
ANTENNA



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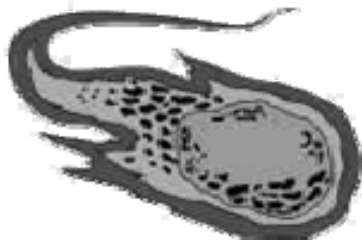
Greetings one and all – How did that ship get in here?,

No matter, greetings everyone, I welcome you to the xx edition of ANTENNA, I am your host Peter and along with my alter-ego Belinda I/we are your new editors.

This is your newsletter, so please send in articles – because if you don't MY jokes and puns will get progressively worse.

To start off an experiment you can try at school.

Comet Recipe:



| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 2 cups of dry ice (frozen CO ₂) | 1 large plastic mixing bowl |
| 2 cups of water | 4 plastic garbage bags |
| 2 tablespoons of sand | 2 rubber gloves (one for each hand) |
| 1 dash of ammonia | 1 hammer |
| 1 dash of corn syrup | 1 large wooden spoon |
| 1 ice chest | Many paper towels |

Here's what you do:

1. Keep the dry ice in the ice chest until you're ready to use it.
2. Line the mixing bowl with one of the garbage bags.
3. Put 2 cups of water in the mixing bowl.
4. Add the sand and stir.
5. Add a dash of corn syrup and ammonia and mix well.

6. Put 3 garbage bags inside each other to insulate the dry ice.
7. Using your gloves to avoid burns put the dry ice inside the three bags.
8. Using the hammer, crush the dry ice.
9. Add the dry ice to the bowl and stir until the mixture is almost frozen.
10. Using the plastic, remove the mixture from the bowl and form it into ball.
11. Remove the comet from the plastic wrapping once it is frozen enough to stay round.



Observations:

1. If you want to examine the comet, only touch it with the wooden spoon.
2. Here on earth, at room temperature, dry ice sublimates, meaning it turns directly from solid into gas without melting. Comets do this when the sun heats them.
3. You will begin to see the comet expelling gas jets. This is where the dry ice has turned to gas and needs to escape through small holes in the frozen water. Sometimes, this kind of gaseous exhaust will actually cause a comet's orbit to shift slightly.
4. Over the next few hours, the comet will become cratered and it will get smaller. Comets lose a little mass every time they go by the sun and blow off gas and dust. Eventually they will break apart and the rocky center will continue to orbit the sun like a dead lump of coal.

Puns and fun:

- On a clear disk you can seek forever
- Save the whales – collect the whole set

Did you know:

That the heart is redundant and is not needed for a healthy body. I can almost see your scepticism, but load up your browser and read the info.

<http://patft.uspto.gov/netahtml/srchnum.htm>

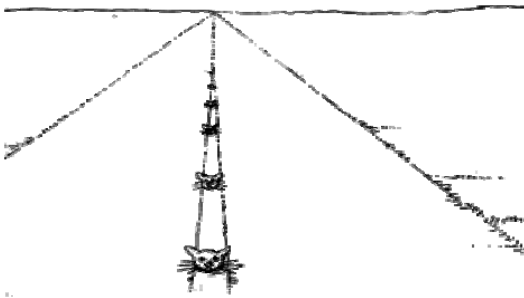
Type in 5989178. Skip down to the section marked 'background of the invention' and read. I don't know which is scarier, that a device exists or it has a patent.

The inventors (?) site:

<http://www.alexchiu.com/>

I have a theory:

It is widely known that if you drop a buttered piece of bread, it will land butter down, likewise if you drop a cat it will land on its feet down. So if you strap a buttered piece of bread onto a cat and drop it, they will stop just before the floor and start spinning. If this can be harnessed, world power will be solved. Generators of all sizes could be made and purchased – through catalogues of course - there is the problem of the bread falling from the cat, as you might imagine the result could be catastrophic to say the least.



In this day and age of recycling, there are always other uses for used generator cats, cats eyes on roads for example ...



Or perhaps a kipper of time? Remember the start of this edition – the puns get WORSE if I have to do all the articles.

Smart astronomer:

Did you know that it takes at least 15 minutes for your eyes to get used to the dark? It's true! There are a couple of reasons this is true.

First, your pupil has to dilate, which means get bigger. This allows more light to be collected by your eye. Just like a bigger bucket collects more rain, a bigger pupil collects more light. When it's really dark out, your pupil opens up and lets you see things that were too faint to see when you first walked outside.

Even more important to night vision is a chemical called rhodopsin. You've probably heard that human eyes have rods and cones. The cones help you see color, and the rods help you see when it gets dark. The rhodopsin is in the rods and is very important for seeing when it's dark out.

It takes 15 minutes or more for the rhodopsin to get back to a good level after you look at white light. But, because this chemical is not as sensitive to dim red light, the good astronomer carries a red flashlight instead of a white one. This allows her to look at her star chart and find the next constellation. When she looks back up at the stars, her night vision is still good.

The smart astronomer doesn't have to wait after looking at the chart. Why? Because smart astronomers use dim red flashlights!

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