March 2024

in this issue >>> Tom's Thoughts Digging the New Digs AffiliatePartner250 Pays Out \$2000! March Holidays Secure Your Digital Footprint New Client Spotlights Thank You Cheryl Callis!

The Big Sky and Aggieland Report Tips, Thoughts, Trivia, and Fun

Brought To You by Big Sky Internet Design and Aggieland Website Design

Tom's Thoughts >>>



It's Spring... Already!

March. March is a **bizarre month.** One day, 85 degrees, next day lows in the 30's, or some variant of that, depending where you live.

Then **BAM!** Time change, March 10th! We all love time changes (he said sarcastically)!

What do you think of when you think of March and Spring?



My first thought is when I was a kid getting my Orange Huffy Cheater Slick Banana Bike with the Sissy Bar out for the first time and popping wheelies off the curb! That and running through the icy cold water that used to be the ice-skating rink in the parking lot in the city park, trying to make it all the way across. Haven't thought about that bike for years!

What memories do you have of Springtime when you were young?

Til April! Tom

Digging the New Digs!

We are getting settled into the new house and neighborhood nicely! We moved from Bryan/College Station, Texas to Georgetown, Texas. More specifically, **Sun City!**

If you have heard of Sun City, then you know it is a **55 and over** neighborhood. Yep, can you imagine me in an area like that? Yeah Right! Carries parents have been here for 10 years now and it is time to be closer to them. But not too close, 7-8 minutes drive time, depending on golf cart traffic! **Thank God most roads are 4 lanes!**

If you have been reading these newsletters, you know a lot about me. Mainly, I am a kid at heart. Whether it is racing HO slot cars on the Martini Motor Speedway, tailgating at A&M football games or delivering ice cold drinks to the side of the pool with my G Scale Trains! Yep, I'll never grow old!



Carrie's Mikado Steam Engine - Red Poppy Railroad – Sun City, Texas

The best part is the clubs that are offered here for a whopping \$15/year! I immediately joined the **RC Modelers** club. Carrie joined the **Garden club** and got a garden box. Then we both joined **Pickle Ball** and **Zoomers**. Pickle ball is self-explanatory, but Zoomers is a travel club. They go on trips

(continued page 2)

The AffiliatePartner250 → \$500 Sweepstakes

The AffiliatePartner250 Program Paid Has Paid Out \$2000!

Last month, I drew the \$500 Sweepstakes Winner and Kayla Jones Won it. I wrote her a check for \$750! Congrats Kayla!

- For every AffiliatePartner250 Client Referral, you get an entry in the \$500 Sweepstakes. The \$500 will be awarded after every 5th AffiliatePartner250 Payout! Currently, we have one AffiliatePartner250 referral on the books. 4 more and someone will get an extra \$500 CASH.
- 2. The next way to earn **\$500 CASH** is after every 5th AffiliatePartner250 Client Referral you earn **\$500 in CASH**. That is **\$1750 CASH in your Pocket!**

Digging New Digs (cont pg. 1)

locally, nationally, and internationally! We have never played Pickle Ball, so we must take the introductory courses next month, which should be fun. I'm sure there will be **plenty of stories** that come out of that!

Right now, I am getting more involved in the RC Modelers club, which includes RC cars, planes, helicopters, boats, drones, slot cars and G Scale Trains! That is right up my alley! Right off the bat I got tasked with the new online scheduling website for the operators of the **Red Poppy Railroad** (pictured below).



Red Poppy Railroad – Mulligan's Restaurant, Sun City, Texas The **Red Poppy Railroad** has incredible scenery from a **burning building**, the Georgetown Court House, tunnels, Shanty Town, many bridges and trestles, sawmill and the **working Drive-In Theater** that shows video clips from old movies! And it continues to grow with lights and sounds, a trolly that automatically stops at the stations and 2 HUGE loops for running trains. I love it!

The **best part** about the club, and really the whole neighborhood, **are the people!** Everyone is very welcoming, and it is great making new friends.

March Holidays

March 1: National Peanut Butter Lover's Day - A day for peanut butter enthusiasts to indulge in their favorite peanut butter concoctions.

March 3: What If Cats and Dogs Had Opposable Thumbs Day - A whimsical consideration of how our furry friends might rule the world.

March 4: National Grammar Day - A day for grammar enthusiasts to celebrate clarity, correctness, and communication.

March 5: Cinco de Marcho - Begins the preparation for St. Patrick's Day with a nearly two-week celebration aimed at readying one's liver for the festivities.

March 9: World Panic Day - A day humorously dedicated to letting out all your pent-up fears and stress in uncontrolled hysteria.

March 10: Mario Day - Celebrated because the date, Mar 10, resembles the name Mario, offering a day to celebrate everyone's favorite plumber and the many Marios in our lives. March 14: Pi Day - Celebrates the mathematical constant π (pi), with many enjoying pie as a delicious nod to the day. March 20: Extraterrestrial Abductions Day - A day for those intrigued by the cosmos and the possibility of otherworldly visitors. March 22: National Goof Off Day - A day dedicated to relaxing, taking it easy, and embracing a bit of silliness in your routine. bring into our lives.



Secure Your Digital Footprint ASAP!

As you are aware if you use a cell phone (AT&T Hack!), **ANYONE**, **ANY BUSINESS**, **ANYTHING** can be **hacked**. Use these key practical tips to make it at least **harder** for the hackers and scammers:

1. Passwords: The First Line of Defense (That's Actually Strong) If "password" or "123456" is your idea of a fortress, it's time for a change. Use complex, unique passwords for different accounts, and

consider a password manager to keep track of your new digital keys.

2. Two-Factor Authentication: The Digital Bouncer

Two-factor authentication (2FA) is the bouncer at the door of your online accounts, offering an extra layer of security. Even if someone has your password, they won't get past this guy without the second verification step. Enable 2FA wherever possible.

(continued page 4)

New Clients Spotlight – Welcome!



Jack Hilliard Distributing JackHilliardDistributing.com Bryan, Texas



Franklin Housing Authority FranklinHousingAuthority.org Franklin, Texas



BallardLawTX.com Caldwell, Texas



American Connemara Pony Assn. ACPSStallionAuction.com Middlebrook, Virginia



Lucky 7 Bonus Program Lucky7BonusProgram.com St. Onge, South Dakota



Front Range Casa FrontRangeCasa.org Cut Bank, Montana





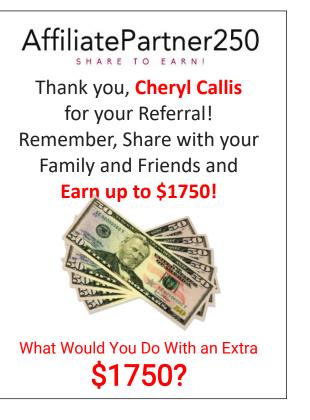
"Ah, yes, Mr. Frischberg, I thought you'd come ... but which of us is the *real* duck, Mr. Frischberg, and not just an illusion?"



"Bob! Wake up! Bob! A ship! I think I see a ship! ... Where are your glasses?"



32 Raven Drive - Bryan, Texas 77808



Contact Tom | 979-217-1544 BigSkyInternetDesign.com / AggielandWebsiteDesign.com

Secure Your Digital Footprint ASAP! (cont pg. 3)

3. Software Updates: Annoying but Necessary

Yes, those constant reminders to update your software are **really irritating**. But they're also **essential**. These updates **patch security holes** and keep your devices **protected** against the latest **cyber threats**. So, let them do their thing!

4. Public Wi-Fi: Proceed with Caution

Public Wi-Fi: you never know what you're gonna get, including who's **snooping** on your **data**. Avoid accessing **sensitive information** on public networks, and consider using a VPN (Virtual Private Network) to cloak your online activities in a layer of encryption.

5. Social Media: Not Everyone Needs to Know Everything

Finally, think before you share. Not everyone needs to know the intimate details of your life, your pet's middle name, or your mother's maiden name (especially since these are often security question gold). Adjust your privacy settings to **keep your personal info just that—personal.**

Securing your personal information online doesn't have to be like herding cats.

With these best practices, you can **keep your digital life secured** like a locked safe... assuming you don't post the combination on social media!

Keep it Updated!

Get the most out of your website.

Use this QR Code to easily send an update email to Debbie at **Updates@BigSkyInternetDesign.com**.



Newsletter Archives: BigSkyInternetDesign.com/Newsletters