

PLANET PROCTOR

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PLANET THANKS

**INSIDE – STORIES
RIPPED FROM
REAL LIFE!!!!**

- **We Killed 'em**
- **Confession**
- **I Thought They Lost!**
- **Curtains!**

*Hercule Poirot, Agatha Christie
prepare for a night of abandon*

We Killed 'em

We just spent three intense but satisfying weeks at the **Capitol Theatre** in Clearwater, Florida, revisiting our roles in **Agatha Christie's** *The BBC Murders*, a stage adaptation by **Judith Walcutt** and **David Ossman** of four of her radio plays, described in a review by *Tampa Bay Times* critic **John Fleming** as "a captivating experience, with a terrific cast [in a] splendid rendition of radio theater."

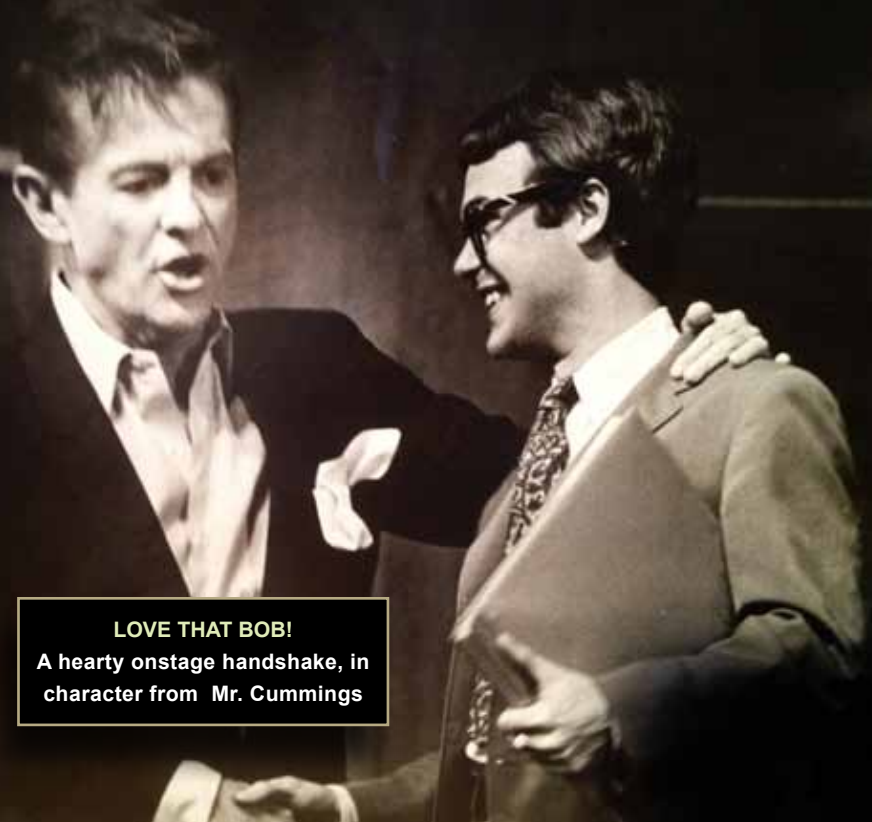


AGATHA AND
THE ECCENTRICS
Melinda's Christie and
Phil as Poirot, Petty and
Paravicini



We next take the elaborately designed show to a much larger venue at producer **Zev Buffman's** beautiful Parker Playhouse in Ft. Lauderdale, where I appeared in 1967 during the inaugural season in *Generation* with **Bob Cummings** (right) **Les Brown, Jr.** and TCM's **Robert Osborne**. We open our three-week run on January 15. Come see us!

And come see me as the G-man in the hilarious production of **Kaufman and Hart's** *You Can't Take it With You* at **Antaeus** in NoHo, this Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.



LOVE THAT BOB!

A hearty onstage handshake, in character from Mr. Cummings

"If you want your children to be intelligent,
read them fairy tales. If you want them to be
more intelligent, read them **MORE** fairy tales."
~ **Albert Einstein**

TURKEY DAY

Mellie and I, still recovering from the BBC Murders and tired of killing things, fixed ourselves a simple Turkey Day dinner of apple tea, vegetarian shish-kabobs, hummus, and **Bonomo's** Turkish taffy – very traditional if you live in Istanbul.

My daughter and her Canadian husband, **Geoff**, skipped the holiday completely as they had already celebrated Canadian Thanksgiving on October 8, with a traditional meal of beaverloaf, inflated loon, and maple syrup. Hope you got stuffed, too.

"The turkeys Obama pardoned were named **Cobbler** and **Gobbler**. They narrowly beat out the 3rd and 4th place names: **Unlucky** and **Delicious**"
~ **Caprice Crane**



LOOKING THEIR BEST
Highway Shaver Megan (top), and Columnist Celia

WHAT'S ALL THIS BROU-HOOHA

While we were performing in Florida, I became a fan of **Celia Rivenbark**, who writes for the *Tampa Bay Times*. Here's why: "By now, most of you may have heard about the Florida woman who caused a two-vehicle wreck because she was shaving her bikini area while driving.

"Florida Highway Patrol troopers said the car **Megan Barnes** was driving crashed into the back of a pickup truck at about 45 mph. Her reaction time was slowed down because she was too busy grooming her hoohah to pay attention to the road. Oh, like that's never happened to you?

"Ms. Barnes told the investigating officer that she was on her way to a date and 'wanted to be ready for the visit.' Except, well, we've seen Ms. Barnes' mug shot and she appears to have a face that would stop a clock and raise hell with small watches, bless her heart. To be blunt, I don't think a perfectly groomed love rug could possibly make that much difference.

"There are so many 'You might be a redneck if' elements to the story of Megan Barnes, but my favorite is that, while

performing this extremely personal grooming ritual, she asked her EX-HUSBAND to steer the car so she could concentrate ('Help me out, Buford, I'm gonna make it look like a **LIGHTNING BOLT**!')

"To no one's particular surprise, the Highway Patrol quickly discovered that Ms. Barnes didn't have a valid driver's license. Oh, and, the day before, she'd been convicted of

DUI and driving with a suspended license. Oh, and

her car had been seized and had no insurance or registration. Oh, and she was on probation. Oh, and **SHE'S A FLIPPIN' LUNATIC!** Albeit an impeccably groomed one."

"Remember always
that you not only have a
right to be an individual,
you have an obligation
to be one."
~ **Eleanor Roosevelt**

CONFESSION

I was 5 years old, and one day I was mowing the front lawn and drinking a beer. A preacher who lived across the street saw it and came over to confront me.

"Aren't you a little young to be drinking, son?" he asked. "That's nothing, Father," I said after taking another swig. "I got laid when I was three."

"What?" he exclaimed, amazed, "And how did that happen?"

"I don't remember," I replied. "I was drunk."

"Nature has given us one tongue but two ears,
that we may hear from others twice as much
as we speak." ~ **Epicteetus**

BIG BABIES

Anyone wonder why the reaction to the recent political loss has been so overtly pessimistic and angry? Well, according to a *New York Times* piece by **Richard A. Friedman, M.D.**, folks choose their party affiliations early in life, attracted to a party "that has people who resemble themselves." Once on board, they tend to "retrofit their beliefs" to align with the demands of the tribe.

■ **CONTINUED**

And when the team loses one, the stress hormone Cortisol is released, resulting in a very real biological state of depression. Furthermore, the propaganda bubble in which the rightwing lives made the recent loss all the more unexpected, and led to a response of “primal denial,” such as **Karl Rove**’s reaction when **Fox News** called Ohio for Obama.

The rejection of **Mitt Romney** by a majority of the electorate “is a bit like seeing your father get fired or beaten up.” And what does the loser feel like? “It’s a sudden stop,” says one defeated candidate.

“It’s just like someone shut off the tap. It just ends. It’s over. It’s death.” **READ IT AND WEEP - OR WHOOP**

So could one say the GOP is now the Ghost Of a Party? Let’s hope they can resurrect themselves in a more Christ-like image.

“I saw a bus the other day advertising the movie ‘Lincoln’ on one part and ‘Assassin’s Creed’ (in which I have a role) on the other.” ~ **Phil’s Phunny Phacts**

MORE SUGAR

I read another article in the *Tampa Bay Times* that spoke of a USF student named **Youseff Mohamed** (Joe Smith, in English) found with PVC pipes filled with a potassium nitrate mixture in the trunk of his car. He said they were “sugar rockets” and received a 15-year sentence for possession of an explosive device. What is a **SUGAR ROCKET**?

The article went on to say that the shirtless photos sent to Lebanese Bombshell **Jill (Khawam) Kelley** by that FBI flirt **Humphries**, was just one of a series of family joke “shots,” of him standing between two firing-range dummies. Well that explains everything. Call off the investigation!

“The very meaninglessness of life forces man to make his own meaning.” ~ **Stanley Kubrick**

THE BIBLE TELLS US SO

“A great swindle of our time is the assumption that science has made religion obsolete. All science has damaged is the story of Adam and Eve and the

story of Jonah and the Whale. Everything else holds up pretty well, particularly lessons about fairness and gentleness.

“People who find those lessons irrelevant in the 20th Century are simply using science as an excuse for greed and harshness. Science has nothing to do with it, friends.”

So wrote the great, late **Kurt Vonnegut**. Ice Nine forever!

“No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars or sailed to an uncharted land.” ~ **Helen Keller**

BAD BIRD

A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird’s mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird’s attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to ‘clean up’ the bird’s vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even more rude. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

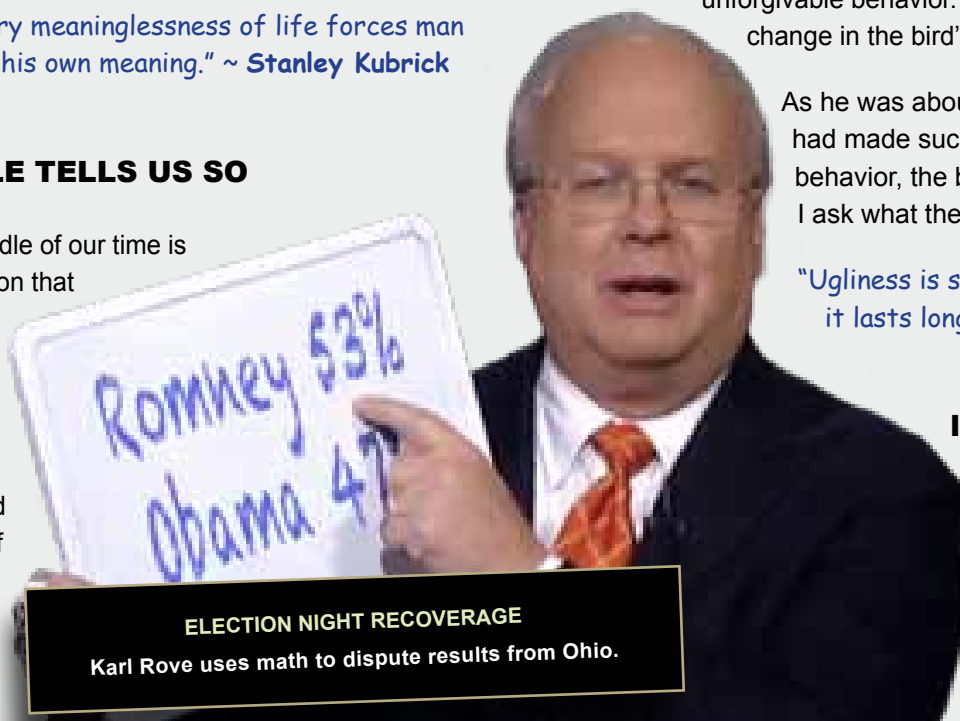
Fearing that he’d hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John’s outstretched arms and said “I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I’m sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior.” John was stunned at the change in the bird’s attitude.

As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird added, very softly, “May I ask what the turkey did?”

“Ugliness is superior to beauty because it lasts longer.” ~ **Serge Gainsbourg**

I THOUGHT THEY LOST

“If a Republican doesn’t like guns, he doesn’t buy one; if a Democrat doesn’t like guns,



he wants all guns outlawed. If a Republican is a vegetarian, he doesn't eat meat; if a Democrat is a vegetarian, he wants all meat products banned for everyone. If a Republican is homosexual, he quietly leads his life; if a Democrat is homosexual, he demands legislated respect. If a Republican is down-and-out, he thinks about how to better his situation; a Democrat wonders who is going to take care of him.

"If a Republican doesn't like a talk show host, he switches channels. Democrats demand that those they don't like be shut down. If a Republican is a non-believer, he doesn't go to church; a Democrat non-believer wants any mention of God and religion silenced. If a Republican decides he needs health care, he goes about shopping for it, or may choose a job that provides it. A Democrat demands that the rest of us pay for his.

"If a Republican reads this, he'll forward it so his friends can have a good laugh. A Democrat will delete it because he's offended."

Oh, really? I think this kind of "them and us" thinking is un-American and keeps us divided. What do you think?

"A nation does not have to be
cruel to be tough" ~ **FDR**

CURTAINS!

There was real-life drama at **Paul Rudd's** Broadway play *Grace* when an audience member upchucked from the balcony onto theatergoers below. "There was mass chaos for several minutes, but the cast played right on through," said a witness. The unidentified drunk was immediately ushered out of the house, and the staff of the **Cort Theater** led the stinky patrons to restrooms for a clean up and proffered paper towels to others who wanted to stay on.

A rep for the show added, "We suspect that the audience member in question meant to see *Rock of Ages* and

PLANETCLICK

YANK YOU

HISTORY

JUGGEDRUNK

ALICE

BATS

GROUNDLED

PINKO

TIME

ANIMATRONICS

ANIMALTRONICS

SCREW YOU

REGINA

TIREBITER

ONE TOUGH

BRIDGE

RACHEL

PHIL

DOGGONE

POP

ARTSY

DICKED

TWINKED

DRINKED

SNOW HOME

**CLICK THE WORD TO
GO TO THE SITE**

stumbled into the wrong theater. We apologize to the patrons seated in the direct line of fire."

Adds a whole new meaning to the phrase "getting bombed."

"It's useless to hold a person to anything
he says while he's in love, drunk, or
running for office." ~ **Shirley MacLaine**

WE'RE HAVING A FIRE\$ALE

Black Friday rules at the **Firesign Site**! It's a rip-roaring Holiday \$ale you have to see to believe. Don't waste a cyber-second of your precious on-line time. **CLICK NOW!**

And to get a taste of the delicious politico-sexy-comedy thriller in which I play a perverted part, **CLICK HERE** to see a trailer of Sam Joseph's *Window of Opportunity* which we hope will soon appear on a screen near you.

"If Thank You is the only prayer
you can make, it will be enough."
~ **Meister Eckhart**

THANK YOU

Eddie Deezen, Bill Matchneer, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Bruce Laks, Rich Carlson, Victor Kopcewich, Magic Mike Berger, David C. Kendall, Tom Hensley, Paul Krassner, JoanAllemand, quotes from *The Week* and Craig Miller at LOSCON.

"Do something besides killing time, because
time is killing you." ~ **Paulo Coelho**

**And a Happy
4th Birthday to
my Grandson,
Bowen Gordon
Campbell!**



"Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people." ~ **FDR**

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

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

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

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