KICKSHAWS

Dave Morice is featured in the December, 2009 issue of GAMES Magazine. His article (on pages 6-11) "Ultrapoems and Hypernovels" describes many of his poetic efforts using various literary constraints. Word Ways readers are strongly urged to pick up a copy of GAMES to remind themselves of the vast creativity of our Kickshaws editor.

Jeremiah Farrell

O THE LITTLE TINY KICKSHAW THAT MITHER SENT TAE ME

Doug Harris found the perfect opening poem for this column. It appears in Pipes o’ Pan at Zekesbury by James Whitcomb Riley. Can anyone find another poem with "kickshaw" or "kickshaws" in it?

O the little tiny kickshaw that Mither sent tae me,
‘Tis sweeter than the sugar-plum that reepens on the tree,
Wi’ denty flavorin’s o’ spice an’ musky rosemarie,
The little tiny kickshaw that Mither sent tae me.

‘Tis luscious wi’ the stalen tang o’ fruits frae ower the sea,
An’ e’en its fragrance gars we laugh wi’ langin’ lip an’ ee,
Till a’ its frazen sheen o’ white maun melten hinnie be—
Sae wee I luve the kickshaw that Mither sent tae me.

O I luve the tiny kickshaw, an’ I smack my lips wi’ glee,
Aye mickle do I love the taste o’ sic a luxourie,
But maist I luve the luvein’ han’s that could the giftie gie
O’ the little tiny kickshaw that Mither sent tae me.

LIFE OF A SCRABBLE PLAYER

Ed Gaines is one of the people who hang out at Uptown Bill’s, a coffee bar where I work. Uptown Bill’s is a crazy version of Cheers, a place where people with physical and mental handicaps can hang out, a place “where everybody knows your name.” Ed, 60 years old, has cerebral palsy. He is in a wheelchair and is almost deaf. In spite of his
problems, he is a happy man, and he charms the ladies. He is the best Scrabble player around. I play games with him often, and I’ve learned some things about strategy from him. He’s a master at using short words to score big points, and fellow Scrabblers call him “Dr Shortwords.” Recently Ed wrote this poem about his early life.

MIRACLE!

When I was a baby, the doctors at the hospital said to my parents,
   That I was going to be a no-brain child,
       Because of my brain damaged,
       It made my parents angry!

Then I went to the hospital school,
   First I walked without the crutches or canes,
       Then I talked and read people’s lips,
       I studied reading, ‘riting and ‘rithmetic!

Then I moved to the junior high school
   It had all one floor and regular students,

I chased the girls that had wonderful smiles
   The girls then went to the bathroom!

But I studied and wrote hard,
   And did my best as I could and made B’s and C’s
       Despite I didn’t hear the teacher very well.

I rode a three-wheeled bike to school every day from home!
   I went to the old high school for two years
       It had lots of steps that I almost fell down and ‘go boom’!

I studied harder and harder with the supports of my friends and family,
   When the new high school was built, it had steps and an elevator,
       I had a special key to go to the elevator,

I graduated and my parents never thought I could go all the way there!
   Then I went to the older junior college (just like the older high school),
       One year later they built a new junior college,

I finished my Business Major with Math Minor degrees!
   My wonderful parents and my two beautiful sisters never thought,
       That I could finish,

And proud of me that I did finish it,
   Wish these damned doctors here to see me alive who said I had no-brain,

   “Miracle!”

   I thought so.

ILL IRATE

A bunch of student bloopers are here below, in the list of stuff that will come in this Kickshaus. They’re buy a lot of freshmen students writing papers about a visitor’s visit to
my two beginning elements of writing classes that I teach at a community college. About 24 students all together. Bloopers like the ones Rich Lederer in print, printed. The visitor was named Milagros Quijada Stevens. She being my ex-wife made the students more curious. Since she was from Venezuela she compared her country to the united states, which is now her country to. Going into detale, she disgust the socialist dicttator and president Hugo Chavez; friend of Fidel Castro, and wow what problems he cause Venezuela!!!! A hole lot, and the students wrote about what she telled them. Milagros was a great speaker they loved her and didn’t like it that her country has such problems. u would two. One student said it was the best class day so far. Honestly I totally like the students, and no I don’t mean anything mean about them by printing theirs in Kickshows... but humor in my opinion is humorous and should be, otherwise why laugh? Everybody makes mistakes, say silly things, and so, go a head and laugh if it’s funny. Laugh at Chavez as you’d laugh at a piano falling on top of him. There was some real funny wins. Some of them brought tears to my eyes, really. As they were before when in their papers, the things below keep their exact wording, spelling, Capitalization, and punct, tuation. Here are my most favorites, and thanks to Milagros:

* I find it hard to believe that the people of Venezuela have free school systems, yet there are kids and adults there that are completely ill irate.

* Milagros graduated English classes but continued to take extra classes cause its pretty hard to lean a whole language in one year.

* Although the college education is free it is also very hard to make it into a collage in Venezuela because so many people want to go to college, anyone can go because the education is free and because it is free it gives the option to everyone so social class does not play a roll into who makes it into a collage to get education and doesn’t.

* The biggest difference between education is that you pick what you want to be before collage, and then you only prepare for that major, there are no minors so if a person changes their major halfway through they have to restart their education from the start.

* Without having big changes in the seasons the leaves are always on the trees because the trees don’t need to prepare for winter.

* You can also bribe your way out of traffic tickets in Venezuela where here if you try that they’ll tack on additional charges.

* Even if the people decide they don’t want him in office any longer Chavez has the power to control the outcome of the ballets.

* It made me feel actually kind of bad for the people who live there because I just cant believe that people cant even leave there cars when they go somewhere because people will take something if they wont it bad enough witch just blow my mind.

*
When the government offered a scholarship for her to study in another company, and pay for it all she jumped on that.
*
The patients have to bring their own stuff for surgery and if they are staying there they have to bring their own bed sheets, pretty much bull shit it sounded like.
*
If you're dying and really need an ambulance your pretty much screwed the way she maid it sound.
*
There are a lot of people who migrate from Colombia over to Venezuela She said but do not get Citation ship.
*
People pay income taxes like we they have to, have to filly once a year.
*
Chavez sounds like one sick bastard if you ask me.
*
Know Milagros lives in Des Moines, Iowa, and works as an architecture.
*
Education is free for people in Venezuela. It is known world wide, as a god educational system.
*
Venezuelans get 30 days of paid vacation, and three mounts maternity leave.
*
She said if you were giving birth there could be up to three other pregnant women in the same bed with you. I can’t even imagine not having privacy.
*
And a month and a half maturity leave would come in handy for women as well.
*
Parents need to walk to kids to the bus and wait for the doors to plug.
*
Any holiday that starts with “St.”, is a day off for them.
*
Some things I liked about Venezuela were the tourist’s attractions that the area possesses. The Andes Mountains, beautiful beaches, waterfalls, rainforests, scuba diving, hiking and driving through trees!
*
There is a couple places that are close to the Andy’s that is cold a will see a little snow.
*
The jails are packed because of the crime rate; they also have no capital punishment.
*
For every 25 people killed in the United States, a million people are killed in Venezuela.
*
Venezuela’s major religion is Catholic, so they do celebrate Christmas.
*
It is so sad that the government doesn't help out with the hospitals. The public hospitals are free but if you need surgery or any work done you have to bring your own supplies
with you. You would need to pick them up on your way to the hospital. I'm glad that the government supplies our hospital the tools the doctors need to fix Americans up. I could not imagine if I picked up the wrong tool at the store and they could not take out the cancer in me.

* 

Milagros said that Chavez’s child did not like how on the money that the guy’s head was facing backwards so Chavez changed the guy’s head to face forward. That tells you how crazy he is as a ruler.

* 

There are lots of things that are alike between Venezuela and the United States like; both have a government and schools.

* 

Having Milagros come in and talk to the class about Venezuela was vary interesting and in lightning.

SPAM-I-AM

Ray Love offers this poem “with an apology to Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss.”

I am Spam
Spam I am

That Spam-I-am!
That Spam-I-am!
I do not like
that Spam-I-am!

Would you like me here or there?
Would you like me anywhere?

Would you like me in your house?
Would you like me with your mouse?

I do not like you in my house.
I do not like you with my mouse.
I do not like you here or there.
I do not like you anywhere.
I do not like you
Spam-I-am!

Would you like me
on your screen?
Would you go to
sites obscene?

Would you like me
on your lap?
Would you listen
to my crap?

I do not like you
on my lap.
I will not listen
to your crap.
I do not like you
on my screen.
I will not go to
sites obscene.
I do not like you
Spam-I-am!

Would you like me
with a dish?
Would you like me
as a phish?

Would you like to
buy my pills?
Would you let me
cure your ills?

Not with your pills.
Not cure my ills.
Not with a dish.
Not as a phish.
I do not like you
Spam-I-am!

Would you like a
stock to pick?
Would you like a
bigger prick?
Would you like your bust increased?
Would you try my rub-on yeast?

I do not want my bust increased.
I will not try your rub-on yeast.
I do not want a stock to pick.
I do not want a bigger prick.

I do not like you Spam-I-am!
I think you are a scam and sham!

I do not like the schemes you've hatched.
I know they come with strings attached.

So stay away with your deceit.
I curse at you...
Then hit DELETE!

I do not like you Spam-I-am!

**TALE OF TWO TWINS**

Ray sent the following joke that he rescued from the Internet. You may want to read it twice.

A woman delivers a set of identical twins and decides to give them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal". The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan". Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."

**MEDSLANG**
"In the serious business of medicine,” Ove Michaelsen writes, “hospital personnel have learned to lessen their emotional wear and tear by creating humorous (and some not so humorous) coded terms. Some or many of these have probably been replaced over the years.” The list of medslang is quoted from the online blog “Those Wacky Bureaucrats” (March 4, 2009). Ove included a brief news article: "The Iowa House has approved a bill changing the name of the Department of Elder Affairs. If the legislation is signed by Gov. Chet Culver, the agency will be known as the Department of Aging, or DOA.” And now for the list:

bag lady: nurse assigned to take surgical specimens from the operating room to the pathology laboratory

boogy (see goober)

bury the hatchet: Accidentally leaving a surgical instrument inside a patient

crump (see gork)

fascinoma: fascinating tumor

F.L.K.: Funny-Looking Kid

F.L.P.: Parents of an F.L.K.

GOK: God only knows; referring to a puzzling set of symptoms

gerry: short for “geriatric”; an elderly person

GOMER: uncooperative or unpleasant (usually drunk) patient; acronym for Get Out Of My ER

Gone camping: in a coma

goober: tumor

gork: immobilized patient requiring intensive care, appearing oblivious to his/her surroundings

healthy goober: dead patient

hit and run: the act of operating quickly so as not to be late for the next surgery

marriageable monster: young female patient who has successfully undergone radical plastic surgery

microdeckia: micro = small; deck = deck of cards; the patient is playing with less than a
FROG LOAN

Ove received this joke “from a failed comic”:

So, a frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her name tag that her name is Patricia Wak.

"Miss Wak, I'd like to get a $30,000 loan to take a holiday."

Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's OK, he knows the bank manager.

Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral.

The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office.

She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow $30,000, and he wants to use this as collateral."

She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what in the world is this?"

The bank manager looks back at her and says...

"It's a knickknack Patty Wak, give the frog a loan - his old man's a Rolling Stone."

TRUTH IN A BILLBOARD

Danny Morice, my son, is taking a creative writing class at the U of I. On the first day of class, the teacher came in, gave a hard look at her students, and said in a stern voice, “If any of you don’t have a sense of humor, then you might as well leave right now.” That’s the spirit of teaching! She is one of the most creative of creative writing teachers that I’ve heard of. She encourages experimentation in language. Danny, 21, a junior in college, has written several works for her, and she has made it clear that he is her best student.

Milagros and I have told him that writing and drawing are usually low-pay careers. He is currently in the pre-med program. Inspired by a sign he saw on Highway 61, he wrote the following:

I was driving back from St Louis and in southern Iowa I saw a billboard that really intrigued me. It was a 20ft by 40ft sign that said in bold white letters on a black
background “JESUS”. I know Christianity is a typical American pastime, but what made the situation so bizarre was the billboard not 4ft below it. In identical font next to a greasy, half eaten burger, were the words, “BEEFY, CHEESY, GLORY”. When I think of Mr. Jesus I don’t particularly want to imagine the messiah as beefy or cheesy although it sure would be glorious. On that note, I conjured up a few advertisements with non-corresponding catch slogans from other companies in an attempt to bring out a beefy, cheesy, and glorious meaning to advertising.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advertisement</th>
<th>Company/Brand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Military Surplus</td>
<td><em>Where there’s a helpful smile in every aisle</em> Hy-Vee (supermarket)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Welcome to Texas</td>
<td><em>Now get rid of those pesky brown stains!</em> Oxy Clean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. White Castle</td>
<td><em>Feeling irregular?</em> Metameucil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints</td>
<td><em>Got Crabs?</em> Joe’s Crab Shack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Welcome to Canada</td>
<td><em>100% All Natural White Meat</em> McDonald’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship)</td>
<td><em>Are you in good hands?</em> Allstate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Rape Victims Anonymous Program</td>
<td><em>Kum and Go</em> Kum and Go (convenience store)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The Hilton Hotels</td>
<td><em>Where real men come to get wood!</em> The Lumberyard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. High School Musical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THINGS THAT SUCK ABOUT BEING A SERVER AT A RESTAURANT

Danny works part time at Aeoshe Asian Restaurant in Iowa City. Based on his experience, here is a list of things that suck.

Your boss is new after each table, and they’re probably an asshole.

Bad tippers.

Brown nosing for money.

Getting people that are really nice but are bad tippers.

Waiting on people that are mean but are good tippers.

10% is not a good tip, fuckstick.

APPLES OF WORDPLAY

Louis Phillips emailed several new items from his “Applesauce Chronicles.”

* Immanuel Kant
  Can't
  Abide cant.
  (to be cont.)

* An actual golfing headline, referring to the recent British Open:

WATSON'S BID IS SUNK BY CINK

* PHARMACEUTICAL NOTE ON A NOVEL BY TOLSTOI

Anna's sin
Cannot be cured by Anacin.
MEHITABEL’S GREATEST FEAR

An Archy?
Anarchy.

Louis Phillips

GERTRUDE STEIN DELIBERATES OVER
A DIFFICULT CHOICE

My Ties?
Or Mai ties?
After 2 Mai ties,
May ties
My ties.
My ties?
Mai ties?

ALPHABET STREET

In Enigmisticamaurius (4-11-99), blogger Marius Serra wrote a review of my book Alphabet Avenue (Chicago Review Press, 1997), in Castilian Spanish. I could read some of it in Spanish, but to really understand it, I used a translation program to convert it to English. The results were truly phenomenol. Here’s the review verbatim, as copied from Serra’s website:

The U.S. publishing industry has booked a space wide enough for books devoted to language games. Alongside the classic collections of the most popular methods (palindromes, anagrams, xarades “PUNS”...) occasionally appeared something new that draws ludolinguistic plankton. One of the most remarkable books which has appeared in recent years is “Alphabet Street” by Dave Morice (Chicago Review Press, 1997), easily trobable at macrollibreries virtual Internet. Morice s’empesca a “City of Word Games” with its main boulevards (Direction, Sound, alphabet) and a bunch of streets: Anagram Boulevard Pangrammatic Highway Viaduct Visual Word Square Palindrome Place Dictionary Drive ...

Apart from a plethora of examples provides some tasty touches Morice historiography often located in a recreational linguistics narrative. And not just because documented writers have used these devices to build works of interest, but because “Alphabet Street” also includes some stories that project the territory ludolinguistic literary tradition of fantasy. Stories of episodes that are germs of novels waiting to be fond of any n’infecti.
One of those stories that develops Morice is a tragic story of a seventeenth century French Pujon named Andre who died because of the words.

Morice tells that succumbed to the charms Pujon the onomancia and was dedicated in his name anagramitza compulsively, with results quite different, until one day he found that ten letters of Andre Pujon could make the phrase “Pendu a Rion, on the understanding that he considered equivalent as is usually done with Latin, J and I Pujon of Rion. This sentencios logo – “hanging in Riom, a village in the Auvergne, Occitan, Pujon persuaded that their destiny onomantic led him to the gallows. Video game addiction so that this language was moved in Riom (in French, Rion) and acted accordingly. That is, that killed one man and then gave justice to transform into the anagram true. Indeed confirms Morice, died Pujon hung in Riom. “No one ever greater love for puns,” riveted the American author.

The story has Pujon paragon other stories that explain more constructive onomanticamet professional vocations or spiritual in some historical figures, although characterized the tragic end. A bunch of years ago and yet the poet Jaume Subirana friend was recombined letters of my name in a striking phrase (“Nothing will rhyme”) in which I reaffirmed my absolute incompetence for writing such poetry. ¿Are you able to find any prophecy anagramatica your name has been confirmed? Send your “onogrames” explained enigmistica section of today and as you say in what.

PALINDROME TRANSDELETED

Darryl Francis discovered an interesting name: “LINDA ROME is a transdeletion of PALINDROME. But who is Linda Rome? She is a secretary listed in the directory of the email system where I work in Cumbria, England. I wonder if she’s aware of the significance of her name!”

MORE ABOUT SPOONER

Don Hauptman discusses Spooner, the man whose colorful slips of the tongue became known as spoonerisms:

“An article in the previous issue (August 2009, page 232) is titled ‘Bishop Spooner Goes on Holiday.’

William Archibald Spooner wasn’t a bishop. Although the Church of England does have that title, Spooner only got as far as priest. Academically, he served as dean and warden (principal or chief executive) of New College, Oxfod, an institution he was affiliated with for more than 60 years. He held a Doctor of Divinity degree, which entitled him to be addressed as Dr. Spooner.

most of the spoonerisms attributed to Spooner, although he did have other quirks and eccentricities.”

SPEAKING OF NAMES

Jeff Grant found an incredibly detailed obituary: “A recent death notice for an elderly lady in our local paper noted that the deceased was the sister of Cora, Edward, Maud, Ethel and Doris, mother of Robert, Michael, Susan, Kevin and Gayle, nana of Aaron, Amber, Rian, Kyle, Damon, Jamie, Sheree, Kelly, Mason, Norton, Jayden, Shelley, Eden, Rhianna and Meryn, and great nana of Liziannia, Shan, Aston, Kapri, Tahlia, Tianna, Corbyn, Tiara-Liege, Trei, Sharieff, Tyrell, Xaviyah, Ohnree, Shaydin, Shalom, Baylee, Karizmah and Flury. Makes you wonder what the next generation will come up with.

THE THESIS DEDICATION

The Iowa Writers Workshop requires that poetry workshop students turn in a book of poetry. Of course poetry is difficult to define. I had written thousands of poems during the two and a half years in the program, and I still didn’t have a single definition that covered everything. I’m eclectic when it comes to defining the arts. Since I had poems galore, I wasn’t at a loss for material. However, when I graduated, I thought about doing something that stood out from the crowd, something no one had ever done before, something that would represent the ultimate foundation of poetry. I’d heard that a student in the Stanford writing program turned in a thesis that consisted of 40 pages of 40x40 = 1600 periods (dots) each typed neatly in a square in the middle of the page. This struck me as being a little too dotty. My first idea for a thesis was to title the work Dedication. It would begin like this:


And two or three hundred pages later, it would end like this:


It would be dedicated to everyone listed in the Iowa City phonebook except for me. I wouldn’t dedicate a work to myself. Following the dedication, the text would be a blank page except for the page number “1” at the top right corner. Within seconds after coming up with the idea, I realized that it would be an excruciating job to type up all the names. The population of Iowa City was about 40,000. My intention was to give to the people of my town the ultimate poem, the blank page, the surface upon which all other poetry can appear by writing or typing the words. Instead, as discussed in the “Anagram Calendar” in the previous Word Ways, I wound up submitting a book of minimal poetry consisting
of 9 poems having a total of 81 words. It was much quicker to type. I still wish I’d been able to do the other work.

*Dedication* would’ve contained the longest dedication ever, but that would’ve been a wasteful, although avant-garde, way to have used my tuition. This situation can be condensed into a single long word: superonomasticlistingexpelledallthedoughsheesh.

**SINGLE-LETTER WORDS**

"In Spanish," Mike Morton writes, “all of { a, e, o, u, y } are words. (Maybe ‘i’, too, if you believe Google’s translator… not sure I do.) Do any languages have all six vowels as words? Do any languages have single-letter non-vowel words?”

**TYPOTOONS**

In the 1970s, Joyce Holland created a cartoon strip using typewriter symbols. Here are three of them. They are to be read going down the page.

```
\_\_ o<
//  ~  \_
```

THE EARY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM

THE EVIL SPIDER AND THE ROW OF CARDS

```bash
\_\_ o<
//  ~  __O__
```
THE GREAT MYSTERY OF HUMAN CRITTERS

I’ve noticed that part of the great mystery of Human Critters is that each generation thinks the previous generation was stupid and the next generation uncontrollable. So the younger generation rebels against us, just as we rebelled against our parents. Why is life like that? If you analyze the word GENERATION, the answer becomes crystal clear: The GENE of a RAT is what I rely ON.

GOOGOLPLEXITY

Jeff Grant replies to the palindromic triad that appeared in the last Kickshaws: “I was particularly interested in Steve Kahan’s piece (p184 'Count It In') on the three consecutive palindromic triads in GOOGOLPLEXES. Susan Thorpe limits AGAMEMNON words (AGAMEMNONS for short) to nine-letter terms e.g. MIMICISMS, MIMULUSES. She has found at least seventy of these, including many place-names. Some examples have hyphens and apostrophes (e.g. PUPA-CASES, A-YA-K'O-K'U -MU). See 'Word Ways' Feb 2004 (The World of Agamemnons).

If the concept is extended to three consecutive palindromic triads appearing in longer words (like GOOGOLPLEXES), no doubt there are quite a few, even with just dictionary words. For example, 'Chambers Dictionary' lists PARAENESIS, 'Webster's 2nd' has NONIMITATIVE and 'Dorland's Medical Dictionary' HYPOPOROSIS.

A friend of mine who is always agonizing over wordy problems has a perpetually bad stomach. His doctor says he is suffering from POLYHYPOPARACYCLOLOGOPTOTOXOSIS, a rare disorder containing ten consecutive palindromic triads.

A DIFFERENT TACK

“On a different tack I had a laugh when I came across this the other day,” Jeff says. “Apparently it's not new, but I hadn't heard it before…”

A woman walked into a bar and asked for a double entendre, so the barman gave her one.
ANTIGRAMS (WITH SOURCES)

Antigrams are anagrams whose two parts have opposite or contrasting meanings. Here is a large gathering that Ove provided. Those without the published sources are from *The Enigma* (1920-) or *The Eastern Enigma* (1898-1920).

Abominable - Bon, amiable --Yercas, Feb. 1928
Antagonist - not against --Arcanus, cited in Dec. 1898
The agriculturalists - are ill-taught rustics --Viking, Denver, "In the Realm of the Riddle," B & O Magazine, Aug. 1931
Adversaries - are advisers --Gi Gantic, June 1926
Alencon - Non-lace --Hoho, Dec. 1967
Algebra - A garble --Senor, Dec. 1979
Anarchists - Arch-saints --Pearson, 1907? or Yercas, Jan. 1931
A bandit - ain't bad --P.A. Bee, July 1928
Boasting - It's no gab --Viking, April 1931
Butchers - cut herbs --Sol, Jan. 1926
Buckingham Palace - Ach! a bum place, King --Su San, June 1929
A bundle - unbaled --Larry, Nov. 1952
Commendation - Aim to condemn --Ralph, Oct. 1953
Company Store - Compensatory --quoted in The Enigma, June 1925
Conglutinate - Can't glue it on --Jack O' Lantern, July 1927
" - Cannot glue it --Bebe, June 1932
Customers - Store scum --Neophyte, Feb. 1977
Defiant - Fainted --Pandora, "Complications," Jan. 27, 1895
Demoniacal - A docile man --Pygmalion (C. F. McCormick), Binghamton, NY, Golden Days, Oct. 2, 1886
Diplomacy - Mad policy --Sphinx, the Boston Sunday Herald, Oct. 1, 1893
Dormitories - Tidier rooms --Sally, Oct. 1989
Dynamited - A tidy mend --Castet, June 1952
Eglantine - Inelegant --St. Nicholas, Oct. 1875
Elections - No lies, etc. --The American Agriculturist, May 1860
Evangelists - Evil's agents --Hi Herr, June 1927
Female impersonator - Rip! See? Not a male form --Ulk, March 1991
Filled - Ill-fed --Enavlicni, May 1930
Handle with care - Hit hard, e'en claw! --Hart King, Aug. 1994

Henry Ward Beecher - We brand her cheery --Gemini
(This antigram was listed as a mutation in the April 10, 1887 issue of "Puzzle Calls." Adonis, the, editor of the column, wrote: "There is no apposite relation to the original, but rather an opposite one.")

A homesteader - He roamed east --Fred Domino, Jan. 1961
Home run hitter - I'm not Ruth here --Ab Struse, Aug. 1986
Honorees - No heroes --an original, July 1992
Indomidable - I'm in bed a lot --Castet, March 1929
Inroads - No raids --Viking, Oct. 1964
Lemon – Melon --Chin-Chin, "Our Puzzle Column," The Wash. (Sunday) Post, Dec. 9, 1883
Misfortune - It's more fun --Emeline (Mrs. Edward D. Peck), previously known as Emma Line, Fairbury, NE, B & O Magazine, July 1925
Nominate - I name not --Spud (Harland J. Murphy), Yazoo City, MS, B & O Magazine, March 1924
The parsonage - So pagan there --Hoho, Oct. 1960
Point(s) - No tip(s) --Jemand, May 1924
Prosperous - Poor purses --Osaple, March 1925
Roosevelt - vote loser --Author uncertain; it was originally, "Theo. Roosevelt - O the vote loser," quoted in The Enigma, July 1912
Somnolent - Not solemn --Gi Gantie, Dec. 1935
Sweltering heat - The winter gales --A. Chem, July 1967
Thomas A. Edison - Tom has no ideas --Wrong Font (Robert G. Evans), Holland, MI, E, Jan. 1930
Timberless - Trees, limbs --Larry, Nov. 1932
Tophet - The top --Castet, July 1934
Violent - Not evil --Spreggs, May 1951
The Volstead law - had all "wet" votes --Larry, Feb. 1927
United States - detests a unit --Primrose, "Mystic Argosy," June 21, 1902
Womanish - How man is --Hoho, April 1962

COLONOSCOPY HUMOR

This funny list was forwarded to me from Ove, who got it from someone else, who pointed out that "colonoscopies are no joke, but these statements during the exam were quite humorous. A physician claimed that the following are actual comments made by his patients (predominately male) while he was performing their colonoscopies."

"Take it easy, Doc. You're boldly going where no man has gone before."

"Find Amelia Earhart yet?"

"Can you hear me NOW?"

"You know, in Arkansas, we're now legally married."

"Hey Doc, let me know if you find my dignity."
~EVE UNDRESSED

(Each word begins with a vowel.)

Alone, evil isolates elemental universes.
Earlier, ominously, yesterday’s ectoplasm

Invoked yesteryear’s organism’s orgasm.
Iridescent apples intimidated Adam.

Eve intimately yearned and undressed
Until Adam asked, “Are you igniting

All of our illicit energies? I am
Everyman, Eve, imitating your uncle.”

“An asp?” Eve asked. “Uh, is an asp
Your uncle?” Adam asked. Eve inquired

About apples, adding urgently: “I ate
“Every orange around our yellow Eden!”

THE ZIG ZAG MAN

The Zig-Zag Man is an icon of the hippie era; his image appeared on cigarette papers. I wrote this poem, but I didn’t inhale. It’s a permutational poem. The words ending with AG slide down one line in each stanza. Continuing after the fourth stanza brings the poem around full circle to the first stanza. If the poem used all combinations of words ending with IG, AG, and AN, it would have 64 different stanzas.

The zig zag man
With the big bag pan
Felt the rig rag can
Hit the gig gag fan

The zig bag man
With the big rag pan
Felt the rig gag can
Hit the gig zag fan

The zig rag man
With the big gag pan
Felt the rig zag can
Hit the gig bag fan

The zig gag man
With the big zag pan
Felt the gig bag can
Hit the rig rag fan

EVERYTHING FELL BUT RAIN

(A word-doubling poem. The first line has one word. Each line after that has double the number of words in the previous line. The rhyme scheme is AABBCDDE. Adding six more lines and changing the rhyme scheme to make it a sonnet would result in a fourteenth line having 8,192 words. The complete sonnet would have 16,384 words, which is only about 1,200 words less than the number of words in Shakespeare’s entire sequence of 154 sonnets.)

Once

A dunce

Asked his dearest friend

What it would be like to always spend

Time standing in a rainstorm in which everything fell but rain. His friend replied, “Rain is

Wet and everything else is not, except for a few things.” And the world asked, “Like what?” And a few things answered, “Like coffee, which never falls from the sky. I heard coffee fizz

Across the landscape of dreams, covered with tea leaves like lilypads.” Frogs hopped across the water, landing on the tea pads. The lake wanted to deny everything it was accused of, but the sheriff sneered. “Water can’t speak,” he said. And the water said, “Sheriff, I represent the seven seas, the five oceans, and all the rivers, lakes, ponds, and creeks under the sun.”

The seven seas gave the sheriff a dirty look. The five oceans splashed him with small tsunamis, all the rivers flooded over him, and the lakes, ponds, and creeks drenched him beneath the trees, where leaves held drops of water like little cups of sunshine gleaming in the branches. The little cups of sunshine said, “Do you play golf?” A sudden silence embarrassed the sunshine cups, and they crept off in great dismay. Then great dismay said, “How could you all be so mean by not responding to the golf question, even though it was foolish and silly?” The golf question shrugged its shoulders, heaved a sigh, and replied, “Golf is a sport best played on golf courses, where woodpeckers build nests in trees whenever golfers make a hole-in-one.
FIVE FINAL ITEMS

Susan Thorpe sent the following five items:

THE DISAPPEARING DOUBLES

We don’t like doubled letters, so let’s get rid of them! Each of these words loses its doubled letter to form another good word. In some cases, the 2 words can be read as a phrase (*).

AA BAAING BING* ("We’re Poor Little Lambs Who have Lost Our Way, Baa Baa Baa...")
BB COBBLE COLE* CC OCCUR – OUR DD FIDDLE FILE*
EE FEELING – FLING FF MUFFLE MULE* GG BUGGY – BUY
HH KAHHT (caught)– KAT (shrub) I I GENII – GEN JJ HAJJI – HAI (hay)
KK DEKKO – DEO LL YELLS YES* MM COMMON COIN*
NN BONNY BOY* OO ALOOF ALF* PP APPLE ALE*
QQ SHEQQA (Egypt) – SHEA (a tree) RR MARRY MAY*
SS BOSSY BOY* TT BETTER BEER* UU CARDUUS (Latin ‘thistle’) – CARDS
VV NAVVY – NAY WW ROWWE (row) – ROE XX EXXON – EDN
YY SAYYID SAID* ZZ MUZZLE MULE*

SCRAMBLED CHARADES

A word or phrase is broken into blocks of letters which do not coincide with the whole words. The letters of each block are then scrambled to form another word, the whole making another phrase. Occasionally, the two have a connection (*) or run on from each other (...).

A single word:

DROWNED LEFT.OVERS 'NORS.EMAN' HOST.AGES...SHOT SAGE
WORD DEN FELT VERSO* RON'S NAME* GRAN.ARY...RANG RAY

Two words:

HE'S S.I.LLY NOEL'S T.EST AUNT ST.ICKS SURVIVED LION
SHE'S LILY STOLEN SET TAUNTS SICK VIRUS LIVED ON
FINE K.EEL LEASE RAN TRIF.LE DISH UNDERDO.NE MEAL
KNIFE LEE SALE NEAR* RIFT SHIELD ROUNDED MEN – ALE*

More than two words:

LOST NEW SHARE HOW S.A.D D.ENNIS BEST LASH ORE IS THIS ETH'S BET?
STOLEN WASHER SHOW DAD NINES STABLE HORSE THIS IS THE BEST

Finally, it seems that the DOD.DERY MAN is one of the ODD DRAYMEN.

THE ALPHABET – TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

The letters A – Z form the central letters of these 7-letter words. Then they vanish without trace, leaving 26 new words:

A CLEAVER – CLEVER B STABLER – STALER C QUACKED – QUACKED D BANANA – BANAN
E SCREAMS – SCRAMS F CRAFTED – CRATED G BODGING – BODING H CASHING – CASEING
I SAVOUR – SAVOUR J TROJANS – TROANS (truants) K PACKING – PACING
L GUILDER – GUIDER M PALMATE – PALATE N BONNIER – BONIER O DENOTED – DENTED
P STAPLER – STALER Q QUEUE QuIVER – QUEUE R BEARDED – BEADED
S SENSILE – SENILE T BUSTIER – BUSIER U CROUTON – CROTON (a plant genus)
V SOLVENT – SOLENT (a river in U.K.) W CLOWNED – CLONED X BRXTON – BRITON
Y COPYING – COPING Z BOOZING – BOOING (U.K.)
ALPHABETICAL NEIGHBOURS OUT!

Bigrams made of alphabetical neighbours are taboo here and must be ousted – as long as they leave another good word. A few of these word pairs make phrases (*).

Rapgon is in Uzbekistan, Raon in France, Daqran in Egypt, Daam in Namibia, Yavwi in C.A.R and Yai in Burma.

AB FABLED - FLED BC BOBCAT - BOAT CD MCDOUFF'S MUFFS* DE STUDENT STUNT*
EF BREEF BERT* FG OFGOING - DOING GH LIGHT LIT* HI PHIAL - PAL
IJ HJACK - HACK JK SJUK (sick) - SI KL WINGLE - WINE LM BALMY BAY*
MN SOLEMN - SOLE NO NOTED TED* OP PROPOSE PROSE* PQ RAPQON - RAON
QR DAQRAN - DAAN RS CURSE CUE* ST GUSTY - GUY TU MATURE MARE*
UV LOUVRE LOR* VW YAVWI - YAI WX YOWX (@ hiccup) - YO XY GALAXY GALA*
YZ FEYZO (Afghanistan) - FEU (Argentina)

SPUD.S PUD - A TAUTONYMIC TREAT?

Note: this item was written before I read Jim Puder's 'More Accidental Tautonyms' (WW2009174)

MADAM ADA likes to think of herself as a chef extraordinaire and as a double palindrome. I prefer to think of her as a tautonym: MADA.M ADA (you get the idea). As to her culinary skills, I reserve judgement. She started her business with SLOAN.'S LOAN, which SHOW.S HOW naive she is, Sloan being a crook, not a cook. These 2-word tautonymic phrases give some idea of what she gets up to and what is involved in her chosen career. She...

SPIKE.S PIKE SHAKE.S HAKE SPIN.S PIN (rolling) START.S TART STEAL.S TEAL
SPEAR.S PEAR SCORN.S CORN SHARE.S HARE SPOT.S POT (cooking) SPIE.S PIE

Did someone say that she SKIN.S KIN? Let us hope not!

AUN'T

SIR JEREMY MORSE
London, England

Said I 'I must have tea now, aunt';
  Said she 'You can't'.

She said the cakes she'd baked were burnt;
  I said they weren't.

Said I 'I think I'm going to faint';
  Said she 'You mayn't'.

Whenever anything's important
  Aunt says I oughtn't.