



Volume 1, Number 5

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## *Nothing without the light*

"De Colores" (Of Colors) is a traditional folk song well known throughout the Spanish-speaking world. It is widely used as a song in the Catholic Cursillo movement and related communities such as Chrysalis, Via de Cristo and Walk to Emmaus.

The lyrics stress the beauty of God's creation in all its expressions, no matter their size, shape or color. It is an excellent fit for the aforementioned programs because they are each designed to bring people from widely-divergent denominational (and non-denominational) backgrounds into a shared spiritual experience.

One line in particular has always been very impactful to me: *el diamante centelleará cuando traído*, which translates as "the diamond will sparkle when brought to the light."

There's something really profound in that statement. A diamond may be one of the world's most beautiful gems but when surrounded by darkness, it is virtually invisible. It

has no light of its own. It requires a source of illumination to do its thing.

Isn't that just like us? It's usually pretty easy to spot the difference between folks who go through life under their own power and those who are tapped into the light of the Holy Spirit. People reflecting the Lord

are so joyful to be around. Most of the time anyway.

Sure there are days when the clouds roll in and troubles come. As humans, sometimes we all let these moments of tribulation get in our way. The secret to dealing with vexing issues is to keep focusing on the light.

Sometimes it's tough to do but the results are always worth it.

At bedtime, I sometimes wonder how brightly I sparkled for others this day. Like the diamond, I WILL shine to the world like a lamp on a lampstand as long as I am standing in the light. That's how we were designed to work and when we reflect God's light, we are at our very best.



## In the News

Headline from the *Evanston (IN) Review* :

### **COPS ARREST WHITE WOMAN ON WARRANT FOR BLACK MAN**

*Justice sometimes can never be measured in shades of grey.*

Letter to the *Northern Wyoming Daily News* in Worland, WY:

Dear Editor: I object and take exception to everyone saying that Obama and Congress are spending money like a drunken sailor. As a former drunken sailor, I quit when I ran out of money.

--Bruce L. Hargraves, USN

*Now we have a debt in every port.*



*Seeing how many commandments can be broken simultaneously in Ohio.*

### **SIGNS AND WONDERS:**



*I suppose this could be called a C (sea) intersection.*



*Just wait until your family gets a load of our Burrito Surprise!*



*Take him to Smiley's--just ahead!*



# 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:

### **“EXHAUSTIPATED”**

When one is just too tired to give a crap!  
(Submitted by Keith Bradbury)

## TECH TALK:

### **“J/K”**

Translated as “Just Kidding.”

## EVERYDAY PHRASE:

### **LONG IN THE TOOTH**

Meaning: Getting old

Origin: Horses's teeth, unlike humans', continue to grow with age, making it possible to roughly estimate a horse's age by examining teeth.

The earliest citation is in Thackeray's *The History of Henry Esmond, Esq.* and refers to a woman rather than a horse: "She was lean and yellow and long in the tooth; all the red and white in all the toy-shops in London could not make a beauty of her."

## Hoof in Mouth Dept.

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

- From the *Metro/West Daily News*, Framingham, MA: "Dead Abby can be found on page D5."

*Ann Landfill's column is on D7.*

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- From an unknown classified section: "SHEEP, 5, Used. \$40" (should have been "ewes")



*Someone is trying to pull the wool over the buyers' eyes.*

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- Spotted in a flea market at a table selling bootleg DVDs: "The Leonardo DeCrapio Collection." *Everyone's a critic.*

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- From a local newspaper's TV Guide insert: "December 21 & 24, 8:00 p.m.: Christmas with the Moron Tabernacle Choir."

*Guess which Republican is the lead tenor!*



*Don't settle for substitutes!*

# Tales From the Inbox

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

## A Pastor's Business Card

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door.

Therefore, he took out his business card and wrote "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10."

Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."

*--From Derrick Walker*



## A Boulder in the Road

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock.

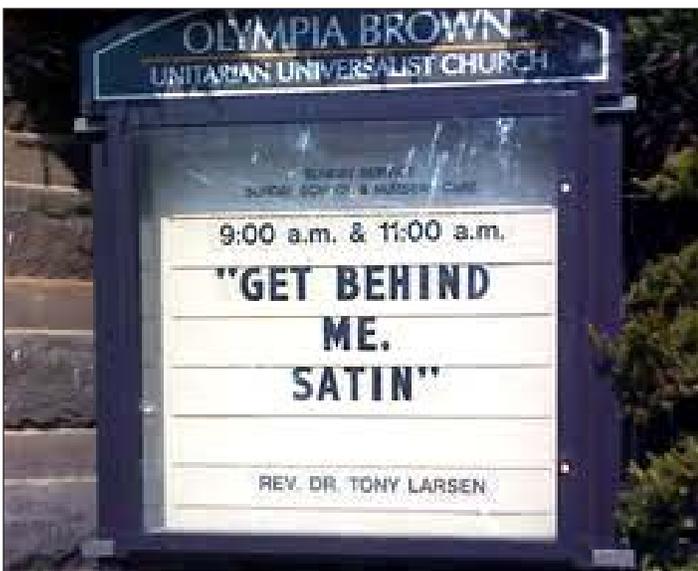
Some of the king's wealthiest subjects came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone.

After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many of us never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

*--From George Palmer*



*Peter: I'll feed Your sheeps, Lord, so we will have lots more wool!*

# Begging the Question

This month's query (answer next month):

Name three of the first five condensed soups to be manufactured by the Campbell's Soup Company.



**Last month's query:**

Which of Jesus' 12 disciples was the first to be martyred?

**ANSWER:** James (Judas was NOT a martyr and Stephen was not one of the 12 disciples.) First one to answer correctly was Janet Mitchell of Jacksonville, Illinois.

## ROGER'S HALL OF FAME

Saluting people who made a difference in my life.

*Larry Matysik*

The television commentator of *Wrestling at the Chase* out of St. Louis and wrestling promoter Sam Muchnick's right-hand man, Larry had an amazing influence on my life.

He was responsible for writing and designing the programs for the wrestling shows which were absolute masterpieces of graphics art and journalism. Matching his standards has always been my goal.

It is from Larry I learned about the value of paying close attention to the details in every aspect of life.



# 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 reversed image shows the wrong arm in the air. First person to correctly guess was Martha Morris of Chapin, IL.

## *This Month:*



Something is not right with this photo--can you spot it? You'll have to know your postage stamp history to figure this one out!

## 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.

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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