



Volume 7 Number 36

*"A sense of humor keeps life interesting..." –Marjorie Pay Hinckley*

September 7, 2008

At a high school in Montana a group of students played a prank on the school. They let three goats loose in the school building.

Before they let them go they painted numbers on the sides of the goats: 1, 2, 4.

Local school administrators spent most of the day looking for goat #3.

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When he was about 8, my son asked me when I was born.

I replied "63."

After a thoughtful pause he asked "What 63?"

It took me a minute to realize he was asking me if I was born in 1863 or 1963.

I asked him if he thought I was over a hundred.

He just said "well..." and was reluctant to say any more.

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Preparing for a family vacation, my sister-in-law and her husband explained to their young children that they would be sitting in the car for a very long time. The kids were told they would not be arriving at their destination until after dark, and were warned not to keep saying, "Are we there yet?"

After a few minutes of peaceful driving, their five-year-old daughter perked up, "Is it dark yet?"

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A woman answered her front door and saw a little boy holding a list. "Ma'am," he explained, "I'm on a scavenger hunt, and I still need three grains of wheat, a pork-chop bone and a piece of used carbon paper to earn a dollar."

"Wow," the woman replied. "Who sent you on such a challenging hunt?"

"My babysitter's boyfriend."

A big, beefy, leather-wearing, biker type fellow walks into a bar, slams his fist down, and demands in a loud voice, "Give me a bottle of beer, or else...!"

Scared, the bartender serves the man his beer. This happens every day for a week straight, and the bartender turns into a nervous wreck. He asks his wife for advice, and she tells him he should stand up for himself. Easier said than done, he thinks, but he decides to try it.

The next day, the biker returns.

"Give me a bottle of beer, or else...!"

"O-o-o-or else w-w-w-what?" stammers the bartender.

"Or I'll take a draft if you're out of bottles."

While at the mall, I saw an elderly couple holding hands while they were walking. As they approached, I commented on how romantic it was.

He replied, "We have been holding hands when we go out in public for over thirty years. I have to. If I let go, she shops."

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### Rules of Life - #1

#### *Pursue Achievable Goals*



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A clergyman was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, all between 10 and 12 years of age. The group had surrounded a dog. Concerned lest the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked "What are you doing with that dog?"

One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighborhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog."

Of course, the Reverend was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed. He then launched into a ten minute sermon against lying, beginning with, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie?" and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the Reverend was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."

Doug asks, "I know you're crazy about that little daughter of yours, Bill. What are you going to do when she starts to date?"

Bill says, "I figure I'll take the first young man aside, put my arm around his shoulder, and pull him close to me so that only he can hear. Then I'll say, "Do you see that sweet, little young lady? She's my only daughter, and I love her very much. If you were thinking about touching, kissing, or being physically affectionate to her in any way, just remember...I don't mind going back to prison."

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Many of us [those over 40, WAY over 40, or hovering near 40] are quite confused about how we should present ourselves. We are unsure about the kind of image we are projecting and whether or not we are correct as we try to conform to current fashions. Despite what you may have seen, the following combinations DO NOT go together and should be avoided:

1. A nose ring and bifocals
2. Spiked hair and bald spots
3. A pierced tongue and dentures
4. Miniskirt and support hose
5. Ankle bracelet and corn pads
6. Speedo's and cellulite
7. A belly ring and a gall bladder scar
8. Unbuttoned disco shirt and a heart monitor
9. Midriff shirt and a midriff bulge
10. Bikinis and liver spots
11. Short shorts and varicose veins
12. Inline skates and a walker

Please keep these basic guidelines foremost in your mind when you shop!

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"When I was a youngster," complained the frustrated father, shaking his head, "I was disciplined by being sent to my room without supper. But our son has his own color TV, phone, computer and CD player."

"So what do you do when your son misbehaves?" asked his friend.

"I send him to our room!"



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I had trouble with the idea of turning 30 and was oversensitive to any signs of advancing age. When I found a prominent gray hair in my bangs, I pointed to my forehead and asked my husband, "Oh no, have you seen this?"

"What?" he asked. "The wrinkles?"

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After a hardy rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and alleys, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddle through her kitchen window. The older of the two, a five year old lad, grabbed his sibling by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole. As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother runs to the yard in a panic.

"Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?!" she asks as she shook the older boy in anger.

"We were just playing 'church' mommy," he said.  
"And I was just baptizing him....in the name of the Father, the Son, and in . . . the hole-he-goes."

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My friend's flight from Boston to New York City was delayed, so she missed her connection home to Seattle. She joined a group of other passengers in line at the ticket counter, each hoping to book seats on the next flight to that destination.

All the travelers waited patiently except for one man, who treated the agent very rudely. "I had an aisle seat reserved, and I better get an aisle seat when we get on another plane," he demanded. A few minutes later everyone was relieved when they learned that there would be room for all.

"And, sir," the ticket agent said, turning to the obnoxious man, "I am happy to tell you that you will have an aisle seat."

Still muttering, he picked up his carry-on and left for the gate. "And I'm also happy to announce," the agent continued, "that the rest of you will be seated in first class."

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My husband wore his Army uniform with pride. One day, coming home from the base and dressed in olive drab fatigues, he stopped off at the grocery store to pick up a few things.

While in line at the checkout counter, he noticed a little boy standing with his Mother. The boy took one look at my husband in his uniform, and his eyes grew wide. My husband in turn gave the young man a crisp salute. The boy was so excited. He pointed at my husband and announced, "Look Mom! A Giant Boy Scout!"

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Doctor to patient's husband: "I'm sorry. We did all that was humanly possible but we just can't wake her from her coma. It doesn't look good I'm afraid,"

"But doctor, she's so young. She's only thirty-nine."

Upon which the comatose wife said weakly ... "Thirty-seven."

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Determined to have one last, lazy day of fishing before summer's end, I purposely ignored the leaky faucet and the broken gate -- household projects that had awaited me all summer.

When my wife asked, "What are you going to do today?" I grinned and answered, "It starts with F and ends with ISH."

"Oh, good," she replied. "You're finally going to FinISH up those projects."

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*"You said this would be . . . FUN?!?!"*

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At the urging of his doctor, John moved to Arizona.

After settling in, he met a neighbor who was also an older man.

"Say, my doctor recommended I move here for my health. Is this really a good place to live?"

"It sure is," the man replied. "When I first arrived here I couldn't say one word. I had hardly any hair on my head."

I didn't have the strength to walk across a room and I had to be lifted out of bed."

"That's wonderful!" said John. "How long have you been here?"

"I was born here."

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An infantry brigade was training in the summer heat, learning methods to counter offensive tactics. That summer, the area had experienced an infestation of rattlesnakes. Officers and NCOs were given one magazine of live ammunition to counter this danger, as several men had already been bitten.

So much ammunition was expended shooting, supposedly, at snakes that the post commander demanded that every officer and NCO who had shot at a snake present the dead snake as proof that the expenditure of rounds was justifiable.

The next day, the post commander entered his office and spotted a shoe box on his desk. He opened it, revealing a sleepy and sluggish, but very live, rattlesnake. Inside the box were twenty expended cartridges, and a short note. The note said, "I missed!"

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Bob was in his usual place in the morning sitting at the table, reading the paper after breakfast. He came across an article about a beautiful actress about to marry a football player who was known primarily for his lack of common knowledge and his fairly low IQ.

He turned to his wife Marlene with a look of question on his face. "I'll never understand why the biggest jerks get the most attractive wives."

Marlene replies, "Why thank you, dear!"

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A patient at the dental office where I was a receptionist stopped by my desk to pay her bill. She began rummaging through her purse, as so many patients did when they had a check to write.

"Do you need a pen?" I asked, offering her the use of mine.

"Yes, thank you," she replied. She took it, put it in her handbag and proceeded to pay in cash.



Heather and Marcy hadn't seen each other in awhile, so they decided to meet for lunch. The talk naturally got around to their respective love lives. Marcy confided that there really wasn't anyone special in her life.

Heather, on the other hand, was beaming about the new man she had found. "He's perfect. He's handsome, he's sweet, and last night when we went out to dinner, he said the four little words I've been waiting to hear a man say to me!"

"He said 'will you marry me'?" Marcy asked.

Heather replied, "No, he said 'put your money away'."



*It would be funny if it wasn't so truthful!*

When a customer left his cell phone in my store, I scrolled through his saved numbers, stopped at "Mom" and pushed the "call" button. His mother answered, and I told her what happened.

"Don't worry," she said, "I'll take care of it."

A few minutes later, the cell phone rang. It was "Mom." "Martin," she said, "you left your cell phone at the convenience store."

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#### Dangling Participle Alert!

~ The burglar was about 30 years old, white, 5' 10", with wavy hair weighing about 150 pounds.

~ The family lawyer will read the will tomorrow at the residence of Mr. Hannon, who died June 19 to accommodate his relatives.

~ Mrs. Shirley Baxter, who went deer hunting with her husband, is very proud that she was able to shoot a fine buck as well as her husband.

~ Organ donations from the living reached a record high last year, outnumbering donors who are dead for the first time.

~ The dog was hungry and made the mistake of nipping a 2-year-old that was trying to force feed it in his ear.

~ We spent most of our time sitting on the back porch watching the cows playing Scrabble and reading.

~ Hunting can also be dangerous, as in the case of pygmies hunting elephants armed only with spears.

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#### Ten Easy Ways to Say No.

I'd love to, but...

- 1 I have to floss my cat.
- 2 I've dedicated my life to linguini.
- 3 I want to spend more time with my blender.
- 4 The President said he might drop in.
- 5 The man on television told me to say tuned.
- 6 I've been scheduled for an eyelash transplant.

- 7 I'm staying home to work on my cottage cheese sculpture.
  - 8 It's my parakeet's bowling night.
  - 9 It wouldn't be fair to the other Beautiful People.
  - 10 I'm building a pig from a kit.
- 



In my senior year, I reluctantly took a required psychology course. The first day, the professor commented on each student's major, trying to provoke a response. It was working - some students were becoming defensive. When it was my turn, I told him I was a music major.

"So," asked my professor, "what does your father think of your wasting your education to study music?"

"He's just thankful," I shot back, "that I didn't go into psychology."

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Tired of super-hectic Christmas mornings, I was pleased to find a recipe called "Christmas Morning Wifesaver Breakfast."

I prepared the breakfast the night before so that it could be put in the oven while we opened our gifts with our four small children.

It was delicious.

Next year I followed the "tradition" and prepared the same breakfast. After everyone was seated I put the casserole on the table. My five-year-old exclaimed disgustedly, "This again!"

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A man was sitting alone in his office one night when a genie popped up out of his ashtray.

"And what will your third wish be?"

The man looked at the genie and said, "Huh? How can I be getting a third wish when I haven't had a first or second wish yet?"

"You have had two wishes already," the genie said, "but your second wish was for me to put everything back the way it was before you made your first wish. Thus, you remember nothing, because everything is the way it was before you made any wishes. You now have one wish left."

"Okay," said the man, "I don't believe this, but what the heck. I've always wanted to understand women. I'd love to know what's going on inside their heads."

"Funny," said the genie as it granted his wish and disappeared forever, "That was your first wish, too!"

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Teddy came thundering down the stairs, much to his father's annoyance. "Teddy," he called, "how many more times have I got to tell you to come downstairs quietly? Now, go back upstairs and come down like a civilized human being."

There was a silence, and Teddy reappeared in the front room. "That's better," said his father, "now in future will you always come down stairs like that."

"Suits me," said Teddy. "I slid down the railing."

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I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle – *Winston Churchill*



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September 28, 2008

When I was introduced to a couple visiting our congregation, I decided to remember their names by noting they were the same as those of two characters in a popular children's story.

After the services I stopped to talk to them, and as they were saying goodbye I teased, "Be careful going up that hill! But you must get that all the time."

They smiled politely but said nothing. After they left, my wife asked, "What was that all about?"

"Jack and Jill. Up the hill. Remember?" I said.

"Yes, but what does that have to do with," she pointed to the couple, "Dick and Jane?"



#### Thoughts on "Insurance" . . .

A lot of life insurance policies cost a great deal of money to maintain. But look on the bright side -- when you die, you'll be rich !

Who says that life insurance agents don't have feelings. After I had my heart bypass operation, my agent sent cards and called daily to check on my recovery.

An agent for a large insurance company in Ontario handed a life-insurance check to a widow, in full payment for her late husband's policy. He then advised her to take out a policy of her own.

"Why I do believe I will." she replied enthusiastically.

"My husband had such good luck with his."

The woman, searching for a job, inquired about the benefits. The Personnel Manager informed her they had group health and life insurance, but the costs were deducted from the employees' pay.

She said, "My last employer had full health coverage, as well as five years salary for life insurance and a month's sick leave. AND they paid the full premiums."

"I can't help but asking madam why you would leave a job with such benefits." the interviewer replied.

The woman shrugged her shoulders and said, "The company went bankrupt."

I was able to obtain some real cheap fire-theft insurance for our home. Turns out however they only pay off if we're robbed during a fire.

A woman was talking to her friends about her husband who had passed away.

When her husband was on his death bed, he told her that he had three envelopes in his desk drawer that would "take care" of all of the arrangements. Well, he died shortly thereafter, so the wife opened the drawer and there were 3 envelopes just like he said.

One the first envelope it said "for the casket". There was \$5,000.00 in the envelope, so she bought him a very nice casket.

The second envelope said "for the expenses" and had \$4,000.00 in it so she paid all the bills from the funeral.

The third envelope said "for the stone" and had \$3,000.00 in it. She then held her hand out to her friends and said, "Isn't it beautiful!!!"

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The start of the new school term always brings out the most interesting questions for computer consultants on campus. The predominant questions this term pertain to "getting into" E-mail and how to access the "Information Highway."

An obviously distraught student came into the consulting office yesterday complaining that his E-mail wasn't working; his attempts to get tickets for an on-campus concert kept resulting in returned mail.

He showed me the mail address he was attempting to reach. I asked him where he obtained such an unusual mail address.

He replied, "The sign told me, 'begins@7:30 P.M.'"

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A man walks into the doctor's office. He has a cucumber up his nose, a carrot in his left ear and a banana in his right ear.

"What's the matter with me?", he asked.

"You're not eating properly", replied the Doctor.

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A local priest and pastor stood by the side of the road holding up a sign that said, "The End is Near! Turn yourself around now before it's too late!" They planned to hold up the sign to each passing car.

"Leave us alone, you religious nuts!" yelled the first driver as he sped by.

From around the curve they heard a big splash.

"Do you think," said one clergyman to the other, "we should just put up a sign that says 'bridge out' instead?"

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Parents can be very upset when their children don't get into the college of their choice. As an admissions counselor for a state university, I took a call from an irate mother who was demanding to know why her daughter had been turned down.

Avoiding any mention of the transcript full of D's, I explained that her daughter just wasn't as "competitive" as the admitted class. "Why doesn't she try another school for a year and then transfer?" I suggested.

"Another school!" exclaimed the Mother. "Have you seen her grades?"

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Panicking when her toddler swallowed a tiny magnet; my sister, Betty, rushed him to the emergency room.

"He'll be fine," the doctor promised her. "The magnet should pass through his system in a day or two."

"How will I be sure?" she pressed.

"Well," the doctor suggested, "you could stick him on the refrigerator. When he falls off, you'll know."

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"In a stunning announcement, Pennsylvania Senator Bob Casey Jr., who had said he would remain neutral, has endorsed Barack Obama. He said he did it because his four young daughters told him they wanted Obama for president. Which also explains his choice for vice president: Hannah Montana." -Jay Leno