

PLANET PROCTOR

PLANET JUNE BUGGY

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"All animals except man
know that the ultimate of
life is to enjoy it."
~ Samuel Butler

The curse of Antaeus

You may think you know the Oedipus Legend, but you've never seen the whole story in one spectacular evening. We're working hard to bring you a stirring, epic production inspired by our wonderful author, **Ken Cavander**, the limitless imagination of our brilliant director, **Casey Stangl**, and a cast and crew (*pictured on next page*) that embodies the power of ensemble theatre at its best. Please honor us with your presence, and you will be amply rewarded!

I am in the Thebes cast and you can acquire tix by **CLICKING HERE** and visiting the Antaeus website.

"If the soul is left in darkness, sins will be committed. The guilty one is not he who commits the sin, but the one who causes the darkness." ~ Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*



PHOTO BY JOHN APICELLA

OEDIPAL STAGES

The King-size cast and crew arrayed for the Antaeus Theatre Company's Sophocles-penned, Stangl-directed, Cavendish-adapted epic.

SPIKE IT!

Planeteer **Rich DeMaio** recently referenced Wikipedia's article on "**The Goon Shows**" and came across **Harry Secombe's** account of how he and **Spike Milligan** first met serving in the Royal Artillery in WWII. Gunner Milligan's artillery unit accidentally allowed a large howitzer to roll off a cliff under which Secombe was snoozing in a small truck:

"Suddenly there was a terrible noise as some monstrous object fell from the sky quite close to us," Harry recalled. "There was considerable confusion, and in the middle of it all the flap of the truck was pushed open and a young, helmeted idiot asked 'Anybody see a gun?' It was Milligan."

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

Secombe's response was "What colour was it?" and a lifetime friendship was made. Incidentally, the article heavily references **The Firesign Theatre**, as we were greatly inspired by the goofy surrealism, snappy writing and antic performances of the gang, which included the indefatigable **Peter Sellers**.

Other Firesign cyberarticles this orbit come from **The Hall of Records' Michael Tatum REVIEWING** (and I mean "re-viewing" our Marx/Lennon album.

And then, **Mike Tiano**, who **REVEALS** a disturbing connection to the smutty **Mitchell Brothers**, proving again that "Everything You Know Is Wrong."

Finally, **John Cowden** writes, "Try to ignore the way your fans **SCREW UP YOUR BRILLIANT WORDS**. You see? You do have something in common with Jesus and the Beatles."

"Show me who makes a profit from war, and I'll show you how to stop the war." ~ Henry Ford

COLD, HARD FACTS

John went to visit his 90-year-old grandfather in a very secluded, rural area of Saskatchewan and after spending a great evening chatting the

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LONG TIME GOON

The 1951 Goon Radio Show launch with, from left, Peter Sellers, Spike Milligan, Michael Bentine and Harry Secombe.

night away, the next morning John's grandfather prepared breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast. However, John noticed a film-like substance on his plate and asked his grandfather, "Are these plates clean?"

His grandfather replied, "They're as clean as cold water can get 'em. Just you go ahead and finish your meal, Sonny!"

For lunch the old man made hamburgers. Again, John was concerned about the plates, as his appeared to have tiny specks around the edge that looked like dried egg and asked, "Are you sure these plates are clean?"

Without looking up the old man said, "I told you before, Sonny, those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don't you fret, I don't want to hear another word about it!"

Later that afternoon, John was on his way to a nearby town, and as he was leaving his grandfather's dog started to growl and wouldn't let him pass. John yelled, and said, "Grandfather, your dog won't let me get to my car."

Without diverting his attention from the football game he was watching on TV, the old man shouted! "Coldwater, go lay down now, yah hear me!"

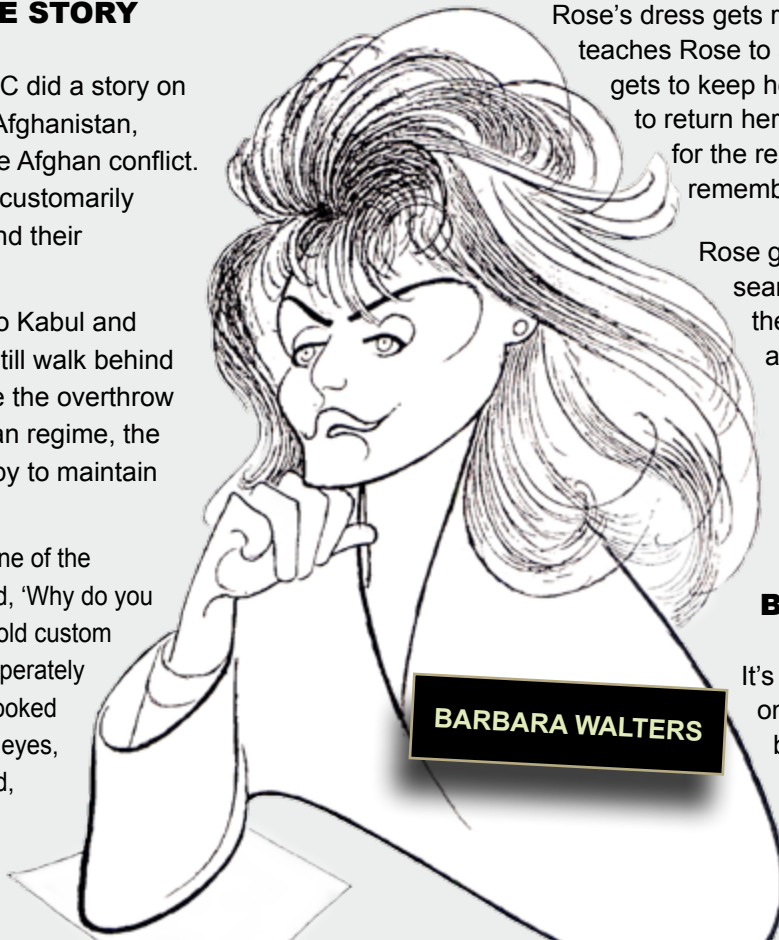
*"It's National Mental Health Day!
So reach out to at least one unstable person
- like I just did. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts*

THE REST OF THE STORY

Barbara Walters of ABC did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands.

She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem happy to maintain the old custom.

Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, 'Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?' The woman looked Ms Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said, "Land mines."



*"You have brains in you head,
you have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction you choose."
~ Dr. Seuss*



THAT SINKING FEELING

With **Hillary** in high-profile these daze, the following comparisons seem politically pertinent:

The film **Titanic** is the story of Jack and Rose, their forbidden love, and subsequent catastrophe. The movie **Clinton** is the story of Bill and Monica, their forbidden love, and subsequent catastrophe. Jack is a starving artist; Bill is a bullshit artist.

In one scene, Jack enjoys a good cigar. Ditto for Bill. Rose's dress gets ruined; same for Monica. Jack teaches Rose to spit. (Let's not go there.) Rose gets to keep her jewelry. Monica's forced to return her gifts. Rose remembers Jack for the rest of her life. Clinton doesn't remember Jack.

Rose goes down on a vessel full of seamen. Monica . . . (let's not go there, either). Jack surrenders to an icy death – Enough said.

*"In every living thing,
there is a desire for love."
~ D.H. Lawrence*

BEER WITH ME

It's like this: a herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo; so when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that

■ CONTINUED

are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the speed and health of the whole group is improved by the culling of the weakest.

In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells and because excessive



UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

For the weakest brain cells to be killed off first, beer must be taken *internally*. Of course, if *all* your cells are slow it doesn't really matter.

intake of alcohol kills brain cells, it naturally attacks the slowest and weakest cells first.

In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine.

And that's why you always feel smarter after a few beers. Bottoms up!

"Faith is the denial of observation so that belief can be observed." ~ **Tim Minchin**

HOT TIME IN ANAHEIM

President Obama recently spoke to an enthusiastic crowd of over 30,000 under a blazing sun in Anaheim's **Angel Stadium** for a **UC Irvine** commencement in a call-to-arms against global warming as, fittingly, the Orange County school was among the first institutions to recognize that man-made chemicals were destabilizing our atmosphere.

"When **President Kennedy** set us on a course for the moon there were a number of people who made a serious case that it would be too expensive, that it would take too long," he said. "But nobody ignored the science.

"I don't remember anyone saying the moon wasn't there, or that it was made of cheese... There are some who duck the question by saying, 'Hey, I'm not a scientist.' Let me translate that for you: What that means is, 'I accept that man-made

climate change is real, but if I admit it, I'll be run out of town by a radical fringe that thinks climate science is a liberal plot.'

"We need scientists to design new fuels. We need farmers to help grow them," he continued, refuting claims that industry will be adversely affected. "We need engineers to invent new technologies. We need entrepreneurs to sell those technologies. We need workers to operate assembly lines that hum with high-tech, zero-carbon components. We need builders to hammer into place the clean energy age...

"Cynicism is a choice. Hope is a better choice. Hope is what gave young soldiers the courage to storm a beach and liberate people they never met. Hope is what gave young students the strength to sit in and stand up and march for women's rights, and civil rights, and voting rights, and gay rights, and immigration rights.

"Hope is the belief, against all evidence to the contrary, that there are better days ahead, and that together we can build up a middle class, and reshape our immigration system, and shield our children from gun violence and shelter future generations from the

ravages of climate change. I cannot wait to see what you do tomorrow," he concluded.

To which I might add: "Forward! Into the past..."

"I don't know how people can get so anti-something. Mind your own business, take care of yourself, and don't worry about other people so much." ~ **Betty White**

TV OR NOT TV

A five-year-old boy went to visit his grandmother one day. Playing with his toys in her bedroom while grandma was dusting, he looked up and said, "Grandma, how come you don't have a boyfriend now that Grandpa went to heaven?"

Grandma replied, "Honey, my TV is my boyfriend. I can sit in my bedroom and watch it all day long. The religious programs make me feel good and the comedies make me laugh ... I'm happy with my TV as my boyfriend."

Grandma turned on the TV, and the reception was terrible. She started adjusting the knobs, trying to get the picture in focus. Frustrated, she started hitting the backside of the TV hoping to fix the problem.

The little boy heard the doorbell ring, so he hurried to open the door and there stood Grandma's minister. The minister said, "Hello son, is your Grandma home?"

The boy replied, "Yeah, she's in the bedroom bangin' her boyfriend."

It is a misdemeanor to fart in New York City churches.
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts [PHACT-CHEX]

to our children. So, there you go. We need to support any legislation that comes out to rectify this travesty...

"And as a die-hard Oregon State fan...it might also make some sense to change the name of the Oregon State women's athletic teams to something other than the Beavers."

"On Nov. 28, 2012, not a single murder, shooting, stabbing, or other incident of violent crime in NYC was reported all day." ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts [PHACT-CHEX]

CH-CH-CHANGES

Excerpts from an unattributed email sent to the **Chicago Tribune** states that the writer is insulted "by the racially charged name of the **Washington Redskins**" and suggests that "they change the name to the 'Foreskins' to better represent their community, paying tribute to the dick heads in Congress.

"We must be careful not to offend," he continues. "And in the spirit of political correctness and courtesy, we must move forward. Let's ditch the **Kansas City Chiefs**, the **Atlanta Braves** and the **Cleveland Indians**. If your shorts are in a wad because of the reference the name Redskins makes to skin color, then we need to get rid of the **Cleveland Browns**.

"The **Carolina Panthers** obviously were named to keep the memory of militant Blacks from the '60s alive. Gone. It's offensive to us white folk. The **New York Yankees** offend the Southern population. Do you see a team named for the Confederacy? No! There is no room for any reference to that tragic war that cost this country so many young men's lives.

"I am also offended by the blatant references to the Catholic religion among our sports team names. It's totally inappropriate to have the **New Orleans Saints**, the **Los Angeles Angels** or the **San Diego Padres**.

"Then there are the team names that glorify criminals who raped and pillaged. We are talking about the horrible **Oakland Raiders**, the **Minnesota Vikings**, the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers** and the **Pittsburgh Pirates**!

"Now, let us address those teams that clearly send the wrong message to our children. The **San Diego Chargers** promote irresponsible fighting or even spending habits...The **New York Giants** and the **San Francisco Giants** promote obesity, a growing childhood epidemic...The **Cincinnati Reds** promote downers/barbiturates...The **Milwaukee Brewers** – well that goes without saying... Wrong message

AYE SPY

A French spy, a German spy, and an Italian spy are captured, have their hands bound behind their back and are interrogated. After two hours, the French spy reluctantly gives up all his secrets. After four hours, the German spy tells his captors everything.

But after 24 hours of intense questioning, the Italian still won't talk and is thrown into a cell with the others. The German and French spies are shamed but impressed and ask him how he managed not to talk.

"I wanted to," the exhausted man replied, "but I couldn't move my hands."

"Hubby comes home from work and sees a new set of golf clubs in the hall. 'Are those for me, honey?' he asks. 'They are now,' she answers." ~ Johnny Gaza

BUT WHO'S COUNTING?

LA Times contributor **David Lauter** points out that partisan differences now divide Americans "more sharply than distinctions of race, religion, education or sex..."

For example, according to the **Pew Research Center's MAJOR NEW STUDY** covering the last quarter century, about three-quarters of Democrats believe government has a "responsibility to take care of people who can't take care of themselves" while 54% of Republicans reject that idea even though, during the Reagan Administration, 62% supported the need for a safety net.

Similarly, nearly 90% of Democrats, independents and Republicans once



agreed on "stricter laws and regulations to protect the environment." Today, only 47% of Republicans are in accord.

On another hot-button issue, according to the **Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence**, figures show that an average of 32 Americans are killed every day and 140 treated for gunshot wounds. That's an average of eight children every day or five times the number of soldiers killed last year, including the more than 500 who take their own lives. The U.S. military has about four million guns while U.S. citizens have about 320 million, and annual bullet output is 31 times the number of living Americans.

As **Richard Martinez** said after his son Chris was killed in Isla Vista, "When will enough people say, stop this madness; too may have died. We should say to ourselves – NOT ONE MORE!"



YEE GAD!

California State Senator Leland Yee

Senator **Leland Yee** garner election after withdrawing from the race for Secretary of State in California?

"Electile Dysfunction" at its worse – NOT INSANE! Vote for Papioon!

"People are taking their comedians seriously and politicians as a joke." ~ Will Rogers

IT ALL ADDS UP

A man and woman had been married for more than 60 years. They had shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other except that the little old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.

For all of these years, he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the

Meanwhile, it's been revealed that after decades of tests and \$40 billion, the military's ground-based "Star Wars" missile system has had only a 50% success rate.

And last, but not least, how did disgraced, indicted, gun-running accused felon and former California State 300,000 votes in our recent



doctor said she would not recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two crocheted dolls and a stack of money totaling \$95,000.

He asked her about the contents. "When we were to be married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doll."

The little old man was so moved; he had to fight back tears. Only two precious dolls were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness.

"Honey," he said, "that explains the doll, but what about all of this money? Where did it come from?"

"Oh," she said, "that's the money I made from selling the dolls."

Sex is like math: you add the bed, subtract the clothes, divide the legs, and hope you don't multiply.

~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

LEMONADE FROM LEMONS

He leaned the old 16-gauge against the corner of the blind to take a leak. As luck would have it, his foolish dog Dawson knocked the gun over, it went off and Ole took most of the pellets in the groin. Several hours later, lying in a Duluth hospital bed, he came to and there was his doctor, Dr. Sven, who said, "Vell, Ole, I got some good news and some bad news. Da good news is dat you are going to be OK. Da damage vas local to your groin; dere was very little internal damage, and I vas able to remove all of da buckshot."

"What's the bad news?" asked Ole. "The bad news is dat dere vas some pretty extensive buckshot damage done to your pecker. I'm going to have to refer you to my sister, Lena."

"Okay, den," says Ole. "Is your sister a plastic surgeon?"

"Not exactly," Sven says, "She's a flute player in da Minneapolis Symphony, and she's going to teach you where to put your fingers so you don't pee in your eye."

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."

~ Dolly Parton

"One man, with conviction, makes a majority." ~ Edmund Burke

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"Just because we have the best hammer does not mean that every problem is a nail." ~ Barack Obama

HAPPINESS IS A WARM GUN

A 19-year-old Tennessee woman brought to jail for a driving infraction was found to have a loaded North American Arms 22 LR 4-inch-long mini-revolver concealed in her vagina, stolen last year from the car of **John Souther**. The 70-year-old retired automobile dealer stated that he would eventually like "the little fellow" returned, after getting a good bleach-bath. [READ MORE](#)

Online pundits wondered if she had gun-areah, observed that it was snatched and still in the box; and due to a hair trigger, if it went off, it would be a boom box, giving a hole new meaning to vaginal discharge. Let's face it, at four inches it comes off as half-cocked.

But it does all prove that a gun in the hand is worth one in the bush.

"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities." ~ Voltaire

IT'S A RAP
SPACEY
GIVING
MANDOGS
D-DAY TODAY
HOTSTUFF
GOATPLAY
IMPRESSIVE
BEERY GOOD
GOODS VIBES
SEX AND FIRESIGN
OH MY
HAVE A SEAT
GUMBALLS
RINGADING
FIRE AWAY
NY SEE
COCK BROS
WARHELL
ONE LOVE
MARX MADNESS

AND FARETHEEWELL

While I was rehearsing my ass off, we lost screenwriter **Lorenzo Semple, Jr.** who wrote the original "Batman" TV series, and *Three Days of the Condor*, which was originally *Six Days*.... He explained that there wasn't enough for six days, "so we cut it down."

Trumpeter and civil rights activist **Joe Wilder** also blew the scene, a brave and talented man whose only criticism came from pianist **Dick Hyman**, who said he "dressed a bit more formally than he needed to." Then the pioneer of radio talk shows, **Ben Hoberman**, went off the air, having first introduced the format on KABC in 1960. And finally, **Renaissance Faire** founder **Phyllis Patterson** finally became a part of the past. It was through Phyllis and her friendship with **Dave Ossman** that Firesign Theatre was able to perform *Anythin'ge You Want To*, *Shakespeare's Lost Comedie* at an early Faire, at the same time that the **Flying Karamazov Brothers** were honing their considerable skills.

"To live is so startling, it leaves little time for anything else." ~ Emily Dickenson

CONTRIBUTORS

Keith Hebble, Lance Rucker, Michael Fish, Kent McCaman, Roger Steffens, Alan Sharpe, Ivan Berger, Jim Meskimen, Victor Kopcewich, Betsey Brubaker-Strum, Nick Oliva, Mike Tiano, M.C. Gwynne, Hank Rosenfeld, Penn Gillette and John Apicella; and thanks to **Brian Howe** and **Paul Fey** and the gang at **World Wide Wadio** for adding me as narrator on "The Adventures of Big Dan Frater." Check out past episodes [HERE](#) and you can catch my darling wife **Melinda** in the premiere of *I'm Harry Clark* on July 4. [HERE](#)

"We light upon one evil and hit it with all the might of our civilization - but only succeed in scattering it into dozens of other forms." ~ James Weldon Johnson

R.I.P.: MAYA ANGELOU

*I'm the same person I was back then
A little less hair, a little less chin,
A lot less lungs and much less wind.
But ain't I lucky I can still breathe in.*



"College is a refuge from hasty judgment." ~ Robert Frost

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

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

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

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