

COLLOQUY

Webster's Dictionary defines colloquy as mutual discourse. Readers are encouraged to submit additions, corrections, and comments about earlier articles appearing in Word Ways. Comments received at least six weeks prior to publication of an issue will appear in that issue.

In the August Kickshaws, Howard Richler showed how to go from ANT to MAN via a word ladder. In elementary biology, one learns that ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny (the development of the individual mimics the development of the species). Don Hauptman: "Richler may have proven that ontology recapitulates philology!"

KUKUKUKU is the only known four-way dictionary tautonym. Tichborne V. Lushington recently discovered TRATRATRATRA in the International Wildlife Encyclopedia (Marshall Cavendish, New York, 1970). This is the Madagascar native name for an extinct lemur described by E. de Flacourt in 1661; at present, local folklore has invested the tratratratra with ogre-like attributes.

Dmitri Borgmann's logological crystal ball was not always limpid. Eric Albert notes the following from the February 1973 *Word Ways*: "The obvious goal [is] to create a 9x9 word square consisting entirely of words and their derivatives all or almost all of which are either in the 2nd or in the 3rd editions of Webster's Unabridged ... [this goal is] not now realizable, and may never be realized, because they require reverse-alphabetical word lists that do not exist and which are probably never going to be compiled ... Unless the Federal government chooses to finance the compilation of the needed lists, the issue is a dead one." He could not foresee the advent of the personal computer, which not only could compile the reverse lists, but, more importantly, could systematically search all the possibilities for word squares!

Vernon MacLaren sent in a large collection of Afterberners (collective nouns which anagram the group involved, as a CLUSTER of CUTLERS), from which the following is excerpted:

Panels of planes	(a) Supine crop of porcupines
Clots of colts	(a) Stew of "Wets"
(a) Spread of drapes	(a) Shire of Heirs
Files of flies	(a) Rat-chest of Ratchets
(a) Feast of fates	Large lists of allergists
(a) Score of cores	Gobs of bogs
Tons of snot	Dribs of birds
(a) Stack of tacks	(a) Share of hares
(a) Nest of "Tens"	Rafts of frats

Tubs of "buts"	Streams of masters
Oceans of canoes	Horse-carts of orchestras
Crates of carets	(a) Rash of lambs
Circles of clerics	(a) Spate of tapes
Yards of drays	(a) Dearth of thread
Miles of limes	(a) Waste of sweat

His favorite anagram, though not an Afterburner is PRICES: CRIPES!
I like SHAMBLES: BLAH MESS and TOYOTAS: SAY "TOOT".

Darryl Francis notes that XVllll appears in eXuVlablllty (listed under exuviabile in Webster's 2nd), and XClll appears in eXCusa-blllty; however, both contain an extra L, invalidating them as far as Dave Morice is concerned.

Former Word Ways contributor Ralph Beaman sent in a clipping from the Oct 30 1991 Wall Street Journal with the following: "Long ago, Indians of the indigenous Sto:lo tribe believed [the Hatzic Rock, an 11-foot-high boulder 60 miles east of Vancouver] held the spirits of four chiefs who were turned to stone after asking their god Xa:ls for the gift of a written language." Two examples of words with internal colons in a single sentence!

Jay Ames follows up his August 1986 article with a set of Toronto surnames that are homonymous with the Scandinavian alphabet:

Shoo AH, Marvyn BAY (or Linda BEY), Obadia SAl (or Vansar SAY), Annie DAY (or Sam DEY), John AIE (or Joe AYE), Kwasi EFFEh, Gayle GAY, Lyndon HAWe, Ping Sook E, Yonni YEJ, John KAW (or Joe KAU), Dan ELL, Burton EMM, Marg ENN, Byrne O, Chuck PAY, Wood Yoon KOO (or Lysander KU), John Peter AlR (or Haimish AYR, or Ann AYRE), A.M. ESSE, Tam Tuan TEE, John L. OO, Foo VAY (or Fraser VEY), Myron ECKs (or Nathan EKS), and Eddie SETT

And he unearthed several earthy additions to Helsem's odd names in the February 1991 Kickshaws: R. Soules (A.R. Soles), Harry Butts (Harry Butz), Jack Arff (Jack Orff). He's also seen Tai Wan On.

Harry Partridge footnotes the August note on the International Palindrome Club: "I had more to do with Semagames than either Mr. Helsem or Mr. Grant ... not only did I coin the name, but I have contributed many palindromes, including an exceedingly elegant Latin one (SAECLUM SERENO, EN, SI VIVI VIS, NE ONERES, MULCEAS), and translations from Russian and Spanish, a Wombat-like article in Spanish with some beautiful topical Castilian palindromes, etc."

Darryl Francis was so intrigued by "Einschwein's Magic Numbers" that he made up two sets of cards for his daughters, suitably trained them when to turn up an N as a 6 or a 9, and sent them off to impress their school friends (all were amazed).

Mary Craig suggests the subtitle "Shoot the Bustard!" for her quiz.

Don Hauptman suggests a phonetic Colonel to Dave Morice: "If the TV actress (former star of "Good Times" were commissioned as an army nutritionist, she would be Col. Esther Rolle."

Trying out the palindromic construction techniques elucidated in the May 1991 **Word Ways**, Christopher McManus came up with TARS YAW, DROWN WORD WAYS RATS which, with further amplification, became TARS YELL AS BOB AND NO MAIDEN IN SEX OF NET STARS YAW, DROWN WORD WAYS RATS, TEN FOXES, NINE DIAMOND NABOBS, ALLEYS RAT.

Jeff Grant's article in this issue presents (in passing) a double word square incorporating the words WORD and WAYS. There appear to be only three word squares consisting entirely of boldface words from Webster's Pocket Dictionary:

W O R D	W O R D	W O R D	The lower right corner of
A L E E	A L O E	A L O E	Square 1 can be replaced
Y E A N	Y E A N	Y E L L	with NS or DS; of Square 2,
S O R T	S O R T	S O L E	with DS, PS or LS.

John Henrick: "The Year of the Palindrome was delightful as celebrated in **Word Ways**. I had hoped to send in something ... one idea was a list of what is out and what is in" as, for example, plane (level), Adam (Eve), PanAm (SAS), pimp (madam), eureka (aha), monk (nun), bravo (wow), sonar (radar), and ear (eye). But after Mayday (SOS) he decided to abandon ship. Another idea was a set of palindromic phrases such as: done at a Dutch dairy (MADE EDAM), useful on some computers (MORE EROM), provided by gastroenterologists (NO LOCO COLON), wound around (SPOOL LOOPS).

Errata: ARSHILE GORKY is not an isogrammatic name, but MICHAEL TYSON is. In the microminiaturisation palindrome, MORE should have been MOR, and a final "-Tut" needs to be added to the (King) Tut palindrome at the end of Kickshaws. In the May Colloquy, the OED insertion-deletion ladder from WORD to WAYS should have been labeled OSPD; an OED example by Leonard Gordon is WORD-wor-woar-war-wary-way-WAYS (minimum length).

Darryl Francis adds to Christopher McManus's "Ominous Worldly Maxims" in the August issue: FaFFs, HHeth, poWwOw, ZiZZ, piZaZZ.

Jeff Grant notes that the diamond form from Pears Word Games can be enlarged by inserting PRESTRAINS, followed by PRETRAINS, RETRAINS, RETAINS. The river E has been mentioned in Guinness since 1978, and VI can be found as a variant of VIE in the OED.

Leonard Gordon: "Eric Albert did a nice job describing how he developed his computer program to find the 9x9 square ... I want to second his comment on the value of pruning [from] my experience in modeling mechanical puzzles ... any cutting speeds search."