Bob's





Specializing in socially conscious investors

 $W_{ ext{ELCOME}}$ again to the New $\emph{Bob's Quarterly}$ UPDATE. THIS IS MY 33RD NEWSLETTER, BUT JUST THE SECOND WITH THE NEW E-MAIL FRIENDLY FORMAT WITH WEBLINKS. AS I MENTIONED LAST TIME, THIS NEWSLET-TER ISN'T NECESSARILY ABOUT FINANCIAL ISSUES ANYMORE, I'LL BE WRITING ABOUT WHATEVER I FEEL LIKE WRITING ABOUT. IN FACT, THIS ISSUE DOESN'T DEAL WITH MONEY AT ALL. MY NEWSLETTER IS IN AN EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS, SO PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR FEEDBACK.

This issue includes a variety of short commen-TARIES, QUOTES AND WEB LINKS. FUTURE ISSUES WILL DEAL WITH SPECIFIC ISSUES IN MORE DETAIL. AMONG THOSE TOPICS WILL BE "STARVING THE BEAST," "George's Growing Deficit" and the Social. SECURITY DEBATE. NOW THAT TAX SEASON IS OVER, I HOPE TO BE PRODUCING A NEWSLETTER EVERY TWO TO THREE MONTHS. I'LL ALSO BE ADDING TO AND UPDATING MY WEBSITE MORE OFTEN.

FOR FINANCIAL UPDATES AND COMMENTARIES, GO TO MY WEBSITE: WWW.bobdreizler.com

Bush Critiques from the Hot Tubs

During February, I spent a week at the Esalen Institute (an hour south of Monterey on scenic Highway 1). I was there to take an art class, but it's a great place to visit with people from around the world. Much of the interaction happens in the hot tubs that perch on the cliff above the Pacific Ocean.

One evening I was talking with a woman from The Netherlands. When the conversation turned to politics, she said she didn't know one person outside of the United States that liked President Bush and what he was doing. "Not one?" I asked. She thought for a moment, and then replied, "No, not one person." The next morning I was talking with a man from Brazil. I asked him the same question. He said that he knew of no one who favored Bush's policies. That evening I ask a well-traveled woman psychologist from Sweden. She, too, did not know one person in her country or anywhere in Europe who liked President Bush. While this information is anecdotal, the consistency of opinions from three worldly individuals really stunned me. It made me wonder further how so many people in this country still support Bush, his War and the arrogance that is alienating the rest of the world.



NEW LOGO

Here's my new logo. As with my business, I try to blend environmental concerns with money management. It's an image that has been kicking around in my head for 15 years, but it took Ron Fritz-Zavacki's artistry to make it come to life. I hope you like it.

Mother's Day 2004

(Excerpted from my Midwest road trip journal)

Last night, while walking back from the Courthouse Annex Bar through the eerily quiet streets of Independence, Missouri, I stopped to view their local War Memorial. I read the names of all the natives who had died in recent wars: World War I (46); World War II (77); Korea (4); Vietnam (41) and Iraq (2). I stayed there for a long time. The right side of the memorial had been empty until recently. It was sad to look at how much room was left blank for future soldiers and future wars. I continued walking, stopping only to read the sidewalk marker commemorating the site of Harry Truman's barbershop.

After breakfast I walked up the street where my mother grew up, to the Truman Library, and back via the street where my Grandfather was raised. It seemed appropriate to be in my mother's hometown on Mother's Day. Before visiting relatives for lunch I drove to the cemetery where my Grandmother's ashes were scattered. My mother had e-mailed directions about how to find her at the far end of the cemetery near the trees

I sensed where she might be and stood quietly while the wind rustled the trees. I closed my eyes and could hear Nanny's voice saying my name with her soft Oklahoma accent. I was surprised that I didn't feel sad at all. Actually, I felt happy to be near her and remembered the summer I spent with her and my Grandfather in Enid, Oklahoma when I turned eleven.

Walking back to the car I was drawn to two isolated grave markers with fresh flowers. One had a Mylar Happy Mother's Day balloon and a cute flag with a picture of a baseball and mitt. His mother must have left it for her son. He was 29 when he died. All sorts of emotions started to flow through me.

Nearby stood a marble slab covered with flowers, mementos and pictures. One photo showed a young boy who had just learned to stand. Another showed that boy being held by his proud father. At first I thought that the grave belonged to the boy before he grew up and died. Then it hit me. This was not the son buried below; it was his father, and the son would never remember his father alive.

I read the marker: "Joel Lin Bertoldie, age 20, died in Operation Iraqi Freedom in September of 2003." Joel was one of the names on the plaque I read late last night. I was the lone living soul in the cemetery. I sat down on the grass and cried.

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MAIL: call my office (916) 444-2233.

E-Trade theme song

As I did my morning stretching in front of my TV, a commercial came on CNBC, the cable business channel. The familiar tune seemed out of context. The theme was revolution. It was a song from the Jefferson Airplane's inflammatory "Volunteers" album. This radical song was being used to advertise E-Trade, the online stock trading company.

It made me laugh that a cut from this 1969 album was being used to promote capitalism on this staunchly conservative channel whose parent, General Electric, is not in the running for the socially concerned company of the year.

Here are just a few of the cogent yet comprehensible lyrics:

"We are outlaws in the eyes of America."

"All your private property is target of your enemy, and your enemy is me."

"Up against the wall; tear down the walls."

"We are forces of chaos and anarchy. Everything they say we are, we are."

It brought back memories of 1969, an incredible year in American history (Richard Nixon's inauguration, Woodstock, the Moon landing, Charles Manson murders, and further escalation of the Vietnam War). It was a year not dissimilar in intensity to 2005, but where are the protests songs now? Where are the protests?

"A little patience and we shall see the reign of witches pass over, their spells dissolve, and the people, recovering their true sight, restore their government to its true principles. It is true that in the meantime we are suffering deeply in spirit, and incurring the horrors of a war and long oppressions of enormous public debt... If the game runs sometimes against us at home we must have patience till luck turns, and then we shall have an opportunity of winning back the principles we have lost, for this is a game where principles are at stake."

—Thomas Jefferson, 1798, after the passage of the Sedition Act

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Jackie Green colored pencil 11" x 17' by Bob Dreizler

"Our beloved land has been fogged with fear-fear, the greatest political strategy ever. An ominous silence, distant sirens, a drumbeat of whispered warnings and alarms keep the public uneasy and silence the opposition. And in a time of vague fear, you can appoint bullet-brained judges, strip the bark off the Constitution, eviscerate federal regulatory agencies, bring public education to a standstill, stupefy the press, and lavish gorgeous tax breaks on the rich."

— Garrison Keillor, "We're Not in Lake Wobegon Anymore" August 2004

"By adamantly refusing to do anything to improve energy conservation in America the Bush team is - as others have noted - financing both sides of the war on terrorism. We are financing the U.S. armed forces with our tax dollars, and, through our profligate use of energy, we are generating huge windfall profits for Saudi Arabia, Iran and Sudan, where the cash is used to insulate the regimes from any pressure to open up their economies, liberate their women or modernize their schools, and where it ends up instead financing madrassas, mosques and militants fundamentally opposed to the progressive, pluralistic agenda America is trying to promote. Now how smart is that?"

—NY Times Op-Ed Columnist Thomas Friedman (February 13, 2005)

http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/13/opinion/ 13friedman.html?ex=1113883200&en=2d4c157469558149&ei= 5070&oref=login

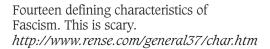
Awesome Websites

This was passed on to me by Ruth. It's a classic. Be sure to have your computer's sound turned on.

http://www.aclu.org/pizza/images/screen.swf

Watch progressive documentaries online. http://www.independent media source.com video.htm

Guerilla News Network http://www.gnn.tv/



National Priorities Project: Statistics on the cost of the Iraq War and military spending http://www.nationalpriorities.org/



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WATCH **MEDIA EDGE**

n early April, the first *Media Edge* program was shown in the Sacramento Valley region. This two-hour show presents several political documentaries and some locally produced programs that are not being shown on the mainstream media. Among the films already shown or to be shown are:

"Hijacking Catastrophe" and "Uncovered: the War on Iraq" — films that document the rise of the neo-cons and the Bush administration's determined quest to invade Iraq using September 11th, 2001 as the justification.

"A Quiet Neighborhood" — a locally produced show about the demonstrations by supporters and opponents outside the home of Virginia and Stephen Pearcy in Land Park.

"Outfoxed: Rupert Murdock's War on Journalism."

"Eyes Wide Open"— images of the Capitol Park stop of the touring exhibit of 1,500+ pairs of boots, each tagged with the name of an American soldier who died in Iraq.

In Sacramento, the show airs Sunday evenings from 8 until 10 on Comcast public access channel 17. Davis, Woodland and West Sacramento are also carrying this show. Check out their website for future programming and viewing details in locations outside of Sacramento: **www.wethemedia.tv**

We the Media is a group of local media folks and some non-media types such as me who hope to promote and produce *Media Edge*. There is nothing like it on corporate TV.

If you think this is a worthy project, *We the Media* is very much in need of financial support. Please send your non-deductible donations to: *"We the Media,"* c/o Bob Dreizler, 2012 H Street #200, Sacramento CA 95814.

