

THE ZEPHYR BURRS-under-the-SADDLE

JUDY BANKS

Born and raised in a country that nowadays exists only in memory, Judy was a horrible kid who lied to her mother and poked her brother with a piece of plastic pipe. Her tortured sibling fled to safety but Judy followed and for the last decade has enjoyed the enviable life of the semi-hermit in Perth, Western Australia. Occasionally, to observe the ongoing devolution of humankind, she steps from behind her green, reinforced-metal door and goes skulking in public places.

Although she believes male chauvinists would make fascinating museum displays, ardent man-haters consider Judy a traitor to her gender and treat her with the same respect as trans fats. She does, however, support women's rights, particularly those that allow her to change her mind several times in one sentence. She has removed chewing gum from the sole of her shoe on most of the world's continents but for excitement these days, defrags her computer and keeps meticulous records of Perth's snowfall. She is passionate about Oscar Wilde, movie musicals and musical theatre, nineteenth century history, Oscar Wilde, songs of the 40s and 50s, low utility bills, and Oscar Wilde.



MICHAEL BROHM

b. Louisville, Kentucky

1950s- Grade school with Catholic nuns, late nights out with musician parents, Red Schwinn bicycle

1960s- High School- The Beatles, girls, 1955 Ford

1970s- College- The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Frank Zappa, The Who, Wyoming, Alaska, Europe, Hawaii, VW Bug

1980s- Build a photo business, no Disco, Nissan

1990s- Marriage, father a child, trout fishing, canoeing, Nissan

2000s- Daddy, husband, Russia, Paris, Yellowstone, Masters Degree in Art, Honda



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DOUG MEYER

Educated by and working for the growth monster (computer science degree, Arthur Andersen & Co, dynamics and control theory, Rockwell Shuttle Operations), Doug Meyer uncovered its rotten heart and decided to move to Arizona at age 32. Living for backpacking and saving most of his earnings for the next two decades, he watched his beloved Colorado Plateau slowly disappear under the haze of global growth. Now 50, he still lives in Flagstaff with his girlfriend and lots of other animals, thoroughly enjoying the spectacle of a crumbling civilization.

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NED MUDD

Ned Mudd currently resides in Alabama, where he dabbles in tai chi, music, and fiction writing. He has a law degree, but only by chance. He likes Japanese soba noodles, oolong tea, and people with manners.

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MARTIN MURIE

Martin Murie spent his childhood years in Jackson Hole. During World War II, he served in Tenth Mountain Infantry (Italian Apennines). Martin studied philosophy/literature at Reed College. Graduate studies in philosophy at U. of Cal, Berkeley. PhD in zoology. Taught life sciences at Berkeley, Santa Barbara and Antioch College. Retired early, moved to far north New York state, to write books and help Alison with the goats.

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JIM STILES

Jim Stiles first came West from Kentucky when he was 16 on a marathon family vacation and never looked back. He was a seasonal ranger at Arches National Park for more than a decade. Stiles met Edward Abbey during his first season and was proud to be a friend for the next 15 years. In 1989 trying to think of a way to make a living without really working, while simultaneously infuriating a diverse section of the human population, Stiles started The Canyon Country Zephyr. It celebrated its 20th anniversary on March 14, 2009.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF TWO DEAR FRIENDS...



HERB RINGER

Born in New Jersey in 1913, Herb was touched by wanderlust at an early age. His father, a master of the French horn, traveled the country, performing with some of the greatest composers of the time. In 1939, Herb drove across America, to Nevada, to obtain a divorce, an event that would still bring tears to his eyes even half a century later. But he fell in love with the American West. He brought his parents with him the following year, and the three of them lived together in Reno.

Herb also brought his cameras. He was one of the early customers of Kodak color processing and his images of the West, in brilliant color, are incomparable. They will forever be a part of this publication.

He and Jim Stiles met while Stiles was a ranger at Arches National Park in 1982. Their friendship endured until Herb's death in 1998. He died on Jim's birthday.



BILL BENGÉ

He grew up in Alameda, California, graduated with honors from the University of California, and practiced law for 35 years. But his real passion was Moab, Utah. He came to Moab to work for Tex and Millie McClatchy in the early 70s as a seasonal boatman, but within two years, he was Moab's county attorney---the youngest person ever elected to that office in Utah.

His wit and charm were irresistible. His sardonic, ascerbic side...unforgettable?

Bill traveled the world, but was just as comfortable in the company of cowboys as he was in a five star restaurant. In fact, he loathed pretentiousness. Bill was truly a Renaissance Man. Bill, in fact, appeared as "Ren Man" in several Stiles cartoons over the years.

Finally, he loved to cook. For almost two decades Bill offered his favorite recipes to Zephyr readers under the *nomme de guerre*---Willie Flocko.

Our pal died on October 20, 2006, but his recipes will live on, in the *Zephyr Planet Earth Edition*.