

The curtamous page

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March 23, 2014 - *Jak se maj! Hi everyone and welcome to spring!!! It doesn't quite "seem" like spring outside, but the calendar said it started on Thursday. Hard to believe... After doing such a good job at weekly updates to start the year, I have certainly fallen off that bandwagon with skipping quite a few updates. But perhaps I will be back on it starting this week. We shall see...*

Last Sunday was a busy day as my lovely bride was at her retreat and she came back "aglow" and a changed woman. Two for two on retreats for this little household! I "could" have done an update, but we spent most of the evening talking about our experiences. Perhaps someday I will tell "you" about it, but if you are interested, please ask Kay or myself. I can't say I can explain as it is hard to put into words, but I will tell you as much as I can... Its good stuff!

So I admit I am a bit of a changed man? Well this weekend proves it. It is opening weekend of the NCAA and the Big Ten hockey tournament, and I wasn't even aware of it until after the games started. I didn't watch any, including any of the four Badger games (2 basketball and 2 hockey) and last night I took my lovely bride on a date and saw a movie. Go figure, huh? But I am not all changed as when we got home last night we enjoyed a couple Old Fashions...

On the work front it's been busy with a trip to Chicago two weeks ago and lots going on in the office. Today I was in town to do some changes for a client as well, and this week look hectic too. Awesome to be busy!!!

Been busy helping out at church too as I've been working on the school's PC upgrade, one of the laptops died, a desktop has viruses, and I am helping get some cabling done. I hope St. Peter is keeping track...

Over the past two weeks I got our taxes done and returned... That is ONE BIG task off my check list. Usually I sweat over it for weeks but this year they just fell into place and it appears the government agrees as they sent me my refund. Nice...

With the tax return my lovely bride and I booked a trip down to see the Weatherman and Princess in early June. Early June you say? Yeah, that will be their one year anniversary there so we will celebrate their first successful year on their own. If it's hot, too bad... We'll just do our outside stuff early and late and the inside stuff during the day. This week the Princess's parents, Dan and Cathy, head down for a week's visit, so I can't wait for our turn!

Saturday night the Chief was home with his new girlfriend Abbey and her little girl Lucy. It was a little late but it was wonderful. Abbey is a nice quiet, sweet girl, and her little Lucy is as cute and wonderful as you could want. Little Lucy seems to adore Jake too so it is quite the experience. I love it! Now we just need to find a way to get them to come over more often!

Last Tuesday night we had our work "Holiday Party". We had it scheduled a few times but it kept getting postponed, but we finally got together at Lombardi's at the Paper Valley in Appleton. Great place and great food, but SO MUCH. It was a great get together with the coworkers and their significant others and just have a nice time. Looking forward to next year!

Last Sunday the Nelson clan got together for the FDA Chairman's birthday at the Lazy Dog in Kaukauna. A really nice place and a good time with the family. I had a bit of a cold so I was a little quiet but I sure had a nice time. Now the Nelson clan goes quite a time before the next birthday, so we will have to make sure we get together for other reasons until then. We will... and Happy Birthday Carl!

I was considering discontinuing the "Drink Menu" portion of the column, but I couldn't come up with a decent replacement. So you'll have it right here for the foreseeable future... Let's hit it!

24 Day of Blood (Roman). Watch your back. **St. Ides (of March).**

25 Waffle Day (Sweden). Double waffles all around! I'm buying!

Warsaw Waffle

2 oz vodka

1 oz maple syrup

Mix, shoot.

26 Leonard Nimoy's Birthday (1931). Lush long and proper.

Vulcan Mind Probe

1/2 oz Ouzo

1/2 oz 151 proof rum

Mix, shoot.

27 The corkscrew is patented (1860). Making it no longer necessary to push the cork down into the bottle with a stick. **Decent wine.**

28 Festival of the Sacrifice at the Tombs (Roman). Graveyard party! Woo-hoo! **Zombie.**

29 Expulsion of the Demons of Bad Luck Festival (Tibet). Demonic possession is bad enough, but bad luck demons? Believe me, you don't want devil want'em.

Exorcism By Fire

1 1/2 oz Pernod

1 lemon wedge

6 dashes Tabasco Sauce

Coat the lemon wedge with sugar. Douse the lemon wedge with the 6 dashes of Tabasco.

Shoot the Pernod and suck the lemon.

30 Doctor's Day. Me, I prefer to follow Dr. Hunter S. Thompson's advice. **Apple schnapps.**

OK, first of all, humanity has been drinking wine since the dawn of man, and we first came up with the corkscrew in 1860? Either that is wrong or God has been laughing at us for centuries. Gotta love Spock and the Vulcan Mind Probe, but I think that Warsaw Waffle sounds interesting. Maybe try it the first weekend in May?

Speaking of the first weekend in May, we have our Fish Camp Meeting scheduled for next Friday our at Zumbo's camp. Can't wait, but our first order of business will likely be this:



The picture is compliments of the Jack/Ass team, but certainly is a very obvious point. Last year we BARELY had ice out for the opener and this winter has been WAY worse, so I think we'll have to either just move the weekend or plan for contingencies. We shall see... Meet us out there if you want to be part of the discussions.

This week The President and I will be meeting up with Zumbo to go to the Annual Our Savior's Wild Game Feed and Auction. We've gone the last 3 years (I think) and it's always a good time. Lots and lots of good food and then the silent and regular auctions are always a lot of fun. My favorite part is an old schoolmate of mine spending significant cash on homemade pies. Lots of fun!

No idea what the next week holds in store for me, so I won't guarantee it but I would think I'll have an update...

But that's it for now... But before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"You've got a lot of choices. If getting out of bed in the morning is a chore and you're not smiling on a regular basis, try another choice." ~ Steven D. Woodhull

EVERYONE you meet deserves a smile... You never know what change you can make in someone's life by that small action...

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

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March 9, 2014 - *Jak se maj! Howdy all and longtime no see! I hope you all have had a great 3 weeks without me. It has been a CRAZY BUSY time and I don't think things will slow down anytime soon, but I will say that I am VERY glad to be home this weekend for a change! So what's up? Let's start off with the last couple weeks...*

Welcome Aboard Myles Anthony!!!

Big news out of Milwaukee! Myles Anthony has joined the Nelson clan! He arrived on the 28th and at one time I had his stats, but being a guy I kinda forgot, but I know he's healthy! Mom and dad are doing great too! I can't wait to meet him!!! (In fact, today the aunts headed down to meet the young man and I am looking forward to the reports!) Congrats to Mom, Dad, Grandpa, Grandma and everyone else!

On to less important news... :-)

Two weeks ago I was up in Duluth for the weekend on an office move for one of our clients. The plan was to head up on Thursday but after the "storm of the century" was forecast I ended up heading up on Wednesday and in my own vehicle. (No rentals available a day ahead) The drive up was event free but I left pretty late and didn't get to see much scenery north of Eau Claire as I had originally hoped (too dark). After the trip though I was REALLY glad I left a day early as that would have been a miserable trip in the snow. Work-wise the weekend was long and hard, but went really well. The guys I worked with were great and we had a decent time considering

what we had to get accomplished. The storm didn't affect us too much as the move was only a few blocks, but snow removal in Duluth isn't quite what it is here. Up there it's pretty much "We'll get to it whenever cause it might snow again anyway." I was only two blocks from the new office in downtown Duluth and I had to walk in the streets until Monday because none of the sidewalks were shoveled. Kinda weird, but the people are great so it's no big deal. The drive home on Monday was long but really nice and I got to see all the sights. Its beautiful country up there and I hope to make the trip again in summer...

After a long weekend out of town work was piled up so it made for a pretty crazy week. But last weekend I was able to get to my retreat, and I am really glad I did. Not going into specifics but I do think it's a life changing type thing. I do believe I came out a different man... Hopefully a better man... At least my lovely bride thinks so... and she seems to approve. If you ever get the chance, I highly recommend it...

This week Lent started with Ashes on Wednesday along with the annual Smelt Fry at the Eagles Club for dinner. I got to see Uncle Lloyd, Mike and Andrew as well as the Sec-State, Ray the Clipper and his lovely daughter. Great food and a great time! After a day of abstinence and fasting, it couldn't have been much better!

Got this from the Jack/Ass team... No story behind it, but pretty sweet!



As I mentioned, we're pretty busy at work and now I am in the midst of another project for our church. We just recently upgraded the churches website and that was no small task, but now I am getting a dozen refurbished PCs ready for the school. We'll get them this week and then work on getting them setup and deployed. That should keep me busy!

Not a ton to report on the home front... Went out with my lovely bride last night for a couple drinks and a light meal and that was nice. Not much new from the Weatherman and Sidekick (aka Princess-One), but the Chief Inspector has a new squeeze and is planning a trip with her down to Vegas next month. Should be fun! My bride and I are hoping to get down to Vegas in early June to commemorate our delivery of the Weatherman to his new home last year. I hope that works out too!

This weekend I started one of my favorite annual duties... TAXES! Every year I say that "next year" I'm going to have someone else do them for me... So far, next year has not arrived... So far I have my initial pass completed and things look to be right on the mark. That is kinda shocking as I usually have to go through about 11 iterations before they look anything like last years... Either the software got better, I got better, or there's a little luck involved here... Who knows, I I doubt its me!

Speaking of lucky, Zumbo celebrated a birthday recently! Hope you had a great day Zumbo!!!

With that, let's check out the drink menu for this week...

10 Junoalia (Roman). Celebrates Juno, Roman Goddess of Art, Love, Light, Hearth and a buncha other sissy stuff.

Tattooed Love Goddess

1 oz vodka

1 oz vanilla schnapps

1 1/2 oz Godiva Liqueur

1 oz cream

Fill glass with ice, add liqueurs, top with cream, shake well.

11 Hercules' Day (Greek). Hercules was known for whipping up on mutants. *Murphy's Stout.*

12 Jack Kerouac's Birthday (1922). Road trip! *Gas station beer.*

13 Runic Half-Month of Tyr ends. I was beginning to think that motherfucker was never going to end. *Fat Tire.*

14 Veturius Mamurius (Roman). A festival celebrating armor. Those Romans weren't exactly picky when looking for an excuse to get housed on the vino. *Italian Wine.*

15 Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor marry for the first time (1964). Forming the greatest husband/wife drinking team of the century. *Vodka tonic and champagne.*

16 Bacchus Day. Christmas for drunkards. *Flagons and flagons of wine.*

With it being Lent, it is doubtful there is anything there I'll check out, but feel free to enjoy!

It is nearing the middle of March so it's time for a small flood of birthdays... This Friday the FM and SEC-D'Fence share a birthday and on Saturday the FDA Chairman turns another page. In fact, the Nelson clan will be heading to rural Kaukauna to celebrate the FDA's feat on Sunday! Hope to see you there! To all three gentlemen, I bid thee a HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Have a great day!!!

As I mentioned, busy at work (got a day trip to Chicago this week too) and next weekend my lovely bride goes on a retreat herself. Not sure how busy I'll be so you may or may not see an update... If there's not one here, you will know... :-)

So that's it for today... But before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking."

~Unknown

That is truth!

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

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