

Insider

BY JESSIE WILSON

The Living Internet

For anyone who finds themselves desperately wishing for pair of Peril Sensitive Sunglasses whenever conversations involving the terms ISDN, POP, IRC, Usenet, and the like come up, look no further than www.livinginternet.com. In here you will find a wealth of internet/web terms, their history, and more importantly, what the hell they actually mean.

So now you can bravely join in tech-head conversations fully confident with the knowledge that HTML stands for Hypertext Markup Language, and MIME isn't a Marcel Marceau lookalike, as you might think, but is in fact Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions.

Well organized and easy to use, the site will have you talking like a geek in no time at all.

www.livinginternet.com

Get off the fence

Want to know the world leaders' justifications for invading Iraq? Wondering if marijuana should be routinely prescribed for chronic pain caused by cancer? For anyone having trouble deciding on which side of the fence to sit, look no further than procon.org. This is a nonpartisan, independent, and nonprofit organization, whose goal is to inform the public about controversial issues using facts, news stories, and hundreds of diverse opinions in a pro-con format.

You're almost certain to disagree with almost

COMPUTER/INTERNET GROUPS

CLICK! Community for Linking Internet Companies in Kansai. Please check out <http://ikaiwa.com/click/> for more information.

KANSAI PC USERS GROUP: For quarterly meeting info, email: anteater@ss4.inet-osaka.or.jp or call David at 0729-53-1093 before 21:00.

KINKI MAC USERS' GROUP: Serving the Mac Community since 1989. Colin Rogers will review some of the shareware and freeware now available: spend little or nothing for great applications! Meetings on final Sunday of the month. March 26: Frente Bldg. 4F, at south exit of JR Nishinomiya Stn. For location/map, info & time, see: <http://www.kmug.org> or write: info@kmug.org, call: 0797-38-0431 (E/J). **KINKI LINUX USERS' GROUP:** See the site at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kansailug/>. All levels and languages are welcome.

half of what you read, but you'll come away better informed and -- and if the site's founders have their way -- a better citizen, to boot.

www.procon.org

Karaoke Time

So you think you are a bit of a whiz at the old karaoke? Simon Cowell your best (future) mate? If you can answer 'Yes' to these questions, check out this funky karaoke site. For anyone who likes a challenge,

i-Spy World Book Day (March 2nd)

Official Site	www.worldbookday.com
Book search	www.bookfinder.com/
Clickable books	ebooks.com
Overbooked	www.overbooked.org
What next?	www.whatshouldireadnext.com

this is not to be missed. Just don't forget to turn up your speakers first.

www.barry.fireflyinternet.co.uk/fun/files/karaoke.htm

Sorry, Gotta Go

Work, family, study -- aren't you busy enough without having to contend with a ringing phone every few minutes? Sorry Gotta Go might just be what you need. The site provides an online encyclopedia of sound effects, all designed to get you off the phone as quickly and efficiently as possible. There's everything from the old, "There's the doorbell," to "My other line is ringing," to, "I can't hear you over all these crowds, and police siren-noises." Wanna know more? Sorry, gotta go.

www.sorrygottago.com

Do you have a favourite website or web service you would like to tell us about? Send your reviews for consideration in future issues of KTO. Email: jessie@angel.email.ne.jp.

JAPANESE AT WORK

JOHN SPIRI



Name: Kyuuchan

Occupation: Day Laborer

Age: About 65

Where's your hometown?

Okinawa.

How long have you been in Osaka?

Forever.

What job do you usually do?

See the green there? (points to highway divider)

You see those stones there? I set those up.

How many days a week do you work?

Because I'm old, well, three or so.

How much do you make in a month?

I'd say ¥100,000. I have money for food and for a room. The room is ¥60,000 (laughs). Would you like to have a go at it? Try!

Do you have difficulties in your life?

When there's no work.

Because you have no money, or because it's boring with no job?

Because I'm old. Almost retirement age. It's tough.

If you find a place on the streets, you can stay.

What about the future?

With me, during World War II, my mother and father both died. That's the way of war. I was a kid. I didn't understand war. Grandmother worked the fields. America was bad. Japan was bad. The final declaration came ending the war. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were not the end of the war. The last battleground was Okinawa.