

# *MM After Easter Blue Sheet*

*Moment Ministries, Corvallis Oregon April 26, 2014*

## *Morgan's Moment...*

I'm an old Safeway guy...  
a 3 year veteran  
from my student years.  
So I notice things going on...  
like taking down Easter  
from the seasonal display island.  
Seems like it just changed from  
Christmas to Valentine's Day  
to St Patrick's Day to Easter.  
*"What comes after Easter?"*  
the clerk said *"Nothing"...*  
*"not until Halloween!"*  
I asked about Memorial Day  
and Fourth of July...  
but Easter was the end for now.  
In Easter's place were cookies...  
and muffins...  
instead of chocolate bunnies.  
So what comes after Easter...  
is Jesus forgotten  
until Christmas?  
Jesus is quite a money maker...  
a big ticket item twice a year....  
at least at Safeway.

Art Morgan

## BOOK CORNER

I have just finished clearing off my desk-full of pre-Easter reading. I counted 12 books from my own shelves! I reduced my collection by 2/3 some years ago, but they seem to multiply when I'm not looking. Many of these are ones I return to from time to time. I just added one that our book club just finished: *"The Monuments Men, — Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, And the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History"* by Robert Adsel. A gripping WWII history of the looting of some of the world's greatest pieces of art and their recovery. Fascinating I thought. A tribute to cultural awareness during WWII which was shamefully absent during the Gulf War.

## ON KNOWING TOO MUCH

On the Monday after Easter a gym friend asked me:

*"What do you know?"*

It's just banter talk. I'm supposed to answer:

*"Not much...What about you?"*

But on Monday I answered — *"I know too much."*

I don't know why I said it. Maybe because Jean had reminded me just before my Easter Sunday presentation,

*"You know too much, so don't try to tell us everything this morning."*

I got the point...I hope

Last week I wrote about the search for the black box in the sea. It was needed for answers about "what really happened."

I said that "there is no black box" containing the actual facts of Easter. Beliefs and hopes in Gospels and Creeds are more faith than of facts. That is true for many life questions; No black box.

Here's something I do know. That most people walk through the valley of the dark shadow without benefit of clergy. Some hold on to a remnant faith but many accept mystery as reality.

I tell you a wonder about so many I know and have known, who live forward beyond dark times and tomb times...beyond questions without answers, not even looking for a black box.

A friend sent this response in time for Easter

*"The black boxes of our life...why indeed are we still searching for them? To me, Art, the answer is uncomplicated—it is life emerging from the blackness every day — Whether it be a rose bud on the bush of our deceased daughter's plant, the song of God's creatures great and small at our bird feeder or even more important to me right now, my wife's health as she responds favorably to chemo..."*

Look around and you will see people like that, *"emerging from the blackness every day."* I know too much to try to explain it.

But I feel a lot of holy wonder and amazement...and...Wow!

— Art Morgan

## A TIME OF WONDER — MARVIN GLOEGE

A Memorial service of tribute, memory and thanksgiving for Marvin Gloege will be held at the Lakeside Center of the Mennonite Village in Albany on Saturday, May 3 at 2 pm.

Marvin was born and raised in Montana—in Miles City and Billings— before going to the University of Washington (where he met and married Marlene).

His career was in city and county planning mainly in Washington and Oregon.

Paul Pritchard also once lived in Miles City but didn't know Marvin there. And I attended the U of W in Seattle the same time as Marvin but didn't know him there even though we were probably in sociology classes together.

Marvin and Marlene raised their three children in Corvallis. In recent years they have lived at the Mennonite Village in Albany.