

# Morning Breaks

Volume 12 Number 48

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

December 1, 2013

A Veterinarian was feeling ill and went to see her doctor.

The doctor asked her all the usual questions: what were the symptoms, how long had they been occurring, etc.

Suddenly, she interrupted him: "Hey look, I'm a vet - I don't need to ask my patients these kind of questions: I can tell what's wrong just by looking." She smugly added, "Why can't you?"

The doctor nodded, stood back, looked her up and down, quickly wrote out a prescription, handed it to her and said,

"There you are. Of course, if that doesn't work, we'll have to have you put to sleep."

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I listened in and overheard the older say to the younger: "Even if you were an only child, you still wouldn't be Mom and Dad's favorite."

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Most people work just hard enough not to get fired and get paid just enough not to quit.

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Mr. Norton was in the hospital recovering from an operation when the nurse on duty received a call from a man who asked how Mr. Norton was doing.

"Oh, quite well. We expect he'll be released in the morning."

"Very good, thank you."

"May I ask who is calling so that I can tell Mr. Norton?" inquired the nurse.

"This IS Mr. Norton. The doctors don't tell me anything!"

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## **I Am Thankful...(post-Thanksgiving thoughts)**

...for the taxes that I pay because it means that I am employed.

...for 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.



One day my two sons were having an argument.

...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 weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.

...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.

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How did I get so round from eating square meals?

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### BLACK FRIDAY



It's like a zombie apocalypse, except people don't want your brain...they just want to buy an iPad Air for \$10 less.

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"If you'll make the toast and pour the juice, sweetheart," said Tracy the newlywed bride, "breakfast will be ready."

"Good, what are we having for breakfast," said Scott the new husband.

"Toast and juice," Tracy replied.

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James reciting the Gettysburg Address they are learning in the first grade: "...a new nation conceived in liberty

and dedicated to the proposition that all men and women are created equal..."

Me: "Wait, Abraham Lincoln didn't say women."

James: "I know, but mommy says we need to say it that way."

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A middle-aged man wasn't feeling well, so he went to the doctor for a check-up.

After a thorough examination, the doctor said, "Well, based on my examination, the best thing for you is to cut out all sweets and fatty foods, give up alcohol, and stop smoking."

The man said, "Well, to be honest with you, Doc, I don't deserve the best. What's the second best?"

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If you think advertising doesn't work, consider the millions of people who now think that yogurt tastes good.

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Bob had this problem of getting up late in the morning and was always late for work.

After a few weeks of this, his boss was mad and threatened to fire him if he didn't do something about it.

So Bob went to his doctor, who gave him a pill and told him to take it before he went to bed. He got a great night's sleep and actually beat the alarm in the morning. After a leisurely breakfast, he cheerfully drove to work.

"Boss," he said, "The pill my doctor subscribed me actually worked!"

"That's all fine," said the boss, "But where were you yesterday?"

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A two and a half year old walked into the bathroom while her mother was putting on make-up. "I'm going to look just like you mommy!" she announced.

"Maybe, when you grow up," her mother told her.

"No mommy, tomorrow. I just put on that 'Oil of Old Lady' you always use."

# Morning Breaks

Volume 12 Number 49

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

December 8, 2013

A steak fanatic, my father always picks out cuts that include a bone because he loves to nibble on it.

One night Father and I were finishing our dinners at a steakhouse, and I could tell he wanted to start gnawing on the bone. But he couldn't bear to do so in public.

"Excuse me," he said, calling the waitress over, "would you please wrap this bone up for my dog?" He has never owned a dog in his life, but the white lie seemed a tactful solution to his dilemma.

A few minutes later the waitress returned to our table. "Here's your bone sir," she said, handing over a large package. "And while I was in the kitchen, I grabbed a few more out of the scrap bucket."

One of the students interrupted and said, "I don't need to learn on that kind of clock. My dad bought me this digital watch, and right now it's ten minutes to 38."

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guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas.

A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those pretty 4-Wheel drive vehicles."

"She did," he replied, "But where in the world was I going to find a fake jeep!!"



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Working at the call center of a major bank, I deal with customer complaints. A very irate customer called one day to declare, "My new computer banking software doesn't work."

While trying to determine the problem, I eventually realized the software was working perfectly. I began to explain this when the customer interrupted me, saying, "But money isn't coming out of the printer!"

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There is absolutely no substitute for a genuine lack of preparation.

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I was teaching my First Grade class to tell time using a conventional-style analog clock.

"We'll be learning about the hour hand and the minute hand," I explained.

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The driver of a car with an ice-covered windshield had several near-accidents before being stopped by a police car.

"Don't you think it would help if you cleaned the ice off the windshield?" the officer asked.

"I don't think so," was the reply. "I left my glasses at home."

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You're only young once...but you can be immature forever.

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A school teacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fit under his shirt and was not noticeable at all.

On the first day of the term, still with the cast under his shirt, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in school. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, he opened the window as wide as possible and then busied himself with desk work.

When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he took the desk stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

Discipline was not a problem from that day forth!

One day, at the dry-cleaning shop of a local Air Force Base, I overheard a young airman describe in great detail how he wanted his uniform cleaned and pressed.

When he finished, the counter clerk asked, "Are you getting an award, or do you have an important military function to attend?"

"Nothing like that," the airman said. "I'm going home on leave, and my little brother is taking me to his second-grade class for show-and-tell."

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Help Wanted: Telepath. You KNOW where to apply.

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Two gas company servicemen, a senior training supervisor and a young trainee, were out checking meters in a suburban neighborhood.

They parked their truck the end of the alley and worked their way to the other end. At the last house, a woman looking out her kitchen window watched the two men as they checked her gas meter.

Finishing the meter check, the senior supervisor challenged his younger co-worker to a foot race down the alley back to the truck to prove that an older guy could outrun a younger one.

As they came running up to the truck, they realized the lady from that last house was huffing and puffing right behind them. They stopped and asked her what was wrong.

Gasping for breath, she replied, "When I saw two men from the gas company running as hard as you two were, I figured I'd better run too!"

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Faced with economic pressures and in an attempt to remain profitable, many commercial offices are cutting back on costs wherever possible.

At one particular office, employees are taking management's belt-tightening orders seriously.

"I'm taking two cups of coffee instead of five a day from the office kitchen," said one of the workers.

"I'm only taking home half the office supplies I used to," another worker noted.

# Morning Breaks

Volume 12 Number 50

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

December 15, 2013

Consumer Law: If it's good or something that you really like, they will stop making it.

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Coming home from dinner our five year old tells us in the car "When I die you guys won't be sad and do you know why?" We asked why and she replied "because you guys will already be dead."

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The following, allegedly, are actual post-interview excerpts collected from middle managers who, needless to say, probably did not hire any of the people mentioned here:

1. "Applicant stretched out on the floor to fill out the job application."

2. "She wore a Walkman and said she could listen to me and the music at the same time."

3. "A balding candidate abruptly excused himself. Returned to office a few minutes later, wearing a hairpiece."

4. "Applicant asked to see interviewer's resume to see if the personnel executive was qualified to judge the candidate."

5. "Applicant announced she hadn't had lunch and proceeded to eat a hamburger and french fries in the interviewer's office - wiping the ketchup on her sleeve."

6. "Stated that, if he were hired, he would demonstrate his loyalty by having the corporate logo tattooed on his forearm."

7. "Interrupted to phone his therapist for advice on answering specific interview questions."

8. "When I asked him about his hobbies, he stood up and started tap dancing around my office."

9. "At the end of the interview, while I stood there dumbstruck, he went through my purse, took out a brush, brushed his hair, and left."

10. "Applicant pulled out a Polaroid camera and snapped a flash picture of me. Said he collected photos of everyone who interviewed him."

11. "Said he wasn't interested because the position paid too much."

12. "During the interview, an alarm clock went off from the candidate's briefcase. He took it out, shut it off, apologized and said he had to leave for another interview."

13. "A telephone call came in for the job applicant. It was from his wife. His side of the conversation went like this: "Which company? When do I start? What's the salary?" I said, "I assume you're not interested in conducting the interview any farther."

Three returned missionaries sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven."

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer.

"Hey, fellas," he interrupted, "the best prayin' I ever did was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

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I purchased a Jacuzzi tub to replace the old cast iron tub in our upstairs bath. We got the 300-lb tub out of the bathroom and then decided to gently lower it down our wood staircase to get it outside.

We wrapped a blanket around the legs at the upper end of the tub so my wife could guide that end with a firm hold on the blanket. I was to be at the lower end of the tub. Well, all was going fine until one of the stair nosings broke, causing the tub to jerk and get away from us. (Note for the curious: a "nosing" is that part of the stair tread that extends slightly over the vertical part of the next step).

It started careening down the stairs, and to avoid being bowled over, I hopped into the tub and rode it all the way down. It broke all the nosings before smashing into the wall at the bottom of the stairs. Luckily my wife and I both made it through without a scratch.

Unfortunately our remodeling project grew by leaps and bounds.

When I told my father the story, he said we should have left the tub in place, broken it up with a sledgehammer and then carried down the pieces.

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Four expectant fathers were in a Minnesota hospital waiting room while their wives were in labor.

The nurse comes in and tells the first man, "Congratulations, You're the father of twins."

"What a coincidence!" the man exclaims. "I work for the Minnesota Twins baseball team!"

The nurse returns a short while later and tells the second man, "You are the father of triplets."

"Wow, what a coincidence!" he replies. "I work for the 3M Corporation."

When the nurse comes again, she tells the third man that his wife has given birth to quadruplets.

"Another coincidence!" he tells her. "I work for the Four Seasons Hotel!"

At this point, the fourth guy faints. When he comes to, the others ask him what was wrong.

He moans, "I work for Seven-Eleven!"

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A Texan farmer goes to Australia for a vacation. There he meets an Aussie farmer and gets talking.

The Aussie shows off his big wheat field and the Texan says, "Oh! We have wheat fields that are at least twice as large".

Then they walk around the ranch a little, and the Aussie shows off his herd of cattle. The Texan immediately says, " We have longhorns that are at least twice as large as your cows".

The conversation has, meanwhile, almost died when the Texan sees a group of kangaroos hopping through the field. He asks, "And what are those"?

The Aussie replies with an incredulous look, "Don't you have any grasshoppers in Texas"?

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Never put off until tomorrow what you can put off until the day after tomorrow.

# Morning Breaks

Volume 12 Number 51

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

December 22, 2013

A wife was very disappointed and quite upset over her husband forgetting her birthday.

He diplomatically responded, "How do you expect me to remember your birthday when you never look any older?"

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***Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Holiday Season. Always remember that it is because "God so loved the world that He Gave His only begotten Son" to make it possible for us to return home to Him.***

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## **To all my Liberal Friends:**

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non-addictive, gender neutral celebraton of the winter solstice holiday, practiced

within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all;

PLUS

A fiscally successful, personally fulfilling, and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make America great, (not to imply that America is necessarily greater than any other country or is the only "AMERICA" in the western hemisphere), and without regard to race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religious faith, or choice of computer platform.

(Disclaimer: By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms. This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her/himself or others, and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher. This wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year, or until the issuance of a subsequent holiday greeting, whichever comes first, and warranty is limited to replacement of this wish or issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher who assumes no responsibility for any unintended emotional stress these greetings may bring to those not caught up in the holiday spirit.)

## **To all my Conservative Friends:**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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Our patient in the hospital was a big, burly former officer. Just after surgery, and still half out of it, he became agitated and confused, tearing at his IVs and trying to escape his bed.

The nurses gamely attempted to keep him calm but were losing this battle. That's when my military training came in handy.

"Colonel!" I commanded. "At ease!"

And with that, the colonel fell back to sleep.

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*For unto you a child is born in the City of David a savior  
who is Christ the Lord.*

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### **The REAL Night Before Christmas**

(By Parents)

'Twas the night before Christmas  
when all through the house  
I searched for the tools  
to hand to my spouse

Instructions were studied  
and we were inspired,  
in hopes we could manage  
"Some Assembly Required."

The children were quiet (not asleep) in their beds,  
while Dad and I faced the evening with dread:  
a kitchen, two bikes, Barbie's townhouse to boot!  
And now, thanks to Grandpa, a train with a toot!

We opened the boxes,  
my heart skipped a beat -  
let no parts be missing  
or parts incomplete!

Too late for last-minute returns or replacement;  
if we can't get it right, it goes straight to the basement!

When what to my worrying eyes should appear  
but 50 sheets of directions, concise, but not clear,

With each part numbered and every slot named,  
so if we failed, only we could be blamed.  
More rapid than eagles the parts then fell out,  
all over the carpet they were scattered about.

"Now bolt it! Now twist it! Attach it right there!  
Slide on the seats, and staple the stair!  
Hammer the shelves, and nail to the stand."  
"Honey," said hubby, "you just glued my hand."

And then in a twinkling, I knew for a fact  
that all the toy dealers had indeed made a pact  
to keep parents busy all Christmas Eve night  
with "assembly required" till morning's first light.

We spoke not a word, but kept bent at our work,  
till our eyes, they went blurry; our fingers all hurt.  
The coffee went cold and the night, it wore thin  
before we attached the last rod and last pin.

Then laying the tools away in the chest,  
we fell into bed for a well-deserved rest.  
But I said to my husband just before I passed out,  
"This will be the best Christmas, without any doubt.

Tomorrow we'll cheer, let the holiday ring,  
and not run to the store for one single thing!  
We did it! We did it! The toys are all set  
for the perfect, most magical, Christmas, I bet!"

Then off to dreamland and sweet repose  
I gratefully went, though I suppose  
there's something to say for those self-deluded-  
I'd forgotten that BATTERIES are never included!

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A boomerang that doesn't come back...is a stick.

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I figured that at age seven it was inevitable for my son  
to begin having doubts about Santa Claus. Sure enough,  
one day he said, "Mom, I know something about Santa  
Claus, the Easter Bunny, and the Tooth Fairy."

Taking a deep breath, I asked him, "What is that?"  
He replied, "They're all nocturnal."

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A cynic is someone who knows the price of everything  
and the value of NOTHING!



# Morning Breaks

Volume 12 Number 52

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

December 29, 2013

My class was touring the local animal shelter, oohing and aahing over the lost and waiting-to-be-adopted animals.

One of my third grade boys was gazing intently at an elaborate aquarium full of different species of fish.

"They're beautiful, aren't they," I commented.

He looked at me thoughtfully, then replied, "Yes, but I don't understand...how can anyone lose a fish?"



*And that's the last time I EVER ran a race.*

Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have an "s" in it?

## SABBATH DAY FOOTBALL TERMS:

Quarterback Sneak - Church members quietly leaving during just before the closing prayer.

Draw Play - What many children (and adults) do with the ward bulletin during sacrament meeting.

Half-time - The period between Sunday school and sacrament meeting when many choose to leave.

Benchwarmer - Those who do not sing, pray, work, or apparently do anything but sit.

Backfield-in-Motion - Making a trip to the back (restroom or water fountain) during the service.

Staying in the Pocket - What happens to a lot of money that should be given to the Lord's work.

Two-minute Warning – The point when you hear a member of the bishopric announce the closing hymn and benediction and you begin to gather up your children and belongings.

Instant Replay - The speaker or teacher loses his notes and falls back on last week's illustrations.

Sudden Death - What happens to the attention span of the congregation if the speaker goes "overtime."

Trap - You're called on to pray and are asleep.

End Run - Getting out of church quick before the bishop or ward mission leader can reach you.

Flex Defense - The ability to allow absolutely nothing said during the meeting block affect your life.

Halfback Option - The decision of 50% of the congregation not to return for priesthood or relief society – after already missing Sunday school..

Blitz - The rush home for lunch or dinner at the end of the meeting block.

A father grew increasingly displeased as his teenage daughter and her boyfriend studied in her room late one evening.

Finally losing patience shortly after midnight, he knocked sharply on her door.

Her boyfriend immediately opened it and asked if something was wrong.

"I have to ask you to move your car," the father told him.

"Oh, sure. Is it in someone's way?"

"No," he replied, "it's at the wrong address."

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To tell the weather, go to your back door and look for the dog.

If the dog is at the door and he is wet, it's probably raining.

But if the dog is standing there really soaking wet, it is probably raining really hard.

If the dog's fur looks like it's been rubbed the wrong way, it's probably windy.

If the dog has snow on his back, it's probably snowing.

Of course, to be able to tell the weather like this, you have to leave the dog outside all the time, especially if you expect bad weather.

Sincerely, The CAT

One boy in a fourth grade class said something inappropriate, and the teacher glanced at him. Seeing her look he muttered, "Oh, sorry," and went back to his task.

A moment later she felt a tug on her sleeve. A girl who had noticed the interaction looked puzzled and asked, "How do moms and teachers do that look?"

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One of life's disappointments is discovering that the man who writes the bank's ads is not the one who makes the loans.

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My mother once gave me two sweaters for Christmas. The next time we visited, I made sure to wear one.

As we entered her home, instead of the expected smile, she said,

"What's the matter? You didn't like the other one?"

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In Fort Worth, Texas, I had to appear before a judge for driving with expired license plates.

The judge listened attentively while I gave him a long, plausible explanation.

Then he said with great courtesy, "My dear sir, we are not blaming you ... we're just fining you."

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A closed mouth gathers no feet.

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Over dinner, the mom explained the health benefits of a colorful meal to her family.

"The more colors, the more variety of nutrients," she told them. Pointing to the food, she asked, "How many different colors do you see?"

"Six," volunteered the son. "Seven if you count the burned parts."