

AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY:

Seeing Whole Worlds Using Few Words

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

Anton Chekhov, the master of the short story, was able to see whole worlds within the interactions of simple Russian peasants, and in this little poem by Leo Dangel, who grew up in rural South Dakota, something similar happens.

ONE SEPTEMBER AFTERNOON

Home from town
the two of them sit
looking over what they have bought
spread out on the kitchen table
like gifts to themselves.
She holds a card of buttons
against the new dress material
and asks if they match.
The hay is dry enough to rake,
but he watches her
empty the grocery bag.
He reads the label
on a grape jelly glass
and tries on
the new straw hat again.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©1987 by Leo Dangel, whose most recent book of poetry is The Crow on the Golden Arches, Spoon River Poetry Press, 2004. Poem reprinted from Paddlefish, No. 3, 2009, by permission of Leo Dangel and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2009 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts.

Transportation Grant Money Available In Neb.

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska Department of Roads has announced funds are now available to private non-profit organizations for transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities for whom mass transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. Only private nonprofit organizations incorporated within the state are eligible to apply for this assistance. Public agencies, governmental bodies, and private individuals are not eligible for this program.

The Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 program is a Federal Capital

Grant program that requires a local match and is managed by the Department of Roads and designed to provide assistance for purchase of vehicles and related equipment for transportation needs of elderly and disabled persons.

For further information and to request application forms, contact Wayne Masek at 402-479-4369 or Jerry Wray at 402-479-4694, Rail and Public Transportation Division, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759. Requests for application forms must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Jump-Starting A Mower's Battery Can Be Done

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

This question isn't about a specific car, but is a general equipment question. Of course, during the winter, my riding lawn mower has gotten no driving time, and thus the battery has died. I was wondering if it is safe to jump-start the lawn mower with my car, and if you have any tips on how to do it. Thanks!

— Cameron

RAY: Carefully. **TOM:** Right. Every year we hear about some moron who doesn't know what he's doing and blinds himself in a battery explosion. So if you're planning to be that moron this year, Cameron, stop reading right now. **RAY:** Seriously, if you don't know what you're doing, ask someone who does to help you.

TOM: But if you're technically adept, this is a perfectly good solution. Your car battery is 12 volts. Most riding mowers have 12-volt batteries, too. Of course, you need to check to be sure.

RAY: If your mower uses a 12-volt battery, use the jumper cables as you would when starting another car. Hook the positive cable to the positive terminal of the car battery. Then connect the other end of that cable to the positive terminal of the mower battery.

TOM: Then connect the negative cable to the car battery's negative terminal, and the



CLICK & CLACK

other end to the frame of the mower. They come off in exactly the opposite order.

RAY: Because the battery on a riding mower often is buried deep underneath the seat, be especially careful not to allow any part of the positive clamp or the exposed cable to touch the frame. Otherwise, you may end up with a hairdo like my brother's.

TOM: Or a hairline like my brother's.

RAY: Finally, make sure the car's engine is turned off. The alternator in your car produces way too many amps for the lawn mower, so you don't want your automobile

engine to charge the lawn mower's battery. You want it to provide the mower's battery with just enough juice to start the mower's engine. Once the engine is started, the mower's own generator will charge the battery.

TOM: Jump-starting a riding mower from a car or truck is a trick that landscapers use all the time. But there are several even better solutions for homeowners, Cameron.

RAY: One option is a "jump pack." That costs 50 or 60 bucks. It's essentially a plastic-encased 12-volt battery with jumper cables already attached to it. You plug it into a wall socket once in a while to keep it charged, and when you need to jump-start a car or a mower, you tote it out and clamp the built-in cables to the dead battery.

TOM: Another great option is a trickle charger. You can get a cheap one for about 40 bucks. You can use it on your car or mower batteries. But in this particular case, you could hook it up to the mower the day before the first big spring cut. Then go to sleep, and you'll be ready to hack down your wife's prized tulips first thing the next morning.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

© 2010, King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Cell Phones Being Sought For Soldiers Serving Overseas

PIERRE — More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas, away from their families, and you can help them keep in contact with each other.

The South Dakota Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, along with Cell Phones for Soldiers, are calling on Americans to support those brave men and women by donating unused cell phones.

Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to collect more than one million cell phones this year to help keep troops connected with their families.

"Over the past few years, we have been amazed by the generosity of others. But we have also seen the continued need to support our troops," says Brittany Bergquist, Cell Phones for Soldiers co-founder. "It is

easy for Americans to make a small sacrifice of support by donating unused cell phones and providing families with a much-needed connection to their loved ones overseas."

People can support the collection drive by donating cell phones at either campus of the VA Black Hills Health Care System or the Black Hills CBOC:

- Fort Meade VAMC, Building 133 Waiting Room, 113 Comanche Road, Fort Meade, SD (800) 743-1070

- Hot Springs VAMC, Emergency Room Waiting Area, 500 North 5th Street, Hot Springs, SD (800) 764-5370

- Black Hills CBOC, Waiting Room, 3625 5th Street, Rapid City, SD (605) 718-1095

"We're proud to show our support for U.S. soldiers and to

contribute to a worthy cause like Cell Phones for Soldiers," says Charles Claussen, Veterans Division Director.

Cell Phones for Soldiers was founded in 2004 by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist of Norwell, Mass., with \$21 of their own money. Since then, the registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization has raised millions of dollars in donations and distributed millions of prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas.

"We are continuously overwhelmed by the enthusiastic support of thousands of Americans who have helped our troops speak with their loved ones," says the teens' father, Bob Bergquist. "However, the need for support keeps growing as more troops are sent to the

Middle East or are asked to serve extended tours of duty."

Through increased fundraising efforts, the Bergquist family hopes to raise more than \$10 million in the next five years for new programs to allow troops abroad to see their families on a regular basis.

Donated cell phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each phone. The money is then used to purchase prepaid calling cards that are sent to troops.

About half of the phones ReCellular processes are reconditioned and resold to wholesale companies in more than 40 countries. Phones and components that cannot be refurbished are dismantled and recycled.

REUNIONS

YHS CLASS OF 1950

The Yankton High School Class of 1950 will be celebrating its 60th class reunion Sept. 8-9. All classmates and alumni are invited for dinner and fellowship both nights at Jo Dean's restaurant. There will be time to enjoy the many sites of interest in the Yankton area, also.

The students that have been unable to be contacted are: Darlene Herfkens-Creek, Helen Ushry-Hicks, Anna Mae Reutter, Marlene Eide-Umbereit and Gwen Uhl-Hampton. Any information would be appreciated. Contact June Snow-Lee, 717 Walnut Street, Yankton, SD 57078 or 605-260-1431.

YHS CLASS OF 1960

The Yankton High School Class of 1960 will be celebrating their 50th class reunion on Sept. 17-18, 2010, at the Hillcrest Country Club. Please plan attending both nights' festivities.

DIEDE REUNION 2010

Descendants of Michael and Caroline Diede gathered for their annual reunion at the VFW Post in Scotland on July 25, 2010. There were 39 in attendance, mostly descendants of Nick and Regina Diede, former residents of Scotland.

Shirley Diede of Lesterville led us in our table prayer, and we enjoyed our noon meal together. Catching up on the events of the past year, meeting new family members, and rejoicing that we were able to be together again made for a fun afternoon.

Don Diede of Springfield was the oldest present and Jaxon Puetz of Canistota was the youngest.

Others present were: Donna and Jim Wohlman, St. Helena, Neb.; Ben Mutschelknaus and Raquel Wode of Hoskins, Neb.;

A.J., Jenny and Landon Schenkel, Don and Cindy Schenkel, Canistota; Dale and Brigitta Diede, Mission Hill; Alan and Lillian Schenkel, Utica; Grace Diede, Jim and Debbie Diede, Springfield; Marge Crosby, Carol Ackerman, Kenny Ackerman, Bob and Malena Diede, Wilmer and Lila Froehrich, Jamie Johnson-Collett, Greg Ackerman and Cheryl Hofer, Yankton; Filmore and Darlene Mutschelknaus, Dick Diede, Ferne Diede, Lesterville; June Diede, Menno; Barb Cisar, Lester and Shirley Muehlbeier of Scotland.

It was decided unanimously to gather again next year. Hope to see many Diede family members on July 31, 2011 at the VFW in Scotland for a pot luck at noon.

RUEDI REUNION HELD

The annual Ruedi reunion was held at the Bloomfield Community Center in Bloomfield, Neb.

For the past year, there were four births and two deaths. The oldest family member attending was Mary Heberer of Hoskins with Sawn Patrick Thompson of Norfolk the youngest. Shawn Michael Thompson of Norfolk traveled the farthest.

Those attending were from Yankton, S.D., Bloomfield, Hoskins, Norfolk and Pierce, Neb.

Next year's reunion will be held the first Sunday of August (7) at the Bloomfield Community Center.

PAUL AND ROSE (MARX) SCHURMAN REUNION

Descendants of the Paul and Rose (Marx) Schurman family met for their reunion August 7, 2010 at The Center in Yankton, S.D. More than 100 family members attended from Yankton and Mission Hill, S.D.; Bennington, Kansas; and Firth, Lincoln, Crofton, Hoskins, Verdigris, Randolph, and Coleridge, Nebraska.

The Tim and Tina Bulleigh (Jake, Colby, Owen) family from Bennington, Kansas traveled the farthest. Dolores Foxhoven, 85, of Yankton, S.D. was the oldest attending. Bryce and Bailey Lurz, 6 months, of Hoskins, Neb., were the youngest attending. Dolores Foxhoven also celebrated her 85th birthday. There were four generations represented.

USS MOUNT MCKINLEY ASSC.

TAMPA, Fla. — The USS Mount McKinley Association will hold its 22nd annual Reunion in Tampa, Fla., Sept. 15-19, for vet-

erans of all branches of the military that served on the Amphibious Force Flagship, USS Mount McKinley AGC/LCC-7, and new members from the Flagship Alliance group who served any time during their years of commissioned service.

For more information contact Lee Temanson, Secretary, 10749 108th Ave. N., Maple Grove, MN 55369-2609; phone (763) 425-6315 evenings or weekends; preferred contact e-mail lateman@comcast.net.

ST. JOHN'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION

The St. John's Alumni Association of Huron is hosting an All School Reunion at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, with the evening meal at 6:30 p.m. at the Crossroads Event Center in Huron. All St. John's Alumni and guests and instructors are welcome.

Reservations can be made by calling Kay Zwanziger at (605) 352-8008.

40th Wedding Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stark

Jim and Janet Stark of Utica, SD will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on Saturday, September 4th at Utica Hall - WFLA Lodge with an open house/dinner at 5:00 p.m. with social hour and dancing to follow. Their children will host the event. All family and friends of Jim and Janet are asked to join in this special day.

The couple has 5 children: Jason (Christina) Stark, Utica, SD; Jaime Stark, Yankton, SD; Julie (Dan) Schluter, Crooks, SD; Jared (Jessica) Stark, Lesterville, SD; Jenna (Andy) Crider, Sioux Falls, SD. They have 8 grandchildren. The couple requests no gifts.

BIRTHDAYS

MAREY EKEREN

Marey Ekeren will be celebrating his 80th birthday on August 20th.

The family of former bus driver and postal worker is requesting a card show. His address is 212 Benedictine Lane, Yankton, SD 57078



Ekeren

JIM SLADE

Jim Slade is celebrating his 80th birthday August 21, 2010. Greetings from family and friends will be greatly appreciated at 2209 Burleigh Street, Apt. #109, Yankton, SD 57078



Slade

Steamway
CLEANING & RESTORATION

\$50 OFF

Carpet & Duct Cleaning Combination

Must present coupon.
1 coupon per customer.
Expires 8/31/10

665-5700 • 1-800-529-2450

40th Wedding Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kostel

Roger and Mary Lou (Herman) Kostel of Yankton, SD will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on August 22, 2010.

Greetings may be sent to: 1101 Belfast St., Yankton, SD 57078.

The couple was married August 22, 1970 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, SD.

KYNT

AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE

WEEKDAYS 7:40 AM

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Yankton's Home Team!

309 W. 11th Street • Yankton, SD 57078
800-249-3837 • 605-668-2168

www.tkplaceyankton.com

- Kitchens
- Baths
- Office & more

SHOWPLACE Wood Products

2010 RIVERBOAT DAYS KIDDIE PARADE

Friday, August 20, 2010

Parade Begins at 5:30pm
Begin lining up at 5:00pm

PARTICIPANT WAIVER FORM

I, _____, state that I am the parent or legal guardian of _____, a minor child, I hereby give my consent for _____ to participate in the Kiddie Parade sponsored by Yankton Riverboat Days, Inc. In considerations for my child or ward's participation, I agree to waive any liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses which I or my child or ward or our assignees, successors, or heirs may have against Yankton Riverboat Days, Inc., as a group or as individual committee members, directors, volunteers or employees, which may arise out of my child or ward's participation in the Kiddie Parade.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS FORM, AND I REALIZE THAT BY SIGNING I AM RELEASING YANKTON RIVERBOAT DAYS, INC., FROM ANY LIABILITY.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Signature _____

LOCATION: Behind Farm Credit Services, 124 Walnut Street in Yankton.
Bring registration to parade. For more information call 605-665-1657. E-mail to: office@riverboatdays.com