

# Planet Sweet '16

"And now we welcome the New Year, full of things that have never been." ~ Rainer Maria Rilke



## We're all Bozos

**B**ozo's Disease was first described in 1949 by Billy May and Alan W. Livingston and current estimates indicate that approximately one million men and over ten thousand women are afflicted. Look for following traits:

Brief bouts of hysterical laughter, usually in the presence of children under 12 years of age; incoherent speech that brings forth laughter from said children and others; making contorted faces accompanied by facial blanching and an exaggerated redness of the mouth; outbreaks of bushy orangish hair and a bright, red nose.

Do you suffer? Who nose...

The average American household spends about \$162 annually on lottery tickets, while low-income families spend \$289 and poverty-line families \$597.  
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

"If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools." ~ Plato

## POLITRICKS

With my partner, **Samuel Joseph Warren**, I have just put the finishing touches on our theatrical political satire, ***Politricks As Usual***, which will soon have its first public reading starring **Ed Asner** as God and two other stars as popular liberal and conservative pundits dropped into limbo to explain to Him why they are at loggerheads. And thanks to Planeteer **Richard Fish, Robert Heinlein** has provided an essay on what inspired us:

*Politics is not evil...politics is the human race's most magnificent achievement. When politics is good, it's wonderful, and when politics is bad -- well, it's still pretty good. Think about it. Politics is just a name for the way we get things done... without fighting. We dicker and compromise and everybody thinks he has received a raw deal, but somehow after a tedious amount of talk we come up with some jury-rigged way to do it without getting anybody's head bashed in. That's politics, and that's why I say politics is good even when it is bad -- because the only alternative is force -- and somebody gets hurt.*

*When to talk and when to fight? That is the most difficult decision to make wisely of all the decisions in life. Mankind didn't invent fighting; it was here long before we were. But we invented politics! Just think of it: Homo Sapiens is the most cruel, the most vicious, the most predatory, and certainly the most deadly of all the animals in this Solar System. Yet he invented politics! He figured out a way to let most of us, most of the time, get along well enough so that we usually don't kill each other. So don't let me hear you using 'politics' as a swear word again.*

## ON THE BARBIE, DOLL

A Kiwi and an Aussie are talking at a BBQ down under after a couple of cold beers. The Aussie says, "If I was to sneak over to your house and make wild passionate love to your wife while you were off fishing and she got pregnant and had a baby, would that make us related, mate?"

The Kiwi crooks his head sideways and squints, thinking real hard for a moment and finally says:

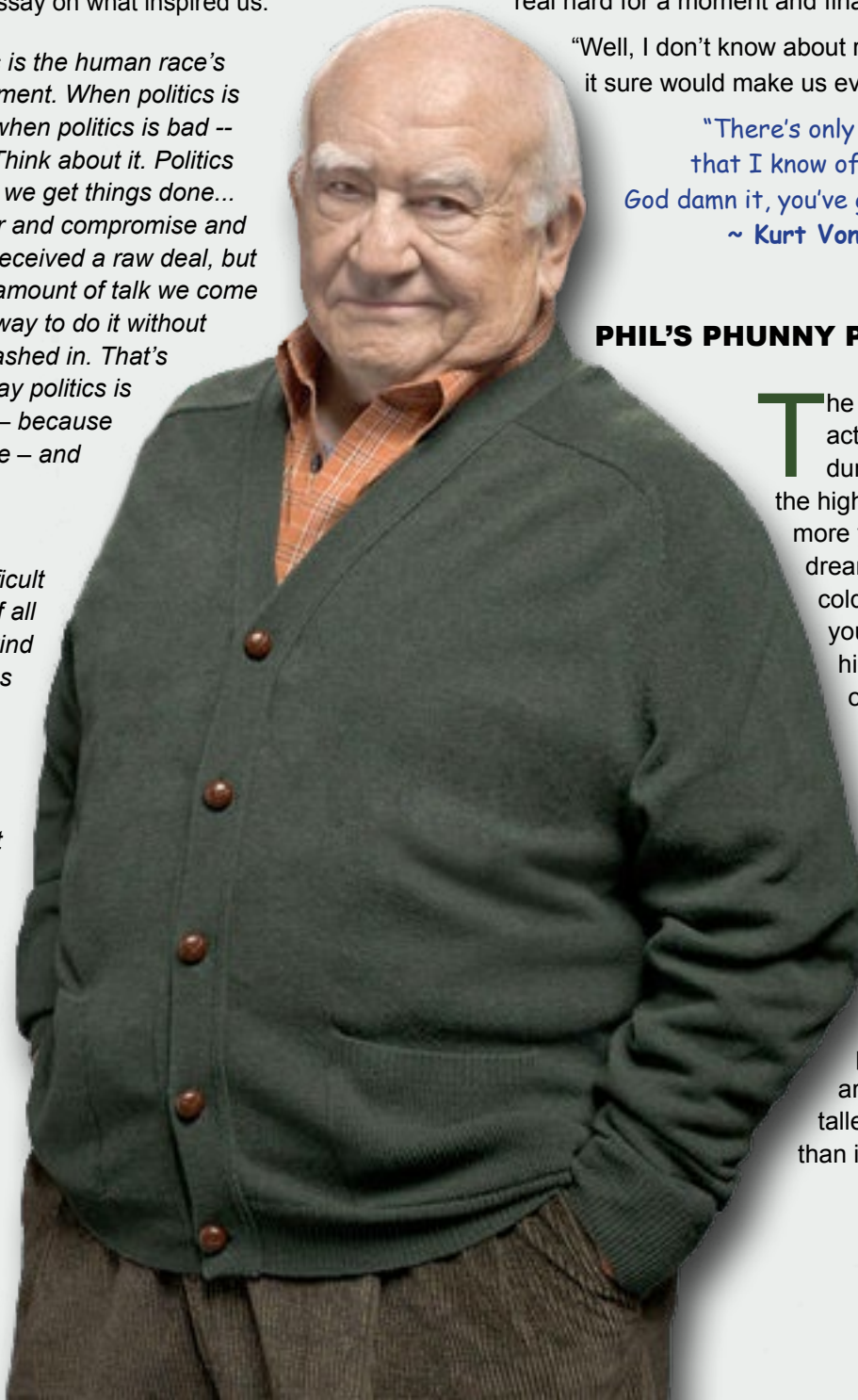
"Well, I don't know about related, mate, but it sure would make us even."

"There's only one rule that I know of, babies - God damn it, you've got to be kind."  
~ Kurt Vonnegut

## PHIL'S PHUNNY PHACTS

The brain is more active at night than during the day, and the higher your IQ, the more you supposedly dream, although the colder the room you sleep in, the higher the chance of you having a nightmare. Also, most men become aroused every hour or so during sleep because of blood circulation and testosterone production. We are about 1 cm taller in the mornings than in the evenings.

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The lifespan of a human hair is three to seven years on average. Facial hair grows faster than any other hair on the body, but fingernails grow nearly four times faster than toenails and the nail on the middle finger grows faster than all others.

The largest cell in the body is the female egg and the smallest is the male sperm. Women's hearts beat faster than men's, and women blink twice as many times as men. Women are also born better smellers, but men burn fat faster than women by a rate of about 50 calories a day and get hiccups more often than women.

During your lifetime, you will produce enough saliva to fill two swimming pools and although the acid in your stomach is strong enough to dissolve zinc, it doesn't destroy the stomach because the abdominal wall constantly renews itself. If your saliva cannot dissolve or mix with food, you won't be able to taste that food (try tasting something after drying off

your tongue). By age 60, most people will have lost half of their taste buds, and after eating too much, your hearing is less sharp. Human

### EMISSION CONTROL

The largest cell in the body, the female egg, is like a planet compared to the probing male sperm, the smallest cell.

feet have 500,000 sweat glands and can produce more than a pint of sweat each day.

All babies are colorblind but are born with blue eyes because the melanin needs time to be darkened by ultraviolet light. Your eyes remain the same size after birth, but your nose and ears never stop growing, and even small noises cause the pupils to dilate. The only part of your body that has no blood supply is the cornea in the eye, which gets its oxygen directly from air. Everybody has a stronger eye and a weaker eye, and everyone has a unique smell, unique fingerprint and unique tongue print.

The strongest muscle in the body is the human tongue. The hardest bone in the human body is the jawbone. The hands and feet contain almost half of all the bones in the human body. Your skeleton renews itself every 10 years, meaning it's brand-new again once every decade.

About 32 million bacteria are present on every inch of human skin, and most are harmless and even helpful. Three hundred million cells die in the human body every minute as we shed and re-grow outer skin every 27 days, while every day an adult produces 300 billion new cells. Getting even moderately severe sunburn causes extensive damage to the body's blood vessels.

Humans are the only species that produce emotional tears. And although it's impossible to commit suicide by choking yourself with your hands and we can live 20 days without eating, we'll survive only two days without drinking. So, bottoms up! And we'll live forever!

*"If from infancy you treat children as gods, they are liable as adults to act as devils." ~ PD James*

### THE DANCE OF LIFE

A modern Orthodox Jewish couple, preparing for a religious wedding, meets with their rabbi for counseling. The man asks, "Rabbi, we realize it's tradition for men to dance with men and women to dance with women at the reception, but we'd like your permission to dance together, like the rest of the world."

"Absolutely not," says the rabbi. "It's immodest. Men and women always dance separately."

"So after the ceremony I can't even dance with my own wife?"

"No," answered the rabbi. "It's forbidden."

"Well, okay," says the man, "What about sex? Can we finally have sex?"

"Of course!" replies the rabbi. "Sex is a mitzvah. It's a good thing to have children!" - "What about different positions?" asks the man. "No problem," says the rabbi "It's a mitzvah!"

The man asks, "Woman on top?" "Sure," says the rabbi. "Go for it! It's a mitzvah!" - "Doggy style?" - "Sure! Another mitzvah!" - "On the kitchen table?" - "Yes, yes! A mitzvah!" - "Can we do it on rubber sheets with a bottle of hot oil, a couple of vibrators, a leather harness, a bucket of honey and a porn video?" - "You may indeed. It's all a mitzvah!" - "Can we do it standing up?" - "Absolutely not," says the rabbi.

So the man asks, "Why not?" - "Could lead to dancing!"

"I contend that we are both atheists...  
I just believe in one fewer god than you do. When you  
understand why you dismiss all the other possible gods,  
you will understand why I dismiss yours."  
~ **Stephan F. Roberts**

"We've learned to fly the air like birds, we've learned  
to swim the seas like fish, and yet we haven't learned  
to walk the Earth as brothers and sisters..."  
~ **Martin Luther King**

## FORWARD INTO THE PAST

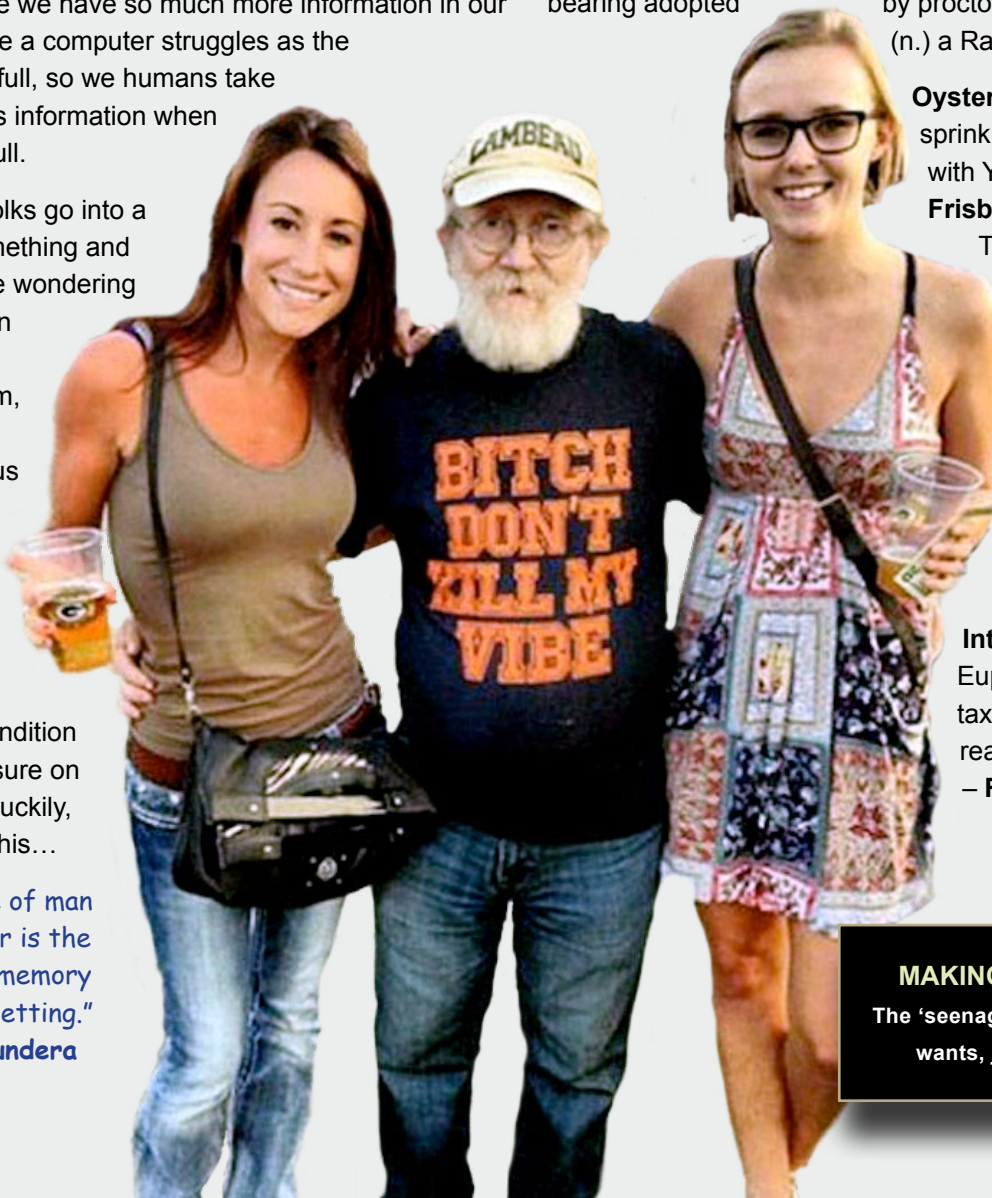
I am a seenager -- I have everything that I wanted as a  
teenager, only 60 years later.

I don't have to go to school or work, I get an allowance  
every month, I have my own pad, I don't have a curfew, I  
have a driver's license and my own car, I have an ID that  
gets me into bars and liquor stores and the women I fool  
around with are not scared of getting pregnant. In fact, they  
aren't afraid of anything since having been blessed to live  
this long, why bother? And I don't have acne! Life is good.  
And we should all feel more intelligent after reading this:

Our brains are slower because we know so much. People  
do not decline mentally with age, it just takes us longer to  
recall facts since we have so much more information in our  
brains. Much like a computer struggles as the  
hard drive gets full, so we humans take  
longer to access information when  
our brains are full.

So if we older folks go into a  
room to get something and  
then stand there wondering  
what we came in  
for, it is NOT a  
memory problem,  
it's just nature's  
way of making us  
exercise more.  
And finally,  
scientists  
believe we  
become  
hard-of-hearing  
because this condition  
puts more pressure on  
our inner ear. Luckily,  
you're reading this...

"The struggle of man  
against power is the  
struggle of memory  
against forgetting."  
~ **Milan Kundera**



## NEW YEAR – OLD WORDS

**C**offee (n.) the person upon whom one coughs. –  
**Flabbergasted** (adj.) appalled over how much  
weight you have gained. – **Abdicate** (v.), to give  
up all hope of ever having a flat stomach. – **Esplanade** (v.)  
to attempt an explanation while drunk. – **Willy-nilly** (adj.)  
impotent.

**Negligent** (adj.) A condition in which you absentmindedly  
answer the door in your nightgown. – **Lymph** (v.) to walk  
with a lisp. – **Gargoyle** (n.) olive-flavored mouthwash. –  
**Flatulence** (n.) emergency vehicle that picks you up after  
you are run over by a steamroller. – **Balderdash** (n.)  
a rapidly receding hairline. – **Testicle** (n.) a humorous  
question on an exam. – **Rectitude** (n.) the formal, dignified  
bearing adopted by proctologists. – **Pokemon**  
(n.) a Rastafarian proctologist.

**Oyster** (n.) A person who  
sprinkles his conversation  
with Yiddishisms. –

**Frisbeetarianism** (n.)  
The belief that, when  
you die, your soul  
flies up onto the  
roof and gets  
stuck there. –  
**Circumvent** (n.)  
an opening in  
the front of boxer  
shorts worn by  
Jewish men.

**Intaxication** (n.)  
Euphoria at getting a  
tax refund until you  
realize it's your money.  
– **Reintarnation** (n.)

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### MAKING ALLOWANCES

The 'seenager' with everything he  
wants, just 60 years later.



Coming back to life as a hillybilly. – **Bozone** (n.) The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. – **Foreploit** (n.) Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purposes of getting laid. – **Cashtration** (n.) The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent. – **Giraffiti** (n.) Works of art spray-painted very, very high. – **Sarchasm** (n.) The gulf between a sarcastic quip and someone who doesn't get it.

**Inoculatte** (v.) To take coffee intravenously when you are running late. – **Hipatits** (n.) Terminal coolness. – **Osteopornosis** (n.) A degenerate disease. – **Karmageddon** (n.) Final moments on Earth – **Glibido** (n.) All talk and no action. – **Dopeler effect** (n.) The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly. – **Arachnoleptic fit** (n.) The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web. – **Beelezebug** (n.) Satan in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out. – **Ignoramus** (n. and some of us all) A person who's both stupid and an asshole.

"You would think that a rock star being married to a super model would be one of the greatest things in the world. It Is." ~ **David Bowie**

child" who got a job wrangling rabbits and frogs for various films, gaining his first acting role after filming a scene requiring him to chase a tiger across a frozen Canadian lake in an attempt to rope it.

But it was 1974 TV series "**The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams**" that made Haggerty and his bushy beard famous, where he established an amazing rapport with his female acting partner – a bear called Boz – short for "Bozo."

In un-reel life, a jury found Dan guilty in 1985 of one count of selling cocaine to undercover officers, but they dropped a second count because Haggerty had grown genuinely fond of the two cops and the case had morphed into entrapment.

A few months later, Haggerty was seriously banged-up in a motorcycle accident on Benedict Canyon, but once recovered, he dove into his mandated community service: "I'm trying to give back to the system," he beamed. "The system's been good to me." But his true nature revealed itself at an autograph signing in Tennessee. LA born Haggerty called his manager Terry Bomar in a panic: "They've got me so far out in the woods...I'm scared to death!"

"The earth has grown a nervous system, and it's us."  
~ **Philosopher Daniel Dennett**



## THOUGHTS IN PASSING

**F**inally, I must learned that **John McKenna**, the SF Police Department's lead investigator on the Golden Dragon Massacre that **Bergman** and I survived, passed away. It's been quite a week. First we lost the transcendent **David Bowie**, then the towering English actors **Alan Rickman** and **Brian Bedford**, then our Laurel Canyon neighbor and soaring Eagle **Glenn Frey**; and finally, **Dan Haggerty** succumbed to spinal cancer at 73. His parents wanted him to be a priest, but he proved a "wild

## REMEMBERING

**Melinda Peterson, Victor Kopcewich, Jamie Alcroft, Paul Gorman, M. C. McGwynn, Ian Ruskin, Fred and Mary Willard, Robert Riddle, George Riddle, John Apicella, Nick Oliva, Hermester Barrington, Phil Fountain, Carlos Zigel, and The Week**, as usual, for providing me with wonderful interstitial quotes!

"Isn't it funny how day by day nothing changes but when we look back everything is different."  
~ **C.S Lewis**

"If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don't have to worry about answers." ~ **Thomas Pynchon**

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