

SOME ELECTION DAY THOUGHTS AND HUMOR ON THE INTERNET

November 11, 2003

November 4th was Election Day and on my way to vote I had some random thoughts about that and other subjects.

First, I thought how great it would be if everyone on the highway drove all the time as if the car behind them or in front of them was a police car. I know that the presence of the mobile speed indicator on Main Street in Old Forge a few days back made me more cognizant of my speed.

The other thing I thought about after I voted was how difficult it is to make your decision when the candidates have been known as friends and acquaintances for years. It's not like a national election where your choices are much more clear-cut. When all is said and done, the candidates would all perform well in what many times a thankless job. I can honestly say I have never regretted losing my vote in a local election.

For a guy who is a computer illiterate I get more than my share of emails. Where the people find time to send them is a real mystery. I do have to say they are often informative, with the majority designed to make you laugh. Many are spurred my way by things I have said or phrases I have used in my column.

One I really enjoyed was about the old farmer who walked down to his large pond one hot summer evening. As he approached the pond he surprised a group of young women skinny-dipping. They screamed and scrambled to the far end of the pond shouting, "We're not coming out until you leave." He replied, "I did not come down here to watch you ladies or make you get out of the pond naked, I only came to feed the alligator."

Moral: Old age and treachery will overcome youth and skill.

Another one I received involved a guy inquiring about hog raising in a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture. He mentioned a friend of his who got a check from the government for not raising hogs. He wanted to know how to get in the business.

He went on to question how to inventory the hogs he planned not to raise. His friend had been raising hogs for years and never made over \$400, until he got \$1000 for not raising any.

Next question was if he got \$1000 for not raising 50 would he get \$2000 for not raising 100? After he got up to 4,000 hogs he figured to earn \$90,000. Since the hogs he wouldn't raise wouldn't eat 100,000 bushels of corn, could he also qualify for a subsidy for not raising corn?

Finally, he wrote, he would like information on the "not raising cows" business. And in view of the circumstances outlined above, he would be totally unemployed and planned to file for unemployment and food stamps. He assured the Secretary that they could count on his vote in the coming election.

A perfect example of Frederic Bastiat's statement: "The state is the great fiction by which everyone seeks to live at the expense of everyone else."

Some others I enjoyed follow:

- It's always darkest before dawn. So, if you're going to steal your neighbor's newspaper, that's when to do it.
- Sex like air is not important unless you're not getting any
- If at first you don't succeed skydiving is not for you

- There are two theories about arguing with women; neither one works
- You know you're old when:
- Getting lucky means finding your car in the parking lot
- You change your underwear after every sneeze
- Getting a little action means you don't need to take any fiber
- You are cautioned to slow down by your doctor and not the police

One last thought on last week's column on the compass, but it's not mine. A reader suggested that instruction on using a compass be included in the hunter safety course - certainly not a bad idea for Adirondack hunters.