

Morning Breaks

Volume 7 Number 44

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

November 2, 2008

The other day, Avril and I got into some petty argument. (I say it was petty. She would have said it was Armageddon.) As is our nature, neither of us would admit the possibility that we might be in error.

To her credit, Avril finally said, "Look. I'll tell you what. I'll admit I'm wrong if you admit I was right."

"Fine." I said.

She took a deep breath, looked me in the eye and said, "I'm wrong."

I grinned and replied, "You're right."



After spending a wonderful week together, my fiance' dropped me off at the airport and returned to his base. I didn't realize how much I'd miss him until I reached the plane and bust into tears.

"What's the matter?" asked the 'unlucky' woman seated next to me. Between sobs, I told her the sad story of my long distance relationship.

"If you truly love him, it will work." she said. "I know, my ex-husband was in the Army."

A father is in church with three of his young children, including his five year old daughter.

As was customary, he sat in the very front row so that the children could properly witness the service.

During this particular service, the minister was performing the baptism of a tiny infant. The little five year old girl was taken by this, observing that he was saying something and pouring water over the infant's head.

With a quizzical look on her face, the little girl turned to her father and asked with all the innocence of a five year old...

"Daddy, why is he brainwashing that baby?"

Father O'Shea, the parish priest in the village, was giving a sermon about charity. He said, "The trouble with the world today is that some people have too much and others have too little. We must give of ourselves and our worldly goods to help the less fortunate."

He said to Harrigan, "If you had ten thousand pounds, wouldn't you give half of it to the poor?"

He said, "I would that, Father."

The priest said, "If you had two greyhounds, wouldn't you give one of them to your neighbor next door?"

Harrigan said, "No."

The priest said, "And why not?"

He said, "I have two greyhounds."

A man goes into his local building supply store and orders 10,000 bricks.

"May I ask what you're building?" asks the man behind the counter.

"It's going to be a barbecue."

"Wow, that's a lot of bricks for one barbecue,"

"Not really; I live on the 12th floor."

A couple phoned a neighbor to extend birthday greetings. They dialed the number and then sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

But when they finished their off-key rendition, they discovered that they had dialed the wrong number.

"Don't let it bother you," said a strange but amused voice. "You folks need all the practice you can get."



A group of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Holland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

"These" she explained "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce." She then asked, "What do you do in America with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered, "They send us on bus tours!"

These are real examples from real resumes:

Reasons For Leaving Last Job

- Responsibility makes me nervous.
- They insisted that all employees get to work by 8:45 every morning. Couldn't work under those conditions.
- Was met with a string of broken promises and lies, as well as cockroaches.
- I was working for my mom until she decided to move.
- The company made me a scapegoat - just like my three previous employers.

Job Responsibilities

- While I am open to the initial nature of an assignment, I am decidedly disposed that it be so oriented as to at least partially incorporate the experience enjoyed heretofore and that it be configured so as to ultimately lead to the application of more rarefied facets of financial management as the major sphere of responsibility.
- I was proud to win the Gregg Typing Award.

Special Requests and Job Objectives

- Please call me after 5:30 because I am self-employed and my employer does not know I am looking for another job.
- My goal is to be a meteorologist. But since I have no training in meteorology, I suppose I should try stock brokerage.
- I procrastinate - especially when the task is unpleasant.

Physical Disabilities

- Minor allergies to house cats and Mongolian sheep.

Personal Interests

- Donating blood. 14 gallons so far.

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November 9, 2008

I asked my wife the other day what she liked best about me.

"Is it my firm, trim, athletic, body? Or, rather, is it my astounding intellect?"

She replied, "Oh, it's your sense of humor, dear."



One day in Contract Law class, Professor Jepson asked one of his better students, "Now if you were to give someone an orange, how would you go about it?"

The student replied, "Here's an orange."

The professor was livid.

"No! No! Think like a lawyer!" the Professor instructed.

The student then recited, "Okay, I'd tell him, I hereby give and convey to you all and singular, my estate and interests, rights, claim, title, claim and advantages of and in, said orange, together with all its rind, juice, pulp, and seeds, and all rights and advantages with full power to bite, cut, freeze and otherwise eat, the same, or give the same away with and without the pulp, juice, rind and seeds, anything herein before or hereinafter or in any deed, or deeds, instruments of whatever nature or kind whatsoever to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding..."

On many U.S. Navy ships the movie screen is suspended amid-ship so that it can be viewed from both sides. This procedure makes it available to larger crowds at popular movies, but usually the junior officers get a reverse image from "the wrong side of the screen."

One evening at dinnertime an enterprising young ensign passed the following word over the officer's IMC circuit: "The movie to be shown in the wardroom tonight for the senior officers is on the right side of the screen - The Right-Handed Gun, starring Paul Newman."

"For the junior officers on the wrong side of the screen - The Left-Handed Gun, starring Namwen Luap."

A man received a phone call one day, and the caller asked if he had lost a parrot. He said that he had indeed lost the bird, but wanted to know how the caller located him.

The called said that the bird had landed on his balcony and kept repeating, "Hi, you have reached 555-1234. I can't come to the phone right now, please leave a message at the tone."

The old west was full of cowboys who were good cow-ordinators. They had consider-a-bull talent, though sometimes they would stirrup trouble. Sometimes they took hay to bed in order to feed their night mares. One cowboy reached for his gun and drew a blank. Eventually they would go off to a rodeo to try and get a few bucks.



As I was dropping my son off at daycare the other day, I overheard some of the children talking about their siblings.

"My brother takes karate lessons," bragged one.

"My sister takes gymnastics," said another.

Not to be outdone, the youngest piped up, "My sister takes antibiotics!"

How to photograph a new puppy . . .

1. Remove film from box and load camera.
2. Remove film box from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.
3. Remove puppy from trash and brush coffee grounds from muzzle.
4. Choose a suitable background for photo.
5. Mount camera on tripod and focus.
6. Find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth.
7. Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera.
8. Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees.

9. Focus with one hand and fend off puppy with other hand.
 10. Get tissue and clean nose print from lens.
 11. Put cat outside and put peroxide on the scratch on puppy's nose.
 12. Put magazines back on coffee table.
 13. Try to get puppy's attention by squeaking toy over your head.
 14. Replace your glasses and check camera for damage.
 15. Jump up in time to grab puppy by scruff of neck and say, "No, outside! No, outside!"
 16. Clean up mess.
 17. Sit back in chair with lemonade and resolve to teach puppy "sit" and "stay" the first thing in the morning.
-

A tired homemaker opened the front door of her home to find a young minister from the neighborhood who said, "I'm collecting donations for the new children's home we're building. I hope you'll give what you can."

"To be sure," said the beleaguered woman, "I'll give you two boys, two girls, or one of each."

When I was a mother's helper, the mom of the family I worked for sat with her three oldest children and watched a PBS special showing the birth of a baby. The mom thought it would be a good starting point for answering questions about the facts of life.

As her five-year-old studied the baby coming out of the birth canal, he asked, "Mom, does that hurt?"

"Oh, yes, it does," she said, remembering her difficult deliveries.

"Wow," he continued in awe, "does it hurt the mother too?"

My wife and I are teachers, and our jobs often spill over into our family life. One morning as our eight-year-old Maggie was getting ready for school, I peeked into her room to be sure she had tidied it up.

"You call THAT a made bed?" I asked.

No Dad," Maggie replied. "It's just a rough draft."



Volume 7 Number 46

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November 16, 2008

Everybody's a comedian. I called my local home improvement store for a simple piece of advice. "I know the Sheetrock is nailed to the studs," I said to the guy who answered the phone, "but how do I find the studs?"

"Put an ad in the personals column." he suggested.

NOTICE

**THIS DEPARTMENT REQUIRES NO
PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM.**

**EVERYONE GETS ENOUGH EXERCISE
JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS. FLYING
OFF THE HANDLE. RUNNING DOWN
THE BOSS. KNIFING FRIENDS IN THE
BACK. DODGING RESPONSIBILITY.
AND PUSHING THEIR LUCK.**

A blonde is on board a small two- seater plane when suddenly the pilot dies. Not knowing how to fly a plane she grabs the radio. "Mayday, Mayday! My pilot just died!" she screams.

Ground control receives her call for help and answers back: "Don't worry, madam. I'll talk you down, just do as I say. First, I need you to give me your height and position."

"I'm 5 foot 2 and sitting in the front seat!"

TOP TEN SIGNS IT'S MONDAY

10. Yesterday was Tuesday and tomorrow is Sunday... at least that is what you are thinking.
 9. The President looks hungover as he issues his weekly apology to the nation.
 8. Another knee-slapping cartoon of that darn Garfield saying "I hate Monday!"
 7. You're happy to go to work in order to get some rest.
 6. In your current opinion five days is a long time.
 5. You break down into a sobbing mess on the floor because there was no coffee left in the pot when you got to work.
 4. You are half way to work before you realize you have been listening to "Rev. Carl's Bible Hour" on your car radio.
 3. You've already planned several thousand ways to avoid actually doing work until Friday.
 2. Husband begins warming up TV for Monday Night Football at 6 A.M. and carefully positioning snacks at strategic locations around the living room.
 1. The solid rain for the past two days has stopped, leaving a beautiful, sunny day.
-

Bernie was unfortunate enough to be hit by a truck and ended up in the hospital. His best friend Morris came to visit him.

Bernie struggles to tell Morris, "My wife Sadie visits me three times a day. She's so good to me. Every day, she reads to me at the bedside."

"What does she read?" asks Morris.

"My life insurance policy."

England's West Country is known for its charming cottage-like shops. While visiting the area, my friend peered in through one window to see shelf upon shelf of interesting-looking books. So she went inside.

A woman appeared through a beaded curtain and asked, "Can I help you?"

"No, just browsing," said my friend.

"Fine," came the reply. "But so you know, around here most people knock before entering someone's home."



Joe says to Bill, "Want to see a picture of my Aunt?"

"Sure."

So Joe takes out a picture.

"What are you talking about?" Bill says, "That's not your aunt! That's a picture of a fish!"

Joe responds, "Well, sure it is... It's my aunt Chovy!"

A man walks into a dentist's surgery and says, "Excuse me, can you help me. I think I'm a moth."

Dentist: "You don't need a dentist. You need a psychiatrist."

Man: "Yes, I know."

Dentist: "So why did you come in here?"

Man: "The light was on..."

My boyfriend and I were lunching at a sidewalk cafe in Huntington Beach, CA. Our waitress looked like a real surfer girl: athletic with a great tan and blond hair.

Mulling over the menu, my guy asked her if the roast beef was rare.

The waitress gave us a long blank look, and then replied, "Well, no. We have it, like, just about every day."

A fellow was asked if there were any good doctors in his home town. "Good doctors!" he exclaimed. "We have the best doctors in the world. Dr. James Jones is one good doctor; he's great; he saved my life."

"You don't say! How was that?"

"I was very sick and called Dr. Smith. He gave me some medicine and I got very, very ill. I then called Dr. Peters. He gave me more medicine. I got worse - I thought I was going to die."

"Then I called Dr. Jones. He had no time to come. He saved my life."

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Ken and Melba had finished their breakfast at the retirement home and were relaxing in the library. "You know," said Melba, "today, in most marriage ceremonies, they don't use the word 'obey' anymore."

"Too bad, isn't it?" retorted Ken. "It used to lend a little humor to the occasion."

When I was a child, I remember my Mom telling me, "Son, when you grow up, you can marry any girl you please." When I became a young man, I learned the sad fact was that I couldn't please any of them."

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

November 23, 2008

A rolled up newspaper can be an effective pet training tool when used properly.

For instance, use the rolled-up newspaper if your dog chews up something inappropriate or it has a housebreaking accident. Bring the dog over to the destroyed object (or mess), then take the rolled-up newspaper and hit yourself over the head as you repeat the phrase, "I forgot to watch my dog! I forgot to watch my dog!"

You stop raising issues/problems because you know you will be the one answering them.

You fly first class across the country to attend a conference with 100+ people to discuss the fact that the project does not have enough money.

You work for an acronym, on an acronym, and your job title is an acronym.

You understand the rationalization of an acronym composed of acronyms.

You know that the location of a meeting is directly related to its importance.

- (1) A meeting at Fort Hood requires a subordinate or a contractor
- (2) The same meeting at Lake Tahoe requires your personal attention

You've sat at the same desk for 3 years, done the same thing for 3 years, but have had 3 different business cards.



Yup, that's our boy, Elder "Kyle" Ellison, Italy Rome Mission, in the November Ensign!

You know you work for the government when:

The process becomes more important than the product.

You don't see anything wrong with attending a meeting on a subject you know nothing about.

You feel you contributed to the meeting just by being there.

I had worked late, and my Labrador was so overjoyed to see me arrive home that he jumped up just as I leaned down. Our heads collided, and I sported an impressive shiner for several weeks.

I had to repeat frequently to co-workers and friends how I came by it, and one day on the elevator, a secretary whom I hadn't seen for some time looked at my black eye and exclaimed, "My goodness, what happened to you?"

"The dog did it," I wearily replied.

A man standing next to us looked over at me and said knowingly, "Ahh, you must own a boxer."

When I was a child, I remember my Mom telling me, "Son, when you grow up, you can marry any girl you please."

When I became a young man, I learned the sad fact was that I couldn't please any of them.



A group of senior citizens were sitting around talking about their ailments: "My arms are so weak I can hardly hold this cup of coffee," said one.

"Yes, I know. My cataracts are so bad I can't even see my coffee," replied another.

"I can't turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck," said a third, to which several nodded weakly in agreement.

"My blood pressure pills make me dizzy," another went on.

"I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he shook his head.

Then there was a short moment of silence...

"Well, it's not that bad," said one woman cheerfully. "At least we can still drive!"

Because our former small-town parish was not a wealthy one, our pastor was dependent on parishioners for upkeep and maintenance of the church. Once he asked my husband, Sam, to rewire the confessionals.

The only way to reach the wiring was to enter the attic above the altar and crawl over the ceiling by balancing on the rafters. Concerned for my husband's safety, I waited in a pew. Unbeknownst to me, some parishioners were congregating in the vestibule. They paid little attention to me, probably assuming I was praying.

Worried about my husband, I looked up toward the ceiling and yelled, "Sam, Sam! Are you up there? Did you make it okay?"

There was quite an outburst from the vestibule when Sam's hearty voice echoed down, "Yes, I made it up here just fine!"

One day a mother took her 6-year-old son with her to visit a friend at work. Everyone there knew her, and she was offered a cup of coffee. That day, as one of the employees went to make more coffee, her son followed her and asked, "What are you doing?"

"I'm making your mom's favorite drink," she answered.

Imagine the woman's shock when she heard her son say, "Wow! You know how to make beer?"

Jimmy: 'Hey, Mike! How's your new pet fish doing? You told me he was really something special.'

Mike: 'To tell the truth, I'm really disappointed in him. The guy who sold him to me said I could teach him to sing like a bird.'

Jimmy: 'What? Let me get this straight... You bought a fish because you thought you could teach him to sing like a bird?'

Mike: 'Well, yeah. After all, you know, he's a parrot fish.'

Jimmy: 'Now listen, Mike, while you might be able to teach a parrot to sing, you're never going to get anywhere with a parrot fish.'

Mike: 'That's what you think! It just so happens this fish CAN sing. The thing is, he's terribly off-key and it's driving me crazy. Do you know how hard it is to tuna fish?'

Morning Breaks

Volume 7 Number 48

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

November 30, 2008

My family traditionally begins the evening meal with a prayer of thanks. When they were old enough, we began letting our children say the meal prayer. Of course at first they would ask for a pony, a new bike, etc. They soon learned the more important things which should be included in the prayer.

At Thanksgiving we had the whole family over. My nine year old wanted to say the prayer. It went like this:

"Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the turkey, the rolls, the mashed potatoes, the red jiggly stuff, and the bread stuff even though I don't like it. We ask that You not let us choke on this food."

I am Thankful...

- for the taxes that I pay because it means that I am employed.
- or the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.
- for the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.
- for my shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine.
- for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.
- for all the complaining I hear about the government because it means we have freedom of speech.
- for the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking.
- for the lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.
- for the piles of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.
- for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I am alive.
- for getting too much e-mail because it lets me know I have friends who are thinking of me.



Just before Thanksgiving, the holding pen was abuzz as Mother Turkey scolded her younger birds. "You turkeys are always into mischief," she gobbled. "If your grandfather could see the things you do, he'd turn over in his gravy."

How to Cook a Thanksgiving Turkey

- Step 1: Go buy a turkey
- Step 2: Take a drink of whiskey (scotch)
- Step 3: Put turkey in the oven
- Step 4: Take another 2 drinks of whiskey
- Step 5: Set the degree at 375 ovens
- Step 6: Take 3 more whiskeys of drink
- Step 7: Turn oven the on
- Step 8: Take 4 whisks of drinky
- Step 9: Turk the bastey
- Step 10: Whiskey another bottle of get
- Step 11: Stick a turkey in the thermometer
- Step 12: Glass yourself a pour of whiskey
- Step 13: Bake the whiskey for 4 hours
- Step 14: Take the oven out of the turkey
- Step 15: Take the oven out of the turkey
- Step 16: Floor the turkey up off of the pick
- Step 17: Turk the carvey
- Step 18: Get yourself another scottle of botch
- Step 19: Tet the sable and pour yourself a glass of turkey
- Step 20: Bless the saying, pass and eat out

The Top Ten Reasons College Students Are Looking Forward To Thanksgiving Break and Going Home for the Holidays:

10. You'll know that your turkey is a Butterball rather than a Grade E yet semi-edible fur ball.
9. Your mother will not be serving your mashed potatoes and stuffing with an ice cream scooper.
8. Pumpkin pie is a great alternative to green Jello.
7. After your eighth glass of cider, your emergency dash to the bathroom will not be delayed by having to line the seat with toilet paper.
6. Clean underwear, comfortable bed, access to a car, bedroom larger than a 12x14 cell ... okay, even if it is for only four days.
5. To eat your meals the only trek you'll have to make is from the couch to the kitchen, rather than the dorm to the dining hall ... in below freezing weather.

4. Instead of listening to "when I first started teaching here ..." you can be entertained by "when your mother was your age ..." and "during the Depression we weren't lucky enough to have brussels sprouts. Heck, all we could afford was the sprout!"

3. You can eat your corn steamed with butter rather than popped in your microwave.

2. You'll know the hair in the shower drain is your own.

And, the number one reason college students are looking forward to Thanksgiving...

You won't be eating your Thanksgiving meal off a tray!



Tommy had reached school age. His Mother managed with a blast of propaganda to make him enthusiastic about the idea. She bought him lots of new clothes, told him of the new friends he'd meet and so on.

Came the first day, he eagerly went off and came back home with a lot of glowing reports about school.

Next morning when she woke him up, he asked "What for?" She told him it was time to get ready for school.

"What, again ?" he asked.

Rushing to a bridge tournament, I was pulled over for going 43 in a 35 MPH zone.

"What'll I tell my husband?" I worried, explaining to the police officer that my spouse was a self-described "perfect" driver.

The cop took a second look at the name and address on my license. "Did your husband go duck hunting this morning?"

"Yes," I said, baffled as to how he knew.

The officer finished with, "I stopped him for going 47."