

A Mere Paws . . .

the Official Newsletter of Doggerel Unlimited.



Fall, 2005

A Place for Everything, and Everything in My Documents




By John Gutekunst

A computer hard drive is like a filing cabinet (Kids: you can look up filing cabinet on Wikipedia.com. Older folks: you can look up Wikipedia in your encyclopedia, but you won't find it.) Basically, a hard drive stores information. The manner in which information is organized is what's really important.









PC users know that any time they try to save a file, the computer defaults to the "My Documents" folder. This "My Documents" thing has always seemed a bit problematic. Whose documents are they, mine or the computer's? Is the computer some

day going to decide it's tired of me messing with the stuff in "It's Documents," and commit computer sepukku (compupukku) as a means of revenge for my curiosity? Whatever — making backups of files is another article.

One folder would be fine if you only had a couple of dozen files to deal with, but that's usually not the case. Much better to break things out, for instance:

-  Customers
-  Forms
-  Letters of Apology

Of course you can break this into as many levels as you need to:

-  Customers
-  Forms
-  Letters of Apology
 -  Colleagues
 -  Friends
 -  Apologies accepted Grudgingly
 -  Apologies not accepted
 -  Strangers

The little bit of time spent setting up folders will be amply repaid by the time saved in finding files later on.

Another option would be to keep a list of your computer files that are in "My Documents" on actual paper, and keep that list in a filing cabinet. Just don't forget where you filed it. 🐾

A Closer Look Polymer Tooling Systems



I was doing some medical research on the Internet the other day, trying to do something about the mold growing between my toes. My search brought up a company I thought could help — Polymer Tooling.

I didn't look at their website too closely, but I found references to words like molds, mold releases and curing agents. Just what I need!

I made an appointment to speak with the Principal Jon Flint, and Assistant Maryanne Bowes. I entered the office and proceeded to take off my shoes to show them my moldy toes. Let's just say that after the Haz-

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Mat team had gathered up their equipment and left, Jon and Maryanne explained what Polymer Tooling is really all about.

As a leading distributor for polymer tooling and mold making materials, Polymer Tooling Systems (PTS) represents the most prominent manufacturers, formulators and suppliers in the industry. They are also a source for technical advice for all of these products.

PTS offers the convenience of one-stop shopping with the added advantage of over 60 years of experience in the polymer field. They stock over 2000 products and have the expertise to help you use them

PTS *Advanced Materials*
Polymer Tooling Systems, Inc.

correctly, bridging the gap between you and the manufacturer.

They have some really cool and amazing products at Polymer: molding and casting materials; epoxies; adhesives; sealants; and modeling materials to name just a few. You can learn more about them if you visit their website at www.polymertooling.com.

One word of caution — if it's medical advice you're after, you might want to look elsewhere. Why the folks at Polymer recommended I place my moldy feet in sand filled epoxy and take a sea cruise, I just don't know. 🐾

610-383-0677

Doggerel Unlimited

324 W. Kings Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320

A Mere Paws
You deserve a break today,
but A Mere Paws ain't it.



Baying at the Moon

By John Gutekunst

It's a Small World

I have approved the following message.

This is an off-year for elections. That means that the awful, annoying, nasty political attack ads on TV this year will be for candidates nobody knows or cares about.

Surveys consistently show that huge majorities of people despise these ads, but they're still used by politicians of all stripes. Why? Because they work!

It's time to fight back. Trying to limit the amounts of money in politics doesn't work. Neither does appealing to the politico's sense of fairness. (HA!)

I propose instead a non-partisan grass-roots effort by EVERYONE. The idea is simple: whenever you see an attack ad come on the TV, no matter who it's for, close your eyes, stick your fingers in your ears, and hum *It's a Small World After All**, until the ad is over.

If we all do this, the ads won't work, and they'll stop airing them. An added bonus — with your eyes closed, you won't be able to tell when the regular programming resumes — with the general quality of television, not a bad thing.

*A song you actually like may be substituted. 🐾

A Mere Paws is a Publication of Doggerel Unlimited, a division of GK Productions, Inc.
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Recipe of the Week

Beer Can Chicken

This recipe comes to us from the monks of the Dark Ages in central Europe. You will need:

- 1 can of beer
- 1 whole chicken

In the modern recipe, the beer can is pushed up into the ventral cavity of the chicken (technically, the Wazoo). The chicken is then grilled upright over a hot grill until done, with the beer boiling and flavoring the meat.

CAUTION: The beer can must be opened first, otherwise pressure may build and cause the can to explode, spraying deadly (yet delicious) chicken-shrapnel in all directions.

Obviously these monks of the Dark Ages didn't have beer available in cans, so they used beer barrels (chickens were much larger then). Placed over a roaring fire, the barrels unfortunately caught fire eventually, causing the beer to leak out and put out the fire. The poor monks wound up eating raw, ashy, beer-sodden chicken. They weren't called the Dark Ages for nothing.

Next Week: American Chop Suey — Delightful? Redundant? You decide. 🐾

