

COMEDY 101

Riffs from the class

By [KATHY JANICH](#)
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

KERMIT ROLISON, retired

His wife is such a swimmer, the grandkids call her "The Little Mermaid." They call him "The Flounder." On a recent trip, she wanted to take him snorkeling. His response: "My philosophy of life: I don't swim with my food. I don't swim with what I could be food for."

MARLA KEITH, self-employed

"I was married once before. Two of the happiest years of my life. I'm just glad the alimony was based on the full 20."

JAN DILLARD, self-employed

"Everyone tells you that networking is the way to get new business. Yeah, right. Networking is just people without jobs talking to other people without jobs about the stupid people with the jobs that they just left."

BOB McCROSKEY, supervisor at Motorola

"My kids call me a loser. I'm losing my memory. I'm losing my hearing. At least I'm not losing my hair. I keep that in a box underneath the sink."

PAM ALAYON, massage therapist

"My friends accuse me of being an overprotective mother. . . . My son, Xavier, likes to go to the mall. . . . So I dropped him off. No, I didn't follow him. That's what private detectives are for."

MILLIE HAYDEN, works with abused women and children

"What kind of people write on bathroom walls? What if Shakespeare wrote on bathroom walls? How'd you like to be the guy standing there in front of the urinal and reading ... 'much ado about nothing.' "

GENI WHITEHOUSE, accountant



BARRY WILLIAMS / Special

Of the 17 who started Jeff Justice's Comedy Workshoppe last fall, 14 made it to graduation. Front row (left to right): **Randal Daniel** and **Jeff Justice**. Second row: **Amy Fineman**, **Kathy Janich**, **Millie Hayden**, **Pam Alayon**, **Jan Dillard**, **Marla Keith** and **Bob McCroskey**. Back row: **Geni Whitehouse**, **Jack Warren**, **Kermit Rolison**, **Gail Tassel**, **Tim Yeager** and **Tim Pzdro**.

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" I like to think I'm a pretty cool mom. Matter of fact just yesterday my daughter said: 'Mom, can I get the new Eminem CD?' I said, 'Sure, go ahead. Get plain and peanut.' "

TIM PAZDRO, food manufacturing plant supervisor, who thinks about things

"Barbie dolls should have pubic hair. Otherwise what kind of message are we trying to send?"

GAIL TASSELL, ad/creative company CEO

"Anna Nicole Smith has a new doll out. Comes with batteries. Brains and self-respect sold separately."

AMY FINEMAN, fourth-grade teacher

"I'm worried. I think I may be a serial dater. I date a guy once ... and he's never seen again."

JACK WARREN, fledgling stand-up comedian

"I'm divorced. I'm looking for the new missus. I saw a '20/20' the other day, about women who are married to death row inmates. The Menendez brothers are married, I'm not. Figure that out. But this is the kind of woman I want to marry. Nothing I do is ever going to be that

bad. She could come home in tears and say, 'You slept with my best friend.' And I'd say: 'But no one died.' "

RANDAL DANIEL, UPS driver (who grew up the 12th of 13 children)

"We were so poor, we put Big Macs on layaway. . . . Daddy kept food on the table by feeding us things that we didn't like."

TIM YEAGER, wholesaler for wireless phones and replacement parts

On Petie, his best buddy, making a poor showing at his physical with a female doctor: " It's like a float in a parade. It's not there to score points, it's there to look good."

KATHY JANICH

"There is one thing in life I am passionate about. . . . Sleeping. If I could, I'd sleep for a living. The tough part is finding the right position. Think about it, if you worked while you slept and slept while you worked, you'd have the whole rest of the day to do whatever you wanted. Like take a nap. And, if you overslept, you wouldn't be late for work, you'd be making overtime."