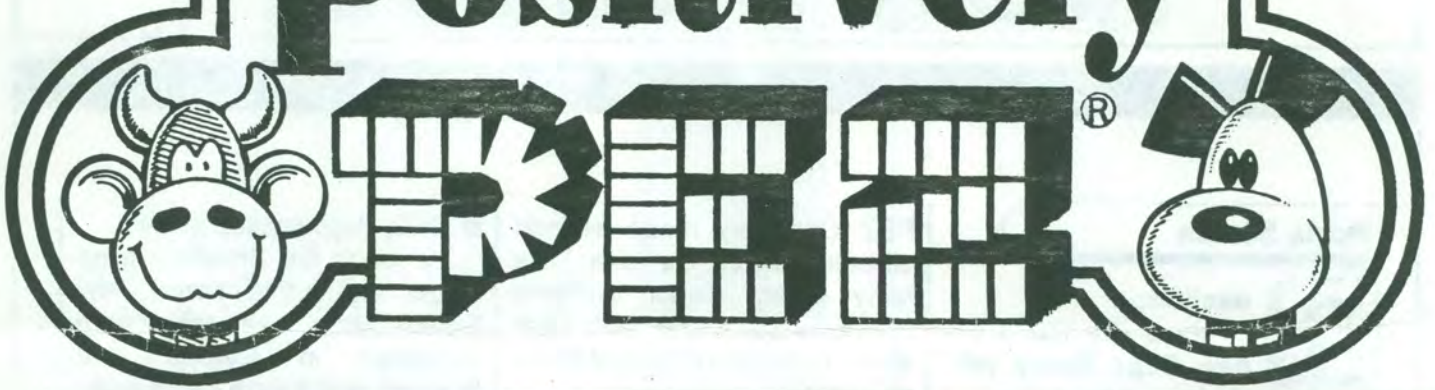


positively



Janet Vart

FROM THE PARTHENON TO PEZ

How much interest is there in PEZ? You may be surprised to know that PEZ has been part of the curriculum presented by the former history teacher, Janet Vart, in a Pennsylvania middle school. The experimental elective was called "From The Parthenon to PEZ."

The course was based on the premise that whatever man creates — be it art, architecture, music, dance, religion, technology or even PEZ reflects something about the society in which it is created. Students applied the concept to the civi-



The Plastic Candy Dispenser Newsletter

lizations of ancient Egypt, ancient Greece and Rome, Chronologically moving through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the students then handled the culture of modern times.

Specifically, in the study of ancient Egypt, the students could select, for example, the creation of the Great Pyramid. They then would do research through which they would discover that the structure created thousands of years ago reflects a great deal about the reli-

gious beliefs, government, art, engineering skills and social structure of that society.

In the study of Greece — in particular the "golden age" of Athens — Myron's sculpture of the Discus Thrower reveals the perfection the creator captured in sculpting the athlete just prior to the moment he would have hurled the object. Another example of this desire to achieve perfection fostered by that society is dramatically achieved by the builders and artisans of the Parthenon as evidenced by the perfect appearance of balance in the structure even though there is not one straight line in the whole thing. The columns are tilted backward and are not

(continued on page 3)

ASK MARIA

Maria Straus

Q

Question:

Have you found the new Bugs Bunny yet? He is so cute.

Answer:

Yes, the new Bugs is in the stores around here now. Also, the black Batman is now available in the stores.

There is also a new Daffy Duck and new Speedy Gonzales, but I have not yet found them in the stores. I hope they become available in the U.S. stores.

Question:

I am working on a program about PEZ, thanks to "Positively PEZ" and Welchs' books, I know alot about the company's history. But, I would like to know a little more about some of the characters.

Can you tell me who the creator is of Popeye and Smurfs? Also, maybe a little more about Smurfs, like where did they originate and how come the Smurf PEZ were so short lived?

Answer:

I have a Whitman Big Little book about Popeye. The story is by a Paul S. Newman and copyrighted through King Features Syndicate in 1969. Popeye has been a long time favorite for several generations.

PEZ Company made several different molds for him. The fairly recent Robin Williams movie, 'Popeye,' was really a fun show. I watched it several times on video.

The Smurfs were first seen as minor characters in a comic strip called 'Johann and Pee Wee' in 1958. They are the dream child of Belgium cartoonist, Pierre Culliford, who is affectionately called "Peyo." The darling little blue elves are now well known to all over the world.

One time, when Mr. Hanna and Mr. Barbera were traveling in Europe, they brought back some loveable plush Smurf toys. Their children liked the toys so much, that Hanna and Barbera got the rights to make Smurf cartoons. It is really those Saturday morning cartoons that made the Smurfs so popular. Soon, the array of Smurf products was abundant. You could get Smurfy toys, bed covers, vitamin pills, air freshners, drinking glasses and finally Smurfy PEZ.

We all know that PEZ Company chooses the "Oldie" time tested characters for dispenser heads.

However, the PEZ Company can not see way into the future. They had no way of knowing in advance that the cartoons would cease and Smurf products in this country were no longer licensed.

Also, around Christmas time

in 1992, Peyo passed away.

Although the Smurfs are no longer "big" in this country, new Smurf items are still being produced in Europe and Belgium still has a big annual Smuffest.

Smurf PEZ must have been one of the last licensed products. So he who gets on the bandwagon last, gets a short ride.

One important fact about PEZ and Smurfs is that it opened the door for other Hanna-Barbera characters to become PEZ... such as the Flintstones.

One thing I really like about Smurf PEZ is that it is really o.k. to display many Smurfs, because in the Smurf stories, there are a hundred Smurfs. So you can line them all up and give them a good Smurfy name. Like, there is only one Mickey Mouse or Popeye, but lots of Smurfs and one Papa Smurf and several Smurfettes.

Question:

What is your favorite PEZ?

Answer:

I have five favorite, Angel, Pony, Pinocchio B, Jiminy Cricket and brown hair Nurse because she reminds me of my sister, and my PEZI mentor, both of whom are really brown haired nurses.

Maria

A Bibliography of Recent Articles Featuring PEZ

equidistant from each other. Furthermore, the statues (Elgin Marbles) on the pediment are perfectly sculpted, front and back, even though the backs of the figures were never intended to be seen.

The music, art, architecture, religion, education and technology in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance as it reflected the society was generally of the least interest to teenagers, but they knew that the practical aspects of modern times would be more to their liking. Man's creation of changing educational patterns, technological advances, paintings and architecture were things they actually experienced or could readily see for themselves and not just books.

But, the students could not believe it when their teacher brought in different PEZ characters "for their consideration." They thought the teacher had flipped her lid and that it would be fun and games for a few days.

Frankly, it was fun but the underlying theme of the course was maintained. Students were challenged to get

together and make the longest list possible on what it is about our society and ourselves that the creation, interest and marketing of PEZ reveals! What was really an eye-opener was a discussion on how the

demise of PEZ would affect the world.

You may have ideas of your own. If you want to compare them with those of the students, send a SASE to J. Vart, P.O. Box 59, Wyncote, PA 19095

- 1) A Passion for PEZ Stacey Taylor, *Gallery Magazine*, Jul., '93.
- 2) A Sweet Obsession Irene Lacher, *Los Angeles Times*, '93.
- 3) Amazing PEZ Collectors Katherine Streten, *Toybox*, Issue #2, '92.
- 4) Candy Flipper Flips Her Peter Genovese, *The Home News*, Apr. 29, '93.
- 5) Clicking on PEZ Martin Kohn, *Detroit Free Press*, Aug. 30, '94.
- 6) Collectors are Popping up to Say PEZ Barbara & Ken Been, *Antique Week*, Jun. 7, '93.
- 7) Contemporary Collectibles Tom Vanek, *Copley News Service*.
- 8) Feeding a PEZ Passion: Candy Man Regains Lost Childhood Karen Sandtrom, *The Plain Dealer*.
- 9) Inside PEZ *Connecticut Magazine*, Jun. '89.
- 10) Intriguing Investments Dean F.V. DuVall, *Personal Success - The Newsletter!*, Jun. '93.
- 11) Matlock's PEZ Trick Gets Co-Star a Baby *The Star*, Nov. 5, '91.
- 12) Nostalgic PEZ Convention Lures Those Who Enjoy Reliving Past Jim Johnson, *Cleveland News Herald*, Jun. 21, '92.
- 13) Pass a PEZ, Please Don Vaughan, *Modern Maturity*, Feb.-Mar, '94.
- 14) PEZ Candy Containers Harry Rinker, *Market Trends*, Apr. '93.
- 15) PEZ Candy Dispenser Turned Pop Culture Icon Sue Sternfeld, *Baby Boomer Collectibles*, Jan '94.
- 16) PEZ Collectors Come Out of the Closet for yearly Meet Tom Vanek, *Euclid Sun Journal*, Jun. 25, '92.
- 17) PEZ Containers, the New Collectible David Welch, *The Inside Collector*, Jul./Aug. '93.
- 18) PEZ de Resistance, *People Magazine*, Dec. 2, '91.
- 19) PEZ-itive Returns *Spectrum*, Winter '93-94.
- 20) PEZ Popularity Shows no sign of Decline *The Associated Press*, Orange, CT, '93.
- 21) PEZ-ZAZZ Sue Sternfeld, *Country Accents Collectibles-Country & Americana*, Summer '94.
- 22) Pezzimism Hits Connecticut John Kehoe, *Northeast Magazine*, Hartford, Courant, Apr. 26, '92.
- 23) Positively PEZ Sue Sternfeld, *Toy Collector and Price Guide*, Jun. '93.
- 24) Pricele\$\$ Junk Joan Hamburg, *Family Circle*, Sep. 1, '92.
- 25) Revenge of the Philistines Christie Brown, *Forbes*, Dec. 6, '93.
- 26) The PEZ Fancy is Hard to Explain, Let Alone Justify Michael McCarthy, *The Wall Street Journal*, Mar 10, '93.
- 27) Tiny Candy Holders Hold Value and More *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, '94.
- 28) Unlikely Treasures *U.S. News & World Report*, Nov. 2, '92.

Mike Leonard

HERE IS WHAT YOU MISSED!!

If you did not get the first issue of "PEZ Collector's News" you missed, David Welch's article on mail order tips and collecting stem variations. John Laspina's article on PEZ variations. An article on PEZ-A-MANIA 5. An introduction to PEZ collecting. 2 pages of reader ads. A PEZ glossary, PEZ checklist, collectors profile, dealer listing, "HOT" PEZ news, and 10 pages of PEZ advertising. The first issue went out to over 300 people. Don't be left out. A limited number of copies of the first issue are still available. Please state that you want to start with the first issue

*Please make check payable to: Richard Belyski and send to
PEZ Collector's News, P.O. Box 124, Sea Cliff N.Y. 11579
\$19.00 U.S., \$20.00 Canada, \$26.00 Europe*

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Classifieds

NEW 1995 COLLECTORS PRICE GUIDE: \$10.00 postpaid. PEZ for sale: Popeye A, slightly damaged \$75. **MIKE EDELMAN, P.O. BOX 5494, BUFFALO GROVE, IL 60089-5494 (708) 431-6955**

WANTED: Collector seeks reasonably prized PEZ and look-a-likes for private collection. Send best prices to: **GARY OLSEN, 702 STONEGATE LN, STANHOPE, NJ 07874**

BRIDE & GROOM WANTED for my wedding cake. **LONNIE WONGER, 1838 5TH AVE S, FARGO, ND 58103 (701) 237-5881**

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THE REVIEWS ARE IN! "PEZ Collector's News" is a hit. It went to over 300 people and

was very well received. If you did not subscribe to "PEZ Collector's News" yet, do it today. A limited number of copies of the first issue are still available. For details on how to subscribe look for full page ad in this issue. Thanks to all that chose to subscribe to the newsletter. Happy Pezzing. **RICHIE BELYSKI**

PEZ SALE - CHEAP! All with feet: Without packaging, \$.50 each! MIB, \$.75 each! MOC, \$1.25 each! Choose: Boy, Girl, Arlene, Garfield, Barney, Dino, Fred, Pebbles, Donald, Mickey, Ninja - orange w/teeth, Ninja - red w/smile, Charlie, Lucy, Snoopy, Woodstock, Fozzy, Kermit, Piggy, Batman - blue, Spiderman, Wonder Woman, Daffy, Tweety, Peter, Santa, Skull, Witch, Chick - green, Lamb, Bunny, Panda, Chaos, Venezia, Trucks: DR1 - yellow cab, DR2 - red, DR4 - green, DR4 - red. A few items are limited. Shipping is \$4. Happy Holidays! **MARLIS BEAN, P.O. BOX 1305, DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL 36528 (334) 861-3910**

SEND SASE FOR MY NEW SALES LIST! Many older PEZ available mint in bag or on card. Double-sided 8 1/2" x 11" photocopies of all 15 issues of the "Optimistic Pessimist" available. This publication preceded "Positively PEZ." 15 issues are available @ \$2 per issue plus \$4 additional for shipping (\$34 complete). Single copies available for \$2 each plus \$.50 per copy postage. All "Positively PEZ" back issues: Vol. I 1-6, Vol. II 1-6, Vol. III 1-5 (\$2 each, shipping included, overseas add \$5). **LINDA KOCHENBURGER, 265 BEVERLY HILLS RD, FORT LEE, NJ 07024 (201) 947-6613**



The Second Annual West Coast PEZ Convention

Join your West Coast hosts Larry Silveira and Michael Berta, Linda and Sheet Rose for a fun filled weekend. Talk with the experts and celebrities in the field. Mingle with collectors and dealers from around the country to buy, sell and trade PEZ.

When: Friday and Saturday, March 29 & 30, 1996

Where: Sunnyvale Hilton Hotel, Sunnyvale, CA. Reservations 1-800 HILTONS. Be sure to mention PEZHEAD to receive the special block rate of \$65.00 per room night. Single or Double occupancy is the same price, no charge for children that stay in their parents room. After March 15th, room availability and rates subject to change.

Directions: Highway 101 to Lawrence Expwy South, Make first left at Oakmead Parkway, Left again onto Lakeside. Free Hotel Shuttle from San Jose International Airport.

Agenda:	Friday, March 29	2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Convention Registration
		6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Surprize Speakers and Bingo for PEZ
	Saturday, March 30	7:00 am - 9:30 am	Show Set-up
		9:30 am - 10:00 am	Convention registrants admitted early
		10:00 am - 3:00 pm	General Public Show and mingling
		3:00 pm	Auction Begins

PRIZES GALORE!

Raffle tickets and Bingo cards are \$1.00 each. Raffle drawings to be held during Saturday show hours. Room hopping both evenings. Wear your name tags, Please. Win over \$2,500.00 PEZ and PEZ related items!

Fees & Registration: \$25.00 per person, which includes entrance to both days, room hopping on Friday, Bingo for PEZ with 2 Free Bingo cards, and Convention T-Shirt. There will be a special raffle just for those who pre-register by March 15, 1996. You must be present to collect your prizes by the time the auction starts. Vendor tables are \$30.00 and require registration by March 28, 1996. **Saturday show entrance fee will be \$5.00.** Children under 12 are Free BOTH DAYS.

-----send bottom section -----

Convention Registration

Includes Admission to show both days, and auction on Saturday

Please register _____ person(s) at \$25.00 per person (\$30.00 after March 15, 1996.)

Indicate T-Shirt size: lg _____ xl _____

Please reserve ___ 8' dealer tables at \$30.00 each (\$40.00 after 3/15/96) or ___ 1/2 table at \$20.00

(Dealer tables are only available to Convention Registrants.)

Early registration is encouraged. You must register by Mar. 15, 1996 to be eligible for the Special Raffle.

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____

Send completed registration and check or money order to:

Michael Berta, 590 Hull Ave., San Jose, CA 95125

Make a long weekend of it and visit Paramount's Great America, Winchester Mystery House or the Egyptian Museum...all moments away from the hotel.

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