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## Shakespeare and Things

by  
Tom Holbrook

Finally! I have proof that someone actually reads this column. Waiting for me in my e-mail Inbox was a missive from a man named Bruce who gave me an answer to my question on “pants”... specifically, why they are referred to in the plural form... “pants instead of pant.” It seems that way back in the days of William Shakespeare... you know the guy who wrote all those words your high school English teacher made you memorize, *“Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow, creeps in this petty pace from day to day to the last syllable of recorded time....”* And then there’s an idiot strutting and fretting on a stage for an hour with a candle going out for no reason at all, or something like that. I’m sure I fractured the entire mood of the bard’s intent but better to remember some of it, however incorrectly, than remember nothing at all. That’s a Holbrookism you may use as you see fit.

Anyway, Shakespeare had all his actors tie a piece of cloth, known as a pant, around each leg and hook them together in the front and back with a shoestring, or something. The way I envision it happening was that some enterprising, but lazy, young actor, who probably had several costume changes in an act, took them home and his momma said, “Wouldn’t it be a lot quicker to get these things off and on if they were hooked together before you put them on?” So momma takes her needle of bone and string of rawhide and proceeds to sew each pant together and, Voila! ... a *pair* of pants was invented. Of course, I’ve taken a lot of liberty with this but I’m sure it had to be close to my version. Thanks Bruce for the insight into this very edifying subject.

As far as readership goes, I had three different individuals this week tell me they enjoyed my column and actually look for it expectantly each week. Well, I added the “look for it” part. Anyhow, Joe, Dennis, and Dr. Elizabeth said they read and enjoy it, so there.

Someone sent a couple of jokes to pass on to you so, even though I will probably regret this, here they are. They’re supposed to be actual events, but we all know how much weight that carries:

**1- One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part of the story where Chicken Little tried to warn the farmer. She read, ".... and so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling!"**

**The teacher paused then asked the class, "And what do you think that farmer said?" One little girl raised her hand and said, "I think he said: 'Holy Crap! A talking chicken!'" The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.**

**2-** A little girl asked her mother, "Can I go outside and play with the boys?" Her mother replied, "No, you can't play with the boys, they're too rough."

The little girl thought about it for a few moments and asked, "If I can find a smooth one, can I play with him?"

Isn't laughter a great thing? Several verses in the Bible tell us it's good to laugh, one of which, **Prov 15:15** tells us the following:

**15 All the days of the oppressed are wretched, but the cheerful heart has a continual feast. (NIV)**

Speaking of eating... *wasn't that a great segue...* Judy and I have adopted a new restaurant in Sumter Landing as our own and we've already been there 6 or 7 times. **Thai Ruby** restaurant is just around the corner from Old Mill Playhouse and just up the street from Village Mercantile. I'm not paid to be a restaurant critic but this place is special. For great food at very reasonable prices you need to check it out, and for those of you like those who've told me they don't like spicy food, Thai Ruby will kick it up or down, spicy speaking, and cook it as you please. The interior is beautiful, the food is beautifully presented and all the sauces are authentic and exquisite in their delicacy and deliciocity. (*My word*) Curry, Ginger, Basil... all the delectable Asian spices are involved and the menu selection ranges from Beef, Chicken and Seafood to everything in between. Each item is varied in preparation and presentation.

Judy and I've gotten something different each time and my favorite, thus far, is Frog Legs Basil.... Ummm... Ummmm! You've got to try it before you turn up your nose folks, it is delicious. Please don't deprive yourself of this fantastic food opportunity... they do take reservations but it's nice to get there early.

Allow me to congratulate a friend and neighbor... Frank R. who had gotten tired of playing every day with the rest of us kids just passed his Series 7 test, which qualifies him to sell stocks, bonds, etc. Way to go Frank, I know Series 7 and that was a tough one. Well, space is all gone so take care and we'll see you next week. For those of you who miss an article from time to time you can catch up by clicking on [www.SeniorPerspective.org](http://www.SeniorPerspective.org) and see everything I've written in 2005 and 2006. Thanks for reading.

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