

## MUSINGS XII SUMMER AND FALL 2009

JULY 20, 2009 WAS A VERY EXCITING MAIL DAY. I RECEIVED MY TICKETS FOR THE 2009 NORTHWESTERN FOOTBALL SEASON. THEY ARE THE BEST TICKETS I HAVE EVER HAD, 30 YARD LINE, UNDER THE ROOF WITH NO POLE OBSTRUCTIONS. ALSO, THEY ARE FAIRLY CLOSE TO THE BAND.

BUM IDEA 1:

NORTHWESTERN A.D. PROPOSED N.U. – ILLINOIS FOOTBALL GAME OF 2010 AT WRIGLEY FIELD.

1. TERRIBLE SEATING
2. TERRIBLE PARKING
3. DIRT INFIELD PART OF PLAYING FIELD
4. TO ACCOMMODATE FOOTBALL FIELD EACH 10 YARDS IS MINUS 1 FOOT
5. BRICK WALL IN BACK OF ONE END ZONE AND DUGOUT IN BACK OF THE OTHER ONE

DYCHE STADIUM HAS GREAT SEATING, GREAT TURF, BETTER PARKING, BETTER ATMOSPHERE, BAND CONCERT ON BASEBALL FIELD, ETC. IF ILLINOIS AND N.U. PLAY AT WRIGLEY FIELD IT WOULD BE A BLACK EYE FOR NORTHWESTERN. AS CASEY STENGEL ONCE SAID, "INCLUDE ME OUT."

THE PRIZES IN CRACKER JACK BOXES ARE NO WHERE WHAT THEY USED TO BE.

WHY DOES ILLINOIS HAVE A GAMING COMMISSION TO REGULATE GAMBLING? WHY NOT A GAMBLING COMMISSION?

MINNESOTA TWINS BUILDING AN OUTDOOR BASEBALL STADIUM IS JUST PLAIN STUPID.

HOW COME SOME POLICE CARS DON'T HAVE HUB CABS?

MLB PLAYOFFS SURE HELP TAKE THE BOREDOM OUT OF WEEK DAY TELEVISION.

GOOD NEWS FOR MY SONS AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO USES THE 95<sup>TH</sup> AND LONGWOOD DRIVE METRA COMMUTER PARKING LOT. YOU CAN NOW BUY A \$40 MONTHLY PASS AT THE 19<sup>TH</sup> WARD OFFICE. NO WORD FROM RICHIE DALEY ON THIS WONDERFUL HAPPENING. SURE BEATS THE \$10 PER DAY PARKING METERS THAT WERE IMPLEMENTED BY THE NEW PARKING METER COMPANY. WAY TO GO GINGER!!!!

HOW COME IT RAINS ALMOST EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT THAT I ATTEND A HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME? I'M VERY THANKFUL WE HAVE A ROOF OVER OUR HEADS AT THE NORTHWESTERN GAMES.

WORLD SERIES (IF PLAYED) SHOULD BE SIMILAR TO SUPER BOWL SETTING WITH WARM WEATHER CITIES OR DOMED STADIUMS. IT SNOWED IN DENVER AND NEW YORK CITY THIS YEAR.

ANOTHER BIG WASTE OF MONEY! NASA SHOOTS TWO ROCKETS AT A MOON CRATER TO SEE IF THERE IS ICE ON THE MOON. IF THEY ARE LOOKING FOR (OR NEED) ICE, TOWN LIQUORS ON 100<sup>TH</sup> AND WESTERN AVENUE HAS ALL THEY NEED. THEY HAVE SMALL AND LARGE BAGS, SMALL AND LARGE BLOCKS, ETC.

MYSELF, 4 OF MY CHILDREN AND 1 ADULT GRANDAUGHTER HAD A GREAT WEEK IN BOZEMAN, MONTANA AND YELLOWSTONE PARK. WE TOOK OVER 200 PHOTOS. WE EVEN WENT TO A RODEO IN CODY, WYOMING. MY NIECE JUDY EARNER STOKES AND HER HUSBAND LEE WERE THE BEST HOSTS IN THE WHOLE WORLD. BESIDE HAVING US FOR ROOM AND BOARD FOR A WEEK, THEY ARE EXCELLENT TOUR GUIDES OF YELLOWSTONE PARK. WE RENTED A 10 PASSENGER VAN FOR THE WEEK. YELLOWSTONE IS LIKE NOTHING I'VE SEEN BEFORE, NO WONDER IT WAS THE 1<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL PARK. JUDY AND LEE HAVE 2 ADULT CHILDREN. THEY HAVE AMPLE ROOM AT THEIR HOME FOR THEIR 2 COLLIES, 2 HORSES AND US. THEY HAVE 20 ACRES ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BOZEMAN. ANOTHER TREAT WERE THE BUFFALO BURGERS JUDY MADE FOR US ONE NIGHT ALONG WITH THE HOMEMADE ICE CREAM LEE MADE. I DIDN'T HAVE ANY VEGETABLES AND IT MADE THE MEAL ALL THE BETTER. MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY IS IN BOZEMAN. ALL IN ALL BOZEMAN IS A LONG WAY FROM 89<sup>TH</sup> AND MAY STREET. NATURALLY WE HAD TO GET M.S.U. T-SHIRTS. IN MONTANA THERE IS NO SALES TAX, RICHIE AND TODD WOULD BE AMAZED AT THAT.

UPON OUR DEPARTURE FROM BOZEMAN WE RAN INTO A RARITY. A TRAFFIC JAM NEAR THE AIRPORT. PRESIDENT OBAMA CAME INTO BOZEMAN FOR A SPEECH AT AN AIRPLANE HANGAR WITH ABOUT 2,000 PROTESTERS OUT IN A FIELD. OUR FLIGHT WAS DELAYED FOR ONE HOUR UNTIL AIR FORCE ONE LANDED. IT WAS INTERESTING TO SEE AND OBSERVE.

I MADE MY LAST TRIP TO WRIGLEY FIELD IN SEPTEMBER (CUBS-SOX GAME). WAY TOO MANY DRUNKS AND LOUD FILTHY LANGUAGE ALL AROUND US. NEVER AGAIN!!!

THREE WEEKS BEFORE GOING TO MONTANA I DONATED 2 KIDNEY STONES TO LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY HOSPITAL. I DON'T KNOW WHICH WAS MORE FUN, HAVING THE STONES REMOVED OR HAVING THE STENT IN MY KIDNEY AREA REMOVED TWO MONTHS LATER IN THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE.

WE HAD 12 TICKETS FOR THE NORTHWESTERN-INDIANA GAME. THE GAME WAS A PEPSI SPONSORED EVENT. THERE WAS A GREAT BUFFET IN THE TENT NEXT TO THE BAND'S PRE-GAME SHOW, GREAT COME BACK WIN (N.U. 29 - INDIANA 28). ALSO A GREAT SEASON AND GREAT SEASON ENDING GAME, N.U. 33 - WISCONSIN 31 (SIX TICKETS).

TWO FUN NIGHTS FOR LEO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS, LEO AT ST. LAURENCE ON JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> AND BROTHER RICE AT LEO ON JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>. A BUS WILL LEAVE FROM FATHER PEREZ K. OF C. ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup>. ALSO, ON BOTH NIGHTS, FREE PIZZA AND CASH BAR. WE HAD OVER 60 ALUMS AT THE ST. LAURENCE GAME LAST YEAR AND OVER 100 AT THE GORDON TECH GAME AT LEO LAST YEAR. PLEASE MENTION THIS TO ANY LEO GRADS YOU KNOW.

AFTER HAVING 4 VERY NICE GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN MY FAMILY IS BACK TO HAVING GRANDCHILDREN. JOEY AND HIS WIFE MAGGIE BECAME PARENTS FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME IN SEPTEMBER. THEY HAD A GIRL NAMED AVERY ELIZABETH. THE GIRLS ARE LEADING THE GRANDSONS 9 TO 8 AND THE GIRLS ARE ALSO LEADING THE GREAT-GRANDSONS 3 TO 1. RYAN, ERIN, AND MATT ARE 29 YEARS OLDER THAN THEIR NEW COUSIN, SIMILAR TO MY OWN CHILDREN. JIM IS 20 ½ YEARS OLDER THAN BRIAN.

VERY TEMPTING!!!! \$309 ROUND TRIP AIRFARE FROM NEW YORK TO IRELAND THIS FALL, BUT I HAVE NO ONE TO GO WITH AT THIS TIME. AS I WRITE, I'M STARING AT THE PICTURE OF MY FAVORITE B&B ON MY IRELAND CALENDER IN LOWER SALT HILL, CO. GALWAY.

THE LIVE MUSIC ON W.G.N.T.V. ON THE MORNING AND NOON NEWS IS HORRIBLE AS IS THE ATTIRE OF THE MUSICIANS. 5 YEARS AGO, I ASKED W.G.N.T.V. TO HAVE DEIRDRE REILLY ON FOR A COUPLE OF SONGS TO PROMOTE MY ST. MARGARET'S PARTY AND WAS TURNED DOWN BY THE SWEETHEART OF SIGMA KAI, MONICA TEAGUE.

DON'T FORGET THE TRIBUTE TO SAM ZELL ON MICHIGAN AVE. (OPENING DAY 2010).

LOOK-A-LIKES: HUGH HEFNER (PLAYBOY MAGAZINE) AND POPEYE THE SAILORMAN.

I KNEW A WOMEN IN FLORIDA WHO LOOKED LIKE OLIVE OIL. THEY WOULD HAVE MADE A GOOD MATCH.

BIG TURNOUT AT THE LEO HIGH SCHOOL VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE  
RIGHT ON THE 79<sup>TH</sup> STREET SIDEWALK AND COURTYARD.

THE SOUTHWEST SUBURBS WOULD DO A GREAT SERVICE TO  
AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC IF THEY WOULD CHECK DAILY ON THE  
EMERGENCY STOP SIGNS BEING FOLDED UP WHEN NOT NEEDED.

I MISSED THE OPRAH PARTY ON MICHIGAN AVENUE. IT WAS NICE OF  
RICHIE DALEY TO DISRUPT TRAFFIC FOR A WHOLE DAY.

I HAVE A NEW RECLINER CHAIR JUST IN TIME FOR MY WINTER  
AFTERNOON NAPS.

I WOULD SUGGEST TO EVERYONE TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL AND  
FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS. IT IS VERY ECONOMICAL AND MEET OLD  
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. ALSO, I WOULD SUGGEST AT LEAST ONE  
NORTHWESTERN GAME PER YEAR. THE COLLEGE ATMOSPHERE IS A  
BREATH OF FRESH AIR. NORTHWESTERN ALSO HAS A GREAT LOCAL LAD  
AS THEIR COACH (PAT FITZGERALD) OF ORLAND PARK.

MAYBE SOME DAY WE WILL HAVE PEACE IN THE WORLD. MAYBE  
SOMEDAY WE WILL HAVE PEACE ON OUR CHICAGO STREETS!!! SOMEDAY,  
SOMEDAY, SOMEDAY!!!

PROBABLY MY LAST LETTER UNTIL AFTER JANUARY 1, 2010.

ENJOY YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OVER THE HOLIDAYS AND AS  
EVER, KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS.

GENE EARNER  
(708) 636-8827

*Gene Earner*  
*God Bless,*

"ONLY AN IRISHMAN'S DREAM"

SURE THE SHAMROCKS WERE GROWING ON BROADWAY  
EVERY GIRL WAS AN IRISH COLLEEN

AND THE TOWN OF NEW YORK  
WAS THE COUNTY OF CORK  
ALL THE BUILDINGS WERE PAINTED GREEN

SURE THE HUDSON LOOKED JUST LIKE THE SHANNON  
~~O HOW GOOD AND HOW REAL IT DID SEEM~~

I COULD HEAR MOTHER SINGING  
THE SHANDON BELLS RINGING  
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