

Sunday, April 13, 2008

MORE "ADD-INS" 04/13/2008

Please note that **"times are changing so fast"** that much information can quickly become outdated or just not available for a variety of reasons – the economy, deaths, corporate changes, lifestyle issues, etc. So what is presented may have changed. Therefore, don't be disappointed. You will then just have to do your own Google and other searches & research.

If a reference is rather old – more than 2 – 3 years, it may not still be operational for a variety of reasons.

Some of the better sites and references are being **"mirrored"** by others so that if the site or reference goes down, there are still other sources for that particular information. This has become very apparent recently with vintage computers and the Kaypros.

As noted in other areas of my web site, as I come across references that I feel are important to my STS research, I will include them in such "ADD-INS" as this one is. Eventually, they can all be arranged according to specific topics.

MUSIC

Audio Advisor – phone – 800-942-0220 –

WWW.AUDIOADVISOR.COM – good web site and catalog for audio equipment – high end and some not found in other more common sources – I got my special Dynalab FM antenna from them for about \$100 – VERY PLEASED WITH THEIR SERVICE - but it is not in their catalog any longer – however they have added numerous items of interest to those playing LP's and converting them to CD's, including record cleaning devices!

WWW.BROOKSTONE.COM – iConvert USB Turntable – you do **not need a computer** to convert LP's to MP3 format and you can use a flash drive or SD memory cards to store the files - \$129 – FM / AM radio and remote connection for playing thru stereo speaker system – remote control – only 33 & 45 rpm records – LCD screen – no software needed

HIGHLIGHTS EVER CHANGING "FORMAT ISSUES" – HOW TO KEEP WHAT YOU HAVE AND NEED IN OLDER FORMATS IN CURRENT FORMATS SO YOU CAN STILL ACCESS THIS INFORMATION WITH CURRENT SYSTEMS

EVER PRESENT “COMPATIBILITY ISSUES”

ALSO HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR MAINTAINING OLDER “VINTAGE” SYSTEMS TO ALLOW ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN OLDER FORMATS

THIS IS ALL PART OF MY STS RESEARCH – NOTED IN MY KAYPRO WORK!

Author Craig Crossman, www.computerameerica.com

– Allentown, PA Morning Call newspaper article Wednesday April 9, 2008 –
www.mcall.com –

“THE BIG BANDS,” BY GEORGE T. SIMON, FOURTH EDITION 1981 – ISBN 0-02-872420-8 – VERY COMPREHENSIVE & IN DEPTH – it was a very significant era in music that provided much pleasure for many, especially during very stressful times e.g., WW II

“AULD ACQUAINTANCE,” by Guy Lombardo with Jack Altshul, 1973, ISBN 0-345-25244-6-195 – \$1.95 – check paperbackswap web site – it may be available.

GUY LOMBARDO AND HIS ROYAL CANADIANS,” FILM CLASSICS, THE BIG BANDS, VOLUME 107, 1955, VCR VHS TAPE, ISBN 0-87176-559-4, \$20

WWW.GUYLOMBARDOMUSIC.COM

WWW.EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/GUY_LOMBARDO

SOME “ASIDES” YOU MAY FIND INTERESTING!

When my Mother-in-law died, we got her extensive vinyl record LP collection which had a great deal of **big band music from her generation** – that is how I got started with converting it to CD's so I could more easily listen to it

My family was always very appreciative of music and my Dad played a trumpet since he was a teenager and my Mother liked to listen to the Saturday opera shows on the radio. We had a small record collection and the radio was almost always on

playing various shows, many including music. Obviously, polkas were also very popular. **Guy Lombardo and His Royal Canadians on New Years Eve was a given!**
In those years, New Years Eve was owned by Guy!

So I was naturally encouraged to also play the trumpet in grammar school and in high school, I was not that good at the trumpet compared to others, so I was asked about playing the tuba in the marching band of our military high school, so I said sure. I was big enough to manage such a large wrap around brass instrument.

I became a fan of his music and developed a small collection of his music on tape. I also got a VCR tape of his band and I believe there may be another book around just about him and his band.

In my professional travels I found myself in Canada close to where he originated – **London, Ontario**. So I made it a point to go to the Lombardo Museum and take in a concert given by the then Lombardo Band, after he had died. It was a very interesting experience. The museum as I remember it is rather small, especially with one of his racing boats in it, but very well done.

This all fits nicely into my **STS** research, which is why I am relating this information, more as an aside. Guy started his band at one of their first major “gigs” – it was in Chicago in **1927** – just as the famous stock market crash 1929 and depression were about to be started. However, he was very popular and successful – even financially. Why? Well, he gave the people what they wanted!

One key factor was that there was a **“wire”** that hooked the bandstand microphone up to the radio for broadcast. Radio was still rather new then and was very popular in the home and in automobiles, which were also becoming more prevalent at the time. When this was done, people started to suddenly arrive at the “gig” in droves. Someone asked why and they said well we heard the band on the radio and we liked it, so we decided to stop in and see and hear them in person! So Guy and his band were off on an incredible career!

His music was **“sweet”** [“the sweetest music this side of heaven”] and appealed to the **“common person”** – **“Middle America”** – a rather large market compared to other market segments – since it is so “common.”

It is very similar when I was suddenly required to teach **non-science majors** science lab courses for the new curriculum requirements. There were certainly many more **non-science** majors than science majors – like the bank robber said why you rob banks – because it is where the money is! Non-science majors were **where the market was** – much larger numbers than science majors – if you could get them to elect these course. I did and they elected these courses and even members of the wine

industry – non-traditional age business people – took the enology [winemaking] courses so they could be more prepared in the science and technical areas of winemaking for their small farm type wineries.

Lawrence Welk did essentially the same thing and was also very popular and successful!

Many jokes and other negative comments can be made, but there is no denying that they were **very successful in the long term**, by simply identifying what the people really wanted and consistently giving it to them! Not very sophisticated, rather simple, but it worked well beyond what anyone could have imagined!

Guy Lombardo and his band broke so many records in the music industry it would be difficult to list them all here. What matters is that they had hit on what the people wanted and they never deviated from it, so they continued to be highly successful until the death of Guy.

If there is interest, I will develop this further in a series of articles and books thru my **STS** research. It is another fascinating aspect of STS to be explored that may help some to better appreciate STS and better manage it in their every day lives. Music is such a common experience for so many, it can have this unique and powerful appeal.

Specific STS issues that helped Guy Lombardo were the **rising band stand from the orchestra pit [cut costs], records, radio, TV, transportation [so they could more easily travel], etc.** These will be explored as time permits and as interest is determined. Again, getting to the “common people” who are in greater numbers than the elite, along with determining what they want and giving it to them, were certainly some of the main factors of his success.

“The Music Men: An Illustrated History of Brass Bands in America, 1800 – 1920, by Margaret Hindle Hazen and Robert M. Hazen, ISBN 0-87474-546-2 – an incredibly detailed book that shows how music was provided throughout the country by such bands and how they changed and developed with the times – this was one of the few ways you could hear music unless you made music yourself or attended other musical events – there was no phonograph, radio, TV, etc. – such concerts were a big event in the community and served many functions.

Again, another good topic for my STS research to be developed.

COMPUTING

KAYPRO

WWW.MFARRIS.COM/FLOPPY/TANDON.HTML - M. Farris & Associates - came across them by accident in search for Kaypro items – they repair Tandons and other drives like TEACs – many models – they are a source of Weltec external 5 ¼” drives – but not the older model W525 I have – a source of 5 ¼” floppy disks also – 100 \$80 last time I looked – only about \$0.80 each! – also much information, drive specifications, etc and good links – also 8” floppies if that is what you are into for other computers & devices

AUTOMOBILES / CARS

WWW.HEMMINGS.COM – **IF YOU ARE REALLY INTO OLD CARS, YOU KNOW OF THEM – IF YOU ARE NOT BUT JUST INTERESTED IN OLD CARS, THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW OF THEM** – largest & oldest

CLASSIFIEDS, CARS FOR SALE / WANTED, PARTS, GUIDES, EVENTS, ETC.

“Click and Clack” the car guys on NPR radio are always talking about them. I got some information from our local Das Awkscht Fescht – car show mentioned in other sections of my web site.

Check Wikipedia also.

COOKING

Bob Wolke is a scientist who has expertise in cooking. He is a columnist for the Washington Post newspaper. His books:

“What Einstein Told His Cook” and “What Einstein Told His Cook 2” provide a “page to plate” experience as a reviewer noted. He can be reached at:

Sciencefriction.wolke@gmail.com [note that it is not science fiction, but friction!]

His column appears in Chemical and Engineering News
[www.cen-online.org] regularly and the email address is
newscripts@acs.org]

PIZZA

WWW.CORRELLCONCEPTS.COM – AN INCREDIBLE RESOURCE FOR
INDIVIDUAL AND COMMERCIAL PIZZA MAKERS – VERY COMPLETE – IN DEPTH
& WIDE RANGING – **BEST EVER FOUND** – PRINT OUT OF WHOLE SITE CAN BE
OVER 1” OF PAPER – **IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT PIZZA THIS IS THE SITE FOR
YOU** – TROUBLE SHOOTER FOR DOUGH & CRUST – 50 ISSUES – MANY OTHER
VERY VALUABLE AND INFORMATIVE TOPICS –

GET MORE THAN 20,000 HITS PER MONTH!

OTHER

Dell's all-in-one PC – APS One - \$1499 – has the computer in the flat screen monitor
so you only then have to worry about the keyboard and the mouse – saves on desk
space – in future with voice recognition, could it only be just the monitor??? – Walt
Mossberg, page D4, Friday 12/28/07, The Morning Call, Allentown, PA newspaper –
www.mcall.com

RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION CHIP {device} [RFID] – is something to
follow – it can be only the size of about a quarter - it can track inexpensively a lot of the
items we purchase for better inventory control, but also other uses we may not agree
with – follow you thru store after you buy an item with it on it [patents have already been
filed for such a use!], follow you home, crime prevention, etc. – the creativity of people
will certainly find intended and unintended other uses – over 2 billion such “tags” were
sold just last year generating - so stay tuned – Todd Lewan, The Associated Press,
page A13, Sunday 01/27/08, The Morning Call, Allentown, PA newspaper –
www.mcall.com

“GOD IS THE GREAT RECYCLER,” by Rev. Sharon Solt Joseph, Pastor Church of
the Manger United Church of Christ, Bethlehem, PA - page D7, Saturday 03/29/08, The
Morning Call, Allentown, PA newspaper – www.mcall.com – “something to think about”
– out of the box??? – Chinese alone use 3 billion plastic bags a day = 37 million barrels
of crude oil a year to make – claims a “spiritual value” in recycling – give something a
new life / a second chance -

- God takes people who might be disposed of as broken / useless / worn, etc and gives them new life!
- can this be a new way of thinking about recycling and a supreme being – God?

Something to think about!

OUR SKEPTICISM OF SCIENCE,” by Tyler Thomas, Wines and Vines, page #82, March 2008 – **a one page opinion piece, well put** – explores apparent **conflict of science and experience** in many things – here winemaking – depends on **both context and perspective** –

Science takes a **small defined topic under very controlled conditions** and investigates it – hard data obtained determine specific conclusions

- Results are **reproducible by others at other locations**, if these investigations are conducted **exactly** like the original investigation

Experience involves **“what you believe happened”** under less controlled conditions of a very general topic – e.g., different batches of wine – why they turned out the way they did – a **contextual approach**.

- **Indeed, the results you get may be unique for your particular operation, but may not be repeatable at other operations**

It is important **to use both** to try to **better understand and manage** winemaking – or life in general – but fully acknowledging the limitations, advantages and disadvantages of **both** systems of acquiring knowledge.

He ends with the phrase “in wine there is truth **and science!**”

My take with respect to my STS research is briefly –

We know a lot, but we do not know enough, about many areas of winemaking and life in general. Sometimes we just have to use **experience**, when sufficient science is lacking, to make decisions, when decisions must be made at a particular time. However, **we must acknowledge this**, whether these decisions are ultimately right or wrong.

This leads to the areas of **quantitative / objective [e.g., science]** and **qualitative / subjective [experience]** that flow thru a lot of my **STS** research.

I like to use the phrase – [“ I know enough to know I do not know enough!”](#) – about a particular topic.