

Bob's Corner



The Geezer (left) with son, Mike (rear) and granddaughters Ella, Natalie and Kim

Yes, it's been awhile since ol' Bob wrote a new column, and that leads to this week's topic: Geezerism. My dictionary defines "geezer" as "an old person, especially a man." Another dictionary states that a geezer is "a senior citizen, especially a man who is eccentric or irritable."

Well, yes and no. First, I have a basic dislike of the term, "senior citizen." Somehow our society has chosen some arbitrary ages (62 or 65 usually) and applied them to mean something special. Does that mean that those who are younger than "senior citizen" age are "junior citizens"? I don't think so.

How does one define "geezer"? One way is how you feel. Do I feel 65? No. (Not always; see below). In fact, I am often accused of being immature and acting like a 17-year-old. Geezers demand "senior citizen" discounts. Those I enjoy when offered. But it seems as though society is trying to reward people simply for being old. It's OK with me, but what is "old"? Am I rambling? A sure sign of Geezerism.

A friend wrote that the cure for being a geezer is a new drug: Dagnabitol.

For sure, I experience the same symptoms as others: entering a room and not remembering why I'm there; recalling with clarity an incident from 30 years ago, but not remembering what I ate for breakfast; going to Shop Smart for groceries and wandering around trying to think of what I was supposed to buy.

When do I "feel my age"? Here's an example: Went on a raft outing last week with our son, Mike; his daughter Kim, 13; and our visiting daughter, Vicki, and her children, Natalie, nearly 7, and Ella, who recently became 4. We took the "Cub Scout" version from Hog Creek to Galice, a Rogue River trip of approximately 7 miles. I didn't want to go; a sure sign of Geezerism. I was deterred by the thought of getting wet and hot, possibly capsizing, just being uncomfortable. But I went and had a grand time. It was really fun.

However, upon awakening the next morning, I wondered who had beaten me during the night, as many muscles were sore. I wondered who had stuck a fork in my right shoulder blade. The left shoulder blade was fine, as it was numb. Geezerism protested all that paddling from the day before. I didn't care; it really was fun. Might even take another trip one of these days on a more adventurous scale (more rapid rapids).

Now, as the late Walter Cronkite said, "And that's the way it is." So excuse me while I go take a slug of Dagnabitol.

THANK YOU

MY SON JOSH CORONADO IS ONE OF THE NAMES FLYING HIGH IN TOWN.

I JUST WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAD PART IN THE FLAGS WITH OUR KIDS' NAMES ON THEM. MY SON CALLS ME TIME TO TIME FROM IRAQ AND HE SOUNDS PRETTY BUMMED SOME TIMES. BUT WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT HIS NAME FLYING IN TOWN AND NAMES OF SOME OF HIS CLASSMATES. TOO. HE WAS VERY PLEASED TO HEAR THAT THE PEOPLE OF CAVE JUNCTION STILL TAKE TIME TO SAY THANKS. IT BOOSTED HIM UP A LOT!

HE WAS THE IVHS QUARTERBACK IN 2005. HE ALSO FOUGHT THE BISCUIT FIRE WITH GRAYBACK FORESTRY. AGAIN. I SAY THANK YOU VERY MUCH. FROM BOTH OF US.

- ANGELO CORONADO

Say you saw it in the *I.V. News*

Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact, are strictly those of the letter-writers.)

Typed, double-spaced letters are considered for publication. Hand-written letters that are double-spaced and legible also can be considered. "Thank you" submissions are not accepted as letters.

9/12 Project From Harry Johnson O'Brien

It's becoming more apparent with each day that this country is in real trouble. So what are we going to do about it?

Remember back to the dark days of 9/11. There were three types of people in this country. There were the 9/10 people who didn't want to hear it and put their heads in the sand. We had the 9/11 people who ran around out of control and scared. What were they scared of? The big, bad terrorists, that's who.

We also had the 9/12 people, who got together with friends and family, and they let the terrorists know that we won't take it anymore.

Moving up to current times and current problems: Here in the United States of America we still have those three people. We have the 9/10 people sticking their heads in the sand and refusing to look at the current state of our government and our failing economy. We also see those same people called the 9/11 people. They're running around scared, but this time it's not the terrorists that are keeping them up at night, it's the U.S. Government that's scaring them to death.

We also have the third kind of people here in the United States, and they are the 9/12 people. They need to start telling the government that we're mad as hell and we won't take it anymore. When do we remind our Congress that the fact is they work for us? We need to start phoning, sending letters and e-mailing them to remind them that

Crisis relief worker class offered by S.O. Red Cross

A series of free classes in Medford for anyone interested in becoming a Red Cross disaster relief volunteer is offered by the American Red Cross Southern Oregon Chapter.

Class titles: *Mass Care, Shelter Operations, Client Casework, and Health Services*. Participants may take some or all classes, depending on interests.

For schedule information, location, and registration, phone 779-3773.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 29
SWEET & SOUR CHICKEN WITH RICE

Oriental blend vegetables, oriental pea salad, bran wheat roll, banana chocolate chip bar

very fact. Tell them that if they don't do what we want we'll fire them.

I would like for people to read the nine principles listed here and then read the 12 values list of the 912 Project. Those who agree to seven or more of the nine principles have a lot in common with me.

The Nine Principles:

1. America is good.
2. I believe in God and He is the Center of my Life.

3. I must always try to be a more honest person than I was yesterday.

4. The family is sacred.

My spouse and I are the ultimate authority, not the government.

5. If you break the law you pay the penalty. Justice is blind and no one is above it.

6. I have a right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, but there is no guarantee of equal results.

7. I work hard for what I have and I will share it with who I want to. Government cannot force me to be charitable.

8. It is not unAmerican for me to disagree with authority or to share my opinions.

9. The government works for me. I do not answer to it; it answers to me.

The Twelve Values:

Honesty, Reverence, Hope, Thrift, Humility, Charity, Sincerity, Moderation, Hard Work, Courage, Personal Responsibility, Gratitude.

For those who agree with the above and want to meet with others who feel the same, we will meet on Wednesday, July 29 at the RCC Kerby Belt Bldg. at 7 p.m. People might want to look at the 912 Website: The912Project.com. There, they will read about others just like them and me. I really would love to meet them and hear what they think.

A friend's passing From David MacKechnie Cave Junction

I just received a phone call an hour ago informing me that my friend, Joe Crutchfield, had passed. I just want anyone who knows me to know what a hole this will make in my life.

Joe has been a great friend to me. We shared a lot of work and a whole lot more laughs.

I dragged him into so many goofy jobs, so many times for people that just plain needed help. Not once did he not respond to their needs and work out something to help them.

So, to Kristy, Dustin, Aaron and Adam, and all the rest of his family, I can only tell you what a privilege it is to have worked with and known Joe and how much I will miss him.

I.V. library opening nearer

Another step was taken on Thursday, July 16 toward reopening the Illinois Valley Branch of the Josephine County Library, as the county commissioners voted to approve the lease and grant agreements with Josephine Community Libraries Inc. (JCLI) for the branch in Cave Junction.

"It's now official. We are ready to roll," said Commissioner Dave Toler.

For Toler, the continuing challenge is to encourage his fellow Illinois Valley residents to become members of the library system in proportion to their numbers in the county. Approximately 20 percent of county residents live in Illinois Valley.

Said Toler, "My concern is, there is a strong notion from some folks (in I.V.)

that we don't get our piece of the pie -- the money gets spent on the other side of the hill. Well sometimes it's the other way around, and this is a good example of that."

"If we fall a little short of 20 percent in terms of donations and revenue, hey, we are lower income, and I think we can excuse that. But not in terms of membership, especially when you can join for as little as 10 bucks per year."

"I look at it as a personal challenge," said Toler. "I'm proud of my community, and I don't like other people having to take up for me."

The I.V. Library is set to open on Sept. 5. Contact JCLI's I.V. coordinators at 592-3289 for more membership information.

Campus Achievers

OIT Honors Three From Cave Junction

Three students from Cave Junction have attained 2009 Spring Term deans lists at Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) at Klamath Falls.

Those cited and their majors: Padraic Cotta, computer engineering technology; Kevin LaPierre, civil engineering; Louis Levison, renewable energy engineering.

Inclusion on the lists requires a 3.30 to 3.69 grade point average. Only full-time students (12 credit hours or more) are eligible for academic honors.

You're Invited to a Community Open House

Saturday, July 25th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at the newly remodeled and expanded facility of

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Cave Junction Ward

209 S. Junction Ave. (next to Jubilee Park)

Including:

- Open-play volleyball and a look at the new basketball court
- Samples of freshly-baked bread by the Relief Society
- Food storage and emergency preparedness information
- Genealogy assistance in the Family History Room
- Music in the Chapel

and more

No charge or obligation.

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5 P.M. THURSDAYS

(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until noon Fridays with an additional charge.)

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