

**"Time is what we want most,
but what we use worst."**

- William Penn

Deadlines are points in time designed to be conclusive and final- The definitive culmination of a proposed action, the actualization of intention, when the decisions are made, the copy is proofed, the spectacle is realized, and the show goes on.

The concept of productivity and efficiency, making the most of our efforts, is an ingrained value handed down as righteous and true, codified in Benjamin Franklin's timely command: "**Time is Money.**"

But in our schizophrenic culture the term "**slacker**" is a derogatory epithet for a person who avoids work or effort, a deliberate time waster. "**Retirement**" is celebrated as the ultimate, just reward for a lifetime of work, and vacations are for frivolous lazy days of rest.

Some just cut to the chase, and become layabouts, idle shirkers, malingers, bums, or just goof-off. We value both- "Noses to the grindstone," and gratuitous "Me time." Sitting in pleasant inebriation, with mind devoid of thought is bad, yet sitting in calming meditation, clearing the mind, is good. So much time is wasted that we come to expect it. People are expected to be late for meetings, excused by terms that imply a casual counting of time excuses itself- most often found in regions renowned for being "*laid-back*," or "*mellow*:"

"*Mañana-time*," "*Aloha-time*," "*So-Hum-time*," etc.

The **TRUMPTOTUS** has had 154 golf course visits during his tenure, at a cost to taxpayers of something around \$80 million- We are footing the bill for this "*VERY wealthy man*" to dress in casual clothes and poke at a ball with a stick, or, as my avid golfer grandmother used to quip when describing it, having "**A good walk, interrupted.**" Naw, he uses a golf cart- at least it's electric. Sports Illustrated reports "Trump will sometimes respond to a shot he duffed by simply playing a second ball and carrying on as if the first shot never happened."

With somethings there are no **do-overs**:

The UN Council of Parties #24 (COP24) climate talks taking place in Poland this week are facing some hard facts- Not least of which is that "we" are still arguing over what "**must**" be done 24 years later.

Only now is the optimistic hopefulness that claimed that we could reverse disaster is being called into question. It is clear that at this juncture, even if agreement can be found, the trajectory of climate change is relentless, and will shape our future. The official statement: "*...Declarations regarding electro-mobility gaining support from a record number of countries is an important message that brings hope, and opens opportunities for effective implementation of modern and environmentally friendly technologies...*" is received even as Macron capitulates to the 'Yellow Vest' protestors in France and they win a motivating point- **The right to use gas without pesky taxation!**

The attempt to incorporate a key scientific study into the proceedings has failed. The **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** report, a landmark study commissioned by the 2015 climate conference on the impacts of a temperature rise of 1.5 celsius, had a significant impact when it was launched last October.

Scientists and many delegates in Poland were shocked as the **U.S., Saudi Arabia, Russia & Kuwait** objected to this meeting "**welcoming**" the report. The report said that the world is now completely off track, heading more towards 3 celsius this century rather than 1.5 celsius. Keeping to the preferred target would need "**rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society.**" If warming was to be kept to 1.5 celsius this century, then emissions of carbon dioxide would have to be reduced by 45% by **2030**.

Well, we had our shot, **Time's-up**. The sooner we accept that and act accordingly the better. Unfortunately, there's the rub- When have we ever done that? In the grand Pantheon of world leadership, even those with the best of intention and the most enthusiastic acolytes only get so much done. Social Media won't "save us" and neither will hiding from facts. In Katowice Poland the talks plod on: "...During the "Global State of Adaptation in Mountain Regions" event, regional strategies to adapt to climate change as well as concrete actions in this matter will be presented. Presentations will be the starting point for further discussions. Tomorrow..."

Meanwhile: The latest news in '**Science**' the oldest journal we have for this sort of thing, is that some 252 million years ago, Earth almost died. In the oceans, **96%** of all species became extinct. It's harder to determine how many terrestrial species vanished, but the loss was comparable.

This mass extinction, at the end of the Permian Period, was the worst in the planet's history, and it happened over a few thousand years at most — **the blink of a geological eye**. The cause of the Permian-Triassic mass extinction? **Global warming robbed the oceans of oxygen, putting many species under so much stress that they died off.** And, we may be repeating the process scientists warn. Climate change is "*solidly in the category of a catastrophic extinction event.*" I know you don't want to hear it, but **DENIAL** is not just a river in Egypt. Things change, stuff happens, and time of course, marches on.....Have a good new year while you can, why don't ya? Cheers!

-last minute notes from: **Joshua Golden**



"There's a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious—makes you so sick at heart—that you can't take part. You can't even passively take part. And you've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you've got to make it stop. And you've got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it that unless you're free, the machine will be prevented from working at all."

— Mario Savio, December 2, 1964

NOVEMBER



Lines repeat like branches, barely moved in this stalled air; all your small deaths have entered bone into bone, fine as ice

Your patterns crystallize: the harvest mouse throws his life pure from his own three wounds. You will replace his blood

with river; give us back tears neat as pods.

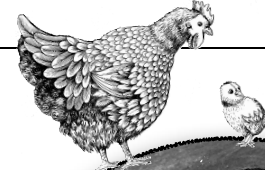
What loss are you growing? What must we give

for our drowned hair; the rainbow in our cells; this stellar cancer intricate as Brahms; our graves with their stopped mouths.

~ Kathy Epling

"We are fully human only while playing, and we play only when we are human in the truest sense of the word."

— Rudolf Steiner



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"The very meaninglessness of life forces man to create his own meaning. Children, of course, begin life with an untarnished sense of wonder, a capacity to experience total joy at something as simple as the greenness of a leaf; but as they grow older, the awareness of death and decay begins to impinge on their consciousness and subtly erode their joie de vivre, their idealism — and their assumption of immortality. As a child matures, he sees death and pain everywhere about him, and begins to lose faith in the ultimate goodness of man. But, if he's reasonably strong — and lucky — he can emerge from this twilight of the soul into a rebirth of life's elan. Both because of and in spite of his awareness of the meaninglessness of life, he can forge a fresh sense of purpose and affirmation. He may not recapture the same pure sense of wonder he was born with, but he can shape something far more enduring and sustaining. The most terrifying fact about the universe is not that it is hostile but that it is indifferent; but if we can come to terms with this indifference and accept the challenges of life within the boundaries of death — however mutable man may be able to make them — our existence as a species can have genuine meaning and fulfillment. However vast the darkness, we must supply our own light."

-Stanley Kubrick