



The Help Desk

Volume 1, Number 4

April 2012

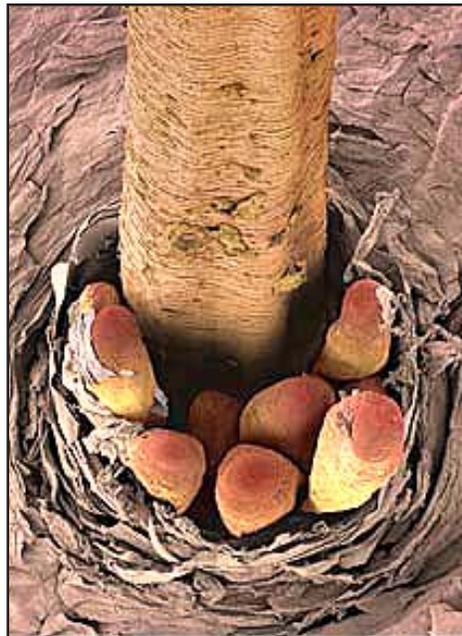
God is counting on me. . . . and you!

If I were to ask you what is shown in the picture to the right, how would you answer? My first guess might be the base of a palm tree but that would be totally off the mark.

In fact, this is a photo of a human hair shot at the skin level through an electron microscope. I don't know about you, but I found it totally fascinating and a little creepy!

What a complex piece of work--all that for one strand of hair. No wonder it hurts so much when my wife plucks a renegade strand that she occasionally finds growing out of my ear!

And perhaps the most fascinating thought of all is that the Supreme Lord of the Universe has numbered this little dude along with every other like it on every other human being on this planet. To say nothing of any



life that exists on other worlds in this vast cosmos.

If He is that heavy into the specifics of my earthly shell, how much more does He have invested in my eternal spirit? And to what end?

My second grandchild was born last month sporting more hair than Tina Turner. His grandmother remarked that it took 10 minutes just to deliver that mop

top! And it is obvious the Lord has already run up the numbers on Grandson Elijah and that means he is an investment in the future of God's Kingdom. Amen!

Jesus is counting on us all in another way as well. We have been given a lot more in the way of gifts over and above the blessings of follicles. And all of these skills and talents are tools to be used for the Lord's work. They were never meant to sit unused while we go through life seeking our own glory or satisfying needs of the flesh.

Look at the picture again and see all the work then went into just one hair. Can you even begin to comprehend the majesty of the total human package?

God has invested much in each of us and is counting on me and you to spread His love to all the world.

In the News

Headline from *The Times Argus* in Montpelier, VT:

STOLEN CLOWNS FOUND STUFFED IN CAR

They couldn't find a phone booth.

Story from an unidentified paper:

Debra Jackson said she likes shopping at the Dollar Palace because it is convenient and casual.

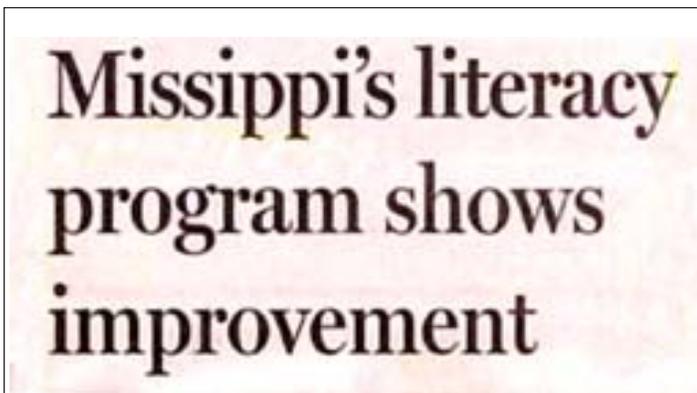
"I don't have to get all dressed up like I am going to Wal-Mart or something," she added.

One does not know how scary this is until visiting peopleofwalmart.com

Headline from *The Toronto Star*:

MARIJUANA STUDY SENT TO JOINT COMMITTEE

The next regular meeting has been set for High Noon.



Except for the unfortunate readers of this newspaper.

How Did This Teacher Get Tenure Department:

Dear Mrs. XXXXXX,

You may already know this, but in case your son has neglected to tell you, I am assigning him to detention for one hour this Friday. The reason is as follows:

Alex consistently defied me. During class he contradicted me numerous times when I insisted that the length of one kilometer was greater than that of one mile. Every other student in class accepted my lesson without argument, but your son refused to believe what I told him, offering such rebuttals as, "You're lying to the class," and commanding other students to challenge my curriculum.

Although he was correct, Alex's actions show a blatant disregard for authority, and a complete lack of respect for his school. In the future, Alex would be better off simply accepting my teachings without resistance.

Please see to it your son understands this.

Regards,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

This is probably a fake--no teacher of mine ever let me off with just one day of detention.



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:

“GET A KENNEL”

What you say to someone who is over affectionate with their dog or cat (like me!)

TECH TALK:

“IMHO”

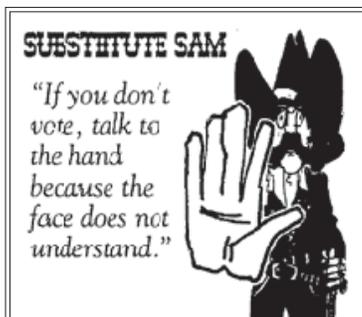
Translated as “In My Humble Opinion.”

EVERYDAY PHRASE:

TALK TO THE HAND

Meaning: I’ve no interest in hearing what you’ve got to say.

Origin: It first appeared in an advertisement in the Wyoming newspaper, *The Pinedale Roundup*, in October of 1996.



Hoof in Mouth Dept.

Every issue will feature a few typos - bloopers from the printed word we have come across. This month we have several offerings found on the Beliefnet.com website.

- "The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday."

What a bargain--Breakfast & Burlesque for \$6.50.



- "National PRAYER & FASTING Conference: The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals."

The evening meal will feature our Deluxe Pine Floats - water and a toothpick.

- "When parking on the north side of the church, please remember to park on an angel."

This is a rough church. The ushers collecting the offering are named Moose and Rocko.

- "Please welcome Pastor Don, a caring individual who loves hurting people."

Pastor Dan will be out of the office on Fridays to wrestle for the WWE.

- "This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Jones to come forward and lay an egg on the altar."

I hope Mrs. Jones will understand if she's asked to remain in her seat during Arbor Day services.

Tales From the Inbox

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

Searching for Junior

"Oh, no!" he gasped as he surveyed the disaster before him. Never in his 40 years of life had he seen anything like it. How anyone could have survived he did not know.

He could only hope that somewhere amid the overwhelming destruction he would find his 16-year-old son. Only the slim hope of finding Junior kept him from turning and fleeing the scene.

He took a deep breath and proceeded. Walking was virtually impossible with so many things strewn across his path. He moved ahead slowly. "Junior! Junior!" he whispered to himself to keep him steady.

He tripped and almost fell several times. He heard someone, or something, move. At least he thought he did. Perhaps, he was just hoping he did. He shook his head and felt his gut tighten. He couldn't understand how this could have happened. There was some light but not enough to see very much.

Something cold and wet brushed against his hand. He jerked it away. In desperation, he cried out, "Junior!"

From a nearby pile of unidentified material, he heard his son.

"Yes, Dad?" the boy said in reply, in a voice so weak it could hardly be heard.

"It's time to get up and get ready for school," the man sighed. "And for Heaven's sake, clean up this room!"

--From Randy Cassingham

I could have been either character in this story at different points in my life!

Which would you choose?

Driving down the road in your two-seater sportscar on a wild, stormy night, you pass a bus stop bench with three people stranded in the storm waiting for the bus.

All three are in immediate danger because of the ferocious weather. They include an old lady who, in your expert opinion, will die without quick medical attention, an old friend who once saved your life and the perfect man or woman you have always dreamed about.

Here's the question: Which one would you offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car?

You could pick up the old lady, because she is near death, and thus save her. Or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back. However, you may never be able to find that perfect person again. Or, you could just pretend you didn't see any of them, and drive on.

Which would you choose?

The Smartest Man in the World was asked this question in a job interview, and he said, "I would give the car keys to my old friend and let him take the lady to the hospital. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the woman of my dreams."

Sometimes, we gain more if we are able to give up the stubborn limitations to our thought patterns.

Always try to remember to think outside of the box!

--From Pete Fairfield

Begging the Question

This month's query (answer next month):

Which of Jesus' disciples was the first to be martyred?



Last month's query:

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

ANSWER: Mean Joe Greene. First to answer correctly was Jacksonville's Janet Mitchell.

ROGER'S HALL OF FAME

Saluting people who made a difference in my life.

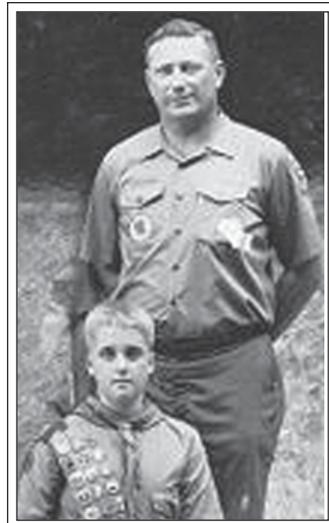
Scoutmaster Charles E. Runkel

I had a total of seven Scoutmasters over the course of my years as a Boy Scout but none had as long-lasting an impact as did Charlie Runkel.

A state policeman and a bear of a man, Charlie could be firm to the point of rigor mortis and unbending as a steel bar. But more than any other, he treated me as a person and spoke to me as a young man instead of a rambunctious brat (I was, in fact, both!)

He taught me to honor my word and to never compromise my principles.

Thank you Charlie--I salute you!



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:



A Ford Windstar (introduced in 1993) was added to the cars parked at the left. First person to correctly guess was Keith Bradbury of Jacksonville, IL.

This Month:



What is wrong with this photograph of the Statue of Liberty?

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 their e-mail account spam levels.

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