

## 'Offensive' gate radio oppresses arriving Burners

ROD ALLEN

Burners arriving for this year's event are being greeted not by friendly, semi-naked members of the Greeters team but by hard-nosed, efficient security workers who describe themselves as entry processors.

No different from before, you might say — it's always been important to keep out people who haven't paid, or those who are trying to smuggle in firearms. But this year, arriving Burners who followed posted advice to tune into a new FM radio station, Gate Advisory Radio Station, specifically broadcasting "information" about entry, heard new depths of BMORG authoritarianism.

"It sounded as though it had been scripted by the Department of Homeland Security," said one bemused Burner after waiting 2½ hours to get through the gate on Monday night. The radio station was intended for the provision of help and advice to arrivals; instead, the litany of rules and prohibitions and all the things which

will get you sent back from the gate with all your passengers' tickets voided seemed to be the most negative introduction to Burning Man that could be imagined. "We're not the greeters; we're the entry processors," said the script. "Actually, they should have put the greeters on the radio and kept the processors as quiet as possible," added the Burner.

The oppressive, music-free, joke-free radio station is heard all through the entry process; many Burners, of course, tune it out at once, thereby missing hearing the small amount of useful information it provides, such as the fact that all entry lanes provide access to "will call" — an innovation this year.

Burners turned gratefully to Black Rock City's more friendly entertainment radio stations. These included Electra Radio, who on Monday evening played an acoustic number which went like this: "Burning Man used to be so cool/Until they brought in all these fuckin' rules." 🐰

## Burning trailer shock



Ali Baba

NRDYGRL

Two Burners setting up camp Monday afternoon, at 6:30 and C, cranked on the propane and got a nasty little explosion. The resulting fire burned their rental rig to cinders. Folks at Center Camp could see the smoke. The flames melted the plastic on a neighboring RV.

David Barr, BRC Battalion Chief on Duty, gave us a preliminary report. The occupants, inside the trailer at the time of the fire, got out safely and alerted their neighbors.

Pershing County Sheriffs trolling nearby radioed Emergency Services. An observer said the fire engines blasted in through white-out conditions.

"I was really impressed," Barr said,

after responding to the call. "It went from 'on-scene' to 'under control' in under 10 minutes. I thought it took longer, but that's adrenaline for you."

The two lost everything: But the Black Rock City community kicked in with quintessential BRC generosity. They donated costumes and all the essentials to enable the two to stay for the actual Burn.

Joseph Pred, Chief of BRC's Emergency Services, cautions: "If you own, borrow, or rent an older trailer, check the electrical system for frayed or exposed wiring, missing fuses. Check gas modules for anything buckled, cracked, and rusty, and that tanks are in good order."

Older vehicles are perfectly serviceable, Pred said. But "if you're not the owner,

you're taking a risk that it hasn't been maintained."

In other news, an "ember cast" lit an art car on fire Monday, but the art car had a fire extinguisher handy. Pred advises art cars and theme camps to carry these, especially noting the dangers of untended barrel fires. 🐰



## Playa Dreaming

by Jadene Mayla

## Caution urged

DURGY

In waking life, our minds field a bombardment. We all know corporate America keeps at the onslaught to win us over, thereby making good consumers out of us. While dreaming, the neural pathways in our brains are unrouted and can freely transmit information important to our personal and social evolution.

In Black Rock City, some portion of the population is asleep at any hour of the day or night. The collective unconscious of the event and the seeds of emergent culture its unexamined content disseminates in the wider world chart the course of our experience both as a metropolis of revelers and beyond this week or so in the desert.

Our dream experiences indicate the channels of our focus and give us a Hopi prophecy-like gauge to know what we are taking to the celebration, creating here, and bringing back with us.

From recording and special analysis using the unique language of the individual dreamer, we can see where we are taking ourselves as a civic body. Burning Man in the context of planetary and species changes offers a playground laboratory for the human species to know and express itself in a powerful vibratory frequency of celebration.

Dixie, from Homebrew Camp, dreamt the Friday before the event proper that he got undressed to shower but instead found himself walking on a BRC street that turned into an everyday street in the regular world. Standing at a bus stop in the nude, he recognized that none of the other people waiting noticed his lack of clothing.

After an analysis of the particular symbols which stood out to this dreamer, he realized the dream had told him about joining the community as an individual, adding, "I never would have given that any thought at all until I started talking to you and also wouldn't have remembered." My thoughts exactly.

Dream Girl will be on the Playa this year recording dreams, doing dream analysis, and teaching powerful interpretation skills. Find her at the Beacon if you're burning to share a dream from on the Playa or anywhere else during the past year. 🐰

At 6:30 and 1900 feet from the man, the Mayan Tricycle by Wizzard and crew depicts the shifting Mayan calendar. Hamster-like, 5 or 6 citizens of BRC rotate the wheel and the date changes.

But as you work in a team to move the calendar, participants experience the risk of falling, and subsequently taking out their team, as experienced by a Beaconite. Users say the Tricycle could also crush any body part caught in its gears.

The Mayan Tricycle shows the cyclical nature of the Mayan calendar which may mean that the world will not end in December this year. The calendar is meant to go on to the next day with the start of a new cycle. One may consider making their peace with a deity of choice to be on the safe side.

## ALMANAC

by Frogbird

*Unfortunately, there are no good meteor showers predicted for this year's Burn, but the planets will be easily discernible with the naked eye.*

*Mars and Saturn will be visible in the early evening just south of west and low in the sky. They will appear as two bright reddish stars, and should be unmistakable. The one on the right is Saturn. There is a bluish-white star next to the two planets which is Spica, often associated with fertility and the harvest.*

*The star Spica is associated with Fertility (BRC!), and will be in conjunction with Mars and Saturn. Ptolemy says that the nature of Mars is hot and dry, and Saturn is cold and dry. This leads to the following (most profound) astrological weather prediction: expect hot and dry days, and cold and dry nights.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28 • Sunset 7:36 P.M. Twilight ends 8:04 P.M. | The moon will be in the sky at sunset.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29 • Moonset 3:16 A.M. First light 5:53 A.M. | Sunrise 6:21 A.M.

Courtesy www.SunriseSunset.com

## Miss P and the mists of time

MRS LUCKY

The owners of the mansions that line the bluff above Baker Beach were worried. 1990 was a drought year, and the crazies were back to burn the stick guy. Onlookers lined the tinder cliffs, portending a potentially unfortunate conflagration.

Miss P was there. She remembers it was Memorial Day weekend, and that not starting a fire seemed wise. As the un-burned man was being undone, she introduced herself to a dark-haired guy wearing a hat. "I helped convince Larry to bring the man to the playa," says Miss P.

A leader of the San Francisco Cacophony Society, Miss P and housemate Kevin Evans suggested the sculpture be burned in Nevada during a Cacophony Society trip already in the works for Labor Day weekend.

Thus began Miss P's association with Burning Man during its formative decade.

"There were absolutely no rules," she recalls, "Well, there was one rule — no

spectators, you had to come and actually do something." A long canvas banner, hanging on a box truck, proclaimed this principle. It was soon altered to read nose tators. "Then, the second rule emerged," says Miss P, "don't interfere with anyone else's experience."

They planned Burning Man in the back parlor of Miss P's inner-city Victorian in the early 1990s. It evolved from a camping trip with friends; "I said to Larry, Black Rock City has turned into a real city." People would surely need coffee. "Well, you do it," he told her.

In a Black Rock Gazette issue from the late 1990s, "Miss P of Miss P's Café" describes her role as "hostess." She worked the night shift. "They would bring me people who were not having a good time. Things happen."

Miss P made Burning Man every year between 1990 and 2000. Business and academic considerations have kept her away since. She returns this year. 🐰

## Captain Jim 1943 – 2011

WEEGEE

Captain Jim — the Captain — Jim Petersen, husband to Betty, father to Alden, grandfather to Keira, friend of Burning Man, died when his ship capsized 12 December 2011.

Jim and some friends, all commercial fishermen, came to the playa in 1998 thinking to sell some tuna they had on ice. They quickly learned that things were a little different in Black Rock City. Jim became one with the dust, returning every year thereafter. Jim embodied the spirit of Burning Man virtually before it existed. He embraced playa time, living it always and everywhere. The Tuna Guys brought tuna, they cooked it and fed the masses. As the group grew and encompassed many others, Tuna Guys became a phenomenon. Their Monday night parties were the stuff of legend. Many thought of them as an urban legend: not so. They were real.

On 12 December 2011 Jim was out crabbing with two others. The boat rolled and sank. Seth and Bruce were on deck and went into the water. Jim was in the wheelhouse, from which he failed to get out.

We all remember his infectious, ready grins, his "let's have a beer and talk." He thought quietly, nurtured and gave hope. To have him as a friend was to be blessed. On the playa he welcomed all to join the spirit of the Tuna Guys.

This Saturday at 02:00 on the playa a boat will be burned in his memory and honor, at 2:55 200ft from the Esplanade. All are welcome. He would not have it any other way. 🐰

*Pioneer burner Weegee counts himself proud to have been one of Captain Jim's Tuna Guys.*





## Worldwide Burners in ambitious massive art project

### GENIE GRATTO

FOR the second year, in an extremely ambitious and challenging project, Burning Man Regional crews constructed installations which will be burned simultaneously at 9pm on Thursday.

"Last year, we came to understand the talent of regional groups," said Meghan Rutigliano, Burning Man Regional Network Manager, "and their capacity to pull together volunteers and fundraising."

Even more groups wanted to be part of the Circle Of Regional Effigies (CORE) project this year. As a result, there are three rings: one that contains 24 effigies and encircles the base of the Man, and two more that each contain five effigies facing Center Camp, making a total of 34.

The number of simultaneous burns planned for 9pm Thursday will present a unique challenge for the fire crew, Rutigliano said.

Though Rutigliano said the Burning Man organization expects eventually to reach a limit of how many projects can participate, she hopes that exercise will lead to regional groups joining forces to "realize something even more collaborative ... we're excited to see what will happen next," Rutigliano said.

This afternoon from 2 to 5 pm, crews will hold a CORE Open House at the installation sites. Each project will host a variety of celebrations, art talks, and opportunities for participants to leave their mark on the pieces themselves. On view will be:

**Boston CORE:** Boston Cod Piece (7:45 600) This 19-foot-long wooden cod will feature a climbable body, wood scales that visitors can write or draw on, and a shady area inside that serves as an oasis during the day.

**Colorado CORE:** Dragon Lotus (1:45 600) The Dragon Lotus will feature multiple layers of petals that will open over the course of the event, and the piece represents the process of death and rebirth.

**NY CORE:** Roeblingagon (5:45 600) Notice the echoes of the Brooklyn Bridge in this contribution from the NYC CORE team. At night, the semi-sphere will feature color-morphing LED lights casting unique shadows into the crowd around the piece

**Dallas CORE:** The Hatchery (12:45 600) This spiraling tower represents controlled chaos, as well as the personality of the Dallas Burner community. When it burns, a series of eight time-released eggs will drop into the fire, causing the fire to burn in different colors

**East Bay CORE:** Fertilitree (8:15 600) The East Bay Oak Savannah is the landscape of this part of the San Francisco Bay Area, and this year's project from this team represents that natural beauty.

**Great Lakes CORE:** The 21st Century Unlimited (9:15 600) This interactive steam engine pays tribute to that region's transportation history, and the crew describes it as "what you might get if a train was dismembered and re-membered on the Playa by a cargo cult."

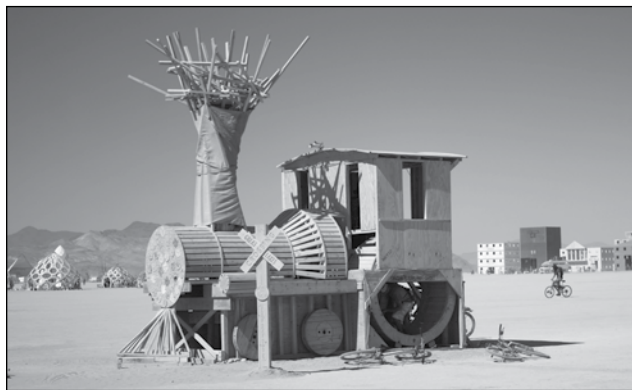
**Houston CORE:** ReinCOWnation (2:15 600) A longhorn bull emerges from the Playa floor, pushing itself up with its front hooves as it rises up with great strength.

**Idaho CORE:** opalEssence (6:15 600) This oval structure created from a lattice could represent Idaho's gems, a pine cone from their vast forests, or even a potato, but it also is egg-shaped as a reference to Fertility 2.0.

**Lithuania CORE:** Blukis (4:45 600) In the Baltic States, dragging of a Blukis, or tree stump, is a tradition on the darkest night of the year. The dragging is said to collect bad emotions and despair from the community, and then the stump is burned to release the community from the negativity.

**Los Angeles CORE:** Seraphim (5:30 900) The four angels supporting a flame vortex around the project represent the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Los Angeles area. There is also a central fire vortex that reflects the rich fertility of the Regional Burns.

**Maine CORE:** Happy As A Clam (6:35 1000) If you've ever wanted to



Photos by Taymar

sit inside a clamshell, this is your chance. This effigy features a large clamshell with surprises inside for those who visit it, and a smaller clamshell that provides solitude for those who want it.

**Mid-Atlantic/Philadelphia CORE:** Stella Octangula (6:15 900) This star tetrahedron is designed to showcase its own stunning geometry, while appealing to many cultures through connection to its shape

**Midwest CORE:** Growing Pains (2:45 600) This effigy features three towers and a broken-down tractor in a field of wheat. Climb the staircases inside the towers to read stories and look at pictures telling the story of the Midwest's decline and rebirth.

**Montréal CORE:** Le Portage (5:15 600) Portaging was critical to the settlement of Montréal's region, and was a challenging process that required both communal effort and radical self-reliance as explorers carried their canoes and all their gear across harsh terrain.

**Tallgrass CORE (Nebraska):** Missed Connections (10:45 600) This piece examines the difference between the external view of the Midwest as a place of rural conservatism lacking in progressive culture, and the internal reality, which features a great deal of creative culture and inspiration.

**New Mexico CORE:** Kokopelli Rising (11:45 600) Kokopelli, the flute player who represents fertility, childbirth, music and agriculture, is the centerpiece of this effigy. Check out Kokopelli's phallus, which will rise more each day until the structure burns.

**New Orleans CORE:** Bébé Bon Temps Brûlé (12:15 600) It's an honor to find a King Cake baby in a Twelfth Night cake, and that honor extends to everyone who gets to visit this structure, built with lumber reclaimed from destroyed houses in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

**SF North Bay CORE:** Twisted Upright House (7:15 600) This 1:3-scale lighthouse twists 135 degrees from base to apex, where a light will slowly rotate and serve as a beacon in the vast sea of the Playa.

**Orange County CORE:** Chords of Wood (6:45 600) Orange County, California, has a long legacy of electric guitar technology, and this piece celebrates that history in an interactive way — visitors can actually play the giant guitar.

**Portland CORE:** Grow Fourth (1:45 600) At the center of this installa-

tion is a large tree, with leaves decorated by Portland-area artists and participants. At the four corners of the piece will stand four wooden pieces hanging from curved metal representing Portland's diversity.

**Reno CORE:** Gateway (3:45 600) Reno considers itself the gateway to the Playa—for many, it's the last stop before Black Rock City. This piece represents the city's role, as well as the commitment of the Reno Burner community to Burning Man and the Playa.

**Sacramento CORE:** Arboria (5:45 900) Sacramento considers itself a city of trees, and Arboria is designed to bring some of that shady, restful feel to the Playa.

**San Diego CORE:** CarouShell (6:20 1100) San Diego's Balboa Park Carousel and the region's coastal life inspired this wind-powered carousel. At night, try to grab the brass ring to set off a special light experience.

**Seattle CORE:** Tendril Woods (10:15 600) This forest grove will bring a taste of the cooling Pacific Northwest forests to this year's hot and dusty desert. Find shady relaxation amidst the grove's roots, branches, and stumps.

**South Africa CORE:** Jozi (5:30 1100) Adorned in traditional African colors, Jozi represents a traditional South African fertility doll. The piece is designed to celebrate the world's shared heritage with Africa.

**South Bay CORE:** Valley of Heart's Delight (5:15 1000) This project takes the form of a 20-foot tall water tower, which harkens back to the fruit canneries that once spanned California's Santa Clara Valley.

**Sweden/Denmark CORE:** Naglar (4:15 600) This majestic Viking ship is an homage to Nordic heritage, and its burn will symbolize a Balunian ritual burial, in which a leader's body is placed on the ship, which is then sacrificially set aflame.

**Toronto CORE:** Rise of the Planet of the Moose (8:45 600) Straight from The Queen City comes this giant moose head sunk into the desert.

**UK CORE:** Nowhere Bell Tower (9:45 600) European traditional bell-casting inspired this project, which will feature not only a 20-foot bell tower, but also the casting of several bronze bells at the base of the tower.

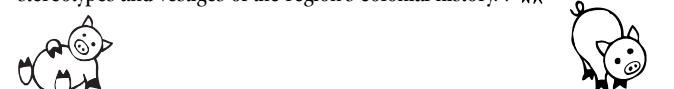
**Vancouver CORE:** Life Tree (6:10 1000) This double-helix installation represents the Vancouver area's pine forests. The structure will rotate, and at night, participants can control LED lights on the spokes of the tree using an electronic keyboard near the installation.

**Victoria, BC CORE:** PsychoPhilia (6:10 1100) This human head installation is a tribute to open minds teeming with collaborative ideas. You can enter it through the ears, a heart-shaped door, or even on a red carpet tongue through the mouth.

**Utah CORE:** Secret of the Bees (11:15 600) Utah is the Beehive State, and this Queen Bee structure features a large hive-shaped body containing many burnable bee idols contributed by the Utah community, and large breasts that represent "the milk-and-honey of the good life."

**DC Metro CORE:** National Treasure (3:15 600) There are echoes of the Washington Monument in this 20-foot, painted obelisk. At night, lights inside will send patterns onto the desert, and flames will shoot from its topmost point.

**Saskatchewan CORE:** Bison Field (5:20 1000) Bison represented a critical resource for Saskatchewan's native peoples, but they were nearly made extinct when white settlers moved into the area. This piece takes the theme of bison and wheat and burns them together to break down stereotypes and vestiges of the region's colonial history.



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