

PLANET TAXED



Easter Fest

"Don't worry about
the world coming to an end today,
it's already tomorrow in Australia."
~ Charles M. Schulz

A very happy
Eostre
Festival to
everyone," writes
Planeteer **Laurence
Budd**, "From whence we get
Estrus and Estrogen. Eostre or
Ostara is first found around 150
AD near Morken-Harff, Germany.
In this picture she is covered in
clothing, but was typically a bit less
dressed. She is the goddess of Spring
and fecundity. And note the rabbit.
In medieval Britain rabbits were
made into "hare pies," and offered
to Eostre. Hare pie is also associated
with fertility in a different context...

■ *continued*

“When Eostre was vilified as a pagan god by the Christian church, rabbits were claimed to be a familiar of witches – evil bunnies. (As in *The Search for the Holy Grail*.)

“**Jacob Grimm** of the **Brothers Grimm** noted: ‘This Ostarâ, like the [Anglo-Saxon] Eástre, must in heathen religion have denoted a higher being, whose worship was so firmly rooted that the Christian teachers tolerated the name, and applied it to one of their own grandest anniversaries...

“Later, some pagan goddesses were made into Christian saints as a concession by the church, such as **Brigid**. But Eostre, being the deity of the Festival of Spring, became the name of this Christian rebirth and the arrival of spring.” Now you know...

“Too much of a good thing can be wonderful.” ~ **Mae West**

THEY DO IT THEIR WAY

LA Times’ **David Zucchino** writes that the “**Sovereign Citizen**” movement, numbering between 100,000 and 300,000, is classified by the FBI as an “extremist antigovernment group” claiming exemption from local, state, and federal laws. To them, a police officer is just a guy in a costume and they won’t produce a driver’s license, demanding that the cops recite oaths of office and fill out long questionnaires. Since 2000, they’ve killed at least six.

They never pay income taxes because they believe that the U.S. Treasury has set up a “secret money account” for every citizen, to be reclaimed through an arcane system of legal filings known as “redemption.” They also demand hundreds of dollars in reimbursements for time spent stopped by officers or spent in court answering charges – called “paper terrorism.”

And since Sovereigns believe U.S. currency is worthless and recognize only precious metals, many squat in foreclosed homes and pay with “photos of silver dollars.”

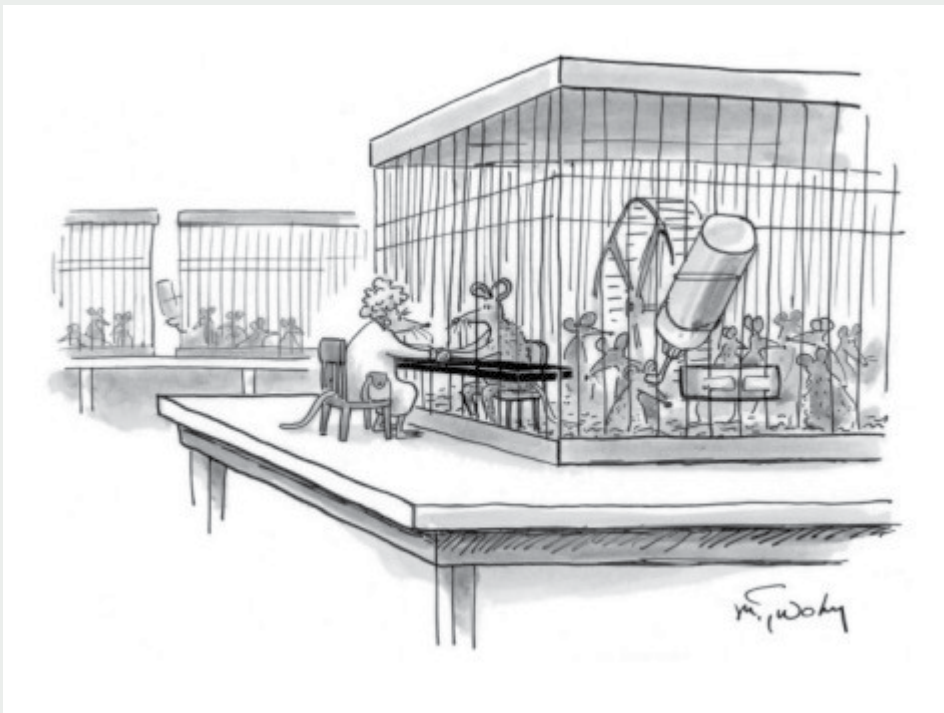
They even hold **Sovereign Seminars** for cash to tell you your money has no value. At one meeting, a silver-tongued sovereign told a rapt audience how to redeem millions of dollars from those secret Treasury accounts and how to evade taxes. When it was discovered that the lecturer actually worked for the U.S. Postal Service, he said he needed the job to underwrite his ideology.

Now that’s the American way!

“Man is free if he needs to obey no person but solely the laws.” ~ **Immanuel Kant**

DON’T MIND ME

Recent scientific studies as report in *The Week* reveal that a “mind meld” may already be a reality since **Duke University** scientists have connected two rat brains to



allow them to communicate only by thought. “I think,” wrote one researcher, “that it will be possible one day to transfer an abstract thought.”

And what’s more, *The Times* recently revealed that computers can learn to read our dreams. Japanese researchers have programmed computers to recognize images in dreamers in the earliest stages of REM through printouts capable of tracking blood flow in the brain, which represents neurons at work.

The researchers woke the subjects about every six minutes to get reports of what they “saw” before the images faded from memory, and then coordinated links between brain patterns and recalled images. Sounds like a reverse Rorschach, don’t it?

“Hipness is not a state of mind, it’s a fact of life.”
~ **Julian ‘Cannonball’ Adderley**

■ CONTINUED

NUNSENSE

A cabbie picks up a nun and she can't help but notice that the good-looking driver can't keep his eyes off of her through his rear-view mirror. She asks him why he's staring and he replies, "I'll tell you, but first I have a question for you, which I hope won't offend you."

"My son," says the nun, "When you have been married to the Lord for as long as I have, you've heard everything. There's nothing you could possibly say to offend me."

"Good then Sister, because I confess I've always had a fantasy of making out with a nun."

"Well, my son, I'd be happy to oblige -- but only if you are single and Catholic."

The excited driver says happily, "Yes, I am both: single and Catholic." So they pull over into an alley, the cabbie jumps into the back seat, and they go at it, hot and heavy, for about ten minutes. But when they get back on the road, the driver bursts into tears.

"My dear child," exclaims the disheveled sister, rearranging her habit, "Why are you so upset?"

"Forgive me, Sister," he says between sobs. "I have sinned. I lied to you: I'm actually married and Jewish!"

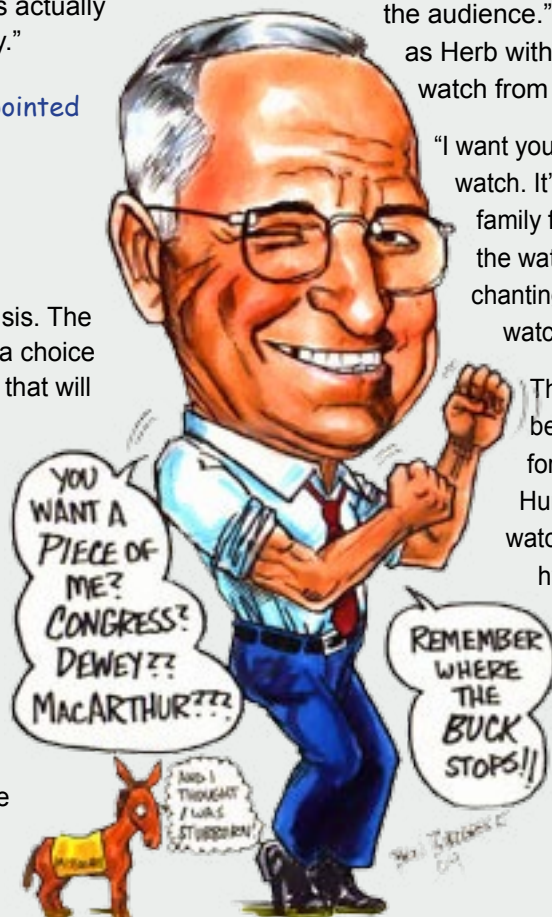
"That's OK," says the nun. "My name is actually Kevin and I'm going to a costume party."

"I'll bet cannibals were really disappointed with elbow macaroni." ~ **Donni**

IS THIS TRUE, MAN?

"Today the forces of liberalism face a crisis. The people of the United States must make a choice between two ways of living – a decision that will affect us the rest of our lives and our children and our grandchildren after us.

"On the other side, there is the Wall Street way of life and politics. Trust the leader! Let big business take care of prices and profits! Measure all things by money! That is the philosophy of the masters of the **Republican Party**. Well, I have been studying the Republican Party for over 12 years... and by this time I have discovered where the Republicans stand on most of the major issues. Since they won't tell you themselves, I am going to tell you.



"Republicans approve of the American farmer, but they are willing to help him go broke. They stand foursquare for the American home – but not for housing. They are strong for labor – but they are stronger for restricting labor's rights. They favor minimum wage – the smaller the minimum wage the better. They endorse educational opportunity for all – but they won't spend money for teachers or for schools. They think modern medical care and hospitals are fine – for people who can afford them. They consider electrical power a great blessing – but only when the private power companies get their rake-off. They think the American standard of living is a fine thing – so long as it doesn't spread to all the people.

"And they admire the Government of the United States so much that they would like to buy it."

So said President **Harry S. Truman** in an address in St. Paul on *October 13, 1948*.

"Michael J. Fox's middle name is Andrew."
~ **Phil's Phunny Phacts**

YOU'RE FEELING SLEEPY

It was entertainment night at a **Boca Senior Center** and Herb the hypnotist exclaimed, "I'm here to put you into a trance. I intend to hypnotize each and every member of the audience." The excitement was almost electric as Herb withdrew a beautiful, antique pocket watch from his coat.

"I want you each to keep your eyes on this antique watch. It's a very special watch. It's been in my family for six generations." He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting, "Watch the watch, watch the watch, watch the watch...."

The crowd became mesmerized as the beautiful timepiece swayed back and forth, light gleaming off its golden surface. Hundreds of eyes followed the swaying watch until, suddenly, it slipped from the hypnotist's fingers and fell to the floor, breaking into pieces!

"SHIT!" said the hypnotist. It took three days to clean up the Senior Center.

"If you don't want to be noticed, get out of the spotlight."
~ **Rick Lenz**, author of "North of Hollywood"

TED'S A BEAR

TED officials recently withdrew their endorsement for a West Hollywood event titled **Brother, Can You Spare a Paradigm?**, because it seemed to be promoting “pseudoscience” and featured speakers like **Russell Targ** (below with one of his books) who was to talk on “The Reality of ESP: A Physicist’s Proof of Psychic Abilities.”

With over 2000 TEDx events already scheduled, officials felt it could damage their ability to recruit scientists and other credible speakers in the future.

“There is no bright and shining line between pseudoscience and real science,” they declared, “and purveyors of false wisdom typically share their theories with as much sincerity and earnestness as legitimate researchers. We feel that the pseudoscience struggle is an important one [and] cannot give undo legitimacy to false evidence and selective logic – regardless of brilliant packaging.”

But the Paradigm organizers countered that TED is embracing anti-science itself. “As science is, at its most fundamental level, about the facts and details,” they wrote, “it’s rather curious that they would make a case for being on the side of science – but avoid addressing the science.” I KNEW they were going to say that...

“You grow up the day you have your first laugh - at yourself.”
~ Ethel Barrymore

A PENNY FOR YOUR HOTS

Keith and his wife are having hard times, so they decide that she’ll become a hooker. She’s not quite sure what to do, so Keith says, “Stand in front of that bar and pick up a guy. Tell him you charge a hundred bucks. Any questions and I’ll be parked around the corner.”

She stands outside the bar for about five minutes showing her leg, when a guy pulls up and asks “How much?” She says, “A hundred dollars.” He replies, “All I got is thirty.”

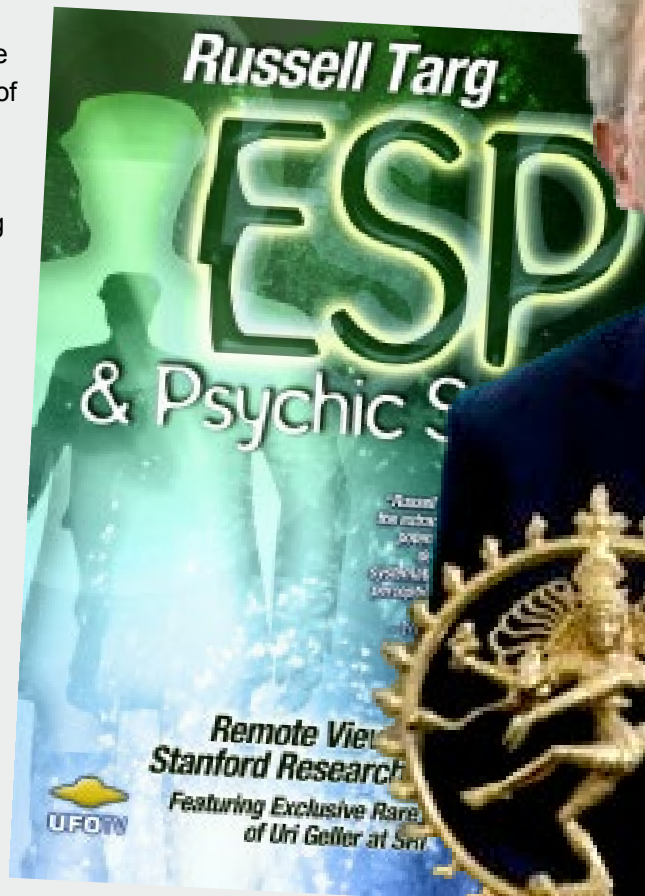
She says, “Hold on,” and runs back to Keith and asks, “What now? What can he get for thirty?”

“A hand job,” Keith replied. She runs back and tells the guy all he gets for thirty dollars is a hand job. He agrees and she gets in the car. He unzips his trousers, and out pops this huge willy. She stares at it for a few seconds and says, “I’ll be right back.”

“What’s wrong?” asks Keith. “Is there any chance,” she says, “You could lend this guy seventy bucks?”

“There is no expedient to which a man will not resort to avoid the real labor of thinking.”
~ Sir Joshua Reynolds

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PARTING SHOT
Phil, Joel, Mel and
Hannah at the
Parker Playhouse in
Ft Lauderdale.

PLANETCLICK

TO JOEL

This ancient Irish prayer is for our dear friend, **Joel Baldwin**, husband of **Hannah**, who passed on April 13 surrounded by family and friends at his home in Stony Creek CT, after a long bout with cancer. **READ**

*Deep peace of the running waves to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the smiling stars to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you...*

LET THERE BE LIGHT

I'm going to be portraying **Thomas Alva Edison** on May 4, in a special presentation of **Dan Duling's** "radio" play, Tesla, as a fundraiser for **Theatre Arts at Caltech** in the **Pasadena Playhouse** and in researching the role, I came across this interesting observation by the great inventor:

- LEAVE**
- HORRIBLE**
- PETRA**
- DOBIE**
- DATED**
- HEARTFELT**
- GOSHEN**
- MERRY ME**
- DUTCH TREAT**
- MOONIES**
- GUIDO**
- BAH BAH BAH**
- WHO?**
- WHA?**
- TSUNAMI**
- KISS MY GAS**
- UCLA**
- TRICK ME**
- GREASE-STRIKEN**

"Nature is what we know. We do not know the gods of religions. And nature is not kind, or merciful, or loving. If God made me – the fabled God of the three qualities of which I spoke: mercy, kindness, love, he also made the fish I catch and eat. And where do His mercy, kindness, and love for that fish come in?"

"No, nature made us – nature did it all – not the gods of the religions."

I guess he believed God was invented, too.

"Music is a form whose meaning depends upon its violation." ~ Rimsky-Korsakov

LOVE

Jerry Eberts, Bill Coombs, Gretchen Steiner, Richard Aguirre, Victor Kopcewich, John Apicella, Bill McIntyre, Eddie Deezen, Lance Rucker, M.C. Gwynne, Chris Mayka, Arye Gross, Jim Reynolds, Thomas Healy Branches, Robert Riddle, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Bob Grossman, Keith Hebble, and a fond farewell to the unique, irrepressible and irreplaceable **Jonathan Winters**, whom I first worked with on The Smurfs, and later in The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle. He was always sweet and kind and deeply humorous and funny as hell. I'd love to know his last words....

"Participate joyfully in the sorrows of the world. We cannot cure the world of sorrows, but we can choose to live in joy." ~ Joseph Campbell

AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY DARLING DAUGHTER, KRISTIN!!!

"I can tell if people are judgmental just by looking at them." ~ Danny Brooks

BEARWHIZ BEER <http://www.eagletshirts.com> **FUNNY TIMES:** <http://www.funnytimes.com>

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

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