Remember this National Monument started with... And ended with...



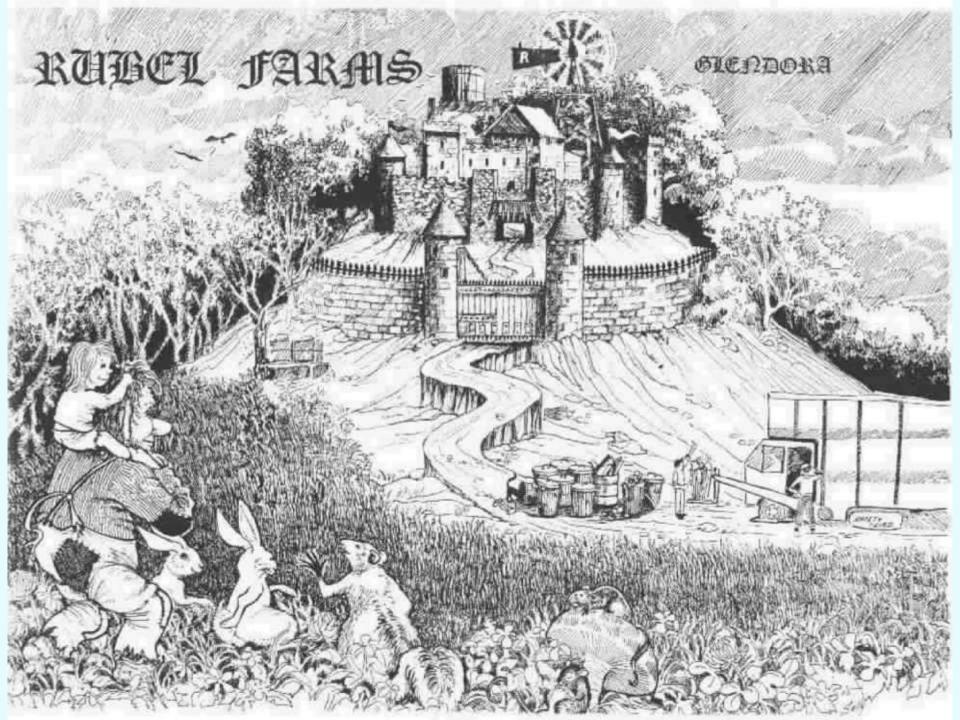


Rubelia's artist colony used art

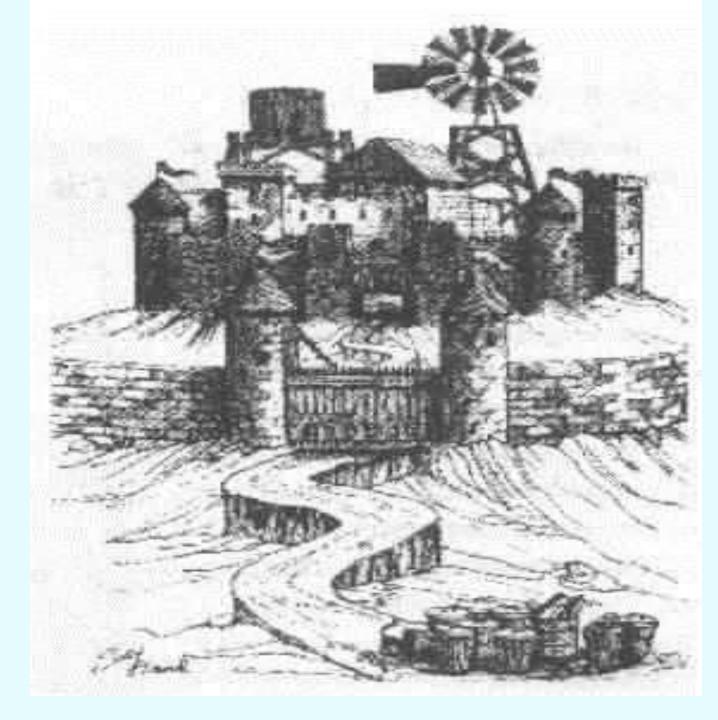
To propagandize and advertise when people wanted to shut the junkyard down in their nice neighborhood...

Is that a useful use of art?

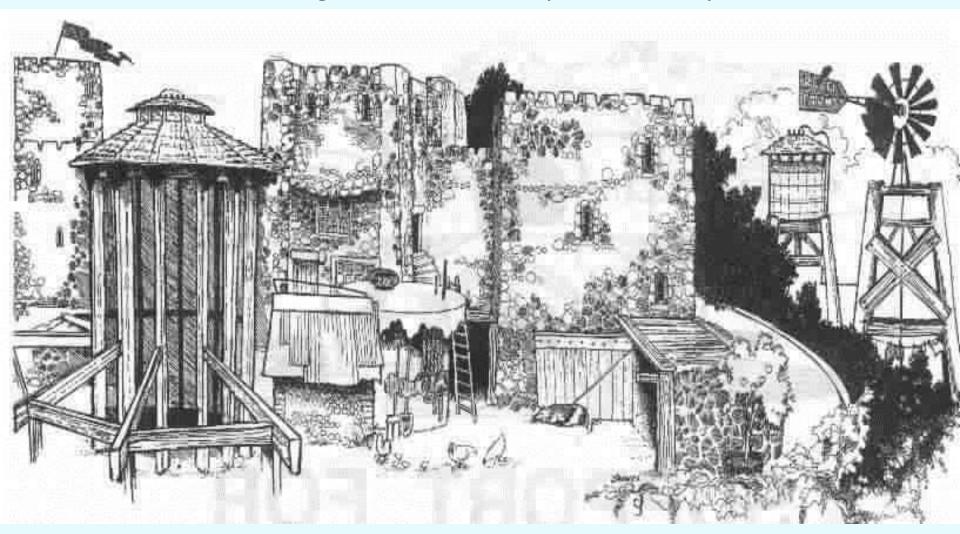
Or part of what art's about?

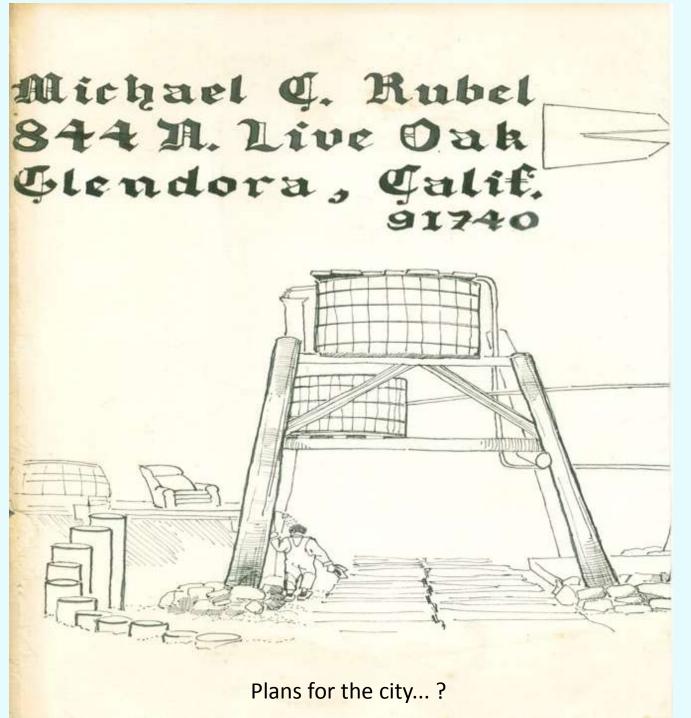


Would your city accept this as a design plan for what you were going to build with a junkyard in a nice suburb?



Would your Planning Department accept this tool shop & artists' work area design built with collapsed freeway lumber?

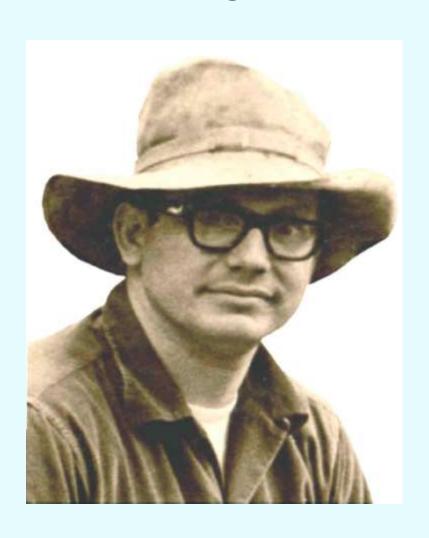




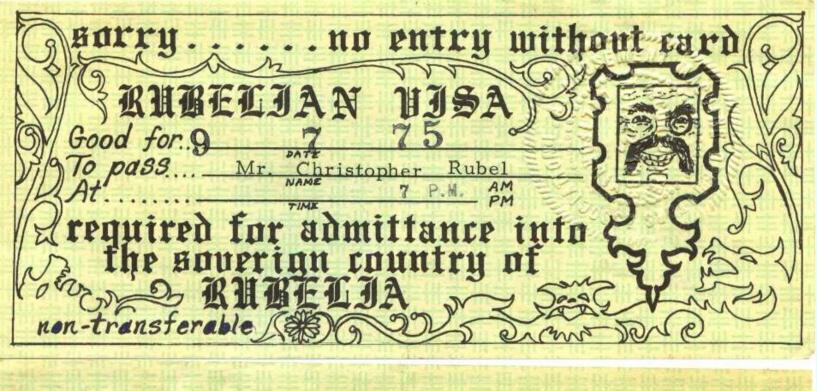
"You can't just build a windmill!" ranted the planner.
"Sure I can. This is farm land.

Farmers built them all the time..." said MCR.

How'd MCR and his strange art do it?.. By making friends and influencing people?



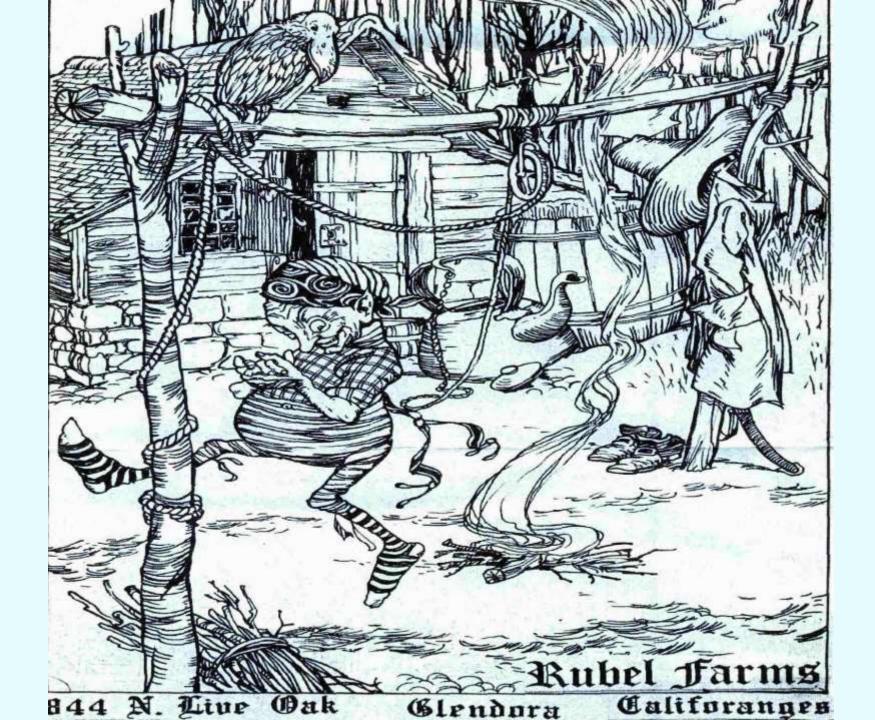
 Would you invite city planners, neighbors, and fellow diggers to parties with arty invites like the following?



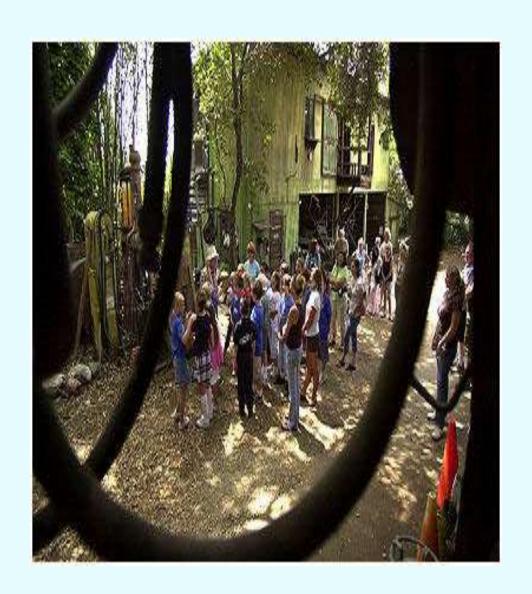


PRES





Would you produce scary art just to be *phunny* to most kids and even grown-ups?





Have Halloweens with witches flying between windmills and towers and scaring kids?







Third-grades from Cullen Elementary School take the first public tour of the Bubel Phurm and Castle in Glendora. The hiddric property is now being managed by the Elendora Historical Society.



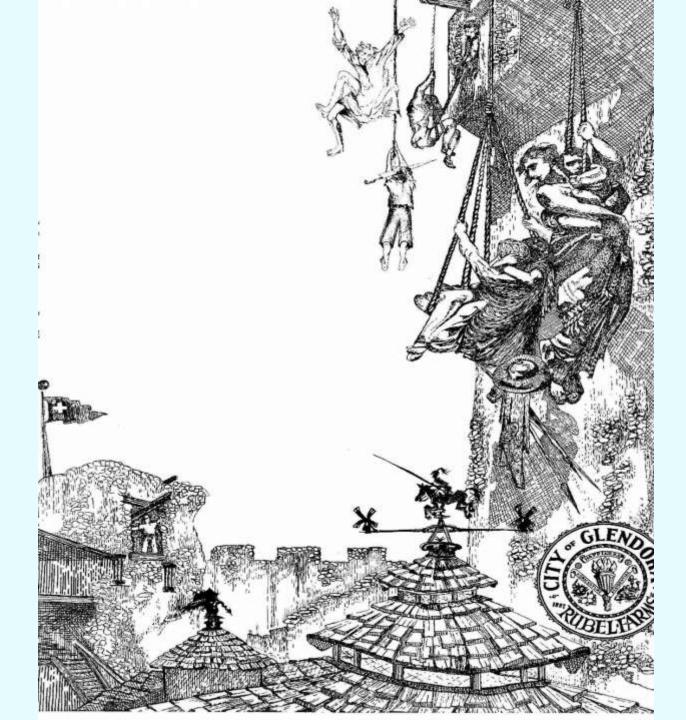
June 5, 2006, Photo by Sernardo Alps, San Gabriel Valley Tribune Staff Photographer





Bernardo Alps, San Gabriel Valley Tribune Staff

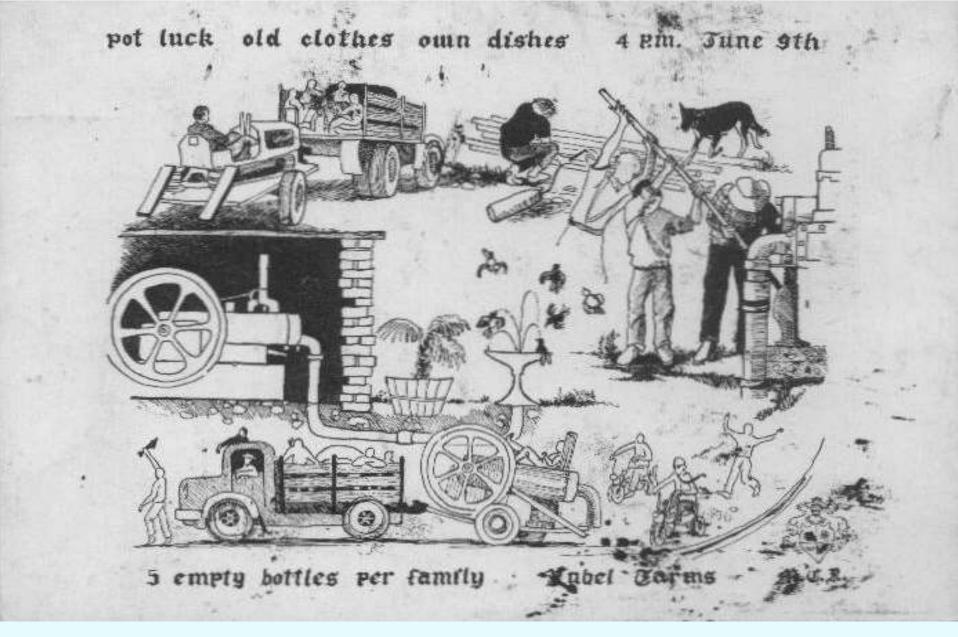
MCR always felt we were under siege... and prepared for it with canons, cutting walls, radar, etc...



Party invites...

- Would your invites to work parties promise plenty of food at each Quixotic project's completion?
- But demand strange PR requirements (Pre-Recycling), like bring building materials -- "5 empty bottles per family."



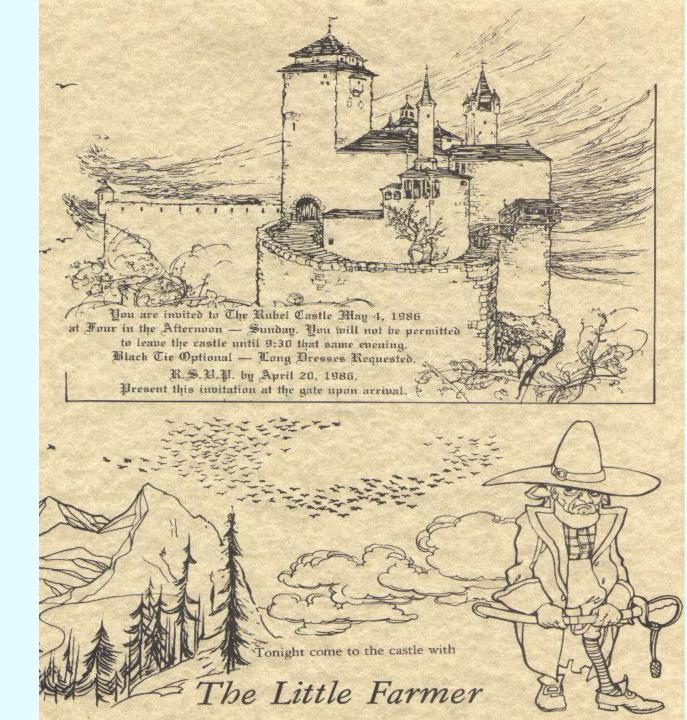


"5 empty bottles per family"

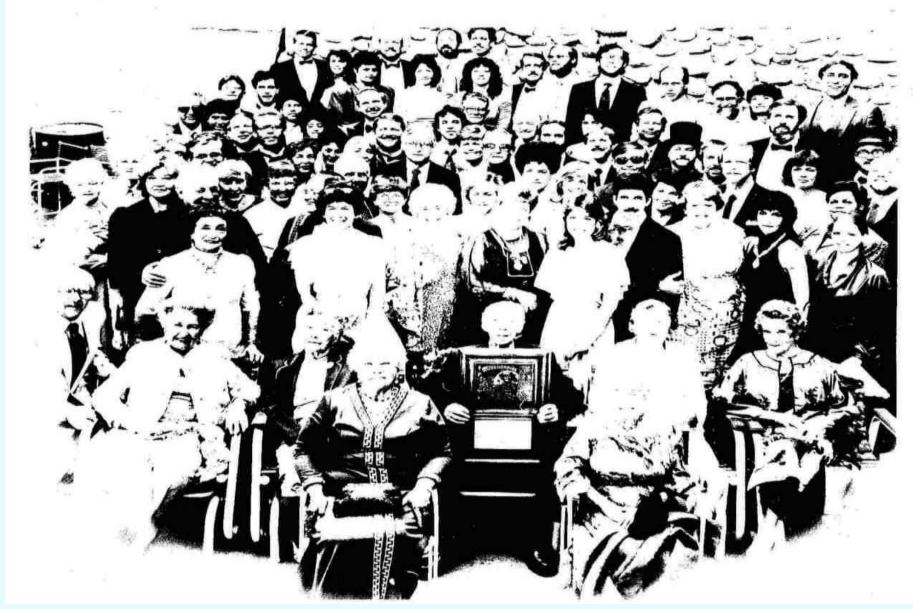


Always filling post project meals from cook whose life was spared by San Blas carnivores on one of his around the world trips.

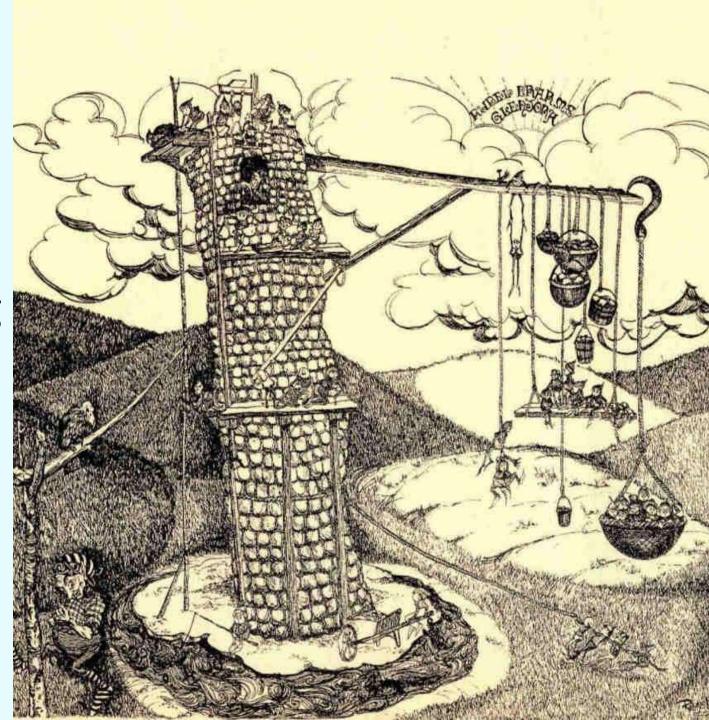
Black tie optional for 1986 party for special 86.



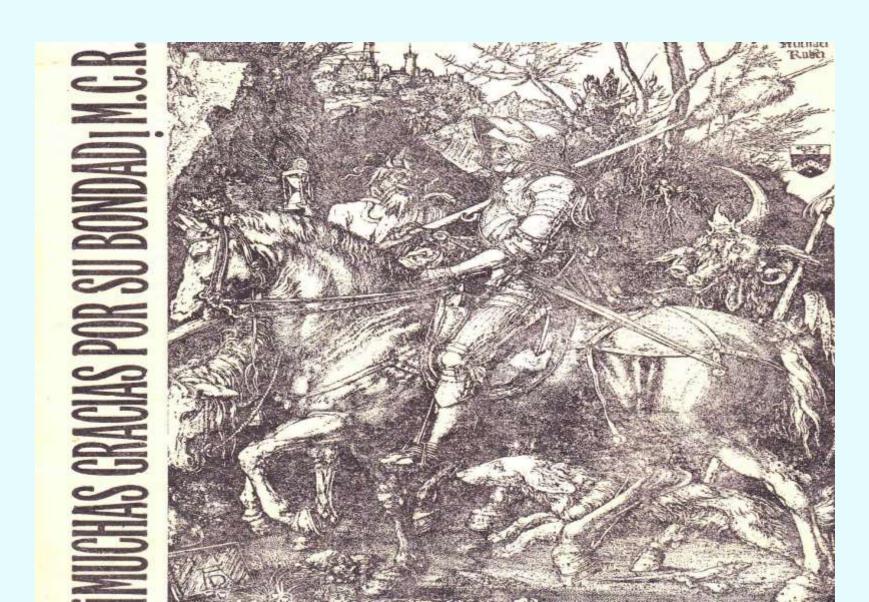
86 showed up...



OSHA loved our building techniques.



MCR was always thankful for the kindness of helpers.



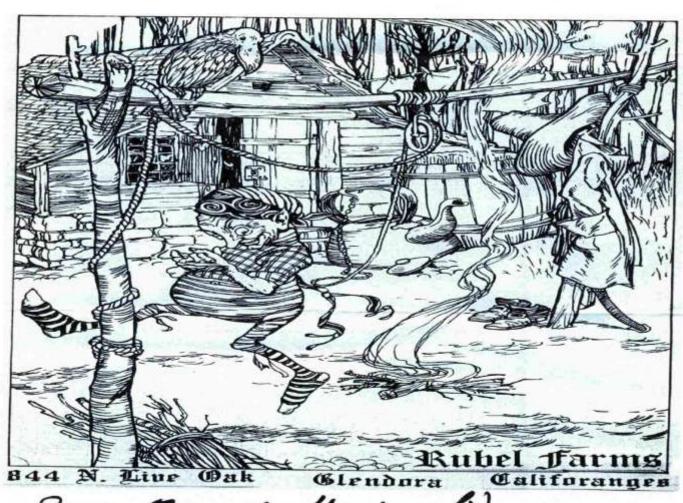
And always sent snail mail at special times like...



MERRY CHRISTMAS

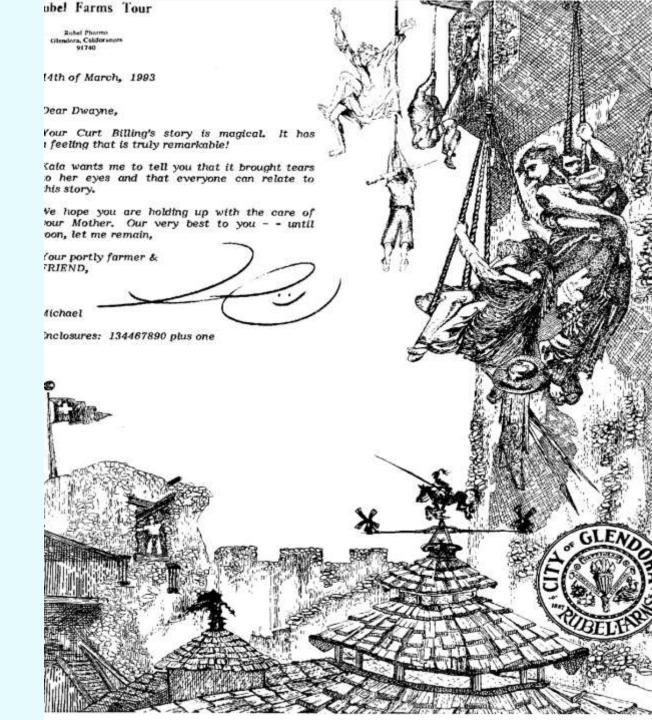
"BE WELL" "DO GOOD WORK" "AND KEEP IN TOUCH"

by GARRISON KEILLOR

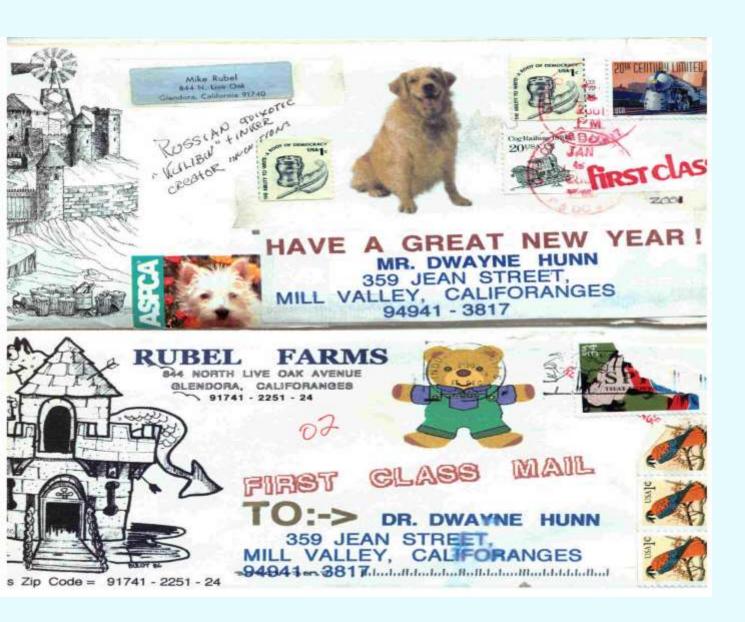


The & Kaia &

Often with grateful notes penned inside.

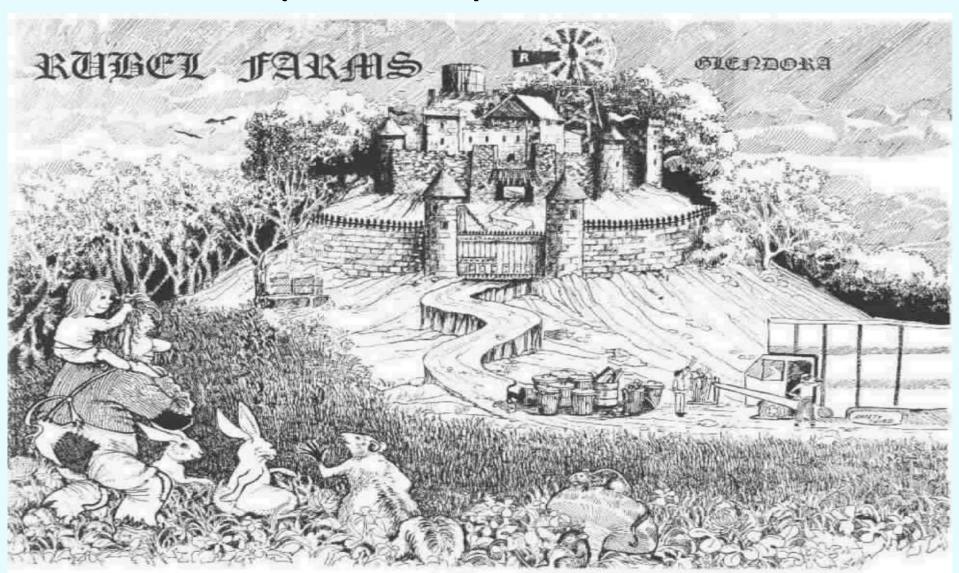


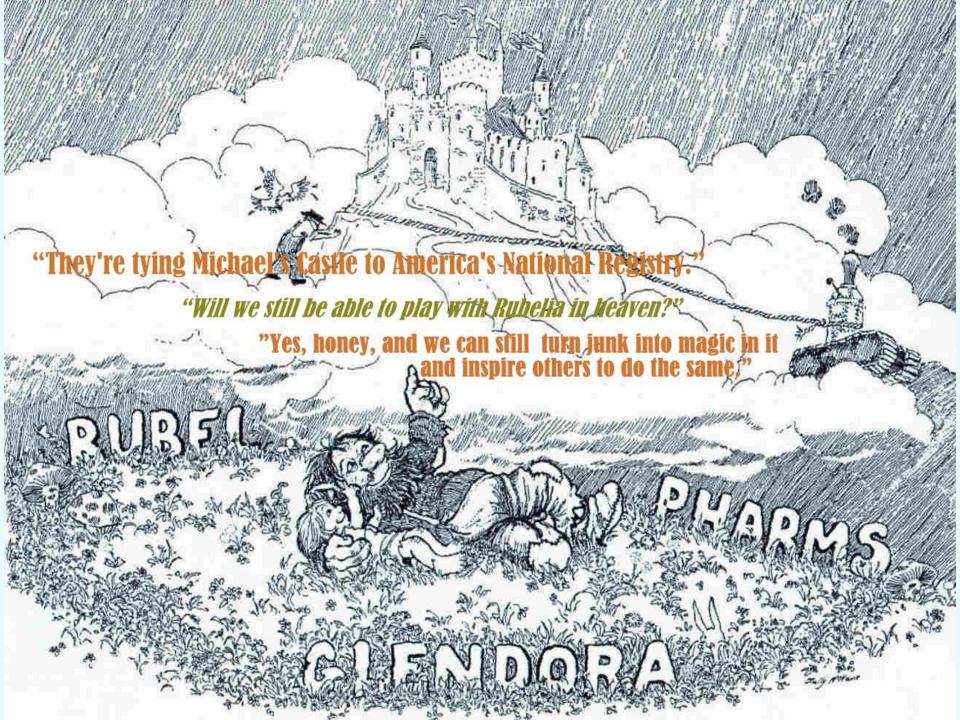
Whose envelopes looked like...



And had lots of 1 cent stamps circling them.

Did the phunny art & artists MCR inspired help make this?





Dirtied pharmers recycling bottles were not disqualified from becoming artists...



Pharmers to artists...

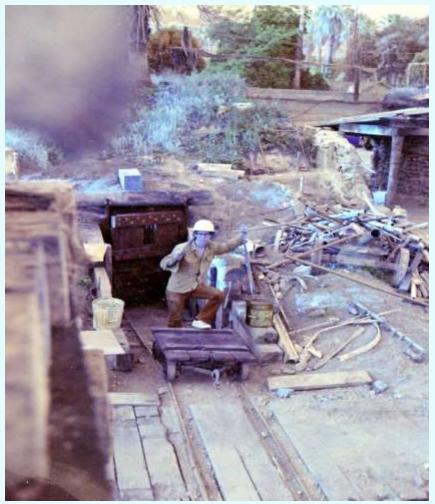
 And former *Pharm* diggers have taken what MCR & his Castle taught them to make their own artistry... Like classical music from a tunnel digger, Jim Kline. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uV7prN
 KvSM&feature=em-upload owner

• Notre bene (do they still say that at St. I.?), where Tunneler Jim started...

Noted European classical 11 string guitarist

Started here

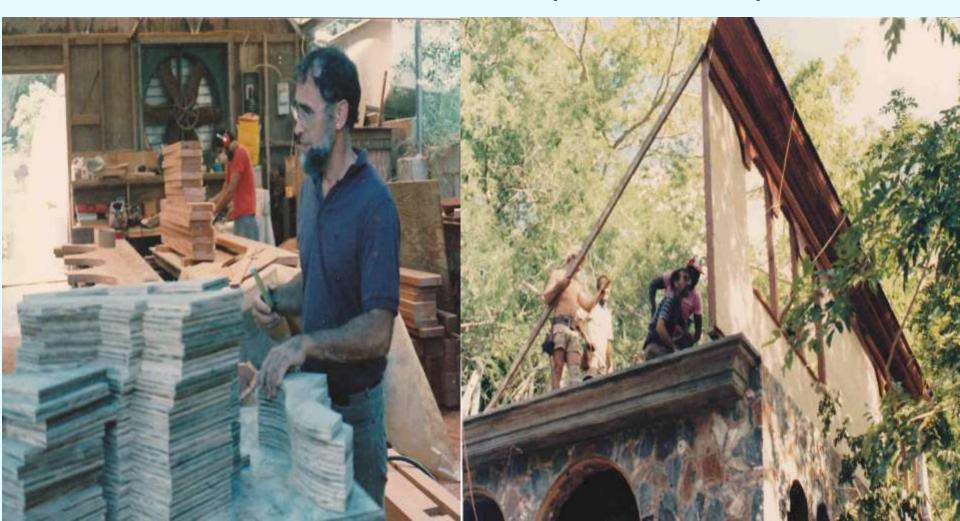






And Glen, MCR's Chief Designer of everything that looked good

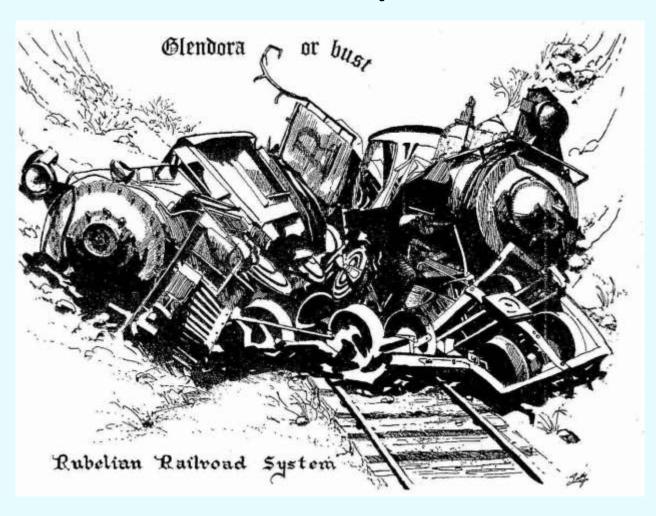
Who started as a stock boy at a variety store...



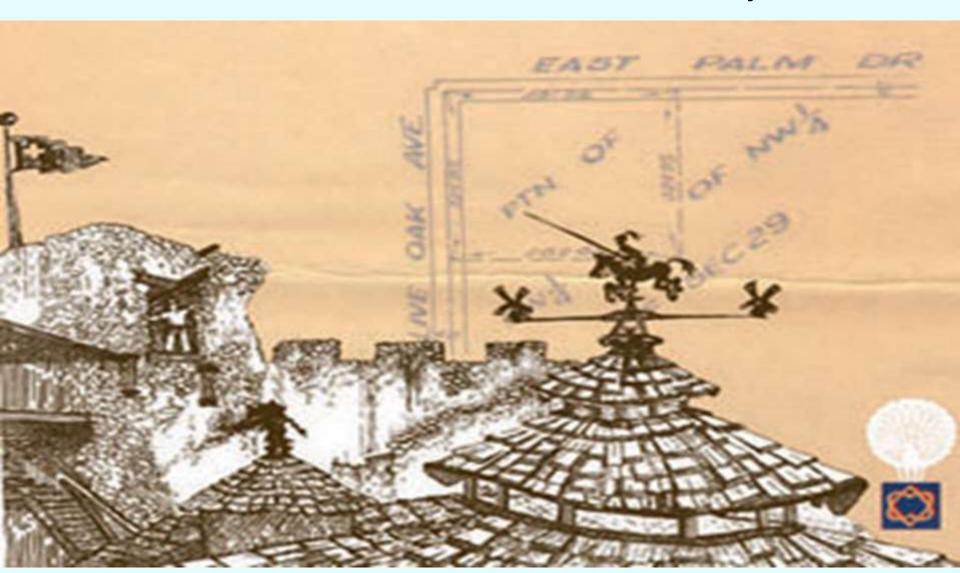
If your parents take you to the St. John, Virgin Islands, say hello to Pharmer and artist Glen at his island shopping gem.



Of course there were problems along the way...



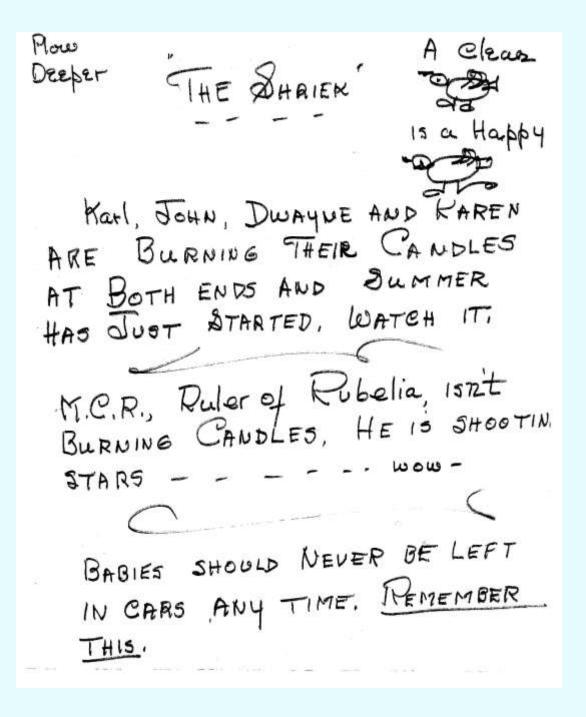
But "Persistence" and Don Quixote became Rubelian mainstays



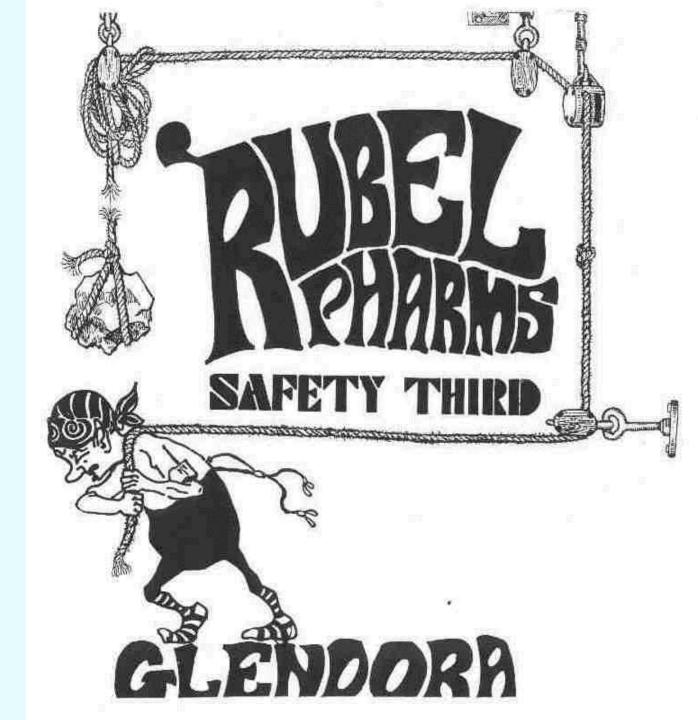
And good witches, like *shrieking* Mrs. Friezner, mostly smiled our way...



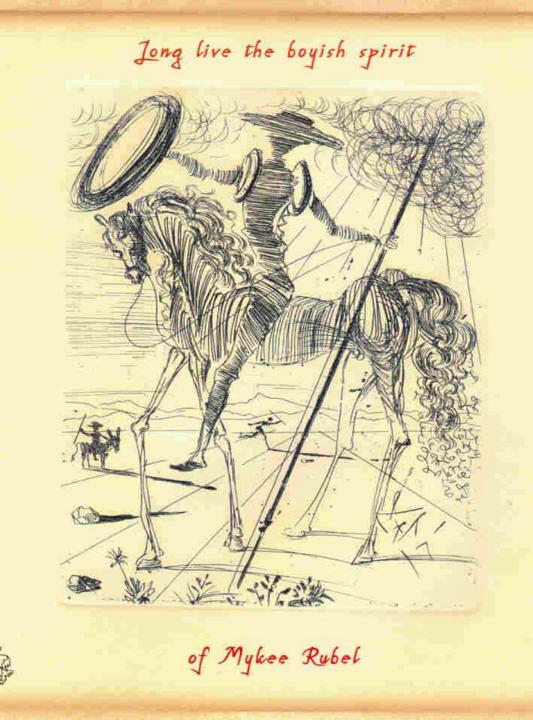
So with work shoes, persistence, old timers, and the press behind us...



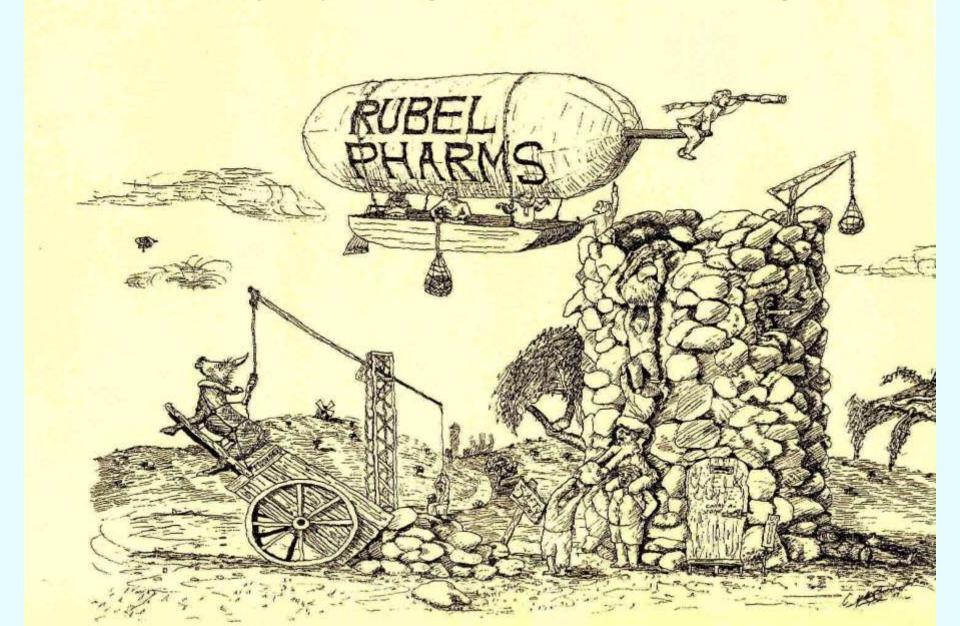
Rubelians abided by their;>) work rule..



And followed Don and Sancho... till more than windmills sprouted.



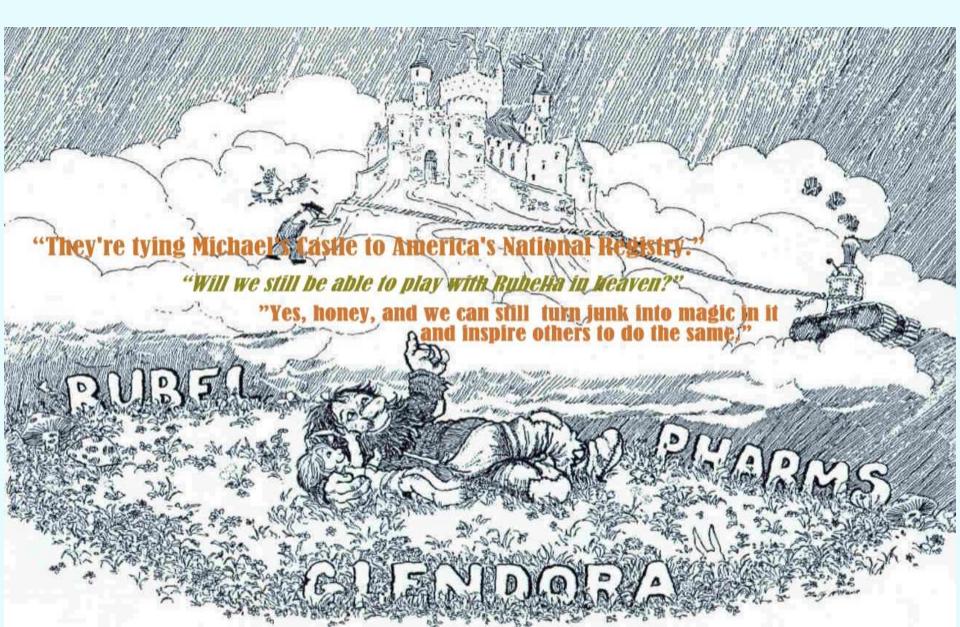
And kept piling 7 1/2 stories high...



So maybe few of us were surprised when children pushed grownups



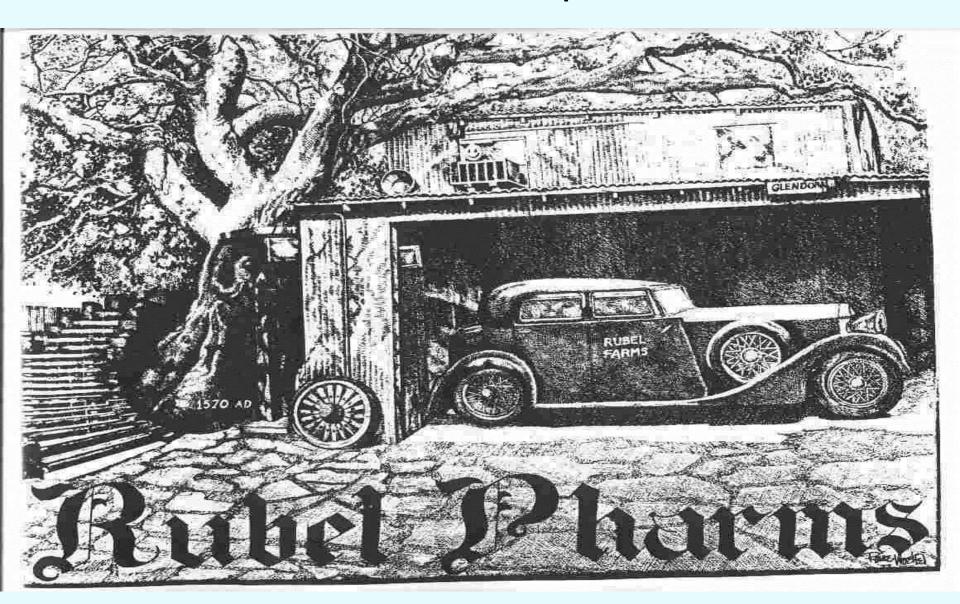
To make Rubelia a National Monument



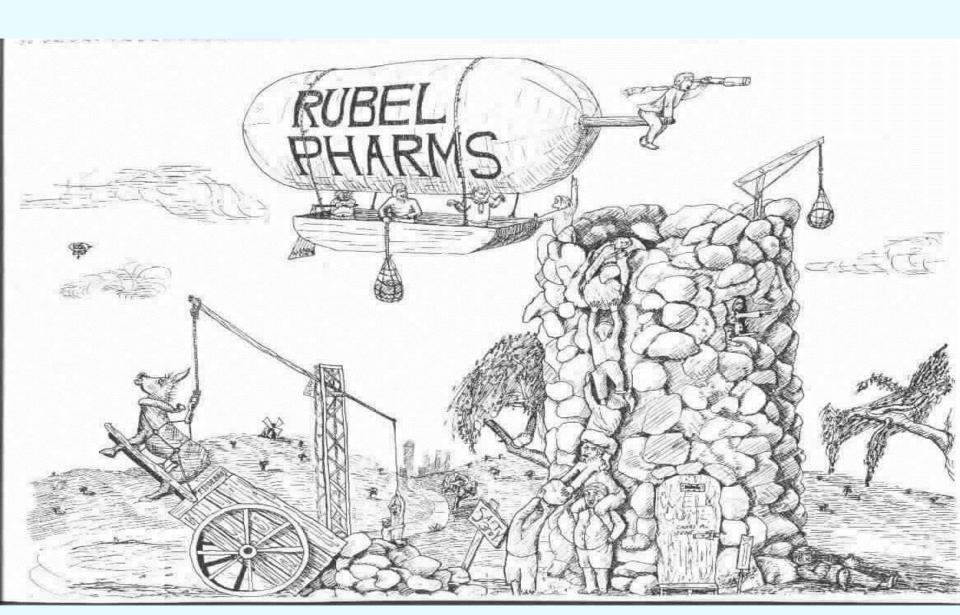
So if you get a chance to work hard and help build a Castle



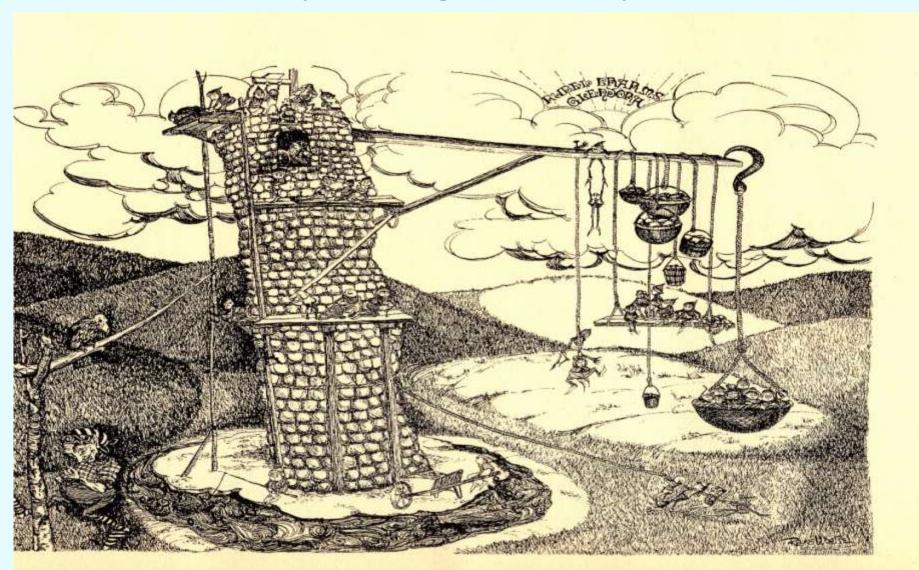
And maybe build and live in your own treehouse in the process...



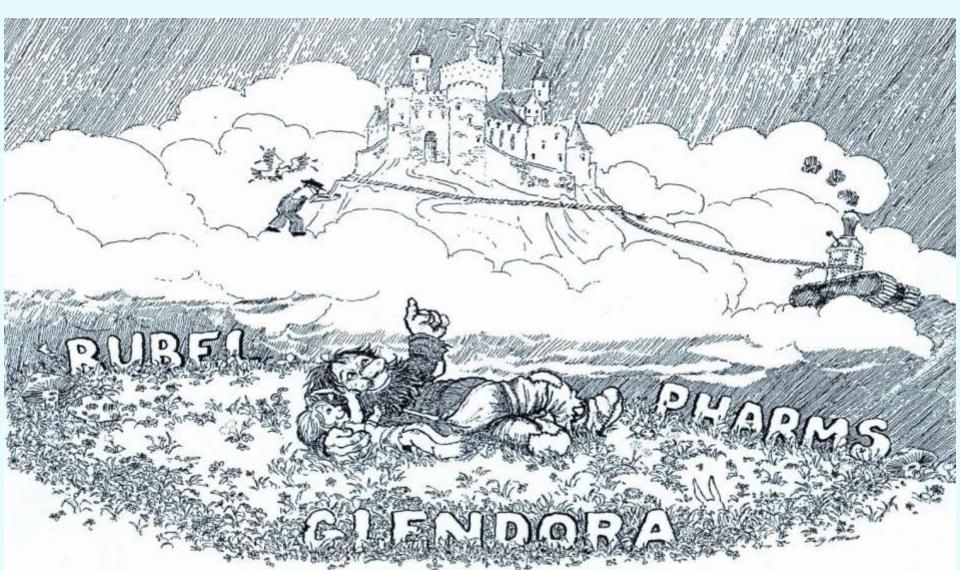
Think twice before you pass it by...



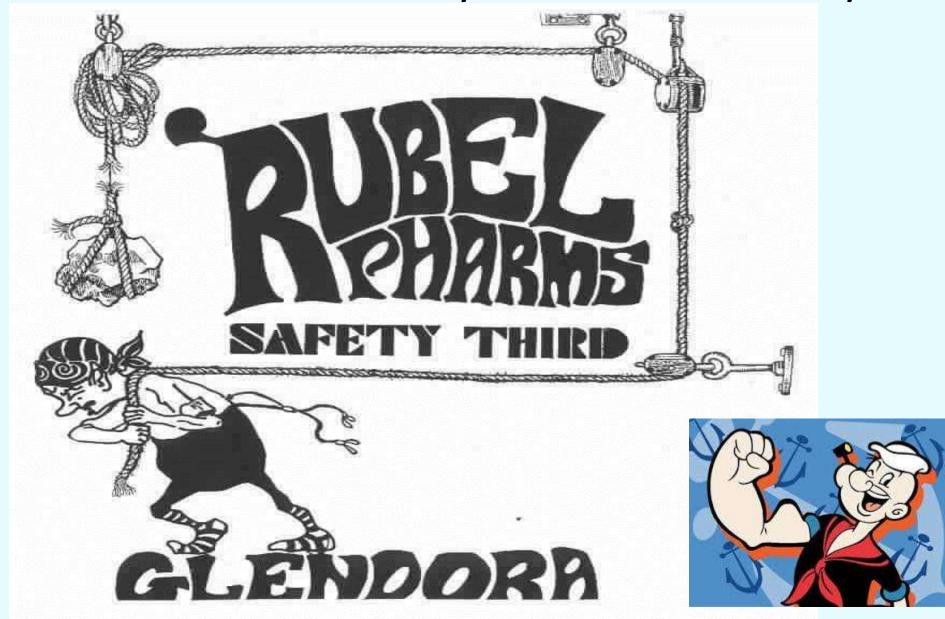
Because with special people even heavy lifting can be *phun*.



So be creative with your art... look for good people...and aim high.



Because sometimes you can lasso the sky.





And feel free to use MCR's copied words... "BE WELL"

"DO GOOD WORK"

"AND KEEP IN TOUCH"

GARRISON

KEILLOR

