

FEAR AND LOAFING

Chariots of dogs

By Karl Nilsson
special writer



Karl Nilsson

Dare to win. Swim with the sharks. Be a peak performer. Corporate America is pouring millions into motivational books, tapes and seminars to inspire their sales staffs. Top companies are hiring everyone with Ph.D.s to eastern gurus to psych up their sales teams.

Meanwhile, the greatest potential sales force in the country remains virtually untapped. Despite the heavy emphasis on self-actualization and personal growth for humans, there's yet to be a single motivational program for household pets.

Not until now, that is. Thanks to this exclusive tape offer, you can now "unlock" your dog's hidden talents.

Let's face it. Most dogs mope around the house day after day. The sad truth is they're not lazy, they're just not motivated. Using the techniques on these tapes, your dog can quickly become the most productive member of the family.

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Call today and we'll include two exciting biographies from financially independent dogs — "From the Back Alley to Silicon Valley" and "Liz Taylor Shares My Dish."

In this tape album, we share the

STREET SENSE

When in doubt, change

Dear Ms. Schiff,
I cannot believe I am writing this letter, but I need advice desperately. I have been married for nine years to a wonderful man and have had children. All of my friends see us as the perfect couple.

If I take a real look at our life, I suppose we have been lucky, both financially and personally. My husband treats me good and except for the normal ups and downs, our marriage is strong.

Now the question. Several months ago, I met a single man through a girlfriend. I have been working for years and have had opportunities to see other men (through my business I have met men), but have never been interested. This man interested me and I shocked me. I am so against extramarital relationships.

I cannot understand why my feelings are so strong. My girlfriend informs me he feels strongly about his feelings toward me. The attraction was so strong, but I have said I am not interested. Why do I keep thinking about him? Should I see him and keep it strictly Platonic or just try to forget him? I am more shocked by my feelings than anything, but as hard as I try, they won't let up.

Please respond.

Dear Ms. No Name,

Your letter both interests me and allows me to verbalize to my readers a problem which I have encountered

in writing this column. The problem stems from having laid down a principle of avoiding as much as possible recommending quality help — for example, therapy. The result is that I have had to blunt some of my answers. I hope I have done so tactfully.

Some readers have written, complimenting me on the directness of my responses. This has encouraged me to continue to be straightforward. With that said, I will be candid in my reply to your question.

There are contradictions in your letter that I don't understand. You say that all of your friends see you as the perfect couple. You don't say that you have a perfect marriage. Thus, I infer that whatever needs are not being gratified in your marriage are coming out in your fantasies toward the new man. This is often the purpose of extramarital relationships and I hope it helps you understand why you keep thinking of him.

The other contradiction is that you talk about the mutual attraction between both of you and then bring in the word "Platonic," which doesn't fit.

I have mentioned the movie, "When Harry Met Sally," in this column before. The message in the movie is that there can't be a Platonic relationship between a man and a woman. I would add that non-sexual friendship is particularly unrealistic when there is a mutual attraction.



Barbara Schiff

such as the one you describe.

In "Sex, Lies and Videotape," another recent movie with a similar theme, the hero says to the heroine that men learn to love the women they are attracted to but women become attracted to the men they love. In other words, even with the best of intentions, your relationship with the other man would become physical.

So what do I think you should do? I don't think you should see him. Instead, you should change yourself by becoming more involved in self-development and growth and thus be

more able to satisfy your own needs. Then your excitement about your own life would diminish and possibly eliminate your need for this man's attractiveness and other qualities. This is not an easy path, requiring as it does self-discipline and denial, but it brings the rewards of integrity and accomplishments.

Barbara

Dear Barbara,

I used to enjoy a close relationship with my brother. He is two years older than I am. I am 39. Several years ago we had a falling out over a difference of opinion. I remained friends with his abandoned wife when he married another woman who had been the spouse of a good friend of his.

Now, he refuses to have anything to do with me unless I am approving of his action. I called him recently and he said, "Stop harassing me, I'll call you if I want to talk to you." This makes family gatherings non-existent and is very hard on our parents who love to have their family together.

Birmingham

Dear Birmingham,

1. If that is what he said, then you have no choice but not to call him and that defines your relationship with him.

2. The relationship between your parents and your brother is between them and you have no power to change it.

The ability to accept reality is a marvelous aid toward a happy life.

Barbara

Paradise found in the U.P.

Continued from Page 1

Thousands of ships sailed past Whitefish Point and many of them stopped in the Bay to pick up salted fish, cranberries picked by the Indians in marsh farms, and the logs cut by the lumbermen who moved into the area in the 1880s.

Many of those ships were shipwrecked near Whitefish Point, and you can relive their stories in the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Museum beside the still-working lighthouse at the Point, where agate lovers walk heads-down in search of the famous Lake Superior agates that wash up on the sand beach.

This very fine little museum is built around an enormous lens from the White Shoal Lighthouse, surrounded by displays and dioramas of the shipwrecks that have haunted Whitefish Point for centuries.

UNFORTUNATELY, you can't visit on the 13th anniversary of the

sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald, which went down Nov. 10, 1975. The museum is only open Memorial Day through Oct. 15. I suspect they might open the museum by special request, however. Contact the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society Inc., Rte. 2, Box 2794, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. 49783, or call the Eastern U.P. Tourist Association in St. Ignace at (906) 642-7343.

The tourist office will also send you a big snowmobile trail map and information about how to enjoy late fall and winter activities here.

If you are really into fall and winter activity, you can bicycle or snowmobile from Houghton Lake in the Lower Peninsula to the far western border of the Upper Peninsula without any support system other than a Mackinac Bridge Authority truck that takes you across Mackinac Bridge by appointment. Call (906) 642-6200. Bikes cost \$1, snowmobiles \$150.

Summer visitors enjoy the logging history of the area by touring the new Tahquamenon River Logging Museum in Newberry, another very fine little museum that closes in the fall. You can still follow the museum boardwalk to the riverbank where logs were once piled up during the winter and sent down the river in the spring, and you can walk, ski or snowmobile down the riverside trails to Tahquamenon State Park.

The park and the trails to the upper and lower falls are open all winter; thousands of snowmobilers and cross-country skiers follow its trails.

IN THE FALL, when the country is ablaze with color, it is a wonderful five-minute drive by car from the border of the Lower Falls, where you can row a small boat across one arm of the river to photograph the rapids in their gold and red setting.

In the old days, the log booms followed the river to Whitefish Bay, but you will probably follow the road

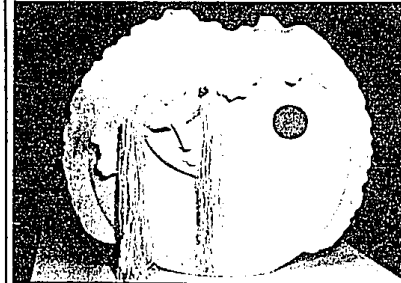
now to Paradise and Whitefish Point. You will find accommodations in half a dozen roadside motels, or in area bed-and-breakfast homes, and end up eating pancakes and sausages in a roadside restaurant like this one, which is connected to the Cedar Lodge, a one-story log motel with adjacent cabins in Paradise.

If you like sunsets, buy one of Bill Ferguson's pasties, and one of his giant-sized homemade cinnamon buns, and eat them on the beach at Whitefish Point, with the shipwreck museum behind you and the souls of 100 sunken ships out there beneath the beautiful calm waters of Lake Superior.

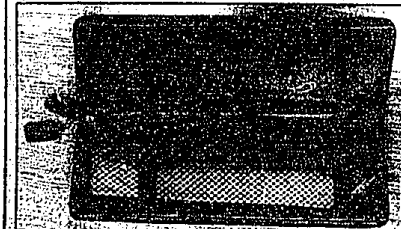
For information, telephone the state toll-free at (800) 5432-YES; write to the East Michigan Tourist Association, 100 Marley St., Ignace, Mich. 49781, or to the Upper Peninsula Travel and Recreation Association, P.O. Box 400, Iron Mountain, Mich. 49761.

STREET SEEN

Our intrepid Street Scenes reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 36253 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.



Southwest flavor
The Navaho and Southwest influence is "in" in decorating and can be found at Sherwood Studios at Tol-Twelve Mall in Southfield. This unusual textured pottery (21 inches tall and 24 inches wide) is accented with feathers, textured mohair and metallic thread and seems to come alive with the face carved into the vase. The 20 percent discounted price is \$275.



Neatness counts
An efficient way to keep neckwear neat and wrinkle free when traveling is the travel case. The case lies flat when closed and is easy to use. It's made of full-grain leather and Sewell's natural markings in the leather and metal. Coach leather goods are available at Sherwood Studios (800) 223-6647 or at the Coach store at the Great Mall, Troy.

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