

Marty's Random Thoughts

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JUST WHAT'S ON MY MIND WHEN MY FINGERS HIT THE KEYBOARD

12th Year

Woodstock, Illinois, USA, Earth

Marty Metras

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1-Dec-11 1:43pm 42°

What happened? How did it get to be December already?

November just flew by didn't it?

Well I have to look over the prior issue and get it ready for you.

4-Dec-11 12:10pm 37°

Today has been a nice day so far. Yes, I know it has been drizzly all day but I have had a nice day so far.

I woke up and walked to Starbucks for coffee. I read 2 chapters in my book.

When I was ready to leave I noticed it wasn't too cold so I walked to Town and Country for breakfast. Ardeen and her son were just about to leave when I arrived.

She was just a going home to make us cookies. ☺

While there I thought some would come in and I could hitch a ride home. Sometime people think I am walking because I have to and offer me a ride. You know sometimes I take them up on it.

So no ride so I thought I would just walk home. Once outside instead of going north I headed east to walk by Wal-Mart. I thought if I walked by E. W. Training maybe Michelle would be there doing paper work and feel sorry for me and give me a ride home. But ...no! I had to walk all the way home. Well, not quite home. I stopped at Starbucks on the way home and had another cup of coffee and read some more.

I had a nice walk and I was wearing that coat I bought 5 years ago for walking to work. I had removed the lining and was surprised how warm it really was. Maybe I won't have to look for a new hiking jacket. So I left the house before 6 and didn't get home until after 11:30.

I am having a nice day!

Now I best get back to proofing the newsletter so I can publish it for before I get to the end of this one.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

I just opened my credit card bill. It looks like I went overboard this month. Then I opened another on and they hit me up for \$1.50 interest because I didn't pay it in full last month. That is the first Interest I have had to pay interest in two years. @#%&* that dollar fifty is a whole cup of coffee...Wait coffee went up at Starbucks it isn't even a full cup! ☺

As for the way larger bill it is because I bought license plate for the motorhome, camper, new shoes, and got my car services all in one billing cycle. The other stuff is normal spending.

Now what is that going to do to my iPhone, iPad and all those toys I was going to buy me for my birthday and Christmas?

Well tomorrow I will pay these bills and whatever else is laying here in that pile and see what is left for toys.

Maybe I should go look for a job that pays money. Or maybe I could get my tin cup out of my back pack.

Wait...I wonder how that would look. My tin cup is shiny stainless steel. Maybe people will put shiny new pennies in it. ☺

Well I am not going to start tonight. I have another DVD to watch.

5-Dec-11 8:32am 34°

I guess the first thing I should do is pay all of those bills. I don't want any late charges.

Then next might be getting back to looking through Mom's albums. I am get tired of that project.

Well I best get started or nothing might happen.

6-Dec-11 11:05am 32°

My nose is cold! I guess I should turn up the heat a little. ☺

After breakfast and a couple coffee breaks I started working on those pictures in Mom's albums again. This is number 5 of 13 of so I am working. This one has many pictures from the 1940s. Many before I was born. Funny thing it I know who some of these people are even most of the pictures do not have captions. Put captions on you pictures people!

The first batch I scanned was so small I scanned 20 all at once. I decided to scan these postage stamp pictures at a high resolution to let me make them bigger so we



might be able to figure who the unknowns in the pictures.

A lot of the pictures are out of focus without caption so I am just not processing them any farther. Some of the bad pictures have very good captions so if there is the slight chance someone else will understand it I am scanning and saving the pictures.

Since I have declared myself to be the archiving historian I have been trying to enhance the photo to the best my skills and the software will allow. Many of them do not have a chance.

In some cases I am saving the pictures when I haven't a clue of the people or location just because the picture is so clear and it is almost 70 years old. There is a picture of a Woody in one of the pictures with a whole bunch of youth sitting on the hood. I want one of them and you can't use the hoods on these new cars. With two people sitting there would crush the car. Or you would get sued. ☺

Wait let me show you that one.

Well I have to go find it. Maybe I haven't scanned it yet. Hummm...

I found it but will need to wait until later. It is the pile not yet scanned.

It is neat looking through these pictures where some of them are before Mom and Dad even knew each other.

11-Dec-11 9:46am 28°

Wow, tomorrow afternoon I will be officially a senior citizen. Oh well for me it will most likely just another day just like others. I have a Starbucks card lying here somewhere good for a free drink on my birthday. I think if I can find it I will go up and enjoy one of those foo-foo coffees and finish my book. Well I have to workout and have breakfast in the morning. I could wait until 1:40pm to have my birthday drink. Now where is that free coffee card?

Oh here it is! I'm all set now.

Words that are not words

Is "workout" a word? The spell check tells me "no". I thought when you exercise you were "working out" and it was a "workout." Not according to Microsoft Word.

Maybe since I have fun I could call it a "fun out" or "play out." Going to exercise just feels not so national to me. Maybe I need should just invent a new word.

Moms Albums

I have been working on scanning photos from Mom's Albums. I have completed five so far and have about twelve left. I am taking a break from this because I am starting to think a lot about Christmas.

I just looked and there already about 2,000 pictures posted on the web site and I need to do a backup before I have to do all of this over again.

After the first of the year I can go back to work on the albums. Then I could get back to the movies and tapes.

Well I best do that backup now.

It is a word

I looked up the word "workout" and it says 'A session of vigorous physical exercise.' So I guess I can now workout again. ☺

Anila's Vacation

I grabbed a picture of Anila and her family from Facebook.



Anila is getting surrounded by her relatives in Albania

We miss you Anila!

12-Dec-11 5:30am 25°

Well I am up and it too late to walk out to EWT for my workout and too early to drive or go up to Starbuck for a coffee. I finished my book yesterday and haven't selected the next one yet.

I guess this is going to be one of those in between this and that days. So you get to hear about it here.

I guess I can tell you about the last book.

Book Finished

"I'm Off Then" by Hape Kerkrling, 2006 is a book about Hape's walking the Camino in midsummer of 2001. I laughed and cried while reading. It brought back memories of when I walked in Spain. It has me thinking about going back and continuing.

I rate this book a 5 stars on the MRT scale.

I think this is my twelfth book this year. Considering that that is more book than I read in my years in school I am a little proud of myself. I think that is 25 in the last two years.

Ah, I know the next book. Mike & Petra just finished their book, "Encounters on the Road to Jerusalem". You can see the preview on Mike's web site at

<http://walkingwithawareness.com/ct/jpilgrimage.htm>.

I will be starting to read this as soon as it gets here.

If you would like a copy and don't want to buy it on the internet let me know I have an in with the authors and I am sure you could buy one through me.

Well it is time for me to head out for my work. See you later.

Me today

After my workout this morning I asked Michele to take my picture. I was going the tuck in my shirt and



pull up my pants but she wouldn't have any of that. So you get a picture of me cooling down with a glass of water. Nice Michelle!



*Me on my 65th Birthday just after my Monday morning workout at E. W. Training
Picture taken by Michelle*

13-Dec-11 8:19am 35°

Nice morning...now!

I turned 65 yesterday so I guess I am official a senior citizen now. I didn't things would change so quickly when you turn. Read on...

I woke up early without the alarm clock. By 6:00 I was ready to head out for my morning cup of coffee. I looked at the outside temperature and it said 37° so I decided to walk to Starbucks because I didn't really want to walk all the way to Town & Country and find no one there and have to walk home again without a break in between.

I get to the side walk in front of the house and remember it is trash day and I had not brought out the recycling yet and both bins were full. So I take care of that.

So back out heading out on my walk and something didn't feel right. Oh I don't have my billfold. So back n the house where I don't find it.

I looked where I keep and next to the computer and in the laundry and many other places where it is never been before. I decide to grab \$2.00 and head to Starbucks and pay cash for the second time in 2 years. Cash that is a new concept!

Now I am thinking about where it could be. I thought I didn't use for my coffee yesterday because I had a free coupon card from my birthday yesterday. Then I thought I lost is at breakfast then I remembered that I didn't use my billfold for breakfast either. Michelle bought my breakfast for my birthday. Thanks Michelle!

At this point I am thinking I never really remember seeing my pocket book yesterday because I never spent any money and I didn't use the credit card to buy anything online either. So what about Sunday?

Sunday afternoon when Aunt Annie, Marge and I went to Isabel's for lunch. Nope I didn't use any money there either. Aunt Annie bought me a birthday lunch. I had Veal Parmesan and it was good. Thank you Aunt Annie!

Ok now I have no idea where it could be so I start to think about what I don't have any more.

I can't drive; no license. I can't get coffee; no Starbucks card. I can't buy a new billfold; No cash or credit cards. I can't get sick; No Medicare card. I can't even rob a bank to get cash because my Firearms owners ID card was in my billfold too I am just screwed! ☺

I decided since I was in Starbucks, I had my coffee cup, and my book I would just forget it and read a little.

Ah, I had my wallet yesterday at Starbucks because I just started to read this book. I didn't have a bookmark and pulled a business out of billfold to use as a marker. I felt better then. I had it between Starbucks and home. I just went back to reading my book.

The New Book

"What the psychic told the pilgrim" by Jane Christmas is what this book is. It is another book about someone walking the Camino de Santiago. I think this is the fourth book I have read on the Way of Saint James. I may have to head back to Spain myself.

So after finishing chapter two I headed home to find my billfold.

Well after a short time I found my wallet lying next to the bed. I guess somehow it fell from my pants pocket while I undressed last night.

I felt better and head out to Town & Country to see if Ardeen was there having breakfast. She was so I joined her and told her my sob story.

After she left for work I finished my coffee and when I stood up, crash!

My coffee cup I carry with me for coffee at Starbucks to save 10¢ fell out of my pocket. I hit the floor and broke in a million pieces. Well maybe thirty or forty. I wonder if spending \$20.00 for that cup was worth it.

I would have to drink 200 cups of coffee to pay for it. That is about two years. I think I will just use one of my other cups and save my twenty bucks. That is the second cup this year that has broken on me.

Anyway is this what happens to you when you enter the age of being a senior citizen? I think I just started off just a little off kilter.

I think I will go see Mary and have another couple of coffee now.

Let's see...yes I have my billfold, Heart rate monitor and my book. I'm off then!

New Child

So I went out to see Mary and she told me it was a boy. Heather had her baby Saturday evening around 5:00pm. Mother and child are doing great. His name is Fin O'Coner.

Welcome to the world Fin!

Little Later

I headed back up to Starbucks with another coffee cup in hand. I thought I need to start over.

All is well now and my fish is cooking on the stove now. I have to make sure it is ok. I will talk to you later.



My Mind Wonders

I have started my forth book about the Camino de Santiago. My mind it starting to tell me it would be an adventure to go back and walk across Spain. Remember I did part of this back May 2007. Now I am thinking again now that I have retired and that I may head of again. I just check prices for a round trip plane ride from Chicago to Bilbao would cost less than \$1000. Not that is the way I would fly. It was just Bilbao is where I started the last time when I flew in to Spain from Germany. I remember the whole trip in 2007 cost me less than two-thousand dollars. Humm...

Anyone else out there that might be thinking about an adventure?

14-Dec-11 8:55am 43°

This morning after my workout I decided to give EWT a free plug in this newsletter. The only logo I found was on the wall so I took a picture.



No one knows how much better I feel!

Of all the thing I have done in the last 60 years this may be to best this I have done for myself. It doesn't matter how hard I am workout I always feel better. Yes every day in every way I am getting better and better. Thank you Michelle!

Oh I should give a plug here.

E. W. Training

(Elite Warrior Training)

www.ewtown.com

11820A Catalpa Lane

Woodstock, IL 60098

(815) 308-5021

info@ewtnow.com

You know I haven't had many ads in my newsletters. Sometimes I find a service that I have to tell you about. This is of those times.

Too Much Coffee

Most of you know I can talk and talk and then talk some more. This I know to be true.

Well I have been told I don't drink enough decaf. I do drink one cup of real coffee when I go to Starbucks. And I don't stop anyone from filling my cup with real coffee from time to time.

I think that in the last couple of months my energy level has increased because I have been exercising. I know I feel better and feel stronger. Maybe I have more energy and have sent to my mouth.



Today I thought would stop drinking coffee for a month to see what happens. I will wait until January first to go onto being without coffee. If it is the coffee I should get less chatty and maybe even downright grumpy at times. If you see this happening to me maybe you could spike my drink, whatever that may be, with coffee and see what happens.

A long time ago I stopped drinking coffee for a year on a bet. The only thing I notices was I slept better. That was a long time ago. That was when I use to hang out at the Timbers. Wow it could have been in the early 1980s. I guess after 30 years I could go without coffee for month to see what happens.

Of cause if I go to Spain I will have to start drinking coffee again. It was one of the few things I could say in Spanish. "Café con leche por favor"

I remember the other word I used a lot when ordering something. It was "aquí". It means "Here" I would point at some in say "aquí" then I would just let them take my money and I would eat it because it looked good. Sometimes I had no idea what it was. So I always had a coffee and something to eat.

Why did the Spell Check thing go in to Spanish mode again? How did I turn that off before?

Ok you got to [References] then go to "Set Language". All better

now! You remember that so I don't have to do it again.

18-Dec-11 8:31am 21°

I didn't think it was that cold. I just returned from a walk from Starbucks and I was thinking it was warmer. Maybe the more you are out in the weather you get use to it more.

I notice it is almost Christmas and I have not prepared in the least.

I still want an iPad, iPhone, and another pair of shoes.

After walking in this pair shoes I notice my feet hurt a little. While walking out to EWT the other day I started to ask myself why the right foot hurt more than the left. In a while I start feeling how my foot was not toughing the bottom of the shoe and the ground. I noticed that the ball of my foot and the heel were all that were making contact with my shoe. This was the case on the right foot only. The left one seemed to making full contact.

Ah, the arch support on the right shoe has failed me. I am going to change to the other shoes and see how they go today. The other pair is only a month or so old. If they are ok then these old shoes are out of here!

I need a spare set of shoes so when I go to the gym I don't get the floor wet. Wet gym floors are very slippery and I don't like going to hospital to visit people. Besides if it was my fault someone got hurt I would feel obligated to exercise for



them. Or at least I would have to push them around in a wheel chair.

As for an iPhone an iPad I have not seen any deals around for them. I just want one.

Camino de Santiago

Remember when I went to Germany to see Mike and Petra in April 2007. While in Europe I walked a couple hundred miles across Spain. I am thinking about going back to Spain and walk across Spain again. This time I think my mind and body will be ready to go the whole 800 kilometers. Oh that is 500 miles or so.

Well that is where the iPad come in. It weighs about the same as a pad of paper. Well I have to check that out because it would be an iPad a case and the charger. I could be used for a camera too. And I think I could use it with Skype as a phone to. Well I would need a head set too. And I could use the head set to listen to music if I wanted. You see there are a lot of think I could use an iPad for beside and note pad.

Humm, I think just talked myself in to going and getting one.

19-Dec-11 12:57pm

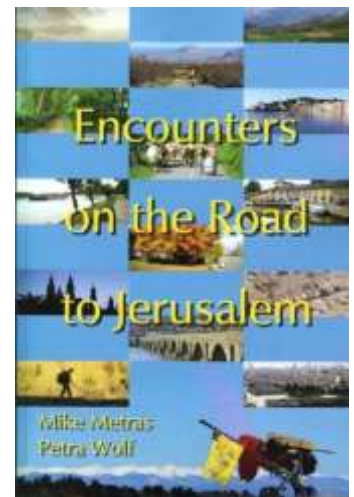
What happened? Christmas is next Sunday and I have a ton of things to do. I know I always wait until the last minute, but I kind of know what I am going to do about things. Not even that is the case this year.

My Christmas letter is not ready. I just haven't got any Christmas paper to print it on. I have some springy looking paper so I think I might use that. Wait I don't have stamps either. What is going on here?

Mike's & Petra's Book

I just received a copy of Mike & Petra's book "Encounters on the Road to Jerusalem" and I want to start reading it.

Oh here is what it looks like.



You can read all about this book on **Mike's web page at:**
<http://PilgrimageCreations.com>

Now why can't I scan from my printer? Oh well, I hope I will be able to print the Christmas Letter. Well I have to get going...

21-Dec-11 3:24pm 37°

Happy first day of winter!

Yes, Christmas around the corner and I am not ready. Well I did get my iPad just yesterday therefore I am two more days behind. Well the iPad was only part of the cause. I think that Marty had something to do with getting behind.

The other day, Monday I think it was, I sat at Starbucks too long with

the car lights on. You know when I walk up there I don't have to remember things like turning them off. I should listen to the beeper when the car is a warning that I forgot something. And you know my beeper works too!

Thank you Cathy and Aunt Annie for coming to my rescue!

With 7 out of 8 of the people I talk to at Starbucks have iPads of them I am being number 8... well I have one know. After the learning curve I think I'll like it. It is different from my laptop and my cell phone so I need to do some things different.

Christmas Newsletter

Well I have send out my Christmas letter before Christmas or else rename it to a "New Years" letter. I best go do that now.

Well I have my Christmas 2011 newsletter ready for stamps. If I didn't send you one it is most likely because I didn't have your address. Some I never had, other moved and I don't have yet. It is too late this year. I just ran out of time because of being so lazy.

Not to fret, my 2011 Christmas newsletter is already online for all to see. Wait... I didn't sign it. I will go fix that now.

Ok, now you have my signature on the bottom.

Now I should get them to the post office because you will have a much

bet chance to get them before Christmas.

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

22-Dec-11 10:57am 32°

Are we getting a White Christmas this year? Well I should ask the Weather Gods to not shine light on us for Christmas day. I know most of the time we ask the Weather Gods to shine on us but in this case we should ask them to take the day off and just let the Snow Gods have some fun banging their pillows together until the break and we get a few snowflakes.

The Sun Gods need a day off too and the Snow Gods like to play.

Come on guys it is Christmas and it always feels more Christmassy with a little snow. Think snow!

I am dreaming of a white Christmas just like we used to know...

24-Dec-11 10:41am 28°

It is a nice days 28° and sunny. Maybe no snow for Christmas this year but sunny days are nice too.

I have received a nice surprise just now. Well a few nice in fact. I will try to list them in order. Don't laugh too hard because these may be happy event to me and to you they may not be much.



First I decided to make two pumpkin pies for our family Christmas gathering this evening. I mixed up the pie filling and poured it in to the pie shell and it filled it up to the top. I had to think; "How can this be? I don't remember the last time it didn't filled the pie shell to the very edge."

While transferring the pie to the oven I spilled a little on the door because it was so full. I didn't remember doing that in years. Gift one. I remembered I didn't eat a bunch of the pumpkin pie mix before I poured it in the shell.

This is a gift because I have changed some of my eating habits and just noticed this. In the past it wouldn't had been un-normal for me to eat 20% of the pie mix before it became a pie.

Another thing; I told you about filling the pie shells too full and spilling some of it on the hot oven door while putting them in the oven. I cleaned most of it off the before I started baking. Well gift number two. The smoke detector did not need to wake me up. Yes I know I need to clean the oven now but that can wait until next year. ☺

Since pumpkin pie takes an hour to bake I remembered to set the timer and clip it on my shirt so I could do something on the computer. That is another thing I do that makes the smoke detector sounds it alarm. Meaning, don't cook while watching

TV unless you set the timer for 5 minutes and clip it on your shirt. I was amazed how quick that hour passed today. Yes it saved two pies.

Wait, it isn't over yet. I haven using Where's George since July 2009 and was thinking about stopping messing around with it.

For you who don't about Where's George can go to www.wheresgeorge.com and check it out. Basically you log the serial number of your paper money and if someone spots it and logs it you can see where you Georges have traveled. So today I was logging my bills when I noticed I have three of my bills pop up as being spotted.

Lately this has been a ho-hum event. Today was different.

First I entered the three-thousand bills since it started in July 2009. I thought it would be a good time the stop doing this. Then I looked at those three bills that were spotted in the last couple of days.

The first one travelled 1,681 days before someone spotted it. It was spotted in Puyallup, WA and it took 690 days to get there. At first I thought it was a record. Well it was a record for traveling in the US. I had one bill travel over 8,000 miles ending up in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Well then I looked another one that was spotted only 130 miles away. It got to Paxton, IL. Well this bill I logged on September 9th, 2009. It

was a true record because it had been out there for 835 days.

Yes it is another one of those gifts that have no money value.

Sometimes I forget about all the little things that make me happy. Things like losing my keys and finding them in my pocket. Being in a hurry and find a parking space right in front of the door. One day I went to Menard's and met two people I hadn't seen in 35 year. This was two people in the same trip and they were not even together. There was a third person that day that I hadn't seen is over a year. If I had not stopped to visit with the first one I would have missed the other two.

I call these things gifts. You may call them miracles. I have read a couple books that say the Universe provides and others call gifts from God.

Well it is Christmas time and I thought I would join a friend and go to church tomorrow. I want to thank the Power that is holding all of this together.

It is the little things people!
Thank you!

25-Dec-11 6:11am 30°

Christmas Morning

'Tis the morning of Christmas and I do fear; I am thinking that I want a beer,

I head to Starbucks with great care; Just to find no one there,

I drove the Square with great despair; to see it was all bare,

I am seeking my first coffee; I say very softly,

I went by McDonalds and Three Brother's just to discover; to find there may be no another,

After traveling Route 47 and another route; I found that this did not compute,

To home I did return; deciding I was a little stubborn,

Now in my hands you will find on the keyboard; because I found coffee in the cupboard,

My own coffee I do sip and think about some more wit,

I think I will quite before I take my first sit.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

I am sorry for trying to be a poet; sometime I try to be too heroic.

This morning I didn't know I might be a poet but now I am sure starting know it.

Christmas Eve Party

The family gathered at Tammy's and Alex's. The weather was nice so they had a full house.

I took very few pictures this year. I took one just for all of you that know Aunt Annie. Some people say some people don't change.





Need I say more?

Some wanted to see my new iPad. And you know how some of us like to show off our new toys.

I enjoyed do this because I was learning new things I didn't know it could do. I know that Aunt Annie liked looking at those old pictures of Woodstock. Shaun was showing me a few apps he uses on his iPhone that I just needed to install. It seems he is in to computers as much as I am.

I had my second...well maybe it is the third annual beer. I think we all ate and ate until it was time for dinner then we ate more. Of course we didn't go hungry because we had snacks in our mouths when we

were not eating. Then there was desert before the night was over.

Yes, we drank and talked a lot too. I had a good time.

Thanks Tammy & Alex for letting me join the party.

Mikes & Petra Books

I will be the local source for Mikes & Petra's books if you would like any of them. Some people have told me they don't like buying things on the internet so Mike and I talked about it and he'll will send me a few so I can help you acquire one if you so desire. Well you could get my book too if you would like.

I think I will go back to reading before I head out to look for breakfast. I could make my own breakfast but then I wouldn't see any one to wish them a Merry Christmas.

27-Dec-11 8:46am 35°

The year runs down from here. This morning has been a drink too much coffee day. I was at Starbucks by 5:30 then Town and Country by 7:00 the just left Vaughan's at 8:30. Maybe because I am planning to avoid coffee in January to see what happens I am trying to stock my body cell with caffeine. Maybe it I like the people I visit and need something for my hands to do.

End of the Year Task

What do I need to finish before the end of the year? Hummm... I can't think of anything right now.

I don't need any more gadgets or toys this year. I probably don't need any more of them for next year either. Those are 'want' things and not 'need' things anyway.

Some of my pants are getting are getting a little big around the waist thanks to the help from Michelle. I can wait until they over lap some more before I replace them with smaller sizes. Thanks Michelle for you help to make me think about spending my money on smaller clothing.

If I go to walk the Camino again I will need to get smaller pants because I will lose more inches and then my pants will fall off while I hike and I would get arrested and spend time in jail in Spain. I wouldn't like that. So I should buy new pants in the next couple of months and not now. ☺

I haven't thought of anything else yet...wait, I need to make a 2012 calendar with some of Marty's Random Pictures. I haven't taken as many pictures this year as in the past so I wonder what I might find in the album. Maybe I will find some neat picture from Mom's Albums. With 2,000 already online there may be twelve I could use for a calendar.

I could do that while I am thing about other yearend tasks that really need to be preformed.

28-Dec-11 10:23pm 25°

Long day! Nothing much happened today. Maybe it is the end of the year that is making things slow down. In any case it has been a long day.

It is getting near time to end out the year and to stay up night and practice writing 2012. Or do you just use 12 now?

Days are getting longer now so it won't be long before winter is over.

Tomorrow I have my first Medicare checkup. In fact it is my first checkup in over a year and a half. Since I have been feeling just find I have been avoiding going to the doctor. This is kind of how it is with me and doctor visits. If I am not in very bad pain, can't breathe, or not leaking a lot of the red stuff I just stay home.

Now that I have Medicare coverage I get an initial physical evaluation. I thought I would take advantage of it to see if I am healthy enough to start exercising three month ago. ☺

Since I started exercise the last three months I have lost almost 20 pounds. It is getting so ~~bad~~ good I ~~think~~ know I will have smaller clothes the next time. Already my belt is flopping on the end because it is way too long and my jeans have folds around the waist. Even the shirt



I am wearing today might be one size too much. And I feel great!

I must thank Michelle from E. W. Training for putting up with me the last 90 days. Thanks Michelle!

31-Dec-11 11:41am 30°

The end is near, 2011 that is. Only a half day left.

Today Michelle, Julie, and Ardeen had a breakfast to gather. Julie is Michelle's sister and here for a visit. You know sisters are alike but they are different too. It was nice you could join us Julie.

I am going to end this issue before the year ends out. And try to fill this last page with high lights of the year. I am sure I will remember some of the things that happened this year.

First I need to proof read this issue so people can tell me the thing I missed. Don't take that wrong. I know I miss a lot of things and still need an editor.

Summing up my year 2011

Books I have read

- Fool me Twice
- 100 Quotes to Make you Think
- Autobiography of Ben Franklin
- The Labyrinth
- Stories of Don Quixote
- Witch and Wizard, The Gift
- 50 Classic Auto Biographies
 - Mongolian Plains
 - The Americanization of Edward Bok
- My Camino de Santiago Adventure
- The Complete Book of Boondock RVing
- Confession of a Pilgrim
- The Invisible Power
- Soul Psychology
- How to Do Nothing with
 - Nobody Alone by Yourself
- Breathless

Eat This, Not That
 Losing and Finding Myself on the
 Camino de Santiago, I'm Off Then
 Encounters on the road to Jerusalem (reading)

Things that happened

Bought a Nook Color and used to read some eBooks

Published MRT as eBook books but no was interested.

Published MRT 2010 Book. There are now books for the beginning, 2008, 2009, and 2010 at www.lulu.com/metras3

We got hit with two feet of snow and it took a week to dig out

I setup web site for the family to post pictures for the family reunion on my Dad's 100th birthday. Then Marie and I went to Michigan and then to Iowa to do some research of the reunion. Today we have about 2,000 family pictures posted and more to process.

I signed up for exercise classes to get healthy. And I think it is working after 3 months

I had Mushroom Infestation in the lawn that the cold weather and rain took care of in October

Heather had a baby boy on December 10th, Fin O'Conner. He couldn't wait two days for my birthday. I turned 65 on the 12th.

12/24 Aunt Annie was seen using a Computer.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Calendar

December

Dec-01 Steve M
 Dec-01 Jimmy W
 Dec-01 Tom H
 Dec-03 Joe Anne
 Dec-03 Steve's Sister Donna
 Dec-04 Bill M
 Dec-04 Oscar
 Dec-04 Tammy & Alex B. Anv 1999
 Dec-06 Ryan S
 Dec-09 Flo
 Dec-12 Marty M (me)
 Dec-12 Linda's Sister
 Dec-12 Melody W
 Dec-12 Teri Z
 Dec-13 Arben G (paper birthday)
 Dec-14 Ed P
 Dec-16 Arben & Anila's G. Anv(2002)
 Dec-18 Linda
 Dec-21 Marty A
 Dec-22 Angelia K
 Dec-23 Arben G
 Dec-25 Jesus Christ
 Dec-28 Vicky M

January

Jan-01 Ned H
 Jan-06 Winter Rose (Jessica Baker)
 Jan-06 Kim M
 Jan-06 Mike A
 Jan-06 Kelly H
 Jan-09 Marlyn M
 Jan-15 Tonya M
 Jan-15 Robert L.R
 Jan-16 Mike M
 Jan-20 George Burns (1896-1995)
 Jan-20 Hilda
 Jan-22 Sandi & Larry's Anv (1991)
 Jan-23 Ethan H
 Jan-24 Ina
 Jan-25 Mom Died
 Jan-26 Chelli M
 Jan-29 Ammie
 Jan-31 Steve B

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