



"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."
~ Will Rogers

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING **DARK RED** WORDS OPEN THE WEB SITE IN QUESTION.

PHIL PRACTOR

I've been relatively busy this month, with radio spots, interactive games, cartoon work, Danger in a Box promotions on shows like Out There with Jeff Rector on latalradio.com and upgrading the Magic Maze website, thanks to my partner Samuel Warren Joseph and mommy-to-be Anne Kristin Campbell!



CHECK IT OUT

I also played a small but crucial (!) role in a short film called 'Intervention' by Phil Buchbinder and Jaime Michelle Capone directed by Craig Kuehne, featuring pal Ann Ryerson.

CHECK IT OUT

And you can have some Firesign Fun at Tom Gedwillo's newly rejuvenated "Chromium Switch" site **CLICK HERE**

I also had a lunch with the multi-talented Will Ryan, now doing a monthly musical show with his group the "Cactus County Cowboys" at the Steve Allen Theater, and the multiple-personalited Jim Ward of the Stephanie Williams Show who has a new site for sore ears **CLICK TO GO NOW**

"It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can afford to be stupid with them."

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

CANYON CANOODLING

And finally, we had a "good riddance" dinner for our good friend Gary "WKRK" Sandy and our International Mystery Writers Festival playwrights, Robert Levinson and Sam Bobrick and wives.

Garry stays at Ann-Margaret's place nearby (they toured for years in Best Little Whorehouse) and she and hubby Roger Smith stopped by for some laughs. Ann Margaret used to live on our little street here, and Elvis (yes, THAT Elvis) would roar up to visit her on his chopper. It was an historical and hysterical evening and the Smiths fell in love with our new cats, Buster and Priscilla. Come back soon, Gary!

"Chosen people!!! Chosen for What?"
~ "Fiddler on the Roof"

UNITED WE STAND . . .

...and untied we fall! And yet, Rush Lowbrow, Sham Hannity, Michael Mudwit, Hugh Spewitt and the other running dogs

■ CONTINUED

of the Right are hellbent on defaming our new President and his nascent administration spreading lies and smears and shopworn fears on their corporate-controlled radio waves. Is this any way to help the country or to solve the monumental problems with which their Grotesque Other Party's misrule has left us? They're even blaming Obama for the country's financial morass and heating up the so-called Culture Wars ("Happy Holidays!") with Gingrich's rabid accusations of "Gay and Secular Fascism" of all things. Was ist los?

They're all unpatriotic, obstructionist, money-grubbing, spiteful jack-booted deluded goons in my book. Shut up, already and help!

"I will ask you to join in the work of remaking this nation the only way it's been done in America for 221 years — block by block, brick by brick, calloused hand by calloused hand." ~ President-Elect Obama

THE BLAME GAME

And who's really to blame for the financial crisis? "I would say Stan Getz, the eminent jazz musician who died 1991," writes Bengt S ve-S derbergh for Sweden's Dagens Nyheter (Daily News). "People who have read the memoirs of [Alan] Greenspan published last autumn know that Greenspan started his professional career in various Big Bands in the New York area.

"One day he had to sit next to Stan Getz and he heard him play. He then realized that he would never achieve the musical level Getz already was on so he decided to change course and become



an economist instead. The rest is history... **And even now there are still people who don't believe jazz is important!"** Bengt concludes.

"I'm not afraid of storms, for I'm learning to sail my ship." ~ Louisa May Alcott

UNHARMONY.COM

Dear Applicant, Your application to join our online dating agency has been officially REJECTED. One of the questions we asked on the application was: 'What do you like most in a woman?' "My dick" is not an appropriate answer. Thank you for your interest, and best of luck in finding a compatible partner.

"There's no such thing as same sex marriage. After marriage, sex is NEVER the same..."
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

FAILURE TO BLOW ELECTION STUNS DEMOCRATS

Just minutes after their party's longstanding losing tradition lay in tatters on the ground, millions of shell-shocked Democrats stared at their television screens in disbelief, asking themselves what went right.

For Democrats, who have become accustomed to their party blowing an election even when it seemed like a sure thing, Tuesday night's results were a bitter pill to swallow. The head-shaking and finger-pointing over the demise of the Democrats' losing streak, which many of the party faithful had worn like a badge of honor, reached all the way to the upper echelons of the Democratic National Committee.

"Believe me, I'm as shocked by these results as anybody," said DNC chief Howard Dean, who indicated he has received hundreds of calls from incredulous party members... "Somehow, despite our best efforts to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory, we won," he said. "I came in here with a mandate to blow this thing and I didn't get it done..."

Elsewhere, Sen. John McCain offered this comment on Sen. Barack Obama's victory: "My friends, I've got him just where I want him." *Thanks to Andy Borowitz*

"I've been sleeping like a baby. I sleep 2 hours, wake up and cry. Sleep 2 hours, wake up and cry."
~ John McCain on Leno

AC / BC

Millions of years ago, there was no such thing as the wheel. One day, some primitive guys were watching their wives struggling to drag a dead mastodon to the fire area. It was exhausting work and the guys were getting tired just watching them.

Then they noticed some large, smooth, rounded boulders nearby -- and they got a great idea, which you could still do in those days! So they went and sat on top of those boulders and got much better view of their struggling wives.

And that, dear friends, was the first in a series of breakthroughs that led to TV and ultimately the remote control... Hey, Lucy!!

"You must do the thing you cannot do."
~ Eleanor Roosevelt

DEATH WHERE IS THY \$TING?

■ According to the "Forbes' 2007 Top-Earning Dead Celebrities" list, Elvis Presley earned \$52 million last year, more than still-breathing Justin Timberlake @ \$44 mil and still-panting Madonna @ \$40. Presley topped them again this year thanks to visitors at Graceland observing the 30th anniversary of his abduction by aliens and sales of bobble-head dolls. Second is Charles "Snoopy" Schultz, who's pen went dry at 77, with out-of-this-world earnings of \$33 million, fueled by a post-cremation deal with Warner Bros Studios.

■ That over-medicated joker Heath Ledger placed third with \$20K, mostly from "The Dark Knight" -- into which he did not go quietly, and dear old Albert Einstein came in fourth, despite being relatively dead for half a decade, as the "Baby Einstein" toy franchise earned \$18 million from gullible parents. And my zip code, "Beverly Hills 90210" producer Aaron Spelling is fifth, with \$15 million, mainly from reruns - not reincarnation.

■ And lastly but not leastly, there's Theodor "Dr Seuss" Geisel - \$12 million, Beatle John Lennon - \$9 million, pop art artist Andy Warhol - \$8 million, iconic actress Marilyn Monroe - \$6.5 million, and actor Steve McQueen with \$5

million. Not that great, McQueen, but enough for a dead guy "to roll around Heaven all day..."

"You are a sacred being on the self-created path of your own choosing." ~ New Theology

MORE CHIPS, VICAR?

According to UK's The Sun, a 50-year-old vicar recently turned up in agony at Northern General Hospital in Sheffield — with a potato up his rectory. The clergyman told incredulous nurses he had pitched backwards onto his kitchen table while hanging curtains in the nude and well... why does God do bad things to good people?

The rear reverend had to undergo a delicate operation to extract the offending spud, which was hardly the rummiest thing medics have pulled from people's bums including a cuke, a can of deodorant, a Russian Matrushka doll — and a carnation (READ THE CARD!!!)

"The greatest discovery of this generation is that a human being can alter their life by altering their attitude." ~ William James

INTERACTIVE POEM

Die Shot. Die Hit. Die Crush.
Die Poison. Die Water. Die Fall.
Die Telepathic. Die Fire.
Have fun with it.

"He should be depth and a commanding quality, big voice." ~ VO directions

ORBIT OBITS

■ Fellow Hoosier (Wenzell) Baird Bryant, 80, a cinematographer best remembered for breakthrough films like Easy Rider and the Rolling Stones' Gimme Shelter, where he caught a fatal stabbing, faded to black after post-surgical complications at Hemet Valley Medical Center.

Filming 1969's "Easy Rider" was problematic, he recalled, and when he showed up to shoot an acid trip in a New Orleans cemetery "nobody else was there. The whole crew had just had it."

■ CONTINUED

I first worked with Baird in Jeff Mandel's disaster-movie parody Sonic Boom with Sal Mineo and later on the Firesign Theatre's Madhouse of Dr. Fear special for HBO, starring Don Adams. "He taught me how to see the entire frame when shooting and anticipate beyond it," Jeff told me, "and how if you're calm on a film set you can probably find a way to get any shot you want even if you and everyone else 'knows' it's impossible. I think of him every time I pick up a camera," concludes Jeff, who is presently taping paranormal events near the Tate murder site on Cielo Drive not far from here. The murderers washed off their bloody knives and clothes from an open spigot on our street...

■ We also should remember Smithsonian curator David Shayt who died of multiple myeloma at 56, after adding to the national collection "91 packs of Crayola crayons, 2 electric barber poles, 44 shoe store foot-measuring devices, a Playboy bunny outfit, 46 eggs of Silly Putty, 2 McDonald's French fries scoops (left- and right-handed), 40 packs of cigarettes, 9 cue sticks, 135 walking sticks, a Miss America crown, scepter and sash and a bullwhip used by Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones."

He also persuaded a World Trade Center window washer trapped in an elevator on 9/11 to donate the broken squeegee handle that he employed to dig through the shaft wall to safety and while searching for historical items after Hurricane Katrina, he spotted mud-encrusted toy castle. "Castles are impregnable and supposed to be our fortress," he's quoted as saying in the Washington Post obit. "That toy castle spoke volumes about our expectation that houses are supposed to last." As will both men's contributions to our culture.

"Even if laughter and smiling were nothing more than sheer silliness and fun, it would still be a precious boon. But we now know that it is far more than that, that it is, in fact, an essential element in emotional health."

~ Steve Allen

ODDS . . .

Cristofer Gross, Michael Fish, Warren Dewey, Garry Margolis, Nick Oliva, Michael Packer, Peter Bergman, Jann Cobler, Ed Ryba, Eddie Deezen, M.C. Gwynne, Patty Paul, Victor Kopcewich, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Patty Paul, John & Anna Irons, Jeff Mandel, Danny Mann, Bill Coombs, Fred Weibel, Jr. and Gregg Berger. Couldn't do it without my faithful Planetees...

. . . AND ENDS

COLORTEST

KRANSKY

GUIDE

SUBPRIME

JOY TO THE WORLD

2012

NITE SHIFT

WISE UP

OLD WEST

IT'S OVER

DR MEMORY

TEENY ART

PLANET CLICK

CLICK THE WORD TO GO TO THE SITE

*"Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else." ~ 19th Century French Economist
Frederic Bastiat*

"If you take a picture of cheese, what does it say?" ~ Just Asking

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FUNNY TIMES: <http://www.funnytimes.com> • **FST:** <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>

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* Layout acknowledgements to Ron Cobb for the cover 'Obama-biplane' taken from Jefferson Airplane's 'After Bathing at Baxter's'