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FROM GUTENBERG TO FRESH INK

Posted by Dave Hughes on August 27, 2009 at 1:33pm

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First came the 1450 Gutenberg Bible, which made it for 550 years, then the doddering Gazette Telegraph made it for the last 128 years, then came 30 months of 'The Hub', now 15 minutes of the fame of Fresh Ink? WHAT'S NEXT?

Now as I take it, our Gazette wished-for 'citizen's journalism' can be entered into any of the 15 previous neighborhood 'online' hubs-ne-fresh-ink different software systems, and then the wise old owl editors will select a handful of the online 'blogs' as they want to call them ('stories' are now called 'blogs?') IF they are short enough AND good enough they will appear on one of two 'Fresh Ink' pages of every Tuesday morning in pages of the 70,000 copies of the subscriber circulated Gazette. And, incidentally, they may appear also in the copies of the downtown and westside free-circulation "Fresh Ink" papers.

What will I have to do, if I continue to try to educate the public on the history of Colorado City and the Westside? Write a 1,000 word piece so skillfully that the first 300 words can be printed separately in the weekly circulated Gazette but the next 700 words get printed in Fresh Ink also? And everything make sense?

Wow! Change? Convoluted? Weird? And still call it 'Journalism?' Now I am well versed in the effects of "Future Shock" – impact of accelerating change in our society. But at this rate, by next week it will be 'Merry-go-Round Journalism.' Citizen 'journalists' will become 'citizen editors' and then blogs will become rants, and typesetters will become orators and publishers will start trying to herd everyone like cats while trying to make a buck from advertisers who will wonder WHO they are selling to.

Well, the Old Colorado City Historical Society asked me to collect all 182 Hub stories I wrote over the past two years, so they could archive them for posterity. What will they do with this wild 2010 experiment. 'Fresh Ink Journalism?' Ask Shrinks to sort out what it all means? Or conclude I am nuts?

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DR. EINSTEIN'S GRAVE STONE

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YOU NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF FRESH INK TO ADD COMMENTS!

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Comment by Pete Van Vuren on August 28, 2009 at 1:35am

Is it just me, or are there other folks out there wondering if 30 years from now Dave Hughes will be writing about his memories of Fresh Ink with the same style that he currently does about his helping write the first Gutenberg Bible?;) I am not sure this will seem like as good of an idea in the morning as it does right now, but such is the dangers of "posting after midnight, on your way back from the bathroom". I think we could make a very colorful blog thread if we all pitched in and told how we know Dave Hughes, or Who Dave Hughes is to us. I will start. :)
I was living in Chicago in 1990 attending a small Christian college, when I met a young woman who had grown up on the westside of Colorado Springs. As we got better acquainted, we started talking about me moving back to Colorado Springs with her after college. I didn't know much about Colorado Springs at the time, but I was big into the BBS (computer bulletin board system) world in Chicago, and learned of a local BBS in Colorado Springs, called Roger's Bar run by a guy named Dave Hughes. As we packed up and prepped to move to Colorado in the end of 1991, one of the college professors at our small school, told us he had a friend from back in his military days who lived in Colorado Springs. The professor who went by Colonel, thought that since both of us were in the computer field, maybe we should look his friend Mr Hughes up for a job when we get out to Colorado. A year or so later, a computer instructor that we had been friends with back at school moved out here and had been told by Colonel to look up this Dave Hughes. I had bought a house in Old Colorado City and had heard that Mr. Hughes only lived a few blocks away. The instructor, following the Colonel's advice contacted Mr. Hughes but ended up lining up employment elsewhere.

About this time, everyone on the west side knew that Dave Hughes was the spokesman for "Save the Gold Hill". It was then that I learned about the history of the strange looking soils south of highway 24. About this time, Al Gore was chattering about his Information Superhighway. Well Roger's Bar had closed, but the BBS had now become oldcolo.com. Somewhere along the way, I remember looking at office space in the old building across the street from Meadow Muffins because it was one of the best places to get internet access on the west side. The building was owned by Mr. Hughes and was the home of Old Colorado City Communications. Mr. Hughes wasn't available personally because he was out somewhere working to hook up rural schools to the internet.

EVENTS



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A few years later Thunder and Buttons reopened in Old Colorado City. As I would frequently eat lunch or dinner there, I was often waited on by a very pleasant, very attractive young woman who admitted that yes she really was the granddaughter of the famous Dave Hughes. It turned out the head chef there was also renting a cottage from Mr. Hughes.

Time went by, and occasionally I would see Dave Hughes name in print or here it spoken around the west side, but then the Gazette started Your Hub, and one of their star writers was none other than ... Mr. Dave Hughes.

As we start the next chapter of this journalistic journey, it is kinda fun, kinda sad, when I realize I have lived within walking distance of this man and legend almost 18 years, have a list of second person connections, but have never met or directly spoke to the man.

OK...so...How do you know / know of Dave Hughes?

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