

"Pennsylvania has places named Intercourse, Mars, Blue Ball, Chinchilla, Jersey Shore, and Moon."

Planet Precarious

PLANET PROCTOR | JANUARY 2022



BONANZA
A VIEWER'S GUIDE TO THE TV LEGEND
By David R. Greenland



Want to feel old?

- Bonanza premiered **62** years ago.
- The Beatles split **52** years ago.
- Laugh-In premiered nearly **54** yrs ago.
- The Wizard of Oz is **82** years old.
- Elvis is dead **44** years. He'd be 84 today.
- The Thriller video is **38** years old.
- Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin dead **51** years
- John Lennon dead **41** years
- Mickey Mantle retired **53** years ago.
- Back To The Future is **37** years old.
- Saturday Night Fever is **44** years old.
- The Ed Sullivan Show ended **49** years ago
- The Brady Bunch premiered **52** years ago
- The triplets on My Three Sons are **52**.
- Tabatha from Bewitched is **57**.
- The Corvette turned **68** this year.
- The Mustang is **57**



"Maybe a bowl of chili will give me a second wind."

~ Paul Dooley

Breaking News!

REALITY STAR, AMERICAN YOUTUBER, AND Tiktoker **Stephanie Matto** made international headlines after raising \$200K from selling her farts contained in mason jars online. Happy New Year!

"I get up every day and don't let the old man in."

~ Clint Eastwood

Something fishy!

GOLDFISH CAN FLOOR IT! SURPRISINGLY, IT doesn't take a fish rigged up with a computer and a camera a long time to learn how to drive the vehicle. Powered by an electric motor with omni-wheels for steering. Six goldfish, each receiving around 10 driving lessons, took part in the study. Each time one of them reached a target set by the researchers, it was rewarded with food.

"They're confused at first. They don't know what's going on, but they're very quick to realize there is a correlation between their movement and the movement of the machine they're in," said researcher **Shachar Givon**. "And some goldfish are better drivers than others."

"You have to pick the the places you don't walk away from." ~ Joan Didion

Madam, I'm Adam

GOD SAID: "ADAM, I WANT YOU TO DO something for me." "Gladly, Lord," replied Adam. "What do you want me to do?"

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

"Go down into the valley."

"What's the valley?" asked Adam. God explained to him, then said: "Cross the river."

"What's a river?" God explained it to him, and then continued: "Go

over the hill."

"What's a hill?" God explained to Adam what a hill was, then said: "On the other side of the hill, you will find a cave."

"What's a cave?" After God explained, he said: "In the cave you will find a woman." Adam asked, "What's a woman?" So God explained that to him too. He continued:

"I want you to reproduce."

"How do I do that?" "Jeez!" God muttered under his breath. He then sighed and explained the birds and the bees to Adam. Adam liked that concept very much, so he went down into the valley, across the river, over the hill and into the cave where he found a woman.

A little while later, Adam returned and said: "Lord... What's a headache?"

"Women spend more time wondering what men are thinking than men spend actually thinking,"

~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

What's a hard drive?

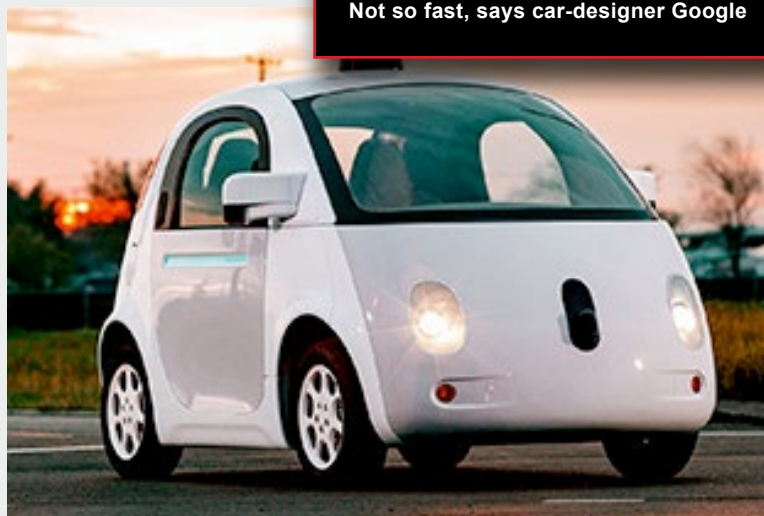
AT A RECENT COMPUTER EXPO (COMDEX), **Bill Gates** reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If Ford had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, **Ford** issued a press release stating: "If Ford had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics (and I just love this):

For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash - twice a day. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows

SEARCH ME

Not so fast, says car-designer Google



before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.

Occasionally, executing a maneuver

■ CONTINUED

such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.

The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light. The airbag system would ask, "Are you sure?" before deploying. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.

Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.

And finally, you'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope." ~ M. L. King

Can you dig it?

AFTER HAVING DUG TO A DEPTH OF 10 FEET last year, British scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Brits, in the weeks that followed, an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story was published in *The New York Times*: "American archaeologists, finding traces of 250-year-old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network 50 years earlier than the British."

One week later, Canadian Dept. Of Mines and Resources in Newfoundland reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in eastern Canada, **Jack Lucknow**, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Jack has therefore concluded that 250 years ago, Canada had already gone wireless."

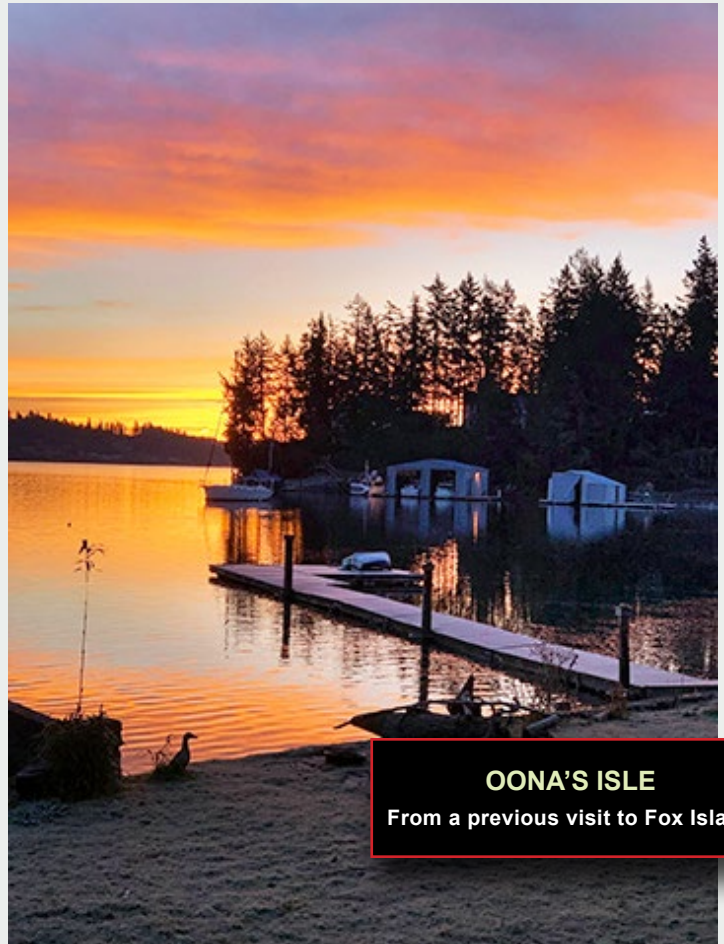
"Three o'clock is always too late or too early for what you want to do." ~ Jean-Paul Sartre

My vacation

THIS CHRISTMAS, I SPENT MY HOLIDAY AT *Camp Beaverwind* on Fox Island, thanks to the generosity of **Oona Austin**. Inspired by her late husband, my beloved Firesign Theatre partner **Phil**, Oona

originated *Camp Beaverwind*, and my darling wife **Melinda Peterson** is active on the Board of Erectors, while Oona is Head Recruiter, for which she is duly suited, as she appointed me as a counselor!

Since the campus is located near Tacoma in the upper Northwest of Washington state, it offers a stunning view of majestic Mount Rainier (when it isn't raining), and we were invited to visit *Beaverwind* in their off-season, where I was dreaming of a "wet Christmas," and Santa delivered!



OONA'S ISLE
From a previous visit to Fox Island

We often drifted off to sleep in our rustic cabin, listening to the gentle and persistent patter of little hooves of rain on the roof over our drowsy heads.

We can't wait to visit again this summer, after things dry out – if they ever do, that is... Thank you, Oona.

*"Narratives can make us understand.
Photographs do something else. They haunt us."
~ Susan Sontag*

I declare

BETSY ROSS IS IN HER SHOP SEWING. A GROUP of Patriots come to see her. *Good morning! We just finished signing the Declaration of Independence. We're calling our new country... The United States of*

■ CONTINUED

America, and we're going to need a flag... and you, Betsy Ross will have the honor of making it.

Betsy: Take a number.

Can you help us design the flag?

Betsy: I guess so, what colors do you want?

We're not sure, do you have any ideas?

Betsy: Well, I've got a box of remnants here, let me see, here's red... white... and pumpkin?

This may be crazy, but how about red, white and... blue?

Betsy: Whatever.

We'd also like thirteen stars and thirteen stripes. When can we have it?

Betsy: Uh... maybe in two weeks?

Oh, no! No! We can't wait that long. We'll be a country without a flag.

Betsy: Look, I have other clients. I'll be working all weekend. If I fit you and your flag in I'll be sewing stars and stripes forever.

Alright. What about Monday?

Betsy: Oh... I'm not working Monday!

Why not?

Betsy: It's Flag Day!

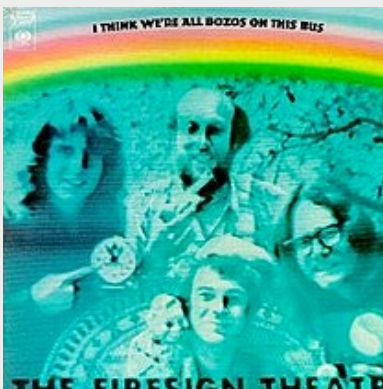
"Art is what you can get away with."
~ Marshall McLuhan

I'm just a joke

IN 1971, THE FIRESIGN THEATRE RELEASED ITS third LP for Columbia Records titled, *I Think We're All Bozos on the Bus*, where we visit The Future

Fair – a fair for all, and no fare to anybody and are greeted by a trio of computer-generated holograms: the Whispering Squash (**Phil Austin**), the Lonesome Beet

(**David Ossman**), and Artie Choke (**Peter Bergman**), singing "We're back from the shadows again." They encourage the onlookers to attend the fair, which the Beet describes as "technical stimulation" and "government-inflicted simulation" and then disappears, only to appear later in the story in a menacing way.



Well, only 51 years later, the **Walt Disney Company** was approved for a patent to project moving 3D images on real-world objects, to interact with theme park visitors!

Described as a "Virtual World Simulator," it could track

people around the parks and project images tailored to them on nearby objects, buildings, and walls. Visitors could be tracked through their smartphones or other devices and relayed to a computer (Dr. Memory?) connected to projection devices located throughout the theme parks. creating an image of a Disney character in front of the guests, with hidden speakers providing voices for an immersive experience.

"Hmmm. Sounds more like a 'subversive experience' to me," says Uh-Clem...

"Think before you speak. Read before you think."
~ Fran Lebowitz



Falling stars

FAREWELL TO BETTY WHITE, SIDNEY POITIER, liberal talk-show host, **Michael Jackson**, and directors **Peter Bogdanovich** and **Jim Drake**. I had personal connections with them all, and it is a shock to lose them all together. But I also mourn the passing of **Meatloaf**, **Yvette Mimieux** and the legendary beloved comics **Bob Saget** and **Louie Anderson**.

I toured in *Bell, Book and Candle* with Betty and her husband, **Allen Ludden**, in the mid '60s and you can read of her antic spirit in my book, *Where's my Fortune Cookie?*, co-authored by **Brad Schreiber**; and I later had the joy of acting with her on *The Golden Girls* and *The Golden Palace*, as well as at social gatherings through our mutual friend, **Michael Donaldson**. Her dedication to animals, "naked dogs" and her fellow actors will never be forgotten.

Then, director **Jim Drake** was also a great friend, and I met him working on *The Girls* as well as on numerous *Night Court* episodes and in *Based on an Untrue Story* -- a movie-for-television, as they called them back then. In later years, we visited with Jim and his dear wife, **Brigit**, at their hospitable



Jim Drake



Betty White, Sidney Poitier, Bob Saget, Louie Anderson

home on Whidbey Island, and the last time I was with them was when Jim was recovering from a bout with the cancer that finally took him from us.

I also met director **Peter Bogdanovich** as an actor on location in NY on **Henry Jaglom's** first film, *A Safe Place*, with **Tuesday Weld**, **Orson Welles** and **Jack Nicholson**, and my contact with Poitier was performing at the 92nd Street Y in a charity event produced by the great **John Randolph**, to raise money for the family of the executed "spies," the **Rosenbergs**.

Years ago, before talk radio became hate radio, I listened religiously to liberal radio host, **Michael Jackson**, whose son, **Devon**, is a friend. Michael spoke gently with a distinctive British accent and conducted polite but piercing interviews – or as he puts it: "Rudeness is an awfully poor excuse for not doing your homework."

And then – Meatloaf was gone like a bat out of Hell, but it was

flying in another direction. And two other trail-blazers went off – **Louie Anderson** and **Bob Saget**, who at a party once said to fellow stand-up, **Jamie Alcroft**:

"I have the brain of a dog and the body of a 10-year old -- They're in my trunk. Wanna see 'em?"

And my favorite Louie line was delivered as he started his comedy set:

"I won't stay long. I'm between meals."

Leave 'em laughing...

"Everyone loves the Revolution. We only disagree on whether it has occurred." ~ **James Richardson**

Contributing

John Densmore, Cris Gross, Nick Oliva, Kenneth Wilhite. Jr., Spider Robinson, Joan Allemand, Bill Striglos, who joins us in a sad farewell to our friend, actor **Bill Sak**.

And many thanks to **Nathan Hoobler** and the gang at Adventures in Odyssey for including Detective Polhaus in the six-episode thriller "28 Minutes." It was such fun to be back at Salami Studios with friends **Katy Leigh, Townend Coleman**,

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New Episode!

Master Impressionist

Big Screen Actor, Comedian Artist and Renaissance Man

Jim Meskimen



Brian Cummings, Andre Stojka and Phil Morris.

And thanks also to **Gregg Oppenheimer** for casting **Melinda** and me as various characters, including **Joan Crawford** and **Al Jolson** in his upcoming tribute to his father, **Jess**, on the Online Theatre of the Air.

And check out the latest "Sexy Boomer" show with the multi-talented voice-master, **Jim Meskimen!** [CLICK] And you can help make our podcast a success by sharing this link with your friends: <https://sexyboomershow.com>

Upcoming Sexy Boomer Show episodes include legendary actor **Paul Dooley** and **Nancy "Bart Simpson" Cartwright**. STAY TUNED...

"Why are people depressed by inflation?" ~ **Jes' Askin'**

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