

# EDITORIAL

## WISE AND OTHERWISE

By Kent A. Stock



### What is this Discount of which you speak?

I dug this out of the Wise and Otherwise archives. Hope you enjoy!

Have you ever had an innocuous question tossed at you out of the blue that just leaves you stammering? Of course I sometimes get stumped when people ask my name and address. The mind just goes blank but this is a little different, I was not sure how to respond appropriately.

In line at the grocery store, my items were scanned and bagged when the very young (aren't there child labor laws around here?) asked me if I wanted the Senior Citizens Discount. I did one of those look around things first as if she must be talking to someone else. Nope she is looking

right at me so I did my usual stuttering and stammering gibberish before going to my last resort when I am uncomfortable or confounded – ma-niacal laughter.

I asked her “how old do you think I am?” which was stupid because she obviously thinks I'm old enough for the discount. “Is it the gray hair?” I ask still laughing like a hyena which I'm sure made the check-out girl, who was probably 20 after all but kids these days look so young, think “you are not just old but crazy.” I continued my fun banter about age which probably did offend the lady two carts back who was at least 117.

I'm doing all this because I panic thinking do I look 65? 60? 55? Amazingly enough as we age I don't think I look

that age at all. Other people do but not me! Just kidding so now I am holding up the line of the rest of us old fogies trying to understand this inquiry which had thrown me for a loop when I saw the sign – Senior Citizen Discount 50 and over.

I suddenly felt better about her question but worse about my reaction. So, to make matters worse, I then go on to explain that I'll be 50 in ten months. Oh, and I apologized but I was still chortling as she started helping me put things in the cart. I'm sure if she'd had a panic button she would have pressed it by now so she thought get the loony bird out of my line, 49 or a!

I wasn't mad or offended and I did find the episode amusing. I think dumbfounded is the word I'm searching for. I certainly was found to be dumb I'm positive. Thank goodness she did not ask for my name and address so she could put a tag on me, call my relatives to come save me as I'd escaped. I'm sure I could not have come up with that either. That's what happens when you get to be my age I guess. Now I'm just bummed that I did not get my discount and saved that ninety-six cents – ten more months and I'll be back you young whippersnapper.

## Holding It All Together

by Amy McCollom



### Ships That Haunt Our Past

All it took was 4 notes of the song and instantly I warped back in time. I was no longer a middle-aged housewife rushing to get her children off to school on a chilly fall day. Instead, I was an 11-year old kid, sitting in a yellow bean bag chair, quickly jotting down the lyrics to one of the greatest shipwreck songs ever written as it played on my transistor radio that cold November day in 1976.

Gordon Lightfoot's voice was perfect for the song, as he sounded just like a sailor himself, as if retelling the story from beyond the grave. The Edmund Fitzgerald, a mighty ship on the great lakes, hauling iron ore, found it's way into a witchy windstorm of hurricane proportions. The waves and the wind wrestled the ship down, and 29 souls were lost before help could come.

It was a song unusual for it's day, when most music of that time was aimed to “make you feel like dancing,” or give you some kind of fever that felt good. But not The Wreck Of The Edmund Fitzgerald. It was life, cold and hard and factual. It made you think, and feel human and vulnerable. But sometimes we need to be reminded of that too.

What started it all was the

turning of the calendar from October to November that morning. My husband, likes to wake the children up by playing a song for them on his phone, and we were trying to think of a song about November, when he remembered the line:

The lake, it is said, never gives up her dead

When the skies of November turn gloomy .

That's what took me back to the 1970's, but I came back to my senses just in time to kiss my husband goodbye before he left for work, and I finished getting the kids ready for school. I even taught them a little something about history, and a great ship and a brave crew, and that not all stories are sugar coated. Then I went on with my day, and my life. I moved on.

Unfortunately, there are many people who seem to get stuck after being warped back in time by “ships” that haunt their past, such as the loss of loved ones, or tragedies, or events that have been unpleasant. November is not a bad month, yet I have heard people say loudly how much they hate it.

Let me bring reality back into focus; looking back will only keep you where you are. You cannot move forward emotionally if you want to hold onto everything around you emotionally. Yes, there will be times when those “ghost ships” will drift past you in the ocean of life; do NOT board that ship. You do not want to be a casualty of an old shipwreck. Stay off of the ghost ships. Do not go down memory lane too often or you might not be able to find your way back someday.

When a sad memory comes floating by, or the thought that you just want Thanksgiving and Christmas over because you can't share it with a loved one enters your mind, stop in your tracks. Would your loved one want you to be laying at the bottom of that wrecked ship like the rest of the crew, a living-but-dead victim? Or would your loved one want you to make the holidays even more special

and precious, sharing it with those who you love and have with you? I do not think anyone would want their friend or family to go forth and be miserable for the rest of their life because of them.

I know that bad stuff happens, and it isn't fair, and living in this world can be real Debbie Downer at times. The good news is that life down here is only temporary. We will all get a new body and new life someday, and how that turns out, well, all depends on the choices you make.

If you want to bury the ghost ships of your past, you can do it! You can even get help to move forward and find peace and strength to move on! In the Bible, it says in Phillippians 4:4-8 -

“4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

No matter what your past may contain, and no matter what memories get stirred up during the next few months, don't let that ruin what could be a brand new beautiful start in your life.

If anyone would like information on how they can get through the holidays while struggling with the past, please email me at rudyan-drosasmom@yahoo.com and I can get some information to you. As the leaves fall, let's leave our pasts behind too, and turn over a new leaf in our own lives. May God bless you all.

**Villa Grove News**  
USPS 659-500  
Greg Hoskins, Publisher  
Jamie Morse, Advertising  
vgads@mediacombb.net  
Dorinda Prince, Office Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
In Douglas and Champaign Counties: \$32/year  
In Illinois: \$34.00/year  
Out of State: \$36/year  
periodical postage paid at Villa Grove, Illinois  
Published every Thursday by:  
Better Newspapers Inc.  
5-7 South Main Street  
P. O. Box 20  
Villa Grove, Illinois 61956  
Postmaster: send address changes to  
Villa Grove News, P. O. Box 20, Villa Grove, IL 61956  
Ph.: (217) 832-4201  
FAX: (217) 832-4001  
E-mail: vgnews@mchsi.com

**DEADLINES**  
**Classified- Friday @ 4pm**  
**News- Friday @ 4PM**  
**Ads- Friday @ 4PM**

## Area Church Services

### FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

1 South Pine Street,  
Villa Grove, Illinois  
Wheelchair Accessible  
Where Lives are Changed!  
Pastor Jerry L. Conner  
Church 832-7071  
Residence 832-8577  
Sunday School—10:00 a.m.  
Worship Service—10:00 a.m.  
Evening Evangelistic  
Service—6:30 p.m.  
Monday  
1st one of each month  
Ladies Auxiliary, 7:00 p.m.  
Monday—Friday  
Ladies Prayer Group—9:00 a.m.  
Tuesday  
Youth Service—7:00-8:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
Bible Study—7:30 p.m.  
Free Home Bible Study  
We welcome you to worship with  
us in all of our services

### VICTORY CHURCH

100 E. Second St • Camargo,  
Illinois 61919  
Pastor—Duane Piercy  
Church 832-8398,  
Residence 832-9792  
Email  
victorychurchcamargo@gmail.com  
Web Page: victorychurch.life  
Find us on Facebook  
Service Times  
Sunday  
Adult Sunday School—  
9-9:45 a.m.  
Soul Cafe- 9am-9:45  
Victory Kids Sunday School  
10:00am  
Worship & Service—10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday  
Men's & Women's Bible  
Study-6:30-8 p.m.  
RUSH Youth Group (1st & 3rd  
Wednesday), 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
Prayer Group—6:00-7:00 p.m.  
Worship Team 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
American Sign Language Avail-  
able • Wheelchair accessible •  
Nursery Care • Sports Ministries  
• Motorcycle Ministry • Local  
Mission Team

### LIVING HOPE FELLOWSHIP

(An Independent New Testament  
Church)  
South of Villa Grove on Rt. 130  
Pastor Randy Walters  
Phone: 217-218-3217  
Elder — Pete Lake, 832-2400  
Sunday Worship Service—  
10 a.m.  
Communion is observed  
each week.  
Children's Church:  
pre-school through fourth grade  
For transportation to any service  
call: 217-218-3217  
Church facility is  
wheelchair accessible  
“Room for everyone. Enough  
love to go around.”

### VILLA GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“Growing Closer to the Heart of God”  
302 Second St., Villa Grove  
Pastor—Rev. Sandi Hire  
Church 832-3971  
Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday 9am - noon  
Email: secretary.vgumc@yahoo.com  
Website: www.vgumcweb.org  
Find us on Facebook for upcoming events  
Sunday  
9:15 am Sunday School  
For All Ages  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Child care available during  
Worship  
Open Communion first Sunday  
of each month  
Walkers are welcome Monday-  
Thursday during office hours in  
the Henson New Life Center  
Please Join us for:  
"The Story" - The New  
Testament Starting on September  
17th In both Worship and Sunday  
School  
Quilters- contact the office for  
opportunities to join our quilters

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

“Come Rejoice With Us”  
701 N. Sycamore Street Villa Grove  
Phone (217) 832-5231  
Fax (217) 832-9348  
website: www.fccvg.com  
e-mail: fccvg@frontier.com  
Minister—Mike Zylstra  
e-mail: fccvgmin@frontier.com  
Morning Worship—9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Celebration  
9:30a.m.  
Age 4-5th Grade  
Sunday Morning  
Celebration Leaders:  
Cecile Cassida & Seth Shunk  
Sunday School—10:45 a.m.  
Junior High Youth Group (Grades 6-8)  
1st & 3rd Sunday 5-6pm  
High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)  
1st & 3rd Sundays, 6-7:30pm  
Youth Group Leader: Brenda Logan  
Nursery care at all services.  
Open Communion offered each Sunday

### CAMARGO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

103 E. Main Street  
P.O. Box 122, Camargo, IL 61919  
Church—832-9388  
e-mail: umccamargo@gmail.com  
Summer Office Hours:  
Tuesday and Thursday  
8:30 a.m. - noon  
Pastor - Rev. Lenny Summar  
Traditional Worship - 9:15 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship 10:30  
"Come just as you are to worship"  
Open Communion first Sunday  
of each month  
Prayer Group - Wednesday 6 p.m.

### SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

208 N. Pine Stret, Villa Grove  
Pastor -Rev. Aloy Ndeanaefo  
Office: 832-8352  
Hours: M-F 8:30am-1:30pm  
Email: villagrove.hume@gmail.com  
website: sacredheartandstmichael.com  
Mass Times: Saturday: 4pm  
Sunday 10:00am  
Sunday @ St. Michaels in Hume  
8:00am  
PSR:  
Wed Eve 1st - 8th grade 6:30 - 7:20  
and 9th - 12th 7:30 - 8:30 pm.

<p><b>Business and Professional DIRECTORY</b></p> <p>The following Business and Professional People are ready to serve you. Call for their services.</p> <p>INSURANCE</p> <p> <b>The Hillard Agency</b> 217-832-2411 9 N. Main St. Villa Grove</p> <p>Lon Tay- Owner Lon.Tay@hillardagency.com Betsy Orwick- Insurance Specialist Betsy.Orwick@hillardagency.com</p> <p>Quilting</p> <p><b>Trisa's Quilting Corner &amp; More</b> 109 S. Oak Street, Villa Grove <b>217-681-1891</b> Long Arm Quilting, Binding, Sewing Machine Cleaning &amp; Repair, Scissors Sharpening &amp; Gifts</p> <p><b>Hours:</b> Mon.-Tue. By appointment only Wed. &amp; Fri. 9-5 ; Thurs. 9-7 ; Sat. 9-12 <b>Find me on Facebook</b></p> <p>PRINT</p> <p><b>Villa Grove News</b> 5-7 S. Main Street, Villa Grove, IL Phone: 832-4201 <u>All your print job needs:</u> Business Cards Raffle Tickets Envelopes Copies and Faxes and more</p>	<p>INSURANCE</p> <p><b>Thomas &amp; Ellars Insurance Agency, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Justin R. Thomas David Ellars</b></p> <p>Auto-Home-Business-Life 401 Devonshire Drive Champaign, IL 61820 Bus: (217) 356-2400</p> <p>EYE CARE</p> <p><b>CHITTICK FAMILY EYE CARE</b></p> <p>• Adult &amp; Pediatric Eye Care • Contact Lenses • Custom Vision Correction • Digital Retinal Exam • Glaucoma detection &amp; management 10 West Adams • Villa Grove, IL 61956 Office: 832-2111 Hours: Mon - Fri 8 - 5 Medicare assignments accepted/Health Alliance Provider</p> <p>VETERINARY SERVICES</p> <p><b>Four Counties Mobile Veterinary Services</b></p> <p>Kathleen M. Mcmanamon, DVM</p> <p>House and Farm Calls Small Animal and Equine</p> <p>Hours: Monday-Friday, Noon-8 p.m. Saturday, By Appointment Phone: (217) 834-3472</p>
---	--