
Random Thoughts

Volume 01 Issue 06

Woodstock, IL

File Date: Feb. 16, 2000

Random People

Aunt Irene died Feb. 13th, 2000 We will miss her.

Random Thoughts

Do a random act of kindness today.

Pick up a piece of litter and put it where it belongs.

Smile at a little kid you don't know.

Thank someone for just now reason.

Random Mistakes

I made a booboo. Shirley's birthday is not Feb, 19th. It's the 26th. Remember to wish her a happy day.

Random Email

The little old couple walked slowly into McDonalds that cold winter evening. They looked out of place amid the young families and young couples eating there that night. Some of the customers looked admiringly at them. You could tell what the admirers were thinking. "Look, there is a couple who has been through a lot together, probably for 60 years or more!" The little old man walked right up to the cash register, placed his order with no hesitation and then paid for their meal. The couple took a table near the back wall and started taking food off of the tray. There was one hamburger, one order of French fries and one drink. The little old man unwrapped the plain hamburger and carefully cut it in half. He placed one half in front of his wife. Then he carefully counted out the French fries, divided them in two piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife. He took a sip of the drink, his wife took sip and then set the cup down between them. As the man began to eat his few bites of hamburger the crowd began to get restless. Again you could tell what they were thinking. "That poor old couple. All they can afford is one meal for the two of them." As the man began to eat his French fries one young man stood and came over to the old couples table. He politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple to eat. The old man replied that they were just fine. They were used to sharing everything. Then the crowd noticed that the little old lady hadn't eaten a bite. She just sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally taking turns sipping the drink. Again the young man came over and begged them to let him buy them something to eat. This time the lady explained that no, they were used to sharing everything together. As the little old man finished eating and was wiping his face neatly with a napkin the young man could stand it no longer. Again he came over to their table and offered to buy some food. After being politely refused again he finally asked a question of the little old lady. "Maam, why aren't you eating. You said that you share everything. What is it that you are waiting for?" She answered, "the teeth"

Kim

Random Quotes

But that's what being an artist is -- feeling crummy before everyone else feels crummy. - The New Yorker

Acting is not being emotional, but being able to express emotion. - Kate Reid

Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced. - Leo Tolstoy

Another unsettling element in modern art is that common symptom of immaturity, the dread of doing what has been done before. - Edith Warton

I passionately hate the idea of being with it, I think an artist has always to be out of step with his time. - Orson Welles, 1966

A critic is a legless man who teaches running.

What garlic is to food, insanity is to art.

Beauty is excrescence, superabundance, random ebullience, and sheer delightful waste to be enjoyed in its own right. - Donald Culross Peattie, "An Almanac for Moderns"

Remember that the most beautiful things in the world are the most useless; peacocks and lilies, for example. - John Ruskin, "The Stones of Venice, I"

Random Stories

And No Cable Either!

For those who crave primitive winter camping on a frosty Maine weekend,

a non-profit organization has something just for you -- uninsulated cabins without electricity or running water in a wooden area on Casco Bay.

Recompense Shore Campsites is open to winter campers this year for the first time since it began operations nearly 40 years ago. Managers tell the Portland Press Herald it's a chance to enjoy nature in a solitary setting without the essentials of civilization.

Campers must be a hardy lot. They must trek through unplowed trails to the cabins -- hauling their food and water, plus wood for the tiny stove inside. They must cart away all their trash.

For the privilege, they pay \$30 a night for the cabin. A campsite for those preferring to pitch a tent costs \$10. Should campers get restless, they can always hike to Freeport, 15 miles away, for a different kind of recreation -- shopping.

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Freeport is headquarters to L.L. Bean, the world-famous giant sports outfitter, plus some 150 fashion factory outlets. (Thanks to UPI's David Haskell in Boston)

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ARE YOU ONLINE RIGHT NOW?

According to a new study, the Internet is promoting fragmentation of American society, transforming the culture into a collection of individuals who spend so much time at computer terminals that they lose personal touch with their world.

Researchers at Stanford University's Institute for the Quantitative Study of Society looked into the online habits of 4,113 people -- one-fourth of whom said they used the Internet more than five hours a week and don't spend as much time with friends and relatives.

Ten percent of those surveyed said that they spent less time socializing outside the home because of the amount of time they spent surfing the net.

Norman Nie, the director of the institute, told the Washington Post those kinds of trends are behind Ford Motor Co.'s recent decision to give each of its employees a personal computer and an Internet connection. Nie says the company "just bought themselves hundreds of thousands of hours of free labor." On the other hand, studies show that popular Web sites attract lots of visitors during regular working hours, suggesting that workers may be putting off company business at the office with the intention of catching up later at home.

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Random Questions and/or Answers

Question: Who was the first American-born child?

Answer: Virginia Dare was born in 1587 to English settlers of Roanoke Island. She was given the name Virginia because she was the first Christian born in Virginia. Her grandfather left for England just days after her birth to get aid for the colonists. When he finally returned in 1590, the colony had disappeared and Dare's fate is not known.

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Random Poetry

I Keep On Trying

I like to write poetry,
I wish it was good,

I look for rhymes
Till I'm out of the mood.

I'll keep on trying
And the day'll come soon
When I find the right word
That build rhyme with June.

There, I did it,
It's easy you see
Let your mind wonder
It'll fill you with glee.

To win a prize,
Big or small,
Would be a big thrill,
Anything at all.
Esther Metras
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Random Event

Birthdays

Feb 16 Nicky
Feb 17 Devyn
Feb 22 Washington's Birthday
Feb 26 Shirley
Mar 6 Marie
Mar 9 Sandi
Mar 16 Marcia
Mar 21 John

Happy President's Day