



2011 - 12

PLANET 9/11

September 11, 2011

When we change our position from "what's in it for me?" to "what's mine to do?" we will be living as the beloved community.

~ John McLean,
Center for Spiritual Living

NINE-ELEVEN + TEN

LET US NEVER forget -- almost 3,000 innocent souls of all races, nationalities and faiths lost their lives when religious fanatics from our ally, Saudi Arabia, flew commandeered commercial airlines into the World Trade



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

Center, the Pentagon, and only through the bravery of passengers, did they fail to destroy the White House or the Capital Building.

But let us remember, also, that this national tragedy was compounded when the **Bush/Cheney administration** sanctioned the unfinanced invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, authorized torture and increased home-front surveillance, and after cutting taxes in wartime, helped put our country into the dismal economic condition we are coping with today.

Let us never forget...

"Read my lips - No New Texans!"

■ **CONTINUED**



MEMORIAL DAY. Since September 11, 2001, memorials to those lost include those (clockwise from top) a new 'teardrop' sculpture in Bayonne, NJ, to be dedicated today; 'gull-wings' on the dock in Staten Island; Manhattan's bronze tribute to its firefighters; bronze hands holding a piece of twisted Trade Center metal in Norristown, PA; and the glass cube at Boston's Logan Airport.



RE: INCARNATION

A couple made a deal that whoever died first would come back and inform the other if there was sex after death. Their biggest fear was that there was no afterlife at all. After many happy years of marriage, the husband was the first to die. True to his word, he made the first contact: "Sue, Sue?"

"Is that you, George?"

"Yes, I've come back like we agreed."

"That's wonderful! What's it like?"

"Well, I get up in the morning, I have sex. I have breakfast and then it's off to the golf course. I have sex again, bathe in the warm sun and then have sex a couple of more times. Then I have lunch (you'd be proud - lots of greens). Another romp around the golf course, then pretty much have sex the rest of the afternoon. After supper, it's back to golf course again. Then it's more sex until late at night. I catch some much-needed sleep, and then the next day it starts all over again."

"Oh, George, are you in Heaven?"

"No, I'm a rabbit in Kansas."

"You are never too old
to set another goal
or to dream a new dream."
~ C.S. Lewis

CH-CH-CH-CHANGES

A team of three interim co-artistic directors now leads our beloved **Antaeus Classical Theatre** company: company members **Tony Amendola**, **Rob Nagle** and **John Sloan**. Additionally, **Kathleen Eads Orbach** has been hired as Managing Director. **Jeanie Hackett**, artistic leader since 2003, recently stepped down.

"Ideas about how ensemble companies should be run are always evolving," Jeanie said. "Some of our company members believe Antaeus would be better served with a different kind of leadership structure... I feel privileged to have led this terrific company

of actors for the past eight years, and I look forward to continuing my participation as a company member."

ANTAEUS SHUFFLES THE DECK
Former Artistic Director Hackett
(top), and new Artistic Co-Directors
Amendola, Nagle and Sloan.



During her eight-year tenure, Jeanie provided artistic oversight for numerous award-winning productions, designed our first official season, created Antaeus' signature ClassicsFest and facilitated hundreds of readings and workshops. Under her watch, the company achieved a tenfold increase in annual income, and The Antaeus Academy, where she served as lead moderator, grew from 18 students per year to approximately 250. Arts Education programs expanded and flourished, as did investments from government, private foundations and individual donors.

"The entire company owes her a debt of gratitude," adds **Matthew Goldsby**, former chairman of the Antaeus board, "and we are pleased that she remains a valued member of the ensemble."



The new team is now overseeing **Noel Coward's *Peace in Our Time*** directed by **Casey Stangl**, which opens October 20 with Noel's original music, and **Melinda** and I are in the wonderful cast.

Antaeus – Come See Us!

"Give a man a fire and he's warm for a day, but set fire to him and he's warm for the rest of his life."
- Terry Pratchett



EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS WRONG

"**Reagan** has become a sainted figure within the GOP who, not incidentally, is the most successful and popular of the party's modern presidents," writes *LA Times'* **Mark Z. Barabak**. "But the Reagan reverie will doubtless overlook much of the Reagan reality.



"As president, the conservative icon approved several tax increases to deal with a soaring budget deficit, repeatedly boosted the nation's debt limit, signed into law a bill granting amnesty to millions of illegal immigrants and, despite his anti-Washington rhetoric, oversaw an increase in the size and spending of the federal government. Before that,

as California governor, he enacted what at the time was the largest state tax increase in American history. He also signed into law one of the nation's most permissive abortion bills; any Republican who tried that today would be cast out of the party.

"At bottom," Barabak concludes, "Reagan was a pragmatist, willing, when necessary, to cut a deal and compromise." Too bad the T-baggers have been so willing to accept a manipulated version of history to support their delusional cause.

"It's called the American Dream, because you have to be asleep to believe it." - George Carlin

KORREKSHUNS

Planeteer **Doug Baskett** knows a lot about Merkins, which he says are listed in the Oxford English Dictionary as being introduced in 1617 rather than in Victorian Times as suggested by the previous orbit.

Also, he writes, "They were used to get rid of pubic lice and to hide signs of venereal disease.

"Interestingly, and significantly," he concludes, "Merkin is also listed in the OED as a slang term for American, as pronounced by members of the Tea Party, as in 'We're the real 'Merkins!'"

*"Corporations, which should be the carefully restrained creatures of the law and the servants of the people, are fast becoming the people's masters."
~ President Grover Cleveland*

SKID MARKS

Authorities in central Ohio are trying to solve a panties puzzle: why hundreds of pairs of mostly female underwear, some still folded the way they'd come in packaging while others appeared to have been worn, were scattered in trees and hillsides on a rural road about 30 miles southeast of Columbus.

There were nearly 1,700 pairs in all, in mixed colors and patterns, and they filled 10 large trash bags, although it was not confirmed if they came from the "Trashy Lingerie" chain.

Investigators are "baffled" as to where the knickers came from, and there's hamburger all over the highway in Mystic Connecticut.

*"I just saw 'The Help'". It's very different from the original. There are no songs, and the Beatles are played by black women"
~ Dana Gould*

GOODBYE, GOP

*Barbara Stanwyck: "We're both rotten!" Fred MacMurray: "Yeah - only you're a little more rotten."
~ "Double Indemnity" (1944)*

"Those lines of dialogue from a classic film noir sum up the state of the two political parties in contemporary America," writes ex-Republican **Mike Lofgren**. "Both parties are rotten - how could they not be, given the complete infestation of the political system by corporate money on a scale that now requires a presidential candidate to raise upwards of a billion dollars to be competitive in the general election? Both parties are captives to corporate loot... But both parties are not rotten in quite the same way. The Democrats have their share of machine politicians, careerists, corporate bagmen, egomaniacs and kooks. Nothing, however, quite matches the modern GOP.

"To those millions of Americans who have finally begun paying attention to politics and watched with exasperation the tragicomedy of the debt ceiling extension, it may have come as a shock that the Republican Party is so full of lunatics... The Congressional directory now reads like a casebook of lunacy. It was this cast of characters and the pernicious ideas they represent that impelled me to end a nearly 30-year career as a professional staff member on Capitol Hill...

"A couple of years ago, a Republican committee staff director told me candidly (and proudly)



what the method was to all this obstruction and disruption. Should Republicans succeed in obstructing the Senate from doing its job, it would further lower Congress's generic favorability rating among the American people. By sabotaging the reputation of an institution of government, the party that is programmatically against government would come out the relative winner." **MORE STORY**

■ CONTINUED

"The value of an idea lies in the using of It." ~ Thomas Alva Edison

AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a nice restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they resumed their trip, but the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until they had been driving for about 40 minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around to go back to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained, and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up for a single minute. To her relief, they finally arrived.

As the woman got out of the car and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and the credit card!"

"All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware." ~ Martin Buber

DAILY PLAY KEEPS ALZHEIMER'S AWAY

"People ask me, 'What is the one thing I can do to keep dementia at bay?' If I had to pick one thing, I'd say exercise," geriatric expert **Bryan James** asserts in *The Archives of Internal Medicine*.

But, James adds, "Just getting off your couch, getting out of bed, just doing anything can have some benefit...Even standing instead of sitting," the article notes, "burns 20 to 30 more calories an hour."

"So if you've ever wished you didn't have to fold laundry, mow the lawn or stand in line, consider this... seniors who expended the most energy simply going about their business were less likely to experience mental declines as they aged."

NOW, WHERE WAS I...

PLANET CLICK

TAKE ME

HAWKING
CLOGGED
CAT TALK
CAT WALK
DAN WHO
ONLY IN LA
SWIM
FLY
REAL GEORGE
LITTLE GIRL
WHERE AM US

CLICK THE WORD TO
GO TO THE SITE

"Always wanted to visit those places where you were. But alas, no money! I cannot! Chasing your autograph, he asked friends, but they do not give, they say: 'I also want - Do not give up! 'That only that remains, is a request to direct you! Please, send me your autograph."
~ Vlad in Chuvashia, Russia

FORWARD, INTO THE PAST

"Look at the exhausted Treasury; the paralyzed government; the unworthy representatives of a free people; the desperate contests between the North and the South...the coarse and brutal threatenings exchanged between Senators under the very Senate's roof - the intrusion of the most pitiful, mean, malicious, creeping, crawling, sneaking party spirit into all transactions of life."

So wrote **Charles Dickens** upon the occasion of his first trip to America in 1842, in a letter to his friend, famous actor **William Macready**.

As **Craig Ferguson** might add, "Sound familiar?"

"Where men are the most sure and arrogant, they are commonly the most mistaken." ~ David Hume

GIMME

Jayne Stahl, Bill Bowles, Jim Reynolds, Victor Kopcewich, Bill Coombs, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Thomas O'Neill, Thom Hartmann, Marty Freeman, M. C. Gwynne, Rich Carlson, and please note: my talented pal, **Debbie Pearl**, is presenting her hip Tribute to Jazz Legend **Benny Carter**, November 3rd at Vitellos. Go swing...

"The morality of the Priesthood and the devotion of the people have been manifestly increased by the total separation of the Church from the State."
~ James Madison

"A pun is the lowest form of humor, unless you thought of it yourself." ~ Doug Larson

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