

COLLOQUY

Susan Thorpe writes "On searching the OED text for any remaining AEIOU-in-order words (Word Ways Feb 1998 and May 1998), I found 16 additions. By length (with the relevant headword shown in parentheses) they are ACERBIOUS (shrewd), AEGIOTHUS (redpoll), ANTERIOUR (anterior), AREITHOUS (mace-bearer); ACCEPCIOUN (anent), AFPECIOUN (affection), AFFECTIOUN (affection), ALEPIDOTUS (scaleless), ASCENCIOUN (ascension), ASCENSIOUN (incarnation), ASSENCIOUN (obedient), ASSERCIOUN (assertion), ATTEIGNOUR (attainer), ATTENCIOUN (attention); ASSESSINORUM (assassin); ARCHYEPISCOPUS (archbishop). I also found ABELIHOU in A Dictionary of Surnames by Hanks & Hodges (Oxford University Press, 1996). This brings the grand total of these words to 170."

Mike Keith wrote a program to look for Martin Gardner's Tic-Tac-Toe Squares (3x3 squares using nine different letters, forming diagonal words as well). Of the 25 or so containing common-three letter words, none had all letters different. Donald Knuth wrote a similar program to form all possible squares from a stockpile of 604 three-letter words; all of the 148 solutions had duplicated letters. Writes Martin "It's a relief to be able to stop looking for such squares!"

According to Susan Thorpe "Only three examples of solid words having just two sets of AEIOU have appeared in Word Ways: Darryl Francis found PSEUDOINTRALIGAMENTOUS and PSEUDOHEMAGGLUTINATION in Dorland's Medical Dictionary (Aug 1970), and I added USSOLZEWIECHINOGAMMARUS from Nomenclator Zoologicus in Feb 1994. I can now add CUBOIDEONAVICULARE (Ligamentum cuboideonaviculare) and also RADICULO-NEUROPATHIES, the inferred plural of radiculaneuropathy. Both can be found in Dorland's." Actually, one other has appeared in Word Ways: Andrew Griscom's AUDIOMAGNETOTELLURIC (Feb 1972 and May 1980). The inferred plural ULTRAREVOLUTIONARIES can also be proposed ('ultra-revolutionary' is in Webster's Third).

Writes Darryl Francis "In the Aug 1998 Word Ways I embarked on 'The AEINRST Problem', a wide-ranging search for transposals of the letters AEINRST. Since [then] I have discovered additional AEINRST transposals in dlibs and drabs:

ARTESIN, a German preparation containing phenyl-cinchonyl-anthranilic acid (Chemical Synonyms, 7th edition, by Gardner and Cooke)

ATIN-RES, individuals named Atin-re, found in an illustrative quotation under ATEN in the OED 'the name Atin-re cannot fail to call to mind Attin, or Atys, the Phrygian Sun'

ENTAIRS, the plural of entair, a medicine in the form of capsules and syrup, which reduces secretion of mucus in chronic bronchitis (Chemical Synonyms, 7th edition, by Gardner and Cooke)

S'INTREA, an Italian verb, a combined form of words meaning 'united in a group of three'. In the OED, the main entry INTRINE has an illustrative quotation from 1892 'the Love which with them is intrined (l'Amor che in lor s'intrea)'

Jeff Grant writes "Regarding animals beginning with X, I think I mentioned previously that the ground squirrel XERUS is allowed in Scrabble (it's in OSPD)--also XEME, a fork-tailed gull of the genus Xema (OED), not mentioned in the 'X-Bird Files'."

There's nothing new under the sun! Don Hauptmann reports that Barbara Arnstein's real-life spoonergram "the guarding of the change" in the August Kickshaws also appears on page 56 of his 1991 book, *Cruel and Unusual Puns*. In a long-ago New York Magazine competition, if Sue Lyon married Raymond Burr, followed by a wide variety of other notables, she eventually would have been known as Sue Burr Calley Frazier Liszt Dix Eckstein Ali Dogess.

Darryl Francis adds to the small collection of notables having anagrammable names: CLAY LACY, manager of aerial stunts in the movie credits for "Firefox" (1981) and "Octopussy" (1983).

Jeff Grant writes "Have you read Chris Cole's *Wordplay* book? I was a bit disappointed with the errors and omissions: questionnaire and strait-jacket misspelt... is 'breadcrumb' uncommon?...no mention of the longest dictionary palindrome 'tattarrattat' (in a 1922 OED citation)...surely 'liquefy' (p 127) is the main spelling?...the Scrabble record 'oxyphenbutazone' scores 1781 using words allowed at world championship level. Having said that, there are many excellent things there, not least of them the best pangram I have seen, 'jumbling vext frowzy hacks pdq' (mixed-up type quickly annoyed the novice journalists)." Rex Gooch observes that the 15-letter I-invariant record, FILLING KNITTING, is bettered by the 16-letter plural of the OED solidly-written NIMINY-PIMINYISM (1840).

Daniel McGrath has called the editor's attention to a previously-unknown double-X word: MAXXA LUNA, a restaurant located on Jericho Turnpike in Commack NY.