

J.E.A.M. CENTS



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"The Official Newsletter of April Fools"

April 1-30, 2003

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Welcome to the month of April, or April. Thanks for those of you that have helped us in the past busy weekends.

There are many more to come. Please get with your schedulers for upcoming events. As of printing time I do not have a complete list of events for this month. Be sure to check out our website for updated info- www.teamsecurity.net.

April is normally fool of surprises, so keep your eyes and ears open out there. We have finally switched over to summer uniforms, lately it has been 85 degrees in the shade, our company meteorologist just got back from vacationing in Hawaii. If you're not sure what our summer uniform is, be sure to read the article in this newsletter.

We also have another position opening up, read about that in this newsletter also. If you have not done so, visit our updated website at www.teamsecurity.net. One of our employees has also asked our hep with a petition drive of his, read about it on this page.

Thanks and have fun out there, remember: if you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much space!!

See you next month....

DISCLAIMER

T.E.A.M. Cents staff does not assume liability in any way for anything printed, inferred, or diagrammed in *T.E.A.M. Cents*. If at anytime you find anything you read in *T.E.A.M. Cents* offensive, then by all means please stop reading immediately. If you should happen to be inadvertently offended, and continue to read, you do so at your own risk. If you continue to read this offensive material to yourself, and your lips move while you read, and you are in a room with anyone who is able to read lips, then YOU and not US are responsible for offending them. The stories and characters you read about in *T.E.A.M. Cents* are purely fictional. Any similarity to real people living or dead, places and events is merely coincidental.

JOB OPENING

This position has reopened in the past few days: If you are interested in working a full-time shift, Monday through Friday, from 1000-1800. We are offering this shift to a qualified employee who is interested in benefits and over \$11.50 an hour.

You get many benefits including therapy and educational programs. You will be working with the fire department-duties include but not limited to checking all fire hydrants an hour before each fire and refilling them after each fire.

Anyone interested must apply with Katrina in 111 no later than April 1, 2003. You must come in and apply in person by 6 pm on April 1.

BAN DIHYDROGEN MONOXIDE

An employee of T.E.A.M. is attempting to show how conditioned we have become to alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. He is urging people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide".

And for plenty of good reasons, since:

1. It can cause excessive sweating and vomiting
2. It is a major component in acid rain
3. It can cause severe burns in its gaseous state
4. Accidental inhalation can kill you
5. It contributes to erosion
6. It decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes
7. It has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients

He is asking for the support of the people to ban the chemical.

If interested in signing this petition, please ask for petition at the front desk at 111.

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

BARSTOW, CA -- It's 7:31 PM and Special RIAA Enforcement Agent Gus Toppoh hits the pavement armed with his hand-held sound meter. This night he's investigating a house at 151 Pleasant Pine Grove Hill Estates Road that, according to one anonymous informer, has been playing loud, copyrighted music at night without a public performance license. Sure enough, at 1,000 feet away, his meter detects music at a decible level that far exceeds the legal limit. It's time to crash the party.

Such investigative legwork has been increasingly common as the RIAA and other paranoid industry-trade groups have ramped up their efforts to stop music "leaks".

"Well, it's obviously theft," said Agent Toppoh just before busting down the door of the house. "Because of the illegally high volume level, everybody in this neighborhood can enjoy the music without paying for it. If you look at any CD case, the End Peon License Agreement clearly states that the music shall only be used for the personal enjoyment of exactly one person. If anybody else in the vicinity can hear it, then you're in violation of the license, unless you purchase additional CDs or beg for a public performance license."

During the night, Toppoh busted 13 people for deliberately "leaking" music protected by intellectual property law. One mall that played Christmas music over its

loudspeakers without the express written permission of the RIAA (they only had vague oral permission from a music store employee) now faces a \$400K fine. A CompUSSR store manager was fined for tuning his floor-model televisions to MTV, allowing customers to listen to music videos without paying any royalties. (The manager argued that MTV doesn't play music videos anyway, but Toppoh was unconvinced. "Stranger things have happened," he said while writing the citation.)

One person was even busted for whistling a tune from a 1974 song while walking down a sidewalk, in plain hearing of several people. "It's a public performance of a copy protected song," Gus Toppoh said. "I have to write a ticket."

Meanwhile, the owner of an office tower managed to escape serious punishment when Agent Toppoh came calling. "I assumed the muzak playing in the elevators was a violation," Toppoh said, "but it turned out that the owner did indeed have a license. But I still issued a verbal warning because it took him five minutes to find the contract in his safe, a severe waste of my precious time."

"All in all, it's a tough job," he said while cruising down the highway, his eyes watching the series of microphones mounted on his car that continually search for stray waves of copyrighted music. "But I love it. It's all about stopping pirates and thieves from bankrupting the music industry and protecting our Constitutional right to innovate. Now if you'll excuse me, my sensors detect an illegal broadcast of 'Happy Birthday' coming from this church..."

FYI- APRIL FOOLS DAY

April Fool's Day is a day for all of us to have some fun and play a few jokes on our friends or even on strangers.

Newspapers, radio stations, and even large companies have their share of fun, as well. The below stories will illustrate what I mean. Thanks, and enjoy!

April Fool's Day at Its Best ...

Hold Up Your Credit Cards!

Back in the days of the Mattel Cabbage Patch Kid craze it was usually very hard to get one for the kiddies.

A radio station (I don't know where)

announced that Mattel was going to get Cabbage Patch Kids out to the people of this particular city.

The plan was that they had to go to the football field of the local university and wait. An airplane would fly overhead and the dolls would be dropped onto the field.

People were supposed to hold their credit cards up so that a photographer with a telephoto lens in the airplane could get the credit card numbers and charge the price of the dolls to the recipients' accounts.

People actually showed up, waving American Express cards in the breeze.

Cleaning the Phone Lines!

One radio station prank took place on April Fool's Day. They announced that the phone company would be cleaning the dirt out of the phone lines that afternoon. They do this, it seems, by blowing air into the wires in the switching station. The problem is that the dirt comes out of the earpiece and mouthpiece of the telephone and could dirty the rugs or furniture in your house.

Consequently, the phone company asks that the good citizens please get plastic bags and put them over the handsets of the telephones to protect their belongings.

Stores reported a run on plastic bags, and the phone company made the radio station retract the original claim.

Draining a Beer Truck

KFMB-AM, a San Diego radio station, announced that a beer truck had jack-knifed and could not be towed away until the beer had been removed from its tank.

Over 100 people showed up at the site where the accident was supposed to have occurred to help drain it.

and last but not least...

Who are the biggest "Fools" of them all?

Can you imagine working at this outfit. It has a little over 500 employees with the following statistics:

29 have been accused of spousal abuse.

7 have been arrested for fraud.

19 have been accused of writing bad checks.

117 have bankrupted at least two businesses.

3 have been arrested for assault.

71 cannot get a credit card due to bad credit.

14 have been arrested on drug-related charges.

8 have been arrested for shoplifting.

21 are current defendants in lawsuits.

In 1998 alone, 84 were stopped for drunk driving..

Yes, you guessed it! It's the 535 members of the United States Congress (*not current members*). The same group that cranks out hundreds of new laws designed to keep the rest of us in line.

THE CHICKEN CANNON

Scientists at NASA have developed a gun built specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners, military jets and the space shuttle, all traveling at maximum velocity. The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

French engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains. Arrangements were made. But when the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurtled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, crashed through the control console, snapped the engineer's backrest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin.

Horrified French sent NASA the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield, and begged the U.S. scientists for suggestions.

NASA's response was just one sentence..... "Thaw the chicken."

TOP TEN LIST OF THE BEST OF THE WORST COUNTRY SONG TITLES

10. I'll Marry You Tomorrow, but Let's Honeymoon Tonite. _____

9. If You Can't Feel It (it ain't there)

8. If You See Me gettin' Smaller, It's Cause I'm Leaving You

7. He's Been Drunk Since She Went Punk

6. When We Get Back to the Farm (that's when we really go to town)

5. If Heartaches Were Wine (I'd be drunk all the time)

4. I Got in at 2 With a 10 and Woke Up at 10 with a 2

3. She Made Toothpicks Out of the Timber of My Heart

3. You Stuck My Heart in an Old Tin Can and Shot it Off a Log

And the number one Best of the Worst Country Song Titles is... Get Your Tongue Outta My Ear 'Cause I'm Kissing You Goodbye!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/1: Non-Licensed payday @ 111. 4p-6p.
4/1-2: Diamondbacks @ BOB
4/4: Youth Festival @ Kiwanis Park
4/7: Bon Jovi @ AWA
4/12: Az Central Gay Pride festival @ Indian Steele Park in Phx.
4/13: New Times Music Showcase on Mill Avenue
4/14: Payday for Licensed employees in 111. 4p-6p.
4/15: Payday for non-licensed @ 111. 4p-6p.
Tax Deadline
4/18: Good Friday
Linkin' Park @ AWA
4/20: Easter
4/22: Earth Day
4/26: Phx Climbing Competition @ Oak Flats Campground
4/28: Payday for Licensed employees in 111. 4p-6p.
4/29: Payday for non-licensed @ 111. 4p-6p.

Check with your schedulers for any changes, updates or cancellations. Also visit our website at www.teamsecurity.net

T.E.A.M. APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Chris Casias	4/1
Melvin Ayers	4/3
Richard Cavazos	4/5
Chris Perkins	4/5
Keith Liermann	4/7
Bert Rawls	4/11
Jose Cordova	4/12
Patrick Donahue	4/21
Cliff Jones	4/21
Waseem Muhieddin	4/23
James Gordon	4/24
Ralph Montano	4/25
Shawn Mule'	4/28
Lyndell Martin	4/29

Happy Birthday to all of you, have great half day off!!!

T.E.A.M. ANNIVERSARIES

Four years: Robert Rodrigues	4/14
Three ye ars: Richard Campbell	4/15
Terrence Daniels	4/19
Two years: Katie Harpool	4/17

Congratulations to all of the above.
Hang in there!!!

TAZ TOOL BOX

By Rich "Taz" Zahn

Welcome back everyone from the last time we met. There has been a lot at work this month, as well as upcoming in April. So lets get started....

As the Nation's watch becomes more aggressive hourly and plans of life and death are carried out, let us not forget our responsibilities as people in what we need to continue to accomplish in our daily lives. We strive for daily accomplishment and well-being. Support for those around us, known and unknown. Smiles for everyone and a care for those in need. A handshake or help out to get through the day, or night. Relationships are built every second of every day and not just for one purpose. Individuality makes us unique. T.E.A.M. work makes us strong.

In our little part of the world, we need must come together as teammates for the good of our own and strengthen our cause to be the best at what we do...security, building relationships one at a time.

TAZ

SUMMER UNIFORMS

Effective as of March 20, summer uniforms may be worn. This consists of T.E.A.M. polo shirt, black shorts. No baggy shorts and nothing past your knees and no sportswear.

Even though polo shirts are worn, some employee still see it professional to roll up your "short" sleeves. Please do not roll your sleeves up, shorts may be worn, have to be solid black (not faded), must be comfort fitting, not baggy or past your knees and look professional. White socks, of course.

Polo shirts must be tucked in and must be wearing a black belt.

When calling in for your schedule, make sure you ask if you are working indoors or outdoors. When working indoors, i.e. AWA, Dodge Theater, long pants must still be worn. Remember; all indoor events still require us to wear long black pants.

JARED'S JOTTINGS

By Jared Rafferty

The violent events throughout the valley the last couple of weeks have brought everyone to a new level of awareness.

In all actuality we have long lived in a very violent world. Many people have been insulated aga inst that simple fact. Humans

are the only being that kill for reasons other than food or survival. Myself, Mick, and a few others I know grew up with life threatening violence as an everyday occurrence.

There are many different approaches that one can take when the world around us turns ugly. One can lock themselves in their homes, and see nothing that occurs around them. You can become paranoid, and live everyday in fear.

I implore you and everyone else to instead take the only course of action that can insure a safe and pleasant world for our children.

1. Realize that, yes we live in a world that is not so safe.
2. Realize that yes there are people out there who would hurt the ones we love.
3. Realize that we truly can make a difference in the lives we touch.
4. Realize that the only weapon against hatred, ignorance, and fear, are love, thoughtfulness, and the courage to take a stand for those we don't know.

I put forth to you the challenge of changing the world we live in one person at a time. Take a look at the reasons for the actions of others, "for to truly understand the motives of a man is to hold the key to his change"

Thank you.

BERT'S BUSINESS

By Bert Rawls

How's everything going out there? Hope all is well.

I have a few things to say. First off, I just wanted to say congratulations to all of the people that made the Tempe Music Festival a success. Jared Rafferty and myself were very impressed by all of the people that stopped us from entering through the exits in the beer gardens. I am very sorry for the few times that I got a little angry with all of you that did stop us. You have to understand that we were doing something where we needed to keep moving. I again want to tell you guys and gals that stood your ground. OUTSTANDING JOB.

Now for the other stuff. I just wanted make a good point. I cannot tell you how many times that I have heard "I never get hours" from some of the people that work for us. When we have people call you and ask you if you can work and you need hours do not say, "Well what is it" or "What is the

event". If you need hours, it should not matter what the event is just work for the hours. There are very few jobs that have as lenient of a schedule as T.E.A.M. has. Please do not abuse this type of scheduling or I am sure that there will be some drastic changes in this area. I understand that people have other obligations to take care of, but if it is at all possible let scheduling know in advance so they will not bother you and waste time.

I hate to sound so negative, but when scheduling calls ALL of our employees on any given day and cannot find one person to work there is a problem. So in short if you want hours, buck up and work whatever comes along.

As always be safe and work hard, but above all have fun. If the event is not fun then make it fun. bert@teamsecurity.net

KEEPING ALERT OUT THERE

The City of Tempe is aware of the anxiety that our current national and international situation generates in all of us. The city has not received any specific information regarding potential terrorist threats to Tempe. However, because the city is interested in the well being and peace of mind of the community, we are providing the following guidelines:

- * **Report all suspicious activities** immediately to Tempe Police at 480-350-8311, including:
 - * People photographing or seeking information about critical facilities.
 - * People dressed inappropriately for weather conditions.
- * **Take personal security precautions to avoid becoming a victim of crime or attack.**
 - * Be aware of your surroundings
 - * Closely monitor news reports and Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio/TV stations.
 - * Avoid passing unsubstantiated information and rumors.
 - * Pick up or review your Emergency Preparedness Guide. They are available at the Public Library, City Hall, all fire stations, Fire Administration and the Police Department lobby.
 - * Remain calm during these challenging times.

*** In the event of a specific threat to our community, please note the following:**

- * Expect delays, searches of purses and bags and restricted access to public buildings.
- * Expect traffic delays and restrictions.
- * Avoid crowded public areas and gatherings.
- * Be prepared to evacuate your home or shelter in place on order of local authorities.
- * Assist neighbors who may need help.
- * Keep emergency supplies accessible (72 hour kits).

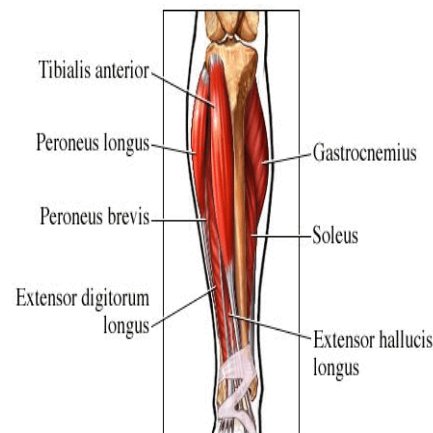
MARLIES' NOTES:

By Marlies Meinhold

March has been a month. That's about all I can call it. A Month. It has come and gone quickly, and painfully.

As you all may have seen me hobbling around on crutches or rolling around the office in a wheelchair. On March 5th, I tore two muscles in my leg. The Gastrocnemius and the Soleus muscles. I have included a picture so you can see which muscles they are. It has been very painful and frustrating. As the results of my MRI, I have a blot clot that's 14cm long, between the two muscles, and not doing too much.

So as the next couple of weeks go, I have to hope that this large blot clot dissolves, or I will be a proud owner of a 6 inch scar down the back of my leg. Sexy?



So if things seem to take me a little bit longer, please be patient with me. I really appreciate all the help that everyone has done to help. So if you are in my office, and I ask you if you could make me a photo copy, or place a paper in one of the

baskets, please don't get irritated with me, please just help. You don't realize how much you use your legs, until you lose the loss of one. I can't drive, so I am being dropped off at work, (between 6:00am - and 6:30am) and leaving a little bit earlier. (usually between 3 and 4 pm) It's still a long day. I have been shocking the overnights, as they are calling there out times in, and I have been answering the phone.

Otherwise it has been work, work, work. It has been a very busy month on top of things, which makes it tough, also. I do not really care to talk about the war, because it's really depressing. So I am going to say over and out for now. Have a great month of April.

SWANSON'S SONG

By Jeff Swanson

Thank you Sully for your help at the Tempe Music Festival. I really appreciate the fact that you were willing to slum it with the equipment department. I would also like to say thank you to Kat and Terry for going out of your way to help.

That being said, I would like to point out how good you all look out there. I was talking to a couple of security guards from another company, I won't say their name, but it sounds like Hens. They were dressed sloppily and one of them slept threw his entire shift. They were nice guys, but you could tell by the way they were talking and presenting themselves that they just weren't happy.

I have moments that make me prouder than normal to say that I'm a manager for T.E.A.M. This was one of them. You guys (& gals) are great and you deserve a pat on the back.

About the War

I've never fully understood the purpose of going to war until recently. Especially since the world has enough nuclear warheads to blow mother earth up over and over. I keep hearing these war protesters speak, and they are all a bunch of idiots.

The terrorist that have hurt our nation and threatened our way of life need to be brought to justice! This has gotten ridiculous. I love this country, but we have gotten too wimpy. We have to defend ourselves! Not only should we go over there and put them in their place, we should leave them there.

What I mean by that is stop giving them food, medical supplies and stop helping them build. Leave them weak so they can't come after us again. Yes, innocent people will suffer, but what about *our* innocent people? We are not out looking to start a fight, they are.

I implore you to stand behind our president and our country to defend ourselves. Don't listen to these anti-war idiots. God bless America!!!

VILLA CON DIOS

By Jose Villa

Hello everybody, this month I would like to recognize the following members of T.E.A.M.'s first supervisor class. These individuals have put forth the effort and commitment to completing a 6-month training program:

Abbett, Stephan
Barzee, Sandra
Craig, William
Crutcher, Mike
Diehl, Michael
Frizzell, Rachel
Ivester, Deborah
Lesjak, James
Murillo, Gilbert
Pearson, Su
Piotrowski, Paul
Pitts, Joe
Powell, Johnnie
Rice, Kathy
Rice, Tim
Sears, Terrie
Targioni, Pat
Tautimes, Terry
Wendelboe, Necolai
White, Lisa
Zahn, Richard

They will be taught a curriculum that includes leadership skills, employee relations, report writing instructor skills, first aid/CPR certification, crowd management techniques, counter-terrorism, ADA training, and self-defense techniques. They are scheduled to graduate at the end June.

If you are interested in becoming a supervisor and participating in the next class that will start in July, contact me by email at jose@teamsecurity.net.

"Leaders are not born. They are made. They are made just like anything else. . . through hard work. That's the price we have to pay to achieve that goal or any goal."
- Vince Lombardi

UNDER THE PLATE

With Sully

Hours! There are plenty of hours available. Last week I watched our scheduling department try to fill shifts into Saturday morning. They were calling through our phone list, calling all you people that say "need hours only to hear things like "I cant work on weekends", "I want to have Sunday off", and even my favorite, "I don't want to work that".

We even heard of a story of a supervisor telling Mick, our commander-in-chief that "I don't want more hours I just want more money per hour "!!!!

So if you're selective on what you work or can't work on weekends or holidays, don't come in and talk to me about raises or becoming a supervisor.

Well, gang we are security people! We work and make money when other people are not. So if you can't maybe you should find another way to make your living.

On a more positive note, I have to send a big "GREAT JOB" to our STO employees (Marriott, Hayden Ferry, DMB, Mill Ave Shops, Campus Corner, Papago All you armed types, AWA BOB Dodge). I have spent a lot of time seeing most of you at all hours of the clock and could not be happier. You are our workhorses and often our overlooked heroes. So here's your shout out. HOLA!
C-Ya, Sully

HAVE YOU FILED YOUR TAXES

YET?

From Chris Casias

For many of you it may be the first time filing your own taxes. There are those of you that do not know which forms to fill out. I have included a list of the forms a brief explanation to assist you.

We have the basic forms and booklets here in our office at 111. Remember: the deadline to file your taxes is April 15.

First off, the Internal revenue Service (IRS) has worked hard to simplify the process for most taxpayers. The IRS requires that you identify yourself in one of five ways: single, married filing jointly, married filing separately, head of household or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child.

Now, let's move onto the forms. Everyone must file the basic tax form 1040 (or 1040 EZ or 1040A). You must include additional forms depending on the type and amount of income earned and deductions taken. Read the list below for a general overview of the forms you may need.

1040EZ

You may be able to use this form if you are single or married filing jointly, you have no dependents, you and your spouse are under age 65 and not blind, your taxable income (which can only be certain sources) is less than \$50,000, your earned interest is not more than \$1,500 and you do not itemize deductions.

1040A

You may be able to use this form if your taxable income is less than \$50,000 and you do not itemize deductions.

1040

Everyone can use this form to report all types of income. Generally, you must use this form if your taxable income is greater than \$50,000. The 1040 is also the form used when you itemize deductions instead of taking the standard deduction (which is generally the amount the government allows each person to claim instead of itemizing deductions). The amount of the standard deduction changes annually and is listed in the tax form booklets.

The following is a list of the schedule most commonly used with the 1040:

Schedule A (itemizes deductions)

Schedule B (reports taxable interest or dividends in excess of \$1,500)

Schedule c or C-EZ (reports profit or loss from a business)

Schedule D (reports capital gains and losses)

Schedule E (reports supplemental income and losses)

Schedule EIC (claims earned income tax credit)

For more information about doing your taxes, visit www.irs.gov

By Mick Hirko

We all have the right to express our opinion. It is one of our protected rights. I am fortunate to have a monthly platform to express my opinion. (Every one of you do, if you care to contribute to our newsletter)

Even though I am getting sick of the movie stars and recording artists who feel that their opinion matters, and that they should use their star status to influence others. I am neither that pretentious, nor is it my desire to influence others. If I can get a few people to at least think about what they are doing, I am content.

I have never been so proud, and so ashamed at the same time, to be an American. I am so tired of the whiny, pathetic and retarded ravings of the vocal few, who are bashing the US. Oh, no, I don't mean the French or the Pakistanis. I am talking about the stinky, stoned and shoeless idiots in the streets of our major cities, protesting our government and our brave military. Even though everyone has the right (You need to understand that it is truly a privilege, not a right) to speak their opinion in this country, there should be certain prerequisites, prior to you being allowed to slam our military and their current mission. Some of the conditions should be:

If you are a troll, who would rather have a handout than a job, your opinion does not count.

If you have never been to the Middle East, and do not understand the culture or the politics, your opinion does not count.

If you have never served in the military, or are not part of the military community, your opinion does not count.

If you do not look at the American flag, or an American Bald Eagle in flight, and your heart does not swell with pride, your opinion does not count.

If you do not understand American history, or why our National Cemeteries here and abroad are filled with the heroes that today allow us to speak our opinions, your opinion does not count.

If you see a formation of F-16's or of Apaches Attack Helicopters screeching through the sky, and you don't want to raise your fist into the air and cheer, your opinion does not count.

If you are a Dixie Chick, or other pathetic, overblown celebrity, move to France, since no one cares what you think anyway.

What a bunch of morons can accomplish nothing more than the headlines :

“violence erupts at peace rally”? These are the same idiots, that take their “rights” for granted, without an understanding of what it took of others, to guarantee them these PRIVILEGES!!! It is these idiots that prevented the U.S. from getting involved in another conflict some time ago. It was the “peace lovers” and the “it's not our problem ignoramus”, that convinced the leadership of this country that the leader of another country hadn't done anything against us, and that the rumors of crimes against humanity were only that, and that we should mind our own business. Other countries were begging us for help, as hapless masses were slaughtered. We could have stopped Adolf Hitler long before we did, but we didn't want to get involved, because it was not our problem.

History is being written, and fortunately, Saddam Hussein will never be able to rise to that level, not because of the whiners, morons and Dixie Chicks of this land, but because of the strongest, best trained and best equipped military in the world, and the leadership that dared to take an unpopular stand.

Well, I do not meet any of the seven disqualifiers listed above. Years ago, when I was in the Middle East, I saw a spray painting on a wall, that has always stuck with me; “For those who have fought for it, Freedom has a flavor that the protected will never know”. Appreciate the freedoms you possess, thank God and those who were brave enough to fight for you to have those rights, and shut up! Every jerk that is out there protesting against our military is spitting in the face of an American soldier, and is breaking the headstone of an American Hero who died for you to live in peace.

My father is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. I have the right to speak, and to speak with pride of our military and of our country. No soldier has gone to war to kill and die. He or she has gone to protect you and to give you peace. No soldier ever went to war, without knowing the danger, or fear of not coming back. No soldier who died, deserves to look down at us now, and seeing the creeps who today are besmirching those heroes.

I could go on for hours, writing about all the things I have seen recently, that has disgusted me. I will spare you all, if I have not already lost you. I was going to travel

to Normandy next month, to pay respect to the hollowed ground that my father fought on, to give us all liberty. I have cancelled those plans, mainly because I can not stand on Omaha Beach, while surrounded by the stench of the cowardly French. I refuse to spend a dime of my hard earned money, to line their filthy pockets. I encourage you all to do the same, and boycott anything from France, or its brotherhood of cowardice.

My friends, we live in troubled times. Remember that we have a job to do, and in our own little way, we serve an important role in keeping us all safe. We protect buildings of public assembly, we guard over events, and check what and who comes in. I ask all of you to be diligent in your duties, alert and cautious in your shifts, and to do your part to keep America safe. And remember, if Brandon is not wearing his passes, he gets kicked out. It is a tradition.

Finally, I want to send my prayers to all of our brave soldiers, Marines, sailors and Air Force personnel. May God protect you all, watch over you, and allow you to perform your duties with valor and swift resolve. A special thought to the brave men and women of the 101st Airborne. You are the Screaming Eagles. You are my pride. Bring Death from Above. You once again have a rendezvous with destiny. Air Assault!!

Keep the Peace, and I will see you out there.

SEVERE EARTHQUAKE IN FRANCE

March 5, 2003. Today it was reported that a severe earthquake has occurred in 10 different locations in France. The severity was measured in excess of 10 on the Richter Scale.

The cause was the 56,681 dead American soldiers buried in French soil rolling over in their graves. According to the American Battle Monuments Commission there are 26,255 Yankee dead from World War I buried in 4 cemeteries in France. There are 30,426 American dead from World War II buried in 6 cemeteries in France. These 56,681 brave American heroes died in their youth to liberate a country which is guilty of shameful unspeakable behavior in the 21st century.

May the United States of America never forget their sacrifice as we find ways to forcefully deal with the Godforsaken unappreciative, forgetful country of France!

CHRIS ' FINAL THOUGHT

By Chris Casias

Ah, here it is, April Fool's Day!! It is a day for playing pranks and for watching out that you're not fooled by someone else's.

It all started in the Sixteenth Century. Pope Gregory had been working on a new calendar. He wanted one that was more accurate than the Julian calendar that had been in use since Roman times. When he introduced his calendar, he not only cleaned up a bit of the record-keeping, he also moved the beginning of the year from April 1 to January 1.

This was confusing or infuriating to many folks. The result was that when April 1 came around, they treated it as the new year. That's one interpretation for why we call April 1 "April Fool's Day." The fact is, though, that no one really knows where April Fool's Day started or why. What we do know is that you don't want to get fooled on that day or any other.

Bob Steiner could probably fool you. Bob is a professional magician and a CPA. He's also been investigating and exposing con games and frauds for years. He can duplicate just about any fraud you can imagine. And he knows that you can be fooled.

Oh sure, some folks get fooled because they're not very smart. Most of the time, though, the folks who get fooled by con artists or fall for a chain letter or virus hoax are as bright as any of us. Sometimes we bite because we really want to believe what we're hearing.

Many years ago I used to read lists of contest winners to see if I was among them. "OK," you're thinking, "So what? Lots of people do that." That's true, but I was reading the lists of winners for contests I hadn't entered. Somehow, I hoped, my name had found its way onto the list.

Folks like you and me get fooled, according to Bob and other experts, because we've got weaknesses that the con artists can exploit. Maybe we're greedy, or just need money. Maybe we're lonely, or sick or scared. Then we're ready to believe anything that promises to magically solve our problem.

That's one kind of fool, the one that's part of every one of us. But there are other kinds of fools. One is the kind you really need to have around.

I was working for a large company when I met Jack. He went past my office every night as he left work. And every night he'd wave his hand that was missing a finger and say, "See ya Tuesday." You were supposed to ask him if he was taking the next few days (the ones before Tuesday) off. He'd laugh and tell you no. But he sure intended to be in the office on Tuesday. This was Jack's idea of a joke.

Jack made a great salary for doing a job that involved some basic inventory and production record-keeping. Normally, a job like his would be done by someone who was paid about a third of what Jack was making. But Jack knew the owner of the company, and they'd known each other for a very long time.

Jack was one of the owner's first employees when the owner first came to the US. They produced goods together. They sacrificed together. The company got big. The owner built this company in the US and then several others around the world. By the time I worked for one of his companies he lived in Europe and only visited the US from time to time.

When the owner came to town it was quite an event. Two limos met him at the airport. The second limo was there in case the first one broke down.

No matter what time of year it was, fresh flowers bloomed in the wood chips outside our office building. If it was February in an ice storm, a florist placed fresh flowers there. Then the florist stood by to replace the flowers as they died, so there would always be fresh flowers.

When the owner finally got into the offices, he always gave a speech. It was usually a long speech. Those of us in management stood there listened to the speech. We all wore the same color suit because on one visit the owner had fired a manager for wearing a green suit.

The speech was recorded by two recorders and then transcribed by stenographers. The art department stayed at work all night to produce new posters that covered the building the next day, each with a slogan from the previous day's speech.

The owner sent shivers of fear through the bravest of managers. With every contact, you felt your career was on the line, because it was. Naturally, we all tried to say what the owner wanted to hear. And, at some time during his visit, the owner of all those companies would sit down and chat with Jack.

Jack?! He wasn't that bright. He wasn't even that far up on the organizational chart. But he told his friend, the owner, the truth. Even when it created emotional explosions.

Jack was our owner's Court Jester. The Jester, or Fool, is a character that shows up in history in all ages and cultures in some form or other. Egyptian Pharaohs had jesters. European Kings had them. The Mullah Nasrudin is a classic jester who appears in stories from the fourteenth century down to the present.

Sometimes the Fool is deformed in some way. In other situations, the Fool wears special garb, like the belled cap and motley dress we associated with European Court Jesters. Jesters are almost always quick-witted and sharp-tongued. All of those things can vary. Two things, however, are essential.

The Jester must be truthful and safe. The Fool never competes for the crown. The Fool always speaks the truth to the King. That's what Jack did. He spoke the truth to the King.

Folks in power, especially in absolute power like the Pharaohs or Kings to today's Corporate Pashas, get told what they want to hear all the time. Folks lie to them to curry favor. Subordinates present crises as small problems because they're afraid the boss will get angry and take it out on them. People in power need someone to tell them the truth. They need a Fool. We need a fool.

We have to find someone in our lives who will be the Fool for us, who will tell us what we need to hear, even if it's not what we want to hear. If we are lucky, we find those people easily. Some of us live with our truth-tellers because they are our spouses, lovers or children.

Often though, that is not enough. Often we need a Fool at work, too. And that is when it's important to find them and cultivate them. That is when it's important to listen to the news we don't want to hear and then reward the messenger.

Not just on April Fool's day, but on every day. You will be a better leader and a better person if you allow people to speak the truth to you. Find folks who love you, who care for you enough to risk your anger. Then you will have one of the greatest treasures life offers, truth, wrapped in support.

Be safe out there and support our troops, country and commander-in-chief. See you next month!