

What's in a word? Decade's spirit

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So, we've closed out not only the year 2009, but an entire decade (put aside, for now, the mathematical hair-splitting).

A decade with no name, so far as we can tell.

The "aughts"? The "zeroes"? Nah, nothing that really stuck.

Which is not to say we were at a loss for words, during those trying 2000s — even if they sometimes left us speechless.

Chances are, you've Googled something, texted someone, or

Facebooked some photos in the last few days, hours, minutes.

Did you Botox for the big event? Or just lounge in your man cave, and DVR some more HDTV on your staycation?

We're letting fly all manner of new words that didn't exist in December 1999. Or, certainly weren't in common use around these parts.

A look at 10 years gone by is to marvel at unstoppable change,

but also to capture the zeitgeist. At The Columbian, we deal with words, so it seems natural to mark our march with a not-so-serious checklist.

In that span, we've gone from soccer moms to hockey moms.

From Jail Blazers to, well, Frail Blazers. From CDs to Wiis ... Princess Di to Wi-Fi.

Check our list of new words or phrases on **Page A6** and see if they don't provoke a memory — be it grin or grimace — that always will reside somewhere in the 2000s.

See our list
of words of
the decade.
Page A6

carbon footprint birther
blogging truthiness
enemy combatant Penguin Nation
metrosexual 9/11 chad apps facebook
Vantucky oogled hoodie hybrid
hanging IED- smart ipod
improvised explosive device
cyberbully staycation
cougar sexting texting
man cave crunk

Words of the 2000s*

Continued from Page A1

In our midst:

Rose Village
Vantucky
Penguin Nation
crime train
freak dancing
Discovery Corridor
WSUV freshman
Twiards
civil union
subprime
underwater
upside-down

Tech world:

blog
texting/sexting
tweeting
Googled
Facebook
BlackBerry
iPod/iPhone
apps
malware
YouTube
viral
podcast

Fear and loathing:

9/11
first responder
shoe bomber
WMD (weapons of mass destruction)
IED (improvised explosive device)
enhanced interrogation
extraordinary rendition
stop-loss
truthiness
hanging chad
birther
tea partier

New habits/obsessions:

locavore
farm share
community supported
agriculture
food porn

carbon footprint
LEED-certified
"green"
smart grid
man cave
bracketology
staycation
bucket list

Naughty or nice:

friended/unfriendd
oversharing
cyberbully
frenemy
bridezilla
groomonster
bromance/showmance
cougar
metrosexual
helicopter parent
wardrobe malfunction

Grab bag:

crunk
hoodie
muffin top
flash mob
camera phone
upskirt
big pharma
hot mess
mash-up
bloody sock
tuck rule
TSA

And not forgotten:

freedom fries
Islamofascist
Mission Accomplished
Ground Zero
SARS/H1N1
Millenials
dot-com bust
thrown under the bus
voted off the island
Bluetooth
wiki

* OK, if you're lost? Go ahead and Google it.

— compiled by Howard Buck

On the
Web
www.columbian.com



What did we miss? Comment on our list at www.columbian.com, e-mail suggestions to howard.buck@columbian.com, or call 360-735-4515.