

## *Tackle life like a sticky frog*

Sticky frogs are common in Florida, especially where I live. My first encounter with a sticky frog was quite memorable. With curiosity of a cat, I had to get closer & see what it was. The sticky frog did not hop away as expected, but jumped right on my chest. It was only a small frog, but the fact it suddenly jumped on me made me scream like I was being attacked by a bear. It was quite funny, in hindsight.

Tonight I was out for a walk around our circle when I saw a sticky frog in the road. With all animals, big or small, I gently move them out of the road before they become part of it. As I'm leaning over with a stick to push it away, the frog looked right at me and jumped onto my arm. I wasn't scared this time☺. I took it to some bushes, but it refused to dismount. So I resumed my walk around the circle with the sticky frog hanging out on my arm. It would change positions occasionally for a better view, but basically sat there the whole time, enjoying the free ride.

The frog's response to me made re-think of how I approach unknown situations. When confronted with a situation that is unknown and seemingly large, I will usually choose avoid verses confront. Most animals will do the same; come within a few feet, they are gone quickly.

However the sticky frog jumps right on for a closer look. Seeming to ask "What is this big think that keeps following me? "

What would happen if we did the same for those challenges that we tend to avoid? If we faced them would they really turn out so big? Would they metaphorically scream & run away? Maybe they would turn out to be good things instead of something we feared? Obviously if it's something life threatening, be smart & get away from it.

Being a system administrator in the computer field, I face problems all day long. Some calls come in & that's the last thing I want to tackle. Many times, once I get firsthand information from the customer, it's not a hard problem at all. Other times, it's worse. Those are the times, I usually learn something new or encounter a person I wouldn't otherwise meet.

As in the case of tonight's encounter, the frog faced the challenge & received a free ride around the neighborhood. With the frog on my arm, I walked slower for a change; saw the stars, clouds, and other things I normally miss because I'm in a hurry.

So the next time a seemingly large or unknown situation comes your way, be like the sticky frog and face it. You're likely to learn some new insights and find some good things.

And what happened to my passenger that night? After riding on my arm for the mile walk around, I put him in some bushes near where I found him & he happily dismounted. I can only imagine the story he told when asked "where have you been?"