

## **The next leg...Oops, I left it in Newton Falls... Dinner with old friends... It's not too late, but...**

All, here I am in South Bend, Indiana. I'll be getting up bright and early tomorrow to head back to Black River Falls. That is the longest leg of the journey with the reward being that I will be back home at the end of it. The downside is going to be unpacking. About as much fun as folding laundry.

### **Oops, I left it in Newton Falls...**

On arriving in South Bend I took things that I wanted out of the car. I realized that I had forgotten a handy dandy canvas bag that had only one essential item in it when I loaded the car this morning. The charger for the phone. Not exactly a tragedy. Just an inconvenience.

The only thing that I could think to do was to call the motel in Newton Falls. It is a mom-and-pop operation and the pop answered the telephone. He knew immediately what I was talking about because he checked the room after I left. He found the bag and we made arrangements to get it sent to me. So, there's nothing to worry about. I hope.

The most irritating thing about this oversight is the fact that the device I use to charge the telephone sitting in Ohio and the phone is here. Fortunately, the phone can be charged by the car when I'm driving. Not such a big deal as long, as long as I keep my perspective.

### **Dinner with old friends...**

This evening was a chance to get together with Kevin Upton and his wife Teresa. We were friends when I was living in Madison and stayed in touch, with regular irregularity, since 1991. They decided to retire in South Bend because this is where they met. The place has many happy associations for them.

Is was interesting to hear about their careers. Teresa was with American Family Insurance, for 30 years. She was responsible for key upper Midwest states. Essentially, she was a representative of the home office, with a great deal of authority.

Kevin built a career in marketing. Also, he taught the subject at the University of Minnesota. It was obvious that he enjoyed it. I was not surprised because he was always enthusiastic about the field. He always seem like a natural born teacher.

It is interesting to talk to someone you have not seen for 35 years because the things that they will want to talk about are the important events and people that have left their mark. It is always a revealing conversation because it is a combination of broad strokes highlighted by relevant detail and cell phone photos. Not one word was wasted.

**It's not too late, but...**

I'm going to be up tomorrow at 6 AM to get on the road by 7 AM. That might seem too early, but it gives me a head start to miss the traffic around Chicago. That's worth the effort. I just yawned...a clue to close with...

First yawn...

Until tomorrow...

Ken

Ken Artis  
Black River Falls, WI USA.

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