

BLAINES WORLD

#1189
7.1.2019

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1. Reflections

If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do is send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Met my friend Brent Russell (and Beverly-Hanks' realtor extraordinaire) for a delicious lunch at Ziggy's where we solved all the world's problems and discussed our upcoming move from Biltmore Lake. He then spent a whirlwind several days with us, helping us choose our next home in Fairview, NC.



(2) Here are two views of it. For a video tour, please click: [Here](#)



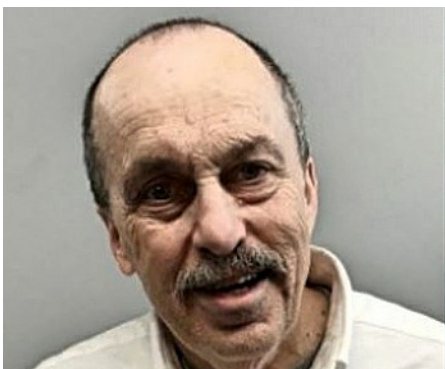


B. Though it kept me busy for well over a month, I'm already missing my cameo role in HANDS ON A HARDBODY--and all the great folks who were in it and or who came to see it.

(1) That's me with Jay Mitchell, the guy who interviewed me on stage. If you don't blink quickly, you can even catch what I said by clicking this link: [Here](#)



(2) I got a special kick out of the certificate my castmates gave me from Le Tourneau University (left photo), recognizing me as Chair of Extreme Contests. In addition, I had fun at the opening night party at Strada (top right with Dillon Giles) and at the cast party (bottom right with Bob Kelso, Jerry Crouch and Coco).





(3) And I never got tired of being greeted by paparazzi after each show.



C. Wow! ... That's my reaction to DEATH BY SPARKLE (OR WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DRINK WINDOW CLEANER). I just got back from seeing a dress rehearsal of this fictional autobiography of Barbie Angell, Asheville's popular poet, writer, actor and social media personality, and I found it to be both powerful and touching. Kudos to Katie Jones for her spot on direction, as well as to those in the cast who made this production come alive: Barbie, Tippin, Kelly Christianson Shanafelt, Brett Carter and Darren Marshall



D. Catch Jeff Messer and Abby Felder on my BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM by clicking: [Here](#)

Special thanks to Grail Moviehouse for sponsoring the above. To find out what's currently playing, please click: [Here](#)



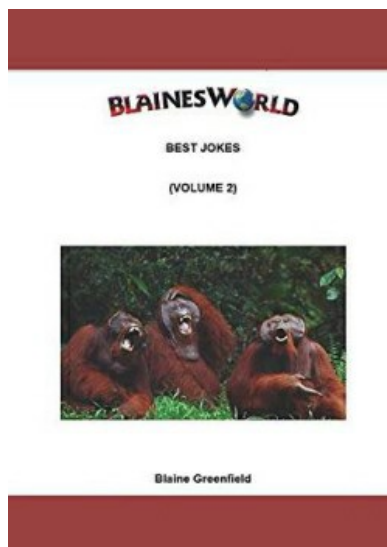
E. Congratulations to:

- (1) Carina Lopez and Ezra Campbell on their marriage.
- (2) Fred Weiss on his retirement as president and senior dentist of Santucci & Weiss PA.
- (3) Toni Sciacchitano Feedback on her retirement as Manager, Health Plan Relations for New Jersey Medicaid/Managed Care.
- (4) Preston Dyar on his new job at Disney's Hollywood Studios at Galaxy's Edge.
- (5) Chuck Taft on his new position as Assistant Pastor at Biltmore United Methodist Church.
- (6) Steven Shulman on being interviewed by NBC6 in South Florida. To view it, please click: [Here](#)
- (7) Judy Hoy, winner of Contest #14: an autographed copy of my friend Nelson Sartoris' latest collection of poems, ON WINGS OF WORDS. All told, there were four entries. And that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #15 *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of my latest book: BLAINESWORLD BEST JOKES (VOLUME 2). You'll find 70 jokes for every year of my life.

To enter, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST 15 in the subject line. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., July 15.



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

This week, it goes to Joshua Runkles, Box Office Manager / Volunteer Coordinator, and Katy Hudson, Box Office Assistant--both at Asheville Community Theatre. They are always helpful and friendly, and they provide quick, efficient service. ... Recently, I had purchased a bunch of tickets for an upcoming production of HANDS ON A HARDBODY. When friends had to switch their plans around, Joshua and Katy handled

their changes with ease. ... I'll often purchase my tickets in person or via a phone call (as opposed to using the online option) just to have the pleasure of having them assist me.

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2. FYI

When writing an email to certain friends (and/or to members of certain organizations), I prioritize it after the subject line--using an A, B or C designation. The A indicates that I want a response, the B has information that I think the person might like to see and C means that the person can take it or leave it--depending on time.

So for example, here are three recent emails I sent out:

Lunch tomorrow ... can you make it?/A

5-minute exercises/B

THIS IS US season preview/C

FYI, part 2

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#)

(1) Lucille Eckert: National Free Slurpee Day--July 11. (2) Mandie Carlson: Retractable Leashes: Dangerous and Deadly for Dogs and Humans. (3) This Is Your Brain Off Facebook. (4) If You Do Medicare Sign-Up Wrong, It Will Cost You.

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3. Joke 1

America ... the land of the free, as you can see by this sign. ... And If you're like me, and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY JULY 4TH!



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4. Reviews

A. Loved YESTERDAY, a romantic fantasy about a struggling singer-songwriter who wakes up after a bus accident to discover that the Beatles never existed. So he begins to write and perform all their songs, and he becomes the success that he always sought. There's great chemistry between Himesh Patel and Lily James, and Kate McKinnon and Joel Fry are fantastic in supporting roles. The music, especially if you're a Beatles fan, is terrific. Rated PG-13.

Note: I've just added this to my list of favorite films. To obtain a copy of this list, just send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. Enjoyed ON WINDS OF WORDS (Ara Poetica), a collection of poems by my friend Nelson Sartoris. They are all short, and I can relate to most off of them. ... The author covers a wide range of topics, ranging from family to oddities of life, including this look at the Silver Years:

Monday, oncologist

Tuesday, dentist

Wednesday, the infusion lab.

Thursday, ophthalmologist
Friday, cardiologist or family doc
Saturday, pharmacy pickup.
Sunday, pay bills.

Most spare time consumed making appointments,
when do we pencil in health and happiness?

These are not the advertised golden years,
more like silver,
tarnishing easily and often.

After a career in higher education, Nelson started writing poetry. I hope he never stops!

Illustrations by Bill LaRocque enhanced my enjoyment of this book.

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5. TV alert

A. THE MOVIES: Sun., July 7, at 9 p.m. on CNN

This series from executive producer Tom Hanks takes a decade-by-decade look back at the films that influenced pop culture then and now.

B. CHASING THE MOON: Mon.-Wed., July 8-10, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [Here](#))

Three evenings are devoted to America's quest to reach the moon.

C. BRING THE FURY: Season premiere on Tues., July 9, at 10 p.m. on NBC

This new competition aims to discover the next big comedy stars. Judges are Jeff Foxworthy, Crissy Tiegen and Kenan Thompson, and Amanda Seales is the host.

D. THE 2019 ESPYS: Wed., July 10, at 8 p.m. on ABC

Tracy Morgan hosts the inspiring sports awards program, which this year honors NBA legend and human-rights advocate Bill Russell with the Arthur Ashe Courage Award.

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6. Joke 2

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would listen to me, then carefully repeat the lines from the prayer. ... Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some email."



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Paul Marks: Stairway to Heaven Flash Mob: [Here](#)

(2) Kay Galvin: Free hugs project: [Here](#)

(3) Tony Medlin: Hazel Scott: [Here](#)

And wanting to find out more about Scott, I then found this clip that methinks you'll enjoy: [Here](#)

(4) Jerry Hinz: Amazing Rally!: [Here](#)

B. Nautilus is a great place to read informative and articles dealing with a multitude of topics. They can be broadly divided into science, history, psychology and autobiography. To view the website, please click: [Here](#)

Some recent articles included:

We Need Insects More Than They Need Us

Raising the American Weakling

Why We're Patriotic

C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: [Here](#)

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: [Here](#)

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8. Technology tip

Protect yourself from tech support scams

Tech support scams are an industry-wide issue where scammers use scare tactics to trick you into paying for unnecessary technical support services that supposedly fix contrived device, platform or software problems.

Scammers may call you directly on your phone and pretend to be representatives of a software company. They might even spoof the caller ID so that it displays a legitimate support phone number from a trusted company. They can then ask you to install applications that give them remote access to your device. Using remote access, these experienced scammers can misrepresent normal system output as signs of problems.

For the rest of this informative article, please click: [Here](#)

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9. Joke 3

My kids love playing on the computer, and they keep track of their passwords by writing them on Post-it notes. I noticed their Disney password was "MickeyMinnieGoofyPlutoDonald," and so I asked why it was so long. ... "Because," my son explained, "they said it had to have at least five characters."



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10. Quotes I like

Thanks, Lee Iacocca (top photo; 1924-2019), for your outstanding leadership of the Ford Motor Company in the 1960s and then the Chrysler Corporation during the 1980s. In addition, I admired you for your work as head of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, as well as for your efforts to further type 1 diabetes research. For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#). ... And thanks, Arte Johnson (bottom photo; 1929-2019), for your hilarious work on ROWAN & MARTIN'S LAUGH-IN from 1968 to 1973. I also laughed whenever you were a semi-regular guest panelist on THE GONG SHOW. For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#).



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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Doug Snipes, for sharing this one:
God Made a Dog: [Here](#)

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12. Advance planning department

To read about each of the following events in full, please click: [Here](#)

A. NC events

(1) Rodney Smith: MORE CRIMES AND MISSED Demeanings. (2) Adora Winquist: Make Your Own Medicine: Aromatherapy Classes with Adora Winquist. (3) A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder At Parkway Playhouse.

B. PA/NJ event

Kelsey Theatre at Mercer County Community College: THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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