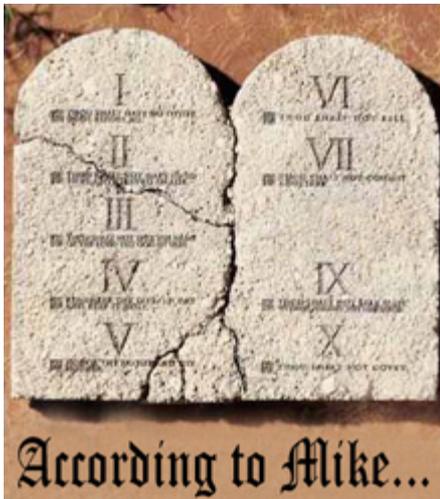


Lying Ain't a Sin!, Unnoticed Amid the Laughter, More Mitchell, A Delicious Hoax, A Request, Ban on Oxygen Bars Circumvented, From Canada, Verbatim Editorial, Data Input Requested, 2008 Scholarship Awards, The Enchanted Islands, Signs of Progress, In Closing...



We've heard from reader Chris Wayne in Brisbane, Australia, who tipped us to this next item.

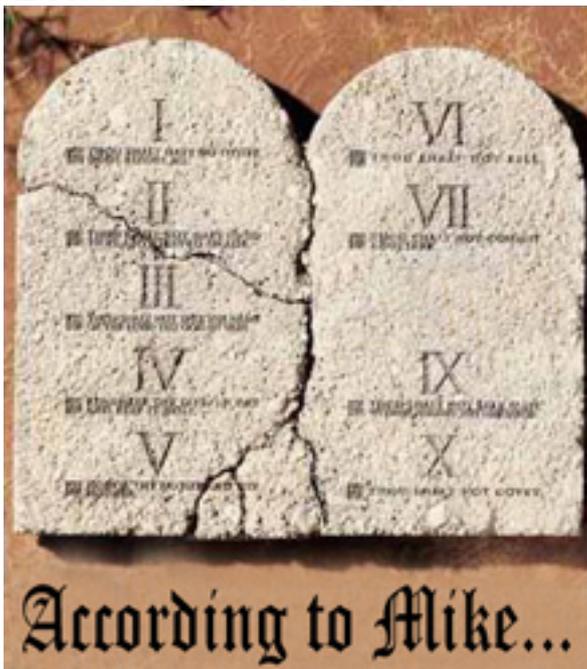
The Australian Christian Church [ACC] is a group of Pentecostal Churches formerly known as the Assemblies of God in Australia. It was formed in 1937 and adopted the new name in 2007. It currently consists of more than 1,120 churches with over 215,000 constituents, making it the largest Pentecostal movement in Australia.

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LYING AIN'T A SIN!



We've heard from reader Chris Wayne in Brisbane, Australia, who tipped us to this next item.

The Australian Christian Church [ACC] is a group of Pentecostal Churches formerly known as the Assemblies of God.

When I heard some recent news about the church, I was quite surprised to find that the church had a list of names of members who had been expelled from the church. I was quite surprised to find that the church had a list of names of members who had been expelled from the church.

Hey, I might really be onto something here! Inspired and invigorated by what I'd found, I looked over the

But to get back to Mike. As part of his charade, he would be the FBI's medic. That day he was off to his

Guglielmucci Jr., we're told, is now seeking "professional help." From a priest, no doubt.

UNNOTICED AMID THE LAUGHTER

Re-examining the ridiculous <https://www.fbi.gov/equipment/2016/07/28/ade-56-advanced-detection-equipment/#0> is from which these ridiculous

Unlike Trace Detectors (TD) require the supply of sample transport ADE-56™ does not require a



Now, consider: If you were to use the ADE-56™ in a way that causes it to fail, would

One more example of how silly and devious these people can get:

By programming the detection cards to specifically target a particular substance, through the proprietary

Okay. This suggests that if we were to design a test of the powers of the wonderful ADE 561™ we might

1. The operator of the device – referred to ahead as “Operator” – must be chosen by ATSC (UK) Ltd. – n
2. The foregoing test must produce positive evidence that the Operator is capable of detecting the chosen
3. Next, ten Targets, one of which is the chosen statistical object, will be arranged “randomly” in the
4. Should the Operator successfully identify the correct Target five times in the ten trials, the James Ran

I *have mailed this suggestion to the “ATSC (UK) Ltd” Address provided by my readers that*

A further caution: “ATSC (UK) Ltd” is provided as a means of communication with the company that manufactures the

We await with interest any response that ATSC may care to send...

MORE MITCHELL

On CNN, and in the UK Daily Mail, National Capital Area Skeptics [NCAS] president Scott Snell comm

Apollo 14 astronaut Dr. Edgar Mitchell, the 6th man to walk on the Moon, attracted recent widespread m

Mitchell claimed to have been

...deeply involved in certain committees and certain research programs with very credible scientists and

Mitchell affirmed that the aliens' physical appearance, as typically portrayed in popular culture, is accurate.

In that newsletter of NCAS, Scott added a personal comment:

I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Mitchell back in April 1994 at a church in Rockville, Md. During a break

Yet Mitchell's intellect and achievements as a military test pilot and lunar module pilot are unquestionable.

Mitchell also played an important role in the formation of the Association of Space Explorers during the

Perhaps Mitchell serves also as a reminder that rarely are all the human virtues found in one individual,

I fear that the answer to [that question is this](#) appearing to present what is perhaps a kinder version of what it

A DELICIOUS HOAX

Obviously, the "Carlos" how-sleep.com/carlos.html – has inspired others to demonstrate how one can

By Jerry Hirsch, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer August 22, 2008

Milan's Osteria L'Intrepido restaurant won Wine Spectator magazine's award of excellence this year despite

To the magazine's chagrin, the restaurant is a Web-based fiction devised by wine critic and author Robert Goldstein.

To pull off the hoax, Goldstein created a bogus website for the restaurant and submitted an application

The application also included what Goldstein suggests was the key qualification: a \$250 entry fee. "I am

In response, Wine Spectator Executive Editor Thomas Matthews listed in a posting on the New York-based

"a. We called the restaurant multiple times; each time, we reached an answering machine and a message.

"b. Googling the restaurant turned up an actual address and located it on a map of Milan.

"c. The restaurant sent us a link to a website that listed its menu."

Wine Spectator even found discussion about the restaurant from purported diners on the foodie website.

He also denied that the award of excellence was designed to generate revenue for the magazine. "This

Matthews said the magazine did not attempt to visit the phony Milan restaurant; it never visits about 200

Getting the award, however, isn't exactly like winning an Olympic medal. This year, nearly 4,500 restaura

That translates to more than \$1 million in revenue.

Tom Pirko, a beverage industry consultant who lives in Santa Barbara County's wine country, said the h

"This gets down to what the Wine Spectator is all about. It's not exactly Wine for Dummies; it's more Wi

Restaurants that win the award receive a plaque they can mount for diners to see and a listing as a win

Goldstein said he came up with the idea while doing research for an academic paper about the standar

He contends that people think wine tastes better when they know it is expensive, citing as evidence tast

When he crafted the bogus wine list for Osteria L'Intrepido (Italian for "The Fearless Restaurant") Golds

"While Osteria L'Intrepido may be the first to win an award of excellence for an imaginary restaurant," G

A REQUEST

Reader Nick J. Karean, who deals in Science, Reason & Rationality, asks:

I'd like to make a request [that you post this](#) in your next SWIFT. Here's the link to the first article about T

Done...

BAN ON OXYGEN BARS CIRCUMVENTED

Reader Dan Lewandowski of Wichita Falls, Texas, has discovered that newspapers speak with forked tongues.

The low-life owners of a new business in town make the strong implication that oxygen treatments will attract customers.

I talked to city code enforcement about this because an oxygen bar was shut down here a few years ago.

FROM CANADA

Reader Angus Bell, from Montreal, shares this with us:

I'm an author from Scotland. I've always had a bent for the paranormal, believing I grew up in a haunted house.

I write to you from Montreal – hotbed of Canadian psychics. For the last four years, in the name of research, I've been exposing them.

I'm sure none of this will be new to you. While I've lost very little money on these endeavors, and have t

The major psychic centre in Montreal is the SSF – Science and Spiritualist Fellowship – run by the “TV-psychic”.

I think it's time to blow the lid on this nonsense. I'll be honest, some of them are very skilled and convincing.

I wondered if you'd be interested in taking a trip north of the border and exposing these clowns. Or perhaps you could do it.

Thank you for your consideration and keep up the brilliant work.

SWIFT August 29, 2008

Written by James Randi
Thursday, 28 August 2008 13:52

Angus, you seem to believe that it's a case of my riding into town on Rocinante and waving a wand... I c

VERBATIM EDITORIAL

In the spirit of public service, we reproduce here an editorial from The New York Times. Please, if you are a

There has been an upsurge of measles cases in the United States, mostly because of parents' misguide

Most people have forgotten, but measles was once an uncontrolled scourge that infected three million t

Then the development of effective vaccines and compulsory vaccination of schoolchildren drove the dis

Nearly all of the outbreaks this year were triggered by a mere 17 travelers or foreign visitors who contra

Outbreaks have occurred among home-schooled children who escaped the compulsory school vaccina

Israel, Switzerland, Austria, Italy and Britain are reporting sizable outbreaks of measles among populati

DATA INPUT REQUESTED

From reader Graham Smith, in Australia:

Student Bianca Kingdon <http://www.westernaustralia.edu.au/understry/offtech> is doing a research proje

I hope that readers will click in and assist Ms. Kingdon...!

2008 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The new JREF Scholarship Awards are announced. Three countries are represented, though all four winners

\$1,000 to Alan Jern

Alan just finished a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science with an overall 4.0 GPA from UCL

\$1,500 to Joseph Meyer

Joseph has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, a Master of Arts in Experimental Psychology and is working

\$2,500 to Tamas Borbely

Tamas is working on a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at the University of Sussex, UK. The

\$5,000 to Pavel Petkov

Pavel is a PhD student in literature at the University of Veliko Turnovo in Bulgaria, with a solid history of

Congratulations and best wishes to these winners. There is no monitoring done on how these funds are

THE ENCHANTED ISLANDS

At tinyurl.com/68h7og you'll see a report on our August 8th – 18th Amazing Adventure

I must report that I was very, very, happy with the extreme care extended by the government-trained nat

The ship always anchored well off-shore, so as not to intrude on the isolation of those islands being visited.

Jaime jumped onto the rock, and made his way – with great difficulty – around outcroppings of sharp volcanic



It was what happened next that really got to all of us. One of us commented, "Jaime, that was very dangerous."

I emphasize this small event because I think it is very significant. Jaime really cared about the ecology of the island.

As another small example of why I have confidence in the integrity of this site, I will tell you that I watched Jaime

Our Amazing Adventure was just that, and I'm still glowing. We're already planning to return there next year.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS



Steve Warshak

Steve Warshak, 42, the [founder of Berkeley Preinjury Nutritional](#) has been called "Crazy" 25 years in

Hey, could "AirBorne" – [see url.com/58lanb](#) – be next...? This next-to-useless nostrum is advertised as

Also, in Santa Clara County Superior Court, 56-year-old Lola Miller has pleaded guilty to two counts of g

And from reader David [Volquodsen, whose net/](#) should be a frequent stop for all you readers, comes this e

The University of Central Lancashire has abandoned, or at least suspended, its "BSc degree" in homeop

Go to [dcscience.net/?p=249](#) to see this item...

IN CLOSING...

My good friend Chip Denman, our official JREF statistician, has graciously accepted to serve as a board

SWIFT August 29, 2008

Written by James Randi
Thursday, 28 August 2008 13:52

We've just received a sample of the long-awaited and stunning new DVD by Robert Neary and Tyson S

It will be noted that I was having a Very Bad Beard Day when I was interviewed for this DVD...

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James Randi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J' and 'R'.