

Entertainment

## Style Invitational Week 1075: Falsity is Job One — write some fake auto trivia




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(Bob Staake for The Washington Post )

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June 5

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**In Florida, the use of directional signals is mandatory even when not turning.**

**On cars purchased in Massachusetts, however, turn signals are optional equipment. Nevah use 'em — why pay for 'em?**

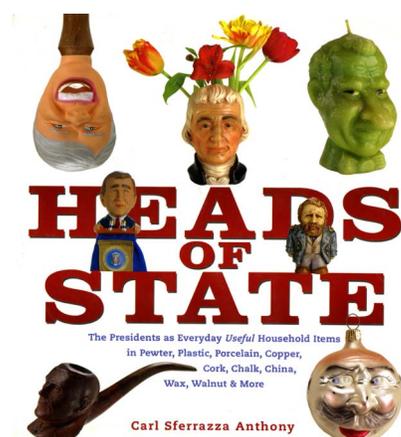
It's high time that The Style Invitational furthered its mission to unenlighten the reading public with a contest seeking

totally bogus trivia. This week, on the suggestion of 377-time Loser Jeff Contompasis (rhymes with “quantum gases”):

**Send us some fictoids about cars and trucks and driving and stuff**, like the examples above, which Jeff wrote for our Week 998 contest for fictitious laws.

Winner gets the [Inkin' Memorial](#), the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives [“Heads of State,”](#) by Carl Sferazza Anthony (back when he was a Washington Post researcher, his latter two names were transposed). This nifty book depicts such fabulous artifacts as a screaming-green [Richard Nixon Head](#) candle, a [Herbert Hoover Head](#) lemonade pitcher (the head is lopped off at the top for easy access); and a [George W. Bush Head](#) jack-in-the-box, from which W pops out complete with lectern. We'd love to offer a few of these heads ourselves, but our second-prize budget is zero. So we thank Loser Pie Snelson for donating the book, at least.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for [Loser Mug](#) or the ardently desired “Whole Fools” [Grossery Bag](#). Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet, either the [Po' Wit Laureate](#) or [Puns of Steel](#). First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). E-mail entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, June 16; results published July 6 (online July 3). No more than 25 entries per entrant per contest. Include “Week 1075” in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](http://wapo.st/InvRules). This week's honorable-mentions subhead is by Jeff Contompasis; the alternative headline in the “Next week's results” line is by Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://on.fb.me/invdev), and click “like” on Style Invitational Ink of the Day at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://bit.ly/inkofday).



You can get a Nixon candle on eBay, but this week's second-prize winner gets a picture of one (but so much more!). (Bloomsbury Books, 2004)

□ **The Style Conversational:** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at [wapo.st/styleconv](http://wapo.st/styleconv).

#### REPORT FROM WEEK 1071: THREE ON A MATCH

In [Week 1071](#), the Empress sent people to a Web site containing a huge list of three-letter abbreviations, from AAA to DZZ. Each of them links to a list of things that those three letters stand for. The contest was to choose any two or three of those things and compare or contrast them.

#### THE WINNER OF THE INKIN' MEMORIAL

**ACE: Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals and American Coaster**

**Enthusiasts:** Both have folks willing to wait in long lines just so they can raise their hands and shout, “Jesus!” (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

2nd place and the genuine alligator-foot back scratcher:

**CWB: Canadian Western Bank and counterproductive work behavior:** “Well, you seem eminently qualified; this letter says that at your last financial job you were devoted to CWB.” (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

3rd place

**AGA: American Gas Association, American Gastroenterological Association and American Go Association:** Maybe those three groups *don't* really overlap. (Roger Dalrymple, Gettysburg, Pa.)

4th place

**DRI: U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island** and the band **Dirty Rotten Imbeciles**. People seldom refer to a band member as “Judge.” (Frank Osen)

TRI AGAIN: HONORABLE MENTIONS

**AAA: Antiaircraft artillery; Morse code for aerial attacker; and American Accordionists’ Association:** They all produce anguished screaming. (David Friedman, Arlington, Va.)

**AAI: Airports Authority of India and Atheist Alliance International:** You need to put your faith in the first; you can’t in the second. (Christopher Lamora, Los Angeles)

**ABA: Australian Breastfeeding Association and American Basketball Association:** Neither seems to have a problem with dribbling, tantrums, and people who suck. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.; Rob Huffman)

**ABC** stands for both **the TV network** and **the liquor license agency**: How do *you* explain “Cop Rock”? (Todd DeLap, Fairfax, Va.)

**ACA: Affordable Care Act and Atheist Community of Austin:** Both are pretty much guaranteed to send a Texas Republican into apoplexy. (Roger Dalrymple)

**AFT: American Folklore Theatre and Americans for Fair Taxation:** Both are for people who like to talk about fairy tales. (Rob Huffman)

**AJA: American Journal of Archaeology and the American Jewish Archives:** One could help in finding ancient coins, while the other could help in finding ancient Cohens (Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.)

**ASA: Acoustical Society of America and American Seniors Association:** I SAID THEY’RE BOTH ABOUT HEARING THINGS. (Rob Huffman)

**ATL:** The anti-regulation lobby **Americans for Technology Leadership** and the **Atlanta Braves**: Both are doing an excellent job of stymieing Washington. (Nan Reiner, Alexandria, Va.)

**AZA: Aleph Zadik Aleph**, a Jewish high school fraternity, and the **Association of Zoos and Aquariums**: Both make teenage girls shriek, “Ew, gross!” (Edward Gordon, Austin, a former AZA member)

**BCS: Bachelor of Computer Science and Bowl Championship Series:** The first helps people make money by using logic; the second helps people make money by rejecting it. (Kelly Ronayne, Alexandria, Va.)

**BFD: Binary File Descriptor Library and bidirectional forwarding detection:** Two phrases the president hurriedly interjects whenever Joe Biden starts to say, “You know, this is really a . . .” (Frank Osen)

**BRS: Brown recluse spider and Boston Red Sox:** Having either in the cellar would make my life miserable. (Chris Doyle, Kihei, Hawaii)

**BSE: Bovine spongiform encephalopathy** is associated with crazed herds; **Bachelor of Science in Engineering** is associated with crazed nerds. (Jeff Contompasis, and yes, he’s an engineer)

**CAA:** You can find **Choral Association Australia** Down Under; the **Canadian Avalanche Association** can find *you* down under. (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge, Va.)

**CAT: Clear Air Turbulence** and **Coital Alignment Technique**: Both are covered in “The Mile High Club Guidebook.” (Chris Doyle)

**CCC: Civilian Conservation Corps** and **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics** (Russian abbreviation): Of these two ways to try to build a strong nation, the second failed because it had to stop for a P. (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

**CCC: The Cetacean Conservation Center** encourages the release of sperm whales, while the porn company **Color Climax Corp.** encourages the release of . . . tension. (Niels Hoven, San Francisco)

**CCR: California Code of Regulations** and **Creedence Clearwater Revival**: One required the other to notify concertgoers of the location of the nearest bathroom. (Chris Doyle)

**CDA: Canadian Dinghy Association** promotes recreational use of your dinghy; the **Communications Decency Act**, not so much. (Jim Lubell, Portland, Ore.)

**CIT: The Cork Institute of Technology** sounds like the perfect place to train colonic irrigation technicians. (Chris Doyle)

**CLA: The Canadian Library Association** is well read, while the **Communist League of America** is, well, red. (Niels Hoven)

**CPU: Central Processing Unit** and **Communist Party of Ukraine**: One carries out instructions from Input, the other from Putin. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis, Md.)

**CSM: Client/service manager** and **continuous shuffling machine**: “Smithers, after five years at this firm, I guarantee you’ll be a complete CSM.” (Frank Osen)

**CVS: Cardiovascular system** and **cyclic vomiting syndrome**: You don’t mind standing in line at CVS with somebody picking up a prescription for the cardiovascular system. (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

**DAR: Designated Airworthiness Representative** and **Daughters of the American Revolution**: The second is concerned with heir-worthiness (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**DOA: Department of Agriculture** and **dead on arrival**: The former may involve farming, while the latter may involve planting. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

**DSI: Deep Space Industries** and **Docking Score Index** would both be good names for sci-fi porn flicks. (Steve Honley, Washington)

**DVM: Digital voltmeter** and **Doctor of Veterinary Medicine**: Take my word for it — just let the second of these probe your dog’s rear end. (Frank Osen)

**DWI: Driving While Impaired** and **Deathwish Inc.:** One has more words. (Chris Doyle)

**Next week’s results: The Tile Invitational, or Between a Rack and a Hard Place**, our contest in which we supplied a list of ScrabbleGrams letter sets and asked you to coin new words from them. See [bit.ly/invite1072](http://bit.ly/invite1072).

**Still running — deadline Monday night: Our parody contest to describe one musical with a song set to the tune of another.** See [bit.ly/invite1074](http://bit.ly/invite1074).

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