

From: Blaineworld blaine@blaineworld.net
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To: hank@hankeder.com

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BLAINESWORLD

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo 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](#).

#1480
1.20.2025

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I always get to smile when we find some Moon Pies in a local convenience store.



B. On the other hand, our amazing cat Kismet wasn't so happy recently. He woke up and inquired rather loudly, "Where's my breakfast?"

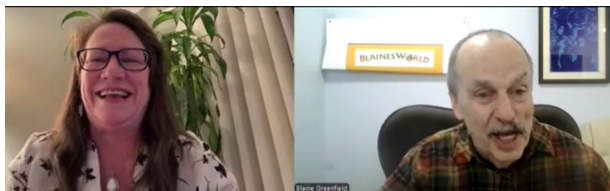


C. I had the pleasure of hosting three BLAINESWORLD webcasts this past week. They can all be found by clicking: [Here.](#)

(1) 1.13.2025 - Ed Knight--Owner, EventQuip

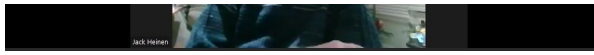


(2) 1.14.2025 - Vicki Catalano--Board President, Random Acts of Flowers



(3) 1.18,2025 - Tom Godleski and Jack Heinen discuss A Turnpike Sunset





D. Congratulations to Eric Martinez on starting a new position as VP of Digital Applications and Services at V-Soft Consulting Group, Inc.

E. Thanks to y'all!

(1) Last week's BLAINESWORLD was opened by 69% of you. That's pretty impressive, at least to me, in that a good open rate for such email is generally considered between 17-28%.

Source:

[Here](#).

(2) Also, I much appreciate the fact that so many of you share my blog with your colleagues, friends and relatives. Please continue to do so and, also, encourage them to get a free subscription by clicking:

[Here](#).

(3) For your hanging with me about the fact that I'm not presently on Facebook because I was hacked. I've just about given up hope that I will get any help from Facebook on this matter, so stay tuned for details about the fact that I might start a new account. In the meantime, you can follow me on social media via:

Instagram:

[Here](#)

and/or

Linkedin:

[Here](#).

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to Chrissoula Nikolaou White (standing in the picture below), an Assistant Vice President and Financial Solutions Advisor with Merrill, a Bank of America Company, at the 892 Merrimon Ave. location in Asheville.

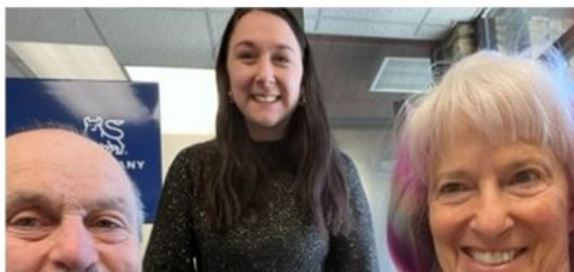
We have been satisfied Bank of America customers ever since we moved to the area some 20 years ago.

But the other day, Chrissoula knocked our socks off with her service.

She spent nearly an hour with us, answering our many questions about our account. We especially liked how she handled much of the paperwork we had to process, as opposed to just telling us to do it online when we got home. We also liked her friendly nature.

But best of all was the fact that she showed us how we could double the rate of interest we were getting on the money we had in one of our accounts.

On this same visit, we were also appreciative of the help we received from Kristina Lee--a Bank of America manager.





2. Invites

A. Announcing ...

***** CONTEST #1 (of 2025) *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of my friend Rodney Richards' Free-spirited Poems.

To quote from the book's description:

Color! You must see the pictures inside with the poems. Colorful poems, pics, icons, and graphics meshed into the total reading experience. They integrate with the surprises, shocks, laughs, meditations, stories and more, over 140, which will get and hold your interest every time. These poems are not the usual kind nor on only one theme or made from only one style or page length. Some pages have three or four short gotchas.

These nine intriguing categories cover Women and men, Playful, Americanisms, Surreal and real, Daily living, What futures hold, Children, Relationships, and Apolitical. Guaranteed, you will find them different than most.

I read these poems, and I think you'll agree with me that they are all worth your time spent reading them.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #1 in the subject line. Include in the body of the email your name and mailing address, so that if you win, I can send you a copy of this book. Entries must be received on or before deadline of 9 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025.

Note: Robin Schoen won Contest #16 (of 2024), an autographed copy of my friend Ronald Rand's SOLO TRANSFORMATION ON STAGE: A JOURNEY INTO THE ORGANIC PROCESS OF THE ART OF TRANSFORMATION. All told, there were four entries.

B. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD webcast? It can now be seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

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 evening.

If you want to join me, let me know. And for more information about the webcast, click:

[Here.](#)

C. Are you interested in shows, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a 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 course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Move Your Body on Wednesday via Zoom or in person.

To attend this course and/or any other that is being offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click:

[Here.](#)

3. FYI

A. A.I. Chatbots Defeated Doctors at Diagnosing Illness:

[Here.](#)

B. Why cats like cardboard boxes:

[Here.](#)

C. How Far Would You Go to Make a Friend?:

[Here.](#)

D. 35 Health Tips Experts Swear By:

[Here.](#)

E. Psychiatrists Discovered Doing This Just Once a Month Cuts Your Risk of Depression in Half:

[Here.](#)

4. Joke 1

It does pay to read the fine print. In fact, this one Georgia woman won a \$10,000 reward after she closely read the terms and conditions that came with a travel insurance policy she purchased for a trip to England. To find out more, click:

[Here.](#)



“I think you’ll find, Sir, our brochure says ‘safe beach.’ You must have gone into the water.”

5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I loved THE SIX TRIPLE EIGHT, a war drama inspired by the first and only Women's Army Corps unit of color to serve overseas in WWII. Despite facing racism and sexism -- and grueling working conditions -- they served their country with honor and distinction. Kerry Washington was outstanding in the leading role, and Tyler Perry's direction as spot on. Rated PG-13.

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

B. We didn't like Babygirl, which we saw at The Carolina Asheville. This erotic thriller about carnal desires is hot in the very beginning, but quickly fades and becomes a film that's actually boring. Nicole Kidman and Harris Dickinson are just OK in the leading roles, and Antonio Banderas is wasted as Kidman's' husband. Rated R.

C. And we didn't like Better Man, which we also saw at The Carolina Asheville. This musical biopic about singer-songwriter Robbie Williams traces his career through the heights of success and depths of addiction, during which much of the time he felt like a performing monkey. We did like some of the music numbers and choreography, particularly in the first half. However, the second half became both violent and boring. And we really didn't enjoy the fact that the Williams character appeared as a monkey in the entire film and that at the end he was joined by many other monkeys on screen. (It was like watching a bad

him and that at the end, he was joined by many other monkeys on screen (it was like watching a bad version of Planet of the Apes.) Rated R.

Note: To find out why Williams appears as a monkey, click: [Here](#).

6. TV alert

A. Better Call Saul: Netflix

This prequel to the Breaking Bad series follows the trials and tribulations of criminal lawyer Jimmy McGill in the years leading up to and past his fateful run-in with Walter White and Jesse Pinkman. It was terrific, especially the last episode, and I find myself missing all the actors. In particular, Tony Dalton was one of the best villains I've ever seen.

B. Back in Action: Netflix

It's been nearly a decade since the last onscreen appearance of Cameron Diaz. Now she's finally back with a vengeance thanks to this Netflix original film about a married couple (Diaz and her Any Given Sunday costar Jamie Foxx) who gave up their lives as CIA spies to have a family. Kyle Chandler, Andrew Scott and Glenn Close also star.

C. Unstoppable: Prime Video

Emmy winner Jharrel Jerome (When They See Us) stars in another fact-based drama, this time about a young man who battles for a place on the Arizona State University wrestling team despite being born with one leg. With the help of his devoted mother (played by Jennifer Lopez), he overcomes many obstacles to become an NCAA champion.

D. Ad Vitam: Netflix

This No. 1 hit on the streaming service is about an elite agent from France's counterterrorism police squad (Guillaume Canet). His motto "Ad Vitam" ("for life" in French) is apt, since his pregnant wife is kidnapped and he's got to use his very particular set of skills to save hers. The action is good.

7. Joke 2

What to do the next time you're shopping ...

A black rectangular box with yellow text that reads: "When you're at the checkout line and they ask you if you found everything, say, 'Why, are you hiding stuff?'"

8. Clips/Websites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) This section will feature music by The Turtles--either their recordings and/or covers of their music by others.

I'd especially love to see any recording you may have done of "Happy Together."

Send it to: bginbc@aol.com and put THE TURTLES in the subject line.

Note: Even if you did not do a recording, I welcome anything done by others--not only of "Happy Together," but any other Turtles' song.

(2) For this week, please view this 2002 punk cover from Simple Plan:
[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Joann Corn, for sharing.)

B. Video of the week

Went with the Wind, Carol Burnett's parody of Gone With the Wind
[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Elaine Lea Goldstein Bilk, for sharing.)

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Dion & The Belmonts, "A Teenager in Love," one of my favorites:
[Here.](#)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (1.19.2025):
[Here.](#)

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Eric Clapton:
[Here.](#)

(4) Neil (above) mentioned "Layla." To see Clapton perform the song, click:
[Here.](#)

(5) Cowboy lassoes would-be bike thief in Walmart parking lot:
[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

(6) Sidney Barnes, "Standing On Solid Ground":
[Here.](#)

Note: Sidney is a friend of mine and one helluva performer. To see more of his songs, click:
[Here.](#)

D. Here's a website that you might want to check out:

Letters of Note is an online museum of correspondence which has been celebrating the humble letter since 2009. To check it out, click:
[Here.](#)

I got a kick out of this letter sent by a 13-year-old South Carolina boy, Andy Smith, to President Reagan for help after Smith's mother declared his bedroom a disaster area. Reagan's brilliant reply follows:
[Here.](#)

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

9. Technology tip

7 warning signs your computer has been hacked — and what to do
by Chris Hoffman

Your antivirus will protect you from many online threats, but no antivirus is perfect. Truth is, your PC can still be hacked even if you're using reputable security software with a solid track record.

When we talk about your computer possibly being "hacked," that's exactly what we mean: a cybercriminal has gained access to your PC and compromised it in some way.

The hacker in question may be a criminal organization that's installing malware on millions of PCs (e.g., to spy on you and steal your credit card numbers), or the hacker may be an individual using a remote access Trojan (RAT) to personally spy on you through your webcam.

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

10. Joke 3

A man comes home from work and finds his wife admiring her breasts in the mirror. He asks, "What are you doing?"

She replies, "I went to the doctor today, and he told me I have the breasts of a 25-year-old woman."

The husband retorts, "Well, what did he say about your 50-year-old ass?"

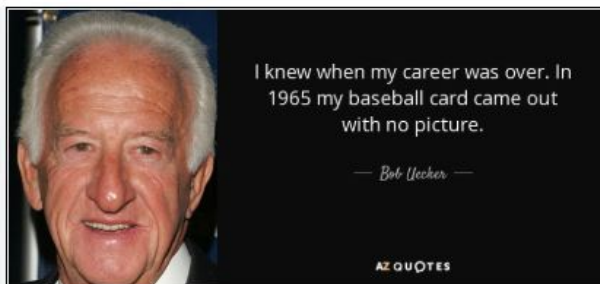
She answers, "Frankly dear, your name never came up."



11. Three quotes I like

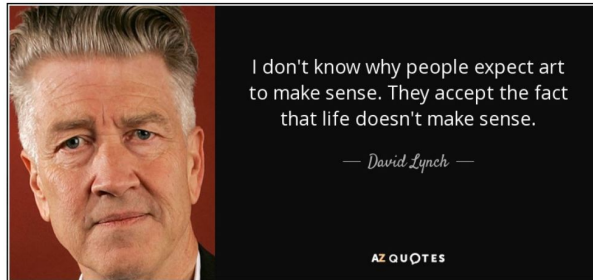
A. Thanks, Bob Uecker (1934-2025), for your career as an American professional baseball catcher and sportscaster who served as the play-by-play announcer for the Milwaukee Brewers for 54 seasons. He hosted several sports blooper shows and had an acting career that included his role as George Owens on the television program Mr. Belvedere, as play-by-play announcer Harry Doyle in the film Major League and its two sequels, and as a commercial spokesperson. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

To view Uecker's classic front row commercial, click: [Here](#).



B. Thanks, David Lynch (1946-2025), for your career as an American filmmaker, visual artist, musician and actor. In a career spanning more than fifty years, he was awarded numerous accolades, including the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Film Festival in 2006 and an Honorary Academy Award in 2019. Often described as a "visionary," Lynch was considered one of the most important filmmakers of his era. For more information about his life, click:

[Here.](#)



C. Thanks, Joan Plowright (1929-2025), for your career as an English actress whose career spanned over six decades. She received several accolades, including two Golden Globe Awards, an Olivier Award and a Tony Award as well as nominations for an Academy Award, two BAFTA Awards and a Primetime Emmy Award. She was made a Dame by Queen Elizabeth II in 2004. For more information about her life, click:

[Here.](#)



12. Thought for the day

What a fantastic idea. For more information about it, click:

[Here.](#)

Researchers gave homeless people \$750 per month for a year, no questions asked. The recipients spent the money on food, housing, transportation, clothing, and health care. And after six months, only 12% of those who received funds were still homeless.



PS. Make it a great week!

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