
You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not tooo risqué (typically in Sections 4, 7 and 10); contests; reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.. ... And In the unlikely event that you or they are not already a subscriber, just click the following link to be added to the free mailing list: [Here](#).

#1354
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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I will be on our way home from East Tennessee by the time this is sent out. We took a rare vacation just by ourselves (our first since before the pandemic). Details to follow in next week's issue.

B. Consequently, please excuse the fact that some regular sections of this blog have been omitted because I didn't have access to my PC.

C. Before we left, we left, we got to eat outside at The Local Joint--one of our favorite eateries in Fairview.



D. We also got to spend time with some of our neighbor's pets that we enjoy so much.

(1) That's me with Bailey, saying good-bye to his bed before he got a new one.



(2) And that's Cynthia posting with Teak.



E. See below for three BLAINESWORLD podcasts this past week:

(1) View the first one by clicking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OO4KgY9WX3M>. ... Guests: Sam Nace, CEO of the Cheerful Word, and Fred Nace, president and co-owner of Mountain Press.



(2) View the second one by clicking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58FP5Byka-k>. ... Guest: Melvin AC Howell--dancer, creative director, choreographer and founder/CEO of Heart & Soul Dance Co.



(3) And view the third one by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: John Crutchfield (playwright/performer) and Steve Samuels (producer/director) of ROBERT RETURNS, A JOURNEY WITH SONGS. Performances run from Sept. 15-Oct. 1 at The BeBe Theatre. For tickets, click: [Here](#).



F. Congratulations to:

(1) Hank Eder on his new radio show on Biz Radio, "The Home Business Success Show," on Thursdays at 1 p.m. It explores "dos and don'ts" and best practices with home business entrepreneurs each week. For more information, click: [Here](#).

(2) Susan Markowitz on the engagement of her daughter Eve.

(3) Richie Ejueyitchie on his documentary: HIS MAJESTY OGIAME ATUWATSE III CORONATION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. To view it, click: [Here](#).

(4) Bonnie Allen-Thomas on her new job at Biltmore Farms as Commercial Leasing Real Estate Administrator

(5) Neil Raphael and Janis Raye on the birth of Maya, their granddaughter.

(6) Ethan Henry on being accepted for his second masters degree at Westminster Choir College in Vocal Pedagogy with a concentration in Musical Theatre.

(7) Amanda Klinikowski on her marriage.

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

It goes to Flat Rock Playhouse, the State Theatre of North Carolina.

Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, we hadn't seen a play there for well over two years.

So I was glad to return to see GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER, which Cynthia and I both agreed on it being one of the finest shows we have ever seen there.

We loved the performances of Peter Thomasson (bottom left) and Janet Oliver (bottom right), as well as those turned in by all the others in the talented cast: Robin McGee, Janie Bushway, Marcy McGuigan, Emily Fink, Jade Arnold, John Little and Marvin Bell.

Kudos, also, to Lisa K. Bryant, Producing Director, for her role in not only bringing this show to Flat Rock, but for putting together what has already has been a fantastic 2022 season. To find out about what's still on the schedule, click: [Here](#).

And thanks to my friend Mike Martinelli for his recommendation not to miss GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER.



2. Invites

A. Please note a change in date for ..

******* CONTEST #14 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of GOODBYE, FRIEND: HEALING WISDOM FOR ANYONE WHO HAS EVER LOST A PET by Gary Kowalski.

From the author: As a parish minister, I often counsel those seeking comfort in times of loss. And as an animal lover myself (having accompanied two fine dogs to the end of the trail), I know the emotional roller coaster first hand. ... I will share the guideposts, beacons and spiritual practices that have helped others on the path toward resolution, acceptance, healing and peace.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #14 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by the extended deadline of 9 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 12.

B. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD podcast, now seen on Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn? If you have news you'd like to share and/or a story to tell, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put GUEST in the subject line. In the body of the email, include both your name and phone number

Even if you've been a guest before, I'd welcome the opportunity to speak with you again. I now tape via Zoom, usually in the early evenings.

For more information about the show, click: [Here](#).

And please click "Like" when you do check out this link.

C. Are you interested in shows, concerts, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a new group I've formed on Facebook that's called Entertainment. To do so, all you need to do is follow the instructions when you click: [Here](#).

D. Come join Cynthia for the one course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week via Zoom: Move Your Body on Wednesday (that you can also attend in person). To attend this and/or any of the other courses that are offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

E. In the unlikely event we're not yet friends on Facebook, click here to send me a friend request: [Here](#).

Also, if you ever see me around, please make it a point to say "hello" as Alexis Stephens did recently when I ran into her at Mars Hill University. Who knows? You might even get to have a thumbs up picture taken with me and find yourself in a future issue of this missive.



3. FYI

I very much appreciate hearing from all those who take the time to send me an email with their reactions to anything they read.

In particular, I got a kick out of the following correspondence from a reader who wished to be known as A. Nonymous:

Enjoying your weekly Blog and also the recent Bill Brandon and co-author interview on the broadcast.

Blaine, I have found myself (and wonder if others also do the same) dismissing your dining reviews, since they are always the same--"tasty food and a wonderful waiter. While I do get that your emphasis is on the positive and the good in the world, having each and every meal become just a free ad for the eatery removes any sense of critical thinking in what is written. I think the same can be said for your live theater reviews. Certainly not every meal and every play is wonderful! Perhaps just a bit of balance would enhance the value of such reviews.

And I do agree about the Turtles! But also true of Neal Young, Ike and Tina Review, and Elton John (in their respective niches), don't you think?

MY TWO CENTS:

If I don't like something, I typically don't write it up. The only exception might be a movie or TV show, in that I don't personally know anybody I might write about.

In the case of area restaurants, the need all the business they can get, so I don't want to write anything that might hurt their bottom line.

In the case of shows, I can usually find something that I like about most anything I see--especially if I know the people involved in putting it on. Also, I give the actors, directors, crew members, etc. so much credit for putting in all the hard work that they do. This typically involves 4-8 weeks at very little or no pay.

As for the performers you named, I agree. They're all outstanding!

4. Joke 1

Anybody wanna tell me why my girl told me her car is dead out front a Louie's. ... and I spent the next 30 minutes tryna find some place called Louie's until I told her send me a pic of the store ... and sent me this? (Thanks, Linda Williams, for sharing.)



5. Joke 2

Revealed for the first time ... my exercise program. I also do a lot of squats ... diddly squats! (Thanks, Jim Chewing, for sharing.)

**Doing crunches twice a day
now. Captain in the morning,
Nestle in the afternoon.**

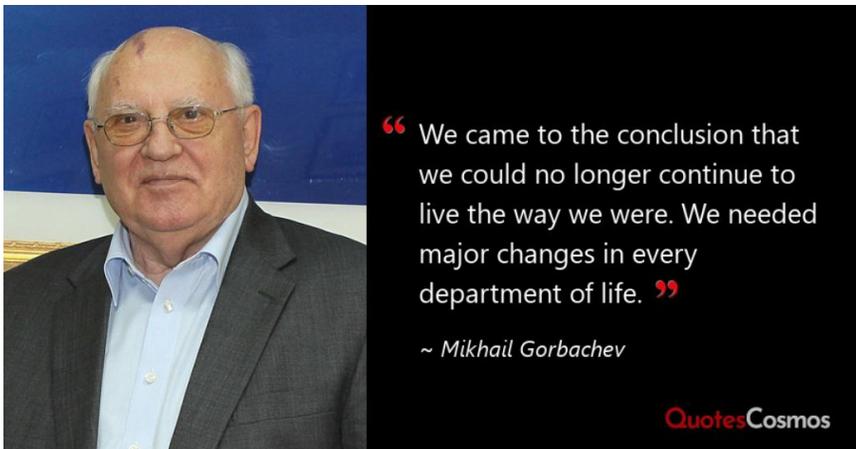
6. Joke 3

YOU'RE IN LUCK ... as can be clearly seen in this picture that I just took, I left five rolls for you to purchase! ... But methinks you better hurry to Walmart because they will likely disappear before your very own eyes. (Thanks, Ellen Pappas, for sharing.)



7. A quote I like

Thanks, Mikheil Gorbachev (1931-2022), for your service as a Russian politician who served as the last leader of the Soviet Union. The recipient of a wide range of awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize, he was praised for his role in ending the Cold War. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).



8. Thought for the day

Inspiring advice from Martha Graham to fellow dancer and choreographer Agnes de Mille:

The greatest thing she ever said to me was in 1943 after the opening of Oklahoma!, when I suddenly had unexpected, flamboyant success for a work I thought was only fairly good, after years of neglect for work I thought was fine. I was bewildered and worried that my entire scale of values was untrustworthy. I talked to Martha. I remember the conversation well. It was in a Schrafft's restaurant over a soda. I confessed that I had a burning desire to be excellent, but no faith that I could be.

Martha said to me, very quietly: "There is a vitality, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action, and because there is only one of you in all of time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and it will be lost. The world will not have it. It is not your business to determine how good it is nor how valuable nor how it compares with other expressions. It is your business to keep it yours clearly and directly, to keep the channel open. You do not even have to believe in yourself or your work. You have to keep yourself open and aware to the urges that motivate you. Keep the channel open. As for you, Agnes, you have so far used about one-third of your talent."

“But,” I said, “when I see my work I take for granted what other people value in it. I see only its ineptitude, inorganic flaws, and crudities. I am not pleased or satisfied.”

“No artist is pleased.”

“But then there is no satisfaction?”

“No satisfaction whatever at any time,” she cried out passionately. “There is only a queer divine dissatisfaction, a blessed unrest that keeps us marching and makes us more alive than the others.”

(Thanks, Julie Becton Gillum, for sharing.)

PS. Make it a great week!

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