

BLAINES WORLD

#1198
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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) Have gotten very busy, getting our Biltmore Lake home ready for sale and starting to move into our new Fairview home.

(2) So as you can imagine, there are about 437 boxes all over the place--and my office is a mess. Consequently, this week's issue will be missing some regular sections that will resume next week.

(3) But in their place, you'll see some additional jokes and pictures that will hopefully tide you over.

B. The high spot of the week was our trip to Jersey City, NJ, for the wedding of Benjamin Litchman, Cynthia's nephew, to Chloe Lipman. See below for several pictures from that lovely event.





C. We also got to see my daughter Risa and her husband JP Reavelly for a delicious breakfast at the Brownstone Pancake Factory where we received terrific service from Nick.



D. In addition, we got see Cynthia's niece Rachel, her husband Ezra Shanken and their three children. Pictured below them are Cynthia's cousins.





E. That's us overlooking Manhattan.



F. And lastly, at the party, we posed in front of this sign that read C&B, which we thought was so nice that they had this made just for us ... only to find out that the sign was really for Chloe and Benjamin. ... We also danced to the music of Dramatics, an amazing band. Please view this clip to see for yourself how great they sounded: [Here](#).





G. Listen to this week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM. Guests in the first half (top picture) were Damon and Gaia Goldman. To view their part of the show, please click: [Here](#) ... Guests in the second half (bottom picture) were members of Somewhat Petty—a Tom Petty Tribute Band: Damon Goldman, Dan Charlson, Kevin Dolan, Kelly Burke and Tracy Levi. To view their part of the show, please click: [Here](#).



H. There's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #19 *****

Do you have a child, grandchild, niece or neighbor whose parents might be on a limited budget? If so, this is the contest for you to enter.

Two lucky winners will win a copy of RAISING HAPPY KIDS ON A REASONABLE BUDGET by my friend Patricia Gallagher. In this informative book, you'll find many budget-stretching, dollar-saving tips.

To enter the contest , send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #19 in the subject line. Include your name and mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday., Sept. 9.

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

This week, it goes to Ligia Mendes--a gate agent for United Airlines. ...In returning from our aforementioned trip to New Jersey, we flew United. The trip up North was very smooth, but we started getting a stream of delay notices about our return flight. They seemingly came every few minutes due to weather conditions, then about another plane that was having problems on the runway. ... After some three hours when it looked like we would not be getting out, Ligia took great care in reviewing other options involving both car rentals and other flights the next day. She even booked us on another flight just in case we were not able to get out. ... At just about the four-hour mark (when we were pretty sure we would be stuck in the airport for the night), Ligia announced to all that United was delivering a plane to take us home. I think it was the first time that I heard folks cheer after such a delay, but we were all so happy to be getting out of the airport. ... Throughout the evening, Ligia was both friendly and helpful to everybody, and she is to be commended for making a bad situation as good as it could be.

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2. FYI

Recently, I had a problem ordering something online. So I called the company and was helped by a friendly customer service representative. At the end of the call, he asked, "Is there anything else I can do to continue to provide exceptional customer service?" ... I replied, "Sure, pay my bill." ... He then said, "Sorry, I can't do that. What credit card would you like to use?" ... I answered, "Yours." That was when he stopped being so cordial.

Note: I actually use such answers. If you want to try them, let me know what kind of a response you get.



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3. Joke 1

What a guy! (Thanks, Roberta Gurwood, for posting.)



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4. Joke 2

I had a flat tire yesterday, so, I pulled over, got out and opened my trunk. I took out my lifelike cardboard men, unfolded them and stood them at the rear of my car facing oncoming traffic. ... Cars soon started slowing down to look at the men. That made it much safer for me to work on the side of the road. People honked and soon a police officer pulled up.... He wanted to know what I was doing, so I calmly explained that I was changing my flat. He said, "I can see that, lady, but what are those cardboard guys doing?" ... I couldn't believe he didn't know. So I told him: "They're my Emergency Flashers!" (Thanks, Carole Biro, for sharing.)



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5. Joke 3

Royal flush. (Thanks, Nelson Sartoris, for sharing.)





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6. Joke 4

OUCH! (Thanks, Zuzu Welsh, for sharing.)



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7. Joke 5

Two elderly women were driving and came to a crossroad. The light was red, but they just went on through. . . . The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just ran a red light." A few minutes later, they came to another red light and again they ran it. The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red, but was really nervous about losing it. At the next light, sure enough, the light was red and they drove through. So she turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred, did you know that we just ran three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!" . . . Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh! Am I driving?"

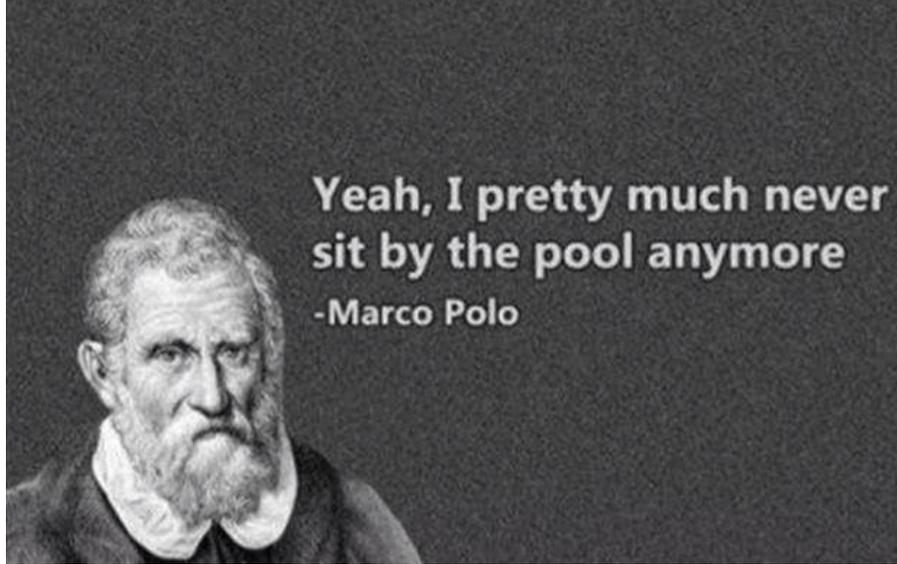


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8. A quote I like

I'd also find another place to sit if that was my name! (Thanks, Channah Mohler, for sharing.)





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9. Thought for the day

If you're like me, and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY LABOR DAY. My hope is that you enjoy the benefits in the cartoon below, along with over 30 more ways that unions have improved your life. For a full list of these, please click: [Here](#).



PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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