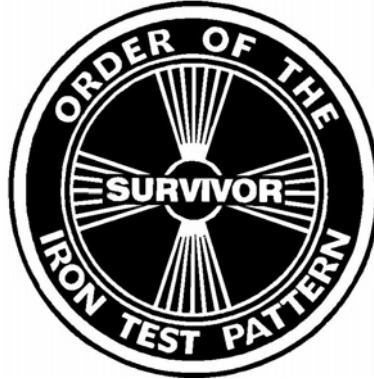


# Order of the Iron Test Pattern



## Newsletter

Volume 3

Number 6

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

**November 24, 2004**

**This is your Newsletter and your input is, of course, most welcome.**  
(Things printed in **blue type** and **underlined** are links or navigation aids.)

**Please note:**

Membership in the **Order of the Iron Test Pattern** is for any survivor of the Broadcast industry, not just for folks in TV. We welcome survivors from Radio, Cable, Production, Sales etc. Pass it on.

(Click on the Links below to navigate to that section of our newsletter.)

[Membership Activity](#)  [Website](#)  [Sagacious Pixel](#)  [Letters](#)  
[News](#)  [Stories](#)  [Other Websites](#)  [Picture of the Month](#)  
[Obituaries](#)  [Humor?](#)

This is our 27<sup>th</sup> Edition.



## Membership Activity

(As they come in)

### The New, Returning and Dignity up grading folks

**Andy Marken** is a new member and has the dignity of Admiral having survived for over 40 years in our industry. OITP Admiral Marken also has the endorsement of Knight of the Order Pad for his work in sales and marketing. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is [andy@markencom.com](mailto:andy@markencom.com) . OITP Admiral Marken holds court as Owner of Marken Communications in Santa Clara.



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# Our Website

Not much to report. We do need sponsors or it may have to go away. Anyone game?

If you can't do anything else, perhaps you could become one of our business card advertisers. No one will ever promise that you'll get rich from posting your business card ad there, but it sure will help us pay the bills. <http://www.oitp.org/buscard.htm>

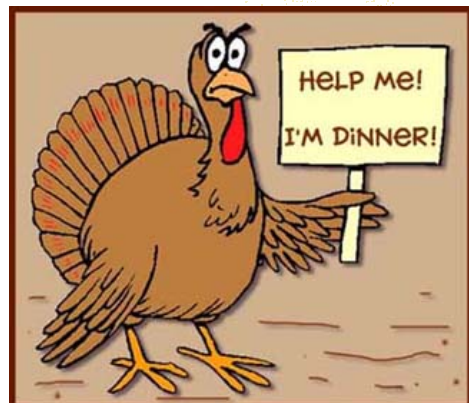
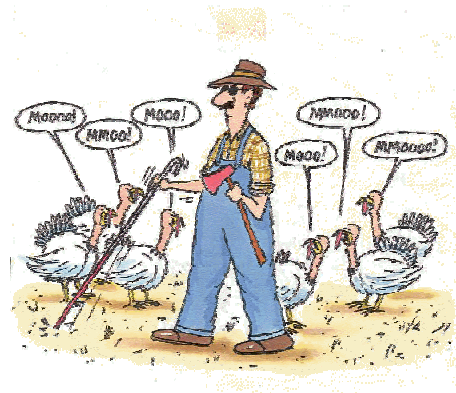
[WWW.OITP.org](http://WWW.OITP.org)



## From your Sagacious Pixel

Harry Bloomfield

You know the holiday season is on us when you begin to see TV ads for those pesky little clay figures that you spread seed compounds on that grow into something akin to nightmare of a useless green grass figurine. This is followed by the plethora of shavers and other things you'd never consider buying the rest of the year. I'm not sure if they're a welcomed relief to the political falderal we've been putting up with over the past several months or not. In any event, we wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving and have a good and sane remainder of the holiday season.



## Finances

To help defray expenses, we've found a family of affordable devices that will really help those who have VHS tapes and would like to convert them to DVD. This is all thanks to our new member, OITP Admiral Andy Marken. We'll be offering 3 models: the DVD Xpress, Instant DVD 2.0 and the Instant DVD+DV. We've used the Instant DVD+DV and gave away the DVD Xpress on the Road Show – A Taste of NAB 2004 this year and all reports say, and we confirm, they're great! Our unit has a switcher in front of it and we feed it with a Dish receiver/decoder, a VHS and Beta Tape machines and a DVD player. These devices will take nearly any kind of analog video and 2 channel audio (stereo, encoded or whatever) and convert it to an MPEG file that can be recorded as a DVD with the use of supplied ULEAD software that comes bundled with the units. The DVD MovieFactory 2SE is the workhorse and the Video Studio 7SE DVD is a fine editing tool that allows you to make your productions look like they just arrived from Hollywood.



You will need a USB 2 port and a DVD burner in your computer and we've found that a fast machine is also helpful, but not completely necessary. The slowest we have here at the Galactic Headquarters is a Pentium 3 at 800 MHz with 512 MB of RAM; the software and equipment works just fine on that machine with the USB 2 modification.

### EXTERNAL USB 2.0 Video Capture

create		DVD Xpress	Instant DVD 2.0	Instant DVD + DV
		Basic MPEG 2 analog video transfer device for the beginner-intermediate user.	MPEG-2 video capture device with a robust editing & DVD suite for interm.-adv. user.	MPEG-2 video capture device with analog and digital inputs for interm.-adv. user.
Import video from	DV tapes			*
	Analog tapes	*	*	*
Record final movies onto	*DVD/CD Disc	*	*	*

\*hardware-based MPEG-2 capture. DVD or CD Recordable Drive Required

Since we are not a bank, all orders must be accompanied with a check or money order. The DVE Xpress is \$99.00 each, The Instant

DVD 2.0 is \$149.00 and the Instant DVD+DV is \$249.00. The State of Oregon has no sales tax. All profits from these units will go to support the Order of the Iron Test Pattern's operating expenses. Please include \$15.00 for shipping and handling. If you want more than one, call us for shipping charges.



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## **On This Thanksgiving I'm Proud to be your Friend!**

I've learned....

That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

I've learned....

That money doesn't buy class.

I've learned....

That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

I've learned...

That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned....

That the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

I've learned....

That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned....

That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned....

That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I've learned.....

That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned...

That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

I've learned....

That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned....

That there's nothing sweeter than sleeping with your babies and feeling their breath on your cheeks.

I've learned....

That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.

I've learned....

That life is tough, but I'm tougher.

I've learned...

That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned.....

That when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned...

That I wish I could have told those I cared about that I love them one more time before they passed away.

I've learned...

That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

I've learned....

That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

I've learned....

That I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it.

I've learned....

That when your newly born child holds your little finger in his little fist, that you're hooked for life.

I've learned....

That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.

I've learned ...

That it is best to give advice in only two circumstances; when it is requested and when it is a life threatening situation.

I've learned....

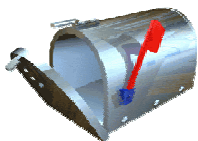
That the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done.

YOU ARE MY FRIEND AND I AM HONORED

# Happy Thanksgiving

Your Sagacious Pixel.

# Letters from our fellow survivors



**Editor's Note:** *Come on guys – drop us a line or two!*

From: Dr. Walter Tunick, assistant to the Sagacious Pixel [Walter@Tech-Notes.TV](mailto:Walter@Tech-Notes.TV)

John received a parrot as a gift.

The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



## NEWS

### **Bio-battery runs on shots of vodka**



An enzyme-catalyzed battery has been created that could one day run cell phones and laptop computers on shots of vodka.

The key to the device is a new polymer that protects the fragile enzymes used to break down the ethanol fuel, scientists told the

American Chemical Society's annual meeting in New Orleans.

Enzyme-based batteries have the potential to be cheaper than fuel cells that rely on expensive platinum or ruthenium catalysts. "It sounds great," says Bob Hockaday, founder of the company Energy Related Devices and designer of a methanol-powered battery. "Enzymes are inexpensive and catalytically very active."

Fuel cells work by converting into electricity the energy released when oxygen and hydrogen react to produce water. Pure hydrogen is an explosive gas and difficult to store, so fuel cells often use a chemical source. Ethanol is used in Minter's cell, and the enzymes strip off the hydrogen.

But the enzymes are sensitive to slight changes in pH and temperature and can rapidly degrade and become inactive. Until now no bio-battery had enzymes that lasted for more than a few days.

Specially tailored pores

The typical approach to solving this problem has been to immobilize the enzymes by attaching them to the fuel cell's electrodes, but they still tend to decay too quickly to be useful.

So Shelley Minter and her colleagues at St Louis University in Missouri coated the electrodes with a polymer that has specially tailored pores. These maintain a neutral pH, while being small enough to trap the enzymes yet big enough to let the alcohol pass through.

"The enzymes have lasted over two months now and they are still functioning," she says. Thanks to the polymer, the new bio-batteries have power densities 32 times greater than those of other groups, the team claim.

Toshiba has just unveiled its first miniature fuel cell, which uses a metal catalyst and runs on methanol. Minter says: "The main advantage of ethanol over methanol is that it is simply more readily available. We have actually run our cells off vodka and gin." Ethanol is also less toxic and, with the enzymes used in Minter's bio-batteries, more productive.

However, unlike the Toshiba prototype, the cell is still too large for portable use. The group is currently working to shrink the technology, perhaps by tweaking the polymer-enzyme matrix in order to increase its surface area further.

<http://www.broadcast.net/mailman/listinfo/broadcast/>



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# Surviving the Broadcast Industry

(Stories from today's broadcast engineers)

*What follows are a series of stories from various engineers across the country about their first electrical experiences and flubs. It is also said that confession is good for the soul.*

## **Experience Is the Best Teacher**

From: Ron Castro [ronc@sonic.net](mailto:ronc@sonic.net)



I'm glad to see there are some people who were as 'nerdy' as me! When I was 21, used to stand in the parking lot of KPOI, Honolulu (I was CE there) with fluorescent light tubes. 5 kW on 1380 diplexed with 5 kW on 590 (KGMB now KHSS) on a 415' self-supporting tower, made quite a display. I never got me into plasma physics, but it did get several beer cans thrown at me by the drunk neighbors in the high-rise apartment building, build just 100' from the tower!

There's this "knuckleheads in the news" story I read once (maybe it was an urban legend)...the cops found a man dead under a large utility company transmission tower. His genitals were burned and five empty beer cans were found on the ground. At first they thought it might be some ritualistic murder, but they later found that the man was despondent over his girlfriend leaving him, so he climbed up on the tower with a six-pack to watch the sun set. After five beers, nature called, and you can figure the rest! The one full beer can up on the tower was tip-off about what happened.



From: Ed Bukont [ebukont@comcast.net](mailto:ebukont@comcast.net)

I know one 'girl' whom I dated that is now a senior physicist with the US Naval lab. At the time I knew her; one of her greatest joys was taking various fluorescent tubes and finding out, empirically, what frequency, power and distance from the tower it took for various AM channels to light the lamp. Now she is an expert in plasma physics, and gets paid big bucks to do strange things with high voltage and gases in suspension, pretty wicked stuff.



From: Scott Dennis [Scott.Dennis@nnradio.com](mailto:Scott.Dennis@nnradio.com)

The brother and his apprentice were out working, and there were a couple of wires sticking out of the panel, one white and one black. The brother scratched his head. The apprentice asked, "What's the problem?" The brother said, "Hmm. Grab onto that white

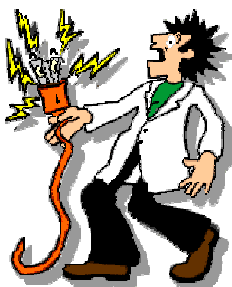


wire." The apprentice did so. The brother said, "Do you feel anything?" The apprentice said no. The brother, with relief, said "Good! Now be careful not to touch the black one because it will kill you!"

He thought it was dead, but alas it was hot.  
It's still live, and he is not.  
He knew in his head good practice well founded.  
The circuit's not dead, until it is grounded.  
But this time he hurried, didn't take time to test it.  
He was tired, and cold, and needed a respite.  
A respite he got, for it will be a long one.  
One dead and one hot, and he grabbed the wrong one.  
There's been many like him, many have died.  
The cause of their deaths was ASSUM-A-CIDE.

One more story. This one earned me the name Sparky among my coworkers.

I was working at a federal building in the floor trenches. Working on data cables. I needed to strip some wires and connect an Ethernet jack. So I pulled out my key ring, used the knife attached to strip the wires. Suddenly I saw a flash and heard that BZZT sound. Scared me and I jumped back, wondering how a data connection could have voltage on it. When I looked in, I saw an exposed 110 V cable that ran through the same trench. Apparently a chair or table leg had gone through the hole and worn off the insulation. My keys had dangled in and touched both it and the grounded trench itself. It had fused some of my keys together and melted parts away. While in my hands! And I never felt a thing.



It just goes to show that we can't make ANY assumptions. Like Reagan said, "Trust but verify!"

Another lesson is to use the right tool for the job even if you don't think you need it.

I now try to always have an AC Pen with me to hunt for unknown hazards. And like Chuck said it is good to make sure your breakers are working like you think they do!

OK, just one more, I can't resist.

In my 6th grade science fair I had a teacher who said he wanted to teach me about a trick used in World War I.E. had me take a mason jar, fill it with water and put in a tablespoon of salt. He then took a ZIP cord and stripped each conductor about a half inch. He then plugged it into the wall and plunged it into the liquid. It bubbled and boiled furiously and a strange green gas seeped out. Wow, was I surprised it didn't just explode or something. Anyway, he thought I should enter it in the science fair!

Fortunately my parents thought generating Chlorine gas in a gymnasium filled with people might (might!) not be the best project. Instead I entered an o-scope hooked up to a microphone.

How's that for a stupid trick! I don't think I'll show that one to my kids



From: Tony Dinkel [tonydinkel47@hotmail.com](mailto:tonydinkel47@hotmail.com)

Sorry, but I can top y'all. I never really had a run in with electricity in my young years, except for getting the inductive kick off of an old 500 telephone and wondering why, once was enough.

This goes back to junior high school science class. Its science class project time and most of my proposals had been rejected. Seems my plan to build an Apollo capsule and perform a simulated 2 week mission to the moon had to be simplified. The teacher suggested, why don't you focus on the rocket engines? Build a model and explain how it works. So I set out to build a rocket engine. I had been warned about liquid oxygen so that was out. Anhydrous ammonia and hydrogen peroxide, also. Unsymmetrical dimethyl hydrazine and red fuming nitric acid? Mom wanted it nowhere near the house.

OK, so I took apart a bunch of 30 minute road flares and dumped the stuff into a coffee can. Just about got the fire department called on me for that one. No thrust plus it melted the coffee can! Dang, how could I build a rocket engine without dangerous chemicals?

Then I figured I had it!!! An arc jet!!!

So I set about building an arc. I sawed into an old 1.5volt zinc carbon battery. I discarded the manganese paste and discovered the beautiful carbon rod hidden within. I cleaned it off and sawed it in half. Since I only had one, I had to saw it in half. Well, that left me with one rod that had no terminal. Shouldn't we file the rods to a point? Nah, no time for that! Let's just put them together and see if we can strike an arc!

The rods were mounted in their custom two by four assemblies so they would not accidentally fall together. The 110 volt ac line cord was stripped and connected to the rod that had the terminal attached. Then, we had a high level engineering meeting to decide how we were going to connect the other side of the ac line to the other rod. We got it! Just strip it back a long ways, fan out the stranded copper (for a low resistance connection) and hold it on with tape. Well, all I have is my dad's 1 inch masking tape. That's good, use it!

OK, power on! (Plug in the cord). The lab (dad's garage) was cleared of all nonessential personnel, little brother, kids from across the street and little girl from next door. Slowly I moved the two rods closer together, expecting a beautiful blue arc to begin flowing at

any time. I had them about a half inch apart and was getting a little discouraged when the fat kid from down the street said..."touch them together to start it!" So I did.

KaBlammm! No arc but the sound, the lights dimming, the smell, the flash of light, the air being filled with tiny bits of flaming masking tape, not to mention red hot bits of molten copper. WOW, let's do that AGAIN!



Needless to say, I never got an arc jet running. But all it took was one firing in Mr. Rucci's science class at Stacey Intermediate in Huntington Beach, CA for him to say, "that's good Mr. Dinkel, I suggest you quit while you are ahead!"



From: Dave Dunsmoor [mr.fixit@min.midco.net](mailto:mr.fixit@min.midco.net)

I don't recall my "first bite" exactly, but the time I discovered the power in the wall socket will stay with me forever. I was perhaps 10 at the time. Had been to the hardware store, and with the spare change in my pocket, bought a male zip cord plug, because it looked neat. Went home, wired it up to two pieces of lamp cord about a foot long, and peeled back the wire strands so only one on each side was sticking out. Plugged it in and scratched the two wire strands together to see if I could get a spark.

Wow! what a spark! I recall a big ball of fire (blinded me for a bit), and dad hollering down the hall "what the hell's going on down there"?!



From: Lamar Owen [lowen@pari.edu](mailto:lowen@pari.edu)

My first and stupidest RF bite was while working on a 5KW ND AM's ATU. The cause of the action was a cow that had yanked an interlock line out of the ATU (overhead feedlines should be out of reach of grazing cattle!). The interlock was the night/day one that prevented the transmitter from going to high power in DA mode (which would melt down the night network in the ATU in question, which is the ND tower by day and a negative tower by night). I jumpered the interlock at the TX, disconnected it (to prevent 110 shocks) at the interface, and proceeded to reconnect the lugs to the RF contactor in the ATU. During this time I was careful, and was doing it at 5KW output (less than seven minutes worth of work is OK RF exposure-wise, or at least it was then).

What I didn't count on was a second cow. For some unknown reason, the cow had stalked up behind me, outside the tower fence, and had started licking the chain link fence. Apparently there was enough RF there to cause the cow some discomfort, for right about then, twenty feet behind me, this cow moos loudly. Very loudly. I had my hands inside the ATU, short sleeves and all, and the moo scared the daylight out of me. My left arm came down flat on the input feed bus from the coaxial input to the RF

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contactor. It didn't stay there long. I had a 'skid mark' from my elbow to the second knuckle on my left pinky for several days. For those who have never been bit by AM RF, the feeling is not unlike having a torch flame hit you (unfortunately I have experienced that pain, too, with propane. Fortunately not with oxyacetylene).

That was the last time I did RF-hot ATU work.

However, the single worst RF burn I have ever gotten was from a piece of loose wire. Yes, loose wire, about 30 feet long, inside the tower fence at WGCR one day. I was outside the exposure ring and picked up a piece of Romex from off the ground. It was just laying there, not connected to anything. My palm hit exposed copper, and smoke boiled from my palm. It arced strongly enough to where I heard demodulated audio for a brief instant (until I let the Romex go, that is). That burn took a long time to heal, since it



penetrated the skin and began running internal tubing (a vein, I seem to recall). I had a nasty bruise from the rupture of that vein (looked a lot like a blood blister), and a badly charred place for weeks. The place wasn't large; about the size of a pinhead. But it hurt like nothing else I've ever had hurt. I'm told only high power laser burns hurt worse; they have the bad effect of being painless when the laser hits you, and only hurting later, due to ablated (as opposed to charred) tissues. I

have fortunately never experienced that pain. A 1-2W laser (somewhat high power) can punch a hole completely through your hand, and you'd never feel it until ten or so minutes later.

WGCR's near field is nasty, but that's because it's a short stick with a lot of reactance, a low resistance, and 22A of current.



From: Michael Holderfield [mholderfield@sw.rr.com](mailto:mholderfield@sw.rr.com)

Earliest: Butter knife into the AC outlet when I was four.

Stupidest: Pissed on an electric fence when I was fifteen to see what would happen.



From: Michael Wood, Cincinnati [michaelwood@fuse.net](mailto:michaelwood@fuse.net)

My grandfather Wilbur Wright was a retired railroader, and back in the nineteen sixties, his best friend was a nearby retired farmer named Al Gutzwieler. They lived just outside a small town called Weisburg, Indiana. These two gentlemen of leisure, at that time in their sixties or seventies, shared a passion for Hudepohl Beer and the Cincinnati Reds on WLW radio. They would alternate locations, sitting in the early summer evenings in the yard of one or the other, listening to the radio and drinking beer. The visitor would bring

a case of long neck beer bottles, and they would sit and enjoy life as they listened to the game, drank all the beer and watched the sun go down.

Since Al lived a few miles away, Grandpa Wright would sometimes feel the call of nature as he navigated the lonely rural road on the way home. One day, as he answered nature's call, an automobile cruised up the deserted lane, so he walked a little further from the edge of the road. There he encountered an electric fence.

From that day until he died, every time he was drinking, just about the second or third beer, he would pass along the most important knowledge he had gained over the years, "Boy, don't ever piss on an electric fence". True story, and he passed along a lot of other important information as well, and so powerful was his personal delivery of this experience that not one of the current generation, to the best of my knowledge, has ever had such an encounter with an electric fence. I believe his interest in women was purely gallant after the encounter. I still look around before pissing in a field.



From: James "JD" Davis [jdavis@lvradio.com](mailto:jdavis@lvradio.com)

My first bite was from a flyback transformer on an old Curtis Mathis console TV. 16 years old, not as bad as the TV I pulled over on myself when I was 3. That hurt much more.



From: Steve Ordinetz [steveord@bit-net.com](mailto:steveord@bit-net.com)

Heh heh, back in the 70s I was checking the timing on a car. Had one of those timing lights without the inductive pickup where you had to put the little adapter in series with the #1 spark plug, and hook the wire from the light to it. Wire had popped off, and I tried to re-connect it with the engine running. Yikes!



From: Bill Kressbach [wkress@tc3net.com](mailto:wkress@tc3net.com)

I had an uncle who when the lawn mower wouldn't start decided that the magneto wasn't working. So to prove it he grabbed the end of the spark plug wire and pulled the starter cord. I never liked that uncle much, but he was sure fun to watch that day. :-)



## Things

### Can I Speak to a @#\$\$ Human, Please? Voice support systems that detect agitation



"Voice-Mail Assistant speaking. How may I help you navigate our voice-mail system?"

Being lost in an automated phone support system can be one of the more frustrating experiences of getting (or repairing) a broadband connection. To resolve such complaints one company has developed technology that recognizes when you're irritated (or when you swear) and connects you to a human being. As this CRM buyer [article explores](#), customers aren't opposed to automation (they've flocked to ATMs because they function nearly as well as a live teller), they just hate being lost in a technology support maze. To make automated voice

support systems less efficient at losing (or pissing off) customers, one vendor is working on a solution: a system that measures vocal wave patterns to identify "angry language and inflection", and immediately connect the customer to a live representative. However as this [Sunday Herald](#) article notes; the inaccuracy of modern voice recognition has many wondering about the system's effectiveness.



### Tony Snow Raised Almost \$600,000 For Soldier Ride

Fox News Radio's *The Tony Snow Show* helped raise close to \$600,000 for Soldier Ride, an effort to raise money to aid American soldiers who have been severely injured in the line of fire. *The Tony Snow Show* featured regular updates of Soldier Ride, the cross-country journey of Chris Carney, a rugby player and bartender from the East End of Long Island, who embarked on a 4,200-mile bike ride from Montauk, NY and ended in San Diego, CA.



Along the way Carney visited and rode with many veterans who were injured while serving their country. Snow appealed to his listeners daily to support the cause. Proceeds from Soldier Ride went to the Wounded Warrior Project of the United Spinal Association, which provides aid to injured and paralyzed soldiers and their families. Through the show, former Sen. Bob Dole contributed as a blue level donor (\$4200 or more) and was joined by other well-known personalities, such as John Scherer, aka "The Video Professor" in supporting the project.

John Melia, Director of The Wounded Warrior Project said, "The Wounded Warrior Project is eternally grateful to Fox News Radio and Fox News Channel. On the day of our first meeting with Fox News we had raised a little over \$80,000 for our Soldier Ride fundraiser. In six short weeks with the help of *The Tony Snow Show* and Fox News, we were able to raise over \$600,000 to aid and assist wounded military service men and



women and their families. Fox News' work with the Wounded Warrior Project is a shining example of how radio and TV can bring communities together to support a common cause."



## **Wired Moose**

By TIM MOWRY

It's a bird. It's a plane. No, it's a bull moose hanging by its antlers from an electrical power line in the middle of the Alaska wilderness.

In one of those only-in-Alaska stories that will shock even the sourest of sourdoughs, a trophy-sized bull moose was accidentally strung up in a power line under construction to the Teck Pogo gold mine southeast of Fairbanks. The moose apparently got its antlers tangled in electrical wire before workers farther down the line pulled the line tight about two weeks ago.



The moose was suspended 50 feet in the air when workers, recognizing something was wrong, backtracked and found it.

The moose was alive when it was lowered to the ground but was later killed when officials from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game decided against tranquilizing it to remove the wires because they were worried the moose, already stressed, would die and the meat would not be salvageable as a result of the drugs.

The incident happened Oct. 5 at about 40 Mile Pogo Mine Road, which leads to the gold mine about 80 miles southeast of Fairbanks. "It's just an unbelievable story," said Gabriel Marian, president of City Electric Inc., the contractor erecting the power line to the mine. "The only unfortunate part is we had to shoot the moose.

"It would be more of a feel-good story if we had let it down and it ran off," he lamented.

The moose reportedly had an antler spread of 62 inches, a trophy bull by Alaska's big game standards, though Dave Davenport, a technician for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Delta Junction who handled the original call on Oct. 5, is still in the process of finding the antlers, which are state property. "I haven't seen the antlers," said Davenport. "I'm in the process of trying to get City Electric to turn over the antlers."

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The prevailing theory is that the moose came across the sagging and swaying wires and, in a testosterone-filled moment, decided to challenge the power line to a fight, as bull moose are known to do during the rut, or mating season.

"My guess is he was in full rut and probably seen that line moving out there," and decided to fight, said Marvin Pickens, line construction manager for City Electric in Anchorage.

Workers didn't know the moose was tangled in the line until they tightened it and detected a problem.

"There was nobody there to observe this happen," said Marian, noting that workers were much farther up the line when they tightened it.

Crews can lay up to five miles of line at a time before tightening it with a giant hydraulic winch, said Pickens. It's similar to stringing fishing line through the eyes of a fishing pole, he said. The line is pulled through leaders on the crossties at the top of the power poles and then winched tight with as much as 5,000 pounds of pressure, he said.

"As you're pulling, it constantly droops up and down," said Pickens. "My guess is that he was right in the middle of one of the sections when it got pulled up."

The moose, which probably weighed in the neighborhood of 1,200 pounds, was likely suspended in the air for only a matter of minutes, said Marian.

"They figured it out right away," he said. "It was just kind of hard to pull and it didn't feel right to them, so they went out and investigated."

The moose actually was tangled in what is known as static, half-inch cable that is strung up next to the power lines to serve as a lightning rod, said Pickens.

"I've been in this state 28 years and I've never seen anything like that," said Pickens. "City Electric has been in business for 52 years and never had an incident like this."

"I can't see how it could happen but it happened," he said.

A pair of photos showing the moose hanging by its antlers began circulating on the Internet on Thursday. The first time Davenport saw a picture was Friday.

"Nobody told me he was hanging 50 feet in the air," said a surprised Davenport.

"That's one heck of a meat pole," he quipped. "No bear is going to get that moose."

State wildlife biologist Tom Seaton thought it was a hoax when he first saw the photos.

"If you believe in UFOs you might believe in this," Seaton said on Thursday.

After being told the photo was authentic on Friday, Seaton was still skeptical. "I still find it hard to believe," he said.

Fish and Game information officer Cathie Harms' first thought when she saw the picture on Thursday was that it was computer-enhanced.

"I thought somebody did a Photoshop thing," said Harms.

When she found out it was real, Harms still had a hard time fathoming it.

"Absolutely bizarre," she said. "It's unbelievable the combination of factors that came together for this to happen. That moose was just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

It's not uncommon for Bull Moose to challenge inanimate objects to a battle during the rut when testosterone has taken over. Most Alaskans have seen pictures of Bull Moose with swing sets, tire swings, lawn chairs and Christmas lights tangled in their antlers at this time of year, said Davenport.

"We've had them running down the main streets of Delta with shirts and pants hanging from their antlers after they get caught up in clotheslines," he said.

Likewise, both Davenport and Harms have seen moose that died after getting tangled up in old telegraph wire that is strung through the woods.

Karl Hanneman, manager of public and environmental affairs for Teck-Pogo, called Davenport with the news. Hanneman had gotten a call from City Electric on Oct. 5 informing him "they had a problem" and he called both Fish and Game and the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement in Delta Junction.

Davenport talked to Hanneman about two hours later and made the decision to have City Electric workers shoot the moose, based on reports he got about the animal's condition.

"It was in pretty rough shape in talking to them," said Davenport. Tranquilizing an animal at that point can be deadly, he said.

"If they're really wore down, they'll succumb to (the drugs) and die," Davenport said. "Then you can't salvage the meat because of the drugs in it." The meat was salvaged and donated to a local resident, he said.

City Electric workers did everything they could do to try and free the moose once it was lowered to the ground, but that proved impossible, said Marian, the company president. The moose was thrashing about trying to free itself, posing a threat to anyone who got near.

"They did their best to untangle it, but there wasn't any possibility of doing that," he said.

It remains to be seen how quickly the photos will spread on the Internet but there's little doubt they will be a big hit, ADF&G's Harms said.

"It's going to go nuts," she said.

Now that the news is out and photos have hit the Internet, Marian is worried animal rights groups will get involved.

"There's going to be people who figure we've done something wrong," he said. "There's no way we would ever have done this on purpose.

"This was a phenomenal surprise to everybody," Marian said.

**Editor' note;** *The next time you're off the air, it could be the Moose effect.*



## Websites to Visit, etc.

<http://www.olderadio.com/>

<http://www.ac6v.com/history.htm>

<http://earlyradiohistory.us/>

<http://www.tvhistory.tv/>

<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bltelevision.htm>

David Sarnoff, 1964: "The computer will become the hub of a vast network of remote data stations and information banks feeding into the machine at a transmission rate of a billion or more bits of information a second. Laser channels will vastly increase both data capacity and the speeds with which it will be transmitted. Eventually, a global communications network handling voice, data and facsimile will instantly link man to machine--or machine to machine--by land, air, underwater, and space circuits. [The computer] will affect man's ways of thinking, his means of education, his relationship to his physical and social environment, and it will alter his ways of living... [Before the end of this century, these forces] will coalesce into what unquestionably will become the greatest adventure of the human mind."--from David Sarnoff by Eugene Lyons, 1966.

*"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."*

**Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)**



# Pictures of the Month

Thanksgiving day prayer



# Obituaries

CHARLES ABEL, W6QAK, 1915-2004, SK



SBE Chapter 36 Life Member and San Diego television broadcasting pioneer died November 13 at age 88 at his home. He had recently been diagnosed with cancer. Charlie had helped put KFMB-TV on the air in May of 1949 and became chief engineer of the KFMB Stations shortly thereafter. His many accomplishments included remote 6 GHz transmission of Mexican Jai Alai tournaments in 1949, overseeing the installation of a first-of-its-kind one-hop CBS network video microwave link from Mt. Wilson

to Mt. Soledad in 1955, moving KFMB-AM to Santee a few years later, and moving all of the KFMB studios to Kearny Mesa in 1976. He retired shortly thereafter. Charlie was active on ham radio through the years, often speaking in German to friends around the world.

He was born in Chanhassen Township, Minnesota and attended the University of Minnesota. His wife Bea had died in 1998. His Son Chuck, daughters Marcia Prim and Donna Gray, and many grand- and great-grandchildren survive him.

A story about a friend several years can be seen at:

[http://www.sbe36.org/1999/0509\\_kfmbtv50.html](http://www.sbe36.org/1999/0509_kfmbtv50.html)



## **A Tribute to Rodney Dangerfield**

Rodney Dangerfield's 21 best One-liners



1. I was so poor growing up ... if I wasn't a boy ... I'd have had nothing to play with.
2. A girl phoned me the other day and said, "Come on over; nobody's home." I went over. Nobody was home.
3. During sex, my girlfriend always wants to talk to me. Just the other night she called me from a hotel.
4. One day I came home early from work ... I saw a guy jogging naked. I said to the guy, "Hey buddy, why are you doing that?" He said "Because you came home early."

5. Its been a rough day. I got up this morning ... put a shirt on and button fell off. I picked up my briefcase, and the handle came off. I'm afraid to go to the bathroom.
6. I was such an ugly kid... When I played in the sandbox, the cat kept covering me up.
7. I could tell my parents hated me. My bath toys were a toaster and radio.
8. I was such an ugly baby... My mother never breast fed me. She told me that she only liked me as a friend.
9. I'm so ugly... My father carries around a picture of the kid who came with his wallet.
10. When I was born, the doctor came into the waiting room and said to my father, "I'm sorry. We did everything we could, but he pulled through."
11. I'm so ugly... My mother had morning sickness... AFTER I was born.
12. I remember the time that I was kidnapped and they sent a piece of my finger to my father. He said he wanted more proof.
13. Once when I was lost, I saw a policeman, and asked him to help me find my parents. I said to him, "Do you think we'll ever find them?" He said, "I don't know kid. There's so many places they can hide."
14. My wife made me join a bridge club. I jump off next Tuesday.
15. I'm so ugly... I worked in a pet shop, and people kept asking how big I'd get.
16. I went to see my doctor. "Doctor, every morning when I get up and I look in the mirror... I feel like throwing up; What's wrong with me?" He said..."I don't know but your eyesight is perfect."
17. I went to the doctor because I'd swallowed a bottle of sleeping pills. My doctor told me to have a few drinks and get some rest.
18. With my old man I got no respect. I asked him, "How can I get my kite in the air?" He told me to run off a cliff.
19. Some dog I got. We call him Egypt because in every room he leaves a pyramid. His favorite bone is in my arm. Last night he went on the paper four times -three of those times I was reading it.
20. One year they wanted to make me poster boy - for birth control.
21. My uncle's dying wish was to have me sitting in his lap; he was in the electric chair.





# Some humor or attempts at it

*(For those who don't like this section, now is the time to hit the delete key.  
There is at least one thing in here that is guaranteed to offend at least someone.)*

Do You Remember???

Sit back, relax, listen, read, & smile. Kind of reminds you to stop & smell the roses of life, and to give thanks to God for life and memories.



DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN...? All the girls had ugly gym uniforms?

It took five minutes for the TV warm up?



Nearly everyone's Mom was at home when the kids got home from school?

Nobody owned a purebred dog?



When a quarter was a decent allowance?

You'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny?

Your Mom wore nylons that came in two pieces?



All your male teachers wore neckties and female teachers had their hair done every day and wore high heels?



You got your windshield cleaned, oil checked, and gas pumped, without asking, all for free, every time? And you didn't pay for air? And, you got trading stamps to boot?

Laundry detergent had free glasses, dishes or towels hidden inside the box?

It was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents?

They threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed. . and they did?

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When a 57 Chevy was everyone's dream car...to cruise, peel out, lay rubber or watch submarine races, and people went steady?



No one ever asked where the car keys were because they were always in the car, in the ignition, and the doors were never locked?



Lying on your back in the grass with your friends and saying things like, "That cloud looks like a .."

and playing baseball with no adults to help kids with the rules of the game?

Stuff from the store came without safety caps and hermetic seals because no one had yet tried to poison a perfect stranger?

And with all our progress, don't you just wish, just once, you could slip back in time and savor the slower pace, and share it with the children of today?

When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited the student at home?

Basically we were in fear for our lives, but it wasn't because of drive-by shootings, drugs, gangs, etc.

Our parents and grandparents were a much bigger threat! But we survived because their love was greater than the threat.

Who still remembers Nancy Drew, the Hardy Boys, Laurel and Hardy, Howdy Doody and the Peanut Gallery, the Lone Ranger, The Shadow Knows, Nellie Bell, Roy and Dale, Trigger and Buttermilk. As well as summers filled with bike rides, baseball games, Hula Hoops, bowling and visits to the pool, and eating Kool-Aid powder with sugar.

How many of these do you remember?

Candy cigarettes, Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water inside Soda pop machines that dispensed glass bottles, Coffee shops with tableside jukeboxes, Blackjack, Clove and Teaberry chewing gum, Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers Newsreels before the movie, F. Fliers

Telephone numbers with a word prefix...(Raymond 4-601). Party lines – Peashooters - 45 RPM records - Green Stamps - Hi-Fi's - Metal ice cubes trays with levers - Mimeograph paper - Beanie and Cecil - Roller-skate keys - Cork pop guns - Drive ins – Studebakers - Washtub wringers - The Fuller Brush Man - Reel-To-Reel tape recorders - Tinkertoys - Erector Sets - The Fort Apache Play Set - Lincoln Logs - 15 cent McDonald hamburgers - 5 cent packs of baseball cards - with that awful pink slab of bubble gum - Penny candy - 35 cent a gallon gasoline - Jiffy Pop popcorn - Do you remember a time

when... Decisions were made by going "eeny-meeny-miney-moe"? Mistakes were corrected by simply exclaiming, "Do Over!?" "Race issue" meant arguing about who ran the fastest? Catching the fireflies could happily occupy an entire evening? It wasn't odd to have two or three "Best Friends"?

The worst thing you could catch from the opposite sex was "cooties"? Having a weapon in school meant being caught with a slingshot? A foot of snow was a dream come true?

Saturday morning cartoons weren't 30-minute commercials for action figures? "Oly-oly-oxen-free" made perfect sense? Spinning around, getting dizzy, and falling down was cause for giggles? The worst embarrassment was being picked last for a team? War was a card game? Baseball cards in the spokes transformed any bike into a motorcycle? Taking drugs meant orange-flavored chewable aspirin? Water balloons were the ultimate weapon? If you can remember most or all of these, then you have lived!!!!!!

If you do, you're much older than they think!



From: Grady Moates [lists@loudandclean.com](mailto:lists@loudandclean.com)

I doubt very much if you or anyone else on the list has ALL the answers.

Well, I humbly state that I, in fact, have all the answers. The problem with that is that many more of the answers that I have are wrong answers than correct ones . . . and I DON'T have the index that tells me which answers ARE the correct ones.

But I DO have all the answers. . .

Anyone here have an index I could buy?



From: Barry Rueger [rueger@COMMUNITY-MEDIA.COM](mailto:rueger@COMMUNITY-MEDIA.COM)

OK - appreciate the humor if nothing else. It's Friday. Since both the impending election and offshore outsourcing of support services have been discussed at length, I hope that folks will enjoy this gem.

#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Congress today announced that the Office of President of the United States will be outsourced to overseas interests as of September 30th, the end of this fiscal year. The move is being made to save \$400,000 a year in salary, a record \$521 billion in deficit expenditures, and related overhead.

"The cost savings will be quite significant" says Congressman Adam Smith (D - Wash) who, with the aid of the GAO (General Accounting Office) has studied outsourcing of American jobs extensively. "We simply can no longer afford this level of outlay and remain competitive in the world stage", Congressman Smith said.

Mr. Bush was informed by e-mail this morning of the termination of his position. He will receive health coverage, expenses, and salary until his final day of employment. After that, with a two week waiting period, he will then be eligible for \$240 dollars a week from unemployment insurance for 13 weeks. Unfortunately he will not be able to receive state Medicaid health insurance coverage as his unemployment benefits are over the required limit.

Preparations have been underway for some time for the job move. Sanji Gurvinder Singh of Indus Teleservices, Mumbai, India, will be assuming the Office of President of the United States as of October 1. Mr. Singh was born in the United States while his parents were here on student visas, thus making him eligible for the position. He will receive a salary of \$320 (US\$) a month but with no health coverage or other benefits. Due to the time difference between the US and India, Mr. Singh will be working primarily at night, when offices of the US Government will be open. "I am excited to serve in this position," Mr. Singh stated in an exclusive interview. "Working nights will let me keep my day job at the American Express call center. I always knew I could be President someday."

Congress stressed patience when calling Mr. Singh as he may not be fully aware of all the issues involved with his new position. A congressional spokesperson noted that Mr. Singh has been given a script tree to follow which will allow him to respond to most topics of concern. The spokesperson further noted that "additional savings will be realized as these scripting tools have been successfully used by Mr. Bush and will enable Mr. Singh to provide an answer without having to fully understand the issue itself."

Mr. Bush has been offered the use of a Congressional Page to help him write a resume and prepare for his upcoming job transition. According to Manpower, Inc., the placement firm, Mr. Bush may have difficulties in securing a new position, as job prospects in the sports franchise ownership arena remain limited. A recently released report from the Pentagon suggests a good prospect for him as a newly unemployed person may be in the Army National Guard. There he would be called up with his unit and stationed in Iraq, a country he has visited briefly before. "I've been there, I know all about-Iraq and the conditions there," stated Mr. Bush. He gained invaluable knowledge of the country in his first visit at the Baghdad Airport non-smoking terminal and gift shop.

Meanwhile in Baghdad and Falluja, Iraq, sources report that local Iraqis say Mr. Bush would receive an especially warm reception from them. Such sources stated the Iraqis' only request would be to be informed of which convoy he would be riding in order to give him the welcome he deserves.

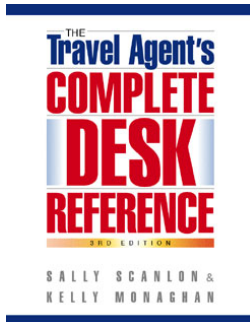
Congress continues to explore other outsourcing possibilities, including that of Vice-president and most Cabinet positions.

Americans



## THEY RUN THE COUNTRY – Scary!

From: J. Carl Cooper [carl@pixelinstruments.tv](mailto:carl@pixelinstruments.tv)



I'm forwarding this from a travel agent friend of mind: Think the world is a scary place? Read this and you will be terrified!!!! They run our country!

I have been a Travel Agent for thirty Years. This is why we're in trouble! I had a New Hampshire Congresswoman ask for an aisle seat so that her hair wouldn't get messed up by being near the window.

I got a call from a candidate's staffer, who wanted to go to Capetown. I started to explain the length of the flight and the passport information, then she interrupted me with, "I'm not trying to make you look stupid, but Capetown is in Massachusetts."

Without trying to make her look like the stupid one, I calmly explained, "Cape Cod is in Massachusetts, Capetown is in Africa." Her response (click).

A senior Vermont Congressman called, furious about a Florida package we did. I asked what was wrong with the vacation in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that is not possible, since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me. I looked on the map, and Florida is a very thin state!"

I got a call from a lawmaker's wife who asked, "Is it possible to see England from Canada?" I said, "No." She said, "But they look so close on the map."

An aide for a Bush cabinet member once called and asked if he could rent A car in Dallas. When I pulled up the reservation, I noticed he had only a 1-hour layover in Dallas. When I asked him why he wanted to rent a car, he said, "I heard Dallas was a big airport, and we will need a car to drive between the gates to save time."

An Illinois Congresswoman called last week. She needed to know how it was possible that her flight from Detroit left at 8:20 a.m. and got into Chicago at 8:33 a.m. I tried to explain that Michigan was an hour ahead of Illinois, but she could not understand the concept of time zones. Finally, I told her the plane went very fast, and she bought that!

A New York lawmaker called and asked, "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to whom?" I said, "No, why do you ask?"! She replied, "Well, when I checked in with the airline, they put a tag on my luggage that said (FAT), and I'm overweight. I think that is very rude?" After putting her on hold for a minute while I 'looked into it' (I was actually laughing) I came back and explained the city code for Fresno, CA is (FAT), and that the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.

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A Senator's aide called to inquire about a trip package to Hawaii. After going over all the cost info, she asked, "Would it be cheaper to fly to California and then take the train to Hawaii?"

I just got off the phone with a freshman Congressman who asked, "How do I know which plane to get on?" I asked him what exactly he meant, to which he replied, "I was told my flight number is 823, but none of these darn planes have numbers on them."

A lady Senator called and said, "I need to fly to Pepsi-Cola, FL. Do I have to get on one of those little computer planes?" I asked if she meant fly to Pensacola, FL on a commuter plane. She said, "Yeah, whatever!"

A senior Senator called and had a question about the documents he needed in order to fly to China. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him that he needed a visa. "Oh, no I don't. I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double checked and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this he said, "Look, I've been to China four times and every time they have accepted my American Express!"

A New Mexico Congresswoman called to make reservations, "I want to go from Chicago to Rhino, New York." The agent was at a loss for words. Finally, the agent said, "Are you sure that's the name of the town?" "Yes, what flights do you have?" replied the lady. After some searching, the agent came back with, "I'm sorry, ma'am, I've looked up every airport code in the country and can't find a Rhino anywhere." The lady retorted, "Oh, don't be silly! Everyone knows where it is. Check your map!" The agent scoured a map of the state of New York and finally offered, "You don't mean Buffalo, do you?" "That's it! I knew it was a big animal," she said.

.....Now you know why Government is in the shape that it's in!



And here's some more from J. Carl Cooper [carl@pixelinstruments.tv](mailto:carl@pixelinstruments.tv)

### **Flu Shots**

For those of you considering flu shots vs alternative methods....



Eat right! Make sure you get your daily dose of fruits and veggies.

Take your vitamins and bump up your vitamin c.

Get plenty of exercise because exercise helps build your immune system.

Walk for at least hour a day, go for a swim, take the stairs instead of the elevator, etc.

Wash your hands often. If you can't wash them, keep a bottle of antibacterial stuff around.

Get lots of fresh air. Open windows whenever possible.  
Get plenty of rest.  
Try to eliminate as much stress from your life as you can.

OR .....

You can take the doctors office approach. Think about it, when you go for a shot, what do they do first? Clean your arm with alcohol. Why? Because alcohol kills germs. So.....I walk to the liquor store (exercise), I put lime in my Corona (fruit), celery in my Bloody Mary (veggies), drink on the bar patio (fresh air), get drunk, tell jokes, and laugh (eliminate stress) and then pass out (rest).

The way I see it, if you keep your alcohol levels up flu germs can't get you!!!!



### Japanese innovation

From: Marian Johnson [marian@brightoncreek.org](mailto:marian@brightoncreek.org)



You can always count on the Japanese for coming out with crazy and/or innovative stuff. Apparently a lot of women like the feel of sleeping in a man's arms, but unfortunately, there is not always a man available to accommodate them. So the Japanese invented the ManPillow (soon to be available in the U.S.). This isn't such a bad idea. The ManPillow is snuggly and comfortable, he doesn't snore, doesn't hog the remote or blanket, won't ask you to get up and get him a beer, and I believe he comes equipped with a built in vibrating alarm clock.



### Lovely Rose at 87

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.



"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..."

"No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

"I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed, she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began,

"We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success:

1. You have to laugh and find humor every day.
2. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!
3. There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything, I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change.
4. And finally, Have No Regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.



At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation, Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.



REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY.  
GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.



### SMILE (no return necessary-thanks)

Again From: Marian C Johnson

(This has 2 parts: a list and at the end, something to open--enjoy!)

The most destructive habit.....Worry  
 The greatest Joy.....Giving  
 The greatest loss.....Loss of self-respect  
 The most satisfying work.....Helping others  
 The ugliest personality trait.....Selfishness  
 The most endangered species.....Dedicated leaders  
 Our greatest natural resource.....Our youth  
 The greatest "shot in the arm" .....Encouragement  
 The greatest problem to overcome.....Fear  
 The most effective sleeping pill.....Peace of mind  
 The most crippling failure disease.....Excuses  
 The most powerful force in life.....Love  
 The most dangerous pariah.....A gossip  
 The world's most incredible computer.....The brain  
 The worst thing to be without.....Hope  
 The deadliest weapon.....The tongue  
 The two most power-filled words....."I Can"  
 The greatest asset.....Faith  
 The most worthless emotion.....Self-pity  
 The most beautiful attire.....SMILE!  
 The most prized possession.....Integrity  
 The most powerful channel of communication.....Prayer  
 The most contagious spirit.....Enthusiasm  
 Everyone needs this list to live by...pass it along!!!

Just click on the word "SMILE" below and get ready to enjoy! SMILE  
[http://www.qnet.com/%7Epontius/smile/smilemp\\_1%5B1%5D.htm](http://www.qnet.com/%7Epontius/smile/smilemp_1%5B1%5D.htm)



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## The Humor of Steven Wright

From: JIM WELMAN [welmansmtn@oregonfast.net](mailto:welmansmtn@oregonfast.net)

If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous scientist (?) who once said: "I woke up one morning and all of my stuff had been stolen -- and replaced by exact duplicates." His mind sees things differently than we do.

I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.



Borrow money from pessimists - they don't expect it back.  
Half the people you know are below average.  
99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.  
42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.  
A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.  
A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.  
If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.  
All those who believe in psycho-kinesis, raise my hand.  
The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before we met.  
OK, so what's the speed of dark?  
How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?  
If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.  
Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.  
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.  
Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.  
Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.  
I intend to live forever -- so far, so good.  
If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?  
Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.  
What happens if you get scared half to death twice?  
My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."  
Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?  
If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.  
A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.  
Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.  
The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.  
To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.  
The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.  
The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.  
The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to sit on it.  
Everyone has a photographic memory, some just don't have film!



## On the Beam

By OITP Commodore Bill C. Bean [bill.c.bean@exgate.tek.com](mailto:bill.c.bean@exgate.tek.com)

(**Editor's note:** *Bill has not been brave enough to provide us with a picture, yet.*)

Tim Wilson, comedian, had this to say about Martha Stewart: "Boy, I feel safer now that she's behind bars. O.J. & Kobe are walking around, but they take the one woman in America willing to cook and clean and haul her ass to jail."



### Elderly pickup line

A very elderly gentleman, (mid nineties) very well dressed, hair well groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel smelling slightly of a good after shave, presenting a well looked after image, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge.

Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady, (mid eighties).

The gentleman walks over, sits along side of her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her and says, "So tell me, do I come here often?"



### Firefighters' Success

One dark night outside a small town in Minnesota, a fire started inside the local chemical plant and in a blink it exploded into massive flames.

The alarm went out to all the fire departments from miles around.

When the volunteer fire fighters appeared on the scene, the chemical company president rushed to the fire chief and said, "All of our secret formulas are in the vault in the center of the plant. They must be saved and I will give \$50,000 to the fire department that brings them out intact."

But the roaring flames held the firefighters off.

Soon more fire departments had to be called in as the situation became worse.

As the firemen arrived, the president shouted out that the offer was now \$100,000 to the fire department who could bring out the company's secret files.

Then, from the distance, a lone siren was heard as another fire truck came into sight. It was the nearby Norwegian Rural Township Volunteer Fire Company composed of Norwegians all over the age of 65.

To everyone's amazement, the little run-down fire engine, operated by these Norwegians, passed all the newer sleek engines parked outside the plant ....and drove straight into the middle of the inferno.

Outside the other firemen watched as the Norwegian old timers jumped off and began to fight the fire with a performance and effort never seen before.

Within a short time, the old timers had extinguished the fire and saved the secret formulas.

The grateful chemical company president joyfully announced that for such a super-human feat he was upping the reward to \$200,000; and walked over to personally thank each of the brave, elderly, Norsk fire fighters.

The local TV news reporters rushed in after capturing the event on film asking, "What are you going to do with all that money?"

"Vell," said Ole Larsen, the 70-year-old fire chief, "da furst thing ve do is fix da brakes on dat focking truck!"



How good is your GI insurance? Great Sales Pitch

Airman Jones was assigned to the induction center, where he advised new recruits about their government benefits, especially their GI insurance.

It wasn't long before Captain Smith noticed that Airman Jones had almost a 100% record for insurance sales, which had never happened before.

Rather than ask about this, the Captain stood in the back of the room and listened to Jones's sales pitch.

Jones explained the basics of the GI Insurance to the new recruits, and then said: "If you have GI Insurance and go into battle and are killed, the government has to pay \$200,000 to your beneficiaries. If you don't have GI insurance, and you go into battle and get killed, the government only has to pay a maximum of \$6000."

"Now," he concluded, "which bunch do you think they are going to send into battle first?"



## Green grass of home: Thoughts for our soldiers.

There is a soldier stationed in Iraq, stationed in a big sand box. He asked his wife to send him dirt, fertilizer and some grass seeds so he can have the sweet aroma and feel the grass grow beneath his feet. He is even cuts the grass with a pair of a scissors.

Sometimes we are in such a hurry that we don't stop and think about the little things that we take for granted.



## HELPDESK LOG...



Helpdesk: What kind of computer do you have?  
Female customer: Hi, this is Celine. I can't get my diskette out.  
Helpdesk: Have you tried pushing the button?  
Customer: Yes, sure, it's really stuck.  
Helpdesk: That doesn't sound good; I'll make a note ..."  
Customer: No ... wait a minute... I hadn't inserted it yet... it's still on my desk... sorry

Helpdesk: Click on the 'my computer' icon on to the left of the screen.

Customer: Your left or my left?

Helpdesk: Good day. How may I help you?

Male customer: Hello... I can't print.

Helpdesk: Would you click on start for me and ...

Customer: Listen pal; don't start getting technical on me! I'm not Bill Gates damn it!

Customer: Hi good afternoon, this is Martha, I can't print. Every time I try it says 'Can't find printer'. I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says he can't find it...

Customer: I have problems printing in red...

Helpdesk: Do you have a color printer?

Customer: Aaaah.....thank you.

Helpdesk: What's on your monitor now ma'am?

Customer: A teddy bear my boyfriend bought for me in the supermarket.

Helpdesk: And now hit F8.

Customer: It's not working.

Helpdesk: What did you do, exactly?

Customer: I hit the F-key 8-times as you told me, but nothing's happening...

Customer: My keyboard is not working anymore.

Helpdesk: Are you sure it's plugged into the computer?

Customer: No. I can't get behind the computer.

Helpdesk: Pick up your keyboard and walk 10 paces back.

Customer: OK

Helpdesk: Did the keyboard come with you?

Customer: Yes

Helpdesk: That means the keyboard is not plugged in. Is there another keyboard?

Customer: Yes, there's another one here. Ah...that one does work!

Helpdesk: Your password is the small letter a as in apple, a capital letter V as in Victor, the number 7.

Customer: Is that 7 in capital letters?

A customer couldn't get on the internet.

Helpdesk: Are you sure you used the right password?

Customer: Yes I'm sure. I saw my colleague do it.

Helpdesk: Can you tell me what the password was?

Customer: Five stars.

Helpdesk: What antivirus program do you use?

Customer: Netscape.

Helpdesk: That's not an antivirus program.

Customer: Oh, sorry...Internet Explorer.

Customer: I have a huge problem. A friend has placed a screensaver on my computer, but every time I move the mouse, it disappears!

Helpdesk: Microsoft Tech. Support, may I help you?

Old woman: Good afternoon! I have waited over 4 hours for you. Can you please tell me how long it will take before you can help me?

Helpdesk: Uhh..? Pardon, I don't understand your problem?

Old woman: I was working in Word and clicked the help button more than 4 hours ago. Can you tell me when you will finally be helping me?

Helpdesk: How may I help you?

Customer: I'm writing my first e-mail.

Helpdesk: OK, and, what seems to be the problem?

Customer: Well, I have the letter a, but how do I get the circle around it?



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## Her/His Diary Entries

HER DIARY: Sunday night I thought he was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a bar to have a drink. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was upset by the fact that I was a bit late, but he made no comment. Conversation wasn't flowing so I suggested that we go somewhere quiet so we could talk; he agreed but he kept quiet and absent. I asked him what was wrong; he said "nothing." I asked him if it was my fault that he was upset. He said it had nothing to do with me and not to worry.

On the way home I told him that I loved him; he simply smiled and kept driving. I can't explain his behavior; I don't know why he didn't say he loved me too. When we got home I felt as if I had lost him, as if he wanted nothing to do with me anymore. He just sat there and watched TV. He seemed distant and absent. Finally I decided to go to bed. About 10 minutes later he came to bed, and to my surprise he responded to my caress and we made love, but I still felt that he was distracted and his thoughts were somewhere else. I decided that I could not take it anymore so I decided to confront him with the situation but he had fallen asleep. I started crying. I cried until I, too, fell asleep.

I don't know what to do. I'm almost sure that his thoughts are with someone else. My life is a disaster.

\*\*\*\*\*

HIS DIARY: Redskins lost today. Bummer!!!! Got lucky, though.



=====

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world."

-- *William Shakespeare*

=====

Police was dispatched to an Ohio college campus this week to break up a fight involving two groups of students. About 35 students total were involved.

A group of black students saw what they thought were members of the KKK white supremacist organization parading around the campus. They took offense and proceeded to yell and throw empty bottles at them. A fight followed.

It turned out that they were members of a campus fraternity that were going to a Halloween party dressed as the Pope and his entourage of Cardinals...

That'll teach people not to wear "evil" costumes on Halloween...



=====

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her five-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from kindergarten to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

=====

A man is driving with his wife at his side and his mother-in-law in the back seat. The women just won't leave him alone. His mother-in-law says, "You're driving too fast!" His wife says, "Stay more to the left." And so on. After ten mixed orders, the man turns to his wife and asks, "Who's driving this car anyway? You or your mother?"

=====

Just as she was celebrating her 80th birthday, our friend received a jury-duty notice. She called to remind the people at the clerk's office that she was exempt because of her age.

"You need to come in and fill out the exemption forms," they said.

"I've already done that," she replied. "I did it last year."

"You have to do it every year," she was told.

"Why?" came the response. "Do you think I'm going to get any younger?"



One day, Hercules, Snow White and the Quazzimodo (Hunchback of Notre Dame) were standing around talking. Hercules spoke up and said, "I bet I am the strongest man in the world."

Snow White then looked around and said, "Well I bet that I am the most beautiful person in the world."

Then Quazzimodo looks around and quietly said, "I suppose that I am the ugliest man in the world."

An old man who had been listening in on there conversation said, "There is a psychic on top of that hill up there, why don't you each go in there and ask her yourself?"

The three friends agreed and they hiked to the top of the hill. Hercules went in first and came out a few minutes later and said, "I was right, I am the strongest man in the world."

Snow White went in next. She came out a few minutes later and said, "I was also right, I am the most beautiful person in the world."

Finally it was Quazzimodo's turn. He went in and after a few minutes he came out scratching his head. He looks up at his friends and said: "Who is Dennis Rodman?"



#### Just Some Odd Notes

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage, and values. Stu said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?" Leroy replied, "I'm not sure, what was her maiden name.?"

---

A little boy went up to his father and asked: "Dad, where did all of my intelligence come from?" The father replied. "Well son, you must have got it from your mother, because I still have mine"

---

"Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce court Judge said, "And I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week." "That's very fair, your honor," the husband said. "And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself."

---

A doctor examined a woman, took the husband aside, and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all." "Me neither doc," said the husband. "But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

---

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years. The Wizard says, "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you. The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

---

#### Two Reasons Why It's So Hard To Solve A Redneck Murder:

1. All the DNA is the same.
2. There are no dental records.

---

A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, "Can you tell me how long it'll take to fly from San Francisco to New York City?" The agent replies, "Just a minute..."  
> > > "Thank you," the blonde says, and hangs up.

---

Two Mexican detectives were investigating the murder of Juan Gonzalez. "How was he killed?" asked one detective. "With a golf gun," the other detective replied. "A golf gun?! What is a golf gun?" "I don't know. But it sure made a hole in Juan."

---

The investigation of Martha Stewart continues. Her recipe for chicken casserole is quite efficient. First you boil the chicken in water... And then you dump the stock.

---

This guy has been sitting in a bar all night, staring at a blonde wearing the tightest pants he's ever seen. Finally his curiosity gets the best of him, so he walks over and asks, "How do you get into those pants?" The young woman looks him over and replies, "Well, you could start by buying me a drink."

---

Moe: "My wife got me to believe in religion."

Joe: "Really?"

Moe: "Yeah. Until I married her I didn't believe in hell."

---

A man is recovering from surgery when a nurse asks him how he is feeling. "I'm O K. but I didn't like the four-letter-word the doctor used in surgery," he answered.

"What did he say," asked the nurse. "OOPS!"

---

Grandpa was driving with his 9 year old granddaughter and beeped the horn by mistake. She turned and looked at him for an explanation. He said, "I did that by accident." She replied, "I know that, Grandpa." He replied, "How did you know?" She said, "Because you didn't say 'asshole' afterwards"



## Notes to School

These are real notes written from parents in a Mississippi school district. Spellings have been left intact.

My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him.

Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

Dear School: Please ekscuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.

Please excuse Gloria from Jim today. She is administrating

Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.

John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.

Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hurt in the growing part.

Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.

Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.

Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea And his boots leak.

Irving was absent yesterday because he missed his bust.

Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.

I kept Billie home because she had to go Christmas shopping because I don't know what size she wear.

Please excuse Jennifer for missing school yesterday. We forgot to Get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday, we thought it was Sunday.

Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.

My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired. She spent a weekend with the Marines.

Please excuse Jason for being absent yesterday. He had a cold and could not breed well.

Please excuse Mary for being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.

Gloria was absent yesterday as she was having a gangover.

Please excuse Brenda, she has been sick and under the doctor.

Maryann was absent December 11-16, because she had a fever, sore throat, headache and upset stomach. Her sister was also sick, fever and sore throat, her brother had a low grade fever and ached all over. I wasn't the best either, sore throat and fever. There must be something going around, her father even got hot last night.



## Nuns out of Gas



Two nuns who worked in a hospital were out driving in the country when they ran out of gas. As they were standing beside their car on the shoulder of the road, a truck approached them.

Noticing the nuns in distress, the trucker stopped and offered to help. When the nuns explained they had run out of gas, the trucker said he would be more than happy to drain some from his tank, but he didn't have a bucket or a can.

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Hearing this, one of the nuns dug out a clean bedpan from the trunk and asked the trucker if it would do. He said it would and proceeded to drain a couple of quarts into the pan. He then handed the pan to the sisters, got back into his truck and waved goodbye.

While the nuns were carefully pouring the precious fuel into their gas tank, a cop happened by. He stopped and watched them for a few moments, then said, "Sisters, somehow I don't think that's going to work, but I sure do admire your faith!"



## REPRISALS

Taliban Minister of Migration, Mohammed Omar, warns the United States that if military action against Iraq continues, Taliban authorities will halt America's supply of convenience store managers.

If this action does not yield sufficient results, cab drivers will be next!

IT'S REALLY GETTING UGLY.



## Social Security

Having reached the age of 65, I went to apply for Social Security last week. After waiting in line for a very long time, I finally got to the counter.

The woman there asked me for my driver's license to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized, to my great dismay, that I had left my wallet on the night stand in my bedroom. I told the lady that I was very sorry, but I seemed to have left my wallet at home. "I'll have to go get it and come back later," I said. At that point, she said to me, "Unbutton your shirt." I was confused, but I opened my shirt, revealing lots of curly silver hair. She said, "That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me," and, with that, she promptly processed my application. When I got home, I couldn't wait to tell my wife about my experience at the Social Security Office. She listened to the whole story and then said,

"You should have dropped your pants . . . you might have gotten disability, too."



## Texas Wisdom

1. Never slap a man who's chewin' tobacco.
2. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
3. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier 'n puttin' it back in.

4. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.



5. If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

6. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.

7. There's two theories to arguin' with a woman. Neither one works.

8. If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

9. Don't squat with your spurs on.

10. It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.

11. Always drink upstream from the herd.

12. Never miss a good chance to shut up.

13. There are three kinds of people: The ones that learn by reading, the few who learn by observation and the rest of them who have to touch the fire to see for themselves.



### **Think about This? From a University Professor?**

This was written in the Daily Record (Ellensburg's paper) on Wed. Oct. 6, 2004. It was written by Mathew (only one t) Manweller who is a Central Washington University political science professor.



The title of the article was "Election determines fate of nation."

"In that this will be my last column before the presidential election there will be no sarcasm, no attempts at witty repartee. The topic is too serious, and the stakes are too high. This November we will vote in the only election during our lifetime

that will truly matter. Because America is at a once-in-a-generation crossroads, more than an election hangs in the balance. Down one path lies retreat, abdication and a reign of ambivalence. Down the other lies a nation that is aware of its past and accepts the daunting obligation its future demands. If we choose poorly, the consequences will echo through the next 50 years of history. If we, in a spasm of frustration, turn out the current occupant of the White House, the message to the world and ourselves will be twofold. First, we will reject the notion that America can do big things. Once a nation that tamed a frontier, stood down the Nazis and stood upon the moon, we will announce to the world that bringing democracy to the Middle East is too big of a task for us. But more significantly, we will signal to future presidents that as voters, we are unwilling to tackle difficult challenges, preferring caution to boldness, embracing the mediocrity that has characterized other civilizations. The defeat of President Bush will send a chilling message to future presidents who may need to make difficult, yet unpopular decisions. America has always been a nation that rises to the demands of history regardless of the costs or appeal. If we turn away from that legacy, we turn away from who we are. Second, we inform every terrorist organization on the globe that the lesson of Somalia was well learned. In Somalia we showed terrorists that you don't need to defeat America

on the battlefield when you can defeat them in the newsroom. They learned that a wounded America can become a defeated America. Twenty-four-hour news stations and daily tracing polls will do the heavy lifting, turning a cut into a fatal blow. Except that Iraq is Somalia times 10. The election of John Kerry will serve notice to every terrorist in every cave that the soft underbelly of American power is the timidity of American voters. Terrorists will know that a steady stream of grizzly photos for CNN is all you need to break the will of the American people. Our own self-doubt will take it from there. Bin Laden will recognize that he can topple any American administration without setting foot on the homeland. It is said that America's W.W.II generation is its 'greatest generation.' But my greatest fear is that it will become known as America's 'last generation.' Born in the bleakness of the Great Depression and hardened in the fire of WW II, they may be the last American generation that understands the meaning of duty, honor and sacrifice. It is difficult to admit, but I know these terms are spoken with only hollow detachment by many (but not all) in my generation. Too many citizens today mistake 'living in America' as 'being an American.' But America has always been more of an idea than a place. When you sign on, you do more than buy real estate. You accept a set of values and responsibilities. This November, my generation, which has been absent too long, must grasp the obligation that comes with being an American, or fade into the oblivion they may deserve. I believe that 100 years from now historians will look back at the election of 2004 and see it as the decisive election of our century. Depending on the outcome, they will describe it as the moment America joined the ranks of ordinary nations; or they will describe it as the moment the prodigal sons and daughters of the greatest generation accepted their burden as caretakers of the City on the Hill."

Mathew Manweller



### **Burt's Humor**

From: Burt I. Weiner [biwa@earthlink.net](mailto:biwa@earthlink.net)

#### **A Great Diet**

Can't eat Beef, Mad cow....  
 Can't eat chicken . bird flu  
 Can't eat eggs ... Salmonella  
 Can't eat pork ... fears that bird flu will infect piggies  
 Can't eat fish ... heavy metals in the waters has poisoned their meat  
 Can't eat fruits and veggies ... insecticides and herbicides  
 HMMMMMMMMM!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I believe that leaves Chocolate!!!!!!!!!!  
 Chocolate is a Vegetable  
 Chocolate is derived from cocoa beans.  
 Bean = vegetable.  
 Sugar is derived from either sugar cane or sugar BEETS.  
 Both of them are plants, in the vegetable category.





Thus, chocolate is a vegetable.  
To go one step further, chocolate candy bars also contain milk, which is dairy.  
So candy bars are a health food.  
Chocolate-covered raisins, cherries, orange slices and strawberries all count as fruit, so  
eat as many as you want.

Remember - - -

"STRESSED" spelled backward is "DESSERTS"  
Send this to four people and you will lose 2 pounds.  
Send this to everyone you know (or ever knew), and you will lose 10 pounds.

(If you delete this message, you will gain 10 pounds immediately.)



### **THE INSULT**

Upon arriving home, a husband was met at the door by his sobbing wife. Tearfully, she explained, "It's the druggist. He insulted me terribly this morning on the phone."

Immediately the husband drove downtown to confront the druggist, and demand an apology. Before he could say more than a word or two, the druggist said, "Now just a minute! Listen to my side of it."

"This morning the alarm failed to go off, so I was late getting up. I went without breakfast and hurried out to the car, only to realize that I had locked the house and car keys were inside. I had to break a window to get my keys. Then, driving a little too fast, I got a speeding ticket."

"Later, when I was about three blocks from the store, I had a flat tire. When I finally got to the store there were a bunch of people waiting for me to open up. I opened the store, and started waiting on these people. All the while the darn phone was ringing off the hook! I had to break open a roll of nickels against the cash register drawer to make change, and they spilled all over the floor. I got down on my hands and knees to pick up the nickels." "The phone was still ringing. When I came up, I cracked my head on the open cash drawer. That made me stagger back against a showcase with a bunch of perfume bottles on it, and half of them hit the floor and broke.

Meanwhile, the phone is still ringing with no let up." "When I finally got to answer it, it was your wife. She wanted to know how to use a RECTAL thermometer. And believe me mister, as God is my witness, all I did was tell her!"



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## **Baptist Cowgirl**

A cowgirl from Arkansas, visiting Texas, walks into a bar, orders three mugs of Bud and sits in the back room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When she finishes them, she comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells the cowgirl, "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it, it would taste better if you bought one at a time."

The cowgirl replies, "Well, you see, I have two sisters. One is in Australia, the other is in Dublin, and I'm in Arkansas. When we all left home, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days we drank together. So I drink one for each of my sisters and one for myself."

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there. The cowgirl becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. She orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, she comes in and orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent. When she comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

The cowgirl looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns and she laughs. "Oh, no, everybody's just fine," she explains, "It's just that my husband and I joined the Baptist Church in Shirley, Arkansas and I had to quit drinking. Hasn't affected my sisters though."



### **Interpretation...**

A farmer got in his pickup, drove several miles to a neighboring farm, and knocked on the farmhouse door. A young boy about 12 opened the door. "Is yer paw home?" the farmer asked. "No sir, he ain't," the boy replied. "He went into town." "Well, said the farmer, is yer maw here?" "No, sir, she ain't here neither. She went into town with paw." "How about your brother, Howard? . Is he here?" "Nope! He went with maw and paw."

The farmer stood there for a few minutes, shifting from one foot to the other and mumbling to himself. "Is there anything I can do fer ya?" the boy asked politely. "I knows where all the tools are, if you want to borry one. Or maybe I could take a message fer paw." "Well," said the farmer uncomfortably, "I really wanted to talk to yer paw. It's about your brother Howard getting my daughter, ..... Julie, pregnant." The boy considered for a moment. "You would have to talk to Pa about that", he conceded.

"If it helps you any, I know that Pa charges \$50 for the bull and \$25 for the boar hog, but I really don't know how much he gets fer Howard."



## Seniors & College Students

A college student challenged a senior citizen saying it was impossible for the older generation to understand him. "You grew up in a different world," the student said. "Today we have television, jet planes, space travel, nuclear energy, and computers."

Taking advantage of a pause in the student's litany, the senior said, "You're right. We didn't have those things when we were young. So we invented them!"



## The Davening Parrot...

Meyer, a lonely widower, was walking home along Delancy Street in New York one day, wishing that something wonderful would happen in his life, when he passed a pet store and heard a squawking voice shouting out in Yiddish, "Quawwwwk...vus machts du?" (How're ya doin') "Yeah, du." (Yeah, you!!) Meyer rubbed his eyes and ears. He couldn't believe it. The proprietor urged him, "Come in here, fella, and check out this parrot..."



Meyer did just that. The African Grey cocked his little head and said: "Vus? Kenst sprechen Yiddish?" (What? Can you speak Yiddish?)

In a matter of moments, Meyer had placed five hundred dollars down on the counter and carried the parrot in his cage away with him. All night, he talked with the parrot in Yiddish. He told the parrot about his father's adventures when he came to America, and just how beautiful his late wife Sarah was, when she was a young bride. He spoke about his family, and about his years of working in the garment district. And all about Florida.

The parrot listened and commented. They shared some walnuts. The parrot told him of living in the pet store, and how lonely he would get on the weekends. Then they both went to sleep exhausted.

Next morning, Meyer began to put on his tfillin, all the while saying his prayers. The parrot demanded to know what he was doing, and when Meyer explained, the parrot wanted some, too. Meyer went out and had a Miniature set of Tiffilin handmade for the parrot. The parrot wanted to learn to daven (say prayers), and he soon learned every prayer. He wanted to learn to read Hebrew, so Meyer spent weeks and months sitting and teaching the parrot, teaching him the Torah.

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In time, Meyer came to love and count on the parrot as a friend and fellow Jew. One morning, on Rosh Hashanah, Meyer rose and got dressed and was about to leave, when the parrot demanded to go with him. Meyer explained that Shul (synagogue) was not place for a bird, but the parrot made a terrific argument, and subsequently the bird was carried to Shul on Meyer's shoulder.

Needless to say, they both made quite a spectacle, and Meyer was questioned by everyone, including the Rabbi and the Cantor. They refused to allow a bird into the building on the High Holy Days, but Meyer convinced them to let him in this one time, swearing to the clergy that parrot could daven.

Immediately, wagers were made with Meter. Thousands of dollars were bet that the parrot could NOT daven, and could not speak Yiddish or Hebrew.

All eyes were on the African Grey during the services. The parrot perched on Meter's shoulder as one prayer and song passed after the other. Meyer heard not a peep from the bird. He began to become annoyed and slapped at his shoulder, and mumbling under his breath, "Daven!

Nothing. Not a sound.

"Daven...parrot, you can daven, so daven...come on!! Everybody's looking at you!"

Still nothing.

After the Rosh Hashanah services were concluded, Meyer found that he owed his Shul buddies and the Rabbi over four thousand dollars. He marched home upset, saying nothing. Finally, several blocks from the Temple, the bird began to sing an old Yiddish song, and was happy as a lark. Meyer stopped and looked at him.

"You miserable bird !! You cost me over four thousand dollars. Why?? After I had tfillin made for you, and taught you the morning prayers, and taught you to read Hebrew and the Torah. And after you begged me to bring you to Shul on Rosh Hashana. Why?? Why did you do this to me?"

"Meyer, don't be a schmuck," the parrot replied. "Think of the odds we'll get on Yom Kipper!"



## **Far out Farrar**

From: "Floyd Farrar" [farrfl@comcast.net](mailto:farrfl@comcast.net)

### **Doctor Office Humor**

A physician claimed that the following are actual comments made by his patients (predominately male) while he was performing their colonoscopies:



1. "Take it easy, Doc. You're boldly going where no man has gone before!"
2. "Find Amelia Earhart yet?"
3. "Can you hear me NOW?"
4. "Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet?"
5. "You know, in Arkansas, we're now legally married."
6. "Any sign of the trapped miners, Chief?"
7. "You put your left hand in, you take your left hand out..."
8. "Hey! Now I know how a Muppet feels!"
9. "If your hand doesn't fit, you must quit!"
10. "Hey Doc, let me know if you find my dignity."
11. "You used to be an executive at Enron, didn't you?"
12. "God, now I know why I am not gay."
- .....And the best one of them all...
13. "Could you write a note for my wife saying that my head is not up there?"



### **DUSTY UNDERWEAR**

One morning a husband took a pair of underwear out of the drawer. "What the ? ? ?" he said to himself as a little "dust" cloud appeared when he shook them out. "April," he hollered into the bathroom, "why did you put talcum powder in my underwear?"

She shot back: "It's not talcum powder. It's 'Miracle Grow'."



### **Fourth Wedding:**

There was a much married woman who walked into a bridal shop one day and told the sales clerk that she was looking for a wedding gown for her fourth wedding. "Well", replied the sales clerk, "exactly what type of dress are you looking for?"

The bride to be said:, "A long frilly white dress with a veil." The sales clerk didn't know quite what to say but she finally said, "Frankly madam, gowns of that nature are considered more appropriate for brides who are being married the first time-for those who are a bit more innocent, if you know what I mean?"

"Well" replied the customer, more than a little put out. "I can assure you that I am as innocent as the rest of them. Believe it or not, despite all my marriages, I remain as innocent as any first time bride."

"You see, my first husband was so excited about our wedding he died as we were checking into our hotel.

My second husband and I got into a terrible fight in the limo on our way to the reception and have not spoken since. We had that wedding annulled immediately."

"What about your third husband?" asked the sales clerk.

"Well" said the woman, "he was a Democrat and every night for four years he just sat on the edge of the bed and told me how good it was going to be."



### **"Ode to the Left Be-Heinz"**

by Tom Graffagnino

(Don't get up set. Just some political humor)

When polls were closed,  
We all supposed  
It couldn't be much closer!  
Now Libs are torn,  
Downcast...Forlorn,  
And Soros is moroser!  
The votes were cast,  
And now at last  
The counting could begin.  
Monsieur LaMoore  
Was very sure  
His flick would do George in.  
But now instead,  
The states are Red,  
And Hollywood is Blue.  
Ben Affleck's mad,  
Sarandon's sad,  
And Whoopi's come unglued!  
Begala whines,  
The Left Be-Heinz,  
"The Boss" just wonders..."HOW!?"  
James Carville pouts,  
O'Donnell shouts...  
No time to Ketchup now!  
The Kerry Crowd

Was brash and loud;  
The cool and hip were pumped!  
In Franken-Land  
They took their stand...  
"War Hero" John's been dumped.

At CBS?  
Lord, what a mess!  
Dan Rather wears a frown.  
He's quite distressed...  
Some say depressed.  
Poor Dan,  
He's goin' down.  
There's "Hardball" Chris,  
Who loved to kiss  
The rear of liberal guests...  
Convention night  
Ol' Zell was right...  
To that we may attest.  
At CNN  
It's sinkin' in...  
Oh my! They're all in shock!  
"Ohio's RED!"  
John Kerry's Dead!"  
"By George! We've been out-Foxed!"



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## Senior Citizen Alphabet

A for arthritis,  
B for bad back,  
C is for chest pains. Perhaps cardiac?  
D is for dental replacements and decline  
E is for eyesight--can't read that top line.  
F is for fissures and fluid retention  
G is for gas (which I'd rather not mention)  
H high blood pressure (I'd rather have low)  
I for incisions with scars you can show.  
J is for joints, that now fail to flex  
L for libido--what happened to sex?  
Wait! I forgot about K!  
K is for my knees that crack when they're bent  
M is for my Memory that ain't worth a cent

N for neurosis, pinched nerves and stiff neck  
O is for osteo- and all bones that crack  
P for prescriptions, I have quite a few  
Give me another pill; I'll be good as new!  
Q is for queasiness. Wine or flu?  
R is for reflux-- one meal turns into two  
S is for sleepless nights, counting my fears  
T for tinnitus--I hear bells in my ears  
U is for urinary: difficulties with flow  
V is for vertigo, that's "dizzy," you know.  
W is worry, now what's going 'round?  
X is for X ray -- and what might be found.  
Y for another year I've left behind  
Z is for zest that I still have my mind!

Having survived all the symptoms my body's deployed, I've kept twenty-six doctors gainfully employed!

NOW! Ain't being a "senior citizen" great?



## What's Up?

Did you ever stop to think about UP? There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meaning than any other two-letter word, and that is "UP."

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we waken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers up for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends, we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, and we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and go UP stairs to go to bed.







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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