



# Transactional Musings

## On The Rocks

The Captain of the cruise ship Concordia drove his ship onto the rocks off the west coast of Italy early this month. The ship of 4,000+ passengers and crew rests on it's side half submerged about 150 yards from the shore. Dozens of people are dead and/or missing.



What in the world was he, the Captain, thinking?  
Turns out the Captain's actions may have

been a publicity stunt. And I would guess his actions leading up to the sinking was probably at least tacitly encouraged by the company, too (as a matter of policy, public relations).

Instead of showing off, he should have focused on "DO NO HARM."

## The U.S. Congress See Rocks, too.

All elected members of the U.S. Congress in the Senate and House of Representatives have sworn an oath affirming they will faithfully execute the duties of their office and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

And yet those individuals seem to ignore that oath by their reckless ways of not controlling the spending of the government. Oh sure, they have to put on a good show to impress

their constituencies, that they are trying hard. But you and I know they still have not dealt with the BIG Problem.

### **BIG GOVERNMENT is TOO EXPENSIVE !**

They all see the spending spree of the Executive branch of government is taking the government into (the rocks of) bankruptcy.

And most will agree that the GNW stalemate



among leaders of the U.S. Senate is contributing to the Executive leadership ineptness, and bad practice of showing off. The President is not tending to the business of his office and "Care that the Laws be faithfully executed." Article II. Sec 3. of the Constitution.

Is it the president's intent to put the United States on the rocks? Or is he just following orders? If so, who's puppet or ideology is he? It is not Liberty.

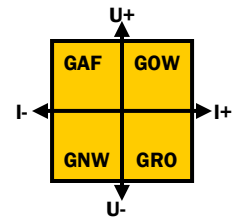
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### Special points of Interest:

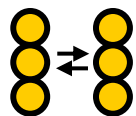
The chairman goes on to say that Congress should "... now, rather than later, reduce spending and eliminate programs ...."

Senator (moratoria) Reid, et al seem to be impotent, they can't deal with the run away spending and fat government. This inability to muster the resolve to deal with this threat is a clear and present danger to the national security of the country.



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## Transactional Analysis of the Listening Activity cont.

In previous editions of Transactional Musings several techniques for modifying listening have been presented, including: **Give-with-An-Audible, Selective-stroking, "Brush-Touch" – the Other person (0.2 second on non-erotic skin surface), Use-a-Sound-Screen, Duet-**

### **Talking, and Get-a-Move-On.**

We continue with "Teeth Touching."

### **TEETH TOUCHING:**

"Gently rub your back teeth over each other!"

The teeth sockets are richly endowed with sensory end organs for fine discrimination of thick-

nesses. Fine discrimination is a computer quality. The jaw and facial muscles, in contracting, also strongly stimulate the reticular activating system (RAS) of the central nervous system and temporarily counteract the behavioral "decision" to be unresponsive (de-activated). "Gently-rub-

### Contention Breeding Strategems

"I don't see anything wrong with that (what he just said)."

This is often said to the "upperdog" by a third person ("arbitrator"). It is implying that the leader intended criticism and harm to the second person who has just been spoken to. The intent is to invite the person just-spoken-to to view the leader's just-concluded comments as criticism, as an unwarranted calling-down on the part of the leader (treater).

This Contention-Breeding-Strategist is seeming to be siding with Just-Spoken-To.

your-molar-teeth-together-for-thirty-seconds-at-a-time-four-times-a-day" has been used prescriptively with several depressives with beneficial results, verified both by the person and associates.

Dan reported, "I was giving a talk and a woman in the audience was giving me one question after another. She was cornering me. I knew I had to handle her right away, so when she asked me another question, I thought 'I gotta do something.' So I thought of touching my teeth together like you said." (This prescription was actually given to him for his depressiveness). "While she was putting in her next 'yes but' I rubbed my teeth over each other for a couple of seconds. It worked. I had a new idea on how to handle her; another chance (choice?). I was ready to go ahead, I figured she would run over me if I showed

my Kid" (meaning if he was limp-voiced, apologetic. Dan was coming to get-well-of going limp psychosexually).

"I knew my Adult had better handle this, but also that the best way to sound was like a Parent. I came back to her with a strong Parent, giving her information and then I shot a counter-cornering remark back to her. She backed up and that gave me a little leeway to work with. As it ended, I got her with me; she quit working me over. I had room then to talk to her and the other people there. I was able to get the job done." Initially reported as anti-depressant in value, it appears that the anti-depressant effect of teeth-touching is affected by the "Adult amplifier power" getting turned up by this act of titillating one's own teeth. Dan, "It (teeth touching) is easier for me to notice than

getting myself 'level.' It gets me thinking faster about what to do next."

F.H. Ernst Jr., M.D. lists and writes about several other techniques for improving listening skills. These can be found in "[Who's Listening. A Handbook of the Transactional Analysis of the Listening Activity](#)" and in his other writings.

Other techniques include: **Get-a-Level, Use-His-(First)-Name, Get-Your-(First)-Name, Get-a-Replay (Re-Listen), Give-With-a-Move, Blink-Up, Thought-Pause – "Give-yourself-a-second-to-think."**

To be continued



## § FED/FRS Comments and Platitudes

The chairman of non-elected Federal Reserve committee overseeing the activities of the Federal Reserve System held a news conference on January 25, 2012.

Interest rates will still stay near zero and lending to foreign nations-states and other will continue. "Quantitative Easing" (code for expansion of the unsecured digital money system) may be used again. Other comments and platitudes were offered.

At the end of the news con-



ference a representative of the press asked if the FED/FRS Chairman had any recommendations for the Congress. The Chairman said (something like) "as a matter of practice/policy we do not make specific comments or recommendations on legislation."

I thought to myself this is odd, because the FED/FRS Chairman has been (*L. vituperatus*) vehement in expressing the FED/FRS opposition to legislation dealing with auditing the FED/FRS.

**The chairman went on to say that Congress should "... now, rather than later, reduce spending and eliminate programs ...."**

He has been listening to Dr. Ron Paul.

The FED/FRS has recently made some perceptible improvements towards making their functions/operations more transparent. Having been a mostly secret organization for nearly 100 years, this is no small accomplishment. However, their budding public relations leaves much to be desired.

It is obvious they want to maintain their (secrecy) "independence." The perception the people have about them may change if they (the people) know the truth. What is he, the FED/FRS Chairman protecting? Turf of the FED/FRS and their proxies?

What did Congress/President give away nearly 100 (hundred) years ago? Who benefits? What is Congress, President, and the Courts protecting?

## Is Senator Reid Aiming for the Rocks?

Senator Mitch McConnell spoke with Greta vanSusteren on FOX News, Thursday evening 1-26-2012. "I have sat down with Senator Reid on many occasions to address the deficits, excessive government spending, and expressed our desire to get this under control. He won't budge, even on waste, fraud, and inefficiency? He wants to raise taxes. We get nowhere."

At news conferences Senator Reid seems to stick to his game plan of stimulating envy. Implacably he talks about the "rich" people. Even the President is taking this direction: "... paying their Fair share ..." The President seems to be breeding contention.

Article 1. Section 7. of the U.S. Constitution says: "All bills for raising Revenue shall

originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills."

Article 1. Section 8. says: "*The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the Unites States; ....* ."

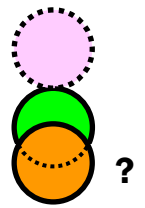
Impost = tax on imported goods. Duty = a tax on imports, exports. Excise = a tax or duty on the manufacture, sale, or consumption of various commodities within a country, as tobacco, liquor, ...

The 16th Amendment, Federal Income Tax, was passed February 3, 1913.

Things are out of control. Senator (moratoria) Reid, et al seem to be impotent; they can't deal with the run away spending, fat government. This inability to muster resolve to deal with this threat is a clear and present danger to the national security of the country.



Senator (moratoria) Reid appears to be unable, unwilling to change course. Is it his intent to put us on the rocks, too ?



**Implication is that the latter was "treated like a dawg" and that "arbitrator" is "for the underdog" and "against the upperdog taking unfair advantage of poor lil-ole-underdawg." This siding with one person and against another is to invite the Just-Spoken-To (Dawg) to look for some hidden, mischievous, critical, maligning motive in the preceding talker's comments. This "protectiveness" has the aim of becoming a "protection racket." Also, the "protectionist," by implying wrong-doing, is encouraging "Dawg" to "stand-up-for-your-rights -Man!" This CBS here has the aim of alienating one person from another in the group, of turning "underdog" against "upperdog" so that CBS eventually becomes "top dog."**

## "You Lost Me" - Manipulating Listeners

The following is from page 95 of "Who's Listening? A Handbook of the Transactional Analysis of the Listening Activity" by FH Ernst Jr., M.D.

"Semantics is concerned with the manipulation of the listener by the talking person. Analysis of transactions and games in business or group, as well as observation in teaching and social settings reveals that the listening person is just as often manipulating the talker. In the chapter on treatment techniques some procedures are described which increase the choices a person has at his disposal, whether he is the listener or the talker."

"This chapter describes and defines some of the game moves and rackets encountered in group settings. These are referred to as maneuvers in the text because they are

more regularly used as the ANGLE maneuver or the CON maneuver in the games studies. Some of these moves, however, are seen functioning as the HOOK of a game (Move 1) or as the GIMMICK (Move 4) or as a racket-style PAYOFF.

### TALKER MANEUVERS INTENDED TO ANGLE (INFLUENCE) THE LISTENER

#### I. DELAYING OF DISMISSAL -

The DOD Moves: Starving for crediting, expecting to be discounted.

1A. "I know, I know!" (what I'm talking about, what you're getting at), said rapidly, within one second, fending off an interruption, an expected accusation of ineptness, and/or to shut off the other person's vocal demonstration.

1B. "You know" (enunciated "Ya know"): with any fre-

quency of use, this high-speed phrase means, "You know, don't you, that I know what I'M talking about, DON'T I?" and conveys the paradox of a desperate player seeking nurturing Parental recognition while fending off any verbal interruption. Intended to secure an affirmative head-nodding, at the same time it is intended to keep the affirmative nodder from adding any responsive comments or otherwise interrupting the talker: "I have a point I have to get across (to the nodder) and I haven't finished getting it across yet, you know?..." If the "Ya know" player is interrupted, he may get confused, lose track of what he is saying, not be able to understand what the interrupter is talking about. The amount of



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***"Mastery of the universe is proportional to the symbols man has by which to represent his universe."***

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desperateness for crediting is proportional to the frequency of its use.

When "Ya Know" has "Man" attached to it, as "Ya, know, Man..." or "Man, ya know, man..." the listener best take heed that the talker is at the moment betting at least a large stake, a sizable chunk of his life in the game he is playing. When it is spoken in a hard voice, tight-throated, deeper-pitched, "Ya know, man, ya just gotta listen to me, man, and you know, man, ya better do it, man, ya know, man, you can bet your life on it, man! Ya know, man?" it has much more ominous portent than "ya know" alone.

Although not diagnostic itself of anti-social hide-and-seek, this phrase, "Ya know!" is used most often by brinksmanship players such as those playing the "Cops and Robbers" game. The expectation of dismissal comes from the anticipation that they will be told that "you don't know what you're talking about." To be told this is to be told they don't deserve any stroking, any vocal recognition for their very existence.

Another form of "You know," often said, "As you know," is spoken slowly, clearly enunciated, by a Parent ego state in "You've Got to Listen" and "I'm Only Trying to Help You" and "Why Does This Always Happen to Me?" It means "obviously," "as you recall" (and if you don't, you're demented;

if you don't know this, you're stupid!).

1C. "As I said before": "You do remember that I said it before, don't you?" – wanting credit for being the first to have said it or at least for having said it before. "You haven't forgotten me have you?" "Remembering me, that I count in your life" is equated to your remembering "what I said before" not to "who I am." In other contexts, it can be decoded as "I do know what I'm talking about, I do, I do!" – similar to "I know, I know" above.

### 2. COURTESY AND POLITENESS RULES

#### The CAP Rules

These are the maneuvers and rackets which invoke the sanctity of certain "sacred and inviolate courtesy and politeness rules of conversation." The violation of these rules, according to the instigator of the rule, would prove that "Miss Impolite" or "Mr. Discourteous" had deficient and deprived (or was it deprived?) background and was now showing the results of his "poor breeding." The invoker of these rules is endeavoring to carve out a special sanctuary for himself from which to make invasive incursions into the other person's "personal talking space."

2A. "One little thing," "Let me say just one little thing more," "Excuse me just a moment, I just have one more little thing I'd like to add before ... (you go on with your business)."

"One little thing" is interjected as an interruption and is said when the talking person pauses

momentarily for a breath or to collect the words of a thought. It is said in as little as six-tenths of a second. Regularly the effect is to prevent urgently needed work from being performed. There is the very slightest breath of a pause after this interloper's, "Excuse me, I have just one little thing more to say before we go ahead" – perhaps as long as two-tenths of a second. If this "lil ole me" is not reined in promptly by the chairman of the meeting or another person, you can count on it—he's "off to the races and around the track for a few more laps" before business on the agenda can be resumed.

The odds are ten to one that his "one little thing to say" will be more than one. One pert, snippy odds-maker on hearing "just one little thing to say" would immediately quip, "Ya wanna bet?" at the split-second pause following the "one little thing" phrase. This had the effect of drawing the leader's attention to the game maneuver (Angle or Con) being introduced, and often drew the interrupter up short with a "Why, what do you mean?"

Quipster would then come back and offer to bet a cigarette or a candy bar on the "one little thing" multiplying like a pair of rabbits and that several more than one thing would be brought up. On occasion he even invited others in the group to participate .....

To be continued