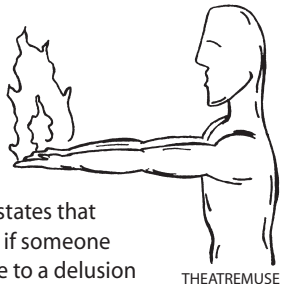




## Playa Pshychology

### Know your Campmates 105: PYROMANIA

The American Pshychiatric Association's Manual of Mental Disorders states that "it is NOT Pyromania if someone sets a fire in response to a delusion or hallucination." That's a relief.



THEATREMUSE

It goes on, 'Pyromania involves deliberate and purposeful fire setting on at least two occasions.' Which means all veteran Burners are Pyros UNLESS they are delusional or hallucinating? Edgy!

Perhaps it would be wise to get really high first before playing with matches, because 'untreated Pyromania often results in legal difficulties' according to the APA, but please seek out your own legal advice.

Now the good news, which I think Freud himself probably wrote: 'There is typically tension or heightened arousal prior to the act and gratification or relief afterward.' No shit, Sigmund.

In my own experience all Leos are Pyromaniacs but I do agree with the APA's concluding remark, 'A true Pyromaniac just likes fire.' Ladies and gentlemen, Crimson Rose and the Fire Conclave. Flame away, me beauties! — **Howeird**

## Sam Rich

Sam Rich of Reno, a 29-year-old veteran Burner, passed away on Thursday around 2 a.m. on the Playa, the second person known to have died in Black Rock City.

Pershing County officials ruled the cause of death was a heart attack. Rich had sustained a head injury on Wednesday, for which he was given stitches, according to members of Controlled Burn. Rich was an instructor with the fire-dancing group.

A memorial performance was held by the group at the Temple of Dreams on Thursday evening at sunset. The memorial was performed by six of his students, accompanied by a single drum and by a fire cannon. His fire tools were consigned to the Man for Saturday night's annual Burn.

In 2003, a Burner was run over by an art car, the first recorded death within the Black Rock City limits. — **Dave Brooksher**

## Public Notice

Driving home through Reno? The Black Rock International Burner Hostel and Rideshare project needs your help. The project has for years hosted Burners, especially those arriving from abroad in Sparks, on their ways to and from Black Rock City, but neighbors have complained and the main facility is largely unable to accommodate travelers this year.

Some Burners just need a lift to the airport or a hotel, others may need lodging. If you can help, stop off at the hostel's theme camp at 4:00 and Delerium as you leave Black Rock City and pick up riders starting Sunday afternoon.

### Answers to Stumble Puzzle:

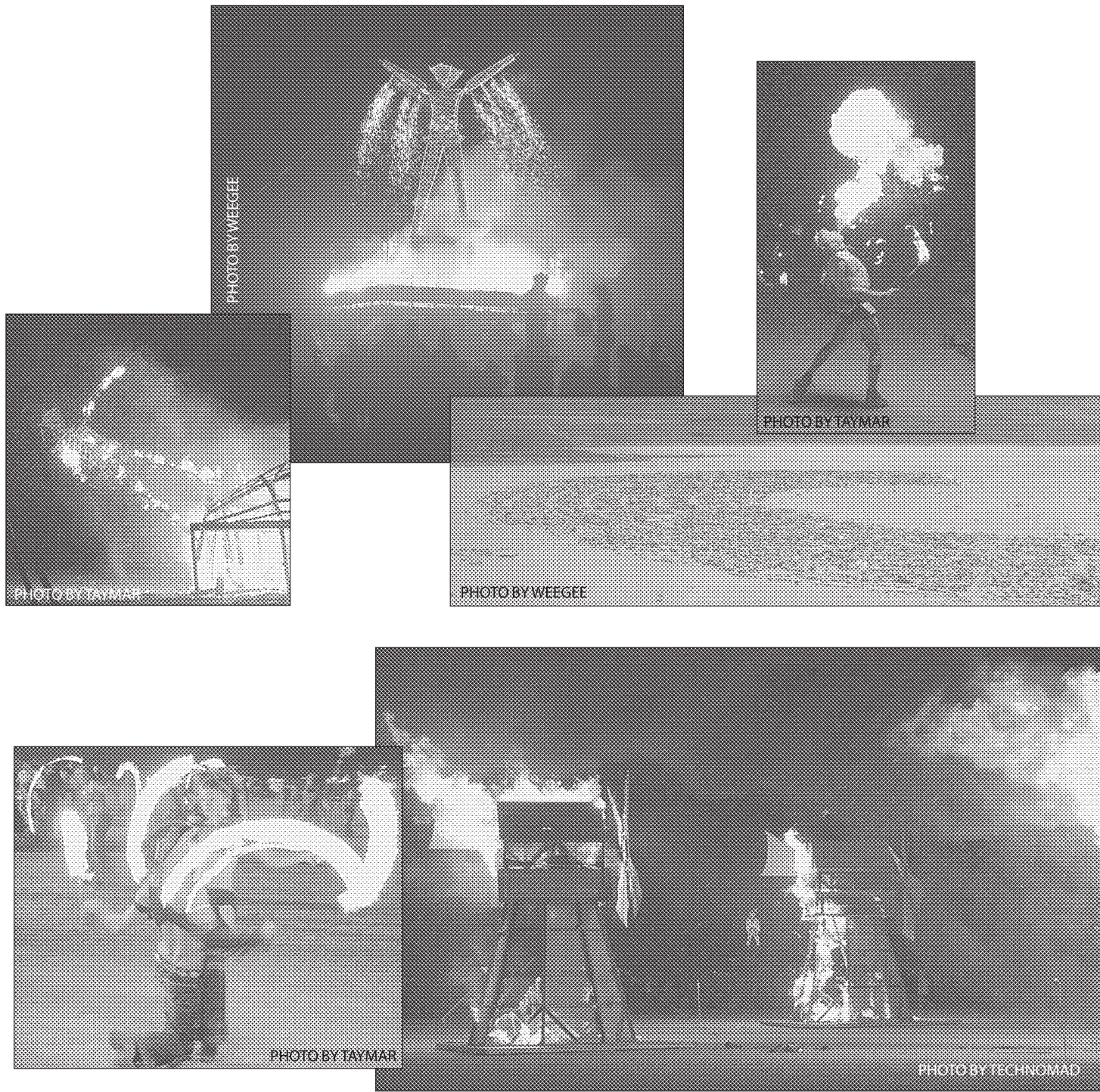
BODILY LIBIDO  
EMBERS NEURON  
BISEXUAL

**BURN BABY BURN**

### Black Rock City population: 35,501 as of noon Saturday\*.

\*According to Media Mecca. Playa Info, approximately 20 feet away said, 35,739 as of 8 a.m. Saturday. Kooky, 'eh?

# City of Fire — BRC 2005



# Burnier, Dustier, New and Improved

BY SANDWICH AND GOTHALOT

As you are leaving Black Rock City for the default world, check your schwag: you may be taking advertising with you.

This is a subject that vexes the Reverend Billy of the Church of Stop Shopping, an anti-consumerism group that has staged protests against mass-market retailers.

While some advertising is clearly just that, sometimes the issue is more subtle. As do other Burners, Reverend Billy himself produces compact disks — his are satiric preaching of the stop shopping gospel — and distributes them in Black Rock City. "See the problem can be that we are trying to make the issue too black and white," he said. "There really is no defined line. Sometime we must use commercial avenues to promote products that are working to break down the walls of commerce... Having said that I even have trouble selling my own albums due to that gray area."

Somewhere on the black side of the gray area is a CD received by the Black Rock Beacon this week from a prominent Burner DJ. His record label and information about an upcoming commercial release was prominently displayed, and there was a web address leading to a commercial site where CDs could be purchased. The Playa CD was a gift, but the intent was at least partially advertising.

A similar approach was an author who offered journalists a free copy of his book about Burning Man if they sent in a postcard that he distributed on the Playa. In a way that is a gift — although the last time a journalist paid for a review copy, the publisher was a fellow named Gutenberg — but it is equally a marketing device to get articles written about his book.

Many people who produce art on the Playa do so with the aim of furthering

their real world endeavors. If it was entirely a gift, they would not use their real names. Yet Burning Man itself has created a powerful brand, complete with a snazzy logo, and the event is produced by a for-profit corporation. Burners, who come to Black Rock City in part to get away from advertising, seem not to mind the Burning Man brand, and, indeed, many of us propagate it.)\*{(

Still another confusing aspect of Burning Man commercialism is a general desire to support other Burners. Certainly, many of us would patronize our fellow citizens in the real world if they produced products and services that we wanted.

So as you drive home, accept that Burning Man is based on commerce but consider where you wish to draw the line between what is acceptable and what belongs outside the Gate. 🐾



It takes all kinds  
to make Black  
Rock City.



# Black Rock Beacon

## That's All Folks!

We hope you have enjoyed the first year of the Black Rock Beacon on the Playa, and we look forward to providing Black Rock City with news, views and pork-related trivia for many years to come. We have a website at [www.blackrockbeacon.org](http://www.blackrockbeacon.org) where we will be posting information for the Burning Man community year-round. Please visit us there. — **The Black Rock Beacon**

## Mother and Child Head for the Hills

BY DEB PROTHERO

One of the most frequently asked questions about Passage in Time is "Why are they walking away from the Man?" Artist Karen Cusolito's answer: "They are taking the Man toward the mountain, the landscape of the next generation."

Her inspiration for Passage was the simple realization that Kids Camp 2004 was the largest theme camp. Cusolito wanted to give children a voice in the art as an expression of her concern for the future. "It is important to include children and let them know we appreciate the freedom Burning Man offers artists to express themselves however they want. It is amazing to me that there are children, teenagers now, who have been coming to Burning Man every summer for 15 or 18 years."

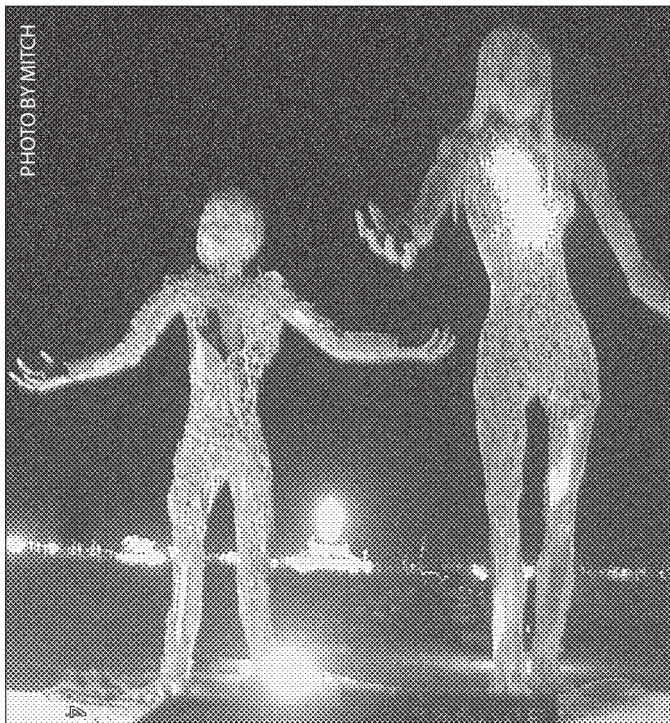
Towering 30 feet above the Playa, the mother weighs eight tons while the child (a son) stands 20 feet and weighs five tons. The armatures are steel pipe. The steel sculptures were produced with the assistance of about two dozen dedicated volunteers over the last eight weeks at Vast Engineering in Oakland.

By the start of Burning Man, the crew was completely exhausted from their focus on creating the sculpture and, according to Cusolito, "we all had to scramble to pack so we arrived in small groups over the first couple of days."

Every night, the work is at the center of a three-hour fire spectacle that begins at 9:00. The fire begins in the palm of the mother's hand and passes to the child's hand, then drops to the footsteps of the past and into a reflecting pool of the future.

Passage is a metaphor for all generations. We pass on to the next generation what we live and what we do. The child in this sculpture has lived the Burning Man experience under the guidance of his mother's constant gaze while the child looks off to the horizon and into the future. Is this a metaphor for all Burning Man art? Is there a renaissance afoot? Cusolito said "Burning Man 2004 moved artists to create with originality again to preserve the freedom offered."

Cusolito's new husband, Dan DasMann, who shares credit for the project, calls it their "workiemoon." The work has consumed all but the first week of their marriage. Burners will remember DasMann for such previous BRC efforts as The One Tree (1998), Faces of



Man(2000), The Last Stand (2002) and The Last Stand Reloaded (2004). DasMann said he is "pleased with the way the Burning Man organization has changed to accommodate artists. They have made art-making a joy."

Where will Passage be installed after Burning Man? Its message would serve the default world well. The sculpture merits a lasting life, but the artists do not yet have a plan for it.

Passage is located at about 11:30 between the Man and the open Playa. 🐾

## An Inferno For You

BY GATT

Kasia Wojnarski brought a hundred yards of fire to Black Rock City, the only place in the world where the sculptor can show off her incendiary side.

"I like to utilize the element of fire," she said. "I am not necessarily sculpture-driven; I am fire-driven. I want to have the experience and give the experience to others of being as intimate with fire as possible, without being burned by it."

Anja depicts the sixth of seven chakras, which are energy nodes in the human body, according to Hindu belief. Anja, the third eye, is associated with intuition.

Wojnarski's representation is a fiery steel triangle, 33 feet to each side, featuring nine-foot-tall circles at the angles, opposing eight-foot pyramids on two sides and several flaming pyramids and lotus petals on the third side. "Essentially it is 360 feet of fire," Wojnarski said.

During nightly one-hour burns after sunset, Black Rock citizens can walk through an opening in the sculpture to experience being surrounded by fire.

"I believe all the four elements — earth, air, fire, water — have a healing quality to them," she says. "I particularly connect to the healing power of fire. Fire has a regenerative quality. It has the gift of purification. It's very inspiring."

Wojnarski, a metal sculptor and hospice worker in Portland, Oregon, began creating Anja this spring in her new 7,000-square-foot shop in the tiny Columbia River Gorge town of Carson, Washington.

Although she has created several metal sculptures in Portland, Wojnarski

says Burning Man seems to be the only appropriate venue for her fire art. Anja should be particularly fiery: It will suck so much propane out of its three 40-gallon tanks that it is limited to one-hour burns.

"The draw on the propane is so great the tanks freeze and the piece shuts down," Wojnarski said. In fact, Anja will burn \$1,000 of propane in five hours over the course of the week. The cost of this, in her largest project to date, compelled her to undertake the lengthy process of application for a Burning Man art grant earlier this year.

"If they did not give me a grant to do it, I could not afford it," she said. "I am still paying off credit card bills for last year."

For Wojnarski, though, the tricky task of turning compressed gas into art is old hat. This is her seventh Burn and the fifth time she has brought sculpture to the Playa. All her Black Rock City works have a common element. "Every piece I make, you can go through or inside, and they all give you the experience of being surrounded by fire."

Anja is located at 12:30 behind the Man.



PHOTO BY MITCH

## Mini He

BY TONY TONHO

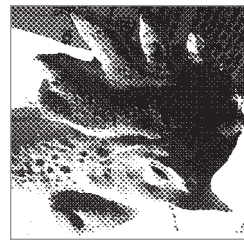
One of the main points Burning Man hopes to encourage is to take what we have experienced in Black Rock City, and return with it to the Default World. In essence, to carry the passions, the feelings, and the overall acceptance of others we have here, and take that to all places near and far.

To pay homage to this ideal, Camp Apokiliptika decided to build a symbolic icon. After serious consideration between camp founder Kernul Killbuck, and No. 1 akolite, Jellyfish, the Spawn of Burning Man came into being. The Spawn is a 12-foot-plus recreation, the progeny, if you will, of the real Man. Miniman is mounted on a backpack and becomes an extension of his handler's movements. Though conceived by Jellyfish, Jelly insists Miniman is the creation of Larry Harvey, as it is made in the image of the original Burning Man.

The moment of truth arrived on Tuesday. The raising of the Spawn took place just after sunset in the camp, and then Miniman walked down to Center Camp where his pilgrimage to visit the Man began. Supporters and followers joined the fray, and the journey gained momentum every step of the way. Upon arriving at the foot of the Man, the followers started chanting, "Papa Papa Papa!" Miniman called out for acknowledgment.

Not a sound, nor a response came from the Man, and the procession moved to make five full revolutions around the father before again coming to rest. This time the result was entirely different, as the man blinked off the red lights, and then the green, going dark for a full three seconds, and for the first time in 20 years the Man acknowledged an offspring. 🐾

## Oh! Dear! Playa Chicken



**GibletGirl from Fresno asks:** I came to Burning Man with a guy who I consider to be a friend, but now he wants more, what should I do?

**The Playa Chicken responds:** First of all, GibletGirl, I absolutely hate your name. It offends my sensitive, already trampled psyche and has accelerated my already premature molting. How would you feel if I changed my name to Entrails Freshly Eviscerated from the Belly of a Fresno Beatnik Chicken? Would you write for advice then?

OK, so some rooster (what's his name, UrinaryTractInfectionBoy?) is sniffing around your nest, and you want him to stop. Let me guess, don't want to hurt his precious little feelings, right? Or is he your only ride out of this place and you don't want to be left behind, because you'd have to live out here with ME the rest of the year.

There are two things you can do. Since you don't seem very bright, I'm going to suggest you do them both.

Honestly, I do not know what you leathery apes see in each other, but your first job is to make sure he no longer sees it in you. Since you're from Fresno, you're familiar with the concept of intermittent bathing and preening, so ratcheting this up shouldn't be tough. Cease any and all cleansing activities immediately. If you can't generate enough stink on your own, visit Smelly Cooler Water Camp (there's one on every block) and give yourself a nice, long marinade. If that doesn't turn him off, tell him you got the stink by losing your balance while doing a Greeter in a portapottie. In fact, you might as well go ahead and do a Greeter in a portapottie. Not because it will help, but because I think it'd be funny.

Step Two is to distract RingwormBoy with someone other than yourself. Tell him to put on those purple assless chaps that you love so much and meet you at the Temple of Atonement at midnight. That should keep him out of your hair for the rest of the week, though he may be in no condition to drive once he does return. If this is the case, simply PECK HIS EYES OUT, grab the keys and get the hell off my front lawn, you chicken-gut-loving freak.

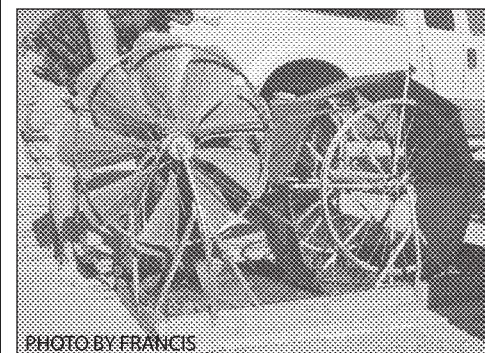


PHOTO BY FRANCIS

Our own Ember, who would catch all of the types in this newspaper if only we told him when we were producing it, made this gray-water evaporation apparatus. It works and your inner tinkerer can take inspiration from its design.

## Corrections

So, one of the problems of editing by shouting through tent walls is that things sometimes get lost in translation. In the article on Friday about the Dicky Box, what we meant to say was that Dicky entered his box at midnight a week ago, as Sunday turned to Monday and the Gate to Black Rock City was opened.

We also had a little communications mixup with the credit for the Playatech photograph on Friday. Although it was Sir Gothalo's camera that snapped that shot, the aristocrat behind the lens was Lord Fouffypans I.G.M.A., the author of the article. We might not have mentioned that, but his Lordship did take that picture on his birthday.

In a similar vein, Wee Gee actually took the photo of our Playa hottie on Friday, which if you know our minister of photography makes a certain amount of sense.

## Semi-Legal Mumbo Jumbo

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