



THE BUGGETTE

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Bare in Mind by Dick Bare

Capone and O'Hare

I'm sure you all get jokes and stories sent to you via email. Some of them aren't worth reading, but some are fascinating and others downright hysterical.

In the past few months, I've received dozens, but here are two of my favorites. Both are true and definitely worth reading!

First Story: Many years ago, Al Capone virtually owned Chicago. Capone wasn't famous for anything heroic. He was notorious for emeshing the Windy City in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder. Capone had a lawyer nicknamed Easy Eddie. He was Capone's lawyer for a good reason. Eddie was very good! In fact, Eddie's skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time. To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big, but Eddie got special dividends, as well. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago city block.

Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him. He did have one soft spot, however. He had a son that he loved dearly. Eddie saw to it that his young son had clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object. And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Eddie wanted his son to be a better man than he was. Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things he couldn't give his son; he couldn't pass on a good name or a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Easy Eddie wanted to rectify wrongs he had done. He decided he would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Al "Scarface" Capone, clean up his tarnished name, and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he would have to testify against the Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. Within the year, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago street. But in his eyes, he

had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he could ever pay. Police removed from his pockets a rosary, a crucifix, a religious medallion, and a poem clipped from a magazine. The poem read: "The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. Live, love, toil with a will. Place no faith in time. For the clock may soon be still."

Second Story: World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander Butch O'Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier Lexington in the South Pacific. One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank. He would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship. His flight leader told him to return to the carrier. Reluctantly, he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet.

As he was returning to the mother ship, he saw something that turned his blood cold; a squadron of Japanese aircraft was speeding its way toward the American fleet. The American fighters were gone on a sortie, and the fleet was all but defenseless. He couldn't reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet. Nor could he warn the fleet of the approaching danger. There was only one thing to do. He must somehow divert them from the fleet. Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes. Wing-mounted 50 caliber's blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised enemy plane and then another. Butch wove in and out of the now broken formation and fired at as many planes as possible until all his ammunition was spent. Undaunted, he continued the assault. He dove at the planes, trying to clip a wing or tail in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible, rendering them unfit to fly.

Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction. Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier. Upon arrival, he reported in and related the event surrounding his return. The film from the gun-camera

There's No Fun in Fungus

If you've noticed dead or sickly looking patches in your lawn, you may be dealing with a fungus. There are several types of fungi that do not respond to regular weed control treatments and require the applications of specific fungicides. These include brown patch, Zoysia patch and nutsedge. If you see any of the following, call us so that we can "nip it in the bud" before it spreads.

Here's what you need to look for to determine if your yard is affected. Call as soon as you see it, so we can 'nip it in the bud' before it spreads.

Brown Patch: Also known as large patch, it appears as large, unsightly symmetrical patches. The areas range in diameter from a few inches to a few feet. Over time, if untreated, the center of the patch will recover, resulting in a doughnut-shaped pattern.

Zoysia Patch: This attacks Zoysia grass as it emerges from winter dormancy. Blades take on a tan/orange color in small plate sized patches. These patches can quickly expand to 20 feet or so in diameter, so taking care of it promptly is essential for the health of your lawn.

Dollar Spot: This is known for its silver dollar sized spots. It can spread rapidly, so stopping it before it does damage to your lawn is important.

If you've noticed any of these appearing in your yard, call us at 770-447-6037 and we'll stop by to provide a free estimate for treatment.



Don't Let Them Bug You

Mosquitoes and gnats have a way of ruining outdoor fun. To keep your summer bug-free, ask about our special 4-month bug prevention package. Application is easy and can be done at the same time as your lawn treatment. This is an add on if you're on the silver program or, if you upgrade to the gold program, it's a given.

Lawn Treatments

Arbor-Nomics lawn treatments are safe for kids and pets (and gnomes!).

To ensure that your lawn has had time to absorb all the nutrients, keep off until lawn is dry to the touch.

If your pet does get out, don't worry – gently wipe the paws to remove excess moisture.



Referrals

Need a referral for a landscaper? Arbor-Nomics has worked with hundreds of vendors over the years, and would be happy to refer a landscaper, landscape designer, arborist or irrigation specialist to you.

Mow Know How

Mowing your grass to the correct height can make a difference between a yellow lawn and a green lawn. The basic rule of mowing is not to remove more than one third of the blade at any one time. By mowing more frequently, you can take less off the blade each time, and this will make your grass greener. Fescue lawns should be mowed every 5-6 days, Bermuda every 3-5 days and Zoysia every 5-8 days. Also, different types of grasses will have different height requirements. Here's a mowing height cheat sheet:

- Seeded Bermuda grass:** 1 to 2 inches
- Sodded Bermuda grass:** 0.5 to 1.5 inches
- Centipede grass:** 1 to 1.5 inches
- Fescue:** 3 inches or higher
- Zoysia grass:** 0.5 to 1.5 inches

Once you've gotten your grass to the correct height, keep in mind that all lawns should have one inch of water per week from rain or irrigation during the late spring and early summer. The best time to water is early morning, so avoid watering in the afternoons or evenings.



Application #3

What we did today

To your lawn:

1) A blanket application of four kinds of herbicides were applied for weed control. Some weeds, such as Virginia Buttonweed, Yellow and Purple Nutsedge and Wild Violets, are difficult to control and require an additional application. Please refer to the newsletter for more information on Nutsedge or call our office to arrange for an inspection and quote.

2) Different lawns have different needs:

FESCUE lawns received a blanket application of four kinds of herbicide for the broadleaf weeds. This time of year Brown Patch Fungus is active and causes havoc on Fescue lawns. If you see brown circular patches, call our office to arrange for an inspection and quote for a fungicide application. Cut Fescue lawns at the highest setting on your mower. This will help in lowering the soil temperature.

BERMUDA AND ZOYSIA lawns received a treatment of medium-release granular fertilizer. The medium-release fertilizer will provide nourishment to the grass plants until our next visit. April and May are the best months for aeration. Call our office for a quote for this service.

CENTIPEDE lawns received a treatment of iron, which is the one micronutrient most likely to be deficient in Centipede lawns. Iron and a low dose of fertilizer will help give the lawn a nice green color.

To your trees and shrubs:

(if you are a tree and shrub customer)

- 1) Today we applied an insecticide to your trees and shrubs to help prevent bugs like lace bugs, aphids and Japanese beetles from settling into your trees and shrubs.
- 2) A fungicide was applied to control diseases like powdery mildew and leaf spot.

What you need to do until our next visit

- 1) See page 2 for detailed mowing information. You don't need to collect clippings as they "recycle" back into the soil providing some extra nutrients. It is safe to mow four hours after our application.
- 2) Warm season grasses such as Bermuda, Zoysia and Centipede should be aerated in the spring to reduce soil compaction and increase the benefits of our applications. Call us for an estimate.
- 3) Keep an eye out for Brown Patch Fungus on Fescue lawns.
- 4) Routine trimming will help your shrubs grow better.

If you have any questions concerning your lawn, trees, shrubs or our service, please call our Customer Service Department Monday – Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm at 770-447-6037. If you call after hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned the next business day.

Helpful Phone Numbers

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Bare in Mind...

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mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of Butch's daring attempt to protect his fleet. He had, in fact, destroyed five enemy aircraft. This took place on February 20, 1942, and for that action Butch became the Navy's first Ace of WW II, and the first naval aviator to win the Medal of Honor. A year later Butch was killed in aerial combat at the age of 29. His home town would not allow the memory of this WW II hero to fade, and today, O'Hare Airport in Chicago is named in tribute to the courage of this great man. So, the next time you find yourself at O'Hare International, give some thought to visiting Butch's memorial displaying his statue and his Medal of Honor. It's located between Terminals 1 and 2.

What do these two stories have to do with each other? Butch O'Hare was Easy Eddie's son.

Where It All Began...

Did you know the saying "God willing and the Creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian agent. While in the South, Hawkins was requested by the President of the U.S. to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to write, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek" it is deduced that he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe and not a body of water.

In George Washington's day, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back, while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. The more arms and legs in the painting the more the painting buyer would have to pay. Hence the expression, "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg."

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). To keep as clean as possible,

women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy; hence the term "big wig." Today we often use the term to refer to someone who's rich or powerful.

Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, "mind your own bee's wax." Should the woman smile, the wax would crack; hence the term "crack a smile." In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt, giving us the expression "losing face."

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in "straight laced," wore a tightly tied lace.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the ace of spades. To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't "playing with a full deck."

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TVs or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to go sip some Ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. "You go sip here, and you go sip there." The two words "go sip" were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion, and, thus, we have the term "gossip."

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint- and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in pints and who was drinking in quarts; hence the phrase "minding your P's and Q's".

One more: Bet you didn't know this!

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. But how do you prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem: how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "monkey" with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "brass monkeys." Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey; Thus, it was quite literally cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey." (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you?)

