

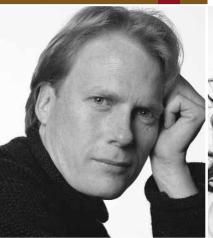


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# The Adeste Prize









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We at JO LEE give you an 'open' invitation to embrace those who may otherwise not be recognized and assist them in 'seeing the future before it arrives'.

THE ADESTE Prize will be awarded to 'The 40 and under Unsong Heroes' for achievements in the categories of the Humanities, Social Justice, Technology, Arts, and Medicine.

Nominations are urged by readers around the world. Please! Submit the name of someone you believe is deserving of such an award.

Nominees should have either achieved extraordinary findings, or excelled beyond their limits in inspiring others to 'touch the stars'.

## The Award

Successful awardees will receive the exquisitely designed ADESTE Gold Medal.

Whenever the committee recognizes an achievement above and beyond expectation — an additional cash prize that embraces the 'on-going endeavors' of an Awardee, will be given. Awards will be announced February end, for the previous year.

# Criteria

The achievement by the Candidate should be of a humanitarian act of significant magnitude which positively benefits mankind by advancing the ability to meet a basic need or should be a new, original, and meaningful discovery.

ADESTE takes as its Credo — the lessons behind Nobel. For Submissions » CLICK HERE «



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# jo lee

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »**

Inatimi Odio Supervisor of Nursery Schools Akassa - Nigeria

Dear Jo Lee,

How was your journey back to Port Harcourt? I hope the rain did not catch up with you as you left Akassa?

The ADESTE Inaugural Award Ceremony where Phil received ADESTE's Medal for his outstanding work in Social Justice, will remain in Akassa Nigeria's heart, always. The dignity the Medal brings to the people has not ever happened to someone representing our people before. And, as you know, because of this, we "declared PHILIP ARKELL the white man, our son!"

God has answered our prayer. I don't know if you believe that there is one. Or should I say that you got a miracle in Akassa because you honored Akassa, so Akassa honored you in return. I am praying for you and I need you to believe that all will be well with you and your good work that touches many good people in need of help.

Ma'am, I just want to say a big thanks again for your kind gesture. All the ACWA teachers thank you. For whatever reason, people seldom bring the children gifts. Perhaps because of the complex water crossing. Your gifts were wonderful. The children were so happy playing with the toys. I will send you some pictures of the children soon.

I wish you all the good things you wish yourself. Have a wonderful journey back. Don't forget to extend our warm greetings from Akassa to all your friends and associates. How is your nose? I hope you have stopped using the nasal-spray. It's Inatimi.

#### Jo Lee Mansell JO LEE Magazine

Hello Dear Inatimi ~

Yes, the ADESTE Ceremony will remain atop my shelf of rare joys forever and my spirit will be in your hearts, always.



#### «On the Cover

Jo Lee at home at
The Fairmont Royal York
Toronto

#### «Feedback

I am so, so excited with all the MARVELOUS work you are doing, Inatimi! I sure do believe in God!! And what a miraculous force He is!

But, as far as my poor nose is concerned, alas. On returning to Port Harcourt and since -I'm back to that reliable nasal spray - whew! However, can you imagine that Akassa enabled me to breath freely for the first time in 24 years. Quite something, isn't it. Please do keep me posted, Inatimi, and yes - photos, photos of the children, always. I'm sending crystals ~ Jo Lee

#### Dr. Cardino Chiomoni Roma, Italia

I love the piece in the Autumn magazine about "helping your child become more likeable". All parents keep worrying about their children and it is so hard to isolate a couple of words of advice that they may eventually pick up on. Behind the suggestions is the concept of being pro-active, which is hard for some children, but so important. If they once are - then it will live with them forever.

I remember in Junior high school going up to a bully. I was friendly and like the article suggests talked about problems he was having. He later became my friend. They did not have friends - that was the secret to my success.

#### Madam Azlina Mina Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

"The Luminous Amanada Mikaelsson" featured in your Autumn issue is remarkable. It's nice to hear about a young lady who is self taught and so accomplished in both music and swimming, two endeavors which do not complement each other. Fascinating. Truly an achievement in these days of relativism.

#### Jim Saunders Architectural Engineer Vancouver, British Columbia

The Copper Canyon article in your travel section also consists of quite a variety of ecosystems that further distinguish the region. Highlands are home to snow-covered mountain peaks, sparkling lakes and enormous stands of old-growth Poderosa pine and oak. Equally interesting is the Tarahumara Indian culture. These semi-nomadic people are predominantly cliff and cave dwellers eking out a meager subsistance from simple farming, ranching and handicrafts. Men are noted for their remarkable running ability, competing in grueling races that stretch non-stop for over 100 miles at times. A real find!!

# Mominate someone.

The Adeste Prize

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#### « THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK

By H. Gail Regan, Toronto - Canada

Gail Regan is vice-chair of Cara Operations. She chairs Energy Probe, Friends of Women's College Hospital, is a member of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise, the Family Firm Institute and the Strategic Leadership Forum. She has a PhD in Educational Theory and an M.B.A. in Finance. Her background in sociology and her personal experience of business have given her intellectual interest in the problem of evil.

SEXUAL POLITICS

ast season. I wrote about Enron, a U.S. company that started out as a commercial gas company. Its leaders developed a huge, transformational vision that had nothing to with serving more gas lower prices and it lacked risk tolerance to achieve its ambitious "New Economy" mission. Enron collapsed.

In this season's Winter issue, I will examine a religious organization that failed because its vision was too small, not transformational enough, and its implementation lacked restraints.

I first have to digress and put forward my view on sexual politics. All civilized societies are "patriarchal." People overvalue masculinity and under-value femininity. Male rights to sexual expression are greater than females. while

women's

property rights in their own bodies are tenuous. {The penalties for sexual assault may be non-existent, infrequent or trivial. The victim may be blamed and punished.}

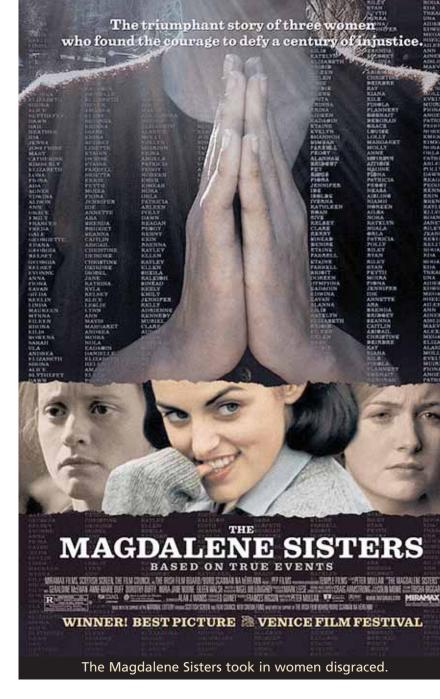
All women try to establish productive, fulfilled lives for themselves, even though patriarchy restricts and endangers them. The problem of how women and men can live fully in a patriarchal society is a very difficult one and no society that I have studied has solved it. The scourge of A.I.D.S. is a result and is killing millions of people a year. It will take a very big transformational vision to fully integrate women into society and men into family life without addressing patriarchy.

The film The Magdalene Sisters demonstrated how an order of nuns in twentieth century Ireland tackled the challenge. The Sisters took in women disgraced for being sexually attractive, sexually active or raped. Some of these women voluntarily became nuns themselves, thereby finding a contented productive life in a society that did not allow sexuality in women.

Although the Magdalene program actually worked in a few cases, the film portrays the leaders as having no insight into the difficulty of their transformational task. The sisters are depicted as distracted with making money from their laundry business. Commercial interest in operating laundries, re-investing in laundries and tracking cash from the laundries drove out awareness of the challenge of helping their clients to reconstruct their lives after patriarchy had rejected them.

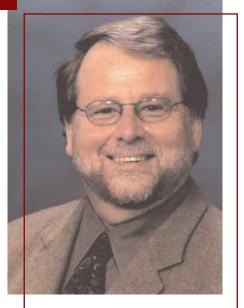
The film portrays the sisters as extremely risk tolerant. They stopped at nothing to subdue their clients. Forcible confinement, beatings, sensory deprivation, humiliation, forced labor and sexual harassment were routine tools to harness workers to the laundry machines. Communist Chinese re-education may not have been as harsh.

Enron made many unprofitable investments, but it may have survived if executives had not let timidity get the better of them and done so many reverse deals. The Magdalene Sisters were too focused on a commercial business for their mandate, but they may still be running laundries if they had not so spectacularly coerced and degraded their clients. The laundries are now closed for the film has disgraced them.



These examples show how corporations can avoid failure. If Enron had stayed commercial, focused with cost-effective projects and pleasing customers, it would still be with us today. If the Magdalene Sisters had embraced their transformational mission, if they had truly figured out how women can live productively and happily in a patriarchal world, their gift to solving the world's problems today would have been enormous.

Enron executives were too cautious for the risks of the business and the Magdalene Sisters were too cavalier for their job as guardians of unfairly and illegally rejected young women. The rules of business and religious institutions are different. Mixing them causes corporate failure and disgrace. Next season I will talk about another force of corporate derailment, alignment.



#### « ALTER EGO

#### By Saul Levine, MD, San Diego - California

No - I do not have the answer to the perennial question of "The Meaning of Life", this eternal existential question that has preoccupied and stymied just about everyone throughout the millennia. "Why Am I Here?" "What is the point of my existence?" "What is my purpose in life?"

Well, I can't say I know 'why' we are here but I do think I know what constitutes 'A Worthwhile Life' which means - one that is satisfying, fulfilling and as enhancing as can be to an individual, as well as to the people affected by him/her.

ased on research that I and others have done, and interviews with people as young as adolescents and as old as octogenarians, in families or in communes, rich or poor, in America or in Asia, Europe or in Africa, the same determinants of 'worthwhileness' - came up time and again. These identical seminal, core elements of the criteria for one's generic fulfillment, I refer to as The Four B's. They are:

A Sense of Being

A Sense of Belonging

A Sense of Believing

A Sense of Benevolence

Only when all four of these pragmatic requirements are authentically experienced - will a person feel that his/her life is truly worthwhile.

#### A Sense of Being

This refers to a feeling of being 'grounded' or centered; of accepting yourself, with all your foibles and frailties and with your strengths and talents; of feeling tolerant and forgiving of yourself, your mistakes and misjudgments; of 'looking in the mirror' and genuinely appreciating the characteristics of the person in the reflected image. The French say comfortable dans sa peau which means comfortable in his/her own skin.



I do not have the answer to the perennial question of:
"The Meaning of Life".



#### A Sense of Belonging

This refers to a feeling that one is an integral part of a group of compatible, like-minded people, who agree with each other's broad values and who like, support and help each other. It implicitly bespeaks as inherent community. This can be a family, or a group of close friends, or some other cohesive intimate group {Church, Temple, recreational, political, educational} with a shared affiliation and allegiance.

#### A Sense of Believing

The sense of having a belief system, a set of values {principles of living, an ideology, rules of behavior and social interactions} and that life is much more than the pursuit of wealth - turns out to be a crucial ingredient over the 'long haul'.

If all that life represents to you is the accumulation of {jewelry, cars, houses} then your shallowness, as perceived by others, will inevitably be perceived by you as well. While we tend to minimize this in our culture, ask any one in their seventh or eighth decade what constitutes their appreciation of a meaningful, or worthwhile life. It is amazing {and inspiring} to see how CEOs, Generals, to cabbies all agree that power, glory, celebrity and riches are transitory and ephemeral, in the grand scale of things meaningless – and that the presence of spiritual and/or philosophical perspectives is critical in the true quality of their lives.

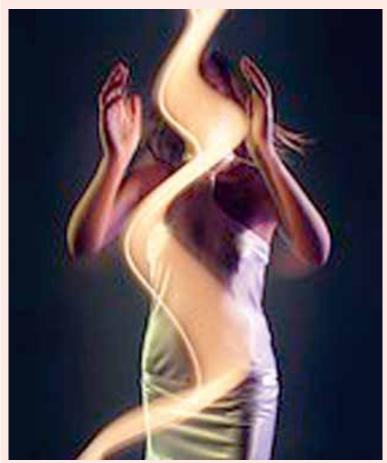
#### A Sense of Benevolence

An authentic sense that one has had a positive influence on others ... has been generous, altruistic, empathetic, sensitive, caring to a wide variety of people over many years is of paramount significance. If one feels that their 'legacy' has been as a positive role model to younger people, a mentor to some and truly generative to subsequent generations, the perceived self-worth of their lives goes up exponentially.

These FOUR B's are the cornerstone of our sense that we have been worthwhile and that the foundation of our tower of 'worthwhileness' has been solidified: a valued work of art.

# For the Doctor CLICK HERE «

\* Dr. Levine is Chairman Department of Psychiatry, Children's Hospital, San Diego and Professor of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego.



A Sense of Being: A feeling of being 'grounded'.

Do you genuinely appreciate the characteristics of the person in the reflected image?



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IGERIA'S

ENIUS

Unparalleled as you will see, the Honorable Harcourt Adukeh, Honorary Canadian Consul to the South-South of Nigeria, talks about his charge to lead, gaining control of Nigeria's image problem abroad, and his challenge to overcome almost impossible odds against a background of years in the trenches.

The Honorable Harcourt B. Adukeh. Honorary Canadian Consul to the South-South of Nigeria. Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa is located within the West African sub region bordering the Gulf of Guinea between Benin and Cameroon. Having an estimated population of 128,771,988 people, the total land area is about 923,768 square kilometers. The country also has a land boundary of about 4,047 km between Benin Republic, Cameroon, Chad and Niger Republic and a coastline of 853km. Major climatic regions of the country are equatorial in the south, tropical in the centre and arid in the North. It has the third largest Delta basin in the world.

The country operates a federal system of government with 36 administrative divisions (states) and I territory (the federal capital. Abuja) all of which come together to form distinct regions namely: North, West, East and the Niger Delta.

The Niger Delta region comprises 9 out of the 36 states occupying a total land area of 112,110 sq km inhabited by about 28 million people.

o matter how many times you've heard the media's yellow journalism on Nigeria, nothing prepares people for the pragmatism of real life in this country until one sits with a Harcourt Adukeh. Devastation within the Republic's last Presidential regime, under General Sani Abacha, saw the country move to become one of the most corrupt in the world. No longer is this Nigeria today.

And so, in the heart of the oil and gas sector in a city called Port Harcourt, Nigeria, in the newly opened Consulate -Harcourt presides.

Born 50 years ago in Akassa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria, Harcourt Adukeh attended Santa Maria Primary Schools in Aba and Enugu, and Government College in Owerri, now capital of Imo state, then on to the Baptist High School in

Port Harcourt. In 1979, Harcourt graduated in architecture from the University of Tennessee, USA. Upon returning to Nigeria, he worked briefly for the Braidarch Team {an architectural firm} before his brother gave him NIO,000 with which to establish his own company. Today, HARCOURT ADUKEH ASSOCIATES\ ARCHITECTS - PLANNERS - ENGINEERS has become the state's signature architectural house for governments, oil companies and the professional milieu in the South-South. His charismatic composure, his wisdom to the world - have made a distinct mark on the new corporate young, enhancing his image as one of Nigeria's new generation professionals.

I first met Harcourt in July of this year - when presenting JO LEE Magazine's ADESTE Medal for Social Justice in Nigeria. A country I came to adore. And through fascinating dialogue in a long conversation with Harcourt - I became aware very quickly of his depth of intelligence on each subject we discussed. A gentleman and a scholar.

The Nigeria delta region had filled me with curiosity foreign to any Third World experience of my past. With my most amazing realization being that the Nigerian people are the happiest in the nation. So many live amongst the brown polluted waters where people gladly fished for their daily bread! The so-called fishing camps, en masse along the river's edge, are really people's homes and just referred to as camps. There is nothing but swamp behind them and the long, often dirty river in front of them. They can't even

walk to the home directly next door for the water is mucky and too deep. Imagine the scene. The area I describe is the third largest delta in the world. The first being the Mississippi and the second the Amazon!

At times, my eyes were filled with much too much and as my head would turn upward toward the trees and the sky - the immense beauty at this level was breathtaking. How the pendulum swings. And it does swing into a tremendous amount of natural beauty and with full acceptance, one understands why the Nigerian people want to show this. One's thoughts recollect all over again, the exquisiteness of these people on their Sabbath. Did they, their parents, brothers, sisters, whoever

was caring for these children, beg/borrow/steal/work to find the clothes for this spiritual day? Do we know of any human being who wouldn't wish to stand tall on special days! But unless one wishes to remain with one's head tilted upward toward the sky - the eye couldn't help but return to the land ... to see the gentleness of the humbled, smiling, waving - as we sped by.

How does one ever explain the value system of a universe of people - with relatively nothing in materialistic possessions and yet, with genuine pride of character. Millions of these people want to remove themselves from: the will of violence.

Let's envision then - what the globe today, is! Chaotic. Choose any country and what do you see? A sphere of changing modules with endless possibilities. People craving dignity.

In developing countries such as Nigeria, we'd be fools to overlook the power of corruption and the often hopeless fight against it. But what about the flip side where one sees THE GOOD asking to be given a chance. Would you as a human being in any nation - not request the same?

Throughout my days in Nigeria, I so realized 'how' the political game had changed. I wondered when fulfillment would be recognized as achievement? And I saw why leadership under those such as Harcourt Adukeh - is imperative so as to have more and more honor and ethics enter the play.



**JO LEE:** Harcourt, what a privilege. I feel as though we are back in your Consular offices in Nigeria, having the flow of conversation continue right into the now.

**HARCOURT:** Jo Lee it is more a privilege for me, after all, you traveled through three continents to see our people and observe our culture. I do hope we have offered you another perspective, different from what you see through the eye of the media in the Americas!

JO LEE: Oh yes, a perspective, Harcourt, that grew into this amazing conflict between the media's sensationalism and the truth of what Nigeria really is: a country with incredible potential and marvelous people who want to work for a better life.

So then, when we speak of working for a better life, we know it is attainable but what I'm intrigued with - is the ingenuity required to lead in a country such as yours - and I can't imagine the pressure of stepping into this world, every day.

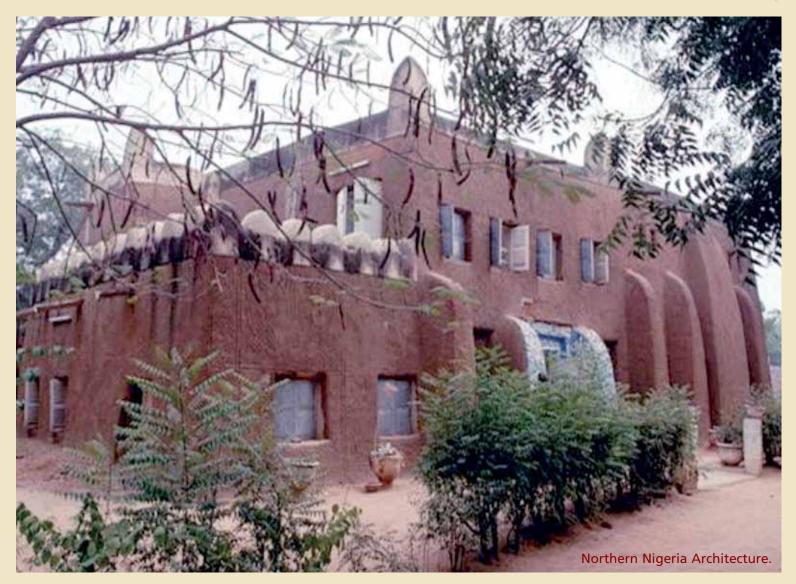
**HARCOURT:** Jo Lee, the key difference between Nigeria and industrialized countries - is that we do not have a basic

data base with which to strategize and implement forthcoming decisions. We have to depend on our brief experience coupled with whatever oral history has been documented on issues, or by making decisions based on our intelligence. Most of the time the information is there, but with successive changes in government, it is either misplaced or not properly kept. The complete lack of continuity in government worsens the situation and makes planning a nightmare! The current economic reforms by the present administration is making a clear and bold attempt to address some of these issues.

**JO LEE:** What is fascinating to you about leadership and representing Canada?

**HARCOURT:** What is fascinating to me is the amount of guidelines and regulations that have been developed for every single issue by the Canadians. And they make you abide by them. There are no surprises, you know what to expect all the time.

Against this background, the common man in Nigeria expects a lot from the Commission and are often very



uncomfortable with the procedure and processes that must be followed to get things done! So whereas, we the Nigerians are uncomfortable with these procedures, the Canadians are completely shocked by the lack of it in our dealings. Thus, there is continuous need to educate the two groups of people on how each other's system works!

For example, Jo Lee, Nigerians simply make up their minds that they want to travel next week and expect to apply and get visas within a week. With 9/II and now 7/7 ... the world has analyzed, developed data, developed counter terrorist procedures on how to do things and move on. We do not understand these things. Do not get me wrong. We are simple people, with a certain percentage that are quite sophisticated. Nigerians have a way of doing things and it works for us most times, but we have not had the continuity in administration to entrench them.

JO LEE: We've heard much psychology on your country. You say: Nigeria has come of age. Would you share your psychology with us?

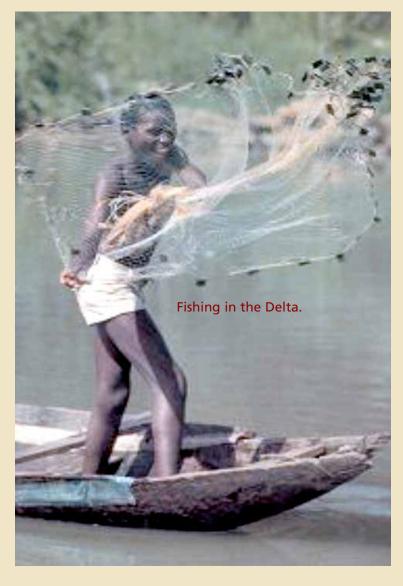
HARCOURT: We have come of age. We have decided to join the League of Nations. The Obasanjo administration has decided to put their money where their mouth is. We are tackling the image issue by dealing full time with the advanced 'fee fraud.' The economic reforms on taxation, privatization, power generation, telecoms and those on good governance, etc., are meant to bring us in line with other countries by developing an infrastructure that will create the enabling environment for investment and consequent growth.

The government is spending time and money on the reforms. We could do more about educating the people, but I can say that we are not paying lip service to the matter. The League of Nations has noticed our efforts, manifested in the debt relief. If we continue with this program for the next twenty years, then we will be justifying our right full place on the planet earth.

JO LEE: Harcourt, your present administration under President Olusegun Obasanjo, has taken a hard stance on attacking corruption. How does one even begin to correct this? Virtually everything one sees and touches is built around this horror. How can those who choose a better life become exempt from this?

**HARCOURT:** Let us be frank, it will be difficult! However, if we privatize most of the public utilities and allow public/private sector partnerships to grow, the system will begin to correct itself.

Are there people in Nigeria today who can use a bribe to get say, a telephone line in their home? Absolutely no one! There are options to choose from and they ensure same day



installations. Boy, this was unthinkable even three years ago! So those who have chosen a better way of living - will just have to work to afford what they want as standards in their life!

JO LEE: What miracle would it take for Nigeria to rise above its problems of diffidence? When one actually experiences the poor infrastructure, poor communication, transportation and lack of food and portable water: it's massive! Please, tell me it's not insurmountable?

**HARCOURT:** A combination of enforcement of the economic reforms and genuine effort on the part of the developed world to allow us to grow will get us out of this situa-

JO LEE: Yes, it is very hard to breed a new system unless there's a certain level of honest governance. There's a limit to how much you can do, there's a limit to how much you can grow. And a far bigger problem is the lack of competence and organization.

What can we, as private citizens do, to improve governance in your country so you can get more and more investment and grow privately?

**HARCOURT:** We do have serious problems in the area of competence, as we have ignored education for a long period of time. The institutions need overhauling. Not only upgrading and equipping, but making them sustainable.



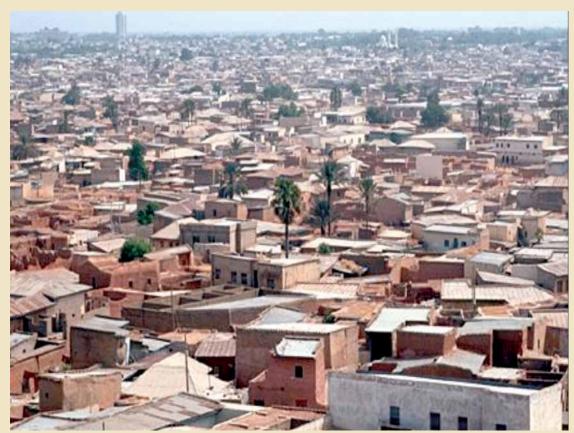
Music from the Igede of Nigeria.

tion in less than twenty years. The two combined with good governance, will make the situation surmountable. We have made our decision and now we will see how much support we will get. The developed world would need to help us with trade and access to their market, just as they have full access to ours!

The present programs will put all the issues you have itemized in the hands of the private sector. We have tasted the dividends of democracy and the benefits of private sector efficiency, for example, in the telecom and banking sectors: we like it. This is clearly acknowledged by Nigerians. The best experience of it all is that the bulk of these sectors have been driven by Nigerians!

Today in Nigeria, most politicians love to talk of free education. This will not work, of course, without proper funding when people do not pay taxes. Even where they pay tax, there is no relation between those who pay proper tax with those who benefit from the system. In fact, what we have now is that the rich pay the tax for the poor to enjoy free education while they the rich, send their children abroad to study. Since we have this scenario, the REAL cost of quality education is never recognized.

Secondly, everybody in Nigeria wants to be a graduate...it's a social status thing. We have few tertiary institutions and where they exist they are not well funded.



Typical town in the Northern part of Nigeria.

As for organization, it will all depend on the will of government. Generally, it is accepted that laws do not exist if they are not enforced. Part time enforcement of the law will not help the system. It will boil down to an 'everyday attitude' of government. It is coming, a second change of 'civilian to civilian' government that will lead us to this point. This government seems committed, but needs that 'everyday attitude.'

Finally on what private sector can do? Well, anyone coming to do business in Nigeria should set aside a small percentage of their expenditure for capacity building. Nigeria has quite some fine, cheap educated work force. They are fluent in English, most are computer literate and well behaved. The communications and banking sector have shown that they are hard working! True, some do not have good credentials. However, a transparent aptitude test will yield a good bounty of capable people.

So private citizens, with a bit of investment can acquire good human resources. This can yield very good profit that can be made from any business in a country that has a population of over 120 million people. Ask Virgin Airlines! I do not know the owner of this airline, but I think he is a believer...

JO LEE: Gaining control of Nigeria's image problem abroad is no small feat. How is this repaired? The extraordinary drive and belief in the future, by your people, is astounding. So, Harcourt, how then do we encourage 'investment flow' into the country? How do we present the 'right image'? How do we tell the world that the Nigerians are a highly sophisticated people? And how do we prevent the political structure of yesterday from swallowing the progress of today?

**HARCOURT:** It depends on the amount of support that we get from the other countries of the world.

Firstly, the issue of corruption. When monies are stolen, there is always someone ready and available to bank it for them. And then, when such monies are found, we have great difficulty getting it back!

The whole issue of image has been primarily emphasized by the advanced fee fraud. This fraud takes two people to perpetrate. Nigerians are sharp and fraudulent! Yes, but then the victims are gullible and greedy! After all the media reports, people still fall for these scams.

Secondly, anyone who believes they can come into an inheritance or make a profit of IOOO% on a deal without serious

work is suspect. It is like terrorism. It has to be a joint collective effort.

On investment inflow - we will get there. If you speak to multinational groups working in Nigeria, they will tell you that it is extremely profitable to do business in Nigeria. That is why given all the risks, they still work there. As the economic reforms pay off, the risks in doing business in Nigeria will be reduced and monies will find their way into the country. It is the insecurity that makes the millions uncomfortable ... I always remember what the last Prime Minister of Canada said during CHOGM.
"There is nothing as nervous as a million dollars in an insecure environment."

JO LEE: Harcourt, if we focus on the things that work - micro finance - has been extremely successful in your country and based on trust and honesty of the people.

my days in HARCOURT: Yes, micro finance works, but within community environments. Nigeria, I so Once it is run by the people, for the people, within themrealized 'how' selves, it runs beautifully. About 1988, when I was commissioner of works for old Rivers State, a group the political from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. game had in conjunction with a TV station in Washington, came to do studies on democracy in changed. Nigeria. They found out that we had two parallel governments in all communities. One run by Government as we know it and one run by the people for themselves. Within the majority of the communities, if someone steals your goat, you do not report to the police, you report to the family head, or the Chief. They in turn send a town crier to announce the loss of a goat. If you are caught, boy, the shame alone is enough punishment for the thief and their family. In a small community, this act gives you 70 to 80% of success in finding your lost article. You may laugh, but our people believe in peaceful communal life! That did show that there was an inherent policing system within the communities that worked. We are a proud people. Our communal family values are very strong.

I would say that a good percentage of the taxes in Nigeria have been acquired through this system. The Ibo traders of eastern Nigeria and indeed most traders have succeeded this way.

The women of the Akassa Development Foundation in Bayelsa State - have used this system in their empowerment programs under the Pro-Natura International (Nigeria) group working with Bill Knight, the CEO, very successfully! However, this works best when the process is community based. This system runs a good chunk of the distributive trade in Nigeria.

JO LEE: Harcourt, young people want to feel a sense of fulfillment. For those who have the strength and the courage to try, their next achievement may indeed be their finest work. Would you suppose fulfillment, to your people, is the same as achievement?

HARCOURT: I wish I could say yes to that. Right now achievement is misconstrued as wealth ... so we have people who have achieved in various endeavors of life, whom the system does not reward. As the system evolves and we have disposable income earned legally amongst the masses, people can afford to excel in what they enjoy doing. Most of our best people now serve outside the country because they do not have the opportunity to develop within. We will get there when we realize that money is not everything.

JO LEE: Education has become a passion with you. Might you tell us a little about Consolidated Oil's N2 million donation, entrusted to you, and your decision to set up a Trust Fund whereby these monies would be allocated to developing village nursery schools.

HARCOURT: Yes, I received N2m from Dr. Mike Adenuga Jr., Chairman of Conoil, for the children of Akassa. I put the money back into Dr. Adenuga's own bank, Equitorial Trust Bank, on a fixed deposit. This way, I send the interest only, to the Akassa Development Foundation for the benefit of the schools in Akassa, every October. We

Throughout

continue to thank Adenuga and we are convinced that he intends to do more for the people. The schools are doing well now but still need a lot of help. At a current school population of over 400 Nursery School pupils - our biggest pride is that the school belongs to the Mothers of Akassa!

JO LEE: Are you the leader you imagined yourself to be?

**HARCOURT:** No. I wish I could serve my people at Government level, but I do not have the heart to go for

**HARCOURT:** I do not see myself as popular. Maybe I am known within my geographical area and profession. One does get name recognition here and there but I would not say popular. My life remains relatively private and I do enjoy it as such.

**JO LEE:** I'm smiling! Because I'd just love to add a bit of humor with more reality to our interview.. Are you game?

**HARCOURT:** Anytime!



Nigerian Art work {Benin Art}

elective office. There is so much that has to be done. Years back a friend and mentor, Chief Ebitimi Banigo, encouraged me to step forward during the elections: I chickened out. I am not equipped to play partisan politics, so I have buried my energies in the design and construction industry where I am most comfortable. We cannot all be politicians.

**JO LEE:** What is your first thought when pandemonium hits?

**HARCOURT:** First ensure there are no fatalities. Then, check out source of problem. Once there is life and health, the situation can be handled.

JO LEE: Harcourt, has your highly regarded popularity changed the semblance of your life?

The Republic of Nigeria is said to be the most challenging country in the world.

If you, Harcourt, became the President of this country, let's see how you might take your integrated experiences and formulate them into a strategy that could benefit mankind at ... 180 Degrees from Ordinary?

## OI.) Harcourt - what is your idea of a perfect Administration?

A perfect Administration is one where I will assemble the smartest brains in the land, everyone much smarter than me and live by example. Now you said perfect? Well for it

to be perfect - then my wife and best friend would have to be Ministers. This way I would not have to repeat the same speech twice, all the time!!

#### 02.) What do you dislike most, about politics

Violence and the erosion of privacy in one's personal life. Also, the lying and pretending. My problem is, if I do not like you, I either tell you straight or come up with a frown that says so! There is also the issue of too much paraphernalia in politics ... once you are on the winning side, in Nigeria.

# 03.) What historical figure do you most identify with?

Nelson Mandela.

# 04.} What, within your mandate, would present the greatest challenge to your opponents?

Keeping open books of every personal expenditure on the net! In Nigeria, if you saw the personal expenditures of office holders, you could write best sellers.

I would appoint Ministers for state {junior ministers} from the G8 countries so that they would be forced to experience first hand - the problems of being a Nigerian in the modern world - as they all would be made to carry green Nigerian passports, complete with Nigerian last names.

This would take care of corruption and discrimination!

#### 05.) What is the biggest problem in the world?

Imbalance between the rich and the poor: which manifests in violence.

#### 06.} How would you fix it?

I would go with the present strategy of the G8 of helping the 'have nots' develop their capacity to fend for themselves. For every group you ignore, one must be ready to be responsible for them at some point. Remember? The recent Katrina episode!

#### 07.} What would you legalize?

I would legalize the import of all products into the country. I would, however, discriminate against the least desirable items by appropriate taxation.

08.} Why?

Over the years I have noticed that the ban on importations is not productive! It may be desirable, but it doesn't work. We do not have the institutions to police the ports efficiently and as far as there is demand, the goods will always be available, just at a higher price. If there is money to be made in these transactions, then Government should make the money legitimately for the people.

#### 09.} What would you outlaw?

Arms that can kill more than one man at any given time.

#### 10.} Why

A perfect

Administration

is one where I

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smartest brains

in the land,

everyone much

smarter than me

and live by

example.

Man is the only animal that plans in advance to develop weapons to destroy another of the same species. This action is normally taken when you are poor/hungry/angry or when you are rich and are afraid of someone taking your wealth from you!

# II.) How would you deal with 'population explosion'?

Birth Control!

12.) How might you bring the people of your land around to understanding your theory on this?

I would develop statistics on role models with various ethnic backgrounds to show that they would afford a better standard of living. I would back this up with tax incentives for full measure.

#### 13.) How would it benefit your country?

Of course, with more disposable income - the standard of living would rise. At our present rate of increase in population even our oil money may not make much difference!

When we finally get a good data base and decide to provide quality services to the masses, it will be clear that taxation will be higher. So the people will pay more. The services themselves will cost more: food, medical service, transport, utilities, etc. At that point families with four children and above will feel the pinch!

One serious problem we have is that we have a huge civil service who are underpaid and of course not efficient. In other words, over ninety percent of the work force is underpaid. They can and will not be able to afford the services and take full financial responsibility for the too many children. We will just have to lay out the facts for the people to see that it is to our benefit.

#### 14.} What can be done to reduce 'student molestation' by teachers in schools?

First: The selection process of students should be by merit and transparent.

Secondly: The same process should be used for teachers.

Thirdly: The evaluation process of both students and teachers should be done by each other, by both parties, and used for promotion.

Fourthly: Any teacher caught molesting students should have details of the case published, complete with names, etc. Of course the full course of the law will take its course! Please remember that disgrace within one's environment, publicized to all, in our culture, is a serious matter. That is the point I am trying to make.

15.} How would your administration control disease?

First line preventive primary health programs.

16.} What would you veto every time it hit your desk?

Policies that mix Government and Religion.

17.} If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

To set aside more personal time for myself!

18.} What do you most value in people?

Honesty.

#### 19.) Who are your heroes in real life?

My late maternal Uncle, Mr. Murray Bruce, who made his millions in distributive trade after age 50, and who made it clear that you never give up in life.

My father-in-law, Chief B.L.W. Mabinton, who served his people and communicated with all people high and low.

Chief Alfred Diete-Spiff, who as Governor of the old Rivers State, invested in Education by providing scholarships to all deserving Rivers indigenes (including myself) and who speaks his mind at all times.

My friend, General Anthony Ukpo (rtd) a master strategist who confirmed to me that humility is a virtue.

My friend, Dr. Mike Adenuga Jr. who confirmed that hard

work does not kill anyone and that a focused mind can achieve any dream!

#### 20.} What book would be required reading by your Administration?

Animal Farm!

21.) If you were able to re-incarnate and come back as a person or thing, what would it be?

A bird!

Jo Lee and

Harcourt in his

Nigerian Offices

22.) What activity would pose the biggest challenge to your mandate?

Agriculture ...

23. How would you overcome this?

Subsidize by buying up produce at a 'just right rate.'

24.} What would be your single most message important Business/Professional community at large?

Set excellence and practice to international standards.

25.} What would be your finest hour?

The day I hand over to a democratically elected President and he invites me to a friendly dinner.

JO LEE: Oh my, brilliant! And Harcourt, if this had not been a run at - 180 Degrees from Ordinary - I would have asked to play a significant role in your administration. Would you have hired me?

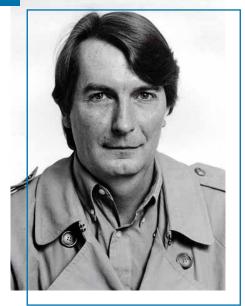
**HARCOURT:** Yes I would hire you as a media relations executive. We would agree on criteria for monthly evaluation and I would ask you to present your findings at council meetings every last Wednesday of each month!

JO LEE: Ohhh - and those meetings would go beyond expectations.

Thank you, Harcourt. Merry, Merry Christmas to you and your family. What a distinct gentleman you are ~

Happy Christmas, Jo Lee, and I wish all people of the world peace, health and a full stomach during this holiday season.

#### jo lee



#### **« COLLECTIVE ECLECTIC**

By Robert R. Brooks, San Francisco - California

A few years back my father had reason to visit Salt Lake City on business, and it occurred to him that here was a convenient way to afford my mother a chance to finally see the place where her father was born, where he met her mother and the source of so many colorful family stories she had been told. I was invited to go along.

# rateful

THE COIN



y mother had clipped an article out of the San Francisco Chronicle from just the week previous, which was the topic of conversation in the car en route to San Frasncisco's airport.

By sheer and (to our minds) astounding co-incidence, the article told of the history of the grand Hotel Utah in downtown Salt Lake City, of its near ninety years of operation and how it would be shutting down for good in less than two weeks time.

For us, this was both remarkably good and bad news - simultaneously. It was very good {and lucky} that we would get to stay at the hotel; yet it was unfortunate that we would never be able to do so again. Over the years, this beautiful old property had become increasingly unprofitable and the Mormon church had not. What was a grand hotel had been converted into administrative offices of the Church of Latter Day Saints. {Just what is a 'Day-Saint' anyway?}



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I was not a seasoned flier in those days and did not at all enjoy the summer storm we encountered over Nevada. It was a ±!. flight during which my stomach maintained a steady altitude as the rest of me kept violently lurching up and down.

Utah had never held any allure. In fact, I sort of prided myself on having never set foot in it. A lot of rocks and a giant lake of water unfit to drink were attractions I could postpone. I'll bet anything that after traversing the prairies, climbing mountains and then looking down upon the great basin and declaring: "This is the place!" - Brigham Young just naturally assumed the water in the distance to be drinkable. Imagine what must have gone on in that infallible mind of his when the thirsty males spit the water back.

"Damn Indians!" he probably thought. I guess they saw us coming for the remainder of his life he wondered: "Just where in hell did they get all that salt?"

My mother's father, two uncles and three aunts had all been born and brought up in Salt Lake City as had their parents.

Around the time of World War I, my grandfather's immediate family, as a whole, decided to leave Utah and resettle in either California or Florida. By virtue of the toss of a coin, California was the place. To this day, all those in my family remain grateful to that coin.

\* Robert R. Brooks is a prolific writer and an international photographer. Always drawn to liberal arts, Rob attended Stanford and Oxford. He is a dedicated hiker and a sixth generation Californian.

The Temple Square, Salt Lake City.

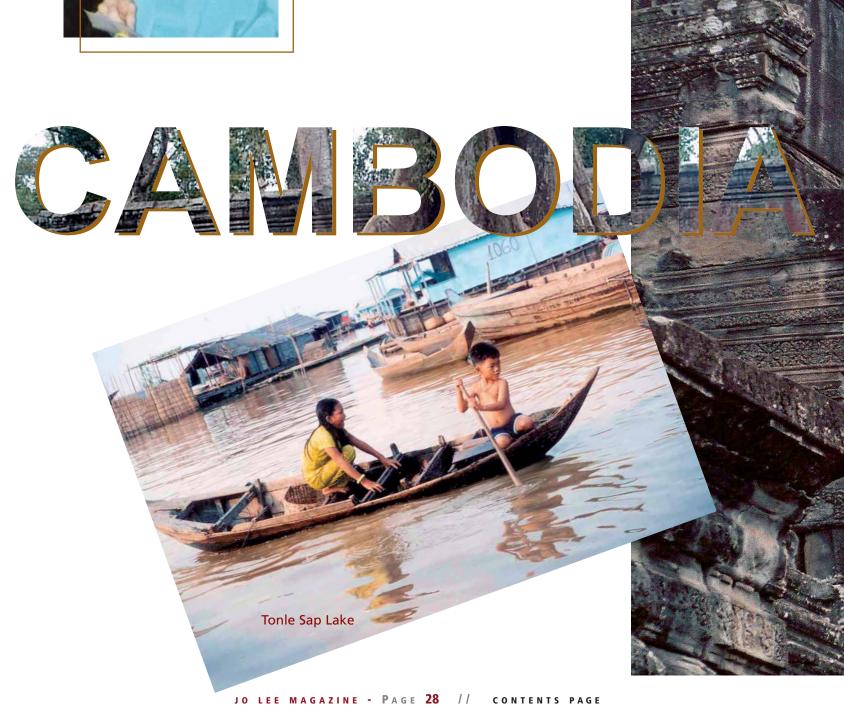


Ninety years of operation and The Hotel Utah in Downtown Salt Lake City, was shutting down.

jo lee



# **« YES, VIRGINIA! COME - EXPLORE WITH ME**By Lois M. Gordon - Silicon Valley, California, USA



"To be in Cambodia is to see a culture that has survived much of the order of Hitler's Europe ... the terror and horror every bit the scale of that which afflicted Europe."

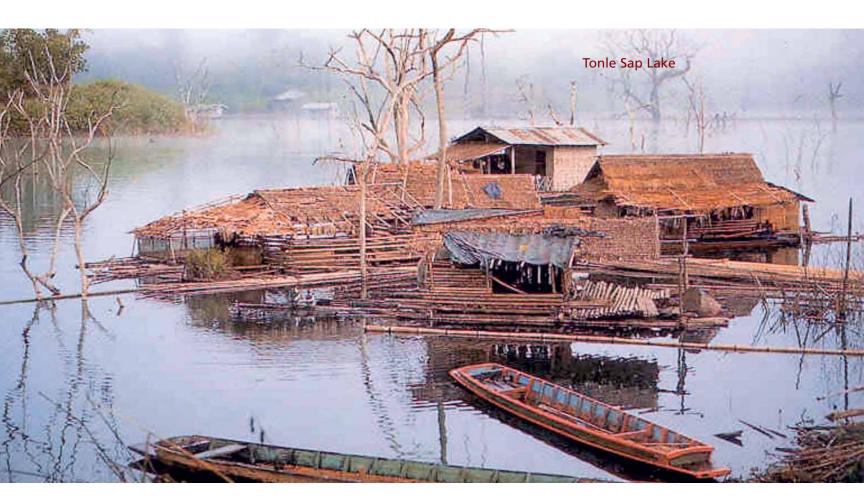


he road to the Killing Fields is narrow and potholed. The fields are empty, save for a few children who beg for money and a woman selling drinks. Monks are praying over the graves, but they are among the few in Cambodia who publicly mourn the victims of the genocide that engulfed this country from 1975 to 1979, when an estimated 1.5 million Cambodians died from starvation, disease and murder at the hands of the notorious Khmer Rouge.

We were fortunate to have traveled to Cambodia in 2004. Climbing on Angkor Wat, which is one of the most beautiful and mysterious historical sites in the world was a once in a lifetime experience. The magnificent trees growing through the grounds and over the walls is a spectacular sight.

The temples were discovered by French missionaries in 1860. Henri Mahout, a botanist began research and restoration programs. Today it is being preserved by peoples from all over the world.

The walls are covered in beautiful pictures of life. The temple is a huge pyramid structure and the compound covers an area of 4920 by 4265 feet. The entrance gate has balustrades shaped as giant serpents. The temple consists of a towering complex of terraces and small buildings that are arranged in a series of three diminishing stories and surmounted by five towers.



Tonle Sap is Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake. Approximately 3 million people live around the lake. They have created water-borne worlds with floating homes, markets, temples, barbershops, slaughterhouses and even petrol stations.

The best thing about the trip was our guide. Kim met us at the airport and stayed with us for four days. He took us to the temples, to the artesian schools and the lake. He showed us the people and told us the history. His father was killed by Pol Pot. His mother was forced to work in the rice paddies. Their only food sometimes was boiled tree bark.

Kim has a brilliant mind and in any other civilization would be a natural for a leader and statesman. Average pay for a Cambodian is approximately \$130 US dollars a year. Kim takes care of his mother, a sister and her family of four and his own wife and two children. Awesome responsibility. I think of him often and wonder what has become of him.

So in this Christmas season when we all have more than enough to eat, and an obscene number of packages under the tree - try to remember those with no food and no hope for a better tomorrow.

Merry Christmas ~ Lois

#### Write Lois: Click Here

\* As we venture out into our world, your travel can consist of a visit to the next town for the day, or a journey that would place your feet clear on the other side of the world. It is all about discovery and your relationship to the world which is everywhere you walk.

SO COME - EXPLORE WITH ME.



Cambodia and our Group: Marilyn, Karen, Lois, Creaghe, Ginny, John.



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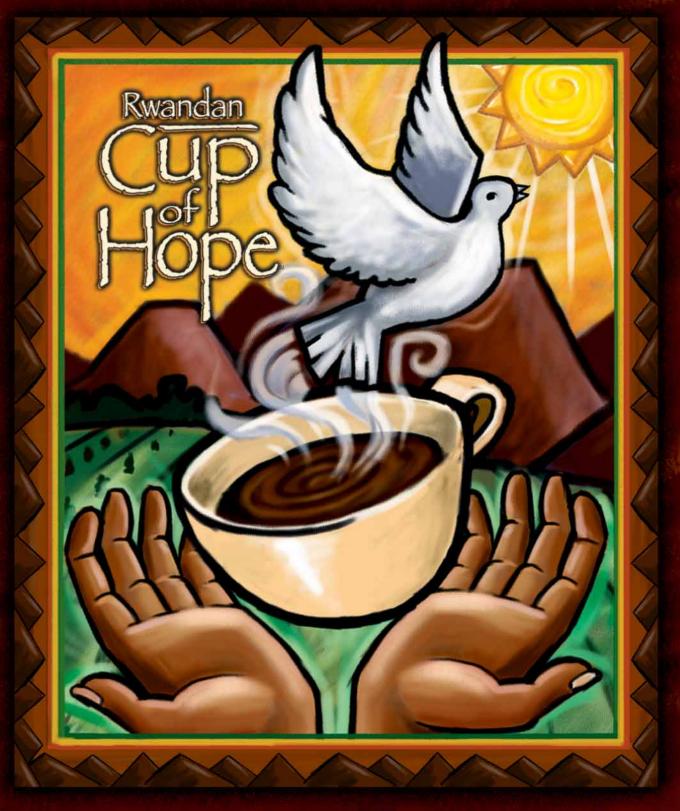
Chairman/CEO, retired, The H.J. Heinz Company - Canada

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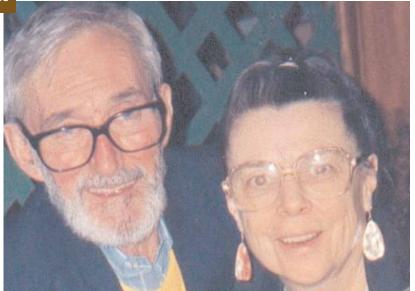
# New Arrival. Freshly Harvested.

Sweet and citrus with a delicate, chocolate finish, this coffee is an incredible cup, improved only by the hope it brings to a recovering country.

Exclusive to Second Cup



jo lee



By Bette Laderoute and Paddy Sampson Port Hope - Canada

Freelance writer Bette and retired TV eminence gris Paddy met Diane Gioia in the early 1980s when Paddy directed for television the Broadway show Lena Horne: the Lady and Her Music. Gioia produced for RKO Nederlander, and consummate musician Bargonetti played guitar in Lena's band and dispensed home remedies among the cast and crew.

# EDICINE and the USIC

hances are, you will come away from an Off Broadway show written by Dr. Diane Gioia-Bargonetti and her husband Steven Bargonetti feeling healthier than when you went in.

"We write healing music," says the musician and doctor of naturopathy, Dr. Di. "It's an involved science in which notes and colors correspond to body organs. For instance, if the lighting guy is using certain colors, we write the music to go in the same key that goes with that color, and people don't know why they are being drawn in."

A mile-a-minute talker, the musician, TV producer, teacher and practitioner of alternative medicine in New York City, is currently excited about her proposed television series - GET HEALTHY, GET HAPPY WITH DR.

DI: "I am doing all the writing, Steve's doing all the music and I am the on-air personality. The producers are calling it the Martha Stewart of natural medicine but I'm calling it more like an adult Sesame Street," she says. If picked up by cable or network, the series will combine musical montages with vignettes to illustrate and teach elements of natural medicine and how to take responsibility for one's health.

"I feel an obligation to teach people how better to take care of themselves," says the resident naturopath at the A.R.E. NYC Center who also has a practice in Brooklyn, writes articles, pamphlets and has two books with a publisher and was recently invited to be a Commission on Public Representation associate at the National Institutes of Health in Washington, DC. "Taking responsibility for our own health care is part of what used to be the popular health

movement of the 1800s when 'every man his own doctor' was the slogan of the day. That got lost...when the American Medical Association became powerful. I think we are seeing a return to our senses with the Complementary Alternative Medicine {CAM} policies that are springing up in hospitals all over the world," she says.

In spite of appearing on stage, screen and in clubs, Dr. Di says she is a reluctant performer. Even while getting a degree in naturopathy, she never intended to practice: "I really just wanted to write and I needed the credentials, the initials after my name." But the intensity of her interest in her medical field led her into practice, starting with a two-year post-9/II program to help local, NYC fire fighters combat what came to be called 'ground zero cough.'

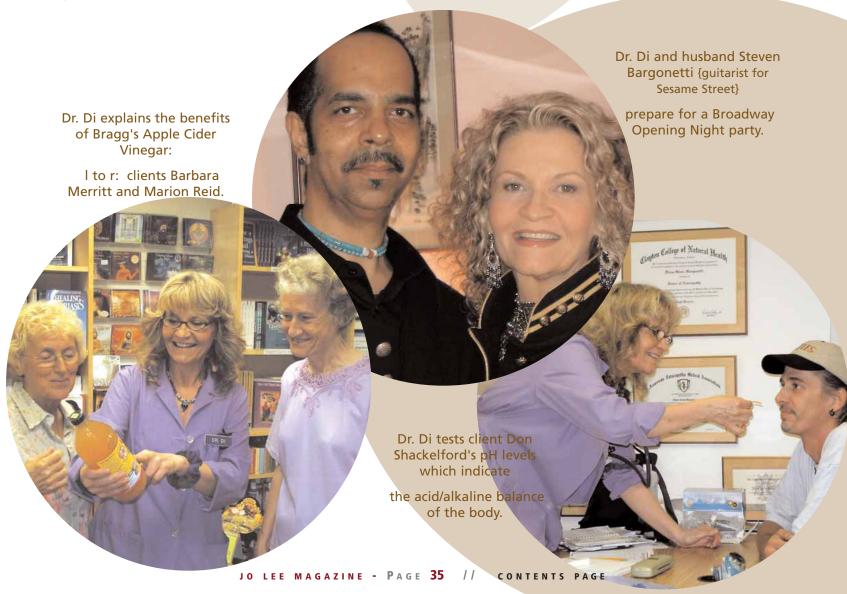
A session with Dr. Di can take up to an hour starting with eye examination {iridology is her main tool}, and moving on to tongue analysis {for circulation and organ information and checks what she sees in the eye}, foot reflexology {feels around for acid crystals and triple checks what she sees in the eye}, fingernail scrutiny {for vitamin and mineral deficiencies}, and pulses {insight into heart and blood flow}.

"Then I make recommendations that can include diet, herbal and other kinds of supplementation, exercise, manipulation, dry skin brushing, it varies," she points out. "What I do is no big magical mystery thing."

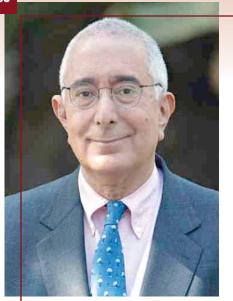
A confirmed CAM advocate, Dr. Di works with patients' medical doctors who are "a little bit more forward thinking." Maintaining "you can't just heal your mind, heal your body anymore." She tells the story of a patient who had breast cancer. "I sent her immediately to her doctor because I could see she was in trouble. So the doctor and I worked it through. And that's what I would like to see, a united movement - because it is what makes the patient feel the best."

For relaxation, she and Steven her guinea pig, health hound, musical mate and life companion, "love to leave town and go up into the Catskill Mountains. He sits on the porch playing music and I sit there absorbing the music therapy or reading or I write a script. We have that kind of relationship."

Always in touch with the medicine and the music, Dr. Di adds, "It's a long journey."

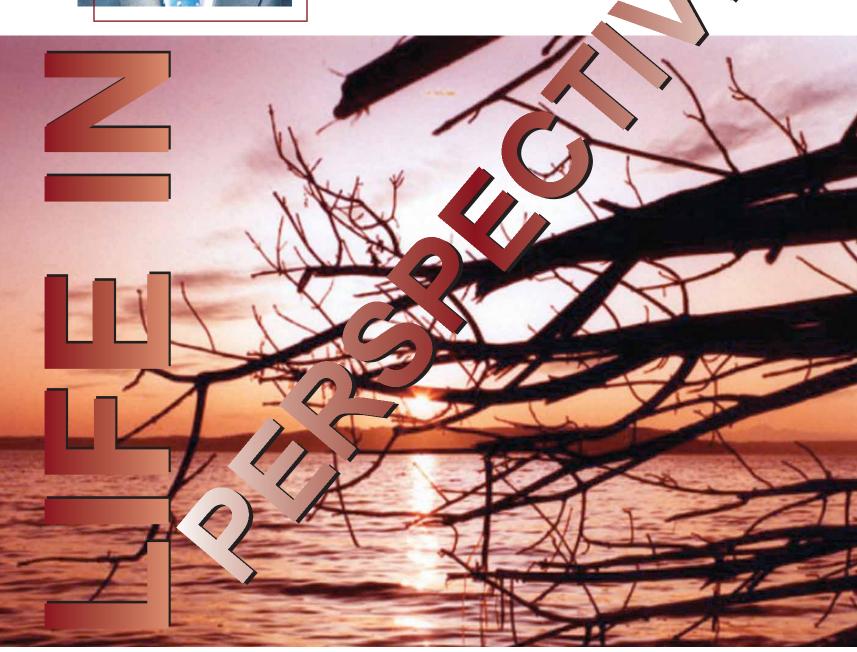






#### By Ben Stein Beverly Hills - California

For many years Ben Stein wrote a biweekly column for the online website called: 'Monday Night At Morton's.' (Morton's is a famous chain of Steakhouses known to be frequented by movie stars and famous people from around the globe.)



ow Can Someone Who Lives in Insane Luxury Be a Star in Today's World?

Morton's still brings in the rich people in droves and definitely some stars. Beyond that, a bigger change has happened. I no longer think Hollywood stars are terribly important. They are uniformly pleasant, friendly people, and they treat me better than I deserve to be treated. But a man or woman who makes a huge wage for memorizing lines and reciting them in front of a camera is no longer my idea of a shining star we should all look up to, if by a 'star' we mean someone bright and powerful and attractive as a role model?

Real stars are not riding around in the backs of limousines or in Porsches or getting trained in yoga or Pilates and eating only raw fruit while they have Vietnamese girls do their nails. They can be interesting, nice people, but they are not heroes to me any longer.

A real star, the kind who haunts my memory night and day, is the U.S. soldier in Baghdad who saw a little girl playing with a piece of unexploded ordnance on a street close to where he was guarding a station. He pushed her aside and threw himself on it just as it exploded. He left a family desolate in California and a little girl alive in Baghdad.

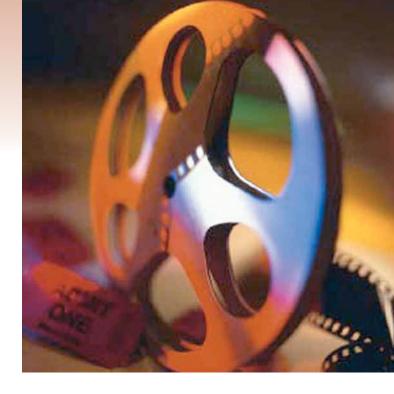
The stars who deserve media attention are not the ones who have lavish weddings on TV but the ones who patrol the streets of Mosul even after two of their buddies were murdered and their bodies battered and stripped for the sin of trying to protect Iraqis from terrorists.

We put couples with incomes of \$100 million a year on the covers of our magazines. The noncoms and officers who barely scrape by on military pay but stand on guard in Afghanistan and Iraq and on ships and in submarines and near the Arctic Circle are anonymous as they live and die.

I am no longer comfortable being a part of the system that has such poor values, and I do not want to perpetuate those values by pretending that who is eating at Morton's is a big subject.

There are plenty of other stars in the American firmament ... the policemen, orderlies and paramedics, the teachers and nurses, the kind men and women who work in hospices and in cancer wards. Now you have my idea of a real hero.

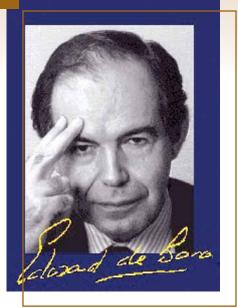
We are not responsible for the operation of the universe, and what happens to us is not terribly important. God is real, not fiction; and when we turn over our lives to Him, He takes far better care of us than we could ever do for ourselves.



I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters. This is my highest and best use as a human. I can put it another way. Years ago, I realized I could never be as great an actor as Olivier or as good a comic as Steve Martin ... or as good an economist as Samuelson or Friedman or as good a writer as Fitzgerald. But I could be a devoted father, husband and a good son to the parents who had done so much for me.

I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters and that it is my duty, in return for the lavish life God has devolved upon me, to help others He has placed in my path. This is my highest and best use as a human.

Faith is not believing that God can. It is knowing that God will.



By Dr. Edward de Bono London - England

Edward de Bono is regarded by many to be the world's leading authority in the field of creative thinking and the direct teaching of thinking as a skill. He is the originator of lateral thinking which treats creativity as the behavior of information in a self-organizing information system: such as the neural networks in the brain.

Edward de Bono has held faculty appointments at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London and Harvard. He holds five doctoral degrees and is visiting professor of thinking at five universities. He has written sixty-eight books with translations into thirty-eight languages. http://home.um.edu.mt/create/

# EACH HINKING







e assume that there is no need to teach thinking because this is as natural as walking.

We assume that youngsters pick up good thinking habits as they learn the different school subject such as science, maths, history, etc.

We assume that thinking is all about logic, argument and even syllogisms. We assume that thinking cannot be taught explicitly and directly.

All these assumptions are widespread in education and they are all completely wrong.

#### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE TEACH THINKING DIRECTLY AND EXPLICITLY?

MDS, a medical company in Canada, started using just one of the new thinking methods. In the first year alone they saved \$20 million.

In London, England, youngsters too violent to be taught in normal schools get sent to the Hungerford Guidance Centre. Many years ago the principal, David Lane, started to teach my thinking methods to the violent youngsters. He has now done a twenty year follow up and has shown that the actual rate of criminal convictions for those taught thinking is less than one tenth of the rate for those not taught thinking.

In South Africa, Carol Ferguson put together a group of workshops one afternoon to generate ideas for ISCOR, a steel company. Using just one of the deliberate techniques of lateral thinking, they generated 21,000 ideas. It took them nine months just to sort through the ideas.

Chronically unemployed youngsters on the government New Deal programme in the UK were taught thinking for just five hours. The employment rate jumped five hundred percent. A year later ninety six percent were still in employment.

ABB in Finland used to spend thirty days on the multi-national project discussions. Using the new parallel thinking they do it in just two days.

In the Karee platinum mine in South Africa, there used to be two hundred and ten major fights every month between the seven tribes working there. After Susan Mackie and her colleagues taught 'thinking' to these totally

illiterate miners who had never been to school even for one day, the fights dropped from two hundred and ten to just four. There was no attempt to change attitudes - just the direct teaching of thinking.

Siemens, the largest corporation in Europe, reckon they have reduced new product development time by fifty per cent through using the new parallel thinking.

A school in Argentina which teaches these new thinking methods was investigated by the government for 'cheating' because the examination results were so far ahead of any other school that they could only be the result of cheating! In Venezuela, by law, every child in school throughout education must spend two hours a week directly on this new thinking.

#### **OLD THINKING**

Our software for thinking was developed almost two and a half thousand years ago by the Greek Gang of Three {GG3} who were Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. They designed an excellent thinking system which is based on analysis, judgment and logic. This is excellent, just as the front left wheel of a car is excellent - but insufficient.

We have not hitherto developed software for creative thinking and design thinking. There is no mystery about creativity. Creativity is the behaviour of information in a selforganizing system that makes asymmetric patterns (see my book: THE MECHANISM OF MIND, 1969). The specific tools of lateral thinking are based on this understanding and can be used formally and deliberately to create new ideas.

Research by David Perkins at Harvard showed that ninety percent of the errors in thinking were errors of perception. Errors of logic were insignificant. Yet we persist in believing that thinking is all about logic. What can we do about perception? The CoRT program that is now very widely used in schools works directly to improve perception.

Argument is a crude, primitive and inefficient way to explore a subject. The parallel thinking of the Six Hats is much faster and much more effective. Each thinker is challenged to explore the subject fully rather than just to defend one side of an argument.

#### **ACTION**

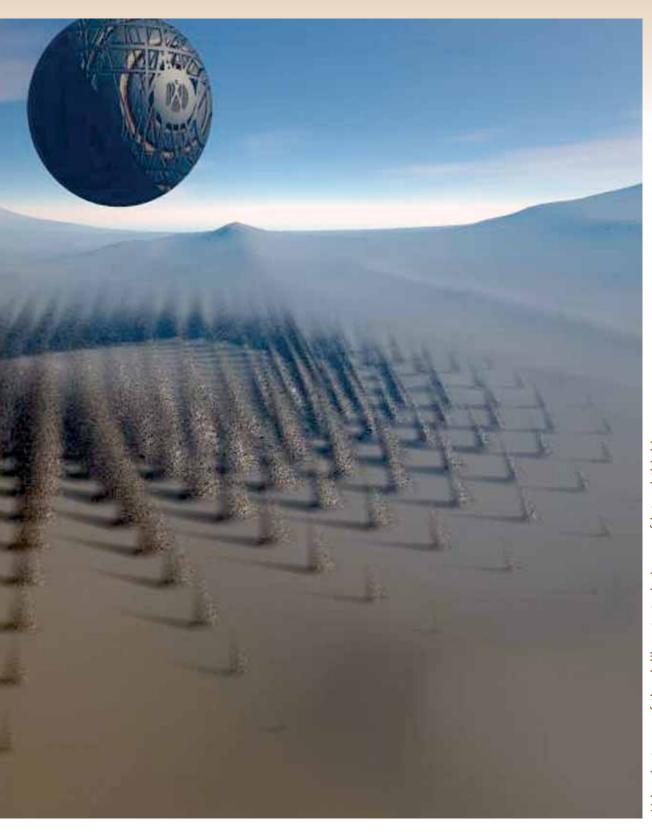
What can you do about these things?

You can write to your education authority and demand to know what they are doing about these matters. If they tell you they are already teaching 'critical thinking', tell them that is not nearly enough.

I am starting a Family Thinking Network to make thinking an enjoyable hobby in families and to allow children to learn 'thinking' even if the local school does not teach these new methods.

You can analyze the past but you have to design the future.





Using just one of the deliberate techniques of lateral thinking:

21,000 ideas were generated.

## HAPPY 4 TH ANNIVERSARY JO LEE!



Josephina Lea Mascioli-Mansell Founder and Editor in Chief JO LEE Magazine\The ADESTE Prize



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SUE K. WALLINGFORD Dining! The Exquisite 9



SHEILA WICKENS
Special Assignment



SHAWN ZAHEDI Editor Diplomatic Relations





Our little piece of paradise - the location for many family picnics.

t was Christmas Eve and almost a year since the birth of my son. And as I sat on the sand at the mouth of the River Nun - the terminus of the great River Niger - the sun danced on the horizon before diving below the waves. A crescendo of crickets welcomed the tropical evening as I drifted back in time.

Like most expectant parents, my wife, Ifiyeimi and I, had planned the birth of our first-born with scientific precision. Bags packed, hospital booked in the city of Port Harcourt, all that remained was for Ifiyeimi to travel down to Akassa to hand the reigns over to her colleagues before going on maternity leave. I was nervous about the trip, four

As the sun rose above the city very early the following day, the phone call came: Proud father! Baby boy! Mother well! Nothing else mattered.

With the help of two Traditional Birth Attendants, my work colleague, Tracey and a copy of the Development Bible "Where There is No Doctor" {The book used across the world to guide people living outside formal health care provision} - Ifiyeimi had produced a little miracle.

The driver and I sped along the roads as a quick call to my parents in the UK was made. The two hour drive would be followed by yet another two hour eternal boat ride: arriv-

hours by speed boat and road from the nearest hospital and Ifiyeimi eight months pregnant - with my worst fears coming to fruition! By IOpm on Saturday night, I got the call!

Many fathers miss the birth of their children but they have the comfort of knowing that their loved ones are getting the best possible care. But there was no such comfort for me. I had lived in Akassa for four years and knew the conditions. Ifiyeimi would deliver our baby in a very basic guesthouse; there would be no medical support, no painkillers and probably no electricity or running water.

By dawn - I was distraught.

The hourly sat-phone bulletins had helped, though hours of sitting alone had disturbed my mind - the epileptic light supply plunging me into darkness as the fears of all fathersto-be invaded my consciousness.

ing in Akassa by Sunday noon. The whole clan had heard of the birth. It was the first time in Akassa history that a white baby had been born. Congratulations filled the air as I climbed out of the boat and began the 12 minute walk up to the guest house. Believe me - it was like climbing the podium at the Olympics to collect GOLD. And my stomach cramped as I approached the little house.

I had played this scene over in my mind for many months and perfected it since last night. The spiritual meeting of father and son, husband and wife - a Christmas Trinity. A time of reflection and contemplation for the new journey ahead.

Reaching the door, I anticipated somehow, the reverential silence of a maternity ward - hushed whispers; congratulatory nods; mother and baby lying serenely on starched white sheets.

Philip Arkell. At dawn on the Jetty in Akassa - a time for contemplation.



But as I pushed the door ajar - I was engulfed by a cacophony of Nigerian celebration. Twenty women were crammed into the anteroom with a further fifteen in the bedroom. The floor was awash with bottles of drinks, the air thick with perfume. In the far corner, behind a wall of perching well-wishers, slept Ifiyeimi - to her side a bundle of blankets with a bobble hat on top.

The intimate family embrace melted in the heat.

Instead of being able to hug and kiss Ifiyeimi and my newborn son - I felt constrained to be the 'Traditional Husband' and to sit there looking proud and manly. I looked down on the two most wonderful people in my life and all I wanted to do was shed a tear of joy. Now father and son were united! Our boy opened his wide brown eyes and looked up. I squeezed his finger and he went back to sleep. I now understood unconditional love. I had not prepared myself for this moment - and yet here, it was the most perfect moment of my life. And a tidal wave of emotion washed over me.

Our boy was named Kesiye, meaning Truth in the Akassa dialect.

The next few days were difficult.

Ifiyeimi could not produce milk and I was worried. A clash of cultures was emerging. I wanted to transport mother and

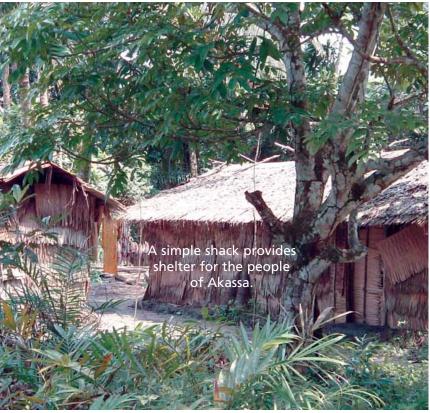
baby to the nearest hospital. But tradition again dictated they remain on dry land until the navel fell off - perhaps more than a week! Meanwhile, traditional herbalists were administering a concoction of palm wine and Guinness to help Ifiyeimi produce milk and the local Chief was insisting they 'cleanse' the room to assuage the deities.

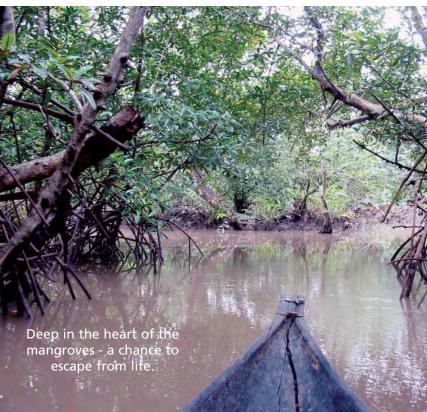
I had always tried to respect traditional beliefs but now I was being asked to risk the life of my son for another's belief? I understood the reasons behind such beliefs but every bone in my body urged me to seek medical help. So I resolved to wait 24 hours - if either mother or son showed any signs of distress - I would move mountains, overstepping tradition, risking negative repercussions - to get them to hospital.

On the eve of the deadline, Ifiyeimi's twin sister arrived. As Ifiyeimi's soul mate and a modern woman - she bridged the gap between traditional and modern by supporting the exhausted mother and counseling the increasingly worried me. She calmed the waters and within a few hours milk was flowing from Ifiyeimi's breast.

A tear welled up in my eye as I stirred from my thoughts. A tug on my trousers alerted me that our Kesiye had joined me ... nearly one year old and taking his first steps. Christmas Eve in Akassa was once again a magical moment! A time for gifts - with no exception.



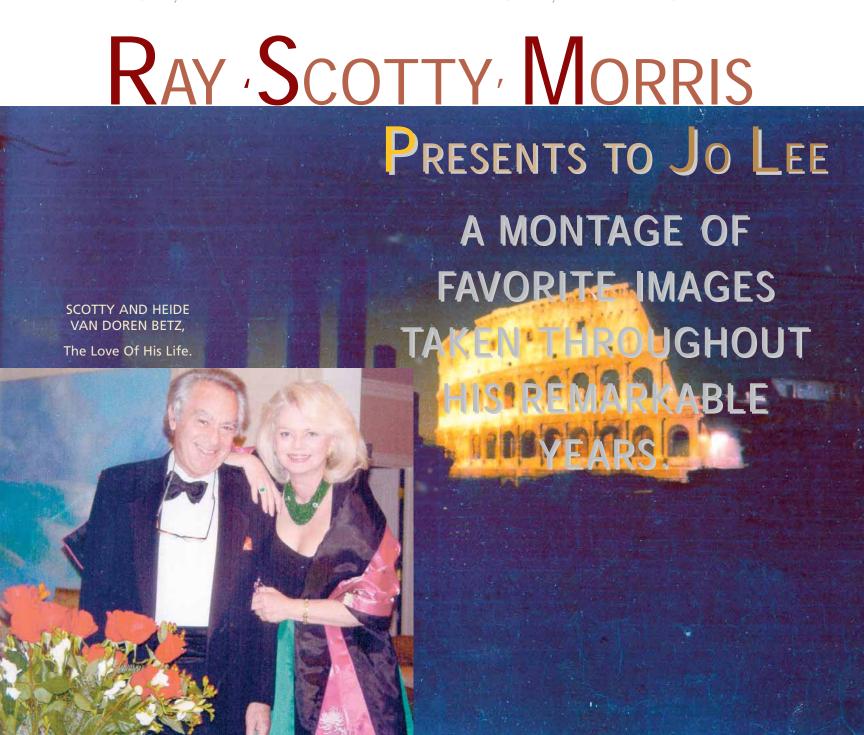


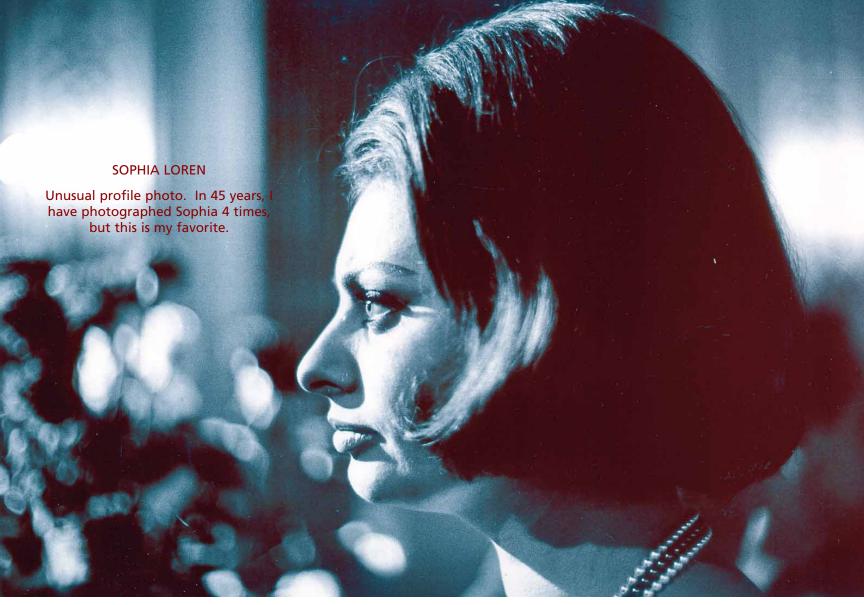


Ray 'Scotty' Morris is not only the most beloved and successful society photographer in San Francisco but his career as a photojournalist has enriched the lives of many on a wide, international scale. He's won 29 photography awards - local, state and national, including best news picture of the year.

Scotty's works have appeared in the New York Times, the London Times, Newsweek, Life, Esquire, Forbes, and many other prestigious publications.

In 2002, Scotty received the distinct honor of being written into the IO7th Congressional Record by Congresswoman, Nancy Pelosi. In addition, Scotty received a Certificate of Commendation from the U.S. Senate, courtesy of California Senator, Dianne Feinstein.





ay 'Scotty' Morris was born in Inverness, Scotland in 1932. His father, Lewis, and mother, Bessie, owned a chain of women's dress stores. His father being the first to export Harris tweed fabric to the United States.

In 1950 at the age of 18, Scotty came to America to attend college and study American business ideas. He never looked back.

Every President from Harry Truman to Bill Clinton has been photographed by Scotty. World figures such as Charles De Gaulle, Nikita Khrushchev, Mikhail Gorbachev, Queen Elizabeth and many members of the British Royal Family, Pope John Paul II, Mother Teresa, the Dali Lama and Bishop Tutu - have all carried the renowned byline: 'Photo by Scotty Morris.'

Scotty has also photographed countless movie stars, his favorite being Sophia Loren, whom he's captured several times. His sports' portfolio includes personalities such as Joe DiMaggio to Barry Bonds with his favorite being Pele, the soccer legend.

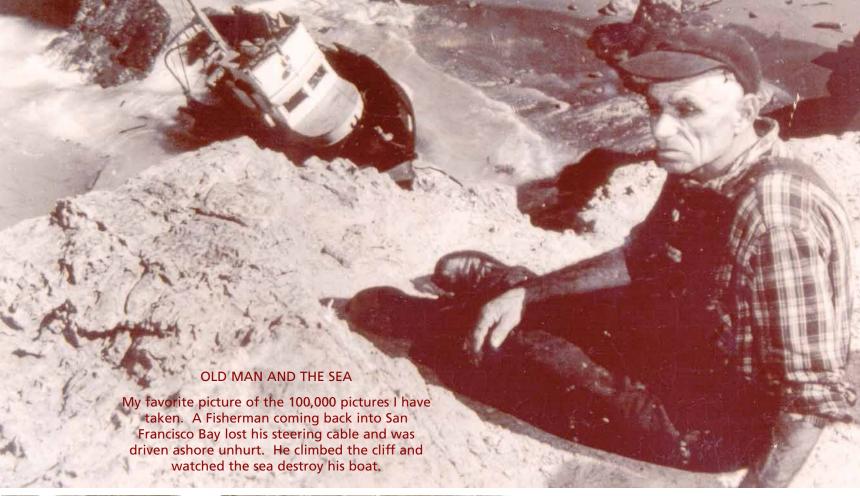
In 1983, one of Scotty's photographs of he Royal British Yacht Britannia entering San Francisco Bay - was presented to her Majesty The Queen - as the official gift from the Mayor of San Francisco.

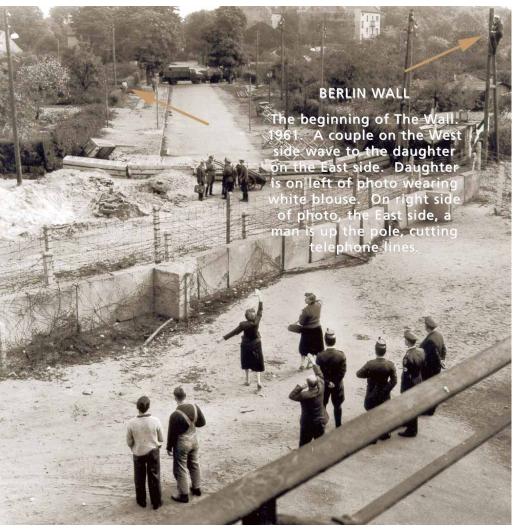
Some of Scotty's international assignments include the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961, the most Haunted Homes of England, Paris fashions, tuna fishing off the coast of Peru, army maneuvers in the Arctic Circle and a wedding at the Vatican in St. Peter's Cathedral, in Rome.

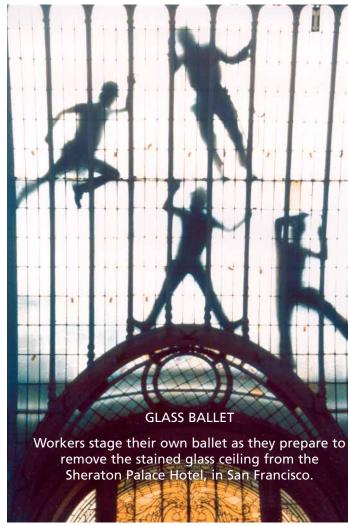
Today, Scotty has two grown sons and two grandchildren. For the last six years the love of his life has been Heide Van Doren Betz, a well known art advisor who happens to be an excellent photographer.

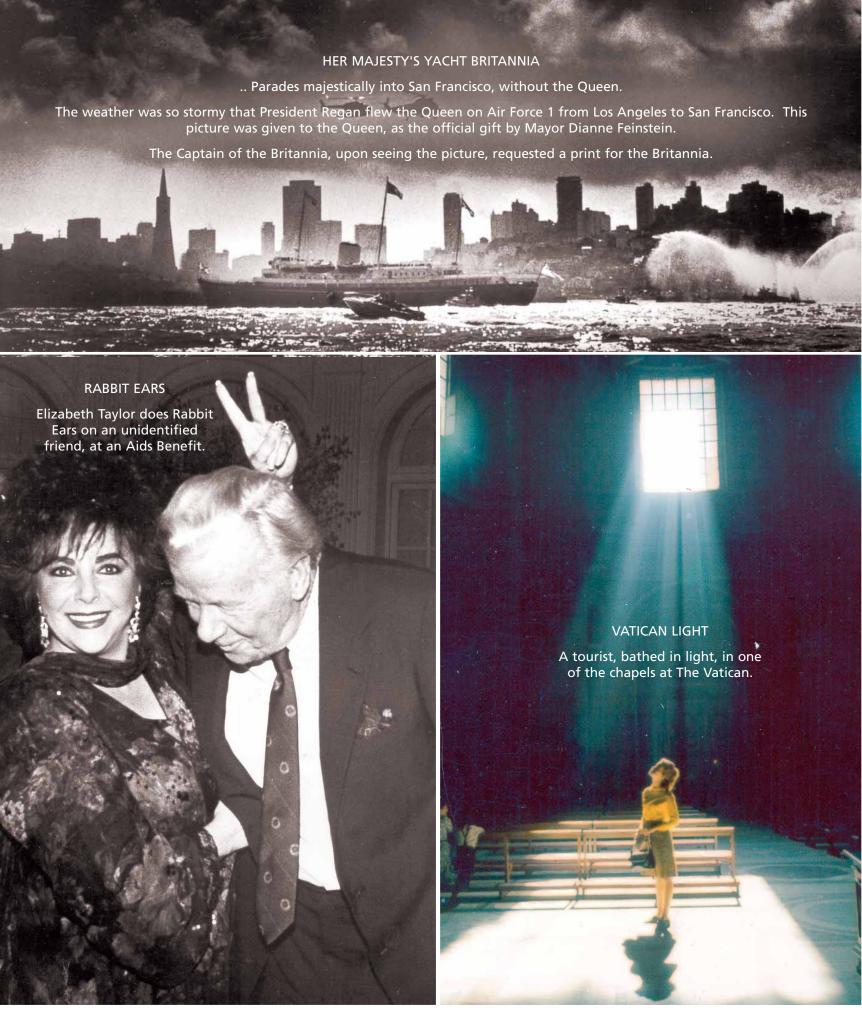
He's working on an exhibition of his life's work and continues to travel the world with Heide, shooting pictures, and being a passionate reader of his friend Jo Lee's - JO LEE Magazine.



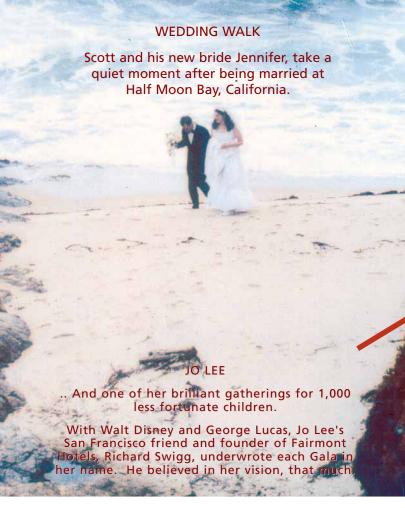
















#### « HALF TIME

By James Mansell Montréal - Québec

hild's Dlay

I predict that adolescents will soon control the sport world.

#### Hi Folks!

e are starting to notice an undeniable trend in sport. Athletes are getting more competitive at a younger age. This not only could have serious consequences to the sport world but could create serious social issues.

I couldn't help but think of the serious effects the success of Michelle Wie could have on this world. Her talent is undeniable and she will only improve. At fifteen years of age, she's become a phenomenon. Has she set the bar too high? Can she have a great career if she doesn't achieve new levels of success in the women's golf world? High school graduation sits in the wings with expectations all laid on the table for her. We think of Jennifer Capriati ... an outstanding young tennis star who had it all, including problems with the law.

What scares me most are the social implications this may have. Will parents begin to escalate the push for their kids to be more competitive at a younger age? Will we see little gymnasts winning medals at the Olympics before their teens? Will this result in some of the teen athletes consuming performance enhancing drugs to reach this level of success at a younger age?



Failure to reach the standards set by these athletes creates all kinds of social problems. Or is this all just a big sport marketing theme to help big business draw new attention to its new products?

All these questions and: we wonder why we have a serious problem with the use of steroids. We wonder why young girls struggle with weight issues. We ask ourselves why kids never feel good enough. Can we blame all this on the success of a few, superbly talented young athletes or ... are we too demanding of our kids to be the best. Our win at all costs has created some tremendous accomplishments but I think we should look at the cost to society and our kids to understand more about 'us'.

To my loyal readers - make the coming year an outstanding one that will be mirrored for the rest of your life. To my family: you're the very best.

#### To Write James: Click Here

\*\*\* James Mansell, 26 - Sport Management. Member Canadian Baseball Academy - full scholarship / Donnie Mash Memorial Scholarship / Best Athlete student / Scholarship, Wayne State, Nebraska USA. Athlete of the year / varsity Baseball Captain / 3 time Jr. Elite All-Star / 3 time Jr. Elite Provincial Champion / Academic Baseball Canada Alumnus / Coach-Counselor high performance athletes Baseball Camp / conceptual-principal developer sport drink / Founder-implementer Education through Baseball Sport School.

Will parents begin to escalate the push for more competi-

tiveness: at a younger age?





### « THE RICH & THE FAMOUS

By Robert J. Goldsworthy - Halifax - Canada

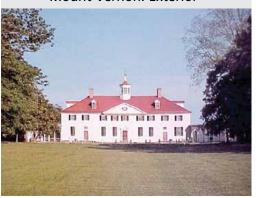
# Visiting GEORGE WASHINGTON'S Beloved Mount Vernon

ising graciously on the banks of the Potomac River in Virginia lies a beloved American landmark and architectural treasure. Mount Vernon, home of George Washington, was a laboratory for his deep love of design and one of the greatest expressions of his genius.

What began life as a humble one and a half story residence was transformed under Washington into a stately and elegant mansion. Easily the most famous private residence in the United States, its distinctive two-story portico is the single most copied feature in American architecture.

Washington added to the house in several parts, as he could afford to. The final addition, a spectacular two-story dining room, done in the Adam style, is arguably the most glorious example of George Washington's sense of quiet elegance and refined grace. Featuring soaring ceilings, exquisite plaster moldings, a magnificent Palladian window and stunning green paint, this room was indeed the perfect space for the Washingtons to entertain the who's who of colonial society.

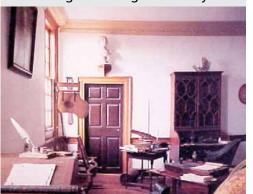
Mount Vernon: Exterior

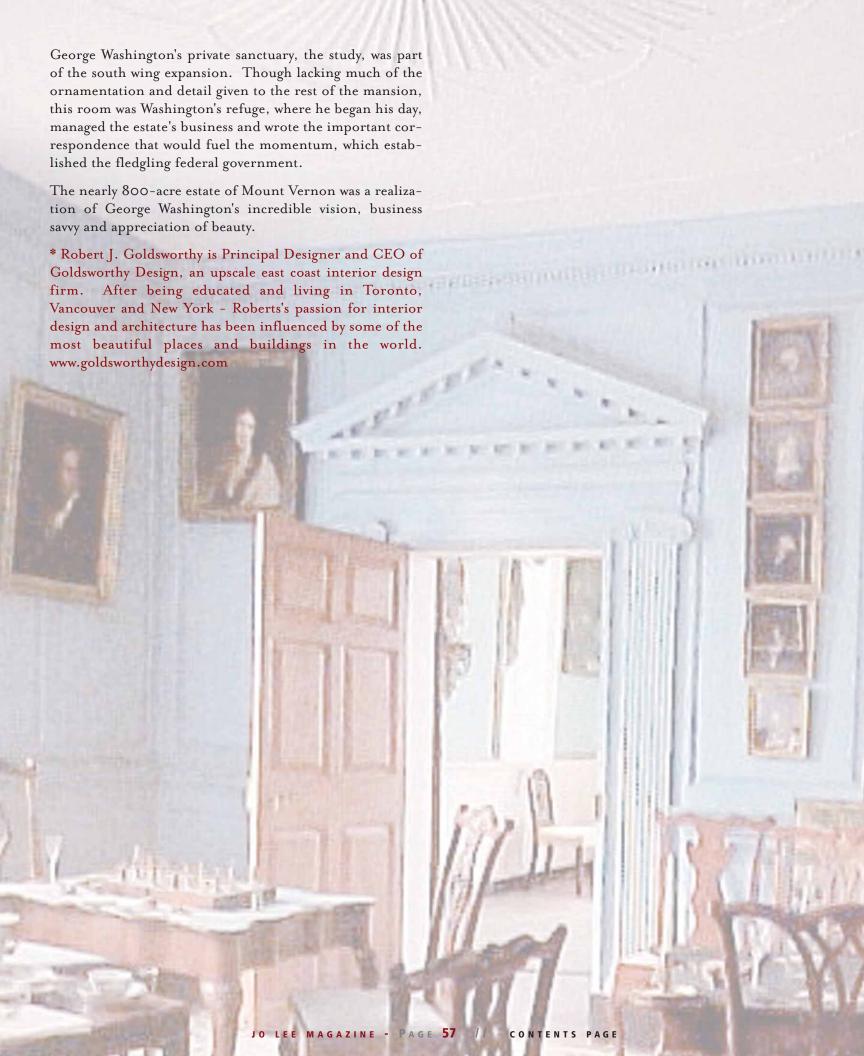


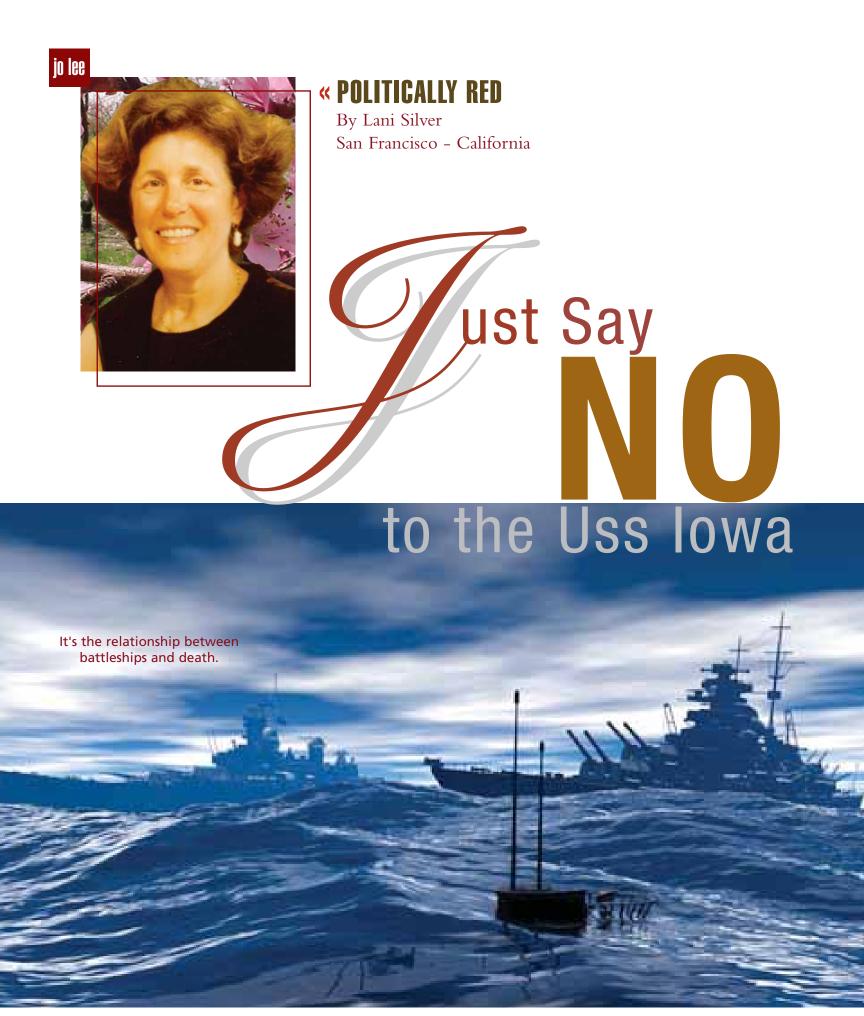
Early (Original) Dining Room



George Washington's Study







eing on the other side of 50, and feeling quite happy with life, there are very few things I want. But I desperately do not want the battleship: The USS Iowa - to come live in my great city of San Francisco.

If the USS Iowa is allowed to station itself in our Bay, more ships will come in due time.

While some may argue that the ship holds interest to school children and their field trips, the truth remains: the ship is an eyesore. Moreover, it makes our city look militaristic. The liberal culture of San Francisco does not lend itself to housing this ship. San Francisco has always stood firmly against war. Bringing in the USS Iowa will send the wrong message to our politicians and to our community. It sets a bad example and, fortunately, our Board of Supervisors thinks the same way.

As a native San Franciscan, I take great pride in my city.

During my almost daily walks around the Bay, I am amazed by the Bay's beauty. It is pristine. I love this city and all of which it stands for, especially its lack of military presence. But most of all I love our liberal ways. I do not want one military ship to call San Francisco its home.

I spent one year of my life working against the Missouri coming to San Francisco. Why did I work so hard for this? I did it so there would not be a big ugly battleship plopped into the middle of our bay with 62 other supporting boats as part of its fleet.

Everything about the Iowa bothers me. It's the visuals. It's the relationship between battleships and death. It's about keeping our Bay beautiful.

Let's not give a mile and take a war. Don't let this decision muck everything up forever.

To Write Lani: Click Here

\*\* Lani Silver - historian, artist, free-lance writer, and Lecturer with the American Program Bureau. {Gorbachev's bureau, Desmond Tutu, Betty Williams & Oscar Arias}. For 16 years, Lani directed San Francisco's landmark Holocaust Oral History Project, conducting 1700 oral histories with Holocaust survivors and witnesses. Lani and her partner, historian Eric Saul, discovered the story of Chiune Sugihara, who is called "The Japanese Schindler." Lani became Steven Spielberg's first consultant and trainer for his Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. 54,000 testimonies. Lani is currently the Project Director for the James Byrd Jr. Racism Oral History Project. byrdfound@juno.com

Let's not give a mile and take a war.





## « DINING! THE EXQUISITE 9

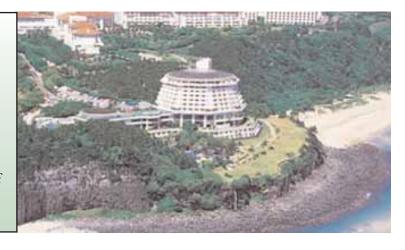
By Sue K. Wallingford New York - Vermont USA

Sue K. Wallingford has gained attention in no small measure as one of America's great Hostesses and amazing Chefs. A native New Yorker, Suki resides within the beauty of her country estate in Fayston, Vermont, USA.

#### **ASIA**

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL Cheju South Korea 3039-1 Saekdal-Dong Seogwipo-si Cheju-Do Korea

This hotel is close to Cheju Island attractions offering a panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean on Chungmun Beach in the East China Sea. The dining restaurants are The Omi Market Grill / The Terrace Café / and The cliff Garden BBQ. Tops.



#### **BERMUDA**

FOURWAY INN I Middle Road Paget BX294 - Bermuda Tel: 441.236.7654

This Inn is located in central parish of Paget, built in 1727. Enjoy fine dining in the large but cozy dining room or outdoors in the romantic Palm Garden. Steve Young is the Chef serving only the freshest ingredients from the catch of the day, served with herbs picked from the garden. The Peg Leg Bar and Lounge comes into its own after dinner where one can enjoy a Havana cigar and port.



#### CANADA

VICTORIA EMPRESS
The Fairmont Empress Hotel
721 Government Street
Victoria, British Columbia - Canada.

Situated on the banks of Victoria's Inner harbor, this completely restored, turn of the century beauty meets all of the qualities of British Grandeur. We went for High Tea and it was superb. This romantic hotel is surrounded by quaint shops on Vancouver Island.

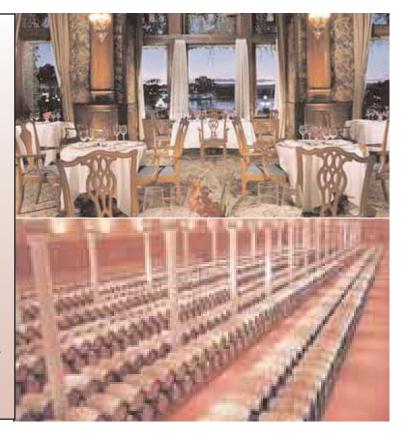
BISTRO A CHAMPLAIN

75 Chemin Masson C.P. 465

Ste. Marguerite du Lac Masson - Québec.

Tel: 450.228.4988

This French Bistro has an award winning wine list and one can visit the 35,000 bottle wine cellar. The building was originally a general store built in 1864, facing Masson Lake. Menu prices are moderate.



#### **EUROPE**

ZUM KUCKUCKZ Himmelpfotg 15 Vienna - Austria 01.512.8470

This intimate vaulted-ceiling restaurant is Old Vienna, leaving the modern world behind. One dines with pink linen tablecloths, fresh flowers and candles. Sip a glass of SEKT (sparkling wine with blood oranges) while you decide on your fare - Beef Rouladen, marinated in red wine.

AMBASCIATA D'ABRUZZO Via Pietrs Tacchini 26 Rome - Italy 06.807.8256

Standard Roman-style specialties are served here, but the focus is on the food of the Abruzzo region, east of Rome. The meal began with a self-serve basket of Abruzzese sausages brought to the table with a cutting board and knife. Continuing with hearty pastas and grilled meats. Especially pork, for which Abruzzo is known.



#### **SOUTH AMERICA**

EL OBRERO Augustin R Caffa rena 64 Buenos Aires - Argentina Tel: 11.4363.9912

Traditional Argentine restaurant - just a hole-in-the-wall, but for 50 years it has served juicy grilled steaks, sweetbreads, sausages and chicken. The Italian influence dominates the culinary landscape with pasta and boiled beef. Thick slices of provolone cook alongside the steaks. No credit cards.



#### UNITED STATES

KINKEAD'S An American Brasserie 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington - DC

Tel: 202.296.7700

This well established restaurant is known for its seafood. The upstairs dining room has an open kitchen and has the charm of yesterday's brasseries. The Menu changes daily to feature the best of the catch of the day but the Kinkeads' spectacular shell fish platter, while expensive, serves six easily. It's delicious. In the more casual downstairs café, the Raw Bar gets the attention.

THE CELLAR 305 N Harbor Boulevard Fullerton - California Tel: 714.525.5682

This romantic grotto-like atmosphere of the Cellar with beautiful chandeliers, gives one a sense of belonging. The service is exceptional and the food tops. Be sure to order the soufflé so it will be ready at the end of your meal. Take your time. It is a place for romance.





\* Ah yes! And The EXquisite 9 continues to come ~





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#### « BODY AND SELF

By Andrea Buckett Doctor of Homeopathy Toronto, Canada

## You Are What You Ate

« You'll Become What You Eat »

#### And I'll bet the sweeps, on that!

Q: What foods can I include in my diet to help keep the prostate healthy? Trevor, Bristol, England

A.B: Fifty percent of men over the age of forty-five have some prostate enlargement - while prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer found in men. Trevor, taking proactive steps to help reduce your chances of developing these problems is essential. Enjoy tomatoes often, especially those that have been cooked. Tomatoes contain a powerful antioxidant - lycopene which protects and nourishes the prostate tissue. Tomato sauce, juice and soup are all good choices. Pumpkin seeds are also a must. They are high in zinc which the prostate requires to function. Enjoy them raw, in their whole form, pumpkin butter or pumpkin oil. Also, including foods high in phytoestrogens such as soy, lentils, oats and fennel can help prevent problems. Reduce sources of bad saturated fats from animal sources, alcohol and caffeine all of which are associated with prostate and urinary issues.



Is it safe to microwave food in plastic containers?

#### Q: What is a 'Green Drink?' Merron Khol, Munich, Germany

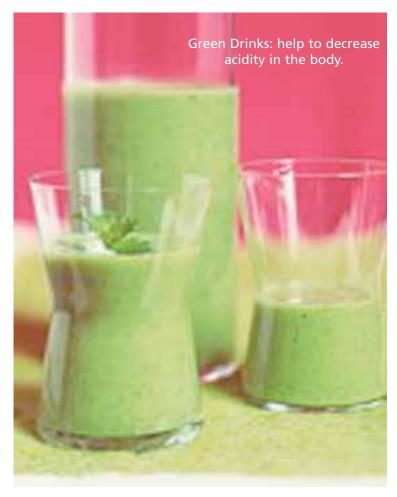
**A.B:** There are hundreds of different green drink products on the market, Merron. They are extremely popular and very good for those of us who have trouble eating all our vegetables. These green drinks contain various ingredients including alfalfa, lecithin, green algae, barley green, chlorella, bee pollen, wheat grass the list is almost endless. They help to detoxify and nourish the body and boost immune function. They provide the body with many required vitamins and minerals and antioxidants. Green drinks help to decrease acidity in the body, which in turn decreases pain, inflammation and the development of many diseases. While they should not replace a well balanced diet, they are perfect for those with hectic lives.

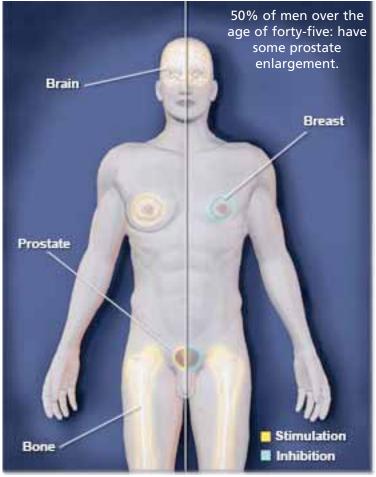
#### Q: Is it safe to microwave food in plastic containers? Alexandra, Lincoln, Nebraska

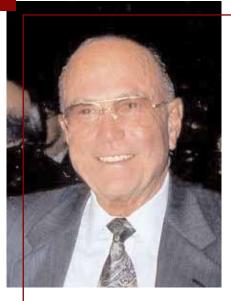
A.B: While there are no long term studies to show the safety of this, there is evidence that plastics do contain harmful chemicals, Alexandra. Plastic wrap and food containers contain phthalates and other chemicals that break down over time. Microwaving these materials speeds up the breakdown and can drive the chemicals into your food. The problem: these chemicals are Xenoestrogens, endocrine disrupters which can mimic the body's natural estrogen. These Xenoestrogens are linked to breast, ovarian and prostate cancers. They also promote infertility and early menstruation in girls. Avoiding the use of these plastics are your best bet. PASS IT ON!

#### To Write Andrea Buckett: Click Here

\* Andrea Buckett, Dr. of Homeopathy, lecturer, writer, health coach - graduated from The Homeopathic College of Canada and her private practice today is a passion in pursuit of educating the public on alternative health and nutritional ways.







#### « PROS & EX.CONS

By Creaghe H. Gordon President Global Enterprise Solutions, Inc. Los Gatos - California

## Profiling - Good or Bad?

uch has been written about profiling. Many say it is not politically correct, others say it is necessary.

"The terrorist caught on the American-Canadian border was noticed because he appeared to be of Middle-Eastern origin. He looked like an Islamic middle-eastern terrorist. His appearance was an objective tool that helped capture him. Does this validate the method? Profiling started with white males in serial killings: it worked." 1

"Muslims don't want to be portrayed as terrorists, that's not an accurate portrayal," said Mahdi Bray, president of the Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation" <sup>2</sup> "The terrorist caught on the American-Canadian border appeared to be of Middle-Eastern origin.



- 1. Joseph T. Forkin, Esq
- 2. Benjamin Duncan in Washington



But consider the following:

#### On the Aljazeera net site

"A music video glorifying Usama bin Ladin and containing images of the September II attacks in New York has become a big hit with young Muslims in Britain.

Rap artist Shaikh Terra calls for British PM Tony Blair and US President George Bush to be "thrown on the fire." It finishes with images of the hijacked planes flying into the World Trade Centre towers in New York with sounds of the rappers laughing.

#### Britain

Six percent of British Muslims -- more than 100,000 citizens -- thought the July 7 London terror attacks were justified. A quarter of British Muslims sympathize. Nearly one-fifth of British Muslims say they feel little or no loyalty to Britain. The London Telegraph poll shows these trends are worse among younger British Muslims.

#### U.S. Borders

Last week's arrest of a Bangladeshi immigrant trying to illegally enter the country has federal authorities concerned over the vulnerability of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Fakhrul Islam was arrested with 13 other undocumented immigrants as they tried to pass through a wooded area east of Brownsville, Texas.

"The American response to tightening up after London is to have random bag checks in the New York subways." Random meaning that the people stopped are to be chosen numerically. One in every 5 or 10 or 20.

Jihadist terrorism has been carried out from Bali to Casablanca to Madrid to London to New York City to Washington by young Islamic men of North African, Middle Eastern and South Asian origin.

This is not a stereotype. It is a simple statistical fact. "Yet we recoil from concentrating bag checks on men who might fit this description." Well, if that is impossible for us to do, then let's work backward. Eliminate classes of people who are obviously not suspects.

We could start with a little age-pruning -- no one under, say, 13, no one over, say, 60. Then we could exempt whole ethnic populations, starting with Latinos, Scandinavians and East Asians.

How many terrorists do we catch now with the billions spent patting down grandmothers from Poughkeepsie?

Will this encourage the jihadists to start recruiting elderly, Norwegian women? Let them try recruiting converts, women and non-usual suspects for suicide missions. That will require a huge new wasteful effort on their part"

Is our method of screening and open borders increasing the odds of another 9/11? (Remove the and?)

You decide.



« CAPRICCIO

By Danilo Navas Nicaragua - Central America

Pandeiro: is a small, hand-held tambourine.



razil, the biggest country in South America is a blessed nation in many aspects. Its richness and diversity are magnificently expressed in its popular music. The influences come from different parts of the world, but the most important elements in the mixture that shaped the musical rhythms of Brazil are African (brought by the slaves), European (Portuguese) and native (Amazon rainforest and other parts of the country).

Historically, we can divide the evolution of Brazilian music by periods, and trace a timeline that has its roots in the music created by the natives of the Amazon rainforest, who played instruments like whistles, flutes, horns, drums and rattles. When the Portuguese arrived, they brought their religious influence and instruments like the flute, organ and clavichord, initiating a so-called 'Colonial' period. Classical music made its presence near the end of the 19th century. Some outstanding composers are Carlos Gomes, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Camargo Guarnieri.

Capoeira music: is derived from the Afro-Brazilian sport.



Choro, also called chorinho, is one of the most popular music styles in Brazil. Its origins are in 19th century Rio de Janeiro. Originally played by a trio of flute, guitar and cavaquinho {small four-stringed chordophone}. Today, mandolin, clarinet, and saxophone are added.

Samba is probably the most known of the various forms of music derived from African roots in Brazil. Samba developed at the beginning of the 20th century in Rio de Janeiro under the strong influence of immigrant black people from Bahia.

Bossa Nova draws its inspiration from samba. Created during the 1950s, it was also influenced by the cool jazz sounds of USA. Antonio Carlos Jobim and João Gilberto are considered the fathers of this new rhythm, which was introduced to the rest of the world by North American jazz musicians in the early 1960s.

During the end of the '60s emerged a genre called Tropicalia, with great exponents such as Caetano Veloso and Gilberto Gil. It was a period of social evolution and convoluted politics around the world. Those elements prevailed in the songs of that period. Eventually, Tropicalia evolved into Música Popular Brasileira (MPB).

Música nordestina is a generic term for any popular music from the large region of Northeastern Brazil, including both coastal and inland areas. Rhythms are slow and plodding, and are derived from accordions and guitars instead of percussion instruments like in the rest of Brazil. In this region, African rhythms and Portuguese melodies combined to form a diversity of rhythms: Maracatu, Baião and Forró.

Atabaque: Is a tall, wooden, Afro-Brazilian hand drum.



To write Danilo: CLICK HERE

\* Danilo Navas is a Master of the history and diversity of World Music. The collecting and writing about its richness is for him, an all encompassing passion.



During the end of the 60s:
A genre called Tropicalia emerged.

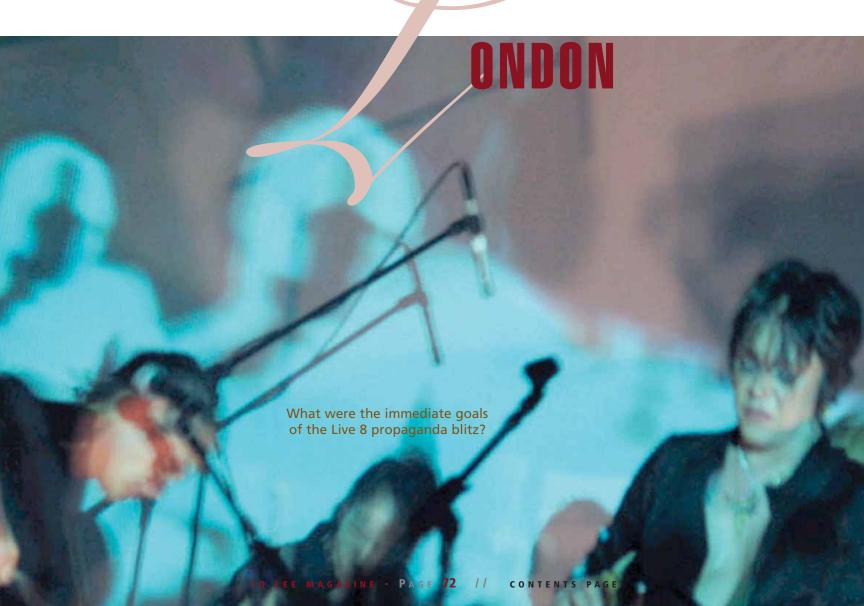


« THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

By Craig Ricker

Kostroma - Russia

# ACHIAVELLI Gøes 20





fter thirteen years in Russia, I decided to visit a friend in London and breathe some Western air. My friend was at work during the week so - I took in some Western media. I was in luck. All the major news stations were staging a propaganda blitz for Africa aid and I had just finished a six month study of communism in Africa.

I was stunned by the nearly flawless program that ran like a Trotskyite Broadway show.

The only time the stage lights flickered was when the unquestionably credible thirty and forty year Africa experts came on and loudly cried "baloney, fraud and it's all a hoax".

Machiavellian principles state that all power regimes maintain myths that legitimize themselves like a king being divinely ordained or democracy's claim of rule by the people. In the case of leftists, their most important power base is their influence over the media. The myth they carefully nurture is freedom of the press and the idea that this freedom produces an unbiased dedication to truth.

What were the immediate goals of the Live 8 propaganda blitz? To legitimize the left's request for massive Africa Aid funds by appealing to the emotions of the Western public with the crushing problems of Africa.

I first smelled a rat when I learned that the renowned economist Jeffrey Sachs was heading the Africa Aid program. He orchestrated the disastrous privatization schemes in the former Soviet Union. Why would a person whose policies caused a calamity on the scale of a world war be appointed head of a program for African rejuvenation? If we examine the Marxist subversion of Africa, we see an almost mirror image of what happened in Russia. It is a three stage process:

First destroy the European colonial power in Africa as was done to Tsarist Russia.

Second, reduce the people to a state of utter chaos and disparity.

Third, with the tens of billions of dollars of aid money, gain control of the assets of the target country, thus gaining political power as happened in Russia under Jeffrey Sachs.

In Russia, the myth of a free and unbiased press does not exist. A Russian person will always take into account who controls that media outlet, what is that person or group's nationality, religion, political persuasion and who finances the outlet. I have become accustomed to this deeply sceptical attitude towards the press and assumed people in the west approached it in the same way.

Friday night came along and I went to a dinner party with my friend and some Londoners. I enthusiastically explained what I had seen and was met with confused faces. Nobody refuted my logic or the facts but they were disturbed by my blatant blasphemy towards their beloved and incorruptible media.

Since then I have pondered the price Russian people have had to pay for their intellectual freedom - and I deeply hope that the West will not have to pay the same price.

\* Craig Ricker is a prolific writer and among the world's best photographers. He went to Russia from Laguna Beach California in 1992 on a quest-like mission to immerse himself into Russian culture, develop an understanding of Russia from the inside and write books that Russian people respect as accurately portraying their world and life predicament.

## WITS END #1 »

By JO LEE Magazine
New York / San Francisco / Hong Kong / London
Tokyo / Rome / Toronto

# INSTALLING LOVE THE MODERN WAY

TECH SUPPORT: Yes, how can I help you?

**CUSTOMER:** Well, after much consideration, I've decided to install Love. Can you guide me though the process?

TECH SUPPORT: Yes. I can help you. Are you ready to proceed?

**CUSTOMER:** Well, I'm not very technical, but I think I'm ready. What do I do Thank you, God.first?(What's this??!!)( Personally, I like it if the only reference to God is at the end......)

**TECH SUPPORT:** The first step is to open your Heart. Have you located your heart?

**CUSTOMER:** Yes, but there are several other programs running now. Is it okay to install Love while they are running?

TECH SUPPORT: What programs are running?

**CUSTOMER:** Let's see, I have Past Hurt, Low Self-Esteem, Grudge and Resent-ment running right now.

TECH SUPPORT: No problem, Love will gradually erase Past Hurt from your current operating system. It may remain in your permanent memory but it will no longer disrupt other programs. Love will eventually override Low Self-Esteem with a module of its own called High Self-Esteem. However, you have to completely turn off Grudge and Resentment. Those programs prevent Love from being properly installed. Can you turn those off?

CUSTOMER: I don't know how to turn them off. Can you tell me how?

**TECH SUPPORT:** With pleasure. Go to your start menu and invoke Forgiveness. Do this as many times as necessary until Grudge and Resentment have been completely erased.

**CUSTOMER:** Okay, done! Love has started installing itself. Is that normal?

**TECH SUPPORT:** Yes, but remember that you have only the base program. You need to begin connecting to other Hearts in order to get the upgrades.

**CUSTOMER:** Oops! I have an error message already. It says: "error program cannot run on external components." What should I do?

TECH SUPPORT: Don't worry. It means that the Love program is set up to run in Internal Hearts, but has not yet been run on your Heart. In non-technical terms, it simply means you have to Love yourself before you can Love others.

CUSTOMER: So, what should I do?

**TECH SUPPORT:** Pull down Self-Acceptance - then click on the following files: Forgive-Self; Realize Your Worth; and Acknowledge your Limitations.

CUSTOMER: Okay, done.

**TECH SUPPORT:** Now, copy them to the 'My Heart' directory. The system will overwrite any conflicting files and begin patching faulty programming. Also, you need to delete Verbose Self-Criticism from all directories and empty your Recycle Bin to make sure it is completely gone and never comes back.

**CUSTOMER:** Got it. Hey! My heart is filling up with new files. Smile is playing on my monitor and Peace and Contentment are copying themselves all over My Heart. Is this normal?

**TECH SUPPORT:** Sometimes. For others it takes a while, but eventually everything gets it at the proper time. So Love is installed and running. One more thing before we hang up. Love is Freeware. Be sure to give it and its various modules to everyone you meet. They will in turn share it with others and return some cool modules back to you.

CUSTOMER: Thank you, God.

## WITS END #2 »

By JO LEE Magazine New York / San Francisco / Hong Kong / London Tokyo / Rome / Toronto

# ENGLISH IS A CRAZZY LANGUAGE

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted.

But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

Then why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preacher praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Have you ever wondered if all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another?

Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful carriage or a strapful gown? Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, gruntled, ruly or peccable?

And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm clock goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race {which, of course, isn't a race at all}. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

And why, when we wind up our watch, we start it, but when we wind up this Wits End - we end it ~

Mominate someone.

The Adeste Prize

www.adesteprize.com

## **EDITORIAL ENCORES** »



In this season's 'Encore' - JO LEE Magazine's Manuel Navas, Chief of Production - JO LEE Magazine - memoirs his world of TOP creativity.

#### **BORN**

Granada, Nicaragua

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#### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish / French / English

\*\*\*

#### **PARENTS**

Owned Photographic Studio

\*\*\*

#### MY PROFESSION

Quickly mirrored that of my parents

\*\*\*

#### **PASSION**

Becoming among 'the best' in Multi Media Development

#### RESULT

Built - DMN Interactive. A highly successful creative/design firm

\*\*\*

#### HOBBIES

General Arts / Music / Sports

\*\*\*

#### **FAMILY**

My incredible wife Maria and our three children ...

Kenia, Manuel Jr. and Noemi

\*\*\*

#### **FINALE**

Being Chief of Production for the luxurious - JO LEE Magazine. With immense gratitude to the lady, the founder, the editor-in Chief herself - Jo Lee.



WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON!

By the Year 2050: The World population will reach 9.3 Billion or a Growth rate of 77 Million people per Year.

# DID YOU KNOW?

In Just '5' years — There were 300 Million UNPLANNED pregnancies Worldwide {Not including 3<sup>rd</sup> World} with 700,000 Women dying as a result of.

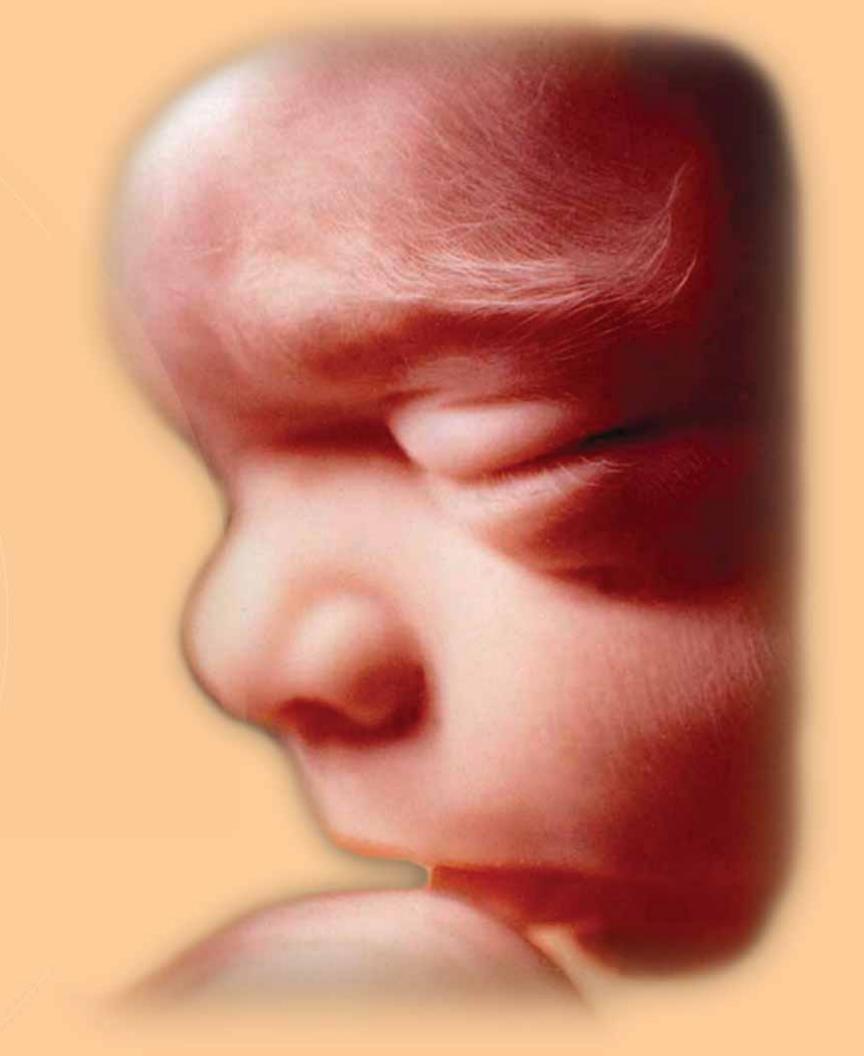
There's a HUGE, unmet need to rectify this!

Hundreds of Millions of Women Globally —

DO NOT WANT TO BECOME PREGNANT.

How can society help! Is there a solution? You decide.

CLICK HERE



LUXURIOUS, VIBRANT, WORTH EVERY MINUTE





JO LEE Magazine and its worldwide readers are dedicated to the support of THE ADESTE Prize.



Click Here: For Carla »

## « EDITOR AT LARGE

By Carla Dragnea Bucharest, Romania

# Christmas Gifts that WON'T HARM Our Planet

It's the thought that counts, and it's the personal touch that makes any gift more meaningful and memorable. Spend less. Give from the heart. Not the wallet.

Here are some ideas for giving without taking from the planet.

#### Services over Goods

Gifts of service require little or no use of natural resources, and are very personal and memorable. The gift of You - your time, energy or expertise are as 'gift worthy' as anything you can put in a box. Music lessons, childcare, car wash, dog walk, lawn care, tutoring, cooking, gardening.

#### Found Objects

We all have our little treasures, our discoveries from nature. An unusual shell, crystal, wood burl, arrowhead, bone, shark tooth ... Over time we get used to seeing them and our interest wanes. Pass them on as a gift and they'll be 'rediscovered' with enthusiasm and impart their reminder of nature's wonder once again.

#### Antiques and Collectibles

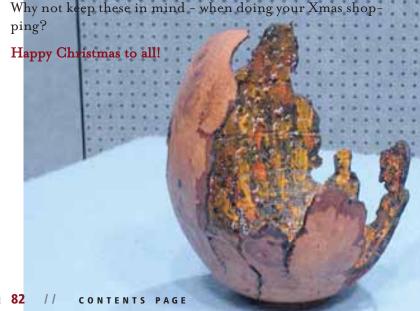
Value and appeal don't always have to mean 'new and shiny'. Antiques and collectibles have the added appeal of history and sentimental value. Personal gifts tell a story. And because they are 're-used, there's no impact on the environment.

#### **Edibles**

Homemade is heartfelt. Your time and energy, and culinary creativity, are just as valued as that store-bought gift which they may not really even need. The result is most personal and easy on the environment.

#### Flower Power

Gifts you can grow. Unique varieties can be raised in your small home plot and make interesting, appealing gifts that anyone can use. Homegrown or store-bought, cut flowers or potted plants - the result is the same: eye catching, earth easy and rich with sentiment.



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