

((((((((((PLANET MAYDAY 2011~07 <http://www.planetproctor.com>))))))))))

*"A word to the wise ain't necessary; it's the stupid ones who need the advice." ~ Bill Cosby*

### GET OUTTA HERE

The U.S. policy of exporting democracy abroad has meant that there is very little of it left at home. That is the grim assessment of a new study commissioned by the University of Minnesota, which predicts that if the U.S. continues to export democracy at its current pace it may completely run out of it at home by the year 2015.

"We have been exporting democracy to Afghanistan and Iraq while there are severe shortages of it in Wisconsin and Florida," said Professor Davis Logsdon, who supervised the study. "This is madness."

Citing the study, Speaker of the House John Boehner said today, "It has been clear to me for some time that we must explore alternative forms of government, such as oligarchy or plutocracy." Noting that democracy originated in Greece, Mr. Boehner added, "We must reduce our dependence on foreign sources of government..."

But Mr. Boehner warned that eliminating Congress entirely would have disastrous effects: "That would destroy entire sectors of our economy, especially the prostitution industry." Speaking from one of the states hardest hit by the democracy shortage, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker downplayed the seriousness of the problem, calling democracy "overrated."

"Teachers may teach our children that democracy is important," he said, "but the solution is to get rid of the teachers." (*The Borowitz Report*)

*"Trump is reported to be calling for President Obama to produce the long-form death certificate on Bin Laden." ~ Nick Oliva*

### BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN

After a quiet few months, I've started getting some bookings again as I performed in two interactive games, playing the Dead King in *Darkriders* and reprising my role as the evil Dr. Warren Vidic in the *Assassin's Creed* series.

In both instances, I got to perform in state-of-the-art digital environments, first utilizing a voice-enhancing effect at Keith Arem's amazing studios in Encino, rebuilt and expended after a fire took out their music room - and then,

in a video capture by a French-Canadian team at Game On Audio in Santa Monica.

In May, I'll be reprising another role in the long-running Christian radio series, *Adventure in Odyssey* and appearing in two more of the immortal Norman Corwin's pieces, first as Aaron Burr in *Together Tonight* on Saturday May 7 at 1:30 for CART at the Beverly Garland Little Theatre on Vineland.

[http://tolucantimes.info/section/theatre\\_review/together-tonight-next-c-a-r-t-show-may-7-drama-at-inish-review/](http://tolucantimes.info/section/theatre_review/together-tonight-next-c-a-r-t-show-may-7-drama-at-inish-review/)

And then, here comes "the Judge", (originally played by Groucho Marx) in *The Undecided Molecule* at the Association for Recorded Sound Collections for their 45<sup>th</sup> conference at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, Saturday May 14 at 2 o'clock. Melinda will be playing the Prosecutor, and among the talented cast will be Norman Lloyd, recreating his role as originally performed in the live broadcast on CBS in 1945!

Tony Palermo will be sound effecting, effectively as ever, and Mr. Corwin, who turns 101 on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, will be in attendance at both events! Come!

<http://www.arsc-audio.org/conference/pdf/2011Conferencepressrelease.pdf>

*Opportunities always look bigger going than coming. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts*

### **LIB/CON/BRAIN/BLAME**

Using data from MRI scans, researchers at the University College London found that self-described liberals have a larger anterior *Cingulate Cortex*--a gray matter of the brain associated with understanding complexity.

Meanwhile, self-described conservatives are more likely to have a larger *Amygdala*, an almond-shaped area that is associated with fear and anxiety.

Be afraid. Be very afraid...

*"Some people don't know that they don't know that they don't know, but they think they know everything." ~ Dr. Robert Riddle*

### **S n M n GEORGE**

Sam and Martha had a ten-year-old son named George. One day Martha was cleaning up his room when she discovered, to her horror, a couple of S&M magazines hidden under the mattress. In a state of shock, the distraught mother ran to the living room, where Sam was sitting in his leather recliner contemplating the mysteries of life while smoking his pipe.

Martha handed the magazines to him and blurted, "Look what I found in little Georgie's room. What should we do???"

Sam thumbed through the magazine for a while, taking it all in. Slowly, he took a drag from his pipe and with great deliberation and somber wisdom, he said, "Well, Martha, we probably shouldn't spank him."

*"Cats look down on you, dogs look up to you, but pigs look you straight in the eye." ~ Wisdom from Paul Gorman*

#### NEWS OF THE WHIRLED

French riot police are up in arms over an order banning them from drinking on the job. They say having a glass of wine or beer with their meals while on duty is not just tradition but a legal right. What a riot.

"And have you heard about the uterus rebellion?" writes Frank Cerabino in the West Palm Beach Herald. It began in the Florida House of Representatives" when Dem. Rep. Scott Randolph, suggested during a debate that his wife "ought to incorporate her uterus." The Republicans then banned the word *uterus* from the floor while the ACLU awarded Randolph its "Defender of Freedom" prize "for using his wife's uterus in a sentence."

Soon, a uterus Facebook page popped up and Randolph's wife, Susannah wrote, "We should start a powerful, secret society known from this day forth as: *The Uterati*", and another post called for the creation of a political action committee called *U-Pac*. "It's time to bring power back to the uterus," she wrote. <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/cerabino-florida-house-gops-uterus-ban-a-free-1369799.html>

Then, after some convoluted maneuvers, a Senate committee in Nashville recently approved a "Don't Say Gay" bill, which would prohibit teachers from discussing homosexuality from kindergarten to the eighth grade.

And then, former VP Dick "Shotgun" Cheney said, "Deficits don't matter," while arguing against raising taxes on the rich during the Bush years.

And do you remember when teachers, public employees, Planned Parenthood, NPR and PBS crashed the stock market, wiped out half of our 401Ks, took trillions in TARP money, spilled oil in the Gulf of Mexico, gave themselves billions in bonuses, and paid no taxes?

Yeah, me neither...

*"If you want a Republican to care about you, remain a fetus." ~ Sign in Wisconsin*

## LET'S LIFT ONE!

Scottish BrewDog has releasing *Royal Virility Performance*, the world's first India Pale Ale enhanced with Viagra, Horny Goat Weed and chocolate -- as well as "a healthy dose of sarcasm."

The beer honors the Royal Wedding, and features a label with the words, "Arise Prince Willy," and "Celebrate Big Willy Style," and they sent several bottles to Prince William for their wedding night. All proceeds go to the charity Centrepoin, and co-founder James Watt says, "This is about consummation, not commemoration." They claim that three bottles equals one Viagra, but "No comment on how sexually attractive you'll be with that beer gut."

<http://www.gadling.com/2011/04/19/new-british-beer-is-first-to-contain-viagra/>

*"How do you keep the natives off the booze long enough to get them through the test?" ~ Prince Philip to a driving instructor in Oban, Scotland*

## WHAT ROYAL WEDDING?

My next visit to London will include an appearance on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, at the *Comicon*, signing pictures of my most recognized characters in cartoons, anime, games, films, and Firesign Theatre -- all part of a trip inspired by a visit to my dear high school pals George White and George Irvin in England. Then we journey on to Prague and Budapest before returning home on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.animecons.com/events/info.shtml/2432>

*"Everybody was saying we must have more leisure. Now they are complaining they are unemployed." ~ Prince Phillip*

## BLIND TELEVISION

That's the title of the chapter that features the Firesign Theatre in *Spoken Word: Postwar American Phonographic Cultures* by Jacob Smith. It is an amazing history of the effect of audio art on society and many of Firesign's observations were paired with critical comments on our cultural effect.

<http://www.amazon.com/Spoken-Word-American-Phonograph-Cultures/dp/0520267036>

*"Penalties against drug use should not be more damaging to an individual than use of the drug itself." ~ President Jimmy Carter, 1977*

## WHAT'SO FUNNY?

"I am not sure how I got to be a comedian or a comic. ... I doubt if any comedian can honestly say why he is funny and why his neighbor is not.

"I believe all comedians arrive by trial and error. This was certainly true in the old days of vaudeville, and I'm sure it's true today. The average team would consist of a straight man and a comic. The straight man would sing, dance, or possibly do both. And the comedian would steal a few jokes from the other acts and find a few in the newspapers and comic magazines. They would then proceed to play small-time vaudeville theaters, burlesque shows, nightclubs, and beer gardens. If the comic was inventive, he would gradually discard the stolen jokes and the ones that died, and try out some of his own. In time, if he was any good, he would emerge from the routine character he had started with, and evolve into a distinct personality of his own. This has been my experience and also that of my brothers, and I believe this has been true of most of the other comedians.

The late Arthur Marx, quoting his dad in [Groucho and Me, Da Capo Publishing](#)

*"Fanaticism consists of redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim." ~ George Santayana.*

## TOP TEN COUNTRY SONGS

10. Her Teeth Was Stained But Her Heart Was Pure
9. She's Looking Better After Every Beer
8. She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger
7. I Still Miss You Baby, But My Aim's Gettin' Better
6. If I Can't Be Number One In Your Life, Then Number Two On You
5. I'm So Miserable Without You, It's Like You're Still Here
4. How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?
3. If The Phone Don't Ring, You'll Know It's Me
2. It's Hard To Kiss The Lips At Night That Chewed Your Ass Out All Day Long
1. I Ain't Never Gone To Bed With Ugly Women but I've Sure Woke Up With A Few

*The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts*

## DEBBIE LOVES BENNY

Our scattin' pal Debbie Pearl is releasing "*Souvenir of You - New Lyrics to Benny Carter Classics*", giving voice through her own original lyrics to the melodies of her jazz legend friend, multiple Grammy-winning saxophonist, trumpeter, composer, arranger, and bandleader, Benny. It features "duets" with Benny and his Big Band, and includes a booklet with lyrics and personal pictures, available at: [www.deborahpearl.com](http://www.deborahpearl.com)

We also recommend *Juno and The Paycock* directed by Alan Miller at the Odyssey, featuring a bevy of Antaeans; and *The Malcontent*, at Antaeus. I had to turn down roles in both productions due to previous commitments, but we can't wait to see both shows!

And don't miss my multitalented pal, Jim Meskimen in *Jimpressions* at the Acting Center in Hollywood, May 6 and 7 @ 8. w [www.actingcenterlas.com](http://www.actingcenterlas.com)

*"Oh, oh - foiled again! "~ What the leftovers said to Bonnie Peterson*

## LOSS AND GAIN

You know, the longer you live, the more friends and peers you lose to disease, accidents and old age -- a mixed blessing, indeed, as we live on to mourn their loss and celebrate their lives.

Such has been the case for Melinda and me these last few months as we've participated in wonderful memorials for Kenny Mars, Betty Garrett and most recently, Chuck Machack - Melinda's youngest sister Bennie's loving companion for 14 years.

And just last week, we bid adieu to the creator of *LA Magazine*, Geoff Miller, Kathryn Leigh Scott's wonderful husband, and to Arthur Marx, Groucho's son, whom I met through the gifted writer Joey Green. They will all be missed -- but fondly remembered, and that's the rub!

*A true friend is someone who thinks you are a good egg even though they know you are slightly cracked. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts*

## CHUCK'S FAVORITE POEM

*By Langston Hughes*

I play it cool and dig all jive,  
That's the reason I stay alive.  
My motto as I live and learn, is:

“Dig and be dug in return.”

*“A ship is safe in harbor, but that’s not why ships were built.” ~ Fortune cookie found by Victor Kopcewich*

## COLLECTING

Andy Thomas, Laurence Budd, Nick Oliva, Garry Margolis, Lanny Waggoner, Sam Joseph, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Gary L. Sandy, Vanna Bonta, Kurt Ericson, George Riddle, Joan Allemand, Jayne Stahl, Victor Kopcewich, David M. Roberts, and congratulations to our beautiful trainer, Allison Barenbrug from South Africa, who just became an American citizen!

*“If you take a conspiracy theorist and give them contrary information, they will simply expand the circle of conspirators.” ~ Author Jonathan Kay, ‘Among the Truthers’*

## CONNECTING

FIRE VID: <http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=1860423542819>

UP: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYNP--c4w8w>

FRY ME: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGYEMXoVHU5>

ONE: <http://www.vanityfair.com/society/features/2011/05/top-one-percent-201105?currentPage=1>

GERALDO: <http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/wed-april-6-2011/the-rivera-wild>

HOAX 1: <http://www.businessinsider.com/sarah-palin-baby-hoax-2011-4?op=1>

HOAX 2: [http://www.thepowerhour.com/news4/obama\\_kenyan\\_birth\\_certificate.htm](http://www.thepowerhour.com/news4/obama_kenyan_birth_certificate.htm)

HOAX 3: <http://www.snopes.com/politics/obama/birthers/kenyacert.asp>

HOAX 4: <http://kenyanbirthcertificategenerator.com/>

FREEZE: [http://www.sootoday.com/content/news/full\\_story.asp?StoryNumber=50683](http://www.sootoday.com/content/news/full_story.asp?StoryNumber=50683)

SPACED FLUTES: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XeC4nqBB5BM>

TICTOC: [http://www.brillig.com/debt\\_clock/](http://www.brillig.com/debt_clock/)

WORDS: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hzgzim5m7oU>

TANGOANGELBRAVO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSI8docYcfA>

T-ROYAL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kav0FEhtLug>

SSSSHARKS: <http://youtu.be/WK2LpUoqX6A>

FAKE IT: <http://www.fake-detective.com/>

CLOSE SHAVE: <http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20100327/COLUMNIST/100329716>

DAWN OF THE SUN: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WE8sbN2yayo>

*“I’ve never wished a man dead, but I have read some obituaries with great pleasure.”  
~ Mark Twain*

+++++MAY 1, 2011+++++

\* BEARWHIZ: <http://www.eagletshirts.com>

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

- \* FSTSITE: <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>
- \* LAST LINK: <http://web.me.com/philip.proctor>

*"A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool." ~ W. Shakespeare, born this week in 1564.*

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