

THE POET'S CORNER

*From time to time, **Word Ways** receives a variety of short poems related to recreational linguistics, some original, others previously published. As poetic output cannot be easily predicted, these will be presented on an irregular basis.*

Mike Morton's "Anagramming Spiro Agnew" in the August 1990 **Word Ways** inspired Jeff Grant to write the following poem (at left). This in turn inspired the editor to create an onanistic vignette (at right):

Spiro Agnew	Organ swipe,
Saw no gripe	Grasp in woe.
Groin a-spew	Sag? Now, ripe,
Organs wipe.	A penis grow!
In gas-power	Pawing Eros,
We rip a song	Power gains;
Grow a penis,	Sowing...reap!
A wise prong.	(O, grip wanes.)

Michael Helsem celebrates in poetry the gry-words discussed in the November 1989 and February 1990 issues of **Word Ways**:

Finding again my haggard heart fang-hungry
after a gram of psychotic pottingry
i wonder if i can mask with wonted rungr
grin like a choice Manhattan-fetching aggr.

Helmet i patch & this time, wrap the puggry;
questioning all, i'm yet of dreams the bowgry.
Where will i go? in public or in skugry
seek out a dragon-task not over-angry.

Truly we're hot to make the Double Ulgry
whether it's growth-enhancing, or in malgry:
let me forget that here i glister meagry...
Everyone's heaped like hares in a conygry!

So much have i tried to sundrily hide from vergry,
stodgeful's this box. Bring on the higry pigry.

It is clear that S. Vogel of Saint Louis, Missouri doesn't think much of English orthography:

Spelling is much cilia
Then it kneeds to bee.
Yew bet yore (**dzenitā·liā**)
Unphonetically.
Currant diction is the hair

Of along lost thyme.
 It has groan full of er-
 rors, versus that don't rime.
 Wurst of awl, it has bread
 Phalluses galore,
 Sew it finely must be said,
 Spelling is a boar.

In the February 1980 **Word Ways**, Fred Abrams generated 25 puns based on Poe's classic story, "The Cask of Amontillado". Here is a further bit of wordplay on the same subject by Walter Shedlofsky: an anachuttle featuring internal acrostics on AMONTILLADO and EDGAR ALLAN POE.

Tainted effusion angers. Fancied slights shriek 'neath mask: "Cure."
 Obscene delusion mocks. With mad fortitude repress sighs.

Anguish gruesome obsesses. Conceive strategem: cask tour.

Disdain abstruse notes deceit: "Fortunato, wine savor."
 Anxious raspings torment. Will unsensing friend surmise praise?
 Mephitic abysses invite coughs. Let no sign waver.
 Ordained langour lulls. Insane grotesque doom heart false veils.
 Nauseous landing looms. Coughs grow harsher. Hope in vault fails.

Insanity applies apt irons. Gasps of chained surprise maze.
 Laughter noxious derides screaming pleas. Seal in recess prize.
 Loathsome ending omens. Mortar and trowel complete task: "'Mure."

Anthony Sebastian presents two anagram poems entitled AMERICAN FORESTS and NEW YORKERS.

Firs on acres mate
 So I can farm trees.

Conifer as master.

Roam safer, insect:
 Flr cones are mats.

If acorns, trees, ma!

Can foster armies.

Wry. Ken eros.
 Know err? Yes.

Worn keyers.
 Ornerly, skew.
 Seek 'n worry.

Workers yen.
 On, wry ekers!
 (Or's "wry", "keen"?)