Playa Psyclology

Know your Campmates 105:
PYROMANIA
The American Psychiatric 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.

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 Less 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! — Howie

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 about the death. 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 his students, accompanied by a single drum and by a fire cannon. His fire tools were consigned to his students, accompanied by a single drum and by a fire cannon.

In 2003, a Burner was run over by an art car, the Man for Saturday night's annual Burn. 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 his students, accompanied by a single drum and by a fire cannon.

Sam Rich

Flame away, me beauties! — Howie

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 let them know what you can help with. The 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.

Answers to Stumble Puzzle:

BODILY
LIBIDO
EMBERS
NEURON
BURN BABY BURN

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

*According to Media Mecca's v-2.0, approximately 26 feet away said 10,729 as of 4 a.m. on September 4, 2005.
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 Wojnarski brings the Man toward the mountain, the landscape of the generation next.”

Her inspiration for Passage was the simple realization that Kids Camp 2004 was the largest theme camp. Wojnarski 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 what they are capable of. Freedom Burning Man offers allows 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 woman weighs eight tons while the child is 30 seconds and weighs five tons. The armatures are steel pipe. The steel sculptures were produced with the assistance of about 1,000 volunteers over the last eight nights at Valley Forge in Oakland.

By starting the Burning Man, the crew was completely exhausted from their focus on creating the sculpture and, according to Wojnarski, “we had all the time to pack up 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 the reaper 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 born the torch of the Man 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? I’m sure it’s a source of inspiration. If you want to create with integrity and give originality to the freedom offered.”

Wojnarski’s new husband, Dan DesMann, who shares credit for the project, calls it “our family project.” The work has consumed all but the first week of their marriage. Burning Man will remember DesMann for such BCC efforts as The One Tree (1998). Faces of Man (2000), The Last Stand (2002) and The Last Stand Reloaded (2004). DesMann said he’s “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 world well. The sculpture merits a traveling title, 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 GARY

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 of fire and give the experience to others of being as intimate with fire as possible, without being burned.”

Anja depicts the sixth of seven charaks, which are energy nodes in the human body. Anja’s creation is the heart. “Every piece I make, you can go through or inside, and they all give you an experience of being surrounded by fire.”

Anja is located at 12:30 behind the Man.

Mini He

BY TONY TONOHO

One of the main points Burning Man hopes to encourage is to take what we have experienced in Black Rock City, and return it with the Defeat World. In essence, to carry the passion, 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 Apokalypatica decided to build a symbolic icon. After serious consideration between camp founder Kemal Kindukullu, and No. akoklet, Jelifysh, the Swamp of Burning Man came into being. The Swamp is a 12-foot plus recreation, the progeny, if you will, of the original Burning Man. The creation of Larry Harvey, as it is made in the image of the original Burning Man.

The silhouette of a truck arrived on Tuesday. The raising of the Swamp 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 fry, and the journey gained momentum in a carefree 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, no response came from the Man, and the procession moved to make true fiel revolutes 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 offing.

Those who should be held directly responsible for The Black Rock Beacon...

Mitchell Martin, managing editor, Brian Derguglietti, major general editor, Lancelet Smith, photo editor and camp manager, Frankie Wodkach, multimedia editor, graphics, Angie Zmijewski and Carry Tveit, production goddesses, John Lam, news editor, Larry Reed, copy ed, Edge, Worthen Armstong, graphics, editor-in-chief and managing editor, Shawn Lee, asst. editor, Jason P, writer contributor and professional kitchen hero; Anthony Peterson, UATJ; Brian Tino & Lianne McNear; McClary Sisters; Howard Jones; Joseph Collins, stack worker and minister without portfolio; Bob Kline, a.k.a., Blade, minister of transportation, division of flying meat products; Woehe, minister of photography, Billie, fundador; Lord Fastpapery, Minister of Paper; Riff the Paperboy.

Editors: Editors Abby, Michael Derguglietti, Emmy Lee, John Lam, Suzanne Zald, Suzy.

Writers: Lord Fastpapery, Owen Davis, Michael Derguglietti, Lianne Gabie, Chris Guttman, Genoa-Howard Jones, John Lam, Diet, Lianne McClary, the Muse, David Primnich, Anthony Peterson, Lancelet Smith, Brian Train, Suzanne Zald.


Illustrations: Dana Azota, The Beast.

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, view and perk related trivia for many years to come. We will be posting information for the Burning Man community year-round. Please visit us there — The Black Rock Beacon.