"The less of routine, the more of life." ~ Amos Bronson Alcott

THE 12 DAZE OF HALLOWEEN

On the first night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... a vulture in a dead tree! On the second night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... two flying bats and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the third night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the fourth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the fifth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the sixth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the seventh night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the eighth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... eight vampires biting, seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the ninth night of my dead love gave to me... nine monsters howling, eight vampires biting, seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the tenth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... ten spiders spinning, nine monsters howling, eight vampires biting, seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the eleventh night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... eleven witches brewing, ten spiders spinning, nine monsters howling, eight vampires biting, seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!

On the twelfth night of Halloween my dead love gave to me... twelve pumpkins grinning, eleven witches brewing, ten spiders spinning, nine monsters howling, eight vampires biting, seven doors a-creaking, six ghosts a-haunting, five trick-or-treats four hooting owls, three black cats, two flying bats, and a vulture in a dead tree!



"Either you're a mockery of your own ideals or your ideals are too low." ~ Charles Ludlam

GOOD NEWS

Representatives of the AFTRA and Screen Actors Guild Presidents' Forum for One Union have been meeting to begin joint discussions about the strong and growing desire of both unions' memberships to form one union. SAG President Ken Howard says, "I'm committed to moving forward and to engaging in a public and transparent process that will foster buy-in across our memberships."

"I believe deeply in this exciting and important project," adds AFTRA President Roberta Reardon, "and I look forward to speaking with members from both unions around the country as we work together to create one successor union."

And talking about unions - robots can now be controlled by rat brains, and **Kevin Warwick**, **once a cyborg** himself, and now a researcher at the University of Reading, is culturing brain cells from rats and employing them as a guidance control circuit for simple wheeled robots. The cells can even form new connections, making the system a true learning machine, as the robot swerves to avoid walls. Not quite the rats with human brains described by Christine O'Donnell, but close...

http://singularityhub.com/2010/10/06/videos-of-robot-controlled-by-rat-brain-amazing-technology-still-moving-forward/

Michele Bachmann calls Smoot-Hawley Hoot-Smalley. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

FIRESIGN AND BEYOND!

Well, Bozos, our new touring show was a roaring success this past weekend at the beautiful Barnsdall Gallery Theatre in Hollywood, with a sold-out house on Saturday crammed with honking, rat-brained fans from as far away as Boston and Canada. Kudos go to Maureen Weston, our managing producer, Judith Walcutt for a last minute publicity blast and our invaluable Taylor Jessen, who created and supervised our sound design (and taped the show as well), not to mention Melinda Peterson and Oona Austin for their behind-the-scenes efforts on our behalf. But I mentioned them anyway...

In spite of the soft economy, it appears that we have a show folks really want to see, so we'll certainly take a hard look at new venues for 2011.

My next tour starts on November 4th to Maui, Oahu and Kona in Hawaii, performing a multi-character reading of *Don Quixote* with the amazing L.A. Guitar Quartet, then a visit to our timeshares on Maui and Kauai before returning on November 20th to add voices to "The Lord of the Rings" interactive game.

Here at home, *Autumn Garden* will be opening at our Antaeus stage on Lankershim in NoHo – go to http://antaeus.org/onstagenow.html for tix!

And finally, on the day we return from the Islands, Henry Jaglom's new film *Queen* of the Lot premieres. I have a small but pivitol role (ha!) and can be seen for a naonosecond with star Tanya Frederick in the trailer...

http://www.hulu.com/watch/185697/movie-trailers-queen-of-the-lot

"People shouldn't expect the mass media to do investigative stories. That job belongs to the 'fringe' media."~ Ted Koppel

CRABS

A lawyer boarded an airplane in New Orleans with a box of frozen crabs and asked a blonde flight attendant to take care of them for him. She took the box and promised to put it in the crew's refrigerator.

He advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for their staying frozen, mentioning in a very haughty manner that he was a lawyer, and proceeded to rant at her about what would happen if she let them thaw out. Needless to say, she was annoyed by his behavior.

Shortly before landing in New York, she used the intercom to announce to the entire cabin, "Would the lawyer who gave me the crabs in New Orleans please raise your hand?" Not one hand went up - so she took them home and ate them.

Two lessons here: Lawyers aren't as smart as they think they are. Blondes aren't as dumb as people think.

"In order to be irreplaceable, one must always be different." ~ Coco Chanel

VIRUS WARNING

NOTE: These symptoms seem to especially target those born prior to 1965...

- 1. Causes you to send the same e-mail twice.
- 2. Causes you to send a blank e-mail.
- 3. Causes you to send e-mail to the wrong person.
- 4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.
- 5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
- 6. Causes you to hit "SEND" before you've finished.
- 7. Causes you to hit "DELETE" instead of "SEND."
- 8. Causes you to hit "SEND" when you should "DELETE."

It's called the C-Nile Virus...(Hey! Did I run this before?)

"No one really belongs in an old age home; time doesn't make us, we make time. If a civilization may be judged on how it treats its poor, its infirm, and those who are advanced in age, then we must cower in shame." ~ Jayne Lynne Stahl

IN SECURITY

At this time of heightened security in Europe it's important to review how our allies

handle terrorist threats: The English are feeling the pinch and have raised their security level from "Miffed" to "Peeved". Soon, though, security levels may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross". The English have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940, when tea supplies nearly ran out. Terrorists have been re-categorized from "Tiresome" to "A Bloody Nuisance". (The last time the British issued a "Bloody Nuisance" warning level was in 1588, when threatened by the Spanish Armada.)

The Scots have raised their threat level from "Pissed Off" to "Let's get the Bastards". They don't have any other levels. This is the reason they have been used on the front line of the British army for the last 300 years.

On the other hand, the French government announced that it has raised its terror alert level from "Run" to "Hide"- the only two higher levels in France are "Collaborate" and "Surrender" (The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capability).

Italy has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military Posturing". Two more levels remain: "Ineffective Combat Operations" and "Change Sides".

The Germans have increased their alert from "Disdainful Arrogance" to "Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs". They also have two higher levels: "Invade a Neighbor" and "Lose". And the Spanish are all excited to see their new submarines ready to deploy. These elegantly designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish navy can get a really good look at the old Spanish navy.

New Zealand has raised its security levels from "bah" to "BAAAA" and due to continuing cutbacks, they have only one more level which is "I hope Australia will come and rescue us". Australia, meanwhile, has raised its security level from "No worries" to "She'll be alright, mate". Three more levels remain: "Crikey!", "I think we'll need to cancel the barbie this weekend" and "The barbie is cancelled." (So far no situation has ever warranted use of the final escalation level.)

Americans as usual, are carrying out pre-emptive strikes on all of their allies "just in case". Canada doesn't have any alert levels. (*Anon*)

"Most of the things worth doing in the world have been declared impossible before they were done." ~ Louis D. Brandeis

AN OLD JOKE

After his annual physical, the doctor said to his elderly patient, "You appear to be in good health for a man of your age, but do you have any medical concerns you'd like to ask me about?"

"In fact, I do," answered the old man. "After I have sex, I'm usually cold and chilly, but after I have sex the second time, I'm usually hot and sweaty."

After examining the man's elderly wife, the doctor said, "Everything seems to be fine, but do you have any concerns you'd like to discuss?" The lady said she didn't, so the doctor said to her, "Well, your husband expressed an unusual concern. He claims that he is usually cold and chilly after having sex with you the first time and then hot and sweaty the second time. Do you know why?"

"Oh, that crazy old bastard," she replied. "That's because the first time is in January and the second time is in August!"

"An archeologist is the best husband a woman can have. The older she gets, the more interested he is in her." \sim Agatha Christie

PUFF PUFF

A report released_by the Marijuana Arrest Research Project and the N.A.A.C.P. has determined that "In the last 20 years, California made 850,000 arrests for possession of small amounts of marijuana, and half-a-million arrests in the last 10 years. The people arrested were disproportionately African-Americans and Latinos, overwhelmingly young people, especially men."

For example, the City of Los Angeles "arrested blacks for marijuana possession at seven times the rate of whites," an imbalance that exists countrywide. NY Times' Charles Blow concludes "No one knows all the repercussions of legalizing marijuana, but it is clear that criminalizing it has made it a life-ruining racial weapon...

"When will politicians have the courage to stand up, acknowledge this fact and stop allowing young minority men to be collateral damage?"

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/23/opinion/23blow.html?_r=1

"Live life forward." ~ Soren Kierkegaard

TAKE IN

Betsey Brubaker, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Bill Coombs, Jim Reynolds, Scott W. Langill, George Riddle, Jim Meskimen, Victor Kopcewich, Jayne Stahl, H. Lee Kagan, Ivan Berger, and *The Week*.

"A laugh is not something you get. It's something you give." ~ Richard Fish

TAKE OUT

ALICE: http://www.youtube.com/user/AliceTheFilm

BABY ROCK: http://bit.ly/cdFwj3

BREAK IN: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=civOdWxd4Kc

BREAK OUT: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMtZfW2z9dw&feature=related

CAT CARD: http://www.jacquielawson.com:80/viewcard.asp?code=1267427298919&source=jl999

DUTCH TREAT: http://wimp.com/bicvcleskill/

HOLO ROCK: http://singularityhub.com/2010/10/20/this-rocking-lead-singer-is-a-3d-hologram-video/

SHIVERING: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qw_BeSys7Bc

STOMP: http://gawker.com/5673921/meet-the-gun+toting-tea-partier-who-beat-up-a-woman-at-rand-pauls-debate

TATRA: http://www.strangecosmos.com/content/item/167906.html

Barry Gibb is listed as a grip in the new Clint Eastwood film "Hereafter" ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

+++++++++ OCTOBER 30, 2010 +++++++++

* FIRESIGN CDS: http://www.laugh.com

- * BEARWHIZ: http://www.funnytimes.com * FUNNY TIMES: http://www.funnytimes.com
- * FST: http://www.FiresignTheatre.com

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