

Miscellaneous Ramblings.....

Another irreverent interlude from my office to yours. John Julis



I have been asked to sit on the board of the "Big Wood Corporation" as a consultant. This should be an exciting experience for me at this station in my life. Big Wood is developing some exciting new products for the performance aftermarket. Look for a very high-tech ad program debuting soon.

1908... Just 100 years ago

- Only 14% of the homes had bathtubs.
- Only 8% of the homes had telephones.
- Only 8000 cars & 144 miles of paved roads.
- Average wage, 22 cents an hour.
- 90% of all doctors had NO college education.
- The American flag had only 45 stars.
- Population of Las Vegas, NV was 30.

The attitude of the financial institutions we bailed out (with our money) is disgusting. Our government gave them the money and now they refuse to say what is happening to it. Large salaries, bonuses and lavish parties are still the way of life for these banks. Why are we powerless to stop this largess?

How can a product be "new & improved?" If it is "new" then there was nothing like it before to improve on or if it is an "improvement" then the product isn't new. Can anyone explain this?

If your wife is yelling at the front door and your dog is barking at the back door, who do you let in first? The dog of course, as he will stop barking once inside.

How we fall for "tradition?" Some think the act of squeezing a lime into a Corona beer is a time-honored Mexican tradition. The truth is, a bartender started this ritual in 1981 to see if he could start a trend. This simple act caught on like wildfire and helped Corona take over the number one spot in imported beer over Heineken.

Love him or hate him, but we have to respect Robby Gordon (the so-called "bad boy" of NASCAR) for his performance in the Dakar Rally. The rally moved to South America because of terrorist's threats. The new course is said to be even more challenging than the prior ones in Africa. As of this writing, Robby finished in third overall, after rebounding from a dismal 11th place in the first stage. I cannot imagine the logistics of the support crew one would need to race an event like that.

I joined a health club last year and spent about \$400.00 and haven't lost a pound. I guess you have to go there.

Why steering wheels are on the left...

A 1909 Ford sales brochure noted that Ford moved the Model T steering to the left rather than the standard right hand position for cars of that time period. Their reasoning was that it was safer for passengers exiting on the right (curb side) rather than into the traffic lane. Ford also noted that the left hand driving position allowed the driver better visibility and better judgment when passing oncoming vehicles. Ford's popularity of the Model T made left hand steering the norm throughout the United States. (In 2009 the Model T turns 100 years of age.)

A few words credited to Thomas Jefferson:

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not." ~ Thomas Jefferson

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government." ~ Thomas Jefferson

Mariah Carey quote:

Mariah Carey was one of the first celebrities to comment on the death of the King of Jordan. Mariah told CNN "I'm inconsolable at the present time, I was a very good friend of Jordan, he was probably the greatest basketball player this country has ever seen, we will never see his like again." When told by reporters that it was King Hussein of Jordan who had died and not Michael Jordan, Mariah was then led away by her security in a state of "confusion." (She is one of the celebrity people who chastised us for the way we vote.)

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply the son-in-law with all of the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we now know as the "honey-moon."

Little known facts:

In 1945 a computer at Harvard malfunctioned and Grace Hopper, who was working on the computer, investigated, found a moth in one of the circuits and removed it. And now, when something goes wrong with a computer, it is said to have a bug in it.

That's all for this time
John Julis

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