

The Throne

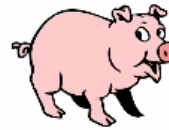
News and Services from Swem Library at The College of William & Mary • January 2011

Word for the Day: Swine

Swine are animals of the genus *Sus* or family *Suidae*. Our little lost reference pig belongs to the domesticated species *Sus scrofa* (*Oxford English Dictionary*, <http://dictionary.oed.com>). Even though there's no agriculture school at this university, students have access to over 250 titles about swine, the earliest published in 1614 (available through Swem's subscription to *Early English Books Online*). Such a shame that the name of these fine creatures has been used opprobriously throughout literary history to describe humans behaving badly! "Some of you chaps haven't no more manners than so many swines!"—H. Melville, *White Jacket*. Excuse me? Our little reference pig was very well mannered!

MISSING!

Swem Library's Reference Desk Pig -- our beloved mini mascot -- lost in the line of duty. Presumed alive but feared bacon. Any information about RDP's whereabouts can be sent to sweref@wm.edu.



OCT. 2010
[Artist's Rendition]



JAN. 2011
[Presumed Age and Fashion Progression]

REWARD!

Will be administered in candy and excellent reference service.

"Every time they make a joke, it's a law. And every time they make a law, it's a joke." -Will Rogers

In January Congress --and most legislatures-- reconvene in new sessions. In the spirit of the season, The Throne presents these legislative chuckles:



In Alabama, it is illegal to drive while blindfolded.
In Alabama, it is also illegal to wear a fake moustache that causes laughter in a church.
In Alaska, it is illegal to tether a dog to the roof of your car.
In Galesburg, IL, it is illegal to do "fancy riding" of bicycles.
In Topeka, KS, it is illegal to transport dead poultry along Kansas Avenue.
In Sag Harbor, NY, it is illegal to undress in your car.

In Dunn, NC, it is illegal to drive through a cemetery unless you are burying someone.

And, finally:

It is illegal to die in the Houses of Parliament. Why? Parliament is considered a royal palace, so a decedent would be entitled to a state funeral. For more laws from the mother country, take a look at Nigel Cawthorne's *Strange Laws of Old England*.

You Don't Look a Day Over 317!



Not all laws are silly or smell of the barnyard. Take the royal charter that established your future alma mater,

for instance. We're the first US institution to have one, which makes for some nice bragging rights. As we celebrate the Tribe's 317th birthday this year, you're in for a special treat. Stop by Special Collections Charter Day weekend and see the two oldest copies of the royal charter, rarely on display. One of them was found in an attic at Harvard and didn't make its way back home until the 1930s.

Do you have any suggestions for the editors of The Throne? Email us at throne@wm.edu

Printed by the William and Mary Copy Center www.wm.edu/copycenter