

PLANET PROCTOR

((((((((((PLANET MYSTERY - 2009~14 (<http://www.planetproctor.com>))))))))))

"The free-lance writer is the person who is paid per piece or per word or perhaps." ~ Robert Benchley

PLANET MYSTERY SOLVED

For those of you wondering if the Planet had disappeared forever from cyberspace - be of good cheer. We're baaack...

Melinda and I just returned from a sweet-tea tour of the South after performing multiple roles including Agatha Christie and Hercule Poirot, in the 3rd International Mystery Writers festival at Zev Buffman's majestic Riverpark Center in Owensboro, Kentucky - BBQ Capitol of the South. Later, at a dinner hosted by Lee Goldberg, we both received "Angie Awards" (named after the First Lady of Mystery, Angela Landsbury) and what's even better, we were made *Kentucky Colonels* by Governor Beshear, so treat us with respect, suh!

The four Agatha Christie BBC shows were broadcast live on Indiana public radio's WNIN and over the Internet after playing a week before sold-out audiences. Original music was by Rupert Holmes and plans are afoot to tour the show in 2010! Stay tuned...



<http://www.radiodramarevival.com/international-mystery-writers-festival-celebrates-agatha-chrystie-in-style/>

"Remember some people are alive simply because it is illegal to shoot them." ~ Phil's Phunny Facts

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE SOUTH...

Our motor trip then took us to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, where we stayed in Bruce

Peterson and Kelly Moore's charming cabin above Dollywood and then to Asheville, North Carolina, where we celebrated Melinda's birthday with our friends Harry & Elizabeth Anderson, whose hospitality was truly magical! We also saw Maryedith Burrell, who's just moved there, and Brenda and Michael Lily and Pat Green, but our friend, Jan Powell, was away musical-directing a show.

"Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away." ~ Philip K. Dick

FOOL'S ERRAND

A thing
cannot be
delivered
enough times;
this is the
rule of dogs
for whom there
are no fool's
errands. To
loop out and
come back is
good all alone.
It's gravy to
carry a ball
or a bone. ~ Kay Ryan in *The New Yorker*

"All of the animals except man know that the principal business of life is to enjoy it." ~ Samuel Butler

THE PURRFECT PLOT

UK Suffolk University animal communications expert Karen McComb was given treats every day so she would figure out how a family's felines tell their "staff" they're hungry. Guess what? They've learned to alter their purr to sound like a crying infant, creating a call that elicits a nurturing response by "subliminally [triggering] a sense of urgency." And that's how cats took over the world...

And now, enjoy this amazing Cat-certo : http://www.catcerto.com/cat_video.htm

"Free cheese is only found in mousetraps." ~ Russian proverb

DOCTOR PROCTOR

The American Medical Association has weighed in on the new Obama health care proposals. The Allergists voted to scratch it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves. The Gastroenterologists had sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve. The Obstetricians felt they

were all laboring under a misconception.

Ophthalmologists considered the idea shortsighted. Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the Pediatricians said, "Oh, Grow up!" The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it. Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.

The Internists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter...." The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea. The Anesthesiologists thought the whole idea was a gas, and the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the assholes in Washington.

"Members of Congress should be compelled to wear uniforms just like NASCAR drivers so we could identify their corporate sponsors." ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

SCRAMBLED LOGIC

A wife was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her husband. Suddenly, her husband burst into the kitchen.

"Careful," he said, "Careful!! Put in some more butter! You're cooking too many at once. TOO MANY! Turn them! TURN THEM NOW! We need more butter. Oh my GOD! WHERE are we going to get MORE BUTTER? They're going to STICK! I said be CAREFUL! You NEVER listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you CRAZY? Have you LOST your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the salt. USE THE SALT! THE SALT!"

"What in the world is wrong with you?" exclaimed his wife. "You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?"

"I just wanted to show you," the man replied, "what it feels like when I'm driving."

"There is no sadder sight than a young pessimist." ~ Mark Twain

WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

"To me, democracy means placing trust in the little guy, giving the fruits of nationhood to those who built the nation. Democracy means anyone can grow up to be President, and anyone who doesn't grow up, can be Vice President. Democracy is people of all races, colors and creeds united by a single dream: to get rich and move to the suburbs, away from people of all races, colors and creeds.

"Democracy is buying a big house you can't afford with money you don't have to impress people you wish were dead and, unlike communism, democracy does not mean having just one ineffective political party; it means having two ineffective political parties...

"Democracy is welcoming people from other lands, and giving them something to hold onto - usually a mop or a leaf blower... Democracy means our elected officials bow to the will of the people, but more often they bow to the big butts of campaign

contributors. Yes, democracy means fighting every day for what you deserve, and fighting even harder to keep other weaker people from getting what they deserve...

"And finally, democracy is the eagle on the back of a dollar bill, with 13 arrows in one claw, 13 leaves on a branch, 13 tail feathers, and 13 stars over it's head. This signifies that when the white man came to this country, it was bad luck for the Indians, bad luck for the trees, bad luck for the wildlife and lights out for the American eagle. I thank you." *Johnny Carson, 1991* <<http://www.snopes.com/radiotv/tv/democracy.asp>>

"We all come to look for America, but nobody can find it anywhere." ~ A 7/11 clerk from Belgrade to Jayne Stahl

SHOW ME THE MONEY

As the Broadway showgirls were dressing for a performance, one of them noticed her friend was no longer sporting a flashy engagement ring.

"What happened, Lilly," she asked, pointing to the bare finger. "The wedding off?" "Yeah," Lilly admitted. "I saw him in a bathing suit last week, and he looked so different without his wallet."

"Just because everything is changed doesn't mean anything is any different." ~ Alfred E. Newman

WHAT THEY DID FOR LOVE

Peter "jaws" Benchley (with whom I went to school) was a speechwriter for Lyndon Johnson. Henry "57" Heinz sold veggies from his mom's garden, Rudolph "The Sheik" Valentino, AKA Rodolfo Alfonzo Raffaello Pierre Filibert Guglielmi di Valentina d'Antonguolla - bussed tables, Sandra Bullock served drinks and Kim Jong-Il produced movies.

President Benjamin Harrison was a Sunday school teacher, James "Things Not Seen" Baldwin, an Episcopalian minister and Jack "altered" Kerouac, an altar boy. Frank Zappa - designed greeting cards.

Barbara Boxer was a stockbroker, Carl Sandburg was a fireman and dictator Idi Amin was once Uganda's heavyweight boxing champ. Gene ("kiss") Simmons was a high school teacher, rocker Keith Richard was a postman, and Americo Vespucci - a pickle merchant. "God bless Vespucciland!"

"The difference between fiction and reality? Fiction has to make sense." ~ Tom Clancy

FIRESIGN V. HOLLYWOOD SIGN

Another early bird reminder! Firesign Theatre hits the stage of the Barnsdall Gallery Theatre with *Forward into the Past* for four nights Oct. 14 - 17th, representing the first time we've appeared in our hometown in over 15 years! Get your hot seats now at: http://www.firesigntheatre.com/index_bt.html

And then, in November, I'll be doing a one-man reading (originally performed by Monty Python's John Cleese) of excerpts from Cervantes' "Don Quixote", orchestrated to

music from the Golden Age of the Spanish guitar by the amazing L.A. Guitar Quartet.

Our dates follow, and I hope Firesign fans will come and say hello:

NOV 4: Shannon Hall, Whittier University

NOV 7: Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

NOV 9: University of Richmond, Richmond, VA.

NOV 11: 92nd Street Y, NYC, NY.

"I handed in a script last year and the studio didn't change one word. The word they didn't change was on page 87." ~ Steve Martin

CONTRIBUTORS

Anna Mathias, Tim Tuffield, Drew Daniels, Rob Kuntz, Eddie Deezen, Victor Kopcewich, Jayne Stahl, Patty Paul, Brian Westley, Scott W. Langill, Cris Caracci, Jon Gwynne, Nick Oliva, Bonnie Peterson, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Richard Laible, Michael C. Gwynne, and finally, Cristofer Gross of *Theatre Times*, for this splashy edition he's giving us to celebrate my birthday!

"It took me fifteen years to discover that I had no talent for writing, but I couldn't give it up because by that time I was too famous." ~ Robert Benchley

ADVENTURERS

BLIND PORN: <http://pornfortheblind.org/>

BLIND BORN: <http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/wed-july-22-2009/the-born-identity>

PICKLE PORN: <http://www.stupid.com/fun/EYOD.html>

KENYA BORN: <http://www.kenyanbirthcertificategenerator.com>

MOCKBA: <http://englishrussia.com/?p=2374>

MEOW: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjtVDG0drG0>

CATFLY: <http://doppelagent.de/simons-cat-fly-guy>

PALIN: <http://www.imdb.com/video/hulu/vi3301704217/>

ONLY: <http://harveyonlyinla.blogspot.com/>

TI E'INAI AYTO: <http://smub.it/y9dd>

YOUR GOD: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wlgWQwD_0Y

THIRD DOOR: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/arthur-rosenfeld/pay-it-backwards-an-act-o_b_151793.html

THIS SUCKS:

http://www.nj.com/parenting/eric_ruhalter/index.ssf/2009/08/glutton_baby_the_breast_feedin.html

KONG:

http://www.smoothanddreamy.com/default.aspx?utm_source=onlmedia&utm_medium=Banner&utm_campaign=SmoothandDreamy#/webisodes/kong/

"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on, or by imbeciles who really mean it." ~ Mark Twain

+++++ September 1, 2009 +++++

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

"No war is won."~ The late Harry Patch, Briton's last WWI vet

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