

AQS IRRIGATION SUPPLY

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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Happy November!!!

THE NOVEMBER WORDS OF WISDOM

1. If you have not already winterized your sprinkler system it is time to move that fall project a little higher on the priority list.
2. If you blow out your own system crank up the pressure on each zone individually and slowly. Do not hit the whole thing with high pressure abruptly or click thru the zones without backing down and slowly raising the pressure between zones. The diaphragms in the solenoid valves will thank you for it. Too much compressed air, too suddenly can damage them.
3. Remember to flag heads and valve boxes before you core aerate, or verticut.
4. Leave the bleed screws and solenoid threads loose all winter; --- then remember to tighten them up again in the spring before you pressurize the system for the first time. You might want to write a "note to self" and tape it to the front of the controller if you are forgetful like me.
5. Finally, after you have winterized, during this Thanksgiving season remember to be grateful for the rain and snow and ice that will water your lawn all winter while your sprinkler system sleeps.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING and happy sprinkling --- Darrell AQS Jones

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News from Tammy

At this time of year, many people, myself included, find themselves reflecting more often on the things they are thankful for. Faith, family, friends and having the necessities of life are at the top of most of these lists. One of the biggest blessings we have received this year is my husband's improved health.

Marcus was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease roughly two and a half years ago. Parkinson's is one of those diseases that affects everything. Things that so many of us take for granted were lost to him. The ability to eat safely and sleep at night. The ability to keep his balance when walking and well, I'm sure you get the picture. Weakness, fatigue, stiffness, pain, tremors, the list of symptoms goes on and on. And to further complicate matters, no two people with Parkinson's Disease will have the same symptoms. The old adage is if you've met one person with Parkinson's, you've met one person with Parkinson's. So the medical professionals who treat these individuals must help them on a case by case basis. It can take time to find the right balance of medications and lifestyle changes. So, a little medication, a lot of exercise and many, many prayers later he is no longer progressing through the disease stages as quickly as he was initially.

My mom has a saying that is probably her theme for all of life's difficulties and challenges. "This, too, shall pass." She said it when they removed her gallbladder back in the day when laparoscopic surgery was unheard of. She also said it during 2 months of daily radiation treatments for cancer. I have found it to be true of so many things in life. Parkinson's Disease may have come to stay, but like other challenges, we are stronger because of it, so the initial shock and sorrow have passed, and we look forward to whatever good things God has in store for us.

Wishing all of our AQS family a very Happy Thanksgiving!

I am, as always,

The Water Wizard

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Final episode of Truth or Fiction

CHAPTER THREE: Second day missing (Saturday)

For clarification, it was before 6:00 am on Friday when the car was found. (That's Ferd's Ford Fairlane found on Friday by Sargent Friday).

Remember the stranger who came into the warehouse as Ferd was cutting his nails? Remember that he was rough looking? Well that sort of thing ran in the family. Ferd stunk sometimes, and his twin brother, Farley, had always looked a little rough, especially after he bought a Harley and joined a biker club. That had been about 45 years ago and Ferd had not seen Farley or his Harley since. You see Ferd had financed Farley's Harley back in the day. Fran never even knew about Farley at all. So Farley had a debt to pay, and this visit was all about that. Ferd was so shocked to see Farley with a big wad of hundred dollar bills in his hand after 45 years that it caused Ferd to get careless and cut his hand with the nail clippers. So, what happened next, and why, you ask?

Be patient. There are explanations for everything that came to pass.

So, Ferd went missing on Thursday, the car was found on Friday by Sgt. Friday and on Saturday morning there was still no Ferd. Fran was frantic by this time! She called Kurt early, just as he was picking up Foose for their morning meeting with police at headquarters. Did I mention that Snoopy Sniffers are also very good listeners? Kurt knew this, so he made sure Foose was always included in every meeting concerning the case. You will see how that paid off later. Kurt told Fran on the phone that there were a few leads, but that he could not give her much of a report until after the 8:00 am meeting with police. --- -- But, I'll tell you what Kurt knew ---- An out of state motor cycle had been spotted at a local biker bar, the night before. It had a Nevada registration and plate. And it was tied to Ferd's case because the registration was in the name of one Farley Finkle, of Las Vegas. Finkle is not a very common name, you know. At the meeting with police that morning, Kurt and Foose learned even more. The cops had checked the bank account of the warehouse because some checks seemed to be missing along with the cash from the till. A large deposit had been made late in the day on Thursday, including the missing checks, about the amount of cash that should have been in the till, and an extra \$50,000.00 cash, exactly. They could tell from the matching sales tickets of that day. Also, further investigation into the identity of Farelly Finkle finally confirmed that he was Ferd's long lost twin. Who knew?

Kurt and Foose went straight to the biker bar and interviewed the management. The police didn't like to go to biker bars. That is where Foose's listening and communication skills really came into play. While Kurt was talking with management about the case, Foose was busy overhearing all that he could from the patron's conversations in the background (Snoopy Sniffers have very good hearing). Foose learned that two men, both named Finkle, had been partying in that bar for almost two days and nights. He also learned that when they came out and learned that their bike was missing (the cops had impounded it) they had walked to the nearest motel to sleep off their -- CONDITION -- ? It took Foose almost two hours to make Kurt understand what he knew. Kurt finally went to a book/pet store and

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bought a “Snoopy Sniffer signs – to – English” translation book. Google didn’t even know about that one. Finally, Kurt put Foose on a leash and he led Kurt across the street from the bar and straight to the Blue Moon Motel, room 15. Foose’s nose and the fact that Ferd still had not taken a shower, coupled with Foose’s great hearing and understanding of the conversations in the bar had solved the case. At least they had found Ferd. But there is a lot more to this story.

CHAPTER FOUR: Homecoming for Ferd --- AND --- Farley (It is still Saturday)

Well, let’s catch up on some of the loose ends of this case, now. I bet you are wondering about a lot of the details, right?

Why was the warehouse left unlocked and the lights on? That wasn’t like Ferd at all. --- Why was Ferd’s Ford Fairlane abandoned at the park with the windows down? Also, not like Ferd. Why did Farley show up when he did? What were Farley’s motives in all this? Why had Ferd not at least called in to Fran to let her know he was alright? How can this be called a murder mystery without a dead body or two? And, most important, of course, WHO DONE IT?.

Meanwhile, back at the motel, Ferd and Farley were both still pretty groggy as Kurt was pounding on the door and Foose was barking and jumping up and down. About that time, Fran came driving up because Kurt had called her as soon as he was sure they were pretty close to solving the disappearance.

The first one to come to the door was Farley and as soon as she saw him, Fran ran up and threw her arms around him. You see, the boys were IDENTICAL twins. Next Ferd came stumbling out of the motel room. Fran had not been properly briefed about the twin thing so she fainted dead away when she saw Ferd. There’s your dead body. Surprised, aren’t you. Don’t worry she woke up pretty quickly.

Ferd still stunk so Foose immediately went to work licking, and licking, and licking. This is just another awesome trait of Snoopy Sniffers.

Kurt called the police and they sent out Sgt. Friday, even though it was now Saturday. Friday had an interest in this case. He wanted “just the facts” of course. Friday may have to read this chapter of TRUTH OR FICTION to get even close to understanding all that transpired. He mainly was there to determine if a crime had been committed.

Fran finally came to, was updated by Kurt on all that had happened, and was re- introduced to her brother-in law, Farley. She instinctively threw her arms around him again. He may have been rough looking, but at least he didn’t stink like Ferd. Then, she finally turned to Ferd who was looking a little rough himself by now and a little sheepish too, and still stunk, of course. Fran circled Ferd about three times, maintaining a stern stare that burned into the very soul of Ferd. Then Fran zeroed in on Ferd’s face and gave him the biggest, wettest kiss right on his stinking mouth. Did I mention he had bad breath too? Ferd had been officially forgiven and absolved of any misdoing in that moment. Fran laughed, then cried, then laughed again and so did everyone else. Foose barked, and barked!

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Now, how about some straight answers to the remaining big questions above. WAREHOUSE LIGHTS AND DOORS ---We can answer three questions here, I guess. Farley had journeyed from Vegas to Ferd's warehouse specifically to repay the debt that he owed on the Harley. That was his MOTIVE. And another motive of Farley was to re-unite with his twin brother. Wow, did they ever re-unite. WHY AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME? Farley had hit on a huge jackpot in Vegas and cashed in for over a million. Now he could finally face his brother, pay him off with 45 years interest on the Harley, and then he also offered to help Ferd in other ways because Ferd was struggling financially at the warehouse. As Farley said, if all you need is money to lighten your load a little, I can do that. Money isn't a problem. It was at that time when Ferd cleaned out the cash drawer, checks and all, combined it with Farley's big cash payoff of the 45 year old loan and interest, and headed to the bank too fast to realize that the warehouse had not been properly shut down for the day. Ferd was excited and in a hurry to get to the bank. And Ferd was a real stickler with his employees about always following the written closing checklist which Ferd had written. Ferd proved again that day that he was human and subject to making mistakes. Will he ever live it down? Not with his employees, I bet.

The second big mistake Ferd made that day was to abandon his car when he ran out of gas near the park in his subdivision. You see, Farley was right behind him on his new 2018 Harley, and they were heading for the local watering hole to celebrate all that had just happened (warehouse to bank, bank to park, on the way to watering hole, park to watering hole, riding double on the Harley). It seemed so simple at the time. Ferd even said to Farley, "I think I'll leave the windows down to air this Ford out. Something really seems to stink in it. --- The something was Ferd, of course.--- So there are a few answers for some of your loose ends on this case.

Now, why didn't Ferd check in with Fran? Remember that Thursday morning when Ferd spilled hot coffee in his lap as he started his typical day? Well the hot coffee got his phone too. Why didn't he use a landline? Ferd showed once again that he was human, by holding a grudge after the argument with Fran that morning. He decided to just let her stew a little. Well one thing led to another at the watering hole and Ferd made another foolish mistake and just flat forgot that he needed to check in with Fran. He and Farley were really having fun at the bar because they looked just alike, and naturally drew attention to themselves. Also, that 2018 Harley that they rode in on made them instant celebrities too. So Ferd was having a very "human" day, with one mistake after another.

We addressed the dead body earlier. Hard to believe that it was Fran, not Ferd right? The final piece of the typical murder mystery is usually WHO DONE IT, I guess. Well, let me tell you, there was plenty of blame to go around. I'd have to say that the Finkles pretty much did it to themselves. Fran, Ferd, and Farley can all share in both the blame and in the benefits of such a strange homecoming for both Ferd and Farley.

First, Fran got things started by talking retirement to a guy who wasn't ready to have that conversation. You can't run other people's lives, Fran. Just try to help them to run their own.

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Second, Ferd over-reacted with the “YOU’RE KILLING ME” statement and he made it worse by saying it within earshot of little Fartface. Then Ferd kept making bad choices for the next two days, capping it all off with a two day drunk.

And Farley, well maybe he should have called first, and maybe he should not have contributed so much to the delinquency of brother Ferd. But Farley would have to be considered a little less to blame, maybe. He did, after all, pay his debt with interest, and even went the extra mile by helping Ferd financially.

As to the ways each of the Finkles benefitted from “the Finkle farce” of that weekend, Fran got a new brother-in law out of the deal, and a valuable lesson in life. Ferd got paid off, got forgiven by Fran and received several valuable lessons in life. And Farley got welcomed back into the family, became acquainted with Fran, and eventually all the kids, and got lessons in life also. And Farley got another big benefit that you can read about in the epilogue of TRUTH OR FICTION.

There is one big item left to deal with in this saga. It is supposed to be a murder mystery, right? Hopefully, we brought together most of the elements of such a tale above. We even came up with a dead body. But the actual MURDER was kind of skirted around by this author. Well, in the last scene, when they make this into a movie, I expect to see the sun setting over the park with Ferd’s filthy Ford in the foreground and a huge MURDER OF CROWS rising on wings as the credits start to roll (a murder of crows is like a flock to those from Rio Linda – Google it). Now we have a murder and I can say I wrote a murder mystery. – Papo Jones

EPILOGUE: Where are they now?

Ferd retired, older and wiser. He has few hobbies so he writes short stories, both truth and fiction.

Fran kept her retirement job because she realized after some reflection, that it was actually she who did not want to retire completely, not Ferd. She got two more new grandchildren the next year, Faith and Fetterley. -----

Farley turned the warehouse into a Harley distributorship with all his money (Farley’s Harleys). But most importantly Farley kept going to the biker bar and there he met a beautiful American Indian woman about half his age, named Fawn. They are now married and expecting their first child who will be named Ferd, if a boy, and Fran, if a girl. Old bikers never die, you know, they just ride off into the sunset, accompanied by a murder of crows.

Seargent Friday is now a police lieutenant and is still only interested in “just the facts, Ma’am. “

Kurt now runs a doggie school, specializing in Snoopy Sniffers. His first pupil was a son of Foose, named Farse.

Foose is a professional K- 9 stud and part time crime fighter. He still listens and sniffs, -----and such.

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Readers, please remember this, even if you forget everything else about this silly story: “F” was the letter of the day, (a pre-school term) when I started writing. It is possible to have a lot of fun with letters of the alphabet. There are twenty six of them. Expect more future fine fun from Farley, Ferd, and Fran and maybe even from some new characters like Adam, Amber, Andy, Alena, Anson, Audrey, Aretha, Art, Aaron, Annette, Alf, and so on.-----

----Draft completed 12/8/17 -----D. J.

One more thing, as Columbo would say, ----- There are a great number of morals to this story. I am not going to try to list them all here because it would be more fun to have you readers participate. So, submit your ideas for “Morals of the story, Truth or Fiction” to Darrell5989@att.net soon. You will get full credit and at least a cameo character appearance in the next wild tale by your new favorite author, Papo Jones.

This is the final newsletter for the season.

*Happy
Thanksgiving
From AQS Irrigation Supply*