



Volume 1, Number 3

March 2012



In all the universe. Me!

When was the last time you really contemplated the enormity of the Universe?

The Andromeda Galaxy shown above is 2.5 million light years from Earth. Since light travels at the speed of 186,000 miles per second, times 60 seconds per minute, times 60 minutes per hour, times 24 hours per day, times 365 days per year, a distance of one light year works out to be more than 5.8 TRILLION miles! Imagine 2.5 million times that figure. My brain cannot fathom such a number.

And did you know there are 38 known galaxies that are more than four times further away than Andromeda?

The observable Universe represents more sheer size than any human can truly comprehend. Countless worlds, possibly endless civilizations like ours. Who knows? And in all of that, and perhaps much more.....

ONE GOD!

A single Supreme Being keeping all that in order. I have trouble simply trying to keep track of one cat.

And in all of that, He created only one of each of us. In the infinite diversity of existence, I am the only one of me that has or will ever live (can't you just hear the cheering right now?)

He knows the number of hairs on my head. Most of all, He loves me--great big little old me.

Whenever we face days where we think our problems are too overwhelming for even God to handle, it helps to keep in mind the enormity of the Universe he both created and reigns over.

In the News

Headline from *The Atlanta Constitution*:

FARMER BILL DIES IN HOUSE

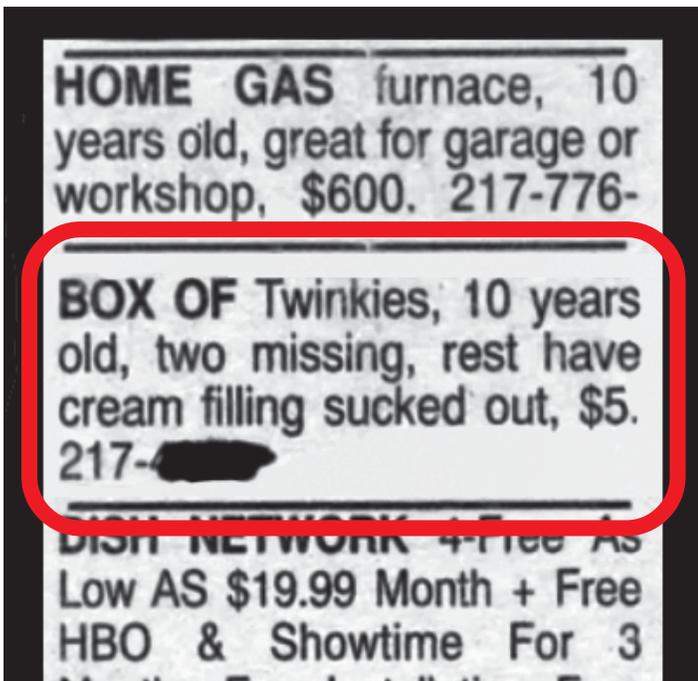
Old MacDonald skips bail.

Story from *The Oregonian (Portland)*:

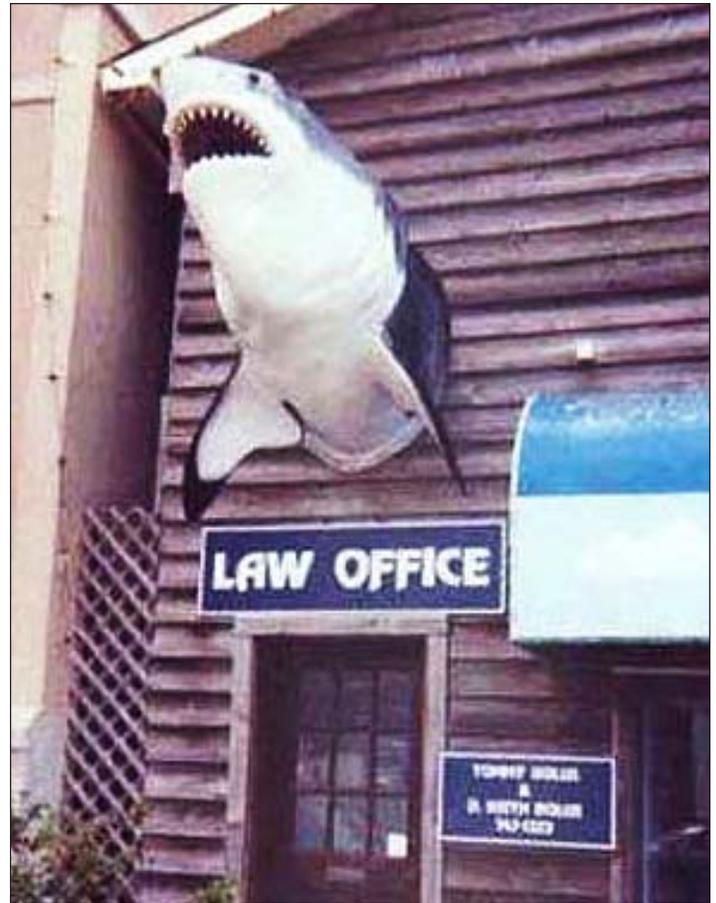
Armed with one toy weapon in each hand, a man swung the Star Wars-style light sabers at three customers in the Toys R Us store in Portland.

The would-be Jedi then launched an attack at police officers waiting for him outside the store, successfully deflecting a stun gun dart, according to police at the scene.

*As it turns out the Force was with him-
-the Police Force!*



At what point do they stop making the claim there's "A Big Delight in Every Bite?"



Truth in advertising at last!

Story from *USA Today*:

A newly discovered horse fly in Australia was so "bootylicious" with its golden-haired backside, there was only one name worthy of its beauty: Scientists named it Beyonce.

Maybe she'll re-release her 2003 hit as "Me, Myself and Fly."

Headline by *The Associated Press*:

DRUNK BRIDGETON MAN CALLS 911 FROM PATROL CAR, CLAIMS KIDNAPPING

The ransom note demanded a dozen donuts.



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:

“POONAMI”

A large amount of material often found in cowfields and politely known as fertilizer.

TECH TALK:

“BFF”

Translated as “Best Friends Forever.”

EVERYDAY PHRASE:

A FOOL AND HIS MONEY WILL SOON PART.

Meaning: A foolish person will spend everything too quickly and unwisely.

Origin: An early proverb in the English language, it was known by the late 16th century, when it was expressed in rhyme by Thomas Tusser in *Five Hundreth Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, 1573:

*A foole & his money,
be soone at debate:
which after with sorow,
repents him to late.*

Hoof in Mouth Dept.

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

- In the bulletin of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Palm Coast, FL: "We will have a Special Holiday Bingo & Dinner on Monday evening. Your choice of children or roast beef for dinner."



Decisions, decisions.

- A story from the *Cheney (WA) Free Press*: Eight candidates, including all four incompetents, are seeking the four City Council positions.

Now we know where former presidential candidates wind up.

- Story from an unidentified Georgia newspaper: The absence only sex-education supporter cut funding by nearly half for an Alaskan program."

Absence only--it works every single time it's tried.

Recipe Correction

In a recipe for salsa published recently, one of the ingredients was misstated, due to an error.

The correct ingredient is "2 tsp. of cilantro" instead of "2 tsp. of cement."

Caution: May cause hardening of the arteries!

Tales From the Inbox

My favorite joke and story from the multitude of last month's e-mails:

Science According to Students

These are reportedly actual items taken from science papers by jr. high and high school students. Many of these could easily have been culled from one of my efforts:

"When you smell an oderless gas, it is probably carbon monoxide."

"Water is composed of two gins, Oxygin and Hydrogin. Oxygin is pure gin. Hydrogin is gin and water."

"Blood flows down one leg and up the other."

"The moon is a planet just like the earth, only it is even deader."

"Artificial insemination is when the farmer does it to the cow instead of the bull."

"Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines on them and makes them perspire."

"Mushrooms always grow in damp places and so they look like umbrellas."

"The pistol of a flower is its only protections agenst insects."

"The alimentary canal is located in the northern part of Indiana."

"A fossil is an extinct animal. The older it is, the more extinct it is."

"Liter: A nest of young puppies."

"To remove dust from the eye, pull the eye down over the nose."

"For a nosebleed: Put the nose much lower then the body until the heart stops."

"For dog bite: put the dog away for sevrsl days. If he has not recovered, then kill it."

"For asphyxiation: Apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead."

--Submitted by Jeremy Lomelino

The Carpenter

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer, a contractor, about his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life. He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work he called the contractor to inspect the house. To his surprise, the contractor handed the front-door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "My gift to you."

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now he had to live in the shabby home he built.

Your life today is the result of your attitudes and choices in the past. Your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitudes and the choices you make today.

--From Roger Knapp



Begging the Question

This month's query (answer next month):

What football star was featured in the famous 1979 Super Bowl commercial where a hero-worshipping kid offers him a bottle of Coca-Cola?



Last month's query:

What was the name of the TV game show where Johnny Carson and Ed McMahon worked together for the first time?

ANSWER: *Who Do You Trust?*, 1957 to 1963.

First to answer was Daryl Darnell of Jacksonville.

ROGER'S HALL OF FAME

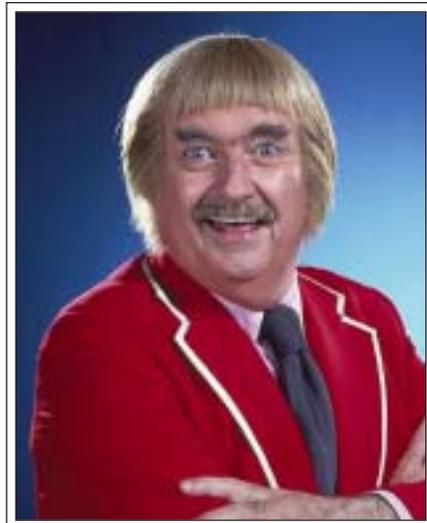
Saluting people who made a difference in my life.

Bob Keeshan - "Captain Kangaroo"

My weekday visits to the Treasure House of Captain Kangaroo were pivotal experiences in my young life. Through the Captain and his friends Bunny Rabbit, Mr. Moose, Dancing Bear and Mr. Green Jeans, I was blessed with many smiles, laughs and even a little education.

He never talked down to me--he talked TO me. That lesson has served me so well throughout my life.

I am only one of millions touched by this man. Rest in peace, Captain.



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.

Last Month:



Wrong flag--only 48 stars on the one these soldiers raised. First person to correctly guess was Dorothy Amare of Jacksonville, IL.

This Month:



What's been changed in this well-known photo of the Beatles doing their famous crossing over London's Abbey Road?

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 with a genuine desire to increase e-mail account spam levels.

Story/photo contributions are encouraged with appropriate credit 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.

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"Since Noon Today"

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