



((((((((((PLANET MAYDAY 2009~0(<http://www.planetproctor.com>))))))))))

"It takes a God to recognize a God." ~ Ralph Waldo Trine

BACK TO THE BIG ORANGE...

... after a terrific trip to Manhattan to see "Waiting for Godot" and catch up with some dear friends.

The weather was nearly perfect, but we didn't regret for a minute being in the darkened Roundabout Theatre on Broadway for the matinee with Bill Irwin, Nathan Lane, John Goodman and John Glover. All are at the top of their game, and I laughed until tears of existential angst streamed down my cheeks!

I had not seen a more wonderfully realized production of Beckett's play since the 1960 Dramat staging by Bill Francisco at Yale. That "Godot" featured Austin Pendleton and the late Frank Geraci as the tramps and Peter Hunt and Sam Waterston as Pozzo and Lucky.

Luckily, as well, Austin invited us to a preview he's directing of Tennessee Williams' "Vieux Caree" the next night at the Pearl Theatre in the east village and we had a great catch-up after enjoying his inventive and moving staging.

I also found time to visit my Riverdale Country School pal, Ken Burrows, in his new offices on 57th Street, high above sunny Third Avenue and even had time to visit my old grade school, Allen-Stevenson, a few blocks away from our ultra-hospitable Charles Moed's beautiful penthouse. Melinda has stayed on to help Charlie ready his rooftop garden for the summer, but she'll be back in time for us to celebrate our 17th (gasp) wedding anniversary at Sycamore Springs for a soak and a stroke on Sunday!



"The amusing greeting card waits for you to send, mailbox greeting card brand-new political line!" ~ Banner on Chinese fan's autograph request

YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD

In a small town, an elderly couple had been dating each other for a long time. At the urging of their friends, they decided it was finally time for marriage. Before the wedding, they went out to dinner and had a long conversation regarding how their marriage might work.

They discussed finances, living arrangements and so on. Finally, the old gentleman decided it was time to broach the subject of their physical relationship.

"How do you feel about sex?" he asked, rather trustingly.

"Well," she said, responding very carefully, "I'd have to say... I would like it infrequently. "

The old gentleman sat quietly for a moment, then, over his glasses, he looked her in the eye and casually asked... "Is that one word or two?"

"Verily, never will Allah change the condition of a people until they change it themselves." ~ The Koran, Thunder

WILL DURST OR WON'T DURST?

"What I don't get is how anybody can defend water boarding a single prisoner 183 times! Operationally, wouldn't you think the effectiveness would start to wear off after about 60 or 70? What genius kept pushing, 'I know we've gotten nothing the first couple hundred times here, but I got a hunch, this next time - we're gold.' Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me 183 times, shame on me. As my daddy always said: 183rd time's the charm.

"The best way Dick Cheney can help this country is to creep back to that undisclosed location of his, and maybe take Joe Biden with him. Still haven't figured out why Cheney is so obsessed with selling the positive merits of torture. Though there is that old axiom about one man's torture being another man's S&M turn-on, so maybe that explains more about the Cheney Doctrine than we really need to know. (TMI.)

You want torture? Dick Cheney in fishnets. Try to pry that image out of your mind."

<http://www.rooftopcomedy.com/shows/BurstOfDurst>

"Hi! I really enraptured your person. I very want to have as a keep-sake your signature." ~ Russian fan mail

THE ROOTS OF TERRORISM

Dear Sirs, I understand Boulder, Colorado is on a campaign to destroy non-native trees. Yes, these pesky infiltrators must be stopped, before they provide shade, energy savings, and the removal of CO2 from the air. I never trusted them anyway. And just where do green ash come from? Russia? Isn't Ash short for *Ashinoff*? They might be setting up secret sleeper cells at this very moment, quietly waiting to overthrow our patriotic native trees.

Which brings up a dire threat: AUSTRIAN BLACK PINES! Yes, that's right, from Austria, (known to agent saboteurs as *Osterreich*, maybe even from Pinzgauer, known to be sympathetic to the Nazi cause) these Tyrolean terrorists are all over Boulder, lurking in back lawns, drooping over playgrounds where young children and their shapely Swedish nannies (named Inger) play, innocently standing in corners where of course we do not notice them until it is too late! They emit stupefying piney odors, which must be smelled at all times, without question!

These Needle Nazis, (*Diese Schwartzer Kiefernadeln*) must be identified and swiftly deported to stand trial in a military tribunal! They can be replaced with *Noble Pines*, which are pure of heart, noble (sic) and native to the *Fatterland*, with fine blonde Scandinavian bearing and proper values! *Achtung!* (Sorry, I'm becoming short of breath. Someone please loosen my Tyrolean *lederhosen* straps, *bitte*.)

Please report to the Tree Removal Ministry for further instructions!

Laurence Budd, CLT, CLIA, Guerilla Gardener @ <http://www.urbanwaterconservation.com>

"Next to the very young, I suppose the very old are the most selfish." ~ William Makepeace Thackeray

OLD YELLER

AP reports that two seasonal Yellowstone National Park concession workers have been fired, after a web cam showed them revealing and relieving themselves into the Old Faithful geyser. A 23-year-old man was fined \$750 and placed on three years of unsupervised probation for being off-trail in a restricted area, peeing publicly and taking something from the area. What - a urine sample??? The other employee's case is pending while they analyze his urine for "hot spots".

"Good day! Please send me his. Your autograph is very necessary." ~ Another Russian fan

AMISH MY RELATIVES

Police reported that a rowdy 17-year-old Amish lad was recently pulled over for having beer in his horse-drawn buggy in the town of Leon, south of Buffalo, NY. Whether he or the draught horse had been drinking was not proved.

This behavior could be due to the depression, which, according to an article by Joshua Boak in my hometown of Goshen, Indiana, has caused otherwise fiercely independent Amish workers to become Mennonites so they can drive cars and collect unemployment insurance. Boak reports that these days, "some Amish men are as attached to their cellphones as their beards.

And finally, *Time* reveals that Amish love stories, dubbed "Bonnet Books" are becoming as popular as that sucky vampire romance series. The novels, like "The Secret" by Beverly Lewis, are a hearty hit, even though they offer the readers only humility and plainness and - no sex!

Hmmm. How come there are so many Amish, then? Something more must be happening between the covers...



AMISH PROM BUGGY

"I wish I had a dollar for every time I spent a dollar, because then, yahoo, I'd have all my money back." ~ Jack Handy

F U, TOO

A vegan woman living in Colorado wanted to express her love of tofu in a rather public manner so she applied for a vanity license plate and since the number of letters allowed on such license plates is restricted, she shortened her sentence to "ILUVTOFU".

She is having some difficulty understanding why her request was rejected for political incorrectness.

State Senator Greg Brophy later joked that he wanted a vanity license plate reading ACLUSUX after the American Civil Liberties Union asked for the records of other people who's offers were rejected as offensive. The ACLU responded to Brophy's comment with the following letter:

"If you apply for that license and are refused, please contact the ACLU because we stand ready to represent you if you want to pursue your right to have that license plate. . . After all, censorship is censorship and the ACLU doesn't draw any distinction between speech with which we agree and speech we may not like. That would be content discrimination and would violate one of our major principles of protecting free speech."

"If it was authorized by the President, it did not violate our obligations under the Convention against torture." ~ Former Secretary of State, Condi Ricearoni

PORRIDGE BIRD

Why DOES the porridge bird lay his egg in the air - as posed by the Hacker Ah-Clem to bring down the computerized president in the Firesign Theatre's classic album, "I Think We're All Bozos on This Bus."

One answer is that there're no parking places left. Or maybe all the trees have been cut down, leaving no limb for a nest. Or, the air has become so polluted it's as thick as porridge and you can lay an egg in it!

It was a question a leprechaun asked a little girl named Angel in her backyard in Texas and the beautiful grown-up Angel told me the story later which then made it's way onto the record.

Then, in my research of Old Irish Fairy Tales, I found a story of a deposed king who lived in a cave for years eating porridge, and was later restored to the throne. Anyone else got any good ideas?

"As they say in Irish: Is minic a gheibhean beal oscailt diog dunta"! (An open mouth often catches a closed fist!) ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

DING DONG GONE

A woman's grandfather dies and she consoles her grandmother after the funeral is over. "My God, mom how did it happen so suddenly? Did he have any signs of a heart problem?"

"No," said the grandmother. "We were making love and through the years the church next door always rang their bells at a certain time and we made a game of it at least once a week by timing our thrusts to the rhythm."

"Oh my God," said the daughter, "you were having sex when it happened?"

"Yes, It was in on the ding, and out on the dong," the grandmother sighed, "And we would have been fine if that damn ice cream truck hadn't come by the house."

"One of the last surviving Munchkins has passed away. The family is planning a short service at a tiny church in a small town." ~ George Riddle

DOM IS DONE

The darling crazed and spirited Dom Deluise has finally left us at the jolly old age of 75 surrounded by his beloved family. I worked with the indomitable Dom on "Talent '63" on CBS, which introduced him (and me, I might add) to a national audience, doing his inept magic act with the equally zany Ruth Buzzi as his assistant, Shakuntalla. He was a baaaadd boy and will be missed. <http://www.milkandcookies.com/link/138148/detail/>

"Instead of half-mast, maybe you could fly a flag at three-quarters mast for a guy who's in a coma. Then, if he gets worse, the flag gets lower, or if he gets better, it starts to move up, so you can just look at the flag and see how he's doing." ~ Jack Handy

YOUSE

Michael (the fixer) Fish, Nick Oliva, Paul Apple, Cris Caracci, Jim Reynolds, M.C. Gwynne, Jayne Stahl, Victor Kopcewich, Patty Paul, David Goggin, Doug Desalles, Eddie Deezen, Brandt Reiter, Scott W. Langill, Bill Coombs, Brian Westley, Michael Gregory, Jim Terr, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Richard Van Kooy, and *The Week*.

"Great is the gift of an unnecessary war." ~ John Adams

VIEW

NOTRE OBAMA: <http://getweb.info/education/?p=11035>

FLIP: <http://www.thegolfchannel.com/golf-videos/meet-butch-lumpkin-9477/?ref=26000>

DUCKIE: http://www.woostercollective.com/2007/07/florentijn_hofmans_rubber_duckie.html

ORT: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKckRXKRmRg>

WHAT IS REALITY: <http://paintalicious.org/2007/09/14/ron-mueck-hyper-realist-sculptor/>

SOMALI PARROTS: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LUxsfJphN4>

COLORBLIND: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnOyMSEWNTs>

DOM: <http://www.milkandcookies.com/link/138148/detail/>

PARIS VITE: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqHrCLt3Geo>

STAND UP PRES: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0GwZFAV1Lw>

TONY: <http://www.facebook.com/inbox/readmessage.php?t=108201030459>

WORST SLIDE STORY (The Musical)

http://weblogs.newsday.com/news/opinion/walthandelsman/blog/2009/04/animation_recession_singalc

"Most everybody I see knows the truth but they just don't know that they know it." ~ Woody Guthrie

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- * FIRESIGN CDS: <http://www.laugh.com>
- * BEARWHIZ: <http://www.eagletshirts.com>
- * FUNNY TIMES: <http://www.funnytimes.com>
- * FST: <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>

*I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.
~ William Butler Yeats*

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