

Bob's Corner

Everyone has a special talent. Mine is getting in trouble by performing a simple task, which results in at least one problem, and often escalates into the kind of difficulty encountered by people like Gen. Custer.

For example, while Jan and I were engaged (to be married) I used my meager store of fix-it knowledge to make sure the antenna lead to my '55 Buick was secure. But I suggest that anyone doing this first remove their wristwatch and turn off the engine. My watch made contact with something quite shocking under the dash, and I got three burns of varying degree on the top of my left forearm after it came flying out from under the dash. Still have the scars.

Last weekend I decided to spray the front door and one side of the "Noose" edifice because there was a lot of dust, lint and nasty bird stuff on them. No big deal. Right? First, I scratched my hands and arms getting to the water spigot because some gnarly blackberry vines were trying to take over.

While washing down the areas aforementioned, the hose kept kinking. When I'd yank it to straighten it out, I'd get water down my sleeves. But it made my scratches feel better.

Finally finishing, I wiped water and debris off my eyeglasses, rolled up the hose (being careful of the blackberry vines) and entered the office. There was a huge puddle of water in our entryway. Apparently we don't have a watertight door. Thinking quickly (but not intelligently) I flipped over the entryway mat to soak up the water. Except the mat is not designed for that kind of work.

Managed to get the dripping mat outside without causing too much more mess. Draped the mat on the top of our SOS dumpster so it would dry. Used old issues of the "Noose" to soak up the excess water in the entryway. Very clever except for the inkiness left behind. Used paper towels to finish the job, managing to empty the dispenser and had to reload it. Which for me, Mr. NonMechanical, is another story.

Meanwhile, the mat had fallen off the dumpster into the dirt. Made some lovely muddiness. Got that cleaned up. Decided on one more chore.

People keep parking on an alley leading to the "Noose" complex, blocking access. So I put up "No Parking" signs. Only dropped the hammer three times. While I was at the top of the ladder. Only hit my left thumb once, but it was enough.

Did not fall off the ladder, although I slipped once and got a splinter in the palm of my right hand.

Missions accomplished, I headed for home. Had some chores there, but after the office incidents decided to put them off. Much safer that way.

Weekend Float Fly at Selmac

Rogue Valley Flyers will hold its 12th annual Float Fly at Lake Selmac on Saturday and Sunday, July 17 and 18. Hours Saturday will be

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The public can attend. There is no charge to watch the radio-controlled boats and aircraft.

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary expressed in letters to the editor are strictly those of the letter-writers.

 Typed, double-spaced letters are acceptable for consideration. Handwritten letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication.

Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.

I.V. Lions applause From Karen Arneson Cave Junction

I would like to say how much I appreciate the Illinois Valley Lions Club.

Unfortunately, last summer I began to lose the use of my legs. I could hardly walk, and could not afford to purchase a walker for myself.

A member of the I.V. Lions Club saw the difficulty I was having and offered me a walker; free of charge.

The walker helped immensely, however, I eventually lost the use of my legs completely. Like Angels, the I.V. Lions Club came to my rescue again and gave me an electric wheelchair.

If not for the I.V. Lions Club, I would not have the independence I have today.

Shop Smart bouquet From Al Smith, director Bar-O Ranch Gasquet, Calif.

I want to express my appreciation to Shop Smart Food Warehouse in Cave Junction for helping us to teach a life's lesson well worth learning.

In June the "Triplicate" newspaper in Crescent City, Calif. printed a story about a little girl, Alexandra, "Alex" Scott. At the age of 1, Alex was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a form of cancer that has only a 40 percent survival rate.

At the age of 4, Alex took the old advice, "If life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Alex opened a lemonade stand to raise money for cancer research. Her stand did well, and the idea caught on with people all over the country opening "Alex's Lemonade" stands.

All proceeds go to Alex's foundation, which funds research at sites throughout the country. As of the time of this article, the foundation had received approximately \$200,000.

Alex is now 8 and her health is failing. But she continues to raise funds.

The boys of Bar-O Ranch decided to try to help Alex achieve her goal of raising \$1,000,000. In order to pull off the project, donations were sought from local businesses so that our culinary arts class

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could make cookies and lemonade for the booth.

Shop Smart in Cave Junction contributed all the lemonade. Hundreds of cookies were made to go along with the 20 gallons of lemonade.

We set up a booth at the 4th of July celebration in Crescent City. It was a wonderful experience for our boys to be part of something so moving and productive. We brought in more than \$1,000 for the foundation.

Shop Smart and anyone who attended the festivities and contributed to Alex's fund helped make our 4th my most meaningful one ever.

Bush on lumber From Larry Cook Selma

We should thank President Bush for allowing something productive to come out of the lumber the environmentalists allowed to burn (500,000 acres worth), including 200+ of ours.

Now he wants to let it waste. He protests the cutting of wood, then goes home, opens his front door (made of wood), uses toilet paper (made from wood), and unless he's in an igloo, or dirt hut or such, wood is what his house is made of.

So why can't people stop complaining about the use of tax money by the government for cutting, especially when the same tax money is used to protest something they use.

They should go get a job, or find an endangered wood-eating bug or something.

Kalmiopsis lumber? From Pamela Tennity Selma

I watched the flames of the Biscuit Fire roar down the mountain across from my home - just 3 miles from my home. My family packed up and was on 30-minute evacuation alert for several weeks.

Am I worried about wildfires consuming my home? Yes. Do I think that cutting large trees in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness will protect me during the next big fire? No.

The U.S. Forest Service's Fire Science Lab said, "The likelihood that a home will ignite from wildfire is almost entirely determined by the landscape within 40 meters of the building."

The Biscuit Fire salvage logging being proposed would degrade streams in sensitive fish-

bearing tributaries and rivers. The natural recovery of these slopes will be impeded if this burned-over area is logged. The steep slopes need what remains to hold soil in place. Remember the mud slides in California?

I support creation of a Siskiyou Wild Rivers National Conservation Area. I do not support the largest timber sale in history.

I, for one, will make sure my elected officials know that I am opposed to logging in roadless and wilderness areas for any reason.

'All that stuff' From William Schneider Cave Junction

By now, any intelligent, honest, thinking individual should realize that

(Continued on page 3)

Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce presents
Concerts in the Park
'Sons of the Oregon Trail'
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Thursday, July 15
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