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Volume XX, Issue 10 **May 2012**

Happy Birthday

5/21 Jennell Judson **Alvin Harris** 5/2 5/8 5/21 **Shelly Joslin Tamara Owen** 5/12 5/24 **Scott Tanner Russell Duncan Lookman Musa** 5/13 **Kevin Newberg George Fincel** 5/13 **Patrick Maloney** 5/16 **Gregory Price Brandon Murdock Michael Mullins Richard Larios** 5/16 **Trinity Jones** 5/17 Rebecca Werhanowicz 5/29 Ricardo Rivera 5/18 5/30 **Bernadette Nieves**

5/20

5/24 5/26 5/28 5/29

Happy Anniversary

Benjamin Okoye

Kevin Norlin

2 years

Steve Slager

2 years

5/30 Brandon Shepard 5/31



BACON

Alex Molina





NINJA DEER



When Clear does something, and either has a hard time explaining why it got broken or why we are getting calls about something she did, she usually gets this very pensive look, and replies with: "Well, you see, there was a bee...." And continues to tell an incredible fairy tale. Gotta have someone to blame and Clear has her bees to blame. Bees get blamed for a lot of things, and actually bees are one of the most beneficial and necessary creatures on this planet. Without bees, plants would not get pollinated, and flowers, fruits and many vegetables could not grow. Literally one third of everything that is grown is dependent on bees. My dad taught me that bees are a very important part of our ecological system, and he always went out of his way to rescue them, if he

could. I remember a story I was once told about him trying to rescue one that had fallen in the pool. Well, my dad leaned over just a bit too far, and went in head over heels, fully clothed into the cold water. Cold water was his kryptonite. He hated it. From what I heard, he came back up, cigarette limply hanging out of the corner of his mouth, huffing and puffing from the cold water in Fall weather in Germany. I asked him later what

happened to the bee. He said he was pretty sure it got carried out of the pool in the wave that his body created falling in the pool. I often see people swatting at bees in fear and anger. Bees have gotten a really bad reputation, much thanks to the Africanized bee and from people that are allergic to their sting. A normal honey bee is not aggressive. It is defensive, and if you sit on or step on one, sure it will sting you, but do you know that by stinging, it signs its own death sentence, because once its stinger is deployed, it actually rips out of the tail end off the bee, and it dies. By swatting at a bee, you only make it think it is getting attacked.

If you see a bee, leave it alone, and it will leave you alone. If you see a lot of bees, try to steer clear of them. This time of year, many bees are swarming, as new queens are leaving their nests, and looking for new homes. A lot of those hives are only rest stops on their journey to their final nesting place. So, even if you see a lot of bees, it does not mean they are dangerous. Bees, similar to sharks, will bump you as a warning first, before they sting. Africanized or killer bees will do the same, but are obviously more aggressive and do not need provocation to start bumping you. Bottom line – if you see a bee, leave it alone. If you see a lot

of bees, get out of the area. Ironically, after I wrote this article, I was attacked by an Africanized bee and stung. I was fortunate in that I was in my enclosed garage, and there was only the one. It was exactly as I described. It came close to me, and I let it, as I do with every bee. This one flew right into my face and bumped me. I even let it do that, even though it was unsettling. I thought it would just fly away again, but as soon as it bumped me, it flew off and came right back. I could tell that it was in a frenzied state, and I thought it was trying to get into my nostril. I could not tell immediately that it had stung me, but it was so viciously flying about that I first tried to blow it off of my lip, and once I realized it had stung me, to swat it. The next minute or two, as I was trying to get it away from me was intense. It had lost its stinger, now firmly implanted in my upper lip, and kept coming after my face. All the swatting and trying to get away from it was to no avail. I was able to finally get into a room and close the door quick enough to trap it and let it die, but it took 5 attempts to get enough distance from it to be able to get

The next morning, upper lip still swollen, I went out to the pool, where there were the usual 20 or 30 bees buzzing around, getting a drink of water and cooling off. I gave them the usual respect, and was well aware of where they were as I worked my way around the pool and did my daily maintenance, and as expected, they left me alone. Bees are too important for the survival of this planet to let one sting change my mind. Bees are our friends. Clear's stories on the other hand, are very misleading, and just give bees a bad name. I think the real culprit is her!

Mick Hirko

Upcoming Blackout Dates

If you can't work at least a 4 hour shift on these days, a vacation request form is required TWO WEEKS prior to the dates you will need off.

May 5th - Cinco de Mayo May 10th - Drake @ AFP May 26th - Sugarland @ AFP

Help Yoursel

RECYCLE!!!

Would you like to help out our logistics department? They are trying to see how many recyclables they can collect. They do so much for us, so please contribute if you can. They are collecting all metals (including aluminum cans) and batteries. Throwing batteries in the trash is bad for our environment because they are full of chemicals and acids that should not be going into our landfills. If you don't already recycle, please start collecting items at home and bring them into us whenever you come into the office so we can dispose of them in an environmentally friendly manner. Thanks for your support!

FAQ:

Q: When can I expect a scheduler to call me back during the week after I called in on Monday/Tuesday respectively?

A: Please keep in mind that Mondays are very busy here as it's the first day back from the weekend and we have emails to go through and reprimands/commendations to do. We start calling people back as soon as we can but please do not call the office wondering why nobody has called you back yet. We try to have all call backs completed by Wednesday afternoon so if Thursday hits and you called Monday or Tuesday and still have not received a call from a scheduler then you can call the office because chances are something's not right.



"Kindness is the sunshine in which virtue grows" - Robert Green Ingersoll



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