

#955

1.12.2015

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1. Reflections

Note: See Section 7A for a special song just for you!

Also, if you're reading this via Facebook and/or in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, you can make sure you don't miss an issue (and you get it earlier, too) by clicking:

<http://tinyurl.com/ozgmxgs>

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a blast at the Spanish-themed party at our friend Sunny Ruble's beautiful hacienda. (Hence, the Salvador Dali-type mustache.)



For other pictures from the event, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10152979482119757.1073741852.519364756&type=1&l=ee1e43d20d>

And if you'd like to see us all dancing and singing away, please click:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nu7rn4sxxMc>

B. During the week, I:

(1) Helped run a networking session for the Asheville Jewish Business Forum. Pictured with me in left photo: Andrea Block and in right photo: David Tuch.

For other pictures from the event, please click:

[https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10152962936129757.1073741851.519364756&type=1&l=f7c610a49b)

[set=a.10152962936129757.1073741851.519364756&type=1&l=f7c610a49b](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10152962936129757.1073741851.519364756&type=1&l=f7c610a49b)

Note: See Section 12 for information about this group's next meeting. You don't have to be Jewish to attend.



(2) Met the mascot for the UNCA basketball team while at the Verizon store.



B. Invitation--and Request for Help

If you're a member of the Biltmore Lake community, come join me at the Clubhouse to watch the Super Bowl on Sunday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. Bring your beverage of choice, as well as an appetizer to share. Please register online.

The invitation: If you're not a member of our community, but would like to come as my guest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put SUPER BOWL in the subject line.

The request for help: I'm in the process of helping the hosts for the evening, Brian and Caron Smith, get some prizes for the above; e.g., to give to the person who comes closest to predicting the exact score. Depending on how many prizes I can obtain, we'll have other contests that evening.

I'm looking at such possibilities as meals at local restaurants, show tickets, wine, etc. If you have anything you could donate, I'd be most appreciative. Please let me know by sending an email to: bginbc@aol.com and putting PRIZES in the subject line.

C. Reminder: There's still time to enter ...

One lucky reader will win a piece of art done by Tebbe Davis, pictured below hard at work.



What you will win: It is a piece from 2013 called "Forest Path." The size is 12x16," and it is unframed. It was inspired from a digital image he viewed while getting a root canal at the dentist. They show photographs from a flat screen in the office that the patients can gaze at while getting treatments. He photographed the screen with his phone and then painted it from the picture he took. This painting and all his art can be seen at his

website:

<http://tebbeart.com/>

Note: I recommend that you also get Tebbe's free newsletter. You can do so by clicking:

<http://tebbeart.com/email-newsletter>

Tebbe Davis has been an artist his whole life, working in various mediums including photography, charcoal and acrylics. His recent works in oil show a more mature expression of nature, an abstract style with unique inspirations and signature process. His work is in galleries in South Carolina, Georgia and Connecticut.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #2" in the subject line of an email and send it to bginbc@aol.com ... make sure you include your name AND snail mail address in the body of the email . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 19, 2015

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Miles Rice for winning Barrie Awards for Best Lead Actor for A Streetcar Named Desire and Best Major Supporting Actor for Little Women at Henderson Community Theatre.

(2) Asheville for being named one of America's best places to start a business:
<http://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/gadgets/news/startup-city-americas-best-places-to-start-a-business#slide-2>

(3) Michelle Baker on being chosen to be part of the team doing social media for San Diego-based Women Evolution Training. Learn more about Women Evolution and their mentoring program for corporate women by clicking:
www.womenevolution.com

(4) Renee Brecht on her acceptance into the Environmental Leadership Program's year-

long Fellowship Program.

(5) Mike Andrus on being profiled in THE MIDWEEK WIRE for his effort to raise funds for aquaponic greenhouses. To read more, please click:

<http://midweekwire.com/2015/01/14/food-for-the-future-bucks-resident-raises-funds-for-aquaponic-greenhouses/>

(6) Tony Tocci on having earned his master's degree in mediation from Antioch University.

(7) Rob Anderson, winner for Best Choreography (Professional) for HAIRSPRAY at the Garden Theatre and Best World Premiere Original Play (Professional) with his amazing friend, Beth Marshall (Beth Marshall Presents) for ALICE LOST IN WONDERLAND at the Garden Theatre.

***** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD *****

Thanks, Lisa Zaglin, for this week's nomination of Dr. Jaime Logan in Bucks County, PA. To quote an email from Lisa:

I did not want to stress my very sick cat by taking him to the vet. A friend told me how pleased she was with a mobile vet she used. I contacted her and thought she was amazing. I was impressed by her quick response. She made a house call that evening per my request, discussed options for treating my cat and did her best to give him more time. She said under the circumstances (his age and ongoing illness), I would be justified in choosing euthanasia, but there are other things we could try. Although my cat did pass away, I felt we did all we could for him and was happy he could spend his final days in his home with his family. I highly recommend Dr. Logan, especially if you have an animal that is difficult to transport or gets stressed at the vet. She sees cats and dogs for well visits as well as sick visits. I found her to be compassionate and understanding ... I can't say enough about her. You can reach Dr. Logan by email, phone or text. For more information, please click:

<http://homevet4pets.com/>

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2. FYI

Recently, I lost my glasses. What I learned from the experience: Put your name and phone numbers on the inside of your case. That way, if your glasses are ever found, you at least have a fairly good chance of getting them returned.

I have just done this with the case for my new glasses that I got from Dr. Doug Hauschild, my favorite eye doctor. He always provides excellent service, and he is aided by the friendly staff in his Weaverville, NC, office: Donna Stratton, Debbie Young and Robin Scott. For more information, please click:

<http://weavervilleeye.com/>



FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Deborah S. in NC: Nature and Landscapes of 2014

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ob7tyen-u_w&feature=youtu.be&t=4m23s

(2) Doug H. in NC: Photo booth pranks

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oexzg5-1Q_M

(3) Elaine B. in NC: Walking your cat

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=650656161712080&set=vb.135107593266942&type=2&theater>

(4) Marvin S. in NC: Dog gets haircut at salon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3cwvaoGfRTo>

(5) Joe H. in NC: Kid counts down from 21. Everyone loses it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LnMhy8kDiQ>

(6) Diane M. in NC: Christopher Maloney's audition - Bette Midler's The Rose - The X Factor UK 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1T9-l3wx8I>

Note: I was so impressed by this song that I had to get an update on the singer. It can be found here:

<http://www.ibtimes.com/christopher-maloney-former-x-factor-contestant-stage-fright-opens-performing-arts-school-1598778>

(7) Marilynne H. in NC: Check out my young friends ... Kara and Theo Goldin, the creators of HINT water

<https://blog.drinkhint.com/best-bottled-water-fruit-infused-delivery-our-story-hin>

(8) Susan M. in NJ: Pink Floyd - Comfortably Numb Solo Cover
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_P-t0idgql#t=27

(9) Susanne S. in Australia: Cat wheel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpdeJeCCe54>

(10) Nick G. in NC: Janis Joplin - Summertime
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guKoNCQFAFk>

B. Other tidbits from readers

To read each of the contributions in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1Nu>

(1) Len E. in NC: Saw a great Indian Bollywood movie called PK. (2) Rod R. in NC: Going to see highest grossing film in India film industry history - PK. (3) Cappy T. in NC: So enjoy your news and views. (4) Annemarie B. in NC. Excellent [BLAINESWORLD #954]. (5) Michelle B. in NC: So many great aspects of this issue Blaine! (6) Henry W. in NY: Recently saw the acclaimed film "Mr. Turner." (7) Joe W. in NV: Life Coaching for Skeptics: 18 Areas of Life. (8) Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant on Why Women Stay Quiet at Work. (9) Susan R. in NC: I don't cook much expect during cold months. (10) (10) Mike M. in NC: AMERICAN SNIPER.

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3. Joke 1

Now you know . . .



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4. Reviews

A. Saw SELMA, the powerful film now out about the three-month period in 1965 when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a dangerous campaign to secure equal voting rights for all Americans. The bridge scenes were as gripping as I've ever seen. I am glad it received a Best Picture nomination, but how both director Ava DuVernays and star David Oyelowo

did not receive Academy Award nominations for their work is beyond me. Tom Wilkinson's President Johnson was spot on. Rated PG-13.

B. GONE GIRL is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #942 follows:

GONE GIRL is an engaging thriller about a guy on his fifth wedding anniversary who finds that his beautiful wife has gone missing. Increasingly, folks start to think he killed her. There are many twists and turns that will leave you guessing until the film's end. Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike are both terrific in the leading roles. The only thing that prevented me from making this one of my all-time favorites is the fact that I personally didn't care for either of the characters. Rated R.

If you'd like to read more about GONE GIRL and, in particular, how to better enjoy the one shower scene featuring Affleck, please click:

<http://www.vulture.com/2014/10/how-to-see-ben-affleck-nude-penis-gone-girl.html>

C. Read MOTIVATION, which is part of THE BRIAN TRACY SUCCESS LIBRARY (AMACOM), by Brian Tracy.

The author, a popular motivational speaker, has drawn from what he has spoken about over the years. He puts these ideas down into 21 short but powerful methods that can be used for increasing any individual or group's effectiveness.

These cover such topics as how to ensure that employees feel passionate about what they do, satisfying their needs for both independence and being part of a whole, and removing obstacles that hold them back.

I especially liked Tracy's pragmatic tips; e.g., this one:

When employees come to me with a question or concern about a job, I simply ask them, "What do you think we should do?" I force them to think through the problem or obstacle and come up with a suggestion or an idea to solve it or overcome it. Inevitably, employees will come back with a suggestion or suggestions about how to go over or around the obstacle. At this point, I always say, "That's a good idea."

Another part of the book I liked was how each chapter ended with two Action Exercises that will help any reader understand the preceding material--such as the following: Tell your staff members continually how good they are, and how impressed you are with the quality of their work. When you confidently expect people to perform at high levels, they will seldom disappoint you.

Overall, MOTIVATION won't disappoint you. I strongly recommend it for any manager or potential leader. Those new to the field will get a good overview on this important subject; those already established will find this a great review.

D. Heard A BOLD FRESH PIECE OF HUMANITY (Random House Audio), read and written by Bill O'Reilly.

The book doesn't go into great detail about this popular television personality's current political views. Rather, it covers his childhood and subsequent career path that led him to where he is now.

The fact that he grew up (in Levittown, New York) not far from where I did made it even more interesting for me. I found parts of it very funny and while O'Reilly does come across as somewhat pompous, he does so in a self-deprecating way that I found refreshing. He even acknowledges that he is a bloviator.

Best of all: O'Reilly is the narrator. Nobody else could have done as good a job as he

does.

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5. TV alert

A. THE NIGHTLY SHOW WITH LARRY WILMORE: Season premiere on Monday, Jan. 19, at 11:30 p.m. on COMEDY CENTRAL.

The former DAILY SHOW "senior black correspondent takes the reins of a new late-night comedy show.

B. LIVING DIFFERENT: Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 9 p.m. on OXYGEN.

This episode of the docuseries about unconventional women features Brooklyn-based friends trying to launch a rock band. The twist is that they're Hasidic Jews who play to female-only audiences.

C. KYLE KINANE: I LIKED HIS OLD STUFF BETTER: Friday, Jan. 23, at midnight on COMEDY CENTRAL.

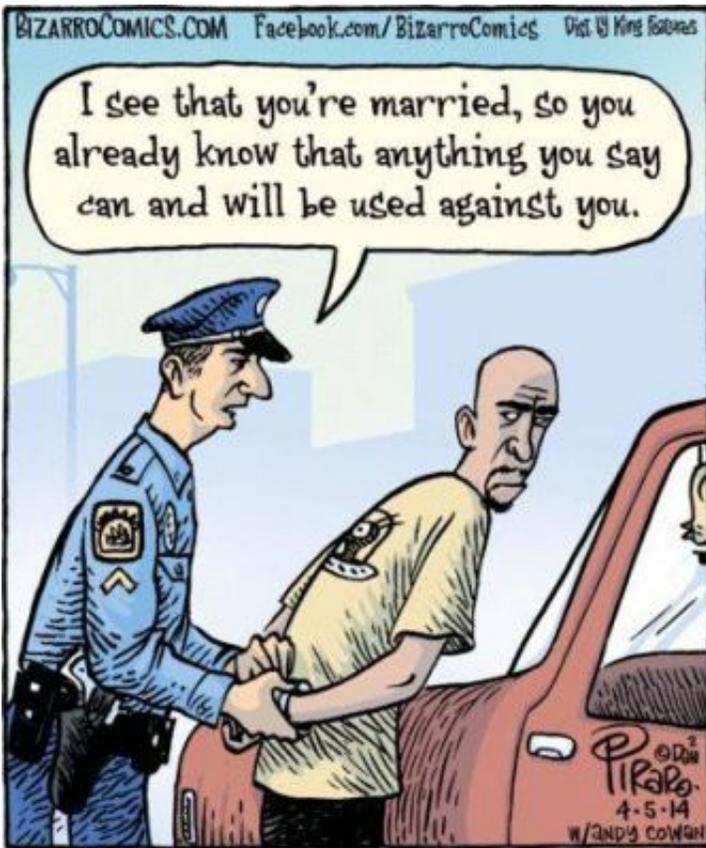
According to ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY, Kinane in this new stand-up special "has a knack for taking the audience on long, fun rides. Bits on getting interviewed in Hustler magazine and meeting the world's chilliest cop are given room to breathe, making them worth a ticket to ride."

D. RICK JAY: DECEPTIVE PRACTICE: Friday, Jan. 23, at 9 p.m. on PBS. (PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.) This is the first time that the AMERICAN MASTERS series salutes a magician and in this episode, Jay reflects on the mentors who inspired him.

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6. Joke 2

This has me writing a note to myself, "Self, remember this!"



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7. Websites

A. Send anybody you know a birthday song with his or her name in it! You'll like it, particularly given the fact that there are so many name possibilities. I even found Blaine as a possibility!

To check this out for yourself, please click:

<http://www.1happybirthday.com/>

***** SPECIAL BONUS FOR BLAINESWORLD READERS *****

I've even created a birthday song just for you. So if it is your birthday or if it will be within the next 364 days, please click:

<http://www.1happybirthday.com/HappyBirthday/YoureSoCool>

B. Corrine G. in PA: "Don't Judge Too Quickly" Commercials

http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=59b_1363799230

C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

For my very first stand-up comedy performance, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then Video Clips. My debut is the very last clip.

D. Are you on Facebook? In the unlikely event we have not yet connected as friends there, please feel free to send me an invite by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Thanks, Kathryn Castex, for sharing the following tip on using the camera in my iPhone (or any other phone): Take the picture, if possible, looking down at the person--as opposed to looking up at the subject.

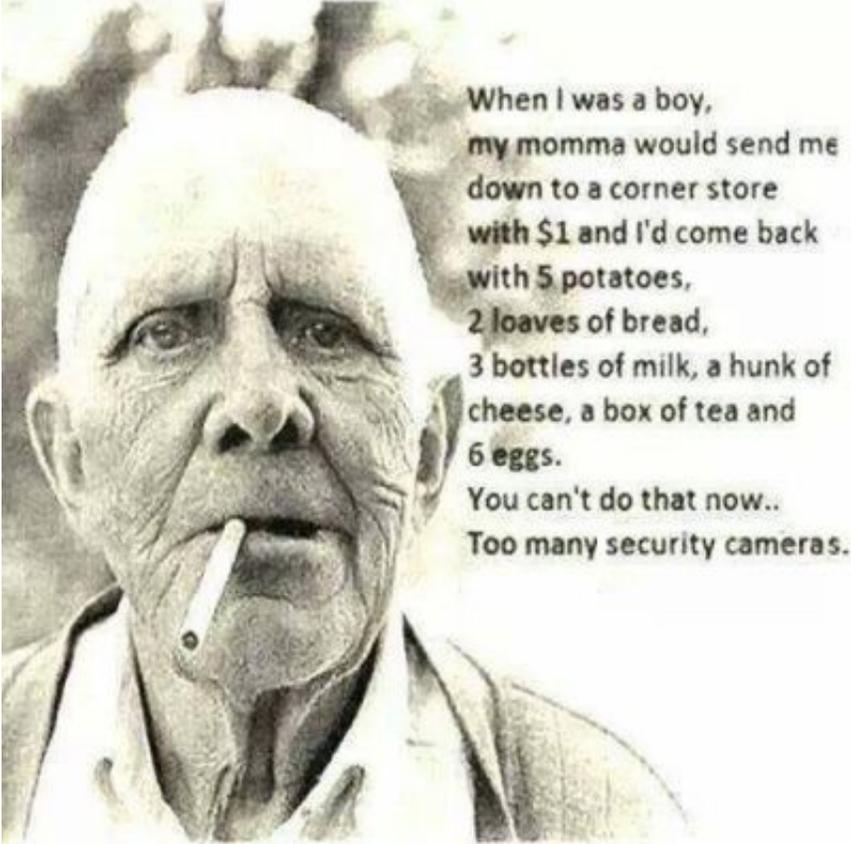
She told me she learned the above trick from a professional photographer friend of hers. This avoids having the neck "chub up," and it also seems to cut down on wrinkles. I've been trying this recently; e.g., see most of the pictures in Section 1A. The results have been promising.

Mr. Curious here: Have you ever tried this? If so, how did your shots come out?

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9. Joke 3

This reminds me of the greeting you get when you go into most stores: "May I help you?" I'm always tempted to answer, "No, thanks. I'm just shoplifting." Methinks I'd get a response back along these lines: "If you need me, give a holler. Have a nice day!"



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10. A quote I like

"If God had intended us to fly, he would have made it easier to get to the airport."--Jonathan Winters (1925-2013), American comedian and actor



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11. Thought for the day

George B. in PA: You know ... I've read every book on the topic. New and classic. Have a master's in education with a concentration in counseling from a great education university, studied at the top seminary in the country, sat under epic teachers and authors ... and this is the best treatment of the topic of successful marriage I have ever read. Ever.

36 Things I Know After 36 Years of Marriage
by Winifred M. Reilly

This week, my husband and I will celebrate our 36th anniversary.

Some years we've gotten dressed-up and gone out to dinner. Other years we've simply marked the day with a kiss.

Once, we were both sick with the flu and I vaguely remember clinking our glasses of orange juice together and then sleeping right through the day.

Then there was the year when we were so embroiled in struggle that we let the day pass without even a word.

That's what marriage is: richer, poorer, good times and bad. Each year with its surprises and challenges, its hard fought lessons, its moments of sweetness.

To honor our many years together, here are 36 lessons I've found most valuable. To read them, please click:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/winifred-m-reilly/36-things-i-know-after-36_b_6321032.html

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12. Advance planning department

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1Nu>

A. NC events

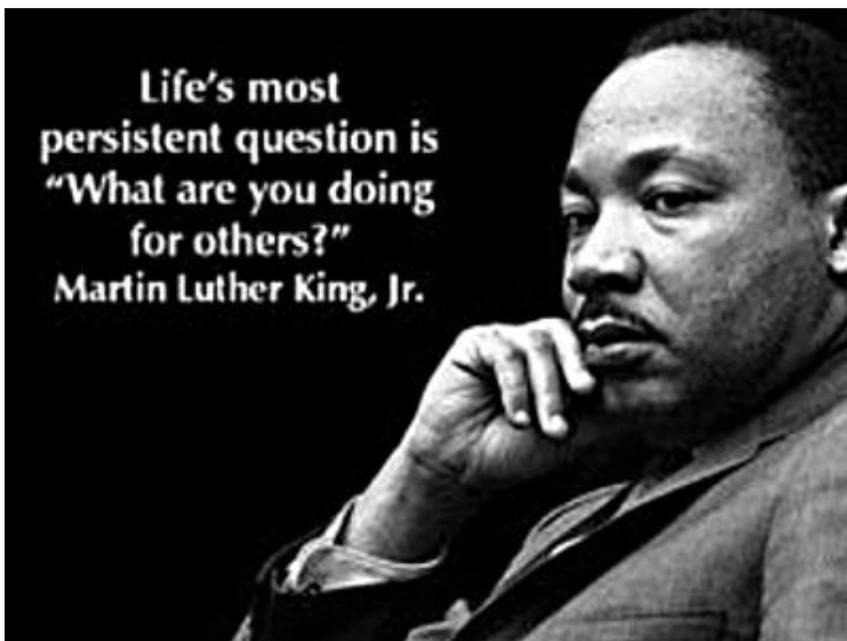
(1) Inception Point Institute. (2) Randy Robbins: I'm hosting a comedy show. (3) 1st time in Asheville - The Jin Shin Do® Bodymind Acupressure® Facial Workshop. (4) Michelle Baker at Asheville Jewish Business Forum meeting. (5) Slide the City, Asheville Slip & Slide. (6) Gregg Levoy: I'm delighted to announce that I'll be doing two Vital Signs author events.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) Show Some Heart at Bucks County Community College. (2) CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF. (3) Plumstead Historical Society.

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PS. If you have off on Martin Luther King Day on Monday, Jan. 19, enjoy your free time. But also spend some thinking about King. (See below for one of my favorite quotes.) In addition, consider learning more about his life by seeing the movie SELMA--reviewed in Section 4A.



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

