

Planet Home

PLANET PROCTOR • SEPTEMBER 2019



Home Sweat Home

Truth be told, it's been a moderate summer, thanks to Climate Change, but more humid than usual, and the first days of Fall are unusually warm.

What's more unusual for me and my darling wife, Melinda, is that we're not travelling again

until October when we drive to Costa Mesa to participate once again in the SPERDVAC Old Time Radio convention, which has been celebrating the Golden Days of Radio since 1974.

We will appear in several live radio re-creations including

"Dragnet," "My Favorite Husband," "Fibber McGee and Molly," and "The Jack Benny Show"; and panels will feature stars talking about their careers. See you there?

[CLICK HERE FOR INFO](#)

Wine not

AT A WINERY, THE REGULAR TASTER DIED, and the director started looking for a new hire when a drunkard with a ragged, dirty look came in to apply for the position. The director of the winery wondered how to send him away but taking pity on the wretched soul, he offered him a glass to drink.

The drunk tried it and said, "It's a Muscat, three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers. Low grade, but acceptable."

"That's correct," said the boss and gave him another glass.

"This is a Cabernet: eight years old, a south-western slope, oak barrels, matured at 8 degrees. Requires three more years for the finest results."

"Absolutely right," exclaimed the director, impressed, and poured him a third glass. "It's a Pinot Blanc Champagne,

high grade and exclusive," the drunk said calmly. The director was astonished.

He winked at his secretary, secretly suggesting something. She left the room and came back in with a glass of urine...the

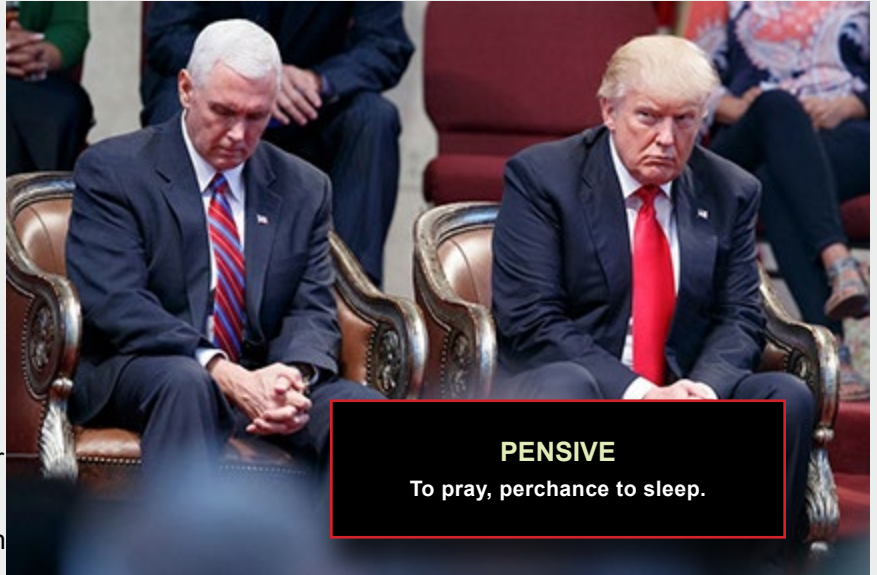
alcoholic tried it. "It's a blond, 26 years old, three months pregnant and if I don't get the job, I'll name the father."

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

~ Phil's Punny Phacts

Oh my God

AN ARTICLE IN *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN* REVEALS that children raised in religious households "frequently appear to be more judgmental of others' actions," are less tolerant of harmful actions, and favor harsher punishments. It also establishes a clear link between selfless concern for the welfare of others and a lack of religion. This is consistent with fundamentalism, when actions are seen as either right or wrong, with no gradient in morality between two extremes.



PENSIVE

To pray, perchance to sleep.

The leader of the study, **Professor Jean Decety**, declares, "We hope this goes some way to undoing the idea that religious ethics are innately superior to the secular outlook" and calls into question whether religion is vital for moral development, while noting that every presidential candidate in the U.S. "has to say that they love the Bible...to make sure that people will vote for them," even though they may be morally corrupt.

And just why are religious people actually less moral? It appears that one factor is a psychological phenomenon known as moral licensing, where a person will justify doing something bad or immoral – like being racist – because they've already done something 'good,' such as praying. "It's an unconscious bias," the professor explains. "They don't even see that's not compatible with what they've been learning in church."

*Going to church doesn't make you a Christian,
any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.*

~ Phil's Punny Phacts

Vive l'Opera!

THIS IS AN EXTRACT FROM A SYNOPSIS OF *Carmen* provided by the Paris Opera for English-speaking patrons:

Carmen is a cigar-maker from a tabago factory who loves with Don José of the mounting guard. Carmen takes a flower from her corsets and lances it to Don Jose' (Duet: 'Talk to me of my mother'). There is a noise outside if the Tabago factory and the revolting cigar makeresses bursts into the stage. Carmen is arrested and Don José is

■ **CONTINUED**

ordered to mounting guard her but Carmen subduces him and he lets her escape.

ACT 2. The Tavern. Carmen, Frasquita, Mercedes, Zuniga, Morales. Carmen's aria ('the sistrums are tinkling'). Enter Escamillo, a balls-fighter. Enter two smuglers (Duet: "We have in mind a business') but Carmen refuses to penetrate because Don Jose' has liberated from prison. He just now arrives (Aria: 'Slop, here who comes!') but hear are the bugles singing his retreat. Don Jose' will leave and draws his sword. Called by Carmen shrieks the two smuglers interfere with her but Don Jose' is bound to dessert, he will follow into them. (final chorus: 'Opening sky, wandering life')...

AXT 4, a place in Seville. Procession of balls-fighters, the roaring of the balls heard in the arena. Escamillo enters, (Aria and chorus: 'Toreador, toreador, All hail the balls of a Toreador'.) Enter Don Jose' (ARIA: 'I do not threaten, I besooch you.') but Carmen repels himwants to join with Escamillo now chaired by the crowd. Don Jose' stabs



INPENETRABLE CARMEN
When Supertitles read 'Sub-Par'

her (Aria: 'Oh, rupture, rupture, you may arrest me, I did kill der') he sings 'Oh my beautiful Carmen, my subductive Carmen....' CURTAIN!!!

"In politics, stupidity is not a handicap."
~ Napoleon Bonaparte

Something's fishy

A MAN DECIDES HE WANTS TO FISH.UNFOR-
tunately, his favorite spot became illegal to fish
in. Undeterred, he fishes for two hours, and at
this point, he already has a bucket full of fish, when out of
nowhere a ranger pops up and tells him, "You know you
can't fish here, right? It's illegal, I'm gonna have to arrest
you." The man hides the pole and replies:

"Oh no, no! Those are my pet fish. I just come here every
week or so drop them in the pond, and once they are done
swimming they jump back in and I go home." At this point

the officer knows he's lying, so he says, "Well then, show
me, if you can truly show me that they will do that then I'll
let you go."

The man agrees and dumps the fish into the pond. Two
minutes pass...

The officer says, "So when are the fish jumping back in the
bucket?"

"What fish?" says the man.

"Only he is an artist who can make a riddle
out of a solution." ~ Karl Kraus

This is cuckoo

MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY, *WHERE'S MY
FORTUNE* Cookie: *My Psychic Psychedelic
Story*, is eliciting interesting responses, even
from folks who haven't read it, like **Gary
Shapiro** who just finished a biography of
John Barrymore by **Gene Fowler**, called
Goodnight, Sweet Prince.

As Barrymore lay dying in the hospital, an
artist friend made a sketch of the actor, and
Fowler wanted to frame the drawing and put
it up in his home; but there was a coo-coo
clock on the wall where he planned to hang
it; but since the clock had stopped working
long ago, he resolved to hang the picture
next to it and adjust the hands to the time of
Barrymore's death.

When the celebrated actor died the next
day at 10:20, Fowler hung the picture in his
honor; but when he went to reset the time, he realized that
it was unnecessary -- the broken clock's hands had been
stopped at 10:20 for years.

"Can I have a piece of Phil proctor's
signed photo please?" ~ a Chinese fan

God Help Us

AND YOU CAN, TOO, BECAUSE OUR POLITICAL
comedy, co-authored by my partner, **Samuel W.
Joseph**, starring **Ed Asner** as God and directed
by **Mitch Levine**, is still delighting audiences across the
country -- and soon in Canada! Come see it!

September 27-29, 2019 – Studio Theatre Long Island, NY
(<https://www.studiotheatreli.com/>)

October 4-6, 2019 – Billings Studio Theatre, 1500 Rimrock
Rd., Billings, MT (<https://www.billingsstudiotheatre.com/box-office/>)

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PLANETCLICK YANKS

**SING NOT
BIRDHEAD
ROCKETMAN
SCAREDY CATS
REALITY
MARX
ADOLF**

October 10, 2019 – Lebanon
Opera House in New Hampshire
(www.lebanonoperahouse.org)

October 12, 2019 – Eastport
Arts Center in Maine (www.eastportartscenter.org)

October 18, 2019 – Strathspey PAC in Nova Scotia
(www.strathspeyplace.com)

April 25-26, 2020 – Hampton Arts, Virginia (<https://www.hamptonarts.net/>)



PERFECT TIMING
Meskimen and Me

*"The greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance,
it is the illusion of knowledge." ~ Stephen Hawking*

Thanks

**Victor Kopcewich, Kenneth Wilhite Jr., Weird
Al Yankovic, Jerry Gelb, Cher,
John Oliver, Joan Allemand, and
a very Happy 60th Birthday to Jim
Meskimen** and all his celebrity voices,
and a special callout to **Jamie Alcroft**,
celebrating two years since his heart
and liver transplant!

And remember, you can still get
Where's My Fortune Cookie? co-
authored by **Brad Schreiber**, **HERE**,
or my audiobook on **AMAZON**,
Audible, **Blackstone** and at
SUEMEDIAPRODUCTIONS.COM.

*"Since the VO comes from a figure with
some life experience... we'd like to explore
talent on the more mature side... 35-45."
~ Specs for a reading from **Danny Mann***



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
Jamie Alcroft is all smiles!

"We the people, elect leaders not to rule but to serve." ~ Dwight D. Eisenhower

Visit the new **FIRESITE** and the old **BOOMERS**

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