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BEGIN EVERYDAY WITH A SMILE!

Volume 2, Issue 5 May, 2021

Did You Know?

It seems the term "Stinking Rich" may have originated in the South of the Netherlands where it was a custom for the ultra-rich upper classes to be buried beneath Roman Catholic churches. Common parishioners coined the phrase with some disdain to describe the privileged class.

The tongue of a blue whale is as long as an elephant. Our eyes are always the same size from birth. Earth is not round, it is slightly pear-shaped. On average, people move to a new house every 7 years. African elephants only have four teeth to chew their food with. A house fly lives



only 14 days.

It is reputed that Nathan B. Stubblefield, a farmer from Murray, Kentucky, made a voiced transmission four years before Marconi transmitted radio signals.

In 1892, Stubblefield handed his friend Rainey T. Wells a box and told him to walk away some distance. Wells said later: "I had hardly reached my post when I hears "HELLO RAINEY" come booming out of the receiver."

Stubblefield demonstrated his invention to the press in 1902 but, being afraid that his invention would be stolen, never marketed his wireless radio. When he was found dead in 1929, his radio equipment was gone. Nikola Tesla remains to be acknowledged as the inven-

tor of the radio.

Although a cow has no upper front teeth, it grazes up to 8 hours a day, taking in about 45kg (100lb) of feed and the equivalent of a bathtub full of water. Cows also are one of the main contributors to the hole in the ozone layer.



The average lifespan of a cow is 7 years. The oldest cow ever recorded was Big Bertha. She reached 48 in 1923. She also holds the record for producing 39 calves. Cows that are called individually by name and cows that are played classical music to, provide more milk. 12 cows are known as a flink.

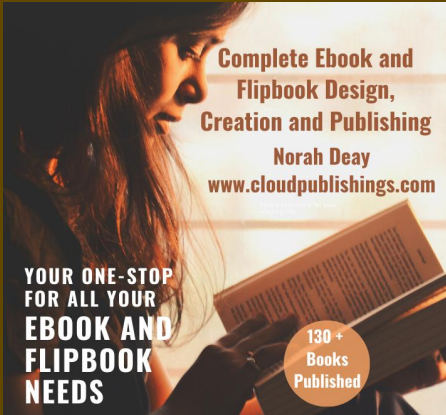


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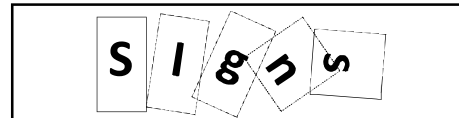
FROM THE EDITOR

We're now into our May edition of Chatterbox News and I want to take this time to thank everyone who not only contributed articles, but sent in such heart-warming emails and texts, letting us know that we're on the right path. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

We are at the bottom end of the winter and it is such a glorious sight to see all the leaves coming out, the flowers poking their heads up to let us know that life goes on and it can be a wonderful gift to just smell the roses so they say. I hope this issue brings you joy if for only a brief time and I will have done my job. Liz Underhill

TRIVIA

1. How many zeros are there in a trillion?
2. Which of the Seven Dwarfs comes first alphabetically?
3. How many Russians have landed on the moon?
4. Is there really a Tim-Buck-Too?
5. What is the most common word used?
6. What is the most used letter?
7. How deep is the ocean?
8. In which city would you view The Reversing Falls?
9. Which Canadian city has the largest population?
10. Where is Biggar?
11. What is the highest mountain in Canada?
12. This Canadian invented the snowmobile.
13. This province is Canada's most densely populated.



Touching wires causes instant death \$200. fine. *Newcastle Tram Authority*

Soccer not allowed. Soccer may only be played on archery range.

Warning...keep off property - pit bull with Aids.

No person on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, the day preceding a public holiday, or on a public holiday, drive or cause to be driven between the hours of 6pm to midnight, a motor vehicle that exceeds 10.5m in length on all main roads.

No pets allowed. All pets must be on a leash.

Please. Do not drop your cigarette butts on the ground. The fish crawl out at night to smoke them and we are trying to get them to quit.

Please be safe. Do not stand, sit or climb on fences. If you fall, animals could eat you and get sick.

Please do not feed fingers to the animals.

Next Issue of The Chatterbox Gazette published on June 1, 2021
All articles and advertising to be in our office no later than May 20, 2021

Although The Chatterbox News makes every effort to insure the accuracy of its contents, we assume no responsibility for damages due to errors or omissions. The Chatterbox News reserves the right to refuse any advertising.

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Searching For: CHILDREN AGES 10 - 14

The Chatterbox News is looking for children to write a story 750 words or less.
 This story can be a mystery, be funny or whatever you would like to write about.

First prize: \$25 Second Prize: \$15.00 Third Prize: \$10.00

All entries must be post-marked no later than **May 31, 2021** and the winners will be announced June 30, 2021.

The winners will be published in The Chatterbox News.

Entries or information - liz@lizunderhill.com

Carbon Monoxide

The Silent Killer

Regular maintenance of fuel-
burning appliances along with
the

installation of a

Carbon Monoxide Detector

can save your life.

Old
Farmer's
Advice

Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

You cannot unsay a cruel word. Sometimes you get and sometimes you
get got.

"Don't Worry - Be Happy"

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When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

Broken pencils are pointless.

All the toilets in London police stations have
been stolen. Police have nothing to go on.

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Soup ta Nuts

Miss Klara

The Demise of The English Language

I'm using this column folks to give my pet peeve about the English Language if that's what the darn thing is called now. Where have all the words gone? I used to be able to understand what the heck I was reading word for word, but nowadays, what with the high speed computer where you have 2 1/2 seconds to state your case before you are clicked away into cyberspace, I guess this new language has been born.

I decided to write my computer friend about my vacation—In the new language, in this new short-form language I call it. She sent me an answer back with HUGE LETTERS (I believe they call that screaming on the computer.) She asked me had I gone crazy? She said she didn't understand a word about my vacation other than the fact I had gone for a trip into space and developed an alien language. I was taken back and so I decided to let you folks be the judge. Here goes.

I just wanted to get away, so I decided I would hop into my RV and head out to BC. I knew I couldn't blame this frustration on PMS, and I knew that if I ran into trouble, I could produce my VIP card and I would get help from MADD. I hadn't gone far in my GMC when I realized I had to go to the CIBC to get some cash before I was arrested by the RCMP for vagrancy.

I found the CIBC and jumped out of my GMC and sure enough up came the RCMP. He jumped off his motorcycle, and asked me what the heck I was doing in my BVDs. I had forgot to put my face on in my hurry to get away for awhile, so I guessed this guy must have thought I was some PERP.

tried to convince him that I had forgotten my money as I had an ADD moment which every senior will have. He wasn't buying my story, and asked me to stand away from my RV. He asked for my driver's license and I told him I had left it in my in the pocket of my jacket which I left on my ATV.

He said that my picture was plastered all over the TV that I was MIA and was last seen on CBC as being on the RCMP's MWL. He said a Mr. Clem Kravitz had reported me AWOL, and told them if they came upon me to be careful as I got dangerous after I watched those crime stories on A&E.

I think this RCMP COP thought Clem said B&E and that was why he was eyeing me, or maybe it was my good looks.

I told the RCMP that I also had contacted them and I explained that several months ago I had written an SOS in the sand when I was at the beach with Clem and he had tried to give me some TLC, at which time he scared the dickens out of me and I sent him flying by his BS. I told the COP that Clem was just trying to get even, because I couldn't retrieve him from the pole, because I couldn't call a crane to get him off the pole because, at the time my CELL wouldn't work because I hadn't collected my CPP or OA cheques and hadn't paid that or my TV Cable either.

By this time the COP's eyes were crossing. I asked him if he had any H2O for an old lady and I could make a nice cup of tea in my RV and we could watch a DVD together in my RV to pass the time, while he checked out my story, and if that didn't work I could play a nice CD, you know to calm him down as he was looking a bit like he needed CO2.

That COP took a huge leap onto his HOGG and drove off. I think I heard him saying something like he must have bumped into a crazy on "Survivor". How was your week? Klara

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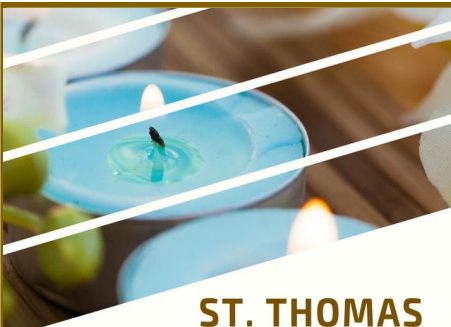
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**IS YOUR
WOODSTOVE
SAFE?**

Inspect and clean your chimney regularly to prevent chimney fires.

Burn dry wood to reduce excessive creosote build-up.

Remove ashes safely only when cooled.



LADIES!!!

Remember a layer of dust protects the wood beneath it. A house becomes a home when you can write "I LOVE YOU" on the furniture. I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect - 'in case someone came over'. Finally I realized one day that no-one came over; they were all out living life and having fun! Now, when people visit, I don't explain the 'condition' of my home.

They are more interested in hearing about the things I've been doing while I was away living life and having fun. If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice. Life is short. Enjoy it!

It's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.



DUST IF YOU MUST

Dust if you must
but wouldn't it be better
To paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake cookies or a cake and
lick the spoon, or plant a seed
Ponder the difference between want
and need?
Dust if you must,
but there's not much time
With coffee to drink
and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must,
but the world's out there
With the sun in your eyes,
the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain
This day will not
come around again.

Oliver's Tips

Rust on steel-wool pads can be slowed down by soaking them in water and baking soda before using.

A spring clothes peg can be used to close the end of a bread bag. Lots faster than a twist tie.

Salt and water stains can be removed from boots with vinegar or rubbing alcohol. Wipe over the stained area only, then use polish.

Bars of soap will last much longer if you unwrap new bars and let them sit on a closet shelf for a few weeks before using

Answers to Trivia Page 2

1. 12
2. Bashful
3. None
4. Yes. Mali, Africa
5. I
6. E
7. All the land surfacers of the earth put together could easily fit into the Pacific Ocean.
8. St. John, N.B.
9. Toronto
10. Saskatchewan
11. Mount Logan
12. Armand Bombardier
13. Prince Edward Island



Hi Folks. I decided to take a bit of a holiday, so since the winter is hopefully over and we are all looking for some warm balmy weather, I thought I would read your future for the upcoming spring. I studied long and hard on this one.

I just knew I'd have visitors here to check in to get a little bit of their future told. I can tell your future, well at least a good guess for the day.

I'd read the tea leaves, but I just don't drink that stuff. Love that good old cup of hard-boiled coffee. Guaranteed to get you bouncing off the walls and get all your senses working. I tried those tarot cards, but I fell in love with the king. That didn't sit kindly with the queen.

I was always accused of star gazing, so here I am folks. Read here for your own special message.

If your birthday is this month (May) your smile and good humour are contagious. Stay indoors until this disease is cured. You wouldn't want to be held responsible for infecting all those doom and gloomers, would you?

ARIES - Mar.21-Apr.19

Learn from your mistakes. Talking with relatives at a distance reminds you of what's important. Keep them there.

TAURUS - Apr.20-May20

Tension will subside if you exercise regularly. You will no longer have to concentrate on all those tension-

giving problems, you'll be gasping for breath.

GEMINI - May 21-June20

Put all thoughts of business aside and trust your intuition. Be careful, though, the last time you trusted that intuition of yours, you went broke.

CANCER - June 21-July 22

Set up new challenges for yourself and even if you don't follow these ones either, it gives you something to do besides watching T-Ball.

LEO - July 23-Aug.22

Turn to older family members for advice since you can't trust your own, and in case you are the eldest, I guess you'll have to give yourself advice and hope for the best!

VIRGO - Aug.23-Sept.22

Showing tenderness to your loved ones is essential now, especially since it was you who got them into that mess to begin with.

LIBRA - Sept.23-Oct.22

Take a chance! Try your hand at painting. You might surprise yourself. I'm certain the job you do with your hand will outshine that crummy job you did with the brush.

SCORPIO - Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You are free to roam as you wish right now, at least that's what you think.

You're forgetting one thing—Covid. So be careful others are watching.

SAGISTARIUS - Nov. 22—Dec. 21

This is not the month for complaining which sometimes seems as your usual style. Instead use this time to smile from ear to rear.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22—Jan. 19

Life is what you do till you croak. So I'd suggest you get your best clothes on even in lockdown and dance in front



of the mirror and laugh instead of just flexing your muscles every time you pass by.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 20—Feb. 18

You're looking to relieve the boredom, I know, but chewing on your nails and chewing other people out just doesn't cut it. Change your habit to singing and dancing in the rain.

PICES - FEB. 19—Mar. 20

It doesn't matter now if you wear your socks with holes in them. Being stuck in the house, is sometimes suffocating, so I understand that's how you get air.



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Believe It or Not

Martin Jones, an Englishman had lost his power of vision and remained blind for almost a decade. He has now regained his power of vision.

This has been accomplished by implanting a piece of tooth in his eye. The tooth that was implanted was a canine tooth which is also known as the "eyetooth".

A living canine was pulled out of Martin Jones' own mouth. They then placed a man-made eye lens into its base and placed it under the lid of his eye and let the tissue grow over the canine.

Also a little flap of his skin was taken from his mouth and implanted over the tooth in his eye which later had access to its own supply of blood. The doctors then cut a hole in the cornea that permitted light to enter the eye. This very procedure gave six hundred people the power of vision.

Jeanne Louise Calment of Arles, France was the world's longest living person.

Jeanne was born on February 21, 1875 and died on August 4, 1997. Her height was 4'11" (1.50m).

Jeanne died at the age of 122 in a nursing home in Arles. She lived 122 years and 164 days (44,724 days total).

Jeanne's name appears in the Guinness Book of World Records. At age 121, she released her two CDs, one in French and another in English titled, *Maitresse du Temps* (Time's Mistress). During the end stage, she became blind, she could not hear properly and was confined to a wheelchair but was in high spirits and mentally alert. Interesting fact is that Jeanne smoked cigarettes until the age of 117.



POETIC ENDEAVOURS

WORKSHOP TREASURES

Plastic bottles, lids screwed on tight
Let you locate in the dimmest light
Screws and brackets, most well used
Spikes, some bent, were well abused

The driver's hammer, hit off side
Nail puller used, then set aside.
What of those nails, of varied size
Bottles mixed, each a surprise

Searching, sorting, the ones you need
| Twisted, spirals, you'd took no heed
Just dropped them there,
a jumbled store
Rotate that bottle search for more.

Those tiny thumb tacks, fingers pricked
Sharp ends upwards, always picked
Shiny ones, or dead pan black
Awaits your grab a sharp attack

Perhaps that box, flap turned away
Aha, when opened, made your day!
Those multi screws nails,
four way notched
Those square head beauties,
ever watched

When the driver's head
does never match

Those wee ones largest, of the batch
Is always last one to be found
While all those others fell to ground.

Those powered tools, Skil Saw and such
Cord dragging drills,
get snagged so much
Cordless new ones, way to go
Except those batteries get so low

Back to cord power, RPM
Of yesterday, you can't beat 'em.
Hand saw, rip saw, elbow grease
That great old square does never cease

To guide and show the rafter's lift
That spirit level, tradesman's gift'
That dangling plumb bob on its string
A good sharp pencil, everything.

These are the treasures you will find
Should the owner care, would not mind
So long as you were careful there
Misplace his treasures, would not dare,

Just look his layout, and admire
That needed nut or piece of wire.
He will locate in record time
Perchance might find
that missing dime

All these in storage, await some use
Odd shaped hinges, some bent abuse
His place, his horde, his second home
His treasure trove, all these, his own!

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I just had a call from a charity asking me to donate some of my clothes to the starving people throughout the world. I told them to forget it! Anybody who fits into my clothes isn't starving!



THE KID'S CORNER

FIRST PRIZE WINNER!

Bucky's Journey

Dylan Thomas Taylor - Age 10 at the time of this writing.

One day, a boy named Fred was sad. Nobody knew where he was. He had been gone for one day.

When he was close enough to the train tracks to see the train go by, he saw a box fall out. It rolled a bit before it stopped. The box had many small holes in it. When he got to the box, he opened the lid just a little to see what was inside. It was too dark to see, but heard a small tweeting sound.

When he opened it all the way, a small green bird flew out and landed on Fred's shoulder. Fred fell over backwards into the bush that was behind him. The bird had a small metal bracelet that said, 'Bucky'. Fred said to the bird, "Bucky?" Then the bird chirped a funny tune, and bounced up and down.

Fred wasn't sad anymore. The reason he was sad, was because his little budgie, named George, had died the day before that. He had run away because everyone at his house usually asked him about his day. That day, they didn't. That is what made him sad. Not that his bird died, he was 13 years old. It was that nobody had asked him about his day.

Fred played with the bird until he heard another train coming. Then he ran back home.

On his way home, he wondered why there were all the towns' police officers

looking around calling the name, "Fred!"

Fred ignored them. He just went home to his room, and put Bucky into George's old cage. It hung in front of the window over his bed. Fred kept the cage door open, just like he did for George.

He heard his Mom talking in the hallway, right behind his closed door. She was on her cell phone. She closed it with a snap!

Fred threw open his door and gave his mother a big hug. His mother almost had a heart attack. After she called 911 again, she told the dispatcher, that she had found her son! And to call off the search!

All the neighbours came over to see Fred again after he ran away. Once they left, he told his mother that he ran away because his bird died and nobody had asked him about his day.

He took his Mom to his room. "Close your eyes before coming in". When she came in, she opened her eyes to see a small green bird on Fred's shoulder. Fred said, "I found him at the train tracks". "You went all the way to the train tracks!" his Mom gasped. Fred added, "He has a bracelet that says, Bucky".

"Watch!" Fred said. "Bucky?" The bird chirped a funny tune and bounced up and down.

"We can't keep him!" blurted his Mom. "Why?" yelled Fred. "He's not ours," his Mom said. "Please Mom, we will put up lost bird pictures and put lost bird on the Internet." "If nobody says he's theirs, I'll keep him!" stated Fred.

"OK" said his mother.

Two weeks passed and Fred checked the Internet. There was one reply in his email inbox. It read, "Hi from Konklin Carnival. We think you have our bird. Send back. Konklin Carnival. Fred sent back an email to Konklin Carnival, which read, "Does your bird have a metal bracelet?" Konklin Carnival sent one last email which said, "Yes he did, his name is Bucky. We're coming to get our bird on Tuesday."

Two days passed, it was Tuesday. A small black car pulled up to the curb and a tall clown stepped out. He came to the door and knocked on it. Fred's mother opened the door, and the clown stepped into the house. He yelled, "Bucky!" He was surprised, not to see the little green bird flying towards him.

Fred's mother yelled, "Fred, bring the bird." Fred came down the stairs with Bucky on his shoulder. When the clown said, "Come Bucky", the bird refused to go. When the clown tried to grab the bird, Bucky just flew in circles out of reach.

The clown said, "Bucky likes you better, keep him." His mother was amazed that someone that hadn't seen his bird for a whole month, just gave it up to a child. The clown left in the small black car, never to be seen again.

From The Editor: looking for children writers. This is an from a previous contest I held a few years ago. I loved this and thought I would publish this again in the hopes some the children out there would send in their work. There are prizes listed on Page 3 of Chatterbox News

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