

WAY BACK WHEN

STORIES FROM THE PAST, TALES THAT LAST.

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Comments, Questions, Suggestions – Email sandman43@att.net

A BRAIN TONIC

Did you know that Coca-Cola was first advertised as a medicine? It was invented by a pharmacist in Atlanta, Georgia in 1885. He first called it French Wine Coca, but his partner suggested the name Coca-Cola. His concoction originally contained cocaine, caffeine and alcohol and was said to cure headaches, calm the nerves, and relieve fatigue. It was marketed as a brain tonic. Here are three advertisements from 1888 to 1892.

At last we have found a delicious
cooling soda fountain drink that will
cause the cheeks to glow with health
and beauty. It is Coca Cola.
Coca Cola is a brain tonic and intel-
lectual drink, good for the nervous and
exhausted, is popular everywhere.
Try it and you will always buy it. For
sale by E. B. Craig & Co.

Coca-Cola.
The Ideal Brain Tonic. Delightful
winter and summer beverage. Specific
for headache. Relieves mental and
physical exhaustion. Call at the Lyon
Drug Store. W. L. TUCKER, Prop.

Coca Cola
For headaches or
tired feeling. Summer
or winter drink. Re-
lieves mental or phys-
ical exhaustion.

Cocaine was a widely used ingredient in many patent medicines in the late 1800s and many so-called medicines of that time contained alcohol and were very popular with the public. The company removed all traces of cocaine and alcohol from the drink in the early 1900s, but left the caffeine in the formula. This was due to the prohibition and temperance movements of the time and concerns that the small amount of cocaine in the drink could lead to a cocaine habit.

The drink was still considered by some as being something to avoid. The Prescott Daily News reported in their July 1, 1907 issue that the U. S. Army has issued orders forbidding the sale of "Coca-Cola" in post exchanges after reports concerning the effects of the drink and an analysis of the ingredients. In the majority of samples, Prof. Wiley, chief chemist, found traces of cocaine and caffeine. Officers reported to the War Dept. that enlisted men have discovered the effects the drink produces and, to get this effect, they drink six or seven glasses of the stuff and the result is injurious to health as well as destructive to morals.

Coca-Cola became one of the most popular soda fountain drinks and was sold in many states. Today, Coca-Cola is one of the most popular soft drinks in the world. It is sold in over 200 countries and millions of gallons of it are consumed by people of all ages. The only two countries where Coca-Cola is not sold are Cuba and North Korea. The company has expanded their products to include Diet Coke, Sprite, Fanta, Barq's root beer, Fresca, Minute Maid orange juice, Simply orange juice, Gold Peak tea, Powerade sports drink, and bottled water. The company offers over 200 brands of commonly used products.

Some people still think of Coca-Cola as being a beneficial medicine. They claim it helps settle an upset stomach and is good for coughs. The company says there is no evidence of any medicinal benefit in drinking Coca-Cola now.

There is a big Coca-Cola Museum in Atlanta, GA which might be interesting to visit. Many people collect anything with the name Coca-Cola on it included advertising, signs, and old bottles.

There is much competition in the soft drink business these days. The top three are Coca-Cola, Dr. Pepper, and Pepsi and there are many store brands which are cheaper but may not taste as good.

People have different names for soft drinks such as "pop", "soda", "soda pop", and "soft drink" depending on where you live. Some people, especially in the South, call any type of soda a Coke no matter the brand. I like my aunt's name for soft drinks. She called it "belly washer".



Many of us remember the days when a Coke only cost a few cents and we could collect used bottles and return them to the store for a little spending money. The bottles would then be washed and refilled. Do you remember when the bottles had the name of a town on the bottom showing where the drink was bottled? Some played a game to see who had a bottle from the greatest distance away. Over 1300 towns appeared on Coke bottles and collectors enjoy finding one from some obscure town. Another memory, especially in the South, is getting a cold

Coke and pouring a bag of toasted peanuts in the bottle.

Coca-Cola has some other uses. An online search has these listed---good for scrubbing pots and pans, loosening rusty bolts, repels slugs and snails, promotes plant growth in gardens, used in recipes such as a cake or glaze for a ham, defrosting an icy windshield, removing gum from hair, remove blood from clothing, helps during an asthma attack, cures nausea, good for hiccups, remove oil stains from driveway, clean vehicle battery terminals, and several others.

ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Matthew Rothert Sr. from Camden, Arkansas was president of the Camden Furniture Co. for many years. He was also an avid coin collector. One day in church as the collection plate was being passed around, he noticed that the coins had the words "In God We Trust" engraved on them, but the words were missing on the paper money. He began a campaign to change this. He wrote many letters, made speeches, and contacted elected officials about this. As a result of his efforts, Arkansas senator J. William Fulbright and other politicians in Washington introduced a bill to put the national motto on paper currency. The bill passed in both houses of Congress by unanimous consent and President Eisenhower signed it into law in July, 1958. The first bills with "In God We Trust" appeared in 1957. The motto replaced the unofficial motto "E Pluribus Unum", a Latin phrase which means "out of many, one" which appears on the Great Seal of the United State, on coins, and on the one-dollar bill.

Through the efforts of this one man, our official national motto now appears on all paper currency. Many police departments in our area have the motto on their police cars.

Of course, there are always some who want to eliminate the word “God” from anything involving the government citing separation of church and state. They even want the phrase “under God” removed from the Pledge of Allegiance. Several court cases have been brought saying the motto is unconstitutional. It has been upheld by several courts of appeal, but the U. S. Supreme Court has never ruled on the matter.

At least for now, all our money has the words “In God We Trust” thanks to a man from Camden, Arkansas who felt strongly about the issue and made an effort to get it included on the paper money. It took him four years to get this done.

Matthew Rothert died in 1989 and was buried at Memorial Park cemetery in Camden. Next to his simple grave marker is this much larger marker with the words “In God We Trust”.



The older generation thought nothing of getting up at five o'clock in the morning, and the younger generation doesn't think much of it either.

September 1 is World Letter Writing Day

This day encourages people worldwide to pick up a pen, grab a piece of paper, and write a letter. There are many good reasons to write a letter.

It's a thoughtful way to communicate with those you love. The receiver may treasure your letter for years to come. It's a great way to strengthen a friendship, marriage, or other meaningful relationship.

It can help someone better understand your perspective or position on a certain topic. People who write letters of gratitude feel happier and more satisfied with life. If you have beautiful handwriting, it's a way to show off your penmanship skills. If not, it's the thought that counts.

Writing a letter forces you to really think about what you're writing. Far too often, we hurriedly send texts and emails without really thinking about the impact our words have on the receiver. With a handwritten letter, you are forced to be more careful with the words you choose.

Here is a letter about a letter; all composed without a specific letter.

Letter Without 'A' Vowel – by Don Mathis

The letter she wrote on yellow sheets symbolized her timidity, her shyness. Or the lemony note could represent her bittersweet decision.

She used blue ink to show her mood, deep like the gulf, somber like the morning mists. The brown blot spoke of trembling sips of coffee, spilled enough to imprint brunette rings – chronicle of thoughtful moments between the times ink met note.

The envelope seemed to be closed with one kiss – vestiges of red lipstick. There were tints of light cherry with degrees of pink; pink like lobster shell brightened by months of summer sun. These rose hues must convey our love's intensity from previous times.

The missive seemed to be closed with drippings from liquid resin. This likely represents the excitement of our former life, the swirling mixture of glorious beginnings with hopeful desires.

She wrote goodbye, cheerio, so long, Godspeed, toodle-loo, see you round, not to mention wiedersehen. She used yellow sheets with blue ink. There were umber blotches on the document with red lipstick beside colorful swirls on the envelope. This is the method she used to convey her desertion.

These colors comprise the prism of my gloom.



AS POOR AS JOB'S TURKEY

I have heard this phrase all my life but never thought much about its origin. We all know the story of Job in the Bible, a rich man who lost just about everything, but in the end was rewarded for his faithfulness.

Actually, the phrase is credited to a Canadian judge and humorist, Thomas Chandler Haliburton who wrote under the pen name "Sam Slick". In his writings from the 1800s, he mentioned that Job's turkey had only one feather in his tail and had to lean against a fence post to gobble. The phrase caught on and was soon heard in this country, especially in the South.

Turkeys are not mentioned in the Bible Job never had a turkey because the bird is native to the western hemisphere. The Middle Eastern country of Turkey was so named because it was the "land of the Turks".

NEVADA COUNTY CEMETERY RECORDS

You can find the most up-to-date cemetery records for Nevada County at this link:

<https://sandyland.dreamhosters.com/cemetery>

You can search for a particular name or view all records for each cemetery. This survey lists over 27,500 names in 111 cemeteries.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

Your hard work is VERY appreciated, Jerry! I am truly grateful for all the many years you have provided help on records for my grandfather. You have helped complete a portion of my family's history that would have been lost.

from Julie in North Carolina

I am a descendant of Lera Winders, the oldest daughter of John F. Winders and Margaritt. I grew up knowing Pearl, the youngest of the three children. Ashley was the middle child. I would love to learn what happened to Lera. She is my great grandmother whom I never knew. I believe she died in 1975 but I have no other information. If there is anyone who has information on her, please contact me.

from Michelle Email: jmlawrence@bellsouth.net