

Thank You For Sharing

By Durgy

A fifth economic system has surfaced at Black Rock City this year, joining the four that were identified in the Gate Edition of the Black Rock Gazette. Taking its place alongside the gift, barter, fiat-money and black-market economies is sharing, which seems to work at Burning Man.

Sharing economies arise when theme installations mandate them. Each camp has the right to set its own rules, and citizens wishing to participate must follow them. For example, you could start a Nude Camp, where clothing is not an option. An Iced Tea camp might require that you write a haiku before getting your tea. It is their camp and their tea, and if you want a glass, you must participate in a way they consider meaningful.

This year, a notable example of a sharing installation was Amazing Larry's Jazz Casino at the Rubber Duck far out on the playa. People coming to the duck must bring something to share that relates to the supply side of a jazz club — ice, cups, hooch, mixers — in order to participate.

Early in the week, the club required visitors to provide some bar-related

Fill Out and Be Counted

By Jonno

Many citizens have done their civic duty and submitted completed census forms to the big pink box at Playa Info, across from Center Cafe. But most have not.

After self-administering a brisk slap on your wrist, dig out the form and get to work. It is the pink paper you received at the Gate.

If 30 questions seems like a lot, and if you wonderwhy Burning Man cares how much you earnor whether you vote, rest assured there are reasons for these probing questions.

Marian Goodell, spokesperson for Black Rock City, said: "The outside world has made assumptions of who we are. They think we're a rave crowd of people in their 20s, but we're much more diverse than that. This survey will give us the data we need to defend ourselves."

Each year, citizens' groups petition specific government agencies to not renew Burning Man's permits. If Burning Man can show that it represents a broad constituency with diverse interests, it can make a stronger case for its permits than if we are merely society's misfits on a week-long desert binge.

Burning Man dipped its toes into the sea of politics in 1998 when it asked Burners to write letters to the Bureau of Land Management, the federal agency that administers the land on which Black Rock City sits. About 400 people responded. Last year's Internet survey drew 3,000 replies.

Most of the items in the second half of the questionnaire are aimed at helping the leadership of Burning Man plan for the future. Take time to fill it out, and if you can't get it done until you get home, mail the completed form to P.O. Box 884688, San Francisco, CA, 94188-4688.

Leaving Home By Enigma

It might be a bit shocking at first.

None of the cars are covered in EL wire. And they don't yield to pedestrians.

You can't go to a bar, recite a haiku, and get a beer for your efforts. You can't pay for dinner with a necklace. There's this green paper stuff that you're supposed to use instead. It's called money, and some people say it's the root of all evil.

It's not safe to walk around naked.

You live on a street that's probably not named after a part of a ship, and the cross street is not a degree measure-

item before they could partake. The owners did not accept non-bar-related gifts. Some citizens went away dry and disappointed.

During the week, the duck staff reviewed the policy regarding participation. Chad, a participant who earlier in the week donated one case of tequila, subsequently donated another. in order to serve citizens who trekked out to the bar thinking that any gift would do. In this system, people give what they perceive to be valuable gifts without expecting anything in return. The idea works as long as people keep gifting.

I decided to check out how the share system worked. I made my way out to the duck with nothing other than the clothes on my back, and some Black Rock Gazette pens in my pocket.

Before I had the chance to get to the bar, the manager approached me. He said that if I started up a fire in his burn-barrel, he would reward me with drink pogs redeemable at the duck. I gladly accepted the opportunity to participate. After the burn-barrel was lit, Aaron left me with a couple of pogs.

Other clubs do operate under a pure gift paradigm. The Leopard Martini Lounge at 165 degrees and Mizzen is an example. At the Leopard Martini Lounge, the policy is that all who come may enjoy whatever the bar has to offer until sup-

plies run out. No mention is made to people that they must contribute anything to the bar. While donations are not elicited, the Martini Lounge has continued to operate because enough folks have come back with the supplies necessary to keep the bar rolling.

Some theme clubs at Black Rock City have a gift system for a single event. Otherwise, they just provide places for folks to just chill out with no expectation of giving or receiving anything. But when folks come around making a gift-giving leap of faith, the residents of these camps make sure to carry the gift forward. An example of this type of camp is Playa-go-round at 90 degrees and Esplanade.

Sharing systems may be necessary in some parts of Black Rock City. The traffic at the Rubber Duck is high ; it is the only club past the Temple of Joy. The logistic difficulties in re-supplying the bar, and the expense of stocking it, would force the owners to be exclusive or shut down when supplies run out. The sharing system has allowed the Rubber Duck to remain open from midnight to 6 a.m. all the week.

It has been a learning experience for many people of Black Rock City to get used to the gift economy, and its offshoots. What we did observe was that gifting and sharing have made the vibe really good at Black Rock City this year, while barter and unexplained expectations have not worked quite so well.

Out, Out Sneak-Shot Shooter

Four men who arrived on Thursday were involved in an incident of improper videography later that day that led to two of them leaving Black Rock City, one of them ending up hospitalized for psychiatric reasons in Reno.

Actiongrl of Media Mecca said the four men apparently arrived on Thursday morning and spent some time in the city before driving past Waterboy's camp at 150 degrees on the Esplanade. They asked the camp director, Tania, if they could stay there, and she gave them permission to do so.

A few minutes later, one of the men asked if he could videotape an interview with Tania, to which she assented. The interview concerned her Burning Man experience, and she was clothed. Afterwards, she went to take a shower, and the videographer was seen by another member of the camp surreptitiously capturing her image.

He attempted to explain to Tania why he had taken pictures of her showering without asking permission to do so, but she did not allow him to speak, Actiongrl said.

Members of the camp were furious, she added, especially the mother of a 17-year-old girl, and the four men quickly left the area, abandoning their vehicle.

After about 90 minutes, two of the men came back and claimed to have just met the other two, one of which was the videographer.By then, Rangers and Actiongrl had arrived and placed a vehicle behind the men's minivan, preventing it from being moved.

The two men who returned — one of whom had rented the vehicle — produced three video tapes that they said belonged to the videographer. Only one of them had been recorded, and it contained innocuous images of performances, Actiongrl said, without any nudity.

The two other tapes were unused, and there did not appear to be any additional casettes.

The men also had about 10 rolls of still-camera film but they did not have anything to use it in.

The two men were told to find the other pair and the car and its contents were kept under surveillance by the Rangers.

Eventually all four returned. The driver opted to leave the event with the vehicle, and the two men who were not involved in the videotaping decided to stay.

The videographer refused to discuss the situation, saying he had taken some kind of psychedelic drug, according to Actiongrl. He was taken to the medical tent and later sent to



Photos by WeeGee and PixMan (bottom right).

Burning Man

By Ian "Angel" Gabriel Rowen

Now he is gone.

His face was a sheet of soft white satin nearly graced by Ginger's red bloomers. His heart: adorned with names of his selfless builders in incendiary dedication. His kidneys: brand new to cover rigging and impending dehydration. His crotch: a timeless smoke detector. First, workers cut and assembled rings for arms and legs. Next they fabricated rib, torso and cross pieces. To ensure even burning and a sporty tan line, burlap, permeated with 300 pounds of wax not quite fit for candles, interlaced his arms, legs and spine. Finally, crewmembers finished the head, with its oak facial lattice, in Scott's personal shop.

The weekend before Burning Man, the team converged

ment. Your neighbors don't have a burning car on their front lawn or a giant octopus in their backyard. And that loud music isn't coming from Mission to Mars.

Not all that glitters is glitter. Not all that glows is EL wire. You'll never see your publisher fight the competition in the Thunderdome. You don't have all your ducks in a row because there aren't any ducks "out there." The bus isn't a pirate ship.

Community is real. So are hot showers, bathrooms in the same block, and electricity.

Put your clothes back on, continue to be kind to your neighbors, and if they give you funny looks, give them a hug. Have a great year!

BRC HONORS Emergency Heros By poseidon rex

Since 1994, Senior Builder of the Man and Fire Chief Emeritus Dale Scott has affixed a plaque to the Man that honors firefighters who have perished in the past year. The 2002 honor roll includes the names of policemen and other emergency services workers who lost their lives in the disaster, combined with those of fire and emergency workers across the country who in the past year lost their lives in the line of duty. Thursday night, just northeast of the Man, a memorial service was held to honor their memory and to fill a brass casket with cards bearing their names and affiliations. This year's Man, with arms raised, stood a proud 37.5 feet atop a 40.5 feet Lighthouse, achieving an astounding binary height of 1001110 feet.

Most of this year's Man was constructed in a record eight days at the DPW Work Ranch, some 23 miles north of the playa, with its 110-plus degree temperatures and delirious camaraderie making it a cut beyond the typical construction site.

Led by the indefatigable Dale Scott and Spyral, volunteers molded standard lumber through the hot windy days.

The ceremony was in grave contrast to the sunset revelings going on elsewhere around the playa. Facing a semicircle of attendees and flanked by BRC emergency services and North Tree Fire Department members and families, BRC Fire Chief Russ Kane opened with a brief dedication. Six burn barrels from the New York burners' Society for Education and Learning disaster assistance project stood as glowing presences, three bagpipers played "Amazing Grace", and to a solemn drum roll a flag-draped caisson was rolled out. As the colors were folded and presented to Fire Camp, Phat Mandy sang a bluesy and soulful a cappella rendition of "Amazing Grace." The fire and other emergency workers, and other participants from the crowd, then read from the cards. After each name a firebell rang once — a bell that left on the playa for the final assembly. Arms joined shoulders, legs joined torso, and our one-ton alchemical exploding icon was hoisted by the neck atop his pedestal, along with his arterial two miles of electric cable and holders for the Burn. Scott floated up to the top with the aid of a cherrypicker, placed the head, and took some fine photographs.

On Saturday night, the Man and his 300 pounds of pyrotechnic material, overseen by Dimitri Timohovich, transmogrified in grand dissolution. One arm lost its light as the limbs were raised toward the sky, then blazing colors spewed: blue as the ocean world we float in, and green and red for the directions of port and starboard we must use to navigate on this impossibly huge ship we inhabit together.

San Francisco for the first time in its history to make this

trip to the playa — and the card was placed in the brass casket . At the conclusion, the caisson, bearing the casket, rolled away accompanied by bagpipes and an honor guard. A brief fireworks display, staged by the pyrotechnic team of Dimitre and Becky Timohovich, represented the twin towers with two red comets, and closed a hospital in Reno for observation.

Actiongrl said there was no apparent link between the videographer and Voyeur Video Inc., a company that Black Rock City LLC has sued for distributing videos of naked people at Burning Man.

Anyone bringing a video camera into Black Rock City is required to register it and to abide by restrictions on how images may be used.

Cameras are given tags that must be attached to them in the city. The three men who accompanied the videographer as well as Tania of Waterboy's Mermaid Lounge indicated that the videographer might have registered his unit.

with a twenty-one-gun salute of white airbursts.

Dale Scott noted that the event, organized in only a few days, needed serendipity as well as planning. The New York burn barrels traveled to the playa without any specific use in mind, and their inclusion in the ceremony was arranged only the night before. Phat Mandy was invited only on Thursday morning. But Scott was visibly shaken when I mentioned to him that as we turned to leave the ceremony after the fireworks finale, a quick check of the digital time band revealed the numbers 9:11. Serendipity, both ethereal and profound, is alive and well on the playa.



Dale Scott officiates at a ceremony for fallen mergency personnel across America. The bell caisson rang as each name was read and placed in the box that burned with the Man.

Cosmic Report $\star \odot \star \odot \star \odot \star$

Burners leaving the playa have sunlight until 7:30 tonight. If you are hanging around, a sexy crescent moon will come up at 1:04 a.m., with just 33 percent

of the lunar disk alight. Sunshine smiles upon the soon-to-be-a-memory of Black Rock City at 6:26 a.m., hitting the horizon on the backside at 7:28 p.m.. Twilight last graces the Floating World at 7:56 p.m..

"Where am I going and what am I doing in this handbasket?"

Question of the Day: What should next year's theme be?

"Space, the not-so-final frontier." — Anonymous

"The Roaring 20s." - Ted of Spock Mountain

"Fantasy Land" - Dave of the Unnamed Camp

Bernie's Index

Median per-capita income in U.S. in 1999: \$21,893	0
Median income of full-time, year-round work- ers: \$37,701	0
Median income of Burning Man-goers in 2000: \$40,000	00
Percentage of Burning Man-goers who work more than 40 hours a week for pay: 45	0
Percentage of Americans who say they are Christian: 76.5	0
Percentage of Black Rock City residents who say they are Christian: 16	0
Percentage of Americans who say they are atheist or agnostic: 0.9	0 0 0
Percentage of Black Rock City residents who say they are atheist or agnostic: 22	0
Percentage of Americans who say they are not religious: 13.2	00
Percentage of Black Rock City residents who say they are not religious: 31	00
— Suzanne Zalev	0

Playalaffs By Uncle Mikey

What kind of candy do Black Rock Desert Park O Rangers like to eat? O BLM&M's	What's flat, dusty and writes beautiful poetry? Playa Angelou	0 ⁰ 0
0.0	Rangers like to eat?	°°

What did the movie critic do after the all-night 0 Burning Man party? He wrote a rave review.

Playa Haiku By Alexandra Davies

Sports Scores

At Death Guild's Thunderdome, the Black Rock Gazette placed 2nd in the Battle of The Publishers. The Spock Science Monitor came in next to last

In other publisher bashing, the Tranny beat the Clown.

Date Book

Hot Spots of Reno

By Hank Sosnowski

00

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

Ο

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

Ο

0

0

0

0

0

0

0 0

0

0

Ο

00

0

0

0

0

0

0 0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0 0

0 0

0

"Reno is so close to Hell you can see Sparks." -Anonymous

Returning to the world after living in Black Rock City requires decompression. Float topside into the main stream too fast and your body, mind and spirit may shut you down entirely. Get off in Reno, dodge the buffet-engorged touristas, and you will find Reno's soul kitchen.

The Burning Man-friendly Reno runs in an "L" shape: Fourth Street west to Virginia Street south. This is "old" Reno, the pre-Planet-Hollywood/gated-subdivision/ "resort" casinos Truckee Meadows. It is a peek into Reno's soul kitchen. (All exits are off I-80 unless noted.)

TANKFULLNESS: The Alamo Truck Stop (Vista Exit then left 1/2 mile) is a real deal truck stop with the cheapest gas in Reno and all the cool trucker gizmos for sale.

RESTOCK THE PANTRY: WalMart wins with a one-two punch because it shares a parking lot with THE cheapest place for groceries from Sacramento to Salt Lake: WINCO. This is a Winnebago-friendly zone so you can bed down for the night in their lot. Exit 15 (I-395 North/Susanville) to Exit 70 (Clearacre/McCarran). WalMart's on the right.

CLOTHES N' STUFF: For hardware and clothing try Eagle Hardware and Savers. Take Exit 15 (I-395, North/Susanville) to Exit 69 (Oddie Blvd). Right off the freeway then down two lights to the mall. Drive left into the Eagle Hardware lot.

Savers (on your right) is thrift shop heaven with a huge selection of clothes, pots and pans, etc. It's not the Diggers Free Store but it's close.

Twin City Surplus (1675 E. Fourth) is the place to score surplus goodies, new/used tents and packs, rope by the foot or mile, camo-netting, etc. It's worth the side trip just to wander around this joint. Off at Victorian Av/4th Street then right 0.7 mile.

EATS: The casino all-you-can-eat buffet is a ubiquitous Reno feature. Food quality is pretty good and the price is right. For those who crave gastronomic adventure, consider more challenging fare.

John Ascuaga's Nugget (Pyramid Exit) Country Kitchen features the Awful-Awful Burger which is a good deal and a guilty pleasure Reno tradition.

Cal-Neva (2nd and Virginia) has a deal for you redblooded American types: a hot dog and a Heine for \$1.50. Feed everyone for under ten bucks and get so sloshed that you'll need a designated driver for your rig. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Deux Gros Nez, "Two Big Noses" in French, features reasonably priced good food, great coffee and late hours. A bit harder to find if you don't know Reno, but worth the effort. Head south on Virginia Street then take a right onto California. It's three blocks up on your right, upstairs at 249 California Ave (corner of California and Liberty).

Pneumatic Diner (501 W. First St) is like Deux Gros Nez but has a more Ally McBeal feel to it. The food leans to veggie which fits right in with the smoke-free vibe. Go south on Virginia Street and right on First Street.

Beto's (575 Fifth) does the best Mex I've tasted this side of the Rio Grande. Get your tacos done with beef, pork, chicken, goat, or brain. Goat soup (Rolling Stones fans note: no head included) is on the menu. Combo plates are \$4.00. Keystone Exit (#12) under the freeway, go left on Fifth. The place is tiny so be careful not to miss it!

Louis' Basque Corner (301 E. Fourth) is nationally recognized for their great Basque fare. Dine family style (long tables, benches, everyone sits together, big bowls of passaround food) and eat like a monarch. And, remember to slurp some Pican Punch. Off at Virginia, left on Fourth.

China Diner (275 West St) will sling you some latenight Chinese. It sits across the tracks from the Sands Hotel/Casino.

Deli fare sound fair? Try the Chicago Express Restaurant. Chicago-style red hots, two-handed deli sandwiches, great pizza, lasagna, and big ol' salads - all served up by a real Chicago restaurant guy (Tony). Off I-80 at Keystone, right under the freeway and it's tucked behind the Starlight Bowling Alley.



forcing my faith in the inevitable collapse of humanity.

Listen Toots, from my perspective, aliens not only live and work around me, they also camp, bike and dance to really bad music around me. In case you haven't figured it out yet, you're the alien around here and if you don't leave soon I'm going

Head Games Part 6

BY RICK-BOY

Safely away from Easter Island and its quaint ceremonies, Janice and I flew with the rich Americans on tour. We went to Tahiti and Indonesia and Angor Wat and China. At every ancient site I saw parallels to Burning Man that I kept pointing out to anyone within earshot. I came to realize that Burning Man is part of a long tradition that stretches through history and into pre-history; maybe it's part of our genetic makeup, to gather people together and have a big fire.

I don't want to sound immodest, but after my heroics in rescuing Janice from possible ritual immolation on Easter Island, people listened to me. Pretty soon, everybody on the plane wanted to come to Burning Man, rather than end the tour in Seattle, where we were due the Friday before the burn. The only way to do it

flight, and I got tickets.

to implement an immigration policy that will make that old xenophobe Pat Buchanan look like the Welcome Wagon lady. Question One: Do you have

How do I get rid of jock itch on the playa?

If there is anything that gives me the tiniest little ray of sunshine right now it's knowing that this will be the last time I will have to address human hygiene for another year. OK, listen up: jock itch is caused by a fungus, a living organism, right? The porta-potties at 5:00 a.m. are often inhospitable to any form of life, right? Find a pottie, rub your weenie around the innerds and your problem is solved.

Keny from Bay of Pigs asks:

Is the Playa Chicken friend or foe?

The Playa Chicken responds: Honey, if you have to ask you haven't been paying attention.

We descended quickly and came to a stop three stories above the desert. Using the emergency exits over the wings, we came down the inflatable evacuation slides amid cheers from the assembled Welcoming Committee and belches of fireballs from the pyro cars.

We walked by bunches of army guys in camo suits ready to storm the plane. Later, we learned that after they boarded and were unable to find anyone to shoot, they declared the plane "secured" and said the terrorists must have bailed out over the forests of Washington State (a favorite bailout point for plane hijackers).

The evening of the burn I was waiting in line to use the

facilities when I looked up and saw the Moa head atop the line of potties, "Son of a bitch," I said out loud, "that's what they wanted me to write about!"

"Hey, pretty cool, huh?" said a guy standing next to me. "I'm John Barry. I'm the one who built the heads out of scraped-off billboard poster

paper. Heads on the head-get it?" I turned and scowled at him, "You're the one who

caused all this trouble.' "You must be Rick-Boy, the son of a bitch who's writing

all that nonsense in the Black Rock Gazette."

"Yeah that's me. I was all the way down at Easter Island when they told me they wanted the story of your heads, not

Ϋ́

was to fly straight to Black Rock City Airport.After many frantic radio conversations we got permission to reroute our

The tower in Seattle asked if we had been taken over by terrorists. We assured them we had not. Nonetheless, a squadron of F-18s intercepted us and escorted us back across the Pacific.

I thought to myself, "The military won't be happy until



Hey sunburned troglodytes, we're nearing the end of our week so I thought I'd clear out the message box and take care of a handful of questions I didn't get to earlier. Thanks for trusting me with your most personal issues and for rein-

Miss Moon asks:

I've witnessed a lot of very strange things this past week and I need to know: is it true that aliens live and work among us?

feathers? No? Buh-bye. Scratchy Legs from Mo's Diner asks:

CONTACT IMPROVISATION JAM. Sunday 4:30. Meet in the vellow dome at Happyland, 300 degrees between 2,500 and Esplanade. Intended for thos experienced with contact or akido or with extensive dance experience. Starts in the shade for warm-up, moves to the playa to jam for sunset.

SANTA CRUZ BURNING MAN FILM FESTIVAL. 2:00 p.m. Sept. 28. Rio Theatre, Santa Cruz, California.

DECOMPRESSION. Oct. 20. Club Cocomo, 650 Indiana Street (between Mariposa & 19th), San Francisco, California.

BURNING MAN. Aug. 25 - Sept. 1, 2003. Black Rock Desert, Nevada.



FIREWATER: Zephyr Bar (1074 S. Virginia) is open "until two, four, sometimes six a.m. depending on the band and the crowd," according the bartender. You'll find local hipsters, the college crowd, slumming execs, and an occasional Hell's Angel (We have our own chapter here - credibility at last!) It's a great mix.

The Great Basin Brewing Company (846 Victorian Avenue - Pyramid Exit) serves Beer Cheese Soup. Their Icky's Pale Ale will open your parched throat and mind.

The Breakaway (10 E Ninth) boasts "The Home of 99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" and they mean it. Off at Virgina Street, left one block to the edge of UNR's campus.

APRES PLAYA SIESTA: Easiest place to stay is John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks (Pyramid Exit). The huge pool/jacuzzi area has a sliding glass roof! Spend the night then stuff yourself at the buffet breakfast or try their four other restaurants. The Nugget is out of the downtown Reno core, a plus for big rig drivers

Check out the BM website for more detailed information and more stops on Le Tour de Reno. Now, go bang your drum. 🖁

Illustration by Dadara

they storm the plane."

So I got a Teddy Bear from one of the passengers, rigged up a kind of parachute on it and filled it with enough cut-up bits of silver foil from the cookie packages we had on board that I figured it would light up a few radar scopes. When we were flying over the forests of Washington I ejected it out of the emergency hole in the back of the plane.

"What was that for?" our pilot asked.

"They may be looking for terrorists. Don't want to disappoint them.'

As we approached Black Rock City we could see green lasers sweeping the sky, balls of orange belching flame from various pyro installations and blue sparks from MegaVolt.



"Yeah, wanna drink, a piscola? What the real borrachos drink."

"Yeah sure, after I piscola in the head." "Get it?" we said in unison and smiled.

The door opened and out popped Janice. She was dressed in designer safari clothes, perfectly coiffed.

"Where have you been?" I asked. I had not seen her since we got off the plane.

"Oh, it's fascinating here, I see just what you meant," she said. I've been hanging out at an archaeologists' camp; they call it the Temple of Ishtar and they study ancient Egyptian ceremonies and . . ."

Y A MARTIN AND A MARTIN Ensigns ~ Dani Price, Shameless Distribution Reps Captain ~ Dave Silver, Wrangler ~ Sunburn Sarah, PSAs and Operations ~ Angie Zmijewski, Peter Orsi, Production Devils.

• The views expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Burning Man or its principals. In fact, they may not always represent the views of the writers and editors who committed them. Basically, we are bere to bave fun, and bope that you had some too. See you in 2003?