

Chorus Chatter

News and Musings for Young at Heart Chorus Members

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Editor: Ray Scroggins

It Pays to Warm Up



Researchers at Duke University published a study in *Animal Health* that discovered birds sing in the morning to warm up their voices. They report that our feathered friends really don't start "trilling" their songs until later in the day. Ironing out their warbles and trills in the morning helps them woo mates and warn off competitors once the sun is high. Our goals may not be as high, but once we get back to singing, we need to remember the importance of warming up.

Look Through the Windows

If you've been feeling isolated because of the pandemic, check out [Window-Swap.com](https://window-swap.com) where you can view the world through various people's windows. Contributors provide 10-minute videos, and visitors can move from window to window as they like. You can copy and paste this link in your browser. <https://window-swap.com/window>

BottomLine

An old vaudevillian was holding forth about one of his great performances. Bragging about the audience reaction, he said, "I had them glued to their seats!" To which one of his listeners replied, "How clever of you."

Can You Figure These Out?

1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child's name?
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop who is five feet ten inches tall and wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?
3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
4. How much dirt is there in a hole that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?
5. What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?
6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
7. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?
8. If you were running a race and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?

9. Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?

10. If a farmer has 5 haystacks in one field and 4 haystacks in the other field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?

(See answers at the end)



This is India, where you call for technical support!

Doc, I can't stop singing "The Green, Green Grass of Home."

That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome.

Is it common?

Well, 'It's Not Unusual.'

The Buffalo Theory



In the TV series "Cheers," Cliff Clavin explained his buffalo theory of intelligence to his buddy, Norm. He said, "Well you see, Norm, it's like this...a herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo, and when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general health and speed of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Now, as we know, excessive intake of alcohol kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. And that, Norm, is why you always feel smarter after a few beers."

In Japan, these feline figures, often found



in businesses, are thought to bring luck and wealth to the owners. With their raised (and sometimes waving) paws, they welcome customers.

Things You Probably Didn't Know

- A rat can last longer without water than a camel.
- The dot over the letter "i" is called a tittle.
- A raisin dropped in a glass of fresh champagne will bounce up and down continuously from the bottom of the glass to the top.
- A duck's quack doesn't echo. No one knows why.
- A 2" X 4" Stud is really 1-1/2" by 3-1/2".
- During the chariot scene in 'Ben Hur,' a small red car can be seen in the distance (and Heston's wearing a watch).
- Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
- Because metal was scarce, the Oscars given out during World War II were made of wood.
- The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564,000
- There are no words in the dictionary that rhyme with orange, purple and silver.
- The name 'Wendy' was made up for the book Peter Pan. There was never a recorded 'Wendy' before.
- Bruce Lee was so fast that they actually had to s-l-o-w film down so you could see his moves.
- The first CD pressed in the US was Bruce Springsteen's 'Born in the USA.'
- The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.
- The first product Motorola started to develop was a record player for automobiles. At that time, the most known player on the market was the Victrola, so they called themselves Motorola.
- Charlie Chaplin once won third prize in a Charlie Chaplin look-alike contest.
- Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.
- The glue on Israeli postage is certified kosher.
- Bats always turn left when exiting a cave!

1. Johnny, of course.
2. Meat.
3. Mt. Everest; it just wasn't discovered yet.
4. There is no dirt in a hole.
5. Incorrectly.
6. Billy lives in the Southern Hemisphere.
7. You can't take pictures with a wooden leg. You need a camera.
8. You would be in 2nd. You passed the person in second place, not first.
9. Neither; the yolk of the egg is yellow.
10. One. If he combines all of his haystacks, they all become one big one.