



# Pelly Coffee Pot



### RANDOM TIDBITS

Sarah Josepha Hale's 1830 poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was inspired by a little girl named Mary Tyler. Her pet lamb used to follow her to school.

Australian soldiers used "We're Off to See the Wizard" as a marching song during World War II

"The Alphabet Song," "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star," and "Baa Baa Black Sheep" are all sung to the same music: a 1765 French song titled "Ah! Vous dirais-je, Maman."  
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### Dangerous Food

A dietician was once addressing a large audience in Chicago. "The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Vegetables can be disastrous, and none of us realizes the germs in our drinking water.

"But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all of us eat it. Can anyone here tell me what lethal product I'm referring to? You, sir, in the first row, please give us your idea."

The man lowered his head and said, "Wedding cake."

When a mime dies, do other mimes observe a moment of talking?

A brunette was confused when she received a Christmas card from her blonde friend that read, "Happy ABCDEFGHIJK MNOPQRSTUVWXYZ!" She called her blonde friend and asked, "What's with your weird card? That's not how to spell Christmas." The blonde replied, "Oh, I know, silly. I wished you the other one, 'No L!'"

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A customer was harassing the airline ticket agent, yelling and cursing, but the agent was courteous and polite, smiling as he verbally abused her. When he finally left, the next person in line asked, "Does that happen often? I can't believe how sweet you were." The agent smiled. "Oh, don't worry. I took good care of him. He's going to Detroit, but his bags are going to Bangkok!"

Fastest-growing plant on earth: bamboo, which can grow as much as 35 inches a day.

The process of wild cats turning into rodent-hunters, then pampered pets, and, eventually, enthusiastic Roomba (robotic vacuum cleaner) riders, is poorly understood. But a new archaeological study suggests cats were domesticated much earlier, and over a much broader area, than previously believed.

Data on cat domestication is sparse. Remains of a wild cat were buried near a human on the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus 9,500 years ago, but the oldest evidence of domestic cats comes from Egypt, 4,000 years ago. What cats were up to in the five millennia between the two discoveries is almost a complete mystery (though we suspect napping took up a good deal of that time).

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At first sight we knew it was the perfect Christmas tree. Tall and full, with no bare spots. Even our grown children were impressed.

"Wow," said my son, "if you didn't know it was real, it could easily pass as artificial."

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A family had moved to Seattle from Texas, and each of them missed their old home. That December, when they went to pick up their first-grade son from school, his teacher told them about a conversation she overheard.

One boy said, "We're Catholic, and we are going to Christmas Mass."

"Were Jewish," said another child. "And we're going to have a Hanukkah celebration."

"Madison chimed in, "We're Texans, and were going to have a barbecue."

**Events - 2013**  
Dec 31 - New Year's Eve

**Events - 2014**  
Jan 2 - garbage day  
Jan 6 - school begins  
Feb 17 - 21 School Winter Break

Mar 9 - Daylight savings time  
Mar 20 - First day of Spring  
Mar 31 - Easter Sunday

May 11 - Mother's day  
*Only 131 days to Mother's day*  
A philanthropist is a man who gives away what he should be giving back.

On the winter solstice the sun appears at its lowest point in the sky, and its noontime elevation appears to be the same for several days before and after the solstice. Hence the origin of the word solstice, which comes from Latin solstitium, from sol, "sun" and -stitium, "a stoppage." Following the winter solstice, the days begin to grow longer and the nights shorter.



I always take life with a grain of salt. Plus a slice of lemon, and a shot of tequila.



A police car pulled me over near the high school where I teach. As the officer asked for my license and registration, my students began to drive past. Some honked their horns, others hooted, and still others stopped to admonish me for speeding. Finally the officer asked me if I was a teacher at the school, and I told him I was.

"I think you've paid your debt to society," he said with a smile, and left without giving me a ticket.

Mrs. Jones was reading a letter at breakfast. Suddenly she looked up suspiciously at her husband.

"Henry," she said, "I've just received a letter from mother saying she isn't accepting our invitation to come and stay, as we do not appear to want her. What does she mean by that? I told you to write and say that she was to come at her own convenience. You did write, didn't you?"

"Er, yes, I did," said the husband. "But I couldn't spell convenience, so I made it risk."

### New Years RESOLUTIONS

2007: I will get my weight down below 180.

2008: I will watch my calories until I get below 190.

2009: I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200.

2010: I will try to develop a realistic attitude about my weight.

2011: I will work out 5 days a week.

2012: I will work out 3 days a week.

2013: I will try to drive past a gym at least once a week.

His blonde date asked from the shower, "Do you have any other shampoo?" "Why? What's wrong?" "This bottle says it's for dry hair and mine's already wet!"

"The most important thing in communication is to hear what isn't being said."

- Peter F. Drucker.

Little-known fact: When it comes to extracting oxygen from the air we breathe, we humans are just OK.

Birds are more efficient breathers than we are. So are alligators and, according to a new study, monitor lizards, and probably most dinosaurs were as well.

Humans are what are called tidal breathers. When we breathe in, fresh air moves into our lungs along progressively smaller airways, eventually ending in little sacs called alveoli, where our bloodstream picks up oxygen and deposits carbon dioxide. Then the "old" air moves out of our lungs along the same path it came in.

But birds, alligators and monitor lizards are "unidirectional" breathers. After the air moves into their lungs, it begins to follow a system of tubes similar to arteries, capillaries and veins. In this system, the air moves through the air tubes in only one direction.

And, it turns out, their system is more efficient at extracting oxygen from the air than ours is.

### Letters received by the welfare department.

★I am forwarding a marriage certificate and six children. I have seven but one died, which was baptized on a half piece of paper.

★I am writing the Welfare Department to say that my baby was born two years ago. When do I get my money?

★Mrs. Jones has not had clothes for a year, and has been visited regularly by clergy.

★I cannot get sick pay. I have six children. Can you tell me why?

★I am glad to report that my husband who is missing is dead.

★This my eighth child. What are you going to do about it?

★Please find out for certain if my husband is dead. The man I am living with can't eat or do anything until he knows.

★I am very annoyed to find out you have branded my son illiterate. This is a dirty lie, as I was married a week before he was born.

★In answer to your letter, I have given birth to a boy weighing 10 pounds. I hope this is satisfactory.

★I am forwarding my marriage certificate and 5 children, one of which is a mistake as you can see.

★My husband got his project cut off two weeks ago, and I haven't had any relief since.

★Unless I get my husband's money pretty soon, I will be forced to lead an immortal life.

★You have changed my little boy to a girl. Will this make a difference?

★I have no children yet as my husband is a truck driver and works day and night.

★In accordance with your instructions, I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.

★I want money quickly as I can get it. I have been in bed with the doctor for two weeks, and he doesn't do me any good. If things don't improve I will have to send for another doctor.

Ole's neighbor Sven had a boy, Sven Junior, who came home one day and asked, "Papa, I have da biggest feet in da third grade. Is dat becoss I'm Norvegian?"

"No," said Sven, "It's because you're NINETEEN."

### Holiday Fruit Cake -

Ingredients:

1 cup water

1 cup sugar

4 large eggs

2 cups candied fruit

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon salt

1 cup brown sugar

lemon juice

nuts

1 bottle whiskey (sample the whiskey to check for quality)

### Directions:

1. Take a large bowl. Check the whiskey again - to be sure it is the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.

2. Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

3. Add one teaspoon of sugar and beat again.

4. Make sure the whiskey is still okay. Cry another tup.

5. Turn off the mixer.

6. Break two leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of candied fruit.

7. Mix on the turner. If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers, pry it loose with a drewscraver.

8. Sample the whiskey to check for tonsisticity.

9. Next, sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who cares?

10. Check the whiskey.

11. Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.

12. Add one table. Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find.

13. Grease the oven.

14. Turn the cake tin to 350 degrees.

Don't forget to beat off the turner.

15. Throw the bowl out of the window, check the whiskey again and go to bed.

Enjoy!