

Sex Scandals, Viagra and Email

By Julian Sereno

I find wonder and amazement in the Saga of the General Petraeus Sex Scandal. It has occurred as the time ends when men get away with sexual peccadilloes and the Age of Viagra dawns.

Petraeus, the greatest general of our times, lost his job as Director of the CIA after getting outed for having an adulterous affair with his biographer, Paula Broadwell. He recently pled guilty to one misdemeanor charge for providing her with classified information and faces two years probation, but no prison time.

Email got him busted. The newly minted CIA director used his personal account and exchanged thousands of emails during the dalliance. His career in public service is kaput. If you google him you see as much about the scandal as the battlefield.

He chose Broadwell, 20 years his junior, to be his biographer. She gushed about him in her book, *All In: The Education of General*

David Petraeus. She had stars in her eyes — four of them — the ones on his cap and epaulettes. Broadwell spoke glowingly of being “embedded” with him in Afghanistan, but the affair didn’t begin until he had left the army, so he didn’t have to face a court marshal.

Petraeus was pushing 60 and had recently undergone treatment for prostate cancer when the affair began. One might speculate that Viagra, Cialis or a similar drug empowered the General to morph into a goat and do something so monumentally dumb that he destroyed his career.

Traditionally, old men used to be trusted for their wisdom not only because of their life experience but because of their diminished capacity for physical love, which has a reputation for clouding men’s judgement. Not any more. Consider Donald Sterling, the 80-something billionaire whose racist rant was taped and broadcast by his 20-something girlfriend, costing him billions in fines and the loss of the NBA’s San Diego Clippers.

Petraeus got outed right after the affair ended. Broadwell started cyber stalking a socialite named Jill Kelley, whom she imagined to have romantic designs on Petraeus. Kelley called an FBI acquaintance, who traced the emails to Broadwell, where they found a treasure trove of sweet nothings the CIA Director emailed instead of whispered.

Dwight Eisenhower may have had an adulterous affair with his chauffeur and aide Kay Summersby while he was Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II. Or he may not have. No one will ever know. It all happened 50 years before the advent of email and Viagra. He went on to serve two terms as President.

Petraeus won’t. He is getting on with his life, serving as vice president for a venture capital/hedge fund, and, with various university faculty appointments, lecturing and teaching. He is reconciling with Holly, his spouse of 41 years, whom he betrayed. She did not throw him out. She did not pile all of

his uniforms in their front yard, douse them with gasoline and set them on fire.

Nor did Scott, the spouse that Broadwell betrayed. Unlike Petraeus, she has not faced criminal prosecution. Not for cyber stalking a blameless woman whose life she threw into chaos. Not for illegally possessing the same secret documents that Petraeus got busted for providing her with.

In fact, she’s the subject of laudatory features in the Charlotte Observer, praising her for her work with veterans and other worthy causes. She resides in the same neighborhood as Rielle Hunter, another recovering celebrity bimbo. You wonder if there might be a reality show in her future, if only a sex tape can be found.

Meanwhile, there should be more geriatric sex scandals on the way. Hillary Clinton will run for president and might even get elected. Just think what Viagra can do for Bill.

Julian Sereno is editor and publisher of Chatham County Line

Farces, follies, frauds

by Don Lein

In an open letter to hdr22@clintonemail.com, NY Times’ Maureen Dowd, no conservative icon, commented on Hillary’s “machinations” and suggested she brush up on the importance of preserving historical records and to stop “wallowing” in Middle Eastern state’s payola. She chided her for invoking her mother’s funeral as a reason for deleting over 30,000 emails; for establishing the quid pro quo of Bill rewarding women with progressive public policies as long as the women did not assail Bill for his regressive private behavior.

FERGUSON: The DOJ released its 105 page report on Ferguson and according to the Washington Post it contained the following “scathing” statistics: Ferguson is 67 percent black, but blacks comprised 85 percent of traffic stops and 93 percent of arrests. These statistics were purportedly incontrovertible proof that Ferguson PD engages in institutional racism, which statistics were met by comments such as “shocking”, “stunning”, and “eye-popping”. It’s a shame that these editorial writers were not around when ultra liberal Michael Bloomberg was Mayor of New York City. Blacks made up only 25 percent of New York’s population, yet they comprised 55 percent of all traffic stops. Bloomberg in explaining these “statistical disparities”, indicated that 90 percent of all people killed in our

city—and 90 percent of all those who commit murders and other violent crimes—are black and Hispanic. Therefore that is where police resources are going to be deployed. President Obama did comment “Children who grow up without a father are five times more likely to live in poverty and commit crime: nine times more likely to drop out of school and 20 times more likely to end up in prison.” Of course, single parenting was facilitated and legitimized by LBJ’s War on Poverty. It is a war we lost and we are still paying for it with anti-social behavior.

ENVIRONMENTAL HUMBBUG: Mcarthysm — Letters went out from both houses of Congress to try to suppress opposition to the accepted dogma of Global Warming. In the House version, Rep. Raul Grijalva, sent letters to seven universities demanding information about the seven scientists the house had targeted. Apparently they had wanted these scientists to adhere to the current flat earth thinking on climate and to stop rocking the boat with adverse/questioning theories i. e. they wanted the scientists to stop being scientists and simply drink the Kool Aid. The second letter went out from three Senators questioning think tanks about their sources of funding and, frankly, attempting to quiet opposition to the accepted dogma. The fact that the senators were infringing upon their

first amendment rights apparently was secondary to conformity.

FRACKING: Several governmental entities in the State of New York are threatening to secede from New York and join Pennsylvania. For years these entities have been suffering from lack of jobs and corporations leaving high-tax and over-regulated New York. Pennsylvania has for years allowed fracking and adjoining communities/counties have enjoyed economic growth with none of the purported downsides which the flat earth doomsayers have been predicting. Unfortunately for these citizens, New York City controls the legislature, and policy in New York State is determined by environmental faddists in New York City.

EDUCATION: MILLENIALS — The U. S. can legitimately claim that we have the “most educated” generation ever, but how do they measure up to the rest of the world? Tests on numeracy, reading and problem solving skills were given in 22 participating countries and the results were “not even close”. America’s best still scored lower than their counterparts in all but seven nations. Typical US scores for those with bachelor’s degrees were similar to high school graduates from Japan, Finland and the Netherlands. I had written before on the Brightest Kids in the World and how our secondary education system simply did not

measure up, but mediocrity seems to be the watchword at all levels.

UNC: Locally we knew there was trouble at the flagship, but after the March 16 article in *Sports Illustrated* the whole world knew and it wasn’t just an “athletic department” problem. Samuel Williamson, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs from 1984-1988 told Wainstein “Every time we closed the barn door, the Athletics Department (under the leadership of John Swofford) built a new barn.” And on “special admits”, another avenue to admit questionably qualified athletes “every time you thought you had seen a too-marginal case, they’d give you a new excuse.” No longer can the UNC “fat cats” contain it and allow the rest of the world simply feed off the News and Observer’s feckless coverage of the scandal, as they did when the *N&O* was advocating against the “rich white kids” in the Duke lacrosse case. Nor can the NCAA avoid taking it up, particularly since they came down like a ton of bricks on Jim Boeheim. The number of wins that will be deducted from the resumes of Smith, Williams, et. al. should be record-breaking! UNC will have set another record!!! UNC’s place in college sports history is secure!! But what of John Swofford, the famed “new barn builder”??

Don Lein is a regular contributor to Chatham County Line. A Chatham resident, he is involved in a variety of civic organizations.

Nothing new about Christians and Muslims killing each other

by R.L. Taylor

Don’t worry folks. These long periods of constant murder between Christians and Muslims breaks loose every thousand years or so.

The Muslims started it in back in 7th century by sending its armies across North Africa. It was easy for them to cross into Europe at Gibraltar and kill lots of Christians along the way.

Fortunately, Muslims ran out of steam as they crossed into southern France, took a licking and limped back to Spain where they remained for 800 years. It took Europeans a

while to go after the bad boys.

English history is full of tales of the crusaders marching across Europe to protect Christians. They did it in such a fashion that they not only killed the Muslims. They also stole all the gold.

Europeans fought among themselves for almost 1000 years before they invaded the Middle East again. By that time British, French, Germans and Turks had all sliced off parts of the Middle East for themselves. In the early 20th century, the Europeans gloried in the newly found lands they ruled, figuring it would energize their factories and

their navies.

The winners of World War I set out to expand their reach into Asia and Africa, including many, many Muslim nations. Almost every European country planted a flag in almost every Middle East nation. Sometimes they simply created a nation to do business with all the men who wore turbans. The Middle East and Africa you see today are countries that grew out of those slices. Most of them are failing as states is they haven’t already flunked.

Those are the countries where the 9/11 terrorists and all the others come from. The

details of such tactics confound the West and all the good Christians who pray for goodness every night they go to bed.

Apparently, most Americans aren’t ignoring the murderous ways of our enemies. Please believe me, those people will kill you for no reason at all, just for the hell of it. It’s just a matter of which side wins out.

It is about time we all took a look at the Eastern religions. A least they don’t go around killing each other.

R.L. Taylor is a regular contributor to Chatham County Line. He has been a newspaperman for more than 65 years.

To the Editor: Growing by innovating and valuing natural resources

A lot has been said about future development here in Chatham County. I believe pretty much all of us know the difference between right and wrong, so I’d like to say a blessing that we act with our hearts and our minds.

May we grow truly as a community in Chatham County through both our love and ingenuity. May we grow truly through the talents and intelligence of our community to respect and nurture our habitat. Amazingly

innovative growth and change is taking place all around us in the world — right now. This innovation is taking place because people are heeding the call — responding to the signs cropping up all around us alerting us of the very real need to do things in new ways — the need to adapt effectively. If we act with wisdom and respect for what has true value — such as the value of our natural resources versus dollars, and what is truly costly — such as

the loss of those resources and the loss of the ability to sustain our habitat, we then act in a way where we can grow and prosper and our children and our children’s children will prosper. They will thank us for our foresight and care. They will thank us for the wealth of real resources we pass on to them, rather than regret us for our rush to profit in the present without regard for the world we pass on to them. When we come together with our

values in sight, there is no limit to what we can create together. May we keep our values clear in all the decisions we face, and may we grow and change with vision, love, care, and intelligence.

Danielle DuClos is a resident of Chatham County. She’s studying Sustainability Technologies and Sustainable Agriculture at Central Carolina Community College. A community activist, she’s been very involved with projects such as Solarize Chatham.

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