

MUSINGS VIII
OCTOBER 2008
BY: GENE EARNER

POO ON ANDY SHAW OF CHANNEL 7 FOR TRYING TO MAKE A BIG STORY ABOUT SARAH PALIN'S DAUGHTER. ANDY AND HIS FAMILY MUST BE PERFECT. HE WHO IS PERFECT SHALL CAST THE FIRST STONE!!! ANDY SHOULD TAKE A JOURNALISM LESSON FROM CAROL MARIN. CAROL WROTE, "IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS" TO HER FELLOW JOURNALISTS. ANDY IS LEAVING CHANNEL 7 IN NOVEMBER. NONE TOO SOON!!! MAYBE HE WILL HAVE TIME TO GET A HAIRCUT.

JIM "COSMO" KANE DIED AUGUST 3, 2008. A STAR BASKETBALL PLAYER ON LEO'S '48 & '49 CITY CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS. COSMO RECEIVED 3 PURPLE HEARTS IN KOREA. HE WAS A FIGHTER IN ALL PARTS OF LIFE, YET HE WAS A VERY GENTLE AND COMPASSIONATE MAN. HE BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE IRON WORKERS UNION WHERE HE CONTINUED HIS FIGHTING. A GREAT LEO MAN AND A GREAT HUMAN BEING. INDUCTED INTO LEO'S HALL OF FAME ABOUT THE YEAR 2000. "FACTA-NON-VERBA" MEANING "DEEDS NOT WORDS"

IF WE ALL PRAY VERY HARD AND WITH A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK MADRID OR TOYKO WILL BE AWARDED THE 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES AND SPARE CHICAGO THE BIG MESS IT WILL CREATE. ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO RICHIE DALEY PROCLAIMED THAT ATHENS, GREECE SHOULD BE THE PERMANENT HOME OF THE SUMMER OLYMPICS. WHO CHANGED HIS MIND?

MY VOTE FOR BEST MAYOR IN COOK COUNTY IS JIM SEXTON OF EVERGREEN PARK. ON TOP OF DOING A VERY FINE JOB, JIM IS PROLIFE. OBAMA SHOULD HAVE SELECTED HIM.

GEESE COME BACK TO HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY ON AUGUST 1ST. SIMILAR TO SWALLOWS COMING BACK TO CAPISTRANO.

I'LL BET SOX GENERAL MANAGER KENNY WILLIAMS LAUGHS HIMSELF TO SLEEP EVERYNIGHT KNOWING HE DIDN'T GET TO SIGN FUKEDOME FOR 48 MILLION DOLLARS LIKE JIM HENDRY OF THE CUBS DID. (DIG IN BOTH FEET AND SWING!!!) DON'T SWING LIKE A SPINNING TOP!!! OVERATED AND OVERPAID. ALSO, I THINK IT IS VERY DISTASTEFUL TO SEE ALL OF THE JAP FLAGS AT WRIGLEY FIELD AND ONLY A HANDFUL OF AMERICAN FLAGS.

PUT BUTTER ON THOMAS ENGLISH MUFFINS AND PLACE IN MICROWAVE UNCOVERED FOR 25 SECONDS. MUCH BETTER THAN A TOASTER.

I RECEIVED MY 2009 VANITY LICENSE PLATES (LEO HIGH) FOR MY AUTOMOBILE. LEO 50 HAS BEEN TAKEN FOR 24 YEARS AND LEO 1950 WAS TAKEN 5 YEARS AGO. IT IS EASY TO REMEMBER AND MAKES A GREAT CONVERSATION PIECE.

ORANGE AND BLACK WERE VERY NOTICEABLE WITH THE MEDIA AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS. MARY ANN AHERN AND CAROL MARIN WERE SPORTING ORANGE AND BLACK. EVEN JOHN MCCAIN HAD AN ORANGE TIE WITH A BLACK SUIT. PROBABLY WERE GETTING READY FOR THE UPCOMING LEO FOOTBALL SEASON.

IN THIS ERA THE NOMINEES FOR PRESIDENT ARE SELECTED IN THE PRIMARIES AND THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE SELECTS HIS RUNNING MATE. THE CONVENTIONS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A FOUR DAY PEP RALLY. I LIKED THE HIGH SCHOOL PEP RALLIES MUCH MORE AND THEY ONLY TOOK 45 MINUTES AND THERE WAS NO MEN HUGGING MEN. I READ IN THE SUN-TIMES THAT THE FIRST CONVENTION LASTED 6 HOURS.

THE MEDIA HAS REPORTED THAT BILL DALEY MAY RUN FOR GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS. IF HE DOES HE SHOULD HAVE LOU HOLTZ BE HIS CAMPAIGN MANAGER. I HAVE NEVER SEEN EITHER OF THEM HALFWAY ANSWER A QUESTION. THEY REMIND ME OF "DOUBLE TALK KELLY" FROM THE JACK PAAR SHOW.

I READ IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT IT ONLY TOOK 420 MILLION DOLLARS TO VERIFY THAT THERE IS ICE ON MARS. MONEY WELL SPENT? MAYBE ON JANUARY 1, 2010 THE N.H.L. MIGHT CONSIDER MARS FOR THEIR ANNUAL OUTDOOR GAME.

ALTHOUGH DIESEL FUEL FOR OUR VAN WAS OVER \$9.00 PER GALLON AND B&B'S WERE ABOUT \$70 PER PERSON OUR TRIP TO IRELAND WAS A LOAD OF FUN FOR EVERYONE AND VERY EDUCATIONAL FOR THE GIRLS AS IT WAS THEIR FIRST TRIP IN IRELAND. ALTHOUGH IT WAS MY FIFTH TRIP TO IRELAND, (I HADN'T BEEN THERE IN 20 YEARS), IT WAS A LOT OF FUN TO BE WITH MY CHILDREN AND ADULT GRANDAUGHTERS. ALSO, IT WAS VERY NOSTALGIC TO SEE MY RELATIVES POSSIBLY FOR THE LAST TIME, ALTHOUGH, I HOPE NOT. TIM HAD BEEN THERE BEFORE. DAN WENT TO ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE IN MAYNOOTH FOR HIS SOPHMORE YEAR AT NOTRE DAME. OUR ITINERARY INCLUDED ONE DAY IN DUBLIN (ENOUGH). A VISIT TO THE BROTHER EDMUND RICE NEW CHAPEL AND MUSEUM AT HIS FIRST SCHOOL (MT. SION IN WATERFORD). BROTHER RICE'S CASKET CAN BE VIEWED AT A SEE THROUGH TOMB ON THE FLOOR OF THE CHAPEL. IT WAS MY 4TH TRIP TO MT. SION. IN 1979 I WAS PERMITTED TO

LAY MY HANDS ON HIS ORIGINAL STRAW CASKET. BROTHER MCKENNA OF ST. LAURENCE WROTE AN INTRODUCTORY LETTER ON OUR BEHALF. BROTHER GLEESON WAS MOST GRACIOUS AND ACCOMODATING WITH OUR PERSONAL TOUR. WE KISSED THE BLARNEY STONE, TOOK A BUS TOUR OF THE RING OF KERRY. I BOUGHT 3 IRISH SWEATERS. WE VIEWED THE CLIFFS OF MOHER AND SPENT 6 HOURS ON THE ISLE OF INISHMOOR IN THE ARAN ISLANDS. THE LADS AND LASSIES SCALED DUN AENGUS. IT WAS A 45 MINUTE BOAT RIDE FROM THE MAIN LAND. WE SAW 2 SETS OF RELATIVES IN GALWAY. EYRECOURT IS THE HOME OF THE WORLD FAMOUS EARNER'S PUB. THE PUB IS NOW CLOSED BUT THE RELATIVES ARE STILL THERE AS IS THE HUGE YELLOW SIGN. THE OTHER RELATIVES ARE ON THE FARM IN THE ANNAKEEN COMMUNITY IN NORTHERN GALWAY.

THE LADS AND GRANDAUGHTER, MAURA, CLIMBED THE ROUGH TERRAIN OF CROAGH PATRICK MOUNTAIN. IT TOOK 2 HOURS AND WAS 3 MILES EACH WAY (2,500 FEET UP). IT WAS REEKS SUNDAY. THERE WERE 35,000 PILGRIMS THERE THAT DAY. SOME OF THE PILGRIMS CLIMBED IT IN THEIR BARE FEET FOR EXTRA PENANCE. THERE WERE UNSTABLE ROCKS ALL THE WAY UP.

WE HAD A VERY SPIRITUAL VISIT TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK IN MAYO. WE LIT SOME CANDLES FOR DONNA. WE LOADED UP ON KNOCK HOLY WATER. BEFORE GOING TO IRELAND I HAD BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL WITH A HEART ATTACK SCARE. I HAD SHOULDER BLADE PAIN AND A NUMB LEFT ARM. I ALSO HAD A TWISTED MUSCLE UNDER MY LEFT SHOULDER BLADE THAT WAS VERY PAINFUL AND UNCOMFORTABLE. MAURA SPLASHED A BOTTLE OF KNOCK HOLY WATER ON MY SHOULDER BLADE AND ARM. I HAVE NO MORE PAIN. BELIEVE WHAT YOU WILL.

VERY TIGHT SECURITY AT DUBLIN AIRPORT. THE NON-STOP FLIGHT WAS 7 ½ HOURS. ANY OTHER FLIGHT WOULD BE FROM CHICAGO TO BOSTON AND THEN ON TO IRELAND. FROM BOSTON TO IRELAND IS A 4 ½ HOUR FLIGHT.

U.S. COINS SHOULD HAVE 5 CENTS, 10 CENTS, AND 25 CENTS STAMPED ON THEM. EURO COINS DO AND IT IS MUCH EASIER TO READ.

HANES CLOTHING COMPANY LAYS OFF 8,000 U.S.A EMPLOYEES. HANES CLOTHING COMPANY ADDS 2,000 EMPLOYEES IN ASIA. GLOBAL ECONOMY?

OUTSIDE OF MY IMMEDIATE FAMILY (40) OF CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND GREAT GRANDCHILDREN I ONLY HAVE 4 LIVING RELATIVES IN AMERICA, 2 COUSINS AND 2 NIECES. EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I GET NICE LETTERS FROM THE GIRLS. THEY LIVE IN MARENGO, ILLINOIS AND

BOZEMAN, MONTANA. MATTER OF FACT I LIKE ALL PERSONAL LETTERS TO HELP FILL MY DAYS.

KEEP THINKING ABOUT DRIVING TO MONTANA AND YELLOWSTONE PARK NEXT YEAR. I DON'T WANT TO DRIVE ALONE THOUGH.

TAKE HEART JOHN MCCAIN. I TOO DO NOT KNOW HOW TO OPERATE A COMPUTER. ALSO, I HAVE NO CELL PHONE. IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT? HOME PHONES AND U.S. MAIL WORK JUST FINE WITH ME. "AND THE CARES OF TOMORROW CAN WAIT TILL THIS DAY IS DONE."

HIP, HIP, HOORAY. WE NOW HAVE BIG TEN NETWORK AT NO EXTRA COST. EVIDENTLY NOT ENOUGH SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE SOLD. GOOD THINGS COME TO HE WHO WAITS. AS I WRITE THIS 9/13/08, I AM WATCHING A NORTHWESTERN GAME ON THE BIG TEN NETWORK.

TODAY IS AUGUST 28, 2008. CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON TO START. LEO WILL ALWAYS BE #1 WITH ME. I HAVE GRANDAUGHTER CHEERLEADERS AT MARIST AND ST. LAURENCE HIGH SCHOOLS. WE HAVE 10 TICKETS FOR NORTHWESTERN-MICHIGAN STATE, 6 FOR N.U.-PURDUE, AND 6 FOR N.U.-ILLINOIS. ALL ARE UNDER THE CANOPY IN CASE OF RAINY DAYS. I SEE A LOT OF FAMILIAR FACES AT HIGH SCHOOL GAMES. PAT FITZGERALD AND HIS FAMILY MAKE MY DAY AT NORTHWESTERN. GO PURPLE AND GO ORANGE AND BLACK.

I RECEIVED A PERSONAL PHONE CALL FROM JOHNNY CHAPPETTO (COACH OF RICHARDS HIGH BASKETBALL TEAM & STATE CHAMPS) WISHING US WELL ON OUR TRIP TO IRELAND. JOHNNY, PAT FITZGERALD, NOAH CANNON (LEO), PAT DUNNE (MARIST), MIKE HOLMES (LEO), AND TOM O'MALLEY (ST. XAVIER) ARE PART OF A VERY HIGH CLASS GROUP OF PEOPLE.

WHICH IS WORSE? WATCHING A FOOTBALL GAME ON T.V. AND BEING FORCED TO WATCH T.V. COMMERCIALS OR GOING TO THE GAME AND WAITING FOR THE TIMEOUT TO BE OVER. NO T.V. TIMEOUTS AT HIGH SCHOOL GAMES.

A NEWSPAPER QUOTE FROM REP. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ OF FLORIDA, "I KNOW HILLARY CLINTON AND SARAH PALIN IS NO HILLARY CLINTON." THAT SEEMS LIKE GOOD NEWS TO ME. NO MORE WHITEWATER, ETC.

I READ IN ST. MARGARET'S BULLETIN THAT ST. AUGUSTINE WOULD WRITE WITH GRAMMATICAL ERRORS ON PURPOSE SO THE PEOPLE OF HIS TIME WOULD UNDERSTAND HIM BETTER. IF I WRITE WITH GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IT IS NOT ON PURPOSE.

DIDN'T THAT HUG-A-THON IN DENVER JUST CAPTIVATE YOU?

MARY MITCHELL OF THE SUN-TIMES WROTE, "SARAH PALIN MAKES ME SICK." I WONDER HOW MANY EMAILS, LETTERS, PHONE MESSAGES, ETC. MARY WILL GET SAYING, "MARY YOU MAKE ME SICK."

THE WHITE SOX SCORED A COUP BY BRINGING STEVE STONE BACK TO THE T.V. BOOTH. BEST BASEBALL ANALYST IN M.L.B. HE TELLS IT LIKE IT IS. CUB MANAGEMENT COULDN'T HANDLE THAT.

HOW TIME FLIES! IN 1985 I INTRODUCED MY 5 YEAR OLD GRANDAUGHTER TO THE LEO SPORTS PROGRAM AS A CARTWHEELING CHEERLEADER. HER YOUNGER SISTERS FOLLOWED SOON AFTERWARD. ERIN WAS MARRIED IN 2006 TO A FINE YOUNG CHICAGO POLICEMAN NAMED KEVIN O'NEILL. SHE IS NOW EXPECTING HER FIRST CHEERLEADER OR QUARTERBACK. WHEN? MARCH 17TH OF COURSE. KEVIN'S FATHER IS FROM THE LEO CLASS OF 1967.

THROUGH MIKE SEMPRVIVO'S EFFORTS THE CUL-DE-SAC HAS BEEN REMOVED AT 103RD AND MALTA STREET. MAKES BETTER SENSE. GOOD JOB MIKE.

TALK ABOUT IMPROPER SPELLING. I NOTICED A SIGN ON 135TH AND HARLEM THAT THE COVER CHARGE FOR AN EVENT WAS 10\$ INSTEAD OF \$10.

KUDOS TO THE VILLAGES, COUNTY AND STATE FOR ALL OF THE REPAVING ON THE ROADS IN OUR AREA (EXCEPT CICERO AVE).

GOD BLESS RAYMOND McCARTHY, FATHER OF FATHER TOM McCARTHY, PRESIDENT OF ST. RITA HIGH SCHOOL. HE DIED 3 WEEKS SHY OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY.

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P.S. I APPROVE THIS MESSAGE.

“DOONAREE”

IF YOU EVER GO TO IRELAND I'M SURE YOU WILL AGREE
TO TAKE THE ROAD FROM DUBLIN TOWN WAY DOWN TO DOONAREE
AND WHEN YOU FIND THE WISHING WELL BENEATH THE CHESTNUT TREE,
BENEATH THE SPELL OF THE WISHING WELL WILL YOU MAKE THIS WISH
FOR ME?
O TO BE IN DOONAREE WITH THE SWEETHEART I ONCE KNEW
TO GO BACK HOME NEVER MORE TO ROAM IS MY DEAREST WISH OF ALL

AND THE CARES OF TOMORROW CAN WAIT TILL THIS DAY IS DONE!!!!