

The curtamous page

January 2013 Archived Notes

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January 27, 2013 - *Jak se maj! Howdy folks! After another 2 week hiatus, I'm back! Not much going on, but we'll see what I can come up with...*

Not a real good reason for missing last week's update, but we did celebrate my blonde sister's big birthday on Sunday! Another BIG milestone, but I won't give specifics other than to guarantee that she IS older than I am! We went to brunch at Pott's on Sunday and had a grand time! The meal was only topped by the fine company shared. I DID manage to restrict myself to two plates, but I was still stuffed. Made for a long afternoon, but I made it... Can't wait for the next one! Happy Birthday Connie!

Right now as I look outside I see snow... LOTS of snow... It's coming down pretty hard and I'm sure before the end of the evening I'll get out and snowblow, mostly because I want to get it done before its starts raining/sleeting. But I enjoy snowblowing, so it should be fun... Unless it rains... Never snowblowed in the rain, so we'll see...

I got a call from the Sausage Stuffer this week about a Canadian fishing trip he's planning so I gave him a call today. While I know I shouldn't, and I probably won't, it sure is tempting... Check out Cocos Lake on BIGHOOKCAMPS.COM. That's the destination... Right now they are at 8 going, but two are iffy... So I'm an "alternate"... I hope they all go so there's no decision to make... But next year? You never know... :-)

We're waiting the last of football right now... The Pro Bowl will be on shortly and that may be more captivating to me than the Har-Barf Bowl next weekend... Not excited about that at all, but I'm sure I'll watch just because it's the last football for so long.

Had out company Holiday Party this last week (Appreciation Dinner being the official title) at Lombardi's Steakhouse in Appletown. Wow, was it good... Drinks, appetizers, steaks, and family style sides. Again, I tried to limit myself, but as I walked out I was STUFFED!!! But a great time was had by all...

Work is busy but not crazy... It could be, but I'm trying to discipline myself to working normal hours. Keeping things prioritized as much as possible to make sure the important stuff gets done but documenting everything so I don't forget stuff... Struggling with the "forgetting stuff" but getting along...

The truck is still running, which is a surprise, but I'm pretty much resigned to it dying at any time. I'm kinda happy to get the last miles out of it, but I'm working on getting situated to find the next one. I have my eye on one, but not ready to pull the trigger or anything. The way I look at it, if it's meant to be, it'll happen...

No word from The President lately, but I'm sure he'd like to know what's on the drink list... Here goes!

28 National Kazoo Day. Bring one to the bar to entertain your friends!

Three Stages of Friendship

1/3 oz Jack Daniels

1/3 oz tequila

1/3 oz Bacardi 151

Mix and shoot before they shoot you.

29 W.C. Fields Birthday (1880). "Twas a woman who drove me to drink, and I never had the courtesy to thank her." Gimlet.

30 Franklin D. Roosevelt's Birthday (1882). Raise one to the drunkard who whipped up on Prohibition, the Depression and the Nazis. Wet gin martinis with a lemon twist.

31 National Brandy Alexander Day. Think the brandy distillers had anything to do with this one?

Brandy Alexander

1 1/2 oz brandy

1 oz dark creme de cacao

1 oz half-and-half

1/4 tsp grated nutmeg

Shake the brandy, creme de cacao, and half-and-half with ice. Strain, garnish with nutmeg.

1 Boris Yeltsin's Birthday (1931). Doing multiple shots of vodka on stage was one of his populist campaign tricks. Chilled double Stolis.

2 Groundhog Day. If he sees his shadow, get loaded. If he doesn't see his shadow, get loaded.

The Shadow Knows

1 oz black sambuca

1 oz Bailey's Irish Cream

1/2 oz Bacardi 151 Rum

Layer Bailey's over sambuca. Top with Bacardi.

3 Heroes Day (Mozambique). "Claret is the liquor for boys; port for men; but he who aspires to be a hero must drink brandy."—Samuel Johnson. Heroic amounts of brandy.

Holy crap it's gonna be February soon! But it looks like a good week... If you have Martinis and anything involving Sambuca things are looking good...

Just looking at the calendar and not much coming up... So it's here... THE DEAD OF WINTER!

We have snow and cold in the forecast, but if you've noticed, the days are getting just a "little" bit longer already. The end isn't in site, but it's right up the road according to the map...

OK, am I the only one that finds this funny:



I think we need to get one of those for one of the trails we take out to our deer stands... That would be funny come opening morning...

So that's it... Pretty boring, but it's all I have so I'm out... But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.” ~ Edith Sitwell

I don't know Edith, but I like that...

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

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January 13, 2013 - Jak se maj! Howdy folks! Kind of a subdued aura here in Packerland after the painful Packer loss last night, but we'll try to keep the mood high. On a happier note, this is TWO updates in TWO weeks! That's a first in quite a while...

The football season is at an end here in Wisconsin. Sure we have a couple more weeks of games, but the Packers are done. Not that I expected a win last night, but to lose in the fashion they did was painful. Nothing worse than getting you butt kicked and not being competitive. To lose to that rookie QB doesn't help either... I can't say I dislike him, but he sure rubs me the wrong way... and that was BEFORE the game last night. That style of QB play seems to be the new thing, but I don't think it's sustainable. It'll get QB's killed. It may work for a bit and/or for lower echelon teams, but it will significantly lessen the life span of those QB's... But for now defenses will need to find a way to stop it... Well, there's next year... Can't wait!

Weather's been a bit funny lately with the wind, warm weather and associated rain. Good news is that I didn't have any issues with my roof and ice dams. Either I got lucky or the roof shovel worked... Or both! I'll stay on top of it...

Had an "opportunity" to pick up a snowmobile cheap this week but I passed. I was never really

serious, but it would have been a good deal and fun!

Why not? Well, I'm pretty sure my truck is on its last legs. This week, on top of a leaky tire, the engine started "ticking" at times and the exhaust suddenly got REALLY loud. I may have the ticking fixed (it was a quart low on oil) but I have to decide what to do with the exhaust. I'm gonna drive it tomorrow and see... then it's off to Randy's either way for a look see... I'm due for a different truck, but this one has served me so well I'm very reluctant to change. But as life teaches, change is inevitable...

Work's been busy for sure... Lots and lots of little stuff hitting and keeping me busy. On top of everything else going on I have a change scheduled for Saturday night, in Madison, that will be cause some scheduling challenges on Sunday. The work on Saturday will be from 8pm to (hopefully) midnight. Then I'll have to drive home, catch a few winks, and then be at a church at 8am for an RCIA thing with the Chief, and after that out to eat to celebrate my blonde sister's birthday. In my younger days I wouldn't be concerned, but I think it may be a bit of a challenge. We'll see...

Heard from The President today... He called with TV issues at Ma Mathis's. Seems that her TV was fine, but that the football games were coming on in Spanish. Not the close captioning, the actual audio... But the commercials were in English. Pretty weird and something I never heard of... but Google and the internet are your friends and I looked it up. Turns out broadcast stations now can have a second digital signal that includes a second audio feed called SAP (secondary audio programming). Somehow Bob's mom got that turned on... NFL football is one of the few programs that use it, so that's where she noticed it... I told him how to turn it off and now she's all set... Goes to show you can learn something new every day...

Which would mean I deserve a drink... Let's see what's on the menu...

13 Blame Someone Else Day. Shift that accumulated shame elsewhere. **Your roommate's good scotch.**

14 Sanford & Son debuted (1972). When you get your bar tab, pretend to have a heart attack. **Ripple.**

15 Feast of the Ass (Roman). We're 90% sure they were talking about a donkey.
Jamaican Ass-Kicker
2 oz Barcardi 151 Rum
6 oz chilled Jolt Cola
Pour the rum over ice, top with cola.

16 US Prohibition begins (1920). AKA What the Hell Were We Thinking Day. **Rum Runner.**

17 Benjamin Franklin's Birthday (1706). "Beer is proof that God loves us." **Anchor Liberty Ale.**

18 Festival of Women as Cultivators (Persian). Bet the ladies were excited about this one.

Farmer's Cocktail
1/2 oz dry vermouth
1/2 oz sweet vermouth
1 oz gin
2 dashes bitters
Stir ingredients with ice, strain.

19 Neon advertising sign patented (1889). Never again would drunks wonder, "Is that a bar?" **The first alcohol you see advertised in neon.**

20 International Hat Day. Your chance to finally wear that fedora in public.

Mad Hatter

1 oz vodka

1 oz peach schnapps

1 oz lemonade

1 oz Coca-Cola

Shake with ice, strain.

Hmmm... January is a pretty bland month here in God's country and that list sure proves it... I'm gonna go have a Foster's when I'm done...

Not sure, but I think I need to talk to The President about one of these...



A combo beer cooler/gun cabinet... Not sure if it's good for the guns or the beer, but it's worth a try...

So other than work and hectic weekend coming up, there's not much going on... So I'm, out of here... But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"You can't be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline. It helps if you have some kind of a football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer." ~ Frank Zappa

Frank was weird but a pretty smart dude...

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

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January 6 , 2013 - Jak se maj! Happy New Year and WELCOME to 2013! Thankfully the Mayans just ran out of paper and weren't really predicting the end of the world! Let's get on with it after a short holiday vacation...

Had a beautiful Christmas! Christmas Eve Mass was a special as ever and we had a nice spaghetti dinner after and were home at a reasonable hour to wait for Santa! He came right on

time as always! Christmas Day we had another beautiful Mass at our little church and then a great celebration at the Librarian and Sausage Stuffer's abode. They sure do put on a nice party and are excellent hosts! All the little ones in the Nelson clan are growing and making Christmas a really fun and exciting day. We had a quiet stop at the mother-in-laws to settle an end a great day!

The week between Christmas and New Year's was busier than usual work-wise, which certainly didn't make for a restful break. But it was nice and I did get a lot done, but not nearly as much as I had hoped...

New Years was pretty quiet as we stayed home, my lovely bride slept through the celebrations, and I rang in the New Year as always with a couple oil cans of Foster's Lager. The Chief was home early so I even got some sleep in... New Year's Day we spent with the in-laws with a stop at Johns and then by our house for the Rose Bowl... Nice time and not too crazy...

Overall a pretty nice holiday season!

But speaking of football, the Rose Bowl was another big disappointment. Not because I expected the Badgers to win, but that it was close enough that they could have won. But, playing with a 3rd (maybe 4th) string QB will do that for you. At least the Weasel Coach is gone and they can start a new era.

Packers have been doing well and the season is exciting. The slip up at Minnehaha wasn't too much fun, but not unexpected. The ViQueens played at the top of their capabilities and the Packers were so-so, hence the outcome. NFL football is too close competitively to be any other way. Luckily, they made up for it yesterday and stomped them to move on to the next round. I don't expect it, but I have a sneaky feeling they are going to get past the 49er's... We'll see, but it should be fun...

Happy Birthday wishes out to the AG and FM Jr. for turning another page at the end of last year. Hope you guys had a great days!!!

Zumbo scored again harvesting a nice buck in the snow bound UP! I got this last week... No message, no story, just the pic... I'm sure the rest will come later, but on Christmas he did tell us about the place he was hunting. Sounded like a nice setup! I'm sure he had fun... Congrats Zumbo!!!



Speaking of "The Hunt", I wanted to make sure this picture made the site... Its from Deer Camp 2012, and on a side note, has particular interest to the FM. The guys that had snuck into the cabin before us sure left a mess of beer cans and such! But note the members in the frame and consider it recorded... (I can taste the steak already!)



(Click on it for a larger view)

Stopped at The Man's Mall today to pick up a roof shovel. As I've mentioned in past years I

have issues with ice dams and with that heavy 8" of snow we got 2 weeks ago, I could see them building up already. I might be too late, but I figured I better give it a shot. It's a pretty simple contraption and does a good job, but there's already a LOT of ice built up and the snow at the base is too hard to get scraped off. But hopefully getting the top 4-6" off will do the trick and the sun will do the rest before we start having leaks again... If I do, you'll hear about it... :-)

Some bad news on the Denville front as The President's brother-in-law and overall good guy Larry "Ski" Lontkowski passed away. His funeral service was today and I stopped in to pay my respects. Saw The President and family of course as well as other Denvillians, the SEC-State and his lovely bride, and on the way out, the Mayor was on her way in... Ski was a good guy and it's sad to have him leave us so soon. His goofy smile will be missed. Smooth sailing Ski!

This week we'll skip the weekly drink menu... Should be back for the next update...

Well, with the holidays over, winter is upon us. Other than football, there's not much else much else going on. When that's done, then we'll hit the "dead of winter" where there truly IS nothing going on... That's not far away is it...? But the days are already getting longer, so hope is in the air...

Not much going on other than work stuff. Pretty busy right now with a multitude of stuff, but that's OK as it should keep me out of mischief. Hopefully I'll get through a spike of work and then I can look at doing some funner stuff... Maybe some bunny hunting and work in the shop. I doubt it, but we'll see...

Short and to the point, as it should be, so I'm outta here... But before I go, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to." ~ Bill Vaughn

Wait till the young 'uns find that out for real!!!

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

Merry Christmas!

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