

Daily Planet



Police Dog Sound Camp

By Suzanne, Mitch, and Deb Prothero (firefighter)

Members of Opulent Temple said their large-scale sound camp at 2:00 and Baghdad has been subjected to heavy-handed police activity this year.

Dutch said agents of the Bureau of Land Management walked arm in arm and "mowed through our dance floor" repeatedly on different nights. They did not make arrests on these occasions, he said.

He also said he suspected that undercover agents boarded an art car he worked on and asked for drugs.

On other occasions, he said, BLM officers raided the camp's dome with dogs.

Rich, another camp member, said he woke up one morning nose-to-nose with a police dog sniffing around his tent. He also said he suspected undercover police officers had helped with setting up the camp and then asked where they could obtain drugs.

The Opulent Temple members said the persistent police activity around their camp was carried out by the BLM and not Nevada police working for Pershing County.

BLM agents at the law-enforcement enclave would not comment on the matter. Pershing County did not have authorized spokesmen on the Playa on Saturday.

Reports of intrusive police action, especially at dance-oriented camps, have reached the Beacon since Black Rock City opened on Monday. At a news conference on Wednesday, Burning Man organization executives suggested that part of the problem was the assignment of law enforcement officers without experience at Burning Man.

Woman Dies

A 52-year-old woman died earlier this week, according to Joseph Pred, operations chief for Black Rock City's Emergency Services. The cause of death is not known and a coroner's report is pending, he said. Foul play was not suspected, but there was not any obvious cause of death.

Visit us at BlackRockBeacon.org



Photo by Buzz

By Day



Bye, Bye



Photo by Taymar

RITEs OF PASSAGE

By Mitch

Next year's Black Rock City theme will be Rites of Passage, chosen by the Burning Man organization to reflect a time of fear and insecurity in society.

The theme was scheduled to be announced on the Internet as the Man fell last night, said Burning Man co-founder Larry Harvey in an interview on Thursday.

Rites of passage have been reflected in the Burning Man experience since the first Burn. As the first Burners arrived at the Playa in 1990,

they stepped over a line drawn in the sand by members of the Cacophony Society, which had been running what it called Zone Trips to the Black Rock Desert. The Burners were told that once they traversed the line, everything would be different. That ritual lives on today as citizens pass through the Gate on their way to Black Rock City.

According to documents reviewed by Beacon staff, The Man will stand on the pinnacles of two pyramidal structures, spanning a chasm, his torso pivoted.

This pose will symbolize that tough times require a balancing act.

Space inside the base will allow Burners to create their own rites.

The theme comes at a time when consumer-dominated societies, especially in the United States and other Western countries, can no longer sustain themselves, Harvey said. He likened it to the Warner Brothers Coyote having run off the edge of a cliff – his feet keep spinning until he looks down.



Photo by Buzz

By Night



Photo by Taymar



Photo by OM'(G)

LEO With Heart

By WeeGee

In Monday's wonderfully wet afternoon a serendipitous encounter occurred. A party of eight travelers from near the 9:00 Plaza were stranded in Center Camp. Mom approached a Pershing County Deputy Sheriff who was driving by and pleaded her predicament. He said "Hop in." They all did and he gave them a ride to their camp. This deputy will remain a warm thought long after the city has returned to nothing.

2010: A Safe Year

By Mark Om'(g)

The Med Tent, doctors, emergency medical technicians and staff wish to thank all of you for playing safe this year. Most of the injuries were simple cuts, blisters, dehydration, and construction injuries. At times the Med Tent was a little busy, but not frantic. Take your time driving out, stay hydrated, walk about if it gets too hot inside your vehicle. Stay alert on the road home and come back next year.



Photo by WeeGee

As of Friday the Population of Black Rock City was 48,915 with two new streets added. London and Mumbai formed between 7:00 and 10:00, making 2010 the largest city laid out on the Playa to date. Saturday's noon population was a record 50,054. — Mark OM'(G)

NEW TENANTS LIGHT UP HOT CORNERS

By Kitty & Red Floyd

The visual and auditory cacophony of Burning Man escalated further Wednesday night with the lighting of the Pyrosphere. Even overstimulated Burners might have found it hard to miss a 37-foot geodesic sphere with flames shooting in sequence from every one of its 92 flamethrowers.

The Pyrosphere's flames are computer-controlled, tied to the beats coming from Nexus sound camp. In the weeks before the Burn, anyone interested could enter programming for the Pyrosphere through the Nexus Web site.

Nexus was moved to ar-



Photo by Kitty

guably the most visible spot in Black Rock City, the corner of 10:00 and Esplanade. For those few lucky enough to manage a large sound system, this is "the best piece of property in the world," said Chris Nowak, one of the co-founders of Nexus. "We've got the sun-

rise, and we've got the Esplanade."

The move was accomplished by a combination of push and pull. Nexus has been lobbying for the corner spot for five years, Nowak said. Nexus representatives attended this year's Regional Summit, where Burners from around the world learned to hold their own local Burning Man events.

"The Burning Man organization had seemed to be a nameless, faceless 'thing,'" said Nowak. "Then, we got to meet the people who really make the decisions."

The result? Nexus found itself in the prime spot, with the ever-popular Root Society sound camp moved back

to Baghdad and 10:00. On the other corner spot, 2:00 and Esplanade, Electric Ladyland has moved up to the front, with Opulent Temple pushed back a couple of streets. Root Society is still drawing strongly, with two stages, a video wall, and legendary DJ Bass Nectar rumored to be performing later in the week.

"We were told that moving the former occupants back would draw people in off the Esplanade," said Alexei Bur-la of Nexus. So a push from Nexus, and the desire to pull people toward other, smaller camps, led to the Pyrosphere helping light Black Rock City's nighttime sky. 🦋

Howeird's POSITIVELY PLAYA !

If you see a faded sign by the side of the road on the way home that says "Welcome to Larryland," don't be too surprised - the Bmorg now owns nine properties in Gerlach, our little neighbor to the southwest. Three are vacant lots, two have been refurbished - the Burning Man Office and the museum leased to the Friends of the Black Rock / High Rock itself 60% funded by the BLM - which gets a chunk of its revenue from Burning Man ticket sales.

Knock a little louder, baby...

The Black Rock Saloon operates privately under a special-use permit providing rest and recreation and feeding facilities for the 400+ crew that arrive here in July to build the infrastructure for possibly the fifth-largest city in Nevada, according to

Quinn BM's Nevada properties manager.

Maybe arresting the decline in Gerlach's population is the benevolent motive for the Bmorg rustling up real estate - it has declined from 300+ when the event first came out here to 161 today and includes the old Gerlach Theater with its authentic Western-style facade job - done for around \$10,000 - with a six-figure price tag on the full Monty. Interestingly, one of the other acquired properties is an old pool & spa facility with casino zoning... Harvey's II you might ask - if you know the other one in Tahoe?

And so the week ends - far sooner than we wish - time sorta speeds up as the Burn approaches. Some of us are lucky enough to be on a tear-down crew - do stop by for a hug - the password is Captain Turnbuckle. Playa con Dios me hearties! Burn brightly.

Tin roof, Rusted.

Quickie Wedding In Playa Style

In the wee hours of Thursday morning, two newlyweds rolled into our office at 6:30 Center Camp all hepped-up on the community culture of Black Rock City. On Tuesday, PJ and Andrea from the Golden Cafe Camp decided that they wanted to skip the hassles and headaches of a typical real-world wedding in order to tie the knot at Burning Man.

They put the word out and - within 24 hours - had everything they needed for a ceremony. An ordained minister volunteered to conduct the proceedings and a group of bakers whipped together a cake. The bride managed to track down something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue. The couple's dream was to get hitched on a boat. A captain of a sea-worthy Mutant Vehicle ship made this a reality. The Playa provides!

The Beacon would like to wish the happy couple all the best in the real and fake worlds.

Events

Recycle Camp will accept aluminum donations until 5 p.m. Sunday, after which they will close until 2011.

GCC or greater MENA residents, please talk to durgy at the Black Rock Beacon before you leave BRC about year round connections. After the event send email to durgy@blackrockbeacon.org.

That sign in the Black Rock Hardware camp we asked about on Tuesday was in Chinese and reads either "gold stuff" or "metal stuff," we're told.

Metropolis Ink: Butterflies and Devils Make a Mark

By Famous Melissa

From the ancient Acropolis to this alternative Metropolis, civilization's inhabitants have expressed themselves with body art and adornments.

Why put on an accessory when it can be inked on for all eternity? Toss the diamond bracelet, ladies, and opt for one in ink that will never be misplaced.



As cultures have grown, they have also been scarred along with their survivors. Butterflies flying across a shoulder blade are symbolic

of sobriety. A winged devil sitting on a chessboard holds down a soul on a pentagram and keeps it from rising into goodness. Rites of transition, good versus evil, sex and spirituality, are all common threads that weave through the Black Rock City tattoo tapestry.

But still, I have yet to find my superhero symbol in Metropolis Ink. 🦋

Sculpting the Wind

By Jane Tuv

If you're searching for a quick pick-me-up, look no further than 7:00 and Esplanade in the direction of the Man, where Burners of all ages play with gigantic wind tubes and giggle uncontrollably.

Environmental artist Doron Gazit uses nature as his canvas. He comes out to the Playa each day as the sun begins to set over the mountains, with a 3,000-foot roll of thin plastic. Burners are

invited to "sculpt the wind" by unrolling what looks like a giant grocery bag. They open it, tie one end, and run with the wind, catching air. When the air fills the plastic bag, people tie the second end and throw the tubes in different directions. The wind and the sun meet inside the tubes, creating mesmerizing, flowing patterns in the sky.

Gazit said he was inspired to work with wind tubes back in college, 25 years ago, when he sold balloon



Photo by Taymar

animals to make an extra buck. He develops and manufactures the polyethylene material used for the tubes.

A Letter From Nutmeg

By Nutmeg Alfredo

Howdy, here @ my 11th year, I thought I'd share two things that I've learned that you might like.

1. The sunset. Sunsets here are often incredible. Here's how I recommend enjoying them. At about 30 minutes to sunset, gather anyone who's able to move, something nice to drink, cushions, and head to the 7:11 area and outer ring. This year the police are located elsewhere, so you have a clear view of the mountains to the West. I recommend viewing the sunset, doing some yoga, toasting with your friends and staying for a while. The clouds have been deliciously colorful this

year, and the sunset is worth watching and being around for at least 2 hours. The sightlines are also very clear out there - no art projects, no vehicles, nothing obstructing the view. Since the Playa is a lakebed, you often see some lovely optical effects right after the sun goes down if you watch for it. It's also where I commune with the divine.

2. Thank you to everyone who has created a post box, this year and for years past. The mail system here works. You can use the various post offices (Center Camp and @ 9 o'clock plaza) to send mail out into the world, and anywhere on the playa. To really help the system along we'd love your cooperation. Make

some mail and send it to your friends. Add something spicy to a mailbox near you. Or find some stamps and send someone who couldn't make it this year a postcard or letter filled with a copy of this paper or something else lovely that you've come across.

Thanks for 11 great years. This event has changed my life more than anything I've ever been a part of and I'm sad to depart, but it's time to change the channel. I wish you all the best. Love, Nutmeg Alfredo (Spicy, Spicerack), etc. <http://albertideation.com> in the default world, or albertkaufman@gmail.com. 🦋

BRAINTEASERS by Durgy

Monday Solution:

Across: 1. Straw, 6. Smart, 11. Metropolis, 12. Remit, 14. Irene, 15. Taxing, 18. Pommies, 19. Spas, 21. Noel, 23. Participant, 26. Brie, 27. Redo, 29. Eileen, 30. Udders, 33. Title, 35. Outer, 38. Inhabitant, 39. Peers, 40. Sever
Down: 2. Tee, 3. Ami, 4. Wettest, 5. Crux, 6. Spin, 7. Morgana, 8. Ale, 9. Ringle, 10. Tse, 12. Rope, 13. Mumbai, 16. Aspired, 17. Insider, 20. Ace, 22. On beat, 23. Praline, 24. Regular, 25. Poisons, 28. Oner, 31. Debs, 32. Eats, 33. Tip, 34. The, 36. Ute, 37. Eye.

The Black Rock Gazette 10 Years Ago

Saturday, September 2

"Burn Heads" warns "there is real potential for celebration to turn into catastrophe" on Burn Night, what with frustrated people who can't see the Man go down for the crowds in front of them, bikes clogging the crowd, and artworks being burned against artists' wishes. "No one person comprises Burning Man," readers are told, "but without the community effort that each individual contributes, it would not be possible."

An article by Caleb Schaber headlined "DPW: The Deep Penetrating Whoop Ass That Makes Burning Man Happen" is a paean to the 80-member crew that sets up Black Rock City and knocks it down. Key quote: Will Roger, the DPW head, says "We build our own city... then all these people show up and fuck it up." "Market Meltdown" reports the Nasdaq has suf-

fered a 25 percent decline to 3,070 as investors abandoned tech stocks. [Editor's note: The series of stock-market articles in 2000 was later said to have been part of a semi-aborted art project that involved huge marionettes of the Group of Seven leaders in the Center Camp Cafe and a video camera trained on the Empire telephone booth meant to capture terrified Silicon Valley types desperately calling their brokers. Truth was more dire than fiction: the Nasdaq ended on Sept. 1, 2000, at 4,234.33 but fell to a closing low of 1,114.11 in 2002 and began August 2010 below 2,300, far worse than the purported decline.]



First Light: 5:59 a.m.
Sunrise: 6:27 a.m.
Sunset: 7:23 p.m.

Twilight Ends: 7:49 p.m.
Moonrise (Monday): 4:18 a.m.
First Light (Monday): 6:00 a.m.
Sunrise (Monday): 6:29 a.m.
Sunset (Monday): 7:22 p.m.
Twilight Ends (Monday): 7:49 p.m.
Moonrise (Tuesday): 5:36 a.m.
First Light (Tuesday): 6:01 a.m.
Sunrise (Tuesday): 6:29 a.m.

Born on a Sunday? The oft-repeated slogan "if it wasn't in your body, don't put it in the potty," doesn't give a free pass to that blinky-light you ate last night. Happy rummaging.

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