

The Cell Is Waiting

I lived in Frankfurt, Germany for a while and shared an apartment with Bill Fogwell. Bill was my age and hailed from Long Beach, California. I had met him in Munich at the "Zoo", which is a local sidewalk café. The only animals were the patrons. Our apartment was at 42 Hochstrasse and was quite spacious. We would spend hours in the apartment trying to figure out ways to make money. We were going to start a company and get rich.

One idea was to manufacture personalized belt buckles. We came up with a great and original name for the company, "Buckle Up". We designed a logo and had letterhead all ready to go to the printers. That's as far as that idea went. Then we decided to import greeting cards from the U.S. and sell them to members of the U.S. military living in Europe. That one didn't even get to the logo stage. There were several other entrepreneurial brain waves but none of them went anywhere.

After a while I moved to Italy and rented an apartment in Tirrenia, close to Pisa. I heard that Bill had moved to Amsterdam. The next time I was in Amsterdam I looked for him but never did see Bill again.

Many years passed and then, recently, I put his name in Google to see if anything came up. Wow! Did things ever come up. Bill had been released on bail from prison in Monaco a few years ago. He was to appear back in court to be sentenced for fraud. Bill had finally come up with an idea that he actually put into practice. He had started an investment firm and allegedly bilked wealthy individuals out of 165 million dollars. He never did return to Monaco and the court sentenced him to 5 years in jail in absentia. The last I heard Bill was living in Minsk, Belarus. Next time I'm in the area I will look him up. He may not be as interested in my insurance career as I am in his.

Then I met the Pizza King. But that's another story....



Brad McInnes
YMASC President 1970 - 1971

