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PLANET FUTURE

January 18, 2010

"Comedy is simply a funny way of being serious."
~ Peter Ustinov

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING
BOLD, DARK RED TYPE
OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.

THE DEPARTMENT OF REDUNDANCY DEPARTMENT

Does anyone know why some people, including me, get multiple copies of emails???

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"The final mystery is oneself." ~ Oscar Wilde

GO NORTH, YOUNG MEN

And so we have! On tour, at least. And Peter Bergman has moved to a lovely house on Whidbey Island not far from Ossman and family, and Melinda and I stayed at Jim and Brigit Drake's charming, homey cabin just across Honeymoon Bay from David and Judith's place for our devilishly funny WICA performance last week. It was a sellout for both shows and we met many wonderful fans who came from as far away as Canada (not really far) and we'll be back north again this weekend for four shows at the **Kirkland Performance Center** and the **Tacoma Broadway Center**.

IN PERSON • IN PERFORMANCE
The Firesign Theatre
Sunday, January 24
3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
TACOMA, WASHINGTON
Theatre on the Square
Broadway Center
For the Performing Arts

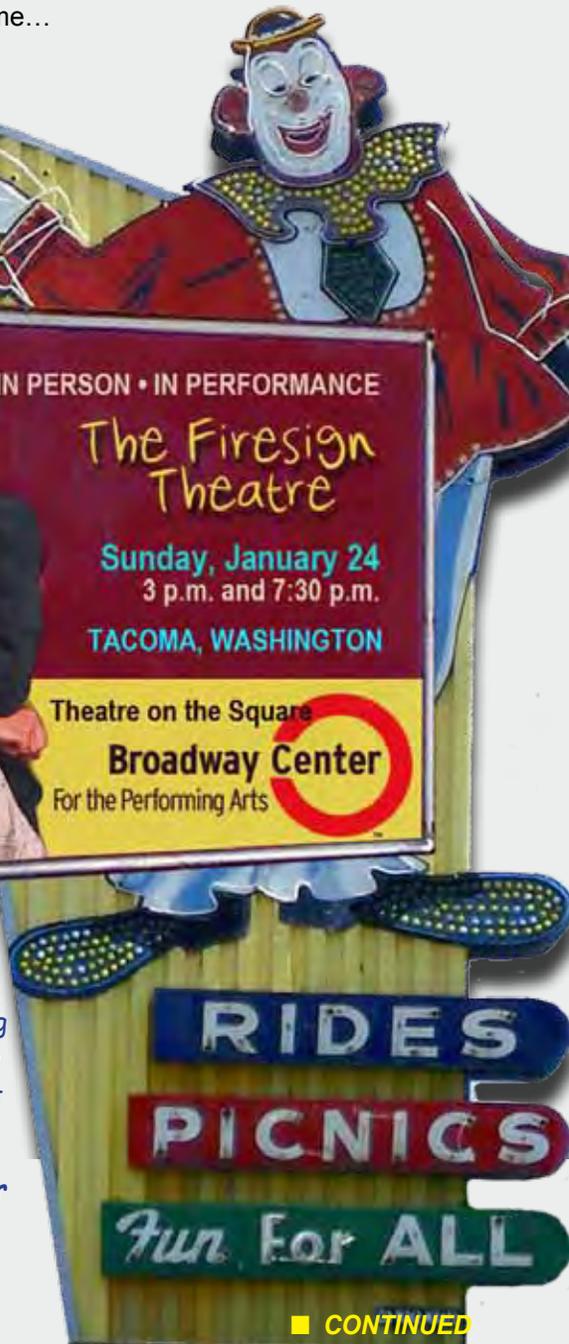
Rich Carlson sent **this link** for those of you who missed us or want to see us.

Also, we want to thank Phil and Oona Austin for their unbridled after-show hospitality, al-

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

~ William Arthur Ward

THIS WEEKEND
Kirkland Performance Center
Tacoma's Broadway Center for the Performing Arts
CLICK FOR INFO



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POLICE BLOTTO

While assembling a book of Proctor & Bergman's tours from 1973-1978, our brilliant and obsessive archivist/producer, **Taylor Jessen**, found a Police Blotter I tore from a student newspaper at the University of Buffalo. Here are some of the items...

Goodyear Hall – Criminal Mischief – Stairways filled with furniture and so were the elevators.

Fargo – Petit (sic) Larceny – a woman reports that unknown persons removed 30 hot and cold water faucets from lavatories.

Lehman Lounge – Petit Larceny – A student reports a Schaeffer beer tap was stolen from the lounge.

Wilkeson – Aggravated Harassment – A woman reports receiving a phone call from an unknown male asking her how she was.

(And finally, please tell me what the hell this means:)

Fargo – Disorderly Conduct – Officers observed three males walking down MFAC. One had a hammer in his hand, which he was going to use to penny in some girls.

(I'll send an e-penny to anyone who can explain this turn of phrase!)

"I believe that the moment is near when, through a process of thought of a paranoid and active character, it will be possible...to systemize confusion and contribute to the total discrediting of the worlds of reality."

~ Salvador Dali

KITTY REALITY SHOW

"Cats" is the longest-running show on Broadway to date, romanticizing the mysterious lives and habits of America's most popular pet. But even with the lively dancing and popular songs, it doesn't really capture the true-to-life behavior of our feline companions. So here is how "Cats" could more accurately portray the true essence of our furry friends...



PARTY LINE. Scenes from recent jaunts, captured by iPhone – The view from the Drakes' cabin on Whidbey; Bergman's new home; and Phil and Oona's Fox Island retreat (bottom).



Audience members would enter the auditorium only to find their seats had been clawed and covered with fur. Part of the performance would include the cast climbing and shredding the theater curtains. Performers would leap off the stage and run up the aisles at the recorded

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sound of a can opener in the lobby. Sometimes the cast would perform, but sometimes not -- depending on their mood. In the middle of a performance various cast members would curl up and go to sleep, even in the middle of a song. When certain audience members opened their playbills, a cast member would attempt to lie down on it. A special audience member would find a headless bird in his/her seat after the intermission.

For no apparent reason, cast members would randomly run to the lobby, and then back to the stage at top speed. They would then continue as if nothing had happened. The show would need to be stopped several times to allow cast members to "bathe" themselves. The stage would be stained from someone coughing up a hairball.

Snack bar employees would constantly be reprimanding cast members for walking on the counter. Open the stall door and guess who is drinking from the toilet? Performers would find sand in the lobby ashtrays and -- well, we don't have to draw a picture here, do we?

The big finale would feature a giant ball of yarn, feathers on a pole, and stray strands of dental floss. Most of the final act would consist of the cast just staring at the audience.

Theater patrons waiting outside the stage door after performances would get their legs rubbed, if they were lucky. And the best part? Cast members would never cash their paychecks, just play with them.

"You call yourself a patriot, and loyal Subject to the Crown? I do not call myself subject to much at all..."
~ The Last of the Mohicans

HAPPY UN-BIRTHDAY

A wife decides to take her husband to a strip club for his birthday. They arrive at the club and the doorman says, "Hey, Dave! How ya doin'?" His wife is puzzled and asks if he's been to this club before. "Oh, no," says Dave, "He's on my bowling team."

When they are seated, a waitress asks Dave if he'd like his usual and brings over a Budweiser. His wife is becoming increasingly uncomfortable and says, "How did she know that you drink Budweiser?"

"She's in the Ladies' Bowling League, honey. We share lanes with them." Then, a stripper comes over to their

PLANET CLICK

ATTITUDES

TRASH

PERRO

HARD

DOWN

ROBOTS

SLAVES

WARRIORS

CLICK THE WORD
TO GO TO THE SITE

table, throws her arms around Dave and says "Hi Davey. Want your usual lap dance, big boy?" Dave's wife, now furious, grabs her purse and storms out of the club.

Dave follows and spots her getting into a cab. Before she can slam the door, he jumps in beside her. He tries desperately to explain how the stripper must have mistaken him for someone else, but his wife is having none of it. She is screaming at him at the top of her lungs, calling him every name in the book. The cabby turns his head and says,

"Looks like you picked up a real bitch tonight, Dave."

*The aging process could be slowed down
if it had to work its way through Congress.*
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

THE WORKING CLASS

More former jobs of famous people as collected by the amazing Eddie Deezen:

Sandra Bullock was a coat checker and Larry David repaired TVs, while Steve McQueen was a towel boy in a brothel, and Ronald Reagan -- a circus roustabout. Other future politicians like Thomas Paine, Millard Fillmore and Lyndon Johnson were respectively, a corset maker, a schoolteacher and a trapper. Yeah, that's Lyndon.

Gloria Steinem sold clothing, Earle Stanley Gardner was a boxer, John Harvey "Cereal King" Kellogg, a surgeon; and famed Western writer Zane Grey - a dentist.

John Travolta started as a ticket taker, athletic Errol Flynn

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was a police officer, "Titanic" James "Avatar" Cameron drove a truck, tough guy Robert Mitchum worked in a car factory and suave Roger "007" Moore? Well, he was a model for knitting patterns.

*"After all very not to be easy during
our heavy time the happy man."*

~ Autograph request from Russian RUGRATS fan
Alexsey Sapozhnikov

TV OR NOT TV

In the midst of all the brouhaha (hahaha) swirling around the future of NBC's Late Night giants Conan and Leno, Planeteer Kurt Erikson sent me a quote from **the 1978 book** *Four Arguments For The Elimination Of Television*:

"It is no accident that television has been dominated by a handful of corporate powers. Neither is it accidental that television has been used to re-create human beings into a new form that matches the artificial, commercial environment. A conspiracy of technological and economic factors made this inevitable and continue to."

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

PIPES

A Planeteer writes: As a Bagpiper, I play many funeral gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Kentucky backcountry.



As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost; and being a typical man I didn't stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch.

I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play. The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played 'Amazing Grace,' the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together.

When I finished I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low my heart was full.

As I was opening the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "Sweet Mother of Jesus, I never seen nothin' like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

*"A fine quotation is a diamond on the finger of a
man of wit, and a pebble in the hand of a fool."*

~ Cartographer **Joseph Roux**
as quoted in "The Week"

PLATITUDES

To Victor Kopcewich, Nick Oliva, Patty Paul, Victor Kopcewich, Jayne Lynne Stahl, Bill Coombs, Peter Bergman, Garry Margolis, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Thom Hartmann and Steve Carlson.

*"There is no pleasure in having
nothing to do; the fun is in
having lots to do and not doing it."*

~ Writer **Mary Wilson** in *The Toronto Star*

"Worry is a misuse of the imagination." ~ Dan Zadra

FIRESIGN CDs: <http://www.laugh.com>

BEARWHIZ BEER <http://www.eagletshirts.com>

FUNNY TIMES: <http://www.funnytimes.com>

FST: <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>