

PROPER HANDLING of OAVES

Over the years many postings on the IRTRAD list indicated clearly to me that too many good people were agonizing over proper session behavior. In an effort to help them free up their lives for other pursuits, Zouki helpfully presented a few tips for handling common session problems.

Note 1: After extensive research into Proto-Indo-European linguistics, the far-famed Zouki Cultural Labs has decided that "oaves", not "oafs", is the correct plural of "oaf". The sad fact that no other similar group has reached such a conclusion indicates once again how far ahead of the mediocrities the ZCL is in its research.

Note 2: these solutions are not mutually exclusive and can be utilized in combination as circumstances demand. Good luck!

% % %

Situation 1:

Oaf Musician Plays at Deadly Rate of Speed, Bores Thousands

Solutions:

- (a) Pass them a crudely-lettered note threatening death to their house pets unless they slows the hell down**
- (b) [For male oaf] Announce at the conclusion of his efforts that you just read somewhere that fast playing of music is a symptom of imminent impotence / testicular degeneration**
- (c) [For female oaf] Mention to someone else loud enough for the oaf to hear you that you don't personally know any woman who can play that fast without sweating**

PROPER HANDLING of OAVES

Situation 2:

Guitar Player With No Knowledge of Irish Music Decides He's Just What It Has Been Missing for the Past 600 Years

Solutions:

- (a) You "accidentally" drop a basket of hot drippy nachos all over his instrument, and pretend it was his fault**
- (b) You tell him that Django Reinhardt played twice as fast with half the fingers, and slide a penknife silently but meaningfully over in his direction**
- (c) You casually mention that in bardic Ireland, anyone playing a diminished or major-seventh chord on his clairseach was hung upside-down from an oak tree and fed nothing but laxatives for two days**
- (d) You ask him if he's familiar with the latest report from the American Medical Association linking DADGAD tuning to the increased likelihood of a shortened life span**

Situation 3:

Guy Comes In, Sits Down, Without a Break Plays 29 Tunes Unknown to You and Your Pals.

Solutions:

- (a) You thank him and tell him that next week's session will be held at (name of local S & M club or Hell's Angels hangout)**
- (b) You thank him and tell him that his technique indicates that he'd be a real whiz at playing good Irish music whenever he cared to try it**
- (c) You thank him and tell him not to worry - you too had trouble learning "The Boys of Blue Hill"**

PROPER HANDLING of OAVES

Situation 4:

Oaf Is Laughing and Making Rude Noises While You're Trying to Perform a Slow Air You've Been Working on for Two Months

Solutions:

- (a) tell him that you understand how tough it must be for someone who had been repeatedly abused when young by a baboon to sit quietly for ten minutes**
- (b) ask him politely if it was Moe, Larry, or Curly who had the greatest influence on his appreciation of the finer things of life**
- (c) thank him for the gift of his laughter and creativity, then sneak outside, find his car, and empty a six-pack of Coors Light into his gas tank**

=====

Zouki can almost guarantee success for the above, but naturally assumes no legal liability of any sort. Let me know how you make out!

- o o o -