



NORTH & SOUTH
Hagerstown High Schools
Class of 1957
Online Newsletter



June 2012 Edition

BULLETIN BOARD

- **Next Class Luncheon June 21st at Western Sizzler – Be There!**
- **55th Reunion September 7th & 8th (Click on pic below to view info letter)**

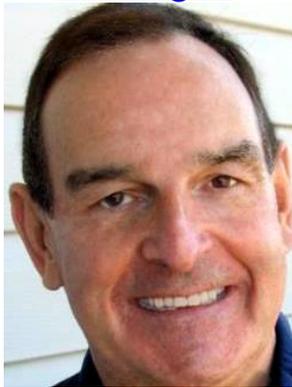


JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Grant



Bob Hogan



Vernon Davis



Pete Limburg



Don Rice



Connie Magaha



Gene Smith



Susan Morton



Anne Snyder

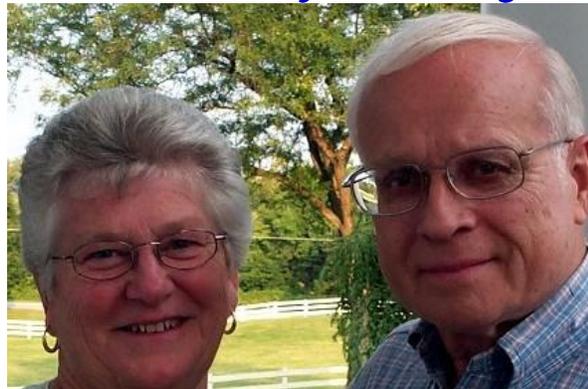


JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Robert & Francis Norris Lawrence



Durbin & Betty Horn College



Ernie & Judy Barnhart



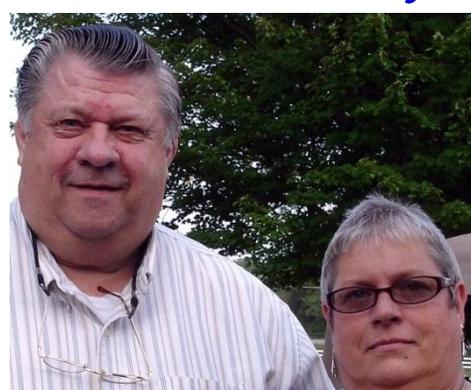
John & Jean Newton



Mike & Joyce Flynn



Allen & Lisa Kennedy



Bill & Sandra Couchman Fout



Jim & Libby Harbell



Terry & Judy Iseminger Gossard



Larry & Christine Stenger



Phil & Kathy Brader

Walter & Becky Goetz Bills



Terry & Cindy Stroock



Jim & Doris Holsinger Hilton



Lee & Joan Wallis



Nevin & Barbara Smith Esterly



Bob & Paige Nitzell



Jerry & Sybil Speck Bender



Bob & Shirley Moats



GUESS WHO BABY CONTEST

May Babies

Baby #13



Babies #14 & #15



Baby #16



Barbara Grogan

Chuck Anderson & Terry Strock

Dave Bragunier

June Babies

None Submitted!!!!!!

Out of the Archives!

Any guesses with respect to when these pics were taken?



CLASSMATE ACTIVITIES

Carole Smith

Carole's grandson, S/Sgt Justin Trumpower, USAF, (extreme right in pic below) returned from his tour of duty in Afghanistan on Wednesday, May 16th. Carole was on hand at BWI to welcome Justin home. Justin did three tours of duty in Iraq before this tour in Afghanistan. We are blessed to have men and women like Justin to serve in our armed forces.



Editor's Comment: Justin: From the Class of 1957, thank you, not only from us, but from our children and grandchildren as well.

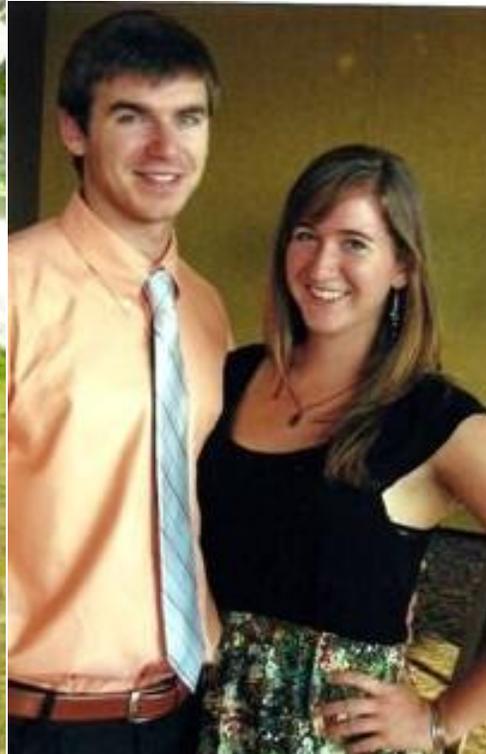
Alice Ann Lindsey

John and I are looking forward to a trip to New Orleans to celebrate the graduation of my granddaughter, Lindsey Kiefer, from Tulane. She will receive a Masters in Architecture degree. Her final review on her thesis project was well received. She came through with flying colors! We are so proud of her. Grandson, James Kiefer, finished his junior year at Virginia Tech. This summer he will be applying to dental schools. He has been working with a dental surgeon here in Baltimore for the last two summers and loves it! John's youngest daughter, Joan, will be married August 11. My daughters, Beth and Laura will join me as hostesses for a party for Joan and her fiancé, Will Fink, on June 23. We will be celebrating our second anniversary August 21st. A summer of celebrations!

Joan Colton & Will Fink



Lindsey & Alex



Phil Brader

Phil & Kathy with grandkids Parker (13), Kylie (8) & Dillon (10)



Phil's son Darren and granddaughter Paris (7)



Jone Burket

Our granddaughter Samantha finished 5th at a recent track meet with a vault of 8' 6 1/2"



Ecile Carbaugh



Ecile Carbaugh Shaw was really surprised on Mother's Day, May 13 when she was chosen as the Mother of the Year for her church, Grace United Methodist Church in Hagerstown, MD. This is quite an honor, but one that Ecile certainly deserves. She has been an active member of this church where she has attended since birth. Ecile is always involved by teaching Sunday school, singing with the choir, helping at a weekly after school program for children, acting as a greeter at worship, working in the church kitchen, visiting shut ins, and serving on various committees and boards.

Editor's Comment: Congratulations from the Class of '57, you make us proud!

Relay for Life Golf Tournament

Four '57ers played in the Relay Tournament on Saturday, May 12th. The monies raised go to cancer research. We need more '57ers out there next year. It is a lot of fun and helps a very worthwhile cause.



L-R: Yours truly, Jone Burket, Paul Keplinger & Frit Hill

North-South 2012 Golf Tournament Results

Closed Division -Class of 1957 Only

- 1st - Terry Gossard**
- 2nd - Ralph Kline**
- 3rd - Terry Strock**
- 4th - Pete Limburg**
- 5th - Bob Cianelli**
- 6th - Dick Knode**
- 7th - Ken Dando**

Open Division

- 1st - Terry Gossard**
- 2nd - Ralph Kline**
- 4th - Dick Moser**
- 5th - Terry Strock**
- 6th - Roland Wheeler**
- 7th - Dave Riser**
- 8th - Pete Limburg**
- 9th - Dick Knode**
- 10th - Bob Cianelli**
- 11th - Ken Dando**

Classmates played golf for three days on courses in and around Harrisonburg, VA. It was a great time for fellowship and the telling old stories of days gone by. The stories cannot be published in the newsletter since a vow of secrecy must be taken before you can participate in the event.



(Click on this Pic for More Pics)



2012 Champ Terry Gossard



The Boss Terry Strook

Bob & Arlise Weaver Cianelli

Our grandsons' middle school held their annual Athletic Department awards program on Thursday, May 17th. Brady, the 6th grader, received the Coaches Award for Soccer. Colin, the 8th grader, was selected for the Sports Hall of Fame, Football MVP, and was named the male Scholar-Athlete. The last award included a financial scholarship for the private high school he will be attending in the fall. The criteria included a number of educational and athletic metrics but we thought the most important were the requirements to carry a minimum of a 3.5 GPA for both the 7th & 8th grades and "...demonstrated outstanding leadership and exemplary citizenship both on and off the field."



We had a unique opportunity to attend the air show at Andrews on Friday, May 18th at the invitation of the Navy Base Commander, Captain Randy Johnson. The Blue Angels put on their usual stellar performance of precision flying and aerobatics. What a treat to visit a military installation and interact with active duty personnel. We are so blessed to have the caliber of people in our military that are willing to put their life on the line for our freedom and way of life.



[Click on the F22 Raptor \(what a war bird!\) for more Pics](#)

[Click Here for a Short Video](#)

Click on the link below to a video. Note the hummingbird doing rolls while chasing a bug and check out the baby bat under its mama. Some of the finest photography you will ever see.

<http://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/xHkq1edcbk4?rel=0>

"The Last Six Seconds"

Lt. General John Kelly, USMC, gave a speech to the Semper Fi Society of St. Louis, MO. This was four days after his son, Lt. Robert Kelly, USMC, was killed by an IED while on his 3rd Combat tour. During his speech, General Kelly spoke about the dedication and valor of our young men and women who step forward each and every day to protect us. One can hardly conceive of the enormous grief held quietly within General Kelly as he spoke.

During the speech, he never mentioned the loss of his own son. He closed the speech with the moving account of the last six seconds in the lives of two young Marines who died with rifles blazing to protect their brother Marines.

"I will leave you with a story about the kind of people they are, about the quality of the steel in their backs, about the kind of dedication they bring to our country while they serve in uniform and forever after as veterans. Two years ago when I was the Commander of all U.S. and Iraqi forces, in fact, the 22nd of April 2008, two Marine infantry battalions, 1/9 "The Walking Dead," and 2/8 were switching out in Ramadi. One battalion in the closing days of their deployment going home very soon, the other just starting its seven-month combat tour. Two Marines, Corporal Jonathan Yale and Lance Corporal Jordan Haerter, 22 and 20 years old respectively, one from each battalion, were assuming the watch together at the entrance gate of an outpost that contained a makeshift barracks housing 50 Marines. The same broken down ramshackle building was also home to 100 Iraqi police, also my men and our allies in the fight against the terrorists in Ramadi, a city until recently the most dangerous city on earth and owned by Al Qaeda.

Yale was a dirt poor mixed-race kid from Virginia with a wife and daughter, and a mother and sister who lived with him and whom he supported as well. He did this on a yearly salary of less than \$23,000. Haerter, on the other hand, was a middle class white kid from Long Island. They were from two completely different worlds. Had they not joined the Marines they would never have met each other, or understood that multiple Americas exist simultaneously depending on one's race, education level, economic status, and where you might have been born. But they were Marines, combat Marines, forged in the same crucible of Marine training, and because of this bond they were brothers as close, or closer, than if they were born of the same woman.

The mission orders they received from the sergeant squad leader I am sure went something like, "Okay you two clowns, stand this post and let no unauthorized personnel or vehicles pass. You clear?"

I am also sure Yale and Haerter then rolled their eyes and said in unison something like, "Yes

Sergeant," with just enough attitude that made the point without saying the words, "No kidding 'sweetheart', we know what we're doing." They then relieved two other Marines on watch and took up their post at the entry control point of Joint Security Station Nasser, in the Sophia section of Ramadi, Al Anbar, Iraq.

A few minutes later a large blue truck turned down the alley way - perhaps 60-70 yards in length, and sped its way through the serpentine of concrete jersey walls. The truck stopped just short of where the two were posted and detonated, killing them both catastrophically. Twenty-four brick masonry houses were damaged or destroyed. A mosque 100 yards away collapsed. The truck's engine came to rest two hundred yards away knocking most of a house down before it stopped. Our explosive experts reckoned the blast was made of 2,000 pounds of explosives. Two died, and because these two young infantrymen didn't have it in their DNA to run from danger, they saved 150 of their Iraqi and American brothers-in-arms.

When I read the situation report about the incident a few hours after it happened, I called the regimental commander for details as something about this struck me as different.

Marines dying or being seriously wounded is commonplace in combat. We expect Marines regardless of rank or MOS to stand their ground and do their duty, and even die in the process, if that is what the mission takes. But this just seemed different. The regimental commander had just returned from the site and he agreed, but reported that there were no American witnesses to the event - just Iraqi police. I figured if there was any chance of finding out what actually happened and then to decorate the two Marines to acknowledge their bravery, I'd have to do it as a combat award that requires two eye-witnesses and we figured the bureaucrats back in Washington would never buy Iraqi statements. If it had any chance at all, it had to come under the signature of a general officer.

I traveled to Ramadi the next day and spoke individually to a half-dozen Iraqi police all of whom told the same story. The blue truck turned down into the alley and immediately sped up as it made its way through the serpentine. They all said, "We knew immediately what was going on as soon as the two Marines began firing." The Iraqi police then related that some of them also fired, and then to a man, ran for safety just prior to the explosion. All survived. Many were injured, some seriously. One of the Iraqis elaborated and with tears welling up said, "They'd run like any normal man would to save his life. What he didn't know until then," he said, "And what he learned that very instant, was that Marines are not normal."

Choking past the emotion he said, "Sir, in the name of God no sane man would have stood there and done what they did. No sane man. They saved us all."

What we didn't know at the time, and only learned a couple of days later after I wrote a summary and submitted both Yale and Haerter for posthumous Navy Crosses, was that one of our security cameras, damaged initially in the blast, recorded some of the suicide attack. It happened exactly as the Iraqis had described it. It took exactly six seconds from when the truck entered the alley until it detonated.

You can watch the last six seconds of their young lives. Putting myself in their heads I supposed it took about a second for the two Marines to separately come to the same conclusion about what was going on once the truck came into their view at the far end of the alley. Exactly no time to talk it over, or call the sergeant to ask what they should do. Only enough time to take half an instant and think about what the sergeant told them to do only a few minutes before, "Let no unauthorized personnel or vehicles pass." The two Marines had about five seconds left to live.

It took maybe another two seconds for them to present their weapons, take aim, and open up. By this time the truck was half-way through the barriers and gaining speed the whole time. Here, the recording shows a number of Iraqi police, some of whom had fired their AKs, now scattering like the normal and rational men they were - some running right past the Marines. They had three seconds left to live.

For about two seconds more, the recording shows the Marines' weapons firing non-stop the truck's windshield exploding into shards of glass as their rounds take it apart and tore in to the body of the (*I deleted*) who is trying to get past them to kill their brothers - American and Iraqi-bedded down in the barracks totally unaware of the fact that their lives at that moment depended entirely on two Marines standing their ground.

If they had been aware, they would have known they were safe because two Marines stood between them and a crazed suicide bomber. The recording shows the truck careening to a stop immediately in front of the two Marines. In all of the instantaneous violence Yale and Haerter never hesitated. By all reports and by the recording, they never stepped back. They never even started to step aside. They never even shifted their weight. With their feet spread shoulder width apart, they leaned into the danger, firing as fast as they could work their weapons. They had only one second left to live.

The truck explodes. The camera goes blank. Two young men go to their God. Six seconds. Not enough time to think about their families, their country, their flag, or about their lives or their deaths, but more than enough time for two very brave young men to do their duty into eternity. That is the kind of people who are on watch all over the world tonight - for you.

We Marines believe that God gave America the greatest gift he could bestow to man while he lived on this earth - freedom. We also believe he gave us another gift nearly as precious - our soldiers, sailors, airmen, U S Customs and Border Patrol, Coast Guardsmen, and Marines - to safeguard that gift and guarantee no force on this earth can ever steal it away.

It has been my distinct honor to have been with you here today. Rest assured our America, this experiment in democracy started over two centuries ago, will forever remain the "land of the free and home of the brave" so long as we never run out of tough young Americans who are willing to look beyond their own self-interest and comfortable lives, and go into the darkest and most dangerous places on earth to hunt down, and kill, those who would do us harm.

Did You Know?

The first CD pressed in the US was Bruce Springstein's 'Born in the USA.'

More than 50% of the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.

In 10 minutes, a hurricane expends more energy than all of the nuclear weapons in the world combined.

The catfish has over 27,000 taste buds. (What could be so tasty on the bottom of a pond?)

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs... but, not down stairs.

315 entries in Webster's 1996 Dictionary were misspelled.

The first zoo in America was in Philadelphia.

Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over a million descendants.

More about elephants: If you add up the circumference of two feet, you get exactly the elephant's height.

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

Pearls melt in vinegar.

Walt Disney was afraid of MICE!

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first class.

During the chariot scene in 'Ben Hur' a small red car can be seen in the distance.

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

A Boeing 747's wingspan is longer than the Wright brothers' first flight.

Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than all of the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.

1 in every 4 Americans has appeared on television.

If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.

The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.

If you have three quarters, four dimes, and four pennies, you have \$1.19. You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar.

Mosquito repellents don't repel. They hide you. The spray blocks the mosquito's sensors so they don't know you're there. Also, the powder on the bark of a quaking aspen tree works as a mosquito repellent.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar. (I'm not sure if that counts 50 cent pieces or not.)

Adolf Hitler's mother seriously considered having an abortion but was talked out of it by her doctor.

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

On average, 100 people choke to death on ballpoint pens every year.

It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.

Birds have the right of way on all Utah highways.

Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying!

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

Playing cards were issued to British pilots in WWII. If they were captured, the cards could be soaked in water and unfolded to reveal a map for escape.

The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564,000.

John Wilkes Booth's brother once saved the life of Abraham Lincoln's son.

An old law in Bellingham, Wash., made it illegal for a woman to take more than 3 steps backwards while dancing!

The first product Motorola developed was a record player for automobiles. At that time the most known player on the market was the Victrola, so they called themselves Motorola.

There are four cars and eleven light posts on the back of a \$10 dollar bill.

By raising your legs slowly and lying on your back, you can't sink in quicksand. One should carry a stout pole while travelling in quicksand country...when placed under one's back, it helps one to float out of the quicksand.

Dentists have recommended that a toothbrush be kept at least 6 feet away from a toilet to avoid airborne particles resulting from the flush.

In a study of 200,000 ostriches over a period of 80 years, no one reported a single case where an ostrich buried its head in the sand (or attempted to do so).

It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

A crocodile can't stick its tongue out.

The electric chair was invented by a dentist.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987, 654,321

40% of McDonald's profits come from the sales of Happy Meals.

Ketchup was sold in the 1830s as medicine.

Bats always turn left when exiting a cave.

If one places a tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion, it will instantly go mad and look like it is stinging itself to death.

Charlie Chaplin once won third prize in a Charlie Chaplin lookalike contest.

The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as substitute for blood plasma.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket. (Wonder what it did to his liver?) That researcher also invented microwave popcorn.

Cat's urine glows under a black light.

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds. (As noted by a reader: "The reason a goldfish swims back and forth and back and forth across the fish bowl all day long everyday is because by the time it gets to one side of the bowl it forgets what's on the other side of the bowl. Every trip is a new adventure! (Hey, I wonder what's over there!.... Hey! I wonder what's over THERE!)"

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

Rats and horses can't vomit.

A snail can sleep for three months.

A lot of photocopier faults world-wide are caused by people sitting on them and photocopying their buttocks.

Bruce Lee was so fast that they actually had to slow a film down so you could see his moves. That's the opposite of the norm.

If you drop a penny off of the Empire State Building, it will be going 106 miles per hour (terminal velocity) when it reaches the ground. Something moving this fast may actually cause head injuries if it lands on you.

Scissors as we know them today (well, pretty much) were invented in Rome in about 100 AD (or CE, if you want to be politically correct).

The original Winnie the Pooh was a real live bear found outside of Winnipeg, Canada, hence the name Winnie.

The numbers '172' can be found on the back of the U.S. \$5 dollar bill in the bushes at the base of the Lincoln Memorial. (New or old? Not sure. Probably the old one.)

Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.

The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first "Marlboro Man."

The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska

The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour: 61,000

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

Spades - King David

Hearts - Charlemagne

Clubs - Alexander, the Great

Diamonds - Julius Caesar

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what? (Their birthplace)

What is the only food that doesn't spoil? (Honey)

Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks, otherwise it will digest itself.

Leonardo da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time.

A 2x4 is actually 1-1/2" x 3-1/2".

The flea can jump 350 times its body length. It's like a human jumping the length of a football field.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...)

The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%

The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400

On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily.

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.

Q. Which day are there more collect calls than any other day of the year? (Father's Day)

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. 'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.

During the California Gold Rush of 1849 miners sent their laundry to Honolulu for washing and pressing. Due to the high costs in California during these years it was deemed more feasible to send the shirts to Hawaii for servicing.

Escalator is one of many words that were originally trademarks but have become ordinary words found in dictionaries. Some other words which were originally trademarks and have now passed into common use are aspirin, autoharp, band-aids, breathalyzer, cellophane, Coke (in some areas, at least), corn flakes, cube steak, ditto, dry ice, dumpster, formica, Frisbee, granola, gunk, jeep, kerosene, Kleenex, mace, nylon, ping-pong (also an onomatopoeia), popsicle, Q-tip, rollerblade, rolodex, Scotch tape, sheetrock, spandex, styrofoam, tabloid, thermos, trampoline, yo-yo, xerox, and zipper.

The citrus soda 7-UP was created in 1929; "7" was selected because the original containers were 7 ounces. "UP" indicated the direction of the bubbles.

Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.

A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.

47.2% of all statistics are made up on the spot.

Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.

"Stewardesses" is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.

Americans eat on average 18 acres worth of pizza every day.

"Go" is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

If you stroke a shark from nose to tail, it is smooth. If you stroke it the other way, it is rough, and on some species, can even give you hand lacerations.

The human heart creates enough pressure when it pumps out to the body to squirt blood 30 feet.

Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.

The three most valuable brand names on earth? (Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.) *Editor's Comment: This may not be true today with the advent of Google, Apple, etc.*

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase... 'Goodnight , sleep tight'

The Declaration of Independence (the very official copy in the Rotunda of the National Archives) is written on parchment, not paper.

Most lipstick contains fish scales. Yum.

Celery has negative calories! It takes more calories to digest a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with. (Mmm, diet food.)

Roses MAY be red, but violets ARE, indeed, violet.

Casey Kasem is the voice of Shaggy on Scooby-Doo.

In Gulliver's Travels Jonathan Swift described the two moons of Mars, Phobos and Deimos, giving their exact size and speeds of rotation. He did this more than one hundred years before either moon was discovered.

Sharon Stone was the first Star Search spokes model.

The glue on Israeli postage stamps is certified kosher.

The Guinness Book of Records holds the record for being the book most often stolen from public libraries.

The number one selling CD in history is the third Beatles anthology. It recently beat out the Eagles' "Their Greatest Hits."

Francis Bacon died in his attempt to find a better way to serve food. He caught a case of pneumonia while attempting to stuff a chicken with snow. Ironically, the chicken survived the ordeal.

Houdini's real name was Ehrich Weiss.

Barbie's full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts.

Betsy Ross, Jackie Onassis, JFK, and Daniel Boone have all appeared on Pez dispensers.

Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

The sound of E.T. walking was made by someone squishing their hands in jelly.

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Two-thirds of the world's eggplant is grown in New Jersey.

The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screched."

"The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick" is said to be the toughest tongue twister in the English language.

The oldest standing building in Australia is Captain James Cook's house, brought over from England brick by brick.

**The hole inside a CD is exactly the same size as an old Dutch 10 cent coin, called the "dubbeltje".
(?!). Of course, all the European countries (save a few) have gone Euro now.**

Killer whales are not, technically, whales. They are orcas, a relative of the porpoise and the dolphin.

Your foot is nearly the same length as your forearm as measured from the inside of the elbow to the wrist.

90% of all New York cabbies are recently arrived immigrants.

The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.

The King of Hearts is the only king WITHOUT A MOUSTACHE.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.

A female ferret will die if it goes into heat and cannot find a mate.

Every person has a unique tongue print. (Say "aaah")

The 'spot' on 7UP comes from its inventor who had red eyes. He was an albino.

Warren Beatty and Shirley MacLaine are brother and sister.

Daniel Boone detested coonskin caps.

Dr. Seuss actually pronounced Seuss such that it sounded like Sue-ice.

The little plastic things on the end of shoelaces are called aglets. (Why do you name them?)

All of the clocks in the movie "Pulp Fiction" are stuck on 4:20.

"Dreamt" and "undreamt" are the only English words that end in the letters "mt."

26 (easily visible, there may be more) states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the old US \$5 bill.

The almond is a member of the peach family.

Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.

Los Angeles' full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula."

Upper and lower case letters are named 'upper' and 'lower', because in the time when all original print had to be set in individual letters, the 'upper case' letters were stored in the case on top of the case that stored the smaller, 'lower case' letters. The proper term for upper case letters is "majuscule" and for lower case it's "minuscule".

The printing industry gives us other popular phrases, such as "mind your 'p's and 'q's." The moveable block type had the letters in reverse so they would read correctly when imprinted on paper. Apprentices had to remove the type from the pages and return the blocks to their upper and lower cases. Each drawer in the case held a different size of letters, and each drawer was divided into compartments (called sorts) for each letter. The letters 'p' and 'q' could easily be mistaken, so the master printer would advise their apprentices to mind their 'p's and 'q's.

When the master printer was building a page and discovered that a particular sort was empty, he would get angry. Thus the term "out of sorts".

The question mark came from a monk habit of writing the Latin word for question, quo, at the end of sentences. Over time, the letters were written vertically to save space and morphed into the ? we write today. Similarly, the exclamation point came from the Latin word "Lo", meaning something important that should be heeded.

Wellfleet, Massachusetts has the only town clock in the world that strikes ship's time. (Rings every half hour, to a maximum of 8 rings at the end of each four hour period.)

The male praying mantis cannot copulate while its head is attached to its body. The female initiates sex by ripping the male's head off.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common? (All were invented by women.)

Most scorpions will glow under black (ultraviolet) light.

The mask used by Michael Myers in the original Halloween was actually a Captain Kirk mask painted white.

Laser is actually an acronym for "Light Amplification by Stimulated Emissions of Radiation."

The world's first passenger train made its debut in England in 1825.

If you hate our "QWERTY" keyboard layout, blame Christopher Sholes. He changed it from the original in 1873 to lessen the chances of the keys jamming.

Napoleon III suffered from ailurophobia, which is a fear of cats.

Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty years of age or older.

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

In most advertisements, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10.

The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life."

A mayfly has a life span of 24 hours.

The giant squid has the largest eyes in the world.

Mr. Rogers was an ordained minister.

The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.

There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.

The data track on a CD is a very long spiral. If it were unwound and laid out in a straight line, it would be over 3.5 miles long.

A shrimp's heart is in its head.

A pregnant goldfish is called a twerp.

A cockroach will live nine days without its head before it starves to death.

Starfish have no brains.

Humans and dolphins are the only species that have sex for pleasure.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

A rat can last longer without water than a camel.

A raisin dropped in a fresh glass of soda will bounce up and down continually from the bottom of the glass to the top.

COMEDY SECTION

INSTALLING A HUSBAND

Dear Tech Support,

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slow down in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0.

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1.

Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system.

Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.

What can I do?

Signed,
Desperate.

DEAR DESPERATE ,

First, keep in mind that Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system.

Please enter command: ithoughtyoulovedme.html and try to download Tears 6.2 and do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

However, remember, overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0 or Beer 6.1 . Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download the Farting and Snoring Loudly Beta .

Whatever you do, **DO NOT** under any circumstances install Mother-In-Law 1.0 (it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources).

In addition, please do not attempt to reinstall the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0 .

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You

might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance. We recommend Cooking 3.0 and Hot Lingerie 7.7...

Good Luck!

Tech Support