



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT!

THE MOCKINGBIRD

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2005

MUSIC WORKSHOP REVIEW BY MUTE MANGO MADISON

Today in the Songwriting Workshop, we learned the twelve fundamental Blues writing rules:

1. "I got a good woman" is a bad way to begin the Blues, unless you stick something nasty in the next line like, "I got a good woman, with the meanest face in town."
2. The Blues is simple. After you get the first line right, repeat it. Then find something that rhymes - sort of: "Got a good woman with the meanest face in town. Repeat. Got teeth like Margaret Thatcher and she weigh 500 pound."
3. Walkin' plays a major part in the Blues lifestyle. So does fixin' to die.
4. Teenagers can't sing the

Blues. They ain't fixin' to die yet. Adults sing the Blues. In Blues, 'adulthood' means being old enough to get the electric chair if you shoot a man in Memphis.

5. Blues can take place in Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, and New York City but not in Hawaii or anywhere in Canada. Hard times in Minneapolis or Seattle is probably just clinical depression. You cannot have the Blues in any place that don't get no rain.

6. You have the right to sing the Blues, if: you're older than dirt; you're blind; you shot a man in Memphis; you can't be satisfied. You can't sing the Blues, if: you have all your teeth; you were once blind but now can see;

the man in Memphis lived; you have a 401K or trust fund.

7. If you ask for water and your darlin' gives you gasoline, it's the Blues. Other acceptable Blues beverages are: cheap wine, whiskey or bourbon, muddy water, black coffee. The following ar NOT Blues beverages: Perrier, Chardonnay, Snapple, Slim Fast, Dunkelbock.

8. If death occurs in a cheap motel or a shotgun shack, or by being stabbed in the back by a jealous lover, it's a Blues death. So are the electric chair, substance abuse and dying lonely on a broken-down cot. You can't have a Blues death if you die

(Continued on page 4)

READER POLL: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE LUNCH COMBO MEAL?

- A) *Brownie Sundae*
- B) *Foot Loops Pizza*
- X) *French Fry Sundae*
- A) *Chocolate Milk Sugar Pops*
- E) *Orange-Guava-Broccoli Juice*
- Φ) *Liver-n-Onions Sundae*

THE TRIUMPH OF TECHNOLOGY AND WIZARDRY

While the Mockingbird is ordinarily dedicated to the dissemination of real news, as opposed to the practice of other, lesser newspapers, we do recognize that our readers are interested in stories of individuals triumphant over all odds. Thus it is with some humility that we confess that there were

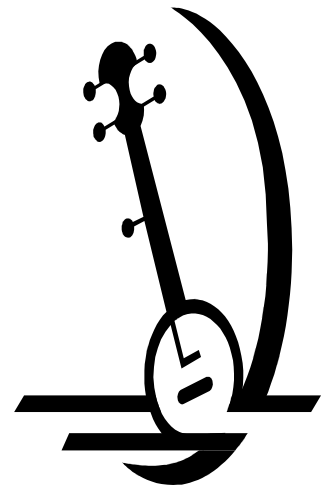
some difficulties in bringing this issue of the mighty 'bird to press.

First, it is indeed difficult to type while one is limited to goldfish fins. Some of the stories filed today would have been impossible to print without recent improvements in voice-recognition technology.

Oddly, fish voices are rather more recognizable than human ones, a possible insight into the minds of Microsoft programmers.

After waiting hours for the Hogwarts wizardry team to undo the goldfish spell, your editor narrowly es-

(Continued on page 3)



THE NEWS — IT SHALL BE FREE



Newspaper thief?
Not one of ours.

Apparently, newspaper distribution is more difficult than we thought. A certain newspaper which shall go nameless (but whose initials are Kinetoscope) has criticized our distribution methods and locations, but we have continued to get our message (should we ever find one) out to the public. Perhaps it was a garbage can, but it served.

Now it appears that the Collide-O-Scope has lost their

inbox and have nothing to write about (never stopped us!). We hear they suspect our fine staff of helping these submissions into a container beneath our papers. Nothing could be further from the truth.

For all we know, there might be news thieves out there, but buddy, it ain't us. Perhaps they really did run out of tissue somewhere outside the cafeteria. We prefer to think

that the literate and engaged community of Unitarian Universalists at Summer Institute eagerly snatch up every copy of both the Mockingbird and the Cinemascope, devouring each for the few crumbs of real news and the great fun to be found within.

Besides, if we interrupted the spread of the Endoscope, what else would we have to poke fun at? That's our story, and we're sticking to it.

THE LIGHT BULB STORY

HOW MANY ____ DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHT BULB?

Anglicans - 8
One to call the electrician and 7 to say how much they liked the old one better
Charismatics - 1 Only one. Hands are already in the air
Lutherans—Change !?!?!?!?
Mennonites - 15 At least 15; 1 to change the bulb and 3 or 4 committees to approve the change... Oh, and a casserole

Pentecostals - 10
One to change the bulb and 9 to pray against the spirit of darkness
Presbyterians - None God has predestined when the lights will go on and off
Roman Catholics - None They use candles
Unitarians: "We choose not to make a statement either in favour of or against the need for a light bulb. However, if in your own journey, you

have found that light bulbs work for you, that is fine. You are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your personal relationship with your light bulb. Present it next month at our annual Light Bulb Sunday Service, in which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, 3-way, long-life, and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence."

YOU MIGHT BE
UU IF...
YOU GET MAIL
FROM
COMMITTEES
YOU DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
WERE ON..

KENT CHURCH ATTENDANCE SCANDAL!



Cooking the books?

What is the real story behind the attendance numbers at Summer Institute this year? Our investigative reporter has uncovered scandalous activities associated with a certain church's unusual attendance this year. In short, it appears that some of the families included in the Kent census are not, in fact, Kent members at all! Our own Pearl E. White

had this conversation with a youth the other day:

PW: "What church are you from?"

KY: "That one with all the people."

PW: "You mean the Kent church?"

KY: "Um, yeah, that's it."

PW: "Hm, do you live in Kent?"

KY: "Uh, no, not really."

PW: "Have you been to the Kent church?"

KY: "No."

It also seems their attendance erroneously includes the Kent family and anyone seen smoking Kent cigarettes. This clearly suggests the Kent influence at SI is exaggerated.

HUMAN TRADING AT SUMMER INSTITUTE GAME

Remember the instructions we were all given regarding the game of “Peek?” That you were absolutely required to take your Peek prize home with you, it could not be left at Summer Institute?

It has come to our attention that nefarious agents are using the Peek game rules to engage in human trafficking. It appears that human infants were sometimes placed in the larger paper bags beneath Peek players’ chairs. These infants appeared to have been

drugged to keep them from crying during the game, although with the din of game play, it was hard to tell the difference.

Our sharp-eyed (and -eared) reporter noticed the silent but heavy infants in several of the Peek prize bags. Observations of several of these infants from earlier in the week demonstrate that the infants involved tended to be the more vocal and demonstrative individuals of the Summer Institute community.

This shameful activity cannot stand, and the leaders of the SI committee and the youth program need to answer for this action. The notorious “Hens and Chicks” crime family (not to be confused with the “Fens and Geckos” family) are certain to have their fell hands in this sordid business. Any Peek player with an unexpected infant in their prize package is urged to contact the SI committee at once.

THE INFANTS
INVOLVED
TENDED TO BE
THE MORE
VOCAL AND
DEMONSTRATIVE

PEAN TO SWEET ELLISON

—*Anon.* All hail the lovely Allison,

Velut Luna, statu variabilis El-laison.

Semper crecis, outde crecis,

Fortunae rota, ho-o-o-lio,

Vita decrebus audetis!

The voice of truth and beauty

She brings to us the sacred news,

Our beloved SI cutie.

COMMUNITY LEADER SURVIVES ATTEMPT ON LIFE.

(Continued from page 1)

caped another attempt on his life riding on a shuttle cart on the Middle Path. This presumably was the result of the hit squad called out by the Chest Ties clan, but all their plans were for naught.

Combined with the “unrelated” power outage planned for parts of campus,

this edition seemed certain to fail. But no, we do not hold grudges here at the Mockingbird offices.

After all, the Hogwarts Defense against the Dark Arts team was successfully able to reverse the goldfish spell, and after a frank and informative discussion with the Summer Institute Fairy, not to mention a certain Ty Priter of the

Periscope, we believe all misunderstandings have been cleared to everyone’s satisfaction. Although it should be said that I never attended a college in Gahanna, Ohio. My beloved *alma mater* Ptomaine University in upstate New York. PU taught me everything about journalism.

By the way, the Ransom birds are, of course, *Mockingbirds*.



BEER WORKSHOP UPDATE *BY JOE SIXPACK*

The beer workshop promises to be both fun and informative. Fried Cal, the workshop leader, kicked off the first day with some safety tips about drinking beer:

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol:

- may leave you wondering what the hell happened to your bra.
- may make you think you are whispering when you are not.
- is a major factor in dancing like an idiot.
- may cause you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them.
- may cause you to think you can sing.
- may lead you to believe that ex-lovers are really dying for you to telephone them at four in the morning.
- may make you think you can logically converse with other members of the opposite sex without spitting.
- may make you think you have mystical Kung Fu pow-

ers, resulting in your getting your butt kicked.

- may cause you to roll over in the morning and see something really scary.
 - is the leading cause of inexplicable rug burns on the forehead.
 - may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.
 - may lead you to believe you are invisible.
 - may lead you to think people are laughing WITH you.
 - may cause a disturbance in the time-space continuum, whereby gaps of time may seem to literally disappear.
- After a beer break, Fried Cal moved to lighter topics. We were taught the difference between sipping and chugging. Fried said we needed to know the difference; we would not be doing any "sipping" in this workshop, as we only have an hour and a half. We also learned to sniff

the bottle cap before we chug the bottle, just like a real connoisseur.

By the end to today's workshop, we were taught the following beer-drinking standard, and given the homework assignment to lead the singing of this in the pub tonight:

Do – I use, to buy my beer
 Re – The guy who pours my beer
 Mi – The guy, who drinks my beer
 Fa – A long way to the john
 So – I'll have another beer
 La – I'll have another beer
 Ti – No thanks, I'll have a beer

That will bring us back to Do (I use, to buy my beer...)
 Tomorrow we are going to learn the proper use of the funnel and hose method. Fried Cal said this may also result in a lesson of how to talk to Ralph on the big white phone, whatever that means.

"BEER IS
 PROOF GOD
 LOVES US,
 AND WANTS
 US TO BE
 HAPPY."
 — BENJAMIN
 FRANKLIN

TELL ME WHY?

Tell me why the stars do shine,
 Tell me why the ivy twines,
 Tell me why the sky is blue,
 And I will tell you just why I
 love you.

Nuclear fusion makes stars to
 shine.

Phototropism makes ivy twine,
 Dust and diffraction; the sky
 turns blue,

Androgen hormones are why I
 love you.



MUSIC WORKSHOP GETS BLUES

(Continued from page 1)

during a tennis match or while getting liposuction.
 11. Persons with names like Michelle, Amber, Jennifer, Debbie, and Heather can't sing the Blues no matter how many men they shoot in Memphis.

12. Blues Name Starter Kit:
 a. name of physical infirmity (Blind, Mute, Lame, etc.) b.

plus name of fruit (Lemon, Lime, Kiwi, etc.) c. last name of President (Jefferson, Johnson, Fillmore, Clinton, etc.)
 For example: Blind Lime Jefferson, Pegleg Lemon Johnson or Lame Kiwi Clinton, etc. (Well, maybe not "Kiwi.")

Hope to see you all there tomorrow, when we are to learn about the intricate harmonies of Rap music.