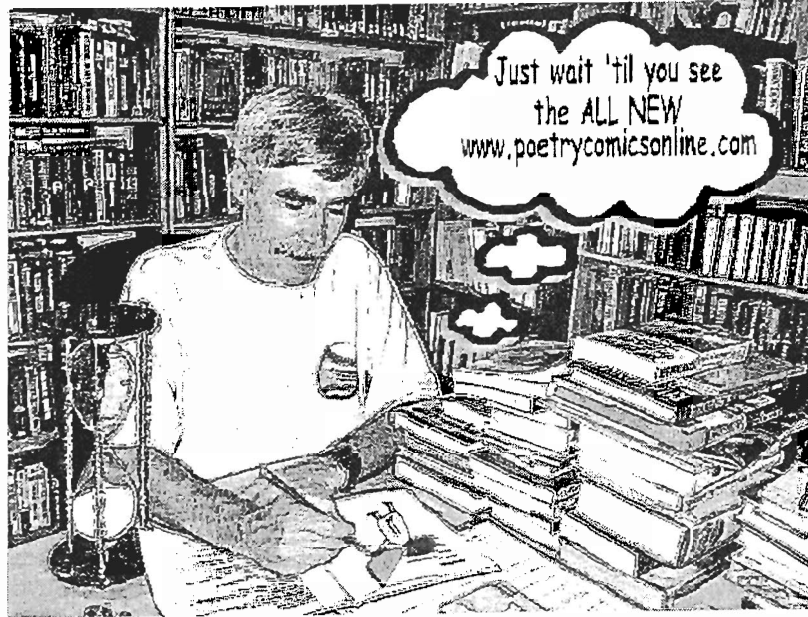


## COLLOQUY

Our prolific contributors continue to spread their talents. **AINL'S** new book *How to Double the Meaning of Life* has a further review in this issue. **STEVE KAHAN** has a new collection *You Can Take My Word For It: Another Sixty Adventures in Logology for The Connoisseur* which will be reviewed in the May issue. And **DAVE MORICE** has just informed us of the availability of his new poetry comics ventures. We will have more to say about this in May.



**ROSS ECKLER** was, once again, the first to send us a solution to Simon Nightingale's Christmas puzzle. "Happy Xmas" is the answer. "In his three previous cards, he used the word "happy" every time, and "Xmas" once. The number of Morse code symbols in H is 4, A is 2, etc, which exactly matches the number of pictures separated by octagonal stars: 42444 4223, a fact which seems beyond coincidental. But how to relate the pictures to the Morse code? Unfortunately, there is ambiguity in a number of the pictures, and at least one (to the right of the mace) I cannot identify at all! The first four pictures are hexagon, Santa, shamrock and skull, and the first Morse symbols for these words are dot-dot-dot-dot, which is the H in happy. Alas, dove and fish yield the first Morse symbols dash-dot, which is Morse N, but if one reverses the symbols, one obtains dot-dash, or Morse A. The next four symbols, flower, key, quill (but not feather or leaf) and present, yield first Morse symbols dot-dash-dash-dot, which is P, and these are followed by globe (but not earth), rolling pin, pencil and drum, yielding dash-dot-dot-dash which is X, but this can be reversed to P. For Y, hammer, grand piano, recorder (flute or fife?) yield dot-dash-dot-dot which is G, which reverses to Y. Rapier (or saber, sword or epee), tree, the number 7 and hot dog yield dot-dash-dash-dot, which is P, but this reverses to X."

**ROSS** was especially "charmed by Mike Keith's three articles, which use the power of the computer to substantially extend logological results. The 1782 riddle continues to attract much attention, but the answer is still open."

**ROSS** wrote to Darryl Francis regarding his Letters of the Presidents: “Yes, I never updated "Letters of the Presidents" (WW Nov 2004) to include Obama. So here's a thumbnail sketch for Colloquy: Obama is a friendly peripatetic lightweight. In one dimension, his average letter score is (32/5) which is equal to 6.4, less than any other president. In two dimensions, he shares at least a letter in common with all but three presidents (Tyler, Pierce, Kennedy), a smaller total of non-alliances than any other president with four different letters in his name (insert him to the left of Kennedy in the diagram on p 307). In three dimensions, his word worm extends from (0,0,0) to (3,4,2), a greater distance (the square root of 29) than any president than Cleveland (a distance of 6), Coolidge or Lincoln (the square root of 30). Curiously, he ends up in three-dimensional space closest to Reagan (3,3,2), the current darling of Republican conservatives!”

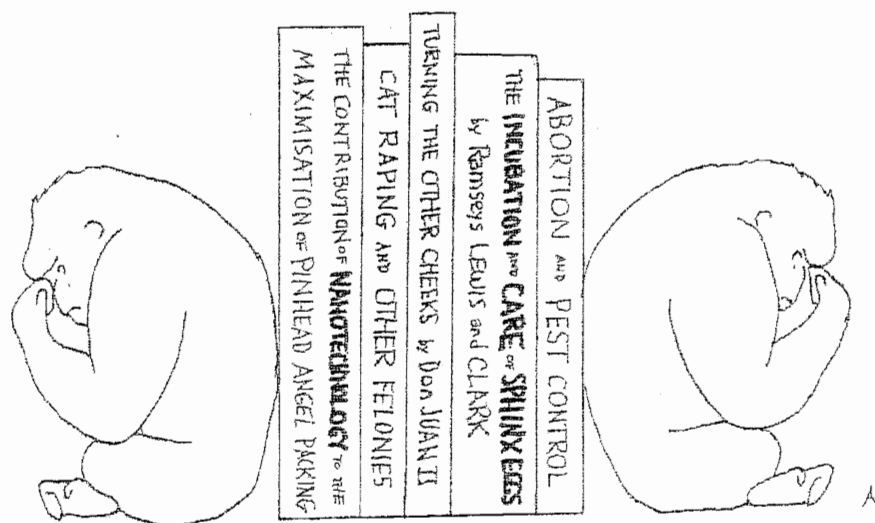
**JIM PUDER** wrote “In Ross Eckler's "Look Back!" article in the last issue on the topic of statename postal code chains, he mentions five two-link chains of geographically adjacent states: WI-IL, WV-VA, MI-IN, MN-ND and MD-DE. A sixth one is CA-AZ. Also, in addition to the one three-link chain of adjacent states he cites (MO-OK-KS), there is its slight variant CO-OK-KS. If the first and last letters of spelled-out statenames are considered instead of postal codes, one four-link chain of adjacent states may be found: IDAHO-OREGON-NEVADA-ARIZONA. In the chronological listing of American presidents, there is one three-link chain of adjacent surnames: HOOVER-ROOSEVELT-TRUMAN.”

**EDWARD WOLPOW** comments “Susan Thorpe (WW, 44:286) in the November 2011 issue hunted for unhyphenated words using only the 5 AEIOU vowel sounds. I suggest MICRONUCLEATE, NUCLEOSIDASE and NUCLEOTIDASE, all in Websters 3d New International.”

## HOW TO DOUBLE THE MEANING OF LIFE

ANIL  
Perth, Australia

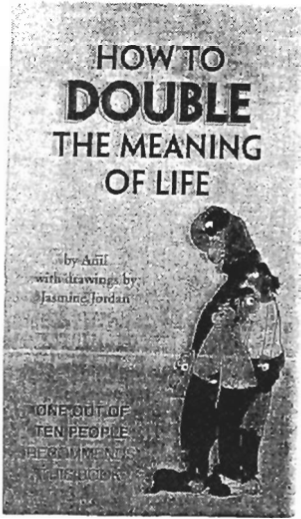
*An excerpt from Anil's new book.*



## *How to double the meaning of life* by Anil

Jeremiah Farrell  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Anil's latest book wonderfully exhibits his wry sense of word play in five sections called "Acts".



Feast on this twisted Word Play in Five Acts by a psycho linguist 'wordo' who offers you a corny-copia of off the wall humor, featuring cartoons, gags, puns and other word play. It's a fey mix of dumb to sophisticated silliness and provocative satire (environmental, political, social and religious) for thoughtful but twist-loving readers. The acts encompass different styles of word play, each with a special twist or formula, mostly organized dictionary-like within each chapter. Styles of humor include daffynitions, confusions say, newwords, sounds alike fun, spoonerisms, name droppings, anagrams, palindromes, word ladders, rebuses, book titles, light verse, neo-truisms, idiom abuse, half-asked questions, jokes and one-liners.

### HOW TO DOUBLE THE MEANING OF LIFE by Anil

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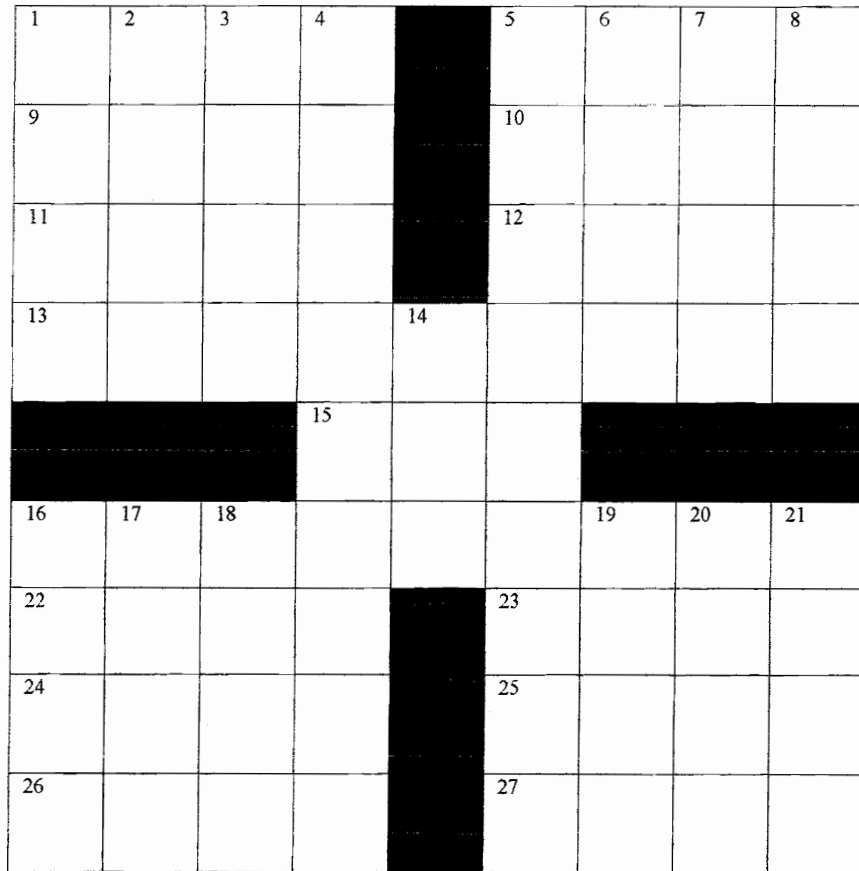
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WRITE YOUR OWN NOVELS

Anil is the assumed name of Chas. Melton, preacher turned biologist and serial killer (of words). Kentucky born, educated at Wake Forest (BS) and Johns Hopkins (PhD), held positions at Illinois (Microbiology), Pittsburgh (Biology) and Western Australia (Biochemistry), where he now resides. He retired early to pursue creative writing, spirituality and a more relaxed lifestyle and is especially wrapt in the artistic and humorous possibilities of word play, an early love. He has published a large collection of definitive, playful and literary anagrams, *up/dn*, and is a regular contributor to *Word Ways*, *Journal of Recreational Linguistics*.

The following crossword puzzle was inspired by Anil's book. Page numbers include other similar items from the book. On page 54 Anil refers to Jeremiah (51:63): "When thou has made an end of reading this book, . . . thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates."

But this Jeremiah (your editor) does recommend this book so now there are two out of eleven that do!



**ACROSS**

- 1 Comedian whose surname sounds like a deserving chorus girl
- 5 \_\_\_ Melton (A Word Ways contributor)
- 9 Word with history or hygiene
- 10 Lame companion?
- 11 \_\_\_ Gooseberry? Yes!
- 12 Tina is riled about it?
- 13 Dan'l Boone and Davy Crockett's favorite dish (p. 4)
- 15 Alternative to PB and J?
- 16 A feature of lemmings' cards (p. 18)
- 22 Dancer not on a sleigh
- 23 Adams lady
- 24 Woke a new film character?
- 25 Observed
- 26 In \_\_, opposite to in posse
- 27 \_\_\_ your old lady! (like Betsy Ross?)

**DOWN**

- 1 Nephew of David
- 2 Humorist who said "Never eat anything you can't pronounce." (p. 126)
- 3 Game that doesn't cheat the hunter out of a kill (p. 100)
- 4 Apartment-trained (p. 36)
- 5 Detective Charlie's pigtail possibly?
- 6 Prefix with made or maid
- 7 "Late" Adenauer?
- 8 Provoke
- 14 Former times
- 16 A double curve (my, my)
- 17 Promises
- 18 \_\_\_ B 4 eye (sometimes)
- 19 Nice fixe
- 20 Prefix for point or finder
- 21 Poetic contractions