

# Sloppin' the Hogs

by Alex R. Mayer

## RESPONSE TO MY REAGAN EMAIL

**S**ometimes I get worked up over media coverage of important events and then send harsh instant emails to my "friends and family" list. My most recent rant was titled *Reagan is Dead and I Have Never Been Happier*. This kind of half-assed spontaneous crap would never make it into the *Messenger*, but the very many colorful responses I harvested from it really should be sampled here:



Courtesy of Ward Sutton ©2004

—**TAD** told me I was being harsh and that "hatred" was a strong word. I responded that "I thought all ancient punks like us hated Reagan" and his response to that was "you never cease to make me laugh, Alex."

—Cartoonist **Ward Sutton** said "right on!"

—**Max** said he and his friends were having a "Reagan is Dead" party and barbeque.

—*Messenger* columnist **Jeremy S. Barker** said he was "enjoying your hate-filled anti-Reagan screeds. I too blogged about it joyously the other day."

—**Amy Halloran** said something about how many of her friends might have died needlessly of AIDS because of the Gipper's insistence on ignoring the whole problem.

—Finally, **Ian James** of the leftist P.R. firm *The Strategy Network* in Columbus Ohio sent these thoughtful remarks: "I have the greatest respect for those families who have suffered through the trials and tribulations of Alzheimer's as it was the dreaded disease that took my grandmother from a calm mild mannered woman to one of anger and despair. So I am torn for my sadness for the Reagan family and happiness that that their – and his – pain has alas come to an end."

However, I have grown weary of the constant re-write of history this week, the warm glow and discolored hue that has surrounded Washington and the GOP revisionists with the passing of RW Reagan.

My grandfather used to say, "Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, no matter how wrong they are." And today I sit here and make note of what the GOP and others

are saying so that in the future well past the dried tears we might have a discussion that is more fitting of the historic truths, than the myths of pleasantries that have engulfed this week of June. I suggest we have that discussion before we spend millions to memorialize this man with new currency, chiseled granite, and subject our country's coffers to other forms of admiration. I think RWR would have wanted it that way, don't you?"

## BILL GATES FOR PRESIDENT!!!

**S**ince arriving in Seattle I have logged lots of time with many interesting locals. Now I'm starting to recruit them for my third shot-on-video feature: *Bill Gates for President*. *BGFP* is a documentary celebrating the beauty of our fair city, with yours truly interviewing a kaleidoscope of Seattleites both famous and obscure. The film's premise is that as the richest man on earth, Mr. Gates cannot be bought — which might make him a great president. Longtime local underground film guru **Karl Krogstad** has signed up to be the first interviewee.

The Gates interview has not yet been confirmed, and **Paul Allen** is still not returning my calls, but if I'm one thing it's persistent.

Plus, one of the funnier premises of the film is that if certain bigwigs refuse to be interviewed we will hire actors in their place. Gates has a sense of humor and although it's a long shot I'll bet he'll sit for an interview. Allen is more of a reclusive eccentric so getting him to cooperate is a one in forty billion shot.

Production will take place over the course of a year, starting shortly after the presidential election.

## NO MORE NAVEL-GAZING, I SWEAR!

**L**ook for more neighborhood news in our August issue. And I promise I will stop talking about myself. We might even replace this column with a special "Belltown News" section. ♦

## QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? SPAM?

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WHGIII: As president he would be unbribeable.

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