

**The Peach Clubhouse Newsletter** imagines the minimum requirements for a sustainable, reasonably comfortable and rewarding human lifestyle within our earth ecosystem for our future generations.. Our goal is to learn, evaluate and share the minimum mental and emotional skill set we will need to grow such a lifestyle for the future generations. We must understand:

1. The basic physical requirements for our living earth to be healthy. Because the healthy functions of earth ecosystem give us everything we need to stay alive -- soil, food energy, air, water, shelter.
2. Practical, applied compassion. Because humans require compassion in order to lead reasonably comfortable and rewarding lives ([www://Bare BonesBiology](http://www.BareBonesBiology.com) 080-The Golden Rule).
3. A rule of law that recognizes the different and sometimes conflicting needs of different levels of life on earth-- individual, population, ecosystem -- and strives for the overall most useful solutions.

Factual Biology-Education-Practical Compassion-Rule of Law -|- <http://factfictionfancy.wordpress.com>

## Activities of Interest

**Peach Clubhouse Video presentations** are free on request by any group of three or more people at the Peach Clubhouse, 1110 Justine, just northeast of downtown Bryan. [MLLamoureux@hotmail.com](mailto:MLLamoureux@hotmail.com), or at other locations.

The next requested presentation will be Bill Moyers' interview of Oren Lyons, Chief of the Onandaga, a member of the Iroquois Alliance. We will discuss this and the story of the Great Law of the Peacemaker, as told by John Mohawk. The time for this is to be arranged.

Progressives in Bryan, January 30, will air the Bioneers presentation of Thomas Linzey, describing the origin of the Democracy School. ([www.celdf.org](http://www.celdf.org)) ([www.BrazosProgressives.org](http://www.BrazosProgressives.org))

If anyone wants to sponsor The Harvest, the DVD sells for \$250. <http://store.cinematolibre-store.com/ppr-harvest-npk12.html> (Public Performance rights for Nonprofits.) NY Times Review of this film is at <http://movies.nytimes.com/2011/08/01/movies/the-harvestla-cosecha-review.html>. Regular hours at the Peach Clubhouse are Tuesday and Friday from noon to 4 or by appointment.

**ESL (English as a Second Language) classes** are free. Currently a class is scheduled every week on Tuesday and Friday at noon.

**Radio Spots** – Bare Bones Biology Radio spots may be heard on KEOS FM, 89.1, three times a week. Sunday morning at 6:55 AM, Sunday afternoon at 3 PM, Tuesday evening at 8:55 PM. These may be downloaded free at <http://WWW.BareBonesBiology.com> or at <http://FactFictionFancy.Wordpress.com>.

Heads up for the new **KEOS** program Wednesdays 6-7pm at 89.1 in the Brazos Valley, Rethinking Green, hosted by Alise, will consider a variety of sustainable opportunities that any listener can incorporate into their lifestyle.

## Other Activities around the Brazos Valley - See also the last page

**Friends of Peace** - in Waco - <http://friendsofpeace.org>

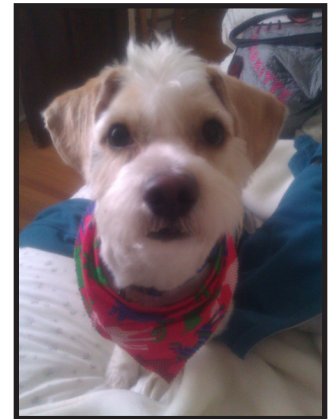
“Many of you are aware that Professor Marc Ellis, who spoke to the Friends of Peace a few months ago, is under attack by Baylor University. If you would like to sign a petition in support of his freedom of expression at Baylor, please go to: <http://www.change.org/petitions/ken-starr-president-of-baylor-university-stop-persecution-against-prof-marc-ellis> The Friends of Peace stands ready to do a protest at Baylor should Professor Ellis ask us to do so. “

On Sunday, January 22nd, The Institute of Interfaith Dialog is organizing “Noah’s Pudding Day”. The volunteers of IID will be serving this special pudding at several locations as well as to their neighbors. [collegestation@interfaithdialog.org](mailto:collegestation@interfaithdialog.org)

In March, watch for the green festival in the churchyard of St, Andrews: Growing Hope for the Community.

**Highlight of the Month:** a very nice new book for your inspiration

<http://morallowground.com/2011/01/23/vermont-introduces-resolution-to-amend-us-constitutionban-corporate-personhood/>



You remember Sully. From the ditch to the living room. I love a happy ending. Photo by Rachel

## Compassion Corner

In the case of Christianity, perhaps the best way to hear the message of compassion is to read what Jesus actually said, as reported, and ignore most of the interpretations. I hear Christians espouse the most amazingly hateful points of view that have nothing to do with compassion, therefore nothing to do with the message of Jesus (and most other major religious and common sense viewpoints). On the other hand, I also hear Christians who work very hard for the welfare of human kind in the best ways possible -- by nourishing the ecosystem, and the mental, emotional and physical health of our fellow humans. Our own "practical compassion" must nourish the sincere efforts of compassionate people of all faiths. If we lump all Christians together and paint them with one brush, no matter the paint, we are, in fact, deeply flawed in our own compassion. Further, we will never gain our ends by falling for the culturally imposed ethic of competition between or among peoples and religions. Compete and divide is the motto of the corposystem. (RR\* - Powers of the Weak). For competitors, including religious competitors, the world is full of enemies. We believe we must win something, or beat someone, and so we do not believe we can save our world by simply, and communally, fulfilling our obligations to it. We think we must win some grand epic struggle, rather than contribute to the health of the whole. However, the result of competition, while it may be heroic, is not grand, because when we compete we are, to some extent, destroying the beneficial contributions of others who are striving for the same compassionate outcomes.



## Remapping our Rule of Law

So long as everyone is competing with everyone else for any reason, we are living the story of divide. Everyone knows that divide is the way to conquer the otherwise unquenchable power of the people. Thus genuine community is the enemy of the corposystem and empowers the whole. If we fail in our compassion, we can't grow genuine community, and without community of the people, we are choosing to let the Corposystem control our rights and lives as free peoples.

It is possible for people to join together in real community, even in our current political mess, to stand together for what we really do need in order to live reasonably well. Think Occupy for only one example. The corposystem is not trying to nourish the real welfare of the community. But even if it were, the corposystem will crash anyhow, because good works are not enough when biological reality is ignored. The corposystem (or the people or anything else) cannot continue to grow while ignoring our obligation to the sources of all life. We are destroying the resources that are required for our own health and welfare. This is a fact, not an opinion. Nothing can grow forever, and if you are honest you will tell me you already knew that. Our survival depends upon a healthy ecosystem. To live well, we do not need the corposystem, but we do need the ecosystem. The corposystem can not make food energy, and it seems to be unwilling to stop destroying our clean air, water and soil in its voracious effort to grow when growth has become destructive. There is no doubt that we could set aside our egos and our denial long enough to come together in real community. If we really care about anything beyond here and now. So what are we doing? Sucking on the corposystem teat, even though we know it must and will go dry unless we force it to obey our laws. Democracy School (<http://www.celdf.org/>) is one group that is teaching new approaches to legal control by our communities over our own land, water, food, air and other resources. Check it out.

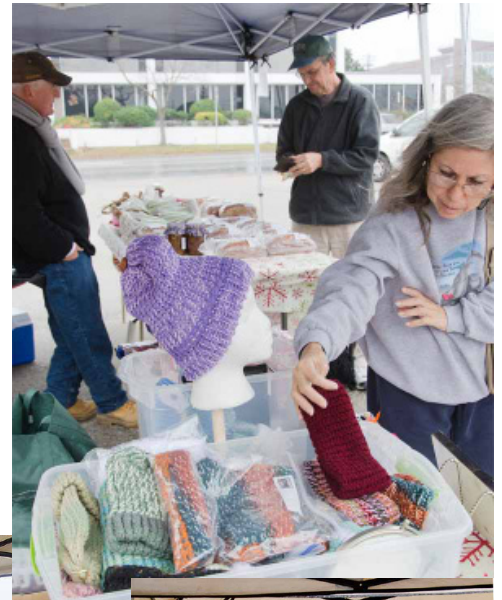
## Fracking News (read on, it really is about fracking)

Of course you know that your body is made of cells. We can look at pictures of cells under a microscope, but that's not very helpful because cells are smaller than we can imagine. And yet they live on earth in numbers that are more enormous than we can imagine. Our bodies are made of the lively little things, all doing the functions that keep us alive. The functions of life are: 1) to recycle materials like air, water, carbohydrates and non-organic materials such as minerals (air in and out, food in and out; water in and out); 2) to keep copies of all the genes, because genes tell the cells how, when and where to do the thousands of processes required to stay alive; 3) to release the energy from food and use it to do all that work. The materials, air, water and molecules, all recycle in all living things, from the simplest cell to the whole living

earth. The food energy does not recycle. It is changed into heat and released into the atmosphere. Cells are the physical basis of *all* life. There are two kinds of cells. I just described eukaryotic cells. That is the kind of cells we are structurally made of. In addition to the eukaryotic cells, we have enormous numbers of prokaryotic cells in our bodies. These are sometimes known as the “good bacteria.” Prokaryotic cells are even smaller than eukaryotic cells, but they are less complicated. For the most part they do not join together to make complicated bodies, like ours, but they live everywhere on earth and they are essential to the recycling of the materials required for life. Different kinds, different species of prokaryotic cells live in your body, in the bark of trees, millions and millions of them help to make good rich soil, some kinds of prokaryotic cells can and do live in hot springs, and some kinds live deep in the ocean, like more than three miles deep; they live in glaciers and at the tops of mountains. And they live deep, deep in the earth. These good bacteria have many functions, including that they help to recycle the materials of life – molecules, air, water and other non-living things.

There are very few bad, disease-causing bacteria, and our bodies would not be healthy without the many good bacteria. The soils would not be healthy and productive without the good bacteria; the whole earth would not be healthy without the good bacteria, because these prokaryotic cells are part of the cycle of water, air, food and non-organic materials that we and all cells and the earth require to do the work of staying alive. The people who are determined to pour poisons into the earth, even two miles deep down, they are not interested in learning about what they are doing to the life down there. They believe that the poisons cannot circulate through the deep layers of shale. They believe this because they want to, but it’s foolishness. If water can circulate, and it does, then so can other small poisonous molecules. The fact is that we don’t know what’s going on down there, and whatever you believe and they believe will not change the reality that we are poisoning vast areas of the earth, deep inside its living skin, and on the surface and even in the air, and in all these places where our water is meant to be cleaned by the living earth and recycled for the next generations. Water does not simply come out of the lake – or the faucet -- water is constantly recycled through the whole earth, and living organisms do much of the work of recycling.

If we continue to spread poisons on our food, earth, water and air, organisms will still be here in the future. Probably drought resistant eukaryotic organisms and certainly prokaryotic organisms. But we humans are not drought resistant, and technology cannot undo the harm that we are doing to the earth today. We are killing organisms that balance the cycles of life, and nobody knows how to rebalance the cycles of life that we are unbalancing, because the cycles are so complex that we don’t even know what they all are



**Brazos Valley Farmers' Market Christmas Eve**

## New Year Resolution

People keep telling me that the cause of our disorder in the modern human world is so confusing they can't understand it. People also keep referring to my "opinion." Obviously I do have an opinion about these tales, and it is my opinion that the cause of our disorder is neither confusing nor is it difficult to understand. However, the problem itself is not a matter of opinion. It is a fact that this earth can not provide clean water, food and good soil enough to feed an unlimited number of people; that it requires a balanced input and outgo to maintain itself and to feed us; and that we are overtaxing its resources. These are not opinions. They are facts that are incredibly simple to understand.



I do not spend a lot of energy describing what we should do about all of our problems. I'm sure you noticed that because that's another thing people keep telling me. I don't waste my time trying to work out every detail of a solution, because there is only one real solution to any problem, and that is to remove the cause. The only solution to a problem like AIDS, for example, is to figure out what causes it and remove the cause, like we did with smallpox. Otherwise the problem will remain and continue. We in fact have identified the cause of AIDS, and are working to find the prevention, because it would be profitable to the medical arm of the corposystem. At the same time, our solution to the overpopulation problem is war -- because war is profitable to the military arm of the corposystem, and birth control wouldn't be nearly as profitable. That is logical to the corposystem, because there is a neat little cycle around the profits to be made by increasing the number of people to be born so that there are more reasons to kill them off in war, or rescue them from starvation, when they reach maturity. This makes sense if the goal is to create economic growth. But our root problem is growth that unbalances our supply and demand relationship with the ecosystem. The corposystem makes money on every transaction, but our root problem is destruction of our life support system (the earth ecosystem) because of excessive human growth. Heroism and suffering and compassion are real in war, rescues and AIDS -- but all are made worse by growth.

If there is food for 100 people and you are determined to feed 200 people, then you will fail, and furthermore you will cause great suffering. That is not complicated. Ask the Donner Party. If you doubt my facts about the availabilities, then please do not argue opinions, because inputs and outputs are measurable facts. If you don't know the difference between a fact and an opinion, then God help you, I can't. You have chosen to be a tool of corposystem propaganda. If you want to discuss the reality of the danger to

“Only a fool . . . would rage at the fact that  $2 + 2 = 4$ .” Pico Iyer, *The Open Road*

your grandchildren, then check the facts -- the real facts. The numbers that have been measured by competent people. Opinions are of no value in the real physical world unless they correlate with real facts. People keep telling me we have plenty of food for everyone if only we would distribute it properly. You will notice these people are about 100 years out of date in their so-called “facts,” the population has more than doubled, and furthermore they are not trying to resolve the suffering caused by their opinion. Not even taking the trouble to understand what the ecosystem needs. It does not need for us to kill off the millions of different kinds of unknown organisms that are required to continue recycling and cleaning our air, water, and providing our food. The corposystem can NOT make food.

The solution is not complicated -- not at all. The solution to problems caused by growth is to stop the growth. That is humanly possible because the growth is a human behavior. It is not complicated to understand that the solution to overpopulation is to reduce the population. In this turn of the wheel of life, it's not even complicated to think of a compassionate way to effectively begin the process, because we now have the technology. We simply make birth control available to every person on earth who wants it. The corposystem, realizing that would reduce the amount of profits from its medical arm AND from its military arm, is fighting the simple solution -- the only positive solution that is available to us -- fighting with lies and with corruption.

The facts are unpleasant, but they are not confusing, and they will not change in response to our lies, excuses, daydreams or wishes. That's what “fact” means. If God made the world to work the way it does work, then it's God's will that it works this way, and it's our job to nurture His garden. The only thing that CAN change the outcomes of our behaviors is to *change our behaviors*. That's your job. It's your responsibility to your own life. To your grandchildren. Nothing can change your responsibility to life. Not your opinion or your point of view or your distress. That's what responsibility means. Of course you can choose the easier way, but please don't tell me it's too complicated to understand your own life choices. You need food-the earth makes the food. Supply is limited. Either we/you choose to continue raving about it, or we choose to grow a sustainable, more comfortable, rewarding human lifestyle for the future.

“Loving isn't just a state of being, it's a way of acting in the world. Love isn't a sort of bliss, it's a kind of work, sometimes hard, spirit-testing work. To love a person is to accept the responsibility to act lovingly toward him, to make his needs my own needs. To love a place is to care for it, to keep it healthy, to attend to its needs as if they were my own, because they are my own. Responsibility grows from love. It is the natural shape of caring. To love a person or a place is to accept moral responsibility for its well-being.”  
Kathleen Dean Moore

## Recommended References (\*RR)

**Powers of the Weak** - [http://www.amazon.com/Powers-Weak-Elizabeth-Janeway/dp/0394406966/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1325785263&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Powers-Weak-Elizabeth-Janeway/dp/0394406966/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1325785263&sr=1-1)

**Pine Island Paradox** - [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_i\\_0\\_12?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=pine+island+paradox&prefix=Pine+Island+](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_0_12?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=pine+island+paradox&prefix=Pine+Island+)

**Earth Island Journal** - <http://www.earthisland.org/journal>

## Recommended Links

**Rule of Law** - When you read my Bare Bones Biology series on climate change that will begin on January 29, you will know that a primary problem caused by burning (burning anything with oxygen) is the carbon dioxide that is produced – if it unbalances the earth's air and water cycles. This carbon dioxide aggregates in the whole earth cycle of air—and the interacting water and energy cycles—and in the end causes changes in the air and water cycles (the climate) and all other cycles that interact. That is a bigger problem than the causing of disease in humans, unless we care only about our individual selves right now. So I'm interested in the latest EPA challenges to over-combustion. The EPA has set regulations regarding toxic emissions from power plants of a number of disease-causing elements and compounds. I guess the corposystem, in their continued propaganda against the reality of global warming, still has not figured out how to convince us that it's OK to release poisons that kill us personally. I mean other than pesticides and herbicides that are poisonous. “-cide” means “killer,” as in homicide and suicide. And by now you know that all eukaryotic organisms are pretty much alike in the way they stay alive, so – basically – a poison is a poison. But it's interesting to read the report on the court case that decided the EPA to obey the law that was passed by congress in 1970.

<http://pacer.cadc.uscourts.gov/docs/common/opinions/200802/05-1097a.pdf>

<http://www.environmenttexas.org/newsroom/clean-air-news/clean-air-news/president-obama--epa-protect-public-health--announce-land-mark-mercury-standard-for-power-plants>

[Bolivia enshrines natural world's rights with equal status for Mother Earth](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/apr/10/bolivia-enshrines-natural-worlds-rights)

[http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175485/tomgram%3A\\_bill\\_mckibben%2C\\_buying\\_congress\\_in\\_2012/#more](http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175485/tomgram%3A_bill_mckibben%2C_buying_congress_in_2012/#more)

## Biology

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/shock-as-retreat-of-arctic-sea-ice-releases-deadly-greenhouse-gas-6276134.html>

**Water** - this one is close to home for us – we have a tentacle in Groesbeck

<http://www.timesunion.com/default/article/Texas-has-major-water-plan-no-power-to-enact-it-2402910.php>

[SCIENCE VOL 334 28 OCTOBER 2011](http://www.sciencemag.org)

<http://aattp.blogspot.com/2011/12/shocking-republican-attack-on.html>

**Climate** -Bruce Melton : Welcome to Climate Change in Texas

<http://theragblog.blogspot.com/2011/12/bruce-melton-welcome-to-climate-change.html>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/shock-as-retreat-of-arctic-sea-ice-releases-deadly-greenhouse-gas-6276134.html>

**Local Author-Prestigious Journal** doi:10.1038/nature10282 High plant diversity is needed to maintain ecosystem services -Forest Isbell1, Vincent Calcagno1, Andy Hector2, John Connolly3,W. Stanley Harpole4, Peter B.Reich5,6, Michael Scherer-Lorenzen7, Bernhard Schmid2, David Tilman8, Jasper van Ruijven9, Alexandra Weigelt10, Brian J.Wilsey4, Erika S. Zavaleta11&Michel Loreau1 Nature

## Economy

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/nature-and-community/steady-state-economy-ponzi-scheme-zm0z11zsto.aspx>

## Ethics

[http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/eij/article/its\\_wrong\\_to\\_wreck\\_the\\_world/](http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/eij/article/its_wrong_to_wreck_the_world/)

<http://moralground.com/>

Bali Declared 'Island of Peace' by President of World Peace Committee

<http://www.balidiscovery.com/messages/message.asp?Id=7749>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/05/opinion/05collins.html> The siege of Planned Parenthood

Orion Magazine | Richard Heinberg and Helena Norberg-Hodge ...[www.orionmagazine.org/.../richard\\_heinberg\\_and\\_helena\\_norberg-h...](http://www.orionmagazine.org/.../richard_heinberg_and_helena_norberg-h...)

Downloadable audio

## Compassion

<http://oregonstate.edu/ua/ncs/archives/2011/nov/kindness-strangers-caring-and-trust-linked-genetic-variation>

## Fracking

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gary-wockner/colorado-fracking-rules\\_b\\_1176922.html?ref=email\\_share](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gary-wockner/colorado-fracking-rules_b_1176922.html?ref=email_share)

<http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Colorado-tightens-fracking-rules-2401144.php#ixzz1gZN9Qb8y>



## Brazos Valley Community-Based Web Sites

Brazos Insight Meditation Group ([www.BIMS.org](http://www.BIMS.org)) holds a half-hour sit, followed by discussion of a general nature, every Wednesday at noontime at the Unitarian Church in College Station, Friday at 3 pm at the Peach Clubhouse.

Brazos Buddhist Association ([www.BBA.org](http://www.BBA.org)) practises Tibetan Buddhism on Sunday and Monday at the Unitarian Church in College Station.

Unity Church of the Brazos Valley | 4016 Stillmeadow Drive, Bryan ... <http://www.unitybv.org/>

St. Andrews Episcopal Church <http://www.standrewsbcs.org>

Institute of Interfaith Dialogue- [collegestation@interfaithdialog.org](mailto:collegestation@interfaithdialog.org)

Brazos Locavores' mission is to connect local eaters with local producers in the Brazos Valley,  
<http://brazosgrows.org/brazos-locavores/>

Brazos Valley Farmer's Market - Saturday morning. Located on the corner of Texas Ave. and William J. Bryan Pkwy in Bryan, Across from the Brazos County Court House. <http://www.brazosvalleyfarmersmarket.com/locations/>

Students organic farm, open to everyone – Howdy! Farm at TAMU - [http://www.face-book.com/note.php?note\\_id=427169369603](http://www.face-book.com/note.php?note_id=427169369603)

Students' ecology seminars - [http://biodiversity.tamu.edu/ABS\\_seminar\\_videos.html](http://biodiversity.tamu.edu/ABS_seminar_videos.html)

## Other Web Sites

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=USQkUbmJ-RM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USQkUbmJ-RM)

The transition movement comes to the US.

<http://transitionculture.org/2011/07/07/resilient-to-what-a-fascinating-new-look-at-risk/>

<http://www.democracymatters.org/>

<http://www.celdf.org> Democracy School

<http://www.DemocracyNow.org/>

[www.thepeacealliance.org/](http://www.thepeacealliance.org/)

<http://www.upaya.org/>

[gps@populationinstitute.org](mailto:gps@populationinstitute.org)

Good news! If you have not heard yet, GPSO has worked hard to provide you a platform to “speak out” about the coming of the 7 billionth person (sometime between October 31st according to the UN Population Division and April 2012 according to the US Census Bureau). It's called Population 7 Billion: It's Time to Talk. PS: Did you notice that we have brought on Center for Biological Diversity and Post Carbon Institute as program partners? What a great combination of organizations – none of whom are afraid to “Speak Out”! Special thanks also to Population Media Center for technology and email help.



TheWildlifeCenter.org (near Santa Fe, NM) - <http://www.thewildlifecenter.org/> - get on the mailing list and enjoy the newsletter.

<http://www.PCI.org> - Post Carbon Institute - PostCarbonReader - my favorite resource for living sustainably

Spring Creek Project - [Http://springcreek.oregonstate.edu](http://springcreek.oregonstate.edu) The Blue River Declaration: Ethics for a Changing Planet - download the pdf and paste it on your wall.

Wonderful essays and podcasts on the subject of education - <http://www.ecoliteracy.org/>

Mind & Life Institute. For the very best current overview of our biological situation, covering biology and ethics, go to HH The Dalai Lama official web site <http://www.dalailama.org> and wander around through his prolific podcasts until you find the series of podcasts from the original Mind & Life Conference of 2011. Or you can find this through the web site of Mind & Life [www.mindandlife.org/](http://www.mindandlife.org/)

My eyes have turned inside out trying to create this issue of the Peach Clubhouse Newsletter, so I'm stopping now. If you find any errors please let me know. And FYI the PeachClubhouse.org is now undergoing some growing pains that will involve leasing (long-term, reasonable) a 13-acre property in a nice location of Bryan, TX, if someone wants to take good care of it and grow a sustainable farm on the property. The possibility also exists of renting, with room for horses, dogs, people. Contact [MLLamoreux@hotmail.com](mailto:MLLamoreux@hotmail.com)