Rev. Hults Editorial Now & Then

Well, it's August, and we are in the midst of madness here on the Edge. Jimmy Buffett said it best in his postcard from the Lower Right Corner, (Key West) "The weather is here, wish you were beautiful."

Speaking of correspondence, the humble ms. Sally, sent a letter from her lookout tower in Eastern Oregon, and included a few drawings. The kitten on our front page is named Maxwell, and the drawing on this page is of a lightning storm that luckily didn't start any fires. Sally's book, Wildlife on the Edge is in progress, and it looks like the Left Coast Group will have to raise something like \$5000 to get it printed and bound in the manner it deserves. So, if you would like to help (and take a tax deduction) write a sizable check to the Cannon Beach Arts Association, and put Left Coast Group on the memo line, or order several copies of "Uncle Mike's Guide to the Real Oregon Coast with disturbing illustrations by Steve McLeod" and "Letters to Uncle Mike", using the form below. We have stashed a few hundred just for this purpose, so get them while they

Speaking of Uncle Mike, the rascal slipped out of town and has set up housekeeping a little farther down the edge. You can occasionally find him at "Oregon Books" in Depoe Bay (see ad on page 3).

(Ludites, ignore the following paragraph.) We have again managed to paste up another issue, on paper and on the net. Oh, you haven't visited our web site? We are not surprised. Some of our readers, and most of our writers don't even own televisions, let alone computers. The Net is none the less part of the free press, and we, with the help of our web wicca, are available at, take a deep breath, http://www.pcez.com/~patrickl or soon at www.pcez.com/~upperleftedge. Check it out, comments requested.

The Crackpots, Bond St. and bunch of other musicians did a free concert in the park in Cannon Beach, recently, and my, it was fun. Beth says they will be doing it again Saturday August 16th from 2 PM til 8 PM, don't miss it!!

While at the abovementioned event we ran into Joe Keating (former Green Party candidate for U.S. Senate) and he told us about The Cascadia Summer, a series of actions, sponsored by the Oregon Wildlife Federation, stretching from Northern California to South Washington, to defend what is left of the forests. There will be actions at Dillion Creek (no. cal.) China Left (cave junction) Howl & Growl (eugene) Eagle Creek (portland) and Jammin (so. wash.). You can call 1-800-283-5926 for more information. It might be a good way to spend part of your summer vaction. Your grandchildren will be proud of you if you do.





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UPPERLEFT EDGE AUGUST 1997

.. Fair... continued from page 1.

weapons, badges, cuffs, mace, etc. They wandered around like everyone else, looking at everyone else. If someone was rolling a cigarette, they would check it out, to make sure it was tobacco being rolled. There were a few arrests, or ejections, usually folks who just forgot that the rules had changed at the Fair, and took out a pipe at the wrong time.

It is one thing to educate people to the dangers of drugs, and to try to prevent crimes driven by the abuse of drugs, and quite another to threaten and harass otherwise law-abiding and valuable members of their communities because of a lifestyle choice that includes drug use in a responsible manner.

Here in Cannon Beach we have some very exacting zoning laws that the community passed to maintain its livability and safety, but you will find certain exceptions to those laws allowed, either by the "grandfathering in" of an existing condition, or allowing a variance, in exceptional cases. In the case of zoning, the overall situation is considered, such should be the case in drug laws. Mandatory sentencing, property seizure, invasions of privacy, and overflowing prisons are the result of the "War on Drugs" and it is the child of a self-righteous moralistic minority. The same bunch of Bible thumping, collection plate rattling, homophobic true believers that brought us prohibition. And the results are the same. What is the difference between the Capone Gang and the Crips? The drugs they sell? No, basically they sell the same drug, temporary escape. Escape from poverty, stress, fear, hopelessness and pain. We as a people must solve these problems before we will see any solutions to our drug problems.

All this being said, we had a wonderful time at the Fair, and it was in fact very mellow with the absence of drunken young people, and the serious crazies.

It was early in the morning, and as we passed a deep-fried veggie booth just getting ready to open, we heard, "Wow, someone forgot their wheelchair." The best t-shirt/bumper sticker was; "Meditation;

It's not what you think."

The best comment was; "Bad cop, no donut."

There is no possible line of conduct which has at some time and place been condemned, and which has not at some other time and place been enjoined as a duty. -William Lecky



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UPPER-LEFT-EDGE

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