The Milk Of Human Unkindness

BY ROD ALLEN

Consider the Playa art guide stapled in the middle in your cracked, dusty What Where When. Passively useless when not actively insatiable, this series of dots and cryptic names fails to even hint at the existence of the bleak and freakish milk, carton shoved upright in the Playa near 4:30. A mere midway diversion from the hummed beta male playing monstrosity-with-sticks at nearby Thunderdome. Malacleche is a grimly humorous reminder of one of the stranger sidekicks of the American Dream. Staring up at the massive carton, the idle gawker learns of the appalling plight of maquiladoras of Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua in northeast Mexico. Since 1993, 450 young women, ages 12-28, have been found murdered; most of them abducted, raped and disposed of by persons local cops don’t seem too keen on catching. An additional 400 are missing, as the handy “Femicide Facts” section informs, drawing one’s eyes almost gratefully from the beautiful face of Brisia De los Santos, murdered early in 2001. The handsome young artist was “stirring a hornet’s nest” when he chose this year’s American Dream theme, but he said that patriotism need not be just about nationalism or a commitment to a specific country.

When a Home Is Not a House

BY: DEB PROTHERO (FIREFIGHTER)

I t’s a week of Black Rock City is good, more would be better. Burning Man aficionados are about to get something better. Larry Harvey, the Burning Man founder, let a kitten poke its nose out of the bag at the bag the annual Black Rock City news conference on Wednesday.

“T’ll be some fanfare next year that will announce some form of permanence for Burning Man,” he said, without providing any more information. Although Harvey has in the past indicated that the annual Black Rock City event is not integral to the evolution of Burning Man culture, his comment seems to point toward a full-time installation in the Playa vicinity, though it is unlikely to be on U.S. government land.

The Burning Man organization already owns an 80-acres ranch and additional land in the Gerlach area. Earlier in his presentation, Harvey spoke of the growth of the event. Burning Man has “become more cosmopolitan but against the odds has also become more interactive,” he said. “The ethos instilled seems nearly irresistible to the world.”

The organization’s place in the world is a subject of considerable interest for Harvey. Burning Man is “being embraced” in other countries, with more than 25 sanctioned regional events, he said. This year, however, the Burning Man focus is on the United States. ‘America is at a point that could be described as the hinge of history. We face a crisis as a nation after 40 years of comatose behavior buying off our problems with our wealth. ‘Iraq is our Suez, not our Vietnam – in that, Britain learned that it had to listen to the world. Now it’s our turn to learn that lesson,” Harvey said.

The Burning Man founder said he knew he was “triggering a hotner’s nest” when he chose this year’s American Dream theme, but he said that patriotism need not be just about nationalism or a commitment to a specific country.

The Burning Man American Dream House, furnished with the organization’s slotted furniture. Below: the exterior, located near the 3:00 Promenade.
Lazy Days In Black Rock City

BY MITCH

They have this schtick at Lazy-Ass Fuckers camp — or at least they say they do: A couple of camp members will be working on a shade structure when a passer-by passes by. They will ask if the Black Rock citizen can lend a hand, and being a Burner, the answer is usually "yes." Then those lazy-ass fuckers will just peddle off and have the sucker to finish off the work.

"We've got four shade structures," said Funky, who does most of the talking. "Shade is always good. You've got to have it."

Still, there are other ways to make shade, like the aforementioned cowbell, some home-canned blackberry jam, the obligatory canned blackberry jam, the obligatory cowbell, high and in the rear of the classic steam locomotive layout.

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They'd done the tiki torches, which work "well," said GVP Stacey. "We make little sweat-shop people make it."

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The entire food and drink operation goes just like this: One volunteer is in charge of the furnace; another in charge of the tater fryer — both on outstanding warrants. One guy to cook clipboard; the other one to cook clipboard. One guy to cook clipboard and the other one to cook clipboard.

"What happens when the temporary builders realize they're been had? They usually can't be gotten with some schmug, the aforementioned cowbell, some home-canned blackberry jam, the obligatory canned blackberry jam, the obligatory cowbell, high and in the rear of the classic steam locomotive layout.

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With the risk-reward ratio in favor of the camp, do they attract new members? "We have a waiting list of people who want to come by and be lazy ass." Funky said.

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If you are joined by a dancing locomotive, you're just going to let their perfect blend of horseradish, Tabasco, and black pepper sink to the bottom. Remember: you can sweat that hangover away. Oh try, anyway.

You Want Fries With That

By durgys

Down the 4:30 ketch you will find the "Ketchup." You can't miss the 50-foot tall familiarly shaped ketchup bottle bearing the label "Burnt Tater Fry." In the evenings, they serve up tasty thick cut fried potatoes that are crispy on the inside with a baked like texture on the inside. Available with your fries is the tasty American sauce favorite — tomato ketchup.

Uncle Jim is the force behind Ketchup, and was manning the fry fryer along with members of The International Bamboo Workers World Union Shop when the Beacon stopped by. The Union members, many from Hawaii, were volunteering this week. Union heads negotiated the free gig for the workers since they are volunteering this week. Union heads negotiated the free gig for the workers since they are volunteering this week. Union heads negotiated the free gig for the workers since they are volunteering this week. Union heads negotiated the free gig for the workers since they are volunteering this week. Union heads negotiated the free gig for the workers since they are volunteering this week.

Upon first glance at Christopher, with his black beard and a massive amount of gold bling, it's hard to imagine him in a military uniform as the modern deejay and tunes creator for the temple. He put his first attempt at an art car/motor vehicle with a 50-foot-tall, familiarly shaped ketchup bottle on its head and hot bod. Waterfun Camp inside Gaviglee featured a 3,200 gallon pool!

"Drown Or Tiki Torches OUT OF CONTROL!" — The ban on tiki torches this year did not sit well with everyone; this is a collection of Burner-in-the-street quotes about the ban, and an announcement of the Tiki Liberation Front's protest march at 5:30 that afternoon. The group might have been more impressive if they'd wanted a few hours for dark...

TICKETED AND TICKETING

By TECHNOMAD

From Tuesday morning through Thursday morning, Bureau of Land Management rangers report two arrests, both on outstanding warrants. One guy to cook clipboard; the other one to cook clipboard. One guy to cook clipboard and the other one to cook clipboard.

We continue our look back at Burning Man 1998 through the pages of the Black Rock Gazette. Because of our production delays, here are Thursday’s and Friday’s highlights, sorry we missed a day.

Thursday

"Free Burning Man — history of the radio station, then in its fifth year of broadcasting (and still blazing away)"

Friday

"Getting Wet on the Playa — places where you can go soak in a pool or attach messages. The crane-like structure will be burned at dawn on Sunday.

"You've got four shade structures," said Funky, who does most of the talking. "Shade is always good. You've got to have it."