

## COLLOQUY

October 21, 2010 would have been Martin Gardner's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday (He died on May 22, 2010). The first of what is expected to be a yearly celebration to honor this polymath was held at over 60 sites on five continents on that day. We hosted one such site at Butler University along with Lacey Echols, *Word Ways*'s board member. Over 50 persons attended our two hour event that stressed Gardner's many literary contributions. Other sites dwelt on magic, or puzzles, or math or some combination of these. Please see the website [www.g4g-com.org](http://www.g4g-com.org) for some articles of interest. This site will continue to be updated.

We have learned of the death of long-time *Word Ways* contributor **MURRAY PEARCE**. He died on July 10, 2010. We will have a tribute to Pearce in the February issue.

**SOLOMON GOLOMB** invented another Mondegreen: "The coin collectors went to a meeting of the new Miss Mattox Society."

**GOLOMB** adds:

Lately I've been thinking about anagrams which are also derangements. Finding three long words which are mutual derangements is quite challenging. Here is the best example I have so far. It even has a bit of mathematical flavor.

TRIANGLE  
INTEGRAL  
ALERTING

The number of permutations on  $n$  symbols which are derangements is well-known to be the integer closest to  $n!/e$ , where  $e$  is the base of natural logs. I don't know if there is any reasonable expression for the number of three-rowed Latin rectangles on  $n$  symbols, where the top row is normalized to 1,2,3... $n$ . (I'm tempted to call these *trerangements!*)

**O.V. Michaelsen** laments that Wikipedia's "suggested deletions" list contains the name Dmitri Borgmann.

To deal with the numerous tedia,  
Some teens are in charge of the media.  
From malware and virus  
To very desirous  
But gawd, now they rule Wikipedia!

**Jeff Grant** offers "More RETEP Verse":

I particularly enjoyed Jim Puder's article on 'rhyming end-to-end palindromic' (RETEP) verse in the February 2010 *Word Ways*. It is certainly one of the hardest palindromic forms to compose but worth the effort when something reasonable transpires.

Taking Jim's advice that it is easier to alter non-RETEP verse to conform to RETEP specifications than to start from scratch, I would like to offer my humble contribution to the (so far) relatively small collection.

The four RETEP poems below are adapted from original unrhyming palindromes written up to forty years ago. All are basic four-liners with the ABAB rhyme scheme, and like most longer palindromes they are a little cryptic. Readers are free to come up with their own interpretations.

#### Otherworld

No gardener posing in ebony,  
No melded loft, no flagon,  
No gal font-folded lemony,  
No benign isoprene dragon.

#### Vigil

Evil snag apart, lunacy or toy?  
Ado to get all I give.  
Vigil late, go today, O Troy!  
Can ultra-pagans live?

#### Revolution

Tell a platemán on a morose dam-side by me,  
- Elfin-wadded, no Bastille ballot:  
Toll a bell! It's a bonded dawn I flee;  
My bed is made so Roman on a metal pallet.

#### Morality

A moral I've nagged, a base of rose,  
(I'll allay no misnomer)  
A harem on simony, all allies or foes:  
'A bad egg - an evil aroma.'