



EASTERN PENN SUPPLY

Quality Products, Great Prices and a Couple Laughs

February 2016



By "Jammer" Don Conyngham

Handwritten signature of Don Conyngham

Opinions expressed in the Chatterbox are solely the responsibility of the author and do not reflect the opinions of the Management, Employees, or Owners of Eastern Penn Supply. If for any reason you feel the need for slings and arrows, please direct them at the face pictured above. Since healthy debate is always a good thing, you may e-mail Jammer at dconyngham@easternpenn.com

Chatterbox

Welcome to February friends, the shortest month of the year because it tends to be the most miserable. But inside every cloud is a silver lining; & buried in the middle of every cold, dark, frozen February is a 'Valentine's Day', a chance for you & your loved one to cuddle & fan the embers of your love back to a flame. Unless the cynics are right & it's an excuse for us guys to get raked back over the coals before they've even finished paying for Christmas. Life is heavily flavored with a strong dose of *how you take it*; I'd rather play lead in a love story, than sap in a con scam, any day of the week...



The net result of Pennsylvania's budget crisis seems to be our cars being beat to pieces while we travel to work because they can't fix the roads. Because we work, we can pay taxes. People on EFT benefits don't work but still get all their money... Our state government honestly believes the best way to fix being billion\$ in debt is to spend more billion\$. We live in a society where *hard work & success* are now punished with higher taxes, but *not working at all* is over-rewarded with so much free food, drink, & sloth, that obesity is the number one illness of welfare recipients under the age of 55. No wonder taxpayers of all stripes are fed up with the political machine, & looking electing rebels & rogues. Cast your vote left, right, or down the middle, but get out & vote. We are reaching a tipping point, we all need to pull an oar.



Some interesting facts you may already know, but February is the perfect month to waste time contemplating them. Do you know why airplane pilots call out *MayDay! MayDay! MayDay!* on the radio when in trouble? Turns out the French, being the 1st to put radios in planes, had their pilots called out *M'aidez! M'aidez! M'aidez!* which is French for "*help me!*" Everyone not French thought *M'aidez* sounded like *Mayday*, & in 1937 it entered the internationally accepted radio protocol code.... Did you know when a male bee climaxes during sex, his testicles explode & he dies? This isn't the amazing fact though, the amazing fact is *that there are still bees around!* Kind of makes you want to hang around the hive & say, in your best Australian wild animal show host imitation, *'Psst, mate; she ain't worth it!'*.... Charlie Chaplin anonymously entered a 'Charlie Chaplin Look Alike' contest, but to add insult to injury, he only came in third.... If you had 3 quarters, 4 dimes, & 4 pennies in your pocket, you would have \$1.19, but still couldn't make change for \$1.... The earliest deliberate contraceptive discovered was used by the Ancient Egyptians over 4,000 years ago. It was crocodile dung, & I imagine it worked very well indeed! I mean, would you be intimate with anyone that ate crocodile dung?... The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.... What states in the USA do you think are the furthest East, West, & North? (This is a tough one) The answer is Alaska.... Just, Alaska! Point Barrow in Alaska is the furthest north by 1,000 miles, but how the heck can AK claim the furthest west & east too? See, the International Date Line, which denotes global "east" & "west", runs between the last two islands on Alaska's Aleutian Island chain. So the last islet is the furthest east USA point, & the next to last islet is the furthest west! If you can't win a free beer from these little brain twisters, you just aren't trying hard!



More funny bumper stickers we'd like to see; Some people hear voices some see invisible people & some poor folks have no imagination whatsoever.... *Whoever said 'The only constant in life is change', never got screwed by a vending machine...* The economy at the end of 2016 was so bad, they had to shut off the light at the end of the tunnel... *When all you see around you is chaos, panic, & disorder; your work there is done....* "You in the flying saucer; the Earth is full of idiocy, & trust us, you don't want to meet our leaders; so when you go back to the home planet, can I go with you?"...



Police in Yorkshire, England, have released a CCTV image of a man they want regarding a break in robbery at the Malton "Super Drug" Drugstore. Anyone who recognizes the man, described as 5'8" tall & 45 years old, is asked to contact North Yorkshire Police. The man broke into the drugstore & stole hundreds of tablets of what he thought were pain-killers. What he actually stole was 'Immodium', a well known binding agent for treating diarrhea. As well releasing pictures, police described the suspect as 'probably looking very uncomfortable'...



We lost another good local WW-2 vet recently. Too soon they'll all be gone. Fredrick R. Payne was born on July 31, 1911, in Elmira, New York, the son of a Spanish-American War veteran. He attended the US Naval Academy in the 1930s, and upon graduation reported for duty with the USMC, becoming a LT.jg Marine fighter pilot. Soon Fred arrived on a beautiful looking, but miserable, malarial piece of 'not even in paradise's area code' named Guadalcanal in September of 1942. At a time few Americans had heard of "the canal", Fred was flying beat up F4Fs, kept running with scavenged parts, off of shell hole scarred Henderson Field. Payne and his squadron flew against Japan's best. At a time when the Japanese had an undefeatable aura of invincibility, Fred spat right back in their eye; shooting down 6 enemy in the next 3 weeks. Later aces did claim many more kills, but gave these early fighters all the tough credit; "Sure, we had more kills, of untrained inexperienced, replacements for their dead aces. But the Jap aces of September 1942 were tough as nails bastards that would kill you as soon as you made the smallest mistake. Every kill Fred Payne and his squadron mates clawed down was one of those veteran aces..." Fred Payne was honored for his actions at Guadalcanal with *the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Silver Star*. Many a hero earned one of those, Fred earned all three. Payne served his beloved Corps until he retired a Brigadier General. Recently Fred died at the age of 104. I *told* you he was a fighter; Death may have finally beat Fred Payne, but you can bet your boots Death walked away limping with a black eye! We should all be proud to call such a hero a local guy. At the same time we should wonder where replacements for such men are coming from? From my perspective, we seem to be losing our 'aces', and replacing them with 'deuces', just like the Japanese did in 1943.... See you in March, mates!



USMC pilot Fred Payne, 1942

CONTENTS

- Eddie Knows!2
- HVAC3
- Plumbing4
- PVF4
- Electrical5
- Tools6
- Water Systems6
- Birthdays7