Flashlights To Replace Fire In 2003?

By Frankenstein Jones
International Affairs Desk

In a shocking development, Burning Man LLC has been involved in top-level talks with the Bureau of Land Management and various Nevada law enforcement agencies regarding a plan to end all fire performances at future Burning Man events, including the centerpiece Saturday night burn of the man itself, the Spock Science Monitor has discovered.

The ban on open fires on the ecologically fragile playa bed would also put the squash on all fire-related artwork, including the opera, and the fire procession before the burning of the Man. In a series of top-secret memos, LLC members have apparently come to the conclusion that ending the traditional whack-ass burning of anything and everything come the final weekend of the event would save the organization thousands of dollars in construction and clean-up fees and lower tariffs imposed by various agencies overseeing the event.

One memo, apparently written by BM co-founder Larry Harvey, notes that while many participants will be angered and upset by such a move, “Burning Man is about change and adaptation, and we believe this will test our strength as a community once again to prepared for every eventuality, you will most likely suffer grievous harm or death.” Participants are strongly advised to obsessively read the Decompression Survival Guide over and over and over as if it were God’s own word delivered from on high.

2003 Art Theme:
From The Floating World To The Stagnant Mountain

By Miss Conduct
Editor-in-Chief

The Pirate theme was so overwhelm-
ingly popular this year that the Burning Man Organization has decided to con-
tinue the vein of geographic indigenous peoples by naming next year’s theme Hillbilly: The Swampy Backwoods. That is correct, folks. The ubiquitous popularity of the Spock Science Monitor has moved the BMOrg to encourage the emulation of our proud Spock Mountain heritage. Although technically we are considered Cyber Hillbillies, or Cyberbillies: the connection is there and we are tremendously flattered.

2003 Theme camps are required to build shady shacks equipped with creak-
ing rocking chairs, cracked spittoons and names such as “Hatfield and McCoy-
ville” and “Red Neck Revelry.” Aahhh, continued on next page

Cruel Punishment
For Missehavinh Boy

A San Francisco teenager has received a novel form of punishment for neglecting his chores. Juan Walton, 15, of the Mission District, was sent to Dolores Park last Saturday to witness a drum circle performance after he forgot to take out the trash for the third week in a row. “My parents, they dropped me off. They’re over there in their car, watching me,” he grimaced while witnessing the performance of a troupe called “OneDrumOneWorldSpecTACK-youl.EERCollECtive.” “This is horrible. This sucks. Ow. Ow. Why do they do this shit? What is it supposed to mean?” Walton appeared contrite after prolonged exposure to the 17-shirtless-man strong troupe. “I will never forget my chores again, you can count on that. I mean, this is worse than death. It has to be. Right? Jesus. Does anybody like this sort of thing?”
By Johnnie Royale
Senior Bertolentor

A brand new, slim and trim, 350 lb. version of Larry Harvey has been making appearances at the Burning Man each year over the past week and no longer needs the assistance of a forklift to make critical BMorg meetings.

When asked how Larry has been able to shed weight, he told us, "quickly from the gross and fadda-like mass that remained hidden in First Camp during the entire run of the festival, Burning Man Communications Director Marlan Goodell (Mand Man) says, "We had his stomach outcold. It was an expensive operation and will force Burning Man to raise the gate prices next year, but it will save him the organization a tremendous amount of money over the year."

Goodell wouldn't provide more information on how, precisely, the LLC expects the procedure to save money, but sources close to the category with the most checked boxes is where you should volunteer your services. See the Burning Man Web site for more information about how to become a volunteer.

By Johnnie Royale
Senior Bertolentor

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No Fire in 2003
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ultimately positive results."

As Will Roger, DPW head honcho, explains, "The LLC will save thousands of dollars a year in water, energy, and getting used to change, and that stuff, so I ignore this egregiously inaccurate information. It is wrong, wrong, wrong."

A scurrilous and unsavory rumor is going around that next year's theme is Beyond Belief. You MUST guess it's cool."

Another memo, source unknown, details the revised ceremony involving the traditional immolation of the Man: "Commemorative installation, instead of perpetually constructing a new Man at great expense every year."

So, as the 'Fire' procession reaches a high point, the man is turned around and set in flames."

"As this spectacular cavalcade of mesmerizing figures in still construction, whittling and building furniture from car parts. As for the crowning feature, instead of a wooden man structure, effigies of junkyard detritus. Furniture from car parts. As for the crowning feature, instead of a wooden man structure, effigies of junkyard detritus."

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