

# THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GYRO CLUB OF SHERWOOD PARK

VOLUME: 50 EDITION: 11 DATE: MARCH 2, 2024 EDITOR: Scott Brisbin

**I WAS JUST THINKING: "There's one advantage to being 102, there's no peer pressure." Katie Brisbin (my grandmother)**

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## The Club's Grand Poobahs:

President: **Nestor Slipchuk**

Vice President: **Don Greig**

Past President: **Bruce Copeland**

Treasurer: **Ted Ewanchuk**

Secretary: **Ray Davis**

Club. Admin. **Ray Davis**

Registrar: **Dorne Hunt**

Directors: **Gordon Stewart; Paul West; Sid Slade; Ted Ewanchuk**

Bulletin Editor: **Scott Brisbin**

Webmaster: **Ray Davis**

## EDITOR'S RANT:

Since Christmas we have lost at least two people I have personally admired. Our own Peter Elzinga finally succumbed to cancer and this week former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney passed away in a Florida hospital, surrounded by his family after suffering a fall.

I knew Peter since the 1980's, visited him in Ottawa on a fairly regular basis when I was there representing my profession as well as here in Alberta. It was here, on Peter and Pat's farm/ranch, that I met Brian Mulroney. Peter was having a Barbeque to allow people to meet with Brian and Mila. Calli and I were fortunate to receive an invitation, were introduced to the guests of honour and had a chance to have a bit of a conversation with them. It was certainly a special and memorable day for us.

There have been other losses in the past year that have impacted us personally and whose lives touched hundreds, thousands, or millions of people. At our age it will be touching us with increasing frequency. Those blessed with extraordinary longevity may be viewed as fortunate, provided their physical and mental health remain more or less intact. However, as my grandmother, who accomplished both those goals for 99 years pointed out, one's circle of peers shrinks to become very tiny indeed. I know many who do not aspire to set centennial records.

We in Gyro are aging at a much faster rate than we are

## **Rant contd.**

bringing in new, younger members. Most of the men joining our ranks are our age. It will boost the longevity of our club to increase our numbers but sooner or later, that strategy is simply delaying the inevitable. The question is “How do we make Gyro attractive to a younger generation?” Pre-boomers have a different lifestyle than many of us had. Not all of us were two-income families. The husbands had more opportunities to take a men’s night out with the therapeutic benefits that ensued. Today they are taking a much more active and equal role in the day-to-day child rearing and family responsibilities. Their priorities have shifted away from themselves. They also often work longer hours and most have not been involved in service organizations such as Kinsmen that involve them at an earlier age.

I am not presenting any magic solutions to secure our future. I am using this rant to a) place another spotlight on a challenge that faces our club and Gyro in general, and b) trying to maintain my New Year’s Resolution of avoiding thinking too much about the political, military, environmental, and societal disasters that are filling our news casts day and night. I make no promises that the next rant will be even this positive, but I’ll try.

## **FEBRUARY EVENTS:**

### **VALENTINE DINNER February 14th**

**I was unable to attend so Ted Ewanchuk provided me with the following report:**

Five Sherwood Park Gyros plus significant others joined about 30 Edmonton Gyros and wives at the Woodvale Community League (Mill Woods) for the first annual joint Valentines Dinner. Governor Dunc ensured that we mingle and enforced a rule that only 2 SP Gyros and wives could sit together at a table. Once formalities were dispensed with, we were treated to a wonderful 3 course plated meal of either prime rib or baked salmon. Following dinner Dunc led us in a game of “How Well do you Know Your Spouse”. Sheets with 15 questions were passed out and each person completed the questionnaire independently. Sample questions included: What is your husbands favorite pizza; What is your wife’s favorite perfume; Where did you first kiss; etc. Once the questions were completed you rejoined your spouse and compared answers. The couple that had the fewest matching responses received a small box of chocolates. There were plans to also provide them with a gift certificate for Marriage Counselling, but the budget didn’t allow it. The couple that scored the most matches received a large box of chocolates. A very fun event.

Ted.

**For some reason the photos that were taken at the dinner proved impossible to be transmitted to me. You will have to use your imaginations.**

# MARCH MEETINGS:

## POKER NIGHT March 6

The fun will start at 5:30 at the Headquarters restaurant with friendship and beverages followed by dinner chosen from their menus (\$20 subsidy from the club) and then the serious part of the evening begins. Practice your best poker faces until then. Please note: No Botox injections allowed. In accordance with anti-doping protocol this will be a drug-free match.

By now I hope you will have contacted Al Gordon regarding your intent to attend.

Email – [al.gordon@shaw.ca](mailto:al.gordon@shaw.ca)

## DISTILLERY TOUR March 20th

*Paul West sent out the following note about a week ago.*

My fellow Gyros. On March 20<sup>th</sup> We have arranged a tour of a local Distillery in Nisku called Rig Hand. They make a wide range of alcoholic beverages some of which we will be able to sample. They have a new facility just south of Airport Road on RR244A, and east of highway 2. They also have a small dining area and we can order off of the attached menu. The tour will take about an hour and will be followed by a tasting of several of their products.

Right now I am asking for a head count. Details and the times will follow.

Please reply to [the.wests@shaw.ca](mailto:the.wests@shaw.ca). Hope you can make it.

## Installation/ Windup Change

**Don Greig sent the following notice of a change in the date:**

The schedule approved in September had a date for the Installation/Windup as Wednesday June 26, 2024 at Broadmoor Golf Course. As this date conflicts with the Golf Courses Men's Night a change has been made to correct this conflict.

The Installation/Windup will still be at Broadmoor Golf Course but instead will be on Thursday June 27, 2024. Further detailed information will be provided as we get closer to the June 27th date.

# Amazing Art (OK, Art Merrick. You are amazing too)

Pencil drawing by 16 year old Irish artist Shania McDonagh.



This bust made with Carrara marble depicting Maria Barberini Duglioli, was sculpted by the Italian sculptor Giuliano Finelli, (raised in the school of Gian Lorenzo Bernini) in 1627 with only a hammer and a chisel.



be cut down, but chainsaw artist Simon O'Rourke found a better solution. To symbolize the tree's last attempt to reach the sky, he did this with the tree...  
Read more here :  
Lake Vyrnwy tallest tree carved into giant hand : <https://buzz-news.net/?p=9168>



# AGING GYROS

March was a relatively unproductive month in terms of Gyro Birthdays. However, what it misses in quantity it makes up for in terms of quality. The two March men are **Paul West** (24th) and **Larry Klaus** (31st). Enjoy, but behave yourselves boys. You should be starting to mature by now.



**I am swift as a gazelle. An old one. With arthritis. Run over by a land rover. Seven days ago.**



## HEALTH AND WELFARE:

Ted Ewanchuk informed us that his mother passed away about a week ago. Her life spanned 102 years. She had been in long term care facility for a number of years and passed peacefully in her sleep. Regardless of age or diminishing quality of life a mother's passing is a significant event and we extend our condolences to Ted, Judy and family. Our thoughts are with you.

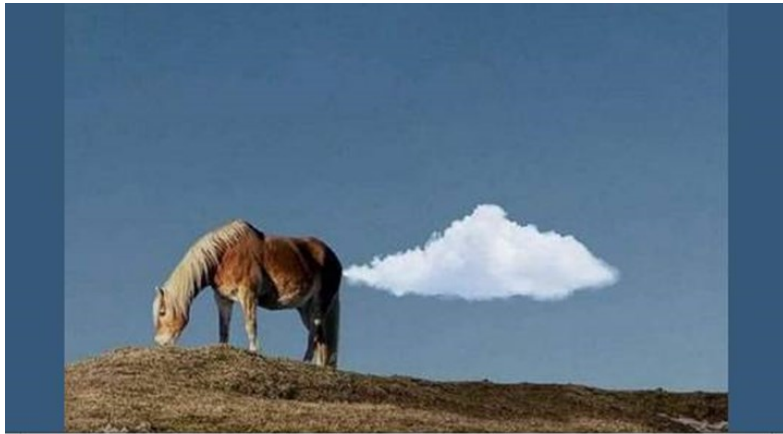
My dear wife, Calli, has transitioned into a long term care facility, here in Sherwood Park. She has now been there for 6 weeks, is adjusting to the change as are we, her family. Most of the personnel are excellent and caring, but as with all facilities and the system in general, they are short staffed and resultant pressure shows sometimes.

My left eye has provided some good and some bad news. I have now had surgery to relieve the sandy feeling caused by my lower lid turning in. However, my vision in that eye is still significantly inferior to what it was before the cataract surgery. I hope to see that looked at by a corneal specialist in mid-June. ("looked at"... not resolved, at that point)

# PHUNNY PHOTOS (Or Where to Stand for a Photo)



I hope she said yes

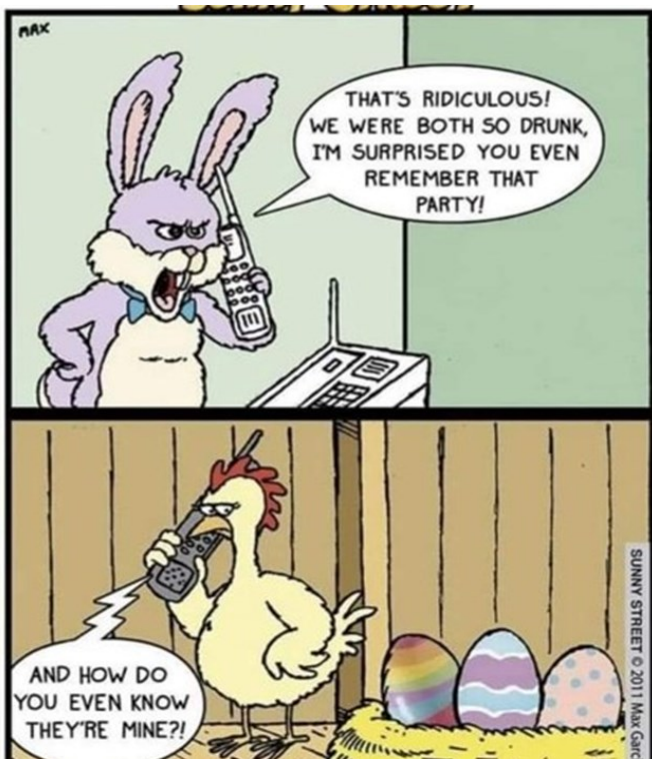


# 'TIS THE SEASON (March version)



An Irish farmer was walking along the boundary between his and his neighbour's fields when he spotted his neighbour carrying 2 sheep in his arms.

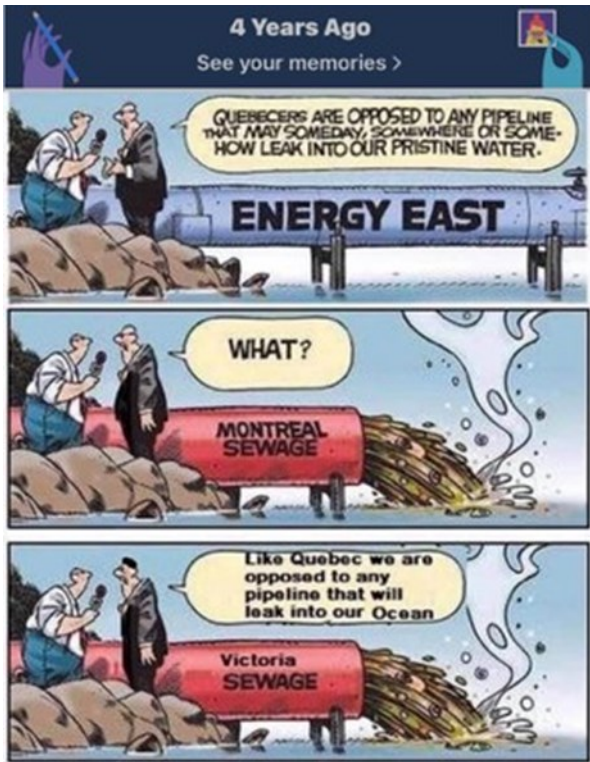
'Tony', he called. 'Are you going to shear those sheep'. 'I am not', the neighbour replied, 'They're both for me'



Busy day at Stonehenge as the stones are moved forward one hour.

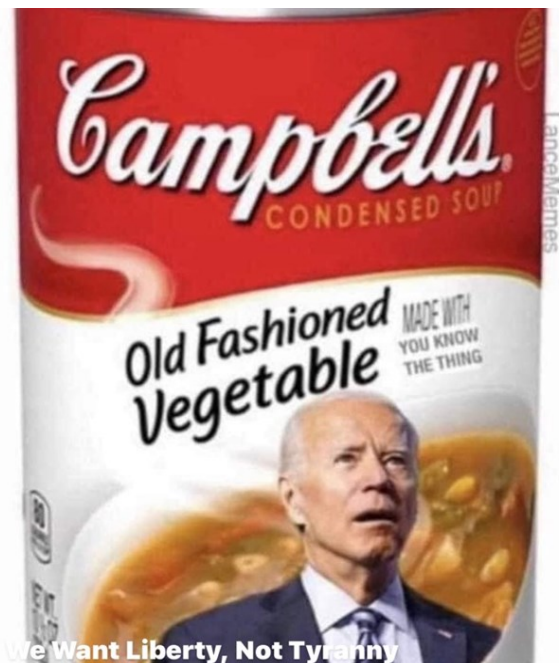
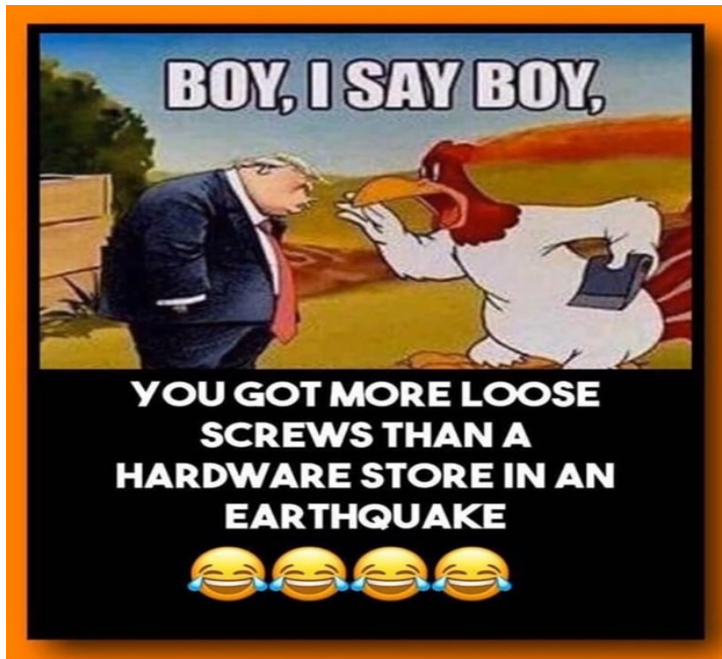


# MEANWHILE IN CANADA





# MEANWHILE NOT IN CANADA



# THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Edmonton, Alberta in 1914

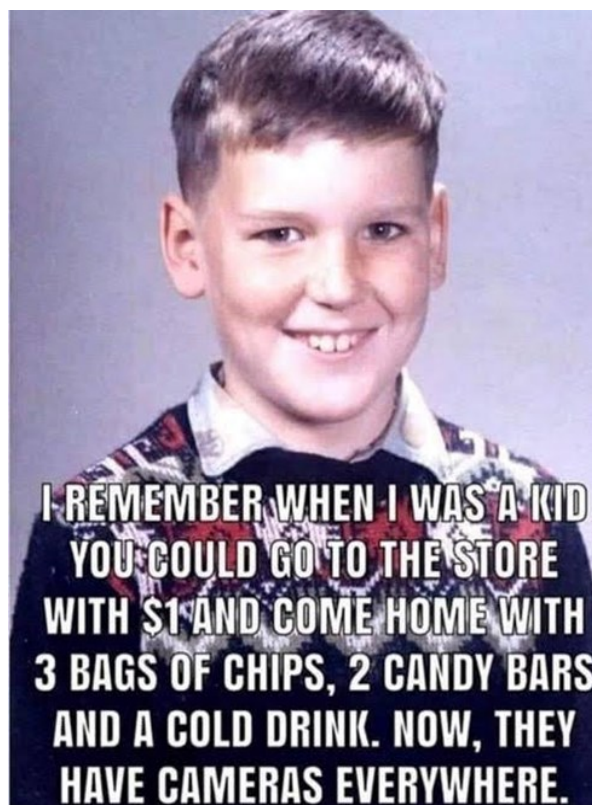


Remember when people used to have diaries and got mad when someone read them?

Now they put everything online and get mad when people don't.



MASH high school pictures



I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS A KID YOU COULD GO TO THE STORE WITH \$1 AND COME HOME WITH 3 BAGS OF CHIPS, 2 CANDY BARS AND A COLD DRINK. NOW, THEY HAVE CAMERAS EVERYWHERE.

# SIGNS OF OUR TIMES

Hopefully no one reads this straight across from left to right like I did...



# AGING GRACELESLY



**We are not aging, we are ripening to perfection.**

**Getting old sucks. I used to wake up feeling like a million bucks... Now I feel more like a bounced check.**

*..And then she asked  
"What's the best form of birth control after 50?"  
I said  
"Nudity"*



# GIDDY GASTRONOMY

The local old folks home had a garage sale, I got this cool gravy boat for just .25 cents! 🙌



**THESE POOR BUFFALOES**



**CANT FLY ANYMORE BECAUSE PEOPLE KEEP EATING THEIR WINGS**

I was told to be creative suddenly I became jobless.

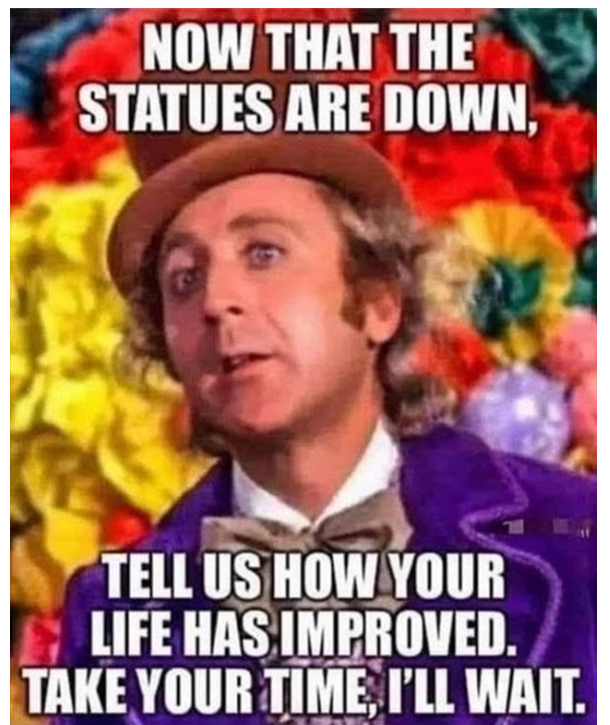
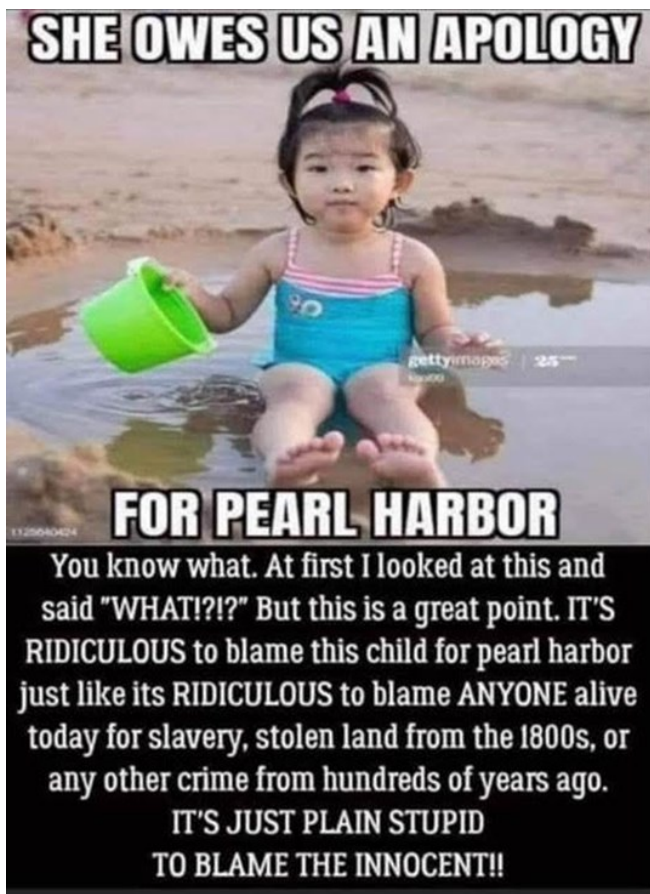
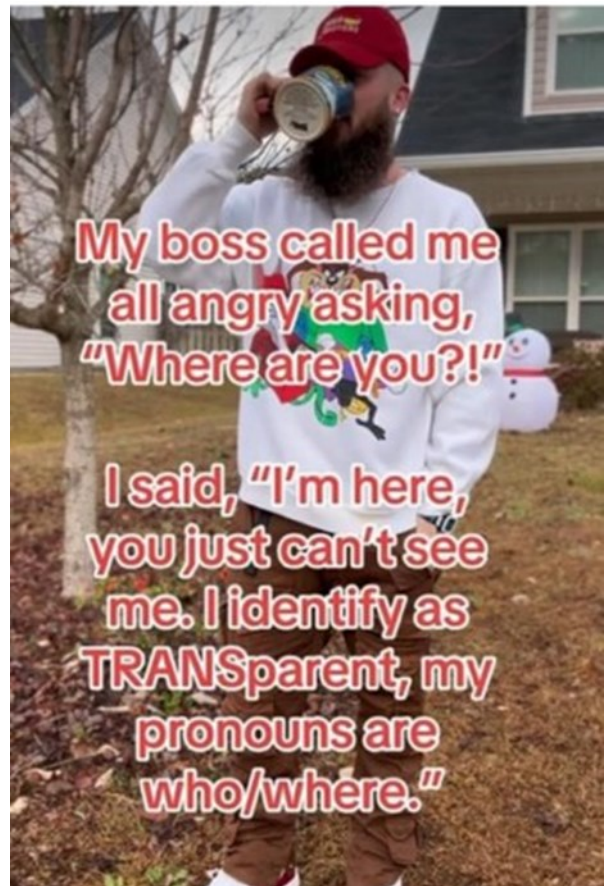
**The Diet Fork**



**Available in Fine Stores Everywhere!**



# WOKE FOLK

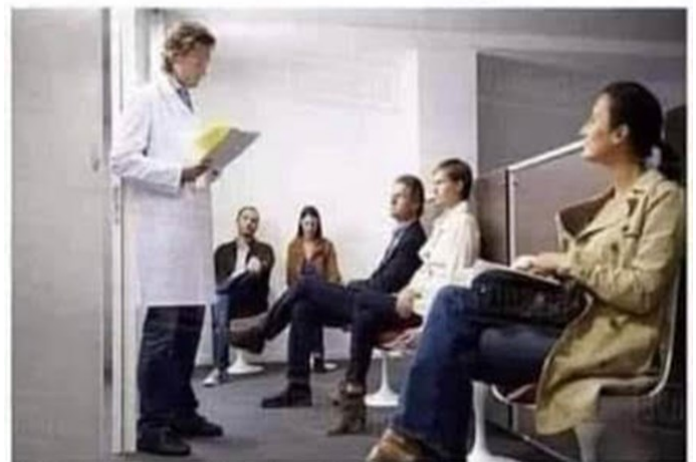


# THINKING ABOUT HEALTH IN 2024



“Your insurance will cover either the vasectomy or the anesthetic. Your call.”

Doctor: Due to new privacy regulations we can no longer use patient names in the waiting room...



Will the patient with the itchy vagina please follow me...

# GYRETTE GIGGLES



"you left the toilet seat up"



I've read that being a woman means whispering WTF to yourself daily.

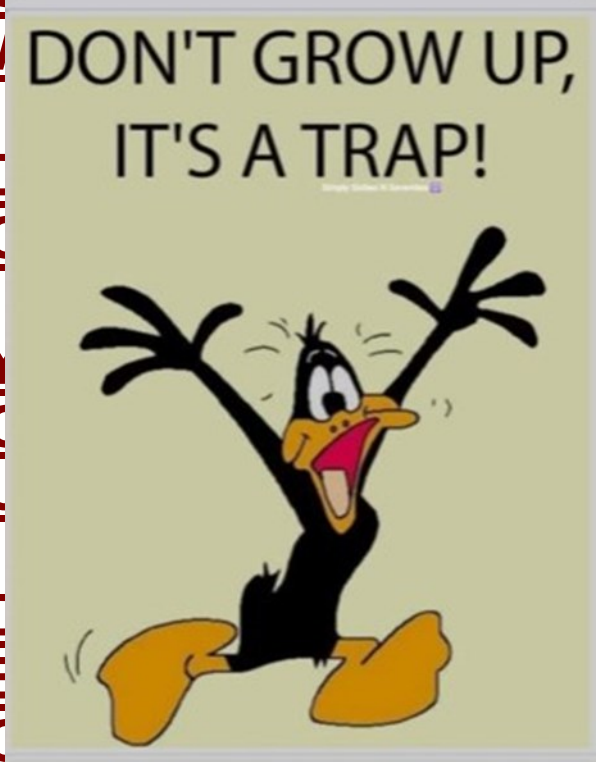
Ok first of all... I didn't know we were supposed to be whispering it.

**Nobody told me that when you get a husband the ears are sold separately.**



# KID'S KOMEDY

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Paddy shouts frantically into the phone...  
"My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"  
"Is this her first child?" asks the Doctor.  
"No", shouts Paddy, "this is her husband!"

I am not sure of the year exactly, and I don't know who everyone is. But I am 99% sure that I am the one in the back on the right!



M  
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W

First grade is wild. You're learning how to be a human, how to write things down, how to manage friendships and follow rules, and all the while everybody's teeth are falling out all over the place

# ANXIETY MEDICINE

In these uncertain times it is easy to let your anxiety start to creep up. Perhaps while we are in various states of armed combat, political strife and major health issues, some images from our amazing world will help

It was going to be photo of the year,  
until



Hmmmm....



We're not gonna make it are we 🏆😓😓



#analbumcover

Yea, I read it exactly like you did

WTF is wrong with us?

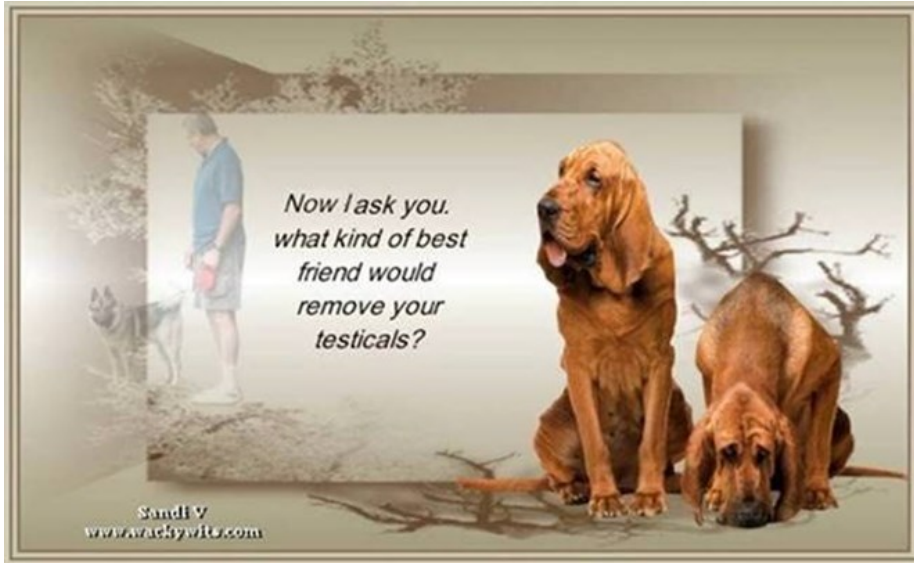
THIS GUY'S PROJECT WILL NOT GO WELL



THAT MOMENT YOU REALIZE



# ANIMAL INSTINCTS



We just spent a hour looking for her. 🤔

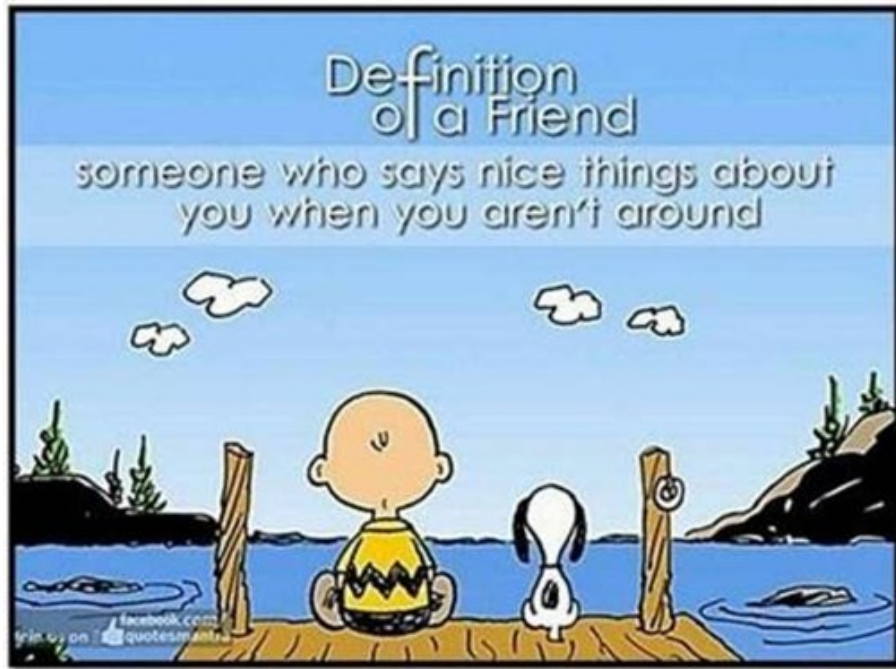


# SNICKERS AND GUFFAWS

I ASKED AI TO GENERATE A PICTURE OF LEAFS FANS CELEBRATING THEIR LAST STANLEY CUP WIN



# GYRO FRIENDSHIP PICTURE OF THE WEEK



## AND THE LAST WORD....



My thoughts on February 5th as I listened to the hype