

Niece Laura celebrated another birthday earlier in the month and I hope she had a great day! (I think I even got the right day this year!) Happy Birthday Laura!!!

Haven't heard from The President in weeks... Pretty sure he was up north for the muzzleloader season but no news has reached the Nelson abode on turnout, sightings, or activities... Hopefully we'll touch base over the holidays!

Speaking of Bob, let's see what's on the drink menu for the holiday season!

*17 Wright Brothers take the 1st airplane flight at Kitty Hawk (1903). Soar like a drunken eagle. **Grey Goose Vodka.***

*18 Feast of Our Lady of Solitude (Mexico). Buy the barlot at the end of the bar a drink. **Blue Moon Belgium White.***

*19 Underdog Day. Challenge the fattest bastard in the bar to a drinking contest. **Salty Dog.***

*20 National Sangria Day. Introduced to the U.S. at the 1964 World's Fair. **Sangria.***

*21 Jack Daniels' Birthday (1850). Started distilling 13 years later. **Gentleman Jack.***

*22 Willpower Day. Test yours at the bar. **Well tequila.***

*23 Van Gogh cut off his ear (1888). He ran out of absinthe, so he got into the turpentine and next thing you know . . . **Van Gogh Vodka.***

*24 National Eggnog Day. Nog is an Old English word for ale, an original ingredient. **Bottle of scotch, then eggs for breakfast.***

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Let's see, tomorrow the SEC-State will be celebrating with Grey Goose... Don't ask him about it as I doubt he'll remember... The 22nd, the Librarian's Birthday, features Tequila... Oh Oh! New Year's Eve features Guinness... I can't imagine a gallon of Guinness... I'll stick to Foster's on the Eve...

Mass this Thursday at the little church on NN for Ma, Pa, Chuck and Chris... Snow is forecast, but let's hope it's not so bad to cancel church... Hope to see you there!

Saturday is Pa Nelson's birthday! Oh yeah, that "also" makes it the Librarian's birthday! The plan is pizza and beer here in town. Should be a blast! Stop in and wish Charlotte a "Happy Birthday"!

Not much else going on... Work is busy but not crazy, so that's good... Hiring a new network tech and he's starting tomorrow. He's entry-level, but the extra help will be awesome once he's up to speed...

Otherwise I think that's it... Hopefully the schedule is not too hectic and I get a holiday wish out next week... Two weeks in a row would be GREAT! But until then, holiday greetings to all... But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Santa saw your Facebook status's... he's getting you a dictionary for Christmas." ~ Anonymous

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

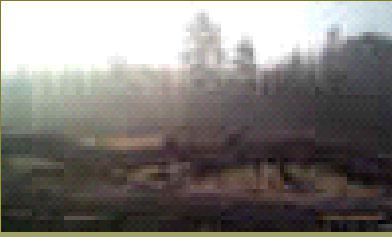
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PS. Our thoughts and prayers to everyone in and around Newtown...

December 02 , 2012 - *Jak se maj!* Hi y'all and welcome back! It's been a few weeks but with good reason as we were participating in the greatest time of the year... Deer Camp... My "favorite time of the year" and this year lived up to the annual expectations. So those of you that missed all or some of it, here's a quick recap...

The hunting this year was off the charts compared to recent years. Yes, we do hunt! It has been years (literally 3-4) since we've even "seen" deer from our stands behind camp. This year we saw 5, and I saw deer every day. I saw one unidentified deer opening morning around 9am, one Sunday around 9am and another just before 10am (more on that one later), and I saw one Monday morning on the way to my stand. The Comptroller also saw one opening morning on his "adventure"... Despite the clear cutting done last year, this is pretty exciting. I wish more hunters had seen deer, but this seems to bode well for the future...

If you haven't heard the story, the deer I saw Sunday morning before 10am was a buck... and I missed it... the story is too long to tell here, but the following picture is key to the telling... Check it out... (Click on it for a larger version)



This is a picture I took from my stand on Sunday morning (see the date stamp). There was a fog bank rolling through and a little sun shining down through it and it was really pretty. The picture does it no credit. But it does provide proof to the story. Please enjoy the view and ask me about it the next time you see me...

Another highlight of the weekend is the food... From Nimrod gizzards on Thursday night to grilled stuffed pork chops on Monday, it's a feast from the first minute to the last. The Mayor's Chili and FDA Chairman's Kraut on Friday and Ma Nelson's Swiss Steak on Saturday were both great and the FDA Chairman's breakfasts are to die for. Some year we're gonna have to have Guy from Diners, Drive Ins, and Dives show up to see his work. The culinary feats are almost unmatched (Fish Camp's menu definitely competes!). Even though I spend a fair amount of time in the woods walking (i.e. exercise) I'm shocked I don't put on 20 lbs. over the weekend... Even if I did, it would be worth it.

The weather over the weekend was good as well. It could have been a bit colder for the hunt, but it was pretty nice sitting in the woods in the warmer weather. No rain, but I did mention the fog that was pretty weird. No complaints there...

Of course the best part is the guys... the President and his team make up a truly unique bunch. Never any fights and seldom any disagreements (other than the good natured kind). The weekend is one long smile from ear to ear... and the Boys up the Road (Jack and Ass) fit in so well it's like they are there with us all weekend. I can't say enough about this group of guys. I am truly blessed!

One downfall of the weekend is I tend to get run down. There's a lot of food and "drink" and I tend to get very little sleep. In fact, other than a power nap on the couch, I never got a real nap in all weekend. Add all that up and I'm down and I usually end up sick. I checked back in my notes, and over the last 10 years I almost always come back and get sick. Either the full blown flu or a bad cold. This year was no different, except the cold was not a killer... Strange how pushing yourself can have that affect, but I would trade it even if it meant a hospital stay every year!

If you're looking for more info on the hunt, you're gonna have to travel to the little cabin on A. As you know, the [BBC Newsletter](#) is now defunct. But the new tradition is a camp log that gets written in daily. It doesn't leave camp, so that's why you have to go there to check it out, but it's already an awesome history. If you stop there, but sure to sign in...

Other news on the hunt is that the SEC-W/M dropped a nice buck on opening day but his lovely bride and Zumbo did not score. But word is they had a good hunt...

I can't wait for next year!!!

In other news, Thanksgiving was again a great success and wonderful time. Wednesday Uncle Lloyd and the Comptroller came over and we whipped up a batch of Ma Nelson's Thanksgiving dressing. It was great, and I really do enjoy having Uncle Lloyd over every year for the event. The Comptroller showing up to help was also a real treat and I hope that becomes tradition as well. The meal on Thanksgiving was as awesome as ever, but the day always seems too short.

After dinner we usually have to leave for more stops, so it makes the time short. This year we stopped over at the Weatherman's future in-laws for a drink or two and then headed off to stop in at my lovely bride's mother's. The only good thing was I only had to cram in one meal, which was more than enough. As always, I am extremely thankful for this day and all the others I get to spend with family.

November as always was a big month for birthdays... The Weatherman and niece Alicia share a birthday and my lovely bride celebrated another year. Happy birthday to all!!! I also turned the page and celebrated with the family by dining out at Gibbs on the Lake. Perhaps the service was a slight bit iffy, but the food surely made up for it. Once again Gibbs on the Lake is my favorite place to eat! Thanks all for making my birthday a great day!

Football has been interesting lately. Today I write after an AWESOME win by the Badgers over Nebraska and a good win by Packers over the ViQueens. The Badger win was highlighted by text messages from Gutz who was at the game. The pre-game messages were quite positive, but by the end of the 3rd quarter they had turned positively pitiful... It was quite enjoyable...

Work has been pretty busy but mostly in a catch up mode, but I think as we look to the new year we're probably looking at things getting crazy again. But that's good... My side job, helping out the church with their computers, has been pretty hectic as well... I just rolled out a new PC for the bookkeeper and I have a stack of PCs setup for other staff that has to be rolled out. Along with all the other stuff for them, that has been pretty crazy as well. But on a positive note, it keeps me out of the bars and out of trouble...

Saw the Skipper last weekend and he's working on his new garage/workshop. His slab is poured and the structure should be going up in a week or so... It'll be half storage and half workshop/living space... Storage for the boat and other toys and the other half to get work done and a place to stay while he's up here fishing all summer... Should be a fun man-cave type setup...

Not that I'm terribly thirsty, but let's see what's on the drink menu for this week and see what might taste good...

2 St. Bibiana's Day. Patron saint of hangovers. *Bloody Mary.*

3 Cold War officially ends (1989). The dawn of the New World Disorder. The spoils of war—*vodka.*

4 First man killed by a bowling ball (1982). Kinda surprised it took so long. *Bowling alley beer.*

5 Drunkard Liberation Day (1933). National prohibition is repealed in the U.S. *Everything you can get your hands on.*

6 National Pawnbrokers Day. The launching pad of many an impromptu bender. *As much booze as your guitar speaker will buy.*

7 Tom Waits Birthday (1949). "I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy." *Guinness Stout.*

8 Sammy Davis Jr.'s Birthday (1925). "The day they stop making fun of you is the day they don't give a damn about you."

Sammy Davis Jr.

***1 1/2 oz Stoli Vanilla
Chilled espresso***

Shake with ice and serve with a twist of lemon.

9 Redd Foxx's Birthday(1922). "Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals, dying of nothing." *Ripple.*

Hmmm... Nothing too crazy, but a Nimrod Bloody Mary sounds pretty good... I do like the Sammy Davis Jr. quote... THAT is too true!

Christmas is coming soon so we have that to look forward too and dread. Love the season, but despise the commercialization of it... Oh yeah, and the cost... But come Christmas Eve, the bad stuff is past and the good stuff starts... Can't wait to get to that point.

This weekend the Nelson clan headed to Beertown and Madtown on a house tour. The Nelson's have four households in Milwaukee and they were hitting 3 on Saturday, and then there are two in Madison and were stopping at both today. I had conflicts both days so I could make it, and to be honest, I was really disappointed as I think it's a great idea and I'm sure they had a really good time. I hope it become tradition and that I can make it next year!!!

My lovely bride and I will be heading to Beertown next weekend to visit the Weatherman and his sidekick and future bride. I think we'll head down Saturday and home on Sunday in time to be home for the Packer game. Should be a nice trip...

Well, I think that's it... I'm sure there's more, but my memory took a hit over Deer Camp, so just humor me... No idea if I'll get an update in next week, but we'll see. Until then, I'm out. But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"I'm not lost. I just don't know where I am." ~ Junior Member, Deer Camp 2012

Junior members are so much fun!

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

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PS. I almost forgot... We went on a bit of a hunting road trip Monday and saw this on the side of Eagle Road... Too funny!!! (Click to view full size)



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