

de Stolfe Journal *Candid*

FEBRUARY 2016 | 5.2





Journal Contents



February 2016 | 5.2

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------|--|
| 3 | Candid Comments by the Producer
<i>My little commentary section</i> | 12 | Museum/Exhibit Spotlight
<i>In this issue, Autochrome!</i> |
| 3 | Word for Life
<i>Words to speak for life</i> | 13 | The Piano Guys
<i>Some really cool videos by musicians</i> |
| 4-6 | Saddle Break Notes
<i>A mail bag mix of Facebook posts and quick notes</i> | 14-15 | What Graphic Designers See
<i>Graphic artists are just a little different in doing things!</i> |
| 7 | Leap Day of a Leap Year
<i>Interesting info about this day</i> | 16-17 | Ranching and Farming—Coffee Farming
<i>More info about growing most everyone's' favorite drink</i> |
| 8-10 | Recent Photo Acquisitions
<i>Part 1 of some recent historic photos I bought</i> | 18 | Cats According to Mark Twain
<i>Mark Twain apparently like his cats!</i> |
| 11 | 100 Years of Beuty
<i>A bunch more of these videos</i> | | |



Candid Comments from the Producer



February Rolldown

February, like January, continued at a nice steady pace with no particular ups or downs to speak of. February was, however, full of various holidays and events. Here's a list of them: Groundhog Day, Superbowl, Chinese New Year, Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, Lincoln's Birthday, President's Day, Washington's Birthday, Valentine's Day, and Leap Day as the ones most people know about.

Lubbock and Texas in general have been very mild this winter, enough so that the trees are flowering! In February! All over Lubbock, white flowering trees are everywhere, and they are full of flowers! I didn't know what it was called, but I found out through Google that it is called a Bradford pear or the Latin name of *pyrus calleryana*, or Callery pear as known elsewhere in the world. It is a native of China

and Vietnam. While it is called a "pear", it does not have any fruit, but does have small reddish berries in the fall (off of the stamens in the middle of the flowers, not unlike cherries) along with bright red leaves in the fall. I can describe the smell of the flowers as pungent with a sort of nutty smell. They really don't smell all that nice, but they do look pretty.

My job this month went well and smoothly. I've been working on a variety of projects and a few new tasks. The job at this point in the business is ever evolving as the business grows and develops into the size and scale that the owner is seeking.

I hope you like this issue! It is sort of a continuation of the January issue in topics and in general interest.

On the Cover

All over Lubbock starting in late February because of the mild winter weather are these flowering trees. There are many of these trees full of white flowers. It is called a Bradford pear.



Contents Page

Even though this tree is called a "pear", it does not have actual fruit, but it does have small reddish berries in the fall along with bright red leaves in the fall.



Word for Life

Romans 13:1-2, 5-6 (AMP)

"1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God [granted by His permission and sanction], and those which exist have been put in place by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists [governmental] authority resists the ordinance of God. And those who have resisted it will bring judgment (civil penalty) on themselves.

5 Therefore one must be subject [to civil authorities] ... as a matter of principle [knowing what is right before God].

6 For this same reason you pay taxes, for civil authorities are God's servants, devoting themselves to governance."

This scripture is sure to not be popular with many people mostly because it goes opposite of how we were raised or how we think we have a right to act! However, God make it clear that we are wrong and need to follow God's way of doing things in order to walk uprightly and blamelessly!

No doubt, this election year is a crucial pivoting point for the United States and all everywhere are watching to see what will happen. God calls us to vote and to respect those in governmental authority. That doesn't mean we must agree with them or even to like them, but we must respect them as God's divine appointments! Otherwise, they would not be in authority. God does not always put holy and Godly people in power, but he does put people in place who will accomplish some aspect of His will.

Saddle Break Notes

March Calendar

- 3.1.16—Super Tuesday Elections
- 3.1.16—National Pig Day
- 3.1.16—Peanut Butter Lovers' Day
- 3.3.16—Peach Blossom Day
- 3.4.16—Employee Appreciation Day
- 3.14.16—National Pi Day (π)
- 3.15.16—Ides of March
- 3.15.16—National Agriculture Day
- 3.17.16—St. Patrick's Day
- 3.20.16—Palm Sunday
- 3.24.16—Maundy Thursday
- 3.25.16—Good Friday
- 3.26.16—Holy Saturday
- 3.27.16—Easter Sunday
- 4.1.16—Don't Be A Fool Day

Drinks Choices

A couple of years ago, I went to the store and walked in the drinks section. I found out that there really is not a general “drinks” section anymore! Instead, this is how the liquids were organized and it took up two aisles, both sides!

- Sports drinks
- Energy drinks
- Juice
- Bottled water
- Sparkling water
- Flavored water
- Soft drinks
- Powdered drinks
- Bottled tea
- Cocktail mixers
- Coffee
- Tea
- Cocoa

Did I miss anything?

Periodic Table of Toppings

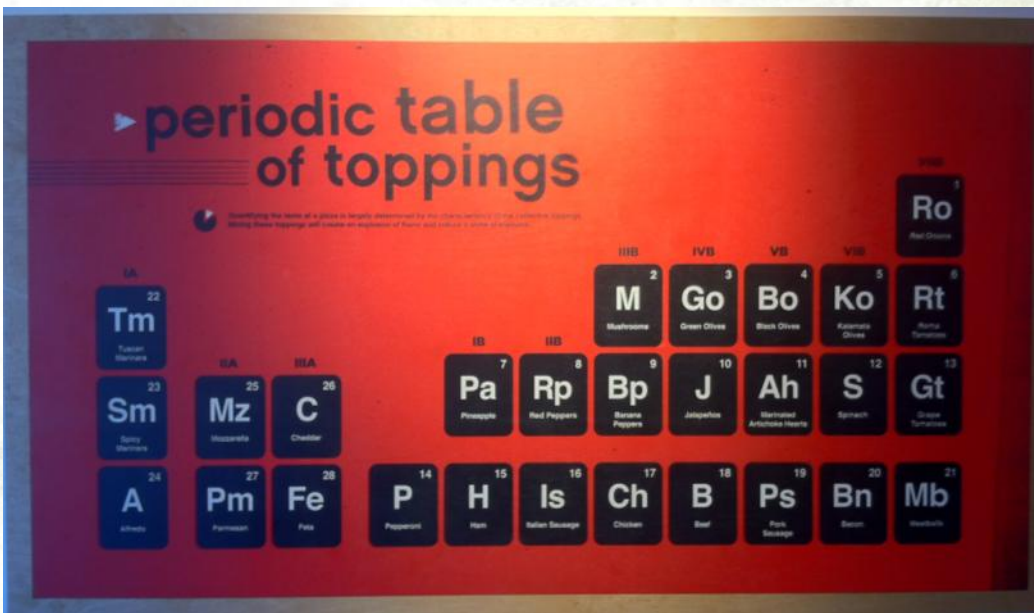
In the last issue, I mentioned about a new restaurant near my apartment called Pie Five. Well, in the restaurant, they have this mural they call the Periodic Table of Toppings, listing the various toppings they have for the pizzas. The general concept of the table is set up much like the Periodic Table of Elements you learned about in Chemistry class in high school.

New Facebook Features

In February, Facebook added some new social features. As always, Facebook has the Like button (which is the whole point of how Facebook functions as a social media site). But a new feature quietly showed up near the end of

February. It is called Reactions. Currently, there are six reactions with Like still being the main one. They are emoticons of Love, Haha (meaning funny), Wow, Sad, and Angry. To select one, you just need to hover over the Like link and they will pop up where you can select one. Below the Like link will list the reactions of the people and total number of Reactions.

- Like
- Love
- Haha
- Wow
- Sad
- Angry



Saddle Break Notes

Facebook Posts— February 2016

These are only a curated selection of my posts made on Facebook.

February 1

For those who don't believe that we get tumbleweeds on a windy day!



February 1

Happy Groundhog Day! Let's see if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow.

February 6

Not sure if anyone else has noticed this, but trying to use Facebook and web email has become hugely clogged with web ads that pop up in every possibly place they can put them. The functionality of using these sites has caused my browser to freeze and crash more time than I can count! (And it is not the browser's fault!) Advertisers have crossed way over the line of what is reasonable!

February 10

For those outside of Lubbock, here is the current gas price.



February 13

Anyone recognize this sort of breakfast?



February 14

“And to add to the wonderful opportunities that appear in my emails, I have received many emails notifying me of thousands of dollars already deposited in my PayPal account from various people. They all suggest the same thing: that I withdraw the funds immediately! What a wonderful world of opportunities we have in today's electronic world!”

February 14, 2015

(For those who need an overt declaration, this is a parody.)

Most days, I open my email and find a wealth of information and opportunity! First, I get countless offers of romantic evenings and offers of marriage! I have endless Russian brides of which to choose, or I can pick of one or more offers of single evening romantic rendez-vous with ladies of various ethnics and locations so I can let off steam and aggravation. I even have emails offering various enhancers and other products to boost metabolism and drive for those romantic get-togethers! I get emails from various dating services that explicitly tell me that I will find my absolute perfect partner after filling out some questionnaires on their website! Apparently, I had long lost relatives in Africa whose representatives are informing me of huge inheritances. Similarly, a king from Kenya is also trying to reach me of my royal inheritance awaiting my return. In a sort of opposite manner, I have others in Africa and Asia asking me for vital financial donations either so a family member can survive a rare disease or to help pay for fleeing from a vicious tyrant in a neighboring village.

I get emails for all variety of offers, coupons, and specials of things that I just finished searching for! Talk about fast results of my searches! Apparently, I can get insanely cheap deals for satellite TV, home security systems, oil changes, tax filing, new vehicles, and legal

help! So many emails offer help for weight loss, quick, low interest loans, and dating services. Who needs to ride around to find what you need, when you get emails that magically appear with everything you could possibly want and need! WOW! We are so lucky to live in a world with internet! How did we ever get along without it!!

(Again, if you didn't get this the first time, this was a PARODY.)

Eating pizza at Pie Five Pizza.

February 14

Personal valentine dinner. Yummy!

February 14

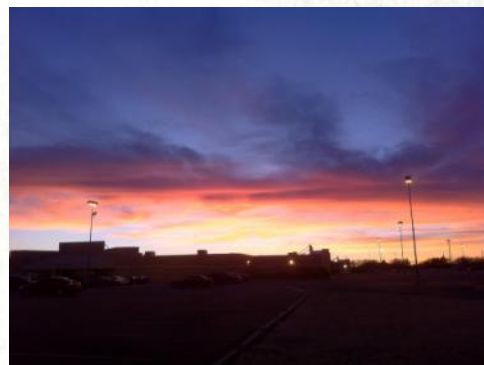
Random thought. In the late 90s while I was in college in Northern Arizona, I had a Valentine's dinner at the campus restaurant in the Union, a nice sit down, served place where you'd order off menus, ate there often. Anyway, they were open that evening for dinner. I met my dates there and had a nice dinner. Yes, plural! I had dinner with two ladies and got them each a single carnation. It was more of having a nice dinner than having date activities. Of course, the ladies didn't mind because it was a free dinner and no obligations!

February 15

Happy President's Day! (Specifically, happy birthday Abe and George!)

February 17

Here's the sunset from earlier tonight.



Saddle Break Notes

February 18

Solve this ridiculously easy math problem. I'll post the correct answer on Friday in case there is any doubt..

Solve this extremely simple math problem.

$$0/(12-3\times 3+1) = ?$$

How many of you will get the right answer instead of arguing about what the right answer is?

Here is the answer to the problem. The answer is 0. Who else got this right?
February 19 at 11:33am

Answer to math problem.

$$0/(12-3\times 3+1) = ?$$

$$0/(12-9+1) = ?$$

$$0/(12-10) = ?$$

$$0/(2) = 0$$

How did you do?

February 20

The high was 84° today! And it's mid February!



February 20

Remember, quarto is not to be confused with quattro!

Shared Tumblin' Tumbleweeds's photo.

February 20

Seen this many times before... The phonics is dead on, even if the spelling sucks! (except for maters, taters, and yeller.)



[The following post needs a little explanation as it was a private post specifically to one person. A friend was taking me home after work, and I asked him to drop me off at Costco, which is near my apartment complex, so I could get a few things and that I would walk home afterwards. This particular day was cooler than the recent days and he made the comments to the effect of "Are you sure? I don't want you to freeze to death walking home!" Well, let it be known that Texans in general don't particularly like very cold weather. In addition, after spending several winters in Colorado and living at different elevations while there, I've come to better understand what real cold is (but maybe not as compared to Canada or Michigan or Minnesota or wherever up there, but I digress). While I was in Costco, I got the absurd idea to write a "news flash" on Facebook and forward it to my friend. The following is what I forwarded. However, I made it a private post that no one else could read to keep it from being misinterpreted!]

February 23 at 8:35pm

BREAKING NEWS

Lubbock man found frozen to death in bar ditch in West Lubbock

Lubbock - At approximately 7:12 p.m. this evening, Lubbock P. D. stated, a man was found frozen to death in a bar ditch between

West Loop 289 and the access road to the west of the Loop road. Apparently, the man, whose name has not yet been released by Lubbock Police, was walking home after shopping at Costco nearby (as determined from the contents of the bags he was carrying) when, allegedly, he slipped on some ice and fell into the bar ditch to a depth where he could not safely climb out. With the frigid Lubbock temperatures, a person can freeze to a deathly state after just 15 minutes. Construction on the West Loop road has also made the area very dangerous, especially with the recent precipitation. More on this story as it develops.
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February 28

But OPEN on February 29, 2016. ;-}



February 28

Made something I don't think I've ever made before. [banana chocolate chip muffins]



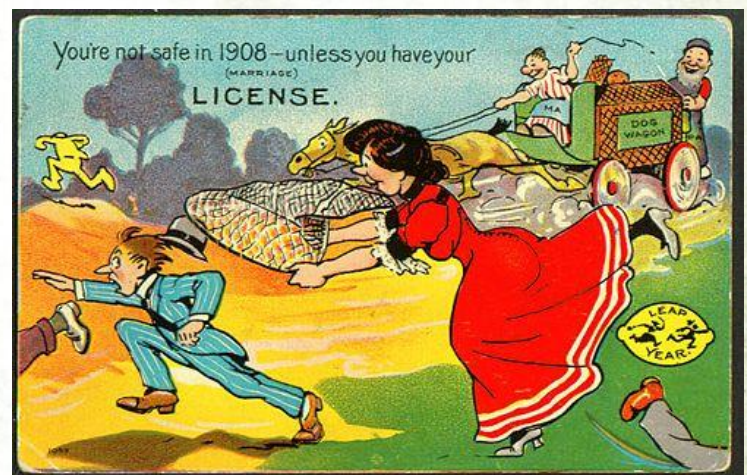
February 29

Happy Leap Day to everyone! (We only have it 25% of the time!)

Leap Day of a Leap Year

According to the modern calendar, every four years, we have an extra day added to the end of February. This is called a leap day during a leap year. The basic reason for this extra day has to do with the rotation of the earth around the sun. While we are generally taught that the earth takes 365 days to go around the sun, it actually takes 365.256 days, or generally 365¼ days. So four years makes up one extra day (or literally 1.024 days, 1 day and about 34.5 minutes). This extra days keeps the earth's rotation in check. Otherwise, the seasons would eventually shift to

where the weather would no longer line up with the established seasons. If you were born on a leap day, you could technically be one quarter the age of other people born the same year, but usually you would celebrate your birthday on the 28th. Also historically, some cultures would allow single women to propose to single men on Leap Day. Likewise the man would be fined if he said no. No doubt that this would lead to some very humorous or awkward situations! Here are some postcards that provide details of this point.



Recent Photo Acquisitions

Here are some more old photos I bought on eBay over the past six months. eBay has a huge selection of various old photos of a large time range. I focus on early 20th century and earlier for my collection.



This farmer stands by his large load of hay on the hay wagon that he probably just collected.

This could be the same farmer as above and possibly the same horses. The two photos look to be the same type and even printed at the same time. This could be early 20th century, possibly 1910s?



Recent Photo Acquisitions

This great old photo shows two guys working on an early car in the 1920s. You can see the horn that would clearly say "aoooogah!"



This interesting photo shows a mule fixed on a turnaround. The stalks look to be sugarcane and this is probably part of the processing to make molasses. Don't know the date, but it looks to be early 20th century, possibly 1930s.



Recent Photo Acquisitions



Above: This great photo shows a farmer milking a cow with two children. (grandchildren?) A date on the photo shows this to be September 1957 (and printed on Kodak Velox paper).

Below: This really neat photo shows a woman and a girl holding a cat (mother and daughter?) feeding a whole bunch of chickens. No clue on the date, but it looks like early 20th century (1920s? 1930s?).



100 Years of Beauty—More Videos

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJic7bfGlo3qlgmccaaNAXTChp_Ny8CE4

The folks who started making these videos have been very busy since I last posted about these videos! Here is some of what they've added over the past four months.



Brazil—1960s



Japan—1970s



US Men (white)—1940s



Egypt—1990s



Ethiopia—1910s



US Men (black)—1950s



China—1920s



Black Men and Women—2000s

Museum & Exhibit Spotlight

History: Autochrome

“In 1907, the Lumière brothers, Auguste and Louis, introduced the first viable method of color photography. Although color photographs had existed, the process was clumsy and complicated. The key ingredient, the Lumières discovered, was potato starch.

The process, called autochrome, involved covering a glass plate with a thin wash of tiny potato starch grains dyed red, green, and blue, thus creating a filter. A thin layer of emulsion was added over that. When the plate was flipped and exposed to light, the resulting image could be developed into a transparency.

Autochrome was immediately popular in Paris, where it was introduced, and soon spread to the United States. [Much] like early black and white photography, autochrome was a slow process. Because exposures were long, subjects had to stay still—sometimes unsuccessfully—to avoid a blurred image. But with autochrome, the blur had an unusual aesthetic effect: Paired with the soft, dyed colors, it made the photo look like a painting.” By the 1930s, most publishers switched to Kodachrome, which was easier and lighter to use, especially with the 35 mm camera.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/01/150131-pictures-autochrome-color-photography-history-people-culture>



A Somber Monument—The Trinity Column in Vienna, Austria, 1937.



Portrait of the Artists—Artists paint on the banks of Dordogne River near Beaulieu, France in 1925.



Reflections—A woman sitting on the edge of a sea wall at a harbor in Tampa, Florida, 1930.



Circus Dreams—Two boys gaze at a circus billboard near Bristolville, Ohio, in 1931.



Shadows on the Garden—Two visitors to a garden in Hamman-Rhira, Algeria, a town celebrated for its thermal springs, 1923.

Piano Guys

I recently discovered this group called The Piano Guys while looking for something else on Facebook (funny how that happens!) I first saw this video below and come to realize that this group, who are musicians, makes web videos. At first, I thought it was just this one guy who plays the cello, but there is at least one other

guy who plays a piano (but he is not in every video). Many of the videos (the newer ones) are in HD and have excellent sound recording. The top video is done as if an Adele song was performed in the manner of Mozart. The bottom video is of the same guy as two characters playing a duel of Star Wars music.

Adele - Hello / Lacrimosa (Mozart) – ThePianoGuys



^ - <https://youtu.be/WZjFMj7OHTw>

<https://youtu.be/BgAlQuqzI8o> - v



What Graphic Designers See

Let's face it, any creative person sees things very differently than most people! Graphic designers are no different. Here's a few examples of what I mean.

WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



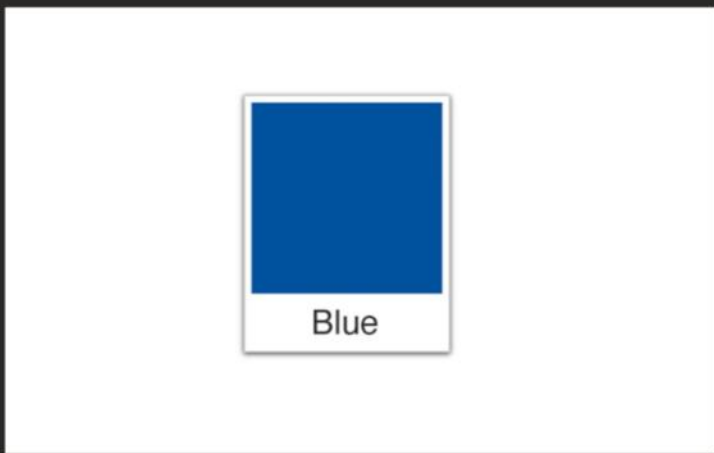
WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



What Graphic Designers See

WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SEES



WHAT DESIGNERS SEE



See the rest of them: <https://creativemarket.com/blog/2015/11/09/what-designers-see-vs-what-everyone-else-sees>

Ranching and Farming

Coffee Farming

Coffee is an interesting produce. Technically, the coffee bean is the pit or seed inside a berry grown on the Coffea plant, a bush or shrub that grows in tropical climates and often at high elevations. There are two main varieties grown for producing the commercial coffee beverage, Coffea Arabica (75%-80%) and Coffea canephora (about 20%). (The variety of the Coffea plant is different than the locations where they are grown and described as having various flavor notes in the coffee houses. That is a whole other discussion about the growing climates and how they affect the eventual flavor of the coffee beverages.) These shrubs can live for about 50 years and sometimes longer. They will start producing fruit after about three to five years. The plant has white fragrant flowers that then form into a cherry like berry after nine months. Inside each cherry are two seeds. The seeds are what get roasted for the coffee beverage. Sometimes, the berry will only have a single seed, called a peaberry, in about 5%-10% of the berries, which is smaller and rounder than the regular seeds. These peaberries are typically removed from the harvest and discarded or sold separately. The berries are edible in themselves and the leaves can even be used to make a tea, but neither are commercially available. ([read source](#))

Once the berries are harvested, they are not at all ready to make coffee with them! Long before you can even roast them, you must process them first to extract the seeds from the berries, but then get the seeds ready before roasting them. Two main methods are used to process the berries, the unwashed process and the washed process. While you might think that the washed process would automatically be cleaner and safer and the obvious process to use, there are differences between the two and they each affect the flavor of the coffee.

Unwashed Process

Known as the natural process or dry process.

Oldest method of processing coffee.

Coffee cherries are picked and spread out to dry for up to 4 weeks.

Cherries are turned regularly while drying.

Husk of skin and dried fruit are separated mechanically after drying.

The raw coffee is stored before it is exported.

Only process available to producer if water is scarce – like in Ethiopia and some areas of Brazil.

Separating the bean from the fruit is an unpredictable process but doesn't need as much skill as the washed process.

Often has a heavy body and sweet fruit flavors, such as notes of blueberry, strawberry, or tropical fruit.

Washed Process

The outer skin and fruit flesh is stripped from the coffee seed with a machine called a depulper.

After skin is removed, the coffee is moved to a clean tank where the rest of the flesh is taken off by fermentation.

Coffee is washed to remove leftover debris after fermentation, and then is either dried in the sun, on raised drying tables, or using mechanical dryers (only used in places with little sunshine or humidity).

Many producers of high quality coffee choose this process in an attempt to reduce defects [and likewise have a more consistent product].

Often produces a bright, clean cup of coffee with high acidity and increased complexity.

This process is a lot more expensive than others.

After the “beans” are processed and dried, they are then sold to the respective buyers to roast and process into the popular beverage. (That is another article for another time!) ([read source](#))



The cherry has two seeds in it. The seeds are mechanically removed from the pulp.



Green “beans” ready for roasting into coffee!

In the Washed Process, the seeds are washed after the fermentation process (for removing the leftover pulp) to stop the fermentation and to clean the seeds.



Ranching and Farming

Coffee Farming

i ♥ YOU COFFEE

PART 1

COFFEE IS MADE FROM THE ROASTED SEEDS OF THE COFFEA PLANT, OF WHICH THERE ARE TWO MAIN SPECIES:

COFFEA ARABICA



ARABICA PLANTS ARE HARDER TO GROW, AND PRODUCE LESS

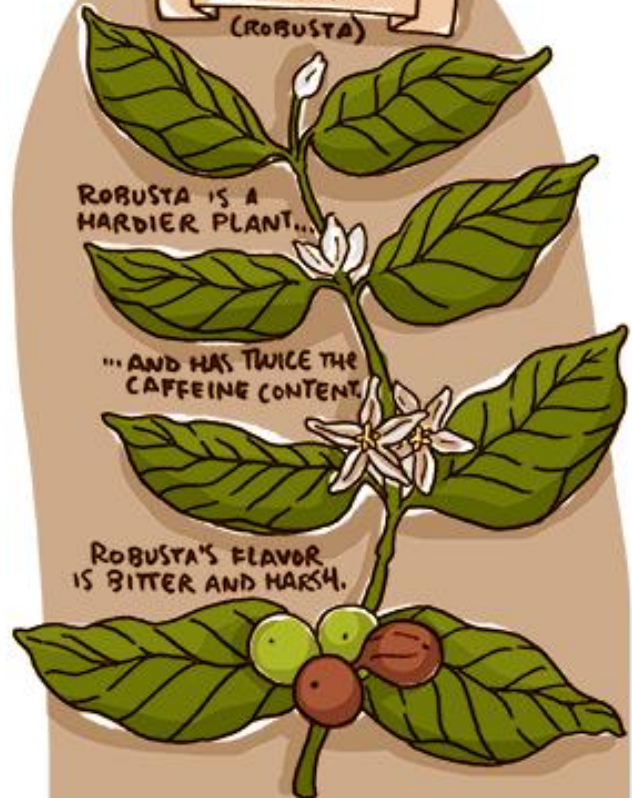
ARABICA HAS A BETTER FLAVOR THAN ROBUSTA

75-80% OF THE WORLD'S COFFEE IS ARABICA

MOST SPECIALTY COFFEE COMPANIES FOCUS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON ARABICA.



COFFEA CANEPHORA (ROBUSTA)



ROBUSTA IS A HARDIER PLANT...

...AND HAS TWICE THE CAFFEINE CONTENT.

ROBUSTA'S FLAVOR IS BITTER AND HARSH.

ASIDE FROM A FEW RARE EXAMPLES, ROBUSTA IS USED AS FILLER FOR CHEAPER COFFEE BLENDS, AND TO ADD BODY TO ESPRESSO.



Cats According to Mark Twain

Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) liked his cats. He had a few! He is also known to make quotes about cats himself and in his writings.

“A home without a cat—and a well-fed, well-petted, and properly revered cat—may be a perfect home, perhaps, but how can it prove title?”
- *Pudd'nhead Wilson*

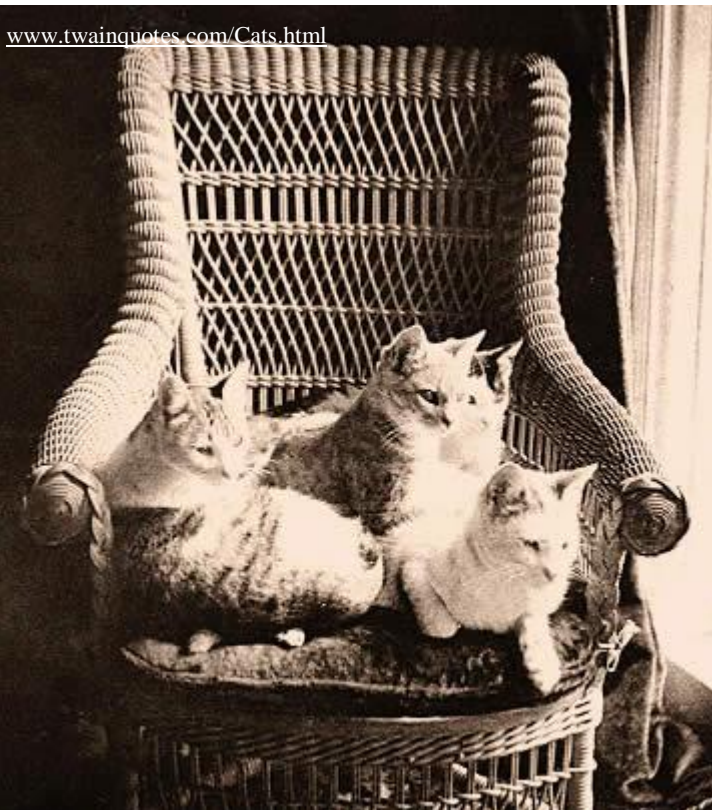
“A cat is more intelligent than people believe, and can be taught any crime.”
- Notebook, 1895

“Of all God’s creatures, there is only one that cannot be made the slave of the lash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve man, but it would deteriorate the cat.”
- Notebook, 1894

“I simply can’t resist a cat, particularly a purring one. They are the cleanest, cunningest, and most intelligent things I know, outside of the girl you love, of course.”
- quoted in *Abroad with Mark Twain and Eugene Field*, Fisher

“One of them likes to be crammed into a corner-pocket of the billiard table—which he fits as snugly as does a finger in a glove and then he watches the game (and obstructs it) by the hour, and spoils many a shot by putting out his paw and changing the direction of a passing ball.”
- Letter to Mable Larkin Patterson, 2 October 1908

“He would call (the cats) to ‘come up’ on the chair, and they would all jump up on the seat. He would tell them to ‘go to sleep,’ and instantly the group were all fast asleep, remaining so until he called ‘Wide awake!’ when in a twinkling up would go their ears and wide open their eyes.”
- Anonymous article titled *The Funniest Writer on Earth. Some Anecdotes about Mark Twain*, *The Rambler*, Dec. 24, 1898.



Upcoming Issues

The next issue is the March 2016 issue (5.3).
Here’s a preview of topics to come in future issues.

BIG surprise for the next issue!

The March 2016 issue is a special one and will be a big issue full of awesomeness! I cannot wait for you to see it, but I am keeping every aspect of it quiet until I release it! So, you will just have to wait! :-]

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