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One of the shortest wills ever written: "Being of sound mind, I spent all the money."

On the phone with my 93-year-old brother in Wisconsin, and I told him I thought it was time he paid someone to shovel snow for him. He suddenly grew indignant. "Why should I pay someone to shovel?" he demanded. "I can get my son to do it. He's only 70!"

It's a good thing snakes and dogs don't interbreed. Nobody wants a loyal snake.



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A man came through my lane at the grocery store with a jug of wine and a bouquet of roses.

But before paying, he set the two items aside and said, "I'll be right back."

He ran off, only to return a minute later with a second jug of wine and another bouquet of roses.

"Two girlfriends?" I asked.

"No," he said. "Just one really angry one."

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Berryessa Transfer/Recycling Operation  
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Drop-off recycling is available at many other convenient locations throughout the valley. Free curbside pick-up available in some areas.

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# The Lake Berryessa News

Without *THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS* there would be no Lake Berryessa news!

June 2020



## Lake Berryessa Is Open - Summer Is Here (Finally!) - But Revitalization Delayed Again



The January 2017 Lake Berreyssa News headline was:  
Will 2017 Be Lake Berryessa's Lucky Year?

On June 21, 2016, the Napa Board of Supervisors directed staff to enter into negotiations for a Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) between the County and Reclamation. Under a Managing Partner Agreement, the responsibility to develop and manage public recreation areas would be transferred to Napa County.

At the December 6, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting the supervisors accepted a recommendation to move forward with this strategy and approved an agreement with Ragatz Sedgwick Realty to assist the County in identifying interested concession partners by marketing the opportunity to the resort community and performing a feasibility analysis to determine the best use of each site. The positive Ragatz Report was released in May 2017.

Napa Supervisors then authorized a Request for Information and Interest process (RFII) to determine how many potential bidders would be interested in participating in the Lake Berryessa revitalization process. The original schedule for the process was:

November 20, 2017: RFII Submittals Due

January, 2018: MPA Authorization

February, 2018: RFP Release

April, 2018: RFP Due

Summer 2018: Concessionaire Selection and Negotiations

Turns out that 2017 was not Lake Berryessa's lucky year. After a negotiation process that seemed interminable, the Napa Board of Supervisors unanimously approved (12:15 PM, Tuesday, March 17, 2020) the Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) with the Bureau of Reclamation - two years behind schedule!

Under the MPA, Napa County would assume management of the Spanish Flat Recreation Area (the old Spanish Flat Resort), Monticello Shores Recreation Area (the old Rancho Monticello Resort), and Steele Canyon Recreation Area (the old Steele Park Resort) effective November 1, 2020

Then the COVID19 hammer came down. Due to this crisis the County has been in emergency mode since the signing of the MPA. There has been no official word on the progress of writing and releasing a bid prospectus. That means the lake revitalization process will probably be delayed another year.

But at least Lake Berryessa is open for the summer!

## NAPALACHIA

by Bill Scholer



### What Might Have Been - Really Dumb Names

When Pensus won the contract for the Lake Berryessa Resorts in 2010, they renamed the resorts - an incredibly unpopular decision which was reversed when they were kicked out by the BOR. Can you imagine? Lake Berryessa residents and visitors could not.

Markley Cove = Mahogany Bay

Steele Park Resort = Lupine Shores Resort

Spanish Flat Resort = Foothill Pines Resort

Lake Berryessa Marina = Blue Oaks Resort

Rancho Monticello Resort = Manzanita Canyon Resort

Putah Creek Resort = Chaparral Cove Resort

I suggested that Pensus might wish to form a sister resort arrangement with Lupin Lodge in Los Gatos.

"Lupin Lodge: A Clothing-Optional Getaway For All Seasons Luxury Camping... Try a Lupin Yurt at Lupin Lodge... the ultimate value in clothing-optional relaxation and nude recreation in the San Francisco Bay Area." My suggestion was declined.

### Lake Level as of 5/28/20

Lake level has dropped to 430.0 feet, exactly 10 feet below Glory Hole. Light rain brought the total for the season at Monticello Dam to 10.93 inches - the lowest level in more than 22 years! Water temperature measured at Monticello Dam hit 80 degrees at the surface; still holding holding at 55 - 60 degrees at 40 feet and 53 degrees at 70 feet deep and below.

## 10 Years Ago At The Lake

The Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce is hosting a "Welcome Reception" for the Pensus Group on Thursday, June 24, 2010, 7 PM at the Berryessa Senior Center, 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Rd. (off Berryessa Knoxville Rd, behind the Spanish Flat Village Center).

All Chamber members, their family and friends, and all interested community members are invited to attend. Come help us welcome Pensus to our community.

## BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



LAKE BERRYESSA BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS

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## 2 Financial Principles for Fun and Profit

by Peter Kilkus

(This is an excerpt from my book, Conspiracy Theory or Automatic Pilot: The Economic Roots of Environmental Destruction, available on Amazon.)

Classical economics is a mythology. Predatory capitalism is a fundamentalist religion based on this mythology. Environmental destruction and income inequality are results of the practice of this mythical religion. But is the present economic and environmental situation a conscious conspiracy or an unintended consequence of simplistic beliefs supported by basic human greed?

The COVID 19 crisis has illustrated the serious problems with classical economics. The fact that the stock market is doing relatively well when individuals and families are suffering great losses is the best indicator that the stock market is NOT the economy - nor does it have any real connection to it.

David Korten, a prominent economist wrote, "I first encountered economics in college when I chose it as my undergraduate major. I soon found it mechanistic, boring, and detached from reality, so I switched to the study of human behavior and organization. I've since come to realize that economic systems are the dominant systems for organizing behavior in modern societies and are most appropriately studied as behavioral systems."

Economics as a "social science" means it involves people, and that it strives to be considered a scientific discipline. But "people" is a notoriously complex concept to bring under supposedly objective and predictive scientific scrutiny. Therefore, certain abstractions have been used to simplify the process.

These abstractions have become principles and, finally, beliefs. These beliefs, or more accurately, myths, are what drive the financial system because they are used to make real people act, unquestioningly, in the best interests of the financial system itself.

### Homo Economicus: The Sanctification of Greed

The most important abstraction basic to contemporary economic theory is that of *Homo economicus*. The chief feature of the abstract *Homo economicus* is extreme individualism combined with the insatiability of total wants.

There are explicit underlying assumptions about this abstract *Homo economicus*:

> Humans are motivated by self-interest, which is expressed primarily through the quest for financial gain.

The action that yields the greatest financial return to the individual or firm is the one that is most beneficial to society.

> Competitive behavior is more rational for the individual and the firm than cooperative behavior; consequently, societies should be built around the competitive motive.

> Human progress is best measured by increases in the value of what the members of society consume, and ever higher levels of consumer spending advance the well-being of society by stimulating greater economic output.

To put it in harsher language, these ideological doctrines assume that:

> People are by nature motivated primarily by greed.

> The drive to acquire is the highest expression of what it means to be human.

> The relentless pursuit of greed and acquisition leads to socially optimal outcomes.

> It is in the best interest of human societies to encourage, honor, and reward the above values.

I, among many others, think this picture of human beings is profoundly erroneous and conclusions drawn by economists about the real world from this model must be deeply suspect. On a very personal level, is this the real you? People almost everywhere, when asked about the essential elements of a good life come up with much the same list:

> A secure means of livelihood that provides for our basic material needs while earning us a place of respect in our community;

> A strong, nurturing family, friends, and a supportive, peaceful, and secure community that allows us to explore and develop our capacity for loving relationships;

> The opportunity to learn and to give expression to our awareness and understanding of ourselves and the world around us both intellectually and artistically;

> Good physical health and the opportunity to engage in athletics, dance, and other forms of physical expression that make our bodies tingle with life's energy;

> A sense of belonging to place, community, and life, yet with the freedom to make personal choices-and sometimes to wander and explore without the obligations of place;

> A clean and healthy environment vibrant with the diversity of life; and

> An assurance that our children will have an opportunity for the same.

## Fishing With Sid at Lake Berryessa

After many months of waiting to get back on the lake to fis, this Memorial Day Weekend was perfect. The weather was ideal, the fishing conditions great, and just being outdoors was wonderful. Having to be house bound for so long I was eager to get back to what I love to do.

I took out my son's friend Spo (who is like a son to me) the first day. We had a good time and he limited out with five nice bass. The next day I took Roxanne and Andrew out. It was their twentieth wedding anniversary, and they wanted to go for a day of bass fishing. Besides the bass they landed, they caught a good size trout. I think they will do this trip with me yearly they had a great day.

My son Henry landed a six pound bass.



I got to take my buddy Albert and his grandson Daniel out on Sunday afternoon and we stayed out till dark. We fished all over the lake and each one of us caught limits of quality bass from 2 1/2 to 4 pounds. It was a really good weekend for fishing and I hope it'll continue this way through the summer.





# Fishing Guide

## 650-583-3333

[www.fishingconnection.net](http://www.fishingconnection.net)

## Some Camping Tips

With Lake Berryessa rapidly re-opening, it's time to start thinking about camping again. Here are some useful tips you may be able to use.

• When using a public campground, a tuba placed on your picnic table will keep the campsites on either side vacant.

• Get even with a bear who raided your food bag by kicking his favorite stump apart and eating all the ants.

• Old socks can be made into high fiber beef jerky by smoking them over an open fire.

• When smoking a fish, never inhale.

• A hot rock placed in your sleeping bag will keep your feet warm. A hot enchilada works almost as well, but the cheese sticks between your toes.

• Acupuncture was invented by a camper who found a porcupine in his sleeping bag.

• While the Swiss Army Knife has been popular for years, the Swiss Navy Knife has remained largely unheard of. Its single blade functions as a tiny canoe paddle.

• Lint from your navel makes a handy fire starter. Warning: Remove lint from navel before applying the match.

• You can duplicate the warmth of a down-filled bedroll by climbing into a plastic garbage bag with several geese.

• When camping, always wear a long-sleeved shirt. It gives you something to wipe your nose on.

• You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car.

• Take this simple test to see if you qualify for solo camping. Shine a flashlight into one ear. If the beam shines out the other ear, do not go into the woods alone.

• A two-man pup tent does not include two men or a pup.

• A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. A potato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent hockey puck.

• In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a slingshot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear.

• The guitar of the noisy teenager at the next campsite makes excellent kindling.

• The sight of a bald eagle has thrilled campers



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for generations. The sight of a bald man, however, does absolutely nothing for the eagle.

• Bear bells provide an element of safety for hikers in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.

• In an emergency, a drawstring from a parka hood can be used to strangle a snoring tent mate.



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### My Living Will

Last night, my adult kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug." They got up, unplugged my computer, turned off my "smart" TV, and threw out my wine.



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## Onion Headlines

Trump Orders CDC To Research His Investment Portfolio For Potential Coronavirus Cures

Study: 'Hangin' In There' Best One Can Now Feel

Southern Governors Argue Covid-19 Good Christian Virus That Wouldn't Dare Spread During Church

Desperate Sports Fan Would Almost Be Willing To Watch Own Kids Play In Backyard At This Point

Coffee Made, Poured, Consumed Without Single Conscious Thought

Store Reopens Just In Time For Closeout Sale

"He's Not Stupid, He's Just Evil" and "He's Not Evil, He's Just Stupid" Share 1st Place As The Most Popular Excuses For The President's Actions

Michigan Man Cited For Violating Stay-At-Home Order After His House Swept Away By Flood

Aurora cannabis stock doubles after UC system removes SAT requirement

Is there anything sadder than a book written by a 25 year old youtube star? Philosophers stumped by new question

Anti-Lockdown Protestors Demand Immediate Return To Illusion Of Stability, Control

Sweet: This Nightclub Used To Be A Church Or Something

New Study Finds Cyanide Pills May Improve Mental Health

Nation's governors announce reopening of mass shootings

EXCLUSIVE: This man put an "ANY FUNCTIONAL ADULT 2020" bumper sticker on his car and drove it to go vote for Joe Biden

Presidential Campaign Plans To Start Holding Megarallies With New Slogan - "Trump Fever - Catch It!"

World's Scientists Admit They Just Don't Like Mice

Nation's Math Teachers Introduce 27 New Trig Functions



## Summer's Here – Watch Out for Tailgaters and Other Mental Cases

I got this email from a friend in the Highlands awhile ago: “Yesterday my son and I nearly saw a head-on crash because some \*&%#@^ was too impatient. He tried to pass a truck pulling a boat and there was another car coming. I'm not kidding - it was so close! Please remind people to be aware that even though we "know" the road, be careful about how fast you drive since you never know what's around the corner!”

What makes people think they deserve to drive fast on the freeway? Or any other road? Roads are a technology developed to get people from place to place more conveniently than chopping a new path through the weeds every time they traveled. A friend told me stories about his grandparents taking two days by horse and wagon to get from Salinas to San Francisco. They carried guns to protect themselves from “road agents”. I wonder if they had tailgaters galloping up behind them and passing in a cloud of dust at a wide spot in the road to get there faster?

Take a step back and imagine that the fastest an engineer could design a car to go was 40 mph - a bit faster than a horse. What would life on the road look like? The most important result would be that it would take longer to get places and we would all have to plan ahead to start earlier. But isn't this the same thing we need to do now if we travel during “rush hour”?

Just because a car can go 100 mph doesn't mean we must design all our roads to allow everyone to go 100 mph. If you want to go fast on the freeway, drive when no one else is on it. Stop whining about how the government “has to do something about traffic” just because rush hour means slow driving. There are very few highway improvements that can affect rush hour drive times significantly. Widening Jamieson Canyon from 29 to 80 was be one of them.

For people around Lake Berryessa there is basically nothing that can be done to improve the roads – maybe a few more turnouts for slow traffic. From the Berryessa Highlands down Monticello Road to Soscol & Trancas in Napa is approximately 20 miles. At an average of 40 mph, which is a reasonably comfortable speed on such a twisty,

Averaging 50 mph, dangerously fast, gets you there in 24 minutes. But even at 30 mph, a bit pokey, you still make it in 39 minutes. Every morning we can waste 5, 10, 15 minutes getting ready for work. Why then when we get behind the wheel do we lose our sense of civility and have to save only a couple of minutes by driving like idiots on Monticello Road

I'm not a slow driver, but I've been tailgated on the way to and from Napa by some strange people. Psychological problems must come into play. Tailgaters somehow believe that leaving no space between themselves and the car in front is getting them somewhere faster. Maybe they just like testing their brakes a lot.

Others must enjoy being thrown from side to side in their cars as they speed around curves. Perhaps it appeals to their self-image as can-do individuals dedicated to their jobs. The scariest one was a woman in a truck who kept driving up to my bumper at high speed, falling back a long way, and doing it again. There was a child in the car and she was screaming and waving at me. The only problem was that I was about 8 car lengths behind two more trucks and couldn't go any faster. I think she just wanted me to tailgate the trucks in front of me on principle!

So take a deep breath, people. You don't deserve to go fast because of some inalienable right. Patience and civility behind the wheel are the only real long-term solutions to our traffic problems.

\*\*\*\*\*

To save money, I suggested to one of my grown sons that we all live together in one house. I could tell he didn't think it would be cost-effective when he asked, “Who's going to pay the therapist?”



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How come abbreviated is such a long word?

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## Pandemic Environmentalism

The 2020 COVID 19 pandemic has led to several stories about how good the pandemic and lockdown have been for “the earth” - cleaner water, wild animals wandering through cities, a lowered carbon footprint. But these stories seldom relate this “good news” to the intimately-related human suffering occurring around the world.

And none of them relate the economic suffering to the basic economic system of predatory capitalism that underlies most of it. Various sources have paraphrased the line “Socialism for the rich and rugged individualism for the poor.”

But these stories also neglect to make the connection to a philosophy known as “deep ecology” which became popular in last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since then some writers have tried to rehabilitate the deep ecology philosophy to make it sound more broadly reasonable. However the basic tenet is still that people are no better than any other creature on the earth and the best way to save “the earth” is to drastically reduce the human population.

The rapid increase in the human population, combined with the practice of predatory capitalism, is clearly at the core of the rapid destruction of the earth's environment and our social structures. But some people believe in their environmental religion so deeply that they have, in some ways, become inhuman. Radical Deep Ecology advocates would be happy to see a plague that wiped out 80% of the human race so the “natural world” could be saved. This is stated, though sugar-coated, in Point 5 of the Deep Ecology Platform ([www.deepecology.org/platform.htm](http://www.deepecology.org/platform.htm)):

“5) The flourishing of human life and cultures is compatible with a substantial decrease of the human population. The flourishing of nonhuman life requires such a decrease.”



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I was reminded of this type of thinking by a letter in the St. Helena Star years ago about a potential dam removal. The writer actually asked what he thought were rhetorical questions, “Are not the rights of the environment equal to human and civil rights? Is not compassion for the environment as important as compassion for our fellow human beings?” These are profoundly important philosophical questions, but the answers are resoundingly NO! and NO!



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Once you believe that a baby duck is as important as a baby human you've lost your rationality. Most environmentalists are not this mushy-headed, but many have a static vision of the future that really does not include people. And that's unfortunate because people will not go away.

It's useless to think that we have to harm what we touch. We're going to touch it as long as we exist. We can learn how to touch it lovingly through “Factor of 10” improvements in natural resource use and reasonable land use practices that create incentives to protect the environment while recognizing people exist. Books have been written on how to do this.

The romantic fantasy that humans are irremediably nasty needs to go the way of other adolescent self-indulgences. Society has not come to grips with how to limit population growth and so there will always be more and more people.

You can't solve this by forcing these more and more people into smaller and smaller spaces and calling it “Smart Growth”. You may just be creating future ghettos.

\*\*\*\*\*

Go ahead and take risks....just be sure that everything will turn out OK.

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

## June 2020 Horoscopes

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): You may have great quantities of bravado, élan, and puissance, but there's no way to be sure until you find out what those words mean.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): You can't help but feel that if there were something you could do to stop being such a wishy-washy, passive, indecisive loser, you would have done it by now.

Aries (3/21-4/19): The stars have no wisdom or portents to impart at this time, but thought it would be bad manners not to at least say hi.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): Sometimes there is just no way to say you're sorry, but the rest of the time you should probably try just walking up to the person and saying “I'm sorry.”

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): You try to be a decent person with a good perspective on life and a firm view of right and wrong, but you'll soon find yourself ordering something called a half-caff skinny maple soy latte.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): You'll be devastated by the news that you could have stopped a major tragedy in Nigeria if you had only answered their pleading emails in time.

Leo (7/23-8/22): You hate the phrase “Were through the looking glass here, people,” but you'll have to use it anyway this week when you and a bunch of people go through a looking glass.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): People will say you've hit a new low even for you, which is depressing, as they clearly haven't been paying attention to a thing you've done.

Libra (9/23-10/22): The stars are sorry, but someone has already thought of starting a band with two of each instrument in it. It wasn't all that great an idea then, either.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Some say the world will end in ice, some fire. However, the end of your personal world will be most notable for banal remarks on the humidity.







Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Buck up: You still have a lot of life ahead of you, even if the good part was over years ago.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): You'll fall short of funky expectations this week when you find yourself digging the scene and looking clean, but without any sort of gangster lean.



4  
**2019 Napa County Agricultural Crop Report**  
The gross value of winegrape production was \$937,961,800. Overall winegrape values decreased 9.7% compared to the record setting 2018 values. Total production dropped by 24,851 tons or 13.5%. The gross value of all agricultural production was \$943,552,800. Sustainable agriculture is based on three concepts that are interdependent and equally important.  
First, the operation must be economically viable. If a farmer can't make a profit, the business cannot be sustained. Second, the industry must be ecologically sound. If a farmer damages the environment, the business will eventually fail. Lastly, the individual workers and the surrounding community must be supported. This means that workers need to earn a good living wage and be treated fairly with safe working conditions. It also means that the community needs to feel that farming operations are contributing to the local economy and are being conducted safely and properly.

## GROSS PRODUCTION VALUES

↓ 10%		FRUIT & NUT CROPS	2019	\$938,490,700
			2018	\$1,038,794,900
↓ 8%		FLORAL & NURSERY CROPS	2019	\$650,300
			2018	\$704,500
↑ <1%		VEGETABLE CROPS	2019	\$171,500
			2018	\$170,500
↓ 20%		FIELD CROPS	2019	\$433,300
			2018	\$539,200
↑ 19%		LIVESTOCK	2019	\$2,292,300
			2018	\$1,926,700
↑ 43%		POULTRY & OTHER ANIMAL PRODUCTS	2019	\$1,514,700
			2018	\$1,056,600
↓ 10%		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>\$943,552,800</b>
			<b>2018</b>	<b>\$1,043,192,400</b>

### Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Producing Acres	Tons per Acre*	Total Tonnage**	Dollar Value
Red Winegrapes	2019	34,824	3.27	121,100	\$828,687,600
	2018	34,061	3.73	137,335	\$908,490,400
White Winegrapes	2019	9,386	4.05	38,622	\$109,274,200
	2018	9,304	4.90	47,238	\$130,109,700
Winegrapes Subtotal	2019	44,210	3.43	159,722	\$937,961,800
	2018	43,365	3.98	184,573	\$1,038,600,100
Olives	2019	152	2.75	418	\$392,500
	2018	88	0.6	51	\$104,300
Other Fruits & Nuts	2019				\$136,400
	2018				\$90,500
<b>Total Fruits &amp; Nuts***</b>	<b>2019</b>				<b>\$938,490,700</b>
	<b>2018</b>				<b>\$1,038,794,900</b>

### California Boater Card Requirements

The new requirement will begin on Jan. 1, 2018 for all persons 20 years of age and younger who operate a recreational motorized vessel on state waterways. On that date these boaters will be required to carry a boater card issued by DBW.

Each year after January 2018, a new age group will be added to those who are required to possess a valid card. By 2025, all persons who operate a motorized recreational vessel on California waters will be required to have one. Once issued, the card remains valid for a boat operator's lifetime. The following phase-in schedule is based on operator age:

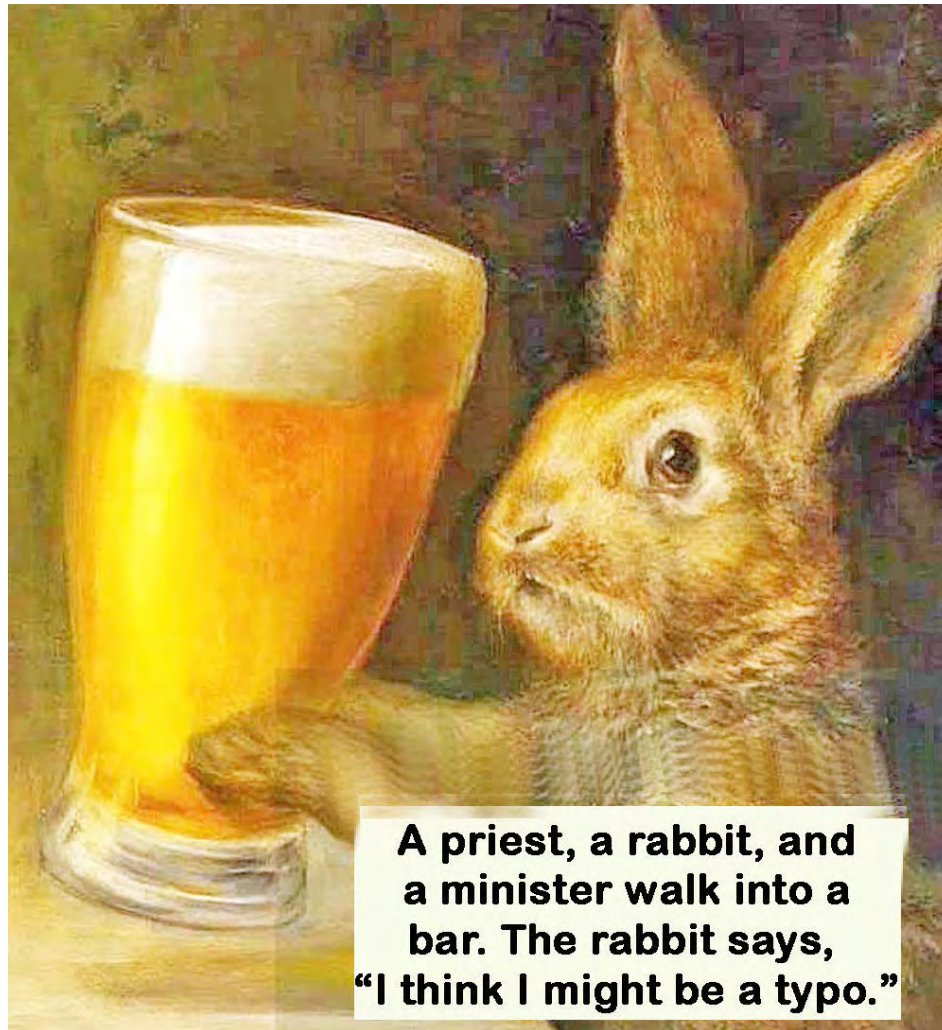
- January 1, 2018 Persons 20 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2019 Persons 25 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2020 Persons 35 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2021 Persons 40 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2022 Persons 45 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2023 Persons 50 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2024 Persons 60 years of age or younger
- January 1, 2025 All persons regardless of age

California age restrictions for operating a motorized vessel:

NO person under 16 years of age may operate a boat with a motor of more than 15 horsepower, except for a sailboat that does not exceed 30 feet in length or a dinghy used directly between a moored boat and the shore (or between two moored boats).

The law allows children 12-15 years of age to operate boats with a motor of more than 15 horsepower or sailboats over 30 feet if supervised on board by an adult at least 18 years of age.

The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.  
I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before we met.  
Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.  
Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.  
If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.  
Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.  
For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism.



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