

TRAVEL VIA THE MOON **.....to days gone by**

You think things haven't changed since the '40's and 50's....let's talk about some of the things that today's kids wouldn't have the least idea of what we're talking about.....

Did you ever do this??

You're stopped at a traffic light and you're trying to get the attention of the driver next to you....and after you get their eye....you motion like you're turning a crank handle in a circle to tell them to roll down their window.....

Nobody cranks down the window anymore they hit a button and it goes down.

Some of the other things that are gone or disappearing:

How many of you remember how to change a ribbon on a typewriter...or even, some of today's children may ask....what's a typewriter. Oh, I'm sure that some of you out there still have one....but let's ask another question....if your typewriter broke, where would you take it to get it fixedAs a docent at the Ronald Reagan museum and we have Air Force One there for people to walk thru and see. We also have an IBM Selectric type-writer inside for the White House secy's to use...some of the youngsters look at that totally bewildered...but we explain to them....that's a computer with a built-in printer, but you don't need a "mouse or screen" and then they understand what it is.

Do you ever have to adjust the "rabbit-ears" on your TV? Don't forget...since Feb 2009, that doesn't work anymore.

How about loading film in a camera? It used to be you just pointed and took the picture...now you have a book 2 inches thick to tell you how to use your camera....that does 10 other things like send msgs, dial phone numbers, watch TV, etc etc etc.

When did you put in a flash bulb last? Or see a pay phone? Or lick stamps before putting on the envelope or pay 10 cents for those stamps....or wind your watch....or use long division....or get up to manually change the TV station....or call someone "collect"....can you still do that?? Or put a TV dinner in the oven to heat up – not talking about the microwave....that's not an oven.

Or send the TV set out to be repaired....it's cheaper to buy a new one, with a lot bigger screen or even have 2 different channels on the screen at the same time.

How about adding water to your car-battery....when was the last time you lifted the hood ...some are so crowded you probably can't find the battery.... checked the oil level??

Can you still buy a 1-speed bike... just saw an advertisement for a bicycle that cost \$3200.... hope it had a lot of extra's on it, like mud-flaps and a bell or chain-guard...like the really neat ones we used to buy for \$25-30. And when did you pull out the "choke" the last time on your car???....or defrost the refrigerator...

Or fill a fountain pen....or use correction fluid....or send a hand-written letter....or use carbon paper (can you still buy carbon paper)...or mow the lawn with a non-powered push mower....or crawl under the door of a pay-toilet (like the public toilets in every town) to avoid paying a nickel..... How about getting milk deliveries...with the milk in glass bottles....

Well, these are some of the really neat things we all witnessed in our younger days....but time moves on. And those grandkids of ours will never have the joy of experiencing so many of these things....we feel sorry for them...they will probably never understand what you're talking about if you try to explain these things....

But these are memories *we'll always have*....and there won't be any extra "surcharge" or "tax" on them.

Enjoy that trip!

Submitted by AGCM Moon Mullen USN RET