

Christmas Past

December has a schedule. It's the appointed anointed time for love, remembrance and seasonal greetings. And on schedule, cards arrive - brilliant reds, greens and golds, the splatter of type styles ornate and ordinary. Some old-fashioned snow scenes. Silvery doves over a Peace pennant. A Currier & Ives woodcut of horsemen with windwhipped scarves affvin'. A rocking horse own persion of Merry Christmas Seasons Greetings or Holiday Wishes. All on display in our foyer. All appreciated.

December is also the time we ready our annual commentary. Its arrival erratic: it's contents unpredictable; its boundaries unbridled: its views highly subjective and its title a toss up.

Two years ago sci-fi whiz Ray Bradbury named this. "The Jackdaw" hased on the scavenger bird who builds its nest from random pickings of any glittery, glitzy object that attracts its marauding eye. Should we have a new title for 1992? Not so. Yule mail repeatedly asked "When do we

get the new Jackdaw?" So be it.

Readers rule. Herewith Jackdaw III - and belated greetings for the season and a somewhat tardy but hardy (and fervent) wish to you for the Happiest of New Years.

RIC

Isabelisms

Granddaughter age 4. She air-commutes to visit her Grand-mother (already has several thousand of her own frequent flier miles).

Scene, Isabel is mounting the steps to board the plane. With

automatic airline smile, the flight attendant leans over patronizingly and says. Well. welcome aboard little lady. "To which Miss 4 year-old snaps. 'Tm not a little lady - Tm a little kid and where's my seat?" (There may be trouble ahead.)

where s my seaff. (There may be trouble almost). Cr during dimer the night before her flist day in a new school, the list one lays her head on the dining room table and says. Mom... The melly nervous about this new school. Fedore Mother Lisa can muster encouraging words, loabel filts up the head and says. Dut II be OK as soon as I find out where the harmoon is and where my cubby is. [Socrage place, one to a Rick] We should all adapts a certain of a Rick II we should all adapts a certain a Rick III when the last should be a read to the same the harmoon is and where my cubby is. [Socrage place, one to a Rick] We should all adapts a certain and the same should be says to the same should be says the says the same should be says the s

Way to say it!

*Meeting him was like opening a bottle of champagne (Winston Churchill meeting Franklin Roosevelt). "Two heads are better than one - especially if the other one is you." (Welcome compliment.)

etimes a good scare is worth a lot more than good advice "I changed my life today. What did you do?" wman in The Verdict.

Advice: Never get in a line for anything where the guy in front of you is wearing a stocking mask. (Cartoon sage B.C.)

Picky picky... Once I got into Murray Paphel's Volgo as a passenger

I was also his guest in Atlantic City. It was a nice car but I spotted a slightly frazzled wiper blade on my side of the front window pointed this out to Murray.

He stopped. Tipped his head down, raised it, looked at me and said in a quiet voice. Thad an uncle once who was visiting r ount who had just redecorated and painted her apartmen She asked, "So what do you think of the new color, Sid! And Skl said "Did you new for the paint wet?"

Then Murray put the car in gear and drove off without

(Another version: if you get free tickets, don't complain about the show.) Lesson learned.

Words I have a hard time working into

Ah, Style ...

A west coaster is visiting the east and staying at the original and truly fashionable Boston Ritz Carlton. Halfway through the after-dinner brandy in the stylish cocktail lounge. He suggested

Her that They ease upstairs.

Scrawling the room number and tip on the bill they rose. Screwling the room number and tip on the fill they rose, brandly glasses in hand and entered the hallway. A very quick and quiet server appeared and whispered. 'Sir..may | Carlo your brandles!' There is a house role about no drinks in the corridor.' Together the trit or enters the elevator and as they do, the server turns, gracefully extends the brandly suitlers to Him and Her, smiles. 'But there is no rule against drinking in the elevanor. Cood night Sir Modemie.'

Why indeed?

An Eskimo hunter asks a priest, "If I didn't know about 3od and sin, would I go to hell? "The priest, a truthful nan, says." No you wouldn't."

"Then why did you tell me?", asks the Eskimo.

You've seen it. A fairly decent guy sushays over and says. Tim not a burn. I ran out of gas and just need two bucks to buy gas to get to my job." You recognize him and say "Hey-you pulled the same routine last week!"

The con man says,"Ah no man, that was my other car!" (Jerry Selby in our town says "Come on. Let's go to the Shell ation and I'll buy you the gas..." Never gets a taker.)

And the clever woman who cancels dinner time telemarketing calls immediately by saying excitedly "Oh! You're selling something! I thought you were another of those collection agencies." Click.

On late ambitions

Parti Pripp's great story about the 37 year old man who says
"I'd like to go to college but by the time I get out I'd be 41." His
friend replies. "So how old will you be in 4 years if you don't go
to college?"

Country wisdom

Middle age is when you have two choices and you take the one that gets you home earlier.

Saw a truck getting gas. Had this sign: F.I.D.O. on the bumper. "That your dog?" "Nope", he says, "Lesson my old man taught me - Forget It. Drive On." Uh huh.

Is he a good man? I'd play poker with him over the

Some things I like:

Showers with real force - hot/hot/hot!

Flirts at traffic lights you'll never see again

Straight back posture people Stephen Seagal's registered disdain when he movie-fights That ripping scrape and scrunch of ice and blades and the smooooth body-blending symmetry of Olympic ice dancing Those rare people close in who know when not to talk Big thick yearm fishermen sweaters

Competency. Anywhere Big band music so exciting it makes you shout - YEAH!

Words to live by

You're only young once.

But you can be immature forever

I knew, like we all know, that I should have been hard at work on a "practical" project. Instead I folled.

Have you folled kneby It's great for the brain. Like opening the bird cage door of the mind. Ideas fly. Trivia drops to the bottom of the cage. An hour passed. I was relaxed, glddy with ideas of great long term promise. Then guilt started sliding in.

The phone rang. 'Harve you heard any good stories lately?'
I knew who that was. No, I confessed...and spilled my guilt late, the phone How did you know you were God? (signed) Charlene. He said, "You were right, Always trust your instincts." Will that help you sometime this year?

God, Is Reverend Coe a friend of yours, or do you just know him through business? Donny. God, Please send Dennis Clark to a different camp this year.
Your friend Power

Dear God, I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset you made on Tue. That was cool. Eugene.

Sage Stuff

Don't let what you can't do interfere with what you can do. Men always want to be a woman's first love. Women are nuch more subtle; they want to be a man's last romance. No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. spend the afternoon having a good time. In a Bangkok dry cleaners: drop your pants here for best results.

You are the same today as you'll be five years from now except for two things - the people you meet and the books

Japan: (air conditioner instructions): Cooles and Heates: if ou want just condition of warm in your room, please control In an Acapulco resort: the manager has personally passed he spent the rest of the day trying to open it.(Not you Al Filer.) On advising friends: Do not use a hatchet to remove a fly from friend's forehead. Chinese proverb. In a Paris hotel: Please leave your values at the front desk.

Ideas are everywhere!

Did you ever know that Don Hewitt, producer of 60 Minutes, invented "supers" (the words superimposed on the to screen)?

At the 1959 Depublican contention while he was eating in a He bought the board and letters for \$20. And while Walter Cronkite commentated, Hewitz, for the first time on national floor - by name - with his \$20 letters. Yikes!

Sales is a contact sport. [How about that for a seminar title?]

P.S. On a tip from Mike Perry we have "hired ourselves" and are putting on Pasadena Great Brain Robbery all-day seminars each quarter. Call for dates.

One of the gems is "Children's Letters to God". The 5 x 5 pages are reproductions of the scrawled handwriting collected by Stuart Hample and Eric Manhall. Written like this...

What does begat mean. Nobody will tell me. Love, Alison. Dear God. Are you invisible or that just a trick? Lucy. Dear God Are there any patriarchs around today? Patrick.

Hear Chris Hegarty's story?

He walks into a car dealership, sees all the floor salesme suddled together in one corner. One is elected to go see him. "Sorry. I can't help you now. We're having a sales meeting."

[Wonder what the topic of the meeting was: Closing sales?] On the other hand...

Never ask a tire salesman if you need new tires.

A way with words Wrote to Frank Lalor in Ireland and asked for a few \$20 gold pieces. Wanted to make them into necklaces for all our lrish-ored Considine girls.

A bag of coins arrived. I faxed "how much?" Here is the answer. "Day. Gold use can buy, friendship up can't. If they give pleasure to other people, I've got my rew Have a lovely Christmas." – Emer O'Driscoll and Frank."

Government is not eloquence. It is not reason. It is a force. Like fire, a dangerous servant and a fearful master.
-George Washington.

Glory is fleeting but obscurity is forever

How come them famous history guys came up with these great quotes? Were there PR quacks that far back??

Cogent explanations...

A 7 year old was trying to explain to his 6 year old brother how the door at the supermarket opens auto-matically. When the 6 year old arrived at the store have looking all around for the "electric guy" who opens the doors.

Well...that's what his brother said!

Didja know that in Carefree Arizona there is an intersection at Ho and Hum Boulevards? Aren't you glad I toldia?

the turn signals on the car were working. Standing in the back the mechanic announced "Yes. No. Yes. No. Yes..."

Sad news:

From age 3 to 5, 98% of kids are classed as Genius 5 years later the percentage is down to 32%. 5 more years and the level of really talented is 10% If they are born Originals, must they become Copies?

Philosophy...

This is getting serious; some things supposed to last the rest of my life are already wearing out! - Ashleigh Brilliant, one of Wade Cannon's favorite soothsayers.

Another Brilliant saying: Inside every older person there's a younger person wondering what happened. On ego: You are not the center of the universe. That job's

If you don't have all the things you want...be grateful for all the things you don't have that you didn't want...

On getting a major account: "It was ours to lose."
(Rudy Oetting) [Couldn't that apply to anything competitive?] On being responsible: "In our company, if you pick up the phone you own the problem...you deliver the answer."

— lose Collazo, Infonet.

Personally:

When I see photos of the starving Somellans I quickly turn the page. When the re cameras sweep over the selectal bodies of the children I click post the channel. When I walls into my clothes closet I feel ashamed. There is something very out of balance len our world. And what II, just what II..we were born They?

Perscription
Pollow the Date of the Wounded Lion. Biten so the body. If he doesn't feel well he doesn't earl. He's tired he lies down the doesn't feel with the doesn't feel wit

- Dr. Ted Cohn, Philosopher/teacher

Dr. Peter Gott collects medical terms "to bump your funny Dr. Peter Gott collects medical terms "to bump your fump bone." Like... Albibon = a Maßloso hit man. Aphylika - fanny tuck. D & C = our nation's capital. Dialysis = for telephone assistance. Diponamia: – the uege to skinny dip. Reich – wealthy, more than "effluent." High cholestero! – mountain range in a B western movie. Gonadsl., – a cheer for Northern Arizona Dolphins team! (Read it again. You'll get it.)

Scientific theory. The rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline baggage. (Probably)

Harry Golden

Rule 2 is coloreds can't attend local white movie theaters

unless — attendee is a black mammy caring for a white baby. Easy, says Harry, have an inexpensive rent-a-baby (white and plastic) adjacent to the box office. But my favorite lesson from Harry Golden was this: (Short version): He says, I went to lunch yesterday and I asked the waitress for pea soup.

waitress for pea soup.

(Next paragraph): Light travels at the speed of 186,300 miles per second. One year of light travel equals 5,880 x 10 to the 12th pear or 5,880,000,000,000 miles. The nearest star is Alpha Centauri which is 2,512 x 10 to the 13th power or 4,27 light years away or a mere 95.190,000,000,000 miles.

(Next paragraph). The waitress brought me chicken soup, not pea soup, So? That leads to...

My favorite word - Respec My most unfavorite word – Respect.

My most unfavorite word – Scold.

Remember, the nearest star is 25,120,000,000,000 miles away.

> Send a letter. Don't scold.

Value your friends Have a fine, fine year

Ray Considing

Events I want to be part of in '93

. Maastricht & the ebullient Van Dorst IBIS with suave Malcom's electronic tent show . Filmnet Peter Ebelund & trusty Do-er Mathieu Nagelerbe



The greatest way to live with honor in this world is to be what we pretend to be

English well talking...or
American is speeched everywhere now.

Sign in a Bucharest hotel lobby. The lift is being fixed for the ext day. During that time we regret you will be unbearable.

In a Rome laundry. Ladles fempe your clothes here and

Governmental wisdom...

The federal courts ruled that the White House cannot destroy computerized government records without first making

4 If's

If you're losing a tug of war with a tiger, give him the rope If you're looking a tug of war with a tiger, give him the rope before he gets your arm. You can always buy a new rope. If you aren't nerrous, then why are you wearing your weins on the outside of your body?

If you absolutely insist on being different just for the sake.

of being different, you can always come down in the morning with a sock in your mouth (Leo Burnett).

Stonewall breaker

Bob Mellon couldn't get an appointment. The prospect was otally scheduled, totally scheduled no matter when or how ar in advance Bob called. Himmin. Ummin. Then — what toel Weldon calls an AHAI — happened.

A bakery supplied the cake. The iron file came from a hardware store. The message was: "You're obviously imprisoned with your schedule. Use this to break out and call me."

oned wen your schedule. Use this to break out and call me."
Did it words? Not only for the Mellon Man but when he told
this story in our December "Great Brain Robbers" seminar.
Alex Swart, a designer, stole the islea, doubtled the order for
cales and fills and got past two major movie gatekeepers
in Hollywood. [The recipe is yours.]

Asked how he would like to be remembered. Thurgood Marshall said,"He did what he could with what he had."

d, how can it be interesting?

(But of course!)



and faxed thru old numbers Take a minute and put these in now. so we can stay in touch in '93.

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For those who missed the last 2 or 3 years of lackdaws, we have some extras. Fax, write, phone.

D1993 Considine & Associates Designer & Editor Peter Violante