

OrionWorks Sonova Quark

Brought to you by Steven Vincent Johnson and Darlene P. Coltrain, mailing address: 6666 Odana Road, #213, Madison, WI 53719. Email Steve: orionworks@charter.net. Email Darlene: dpcoltrain@gmail.com Web: <http://OrionWorks.com>. All material is Copyrighted © by Steven Vincent Johnson and Darlene P. Coltrain unless otherwise specified. Quark is brought to you by *OrionWorks*. Internal layout is assembled in InDesign CS5. Printing done on a HP Color Laserjet Pro MFP M277dw. Most covers were created using CorelDraw graphics suite and printed on a Cannon PRO-100 Photo Inkjet printer.

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Completed somewhere around November 21, 2019

Health Update

While I have posted updates out on my Facebook page there's likely to be a few TURBO members who haven't heard the latest news about my health. On November 11, I saw my Urologist to discuss the findings of my biopsy findings. The bad news is I have prostate cancer. Some of the biopsy samples detected the more aggressive type of cancer. The Good News is that follow up CT and PET scans showed no indication that my prostate cancer had spread to other parts of my body.

There remain serious issues that need to be addressed. Based on the literature I have read, I know the best course of action is to have the entire prostate surgically removed. The Urologist was relieved when he realized he didn't have to argue with me on it's removal. I was already on board on the matter of executing the 25th amendment.

I'm scheduled for surgery at UW Clinics on December 3rd, a Tuesday. My Urologist, Dr. Sean Hedican, who has done prostate surgery for 18 years will be performing a Robotic-Assisted Radical Prostatectomy and Bilateral Pelvic Lymph Node Dissection. Sean used to perform Prostatectomies the old fashion manual way. Using robotics, five to six laparoscopic-like incisions will be made to my lower abdomen instead of a traditional single incision several inches in length. Robotic surgery is less invasive to the body, minimizing unwanted collateral damage. I'm more than happy to let Robby the Robot assist the surgeon in doing the dirty work. Assuming there are no complications they plan on kicking me out of the hospital the following day after surgery.

The surgery is likely to take around four to five hours. Afterwards, I must endure several weeks of recovery and some initial indignities, like being plugged into a catheter connected to an external

bag attached to my leg for 7 - 10 days. I've been told the arrangement is not as inconvenient as it might at first sound. I can still shower. Yay!

While I'm certainly encouraged by the fact that the cancer was only detected in my prostate, the fact that they detected the more aggressive type of cancer tells me I may not be out of the woods yet. While autopsies performed on males in their 80s who died from natural causes, where 80 percent were discovered to have prostate cancer in various stages of development, where none of them knew they had prostate cancer, while I should take some comfort in such statistics, what continues to stick in my craw is that my biopsy findings detected the more aggressive type of cancer. Statistically speaking, I don't yet know how that will affect my circumstances - particularly my life expectancy. I'd still like to make it into my 80s before checking out. I still have some projects... what I'd call *life-tasks* I'd like to complete. I'll be pissed if I'm not allowed to do so.

Because I'm rather distracted these days I haven't felt like devoting much time or energy to replying or commenting on the fine work of others. In my own defense, I probably could get a note from my doctor.

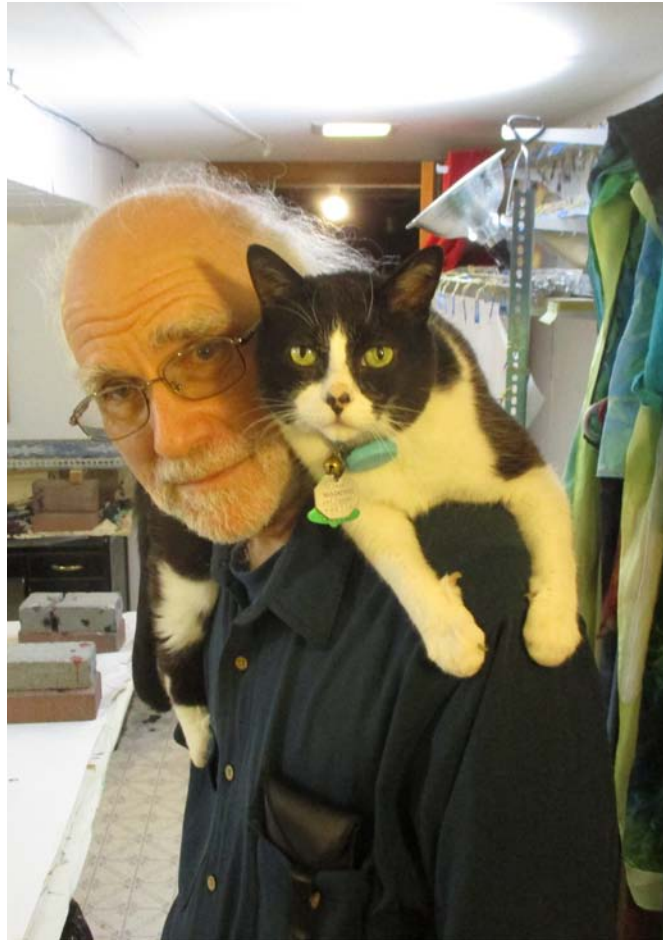
That said, I look forward to getting back to my normal routines. This includes occasionally bringing up controversial topics of the off-beat and off-world kind, topics that might cause some readers to question my hold on reality. For some strange reason, I find it to be comforting goal to work towards.

Or

Mail Bag

Jeanne Gomoll: Thank you for taking the time to email me a copy of the NYT article on the Epstein conspiracy angle, by Ross Douthat. I thought it was a thoughtful article. I was surprised when Douthat briefly brought up the matter of Roswell & UFOs to make a point about the dangers of defining certain topics as primarily conspiratorial, meaning the matter should be dismissed, when there still exists undisputable facts that sometimes support aspects of the controversial subject. The article struck me as a cautionary tale. I suppose the best antidote is to never stop being curious, even if doing so is likely to generate concern or disapproval amongst one's peers.

Or



Smile!



This is your cat on peppermint catnip.
Another cautionary tale