"It takes time to persuade men to do even what is for their own good."
~ Thomas Jefferson

Planet Hollywhen

THIS IS SCARY!

If you move the letters of Santa around, it spells Satan. And Claus sounds terrifyingly like "claws," doesn't it? And maybe that's why the stores in America treat the Halloween holiday as the harbinger of Christmas – the trick in the treat.

Indeed, if you study the origins of Cinder Claus you'll find he comes from the ancient European Wild Man tradition, also pictured as satyr or a faun. So – let the faun begin!

"Thanksgiving is when the Indians said, well, this has been fun, but we know you have a long voyage back to England." ~ **Jay Leno**

BLOW ME

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man at a pauper's cemetery in the Kentucky backcountry. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guys had evidently left, and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late; and as I didn't know what else to do, I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this homeless man with no family and friends.

PIPE DOWN
Flush with feelings.

I played like I've never played before; and as I played "Amazing Grace," the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car.

As I opened the door, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

"I want to know why I have lived by the time I die."
~ Late Swedish crime writer, **Henning Mankell**

WELL SHUT MY MOUTH!

Jerry Seinfeld and **Chris Rock** have recently declined to play colleges because the audiences are "too PC." Republicans and Democrats have never particularly liked each other, but negative feelings have grown steadily stronger, which political scientists call "affective partisan polarization." For millennia, philosophers have understood that we don't see life as it is; we see a version distorted by our hopes, fears, and other attachments.

CONTINUED

A POEM FOR EWE

I take it you already know/Of tough and bough and cough and dough?
Others may stumble, but not you,/On hiccough, thorough, slough and through.
Beware of heard, a dreadful word,/That looks like beard but sounds like bird.
And dead: It's said like bed, not bead -- For goodness' sake, don't call it deed!
Watch out for meat and great and threat… They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.
A moth is not the moth in mother,/Nor both in bother, nor broth in brother.
And here is not a match for there, /Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,
And then there's dose and rose and lose -- Just look them up -- and goose and choose.
And cork and work and card and ward,/And font and front and word and sword.
And do and go, then thwart and cart,/Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Why, sakes alive! /I'd learned to speak it when I was five.
And yet, to write it, the more I tried -- I hadn't learned it at fifty-five

CIRCUT BREAKERS
Seinfeld and Rock out.

The **Buddha** said, “Our life is the creation of our mind.” **Marcus Aurelius** said, “Life itself is but what you deem it.” So one of the great truths is that you can never achieve happiness by making the world conform to your desires, but you can master your desires and habits of thought.

Thomas Jefferson, upon founding the University of Virginia, said: “This institution will be based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind. For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it.”

Those who practice political correctness to illogical extremes should consider this. **READ MORE**

“The trouble with people is not that they don’t know, but that they know so much that ain’t so.”
~ Josh Billings

INTO THE MOUTHS OF BABES

Planeteer Allen Newcomb recently went to a restaurant with a couple and their 4-year-old daughter. When she got her bacon burger she pointed to it and said, “Is this a pig?” No, her father explained, hamburger is cows. Pointing to the bacon she asked, “Is this a cow?” No, he explained, bacon is pigs. Then she said, “Are men pigs?” After a short hesitation, her mother said, “Sometimes.”

PIGGING OUT
Question time for parents.

And my old pal, the great **Peter Fonda**, recently revealed to me the origin of the title ***Easy Rider***, the brilliant culture-and-consciousness-changing 1969 road picture… “The title was given to me by [co-writer] **Terry Southern**,“ Peter writes.

“He explained that the prostitute works the streets or clubs while her boyfriend sits at home watching TV. She brings home the bacon, and he makes love to her, as he’s the one she truly loves. He is the Easy Rider.”

“A recent article misstated part of the name of a television show. It is ‘The Big Bang Theory’” not “The Bang Bang Theory’.” **~ Phil’s Phunny Phacts**

A MATTER OF TASTE

A sailor comes to port and heads right for the brothel. He lays $500 down in front of the madam and says, “Give me the ugliest woman you’ve got and a baloney sandwich.”

She tells him, “For that much money you could have a steak dinner and make love to our most beautiful girl.” He looks at her and replies, “I’m not looking for love; I’m homesick.”

“Why should things be easy to understand?”
~ Thomas Pynchon

TRUTHINESS

The Pope did NOT have a meeting with homophobic Democratic-turncoat and adulterer **Kim Davis**. Anti-News is the new Anti-Christ. And yet, he did hold a private meeting with a longtime friend from Argentina who has been in a same-sex relationship for 19 years.

Yayo Grassi, an openly gay man, brought his partner, **Iwan Bagus**, as well several other friends to the Vatican Embassy on September 23 for a brief visit with the Pope. A video of the meeting shows Grassi and Francis greeting each other with a warm hug.

And still – Pope Francis defended marriage as “an indissoluble bond between a man and a woman” when he opened a landmark Catholic synod on the family just hours after the Vatican fired a

■ ***CONTINUED***

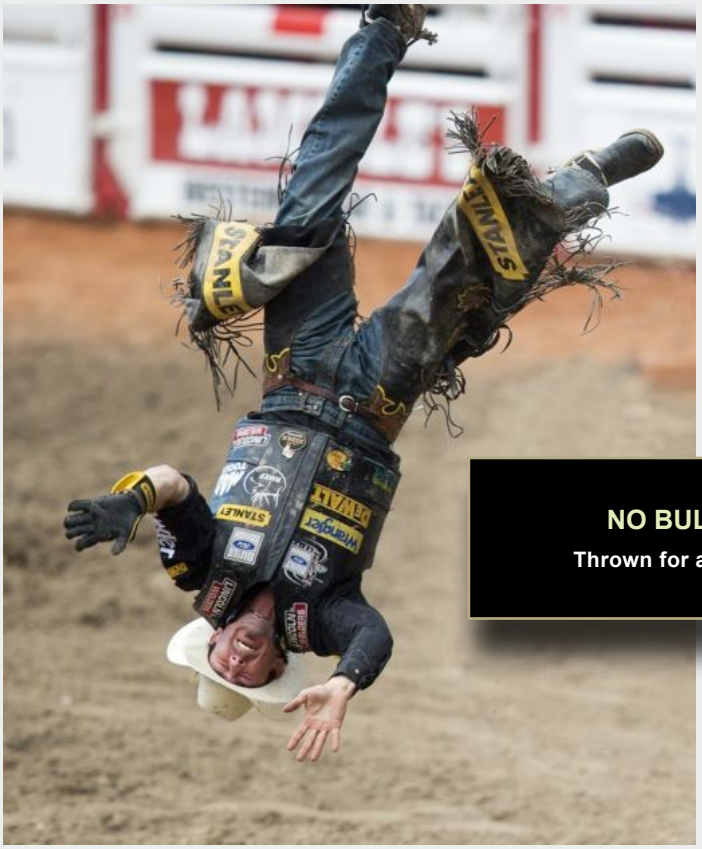
RIDING HIGH
‘Easy’ etymology.

senior priest who came out as gay.

SOMETHIN'S GOTTA GIVE! Stay Tuned...

"Ever notice how you never get laid on Thanksgiving? I think it's because all the coats are on the bed."
~ George Carlin

GIDDYUP, GAL!



Two Texans were out on the range talking about their cavorted sex positions. One said, "I think I enjoy the rodeo position the best."

"I don't think I have ever heard of that one," said the other cowboy. "What is it?"

"Well, it's where you get your wife down on all fours and you mount her from behind. Then you reach around and cup each one of her breasts in your hands and whisper in her ear, 'These feel just like your sister's'. Then you try and stay in for 8 seconds…"

"Ever tried? Ever failed? No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better." ~ **Samuel Beckett**

SAY IT ISN'T SO

A priest was having a beer with a Jew, a Methodist and a Baptist. The priest asked, "Hypothetically, if I were to say the last words over your open coffins what would you hope I would say? The Methodist said, "I'd like you say that I had been a good, honest God-fearing man." The Baptist said, "I'd like you say that my soul had risen up to spend eternity in heaven with Jesus."

And the Jew said, "I'd like you to say, I think he just moved!"

"Never answer an anonymous letter." ~ **Yogi Berra**

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

A Texas State trooper pulled a car over on I-35 about two miles south of Waco. When the trooper asked the driver why he was speeding, the driver said he was a juggler and was on his way to Austin to do a show for the Shrine Circus and didn't want to be late.

The trooper told the driver he was fascinated by juggling and said if the driver would do a little act for him, he wouldn't give him a ticket; but he told the trooper he'd sent his equipment ahead and didn't have anything to juggle. The trooper said he had some flares in the trunk and asked if he could juggle them. The guy said sure, so the trooper got five flares, lit them and handed them over.

NO BULL
Thrown for a loss

While the man was juggling, a car pulled in behind the Trooper's car. A drunken good old boy from central Texas staggered out, watched the performance, and then went over to the Trooper's car, opened the rear door and got in. The trooper went over and asked the drunk what he thought he was doing.

"You might as well take my ass to jail," he replied, " 'Cause there ain't no way I can pass that test!"

"I once played a character based on **Merl Reagle** on 'Dharma and Greg,' and for my audition I designed a crossword puzzle based on the show. I also met him after a performance of 'The Best Man.' He was a gift."
~ Dakin Matthews,
celebrating his 75th birthday this week!

SHORT SHOTS

A mother in Virginia left her two young children in a hot car while being booked on a charge of leaving her two small children in a hot car, while a colorful robot programmed to hitch a ride across America was battered beyond repair after just two weeks, which I dare say answered the mission's question, "Can robots trust human beings?"

CONTINUED

The Canadian built **HitchBot** was designed to hold conversations, make jokes and quote trivia. It's the size of a small child with a plastic bucket body and pool-noodle arms and is recharged in the car's cigarette lighter port. Perhaps its molesters were former smokers?

"Unfettered capitalism is the Dung of the Devil."
~ Pope Francis

DRINK TO ME ONLY WITH THINE EYES

Being airborne approximately 30 minutes on an outbound evening Air Lingus flight from Dublin to Chicago, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following announcement in her lovely brogue:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up. I don't know how this has happened, but we have 103 passengers on board, and unfortunately, we received only 40 dinner meals. I truly apologize for this mistake and inconvenience."

When the passengers' muttering had died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat, will receive free, unlimited drinks for the duration of our four-hour flight."

Her next announcement came about two hours later. "If anyone would like to change their minds, we still have 40 dinners available."

"If the world weren't perfect, it wouldn't be." ~ **Yogi Berra**

PLANETCLICK
CLICK WORDS TO OPEN

BALLADEERS

DEADLY
HEADLANDER
IT'S OVER
RAINBOWS
TAPS
ICED
UNCLE T
DUMB
MUSLIM DOG
ASSNOTES

"Those who are not looking for happiness
are the most likely to find it, because those
who are searching forget that the surest way to be
happy is to seek happiness for others."
~ Martin Luther King Jr.

DON'T ASK

A young artist exhibits his work for the first time and a well-known art critic is in attendance. The critic says to the young man, "Would you like my opinion on your work?"

"Yes," he replies. "It's worthless," says the critic.

"I know," the artist says, "but tell me anyway."

"We are not saints, but we have kept our appointment.
How many people can boast as much?"
~ Samuel Beckett

PLANETEERS

Thanks to **Joan Allemand**, **Hap Lawrence**, **Henry Jaglom**, **Roger Olsen**, **Janellen Steininger**, **Alan Meyerson**, **Victor Kopcewich**, **Nick Oliva**, **Mic Jordan**, **Rich Carlson**, **Funny Times** and **Spider Robinson**.

I also want to thank: all involved in the super-hip game ***Headlander*** for casting me as the voice of the evil computer, **Methuselah**; **Abe Perlstein,** for a fun interview on **The Rock, 97.3**; writer/director **Samuel Joseph** and producer **John Densmore** for screening ***Window of Opportunity*** at the Egyptian Theatre as a fundraiser for **Bernie Sanders**; and **David Koff** and his **Fake Radio Players** for letting **Melinda** and **me** play with them in their Halloween recreation of **'War of the Worlds,'** where I got to portray the great **Orson Welles** (and did it as **Welles** I could…)

And finally, to **Gregg Oppenheimer** for letting me revitalize the role of The Old-timer in a live recreation of **'Fibber McGee and Molly**' at the old-time radio **SPERDVAC** convention.

"Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain,
but all the happiness and growth occurs
while you're climbing it."~ **Andy Rooney**

"You become what you think about all day long." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

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