

THE FLINTSTONES IN “GENERAL SERVICE ROCKS!”

December 29, 2007

Cast of Characters

Fred Flintstone

Barney Rubble

Wilma Flintstone

Betty Rubble

Pebbles & Bamm Bamm/Great Gazoo/Vacuum/iStone Phone

(Flintstones theme plays)

Sign: District 90 Presents

Sign: A Happy Joyous and Free Production

Sign: The Flintstones in “General Service Rocks!”

Sign: Featuring the Not a Glum Lot Players

(Flintstones underscore plays)

(Fred is stage left and Wilma is stage right vacuuming)

FRED

WILMA!

WILMA

(turns off vacuum)

You bellowed?

FRED

Will ya stop that vacuuming? I can't hear myself think in here!

WILMA

Oh, all right! What's so important anyway?

FRED

Come over here and I'll show you.

(Wilma walks over to Fred)

MASTODON/VACUUM
(waits a beat) My job sucks!

(Mastodon/Vacuum exits exits)

WILMA
Are you all bent out of shape because you know we can't afford to get you an Apple iStone Phone for your birthday tomorrow?

FRED
No that's not it.

WILMA
And why have you been on the computer so long? Please tell me you're not downloading pictures of Sharon Stone again!

FRED
No, I'm not downloading pictures of Sharon Stone!

WILMA
Well who then? Chris Rock?

FRED
Very funny. If you must know, I'm working on a talk I have to give at the Inter-District workshop down at the Water Buffalo Lodge tomorrow.

WILMA
I thought you and Barney got kicked out of the Water Buffaloes when you got drunk at last year's New Year's Eve party and puked in the Grand Poobah's helmet.

FRED
I did, but our AA meeting meets in the same building. Hey look, Wilma I'd love to sit and gab with you, but I have to come up with something and I'm drawing a big blank so far.

WILMA
What's the problem? Maybe I can help you?

FRED

Well, I'm supposed to talk for 15 minutes on this year's General Service Conference theme and it has me stumped.

WILMA

What is the theme?

FRED

“Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity and Self-Support.”

WILMA

What the heck does that mean? It sounds like the kind of thing Dilbert's boss would write on a whiteboard to try to sound important.

FRED

You see? That's what I thought too! I don't know why they have to make the themes so complicated. In the past we had great ones.

WILMA

Like what?

FRED

Like “Love and Service” or “Keep Coming Back.” Of course, we did have that one a few years back that was kind of controversial. “AA: so simple even a caveman can do it.” We got sued by Geico.

(Jetson's door bell)

FRED

What the heck was that?

WILMA

The Jetson's doorbell. I think the sound effects guy screwed up again.

(knocks on the door)

WILMA

That's better.

FRED

Now, who could that be?

WILMA

It's probably Betty. She took Pebbles and Bamm Bamm to the park for a play date.

(knocks on the door)

WILMA

Come in!

(Flintstones underscore plays)

(Betty, Pebbles and Bamm Bamm enter)

WILMA

So how did it go at the park, Betty?

BETTY

Oh...uh...the kids had a great time.

WILMA

You sound kind of nervous. Were there any problems?

BETTY

Um...nothing major. I mean, there was that moment when I went to get a drink of water and Pebbles snuck off and nearly got trampled by a wild wooly mammoth, but besides that it was uneventful.

WILMA

A wooly mammoth! How did she get away? What happened?

BETTY

Bamm Bamm picked it up threw it 75 feet away.

WILMA

Phew! I am so glad Bamm Bamm is so naturally strong!

FRED

Humph! I don't know about the natural part. If you ask me, Balco and Barry Bonds probably got a hold of him.

BAMM BAMM

(angrily) Bamm Bamm! Bamm Bamm!

BETTY

Fred Flintstone! You hurt his feelings! Apologize!

FRED

Sorry for calling you a Balco baby, Bamm Bamm. Sorry, Betty, I'm just under a lot of stress right now.

WILMA

Fred has to give a talk at an AA function on the topic "Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity and Self-Support."

BETTY

What does that mean? It sounds like the gibberish that Pebbles says.

PEBBLES

(gibberish)

BETTY

See? That made as much sense to me. Say, where's Barney? I thought he was coming over to help you with this.

FRED

I sent him to get me a double latte Bedrockicano at Starrocks. He should be back any minute.

WILMA

Well, me and Betty are going to drop the kids off at my mother's house and go to the Hollyrock International Film Festival.

FRED

Oh, that sounds like fun. What's playing?

WILMA

Director's cuts of all the "Rocky" films, "Jurassic Park" and a retrospective of Oliver Stone movies.

FRED

What? No "School of Rock?" Oh well, it sounds great.

BETTY

Good luck on your talk, Fred.

WILMA

Oh, before I forget, we're going to stop by RockWall-Mart later. I was going to pick up some new underwear for you. Did you want boxers or briefs to wear under that strange orange dress-thing you wear?

FRED

Neither. Since I saw "Braveheart" I go au naturale baby!

BETTY

Eeew! Thanks for the image.

FRED

My pleasure, Betty. You girls enjoy yourselves! Bye Pebbles darling. See you later, Bamm Bamm.

BAMM BAMM

(angrily) Bamm Bamm! Bamm Bamm!

BETTY

I think he's still angry with you, Fred.

FRED

Sounds like 'roid rage to me!

WILMA

Fred!

FRED

Okay! Sorry! Goodbye!

(Wilma, Betty, Pebbles and Bamm Bamm exit)

FRED

Hmmm...communication and participation. Unity. Self-support. I'm still drawing a blank. Where is Barney with my coffee? Oh wait I think I hear him coming now.

(knocks on door)

FRED

Come in!

(Barney enters)

BARNEY

Hiya Fred!

FRED

It's about time! Where's my coffee?

BARNEY

Here ya go, buddy ol' pal o' mine!

(Barney trips and spills the coffee on Fred)

FRED

You rockhead! You spilled the coffee all over me! Go get a towel from the kitchen!

BARNEY

I'm going! I'm going!

(bongo feet and zip plays and Barney runs off)

FRED

Come on! Where's that towel?

(running feet and skid plays as Barney returns)

BARNEY

Here ya go Fred. Sorry.

FRED

That's okay, Barney. I think it would have made me more jumpy anyway.

BARNEY

Hey, Fred, when did you get this awesome looking HDTV? The picture is amazing! Boy that new technology is sumptin', huh? The picture looks just like 3-D!

FRED

It is 3-D you numbskull! That's the window.

BARNEY

Oh. Hey, that reminds me, I saw the new iStone Phone in the window of Concrete City. Boy it sure is a beaut. Any chance Wilma's gonna surprise you with it tomorrow on your birthday?

FRED

Fat chance. But I don't have time to worry about that now. How did it go with our new business partners?

BARNEY

Well, I met with Dick Dastardly and Muttley and they agreed to sell us their old clubhouse for \$1500.

FRED

Yabba Dabba Doo! Now my dream of opening up the Flintstone/Rubble Recovery House will be a reality! We can help our cartoon friends who are suffering from addictions and clean up in the process.

BARNEY

I get trying to help people recover, but I don't understand the economics though Fred.

FRED

That's why you're the vice-president and I'm the president, Barney my boy. You see, we charge them \$2000 for 30 days and then when they graduate we tell them to go to AA which is free. It's brilliant!

BARNEY

I understand that Fred, what I don't see is how we get the \$1500 to pay Dastardly and Muttley the initial fee for the clubhouse.

FRED

That's simple, Barn! Yogi Bear and SnagglePuss are each putting up \$500 and we'll match them with our own \$500.

BARNEY

Yeah Fred, but we don't have \$500.

FRED

But have you forgotten that you're treasurer for our home group? Look, it's simple, you just borrow the \$500 from our group funds and once we have the dough rollin' in, we replace it.

BARNEY

Gee, Fred, I don't know. That sounds like stealing to me.

FRED

Don't be ridiculous. If we weren't going to return the money that would be stealing. This is just an investment and the group will get their money back. It's a win-win.

BARNEY

I don't know, Fred. I just remember the last time you had a win-win idea. I heard Mr. Slate say at a meeting last night that his mind is like a bad neighborhood and that you shouldn't go in there alone. Maybe we should seek some guidance from a higher power.

FRED

I'm sure about this Barney, I don't need any guidance.

BARNEY

I don't know Fred. I have a feeling we're about to hear that theme music that plays when we're about to do something stupid.

FRED

What are you talking about? I don't hear any music?

(Flintstones underscore plays)

BARNEY

See!?! There it is! Look Fred, maybe we should consult my magic 8 ball.

FRED

Come on Barn, that's a stupid toy.

BARNEY

You didn't say that when we used it to see if you should join AA, Fred. Do you remember that?

FRED

Yeah, I remember. I asked it "Will the program work for me?" and when I looked at the answer it said "Signs point to yes." I've been sober ever since.

BARNEY

That's right. Of course, it was obvious to me you needed AA when were drunk and crashed your car into that Pterodactyl statue downtown,

FRED

Hey, I would've been able to stop but the brakes on my car failed!

BARNEY

Well, I told you to pop those blisters on your feet but you wouldn't listen. But anyway, I believe in my magic 8 ball and I'm not going to take the money unless it says it's okay.

FRED

All right all right! Ask the stupid 8 ball!

BARNEY

Okay, let me pull it outta my pocket.

(attach the Velcro 8 ball to picture)

FRED

Oh, look at that it comes with an arm.

BARNEY

Okay here goes: Magic 8 ball is taking this money the right idea?

(Barney shakes it and reads the answer)

BARNEY

It says “My reply is no.” That’s all I needed to see, Fred.

FRED

Wait a minute, wait a minute! You can’t make a decision this big on one try!
It’s customary to do two out of three.

BARNEY

Okay Fred, here goes: Magic 8 ball is taking this money the right idea?

(Barney shakes it and reads the answer)

BARNEY

Oh my gosh!

FRED

What does it say?

BARNEY

It says “Better run it by your sponsor first.”

FRED

Oh great! My sponsor?

BARNEY

You better give him a call, Fred.

FRED

All right, help me out will ya? Gazoo! Great Gazoo!

BARNEY

Great Gazoo where are you?

(Gazoo materialization sound—Gazoo appears)

GAZOO

Hello Dum Dums, What do you need now? More liposuction?

FRED

No, this time we just need some guidance.

GAZOO

Oh, okay. I think I saw this coming. I recommend Cialis over Viagra because there are fewer side effects.

FRED

I don't need that kind of guidance, Gazoo. What I need is...

GAZOO

I know what you need, Fred. On my home planet of Zatox we have the ability to read minds. Especially simple ones. Yours is like reading a comic book. I know all about this scheme you have planned and next time you get a great idea call me first instead of using some nostalgic toy.

FRED

But Gazoo I...

GAZOO

Let me finish! Why aren't you working on your talk for the Inter-District workshop?

FRED

Because I can't make hide nor hair of the theme that's why!

GAZOO

Well, let's look at that: what's the theme again, Barney?

BARNEY

“Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity and Self-Support.”

GAZOO

Fred, can't you see that the scheme you came up with is the exact opposite of what that theme is about.

FRED

No, I don't follow you, Gazoo.

GAZOO

Oh you really are a dum-dum! Barney do you get it?

BARNEY

Yeah...yeah, I think I do. You see, Fred, taking that money would be wrong obviously because it's stealing but also because it would hurt the unity of our group. You didn't communicate with the other group members and so they couldn't participate. Self-support is one of the cornerstones of our fellowship and it's linked to members knowing what is going to happen when they put their money in the basket.

GAZOO

Very good Barney!

FRED

Wow. I never thought of that. I guess in all the excitement of my new business venture I missed out on the big picture. What you said Barn is what I'm going to base my talk on. I'll use myself as an example.

GAZOO

Just so you don't feel like you invented the wheel in making bad decisions when it comes to AA Fred, you may look up in Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions when Bill W. had a grandiose idea to set up AA Hospitals which the group conscience shot down and include that in your talk too.

FRED

Great stuff! Thanks Great Gazoo!

GAZOO

Is that all you need me for?

FRED

That's it. Thanks again Gazoo!

GAZOO

Don't mention it. And remember, Cialis!

(Gazoo exits)

FRED

Well, Barn, you were right. I don't know what came over me. I'm going to finish writing my talk. See ya Barn!

(they both exit)

(Flintstones underscore plays)

SIGN: THE NEXT DAY...

(Wilma is stage left and Fred walks in)

WILMA

So how did your talk go at the Inter-District Fred?

FRED

It went great Wilma! Afterward I got a lot of encouragement from people who could relate to how I felt. Plus they had brontosaurus burgers for lunch.

WILMA

That's great, dear. I have a surprise for you. Happy Birthday!

(iStone Phone/Bird enters)

FRED

Yabba Dabba Doo! An iStone Phone! How did you afford it, Wilma?

WILMA

It was here this morning with a note saying "To Fred from the Great Gazoo."
Who is the Great Gazoo Fred?

FRED

You wouldn't believe me if I told you, Wilma.

WILMA

So what's the big deal about this phone anyway?

FRED

Oh, it's the latest and greatest, Wilma. You see it has touch screen technology. You see, you touch hear and it'll play music.

iSTONE PHONE/BIRD

(sings) In bedrock, twitch! Twitch!

FRED

See? If you touch it here you can go on the internet like weather .dom.

iSTONE PHONE/BIRD

It's cold!

FRED

Ha! And if you touch it here I can call Barney.

iSTONE PHONE/BIRD

Barney!

FRED

This is great Wilma. Hey, you know, since Pebbles is over at the Rubble's house what say you and I retire to the bedroom for our own Bedrock twitch.

WILMA

Oh Fred! Oh...you're not going to be embarrassed again...

FRED

That's a thing of the past, my dear! I got another gift from the Great Gazoo!

(Fred and Wilma exit)

iSTONE PHONE/BIRD

If he touched me one more time I was going to punch him!

THE END

(Flintstones end theme plays)