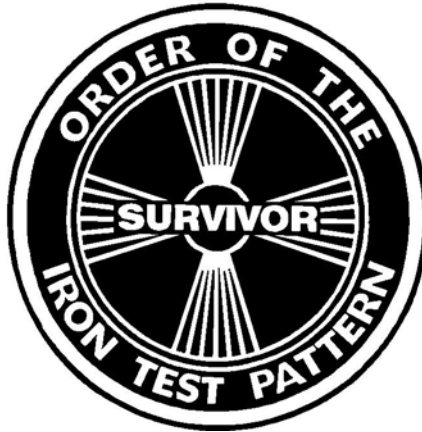
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Order of the Iron Test Pattern



Volume 2

Newsletter

Number 8

News! When it happens you'll see it happen, even if we have to make it happen!

September 14, 2003

This is your Newsletter and your input is, of course, most welcome.

(Things printed in **blue** type are links to the related subject matter.)

New, Upgraded or Reinstated Members

Steve Holmes is a new member and has the dignity of Commander. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is Steven.R.Holmes@TEK.com. OITP Commander Holmes is an Application Engineer with Tektronix in Southern California.

Raymond LaRue is a new member and has the dignity of Admiral. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is Ray.LaRue@SkyAngel.com. OITP Admiral LaRue is Vice-President of Engineering & Satellite Operations for Dominion Video Satellite, Inc out of Naples, FL. OITP Admiral LaRue will receive his certificate with the endorsements of Knight of the Geosynchronous Stuff, Order Pad and F-59 Connector very soon.

Links to previous editions are now available on the website.

Website Status Report

Check out the number of visitors to our website: 6331 plus. That's over two hundred thirty-four since our last edition. Remember that this counter service only counts a visiting IP address once. If we could get some of these folks to join and invest in a certificate to hang on their wall, get a lapel

pin to do what ever with, a drive you crazy screen saver and take out a business card ad on our business card page, we'd really be setting quite well.

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From your Sagacious Pixel

Larry Bloomfield

Well we're finally caught up and I have all the backorders of membership certificates and lapel pins made up and out of here. We just received a couple of applications this week and they'll be processed this week. We got one of our two computers that were down back up and working. It took a new motherboard and processor. YIKES! The other one will probably require just a much.

We've celebrated our first anniversary of stewardship of this fine Order. We'll always have fond memories of the change of command ceremony that took place in a Port-a-potty off the coast of Iowa that was done at noodle point; or was that needle point? We've not done too badly. We've seen our membership increase from 246 to 384 and we have a few more to log in this week. Father Bob Vendland tells us that our fine Order once had between 2000 to 3000 members. When I asked him what could have happened to all them, he said most probably died. I'd like to think that most have either retired or just fallen through the grid.

Speaking of odd stories, (were we?), one was recently posted on the Tech-Notes website. Check out the story about Charles Hallinan, the second national President of the Society of Broadcast Engineers. The story is entitled "The Life and Times of a Tube Man," and was written by Thomas G Siglin. It can be seen at:

<http://www.tech-notes.tv/Biographies/Hallinan/Hallinan.htm>

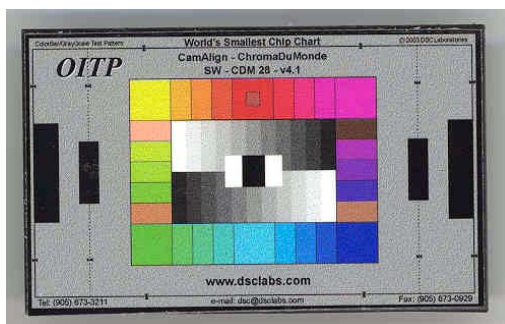


When you do, you'll find out what this picture is all about

If you haven't visited our membership list on the website, you should to see if you've got the time for an upgrade in dignity. <http://www.oitp.org/Membershiplist.html> While there, check to see if you

cohorts in this business, and fellow survivors, are listed. If not, stir the pot and see if you can get them interested in joining. Remember, there are no initiation fees or dues, just fun and by some slim chance, someone may elect to get a new certificate and we'll remain solvent for another few minutes.

I have a few of the chip-chart (test pattern) pins provided by the kind folks at DSC Labs. (See below) We gave these out during the Tech-Notes Taste of NAB Road Show. I'd be willing to let them go for \$7.00 each. This would include the postage etc. If you ask for one when you order your certificate, we'll let them go for \$5.00 each.



These nice souvenirs were well received.

By the way, we've added two new endorsements: **Knight of the Final Amplifier**, for those who've worked on transmitters and **Knight of the Ones & Zeros**, for those who've worked in the IT or digital departments of broadcast and cable facilities. We're always open to suggestions in this area.

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Those who make this newsletter and the website possible

Our website is sustained by sponsorship of the various pages and the business card page. The only page which is currently sponsored is our main page and we are really grateful to the folks at [DSC Labs](#) for their help in this area. David Corley is serious considering renewing his sponsorship of our main page as his first year is coming to a close. Contact us about any of the other pages. -- Sagacious_Pixel@OITP.org.

On the business card page, we have [Clark Wire & Cable](#), [McKeown Consulting](#), [AJA Video Systems](#), [Dorrough Electronics](#), [Michael Couzens - Attorney at Law](#), [Thomson Broadcast Solutions/Grass Valley](#), [BIA Finical Network](#), [Thomson Broadcast Solutions/Grass Valley](#) and [DL Creations](#). Many of these are coming up for renewal also. Click on any of the names (above) and it will either take you to their website or give you an e-mail to them. Check them out; use them – if and when you need their products and/or services, but most important, **let them** know you appreciate their support of OITP. So far we're just a head of the game, but we need more support if we expect to keep the website and e-mailing list-server that goes with it. Again, if you wish to put your business card on our site, contact us. Sagacious_Pixel@OITP.org.

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Letters from our fellow survivors

From: OITP General Chuck Pharis
Hello ALL:

Thought I would share a photo of some of my "babies"! On the left (below) is a RCA TK-41, in the center is a RCA TK-41C, and on the right is my RCA TK-40 prototype. We think it was made in 1953. It is under restoration.

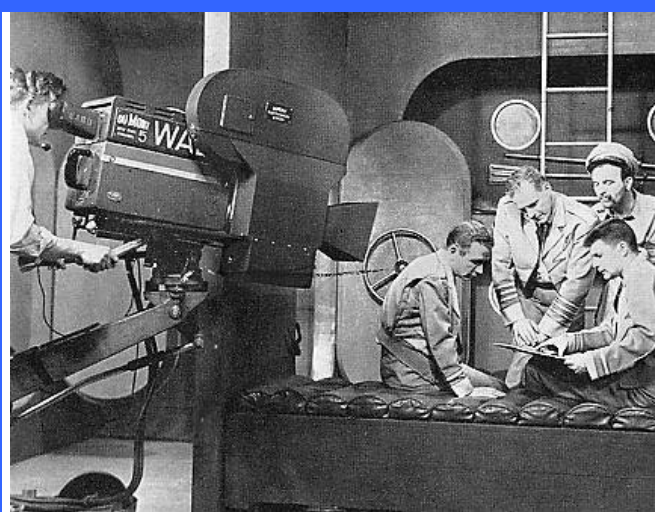


On the floor are my parts TK-41.

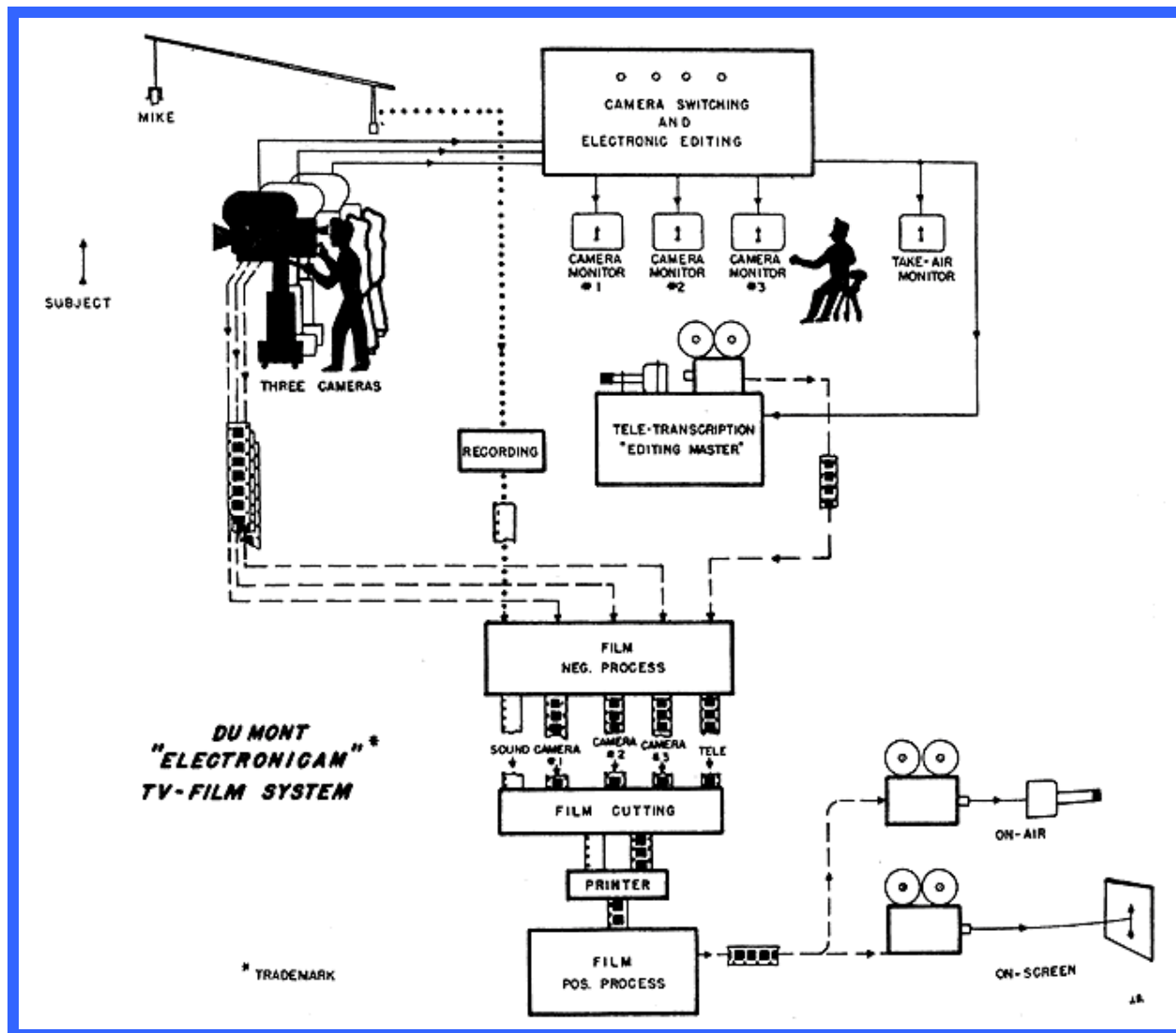
I have another TK-41C in the shop. It's almost restored, and will live again next year! (Maybe),,,

Latest news: I am getting in the following cameras in a few weeks:
RCA TK-14 (I have wanted one of these for 30 years)!!!
RCA TK-11 body and lenses

Dumont Electronicam YES!!!! It's the (film) part of the camera chain. I already have the video part.



These VERY RARE cameras were used for a very short time to record The Jackie Gleason Show, and a few others. Since the film camera was right next to the video camera (they were mounted side by side) the quality was much better than with a standard Kinescope.



Lots of photos to come to the web site in a few weeks!

More news: After 26+ years at ABC TV Network, I plan to retire in a few months. We are waiting for our contract to get voted on by NABET. I can't leave until that happens. I will know on Sept. 26th. I will take a Buy-out if they will give it to me, and leave ASAP! I will do Daily Hire Video work; work on my camera collection, and GO FISHING!

More news soon: Check the website often for photos of my latest equipment and news.

<http://www.pharis-video.com>

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"Please listen carefully, as the menu options
have changed."

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Permit us to get serious. Here's a letter from a real survivor

From: Dr. Peter D Martelly peterofski@comcast.net

E-mail from Iraq

A friend got this message from one of the surgeons who replaced his group in Iraq. I thought you would like to hear what really happens and doesn't get into the papers.

It is a heart wrenching letter. I think it should get published so the public would know exactly what our troops are up against. The only changes I made to it were any names or other sensitive information.

Hi All,

Forgive the prolonged e-mail silence. We have had daily access to the internet through the very gracious courtesy of the FBI, located about a 15 minute drive from our compound. But, our access to e-mail has been severely compromised by whatever this virus is that has hit worldwide, as we have been told. In fact we have had no access through the FBI, and so we have been unable to use AOL, etc.. The Battalion had recently set up an "internet cafe", but until just recently, it was down more often than it was up, and use was (and still is) restricted to 15 minutes. I have fortunately been sent a pin drive (I think that is what it is called) and have been shown how to write my e-mails, copy

them to the drive, carry it over to the cafe, copy and paste onto the Army AKO e-mail system and send that out. A long walk for a short ride, but worth the ride none the less. If anyone has been writing to my AOL account, I have not gotten it, and will not for the foreseeable future.

The last week has been quite trying on many levels. All of the contrasts and mixed emotions suddenly came into focus as I walked to the latrines just a few minutes ago. We had just wrapped up an officers meeting where we discussed issues from patient care and TB among the EPW's (enemy prisoners of war) to the rats that share our living quarters with us, among other subjects, and I decided to take a walk to the latrine. It was just after 2005 hours as I stepped out of the back door of the building, and I was greeted by a truly beautiful sunset, one of many we have seen over the last seven weeks of rainless and cloudless days and nights. It was so peaceful and such a stark contrast to the events of the last week or so that I had to stop and look and enjoy view and the silence. The silence and the peaceful visage lasted but a few minutes, as a huge C-5 Stratolifter aircraft lifted off from behind my right shoulder. Its engines screamed as it climbed and banked steeply, coming across my field of vision, shooting off anti-missile flares as it climbed out of harms way, and off safely towards its destination. And just a few minutes later, off in the distance, I could hear the rumble of what was most likely a mortar shell exploding. And all I could do was wonder what this night was going to bring, this night that was so beautiful and peaceful for just a short time.

Last week was pretty hellish here. It started off with a mortar attack on an Iraqi EPW camp - Iraqis trying to kill Iraqis. And they succeeded in about 18 cases, but not in about 45 others. Every Dustoff aircraft went wheels up, picked up the wounded and delivered them to all of the FST's and CSHs in the Baghdad area. Several went to the CSH in Balad, some 25 minutes by helicopter from Baghdad. We were up till about 0230 that evening, and the next few nights were fairly quiet, with 3 or 4 wounded soldiers each night, all from IEDs (improvised explosive devices), and none seriously wounded. Then came the UN bombing, and we went onto full alert status, with our FST mobilizing for a mass casualty. We saw only a handful of casualties, mostly huge lacerations from flying glass, and they kept on coming in over the course of the next 28 hours.

The 20th of August was not a good day here. The 912th lost our 1st American to a combat injury. He came in on Dustoff on my time with a massive head injury that he suffered from an IED while on patrol, apparently seeing an IED at the last second and swerving his HUMMV into the blast on his side, saving the lives of the other men with him. We knew it was really bad when the flight medic wanted intubations capabilities on the LZ. The soldier was breathing as we got him off the bird, but it was agonal, and all I could do for him was have the nurse anesthetist intubate him, watch as he lost one brainstem reflex after another, and pronounce him dead at just before 2300 hrs. It hit all of us very hard, and clearly someone needed to do something.

I had bought 4 American flags my first week in country at the PX. I was gonna fly them over our building, and bring them home for gifts. Well, I took one of the flags, and draped it over this man. Then I called everyone together and we gathered in the front of the aid station. I said, "I wanted you all to know who we lost today, 'cause some of you didn't even know his name. His name was ---- - - -, he was 38, he had photos of a wife and 2 kids in his wallet, and he died fighting for a people that he didn't know but who he thought deserved to be free. I have no doubt that he and all of us are here for the same reason - all of us believe that what we are doing here is right and just, as did he. I

would hope that all of us honor his life and his death by finishing what he started." And then I asked the Chaplain to offer a prayer.

We had no sooner said "Amen" then we started all over again, and we didn't stop till 6AM. We saw a total of 10 wounded patients, operated on 4, sutured up 6. I have had to evac 1 victim of the bombing (a UN employee) to Kuwait and 2 US soldiers to Landstuhl for care - one, a 21 year old kid, lost his humeral head and almost completely destroyed the mid-portion of his right hand from thru and thru IED frags, and the other had an IED blow up behind him (these guys were on a separate mission from the one who died) and blew a 8x8inch piece out of the back of his thigh. It was a hellish night. Earlier in the day we have another soldier who came in after an RPG or an IED - no one is really sure - exploded and peppered him with shrapnel. I took him to the OR but not before the 2 star (general) of the 1st AD (Armored Division - the division we are attached to) paid us a visit, and I walked him around. He gave the wounded soldier a coin and left a short time later.

After we lost that soldier, and all of the others were cared for, I was standing outside next to one of the FLA's (forward line ambulance) in the lot, and the man's commander came over to me and said, "I want to give you this. This one is pretty beat up and covered with all sorts of sh--, but I want you to have this." It was his unit coin - that particular Military Police Battalion's Commander & Command Sergeant Major coin. I told him that I didn't care what it was covered with. I would always treasure it. And I told him that on behalf of the entire unit I wanted to extend our condolences for his loss. I followed up with Mortuary Affairs the next morning, and made sure that the family of the fellow who died received the flag, and knew that he left the 912th with dignity and draped in the flag of the nation he died for. Not sure if that was for me or them, but I felt better knowing that it was going to happen.

Saturday the 23rd was the ultimate in mixed emotions, folks. Do y'all remember the 4 kids that I told you about - the ones that were severely wounded by the UXO almost 2 weeks ago? Well I had the privilege of taking the 2 mothers to the CSH (Combat Support Hospital) to see their kids on Saturday. The CSH had moved into a fixed facility (Ibn Sina Hospital - Saddam's personal hospital) so we didn't have to fly. We had to convoy into downtown Baghdad, and that trip was a trip in and of itself. We had to suit up in full battle rattle; going 'red' on weapons (magazines locked and loaded with a round chambered) was yet another wake-up call to the fact that we are indeed in a combat zone. We were led by a HUMMV gun truck with a 50 cal on the turret, in which I rode shotgun with the turret gunners M-16 in my lap, a second vehicle that was also a hardened HUMMV in which the mothers and an interpreter rode, and the last was another HUMMV gun truck. When we did get to the hospital (a 15 minute trip that turned out to be a one hour ride through all of the checkpoints) there were tears all around.

The boys are all doing well, although one is still not out of the woods, and has a very long recovery ahead. I truly felt wonderful, and as I was taking off a bandage from the neck of one of the boys, he leaned over and gently gave me a kiss. We all cried. These kids would have died had our FST not been there, and it is because of the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the FST and the CSH that these boys will go home and (hopefully) lead 'normal' lives, what ever that means here.

About 3 hours after an emotional high came an emotionally gut-wrenching experience. One of my medics and I represented the 912th FST at the memorial service for the MP that died at our facility.

The ceremony was so dignified, and very beautifully done, and you got to hear about the man, the soldier, the human being that we lost not 50 hours earlier from his friends, brothers and sisters - his fellow soldiers. I felt proud to be there, but so sad to think of what his family was going through. I was also so proud the one of his squad members spoke almost the identical words that I had spoken to the FST the night this man died. It was almost as if he and I were of one mindset as we grappled with yet another man's death in a country that many don't know. The tears here were different, and they linger far longer than the tears of joy. At home, he was, as we all are at the 912th, a reservist. Here we are all soldiers, and this was a hard one for all of us. Our collective heart went out to his wife and kids, to his friends and family at home, and to his family here in Iraq. And as we have heard many times from many soldiers, we all have to "suck it up and drive on". Or as his friends said that this particular soldier would have said to his unit, "Drive on, brothers, drive on!"

Other than that, life goes on here. As we approach September, the temperature change is noticeable. It was only 70 degrees this morning at 0530 when I took my shower, and the water was actually cool enough to truly wake me up! High temps are now only getting to the 110 range, a marked improvement from the 138 degrees we were living with not 3 weeks ago. The Hajji generator is still running about 50% of the time, but the good news is that we have wired our A/C in the room to the 10K generator that cools the OR and runs the refrigerator; as long as one of us remembers to "feed the beast" each morning and afternoon with JP-8 (diesel fuel plus) we are fairly comfortable. All we lack now when the Hajji generator is down are lights. Thank goodness for EMS headlights!

I do not know when I am coming home as yet. By doctrine, the reserve physicians are supposed to serve "90 days boots on the ground", meaning that my time started on 10 July. That should, therefore, have me on the way home on or about 7 October. I truly doubt that I have any chance of leaving on time, but I have already started to pave my way, in my own quiet, reserved and temperate way - OK, so that isn't quite how I would put it either! So, we will have to wait and see who is listening.

In the meantime, to all of you, who have written, please forgive me for not answering you personally. I have, to be blunt, become disgusted with the internet and e-mail here, because more often than not, as I write a nice long letter on AKO I get just to sending it and the system crashes and I lose the letter. As the pace gets busier here, I find I have less time to write. PLEASE keep writing - it is really the only thing that keeps us all sane and in touch with the real world and real world issues. And to all - keep up the support for the guys over here as you go about your daily lives. They need to know that the majority of Americans are behind them and the job they have come here to do, because we all believe in what we are doing here. And I have to tell you, all it would take is to bring a few nay-sayers over, let them spend some time over here, let them see what life was, what it is now, and where it could go, and they would quickly sing a different tune.



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And yet our guys still have a sense of humor.

They call this: Military Cutbacks

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What Is a Vet?

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Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eyes. Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel - or perhaps another sort of inner steel: the soul's alloy forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem.

You can't tell a vet just by looking. What is a vet?

The Vet is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

The Vet may be the bar room loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel in Korea.

The Vet is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night in Da Nang.

The Vet is the former POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back AT ALL.

The Vet is the Quantico drill instructor who maybe never experienced combat -- but saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines by teaching them to watch and protect each other's backs.

The Vet is the wheel chair-riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

The Vet is the career quartermaster who watched the ribbons and medals pass him by but made certain every needed bullet found it way to the front line.

The Vet is one of the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose uncommon valor lies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

The Vet is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket -- palsied now and aggravatingly slow -- who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife was still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

The Vet is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being -- a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

Remember November 11th -- Veterans Day.

"It is the soldier, not the reporter, who gave us Freedom of the Press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who gave us Freedom of Speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the Freedom to Demonstrate. It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag. It is the soldier whose bravery and sacrifice made it possible for the protester to burn the flag."

Contributed by: Father Denis Edward O'Brien, USMC

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From the Portland, Oregon SBE Newsletter

THE "TIME LADY" PASSES

(From <http://www.aftra.org/resources/pr/0703/janebarbe.html>)



Jane Barbe, (pronounced "Barbie"), better known as "The Voice of America" and "The Most Heard Voice in The World" because of her voiceovers and recordings for phone companies, died Tuesday, July 22 in Roswell, Ga. Jane grew up in Atlanta and was a U. of Georgia drama grad. She was also a featured vocalist with the Buddy Morrow Orchestra for two years, and sang advertising jingles that she and her composer-husband John created and produced.

She started making professional announcements for the Audichron Company in Atlanta, Georgia (acquired by ETC in 1989) in the mid 1960s. Her friendly voice announced the time, temperature and weather, as well as personalized announcements for financial institutions, telephone companies and other time-temperature-weather sponsors. For the 1970s and 1980s recordings of Jane informed telephone callers when a certain number was disconnected or no longer in service. In addition, Jane's voice is heard on the National Bureau of Standard's Time Signal [WWVH] and on many hotel wake-up systems.

In addition to her work in broadcast advertising, Jane appeared on The Mike Douglas Show, I've Got a Secret, CBS News and Real People as the "Time Lady," and served several terms on AFTRA's executive board.

Barbe is survived by her husband, John, a daughter, Susan Stubin of Passaic, N.J.; a son, David, of Athens, Ga.; and seven grandchildren.

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Telephone gadget



My wife and I have two teen daughters at home who are addicted to the telephone and have no common sense regarding the appropriate time that their friends can call us. Despite calm and friendly repeated requests and the setting of family phone policy, this is still a problem and I'm ready to try a technological approach to solving this problem. The girls' bio-dad has already tried cellular phones, but they abuse them by running up high bills using text messaging. He has taken their phones away from them; at our present home, cellular service sucks anyway due to poor coverage.

As a chief engineer, obviously my stations must be able to get me 24/7. I don't want to rely exclusively on my pager for emergency calls when I'm home. My wife and I both have aging parents and therefore want them and our immediate family to be able to reach us 24/7. With this in mind, I'm looking for something that will look at the caller ID string and based on "allowed" inbound phone numbers, this "something" would then allow my phones to ring. Preferably, this device would be programmable by day-part as well. Numbers not on the "allowed" list or blocked caller ID strings would not ring my phones and, optionally, those callers would receive a snotty recorded message. Now, this "something" could either be stand alone equipment or computer software that would use a caller ID equipped modem.

Optionally, this "something" would prevent OUTBOUND calls to numbers that are not "allowed" as well. We have a smaller problem with the girls making outbound calls at all hours of the night and early morning. I have a "kill" switch that turns off THEIR phones, but not ours. I would like to integrate this feature with the above system if possible; The switch does no good if I forget to use it:-D Maybe what I need costs way too much \$\$\$.

What's out there that can do this?

If it costs too much, then I guess I will drop my "authoritative" household management style and adopt an "authoritarian" approach; A choice I do not want to have to make.

Jeff Glass, BSEE, CSRE
Chief Engineer
Northern Public Radio
xmitters@aol.com

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Quotes, A Little Humor (Very little) & More



Here doggie, doggie, doggie

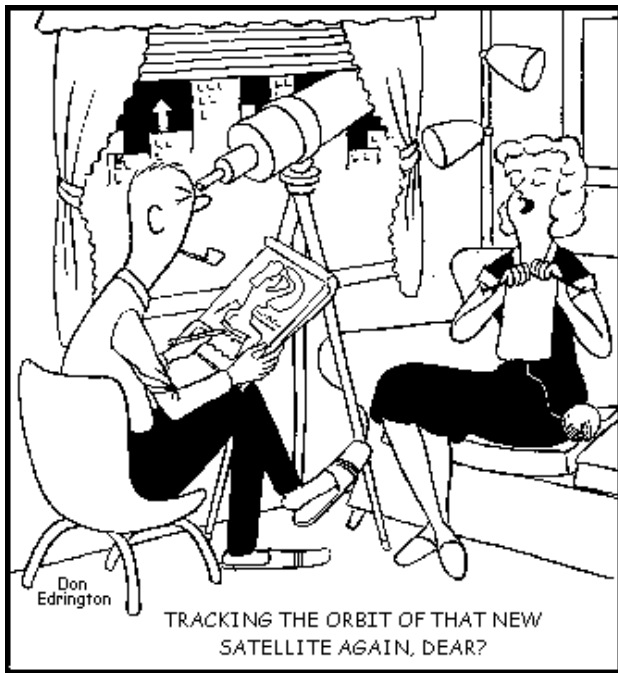
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Frightening 4 word statements in broadcasting

1. "That never happened before!"
2. "Meet the new weekender."
3. "How'd that break?"
4. "Christmas remotes are sold-out".
5. "This shouldn't take long"

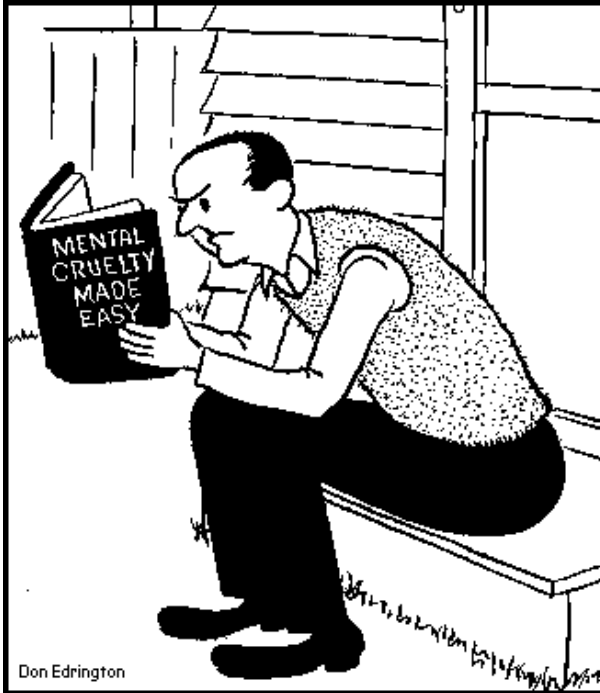


6. "Who's line is it?"
7. "Hand me that greenie."
8. "Fit it in Post."
9. "THE NETWORK IS DOWN"
10. I've got a virus (or We have a virus.)
11. "We'll do it live!"
12. "WE'RE OFF THE AIR!"
13. Here's your new budget
14. Can we trade it?
15. (From employment development:) Anyone feel like moving?"
16. The pipes are frozen
17. The Hardrive has crashed



18. There is no backup
19. Hit the DUMP button!
20. Is that dead air?
21. It deleted 1800 spots!
22. It's a major remote.
23. Have an engineer there.
24. Is the network down? (or The network has crashed.)
25. I smell something burning.
26. The RV hit WHAT (or WHAT hit the RV?)
27. First I've heard that.
28. The tower fell over.
29. The mast was sheered.
30. Fire in the studio.
31. The GM wants you.
32. Lightning hit the tower.
33. FCC inspector is here. (or The Commission is here.)

34. The station was sold.
35. Notice of Apparent Liability
36. New equipment was ordered.
37. Quarters fit in here.
38. We have an emergency.
39. Everything just shut down.
40. I didn't do anything.
41. Where does it go?
42. You're on my frequency.
43. We've hired new weekenders.
44. The toilet runneth over.
45. Why is it intermittent?
46. It's not manufactured anymore.
47. They're out of business.
48. They're in Chapter Seven.



49. "Sorry To Bother You!"
50. "Backup, backup, what backup?"
51. Is it in yet?
52. but I fixed it!
53. Never saw THAT before.
54. It's designed to fail.
55. Sorry, out of stock.
56. We can't support that.
57. Not a transmitter
(/remote/receiver/console) problem.
58. Your warranty just expired.
59. I'll send a quote.
60. You really bought that???
61. I'll call you back.
62. Is it plugged in?
63. You still have one?
64. You might try EBAY!"
65. Go to Radio Shack!"

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From: Jeff Johnson jjohnson@goodnews.net

Tools and Test Equip **Spud wrench Really Officer, it's not a weapon !**

I once carried a soldering gun through downtown. Gave the cops a heart attack!! Squad cars screeching to a halt next to me.

I don't know if they were embarrassed at their over-reaction, or pissed at me for not hiding the gun.

Then there was the time they thought I had a weapon down my pants. That time they were VERY embarrassed - especially during the pat down. I was chuckling. Surprised I was not arrested. I suppose it was out of fear of my telling other cops what had happened!!



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From: Patt Parrish pegpatt@bellsouth.net -- Couldn't resist passin' this along my friends! I got a kick out of it.

Dam Issues



This is an actual letter sent to a man named Ryan DeVries by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, State of Michigan. This guy's response is hilarious, but read the State's letter before you get to the response letter.

SUBJECT: DEQ File No.97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20; Montcalm County

Dear Mr. DeVries:

It has come to the attention of the Department of Environmental Quality that there has been recent unauthorized activity on the above referenced parcel of property. You have been certified as the legal landowner and/ or contractor who did the following unauthorized activity:

Construction and maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring Pond. A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A review of the Department's files shows that no permits have been issued. Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated.

The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially failed during a recent rain event, causing debris and flooding at downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently hazardous and cannot be permitted. The Department therefore orders you to cease and desist all activities at this location, and to restore the stream to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams from the stream channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later than January 31, 2003.

Please notify this office when the restoration has been completed so that a follow-up site inspection may be scheduled by our staff. Failure to comply with this request or any further unauthorized activity on the site may result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action.

We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David L. Price, District Representative Land and Water Management Division

** This is the actual response sent back: **

Re: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20; Montcalm County.

Dear Mr. Price,



Your certified letter dated 12/17/02 has been handed to me to respond to. I am the legal landowner but not the Contractor at 2088 Dagget, Pierson, Michigan. A couple of beavers are in the (State unauthorized) process of constructing and maintaining two wood "debris" dams across the outlet stream of my Spring Pond. While I did not pay for, authorize, nor supervise their dam project, I think they would be highly offended that you call their skillful use of nature's building materials "debris." I would like to challenge your department to attempt to emulate their dam project any time and/or any place you choose. I believe I can safely state there is no way you could ever match their dam skills, their dam resourcefulness, their dam ingenuity, their dam persistence, their dam determination and/or their dam work ethic.

As to your request, I do not think the beavers are aware that they must first fill out a dam permit prior to the start of this type of dam activity.

My first dam question to you is: (1) Are you trying to discriminate against my Spring Pond Beavers or (2) do you require all beavers throughout this State to conform to said dam request? If you are not discriminating against these particular beavers, through the Freedom of Information Act, I request completed copies of all those other applicable beaver dam permits that have been issued. Perhaps we will see if there really is a dam violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated.

I have several concerns. My first concern is... aren't the beavers entitled to legal representation? The Spring Pond Beavers are financially destitute and are unable to pay for said representation, so the State will have to provide them with a dam lawyer. The Department's dam concern that either one or both of the dams failed during a recent rain event causing flooding is proof that this is a natural occurrence, which the Department is required to protect. In other words, we should leave the Spring Pond Beavers alone rather than harassing them and calling their dam names.

If you want the stream "restored" to a dam free-flow condition please contact the beavers, but if you are going to arrest them, they obviously did not pay any attention to your dam letter... they being unable to read English.

In my humble opinion, the Spring Pond Beavers have a right to build their unauthorized dams as long as the sky is blue, the grass is green and water flows downstream. They have more dam rights than I do to live and enjoy Spring Pond. If the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection lives up to its name, it should protect the natural resources (Beavers) and the environment (Beavers' Dams).

So, as far as the beavers and I are concerned, this dam case can be referred for more elevated enforcement action right now. Why wait until 1/31/2003? The Spring Pond Beavers may be under the dam ice then and there will be no way for you or your dam staff to contact/harass them then.

In conclusion, I would like to bring your attention to a real environmental quality (health) problem in the area. It is the bears!

Bears are actually defecating in our woods. I definitely believe you should be persecuting the defecating bears and leave the beavers alone. If you are going to investigate the beaver dam, watch your step! (The bears are not careful where they dump!)

Being unable to comply with your dam request, and being unable to contact you on your dam answering machine, I am sending this response to your dam office.

Thank You,

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If women ruled the world #1

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A businessman on his deathbed called his friend and said, "Bill, I want you to promise me that when I die, you will have my remains cremated."

"And what," his friend asked, "What do you want me to do with your ashes?"

The businessman said, "Just put them in an envelope and mail them to the Internal Revenue Service. Write on the envelope, "Now, you have everything."

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From: J. Pratt" jpratt@stny.rr.com

You know you're in California

Not to be outdone by all the redneck, hillbilly, & Texan jokes...You know you're in California when.....

1. Your coworker has 8 body piercings and none are visible.
- 2 You make over \$300,000 and still can't afford a house.
3. You take a bus and are shocked at two people carrying on a conversation in English.
4. Your child's 3rd-grade teacher has purple hair, a nose ring, and is named Breeze.



5. You can't remember...is pot illegal?
6. You've been to a baby shower that has two mothers and a sperm donor.
7. You have a very strong opinion about where your coffee beans are grown, and you can taste the difference between Sumatran and Ethiopian.
- 8 You know which restaurant serves the freshest arugula.
9. You can't remember...is pot illegal?
10. A really great parking space can totally move you to tears.
11. A low speed police pursuit will interrupt ANY TV broadcast.
12. Gas costs \$1.00 per gallon more than anywhere else in the U.S.

13. A man gets on the bus in full leather regalia and crotchless chaps. You don't even notice.
14. Unlike back home, the guy at 8:30am at Starbucks wearing the baseball cap and sunglasses who looks like George Clooney really IS George Clooney.
15. Your car insurance costs as much as your house payment.
16. Your hairdresser is straight, your plumber is gay, the woman who delivers your mail is into S & M, and your Mary Kay rep is a guy in drag.
17. You can't remember...is pot illegal?
18. It's barely sprinkling rain and there's a report on every news station: "STORM WATCH 2003."
19. You have to leave the big company meeting early because Billy Banks himself is teaching the 4:00pm Tae Bo class.
20. You pass an elementary school playground and the children are all busy with their cells or pagers.
21. It's barely sprinkling rain outside, so you leave for work an hour early to avoid all the weather-related accidents.
22. Hey!!!! Is Pot Illegal????
23. Both you AND your dog have therapists

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Where's the babysitter?

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Things that could be and questions

1. Black Holes are where God divided by Zero.
2. All those who believe in psychokinesis raise MY hand.
3. OK, so what's the speed of Dark?
4. Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.
5. Who is General Failure and why is he reading my hard disk?
6. Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7 of your life.
7. A day without sunshine is like night.
8. When the chips are down, the buffalo is empty

You couldn't make these up if you tried.

We've all seen variations of this before. It's still funny and good to read again.



The following excerpts are actual answers given on history tests and in Sunday school quizzes by children between 5th and 6th grade ages. They were collected over a period of three years by two teachers. Read carefully for grammar, misplaced modifiers, misinformation and, of course, spelling!

Ancient Egypt was old. It was inhabited by gypsies and mummies who all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that all the inhabitants have to live

elsewhere.

Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandos. He died before he ever reached Canada but the commandos made it.

Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines. He was a actual hysterical figure as well as being in the bible. It sounds like he was sort of busy too.

The Greeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks also had myths. A myth is a young female moth

Socrates was a famous old Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. He later died from an overdose of wedlock which is apparently poisonous. After his death, his career suffered a dramatic decline.

In the first Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled biscuits, and threw the java. The games were messier then than they show on TV now.

Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Dying, he gasped out: "Same to you, Brutus."

Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak and was canonized by Bernard Shaw for reasons I don't really understand. The English and French still have problems.

Queen Elizabeth was the "Virgin Queen." As a queen she was a success. When she exposed herself before her troops they all shouted "hurrah!" and that was the end of the fighting for a long while.

It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood.

Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking.

Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100 foot clipper which was very dangerous to all his men.

The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. He was born in the year 1564, supposedly on his birthday. He never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He wrote tragedies, comedies, and hysterectomies, all in Islamic pentameter.

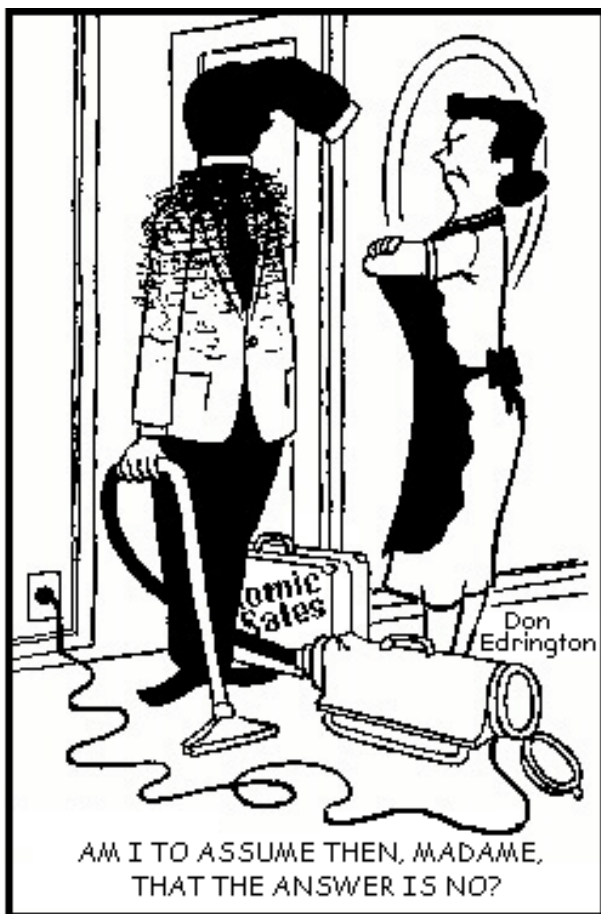
Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couple. They lived in Italy. Romeo's last wish was to be laid by Juliet but her father was having none of that I'm sure. You know how Italian fathers are.

Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Since then no one ever found it.

Delegates from the original 13 states formed the Contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the Declaration of Independence. Franklin discovered electricity by rubbing two cats backward and also declared, "A horse divided against itself cannot stand." He was a naturalist for sure. Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

Abraham Lincoln became America's greatest Precedent. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands. Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves by signing the Emasculation Proclamation

On the night of April 14, 1865, Lincoln went to the theater and got shot in his seat by one of the actors in a moving picture show. They believe the assassin was John Wilkes Booth, a supposedly insane actor. This ruined Booth's career.



Johann Bach wrote a great many musical compositions and had a large number of children. In between he practiced on an old spinster which he kept up in his attic. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Bach was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German, half Italian, and half English. He was very large.

Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf that he wrote loud music and became the father of rock and roll. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died for this.

The nineteenth century was a time of a great many thoughts and inventions. People stopped reproducing by hand and started reproducing by machine. The invention of the steamboat caused a network of rivers to spring up.

Louis Pasteur discovered a cure for rabbits but I don't know why.

Charles Darwin was a naturalist. He wrote the Organ of the Species. It was very long people got upset about it and had trials to see if it was really true. He sort of said God's days were not just 24 hours but without watches who knew anyhow? I don't get it.

Madman Curie discovered radio. She was the first woman to do what she did Other women have become scientists since her but they didn't get to find radios because they were already taken.

Karl Marx was one of the Marx Brothers. The other three were in the movies. Karl made speeches and started revolutions. Someone in the family had to have a job, I guess.

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If Women Ruled the World #2

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From: J. Carl Cooper carl@pixelinstruments.tv

France

Apparently the fallout over the war isn't finished. I heard the United States is SO angry with France, Congress even tried to give the Statue of Liberty back-- But France won't take it, because Lady Liberty is flawed.

She only has one arm in the air.

Sadam's "other" offspring



Now that Uday and Qusay have been eliminated, a lot of the lesser-known family members are coming to the attention of American authorities.

Among the brothers:

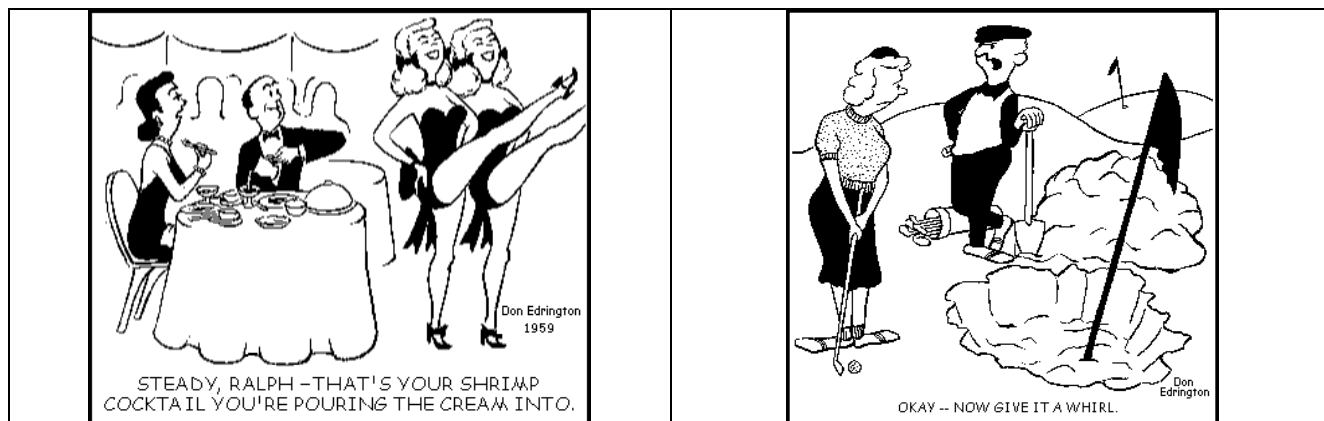
Sooflaythe restaurateur
Guday.....the half-Australian brother
Huray.....the sports fanatic
Sashay.....the gay brother
Kuntay & Kintay.....the twins from the African mother
Sayhay.....the baseball player
Ojay.....the stalker/murderer
Gulay.....the singer/entertainer
Ebay.....the internet czar
Biliray.....the country music star
Ecksrays.....the radiologist
Puray.....the blender factory owner
Regay.....the half-Jamaican brother
Tupay.....the one with bad hair

Among the sisters:

Lattay.....the coffee shop owner
Bufay.....the 300 pound sister
Dushay.....the clean sister
Phayray.....the zoo worker in the gorilla house
Sapheway.....the grocery store owner
Ollay.....the half-Mexican sister
Gudlay.....the prostitute

Finally, there is Oyvey, but the family doesn't like to talk about him.

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The biggest woman in the world



The biggest woman in the world is from Holland. She is over 7'4" and weighs 320 pounds.

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Hollywood Squares



If you remember the original "Hollywood Squares" and its comics, this will bring a tear to your eyes. These great questions and answers are from the days when "Hollywood Squares" game show responses were spontaneous and clever, not scripted and (often) dull as they are now. Peter Marshall was the host asking the questions, of course. The younger readers among you won't know who some of these people are.

Q. Do female frogs croak?

A. Paul Lynde: If you hold their little heads under water long enough.



Q. If you're going to make a parachute jump, at least how high should you be?
 A. Charley Weaver: Three days of steady drinking should do it.

Q. True or False, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years.
 A. George Gobel: Boy, it sure seems that way sometimes.



Q. You've been having trouble going to sleep. Are you probably a man or a woman?
 A. Don Knotts: That's what's been keeping me awake.

Q. According to Cosmo, if you meet a stranger at a party and you think that he is attractive, is it okay to come out and ask him if he's married.
 A. Rose Marie: No, wait until morning.



Q. Which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?
 A. Charley Weaver: My sense of decency.

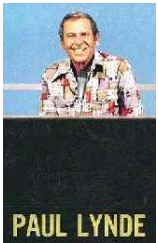
Q. In Hawaiian, does it take more than three words to say "I Love You"?
 A. Vincent Price: No, you can say it with a pineapple and a twenty.



Q. What are "Do It," "I can help," and "I Can't Get Enough"?
 A. George Gobel: I don't know, but it's coming from the next apartment.

Q. As you grow older, do you tend to gesture more or less with your hands while talking?

A. Rose Marie: You ask me one more growing old question Peter, and I'll give you a gesture you'll never forget.



Q. Paul, why do Hell's Angels wear leather?
 A. Because chiffon wrinkles too easily

Q. Charley, you've just decided to grow strawberries. Are you going to get any during the first year?

A. Charley Weaver: Of course not, I'm too busy growing strawberries.



Q. In bowling, what's a perfect score?
 A. Rose Marie: Ralph, the pin boy.

Q. It is considered in bad taste to discuss two subjects at nudist camps. One is politics, what is the other?
 A. Paul Lynde: Tape measures.

Q. During a tornado, are you safer in the bedroom or in the closet?
 A. Rose Marie: Unfortunately Peter, I'm always safe in the bedroom.



Q. Can boys join the Camp Fire Girls?

A. Marty Allen: Only after lights out.

Q. When you pat a dog on its head he will wag his tail. What will a goose do?

A. Paul Lynde: Make him bark?

Q. If you were pregnant for two years, what would you give birth to?

A. Paul Lynde: Whatever it is, it would never be afraid of the dark.

Q. According to Ann Landers, is there anything wrong with getting into the habit of kissing a lot of people?

A. Charley Weaver: It got me out of the army.

Q. While visiting China, your tour guide starts shouting "Poo! Poo! Poo!" What does this mean?

A. George Gobel: Cattle crossing.

Q. It is the most abused and neglected part of your body, what is it?

A. Paul Lynde: Mine may be abused but it certainly isn't neglected.

Q. Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?

A. George Gobel: Get it in his mouth.

Q. Who stays pregnant for a longer period of time, your wife or your elephant?

A. Paul Lynde: Who told you about my elephant?

Q. When a couple has a baby, who is responsible for its sex?

A. Charley Weaver: I'll lend him the car, the rest is up to him.

Q. Jackie Gleason recently revealed that he firmly believes in them and has actually seen them on at least two occasions. What are they?

A. Charley Weaver: His feet

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Thoughts for Today and Tomorrow

1. Now that food has replaced sex in my life, I can't even get into my own pants.

2. Marriage changes passion. Suddenly you're in bed with a relative.

3. I saw a woman wearing a sweat shirt with "Guess" on it. So I said "Implants?" She hit me.

4. I don't do drugs. I get the same effect just standing up fast.



5. Sign in a Chinese Pet Store: "Buy one dog, get one flea..."
6. I live in my own little world. But it's OK. They know me here.
7. I got a sweater for Christmas. I really wanted a screamer or a moaner.
8. If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?
9. I don't approve of political jokes. I've seen too many of them get elected.
10. There are two sides to every divorce: Yours and S...t-head's.
11. I love being married. It's so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.
12. I am a nobody, and nobody is perfect; therefore, I am perfect.
13. Everyday I beat my own previous record for number of consecutive days I've stayed alive.
14. How come we choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?
15. Isn't having a smoking section in a restaurant like having a peeing section in a swimming pool?
16. Why is it that most nudists are people you don't want to see naked?
17. Snowmen fall from Heaven unassembled.
18. Every time I walk into a singles bar I can hear Mom's wise words: "Don't pick that up, you don't know where it's been!"

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Remember these folks?

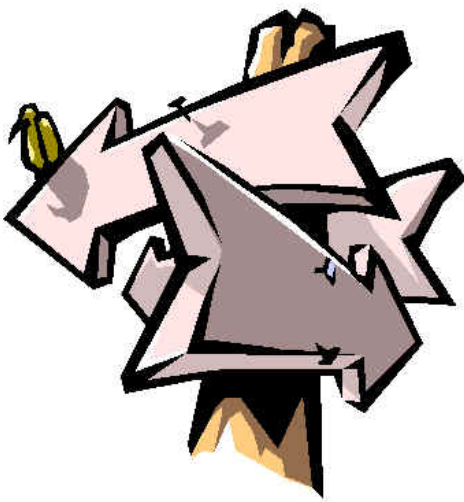




If Women Ruled the World #3

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Choices



You are driving along in your car on a wild, stormy night, when you pass by a bus stop, and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An old lady who looks as if she is about to die.
2. An old friend who once saved your life.
3. The perfect partner you have been dreaming about.

Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car?

Think before you continue reading...

This is a moral/ethical dilemma that was once actually used as part of a job application.

You could pick up the old lady, because she is going to die, and thus you should save her first; or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back.

However, you may never be able to find your perfect mate again.

The candidate who was hired (out of 200 applicants) had no trouble coming up with his answer. He simply answered: "I would give the car keys to my old friend and let him take the lady to the hospital.

I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the partner of my dreams."

Sometimes, we gain more if we are able to give up our stubborn thought limitations. Never forget to "Think Outside of the Box."

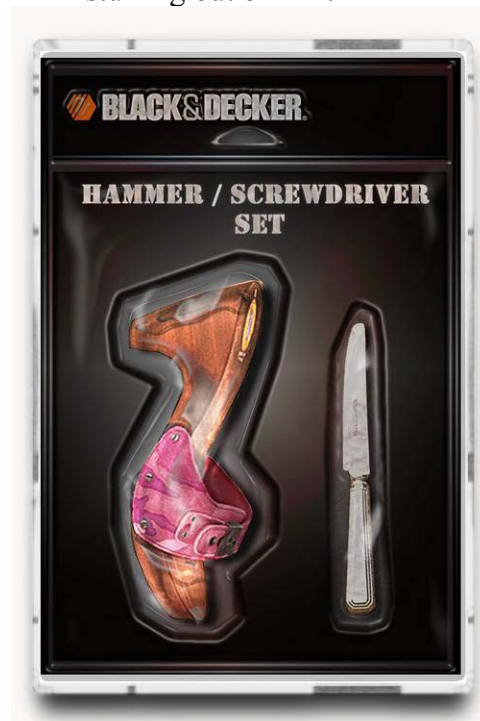


However, the correct answer is to run the old lady over and put her out of her misery, have sex with the perfect partner against the bus stop, then drive off with the old friend for some beers.

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A scientist from Texas A&M University has invented a bra that keeps women's breasts from jiggling and prevents the nipples from pushing through the fabric when cold weather sets in.

At a news conference announcing the invention, the scientist was taken outside by a large group of cowboys who kicked the stuffing out of him.



If Women Ruled the World #4

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A GREAT LAWYER STORY

This is the best lawyer story of the year, decade and probably century. This is a true story and was the 1st place winner in the recent Criminal Lawyers Award Contest.

A Charlotte, NC, lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars then insured them against fire among other things. Within a month having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars and without yet having made even his first premium payment on the policy, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost "in a series of small fires."

The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason: that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion.

The lawyer sued....and won!

In delivering the ruling the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The Judge stated nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable fire," and was obligated to pay the claim.

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000.00 to the lawyer for his loss of the rare cigars lost in the "fires."

NOW FOR THE BEST PART... After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!!!

With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000.00 fine.



ONLY IN AMERICA

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Important questions



1. Can you cry under water?
2. How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?
3. If money doesn't grow on trees then why do banks have branches?
4. Since bread is square, then why is sandwich meat round?
5. Why do you have to "put your two cents in"...but it's only a "penny" for your thoughts"? Where's that extra penny going to?
6. Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

7. Why does a round pizza come in a square box?
8. What did cured ham actually have?
9. How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?
10. Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?
11. If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?
12. If you drink Pepsi at work in the Coke factory, will they fire you?
13. Why are you IN a movie, but your ON TV?
14. Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?
15. How come we choose from just two people for President and fifty for Miss America?
16. Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway.
17. If a 911 operator has a heart attack, whom does he/she call? and finally...
18. Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural?

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Never sell the mule!



A Kentucky farmer had a wife who nagged him unmercifully from morning till night (and sometimes later), she was always complaining about something. The only time he got any relief was when he was out plowing with his old mule. So he tried to plow a lot.

One day, when he was out plowing, his wife brought him lunch in the field. He drove the old mule into the shade, sat down on a stump and began to eat his lunch. Immediately, his wife began harassing him again. Complain, nag, nag; it just went on and on. All of a sudden, the old mule lashed out with both hind feet; caught her smack in the back of the head: Killed her dead on the spot.

At the funeral several days later, the minister noticed something rather odd. When a woman mourner would approach the old farmer, he would listen for a minute, then nod his head in agreement; but when a man mourner approached him, he would listen for a minute, then shake his head in disagreement. This was so consistent, the minister decided to ask the farmer about it. After the funeral, the minister spoke to the old farmer and asked him why he nodded his head and agreed with the women, but always shook his head and disagreed with all the men.

The old farmer said, "Well, the women would come up and say something about how nice my wife looked, or how pretty her dress was, so I'd nod my head in agreement." "And what about the men?" the minister asked. "They all wanted to know if the mule was for sale."

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If Women Ruled the world #5

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The Farmer

Farmer John lived on a quiet rural highway, but, as time went by, the traffic slowly built up at an alarming rate. The traffic was so heavy and so fast that his chickens were being run over at a rate of three to six a day.

So, one day Farmer John called the sheriff's office and said, "You've got to do something about all of these people driving so fast and killing all of my chickens." "What do you want me to do?" asked the sheriff. "I don't care; just do something about those crazy drivers!"

So the next day he had the county workers go out and erected a sign that said:

SLOW:
SCHOOL CROSSING

Three days later Farmer John called the sheriff and said, "You've got to do something about these drivers. The 'school crossing' sign seems to make them go even faster." So, again, the sheriff sends out the county workers and they put up a new sign:

SLOW:
CHILDREN AT PLAY

That really sped them up. So Farmer John called and called and called every day for three weeks. Finally, he asked the sheriff, "Your signs are doing no good. Can I put up my own sign?" The sheriff told him, "Sure thing, put up your own sign." He was going to let the Farmer John do just about anything in order to get him to stop calling everyday to complain. The sheriff got no more calls from Farmer John. Three weeks later, curiosity got the best of the sheriff and he decided to give Farmer John a call.

"How's the problem with those drivers. Did you put up your sign?" "Oh, I sure did. And not one chicken has been killed since then. I've got to go. I'm very busy." He hung up the phone. The sheriff was really curious now and he thought to himself, "I'd better go out there and take a look at that sign... it might be something that WE could use to slow down drivers..." So the sheriff drove out to Farmer John's house, and his jaw dropped the moment he saw the sign. It was spray-painted on a sheet of wood:

NUDIST COLONY:
GO SLOW AND WATCH OUT FOR THE CHICKS!

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Signs of the times



Sign in a Laundromat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

Outside a farm:

HORSE MANURE 50¢ PER PRE-PACKED BAG 20¢ DO-IT-YOURSELF

In an office:

AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

On a church door:

THIS IS THE GATE OF HEAVEN. ENTER YE ALL BY THIS DOOR. THIS DOOR IS KEPT LOCKED BECAUSE OF THE DRAFT. (PLEASE USE SIDE DOOR.)

English sign in a German cafe:

MOTHERS, PLEASE WASH YOUR HANS BEFORE EATING

Outside a secondhand shop:

WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:
CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Spotted in a safari park:
ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Seen during a conference:
FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE FIRST FLOOR

Message on a leaflet:
IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GET LESSONS

Sign on a repair shop door:
WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING.
(PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK)

Spotted in a toilet in a London office block:
TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW

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What I've Learned

I've learned- That you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to them.

I've learned- That no matter how much I care, some people just don't care back.

I've learned- That it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it.

I've learned- That it's not what you have in your life but who you have in your life that counts.

I've learned- That you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After that, you'd better know something.

I've learned- That you shouldn't compare yourself to the best others can do.

I've learned- That you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I've learned- That it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I've learned- That you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

I've learned- That you can keep going long after you can't.

I've learned- That we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I've learned- That either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I've learned- That regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.

I've learned- That heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I've learned- That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I've learned- That my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I've learned- That sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

I've learned- That sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I've learned- That true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.

I've learned- That just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.

I've learned- That maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I've learned- That you should never tell a child their dreams are unlikely or outlandish. Few things are more humiliating, and what a tragedy it would be if they believed it.

I've learned- That your family won't always be there for you. It may seem funny, but people you aren't related to can take care of you and love you and teach you to trust people again. Families aren't biological.

I've learned- That you should strive to be the kind of person your dog thinks you are.

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Pain



A married couple went to the hospital to have their baby delivered. Upon their arrival, the doctor said that the hospital was testing an amazing new high-tech machine that would transfer a portion of the mother's labor pain to the baby's father. He asked if they were willing to try it out. Both said they were very much in favor of it. The doctor set the pain transfer to 10 percent for starters, explaining that even 10 percent was probably more pain than the father had ever experienced before.

But as the labor progressed, the husband felt fine and asked the doctor to go ahead and kick it up a notch. The doctor then adjusted the machine to 20 percent pain transfer. The husband was still feeling fine. The doctor then checked the husband's blood pressure and was amazed at how well he was doing. At this point they decided to try for 50 percent. The husband continued to feel quite well. Since the pain transfer was obviously helping the wife considerably, the husband encouraged the doctor to transfer ALL the pain to him. The wife delivered a healthy baby with virtually no pain, and the husband had experienced none. She and her husband were ecstatic.

When they got home, the postman was dead on the porch.

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When Men Lie....

One day, while a woodcutter was cutting a branch of a tree above a river, his axe fell into the river. When he cried out, the Lord appeared and asked, "Why are you crying?" The woodcutter replied that his axe has fallen into water, and he needed the axe to make his living.

The Lord went down into the water and reappeared with a golden axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked.

The woodcutter replied, "No."

The Lord again went down and came up with a silver axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked. Again, the woodcutter replied, "No."

The Lord went down again and came up with an iron axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked. The woodcutter replied, "Yes."

The Lord was pleased with the man's honesty and gave him all three axes to keep, and the woodcutter went home happy.

Some time later the woodcutter was walking with his wife along the riverbank, and his wife fell into the river. When he cried out, the Lord again appeared and asked him, "Why are you crying?"

"Oh Lord, my wife has fallen into the water!"

The Lord went down into the water and came up with Jennifer Lopez. "Is this your wife?" the Lord asked.

"Yes," cried the woodcutter.

The Lord was furious. "You lied! That is an untruth!"

The woodcutter replied, "Oh, forgive me, my Lord. It is a misunderstanding. You see, if I had said 'no' to Jennifer Lopez, You would have come up with Catherine Zeta-Jones. Then if I also said 'no' to her, you would have come up with my wife. Had I then said 'yes,' you would have given me all three. Lord, I am a poor man, and am not able to take care of all three wives, so THAT'S why I said yes to Jennifer Lopez."

The moral of this story is: Whenever a man lies, it is for a good and honorable reason, and for the benefit of others.

That's our story, and we're sticking to it!

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Sneeze

A man and a woman were sitting beside each other in the first class section of the plane. The woman sneezed, took out a tissue, gently wiped her nose and then shuddered quite violently for 10 or 15 seconds. The man went back to his reading. A few minutes later, the woman sneezed again, took a tissue, gently wiped her nose and shuddered quite violently as before. The man was becoming more and more curious about the shuddering.

A few more minutes passed and the woman sneezed one more time. Again she took a tissue, gently wiped her nose and shuddered violently. The man couldn't restrain his curiosity. He turned to the woman and said, "You've sneezed three times, wiped your nose with a tissue, then shuddered violently! Are you all right?" "I'm sorry if I disturbed you," the woman replied, "I have a rare condition; when I sneeze, I have an orgasm." The man was a little embarrassed but even more curious and said, "I've never heard of that before. What are you taking for it?" The woman looked at him and said, "Pepper"

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This comes from Vern at WZJU.

Neat Kitty Web Site

Turn up the sound and run your cursor all over the kitty and over his head. Be sure to tickle the cat tummy with your curser.

<http://home.wanadoo.nl/annekebroenink/maukie2.swf>



Cats can be too much at times.

This is the end!

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Well that's about it for this time. Don't forget to check out the industry news in the Tech-Notes: <http://www.tech-notes.tv/> As we said earlier on, stay tuned – things can only get better! – But only with your help. Tell a friend or associate about us. Until next time --FADE TO BLACK! ☺ .

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