

#1153  
10.29.2018

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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: I'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: [bjinbc@aol.com](mailto:bjinbc@aol.com) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw *The Autumn Players'* terrific production of LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE at UNCA. Pictured, l-r: Patti Louise Smith, Ellen Pappas, Sharia Azar, Cynthia and me. Not pictured: Susan Fisher and Debbie Gurner. Special kudos to Martin May for his spot on direction.



(2) Celebrated our friend Marcy Gallagher's birthday (pictured with her husband Tom) with a delicious dinner at Vinnie's that was accompanied by fine service from Amanda.



(3) Joined our neighbor Beth Byas and her mom, Ellen Hill, for a tasty dinner at Stoneridge Tavern.

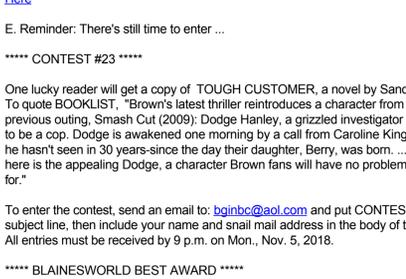


B. WPVM/FM invites you to listen to the BLAINESWORLD show from Wednesday, October 31, 2018 ... Steve Samuels (left), PRODUCTION ARTISTIC Director and Publisher of The Sublime Theatre Press, in the first half, for more information: [Here](#); and Katherine Morosani (right), Financial Advisor with Carol King and Associates and member of the Rotary Club of Asheville/ for more information: [Here](#) ... To listen to the show, please click: [Here](#) ... To view it on Facebook Live, please click: [Here](#).



C. During the week, I:

(1) Watched history come alive when I saw FROST/Nixon at NC Stage. And I can't believe that it almost makes Nixon look good—or at least when you compare him with the current resident of the White House. ... Michael MacCauley (2nd from left) and Willie Repoley (2nd from right) were both outstanding in the leading roles—and Willie's groovy sideburns were something not to be missed. Scott Keel (far right) and all the other seven members of the supporting cast shined whenever they were on stage. In addition, Angie Flynn-McIver's taut direction helped make the show the success that it was.



(2) Got ready for Halloween when I caught one of the final performances of GRAVE LULLABY at The Magnetic Theatre. I loved this classic ghost story that also had me laughing; i.e., until the twist that I never saw coming. ... There was fantastic acting from all in the talented cast: Carrie Kimbrell Kimzey, Adam Christopher Lentini, Serena Dotson-Smith, Murphy Funkhouser Capps, Jason Williams, and Rodney Smith, along with fine direction from Jamieson Riddens (who also wrote the play).



(3) Had a productive breakfast meeting at Rise 'n Shine with Michael Trayford (left) and Kevin Jameson (center), at which time we solved all the world's problems—and even got to discuss some Dementia Society of America business.



D. Congratulations to:

- (1) Mike Martinelli for being named Volunteer of the Month by the Reuter YMCA.
- (2) ASHEVILLE for being named one of the best places for business and careers by FORBES. It was ranked #15 in the country. To read more, please click: [Here](#)
- (3) Sarah Stender and Eddie Delaney on their engagement.
- (4) Linda Soltis on her marriage to Rudy Evans.
- (5) Jeff Catanese for doing such an outstanding job on Jeopardy! If you missed his appearance, you can view it by clicking: [Here](#)
- (6) Stephanie Moore, executive director of the Center for Craft, on the fact that the Center was awarded a \$975,000 grant from the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority and Explore Asheville. For more information, please click: [Here](#)

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

\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #23 \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will get a copy of TOUGH CUSTOMER, a novel by Sandra Brown. To quote BOOKLIST, "Brown's latest thriller reintroduces a character from her previous outing, Smash Cut (2009): Dodge Hanley, a grizzled investigator who used to be a cop. Dodge is awakened one morning by a call from Caroline King, a woman he hasn't seen in 30 years—since the day their daughter, Berry, was born. ... the draw here is the appealing Dodge, a character Brown fans will have no problem rooting for."

To enter the contest, send an email to: [bjinbc@aol.com](mailto:bjinbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #23 in the subject line, then include your name and snail mail address in the body of the email.... All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., Nov. 5, 2018.

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

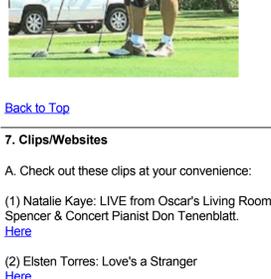
This week, it goes to Dr. Al Sternberg—my longtime friend and mentor—who passed away on October 31 at the age of 93. ... I first met Al back in 1969 when I was a floundering student at Rider University, trying to decide what I wanted to do with my life. He helped me decide that education was the career for me and largely because of him, I became a teacher. ... He quickly became my favorite professor at Rider, and I valued not only what he taught me, but his always available advice and friendship. We stayed in touch after I graduated and one of the high spots of my annual trek up North was getting together with him for lunch or dinner at the Ewing Diner. (That's us, below, when I last saw him in September.)

Al taught me so much, not only about education, but about life. Three things come to mind:

1. After my first year of teaching, I was having some minor problems at my school. He told me to quit if things were so bad. His point: I was going to always have problems wherever I was. He was right. I wound up staying for another two years and was glad that I did.
2. He told me the story of when he was running transportation for a conference, everybody was complaining. He stopped it with this classic line: "What we need is less bitching and more bitching."
3. Perhaps most importantly, he taught me by his example about how best to treat students. He did so with respect and, also, without hassling them.

For Al's obituary, please click:

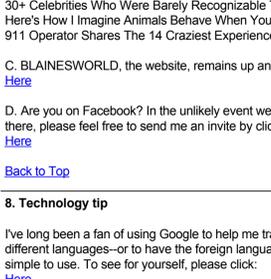
Contributions in his memory may be made to the Holocaust Awareness Museum, 10100 Jamison Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. 19116. Or you can donate online by clicking this link where you'll find the Donate button to the left: [Here](#)



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**2. FYI**

Don't forget to turn back your clock an hour before you go to bed on Saturday, Nov. 3, to avoid the horror of arriving early to church. And with all that extra time, feel free to join me in singing along to Cher's classic "If I Could Turn Back Time" by clicking: [Here](#)



FYI, part 2

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

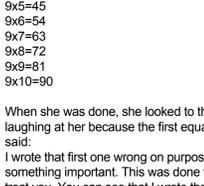
[Here](#)

- (1) Maria Porambo: I'm going to try the 'your on the air live' with the next telemarketer [mentioned in BLAINESWORLD #1152] (2) Want to Run a Good Meeting? First, Take a Comedy Class. (3) Natalie Kaye: Great movie we saw last night on Amazon prime, Mr. Church with Eddie Murphy. (4) The Sturt U Give. A great movie to see and review. Best of the year so far for us is The Heaven U Give. (5) The Simplest Way to Drastically Improve Your Life: More Sleep.

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**3. Joke 1**

The things you learn online! ... My hope is that you have a HAPPY HALLOWEEN and get all your favorite candy. And if you don't want the candy corn, feel free to share it with me—or even better, get me anything covered with chocolate and that has coconut or caramel inside. (Thanks, Linda Williams, for sharing.)



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**4. Reviews**

A. Saw MIND GARDEN, a documentary about anxiety that you have discovered, produced and directed by Drew Carson. If you watch it, and I hope you do, you'll miss who various individuals (including my friend Blaine Kerr) deal with this problem. ... It was shot over a 3-month period without a crew and shot entirely on webcams and mobile devices with no budget. How cool is that! ... Not rated, but appropriate for any mature teenager and up.

Note: The above will be available for free within the next week if you are an Amazon Prime member in the USA or UK. For everyone else, it will be available for purchase on Amazon.

B. Heard ONWARD: HOW STARBUCKS FOUGHT FOR ITS LIFE WITHOUT LOSING ITS SOUL (HighBridge Audio) by Howard Schultz with Joanne Gordon and read by Stephen Bowbyli. This candid book documents how Schultz, the president and chairman of Starbucks, made the unprecedented decision to return as CEO eight years after he stepped down from the daily oversight of the company to become chairman. ... I especially liked the parts about how Starbucks helped New Orleans rebuild after the devastating hurricane and, also, how the company got people to vote via a successful promotion. ... Schultz would certainly have my consideration if he ever chose to run for president. I'd even vote for him if he brought back the Vivanno drink!

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**5. TV alert**

A. LAST B-24: Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [pbs.org](http://pbs.org)) In 1944, World War II US, bomber Tulsamerican crashed into the Atlantic. Seven soldiers survived and three disappeared. This Nova installment documents how the plane's wreckage provided clues as to what happened.

B. BARONESS VON SKETCH SHOW: Season premiere on Thursday, Nov. 8, at 9 p.m. on IFC The all-female sketch show returns. VOGUE calls it "the best thing to come out of Canada since Ryan Gosling."

C. GREAT PERFORMANCES: ROGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S THE SOUND OF MUSIC: Friday, Nov. 9, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [pbs.org](http://pbs.org)) This British version first aired live overseas in 2015. It stars Julian Ovenden, who you may recognize from DOWNTON ABBEY, and Kara Tointon.

D. IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE: Movie premiere on Saturday, Nov. 8, at 8 p.m. on Hallmark Channel One of my favorite times of the year; i.e., when they start showing Christmas movies. This one is a budget-slashing school superintendent who travels district to district delivering bad news.

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**6. Joke 2**

A husband and wife were golfing when suddenly the wife asked, "Honey, if I died would you get married again?" The husband replied, "No, sweetie." ... The woman said, "I'm sure you would." ... So the man answered, "OK, I would. But only if you wanted me to do so." ... After a few minutes, the wife inquired, "Would you let her sleep in our bed?" ... And the husband responded, "I guess so. But only with your blessing." ... Then the woman asked, "Would you let her use my golf clubs?" ... The man replied, "No, she's left-handed."



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**7. Clips/Websites**

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Natalie Kaye: LIVE from Oscar's Living Room, with Baritone Vocalist Keith Spencer & Concert Pianist Don Teneblatt. [Here](#)
- (2) Elsten Torres: Love's a Stranger [Here](#)
- (3) Lois Rosenthal: I Choose Love [Here](#)
- (4) Roberta Gurwood: Madam Secretary - A Powerful Message [Here](#)
- (5) Ed Hackett: Bobby Hackett: The Monster Mash [Here](#)
- (6) Bill Moore: Climate change [Here](#)

B. Check out Bored Panda if you want to visit a website that deals with everything funny on the internet. It focuses heavily on listicle contents. To check it out, please click: [Here](#)

If you do, you'll see such posts as:  
30+ Celebrities Who Were Barely Recognizable This Halloween  
Here's How I Imagine Animals Behave When You Aren't Looking  
911 Operator Shares The 14 Craziest Experiences She Had While Working

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**

I've long been a fan of using Google to help me translate anything into over 100 different languages—or to have the foreign language translated back to me. It is soooo simple to use. To see for yourself, please click: [Here](#)

Google also has a translation app that you can use on cellphone. For more information about that, please click: [Here](#)

But here's the really cool part. You can use the above to say what you want aloud. So the next time you're speaking with somebody who only speaks, for example, Sindhi, just take out your phone and click on the app. Then you can say what you want in English and the other person will hear that in Sindhi. For an example of how this works, please click: [Here](#)

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**9. Joke 3**

Sometimes you just have to listen! (Thanks, Michael Glaeser, for sharing.)



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**10. A quote I like**

"To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing."—Elbert Hubbard (1856-1915), American writer, publisher, artist and philosopher

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**11. Thought for the day**

One day, a teacher wrote the following on the board:  
9x1=7  
9x2=18  
9x3=27  
9x4=36  
9x5=45  
9x6=54  
9x7=63  
9x8=72  
9x9=81  
9x10=90

When she was done, she looked to the students, and they were all laughing at her because the first equation was wrong. The teacher then said:  
I wrote that first one wrong on purpose because I wanted you to learn something important. This was done for you to know how the world will treat you. You can see that I wrote the right thing 9 times, but none of you congratulated me for it. But you all laughed and criticized me because of the one wrong thing I did.

So this is the lesson:  
The world will never appreciate the good you do a million times, but will criticize the one wrong thing you do. Don't get discouraged. Always rise above all the laughter and criticism. Stay strong! (Thanks, Leslie Daniel-Jack, for sharing.)

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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) Brenda Lilly: THE MAN IN THE BRIGHT NIGHTGOWN. (2) Jamie Knox: Yogathon Open House Fundraiser. (3) Randy Robbins: OLLI Class Stand Up Comedy Show.

B. PANJ event

Natalie Kaye: Keith Spencer in BROTHERS ON BROADWAY.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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