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*Ottawa Outlook, nee North Hero News and World Review …. ……. Mostly stuff no one else would print.* Outlk13wc11

August 24th, 2013 (2013 Letter # 11)

SEPTEMBER LETTER.

Ah, … September once again. The Canadian Geese are getting restless, about ready to leave us and begin fertilizing fields & parks to the south. And, ah yes, … time to renew that old driver’s license again. American recipients of this letter may end up chortling when they realize what’s involved in renewing an elderly driver’s license in Ontario. We’d a Sister-in-law, departed his year at age 96, who would happily inform us yearly that she had just renewed her New Hampshire driver’s license by mail. Renewal is a bit more involved in Ontario.

Drivers here who are 80 years and older are required to complete vision and knowledge tests, and attend a 90 minute group education session in order to renew their license. And this is repeated every two years. To prepare for the knowledge test one must study the latest version of the ‘Official Drivers Handbook’, 212 pages. We received the latest renewal summons in late July. We were advised to contact the scheduling office as soon as possible. Our license was expiring September 21, 2013. Hmmn, … maybe we should study the handbook before getting scheduled into a class. We did, but bad move. We studied and called August 15. Guess what? The earliest I could be scheduled into a session was November 20th! Good Grief, … over three months away. Won’t remember a thing and have to study all over again. Because of all this license stuff, September is also prime time to see our Optometrist and have the ol’ eyes checked out.

Wonder how the AARP would view all this. We sometimes wonder who has more influence over U. S. legislation, the AARP or the NRA? Boy, the NRA, … now there’s three letters that have been around awhile! When Ken was growing up during the Great Depression, the NRA was *“The National Recovery Act”.* Republicans in that day and age quickly referred it as, *“Never Roosevelt Again”*. Now it means those rifle guys who think every household should contain a few Uzi’s, a couple Stens and an AK47. Oooh, … but we digress.

This preparing and attending is a bit of an inconvenience, but in all honesty we are in full agreement/support of the Ontario system. And boy, … we’d better pass with flying colors on Nov. 20th cause we’ve big driving plans for American Thanksgiving in Connecticut on the 28th. Well, guess we could always fly. A little far for bicycles.

Till next month then,

Lucille & Ken, … still mobile in

Ottawa.