

NOW WHAT

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"So, I Was Talking to My Buddy Jack"

Jack on Electric Cars: Jack the Killer Dog and I were out walking the other day when we happened to walk by several electric vehicles that were plugged into outlets near a business. Jack said I shouldn't say anything, and he was laughing at the time, but we have to admit he had stopped to relieve himself on the tire of one of the vehicles. What brings this up is one of the vehicles had a sticker that proudly proclaimed ZERO EMISSIONS. Jack said "Dad isn't it funny these folks are bragging about zero-emission electric vehicles when way over 70% of all electricity is produced by fossil fuels?" "Yeah," I replied, "also the electricity they are getting is subsidized, and the cost of the car is subsidized as well." The discussion went on to things like Jack saying "I wonder if most folks realize that a huge amount of the price of gasoline is taxes which go to pay for road maintenance." Both of us wonder who will be paying taxes for the electric car's use of roads.



Jack on Gun Control: The next subject was about the anti-gun rhetoric on the news. Jack had heard one congressman state, "Why would you need to buy more ammunition than your gun will hold?" Jack's simple answer involved his usual unassailable logic. "Dad, it's the same reason you don't just buy toilet paper one square at a time." "When shit happens you need to be prepared." He followed that up with "Dad, what do you think about the fact that the same government that can't keep a witness alive who is being watched by two special guards, and is on suicide watch, maintaining they can keep us safer by taking our guns away?"

Jack on Polar Bears: The subject then turned to the ever-popular Polar Bear problem. It started with when 'climate expert' Al Gore was born, the polar bear population was estimated to be 7000 and now all these years later, the polar bear population is conservatively estimated to be over 50,000. We both had a laugh because we had recently read another 'breathless announcement' proclaiming, "Poor baby Polar Bears would probably be dying because of lack of adequate snow caves." Really? We both agreed that this 'climate reporter' must have gotten his 'Science Degree' the same place good old Al Gore did. But, oops! Jack reminded me good old Al Gore has a Political Science degree.

Fish Story



One of the world's best tasting fish is, of course, Walleye. This fish is plentiful in our state but unfortunately, to be a successful, Walleye fishing involves the purchase of an expensive boat & gear. And the art of catching this elusive fish takes years to master. Like so many folks, however, I relished the taste of a good freshly caught Walleye meal, even though I had resigned myself to not being

much good at the actual Walleye fishing game.

JUST SAYING!

It seems that, in our retirement, Linda and I are simply not seeing old friends enough. Not only are we are busy every single day, but we are in Arizona quite a bit of the year. And now that I'm out of the business world it seems we just don't see everyone like we used to.

That is one reason I have been writing Crapper Chronicles for these past few years. It is a way for us to stay in touch with old friends and gives me an excuse to keep writing. I hope you enjoy it, but since some of the times I get toooooo opinionated, be sure and let me know if you want off the "Crapper" list.

By the same token, if you want to add someone to the list, just shoot me an email and I'll get it done. Richard Farnham of Farnham Associates on the Big Island of Hawaii does my layout work and makes sure my email list is kept secure.

Chuck

The solution came unexpectedly on a day this past summer when Linda noticed someone parked on the road alongside our creek, out by the corrals. Jack and I got in the Mule and drove out to see what the person was doing. When we drove up the person introduced him and said he was a 'Professional Walleye Fisherman.' Furthermore he informed me that our creek was chock full of Chubb Minnows and these minnows are the favorite food of Walleye. He proposed I let him trap minnows in our creek and he would keep me supplied with fresh Walleye. I quickly agreed to his proposal and soon Linda and I were enjoying delicious meals of fresh-caught Walleye. What a deal! Also, what a nice gesture from a sportsman that appreciates our Chubb minnow hatchery!

Cycle News

It seems like since I started cycling I manage to do something stupid at least once a year. This year it was one day, while cycling with my buddy Mark Gregory, we got separated in a parking lot. Seeing Gregory on the other side of the lot I thought I would just pop my front wheel over a little curb and join him. Unfortunately I was riding my street bike and not my mountain bike. It seems that in the hands of an amateur like myself street bikes don't just 'mouse up' over a curb the same as a mountain bike. On contacting the curb with my front wheel, instead of popping up over it, I was pile driven headfirst onto the sidewalk. Lucky for me, other than a broken bike helmet, a few bruises and some deserved ribbing from Mark, I was unharmed. This year's cycle miles were just over 2000. Next year I am going to try and get over the 2500 mile mark WITHOUT making some stupid mistake. None the less, Gregory and I would both like to say that even with the occasional screw-ups cycling has been fun and great for our health. Just remember if you take up the sport, WEAR YOUR HELMET!!



Climate News



High School Dropout: A recent bubbly news flash by reporter Valerie Williams breathlessly reports "the 'brilliance' of climate activist, 17-year-old Greta Thunberg, is going to be recognized as she is going to have her own HULU documentary." The article exclaims it will be 'fascinating' viewing. Unfortunately, it is hard for some of us to stomach Thunberg's 'brilliance' given the fact she no longer attends school and has yet to earn a high school degree. Most likely because he committed what she felt was an insult when he mentioned Thunberg's lack of even a basic high school education; the same

article's author disparages our President who, incidentally, has several advanced education degrees. Needless to say, we won't be watching the 'fascinating' documentary done by a high school dropout who some reporter considers 'brilliant.' According to the article, we all need to 'become aware' of climate change. This is amazing to me as my entire generation and generations before have ALL been aware of climate change. The Earth and its climate have never ceased to 'change' ever since the planet was born. The problem is the planet has been changing for thousands and millions of years before man ever set foot on it. Maybe if Ms. Thunberg ever graduates from high school she will come to realize that solar energy variations from the Sun, slight oscillations in the Earth's magnetic field, and major volcanic eruptions are the major drivers of climate change. Not hysterical speeches given by well-meaning talking heads such as herself.

Follow the Money: Am I the only one who thinks there is a connection with the fact that over 60% of all lithium batteries and the VAST majority of all solar cells are being produced in, and then exported from, China? This from a country that is generating over 95% of the electricity needed to build these products from (dare I say it) FOSSIL FUELS? At this time China, a socialist/communist country, is also producing more pollution by far than virtually any other country in the world. Yet, far from using these batteries and solar cells to clean up their own act, they are exporting them to naive countries who think by using these products they can stop or reverse climate change. It takes the energy equivalent of 100 barrels of oil to fabricate one battery large enough to power a car. Other fun facts about building a battery and materials needed: lithium, cobalt, manganese, carbon, nickel, copper, and aluminum go into building a 1000 pound car battery and it requires moving over 500,000 pounds of raw materials. Of course in the socialist/communist countries, this is of no concern. Labor is cheap and plentiful and they could care less about 'climate change.' They are happy to sell us batteries, produced by fossil fuels, and assembled by controlled workers. Think China is cashing in on this???

"The Emperor Has No Clothes": Adolph Hitler was one of the world's greatest dictators and tyrants. He was responsible for the deaths of untold millions of innocent people. One of the greatest weapons that he used to gain power and control of the German populace was Propaganda. His Minister of Propaganda's most famous saying was "Tell the people a big enough lie, and repeat it often enough and eventually, no matter how preposterous the lie, they will come to believe it as the truth." Who do you think is pushing the insane idea that we can stop, change, or reverse climate change? Just remember this:

- We have always had climate change, we always will: It has never and will never stop.
- We have had catastrophic climate change for the entire history of the planet. Millions of years before man ever set foot on it.
- It is absolutely provable that in the past we have had far greater carbon concentrations in our atmosphere than we have now.
- It is absolutely provable that in the past we have had ocean levels far higher than we have now.

Who is trying to make us forget this OLD provable knowledge? The Socialist/Communist Block???? Think about it. Look around you: the Socialist/Communist countries are doing nothing about climate change. They know it is a natural phenomenon. But they are happy to watch the free world go broke trying to fix a problem they did not cause and cannot change.

Local Business News: Longtime Minot area nursery and landscape contractor Lowes Garden Center in Minot, North Dakota has always been Linda and my go-to place for our needed plants, shrubs, and trees. This year we totally redid our backyard patio and added two fire pits. Patio and fireplace brickwork was done by Lowe's with Tri N Propane doing gas lines and hookups. Carpentry work was done by Goldade Construction. All parties did a fantastic job, all work was done on time, and all estimates came in as quoted. If you need any such work here are their phone numbers. They all get a high recommendation from Linda and me. Lowes: John Uland - 701 838 2868, Tri N Propane: Jarrett Schatz - 701 839 5262, Goldade Construction: Tim Goldade - 701 838 7335. Thanks again, guys!!



Honey, I Shipped My Pants! Remember the K Mart ad about 'shipping your pants?' Well, not to be outdone, I recently asked Sammy's Pizza's Dave Shomento if he would take 10 loaves of his most excellent 'European Style' bread up to the Minot UPS store and have them ship it down to me here in Phoenix. I know it sounds odd but Sammy's bread is so good and we have yet to find anything that even comes close in Phoenix. It's well worth a few bucks to get some decent bread down here. Sammy's Pizza - 701 852 4486. Yeah, baby!!!

Sirius Radio: So I get my renewal for Sirius radio on Linda's car. It's right at \$500 for two years. I'm thinking gee, we hardly ever even drive that car. I see a number to call. Of course, I call and am put on hold for around 15 minutes. Every couple of minutes I get a nice recorded voice telling me to go to the web site. "but if you STILL wish to speak to a listener care representative....please hold." Finally, a nice gal (Jen) takes the call. Jen is in a call center in Bangladesh and the background noise is so bad I can barely hear her; let alone understand her version of English spoken in India. None the less, I soon find out after saying I just want to cancel my service that I can get a 'special promotion' for only \$150 a year, for a savings of \$100 per year. Of course, the 'special promotion' is only good for one year. I say "great, sign me up." Then Jen says, "would you like us to keep your credit card information for automatic renewal?" Thinking it will save time in the future, at first, I agree, then I ask; but at what rate? She says, of course, it would be the higher \$250/year rate, unless I call to see if there are any more 'special promotions.' I say "no I don't want you to keep my credit card information." Thanks to Roger Tollefson for giving me a heads up on this.

Views on Retail: Linda and I were in the PGA Superstore the other day to buy some more golf balls since I keep losing mine. The PGA Superstore is, of course, a huge box store solely devoted to selling golfing apparel and equipment. The place is huge and there are widescreen TV's all over the facility. What I found crazy was the only thing on the TV's was ...football???? Whatever!

Safelight Glass Services: So we are driving Linda's new car down to Phoenix this fall and are on I-17 right south of Flagstaff. All at once something hits the windshield. Linda says, hey we just got a chip! Bummer! Anyway, I say I'll call Safelight Glass Company and as per their TV ads, they will come out and make everything ok in minutes!!! Ta Ta!! We get to the house, and I call Safelight. But oops! You can't just call, you have to what? GO TO THE WEB!!! (Dummy) Enter all the vehicle information, your information, and etc, etc, etc. Just about the time I am going to schedule an appointment, I think gee, I'd better see what the wonderful service will cost...\$160. What! \$160!!!! No way. A couple of days later I stopped down to the ACE Hardware store, bought a windshield repair kit for \$10.12 and in a few minutes fixed my own windshield chip. Problem solved.

Foreflight Aviation Weather: Since I needed to be able to get accurate weather information when I was flying, I have used the most excellent ForeFlight aviation app for many years. Rather than the sensationalized weather: 'bomb cyclones,' 'unprecedented, deadly, cataclysmic, devastating arctic cold snaps,' and 'historic' thunderstorms,' reported by the Weather Channel and Network news stations, Foreflight gives you the REAL weather. No hype, just the real weather.

The problem was that I had changed my credit card and needed to renew my subscription. I look for a number to call... GO TO THE WEB??? (Dummy). Stupid me, I go to the web. Not once, not twice, but three times. But you cannot talk to anyone. Over the next few days, I got email replies from three different helpful, (but useless) 'great customer care' people. Finally, I penned a note to the last one "I have received responses from three of you 'support' folks now. I go into my phone and try to get this damn software installed and waste tons of time trying to 'fly' an airplane with no instruction. If someone can call me and give me some help here, fine. Otherwise, send me my \$200 back and we can easily do without this system. Expecting people to 'self educate' themselves to pay you folks for the wonderful product is insane. My phone number is 701 721 5101. If no call in a couple of days I'll call my credit card company and demand a refund." I figured that would be the end of it and resigned myself to using the basically worthless TV weather. But wait! Lo and behold, I get a call on Sunday afternoon from a real person, Albert. He said he usually did not make calls but felt I needed a response. I agreed. We turned on my phone and although even Albert had some difficulty, after numerous tries he finally got me going. I thanked him, and since he too is a pilot I signed off with a 'fly safe'."

New Scam: The criminal's newest scam starts with a simple: "Do you want a receipt?" question from the checkout person at the business you have just patronized. If you say you don't want a receipt the checkout person can add an extra 'cash out' charge without you even knowing it. Usually, the charge is low, say \$20, and you don't even catch it on their credit card statement. Even if you ask for a receipt be certain and look to see if a 'cash out' charge has been made. A person shopping recently at Kohl's looked at her receipt when she got home and noticed a \$20 'cash out' charge had been added. This scam is growing and can be used anywhere. ASK FOR AND THEN INSPECT YOUR RECEIPTS!!!

THE CRAPPER MUSE

*The other day Linda and I had colds.
It's depressing because you know it's
going to be a while till you get over it? It
certainly does make you feel your age.
This made me think of this poem I had
written a few years ago about aging.*

Soon Enough

The other day I saw a picture of ol'
Bill Clinton and I thought, man he's
sure a lookin' tough.

And a quiet voice whispered in my
ear: "you'll get there soon enough."

Don't put off a single thing; don't
think the roads so rough.

The road will dead-end by and by;
"you'll get there soon enough".

Act on dreams right now, today;
while you're strong and have the stuff.

The time clocks runnin' faster ever'
day; "It'll run out soon enough."

Old age, weakness, indecision;
brains that turn to fluff.

They come to all, my carefree
friend. "You'll get there soon enough."

Live your life complete and full:
One day time will call your bluff.

"Son, Deaths a horseman ridin'
hard; an' he'll get here soon enough."

The Power of Prayer

I do believe in the power of prayer.
Most likely because I happen to
know some extremely wonderful
people who were, in fact, pray-
ing I would wake up, grow up,
and become a better person. Of
course, as all of you know, I still
have a long way to go but there
is no doubt in my mind I would
never have been able to get this
far on my own. Anyway, not to
make a big deal of it but since I do
believe in the power of prayer and
most of you folks do as well, here
are a couple of prayers I have been
making lately:

First: I pray our President can
continue to fight against the insan-
ity of the Socialist / Communist
factions trying to tear our country
apart.

Second: Since so many of us, or
those near and dear to us, have
battled cancer. My prayers go out
to all of these folks and especially
to Danny Schatz who has been
battling a particularly bad strain of
that disease this past year.

Tips for Snowbirds: The problem is that when you are gone for the winter it is a total hassle not only getting your mail forwarded, but having someone watch your mailbox or home for boxes, or misdirected mail. Another problem is that even if you get mail forwarded, what if you can't be there and end up waiting all day for some package that is 'supposed' to be delivered between '2:00 pm and 6:00 pm.' You waste the whole day waiting for the package and then it shows up the next day anyway.

The solution is that UPS now has stores in most cities. These stores not only have mailboxes for rent, but they also offer notary, photocopy, scanning, and many other services. Furthermore, you can not only pick up a package at YOUR convenience but they can forward your mail to you as well. Linda and I have a UPS box number in Minot as well as Scottsdale. The Minot store forwards our mail in the winter and the Scottsdale store forwards any mail to us in the summer. It works great and gets a high recommendation!!!

Pest Control News: It is reported by pest control experts that Irish Spring bath soap bars repel scorpions, mice, and other vermin. They claim that placing a bar of soap by outside doors and in other places, vermin are found helps dramatically in keeping these unwanted house guests away. I do not personally know if the system works but we are certainly going to give it a try.

Gun Facts

Untimely Yearly Deaths in the United States:

- Abortions - 501,325
- Heart Disease - 282,028
- Preventable Medical errors - 200,000
- Drug Overdoses - 40,000
- Flu-Related Illnesses - 36,000
- Traffic Accidents - 34,000 (Drunk Driving Involved - 15,521)
- Gun-Related - 30,000, Broken down as follows:
 - 65% Suicide
 - 15% Law Enforcement
 - 03% Accidental Discharge
 - 17% Criminal Gun Violence:

Actual people killed by criminal gun violence last year amounted to 5276. Of these 480 killed (9.4%) Chicago, 344 killed (6.7%) Baltimore, 333 killed (6.5%) Detroit, 119 killed (2.3%) Washington DC. These four cities represent 25% (1276) of the people killed in the United States by criminal gun violence last year. Note: These four cities have the strictest gun laws in the United States.



Case in Point: Criminals do not purchase guns legally. That is why they are called Criminals. In the vast majority of the mass shootings that have occurred, most shooters had given ample evidence they were unstable. In most cases (particularly the Parkland shooter) authorities simply failed to act on the information they were repeatedly given before the violence occurred. Taking away guns from a law abiding populace gives total control to the government. A disarmed populace is a controlled populace.

More Gun Facts: Over 98% of all mass shootings in the United States have been committed in 'Gun-Free' zones with 68 people dying in mass shootings in the United States in 2018. This fact is well-publicized. What is not publicized is as many as 2000 people were killed in the same time frame by violence committed by illegal aliens.

Well, I see I am well over the usual 3000 words for an issue of Crapper and it is time to wrap this one up. Jack and I would like to thank you for reading our little newsletter and as usual, remember: we have our families, our friends, our health, and time... the rest is just smoke and mirrors!

Chuck