

Humor Section

Why don't Buddhists vacuum in the corners?

A: Because they have no attachments.

Why are there so few Buddhist rhythm and blues bands?

A: Because Buddhists don't have any soul.

Zen make words:

How many words can you form using the following letters?

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw

xyz

From 2008:

Building on the success of the SexUUality class, a new program has been developed to be known as OOL (Our Old Lives). Seen as a continuation of the OWL program, OOL will form the basis for UUAARRPP curriculum. Topics to be covered include "kissing with dentures," "How to help your partner maintain the E-word (Elections!) at least

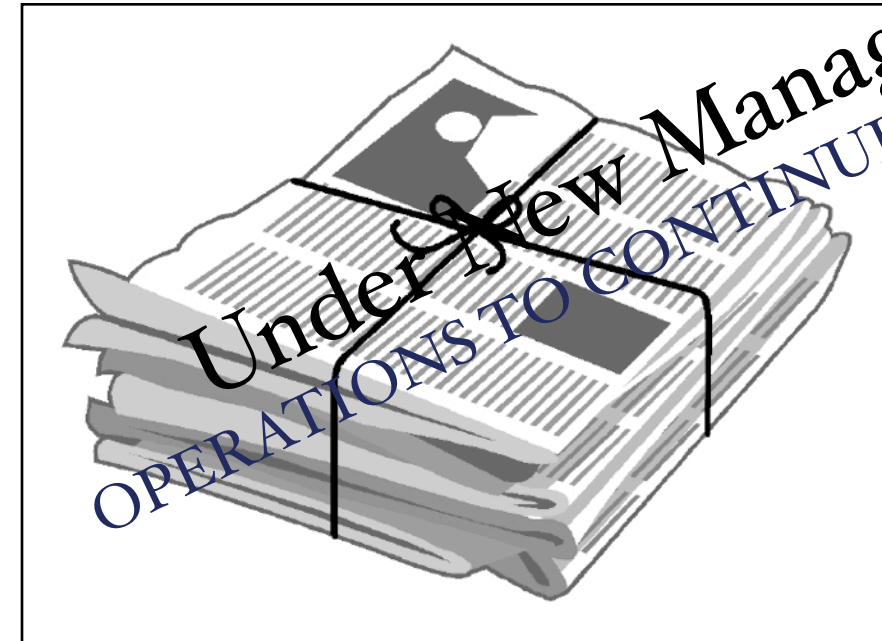
twice a year," and "Straight sex vs. Gay sex--if one's not working, give the other a try."



Monks who failed to achieve enlightenment were given the alternate answer to "what is the sound of one hand clapping?"



The Mockingbird



Change Comes to the Mockingbird

BK, Publisher, the Kaleidoscope

It is with much sadness that I tell you that the current management of the Mockingbird was arrested earlier last evening by agents of Homeland Security.

The Justice Department is taking a dim view of subversive activities, and religious organizations employing foreign nationals have received closer scrutiny.

Recent admissions by Mockingbird staff of foreign involvement attracted the attentions of UUINS agents recently investigating SI.

The publisher and editor of the Mockingbird were arraigned this morning and released under bond following a short hearing. Charges will be determined at a future time, and DHS spokesfolks indicate a Guantanamo detention is not warranted at this time, but future interrogation of these subversive individuals may yet be warranted.

The Kaleidoscope will endeavor to keep this important evening newspaper alive in the foreseeable future, although the economic issues of newspapers in general are widely known.

It is with some sadness that we report that times are tough at the Mockingbird. Like many daily newspapers, it's getting harder to make ends meet, attend workshops and events not our own, and still make it to the pub in the evenings.

Much as our sister newspaper, the Christian Science Monitor, we will be switching formats to become a weekly newspaper at next year's Summer Institute.

Besides, the other SI newspaper could use our superior technology.

Thanks for your support, it's been quite a treat!

Greatest Hits from years past..

From 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 are NOT Blues beverages: Perrier, Chardonnay, Snapple, Slim Fast.
 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 during a tennis match or while getting liposuction.
 9. Persons with names like Michelle, Amber, Jennifer, Debbie, and Heather can't sing the Blues no matter how many men they shoot in Memphis.
 10. Blues Name Starter Kit: a. name of physical infirmity (Blind, Mute, Lamé, 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 Lamé Kiwi Clinton, etc. (Well, maybe not "Kiwi.") Hope to see you all there tonight, when we are to learn about the intricate harmonies of Rap music.

From 2006:

Polka Fight Breaks Out During Recent Orchestra Rehearsal

Members of the Folk Orchestra were battered and bruised after yesterday's practice. According to Orchestra Conductor Pat Lorelei, the musicians fought over which polka to play during the group's final performance.

"The clarinets wanted to play the Clarinet Polka and the trombone section wanted to play the Out Behind the Barn Polka and things just got nasty from there," said Pat. Musicians argued and fought about whether to play the Beer Barrel Polka, the Chicken Dance, the Popping Corn Polka, the Scarecrow Polka or the Up, Up and Away Polka (made popular by the Fifth Dimension).

Editor's Note: These are all actual names of polkas.

Turning to the democratic process, Pat made the final decision of which polka will be played. Pat has several new rules for the musicians as well:

- Musicians may not use their instruments to poke anyone nearby; and
- All musical spit must be discarded responsibly.



Also from 2006:

SI Fairy Crashes in Rainstorm

Stunned children look on in horror; some say unidentified flying objects are to blame.

Last evening at about 6:30, in the midst of the torrential downpour, the SI Fairy was involved in a catastrophic landing down the hill behind Gund Cafeberia. Witnesses describe the impact as "like a lightning strike" as the fairy, overburdened with carrying John in from Pittsburgh and clearly fighting the storm rains and wind, apparently struck a tree on the edge of the clearing.

Upon seeing the flash of the initial impact, witnesses in the Cafeberia turned to see the tree topple into nearby power lines, flames rising in the midst of the rains. Our intrepid reporter was on the scene, and obtained this photograph of the crash site.

Mysterious Luminous Objects

We are not normally to be found in the tinfoil-hat section of Rosse Hall, but you can see from the photo of the impact that our beloved SI fairy was being followed by some mysterious objects as she came in for her ill-fated landing. We are certain the wind and rain, not to mention the extra load she incurred trying to bring in every SI attendee possible, would have been enough to tax any lesser fairy. But our SI fairy is formidable, indeed (we remember!), and such a difficult landing would have been well within her abilities. But what nefarious craft were in close pursuit last night? Were these aliens? Or was the Department of Homeland Security tailing our Fairy in stealth aircraft, revealed only in the glare of the conflagration? Time will tell, dear readers.

The operations of the Mockingbird will be continued in a reduced format and under the auspices of the Kaleidoscope Publishing Group, Gambier, Ohio.

Past issues of the Mockingbird as always are available at www.SIMockingbird.com



From 2007: Hymn # 131 Beer Will Guide Us

Beer will guide us,
if you will try it,
Beer inside us will
lead the way.

On the road from
water to wisdom,
Beer will guide us
through the dark night.

If you cannot sing
like angels,
If you cannot speak
before thousands,
Beer will rise from
deep within you
And you will believe
you can change the
world!