By Rod Allen

There will be a permanent research entity to study Burning Man culture and the ways in which it can be reflected in the Default World, and it will come into being for more than one thought you might wonder.

That’s the view of Larry Harvey, founder of the Burning Man movement, who was speaking frankly and at length to the Buxmowry Towards Burning Man 3.0 debating group in a meeting hosted by The Black Rock Beacon Tuesday.

The Burning Man organization has already acquired land in the Gerlach area and is considering further purchases, but Harvey insisted that bricks and mortar are not necessarily ideas than important, and he plans to initiate the as-yet-unnamed research entity in the virtual world before the Default World. He is contemplating a series of blogs as the first step.

Harvey’s view is that the world is short of big ideas, and that a research entity could provide radical, yet practical, ideas to make the world a better place through the study of Burning Man culture and other ways of applying them to Default-World issues. It will be a multidisciplinary institute, incorporating an influential public policy think-tank with other kinds of study such as welding and farming. “I’m a farm boy,” said Harvey.

Conditions for entry to the institute would be inclusive rather than exclusive, and Harvey does not envisage a traditional higher-education application process. But members and contributors will have to be Burning Man coast in the default, because it is widely held that in order to understand Burning Man you have to have experienced it.

Last year, Harvey told The Black Rock Beacon that he was planning a research initiative:

The Buxmowry group, which is led by Professor Ned Miller and &Alexus Teter of the Army, will hold further meetings and discuss where to start making the plan.

All are welcome – check at The Black Rock Beacon headquarters, 5:30 Evolution, for times and places.

The Key to Life’s Meaning

By Kris Wilton

Michael Christian is scaling down this year’s “Key Note.”

The Oakland artist, who’s previously burned the 12-foot high, Edible-inspired steeple in 2008 and “LT,” a menacing, 40-foot tall, three-legged monster made of E.T.-shaped head for 2006, has opted this year for something a little more modest.

At 15 feet high, “Key Note,” a hunched figure of a man dragging behind him a giant key ring is “smaller in scale and much more manageable” than most of Christian’s 12 previous commissioned projects for Burning Man, “but still a lot of work,” he said.

And as of this writing, he still had a long way to go.

As conceived, “Key Note” was to be made entirely of locks — padlocks, door locks, cabinet and chest locks, car locks, bike locks, locks, locks, locks! But Christian said he had proved too difficult and presented weight concerns, so he decided to stay true to past works and fabricated the locks himself.

That kind of adjustment is all part of the fun, though, he said. “The spirit of the piece hasn’t changed, but the process always presents challenges that push your creative problem-solving skills. It’s half the fun of building a new piece.”

By Itaymar

The Man base that year was, as usual, a pyramid of straw bales and at showtime the artwork and the audience. In fact, we were told, it took an hour to build and we trusted the locked doors and cabinet and chest locks, car locks, bike locks, locks, locks, locks! But Christian said he had proved too difficult and presented weight concerns, so he decided to stay true to past works and fabricated the locks himself.

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Brown in the Material World

By Taymar

The Conclave’s evolution has been exponential. Even as recently as 2009, there were but 300 members “forming a protective presence around the pyre” according to the Afterburn Report. Last year’s firebreaks included Radian Heat from the University of California – Irvine, Firepower from Mississippi - with Pois In The Hood from Harvey, told The Black Rock Beacon that he was planning a research initiative:

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Seltzer: Solution to Playa Dust

By Mary Jane

On your behalf, Doug searched the Internet for weak acid. A chemical hobbyist, Doug claims to have found the solution to the pesky properties of Playa dust. The answer? Club soda. With a pH over 10, Doug claims our dust is about as alkaline as oven cleaner. To neutralize its corrosive effects, you need some nice weak acid. It’s not what you think; we’re talking tangerine, lemon juice or Doug’s choice, club soda (which contains carbonic acid).

Letter to the Editor

Your 8/31/09 issue had an article titled Theme Camp SNAFU, that did not make statistical sense. You pointed out that there are about 130 camps that did not get placed. You quoted someone saying placing these camps would consume 75% of the city. Placed camps marked in gray in the map consume about one third of the city.

If one placed 10 camps to a city block you would need 13 blocks, i.e. from 6:00 to 2:30 for one street. If you placed them only five to a block you would need one more street for placed camps. This would result in less than 40 percent of the city in placed camps.

Not placing these camps severely inconvenienced people. For example, the line at Playa Info to register is one hour long. This should not happen again. Dave S.

Dust – 7x
Moose – 6x
Exodus/Leaving – 2x
Playa Boogers – 2x
Wind – 3x
Burner than thou
Camp Drama
People that spray you unexpectedly
Boundaries – people get too “huggy kissy”
Logos on trucks
Baby Wipes
Overlooking law enforcement
Answering questions
Sun
Heat
Negative people

Vinegar, says Doug, is the quickest alkali fix. But it leaves you smelling like a gherkin. Lemon is nice but not pretty sticky. Only club soda met all of Doug’s criteria: safe to ingest, available at any grocery, and a substance you’d not need to wash off. “Every dance club out here has it, big containers of carbonation.” Doug envisions spray bottles filled with the stuff. So play-mates, drink lemonade, eat pickles and embrace the wisdom of Bozo the Clown. “A little song, a little dance, a little seltzer down the pants.”

On Your Way Out

Help maintain top of the biscuit for the Black Rock City volunteers who will be on playa after the event restoring the playa to pristine condition and those working year round in Gerlach. Some workers have families and your donations help out greatly.

Department of Public Works Collected stations will be located at the 5:30 and 6:40 Fallon tubes to be operational 24 hours a day from when the Man Burns.

Needed are unopened non-perishable food stuffs, alcohol, camping equipment, coolers, beer (unsanitized), pop, bread, tanks and anything you think they may enjoy and do not want to take home. The Bureau of Land Manage-ent Playa restoration inspection is expected to occur on or about 6 October.

The Black Rock Beacon distribution boxes may be found at the following locations:
9:00 Plaza @ Rue Morgue
3:00 Plaza @ Ice Cubed
4:30 Plaza @ Black Rock Diner
7:30 Plaza near the information board Center Camp @ Media Mecca (unofficial)

Almanac

By Igneous

Sunrise Sunset Moonrise Moonset
Wednesday 9/2 6:29am 7:28pm 6:29pm 5:33am (Thu)
Thursday 9/3 6:30am 7:27pm 6:52pm 6:34am (Fri)

Horoscope

By Citizen X

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22):
You thought of a stupid idea just now, didn’t you? OK, how about now?

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22):
In camp, you’re known as an “intense” person. So, you might try getting out of town a little earlier to give a hand, hm?

“The time has come,”
the Walrus said,
“to talk of many things:
Of ships – and ships –
 and sealing-wax –
Of cabbages – and kings –
And why the sea is boiling hot –
And whether pigs have wings.”
–Lewis Carroll

Evilution

By Rick Boy

Yes, “we do have to keep up, don’t we?” said McCredy.

“What’s that supposed to mean?”

“Yes, you know it, long ago that we had people with memory units inside their skulls,” said Dr. McCreedy.

“Yes, what a nuisance,” replied Prosecutor Hobkins. “So unattractive, constantly getting out of hand.”

If one placed 10 camps to a city block you would need 13 blocks, i.e. from 6:00 to 2:30 for one street. If you placed them only five to a block you would need one more street for placed camps. This would result in less than 40 percent of the city in placed camps.

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Brainteasers by Darby

Down
1. A wide pirate says oop (5)
2. Saw Z’s whole brain hopping (5)
3. Truly has no time to be bodily (4)
4. Heroes are startled, but given naturally (5)
5. Todd used backwoods on booty (4)
6. Making, not landing, a fish (4)
7. Daughter of the American Revolution victory (5)
8. You are able to carry (4)
9. Burn without some bravado, and the ashes vanish outside (8)
10. The French Church provides escape (5)
11. Baked without all the fat (5)
12. Can’t be done,” said Hobbins.
13. Might be? (4)
14. The Waltz, said the Waifs, (5)
15. What if someone built a robot from a human didn’t make them a robot,”

“Might be?”

“You know it, long ago that we had people with memory units inside their skulls,” said Dr. McCreedy.

“No, that’s all been settled in the Man vs Machine case, please get to the point. In MvM, it was made clear that adding a pig’s eye to a robot didn’t make a pig and adding a titium lump to a human didn’t make them a robot,” said Hobkins.

“We are modified humans, some might say improved, others might dispute it,” said McCredy.

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“Might be?”

6. They aren’t people. They are grown human organs.”
7. What has been approved is the growth of human organs on other animals, like humans ran on mice. And furthermore it’s been approved for organ transplant.
8. Yes, human organs can grown for use for transplant.
10. “That doesn’t explain the people out at your ranch that we raided.”
11. “They aren’t people. They are grown organs.”

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