



Volume 1, Number 1

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## Introducing....The Help Desk!

Greetings! And welcome to the first edition of *The Help Desk*, an e-zine devoted to making life (hopefully) a little more interesting.....at least once a month!

My goal is to enlighten, entertain and uplift....lofty ambitions in today's world of gloom and doom. We all need

to smile, to laugh and to be inspired every day. I'll do my best to add some sparkle at least 12 times this year.

I will be building a mailing list starting right now. If you want to receive any further editions please e-mail me back and let me know. This monthly missive will only go to

those who want it. We have enough unwanted and undesired spam inundating our inboxes without me adding to the pile. My hope is for *The Help Desk* to be wanted and desired spam!

Welcome aboard and have a great 2012.

*Roger Deem, Editor*

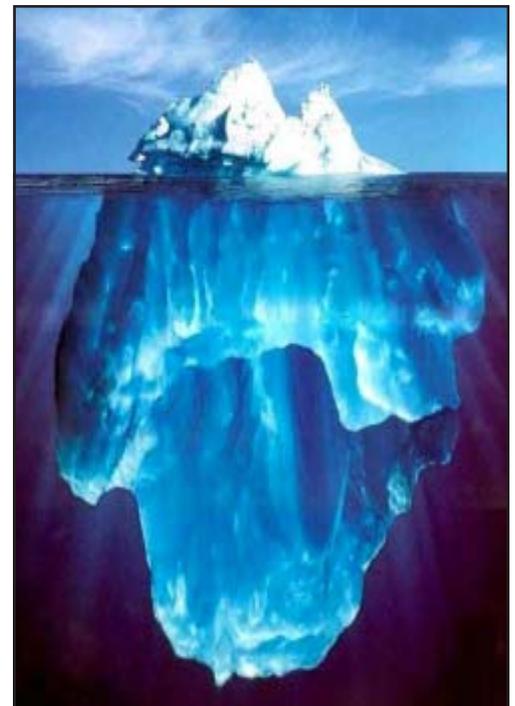
## *More than meets the eye*

One of my favorite photos, though only a photoshopped image and not a real picture of an iceberg, still demonstrates vividly the notion that what we see is often a lot less than what is really there.

Jerusalem's priests and pharisees saw in Jesus only a man and source of irritation. In my own life I have too often stated an opinion as fact which someone else corrected publicly, much to my chagrin. The Scriptures make clear the religious leaders of the day were none too thrilled to have this interloper one-upping them left and right.

They erred in that all they saw was the man and not the Divinity that dwelled within. They may have executed the man but the living Christ rose from death and became the iceberg to their Titanic.

Let's make it our aim this year to see beyond the visible and experience the depth of Christ in everyone.



## In the News

*The late great Paul Harvey spent over 50 years looking at the news and offering his scintillating observations on the headlines. I don't begin to fancy myself another Paul Harvey but I do notice some interesting things from time to time and will use this space to share them.*

Story headline from the *Jacksonville Journal-Courier*:

### **A HEALTHIER HOLIDAY: TRY CHRISTMAS PORK, NOT HAM**

*Last I knew, ham IS pork! Makes little difference to the hog donating the entree.*

Story posted at MSNBC.COM:

A rare species of fish described as "faceless and brainless" was among the unusual finds made by marine scientists off Britain's coast, according to a Scottish government report published on Thursday.

*A brainless fish could well be headed for Washington, D.C. but it would need to have at least two faces in order to blend in.*

Story from the *Bloomington Pantagraph*:

AMSTERDAM — Dutch prosecutors are not investigating a case of apparent cannibalism on a Dutch TV show in which presenters appeared to consume tiny pieces of each others' flesh that had been surgically removed.

*I just hope this isn't a precursor to the next reality series - Survivor: Donner Party.*



*What a unique barrister--he has his hands in his OWN pockets.*

Story from the *Topeka Capital-Journal*:

A Colorado man who is serving a nearly 11-year sentence for kidnapping a newlywed Kansas couple is now trying to sue that couple for breach of contract.

The lawsuit contends that after breaking into the Topeka-area home, he and the couple reached a legally binding, oral contract that they would hide him for an unspecified amount of money. The plaintiff, who is representing himself, is seeking \$235,000.

*Talk about having a fool for a client.*



*Elvis the Crocodile eats a lawn mower at a zoo in Sydney, Australia. No low iron counts in his bloodstream this week.*



## Say WHAT?

*Each issue will feature a look at terms which may or may not be familiar in the areas of urban slang, common tech phrases and well-known idioms.*

### URBAN SLANG:

#### **“RING RAGE”**

The irritation you feel when your cell phone rings from someone actually calling you instead of texting you.

### TEXT TALK:

#### **“BCNU”**

Phrase often used in cellular text messages and e-mails which means “Be seeing you.”

### EVERYDAY PHRASE:

#### **“A FLY IN THE OINTMENT”**

**Meaning:** A small but irritating flaw that spoils the whole thing.

**Origin:** This phrase has a Biblical origin. Ecclesiastes 10:1 (King James Version) has:

"Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savor: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour."

## Hoof in Mouth Dept.

Every issue will feature a few typos - bloopers from the printed word we have come across.

- From a Wisconsin church bulletin: Missionary from Africa speaking at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Name: Bertha Belch. Announcement: Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa." So much for the international gas shortage.



- From a wedding program I created a few years back: Following the Lighting of the Unity Candle, the program called for “an Exchange of Wows.” *That is typically left for the honeymoon.*
- Headline from the *Tallahassee Democrat*: Governor Offers Rare Opportunity To Goose Hunters. *Which explains the new Florida law prohibiting hunting rifles with hair triggers.*
- A question posted on Ask.com: “Why are more and more milk drinkers turning to powder?” *Strangely enough, no one who answered the question actually answered the question or even took a potshot at the obviously bizarre image the original query evoked.*
- Headline from the *Buffalo Evening News*: Robber Holds Up Albert’s Hosiery. *I always suspected there were weird things going on behind the scenes on the Little House on the Prairie set!*

## Tales From the Inbox

From the multitude of e-mails that come my way every month, I will select my favorite joke and story to share.

### Laugh Lines



An Amish family made its first-ever trip to the big city and visited a shopping mall. The males went one way, the females another.

The father and son noticed a pair of shiny metal doors which opened, allowing a feeble elderly lady using a walker to hobble inside the little room behind the doors. When she was fully inside the doors slid shut.

The father and son watched with fascination as a series of numbers above the doors lit up: 1-2-3, paused for a moment and then lit up in reverse order, 3-2-1. A bell rang and the doors slid open. A beautiful, voluptuous young woman strolled out of the little room and walked off.

Without taking his eyes off the woman, the father said to his son, "Go get your mother!"

### Truth...or Should Be

A terminally ill man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room.

"Doctor, I am afraid to die," the man said. "Tell me what lies on the other side."

Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know."

"You don't know? You're, a Christian man, and yet you say you don't know what's on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door. On the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, An as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager demonstration of gladness.

"Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear.

"I know little of what is on the other side of death but I do know one thing. I know my Master is there and that is enough."



## ***Begging the Question***

The Help Desk will feature a trivia question that was used in the last trivia event I ran, in this case the Trivia for Veterans in Jacksonville. This month's query (answer next month):

National Freedom Day was proclaimed in 1942 to celebrate the passage of what significant legislation in 1865?

# PHOTOSHOP TILL YOU DROP

In each addition I will feature an image which has been altered through the use of the Photoshop program. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to identify how the picture has been changed. Answer in the next issue.

*Can you spot what has been done to this cast publicity photo of The Munsters?*



## End of Document Stuff No One Ever Reads

*The Help Desk* is published electronically once a month for the first 12 months of the year. It is distributed via e-mail free of charge to everyone who feels a genuine desire to have their levels of e-mail spam increased.

Story/photo contributions are encouraged and appropriate credit will be given. Financial donations not accepted to eliminate the possibility of higher taxation.

Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental. Except in cases where they are not.



Roger Deem, Perpetrator  
admiraldeem@mchsi.com

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