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Chips Off The Old Klock - Volume XXIV

by Joe Klock, Sr.

Spontaneous droppings gleamed from bottom of the inspirational bird cage:

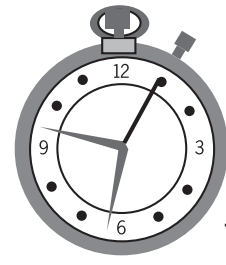
- When NASA's robot, CURIOSITY, explored the surface of the planet Mars, it reportedly found no evidence of ESPN, empty beer cans or pornography, proving that our astronauts were, indeed, the first men to have visited there.
- A word to the wise is usually unnecessary.
- Politics is the modern American art of getting money from the rich and votes from the poor by promising to insulate each group from the greedy, self-serving goals of the other.
- Roseanne Barr and others like her exhibit a touch of crass.
- Too many cooks tend to make far more dirty pots and pans than does one cook who is working without assistance.
- Should Dolly Parton be listed in the encyclopedia under "Significant Udders?"
- Few things spotlight the illogic of American politics more clearly than the selection of our Vice presidential candidates. After millions of dollars are spent in primary elections, the choice of our second-in-command is left, entirely and arbitrarily, in the hands of the successful candidate, with no input whatever from the electorate. Why not, one wonders, bestow that honor on the second choice of the nominee's party? This would seem to be a better idea than

anointing the hand-picked, politically expedient and often feckless nominee of the front runner.

- How come words of wisdom are so often in conflict? E.g., "Haste makes waste," and "He who hesitates is lost."
- Query concerning a respected old saying: If beauty is, in fact, only skin deep, just what are we looking for: Glamorous guts? Cute kidneys? Lovely livers?
- Why do my children's birthdays make me feel older than my own do?

RUDYARD KIPLING REVISED:

"If you can fill each unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the world and everything that's in it,
And a heart attack before you're fifty-one."




- Always leave people you love with warm words each and every time you part company with them; it might well be the last time you'll ever see them in this world.
- Rather frequently, people who say that something can't be done are interrupted by other people who are actually doing it.
- Leisure, praise and rewards are best enjoyed when they have been really earned.
- By and large, as long as you feel reasonably good, older tends to be more gratifying than younger.

- Most people want advice for the same reason that drunks want lampposts - for support, rather than for illumination.
- Most people who are fond of saying that money isn't everything usually have more than enough of it.
- PARODY ON BARBRA STREISAND'S SONG, "PEOPLE:"
"Peepholes, people who use peepholes, are the yuckiest people in the world."
"Through your curtains, they're peeking through your curtains,
"Skulking about outside, ogling your backside,
"Acting more like creeples than peoples."

(Granted, the foregoing opusette needs work. Collaborators will be welcomed and royalties shared equitably.)

- A SENSIBLE RULE TO FOLLOW: Don't speak - never utter a syllable - unless and until you are absolutely sure that the sounds you make will be an improvement over the silence you will irreversibly destroy.
- ON PREDICTIONS: It's almost a sucker bet that the future will arrive with a surprised look on its face.

Freelance wordworker Joe Klock, Sr. (joeklock@aol.com) winters in Key Largo and Coral Gables, Florida and summers in New Hampshire. More of his "Klockwork" can be found at www.joeklock.com.



- Tell me how come we tend to be so apprehensive about tearing off those "Do Not Remove" tags from new pillows, blankets and mattresses? Like, what's the worst they can do to us if we get caught in the act or are later ratted out by a hostile bedmate?
- You can succeed as a parent by simply making your children feel safe, guided, wanted, loved and worthwhile. Most of the other merit badges and demerits are likely to befall you accidentally.
- Give your pets and your kids everything they want and you'll probably end up with good pets and troublesome kids..
- Have you ever noticed that the things you love to do are the things that you do best?
- It makes little or no sense to expect that our children will listen to our advice and ignore the conflicting examples we set for them.
- The best way to enjoy your children is to love them for what they are, rather than thinking about what you'd like them to be or what they might have become.
- A good goal in life is to be all that you can be that you WANT to be; chances are slim-to-none-that you'll ever be more than that.