

"Happiness never decreases by being shared."
~ The Buddha

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

My goodness, but this is shaping up as a very busy year. The **Firesign Theatre** tentative West Coast tour dates include Portland and Eugene, Oregon in June and other dates in Ashland/Medford, Redding and/or Arcata, California in July, Mill Valley, Berkeley/Oakland in September and Santa Barbara and a return to the Barnsdall Gallery Theater in November!

The **LA Guitar Quartet** performances of *Don Quixote* will start for me on June 23 in Austin, Texas and will culminate with November dates in the Hawaiian Islands.

Melinda and I will also be returning for the 4th year to the **International Mystery Writers' Festival** at

the fabulous Riverpark Center in Owensboro, Kentucky from August 9 – 23 and closer to home, I'll be performing in Sam Bobrick's hysterical mystery/comedy *The Psychic* at Garry Marshall's Falcon Theater in Burbank from March 17 – April 18.

And we, of course, also recommend the critical pick *Cousin Bette* at our beloved

Antaeus Theatre, even though we could not personally participate in the first production of our first season this year. **READ ON**

"An intellectual snob is someone who can listen to the *William Tell Overture* and not think of the *Lone Ranger*."
~ Dan Rather

BOR-ING...

A recent study revealed that ennui could actually kill you, according to University College London researchers' observations of 7,524 civil servants aged 35-55, tracked from 1985-1988.

They discovered that those who reported experiencing high levels of boredom were 37% more likely to have kicked the bucket by the end of the study. Scientists said that this could be a result of their embracing unhealthy habits like smoking or drinking, which could cut their life expectancy.

Yawn. As you can see from the opening article, we have nothing to worry about...

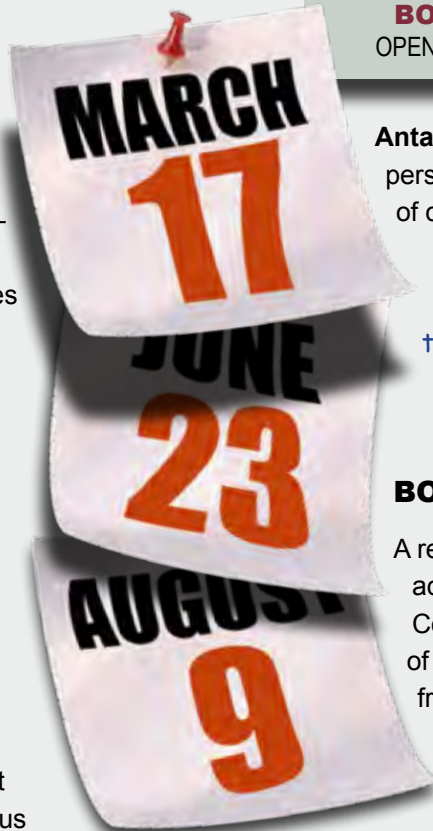
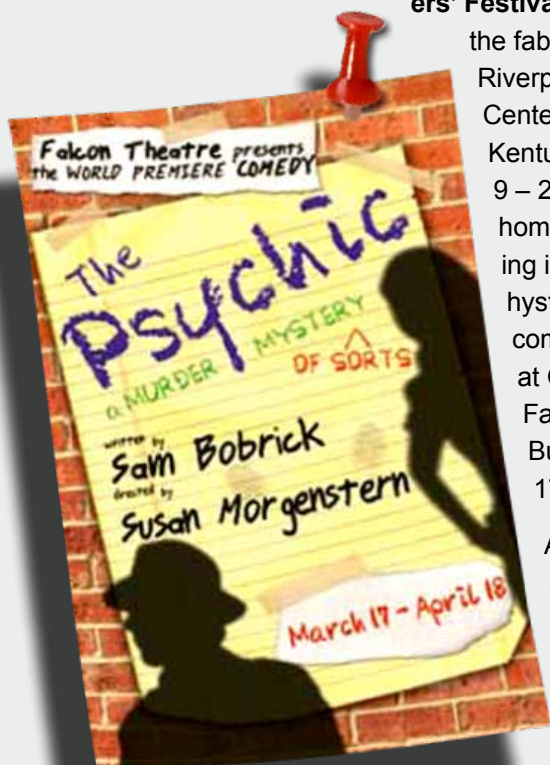
"Common sense is what tells you the world is flat."
~ H. Lee Kagan

YA SEE?

A man left for work one Friday afternoon; but, being payday, instead of going home, he stayed out the entire weekend partying with the boys and spending his entire paycheck.

When he finally got home, late Sunday night, he was con-

■ CONTINUED



fronted by a very angry wife, who assaulted him for nearly two hours with a tirade befitting his actions. Finally his wife stopped the nagging and simply said to him, "How would you like it if you didn't see me for two or three days?" To which he replied: "That would be fine with me."

Monday went by and he didn't see his wife. Tuesday and Wednesday came and went with the same results, but on Thursday, the swelling went down just enough where he could see her a little out of the corner of his left eye.

*"The best engine in the world is the vagina. It can be started with one finger. It is self-lubricating. It takes any size piston and it changes its own oil every four weeks. It is only a pity that the management system is so f*cking temperamental."*

~ Austrian gynecologist

Dr. Hermann Otto Kloepneckl

E-LETTERS

We get e-letters! Like this one from our musician friend **Tom Hensley**:

"With apologies to Louis Armstrong, I would like to amend his statement on aging musicians. The Hensley version: 'Old musicians don't retire—they just take longer breaks'."

"As a devout evangelical Christian missionary," writes **Lon Hall**, "I had to laugh out loud at the clueless stupidity revealed in the item: 'I don't shop at places that think it is OK to stand next to people who don't believe the Bible is all true.'"

"The writer of that incredible NON-Christian statement would be up the proverbial creek if he lived in my neighborhood – the closest store is owned by a Zoroastrian from Persia (oh, excuse me, Iran). Of the 36 houses on my street, three to four are owned by people born in the U.S., and although I'm the only native-born who is a Christian, several of 'them damn furriners' are also Christians.

"But we have Moslems, Jews (of several ilks), Taoists, Buddhist, Hindus, New Worlders, Atheists...and we all shop at the same places. The schmuck who wrote that inane comment would have to die of starvation living here.

"I believe the Bible is all true. Most of my neighbors and friends do not. What does the Bible tell me to do about that? – Love them! Which is pretty easy, because I have some really terrific neighbors!"

"Hi! You are very beautiful and I like."

~ Russian Fan Mail

IT TAKES A VILLAGE IDIOT

I was having trouble with my computer so I called Eric, the 13-year-old nerd next door whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over. Eric clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

As he was walking away, I called after him, 'So, what was wrong?'

He replied, "It was an ID ten T error."

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, "An ID ten T error?"

What's that? In case I need to fix it again." Eric grinned and asked, "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?"

"No," I replied. "Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out."

So I wrote down: I D 1 0 T. I used to like Eric, the little bastard...

"It ain't what you don't know that hurts you, it's what you know that ain't so." ~ Satchel Paige

WEAR A RUBBER, LOVER!

On Valentine's Day, the Center for Biological Diversity's 3,000-plus volunteers passed out 100,000 free Endangered Species Condoms in every state to commemorate the launch of their new Web site.

The johnson jackets come with edgy art and catchy slogans featuring the polar bear (*Wrap with care, save the polar bear*), the jaguar (*Wear a jimmy hat, save the big cat*), the American burying beetle (*Cover your tweedle, save the burying beetle*), the snail darter (*Hump smarter, save the snail darter*), the Coquguaj rock frog (*Use a stopper, save the hopper*), and the spotted owl (*Wear a cowl - save the spotted owl*).

"Human overpopulation is destroying wildlife habitat at an unprecedented rate," notes **Randy Serraglio**, leader of the Center's overpopulation campaign. "All of the major threats to the earth's biodiversity – sprawl, logging, mining, dams, pollution, and climate change – are driven by human overpopulation.

"Our Endangered Species Condoms are designed to capture peoples' attention, get them laughing, and get them talking about the impact of overpopulation on our small and fragile planet." To which I say, F*ckin' A." **FURTHER READING**

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"Credit is a system whereby a person who cannot pay gets another person who cannot pay to guarantee that he can pay."
~ Charles Dickens



SINLESS SHAMPOO

While shopping in a food store, two nuns happened to pass by the beer cooler and one sister said to the other, "Wouldn't a nice cool beer or two taste wonderful on a hot summer evening?"

The second nun answered "Indeed it would, Sister, but I wouldn't feel comfortable buying beer as I am certain that it would cause a scene at the check-out counter."

"I can handle that without a problem," she replied as she picked up a six-pack and headed for the check-out.

The cashier had a surprised look on his face when the two

nuns arrived with a six-pack of beer.

"We use beer for washing our hair," the nun said, "A shampoo, of sorts, if you will."

Without blinking an eye, the cashier reached under the counter, pulled out a package of pretzel sticks and placed them in the bag with the beer. He then looked the nun straight in the eye, smiled and said, "The curlers are on the house."

"Eternity's a terrible thought. I mean, where's it all going to end?" ~ Tom Stoppard

HYSTERICAL HISTORY

There are many tales about the origin of everyday expressions, and here are two from Planeteer and friend, **Nick Oliva**:

"There is an old Hotel and Pub in Marble Arch, London which used to have gallows adjacent where prisoners were taken (after a fair trial of course) to be hung by the neck until dead. An armed guard, who would stop outside the pub and ask his unwilling passenger if he'd like one last drink, accompanied the horse-drawn dray carting the prisoner.

If he said, "Yes," it was referred to as *one for the road*. If he declined, that prisoner was *on the wagon*. So there you go.

"They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot which was sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were *piss poor*. But the really destitute *didn't have a pot to piss in*..."

"Makes me thirsty for a Bear Whiz," concludes Nick.

"Christopher Columbus, as everyone knows, is honored by posterity because he was the last to discover America." ~ James Joyce, 1882-1941

BLACK AND WHITE

And speaking of history, I'll bet you didn't know that the first legal slave owner in America was a black man.

One of the earliest recorded histories of an African American in America is that of "Antonio the negro," as he was named in the Virginia census after being brought to the

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PLANET CLICK

PRANKSTERS

ORASMIN'

CLOCKIN'

LISTENIN'

CHEATIN'

DOGGIN'

SNOWIN'

CABLIN'

HUMBLIN'

DOGGIN'2

CHANGIN'

CREATIN'

ELLIS-D'

HOODIN'

EVERYTHIN'

AVATARIN'

SELLIN'

MASSAGIN'

CLICK THE WORD
TO GO TO THE SITE



colony as an indentured servant in 1621.

As such, he worked to fulfill his contract in exchange for food and shelter, had his name legally changed to Anthony Johnson, married an African-American woman named Mary, and fathered four children, eventually saving enough money to buy out his and his spouse's contracts.

Anthony Johnson was, then, to all intents and purposes, a free man and he soon acquired his own land and cattle and servants, but by 1650, among nearly 19,000 settlers, he was still one of only 400 Africans in the colony. Then in 1654, when slavery was officially legalized, because of Johnson's desire to maintain the service of John Castor, one his own indentured servants, he went to court to gain full ownership of the man "for life." Thus, Anthony Johnson became the first legislated slave owner in America.

He became a wealthy landowner and began importing his own black slaves from Africa, but the repercussions of the court's decision came back to haunt him and his 250 acres were eventually confiscated and granted to a white man -- because Johnson "was a Negro, and by consequence, an alien." **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

"You
can't always
write a chord ugly
enough to say what you
want to say, so sometimes
you have to rely on a
giraffe filled with
whipped cream."
~ Frank Zappa

"It is no harm to be an ass, if one is content to bray and not kick." ~ Mark Twain

IT DOTH NOT COMPUTE

Attention, Brethren. You have just received the Amish Virus and since we do not have electricity or computers, you are on the honor system.

Please delete all of your files. Thank Ye.

"Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex. It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction."
~ Albert Einstein

THANKSTERS

Eddie Deezen, Timothy Osburn, Randy Irwin, Garry Margolis, Richard Schulenburg, Patty Paul, Richard Laible, Nick Oliva, Alan Myerson, Victor Kopcewich, Jayne Stahl Frank Dwyer, Jim Meskimen, Adale O'Brien, Pat Willson, Rich Carlson, Thomas Healy, Greg Benson, Drew Daniels, and Bill Coombs.

You can fake an orgasm, but you can't fake laughter."
~ Bob Dylan

"I very much like your activity!" ~ Another Russian fan

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

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

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

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