

MUSINGS VOLUME VII

JULY 2008

BY: GENE EARNER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY NIECE KAREN EARNER BALLARD ON AUGUST 26TH. IT IS HER SOCIAL SECURITY BIRTHDAY.

LEO ALUMNI BANQUET WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. THE LEXINGTON HOUSE WAS FULL. PRESIDENT RICH FURLONG'S OPENING REMARKS WERE "A-PLUS," AS WAS JOHN GARDNER'S HANDLING OF THE M.C.'S DUTIES. ALSO, THE OTHER SPEAKERS HAD FOND MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY AND DID NOT OVERSTAY THEIR TIME AT THE PODIUM. TOM LYNCH'S SOUND SYSTEM WAS SUPERB. THE LEXINGTON HOUSE ALSO RECEIVES AN "A-PLUS" OR FOUR FORKS AS THE RESTAURANT CRITICS SAY.

A TALE OF BACK TO BACK DAYS. A NICE DAY: MY DAUGHTER PATTI AND I WENT TO BUY TICKETS (6 FOR EACH GAME) FOR 3 NORTHWESTERN GAMES. WE GOT TO CHAT WITH PAT FITZGERALD FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES, AND HAD LUNCH IN MORTON GROVE. A NICE DAY!!!

A BAD DAY: I COMPLETELY FORGOT TO WATCH THE OPRAH WINFREY - BARBARA WALTERS INTERVIEW. IT RUINED MY DAY. A BAD DAY!!!

AN OLDE IRISH STORY: AN IRISH CONSTRUCTION BOSS ASKED PADDY WHAT HE WAS DOING IN THE BASEMENT. PADDY REPLIED, NOTHING SIR. THE BOSS ASKED JIMMY WHAT HE WAS DOING. HELPING PADDY REPLIED JIMMY.

ANDRE RIEU SHOW WAS FABULOUS. TWO AND 1/2 HOURS INCLUDING 7 ENCORES. FABULOUS SEATS ALSO.

WHILE WATCHING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ON TELEVISION I HARDLY EVER SEE A LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BAT ANYMORE. I BELIEVE M.L.B. SHOULD MAKE THEM MANDATORY. THE INFERIOR MAPLE BATS OF TODAY ARE TERRIBLE. ABOUT 5 OR 6 ARE BROKEN EVERY GAME. JORGE POSADA GOT HIT BETWEEN THE EYES BY A PIECE OF A BAT WHILE HE HAD HIS MASK ON. MAYBE WHEN SOMEBODY GETS SERIOUSLY HURT THEY WILL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. I BELIEVE THE SAYING IS, "THE HORSE IS OUT OF THE BARN."

HOW COME BASEBALL PLAYERS HAVE TO WEAR CAPS? SOFTBALL PLAYERS (MALE OR FEMALE) HARDLY EVER WEAR A CAP.

MARY KEARNEY TOLD ME THAT 2ND BASE UMPIRES SHOULD STAND IN BACK OF 2ND BASE INSTEAD OF IN FRONT OF IT ON THE GRASS. BETTER

VIEW OF A STOLEN BASE TRY AND THEY DON'T GET IN THE WAY OF THE 2ND BASEMEN. I AGREE WITH MARY.

CURIOSITY DEPARTMENT: KAY AND JOAN KEARNEY AND I WANT TO KNOW THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 2 BIG CIRCLES CUT IN THE GRASS NEXT TO HOME PLATE AT COMISKEY PARK.

ALSO VERY CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT THE PITCHMAN FOR THE MENARD'S COMMERCIALS LOOKS LIKE. HOPE HIS LOOKS ARE BETTER THAN HIS VOICE. IF NOT HE IS IN BIG TROUBLE.

TO ALL RADIO AND T.V. BASEBALL ANNOUNCERS. THE PHRASE IS, "I HAVE TO DO THIS." NOT "I GOTTA DO THIS."

SOME DAYS THE WEATHER FORECAST IS "PARTLY CLOUDY." SOMEDAYS IT IS "PARTLY SUNNY." IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

SOMETIME IN MY YOUTH I WONDERED IF YOU PUT HELIUM IN YOUR AUTOMOBILE TIRES WOULD IT MAKE THE RIDE SMOOTHER?

THREE CHEERS FOR CHELSEA CLINTON FOR TELLING AN IGNORANT REPORTER THAT IT WAS "NONE OF HER BUSINESS."

THE END OF MAY WE HAD JOEY'S WEDDING, AND A GRADUATION PARTY FOR 2 GRANDDAUGHTERS. MEGHAN MALONEY FROM QUEEN OF PEACE AND HER SISTER MAURA MALONEY WITH A MASTERS DEGREE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY. ALSO, TWO YEARS AGO IN MAY DONNA LEFT US.

GRAFITTI PAINTERS ARE EXCELLENT ARTISTS. TOO BAD THEY CAN'T PUT IT TO GOOD USE.

PHIL DONOHUE SANG "TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME" VERY WELL. TOO BAD IT WAS JUST ANOTHER BOOK PROMOTION. VOLUME DOWN TO "O" DURING THE BOOK PROMO.

SINCE THE OPENING OF LEO HIGH SCHOOL IN 1926 THEIR COLORS HAVE BEEN ORANGE AND BLACK. DURING THE WINTER MONTHS I HAVE NOTICED A LARGE AMOUNT OF WOMEN T.V. PERSONALITIES ANCHORS ETC, (CAROL MARIN, TRACY BUTLER, CHERYL BURTON)ARE WEARING ORANGE AND BLACK. THEY MUST ALL BE LEO FANS.

AN OLD AMERICAN STORY: A POLICEMAN STOPPED A WOMEN FOR A TRAFFIC VIOLATION. HE ASKED HER WHAT SHE WAS DOING. SHE SAID SHE CLEARLY MADE A LEFT TURN SIGNAL WITH HER HAND OUT THE WINDOW. THEN SHE CLEARLY MADE A SIGNAL THAT SHE CHANGED HER MIND.

EVERY MAN PICTURED IN AN ART GALLERY OR A SCULPTURE ANY PLACE AROUND THE WORLD HAS A PHYSIQUE THAT IS OUTSTANDING. GOLD'S GYM AND CARDINAL FITNESS MUST HAVE HAD SOME PREDECESSORS.

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE AND HEAR THAT MY GRANDAUGHTER MADE THE MARIST CHEERLEADING SQUAD AGAIN. CAROLYN WAS IN THE MARIST MUSICAL "FIDDLER ON THE ROOF" IN APRIL. IT PLEASES GRANDPAS VERY MUCH TO SEE THEIR DESCENDANTS ARE NOT SITTING ON THEIR HANDS.

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE JOHNNY CHAPETTO'S PICTURE ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE DAILY SOUTHTOWN THROWING OUT THE 1ST PITCH AT THE WHITE SOX GAME. I'M VERY CURIOUS TO KNOW IF IT WAS A SLIDER OR A BACK-UP FAST BALL.

I BELIEVE THAT IF THE TUG BOATS WOULD PULL THE BARGES INSTEAD OF PUSHING THEM THERE WOULDN'T BE SO MANY RUNAWAY BARGES.

AS I'VE STATED BEFORE I AM NOT LOOKING FOR A JOB. THE ONLY JOB I WOULD EVER APPLY FOR WOULD BE THE JOB OF DRIVING THE TOY UNITED PARCEL TRUCK TO DELIVER THE GAME BALL TO THE REFEREE AT THE NORTHWESTERN FOOTBALL GAMES.

ON 2ND THOUGHT THAT JOB OF COUNTING PICNIC BENCHES IN THE COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES SOUNDS LIKE A WINNER TO ME.

WE ARE GOING TO THE OLDE SOD (IRELAND) FROM JULY 20TH TO THE 28TH. ME, MY SONS DAN AND TIM, DAUGHTER COLLEEN, AND GRANDAUGHTERS ERIN AND MAURA. I RENTED A 6 PASSENGER VAN. IN IRELAND WE WILL VISIT THE EARNER FARM AND EARNER'S PUB IN GALWAY. WE WILL ALSO VISIT THE NEW MUSEUM AND CASKET OF BROTHER EDMUND RICE AT HIS FIRST SCHOOL (MT. SION) IN WATERFORD. IN 1979 I WAS PRIVILEDGED TO HAVE PLACED MY HANDS ON BLESSED EDMUND'S INNER STRAW CASKET. LIVING AND TRAVELING COSTS IN IRELAND ARE WAY UP. MAYBE I CAN CATCH A LEPRECHAUN AND GET HIS POT OF GOLD. THERE WILL BE A SEND OFF PARADE FROM ED'S BARBER SHOP IN EVERGREEN PARK TO THE BUS DEPOT IN ALSIP, DEPARTING FOR O'HARE AIRPORT. ANYONE INTERESTED IN ENTERING A FLOAT OR DECORATED CAR SHOULD CONTACT ED OR BUD GAVIN OR BETTY WHITE MAHONEY.

ANOTHER OF MY FAVORITE SONGS IS ENCLOSED.

GOD BLESS!
OUR LADY OF KNOCK PRAY FOR US!

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Parting Glass

Of all the money that 'ere I've spent, I spent it in
good company

And of all the harm that 'ere I've done, alas it was to
none but me

And all I've done for want of wit, to memory now I
can't recall

So fill to me the parting glass, good night and joy be
with you all

And of all the comrades that 'eve I've had, are sorry
for my going away

And of all the sweet hearts that 'ere I've had, would
wish for me to stay one more day

But if it falls unto my lot that I should rise and your
should not

Then I'll gently rise and I'll softly call, good night
and joy be with you all.

God Bless!!!