The curtamous page
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November 11, 2012 - Jak se maj! Hi all and welcome to the site! Coming to you with updates TWO WEEKS in a row!!! Don't get used to it...

Not too much going on so hopefully we'll have a quick update... First off, Happy Veterans Day to all you who have served. We Thank You!!!

Deer Camp 2012 preparations continue. Today The President, SEC-W/M, his lovely bride and I headed out to Zumbo's to sight in guns. Things went quite well and we were done in short order. It was Haley's first time shooting a shotgun, and while the 20 gauge went fine, her practice shot with the 12 gauge resulted in a "Holy %@&#%!*#"! She'll stick with the 20 gauge... I told her she's lucky I don't have that old Mule Kicker single shot. If she tried that, we'd have to pick her up in Stangleville.

Speaking of Zumbo, he's released pics of his latest success. It's a DANDY ain't it?



218lbs dressed, so it's a big deer, and Zumbo says his biggest ever. Nice job Zumbo!

Last Friday I mixed a little work trip with pleasure. I headed up to Marinette to visit a client first thing in the morning when I wrapped that up I headed west to camp to get deer stands prepped. I took Hwy 180 over to Wausaukee and then made a pit stop in Athelstane for bit to eat. Hwy 180 is a nice road and very scenic. The burger I had at The Nimrod was as good as ever. Maybe it's just being "Up North", but those are the best burgers I've ever had. I almost always have ketchup on my burger, but to put it on these would defiantly make it worse. They are delicious just the way they are. Can't wait for another this Friday!

I headed south to the cabin after lunch and lit a fire to warm the place up a bit. It wasn't cold, but the fire took a bit of the damp chill out. Very nice. Then I took a trip out to Miss Hill with the chainsaw to clear the path. There was a lot more than I expected and the path on top the hill and the one below the hill past Rick's stand took me almost two hours to get done. Pretty much smooth sailing except for one Oak that went down recently that I didn't want to chunk up until spring so it would be good for firewood. After another break I headed back out to the stands and got my stand updated pretty nicely and also did a decent job on the SEC-Transportation's. The President's was in good shape so after another couple hours I was set.

I'd say the deer sign is about or maybe a little above average. The runways were well used and it's obvious there's traffic. I saw one and maybe two rubs on trees but no scrapes. Before the clear cutting, there were spots where we saw scrapes year after year, but the forest is totally different now with all the trees gone, so they old spots are no longer good. So I'd say our odds are about as good as the last few years... Low to none to even see a deer. But we'll go out anyway... :-)

Work has been pretty hectic, which always seems to be the case when I want to head out of town. But that's OK, as I'm gonna head out anyway...

A correction from last week's diatribe. "This" weekend was FM Jr's wedding, and from the way The President looked today, it must have been a great time! The President even claims he danced last night! Glad it was a great celebration and another set of "Best Wishes" to the happy couple!

So let's see what's on the drink menu for this week and Deer Camp 2012!

12 Brotherhood of Fools founded (1381). Haven't you put off your membership long enough? Old Milwaukee.

13 Stenia, the Bitching Festival (Wiccans). Let 'em know exactly how you feel.
Bitch On Wheels
2 oz gin
1/2 oz dry vermouth
1/2 oz white creme de menthe
1 tsp Pernod
Stir with ice, strain.

14 Moccas' Day (Celtic). Pig goddess festival. Blind Pig Ale.

15 National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day. Make sure you load it with beer before you begin. As much beer as you can cram in your refrigerator.

16 W.C. Handy's Birthday (1873). "I think a guy who's had just the right amount of booze can sing the blues a hell of a lot better than a guy who is stone sober."—Charlie Rich. Bourbon, neat.

17 (Opening Day) Penance Day (Germany). Now, what would the Germans have to be penitent about? War All the Time 2 1/2 oz vodka 1 oz Aftershock 3 oz tequila 2 oz beer 1 can frozen lemonade Pour all into a blender. Blend until smooth.

18 Festival of the Nine Lotus Leaves (Chinese). Controlled by the Goddess of Mercy, Guan Yin. Nine shots of Maotai.

19 Warlock Day. According to ancient belief, the first stranger you meet on this day dressed entirely in black will be a warlock. Demon rum.

20 Revolution Day (Mexico). Drink until you have your own revolution(s). Tequila Slammer.

21 Feast of Hathor (Egyptian) (and Birthday of your truly). The cow goddess Hathor wanted to destroy mankind, but Ra tricked her into drinking beer and passing out instead. Delicious, humanity-saving beer. PERFECT! 22 Anniversary of the Founding of the Friendly Sons of St. Vitus (1915). Prodrinking not-so-secret society founded by journalists in a ship's lounge. Cape Cod.

23 First jukebox installed (1889). Threatening the piano player no longer necessary. Boilermaker.

24 Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec's Birthday (1864). Raise one to that lovable absintheswilling, whoremongering dwarf. *Absinthe.*

25 Women's Merrymaking Day (Wiccan). Live it up, ladies! Girlie drinks.

26 Casablanca premiered (1942). Strasser: "What's your nationality?" Rick: "I'm a drunkard." Gin joint gin.

27 Bruce Lee's Birthday (1940). Rent Enter the Dragon and take a drink every time Lee's feet leave the ground. Forty of Midnight Dragon.

Looks like two weeks of excellent libations, though I am a bit disappointed with Opening Day's selection. Although in the old days Opening Day did sound a bit like a war. Not so much anymore...

So it's almost time for Deer Camp 2012 and preparations are underway. Check <u>HERE</u> for the latest menu and list updates. The camp may be a bit light this year in terms of numbers as the next generation clearly doesn't understand the importance of this time of the year and have excuses like "I have to work" and other such rot. We'll have to work on that... This week I'll work Monday and Tuesday and then I take off on Wednesday for preparations. I'll cook and pack and work on my check lists... then Thursday I'll do the final grocery shopping and then The FDA Chairman and I are heading North!!! I cannot wait!

So, I won't be around for a couple weeks... Perhaps I'll have an update after Thanksgiving, perhaps I won't...

So until then, I'm out. But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members... A two for one...

"The Weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

That is my new favorite quote... So true... But can we head out for Deer Camp without this?

"...Deer Camp! My favorite time of year!!!" ~ Da Yoopers

Good luck to all you hunters, of Deer and Dear!

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

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November 5, 2012 - Jak se maj! Hiddy Ho Neighbor! Been ages since the last update, but with VERY good reason... Between excellent an excellent wedding 2 weeks ago to the wood making weekend last week, I feel I had very good reason to postpone any updates... Plus, I just wasn't up to it... LOL!!! Lot's to cover, even though I'm sure I'll miss half of what's gone on, but let's get at it... Two weekends ago was the marriage of the SEC-D'Fence. What an excellently great time that was had by all! Well, that's at least what I hear cause I had a REALLY good time, but don't recall all the details. Luckily, my fine family and friends filled me in on most of the good parts, and it sounds like I behave despite a lot of libation going on. Something about a Nelson wedding at the Rock Garden that brings out the thirst in me... Thanks to all and a sincerely congratulations to Casey and Nicole. May the days just get better and better for you!

Last weekend we took a "long" weekend and headed north for the annual wood making endeavor. Headed up Thursday and barely made it home Sunday. Minus a few brains cells no doubt... Let's just say the air was VERY "dry" and we did our best to stay hydrated. It was The President and I with the FDA Chairman arriving Friday. The weekend had a special guest with Mr. Hickey spending most of the weekend with us to revile us in endless stories and to keep the joint lively... like that was needed desperately! The SEC-W/M and exceptional brother-in-law Jim also made an appearance to wrap up the guest list.

Got a lot done despite wet weather on Thursday. We finally got the new storage shed up and functional and let me tell you, it was no easy task. As the rain began on Thursday, The President realized that storing the unassembled shed outdoors was not a keenest idea as everything was soaked from being out all summer... INCLUDING the directions... So as the rain fell, we headed indoors and the President and Mr. Hickey undertook the project of drying out the directions. No small task either, and extremely important as there is NO WAY we could have gotten it together without them. Heck, we barely got it together WITH them!!! But it's up and it looks GREAT!!! I have some before and during pictures, but I forgot the "after" pictures for some reason... Hmmm...

We didn't get much wood made other than a load for Kingsbury Kottage, but we really didn't need any for this winter anyway as the wood shed is full. BUT, the splitter did arrive all in one piece despite some pretty bouncy stretches along certain stretches of highway. Specifically the new stretch from Abrams to north of Coleman. Must be due to the deck spacing, because The President had the same issue when he pulled the splitter home. Otherwise it went great and operated well, but we'll probably need to get the carbs adjusted next spring...

During the rain on Thursday, the cabin on A was also transformed into Bob's Sports Cabin. You'll have to see it to believe it, so I'll leave that for the arrivals at Deer Camp...

Got out for a short walk and got this pic from my deer stand on Sunday morning... Kinda spectacular...



(click on it...)

We also ate quite well along with the constant libations... Seems that no matter what we eat, it tastes GREAT in the north woods. Only one small downer is that the SEC-State could not be with us as he was in Florida on vacation. It's not the same without his leadership, but we managed. I think we'll need to set this as a specific date so everyone can plan on it just like Deer Camp... But I hope the SEC-State and family had a good time in the sunny south.

A very late shout out to the Mayor of Denville with a belated birthday wish. Three weeks ago today we headed out to celebrate another page with her and I hope she had a great time. Happy Birthday Cindy!!!

On the way home from Wood Cutting Camp I got a call from Zumbo and he has scored again. A REALLY REALLY nice one too. Perhaps his biggest ever. I have pics, but not sure if I

can share them. Zumbo, if you read this, let me know if I can post photos... Congrats on another success!!!

Not much else going on around home other than I have most of my fall list completed. Chimney is swept, leaves are raked, gutters are clear, storm windows on, wood is in the back shed, snow blower is prepped and ready, and the furnace filters are replaced. All I have left is the lawn winterizing and I'm pretty much set for snow... Kinda early for me, but I've been getting better at completing that list as I get older... Weird...

Saturday was busy with work-work, but I took some time to grill up some leftover Cornish hens and dried a big back of parsley. New trick with the parsley... Dry it in the microwave. It works too! But there are numerous WARNINGS that it can catch fire doing it that way, so I got it just mostly dried and then finished it for an hour in the oven at 175 degrees. Best batch ever! It keeps its color and supposedly its flavor much better. Cuts down on the time too... Sweet!!!

Tough news in the transportation arena at the Nelson homestead the last couple weeks. The truck has been in twice and both cars once. The truck overheated on the way north last weekend and I found it very low on coolant. Added some water and it was fine for over 3/4 of the way home when it started again. Filled it again as I could not see a leak, but then Monday at work there was a puddle... A big puddle... and as I filled it for the ride home, I saw a pretty obvious leak. Turned out to be a plate on the engine so it required a big job, so I also had the radiator (which was in very sad shape) replaced. Not terribly pricey, but still cuts into the budget. Hoping for a good weekend at the card table at Deer Camp to make up for it...

Also put the motorcycle away for the year. Very sad... I really didn't get in nearly as many miles as I normally do and not half as much as I wanted to. I didn't check, but I doubt I put on much more than 1000 miles this summer. Being in the shop a month and a half didn't help, but still. Also only got in one really good long ride (to Door County) so that was sad too. Next year will be better!!!

A shout out to the FM and family for the wedding celebration of the FM Jr. this past weekend! Hope you guys had a GREAT time and congrats to the happy couple! May your days together get better and better!!!

Word from the Librarian and Sausage stuffer is that they managed to avoid Sandy and had a great time on their mystery trip... the Boss reports she found herself a PERFECT t-shirt that reads:

I am not the boss, I jus' know what ya'll should be doin'!

Computer work at the local Catholic school continues on, but it's been a struggle getting enough time to get things done. Seems I can barely keep up with the critical items and getting any of the fun stuff done seems like a pipe dream. But they seem to be happy for the help and they are getting along OK, so tis been pretty rewarding and worthwhile.

It has been pretty good at work the past 3 or 4 months. Busy, but not crazy, but that seems to have ended at least for a short while. New customers coming on board and extra projects have driven the workload back up to 60 a week. Busy is good, but why during the fall, the best time of the year? But it keeps things in perspective, so I'll keep plugging along... With all that work, let's see what's on the drink special menu. It's been a while...

5 Guy Fawkes' Day (British). Celebrating the kook who tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Car Bomb.

6 St. Leonard's Day. Patron saint of prisoners. Jailhouse Pruno.

7 Lono's Day (Hawaiian). Party with Hunter S. Thompson's favorite war god. **Blue Hawaiian**.

8 Abet & Aid Punsters Day Mania Festival (Roman). Like those bastards need our help. A drunk baseball player (a pitcher full of beer).

9 Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs (Freemason). I sense a conspiracy. Crown Royal.

10 Stanley Found Livingstone, he presumed (1871). Seek out long lost bar buddies. Gin and tonic.

11 St. Martin's Day. Patron saint of drunkards.
St. Martin Cocktail
1 1/2 oz gin
1 1/2 white rum
1 oz bitter lemon
Dash Angostura Bitters
Pour gin and rum over ice, top with bitter lemon, add angostura, stir.

That St. Martin cocktail sounds OK, but I think I'll stick with the "up north" special... 11 Old Fashions followed by a case of beer...

So I guess that's it... Not much else going on, so I might as well sign off...

Wait...

Just kidding...

ITS ALMOST DEER CAMP 2012!!!

That's right folks! I may be late in getting the message out, but in 10 short days we'll be at the Nimrod Inn in downtown Athelstane kicking off the biggest event of the year. As is the tradition, on Thursday we'll head north, kick things off with the Boys up the Road, and then from there the rest of the boys will come marching in...

Yeah, I've been late with all the info, but I have been busy... (I'm not the only one ether!) I've got the menu and lists posted <u>HERE</u>, but they are not complete, especially the schedule. But slowly but surely we'll get it together and whether we're ready or not, we'll be there with our blaze orange caps on!

I know it's hard to relate this in the written word, BUT I'M PRETTY EXCITED!!!

I should have everything finalized by next week, so be sure to check back... By the way, if anyone knows where to find a paddle wheel (for paddle wheel raffles) please let me know... The President has plans in store for all participants... :-)

OK, now I think that's everything... My apologies for anything forgotten, but you know how I am... Before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"I'm pretty sure we are the people our parents warned us about." ~ Anonymous

Yep.. Been there...

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

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