Perspectives

March **Bay Sages** **2014**

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND HAPPY WINTER

Wow—What a winter we are having. We have certainly outperformed snow totals over the past several years. Living in the U.P. can be a challenge and a blessing. Hopefully, the moisture will help us with lake levels this year!

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MARCH PROGRAM

Our regular meeting will be March 6 at 10 am at the Heirman Center at Bay College. There will be coffee and rolls so come early and enjoy. You are going to enjoy our meeting again this month, I am sure.

Our program for March will be Tom Brayak on his experience in the Peace Corps.

Tom served in the Peace Corp in India from 1971 to 1973. While in India, he met his future wife, Mitzi.

Following in her father's footsteps, daughter Tamara volunteered for the Peace Corp, serving in Namibia (Africa).

Tom is currently the president of Bichler Concrete and Gravel in Escanaba and is active in the community with soccer and the Bonifas Fine Arts Center.

50/50 tickets: Please remember to get your tickets at the door before the meeting begins. Thanks everyone!

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

For your information, we thought it would be good to list the monthly programs that are planned to date:

April 3: Senior Companions by Constance Maule

May 1: Travelogue to Australia and New Zealand by Dale and Donna Schlemmer

June 5: Biking through the Netherlands by Gerry and Sally Hampton

July 3: No meeting due to the holiday

Remember, if you have any ideas for programs or classes, we are always open to ideas and suggestions.

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ON THE BAY BOOK CLUB

The Book Club is currently reading "behind the beautiful forevers' by Katherine Boo. The book is about life, death, and hope in a Mumbai undercity. They will be discussing the book on March 13 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 963 in the Heirman Center.

If anyone is interested in joining the group, please contact Fran Goetz at 553-7468 or fgoetz46@gmail.com.

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FUNNIES

Frozen Windows:

Wife texts husband on a cold winter's morning: "Windows frozen, won't open."

Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it."

Wife texts back 5 minutes later: "Computer really screwed up now."

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Granny's Advice:

Yes, our grandmothers still had genuine knowledge of staying naturally healthy!

Bay Sages
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My granny lectured me about her practical knowledge:

"For better digestion, I drink beer. For loss of appetite, I drink white wine. For low blood pressure, red wine.

"With high blood pressure, drink Cognac and whenever I have a cold, I drink Vodka."

"And when do you drink water?", I asked.

"I have never been that sick!"

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Stella Awards: It's time again for the annual 'Stella Awards'. For those unfamiliar with these awards, they are named after 81-year old Stellla Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued McDonalds in New Mexico. Remember, she took the lid off the coffee and put it between her knees while she was driving…

For 2013:

Seventh Place: Kathleen Robertson of Austin, Texas, was awarded $80,000 by a jury of her peers after breaking her ankle tripping over a toddler who was running inside a furniture store. The store owners were understandably surprised by the verdict, considering the running toddler was her own son.

Sixth Place: Carl Truman, 19, of Los Angeles, California, won $74,000 plus medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when he was trying to steal his neighbor's hubcaps.

Fifth Place: Terrence Dickson, of Bristol, Pennsylvania, who was leaving a house he had just burglarized by way of the garage. Unfortunately, the automatic garage door opener malfunctioned and he could not get the garage door to open. Worse, he couldn't reenter the house because the door connecting the garage to the house locked when Dickson pulled it shut. Forced to sit for 8 days and survive on a case of Pepsi and a large bag of dry dog food, he sued the owner's insurance company claiming undue mental anguish. Amazingly, the jury said the insurance company must pay Dickson $500,000 for his anguish!

Fourth Place: Jerry Williams of Little Rock, Arkansas, garnered 4th place when he was awarded $14,500 plus medical expenses after being bitten on the butt by his next door neighbor's beagle—even though the beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. Williams did not get as much as he asked for because the jury believed the beagle might have been provoked at the time of the butt bite because Williams had climbed over the fence into the yard and repeatedly shot the dog with a pellet gun.

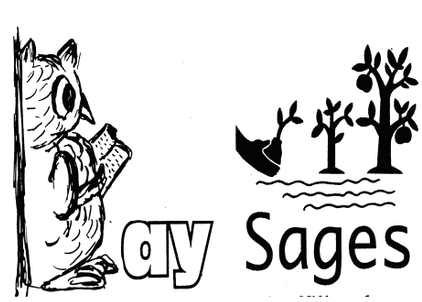
Third Place: Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, because a jury ordered a Philadelphia restaurant to pay her $113,500 after she slipped on a spilled soft drink and broke her tailbone. The reason the soft drink was on the floor: Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument…!

Second Place: Kara Walton of Claymont, Delaware, sued the owner of a night club in a nearby city because she fell from the bathroom window to the floor, knocking out her two front teeth. Even though Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the ladies room window to avoid paying the $3.50 cover charge, the jury said the night club had to pay her $12,000...plus dental expenses. Go figure…

First Place: This year's runaway first place Stella Award winner was Mrs. Merv Grazinski of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who purchased a new 32-foot Winnebago motor home. On her first trip home from an OU football game, having driven onto the freeway, she set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the driver's seat to go to the back of the Winnebago to make herself a sandwich. Not surprisingly, the motor home left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Also not surprisingly, Mrs. Grazinski sued Winnebago for not putting in the owner's manual that she couldn't actually leave the driver's seat while the cruise control was set. The Oklahoma jury awarded her, are you sitting down?

$1,750,000 plus a new motor home. Winnebago actually changed their manuals as a result of this suit, just in case Mrs. Grazinski has any relatives who might also buy a motor home.

Carolyn Bissell for
J.Pryal, Editor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