

UPPER LEFT EDGE

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inside of a dog it's too dark to read.

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To the Editor:

On a recent trip to Cannon Beach, I picked up and read my first copy of the "Upper Left Edge" newspaper. For the most part I enjoyed it, but I feel I must reply to Professor Lindsay's editorial on tourists on the front page.

First a little history. My grandfather built a house on Madison St. in the 1950's, and our family has owned it ever since. My great-grandmother lived there until she moved to a nursing home, and since then the house has been used as a vacation home, although it is occupied most every week by some family member or other all summer long. I have been visiting Cannon Beach regularly for more than thirty years, and so consider myself a "part-time" resident.

Mr. Lindsey definitely has a bad taste in his mouth regarding the tourists and their activities. I have to wonder if perhaps he spots and distains me also, as I invariably come down and browse through all the shops in town, though I may visit one or more times a month. I never get tired of looking all the wonderful things in the windows, or sitting outside Osburn's enjoying an ice cream cone and watching all the "slack-jawed cretins" he so despises. I love saltwater taffy and take pounds of it home to my more unfortunate landlocked friends, and as an accomplished artist, have shown and sold many watercolor portraits of the so-called "Great Phallic," Haystack Rock. I have traveled often almost the length of the Oregon Coast, from Warrenton to as far south as Bandon, and still my favorite beach, town, and atmosphere is Cannon Beach. After so many years spent here, it feels like home.

Yes, occasionally it becomes annoying to have to fight crowds both in the streets and on the sidewalks just for a short trip to Mariner Market to buy a quart of milk, but that is the price that must be paid for living in such a beautiful area. In fact, I am glad to see all the tourists, as I'm sure most of the shopkeepers are as well. In the next decade I plan to move permanently to the coast and open a small business, and I will be depending on those "day trippers" and their Gold MasterCard to finance my lifestyle here. Tourism is what makes life at the coast possible for a great many people; the fishing industry obviously won't support too many families any more. Look at all the advertisements in your own newspaper! All those businesses advertising in the Upper Left Edge. . . How would they survive if not for all these "Laboratory rats in a biology experiment"?

Mr. Lindsey uses the analogy of a pet dog in closing; let me use another: "Let us not bite the hand that feeds us."

Sincerely,
Cathryn A. Howard

To the Upper Left Edge:

A tirade is always easier to extend than tolerance. I have read and re-read Peter's diatribe on "tourists". Generally I find, at least, literary interest in Peter's paragraphs because he uses such wonderful words. At most, I am entertained by his cranky, folksy view on events and ideas. Today I'm disappointed and motivated enough to write a response.

I have lived here, in various forms and tenure, since the 70's. . . I visited here before I lived here. In fact, I remember extending a little hospitality to you, Rev. Hults, before you had the pleasure of living here. Hmmm. Billy dear. . . did that make you a guest, a visitor, a (gasp, oh no!) tourist? Why I believe it did. I'll let that point make itself.

And, Peter. Have you not left the urban growth boundary of Cannon Beach in the last 40 years? It sounds as if you yourself have never been a guest/tourist anywhere else. Or are you simply suggesting that you are a well-behaved guest while all others of the world who visit here are not?

I suggest the teeming masses that fill our sidewalks are an interesting and fairly (percentage-wise) accurate cross-section of humanity. Some are rude. Some are thoughtful. Some think first and only of themselves. Some extend a

gracious and helpful hand to others. These descriptions could apply to a listing of our local folk just as easily.

It is unfortunate, Peter, that I have to point out that your treasured friend, Billy, who ran your words on his front page, accepts money from those "slack jawed cretins", to contribute to his livelihood and (try to) enable him to keep printing the fabulous (and fun) Upper Left Edge. And for all the retailers who do present the Haystack merchandise there are those who invest themselves in providing materials that feed other needs than that of regional souvenirs -- good food for body and mind and spirit.

There are guests seeing the Pacific Ocean for the first time, celebrants of anniversaries, wedding parties, soul searchers who want to enjoy the beauty and impact of this particular spot. . . European tourists enchanted by the spaciousness. . . the friendliness of this place. There are all different perspectives, Peter. All different ways to make do with the reality of living in a destination location. I suggest you harken to your (wildly acclaimed and justly so) days of teaching. When tourists thoughtlessly toss, litter, gather, encumber -- respond. . . teach them a better way by example or by suggestion.

And further, by remembering that folks as fun and fascinating as Rev. Billy were once tourists -- you might open yourself to actually meeting someone in 1995 who is opinionated, articulate, imaginative and mannerly. Stranger things have happened.

Mary Anne Radmacher-Hershey
August 1, 1995

Addendum:

As days have passed I realized Peter "got my dander up" so because of my own experience as a traveller/tourist. I pay conscious attention to respect the place and people which I am visiting. And I know many who visit here do the same.

What Peter points out is true -- the "tourist" here has changed in the last decades. But so has the profile of the average American. This article of Peter's was more a diatribe on current American values. . . it directed its voice to a generalized, collective "tourist" and I object(ed) to that. Last year I remember some advice that Dr. Karkey offered visitors. It was a gentle, pointed reminder to, before doing anything in this special place, "go to the beach, take off your shoes and walk around."

Stress levels escalate, to be sure, at this time of year. . . evidenced by my mercurial response to Peter's justly held opinion.

What's the point? The problem's a lot deeper than some misbehaved guests with car alarms. And the solution isn't clear to me. . . but I know that mostly folks prefer to be treated as individuals and not lumped together. I know I do. (editor's note: The 'visit' of the beloved Rev. referred to by Mary Anne was actually a working one, Billy and his companions being canvassers for OSPIRG, and not tourists as she thought. But thanks for M.A.'s hospitality nonetheless.)

II Professore,

The topic of your August column was ostensibly "tourists". The piece had more to do with dogs, doo-doo, and old males, however; and Professore Pietro, this troubles us. We detect a Newt-like quiver in the voice that harkens back to a "saner" time when Dads worked and Moms took care of the kids. Those days are gone and what we are left with is today's "real thing": a lot of tourists in the summer who feel the same pressures as the rest of us. They don't have much leisure time, worry about money, and are often not mindful enough to enjoy what's in front of them. But surely they are no more callous and aggressive than the author of August's column? We have admired your thoughtful and considered opinions over the years, but the tone of August's entry goes beyond the occasional surly note we have come to expect in your work. In fact, it reminds us of a certain old male yipping dog we know, but that's another story. . . perhaps your Ibogaine Rx needs adjusting. Or may we suggest that in the summer months you emulate a more mellow journalist than Hunter Thompson, say Andy Rooney?

Yours Affectionately,
Las Tres Locas

Okay, that does it. Now, for the final word on the subject. Yes, the Upper Left Edge survives on ads and contributions in part from tourist-dependant businesses. Yes, your beloved editor sells used books to visitors as well as locals. Yes, it is impossible to earn a living from fishing or even logging for most people here on the edge. The reason for that is that the loggers over cut, destroyed streams, killed salmon runs, and generally killed the golden goose. All in the name of giving the folks what they want. Well, might we humbly suggest that if the tourist industry is going to endure in this and other locations, that it best learn from the history of past industries in this area. Tourists visit Cannon Beach for lots of reasons, not the least of which are the natural beauty and artistic people who live here year round. This community has taken many controversial actions to preserve the livability of the town, to save us from the fate of Lincoln City and strip mall towns. The price of living in

Groucho Marx



MOONS & TIDES

CORRECTED FOR PACIFIC BEACH TIDES
SEPTEMBER - High Tides

WASHINGTON AND OREGON COAST TIDES

DATE	A.M.		P.M.	
	time	ft.	time	ft.
1 Fri	5:43	6.1	5:20	8.1
2 Sat	6:58	5.8	6:23	7.9
3 Sun	8:17	5.8	7:38	7.8
4 Mon	9:29	6.2	8:55	7.8
5 Tue	10:29	6.7	10:04	8.0
6 Wed	11:21	7.3	11:05	8.3
7 Thu	.....	.....	12:06	7.8
8 Fri	.....	.....	11:59	8.4
9 Sat	.....	.....	12:48	8.1
10 Sun	0:50	8.3	1:26	8.4
11 Mon	1:38	8.1	2:03	8.4
12 Tue	2:24	7.8	2:38	8.4
13 Wed	3:09	7.4	3:11	8.2
14 Thu	3:56	6.9	3:44	8.0
15 Fri	4:44	6.5	4:19	7.6
16 Sat	5:39	6.0	5:00	7.3
17 Sun	6:42	5.7	5:51	6.9
18 Mon	7:50	5.6	6:57	6.6
19 Tue	8:56	5.8	8:11	6.6
20 Wed	9:51	6.2	9:18	6.8
21 Thu	10:37	6.6	10:15	7.1
22 Fri	11:17	7.1	11:06	7.4
23 Sat	11:53	7.5	11:26	7.6
24 Sun	.....	.....	12:26	7.9
25 Mon	0:37	7.8	12:57	8.2
26 Tue	1:21	7.8	1:29	8.5
27 Wed	2:06	7.7	2:02	8.7
28 Thu	2:52	7.5	2:37	8.8
29 Fri	3:42	7.2	3:16	8.8
30 Sat	4:36	6.8	4:01	8.5
31 Sun	5:39	6.4	4:56	8.1

CORRECTED FOR PACIFIC BEACH TIDES
SEPTEMBER - Low Tides

WASHINGTON AND OREGON COAST TIDES

DATE	A.M.		P.M.	
	time	ft.	time	ft.
1 Fri	11:11	1.7	.....	.....
2 Sat	0:30	0.1	12:14	2.2
3 Sun	1:46	0.1	1:32	2.5
4 Mon	3:01	-0.1	2:52	2.4
5 Tue	4:07	-0.5	4:05	1.9
6 Wed	5:04	-0.8	5:07	1.3
7 Thu	5:52	-1.0	6:02	0.7
8 Fri	6:37	-0.9	6:52	0.2
9 Sat	7:17	-0.7	7:39	-0.1
10 Sun	7:56	-0.4	8:24	-0.3
11 Mon	8:33	0.1	9:07	-0.3
12 Tue	9:09	0.6	9:49	-0.2
13 Wed	9:45	-1.2	10:33	0.1
14 Thu	10:23	1.7	11:20	0.4
15 Fri	11:07	2.3	.....	.....
16 Sat	0:14	0.7	12:01	2.7
17 Sun	1:17	0.9	1:07	3.0
18 Mon	2:24	0.9	2:20	2.9
19 Tue	3:26	0.7	3:27	2.6
20 Wed	4:18	0.5	4:24	2.1
21 Thu	5:02	0.3	5:13	1.5
22 Fri	5:41	0.1	5:58	0.9
23 Sat	6:17	0.1	6:39	0.4
24 Sun	6:52	0.2	7:19	-0.1
25 Mon	7:26	0.3	8:00	-0.5
26 Tue	8:02	0.6	8:41	-0.7
27 Wed	8:39	0.9	9:24	-0.8
28 Thu	9:19	1.3	10:12	-0.7
29 Fri	10:06	1.8	11:07	-0.5
30 Sat	11:02	2.2	.....	.....

BASEBALL

With less than a month left in the season, and the Cubs at 500, we are tempted to start thinking of next year. The only good news we have is Mr. Baseball is back and we've got him. So get into it: baseball, the art, is about to reach the mainstage for its brief fling next month; the World Series. How many years can your beloved editor wait?

We shall get by, we shall survive.



Cannon Beach is not just having the sidewalks remind you of a crowded high school hallway, or a fifteen minute wait to get that quart of milk while listening to screaming litterers of children whose parents seem to be as careless about their maintenance as they were about their manufacture, but doing all this while rushing to your third job of the day at minimum wage. It has been said that the equivalent of the City of Chicago visits Oregon each summer; pity they don't bring the Cubs. We have been called stupid because we don't have a McDonald's in town. We have seen, yes, "slack jawed cretins" demanding ice water, bathrooms, and instant gratification at Bill's Tavern, then stiffing the waiter on a \$30 bill. We have put up with, in businesses all over town, being treated like serfs and morons by our own "guests". We have a theory that the excessive amounts of oxygen in our air makes them act that way.

We feel that the point the professor was making was that if we don't pay more attention to what we do and how we do it, we will ruin the very reasons people want to visit. And if the visitors we are attracting do not appreciate this community, perhaps we should reassess what kind of a community we are or want to become. For surely the cost of living anywhere should not be common courtesy, respect for the town, the natural environment and the people. Just because your employer pays your wages, doesn't mean you have to crawl on your knees for the almighty dollar. No, you shouldn't bite the hand that feeds you, but remember, just because you feed a dog doesn't mean you can whip it.

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