

# SKIP TRACING

by Donna McCabe

Perhaps I can be of some help to the Clark Community and assist Professor Fox scout out God [see *The Scarlet*, April 1, 1996—ed.]

There are several options to consider when looking for a subject. As a former private investigator, let me offer some advice.

First, it helps to have a full name. Simply searching for "God" is risky, though we can expect to find less people named "God" than "John." As a former Catholic, and having gone to CCD with one whip-bearing Patt Dunn, my knowledge of things Christian is limited and tainted. Best advice on this one: obtain a last name.

Also important in locating any individual is a social security number. As the Professor doesn't have a last name, he probably he doesn't have the correct nine-digit identification SSAN either. This is tough

luck. But, there are other ways of obtaining the said SSAN.

Feel lucky that Clark is located in Massachusetts. If, and I know this is a big IF, God also happens to be from Massachusetts, there might be some record of a motor vehicle driving record. In Massachusetts,

**"If, and I know this is a big if, God happens to be from Massachusetts, then..."**

most people are lazy and just have their SSAN as their drivers license number. With a good pretext, you can gather this information right at the counter of the DMV.

Once the said license is obtained, you will find the social security number listed, as well as a date of birth and a last known address. These things are important in skip tracing.

Additionally, you can look to the "Restrictions"

category and see if God needs glasses or anything of that sort. While at the Registry, be sure to do a trace on DWI and suspension of license records.

With the newly obtained driver information one can then do a SSAN computer check by running the social through a series of databases. This might come up with some employment information and perhaps a more recent address. Be sure to take excellent notes during this entire procedure.

A trip to City Hall of the town listed on the driver's license will also reveal a plethora of information on your subject. In Massachusetts driver's pay excise tax on their vehicle every year. The tax is collected by the Assessor's Office. They have books that you can search through under the person's last name and discover what address their excise bill got sent to just one year ago.

Additionally, it will list the make, model, and plate number of each and every vehicle listed to the said owner. This will be helpful if surveillance becomes necessary. There will be a three digit code at the end of the entry. This is the subject's insurance company.

Call any insurance company (preferably your own) to learn what company uses that code. Call them and, with a good pretext, obtain information about their insured. They usually have employment, address, and telephone listed in their records. If you screw up the pretext, call back and speak with a different agent, but with a better story.

If these all fail, you might want to go to the Coles Directory of which you will find a copy in every public library. This is the criss-

# GOD:

## Modern techniques for finding the Almighty

cross phone listing, where you can look up an address and find who has a phone listed to that address and for how many years. Use the address that you obtained above for said purposes.

Another option is to obtain a telephone book for each and every community where your subject has had a previous residence. Or you can just call Directory Assistance in said town.

See if they have a listing anywhere in the town. Now, they won't give you an address if they do have a listing, but if you get the telephone number, hang up and call Directory Assistance back. Tell them the full name of your subject and some bogus address, like Main Street. They'll say "We don't have a God on Main Street, but there's

one on Florence, would you like that listing?" Say yes, and make sure the number is the same as the one you just received.

Make one final call to Directory Assistance and tell them you are looking for a

God at some made up number on Florence Street. They will tell you "I don't have one at that number Florence, but I do have a God at 44 Florence Street, would you like that number?"

Call said number under an appropriate pretext and ask to speak with God.

If these don't work, you might want to try doing an AltaVista search on "God" and see where said God has a homepage. Try reaching the subject via email using an anonymous server.

Best of luck in your skip tracing efforts.

**"I have a God at forty-four Florence Street..."**



**Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty founders (l. to r.) James Cochran, Gary Brown, Joe Duncan, Wallace Norrell Thomas, Daniel Siebert, Jesse Morrison**