

The curtamous page

September 2013 Archived Notes

[[Home](#)] [[Notes](#)] [[PICs](#)] [[guestbook](#)] [[Stuff](#)] [[Beer Page](#)] [[Links](#)]

September 29, 2013 - *Jak se maj! Hi everyone! Here we are on a Packer-less Sunday in early fall and it couldn't be much nicer today. Got some stuff done around the house and outside, I have about a half a woodshed of wood done, just got the dog (and my lovely bride) walked, and the second set of games is on the tube. Must be time for an update!*

In my last update I mentioned that I was on the trail of a new cap for my truck. Well I got the call back and headed down to Mayville that Wednesday to pick it up. It fits and matches PERFECTLY! Could not have worked out any better. Today I took it off and put on a new seal and ordered some new gas "lift supports" for the glass door off eBay. Pretty nice and I should be all set for Deer Camp 2013.

Shortly after that a whole bunch of stuff at work "hit the fan" and it has been crazy busy pretty much ever since. Well, I pretty much caught up this weekend, but still. Biggest thing was a major issue in France that had me up at 2am for a number of days (2am here is 8am and the start of the business day there) and serious cut into my sleep patterns. Pretty much back to normal (and the France issue is more or less fixed) but it was a pretty crazy 10 days or so...

Not much progress on the splitter but I did get it dropped off over at The Presidents, so hopefully he makes some progress on it. We also stopped out at Zumbo's cabin last weekend to check on progress and caught the "Odd Couple" hard at work finishing the stair railings and such. It looks awesome and I snapped a picture as we left... Sweet!



The Sausage Stuffer and Librarian returned from Canada and reported a great time North of the Border. Last weekend he stopped over to borrow my infrared thermometer to help smoke some brisket. Well he dropped some off for me to try so

I hid it in the frig so The Chief didn't eat it. I dug it out yesterday to try and wasn't sure what to do with it so I tried a piece. Cold and a week old it was STILL EXCELLENT! I ate it just like that... I can't imagine how good it was when it came fresh off the grill, but we may need to get that on the menu at Deer Camp...

Speaking of the menu at Deer Camp, did you hear our camp cook "broke" his shoulder? Yep, the one and only FDA Chairman was on a ladder at home pressure washing the house, supposedly was leaning "A LITTLE TOO MUCH" to fix some siding and slipped and fell off... onto concrete... 10 feet or so... Well, he was actually pretty lucky considering he could have feel on his head, broke a lot more, or even pulled a Max Magee. The good news, according to The President, is that he should be fully healed just in time to cook at Deer Camp...

The "Nelson" clan continues to grow... The SEC-Transportation and lovely bride are expecting #3 and Amber Lynn and Matty are expecting #2. That next generation is pretty awesome! Prolific too!

With fall here, it is time for those outside chores before the snow flies, but I'm still worried about getting a few rides on the bike in yet. I got out for a short one yesterday but that was the first time on the bike in over 2 weeks. Hopefully I'll get out a few more times at least, but there IS a lot going on...

The Sec-W/M and his lovely bride moved yesterday to their new home. I wanted to go help but just could swing it with the 11 things I had on my list yesterday that had to get done. (I did get like 9 done, so it was a GREAT day.) I told him I didn't think I'd make it, so I hope they aren't still waiting for me to show... :-) Looking forward to see his new digs...

Last update I reported that Matty scored on a bear... Well, Zumbo has venison in the freezer now too... I'm sure you aren't shocked...

Football has been OK... The Packers are so-so at 1-2 but entertaining. To be honest, the way it looks, I think 9-7 might be optimistic... The Badgers are still playing like they are being coached by the traitor that left for Ar-Kansas. Heartbreaking loss two weeks ago and then last night they "could" have been in the game against a MUCH better OSU team if it weren't for numerous huge mistakes. Well, after 3 Rose Bowls, it is probably time for someone else to go... On a high note, the Denville 11 are actually looking pretty respectable this year. 3-4 now and still have a slight shot at playoffs. Not bad considering how bad they have been the last couple years...

So, we have some celebrating coming up, so let's see what's on the drink menu...

*29 Festival of TezcatzonctI (Aztec). All Hail the Chief Aztec God of Intoxication!
Tequila.*

*30 Cheers debuts (1982). "Terrorists, Sam. They've taken over my stomach and they're demanding beer."—Norm. **A trough of beer and a snorkel.***

*1 The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson and world-class drunkard Ed McMahon debuted (1962). Hi-yooooo! **Bourbon in a coffee cup.***

*2 Groucho Marx's Birthday (1890). "I don't care to belong to a club that accepts people like me as members." **Country Club Malt Liquor.***

*3 St. Dionysus Day. The drunk monk, not the wine god. **Chimay Ale.***

*4 Vodka Day. "Vodka is our enemy, so we must utterly consume it!"—Russian idiom in response to Soviet anti-vodka campaign. **The enemy.***

*5 Monty Python's Flying Circus debuts (1969). "American Beer is a lot like making love in a row boat—it's fucking close to water." —Eric Idle. **Holy Grail Ale.***

*6 National German-American Day. Their beer tastes so much better when they're not shooting at us. **Bourbon and schnapps.***

Week starts out good with Tequila and a Cheers tribute! The rest of the week we'll have to make do on our own...

So let's see, what's going on over the next week... The Mayor celebrates her birthday this week, so if you see sister Cindy, wish her a great day!!!

Oh yeah, there's that wedding thing coming up this week!!!

The Weatherman and sidekick will declare their love and commitment this coming Saturday at 1:30pm at the little church on NN. They will be flying home on Thursday and my lovely bride and I will be heading down to Milwaukee to pick them up. Friday night is rehearsal with dinner at Sisters. Saturday is the big day with the celebration that night at Riverside. Sunday we'll head to Dan and Cathy's (Jackie's parents) for the game and "opening gifts" (which will hopefully be mostly cards because I am NOT DRIVING a UHaul full of wedding gifts to Las Vegas!!! LOL!). Then early Monday morning the new couple will head to the Airport and then Mexico for their honeymoon.

Sounds like a fun packed weekend!!!

Oh yeah, Skipper's step son is getting married this weekend too, so congrats to him and his family... A shame it was the same weekend, but we'll just have to celebrate together another time!

Well, based on what I have on my schedule, you won't hear from me for another 2 weeks... Bu I hope to see most of you this week at one time or another, so see you soon...

But for now, adios! But before I go here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"I love you, not only for what you are, but for what I am when I am with you. I love you, not only for what you have made of yourself but for what you are making of me." ~Roy Croft

True words, and more than enough to confuse most junior members!

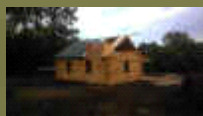
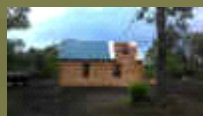
As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice"!

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September 15, 2013 - Jak se maj! Good morning and what a BE-A-U-TI-FUL day it is. It's raining, and I thank God for that. I had "big plans" to get a bunch of stuff done today, but after the work I did yesterday, I am too tired and sore to want to do any of it. The rain gives me a good reason not too... Whew!!! More on that later... so what's up?

No sure where to start so let's try to kick it off chronologically. (That will fall apart shortly, but it's a start!) Last weekend we gathered at Zumbo's ranch to make the official "moves". Zumbo and my lovely blonde sister are now officially city dwellers. They have a really nice house in town (on the same street where Zumbo's Mom and Dad and Ma and Pa Nelson lived, which is cool) and we had the "core" move done by noon thanks to a lot of help. It was a lot of fun and things went great. Obviously, after living on a farm for that long they have a lot more to move around and organize, but for the most part they are set.

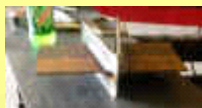
But as you can imagine, you can take Zumbo out of the country, but you can't take the country out of Zumbo. To re-enforce that, he's building a log cabin down on "Christine's" old homestead. It's not done yet, but it's spectacular! (In my opinion) Below are some pics from last weekend, and there has been progress since then. Check it out...



Yesterday morning I started working on filling my wood shed and I have about two face cords staged here at home for splitting and probably another two cut and ready to come home out in the woods. Yesterday afternoon I went over to help Zumbo do some flooring on the log cabin. Since the pics were taken the roof is pretty much done, windows are in, porch is set, and the

logs are "chinked" which gives it a really cool look. (I should have gotten more pics...) So it's pretty far along and Zumbo and I did get some flooring done, but it's taking longer than expected... Bottom line though is its REALLY COOL! When it's done, you'll need to check it out in person...

With the wood shed filling comes the wood splitting and the SEC-Transportation has done some nice work on a new "cross" splitter that will a piece of wood into 4 pieces instead of just two. Haven't tried it yet, but it looks like this:



I hope it works, and that I get to try it soon. "We" also need to work on getting new tires for the splitter to see if it rides better. I keep meaning to get on that, but I keep postponing it. Hopefully this week...

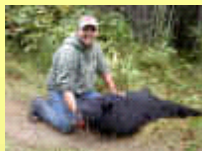
Chainsaws are great... When they work... Don't ask the FDA Chairman what he thinks right now...

Speaking of the SEC-Transportation, he and the Chief and a couple other buddies headed to Vegas for bachelor party festivities with the Weatherman. They had a great time and they (EDITED OUT-AS WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS< STAYS IN VEGAS), so they're lucky to be home in one piece. The wedding is only 3 weeks away! Hard to believe, isn't it!!!

The librarian and Sausage Stuffer (retired) are in Canada enjoying the late summer weather on their annual trip. I hope they are having a great time and looking forward to them getting home.

Over the last couple weeks I had a local company come over to get me quotes on new windows, siding, and gutters for the house. They sell "premium" stuff and it's all worthwhile, but the total amount is only slightly less than what I paid for the house in 1998 in the first place. HOLY STICKER SHOCK!!! But to be honest, if I did this, fixed and put on a metal roof, and did a little re-grading to get water flowing away from the house better, the house would likely be set on the outside and structurally sound for the next 50-100 years. (It'll be 90 years old next year) This isn't something I plan on pulling the trigger on this year, but I want to do something in a year or two... I am NOT painting this house again!!! (I hope...)

Hunting season is upon us again. Bow deer season opened yesterday (No, I didn't plan on going out), but also bear season opened last weekend and Matty score on a nice bruin on Friday... 187 lbs dressed. No other details on the harvest, but I'm sure we'll hear more... Here's a pic of the proud hunter and his trophy.



Congrats Matt!!!

I was going to get into football talk but after the Badger debacle last night (or rather this morning) and I'm not going there... Otherwise Denville is on the upswing and the Packers pretty much looked the same out on the coast with today's game probably being a better marking stick... We'll see...

Birthday wishes go out to Al and Tara (last week) and Larry and Ella (this week). Happy birthday kids!!! (And old guy...)

To help celebrate, let's see what's on the drink menu...

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.

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.**

Gin Martini, Sahara Dry... So, I probably started watching M*A*S*H when I was 6 years old... I never knew why I had such an affinity for Hawkeye... Now I do... It was the Gin Martini... "SAHARA DRY!"

And next Sunday "National Wine Week" begins? A whole week dedicated to my sisters (and nieces) getting squirrely? They really need a week dedicated to that? Any week that Boone's Farm is on sale is National Wine Week... Jeesh!

So what's coming up? Well, it's almost fall (officially next week) so I need to get moving on my Fall List. The wood making yesterday was a good start. Hopefully later today, if Zumbo doesn't call to work on the cabin, I'll try to track down The President again to discuss PC fixes as well as trips northward... and maybe the latest ideas on the wood splitter...

Found a "truck cap" on Craig's List that looks like the perfect fit for my truck... The price and the color (white) are right... Waiting for a reply from the seller, but right now I have high hopes it may work out... We'll see...

Then there's this wedding thing coming up in 3 weeks... It should be crunch time, and there should be a ton of things to do, but I have nothing on my list. REALLY? My guess is all of a sudden, the last week, days, and hours, a LOT of things other people have on their lists are suddenly going to end up on MY list... But that is how it goes, but I'm still going to try to head that off... I just don't know how...

I think I have a LOT more to cover, but the game starts in 15... Gotta go...

But before I settle into my football chair, here are a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"I believe that every human has a finite amount of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine running around doing exercises." ~Neil Armstrong

Yep...

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

curtamous

September 01, 2013 - HAPPY LABOR DAY!

Jak se maj! I'm back from fishing! Yeah, it has been another very long hiatus, but I swear I have good excuses... LOL!!! It is good to be back, and I'll do my best to get everyone up to date...

So after the August 4th update, I took my normal week off... Then on the 18th, I SWEAR, I was all set to start my update get it out when Skipper called to go fishing. We had not hooked up all summer to fish and I was pretty sure it would be my last chance, so I jumped at the chance. The bad news was by the time we got to the big lake the wind was up (and out of the east AGAIN) and the rollers were getting big so we didn't even get out on the lake. Bug we did get pizza and beer, so it was almost as much fun!!!

Last weekend was a pretty wild one as on Saturday I chauffeured my lovely bride and mother-in-law north of Lac Du Flambeau for my niece's wedding. Rachael was wed on a point of a small northern lake in a really beautiful ceremony. It was followed by a cocktail reception and then a fine meal in an outdoor tent setting. The meal was nothing like you have at a normal Wisconsin wedding but was really cool and delicious. The main course was a large bowl of chicken and shrimp pasta along with a large platter (heaping full) of sausage, baked chicken, and grilled potatoes. It was simple but very elegant and a great meal. For dessert, instead of the standard wedding cake, they had an ice cream truck outside the tent. AWESOME!!! The only bad part of the event was having to head home early due to the 3+ hour ride home. But it was a great time. Congrats Rachael and Tom!!!

Last Sunday was the annual church meeting and picnic. The booyah was cooked on Saturday (which I missed due to the wedding) but it was delicious and the picnic was a great time as always. After the last call I got home and was literally too tired for an update... But for good reasons...

Anyway, that's my story, and here I am... What else is up?

The big storm was quite a deal in the area. Spent a couple evenings out at Zumbo's helping to clean up there, but otherwise here in town the storm was wild enough to wake me up but we really didn't have any damage. But if you ride around the area, there is still a ton of visible damage south and west of here. Quite the deal, but a small miracle (and blessing) that no one was hurt or killed.

With the storm I had the chainsaw running heavy and it had issues with the throttle sticking. Better than not starting but still pretty dangerous. I also tracked down the President and we FINALLY got the splitter out of the FM's shed so I took both over to Hardware Hank here in town for repairs. Not cheap, but both are working well. Now I need to get some wood cut and I have the splitter over at the SEC-Transportation's to look into getting it more "road-worthy" as well as getting a "star" splitting fabricated for it... We'll see how all that works out, cause not

only will I have wood to split, but the boys up at the KK have a ton to split as well...

Thanks to a TON of help from Zumbo and a little bit of luck we finally sold the Weatherman's car. After a couple weeks of it sitting on the lawn and a week of Zumbo having it on Craig's List, a kid from Steven's Point and his dad showed up one night, they knew the used car stuff works (didn't expect a brand new car for \$2K). They took it for a drive, liked it, pointed out all the problems and promptly offered exactly the lowest number we wanted to accept. I would have asked him to go up, but the dang "check engine" light went on AGAIN during his test drive (didn't phase him a bit) so I took his offer. It's gone, and I am thrilled! The Weatherman is too, and they already recycled the money and have a new (used) Pontiac Aztek in the garage. All is good in the world... Well, it will be, once they get their Charger fixed...

If you haven't heard, there are a lot of changes going on out at Zumbo's ranch... Helped the Captain and lovely future-bride move out there and helped move Zumbo's pool table out a few weeks ago. Now that the house is full the next task is moving two of them into town, which is gonna take place next weekend... On top of that, Zumbo's working on a new cabin... Can't WAIT to see that... When all is said and done and the smoke clears we'll see who is where and decide on what will be named what in future updates... Maybe...

Last night we went to help celebrate Kristi and Greg's wedding and had a very nice time out at Beverly Gardens. Nice meal and great time as always with the family but we headed home pretty early as my lovely bride's allergies were pretty bad. But it was fun while it lasted! Congrats Kristi and Greg!!!

Almost forgot... Last night the FDA Chairman relayed that the Sturgeon General and lovely bride are expecting #2. Not sure why I wasn't the first to know, but I do understand getting caught up with trying to keep everyone informed. LOL!!! Cheers to another Nelson in the family! Congrats Tony and Tracy!!!

Japan won the Little League World Series... I only got to see 4 or 5 games and only two complete ones... Just didn't fit into my schedule very well this year... Next year I am going to Williamsport... LOL!

Football is back in swing! The Badger's opened up Saturday with a big win and the Packers are ready to roll next Sunday. (Let's hope Rodgers NEVER gets hurt!!!) The NFL kicks off Thursday... Hard to believe its September already!!!

Bike is running good but hadn't been on it for over a week for various reasons so I took it for a spin this morning. GREAT ride but it was a little warm riding. But that was fine... Then I came home and did some plumbing work (drains were clogged) and I actually made progress and think things are fixed... Then the mother-in-law was over so we had Suster's for dinner... Now I'm waiting for my sisters to show up for their Sunday evening walk so we can have old fashions on the porch. We'll see if they show...

I'm on call for the long weekend so I've kinda been tied up here around town, but tomorrow I'm planning on getting up early and smoking some salmon and later in the day I hope to grill up some salmon too. If the weather is decent I hope to do a little painting too, and maybe even get another ride it. Otherwise, a pretty quiet and nice long weekend!

It's been crazy, but let's kick off September the right way... What's on the drink menu!

1 Labor Day (TOMORROW). "A person can work up a mean mean thirst after a hard day of nothin' much." —Replacements.

**Working Man's Zinfandel
2 oz tequila**

2 oz scotch
1 oz cinnamon schnapps
1 oz peach schnapps
Sprite
Mix liquor with ice, top with Sprite.

2 World War II ends (1945). Drunks save the free world from tyrannical teetotaler.

Victory Collins

1 1/2 oz Vodka

3 oz lemon juice

3 oz grape juice, unsweetened

1 tsp powdered sugar

1 slice orange

Shake with ice, strain into a Collins glass over ice cubes. Garnish with orange slice.

3 Lost Day. Good day to start a bender. Bottle of rye.

4 Looking For the Boundaries Day (Cuchumatan Indians, Guatemala Highlands).

Test the boundaries of last call. Mescal.

5 On the Road published. Barhop like Cassady and Kerouac. Cheap beer.

6 Read a Book Day. See if they have a bartender's bible behind the bar. Flop the guide open and see what you get.

7 Keith Moon overdosed on drugs prescribed to combat his alcohol problem (1978). Well, it cured his drinking. Booze, hold the drugs.

8 Star Trek debuts (1966). Kirk and his lusty band of drunks are unleashed on the universe. Romulan Ale.

I've always wanted to try Romulan Ale...

Been busy at work and also been busy at the church school trying to get them ready for the new school year, so I have been a little busy. Also working on 3 PC's for friends, so I seldom have a minute that I shouldn't be doing something. Doesn't mean I am, just that I should be...

Next weekend a crew including the Chief and SEC-Transportation are heading west to Vegas for a pseudo bachelor party for the Weatherman. Hope they have a good time! I was invited, but I think it was only to pay the bar bills. I was tempted, but who wants their father around for a bachelor party? They will be fine on their own...

Now it's less than 5 weeks before the Weatherman and sidekick are home for their wedding. Time has flown by, but I think we're ready so bring it on. Whatever happens happens... It should be a good time no matter what... Can't wait!

Well I hope you all have or have had a great long Labor Day weekend!!!

Off I ride into the sunset, until who knows when... But before I go, how about a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Wahine wiki huki luki nu, and I mean that from the bottom of my heart."

~ Ginger Grant

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

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[[Home](#)] [[Up](#)] [[OCT13](#)] [[SEP13](#)] [[AUG13](#)] [[JUL13](#)] [[JUN13](#)] [[MAY13](#)] [[APR13](#)] [[MAR13](#)] [[FEB13](#)] [[JAN13](#)] [[DEC12](#)] [[NOV12](#)] [[OCT12](#)] [[SEP12](#)] [[AUG12](#)] [[JUL12](#)] [[JUN12](#)] [[MAY12](#)] [[APR12](#)] [[MAR12](#)] [[FEB12](#)] [[JAN12](#)] [[2002_Notes](#)] [[2003_Notes](#)] [[2004_Notes](#)] [[2005_Notes](#)] [[2006_Notes](#)] [[2007_Notes](#)] [[2008_Notes](#)] [[2009_Notes](#)] [[2010_Notes](#)] [[2011_Notes](#)]

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Page Hits