

MAD's IDIOT OF THE ISSUE!

DUCK EDWING FAQs (Foolishly Aggravating Questions we asked Duck!)



Q: What is your favorite medium to work in?

A: A nine-inch roller. I use it to draw big noses, and I found it is helpful in disguising my terrible artwork.

Q: Who is your favorite non-MAD artist?

A: I'm always in awe when I see Alex Ross's comic book art.

Q: Who is your favorite non-MAD writer?

A: Since I happen to be a Sherlock Holmes buff, that would have to be Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Q: If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

A: Being a werewolf. It louses up my nightlife a lot, and wearing that flea collar always chafes my neck...I acquired a nasty habit of spitting those annoying hairs out of my mouth constantly.

Q: What actor should play you in a movie about your life?

A: Fred Astaire (but leave out the dancing scenes).

Q: What actress should play your wife?

A: Incredibly, it would be Ginger Rogers. (Say, this gives me a great idea for a movie series...okay...okay, I'll include the dancing.)

Q: If you could have dinner with three living or dead people, who would they be?

A: THREE PEOPLE? (1) The 3 Stooges, (2) The 3 Marx Brothers and, (3) The 3 Andrews Sisters, that way dinner would include laughter, song and food fights. A perfect meal!

Q: If you were a porn star what would your screen name be?

A: It's funny that you should ask me that particular question, because before I came to MAD, I used to be a stuntman in porno movies. The name I used was Gregory Pecker!



Duck displays the slot machine he designed, alongside Joe Kaminkow of International Game Technology in (where else?) Las Vegas.

Q: What is your favorite MAD article that you wrote and drew?

A: "The Avenging Oar" is up there along with "The Masked Mountie." I had such fun creating these guys, they're family to me.

Q: Who do you consider your influences?

A: Jack the Ripper (for his sly humor), Errol Flynn (for his dashing suaveness) and Svengali (for his dapper charm).

Q: Where did you go to school?

A: 61st Street and Elm. You take the #44 bus to Elm and walk three blocks to 61st Street.

Q: Pick a MAD contributor and describe him in one word.

A: Dick DeBartolo: superfunnyisticextrahillariousdocious!

Q: Okay, now do it in two words.

A: DO WHAT IN TWO WORDS? (You're not getting me with those trick questions.)

Q: Who's the most famous person you ever met?

A: I met Richard Nixon, Jackie Kennedy and the ever-lovable F. Lee Bailey in my spins around the sun.

Q: What was your favorite MAD trip?

A: I enjoyed our trip to Frankfurt. The bus ride was fantastic...we played trivia and had several belly laughs with rotten jokes.

Q: Does anything that happened on a MAD trip stand out in your memory?

A: Sicily stands out. Dick DeBartolo and I took John Ficarra on a 200-mile ride through the most mountainous terrain on the planet, in search of the village of "Ficarra." John Ficarra's namesake AND source of his ancestry. The beautiful part is that John knew nothing about the village or that it even existed. His delight and wonderment made the trip super fun.

Another time, Al Jaffee, myself and several other assorted MAD personnel were in Hitler's Eagle's Nest somewhere thousands of feet high in a section of the Austrian Alps. At the rooftop enclosure of the Eagle's Nest was a "Quick Food" restaurant a la German style (they served sausages, wieners, etc.) Halfway through our snack, Al Jaffee screams out, "Oh, my GOD, I'm going to go straight to Hell!!!" We all asked Al what he meant by that. He retorted, "I'm in HITLER'S HOUSE on Yom Kippur, eating PORK!"

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: It's one of those self-help books that is floating around, *How To Get Someone To Do What You Request By Promising To Buy Them A Beer*. I use this book on a regular basis, especially on MAD's Editor, Nick Meglin. So far, my beer bill with him is about 90 cases (with 24 bottles per case).

Q: If you weren't an artist and writer, what would you be?

A: A cat burglar...(1) I look terrific in basic black and (2) I looove the background music.

Q: If you were conducting this interview, what question would you have asked yourself?

A: "Have you always been this handsome or did you grow into that endearing face?"

Q: Tell us about your professional relationship with Don Martin.

A: Martin and I corresponded mostly with phone calls. The MAD editors did all the work by putting us together; I merely cheered Don up on a daily basis by telling him jokes, which had nothing to do with the work in front of him. I marveled at how he would take my chicken scratch sketches of a gag and transform them into a 2-D, animated, spectacular scene. The man was a major talent...I miss him.

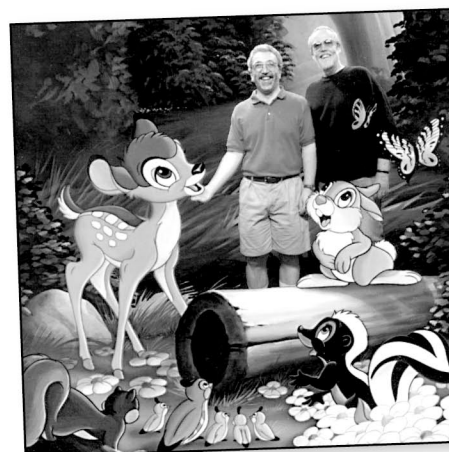
(editor's note: during the last ten years of Don Martin's career with MAD, Duck anonymously wrote many of the gags that Don illustrated).

Don Perlin, the President of the National Cartoonist Society's Florida Chapter, and Duck (somehow, the Vice President!) display the "Golden Gator Award," a prize created by Duck for the wives of cartoonists.



Q: You're a Florida native, what's your favorite ride at Disney World?

A: Ahhhh...it's supposed to be a secret, but I'll tell you. It's located in one of the men's rooms in the Magic Kingdom and it's called, "The Bucking Urinal." What a ride...I got so good at it, I can ride it with no hands.



Duck with Sicily's favorite son, John Ficarra, at Disney World. Moments later, Duck excused himself to use the men's room — their relationship has been strained ever since.

Q: What other comic strip work have you done, outside of MAD?

A: Dave Manak and myself just finished up working on *Spy Vs. Spy*, the comic strip, and in the past I did a strip with Paul Coker called *Horace & Buggy*, about smart-ass insects, and I did some writing and artwork for Bob Thaves' *Frank & Ernest*. For Sweden I did *Super Sock*, and various lunatic Edwing characters that were highly successful adventures.

Q: How often do you call the MAD offices?

A: Only when I have a new joke to deliver. When I do, I never identify myself, I just go right into the joke after I hear the word, "Hello..."

Q: What's the story behind the name "Duck"?

A: Al Jaffee said it the best. We were sitting at an outdoor café somewhere in the midst of Europe and he said, "I've come to the conclusion that 'Duck Edwing' is a verb!"

Q: Can a nose ever be drawn too bulbous?

A: Aha...another trick question. Nice try...No one NOSE the answer to that.

Q: Which do you prefer — Shaquille O'Neal: rapper or Shaquille O'Neal: actor?

A: Personally, I prefer Shaq-ing up.

Q: Do you pick up hitchhikers?

A: Only after I hit them with my car...and I don't pick them up, I usually scrape them off.

THE STATS:

First Mad Article: "Scenes We'd Like to See" (MAD #70, April, 1962)

Number of MAD issues appeared in: 232

Number of MAD articles in this spotlight section: 10

SALUD, DUCK!