



BEYOND THE [#521] FRINGEFAN

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN finds himself dealing with an oil leak this month at the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718) NY-

CADRE; ☐↔☐ nycadre [at] acedsl [dot] com; ⚡http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)). It's not a very voluminous one, and no wildlife has been put in danger, but it will still cost lots more to remedy than he'd have imagined (and his responses to the estimates were crude). While he's awaiting the cleanup personnel, he's producing the greasy kid stuff known as **Beyond the Fringefan** #521, for readers of APA-NYU Volume 20, #4 (e-APA-NYU #197) and other oily birds, published April 2022 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Speed Bump* by Dave Coverly, 21 November 2002. All uncredited material copyright ©2022 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.

TANKS FOR NOTHING: Our service contract with our home heating oil supplier (Petro) calls for an annual visit by a technician to do maintenance on and “tune up” our furnace. When the tech came by this month, one of the things he noticed was a small leak from our oil tank. The astute reader will deduce that this was cause for concern. Apparently it wasn't an immediate fire hazard, though; I'm told that home heating oil actually doesn't burn as a liquid, and has to be atomized and mixed with air, using a device analogous to an automobile's carburetor, as it enters the burner. Nonetheless, Petro had a crew over here the same evening to set up a temporary tank in the driveway and pump the oil out of the old tank into the temp. (That operation doesn't come cheap; it was almost \$1,000, and we have to return the temp tank in a month.) And we still have to get a new 275-gallon tank. (The old tank was there when we moved in 35 years ago, and we have no idea how old it was then, so it's definitely served a long and useful life.) That'll be several thousand dollars more. I spent a few days trying to get competitive bids on it, but could only find one company besides Petro willing to do the job. Lots of companies outside The City do tank replacement but were not interested in coming to Brooklyn for the purpose.

Medically, not much is new. I thought for a couple of weeks about getting a fourth COVID vaccination, then decided to get it after I started hearing the reports of the BA.2 variant hitting an assortment of elected officials. I seem to be as fully recovered from the hernia surgery as I'm going to be (other than waiting for the surface numbness in my groin to go away). Donna and I are both getting regular doses of PT (and in Donna's case, dry-needle therapy). Dentally, Donna's new lower bridge (to replace the one

that broke after just a month) is still in progress: for some reason they're having trouble getting just the right fit. Repeated visits keep bringing the verdict that it's either too big or too small. The Goldilocks zone seems evasive.

IF I COULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN, I'D DO IT ALL OVER YOU: I heard last month from Charmae, my former boss (whom I love) at AllianceBernstein. When AB moved its headquarters to Nashville in 2019–2020, everyone had to move with it or depart the company; management wanted no one working remotely. Now, after two years of everyone working remotely anyhow because of COVID-19, there's been a small change of attitude. Charmae has now been authorized to bring some of her former staffers in New York back on board to work remotely during the peak months (pay and other terms to be negotiated).

The idea of Getting the Band Back Together had definite appeal, and my former co-workers all expressed interest. I thought about it for several hours before deciding that there's now enough going on in my life that I just didn't feel I could hack it anymore, even working from home, even only four months a year. What a difference two years makes! If the offer had been made *before* my official Last Day in 2020, I'd likely have jumped at the chance to continue.

[It may be worth noting here that as it is, I've put in the equivalent of a week of full-time work in April on what used to be two of my side gigs: editing/proofing a dental/orthodontic journal for my (now retired) former dentist Dr. Jeffrey G., and some program materials for the dental/orthodontic convention being run later this spring by his son, Dr. David G.]

WE WERE VERY TIRED, WE WERE VERY MERRY: Remember the Ferry meetings? It's been three years now since we had a Ferry meeting, and that last one was somewhat less than successful, what with some of us being in hospital and others being in a taxi to nowhere. It's hard to guess at this point what the medical and political situation will look like two months hence, but I'm going to go out on a limb and propose a Ferry meeting on Thursday, 7 July 2022. I'd appreciate hearing back from people, yea or nay, concerning whether they'll plan to attend, if for no other reason than to determine how many pizzas to buy.



A former ranch hand, Dr. Durmley liked to show off his ability to rope and extract a tooth.

(Close to Home by John McPherson, 23 October 2010)

FRINGE RECEPTION: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 20, #3 (e-APA-NYU #196)

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):
“aren’t there any lightbulbs stronger than 15W in Gotham City?” Perhaps they’re conserving energy. /*/ (cme) “A friend subscribed to Animal Planet for her cats to watch when she wasn’t home.” Cable & satellite systems now have DOGTV, explicitly to entertain dogs, and Amazon Prime has CAT TV. /*/ “Btw, Hernia is the name of the girl in HAGAR THE HORRIBLE who has a crush on his son.” Oh,

that’s right. Dang, should’ve found a way to reference her. /*/ “Alas, the bunch that politicizes everything as a way to praise Trump & malign Biden, is sneering that the absence of mention of Covid in the news (um, not true – now there’s a new Omicron variant, BA-2) ‘proves’ that he was right, that Covid was ‘like the flu’ and that ‘the liberals’ panicked us for nothing (um, a million deaths in the US, 6 million worldwide). Sigh.” Um, who said that mentions of COVID have

been absent in the news? I haven't perceived a lack of mentions at any point, although sometimes you have to get through reports of Putin's latest antics, or politicians' dodging investigations of the events of January 6, or complaints about gas prices, to get to them.

TO BE vs. NOT TO BE vs. TO NOT BE (Chas Belov): "¿Why did Shakespeare call it Hamlet and not Omelet?" Because he based the story on a Danish legend involving a prince named Amleth, and not on a French breakfast menu. /*/



(Bizarro by Dan Piraro, 2 July 2008)

"¿why is it Shakespeare and not Shakespere, Shakespear, Shakspeare, Shackspeare, or Shakspere?" Perhaps because that was the spelling used in the posthumous First Folio, but really anyone's guess. He signed his name several ways, but no signature spelled "Shakespeare" has been found. /*/ I listened to those two instrumentals and found them quite enjoyable. What software do you use to create them, and is there a piano-style keyboard that you play, or do you map the keys on a QWERTY keyboard to notes? Do you have an arrangement in mind when you start, or do you lay down the melody and then figure out what you want to overdub? /*/ (¢cover) "Remembering Vilma (although I wasn't present at this particular moment)." In that picture, it wasn't Velma holding up the fried chicken and the watermelon; it was Abby. She prefaced the moment with, "Take a good look, because this is the only time you're ever going to see this." /*/ (¢APA-NEWS) "I wonder how many musicians are Members of the British Empire." Over 1,000 individuals are awarded MBE or higher honors every year, so I'm guessing that thousands of musicians have been so honored in the century or since the system was devised. That would include composers and performers in all styles from baroque to current pop, of course. /*/ (¢me) "Are Irwin and Nerwin considered animals." Good point. In the *Broom-Hilda* universe and in the context of that gag, probably not. I'm not sure even Gaylord the buzzard is considered an animal in that context.

We're a month into spring now, which of course in New York means we've had about three beautiful, warm, sunny days, and a lot of rain and chill. I continue to look for some warming of the weather (which I'm confident will happen in the next month or two) and some cooling of the geopolitical situation in eastern Europe (which I'm much less hopeful about). May we all still be alive and well at this time next month.

>Portions of the preceding did not stick their hands in the leak

and are therefore 100% free of palm oil.<