

Planet May Be

PLANET PROCTOR • MAY 26, 2021

"A leader without followers is just a man taking a walk." ~ John Boehner

Maybe or Maybe Not

It may be that the January 6 event at the Capitol was just a happy group of overexuberant tourists gone wild, or it may have been an insurrection incited by the ex-President.

It may be that Biden won the state of Arizona in the 2020 election, or maybe the Chinese Communists stuffed the ballot boxes with 45,000 fraudulent ballots printed on Bambu – which we all know is designed to smoke, and not create a smokescreen. It may also be that the Orange Turd actually won over your senile socialist uncle, or maybe he's just perpetuating a massive lie to motivate his cult and maintain control over the former Republican Party.

It may be that the police are just doing their job at great risk to their lives, or maybe they are white nationalist Fascist thugs taking the lives of innocent black citizens.

It may be that GOP sociopaths, Mitch McConnell

and Kevin McCarthy are trying to protect America from becoming a socialist state, or maybe they're just cowardly stupid power-hungry old white bigots hell-bent on obstructing any progress towards plurality at the nation's expense.

It may be that our very Democracy is threatened by the perpetrators of a regressive authoritarian neo-fascist oligarchy, resulting in chaos and cacophony.

It may be that the Democrats and lascivious liberals are eating babies and drinking their adrenaline-laced blood – you want fries with that?

It may be that the Covid hoax is just a coverup designed to inoculate people with a Bill Gates tracking microchip – or is it Mike Gaetz?

Maybe or maybe not? It's up to the voters, but maybe the insane Trumpsters would like to block your vote in any way possible. So vote any way. It's the only way... Maybe?

ANSWERS

'Maybe or Maybe Not' –
it's how you look at it ...
or don't!

"Make the lie big, make it simple, keep saying it, and eventually they will believe it." ~ Adolf Schicklegruber

The House Rules

From an annoyed neighbor regarding continuous party-house rentals:

👉 Guests must arrive from midnight to 4 am.

👉 Guests must park in the driveway and on the grass lawn for any overflow, and please sound your alarm at least 3 times before you exit your vehicle.

👉 Guests must smoke blunts all night and morning on the front balcony

👉 Guests must leave trash in the front yard and surrounding areas

👉 Guests must invite other guests at any time (no limit at all) and must socialize on the balcony at extreme high volume from 10 pm to 6 am

PLEASE ENJOY YOUR STAY IN SHERMAN OAKS



"Art is a tool to resist hopelessness."
~ Director Roy Andersson

Fan mail?

IN AN OTHERWISE COHERENT AND LOVELY autograph, requestmy, one fan wrote, "You are the GoAT to me!" And yet another young follower asserted in a handwritten note, "Phil Proctor was a DOG" accompanied by a drawing of dog's face.

What does this mean? Is it satyric or Satanic? Either is fine with me, but if there are any Planeteers with kids young enough to clarify this, please help.

And keep those cards and letters coming!

"The truth will set you free, but not until it is finished with you." ~ David Foster Wallace

What's in a name?

THE SPACE BETWEEN YOUR EYEBROWS IS called a **glabella**, and the space between your nostrils is called **columella nasi**. Your tiny toe or finger is called a **minimus**, and the display you see when you press your hands on your closed eyes is called **phosphenes**.

Finding it difficult to get out of the bed in the morning is

called **Dysania**, and that feeling you get after overeating or drinking is called **crapulence**. Rumbling of stomach is actually called a **womble**. The cry of a newborn baby is called **avagitus**.

What is this?! It's an **interrobang**.

The dot over an "i" or a "j" is called a **tittle**. Unreadable handwriting is called **griffonage**. The 'na na na' and 'la la la' in the lyrics of any song, are called **vocables**.

The coating at the end of your shoelaces is called an **aglet**. The prongs on a fork are called **tines**. The wired cage on the cork in a bottle of champagne is called an **agraff**. The tiny plastic table in the middle of a pizza box is called a **box tent**. The thing that measures your feet at the shoe store is a **Bannock device**. And the armhole in clothes is called an **armscye**.

The way it smells after the rain is called **petrichor**, and finally, the day after tomorrow is called **overmorrow**.

See you then!

"Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, go out and buy some more tunnel."
~ John Quinton

Pen pals

GREG AND BARRY HADN'T SEEN IT OTHER in decades but finally met for a lunch together to catch up. .

"How have you been?" Barry asked.

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

"I've been good," Greg says, "I'm married with two beautiful kids. Work is a bit dull, but it pays the bills. How about you?"

"Well," Barry responded, "Believe it or not, I've never had to look for work. I've spent most of my time reading and going to the gym. Money hasn't been too much of an issue for me either. And the sex! I wasn't much of a player when I was younger, but I've been getting it consistently. Every single day."

Greg couldn't help but feel a bit envious about Barry living the good life for the past 20 years, but the two friends parted with hugs. Then his cellphone buzzed.

"Excuse me, is this Greg?" a voice asked. "Yes, it is, how can I help you?" Greg replied. "I'm trying to track down Barry. You're listed as one of his contacts."

"Okay..." Greg said confused, "Can I ask who this is?"

"Oh, sorry. I'm Barry's parole officer. He's just been released from Sing Sing and he needs to check in."

*"How fortunate for governments that the people they administer don't think."
~ Adolf Schickleguber*



Check the male

BEFORE GOING TO BED, A MAN'S DAUGHTER says, "God bless Mommy, God bless Daddy, God bless Grandma, and good-bye Grandpa!" The dad asks her, "Why did you say good-bye Grandpa?" She replies, "I don't know, it just felt right."

The next morning the Grandpa sadly dies. The man rubs it off as a coincidence and listens to her pray again that night, and she says, "God bless Mommy, God bless Daddy, and good-bye Grandma!"

The next morning the Grandma passes away! The father is astonished at her apparent special power, so he listens with some trepidation that night as she says, "God Bless Mommy, good-bye Daddy!" He says nothing, but course, that night he tosses and turns, trying to stay awake.

The next morning, his wife asks him, "Why do you look so

tired?" He replies, "I pulled an all-nighter." She replies, "My morning was terrible, too. A few minutes ago, the mailman dropped dead on the front porch."

*"All propaganda has to be popular and has to accommodate itself to the comprehension of the least intelligent of those whom it seeks to reach."
~ Adolf Schickleguber*

I believe

AN ATHEIST IS NEVERTHELESS INTRIGUED by the Jewish religion because it's built around questioning and responding with more and deeper questions, and although he's still not sold on the God stuff, to learn more he goes to see the local rabbi and ask about joining. The rabbi explains it's not so easy. There's a long process, but the atheist contends that a religious community should be based only on shared beliefs.

The rabbi responds that part of those shared beliefs is a shared respect for tradition. But the atheist points out that the tradition is one of questioning the rules.

They go back-and-forth, on and on, neither giving an inch in the argument until finally the atheist is just exhausted and gives up, saying, "Fine, I guess if you won't let me join there's nothing I can do about that."

"Not let you join?" the rabbi says, "You're already a member! What do you think we've been doing this whole time?"

"We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office. ~ Aesop

'The Cicada Blues'

Chorus 10 and 17 by Tony Brewer from The Great American Scapegoat (2006)

*I will come back for you, baby
Maybe seventeen years from tonight,
but I will come to you,
up from the ground through a hole this big And
I'll crawl
I'll crawl across the lawn, baby
Drag my freshly hatched ass
over sidewalks and quiet city streets
just to get you to come to me
I'll climb the most convenient tree I find and
shed this hard, crusty exterior
and back out of my pupal state,
and when I'm dry and strong enough
and I unfurl my clear wings
I will call to you
call to you*

■ CONTINUED

call to you
 call to you
 and I hope you'll hear me
 among the million brothers
 in this humble acre alone,
 vying for your attention,
 and that you'll come to me
 Come to me now, baby
 Please don't make my soul
 wait in the cold ground
 another seventeen long years
 Come land on my beech branch
 and we'll make sweet butt-to-butt love and
 place our progeny
 within the spent sapling's soiled pulp under a
 heavy haze of June
 on a long-lost Indiana afternoon
 And then together we'll die...

To hear Tony perform this piece, [CLICK HERE](#).

"Instead of giving a politician the keys to the city, it
 might be better to change the locks."
 ~ Doug Larson

Orbit obits

OUR DEAR FRIENDS AND SHOWBIZ FAVES
 keep leaving the scene, so here are some
 tributes to our recent losses...

First, the Olympian **Olympia Dukakis**, gone at 89 after an
 exemplary award-winning career on stage and screen and
 philanthropy for The Greek America Foundation.

"The fun part is that people pass me on the street and
 yell lines from my movies: For *Moonstruck* they say, 'Your
 life is going down the toilet.' Or from *Dad*, they say, 'How
 much are those pork chops?' They say, 'Do you know who
 you are?' It's real funny." Condolences to her brother,
Apollo, our dear colleague in the Antaeus Theatre
 company.



And a fond farewell to **Norman Lloyd**, another acting
 colleague, who lived an astonishingly active and creative
 life, until the age of 106!

His career as an actor, director and producer spanned
 generations of social change, and although he was
 blacklisted in the '50s, he was nevertheless cast by
Alfred Hitchcock in "Hitchcock Presents," when Hitch
 simply told the network, "I want him."

We had the joy of working with Norman, a veteran of
Orson Welles' Mercury Theatre, on numerous radio
 projects and always were amazed at his sharp wit, vitality
 and kindly nature.



Next, **Charles Grodin**, a versatile comic actor recognized
 for his dead pan delivery, is dead at 86, and although I
 never met him, I was honored to add voices to several of
 his films, including the *Beethoven* franchise. A lifetime
 advocate for the homeless, he found a home of sorts
 for his cranky personality on late night talk shows, about
 which he said:

"I invented a persona of somebody who was always
 unhappy about something, Carson and Letterman knew it
 was a joke, but I don't think the audience did... but I didn't
 know you could get nominated for an award as a guest. I
 could've been nominated as best actor on a talk show!"

And let's pay homage to the comic genius of **Paul
 Mooney**, who adopted his stage name from Paul Muni
 in "Scarface" and left us laughing at 79. Honest and
 outspoken, he worked closely with my friend, **Richard
 Pryor** for most of his career, but did

■ **CONTINUED**



FAREWELLS

Paul Mooney, left, and Timothy Earl Osborn

N-word, of which said, "You white people invented it, so I can use it. You just think it."

And lastly, a fond farewell to my personal friend **Timothy Earl Osborn**, who succumbed to cursed cancer after a long, brave battle, at the age of 69. A classically trained percussionist, he ended up playing the last 15 years of his generous life with the Blues Notion and Lonesome Hank and the Heartaches.

A devoted fan of Frank Zappa and the Firesign Theatre, he drove Melinda and me around Kansas City whenever we were in town for a National Radio Theatre Festival, and over the years I got to know his family and friends. We shall miss his kindness, generosity and great sense of humor – not to mention the KC BBQ we devoured together!

His favorite quote is from the great **Mose Allison**, who said, "I don't worry 'bout a thing, 'cause I know nothin's gonna be alright."

"Life goes on and we go on with it."
~ Timothy Earl "Buzz" Osborn

Says who

DEAR FRIENDS, IN SPITE OF THE PANDEMIC, Melinda and I have been wonderfully busy working together from our home "studio" – an improvised hodgepodge of laptops, iPhones, digital mics and ring lights – to contribute to several ongoing audio/visual projects.

Recent works have included roles in "My Favorite Husband,"

groundbreaking standup on his own, gleefully laced with the

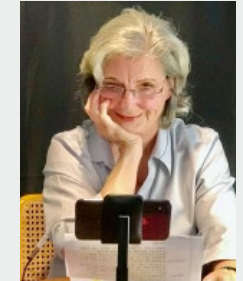
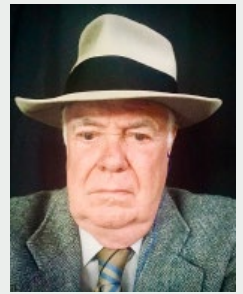
for **Gregg Oppenheimer's** Online Radio Theatre, and as Detective Dundy (right) and Effie in his adaptation of *The Maltese Falcon* directed by **Ben Taylor** for **Brad Zinn** in collaboration with REPS – the "Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound."

I am now officially a regular panelist on "**Says You!**" a silly word-oriented quiz show, entering its 25th year on National Public Radio, and now streaming LIVE every third Thursday. It's both humorous and humiliating, and I love it. With the video directed by my pal and fellow panelist, magic **Paul Magid** and hosted by zany Zobel-prize-winner **David Zobel**. Don't miss it, if you can!

Phil & Ted's Sexy Boomer Show also continues online, but now with in-person interviews with "**Cheers**" Paul Willson and Reggae master **Roger Steffens**, coming soon to an ear near you.

And FLASH: I'll also be doing a role in an ambitious feature-length "student" film – but more about that later. Stay tuned...

"I offer my opponents a bargain: if they will stop telling lies about us, I will stop telling the truth about them."
~ **Adlai Stevenson**



PLANETCLICK

Sender\$

FEAST

CARTIME

NAMES

TAKE A REST

IT'S A GAS

STAGES

Members

John Apicella, Allison Barenbrug, Robert Riddle, Nick Oliva, Tom Hensley, Tony Brewer, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., and Joan Allemand. And special congratulations to **Sue Zizza** and **David Shinn** of **SueMedia**, who just received six Communicator Awards for "Debs in Canton," where I got to portray the fabled Eugene V. Debs!

AND A HAPPY

29th ANNIVERSARY TO US!

Because on May 24, my child bride, Melinda and I will have been together for 33 1/3 years – a "new record" for me! Long may we spin...

"Vision is not enough; it must be combined with venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps, we must step up the stairs." ~ **Václav Havel**

Schicklegruber means "grave digger" in German ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

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