

The Order of the Earth

News, Views and Musings About Our Planet

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Photo by John Stoneman

Jay Wopperer (dark jacket, tan pants and blue hat) and Larry Beahan (blue shirt, yellow jacket around waist) giving the lunch break lecture at a US Energy well site just off the Allegheny State Park (ASP) property. This well is on Bradford Water Authority property just a few feet inside the Pennsylvania state line and, literally, a few yards off the Blacksnake Mountain trail in the ASP.

People Learn Hazards of Drilling

Report From the Great North Woods

By John Stoneman
Bradford, Pennsylvania

Well, this month I thought I might just catch everybody up on what is going on in the Northwest portion of the state. I will touch on a few topics of particular interest to us environmentalists in the Northwest corner of Pennsylvania.

Early in October, Saturday October 3rd, I and a few members of my outdoors club, the Allegheny Outdoor Adventure Group, joined some great people across the border in Allegany State Park, New York (ASP) for a hike and an environmental lecture. (There are five different spellings for "Allegheny.")

The hike was hosted by a coalition of outdoor groups called "The Friends Allegany," who focused their attention on a pristine area in the ASP, namely the Blacksnake Mountain area that is planned to be drilled by US Energy. Just south of the NY/PA line, US Energy has drilled several wells and has caused problems in several different areas.

In Pennsylvania, US Energy has already been given over \$200,000 in fines by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and caused "water problems" in the Hedgehog Hollow and Interstate Parkway areas in Bradford. Water wells in those areas (especially Hedgehog) are undrinkable and in one case, the water actually will light on fire!

US Energy is apparently going to start drilling in the Allegheny State Park and will likely do their "typical" grid of an oil and/or gas well every 500 feet or so. It will completely destroy a very pristine area favored by many hikers and naturalists.

Dr. Laurence T. Beahan of the Sierra Club's Niagara Group said, "It's absolutely frightening to have this company that played so fast and loose with the environment in the Allegheny National Forest come to Allegheny State Park."

As of right now, the plans to



Photo by John Stoneman

Covered Bridge over the spillway at the Marilla Reservoir in Bradford, Pennsylvania. The water is clean enough to drink right out of the Reservoir . . . so far!

drill are held up, while the Attorney General of New York State checks out their proclaimed "ownership" of mineral rights. Apparently US Energy didn't really have clear title to mineral rights they thought, or said, they owned.

The hike we attended was led by Jay Wopperer and Larry Beahan. Some of the groups represented were the Sierra Club the Adirondack Mountain Club and the Allegheny Outdoor Adventure Group, as well as others whose names I didn't catch. The hike was attended by some 60 people, thanks to about 30 members of a boy scout troop that also participated.

The Bradford Water Authority (BWA) in Bradford, Pennsylvania was created many years ago (before the turn of the century, 1881) to protect Bradford's water supply. The Bradford Water Authority had the foresight to set up several reservoirs to provide water to the expanding Bradford area. They have three reservoirs the size of lakes and two smaller other ones, for a total of five reservoirs. They also own all the land around them that drains into the reservoirs.

Bradford City Water Authority is unique in the fact that the Authority owns and controls the 12,000 acres that comprise the watershed. It's the largest contiguous privately owned piece of real estate in the state of Pennsylvania! We take our water seriously here in Bradford!

Fast forward to 2008 when US Energy started drilling what might end up to eventually be hundreds of wells on the watershed.

The BWA owns some or most of the mineral rights, but not all. And a lot of acres of mineral rights ended up in the hands of US Energy and, despite the critical role the watershed plays in the lives of the residents of Bradford (our drinking water for God's sake!), they continue to practice sloppy drilling and hydrofracking methods. So far they have racked up over \$200,000 in fines!

Switching gears . . . The Marcellus Shale Gas Rush!

Luckily, around here the Marcellus Shale layer is a bit thin — maybe too thin for any great gas production. So far the rumors we are hearing are that the few Marcellus wells that were put in are not really paying out as expected; but they are putting more wells in, east and southeast of us, around Potter County and points east and south of there.

One problem — probably the biggest — is the used fracking materials and brine water (that come back out of the drilled well after hydrofracking) are being trucked all the way west on Route 6, from Potter County to Warren, Pennsylvania, one of the few places in the state that is allowed

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The Awakening: Part V



This message is sent to you by the one who helps you to see and understand that you may have been deceived, The Trustworthy And True Spirit, The Most High God.

Here are a few examples of some of the smaller deceptions that may have occurred in your understanding.

- The world may have taught you that you "fall in love" and if the love does not work out, it is commonly said that when your relationship fails, you "break up," when in Truth you rise up in love. When it is real love, it never fails and, if it did fail, the Truth would be that it "broke down," not up.

- The world may have taught you that you do this or that "out of" love or kindness when the Truth would be that you would do this or that "in" love or "in" kindness.

- The world may have taught you that you love someone or something from the "bottom" of your heart. This implies the lowest love in your heart so why not love them from the "top" of your heart?

- The world may have taught you that a great lover can have a different lover every night, when the Truth is a great lover can keep their mate excited and interested throughout their entire life.

- The world may have taught you that in 1929 there was a "great" depression. What about this would have been "great" when the Truth is it was a "terrifying" depression?

- The world may have taught you that knowledge is power, when the Truth is knowledge is

responsibility and power is also responsibility.

- The world may have taught you to "take" care of friends, loved ones, animals . . . etc. The Truth is to "take" is to steal, therefore you can "give" care or you can "receive" care; you cannot take care.

- The world may have taught you that you can go to war to bring forth peace. The Truth is war brings forth war and peace brings forth peace. For thousands of years people have used war to try to bring forth peace. It has never worked and it never will.

- The world may have taught you that your thoughts, opinions and beliefs can discern the Truth, when the Truth is you must have proof, facts or evidence to discern Truth.

For example, if someone asks you if Apollo 11 actually went to the moon and you say, "No, it did not go to the moon," you could be wrong. If you say, "Yes, it did go to the moon," you could be wrong. If you say, "I do not know, I was not there," you can't be wrong. In the Kingdom of Heaven people choose to either know something or not know it.

- The world may have taught you that you have the right to your opinion. The Truth is, in the Kingdom of Heaven, no one wants to voice their opinion, not just because they are worried about their opinion being wrong, but because they do not want to mislead others.

In the Kingdom of Heaven it is OK to wonder if things are this way or that way and seek the Truth but no one wants an opinion for in the Kingdom

of Heaven everyone wants to speak and hear the Truth.

- The world may have taught you that you must wait until you die to find me, The Most High God, or to find Heaven, when the Truth is I am here now in human form and Heaven is also with me.

- The world may have taught you that you can be spiritually cleansed by fasting, sweat lodges, churches . . . etc., when the Truth is fasting may clean out your digestive system, sweat lodges may clean out your pores and churches may clean out your wallet.

If you want true spiritual cleansing, try telling the Truth without exception. Try being modest, humble, kind, compassionate, loving, giving, sharing, forgiving, charitable . . . etc.

In closing, if you have been deceived about the little things, you may have also been deceived about the big things.

It would honor me if you share all of these "Awakening" messages with all who care to listen.

Stay within the Light of My Love and My Truth.

Your Friend,
The Trustworthy And True Spirit, The Most High God

If you would like copies of the previous "Awakening" articles, contact Iona at 21431 Marlin Circle, Shade Gap PA 17255; 814-259-3680 or ionaconner@gmail.com. If you want to help with postage that would be great but if you can't, we'll send them anyhow. They are also online at www.theorderoftheearth.com starting in August 2009.

Greenland Ice Cap Melt Accelerating

BRISTOL, United Kingdom, November 12, 2009 (ENS) — Satellite observations and a state-of-the-art regional atmospheric model have independently confirmed that the Greenland ice sheet is losing mass at an accelerating rate, reports a new study by a team of British, Dutch and American scientists.

The total 2000–2008 mass loss of about 1,500 gigatons is equivalent to 0.46 millimeters per year of global sea level rise, the scientists said.

This loss of mass is equally distributed between increased iceberg production, driven by acceleration of Greenland's fast-flowing outlet glaciers and increased meltwater production at the ice sheet surface.

Professor Jonathan Bamber from the Bristol Glaciology Centre at the University of Bristol and an author on the paper said, "It is clear from these results that mass loss from Greenland has been accelerating since the late 1990s and the underlying causes suggest this trend is likely to continue in the near future."

"We have produced agreement between two totally independent estimates, giving us a lot of confidence in the numbers and our inferences about the processes," said Bamber, a glaciologist who has done previous studies of the melting tak-



Photo by Jonathan Bamber courtesy U. Bristol
A glacier off the coast of Greenland.

ing place in Antarctica.

Mass budget calculations were validated with satellite gravity observations from the twin Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) satellites, enabling the scientists to quantify the individual components of the recent Greenland mass loss.

The gravity variations that GRACE studies include changes due to surface and deep currents in the ocean and exchanges between ice sheets or glaciers and the oceans.

Warm summers in the period 2006–2008 have further accelerated the mass loss to 273 gigatons per year, said Bamber, explaining that one gigaton is

the mass of one cubic kilometer .621 cubic miles) of water.

This represents 0.75 millimeters of global sea level rise per year, he said.

If it all melted, the Greenland ice sheet contains enough water to cause a global sea level rise of seven meters (23 feet), Bamber said.

Since 2000, the ice sheet has lost about 1,500 gigatons in total, representing on average a global sea level rise of about half a millimeter per year, or five millimeters since 2000.

At the same time that surface melting started to increase around 1996, snowfall on the ice sheet also increased at about

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Endgame by Derrick Jensen

Hailed as the "Philosopher Poet" of the ecological movement, Derrick Jensen passionately explains how our industrial civilization and the persistent and widespread violence it requires, cannot last. He weaves history, philosophy, psychology, environmentalism, economics and literature into an intricate pattern of truth and resistance. The 2006 Press Action Award called Jensen's two-volume *Endgame* "the best work of nonfiction in 2006. *Endgame* is the most important book of the decade and could stand as the must-read book of our lifetimes."

I often give talks at universities and elsewhere. I gave one such talk last week. Just before I walked on stage, the person who brought me there whispered, "I forgot to tell you but I publicized this as a speech about human rights. Can you make sure to talk about that?"

I nodded agreement, although I had no idea what to say. Everything that came to me was tepid, along the lines of "Human rights are good." I may as well say I'm for apple pie and the girl next door. Even though I didn't tell her this, I think she read my face. She smiled nervously. I smiled twice as nervously back. It's a good thing we weren't playing poker.

She went out to introduce me. I thought and thought and wished there were a lot more upcoming events for her to talk about. I wished she would start announcing the day's major league baseball scores. I wished she would forecast the weather and tell the fortunes of the people in the front row. But she didn't do any of that and soon enough it was my turn.

As I walked on stage, however, I suddenly knew what I had to say, and was reminded, as I often am, how quickly the mind can work under pressure, or at least how quickly it can work those times it doesn't seize up altogether.

"Most people," I said, "who

care about human rights and who talk about them in a meaningful fashion, as opposed to those who use them as a smoke-screen to facilitate production and implement policies harmful to humans and non-humans, usually spend a lot of energy demanding the realization of rights those in power give lip service to. Sometimes they expand their demands to include things — like a livable planet — people don't often associate with human rights. People have a right to clean air, we say, and clean water. We have a right to food. We have a right to bodily integrity. Women (and men) have the right to not be raped. Some even go so far as to say that non-humans, too, have the right to clean air and water. They have the right to habitat. They have the right to continued existence."

People nodded. Who but a sociopath or a capitalist — insofar as there is a difference — could disagree with any of these?

"But," I continued, "I'm not sure that's the right approach. I think that instead of adding rights we need to subtract them."

Silence. Frowns. The narrowing of eyes.

"No one," I said, "has the right to toxify a river. No one has the right to pollute the air. No one has the right to drive a



creature to extinction, nor destroy a species' habitat. No one has the right to profit from the labor or misery of another. No one has the right to steal resources from another."

They seemed to get it. I continued, "The first thing to do is recognize in our own hearts and minds that no one has any of these rights because clearly, on some level, we do perceive others as having them or we wouldn't allow rivers to be toxified, oceans to be vacuumed and so on. Having become clear ourselves, we then need to let those in power know we're taking back our permission, that they have no right to wield this power the way they do because clearly, on some level, they, too, perceive themselves as having

the right to kill the planet or they wouldn't do it. Of course they have entire philosophical, theological and judicial systems in place to buttress their perceptions. As well as, of course, bombs, guns and prisons. And then, if our clear statement that they have no right fails to convince them — and I wouldn't hold my breath here — we'll be faced with a decision: How do we stop them?"

A lot of people seemed to agree. Then after the talk someone asked me, "Aren't these just different ways of saying the same thing?"

I wasn't sure what she meant. "What's the difference between saying I have the right to not be raped and saying to some man, 'You have no right to

rape me?'"

I was stumped. Maybe, I thought, my mind actually had seized up, only so completely that I hadn't known it. The reason the words had come so quickly is because they were just a recapitulation of the obvious. I have a few male friends who routinely take something someone else says, change a word or two or invert the sentence structure and then claim it as their own great idea. I've been known to do that myself. But then I realized there's an experiential difference between these two ways of putting it. A big one.

Pretend you're in an abusive relationship. Picture yourself saying to this other person, "I have the right to be treated with respect." Now, that may developmentally be important for you to say but there comes a point when it's no longer appropriate to keep the focus on you — you're not the problem. Contrast how that former statement feels with how it feels to say: "You have no right to treat me this way." The former is almost a supplication, the latter almost a command. And its focus is on the perpetrator.

For too long we've been supplicants. For too long the focus has been on us. It's time we simply set out to stop those who are doing wrong.

Before I go any further, I

need to be clear that it's not up to all of us to dismantle the system. Not all of us need to take down dams, factories, electrical infrastructures. Some of us need to file timber sale appeals, some need to file lawsuits. Some need to work on rape crisis hot lines and some need to work at battered women's shelters. Some need to help family farmers or work on other sustainable agriculture issues. Some need to work on fair trade and some need to work on stopping international trade altogether. Some need to work on decreasing birth rates among the industrialized and some need to give all the love and support they can to children (I've heard it said that the most revolutionary thing any of us can do is raise a loving child).

One of the good things about everything being so f*%#\$ed up — about the culture being so ubiquitously destructive — is that no matter where you look — no matter what your gifts, no matter where your heart lies — there's good and desperately important work to be done. Know explosives? Take out a dam. Know how to love and accept children, how to teach them to love themselves, to think and feel for themselves? That's what you need to do.

If you agree with my premises and arguments, yet find your-

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*Wilderness reminds us what it means to be human,
what we are connected to rather than what we are separate from.*

Terry Tempest Williams

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Global in Scope, "Down-Home" in Nature

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Note from the Editor: As we grow, we are receiving information from many different types of people. I am pleased about that because it was never my intention to simply be "preaching to the choir." You will meet new people, different people.

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The Order of the Earth News, Views and Musings About Our Planet

Our Goal: To create a hugely successful newspaper that will report the story of people around the world working to protect their land bases, strengthen local communities and achieve 90% greenhouse gas reductions by 2030.

Our Mission: To inspire and encourage readers to think seriously, act intelligently and be peaceful, compassionate, courageous and creative.

The Dream: Humans can co-exist with Nature and, once they do, both will flourish.

Masthead: We say "Volume 9" because Iona started producing a newsletter with the same name nine years ago. In 1995 Iona wrote a tiny booklet called "The Order of the Earth" and, with friends' help, made and gave away 11,000 of them. This newspaper is an expansion. The photo is of sunrise at Bay Head, New Jersey on Mothers' Day.

**DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS:
10TH OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH**

First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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**I no longer believe we can use
the system to change the system.**

Let it all fall apart.

**I no longer want to live in their world
so I must create/find my own.**

— Kim Stenley, Taneytown MD

What the World Needs Now: 350 ppm CO2

People Around the World Use Body Language to Express Concern About Global Warming: Here is Gettysburg



Eleven-year-old Davis Makes His Own Poster

Note to Davis's Dad: I apologize for losing your address. Please contact me so I can mail you a copy of this if you don't already own one. *Iona*



By Iona
Shade Gap, Pennsylvania

People from 181 countries planned over 5,200 events around the world for the 350.org International Day of Climate Action. Despite rainy weather, a good-sized crowd appeared in Gettysburg. As the rain fluctuated people gathered for the 3:50 start of speeches and the 4:30 aerial photo-shoot.

While folks were milling around the Lutheran Seminary waiting for the first speaker, a parade of Gettysburg College students and professors marched in. It was exhilarating to see the young people aware of and involved in this day's action.

Young Davis (left) struggled with sticky duct tape and sticks to support his poster. Note the umbrella. Fortunately the rain stopped just in time. A concert followed the speeches later in the afternoon.

This event was sponsored by the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, LTSG Green Task Force, Gettysburg College Department of Environmental Studies, Gettysburg College GECO, HACC Environmental Club, Mount Saint Mary's University, Adams County Library, Youth for Sustainable Future, The Center/El Centro, Borough of Gettysburg, Adams Community Television, Hundredfold Farm Community, Adams County Local Foods Network, Interfaith Center for Peace and Justice, Adams County Heritage Festival, the Unitarian Universalist Sustainable Living Group, The Ragged Edge Coffee House and La Belle Femme Victorian Costume Rentals.

Ta-da Ready!

350 Gettysburg Address

Four score and seventy thousand years ago our ancestors brought forth on this Earth a new species, conceived in harmony with the Earth, and dedicated to the proposition that all trees, birds, animals, fish and people are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great political war, testing whether that species, or any species so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met here today to address that war. We have come here to stand together and honor all who have come before and all who have yet to come. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not honor — we can not consecrate — we can not hallow — this earthly ground. Those who have struggled to do so are vastly outnumbered; our responsibility to live more sustainably on the Earth is ignored by those who are blinded by Ignorance and Greed.

The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but if we do not act soon, it will never forget how we failed to fight for the one thing which binds us all together: the Earth.

Therefore, it is for us, today, to nobly advance a global call to action that will raise awareness of the great task remaining before us: to lower our global emissions of carbon dioxide to 350 parts per million in the atmosphere. It is for us, today, to call on our leaders to finish their unfinished work and dedicate themselves to legislation that will ensure a clean world and a healthy planet for our children and our children's children for generations to come.

With increased devotion to this cause — with high resolve that the harm we have already inflicted on our Earth shall not have occurred in vain — we announce to the world our species, under the sun, shall restore harmony to this planet — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall conspire to restore hope for our future on our one precious and finite Earth.

Written by Sara W. Tower, a student at Gettysburg College.

Hillary from Frederick MD Attends D.C. 350 Event



Events like this occurred around the world and aerial photos were created to deliver to the delegates in Copenhagen who will work on negotiating an international treaty to halt climate change. Since nations aren't acting responsibly, citizens are becoming involved. This is just one. See 350.org for more information. All photos by Iona except Hillary's at right.

Busting Emissions in the Boulder Bubble

Local governments press ahead with emissions reductions regardless of the outcome at Copenhagen talks. Can those efforts carry the day if international negotiations devolve to bickering and stalemate?

Part II of a special report by DailyClimate.org.



Photo by Nathan Janowitz, Courtesy 350.org/flickr

Activists rally in front of Boulder's coal-fired power plant on 350 Day (October 24, 2009) to urge city and utility leaders to find ways to reduce carbon emissions. The Colorado city is the only government in the nation to tax residents for carbon, tacking a modest charge to city utility bills to pay for the city's Climate Smart program.

By Douglas Fischer

Daily Climate, November 11, 2009

BOULDER, Colorado — Here's what this affluent Rocky Mountain city of 100,000 does about a revenue shortfall in the darkest economic hour since the Great Depression:

It raises its carbon tax.

The city just west of Denver was the first in the nation to slap a levy on carbon emissions so it could meet Kyoto Protocol obligations.

As it became apparent this summer the city was slipping and needed more cash to revitalize emissions-cutting programs, town leaders raised the modest tax — tacked to city utility bills — to its maximum.

With diplomatic efforts to seal a post-Kyoto accord approaching a decidedly uncertain fate this December in Copenhagen, state and local leaders pushing their own emissions reductions efforts see only one choice: Proceed.

The number of cities and regional governments undertaking this transition to a low-carbon economy is growing. These efforts, leaders vow, will continue whatever the outcome of political debates in Copenhagen, Brussels or Washington, D.C.

There are, in other words, two trains heading out of the station: Those driving local change are confident their programs will continue to accelerate even if Copenhagen next month.

"The community is on board with this," said Sarah Van Pelt, author of Boulder's climate action plan who is now a special projects coordinator for the city's environmental division. "Right now our biggest detractors are saying why aren't we doing enough?"

San Diego is tying recycling, water use and energy efficiency to climate; Berkeley, California has rewritten property rules to boost solar installations; New York and California are shifting state policy to encourage a new, low-carbon economy. Twenty-nine other states have some sort of a renewable fuel standard, requiring utilities to mix a certain percentage of those fuels into their power mix.

"If nothing happens on the federal level, it's unfortunate but it's not the end of the world," said Cara Martinson, legislative analyst for the California State Association of Counties. "We'll start to see a lot more of these regional activities. It'll start to be a bottom-up approach if the national framework breaks down."

Need for a Global Solution

Whether these local efforts can produce the reductions required to avert the worst climate disruption is much debated. Many climate experts are skeptical. The necessary cuts are substantial — they require economy-wide transformation and the initiatives need to be policed by a fixed, enforceable global treaty.

"It's hard to see how they could be sufficient," said Doug Boucher, director of tropical forests and climate initiative at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

A lot of this stuff might be put on the far back burner for a while.

The Copenhagen talks are seen as crucial for several reasons. It's the date the interna-



Contrasting Views from Boulder, Colorado

Boulder's Flatirons and the Boulder Turnpike

Courtesy of Jesse Varner, flickr.

tional community — after years of negotiations — set as the time to draw up a comprehensive global solution to climate disruption.

Industry and governments need to know where emissions targets are headed post-Kyoto. December is the last chance to get a treaty ratified and in place before Kyoto expires in 2012, said Jennifer Morgan, director of the World Resources Institute's climate and energy team, who has been involved in global climate talks for more than a decade.

Local efforts help, she agreed. But the global problem needs a global solution.

"It's a huge problem around the share of the commons in the atmosphere and it's a very large economic issue," she said. "Countries need to have a sense that other main contributors to the problem — and their competitors — are moving together toward a solution."

"It's more than just the sum of the parts."

California, even more than Boulder, exemplifies local determination to curb emissions regardless of national or international stalemate. The state of 37 million people agreed in 2006 to tackle global warming. It has a mandatory greenhouse gas reporting system covering 90 percent of the state's industrial emissions. By law, the state has to ratchet those emissions down to 1990 levels by 2020 — a 24 percent cut from business-as-usual projections.

But scientists say the world needs to slash emissions 80 percent by 2050 to avoid catastrophic climate change. Boulder hasn't met Kyoto's modest target of a 7 percent cut over 1990 levels despite its tax and one of the nation's most eco-conscious populations, though city leaders say they expect to get close.

California faced a \$26 billion spending hole earlier this summer that it filled in part by pulling money from local governments. While the state managed to protect many of its climate programs, local efforts aren't so lucky.

"A lot of this stuff might be put on the far back burner for a while," Martinson acknowledged.

California's municipalities, in

fact, aren't seen as "agents of reduction" under the state's framework. There's no emissions bar under which cities must slip by a certain date.

"We are looking to forward-thinking municipalities to come up with innovative solutions," said Stanley Young, spokesman for the California Air Resources Board's climate programs.

"They're more nimble, certainly, than the state. In a sense they're able to be the test bed for these new approaches."

But at this point, he said, "it's all voluntary."

Nuts and Bolts of Emissions Cuts

Still, cities are laying an important foundation that must be in place regardless of the target ultimately set by global leaders: They're figuring out the nuts and bolts of how to cut emissions.

"Demand-side reduction requires sophisticated implementation. It needs to show up at the local level and show up for the end-user," said Steve Pomerance, the former Boulder City Councilman who helped write Boulder's carbon tax earlier in the decade.

It's no surprise that Boulder would take the lead here. The city is affluent — near the top 10 percent in the United States in per-capita income, according to the U.S. Census Bureau — and brainy. The University of Colorado, the National Center for Atmospheric Research and several other research institutions make the city a hub for science and innovation, repeatedly propelling the city to the top of Forbes' annual list of America's smartest cities.

It's also a green city, with a network of dedicated bike and hiking trails and the nation's oldest open-space program hemming development. Trails, sun, snow and mountains draw a young, outdoorsy demographic that boasts one of the most liberal voting records in the West.

In 1982 the city limited building heights that shaded lots to the north to preserve solar access on the neighboring lot. In 1987, long before most city councils had heard of global warming, the city reassessed its water plan to account for lower runoff expect-

ed in a warmer climate. It bought a crucial upstream reservoir to secure extra storage.

In 2002, with the Bush Administration stalling, Boulder decided it would meet the Kyoto protocol and the council quickly concluded it needed a way to pay for the necessary climate change programs. Many argued for a fee, which didn't require voter approval.

Pomerance, a key player in both the solar-shading law and the reservoir purchase, pushed for a tax. "Go to the voters. Say straight out here's what you want to do," Pomerance said in an interview. "That way you have a mandate. (Otherwise) you're always swimming upstream politically."

In 2006, 60 percent of Boulder's voters approved the tax.

And the city discovered the hard work had just begun.

The tax is modest — \$11 a year tacked to a typical household's energy bill. This summer the council raised the levy to its maximum, \$21 per year for the average household. It will bring in \$1.8 million next year.

The best we can expect from Copenhagen is targets. It doesn't solve problems. It just forces you to start figuring out how to deal with them.

The city offered home energy audits. It pushed biofuels and rooftop solar. It discounted energy-efficient lighting, furnaces and insulation. And six years in, the city found emissions have grown instead of shrunk.

That's the true difficulty in solving climate change, Pomerance says: World leaders can agree on targets. They can agree on a cap. But then what?

"That's just the first eighth-inch on top of a 10-foot pile of pieces. There's all these other pieces that have to go along with it," Pomerance said. "I'm a local politico. All I'm looking at is the implementation — 'OK, that's fine, now what do we do?'"

San Diego has taken a whack at that question, too.

Almost two years ago a coalition of environmental groups, utilities and government agencies decided to combine various conservation and efficiency campaigns into one umbrella marketing effort — Stand for Less.

Nowhere on the campaign's Web site or advertising materials are the words "global warming" or "greenhouse gas emissions." Instead, the focus is on using less, recycling more, saving water, consolidating errands.

The goal, said Mark Oldfield, a spokesman for the state's Department of Conservation, which is coordinating the effort, is to see whether by tackling these very concrete efforts, a more abstract goal — California's climate change objectives — can be achieved.

"It's a very simple metric," Oldfield said. "We didn't want to make it brain surgery. We wanted to look at it and see clear-cut numbers."

The program is in its infancy. It has set no targets and its survival is questionable: After spending \$1 million on start-up and an initial media campaign, the department saw its advertising budget slashed as California worked its way out of a budget hole.

"Our effort in San Diego is somewhat limited," Oldfield acknowledged. "We can't impact a lot of things directly."

"But we're hoping that by tar-

geting recycling and other things, we can impact indirectly some bigger things."

And this is where an international agreement could truly help, said Morgan, WRI's climate director.

"Local initiatives working very specifically and practically on engaging unions and companies and policy makers in making those shifts are absolutely essential," she said during a telephone interview from the Bonn climate talks earlier this summer.

"You also need to have a national policy. It makes the local job easier — 'If you go for renewables, then you get these tax incentives.'"

"And on the international level, you get a level of ambition that the country is going to work on this with the rest of the world," she added. "It's really about making people see the interdependencies that exist."

Plenty of Work

Local leaders certainly don't mean global efforts should be underestimated.

Back in Boulder, city leaders already are looking for goals beyond 2012, when Kyoto expires. Its ability to establish a post-Kyoto target, said Jonathan Koehn, the city's environmental affairs manager, will depend "most certainly" on the city's ability to decarbonize the energy supply.

And that will require an international push.

"We can meet our current target with energy efficiency (measures) and Boulder residents making differences in their everyday lives," he said. "But to move beyond that we have to move on a different playing field."

"It doesn't mean we stop the local efforts," Koehn added. But the consequence of failure in Copenhagen would likely be a prolonged onset of "meaningful and widespread" changes in the near future.

Of course, that near future holds plenty of work — and change — for local governments, with or without a framework.

"The best we can expect from Copenhagen is targets," Pomerance said. "It doesn't solve problems. It just forces you to start figuring out how to deal with them."

"The high-level targets need to be connected to plans on the ground," he added.

"What's going to happen is Congress puts in cap-and-trade and they're going to crank (carbon limits) down by 2050 — or hopefully sooner — and issue zero permits to coal plants. And the utilities will say, 'Well, what's step two?'"

"That's where the issue is going to show up. What it's going to eventually come down is plan," Pomerance said. "And what it's ultimately going to come down to is what are cities going to do, what are counties going to do, what are states going to do?"

You may contact Daily Climate editor Douglas Fischer at dfischer@dailyclimate.org and read the rest of the series at dailyclimate.org.

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Stop Militarization of Schools

Submitted by Pat Elder
Bethesda, Maryland

How Militarized Are Maryland's Schools?

Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Questions (ASVAB)

Two years ago the Pentagon released data regarding the number of ASVAB test-takers in _____ County, along with the way test results were released to the military. The data showed that _____ schools in _____ County administered the test and a total of _____ students took the ASVAB. The data also revealed that _____ students or _____% of the total number of students taking the test in _____ County had Option 8 selected. (Selecting ASVAB Release Option 8 allows school systems to protect the privacy of students by disallowing test results from being used for recruiting purposes.)

1) How many schools administered the ASVAB during the 2008-2009 school year?

2) How many students took the test in each school during the 2008-2009 school year and what release options were chosen for each?

3) Overall, what percent of students taking the test had Option 8 selected?

4) Does _____ County require parental permission to take the ASVAB?



The National Network Opposing Militarization of Youth will be integral in bringing people together to help the nation understand that providing youth with peaceful and viable alternatives to achieve success in life is an important sign of a civilized society.

Opt-Out Questions

Last year Maryland passed a law (SB 428) that requires public high schools to provide notice to parents about the right to withhold student contact information to military recruiters. The law

requires public schools to include the notice on the card requesting emergency contact information for the student.

1) Does _____ County include the notice to parents about the right to withhold stu-

dent contact information to military recruiters on the card requesting emergency contact information?

2) What percent of Juniors and Seniors have opted out?

3) Is the Emergency Contact Card available on the system's Web site?

4) If not, could you email or mail me a copy of the Emergency Contact Card?

Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Program

1) How many JROTC programs exist in the _____ County schools?

2) How many students are enrolled in each program?

3) What is the county's share of costs to fund JROTC Programs?

4) How many instructors are in the program?

5) What percent of instructors have college degrees?

6) What percent of instructors are certified teachers?

7) What are the titles and publication dates of the JROTC texts used in the schools?

8) Do schools in _____ County have live firing ranges on campus?

Adherence to Section 9528(a)(3) of the No Child Left Behind Act

1) How are decisions made regarding college, career and military recruiter access to stu-

dents? Are they formulated by the superintendent or individual principals?

2) Are military recruiters allowed into the cafeteria at lunchtime? Are military recruiters allowed to greet students as they enter the cafeteria during lunch?

3) Is the access afforded to military recruiters generally commensurate with access given to college and career recruiters?

4) Are military, college and career recruiters allowed unsupervised contact with students?

Federal Law: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, ESEA

SEC. 9528. ARMED FORCES RECRUITER ACCESS TO STUDENTS AND STUDENT RECRUITING INFORMATION.

(a) POLICY

(3) SAME ACCESS TO STUDENTS — Each local educational agency receiving assistance under this Act shall provide military recruiters the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to post-secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of those students.

Pat Elder has been a fixture in the D.C. area's peace and justice scene for many years. He serves on the Coordinating Committee of the National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth, www.nnoym.org.

Help Us Find Out

The group met November 5th at Peace Action's national headquarters in Silver Spring and finalized their questionnaire. They now have a dozen volunteers ready to each take two counties in Maryland but are still looking for a few more volunteers, especially in Baltimore and western Maryland. Although they are working with Peace Action Montgomery, they are part of a larger, national organization, the National Network Opposing Militarization of Youth.

Contact Pat Elder at patrickelder@verizon.net.

Redesigning Modern Warfare

By Jeffrey Tressler
Unity Village, Missouri

There are many common misconceptions about the way the big things in life actually work. Wise citizens want to believe that there are *really* wise people who understand how things truly work and we put them in office with the hope that they will lead us with the steady hand of reason.

Sometimes they aren't as wise as we had hoped and they lead us down some slippery slopes. Sometimes their not-so-wise policies lead us down a path that may cost our us our job, a debilitating circumstance but something that we can eventually recover from.

Other times, misguided decisions made in the highest offices of the land lead to losses that cannot be recovered. The greatest loss, of course, is the loss of human life.

Today, it seems that the most powerful people on Earth are powerless to help our country and the world because they do not possess the wisdom we had counted on and are now leading us down a very treacherous path. They have led us to war to fight against evil people.

This strategy might work if the evil people could be converted to our beliefs but they cannot. What makes them especially non-convertible is that they believe that we are the evil people. In fact, they fired the first shot and declared that they were called upon to rid the world of the Great Satan, The

United States of America. That was their misconception, as was the misconception that they could make us go away.

It was their idea first but our President called them evil and declared that he was going after the bad guys. He began beating the drums of war and declaring that the good guys have arrived to fight the bad guys.

The thing is, as warped as it seems to us, they THINK THAT WE ARE THE BAD GUYS. Hence, the misconception of war. Both parties think that they are fighting for good causes. Neither is afraid to die. We cannot contain them and they cannot contain us.

By engaging in war we have perpetuated an archaic belief and the killing fields have become filled with the horrors of a barbaric history that we seem powerless to evolve beyond. The bottom line is that you cannot achieve peace by proliferating war.

If that could be accomplished, our friends in Israel, the owners of the finest fighting machine in the Middle East, would have brought the bad guys under control long ago. Instead, every time Israel unleashes its military might, it incites more retaliation.

Our leaders thrust us into the Iraqi conflict with the misguided belief that they could win this war with modern warfare. Unfortunately, to use a biblical tem, they were trying to pour new wine into old wineskins. They had the misconception that modern weapons

amounted to modern warfare. They had new weapons but old ideas.

Truly modern warfare must come from modern thinking, not archaic, barbaric beliefs. It's time to find another way. We need to listen, hear and pray with the people of the Middle East.

If we applied the same energy into negotiating for human rights and recognition that we put into brokering rights to oil, perhaps we could find a way to take a step toward bringing sanity to the region.

Once we begin to listen to the cries of their people, we can understand how to take the next step towards peace. As we wipe away the misconceptions about our neighbors and their misconceptions of us, the peace process and the reigning in of terrorism can begin.

Modern warfare must be born from the breaking down of misconceptions and the establishment of common goals — the goals that lie somewhere in the soul of every human being — peace, harmony and understanding.

Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me.

Jeff Tressler is a self-described Professional Human Being. He is also an author and poet and derives most of his inspiration from nature. Jeff currently resides in Unity Village Missouri and works in the Silent Unity telephone prayer ministry. See Jeff's poem, "When the Dust Had Settled," on page 10.



Photo by John Stoneman
Hikers getting ready to hike the Blacksake Mountain trail with the Friends of the Allegheny coalition.

People Learn Hazards of Drilling

Continued from page 1

to handle the toxic wastewater. The Warren facility must already be overwhelmed by now and the number of trucks carrying the toxic brew is increasing daily!

Thanks to Marcellus well exploration, literally millions and millions of gallons of waste water are being "diluted" and dumped into the Allegheny River, just south of Warren.

Who wants to take bets on when the fish will start dying downstream? From Warren down to Pittsburgh and beyond!

How many millions of gallons of "diluted" brine and wastewater do you think the Allegheny River can handle? All those carcinogenic fracking chemicals coming in, one tanker full after another? Do you think the state will properly monitor the disposal of all these millions and millions of gallons of brine or wastewater? All those thousands of trucks?

And what are we thinking as a society, allowing carcinogens and lethal toxins in the "fracking solutions" to be pumped into our water tables? How foolish is that?

Are we just going to sit by and let all the water under Pennsylvania be permanently or irreversibly polluted and the fish killed in most, or all, of our streams so a few investors can cash in on the "Marcellus Gas Rush?"

This is OUR "mountain top removal" and it's happening seemingly unchallenged!

Let's hope I have some better news to report next month!

John Stoneman is The Order of the Earth's Northwest Pennsylvania Correspondent.

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"They Had to Destroy the Planet to Save It."

By **Bonnie Hoag**
Shushan, New York

This title is a reference to the often-heard phrase during the Vietnam War, which so well expresses the insanity of war. In those days it spoke of destroying the "village." Who would have ever thought it might one day apply to the whole Planet Earth?

Today, a day in November 2009, as I write, I look out my window in eastern New York State, to a blue Sky, slowly being covered with intentionally-laid trails, which expand into cirrus-like "clouds" and will soon combine to veil the Sky and occlude the Sun.

Fueled by my fury I intend to expose this visible theft — this suffocation — of the Earth's Natural Processes, its Beauty and its Innocence. And further, to expose the jarring reality of weather warfare, which is more broadly atmospheric warfare.

It was in February of 2008 that I had my sad epiphany. For years — since the mid-1990s — I had been photographing the pluming contrails, unaware of the surreal truth that my Sky — our Sky — has been commandeered.

Before February 2008 I saw the pluming trails as odd and artful. Suddenly my innocence was slashed as I watched a pluming grid of trails [see photos on next page] intentionally laid down in the early morning Sky. In less than 40 minutes the pluming trails expanded and combined to veil the rising Sun.

My sense of violation was so strong that I immediately phoned my legislators and the media to ask what was going on. I expected them to share my indignation. Neither would even countenance my concern. I quickly learned that those who see this desecration of the Sky and try to expose it are conveniently marginalized as "conspiracy theorists." As many of us have learned over the decades, today's "theory" is tomorrow's fact.

Not one to be marginalized for long, I began to organize "Sky" meetings and to research and chronicle the daily phenomena.

Thanks to all of the investigative work already done by Rosalind Peterson of www.californiaskywatch.com and www.agriculturedefensecoalition.org, I had only to catch up. The documents quoted in this article are the ones that have most shaped my perspective and my actions.

In recent months governmental agencies have made our job a little easier by publicizing some blatantly insane activities.

On September 19th, the Navy and NASA sent a sounding rocket into the atmosphere over the Atlantic Ocean and released a "cloud" of charged aluminum oxide particles so they could study artificially-created, noctilucent "clouds" and other effects. They called this CARE, the Charged Aerosol Release Experiment.

Paul Bernhardt is the principal investigator for the Navy's Research Lab in Washington, D.C. In a September 21, 2009 article by Rachel Courtland in *New Scientist Magazine*, Mr. Bernhardt stated, "The CARE experiment could also pave the way for future launches that would use the uppermost part of the Earth's atmosphere as a large physics laboratory for studying charged dust." Some of us take exception to our atmosphere being exploited as a playground for Dr. Strangelove clones.

Then on October 9, with amazing arrogance, NASA "bombed" the Moon, ostensibly to force from the impact a dust plume which might contain frozen water droplets. Setting aside for a moment the sheer audacity of such an action — as though NASA (or the U.S.) owns the Moon — we note that, once again, NASA is interested in creating a "dust plume." Did NASA also "charge" this one, as it did the CARE package?

In an October 30, 2009, MSNBC article by Miguel Llanos,

titled "Willing to give up blue skies for climate fix? Geo-engineering gets closer look as a 'Plan B' in case emissions don't fall." He states that, "A new study describes pros and cons of cooling Earth via a thin cloud of aerosols. Techniques cited to do that are...artillery cannons, a miles-long tower, military aircraft and stratospheric balloons."

Did he say "military aircraft?" That is not a future plan. "Plan B" is being used every day, all around the globe to veil the Sky and dim the Sun. Called by NASA "Persistent Jet Contrails," these intentional, pluming trails are commonly called Chem-trails.

While NASA insists that these pluming jet trails are the exhaust of commercial jets there is ample evidence to refute this assertion. We do, however, agree with NASA that Persistent Jet Contrails are detrimental as they combine to veil the Sky and occlude the Sun. They hold heat against the planet and they dim the Sun. These are two of the major concerns in climate change discussions and yet Persistent Jet Contrails — which could be eliminated from the Sky's woes — will not even be on the table at the December, 2009 summit in Copenhagen.

"Why not?" you may ask. NASA and other government agencies do not admit to the use of this geo-engineering technique. And yet, thousands of us witness and document the pluming trails that veil our Sky — everyday and all around the planet.

If we set aside, for the moment, the "unintended consequences" of such wholesale methods, is it possible that Persistent Jet Contrails are intended to be helpful? Could they be the "Sunshield" recommended by Edward Teller before his death in 2003, intended to defend Earth from the Sun's burning rays? If this program is benevolent why does our government assert that the trails are only "commercial jet contrails under certain atmospheric conditions?" It's important, I think, to remem-

ber that Teller is also the Father of the Hydrogen Bomb.

Is Dr. Teller's final solution also U.S. Patent 5,003,186— March 26, 1991: The "Stratospheric Welsbach seeding for reduction of global warming," assignee: Hughes?

Aircraft Company? In this patent "a method is described for reducing atmospheric or global warming resulting from the presence of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, i.e., from the greenhouse effect. Such gases are relatively transparent to sunshine but absorb strongly the long-wavelength infrared radiation released by the Earth."

Is this the method people are witnessing daily and globally? If so, where was the public debate? When was our permission given for a program that admits to "seeding" our Sky with aluminum oxide, thorium oxide or other Welsbach-like material.

These are materials characterized by wavelength-dependent emissivity or reflectivity, having high emissivities in the visible and far-infrared wavelength regions and low emissivity in the near-infrared wavelength region in particle sizes from ten to one hundred microns. Once the tiny particles have been dispersed into the atmosphere, the particles may remain in suspension for up to one year. Then what?

Please consider the following U.S. Patents, as well, which — if in use — could be what we witness and could contribute to the alarming rise in Alzheimer's, Asthma and Autism.

U.S. Patent 5,360,162 — November 1, 1994: "Method and composition for precipitation of atmospheric water. Abstract: A method for precipitating atmospheric water by means of multi-component aerosols, including iodide-based, complex, multi-component, aerosol compositions. The compositions comprise a solid mass formed by a compacted mixture of silver iodide and the iodides, iodates and peri-

odates of alkali metals, lead, copper, barium; ammonia, barium chromate and selected oxidizers such as ammonium perchlorate and fuels such as poly-p-phenylene, phenol formaldehyde resin, epoxide resin and shellac and mixtures thereof. The compositions, upon burning, produce an aerosol effective to promote atmospheric water precipitation."

U.S. Patent 3,899,144 — August 12, 1975: "Powder contrail generation. Abstract: Light-scattering pigment powder particles [can be titanium dioxide, colloidal silica and silica gel], surface treated to minimize inparticles cohesive forces, are dispensed from a jet mill deagglomerator as separate single particles to produce a powder contrail having maximum visibility or radiation scattering ability for a given weight material."

U.S. Patent RE29,142 — February 22, 1977: "Combustible compositions for generating aerosols, particularly suitable for cloud modification and weather control and aerosolization process. Abstract: A combustible composition for generating aerosols for the control and modification of weather conditions consisting of a readily oxidizable substance selected from the group consisting of aluminum, magnesium, alkali-metals and alkaline Earth metals..."

There are many patents which are unregulated and may be used in combination without research concerning their individual or combined effects on our atmosphere and the natural systems of Earth.

Add to these the use of satellites to "modify" our atmosphere as in:

U.S. Patent 5,762,298 — June 9, 1998: "Use of artificial satellites in Earth orbits adaptively to modify the effect that solar radiation would otherwise have on Earth's weather."

U.S. Patent 5,984,239 — November 16, 1999: "Weather modification by artificial satel-

lites." This brings us to a discussion of the admitted use of our atmosphere for military purposes, again without public awareness or permission and without research into synergistic effects.

For example, this (from the U.S. Air Force Web site) does deserve our attention: "Chaff and flares [and it is the chaff we are most interested in for purposes of this article] are defensive countermeasures used on aircraft to confuse radar- and heat-seeking missiles. Chaff is used as a decoy for radar-seeking missiles and is made of glass silicate fibers with an aluminum coating. These fibers are approximately 60% glass fiber and 40% aluminum by weight. The typical Air Force RR-188 chaff bundle contains about 150 grams of chaff or about 5 million fibers. The fibers are 25 microns in diameter and typically 1 to 2 centimeters in length. In 1997, the Air Force used about 1.8 million bundles worldwide."

It seems fair to conclude, given the many government aerosol programs, that there is a lot of aluminum falling on us and on the Earth's soil and water systems.

In the U.S. Air Force's 1996 white paper, titled "2025," they assert that the Air Force intends to "own the weather in 2025." On page 37 of the executive summary it states, "Weather as a Force Multiplier: Owning the Weather in 2025: In 2025, the U.S. aerospace forces can 'own the weather,' as they 'own the night' now... Weather modification offers both the commercial sector and the military greatly enhanced capabilities...Weather modification will become a part of domestic and international security and could be done unilaterally, through alliance networks — particularly regional ones — or through an ad hoc coalition or a UN framework... the ability to generate precipitation, fog and storms on Earth or

Continued on next page

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"They Had to Destroy the Planet to Save It."

Continued from page 6

to modify space weather, improve communications through ionospheric modifications [this most likely means H.A.A.R.P., which we'll get to shortly], and the production of artificial weather..."

On page 36 of the same document they promote the "Incapacitate: The Strings of the Puppet Master" including C2 attack: "command and control." This paper argues for "subtle manipulation of human perception as a dominant characteristic of C2 attack in 2025..." These technologies enable the development of the Incapacitate (pronounced, in-ka-pass-attack), a multi-component system that provides commanders with a range of attack options that can be used singly or in combination to influence an opponent, much as a puppet master manipulates the strings of a marionette...[including] a constellation of distributed mini-satellites, uninhabited aerial vehicles, 'micro-know-bots' and a holographic projection capability [which is described in the previous paragraph as the "creation of synthetic environments that an adversary thinks are real"].

The Air Force's "2025" can be read as a companion piece to the 1990 HAARP executive summary which references C2, C3, C4 capabilities. C3 — "satellite command, control and communications systems must be responsive enough to position satellites in correct orbits to support the theater commander... Theater commanders require reliable, timely support from space to maximize their war-fighting potential. This includes communications, navigation, weather, missile launch warning, interdiction and data transfer." All this "to ensure that the U.S. maintains space dominance."

It's no wonder that Representative Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), a rare voice for sanity, proposed the "Space Preservation Act of 2001" which was introduced into the House of Representatives in October 2001, less than a month after the fall of the twin towers.

This bill (HR 2977) states its purpose is, "To preserve the cooperative, peaceful uses of space for the benefit of all humankind by permanently prohibiting the basing of weapons in space by the United States and to require the President to take action to adopt and implement a world treaty banning space-based weapons."

The content of this Bill is an authoritative exposition of military capabilities. Although HR 2977 was not passed into law it does neatly delineate the "arsenal," as follows here.

"In this Act:

(1) The term 'space' means all space extending upward from an altitude greater than 60 kilometers above the surface of the Earth and any celestial body in such space.

(2)(A) The terms 'weapon' and 'weapons system' means a device capable of any of the following:

(i) damaging or destroying an object (whether in outer space, in the atmosphere or on Earth) by:

(I) firing one or more projectiles to collide with that object;

(II) detonating one or more explosive devices in close proximity to that object;

(III) directing a source of energy (including molecular or

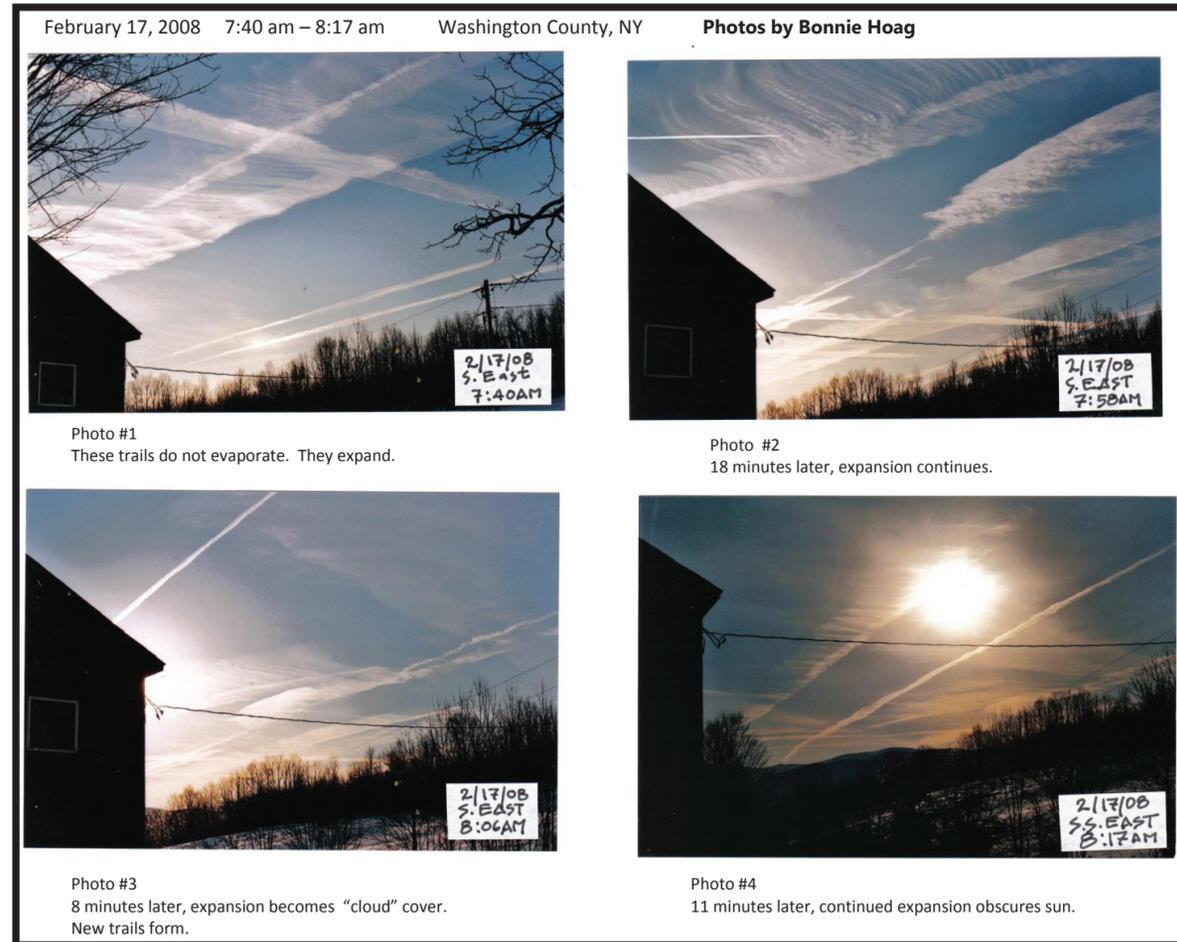


Photo #1
These trails do not evaporate. They expand.

Photo #2
18 minutes later, expansion continues.

Photo #3
8 minutes later, expansion becomes "cloud" cover. New trails form.

Photo #4
11 minutes later, continued expansion obscures sun.

atomic energy, subatomic particle beams, electromagnetic radiation, plasma or extremely low frequency (ELF) or ultra low frequency (ULF) energy radiation) against that object; or

(IV) any other unacknowledged or as yet undeveloped means.

(ii) Inflicting death or injury on or damaging or destroying, a person (or biological life, bodily health, mental health or physical and economic well-being of a person):

(I) through the use of any of the means described in clause (i) or subparagraph (B);

(II) through the use of land-based, sea-based or space-based systems using radiation, electromagnetic, psychotronic, sonic, laser or other energies directed at individual persons or targeted populations for the purpose of information war, mood management or mind control of such persons or populations; or

(III) by expelling chemical or biological agents in the vicinity of a person.

(2)(B) Such terms include exotic weapons systems such as:

(i) electronic, psychotronic or information weapons;

(ii) chemtrails;

(iii) high-altitude, ultra-low-frequency weapons systems;

(iv) plasma, electromagnetic, sonic or ultrasonic weapons;

(v) laser weapons systems;

(vi) strategic, theater, tactical or extraterrestrial weapons; and

(vii) chemical, biological, environmental, climate, or tectonic weapons.

(2)(C) The term 'exotic weapons systems' includes weapons designed to damage space or natural ecosystems (such as the ionosphere and upper atmosphere) or climate, weather and tectonic systems with the purpose of inducing damage or destruction upon a target population or region on Earth or in space."

Thank you, Representative Kucinich, for including this (2)

(C) potential, which is realized in the form of HAARP, the Department of Defense's High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program. While the 1990 document makes it seem a mere gleam-inits-mother's-eye, it is — in 2009 — fully operational with capabilities which are disturbing enough for peaceful research but terrifying when applied to the arena of war.

Indeed, the Earth's atmosphere itself has been commandeered and fortified for martial purposes, including manipulation of the Polar Electrojet and the Jet Stream, which regulates our U.S. continental weather.

Written by the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory and the Navy Office of Naval Research under the auspice of the Joint Services Program Plans and Activities, the Table of Contents includes "Potential Applications, Geophysical Probing, Generation of ELF/VLF Waves, Generation of Ionospheric Holes/Lens, Electron Acceleration, Generation of Field Aligned Ionization, Oblique HF Heating and Generation of Ionization Layers Below 90Km." (ELF is Extremely Low Frequency radio waves. VLF is Very Low Frequency.)

There are at least two patents which form the basis for HAARP. In 1977, U.S. Patent 4,042,196: "Method and apparatus for triggering a substantial change in Earth characteristics and measuring Earth changes" and in 1987 U.S. Patent 4686605: "Method and apparatus for altering a region of the Earth's atmosphere, ionosphere and/or magnetosphere."

There are several known HAARP antenna arrays around the world. The U.S. has two in Alaska and one in Puerto Rico. It is speculated there may be as many as twenty such arrays worldwide. The HAARP installation in Gakona, Alaska is said to contain 34 acres of 130 antennae which are capable of directing electromagnetic energy with

such intensity that it can "lift" the ionosphere.

And why, you might ask, would we want to "lift the ionosphere," like lifting the skirts of Heaven? "To deflect an incoming rocket." So said HAARP's public educator when interviewed in the documentary "Holes in Heaven?"

Our discussion would be incomplete without the "Bioeffects of Selected Nonlethal Weapons." This is the title of an Army document which was declared unclassified in December 2006 as part of the Army's response to a Freedom of Information Act request. The document lists among the "nonlethal effectors:" Laser and Other Light Phenomena, Radiofrequency-Directed Energy and "Aural bioeffects."

The contents of this document dovetail neatly with the intentions of "2025" and "HAARP." It discusses in detail the "Incapacitating Effects" that can be caused by Microwave Heating; Microwave Hearing; Disruption of Neural Control, Acoustic Energy and Laser-Induced Biological Effects. The details include Biological Target/Normal Function/Disease State, Mechanism to Produce the Desired Effects, Technological Status of Generator/Aiming Device, Range, Time to Onset, Duration of Effect and Recovery/Safety.

While these documents appear to be recent, the roots of these weapons are deep in the terrain of World War II and, indeed, deep in the insanity of the human species. The book *Tomorrow's Weapons* by Brig. Gen. J.H. Rothschild, U.S.A. (retired) was published in 1964. He argues for "The morality of toxic warfare" and its "place...in the nuclear age." The book's Appendix includes Properties of Chemical Agents, Some Diseases of Possible Interest and a Description of Principal Diseases of Biological Warfare Interest." It is interesting to note that distribution of these diseases is primarily

by "Aerosol," although other means include water, food, fomites and, notably, for those of us suffering the plague of Lyme Disease, insects.

It is natural to ask why our government would want to "practice" on us and yet there is a long, deplorable history of such practice. A courageous journalist, Dana Davis, wrote a series of articles for *The Asheville Tribune* (North Carolina). He was not able to complete the series, as advertisers threatened to pull their copy, but the research he did accomplish is both laudable and revelatory. In his third article on "contrails," dated August 18, 1999 Mr. Davis writes:

"The *Tribune* has conducted extensive research in trying to attain hard evidence leading to any information that could substantiate claims and theories related to chemtrails [what NASA calls Persistent Jet Contrails] being laid in the wake of military planes in the guise of condensation trails.

"Parties on both sides of the fence are entrenched that their view is the correct one in this controversial debate. Chemtrail believers consist mainly of the 'average Joe' and amateur sky watchers, while those who refute chemtrails, arguing that the cirrus formations are harmless contrails, consist primarily of physicists, NASA researchers and other scientists.

"But a lack of information relating to 'chemtrails' is not enough to deny their existence. Are the lingering contrails, in fact, normal? Have they always been synonymous with jet travel in certain climatic conditions? Is it customary for military planes to fly very close side by side and leave trails behind to form cross-hatch patterns across the nation?"

"In Executive Order 13128 [June 25, 1999] [President] Clinton stated that disclosure of such military information would not be permitted if it were 'contrary

to national security or law enforcement needs.'

"In Part I of the Contrail series we reported how, according to U.S. Code, the U.S. government may use human subjects for testing of [sic] biological agents in the event of one of these three circumstances:

1) Any peaceful purpose that is related to a medical, therapeutic, pharmaceutical, agricultural, industrial or research activity;

2) Any purpose that is directly related to protection against toxic chemicals or biological weapons and agents;

3) Any law enforcement purpose, including any purpose related to riot control.

"Executive Order 13128 falls under the category of the last two exceptions.

"One curious piece of information, learned in our investigation, is the establishment of a 'FLU Clinical Study' in Phoenix, Arizona. A 1-800 number was established soliciting residents to contact the clinic if they experienced certain symptoms, within a certain time frame. During this same time frame numerous 'sky-watchers' reported extensive contrail formations above the region. [Although this is anecdotal, I've chosen to include it.]

"When we called the number in June, a recording stated that the clinical study had been discontinued but referred people to www.igotflu.com. Upon accessing the 'IGotFlu' Web site we learned that it was a project of Roche Pharmaceuticals. Roche Pharmaceuticals is on the leading edge of bioresearch and is one of the organizations that registered numerous 'hits' onto various 'contrail' Web sites . . . (As of press time, we were unable to reenter the 'IGotFlu' Web site.)

After reading Part III of Dana Davis's series I phoned *The Asheville Tribune*, hoping to speak with him. I was told that Mr. Davis no longer works for the paper. Still, his courage and his contribution move me farther along, just as I hope this article moves others to research, to inquire, to trust their own intuition and to assert that the Sky Belongs to All of Us!

There are many who see what is going on and choose to act anonymously — or not at all. Some of us are clear that it was wrong in Germany, in the 1930s and '40s, to "look the other way." We say with confidence that we'll do better when our turn comes. Well, our turn is here. Only this time they may just be bringing the "showers" to us, rather than loading us onto the trains. We won't know for sure until it's too late.

Of necessity, I have ranged far and wide in this exposition. The issues themselves range far and wide. Nefarious practices are in effect around the Earth and high into its once-protective and sustaining atmosphere. The truth is withheld from us, is veiled as surely as is our once-blue Sky.

As, daily, we grow more drowsy, we forget that weather once was an expression of the love affair between Earth and Sky. My fury soothes my trepidation as I throw off the cloak of anonymity. Please join me.

Please be among those who at least tried to bring awareness to other humans — as our own awareness grows.

For copies of quoted documents: bonne_fire@yahoo.com.

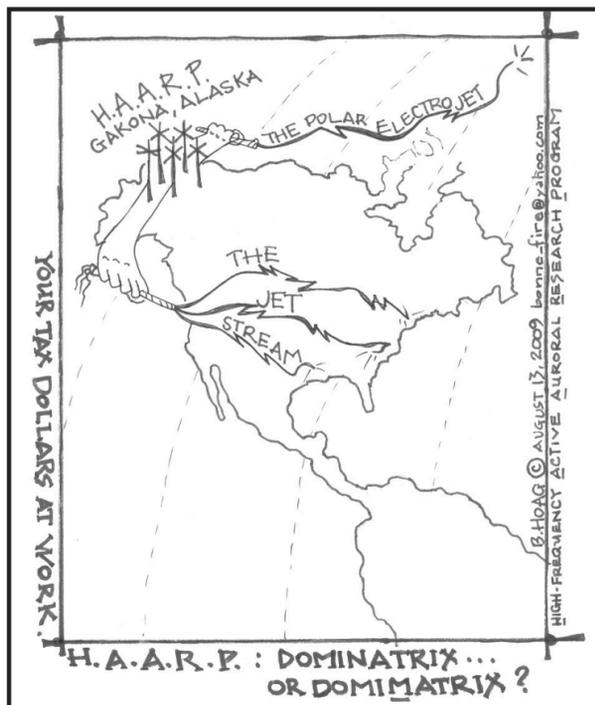
HAARP Cartoon

HAARP = High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program

A Program of Department of Defense Run by U.S Air Force and Navy

This HAARP cartoon by Bonnie Hoag shows two hands emerging, one from either side of the HAARP antennae installation in Gakona, Alaska. In each hand is a whip. The North whip expresses HAARP control of The Polar Electro Jet. The U.S Continental whip *South whip) expresses HAARP control of The Jet Stream. HAARP is able to exert this control over our atmosphere and our weather because it is capable of sending intense energy beams into the Earth's upper atmosphere. It is "Your Tax Dollars at Work" although probably without your knowledge or permission. A Dominatrix controls and punishes her/his partner by way of domination, including — sometimes — whips. Dominatrix is Bonnie's own invention. It intends to express what happens when the Dominatrix applies her punishing, controlling "whip" to the very fabric of Reality. HAARP is a war machine.

Explanation by Bonnie Hoag.



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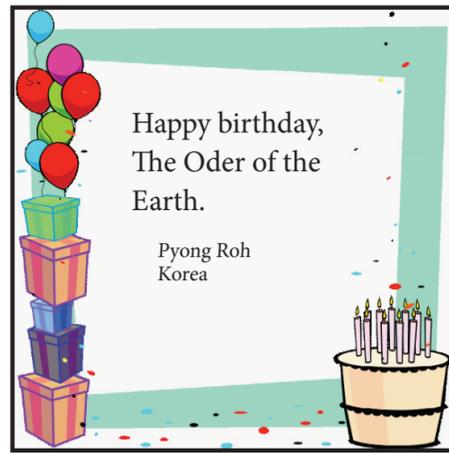
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Dear Friends, Please forgive me if I forgot you. I tried to find everyone. Iona



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Submitted by Annette Di'Mattina, Middlebourne, West Virginia

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How Old Is Grandma?

Submitted by Jan Walker
 Berkeley Springs, West Virginia

By Janet Decker
 Jackson, Maine

Read all the way to the end — the answer is a shocker. At the end, I added a bit more information that you may not already know. But it is the only thing that explains what is going on, time wise on this planet. Time isn't speeding up, Creations is.

Stay with this — the answer is at the end. It will blow you away.

How old is Grandma???

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandmother about current events.

The grandson asked his grandmother what she thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age and just things in general.

The Grandma replied, "Well, let me think a minute."

I was born before:

- television,
- penicillin,
- polio shots,

- frozen foods,
- Xerox,
- contact lenses,
- Frisbees, and
- the pill.

There were no:

- credit cards,
- air conditioners,
- laser beams, or
- ball-point pens.

Man had not invented:

- pantyhose
- air conditioners
- dishwashers
- clothes dryers
- and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air.

Man hadn't yet walked on the moon.

Your Grandfather and I got married first — and then lived together.

Every family had a father and a mother.

Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, 'Sir.'

And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title 'Sir.'

We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers,

daycare centers and group therapy.

Our lives were governed by the Ten Commandments, good judgment and common sense.

We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions.

Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege.

We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent.

Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins.

Draft dodgers were people who closed their front doors when the evening breeze started.

Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends — not purchasing condominiums.

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt or guys wearing earrings.

We listened to the Big Bands, Jack Benny and the Presidents' speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid

blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan' on it, it was junk.

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam.

Pizza Hut, McDonald's and instant coffee were unheard of.

We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents.

Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar and a Pepsi were all a nickel.

And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards.

You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600 — but who could afford one?

Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day:

- 'grass' was mowed,
- 'coke' was a cold drink,
- 'pot' was something your mother cooked in,
- 'rock music' was your grand mother's lullaby,
- 'Aids' were helpers in the

Principal's office,

- 'chip' meant a piece of wood,
- 'hardware' was found in a hardware store, and
- 'software' wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us 'old and confused' and say there is a generation gap.

And how old do you think I am? I bet you have this old lady in mind — you are in for a shock! Read on to see — pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.

This Woman would be only 58 years old!

Amazing, isn't it? Most of this happened in our generation!!

And if you think that is amazing I am really going to blow your mind. Between 1900 and 1950 we learned as much as we had learned in the previous 6000-year period. Between 1950 and 1970 we learned as much as we had in 6000 years again, so, not 50 years to make this advancement but only 20 years.

Then between 1970 and 1980 we learned as much as in that same 6000 years, not 50 years or 20 years but in just 10 years and it kept speeding up — 6000, 50, 20 10, then in 1986 or so we doubled that learning and kept going. In fact, there was a time with NASA when information was flooding in so fast that they could not even put it into their computers. They were about eight or nine years behind. They had to wait until their hardware and software caught up to their ability to learn.

Right now, at this point we are on a straight up curve. We are learning as much in approximately **one month** as we learned in 6000 years. Seems impossible but is a fact you can check out. We went from a very gradual learning curve to a straight up curve.

Janet Decker may be reached at www.hypnotherapyservices.com or jd@hypnotherapyservices.com. Publisher Iona is a grandmother who passed the age of 58 several years ago.



Photo by Iona

Blue Rooster Farm in East Waterford, Pennsylvania hosted a sustainable woodlot management workshop for the PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture in November. Shown are two new Belgium draft horses, Andy and Eddie. The farm offers pasture-raised, grass-fed beef and lamb.

A Message From Mother Earth HOMESTEADING AND COMMUNITIES OF LIGHT

By Doug Davis
Cosmic Traveler

"I have a lot of surprises in store for you in the coming years. It is going to be a wild ride but a necessary one. Do not be alarmed, please, about any of the predictions of doom and gloom and disaster you hear for 2012 and beyond. Though there may be some changes, as long as you follow your intuition you will always be in the right place at the right time. You are 'safe' anywhere your inner guidance has placed you. It is when you ignore your inner voice that you get into trouble, so to speak. These feelings, arising from your innermost being, will never steer you wrong. Therefore, have fun and enjoy your life every single day. Soak in the new energy and be happy. Do not be concerned when someone tells you to 'be safe.' Your higher vibration already assures that you are safe.

"The following geographical locations in North America will experience the least amount of climate change, adverse weather conditions and physical changes. These areas will draw people who will set up homesteading or communities of light. The Adirondack Mountain region of New York will remain very steady in its weather patterns, as will Vermont, New Hampshire and the greater portion of Maine, away from the southwestern coastline. These areas will be ideal due to a great new energy available that will enable food plants and other types to live longer and grow larger despite the colder climate and topography. The mountains are one of the best geographical places to go. There you can rest and have solitude and regain your energy. The mountains are away from the crowds and urban centers. You've got to realize that urban areas can be quite toxic to your well-being in that they can easily cause loads of stress in your life. The stress comes in part from the noise and the strong negative thought-forms that are present. Living in

an urban area, even if it is 'safe,' contributes to living 'out of synch' with the natural cycles. When you are in nature, you are more aware of the moon phases, the seasons, and you forget about time and that is always good for your health and longevity.

"The area surrounding Ithaca, New York will be ideal because of its specific location, land formations and because of its particular vibration and energy. Homesteaders in this area will find more supportive energy, both from the people and the energetic attributes there. In the years to come, the Ithaca area will become a very important community of light.

"Tennessee is very safe due to the mountains and nature spirits who maintain the life force energy of that area. Arkansas will have steady rain but, also, isolated places in the mountains that feel very good for homesteading and which are well-protected energetically. The northern part of the country, from the Dakotas west into Idaho, will have interesting weather. Some places will be abandoned due to drought, while others will have ample rainfall and be very good for homesteading and getting away from urban areas. There are many areas of the west suited for homesteading and which will be ideal in the coming years. They are away from cities and into the interior of the Rocky Mountains and just along either side of the Continental Divide.

"To be more precise, you must actually feel your way into these areas. Keep going if they don't feel vibrationally right to you. Don't use your mind to choose a place, don't consider the pros and cons as you will just over-analyze everything. Allow yourselves to be taken to a place, a place where you just turn and go there. It may even be a place you never thought of at all. This will be best. It is a place that will be hard to leave once you are there. It will hold you and captivate you and will feel like home. Go with your

feelings and throw out logic. Many of you have overly thought-out lives. Better to let all of that go and just go with your heart. Let love be your guide.

"Almost all of Canada will be ideal for future living. It has vast regions that hold specific energies suited for light centers and homesteading. The central interior holds many of these ideal locations and there are very safe areas in the Canadian west as well as in the east. North of Toronto will be better than areas south of there.

"There will also be gatherings of many folks in the South-west area of the U.S., in the western area of North Carolina and northern Georgia, New Hampshire and Maine plus other areas previously mentioned. At this time, many of these people have never considered leaving their present locations but one day they will just start packing up and driving (or biking or walking) there. Communities of Light will take form. The light centers of the future will be the ones that 'just happen,' not the ones that are well-thought out and planned. Most will not be single buildings with a single owner or someone in charge. These communities will be spread out over several miles and will not appear to be 'centers' but will be areas of high-vibration people who knew to come there for homesteading and living in tandem with nature, the Earth and one another.

"You will love being in synch with nature again. You will feel refreshed and renewed. It is time for you and many others like you to begin a new life."

Love,
Mother Earth
(to be continued)

Doug Davis is a clairvoyant and spiritual medium. He also loves to garden and grow beautiful plants of all kinds and is the founder of Sacred Earth Seed Co. You are invited to contact him at Sacredearth88@aol.com.

ENCOUNTERS WITH WONDER

On Catching the Light

By Elizabeth Ayres
California, Maryland

Blue skies and brittle cold at Myrtle Point that day. Threading my way past twisted stalks of sea oats, with the stubble of marsh grass underfoot. The small surf cascading along the beach in falling dominos of sound. Mesmerized by the sparkling strokes of sun's pen crosshatched on water's crumpled surface. Dazed by a shimmering ribbon of wet sand curled along the shoreline. Glimmering motes of seedstuff in the air. Glistening insect wings. Flashing filaments of spidersilk anchored to the bushes, floating in the breeze, invisible except in this one shining moment, when, just so, they catch the light.

Then I saw them, freshly minted by the ebbing tide. I picked up one, then another: glistening pebbles like frosted glass. I couldn't fathom why, but I had to have more, so I ran that day up and down the beach, rejecting anything solidly white, plucking up anything translucent, stuffing my coat pockets, hurrying home with my treasures, and it's only as I write that understanding dawns: carbonic acid in the water has leached away their salts. Once opaque, these stones have offered their very substance to the river. Now they are transparent bearers of the light.

But the days grow darker. Light is ebbing, like the tide. One of my stones is oval, another, round. Earth's axis of rotation is 23.5 degrees off vertical. As she treads her elliptical path

around the sun, she points first her northern then her southern hemisphere toward it. Starting June 21st, the sun loses altitude in our noontime sky and this inexorable progression of shortening days and lengthening nights climaxes on December 21st, the winter solstice, the "sun still" day, when our star halts its southbound journey and turns north once more so that light, like the tide, can flow forth again.

Ignorant of Earth's tilt and the science of rotation, our ancestors were frightened this time of year. What if the sun keeps going? What if it never comes back? Rituals evolved to catch it, hold it, convince it to return, celebrate when it did. Today we know the sun will reverse its pendulum swing without our help, yet, the Hanukkah Menorah, the Scandinavian Yule Log, the candles of the Advent wreath: all our festivals during this season are efforts to push back the cold and dark with warmth and light.

One of my personal rituals is an evening drive through the countryside to look at all the houses. So bold, those sparkles and shimmers. So brave, those glimmers and glints. So defiant, all that shining, when night presses close around and threatens to snuff it out.

This Christmas morning it will be fifty years since my father died, so I know something about the dimming. As do we all. Earth rotates daily at 1,000 miles an hour, revolves yearly at 67,000 miles an hour.

Amidst all this spinning and tilting the losses keep coming, the griefs pile up, and what are we in an ocean of trouble but small stones scraping in an ineluctable tide?

Rejoice, I say, and rejoice again, because in this briny swash and backwash our opaque substance wears away, making us, with every day that passes, more translucent.

Einstein himself said light is a mystery. It is pure energy interfacing with matter at its electrical and magnetic levels. The sun is our primary light source but the arena of interaction which scientists call electromagnetic radiation occurs in and around all objects, including you and me.

What if we go one step further than Einstein, and use another word for light: love. Isn't that pure energy? Doesn't love interface with matter at, shall we say, the highest level? So rejoice, I say, and rejoice again, because the tiniest act of kindness is a radiant force, invisible except in the one shining moment when, just so, we catch the light.

Elizabeth Ayres, author of [Know the Way](#) and [Writing the Wave](#), is the founder of the [Center for Creative Writing \(CreativeWritingCenter.com\)](#). You can catch more reflections at <http://elizabethayres.wordpress.com> or write one of your own! Just follow the prompts at <http://encounterswithwonder.wordpress.com>. "Catching the Light" first appeared in the 12/14/06 issue of Bay Weekly.

When the Dust Had Settled

By Jeffrey Tressler, Unity Village, Missouri

When the dust had settled
When the bell had tolled
There was nothing left to cling to
Nothing left to hold

The rules had all been broken
The structures all torn down
In every little burg, in every city and town

Every village and hamlet across the world today
Awakened to a world in seeming disarray
But from the pile of rubble our true destiny emerged
People of all cultures watched our differences be purged
As was of our egos, our pettiness and greed
We'd transformed our whole planet from one small-tiny seed

It was the seed of love that changed us in the twinkling of an eye
And that love will lead and guide us, forever by and by

It will lead us to a land where everyone is free
With hearts that are all wide open and forged for unity
Forged by a fire so intense it burned in every soul
Now we're joined forever in one single-common goal

To live the life of the creator, to create and live and be
Loving one another for all eternity

Jeff Tressler is a self-described Professional Human Being. He is also an author and poet and derives most of his inspiration from nature. Jeff works in the Silent Unity telephone prayer ministry.

Life is My Career: Change, For Better or Worse

By Christine Maccabee
Sabillasville, Maryland

The cold rain of autumn falls incessantly today. Rushing back and forth with armfuls of essential firewood, I contemplate the reality of change. I open the door to my little house and it is warm and cheerful, then I go back out into the grey wet chill for more wood and then hurry back inside to the dry warmth. I have lived through many a season doing this same ritual and I imagine I will be doing it for many years to come. Some things never change...or do they? Truth is, someday I may be too weak and too old to bring in my own wood and even now I do get help when needed.

I guess you might say change is the one thing we can count on in life. It is the way things grow in a cellular fashion from seed to mature tree, from infant to mature adult. Without change there can be no life, at least as we know it. So, when something throws me off in a day's time and I must make adjustments to the circumstances, I try to remember that this is the nature of life. Creation is a continual process and works meticulously in our lives, minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, year by year, for better and for worse.

I like that phrase in the marriage vows "for better and for worse." As an organist I have played for many a wedding and I often wonder if the worse parts will get the better of the young couple once

they settle down into "marital bliss." I always hated hearing the expression "it takes work to have a successful marriage" but I guess it must be true. For that matter, it takes work for anyone, single or married, to get through life. We will always have the better and the worse and everything in between to deal with.

As I type these words I realize that all I have said is nothing new. There is nothing new under the sun, right? I think about the rain falling outside and know that at one time it may have been water in a pure mountain lake in Montana or perhaps it came from the filthy Patapsco River that runs through Baltimore or perhaps the ocean...all the above and more. It is simply in another form today. Tomorrow it will be a part of the grass I walk on, in the roots and remaining cosmos flowers which are still blooming beautifully just off my deck, in the bodies of happy little worms and slugs and thirsty goldfinches and crows, squirrels and deer, in the water I drink from my well and on and on until it finally winds up in the Chesapeake Bay or as a fluffy white cloud day after tomorrow or two years from now in a deer I eat — who knows?

I rarely complain about the rain. However, sometimes I do rail against change. The aches and pains that come with overwork and age are a reality and can be a difficult change to accept. I am in total awe of those elderly folk who seem to have mastered the art of aging gracefully. To age gracefully is

to be full of grace. One definition of the word grace is "ease and suppleness of movement and bearing."

I know some elderly people I would say fit that definition perfectly. There is always a ready smile on their face and an aura of peacefulness around them. I know they have been through hardships in their long lives, for no one is exempt. I do not know how I would be able to live through the loss of a dear son in Iraq, of a loved one in an auto accident or loss of all I ever owned to a hurricane. Perhaps it takes the divine intervention and assistance of a higher power, the grace of God, for people to regenerate, to heal (another definition of "grace"). Whatever it takes, life-altering change requires adjustment and it isn't always easy.

As I move on through my journey in life I hope to become like my wise elders and age gracefully, though sometimes I tend to be a complainer. Nobody likes a complainer, they say, so I guess it is time for me to shape up!

As I continue to listen to the wind and the rain today I think of this beautiful season and how much I am enjoying the changes. The color of green, which I love so much and will miss, is becoming gold and red and orange before my very eyes. There is no stopping it. Soon it will be all grays and browns and, before too long, all this precipitation will come down in the form of wonderful snow stimulating memories from childhood and creating new memories as I play with my grand-

children. Snowbirds will fly south to Florida, some will come from Minnesota to Maryland but I will stay right where I am for now. I will let the changes flow over me and I will take the good with the bad and everything in between. I will strive to be accepting of all the changes, to go with the flow of life, even if someone changes their mind and makes me cry. I will smile through my tears and learn how to trust and respect nature, especially my own. I will take time to be time, to be still and know. I will slow down, stretch and breathe deeply. I will hopefully find balance as I move between the mundane and the ethereal, between the better and the worse, taking them all in stride — and I will remember to be grateful.

I wish the same for you.

Over a period of 40 years Christine has written poetry, essays and songs about her relationship with people as well as the natural world. She lives on 11 beautiful acres in the Catoclin Mountains where she not only raises a wide variety of vegetables but allows wild indigenous medicinals and edibles to grow in between. She especially encourages the wild asters and goldenrods which are essential late-season food for pollinators soon to hibernate, without which they may starve. She welcomes visits to her Shangri-la to hear the symphony of bees and breathe the purest of air. Contact Christine: 301-271-2307 or bcmaccheart@hotmail.com.

Musings

Monkey Business: Better Business Practices Learned Through Monkeys Do or Don't Do

By Heather Wandell
Frisky's Wildlife and Primate Sanctuary
Woodstock, Maryland



Photo by Colleen Layton-Robbins
Nikki, a Gothic Squirrel Monkey, who lives at Frisky's Wildlife and Primate Sanctuary in Woodstock, MD, chooses to not respond to Heather's request.

"Jackie, may I see your baby?" She picks up one of her beloved stuffed animals, brings it a little closer to me and begins to groom it. She treats it with such care that we believe she is caring for the little one that she never had. She will talk to it like a mama talks to her baby. She is not speaking in any human language, of course. Jackie is a Vervet Gue-non monkey. But it is clear that she is communicating and clear that she is answering my request.

"Gizmo, will you come outside and let me say hello?" I can hear his TV on in the comfort of his climate-controlled indoor/outdoor enclosure. Within seconds, I see him open the flap to his tunnel and he comes outside. It is clear to me that Gizmo answered my request. Gizmo is a Rhesus Macaque monkey.

"Nikki, will you come over and let me say hello?" She (a female Gothic Squirrel monkey) makes no move to come closer or acknowledge me with eye contact. If she had given a glance in my direction, I would have thought 'maybe she is thinking about it, but is not yet fully committed. Perhaps she is trying.' But she was clear. She was not answering my request.

In each case above, their answer was clear. They either honored my request or they did not. When we as humans have a request or an invitation made of us, we have a third answer that is very over-used — "I'll try." It's a cop-out, a non-commitment and often used to blow someone off because you don't want to hurt their feelings by saying "No."

However, people more often get disappointed when you say you will "try" and then don't accomplish what was asked of you.

In her article "I'll Try Doesn't Fly!" Cookie Tuminello, The Team Builder of the South, Founder of Success Source, LLC (www.CookieTuminello.com) has this to say about the use of the word "try:"

"How many times a day do you hear yourself or others use the phrase, "I'll try . . . to get this project done" or "I'll try . . . to come to the meeting?" I cringe every time I hear it. My clients,

however, know that saying, "I'll try" does not fly with me. Here are three thoughts that come up for me when someone says, "I'll try." Are you afraid to commit, afraid to say NO or afraid you won't succeed so you want to leave a back door open just in case?"

"By copping out and using the "I'll try" response, you're admitting that you aren't committed to doing the necessary work to be the person you want to be in your life. When you live your life mired in mediocrity, you get mediocre results."

One of the most famous lines from Jedi Master Yoda in "Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back" was when he asked young Luke Skywalker to remove his spacecraft from the swamp even though it looked impossible. Skywalker, quite skeptical, said "I'll try." Master Yoda was quick to teach and replied rather sternly. "Do or Do Not Do. There is no Try."

Sure, there are times when it may be appropriate to use the word "try." If you are asked to taste a food you have never eaten before, you might say, "Sure, I'll try a piece." If you are asked to do something that is outside of your expertise or comfort zone, such

as Bungee Jumping, and you say, "Sure, I'll give it a try," you are just letting the person know that you are a beginner, not practiced, but are willing to take the challenge. You know the difference between the "taking the challenge" try and the "I'm blowing you off try."

I invite you to notice with me how often you are tempted to use "try" and instead substitute something else. When someone asks you, will you come to the meeting on Wednesday and you are not yet ready to make the commitment, substitute something like "No. I won't be there" or "I will let you know for sure by Tuesday."

Jackie, Gizmo, Nikki and Yoda have eliminated the concept of "trying" all together. For these Masters, it is "Do or Do Not."

Heather Wandell is a Certified Laughter Leader with the World Laughter Tour and is the CEO of her own company, Another Way To See It (www.anotherwaytoseeit.com). Heather is also the Director of Community Outreach at Frisky's Wildlife and Primate Sanctuary in Woodstock, Maryland (www.friskys.org). She can be reached at haw@anotherwaytoseeit.com.

Everything I did in my life that was worthwhile, I caught hell for.

Earl Warren

1891 - 1974

(Found on Good Earth teabag tag.)

Earth Psalms: Song 4

By Angela Magara ©
www.angelamagara.com

Hear me, oh, hear me, Compassionate one.
Hear, me, oh, hear me, She who knows me in this time of struggle.
For I am spread out upon my worry like a veil and it upon me.
Give ear to me,
all I have left of faith is this call for your listening.

The people rush to destruction
While leaders cover their eyes for fear of seeing,
All seem willing to be false to life
(as I watch my hope drain out at the arrows of conflict).
There is too much to shelter and much stands to be lost.

I know the voice of love is never unheard,
that the call of trust resounds over fear.
I lie in the dark and send out my call;
Cacophony answers.
Many say chaos is at the door
and some that worse is to come.

Standing in wonder at the workings of this time,
I am fear wrapped in a garment of trust.
I declare Earth is a place of beauty and all the inhabitants long for love.
The Goddess is walking and her footsteps can reshape everything,
The longing of my heart will not go unsatisfied.

Goddess, I put my trust in the small gladness of beauty,
my faith in the hearts of life.
I am opened like a ripe fruit
and am the harvest.
As are we all.

The noise becomes singing,
darkness a blanket of peace.
There is plenty for all.
Rejoicing spangles the horizon.

I can wait, Goddess.
I can lie down and sleep
For my confidence is renewed by the eyes of life.

My safety lies in the longing of each of our hearts
and in the sure knowledge we will be satisfied at the dawn.

*Earth Psalms is full of familiar words spoken in a new voice
based on the Biblical Psalms but with the heart of Earth-based spirituality.
Printed with the author's permission.*

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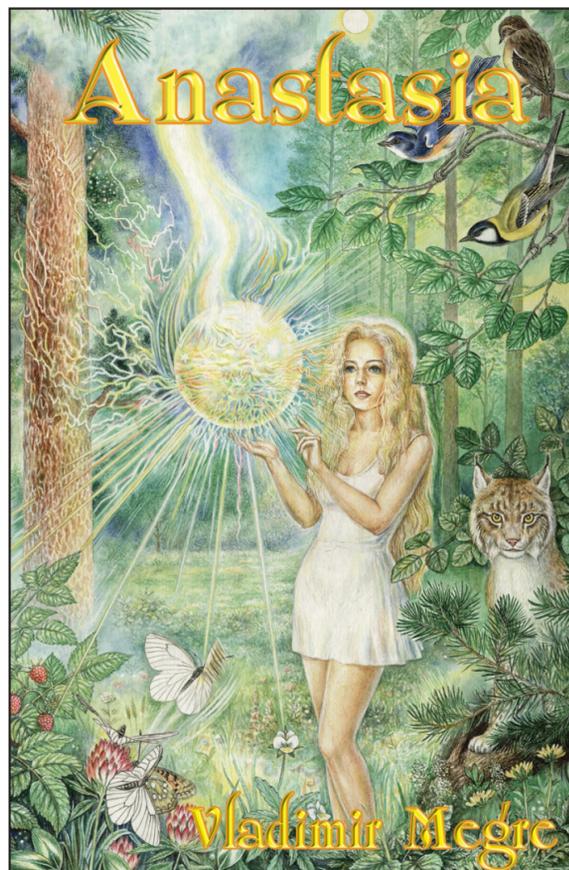
Anastasia Editor's Notes

By Dr. Leonid Sharashkin

How many times have I heard personal examples of this instant recognition: people who have been searching for years or decades for meaningful answers to questions on the purpose of life, on Man's place in Nature, have finally found them in this book!

But should it be surprising that the image of a way of life founded on the ideals of love, beauty and non-violence, as presented by Anastasia, would resonate so strongly with our inner self? After all, does not every one of us want to live in a free society of kind and happy people, in a world without wars, crime or oppression? In a world where not a single tear need run down a child's cheek and where families live in love and prosperity?

Do we not want to live without monstrous industries destroying and polluting both Nature and Man? Do we not want to enjoy creative labor for the benefit of both our families and our communities, instead of suffering through boring jobs merely to enrich faceless corporations? Do we not want a society based on mutual help and cooperation rather than competition? . . .



NOTE: Dear Reader — I love this book so much that I decided it would be the only book I would sell through our newspaper. Send a check for \$10 payable to The Order of the Earth to 21431 Marlin Circle, Shade Gap, Pennsylvania 17255. Write "Anastasia" on the memo line. If you love the first one as much as I did, you may order the rest of them directly from RingingCedars.com or 800-365-6367. For the Earth, *Jena*

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Mark's Green Party: **The 2009 OE Holiday Gift Guide**

By **Mark Lautman**
 Rockville, Maryland

It's difficult enough to buy thoughtful holiday gifts for family members and friends but it can be a chore if one of them leads a low-consumption lifestyle. For those readers who celebrate the holidays conventionally, please understand one thing: your holistic person won't appreciate the 50-inch flat screen TV and the latest X-Box you bought him or her — so you might as well send them to me.

If you're looking for really appropriate gift ideas for your favorite holistic, you've come to the right place. The writers at *The Order of the Earth* have scoured the Internet for the best



gifts that will tell your vegan how much you love them. If, however, your vegan knows deep down that you don't love him, he'll know that you understand him. At a minimum, he'll

know that you tried to understand him.

Yoga Mat Sanitizers — We're going through a nasty flu season and do you know where your loved one's sticky mat has been?



This sanitizing aerosol contains no compounds that are harmful to what's left of the Martian atmosphere and has a delicate scent that will make any budding yogi's plunge into the crowd position as graceful as possible.

Backyard Nuclear Reactor — Take "eat local produce" to the next step by consuming your very own electricity. No more brownouts on cloudy days with this baby! Your off-the-grid family member will love this compact nuclear reactor that is almost perfectly safe and reliable. Comes with moon suits and a year's supply of canned tuna in the unlikely event of that one-in-ten-thousand boo-boo.

Carob Brownie Cutter — There's no more intimate way to serve a warm pan of just-baked

carob brownies on a snowy day than with our stainless steel cutter. The wooden handles are hand carved from the last twelve remaining Amazon rainforest Juniper trees. Hurry, because supplies are limited!

Hermetically Sealed Bird Cages for the Nonstick Kitchen — Did you know that your pet bird can die after just one deep inhalation of airborne perfluorooctanoic acid? That's the nasty stuff that makes your pots and pans non-sticky. Before you fry



an egg, close up the cage and turn on the interior oxygen supply. Use the cage frequently and your bird's blood will be cleaner than yours!

Crystal Biodiesel Cruet — Pamper yourself at the interstate truck stop with this dual-purpose hand-made crystal cruet. The retractable spout extends into your fuel tank, avoiding spills. Don't forget that biodiesel is as much a food as it is fuel. The next time you serve your guests a delicate salad of tossed

Bosc pears and goat cheese, use this cruet to splash on authentic biodiesel from southern Illinois.



Spinach in a 100-calorie-pack — Make room in your refrigerator for this one! Following the lead of prominent junk-food makers, Green Leaf Spinach Farms is offering diet-smart 100-calorie packs of organic spinach leaves. Watch out: because the spinach has so few calories, each pack takes up five cubic meters.

Indestructible Indoor Compost Bin — Does your favorite composter leave rinds, grinds, peels and slime on the kitchen counter a bit too long before taking them out to the compost pile? Encourage him to internalize minimal standards of hygiene and decency with these decorative indoor compost bins. Made of 100% Styrofoam, these bins will never decompose,

making them a gift that will be used for twenty lifetimes.

Upscale Bathroom Vinegars — Are you still cleaning your bathroom with the same non-toxic white vinegar your great-grandmother did? (Your grandmother and father/mother caved in to the toxic cleaners years ago but let's not be judgmental.) It's time to enhance your cleaning experience with our gourmet vinegar solutions. Your bathroom will have the same sparkle and a slightly tangy odor after using our red wine, white wine and aged balsamic vinegar cleaners. We also have a limited supply of rice wine vinegars for that daring feng shui attitude in the lavatory.



High Voltage Acupuncture Needles — Super-charge your chi with these half-amp silver-coated acupuncture needles. Massive Woofer, the world's leading supplier of amplification equipment to rock concerts, has

developed a boutique line of needles that will have your nervous system unable to feel anything under any circumstances. No more migraines or back pain! Comes with latex-free rubber insulating gloves.



Day of Earthly Rest — The best gift you can give your holistic family member is to live one day without electricity, without an internal combustion engine and without a credit card. Spend a winter's day reading a book, writing a book or watching the squirrels. Call your holistic and tell her you did so and she'll give you the sincerest thanks of the season.

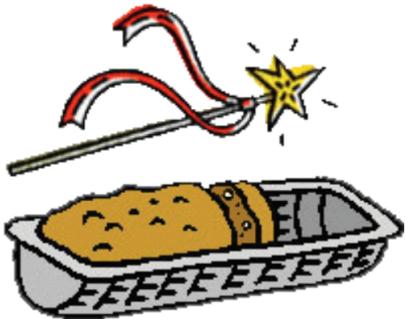
Mark Lautman writes humorous articles on technology and the holistic lifestyle.

The Magical Loaf Studio

Submitted by Valerie Stanley, Laurel MD

Design Your Own Adventist-Style Vegan Dinner Loaf!

Created by Jennifer McCann for the Vegan Lunch Box Blog.



Ever want a satisfying "meat loaf" without the meat? Ever want to try combining yummy ingredients but just not sure what goes together? Ever want to make a "veggie" loaf but not sure how much of this you should use and how much of that? Well, there is a woman who has figured it all out for you! Her Web site is called the "Magical Loaf Studio!" She lists the choices for you, you select the ingredients and the "loaf creator" comes up with your very own recipe online. Here is what her list looks like! Enjoy! NOTE: For those of you without computer access, use these ingredients in the proportions that will give you the texture of meatloaf. This will be far healthier for you and the planet.

- Protein:**
 Cooked soy beans
 Cooked black beans
 Cooked lima or butter beans
 Cooked garbanzo beans
 Mixed cooked beans
 Cooked lentils
 Cooked split peas
 Ground seitan (wheat gluten)
 Mashed firm tofu
 Vegetarian burger or sausage crumbles

- Carbohydrate:**
 Dry whole wheat bread crumbs
 Uncooked quick oatmeal or oat bran
 Cooked brown rice
 Crushed cereal flakes
 Cooked quinoa
 Cooked millet
 Cooked amaranth
 Cooked kasha (buckwheat)
 Wheat germ

- Nuts or Seeds (choose one):**
 Peanuts
 Cashews
 Almonds
 Pecans
 Walnuts
 Pine nuts
 Sunflower seeds
 Pumpkin seeds
 Sesame seeds

- Vegetables (choose as many as you wish):**
 Onion
 Garlic
 Carrot
 Celery
 Mushrooms
 Jalapeno Chile

- Liquid (choose one):**
 Tomato juice
 Vegetable juice

- Vegetable broth
 Liquid from cooked or canned beans
 Nondairy milk

- Herbs & Seasonings (choose as many as you wish):**
 Thyme
 Sage
 Basil
 Parsley
 Oregano
 Rosemary
 Cumin
 Italian seasoning
 Nutritional yeast flakes
 Ketchup
 Vegetarian Worcestershire sauce
 Black pepper

- Binder (choose one):**
 Flaxseed Meal
 Potato flour
 Soy flour

- Cooked oatmeal
 Uncooked Cream of Wheat
 Uncooked polenta
 Tapioca flour

- Salty Seasoning (choose one):**
 Salt
 Soy sauce
 Onion salt
 Celery salt
 Vegetarian chicken-style seasoning
 Spike or low-sodium seasoning blend

- Oil (choose one):**
 Olive oil
 Vegetable oil
 Margarine
 Water or broth for steam-frying

Disclaimer: The creator of the Web site has not tried every single combination; therefore, cannot vouch for the tastiness or efficacy of every loaf.

FREE GIFT for New or Renewing Subscribers!

A FREE Earth Elements Necklace from Life Align Arts will be awarded to the first person purchasing a new or renewed subscription in December 2009. **Our November winner was Sunny War Eagle, Marianna, Florida.**

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Introducing The Yes Men

A Yes Man Talks
About the Chamber
of Commerce Prank



Photo from Yes Men Web site
Identity Correction: Impersonating big-time criminals in order to publicly humiliate them. Targets are leaders and big corporations who put profits ahead of everything else.

By Dave Gilson
Mother Jones, October 19, 2009

As news of the Yes Men's prank on the Chamber of Commerce spread this morning, I phoned the contact listed on their phony press release announcing the Chamber's change of heart about climate change. I left a message for supposed Chamber flack Erica Avildus and a couple of hours later I received a call from Andy Bichlbaum, one half of the Yes Men.

"Are you Erica?" I asked him. "I guess so," he said, sounding a little giddy. He'd been watching some "hilarious" cable clips from his fake press conference and was basking in the absurdist glory. Speaking as himself, he talked more about the Yes Men's latest feat and why it took a sham Chamber of Commerce to reveal that the real Chamber's climate policy is "a big hoax on the American public." Bichlbaum, who's gone by aliases such as Jude Finnisterra and Hank Hardy Unruh, also did some linguistic analysis of the real Chamber spokesman's name, concluding that he, too, is just another fake.

MJ: How long have you been planning this? When did the Chamber of Commerce show up on your radar screen as a potential target?

AB: They showed up as soon as these defections started happening. We planned this about a week and a half ago. The Chamber's absurd stance is really what inspired us, of course. The U.S. is the one thing that's holding up

the talks in Copenhagen and we have to send Obama to Copenhagen with a climate bill; even though the Kerry-Boxer one isn't great, it's something. And the Chamber is opposing climate change legislation and the whole rest of the world is saying we need to do something.

Even a lot of big companies are saying we need to do something. The chamber, representing the biggest and stodgiest and most powerful corporations in America, is just saying, "Nah, let's let the whole planet go to rot." We just wanted to show what it would look like if they didn't take that absurd stance. And none of the reporters in the room were really surprised.

MJ: The press conference was interrupted by the Chamber's spokesman, Eric Wohlschlegel.

AB: Well, he claims to be.

MJ: He claims to be their spokesman?

AB: He claims to be executive director of communications for the Chamber. Wohlschlegel — if you look up that word in German, "wohl," I think means strong and "schlegel" means something like hammer. So you know what kind of person would have "strong hammer" as a surname. It's clearly a joke. [For the record: Wohlschlegel really is the Chamber's communications guy.] The Chamber's position on climate change is clearly a big

hoax on the American public. They're clearly just making fun of us, saying that it's not important or we don't need climate legislation, that we need a Scopes Monkey Trial. They're just making fun of us and they're proving that they're completely illegitimate and a fake entity.

MJ: In your fake press release you say that the Chamber represents 300,000 businesses. But the real chamber likes to say it represents three million, as my colleague Josh Harkinson has been reporting.

AB: Right! See, we're even more honest and accurate than they are even when we're trying to hoax them. It's just pathetic.

MJ: Have you gotten any more response from the Chamber, besides the spokesperson saying what you were doing was a fraud and breaking the law?

AB: Not yet. We have sent letters to various courtrooms to catch them lodging a motion against us or something. But they seem to be laying very low. I think they said it's a very sad day. And it is.

MJ: You sound upset.

AB: Yeah, very upset. [Giggles.]

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Photo by Rod Rylander

Innocent heads for brainwashing in Belize.

Institutions of Brainwashing

By Rod Rylander
Orange Walk District, Belize

There is no way that a person can avoid being what I call "brainwashed" — the convincing of a person of another's belief. It comes in the form of marketing, nationalism, religion, history, old wives tales, associations and peer pressure.

Almost from Day One people are brainwashed into believing and behaving in the adopted way of the group that they are living in. The most widespread brainwashing occurs during religious training whether it is wearing the attire of religious leaders, rituals of most religions, religious education and belief systems derived from a book. Fear of the unknown is often used to capture the attention of the non-believer such as Hell, the Devil, denied entry to Heaven, another group getting the jobs, outcast, bodily injury and death.

I pose the question to a firm religious believer, "What would you believe if you had been born in another culture that had a different belief system?"

People with insecurity problems, fear or lacking basic needs are easy targets for conversion to

dominating religions. Religions provide a needed community and sanctuary for these people. Marketing of products and services is often very effective with this group.

The television could be called, "The Great American Propaganda Machine." Marketing, a key ingredient of capitalism, can be used in a good way by informing the public what is available for sale but often goes beyond that realm to the convincing of the public to buy or do something that they do not need or want to do. The use of the ego produces people who buy higher priced items to be in vogue. Fear is often used to accomplish this marketing objective such as: the enemy is coming or you will lose your health and possessions unless you buy or do this or that.

Nationalism is a procedure to brainwash its citizens into following its leaders' commands even if it leads to a devastating war for the citizens. The flag, national anthem, marketing and education curriculum are used to increase the power of the leaders. Associations can be a type of nationalism by creating a devotion of its members to the belief system of the group. They usu-

ally have rituals and an honored exclusive membership to recruit and keep members. They range from the Ku Klux Klan to honor societies to Greenpeace.

This brings us to the writing or relaying events of history. A comparison of the history books of Russia and the U.S.A. will reveal different interpretations and inclusions. I ask of the person who believes everything in a history book, "Who can write a history of the U.S.A. during the last decade when many of the key ingredients have been destroyed or hidden in top secret drawers of the government?"

Associations, whether a family or international organization, rely on peer pressure to maintain viability. Some are based on fantasy, old wives tales, hearsay, rules and regulations.

Brainwashing is an integral part of human nature that needs to be regulated by the individual.

The first step is to recognize that you are being brainwashed! The second step is to analyze and determine the validity of all inputs to your brain and body. Third is to make a logical decision on what to accept and what not to accept.

It is hard work! Good Luck!

Words from a Yes Man About His Work

Submitted by Andy Bichlbaum
The Yes Men Web site
October 28, 2009

"We've finally made it," says Andy Bichlbaum (aka Hingo Sembra) of the Yes Men. "We're officially part of the the Extreme Left-Wing Agenda."

At least that's what you'll learn if you click through to the Google ads keyed to the phrase 'Yes Men' that have popped up overnight steering people to a fundraising page for the Chamber of Commerce. Or if you received the email solicitation they sent out to their supporters, claiming 'we're under attack,' a message which also directs people to a fundraising page.

We can see why they might need those funds: after all, this year alone they've already spent a mind-boggling \$50+ million on lobbying fees.

But it's still pretty ironic that the Chamber would ask for money for its effort to punish criticism, given that they are so publicly opposed to frivolous lawsuits and publicly in support of free speech.

The Chamber complains that we've misled the public. But the Chamber misleads the public every day when it claims to speak for three million businesses, effectively masquerading as a populist lobbying organization — when a closer look reveals it represents barely one-tenth of that.

In fact, the Chamber repeated that debatable number in the press release sent out announcing the lawsuit against us. Now that's chutzpa!

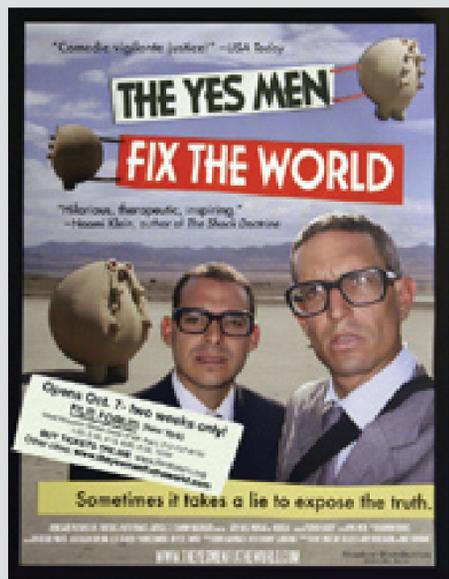
Bragging about their size is only the tip of the iceberg, of course. Among many other things, the Chamber routinely undermines American democracy by spending millions to oppose sane climate legislation, health care reform and employee free choice — not to mention so-called 'grass-roots' campaigns to kill banking regulations on derivatives trading.

That's right: the Chamber is lobbying to prop up the same system that left the American economy in a shambles.

No wonder 63% of Americans distrust the news: powerful business lobbies and their massively funded PR campaigns are subverting the media every day, expensively and effectively, to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

It's shameful that the Chamber has decided to lash out at a public interest group like ours for trying to push back and call attention to the Chamber's outrageous positions."

See the Movie



THE YES MEN FIX THE WORLD is a screwball true story about two gonzo political activists who, posing as top executives of giant corporations, lie their way into big business conferences and pull off the world's most outrageous pranks.

From New Orleans to India to New York City, armed with little more than cheap thrift-store suits, the Yes Men squeeze raucous comedy out of all the ways that corporate greed is destroying the planet.

Brüno meets Michael Moore in this gut-busting wake-up call that proves a little imagination can go a long way towards vanquishing the Cult of Greed.

Who knew fixing the world could be so much fun?

Sally Klein of
Bedford PA
devised this
clever way to
improve the
energy
efficiency
of her
radiators.
Photo by
Iona.



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What's Really So Frightening About Burger King's \$1 Double Cheeseburgers?

By Tara Lohan
www.alternet.org



Image from Office Publisher These cheap "meals" are not good for us or the planet.

least a 10-cent loss."

So, I was right. Um, barely. Here's more.

While costs vary by location, the \$1 double cheeseburger typically costs franchisees at least \$1.10, said Dan Fitzpatrick, a Burger King franchisee from South Bend, Indiana who is a spokesman for the association. That includes about 55 cents for the cost of the meat, bun, cheese and toppings. The remainder typically covers expenses such as rent, royalties and worker wages.

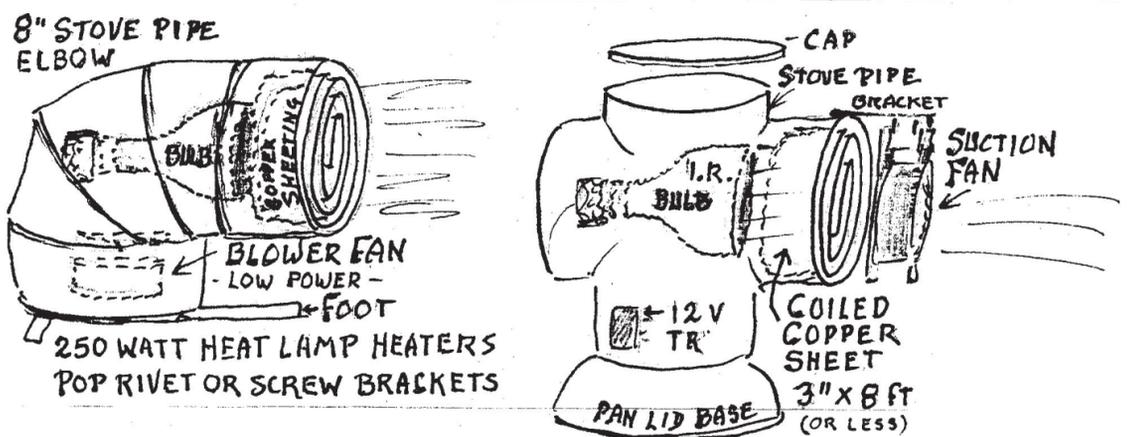
In the race to the bottom, it looks like Burger King may have won — they have found a meal so disgustingly cheap that it's actually not even profitable. That's scary. About as scary as knowing that the whole shebang actually really costs only \$1.10.

Tara Lohan is a senior editor at Alternet. Reprinted with permission.

Every time I see a Burger King commercial advertising their \$1 double cheeseburgers I'm astounded. How the heck could that be possible? There is meat on there, right? Two patties? I mean it's likely pieces of thousands of feedlot cows and it has got other fillers in there. And usually some sort of chemical to try and kill the bacteria. And then there's the cheese — maybe something resembling a dairy product, the bun (which has over 30 ingredients, according to the Burger King Web site — I lost count) and of course a few wilted tomatoes or lettuce or pickles maybe? Hard to remember, last time I had a fast food burger I was 11.

And that's just the ingredients — of course there is also the labor, the packaging and the other associated costs.

So how could it be remotely possible to do all of that — even at massive scale — for a buck? Well, it turns out you can't. According to the Associated Press, "The National Franchise Association, a group that represents more than 80 percent of Burger King's U.S. franchise owners, said the \$1 promotion forces restaurant owners to sell the quarter-pound burger with at



Safe Heat Project

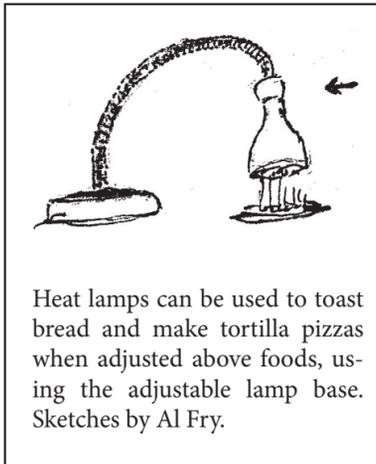
By Al Fry
Garden Valley, Idaho

It should be obvious to persons with a normal brain cell count that our money systems are self-destructing.

This means that in the near future we will be facing changes and shortages of many kinds. Aside from the usual need for water, food and shelter, we are going to need some economical way to keep our shelter heated. If we are outside the urban areas we can load up on a wood supply and have an efficient wood stove. If not, it may be time to think a — for when our usual heat sources get cut off.

I always have some extra LP gas containers around and if I crack my windows, can use one of the little unvented Mr. Heater units for emergencies. Kerosene stoves have been around for a hundred years and are still available but I shy away from them because the fuel is contaminated with Beryllium. According to some researchers, this winds up in the brain and attracts parasites.

The ideal heat of course is from electricity. Unfortunately, this can be a bit spendy in



bulbs can be found in any hardware store, it seemed logical to me that it wouldn't be any great feat to make up some smaller wattage heaters for very little outlay in money. I soon rounded up some copper sheeting from a local scrap metal buyer (\$2 a pound), some little 12-volt fans and transformers from an electrical supply outfit (less than \$5 each) and the bulb and stovepipe hardware from our hardware store.

Several experimental designs worked well and in these illustrations the general configuration should be clear enough to copy. Having only a 250-watt bulb, these units can't heat larger rooms by themselves but they can keep the chill off most areas and, used in multiples, get as much heat as required.

One of the larger electronics suppliers of small fans and 12-volt transformers is All Electronics at 800-826-5432. The small 12-volt fans will blow just the right amount of hot air out of the heated copper baffles. As with any project like this, a certain amount of common sense and experimentation is helpful.

many areas. A few years ago it was found that copper baffles in heaters made the heat spread out more evenly and gave more efficiency. Overnight, wood-enclosed, infra-red heaters hit the market with large efficiency claims and matching price tags. Since lower wattage infra-red heating



Japanese Government Funding Cuts Could End 'Research' Whaling

TOKYO, Japan, November 12, 2009 (ENS, excerpt) — A review of Japanese government spending now underway could put an end to Japanese whaling in the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, according to Greenpeace, an environmental group that has campaigned against Japanese whaling for years.

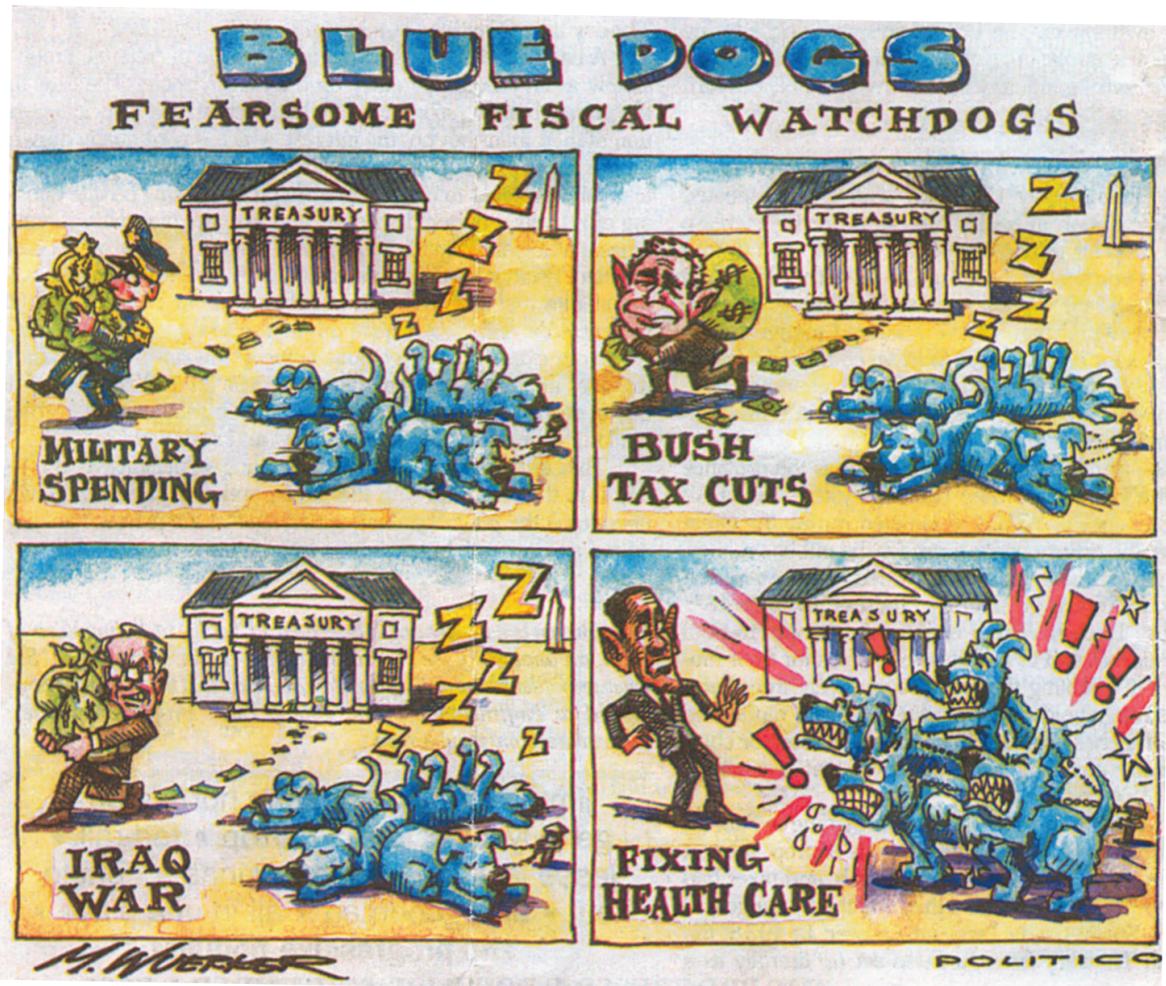
The spending review committee established by Japan's new Prime Minister, Yukio Hatoyama, has recommended that funding for the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) be cancelled after 2010.

The OFCF is the largest financier of the Tokyo-based Institute of Cetacean Research,

which runs the Japanese whaling program. The whaling fleet usually sails for the Southern Ocean in mid-November, hunting whales for scientific research regardless of a moratorium on commercial whaling set by the International Whaling Commission in 1986.

The spending review committee has recommended that the Overseas Fisheries Cooperation Fund have all of its funding revoked, except monies needed for loans in 2010.

The OFCF claims it needs 70.4 billion yen (US\$780 million) for various programs, most likely including whaling, in 2010...



Cartoon submitted by new OE friend in Augusta, Georgia; used with permission of Matt Wuerker.

Greenland Ice Cap Melt Accelerating

Continued from page 1
the same rate, masking surface mass losses for nearly a decade.

Moreover, a significant part of the additional meltwater refroze in the cold snowpack that covers the ice sheet. Without these moderating effects, Bamber explained, post-1996 Greenland mass loss would have been double the amount of mass loss observed now.

Scientists from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and from the Department of Earth

System Science, University of California, Irvine are co-authors on the study along with scientists from three Dutch institutions: the Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research at Utrecht University, the Delft Institute of Earth Observation and Space Systems at the Delft University of Technology and the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute.

The study is published in the current issue of the journal *Science*.

Rent a Great Movie From Us



Citizen-star, Maria Gunnoe, won the international Goldman Prize for her work protecting Appalachia. "...as upsetting as it is informative..." (Matt Zoller Seitz, *The New York Times*)
"...burns through the 'clean coal' rhetoric of industry front groups, showing the harsh truth of the coal story..." (Bruce Nilles, Director, National Coal Campaign, Sierra Club)

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Letters

New CD Brings Mountains Into Our Hearts Raises Awareness About Mountaintop Removal

By **Andy Mahler**
Paoli, Indiana

On behalf of Heartwood, I teamed up with Bloomington based singer/songwriter Jason Wilber, who is the guitar player for John Prine, to produce a compilation CD of music by nationally-known recording artists, including Willie Nelson (a previously unreleased version of Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind"), Bonnie Raitt, John Prine, Gillian Welch, Ralph Stanley, Natalie Merchant, Tom T. Hall, Kathy Mattea and others, to raise awareness about and help stop the tragedy of mountaintop removal coal-mining.

We have partnered with filmmakers Mari-Lynn Evans and Phylis Geller whose award winning documentary, "The Appalachians" was widely shown on PBS to produce the music CD as a companion piece to their new film, "Coal Country." The CD is called "Coal Country Music."

"Coal Country" has been accepted into several film festivals and was recently named the best film of the year at the West Virginia Film Festival. Coal Country was shown on the Discovery Channel's Planet Green Reel Impact series on November 14 and was released on DVD in



conjunction with the Coal Country Music CD, November 10th.

"Coal Country Music" includes liner notes by Ashley Judd and Woody Harrelson and information about the Alliance for Appalachia. All proceeds from the sale of the CD will be used to support the work of the Alliance for Appalachia, of which Heartwood is a member, and be used to STOP mountaintop removal coal-mining.

The following quote from actor Woody Harrelson which appears on the CD describes what's at stake:

"Mountaintop removal is the most devastating peacetime activity in human history — in fact, if the destruction to our nation's natural and cultural heritage were being perpetrated by a

foreign power, it would be considered an act of war — because in a very real sense, it is — it is a war against the Earth. Every week, mountaintop removal coal-mining detonates more explosive force on the land and the communities of Appalachia than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima to extract the coal that is warming the planet and poisoning the water, air and land.

"The artists on this musical compilation are dedicated, as I am, to ending this unsustainable and ultimately suicidal practice and to promoting renewable energy alternatives and the green jobs they will create. Won't you please join them?"

The Appalachian Mountains are considered the oldest moun-

tain chain on Earth and the forest they harbor is the oldest and most biologically diverse hardwood forest in this hemisphere. The Appalachian forests were the seed source for the hardwood forest of the eastern United States after the retreat of the great inland sea and later the advent and retreat of the glaciers.

In addition, Appalachian folk culture has been the source of so much of our nation's musical and cultural heritage. Both the land and the culture are worthy of our best efforts to protect and preserve for future generations.

Are you using mountaintop removal coal? Enter your zip code and find out here: <http://www.ilovvemountains.org/myconnection>.

Ordering information:
www.coalcountrymusic.com
800-841-6201

Contact Andy Mahler at Heartwood: 812-723-2430
www.heartwood.org or
andy@blueriver.net.

Heartwood (<http://www.heartwood.org/>) protects forests and supports community activism through education, advocacy and citizen empowerment. Heartwood is people helping people protect the places they love. Heartwood is a founding member of the Alliance for Appalachia.

The Alliance for Appalachia (<http://www.theallianceforappalachia.org/>) is an alliance of thirteen grassroots groups dedicated

to ending mountaintop removal coal mining and supporting a sustainable and just economy in Appalachia.

Andy Mahler is a forest protection activist and community organizer. He helped found Heartwood and several other organizations, including Lost River Community Co-op, which operates the Lost River Market and Deli, a member-owned, natural foods grocery in Paoli, Indiana (<http://www.lostrivercoop.com>) and Orange County Home-Grown which operates two successful farmers markets and a variety of other projects (<http://orangecountyhomegrown.org>).

He and his wife, Linda Lee own a rustic and eclectic farm and lodge called the Lazy Black Bear surrounded by the Hoosier National Forest in the rolling hills of southern Indiana where they raise, rehabilitate and release orphaned possums and other critters. They host a variety of events at the Lazy Black Bear including house concerts, a two-week permaculture course every summer and the annual Heartwood Reunion which takes place over the Columbus Day weekend in October every year (next one October 8-10, 2010).

More on page 16.

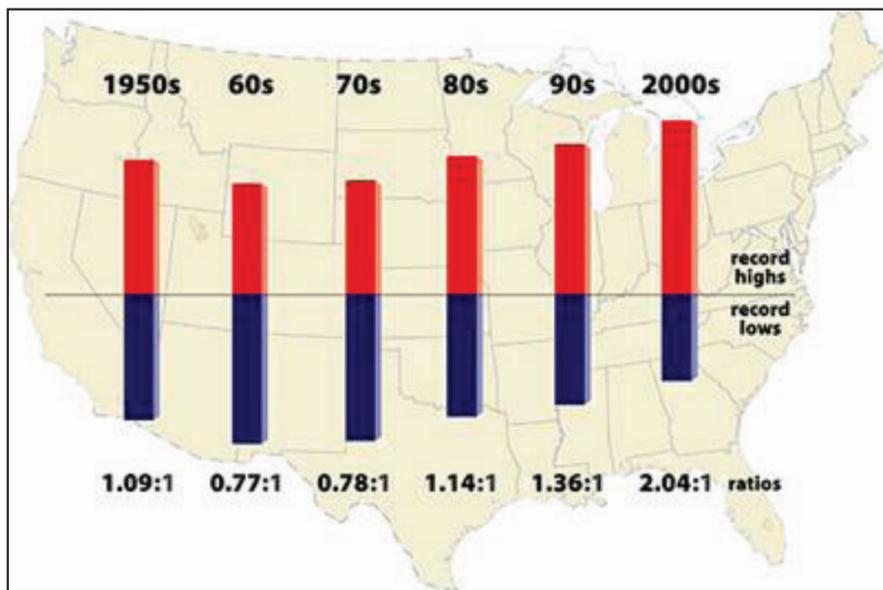


Image ©UCAR, graphic by Mike Shibao

This graphic shows the ratio of record daily highs to record daily lows observed at about 1,800 weather stations in the 48 contiguous United States from January 1950 through September 2009.

U.S. Record High Temperatures Double Record Lows Since 2000

BOULDER, Colorado, November 12, 2009 (ENS, excerpt) — Daily record high temperatures occurred twice as often as record lows over the last decade across the continental United States, according to new research released today.

"Climate change is making itself felt in terms of day-to-day weather in the United States," says Gerald Meehl, lead author of the study and a senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research. "The ways these records are being broken show how our climate is already shifting."

The ratio of record highs to lows is likely to increase in coming decades if emissions of greenhouse gases continue to climb, he says.

If temperatures were not warming, the number of record daily highs and lows being set each year would be about even.

Instead, for the period from January 1, 2000 to September 30, 2009, the continental United States set 291,237 record highs and 142,420 record lows, as the country experienced unusually mild winter weather and intense summer heat waves.

The study, by authors at NCAR, Climate Central, The Weather Channel and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has been accepted for publication in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*. It was funded by the National Science Foundation, NCAR's sponsor, the Department of Energy

and Climate Central.

"If the climate weren't changing, you would expect the number of temperature records to diminish significantly over time," says Claudia Tebaldi, a statistician with Climate Central who is one of the paper's co-authors.

"As you measure the high and low daily temperatures each year, it normally becomes more difficult to break a record after a number of years. But as the average temperatures continue to rise this century, we will keep setting more record highs," Tebaldi predicts.

A record daily high means that temperatures were warmer on a given day than on that same date throughout a weather station's history.

The authors used a quality-control process to ensure the reliability of data from thousands of weather stations across the country, while looking at data over the past six decades to capture longer-term trends.

This decade's warming was more pronounced in the western United States, where the ratio was more than two to one, than in the eastern United States, where the ratio was about 1.5 to one.

The study also found that the two-to-one ratio across the country as a whole could be attributed more to a comparatively small number of record lows than to a large number of record highs.

This indicates that much of the nation's warming is occurring at night, when temperatures are dipping less often to record lows. This finding is consistent

with years of climate model research showing that higher overnight lows should be expected with climate change.

Meehl and his co-authors also used a sophisticated computer model of global climate to see how record high and low temperatures are likely to change by 2100.

If nations continue to increase their emissions of greenhouse gases in a business-as-usual scenario, the U.S. ratio of daily record high to record low temperatures would increase to about 20-to-1 by mid-century and 50-to-1 by 2100.

The mid-century ratio could be much higher if emissions rose at an even greater pace, or it could be about 8-to-1 if emissions were reduced significantly, the model showed.

The authors caution that such predictions are, by their nature, inexact. They point out that climate models are not designed to capture record daily highs and lows with precision and it remains impossible to know future human actions that will determine the level of future greenhouse gas emissions.

The model used for the study, the NCAR-based Community Climate System Model, correctly captured the trend toward warmer average temperatures and the greater warming in the West but overstated the ratio of record highs to record lows in recent years . . .

Letters to the Editor

Saving Electricity

Hi Iona!

We've enjoyed reading the newspaper. I noticed a section that mentions ways to save energy. I'm sure I probably have nothing to add that hasn't already been thought of and probably published, but just in case..

Our hot water is heated by electric. Whenever we go away for a day, a weekend or a week, I flip the circuit breaker to the hot water heater. No sense in keeping water hot that won't be used.

Keep up the good work. Thanks for coming on the 24th (to the 350.org event on page 3).

Brett Snyder

Adams County Environmental Task Force, Pennsylvania

Comments on Content

Iona,

In last month's OE, Derrick Jensen writes that the conventional way of life is "based on exploitation, domination, theft and murder."

It's hard to know exactly what went on before the agricultural revolution. It could be that large families lived peacefully beside the same watering hole for twenty thousand years; it could be that tribes and marauders engaged in exploitation, domination, theft and murder. We'll probably never know for sure, so we shouldn't be hasty to claim that our ancestors were more ethical than we are today.

I'm sure many of us who read OE do share many of Mr. Jensen's reservations about modern life, but hopefully many of us find his language difficult. Is everyone who leads a conventional lifestyle a thief and a murderer? This type of contempt has been used before by one group against another and it often leads to hatred and conflict.

I propose that followers of the holistic lifestyle engage in

living by example, by personal conviction and even by proselytizing — and nothing else.

Accusations, anger, and being judgmental won't bring us any energy or closer to our goals.

Regards,
Mark Lautman
Rockville, MD

Publisher's Reply

Dear Mark,

I'm glad you took the time to write and share your thoughts.

From the very beginning, I considered myself fortunate that Derrick was so willing to let us use his wonderful work.

Yes, there have been passages that I felt were a bit too strong for our readers, especially since some of them are in high school and even junior high, but I feel that the planet is in such death-throes from civilization in its current form, that I recently told Derrick that I looked upon him as our "flagship" and that's why I run his articles on page two, just over our own information.

If Derrick's powerful writing can bring people to action, so much the better.

I also like your approach!

In my heart of hearts, after over 40 years in the environmental field I know we need everyone doing as much as they can, no matter what it is.

Thanks again for writing and for giving us such a delightful column of your own. I laughed all the way through the one that appears in this issue of OE on page 12. In some instances, I was laughing at myself.

For the Earth,

Iona

OE Goes to Prison

Iona,

The educated men here love *The Order of the Earth* and all your photos, poems, notes.

Long Live Earth!
Good Tidings,
A Friend in prison

Dear Iona,

Congratulations on the November issue! It is great. Small drops of water can make big holes in rocks. Everything starts small. But it grows big. As they say a seed of mustard can be a big tree.

Anyway, I have been busy nowadays. This university held a seminar and the title was Green Energy. The organizer asked me to make some comments. And I said to the audience, "Green energy is our goal and we have to do everything to reduce carbon dioxide emission."

A speaker talked about black gold and blue gold (water). I would like to add one more gold. It is the green gold. In medieval times they had white gold (salt). The green gold is one of the most valuable golds nowadays and in the future, I believe.

Pyeong Roh

Daegu Korea

Trees

Dear Iona,

This morning I read a column by Thomas Friedman at *New York Times*. It is very interesting. People have been destroying the rain forest every and each year. We are losing the lung for the Earth. When I see people cut down trees, my heart breaks down. We have to plant trees instead of destroying them. We have to have Arbor Day every day. Let us do it.

Pyeong Roh

Daegu, Korea

Dear Pyong,

I still remember the day in New Jersey when I burst into tears driving down Route 1 near New Brunswick and seeing the large trees being torn down.

I told you about it and you said that when you see that happening you feel as if a finger is being cut off. Do you remember that? I believe that statement cemented our friendship.

Iona

Shade Gap, Pennsylvania

Retired Teacher, Age 59, Seeks "Pen-Pal"

I love gardening. I do lots of volunteer work.

No computers, e-mails or Web sites.

Reply to: Hal Zack, 4320 - 196th S.W. #B,

PMB #244

Lynnwood, Washington 98036



coal country music

Painting by Bloomington artist Margie VanAuken.

Heaven[©]

Words by Woody Guthrie, 1947

Music by Paul Morrisett

Performed by Klezmatics on "Coal Country Music"

It's after my work tired and weary, I lay down to rest my eyes,
I see this world change in a whirlwind and heaven flies down from the skies;
I see rising up from my wreckage cities and mansions so bright
I see my friends' eyes and their faces lit up with a bright shining light.

I walk through the sunshiny factory where dresses and shirts are both clean;
A brother and sister are singing at work as they watch all the wheels;
No smudge clouds of smoke hide my valley, my sky it is clear for miles;
The mountains are all dancing happy, the trees are waving me smiles.

There are no sickly faces about me, the children are healthy and gay;
Not one homeless soul is around me, nor lost, nor cripple nor lame;
The street laid in finest of plastics, the atom is laboring as well;
No airships are crashing here by me, no dead ones in burning hotels.

No fast cars collide nor turn over, no death curve along my new road;
No cheaters, no gamblers, no robbers, no graveyard, no prisons, no jails;
No gas bombs, no brass knuckles, no billies, no battles 'tween worker and boss;
No patrolmen, no officer, policeman, to ride into crowds on his horse.

The last labor battles are ended, they're shown on the screen and the page;
The workhand is happy at building his world like the play on his stage;
Profiteers are gone and forgotten, except in my history and book;
My friends all have jobs here in Heaven and sing as I stand here and look.

I am sawing the finest made fiddle, I am touching the richest skin drum;
I am blowing the sweetest of woodwinds and blowing the deepest of horns;
I dance to my music I'm making and the world joins in with my dance;
Science and hope cures the fevers, not one grain is blowing by chance.

Every hand works in hand with the other and not for power nor greed;
Every hand works to its fullest ability and is paid in its deepest of need;
No cancer, no tuberculosis, no paralysis nor asylums are here
No bowery nor skid row of homeless, no eye that is blinded by tears.

If you can only see with me this vision of Heaven I dreamed,
Then you can take new faith in working with comrades and friends
And when I woke up from my sleeping and looked down my raggedy street,
I go back to work with my vision and I drink down the bitter and sweet.

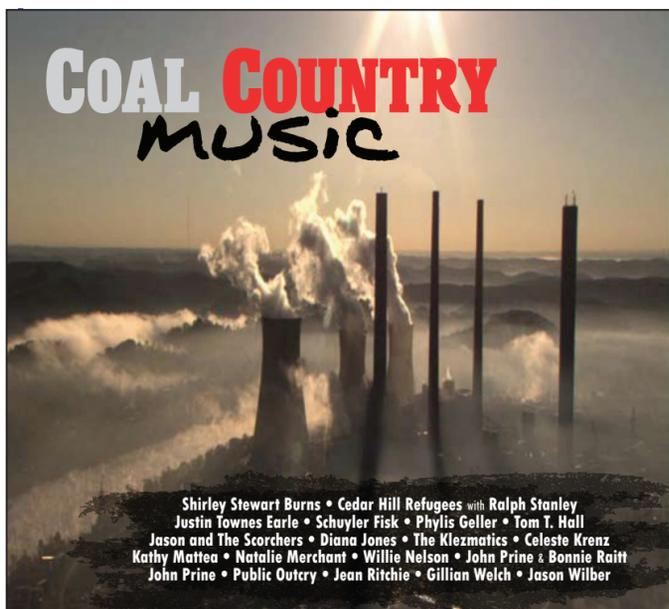
I know as you hear such a dream, friend, you will not pass it along;
I do not expect you to sing it as I do, nor to sing such a curious song;
I wrote down this song for my own self, and sing it now to my own soul.
But if you'll sing songs of your dreamings, then you will reap treasures untold.

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COAL COUNTRY MUSIC

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Kathy Mattea • Natalie Merchant • Willie Nelson • John Prine & Bonnie Raitt
John Prine • Public Outcry • Jean Ritchie • Gillian Welch • Jason Wilber

Note from the Editor: This is one of the most beautiful and moving collections of songs I own. I highly recommend it to anyone who cares about our future and who enjoys foot-tapping music. You will FEEL the heartbeats of the Appalachian mountains and the people who live and work there.

Endgame

Continued from page 2

self for whatever reason unable or unwilling to take the offensive, your talents are still needed. I think often of the military tactic called Hammer and Anvil, used most famously by Robert E. Lee at the battle of Chancellorsville. Lee kept Anderson's and McLaws's divisions in place while sending Stonewall Jackson's corps around the enemy's flank to crush that part of the opposing army between Jackson's hammer and Anderson's and McLaws's anvil. Both parts — offense and defense — were, and are, necessary.

At another talk, this one last fall, a man asked a question I'd never heard before: "If ten thousand people lined up ready to do your bidding, what would you say to them?"

My answer was immediate: "I'd tell them sure as hell not to listen to me."

His was just as fast: "That's a cop-out. How many dams could ten thousand people take down? People know how bad things are but they don't know what to do. They want to be told. That's your responsibility. What's the purpose of writing if you don't tell us what to do?"

I shot back: "Instead of telling me what hypo-

thetical readers want, tell me what you want."

"Tell me —"

"Do you want me to tell you —"

"— Yes —"

"— what to do?"

He nodded, then said, "You've had more time."

"Okay," I said. "Tomorrow, go to Barton Springs" — Barton Springs are a set of defining, and critically imperiled, springs in Austin, huge and beautiful, dying before the eyes of those who live there and love them — "and sit."

"Then what?"

"Wait until the springs tell you what to do."

"Why won't you —"

"I just did. Barton Springs know this region much better than I. They know what this region needs, know what sustainability looks and feels like here. The springs are much smarter than I am. They'll tell you exactly what to do."

Somebody else asked, "Is it Barton Springs?"

"Yes," I said, "And no. It's everywhere. Just listen. Not to me. To yourself. And to the land."

*Derrick Jensen is an activist and the author of many books, most recently **What We Leave Behind** and **Songs of the Dead**. Printed with the author's permission.*

Welsh Wood Works

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Welsh Wood Works

To all timber dwellers, giclée collectors, carving enthusiasts and Celtic hearts: I invite you to relax to the sounds and Web site of www.jackharries.com.

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