Viral Poetry
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Haiku (and a few limericks) written by 3 generations of family on 2 coasts - to stay connected during the 1st 3 months of the COVID 19 pandemic of 2020

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“Anyone want to do a daily haiku check in? You could either be a daily regular (if we don’t get a haiku from you we will ask someone to go check on you) or a sporadic participator (send along one when you are inspired). The first person to start the day can start a new email chain with the date at the top and everyone can respond to that each day. They don’t have to be about covid but they could be.” ~Pam
March 18
The woods of Baxter
The media can't reach me
Safe from the virus
~Pam

The mighty Thor's snores
My favorite lullaby
Gently bring my sleep
~Nick

My social distance
Is your coveted reprieve
Sometimes we need space
~Eagle

Group isolate time
Puzzling Baking Walking
Togetherness now
~Amy

Masked figures greet me
as I return from birding--
viral Mardi Gras.
~Pat

All morning hiking
Heard the red-headed pecker
A lovely new trail
~Anne

It’s corona time.
So
Get yo hand sanitizer
And
Stay inside all day
~Acadia

We connect and share
Gathering in the moon circle
Community rises
~Karen

Annunciation
Oversimplification
Consideration
~Eli

March 19
The shelves are empty
No toilet paper in site
Except in Baxter
~Pam

A long rainy day
The corridors are empty
I'll start War and Peace
~Pat

Now that washing hands
Is patriotic duty
I lather longer
~Eagle

Sweet kitty watches
Atop his favorite couch
Ever Suspicious
~Eli

My life is on zoom
Meditation, work and friends
Except for this house
~Karen

And celebrate the
Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Bores nest hole in pines
~Anne

Timberdoodle peents!
Let's call them timberdooodles
Woodcock sounds funny
~Nick

Remote Learning it's NOT Homework
Please be Quiet I'm online on ZOOM
Walking in sunshine is Best
~David
March 20
Virtual worlds rise
Gaming communities thrive
moms must come to terms
~Pam

The first daffodils
Amaryllis is blooming
Force forsythia
~Anne

Social distancing
Not as hard as real warfare
And yet we struggle
~Nick

Thank you for the Scotch
Last night had a sip or two
Keeping spirits up
~Eagle

Sun shining brightly
no fear to what is unseen
ignorance is bliss
~Amy

Tea by the window
Slow misty quiet Friday
Loving signs of spring
~Karen

I greet with surprise
the early muddy season.
A Titmouse chortles.
~Pat

So sorry I missed
The family zoom meeting!
Dang conference call!
The call was good, though,
A rare chance to talk slowly
With my busy boss
~Nick

March 21
Prep for climate change
Not so ridiculous now
5 pounds of almonds
~Pam

The virus spreads out
and store shelves become empty.
We old ones take stock.
~Pat

One day at a time
But wasn't that really true
Before the virus?
~Nick

Vernal pool at night
Frenzied wood frog eyes gleam bright
We stand there in awe
~Karen

Questions confusion
Compassion goes a long way
Sense of structure good
~Amy

Top of the mountain
River hills fields in the sunshine
Call of the raven
~Anne

Haiku hiatus
Taking some long weekend walks
See you on Monday
~Eagle

Rocky Hill zoom busy
Helping people is the best
No isolation allowed!
~David
**March 22**

Art activities  
Mindful and meditative  
I drew a teapot  
~Pam

The bright sun shines in  
Where shall I walk this morning?  
Bach’s birthday concert  
~Anne

Chickens tumble out  
Hoping for more than pellets  
Love those mealworm treats  
~Karen

Grouse wing beats startle  
The Japanese translation  
Is the "thunder bird"  
~Nick

Arriving early,  
the Egret seems unperturbed  
by all of this fuss.  
~Pat

Breathe in breathe out free  
forest walk good soul and mind  
dogs know no distance  
~Amy

Still doing haiku  
Antiseptic for the soul  
Stay healthy, people  
~Eagle

**March 23**

The vastness of it  
and potential duration  
are what scare me most  
~Pam

Owl flies silently  
Across my path this morning  
We lock eyes and stare  
~Karen

Grateful for life’s Gifts  
Material things come and go  
Love continues strong  
~David

We get along fine  
Isolation could be worse  
In a crowded house  
~Eagle

Grouse drummers play cool  
Whether they are behind the beat  
Or on top of it  
~Nick

The snow is falling  
Met my accountant outside  
Phone calling with friends.  
~Anne

For Albert Camus  
plague never comes to an end.  
It goes underground  
~Pat
March 24
How much should I learn?
Too much news or not enough?
Each day is a choice
~Pam

Late spring snow floats down
No need for snow day this time
We watch from new lives
~Karen

Daffodils hiding
 Lovely snow on trees last night
 Shoveled the driveway
~Anne

When the day’s pleasure
is a little brown striped bird, 
one’s on the Zen path!
~Pat

Snow everywhere
What are the timberdoodles
Going to eat now?
~Nick

New snow reminds me
this moment is what I have
Must go ski now. Yay!
~Pam

Wish I were skiing
Typing urgent notes instead
We all need a break
~Eagle

“what to do I’m bored”
exercise routine anew
Acadia copes
~Amy

When it’s my birthday
I don’t get a real party
I hate corona
~Acadia

March 25
My workstation is
the old gate legged table
What plagues has it served?
~Pam

Sun and snow and sun
Grey clouds near a blue sky
Walking downhill home
~Nick

Proofreading my friend
Rewrite again and again
Until you go nuts
~Nick

Happy birthday Anne
Thinking of you from afar
But close in spirit
~Eagle

The Piping Plovers
care not for Covid 19--
at least that’s my hope!
~Pat

Is this a message
From the earth something is wrong
Humans need to act
~Karen

Murmurs in the shrub
Oh, a gentle whisper song
It’s the mockingbird
~Anne

What is a Haiku
But some poem conventions
Who needs those
~Eli
March 26
So many groups of neighbors walk by my window
Then I walk by theirs
~Pam

Skunk cabbage rises
Like a monster from the deep
Reaching towards spring
~Karen

A Birthday party
The family together
Over the airwaves.
~Anne

Toddler on the trail
Wearing a blue pile onesie
Distance a la mode
~Eagle

Stumbling all about
and making a mess of things,
the gods seem futile.
~Pat
(This is a reaction to watching the opera Das Rheingold, but it seems somewhat applicable to the present.)

Wake work walk eat sleep
routine changes day by day
or does it really
~Amy

Parents told me zoom
I said get out of my room
Why it my birthday?
    My birthday!!!
    MY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!
~Acadia
PS I know it is wrong, but I like it this way

March 27
kale, arugula,
onions, leeks and lettuce too
grow under pink lights
~Pam

Birds chirped and twittered
as I walked among the dead.
Scott sent them my way.
~Pat

Wash my hands again
Wash my hands wash my hands wash!
Wash my hands? Why not!
~Nick

Up the Mill River
all seven local species
drumming and calling
~Anne

I found the phoebe
Singing in a tree in sun
She arrived Wednesday
~Karen

Create as we do
a new normal, brief it is
yes privileged are we
~Amy

Low clouds this morning
Rain and pandemic looming
Yet buds still open
~Eagle

Karen walks faster
Good for healthy heart
Rainy Day walk done
~David
March 28
Bears in the windows  
All the neighborhood children  
Go on a bear hunt  
~Pam

My new puppy  
Was born in Connecticut  
Should I go get him?  
~Nick

Mallards congregate  
insisting on their beauty.  
They're indeed quite right.  
~Pat

1874 dam  
Disaster on Mill River  
Forest and stone now  
~Karen

Chi chi pause chi chi  
On its way to Monhegan  
Welcome winter wren  
~Anne

That closet, oh my!  
Time to make use of free time  
Purge, keep, give, move on.  
~Amy

Simplify your life  
Says the wise HD Thoreau  
And now we listen  
~Eagle

A fat porcupine  
Strolled across my porch last night  
Three feet from my bed  
~Nick

March 29
Spring skiing by day  
Mystery movie by night  
I almost forget  
~Pam

Tall amaryllis  
Three blood red flowers opened  
A daily delight  
~Karen

A question for Nick  
(after deliberation):  
does Thor wash his paws?  
~Pat

Thor doesn't walk much  
Where other people walk these days  
His paws are low risk  
~Nick

Planning for a walk  
Today's biggest decision  
Forest or the trees  
~Eagle

Muffins for breakfast  
An excellent black bean soup  
Boston Symphony  
~Anne

Repurpose old clothes  
inspiration of the day  
resourceful is she  
~Amy
March 30
WHAT ARE THEY DOING???
They shake hands in the movie.
An anachronism
~Pam

A Pandemic Pair
What do I miss most?
Coffee shops and the ocean
The beaches and tides
What do I still have?
Birds and trees and walking trails
Books and operas
~Pat

Window view of wrens
Turning over garden leaves
Shaking off the rain
~Karen

Daffodils blooming
The Yellow-Rumps have arrived
More zooming awaits me
~Anne

Rare Vancouver hail
After glorious sunshine
We live in strange times
~Eagle

Grocery workers
Need health insurance, sick leave,
And good wages too
~Nick

March 31
A month of haiku
Continue or take a break?
What are your druthers?
~Pam

A Hermit Thrush sang
and I stopped my wandering,
c caught in enchantment.
~Pat

We can do haiku
Daily, monthly, till the end
Reminds we’re still here
(With occasional breaks
When we forget to write one
Or email despair strikes)
~Eagle

Oh, haiku haiku!
How I enjoy each morning
Coffee Sun Haiku
~Amy

Views from Sugarloaf
Ravens croak and Vultures soar
Anne and Susan climb
~Anne

Kitchen table desk
Portal to the world of work
Foragers come through
~Karen
April 1
I just saw a moose!!
Right here in my own backyard.
April Fools to you!
~Pam

I just saw a moose
Playing golf pretty good too
April Fools to us!
~David

Bird walk at dawn, but
Pileated woodpeckers
Outside my front door!
~Karen

And I saw a moose
sitting on a large tombstone...
or was it an elk?
~Pat

April’s foolish moose
Ate a soapy Oreo
And burped sweet bubbles
~Eagle

Bright Cow says to Bull
Silly boy, foaming at mouth
Calf tricked you again
~Amy

A moose up the path
Swimming in the Mill River
It burped up a frog
~Anne

What coincidence!
I went swimming in my pond
And burped up a frog!
~Nick

Moose is Liam name
Hockey coaches call out Go Moose
Not the biggest player
~David

April 2
Hills of Hallowell
Academy, Central, Page
Steep, daily workout
~Pam

During these strange times
an Evergreen list begins.
Sanborns do love lists!
~Pat

Blueberries and bread
My delivery man came
Big thank you, David
~Anne

Feeling a bit fried
From a busy home workday
But lucky to work!
~Karen

Rode bike by Lossone
Coldest rink in America
Many games done now
~David
April 3
Cats are much like sloths
In the amount that they snooze
I watch in real time
~Pam

A grim announcement
of the Levels Four and Five,
when disaster hits.
~Pat

My Friday flex day
What to do, free time indoors
Time for new hobbies?
~Amy

Perhaps slothy cat
Can teach us a thing or two
In search for hobbies
~Eagle

Christmas cactus down
to its last dozen flowers
four months of blooming!
~Karen

No Coffee this week
Comfort food helps for now
Walk, Walk, Walk, and Walk
~David

Lola on the phone
Reading aloud, discussing
Poetry by a friend
~Anne

April 4
Just goes to show you
Hard to know what to worry
About in advance
~Pam

Starting seeds upstairs
With borrowed grow light and trays
Time for new projects
~Karen

No puppy for me
A very small sad story
Among many large
~Nick

To mask or not mask
There is one in the closet
That is the question
~Anne

Groceries arrive
with a delightful surprise--
chocolate gelato!
~Pat

Dust everywhere
Allergy cough not viral
Really, I promise
~Eagle

Virgos organize
Turns out Acadias too
Last night, front hall done!
~Amy
**April 5**
Trip to the grocer  
Primal forage for fresh food  
I wave to masked friends  
~Pam

Roadside trash distracts  
We bend, gather and fill bags.  
Walkers give their thanks.  
~Karen

Way too much whipped cream  
Pam’s strawberry rhubarb pie  
My oh my oh my  
~Nick

UU Together  
Singing the hymns lustily (?)  
Strong community  
~Anne

I walk in the rain.  
I walk in sunshine and wind.  
I just keep walking!  
~Pat

Shopping again soon  
And to mask or not to mask  
That is the question  
~Eagle

Why not mask, I ask?  
A white or blue or red mask  
Why not mask, I ask?  
~Nick

Paisley, I’m thinking  
A homemade fashion statement  
And it’s all I’ve got  
~Eagle

**April 6**
Garlic has sprouted  
Spinach and kale survived winter  
The garden is woke  
~Pam

Remote Instruction  
Teaching and Learning from home  
Google Apps rule the scene  
~David

Too much firewood  
I say it’s impossible  
Eli, Pam roll eyes  
~Nick

The two Mallard ducks  
contemplate some nesting sites  
among tires and muck.  
~Pat

Red green leaves emerge  
From the ancestral rhubarb  
Memories of Grandpa  
~Karen

Bike ride, change of pace  
Tire flat, cherry blossoms  
Switch bikes, on bloom all!  
~Amy

Shining is the sun  
Date with Aida tonight  
Pansies now planted  
~Anne

Really miss my friends  
Some live close, some live farther  
Can’t wait to see them  
~Acadia
**April 7**
Time to turn compost
Stinky bucket from garage
begins a new pile
~Pam

Sun shines bringing warmth
walking and biking is nice
do not miss driving
~David

Gerbils chew loudly
On old toilet paper rolls
Today’s feast of kings
~Eagle

Where do lost socks go?
A philosopher’s question
Or merely a slob’s?
~Nick

Something skitters by
Leaf-like landing on next tree
Brown creeper is here!
~Karen

Large chips on the ground
The Pileated's been here
Right on Stevens Ave!
~Pat

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**April 8**
The mini crossword
Join Snakebird, Thor and Funyuns
Fun daily challenge
~Pam

Happiness is a
Baked pear raspberry scone
On a rainy day
~Karen

Tulips unfolding
Christmas cactus in full bloom
Brightening dark day
~Anne

Students are confused
now teachers want work to grade
not like past snow days?
~David

Happiness might be
Karen’s recipe for baked pears
for my one hard one.
~Pat

Our P.M. warns us
Take care not to speak moistly
Mask elbow 6 feet
~Amy

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**April 9**
I made cloth masks with
frog and sunflower fabric
the latest fashion
~Pam

I stand on the trail
Flute-like song all around me
Hermit thrushes are here
~Karen

Changes working very well
Good news lowering the curve
Social distance works
~David
April 10
A foot of wet snow
Now home without internet
New isolation!
~Pam

Yikes no Internet
Still call into zoom oh well
Read Radio Resting
~David

Did I really pay
Ten bucks for 4 rolls TP
Bought local at least
~Eagle

11 years old
Acadia uniqueness
humor, care shines through
~Amy

I kneel down and smell
First flowers of the season
Trailing arbutus
~Karen

April 11
Snowman Bill collapsed
Snowman Frederick lives on
there is afterlife
~Pam

Sun shines weekend Yay
working finds me Sat Chore Day
familiar routine
~David

Checked my phone again
Compulsion or hopefulness?
The news is the same
~Eagle

Sunny and windy
Birded at Park Hill Orchard
Blowing trees scary
~Anne

Phoebes sing; frogs croak.
Robins together find worms.
People pass--distant.
~Pat

A parade today
With funny hats and music
Neighbor turning three!
~Karen

April 12
Easter memories
Egg hunts on the Greypiers lawn
colored jello eggs
~Pam

I made a new list
Ten days per roll of paper
Good to know these things
~Anne

A flock of White Throats
Three pairs of Wood Ducks courting
The Great Blue soars over
~Anne

New friend in our yard
Ending the isolation
He just lost his head
~Pam

Calm sunny Easter
After blustery few days
Garden work today
~Karen
Snow melt on mountains
Bald eagles perch nest and soar
Van(couver) spring ocean views
~Amy

Grandma’s at Easter
Nearly raw lamb, mint jelly
Feast for nearby dogs
~Nick

The bare trees soften,
less stark against the blue sky--
hints of gold and green.
~Pat

**April 13**
A foot of spring snow
followed by an inch of rain
will peas germinate?
~Pam

April showers bring
May flowers wind and lightning
make home inviting
~David

Getting low on nuts
Curbside pickup order in
We’ll see what happens
~Anne

Now, among the trash
are discarded face masks--
Viral detritus.
~Pat

Back and forth we go
To open or not open
Our nature preserves
~Karen

Easy to distance
On paths through forest and field
Keep nature’s tonic
~Eagle

**April 14**
I've heard suffering
is inevitable but
misery is not
~Pam

And that smart people
Don’t attend lectures at all
Says the bathroom wall
~Eagle

Bloodroot is blooming
Sweet song of the Meadowlark
"Spring of the ye-ar”
~Anne

Eight snakes in the sun
Where I have seen them before
In another lifetime
~Karen

A crowd of robins
Forage in the playing fields--
Social clustering.
~Pat

Birds chirp play sing soar
Solo soccer against wall
Sounds of workday now
~Amy
**April 15**
Tree limbs down from storm
Neighbors on both sides of yard
Haul away my branches
~Pam

Wind missed rocky hill
Tucked on north side of drumlin
With winds from the south.
~Karen

Problems with schooling
News is bad but we find out
Luxury problems all
~David

Towhees drink their tea
Even under powerlines
What are they thinking?
~Nick

Early morning bright
A slow walk up the river
Palm Warbler bobbed tail
~Anne

These little haiku
are things to look forward to,
and some fly elsewhere!
~Pat

Acadia’s cooking
Quarantine’s good for something
Cheesy pasta soon
~Eagle

Acadia cooks
Eagle finishes lego
Sierra tween nests
~Amy

**April 16**
I've heard it said that
covid's the equalizer
I think that it's not
I feel privilege
with home, cash, job and food stocks
especially now
~Pam

Yellow flowers of
Marsh marigolds and spice bush
Emerge in the swamp
~Karen

My garden's blooming bright
Three tulips on my table
Beauty on each stem
~Anne

Our good Doctor Shah
mourns each of our state's losses
as if family
~Pat

Today marks 1 month
Working remotely "pilot"
What was 3 weeks lasts
~Amy
April 17
Less driving. More zoom
Masks, telework, hoarding, fear
Will changes persist?
~Pam

Years ago, she said
everything has now changed
almost overnight. (Grandma Fonty)
~Pat

We are five weeks in
Time for the chore list seems short
And we are all home......
~Karen

Chore list? What is that?
Is it like a list of birds
viewed from a distance?
~Eagle

Soups and biscotti
Surprises on the back porch
Good neighbors and friends
~Anne

Black freighters snake out
Three Penny Opera songs
I thought were history
~Nick

A day of focus
Grateful for what I can do
City beach bike ride
~Amy

April 18
Biden really talked
About his hairy white legs?
What is up with him?
~Pam

White legs and white snow
I see one man with a dog
The streets are silent
~Anne

Great music online
Going down folk rabbit holes
While it snows outside
~Karen

Half-rain and half-snow
suggest some hot chocolate
and more of Tolstoy
~Pat

Enjoying no snow
Garden sun happy hour
Touch base with friends then
~Amy

NPR sponsor
Today is Metamucil
Living in hard times
~Eagle

Learning new technology
More IT into the cloud
AWS cloud works
~David

Thor sleeps in the sun
His head on an old sandal
How is that comfy?
~Nick
April 19
Families reunite
to play dictionary zoom
last played at Greypiers
~Pam

I resent people
crowding my favorite spots,
but can I blame them?
~Pat

The morning is bright
Off to my fiddle head patch
Can’t wait to enjoy
~Anne

Bike ride very long
Liam complains but he does it
Sunny day way fun
~David

No Haiku today
Ate a big lunch, walked a lot
Now time for a nap
~Eagle

Haiku forgotten
Until last check of email
Goodnight everyone
~Karen

April 20
Grateful for garden
Digging...planting...keeps me sane
Even squishing grubs
~Pam

We all find something
That brings a smile or wonder
Thank you for sharing
~David

Fruit trees in full bloom
While so many are dying
Tragic irony
~Anne

Rachel Carson said,
"Invisible things matter."
That was years ago!
~Pat

Coronavirus
Epidemiology
More than meets the eye
~Eagle

Spring cold winds endure
Much longer than I would like
But sun gives us hope
~Karen

April 21
Apparently, I
am a human of Hallowell
Facebook makes it true
~Pam

Here and there I find
A small treasure in the woods
Shadbush flowering
~Karen

Haiku forgotten
Until last check of email
Goodnight everyone
~Karen

A hard-core Mainer
Pam embodies it quite well
That garden will thrive!
~Amy

Carousels of slides
My life flows before my eyes
Memories remain
~Anne

The post-viral rush
on barbers and hair salons
will rival t.p.
~Pat
April 22
Flexibility
Changes in all of our plans
No choice but adapt.
~Pam

We are being warned
there will not be a vaccine
for global warming.
~Pat

Mother earth needs care
Our preservation needed
We pull together
~David

We are the vaccine
We dare not postpone the shots
For earth awaiting
~Anne

Small rituals like
Mugs of tea and fresh muffins
May they get us through.
~Karen

April 23
Days that are the same
Pass quickly in retrospect
Hans Castorp agrees
~Pam

I'm nominating
Doctor Shah for president;
Fauci for V.P.
~Pat

A hike on Mt. Tom
Woods, streams and birds singing
Will sleep well tonight
~Anne

Long workday on zoom
Talking cuts and stimulus
At the same time
~Karen

School cancelled for year
Remote learning is here now
Plan for September
~David

April 24
English opera
Loses intrigue and mystique
Sounds a bit silly
~Pam

Going to the store
Dystopian adventure
Masked bandits swarm
~Nick

Lucky to just have
luxury problems today
days roll by quickly
~David

The bees are missing
On my Andromeda bush
It has me worried.....
~Karen

Some Vinca blossoms
emerge, in a slow spring start,
a splash of color.
~Pat

To keep things on track
Most everyone is struggling
I have it easy
~Anne

In a funk before
Rampage in Nova Scotia
Feeling overwhelmed
~Amy
April 25
Close friends suffering
Hard stuff made unbearable
With Covid mixed in
~Pam

Kinglets displaying
Towhees calling for first time
Brightens gray morning
~Karen

Despair for our friends
Cuts deeper still, when hugs are
Many months away
~Eagle

Walk through trees water
Thoughts of reciprocity
Spirit replenished
~Amy

A siren rings out
once again to remind us
of what is close by.
~Pat

Such sad news today
So many folks suffering
People we care for
~Anne

April 26
Local cow farmer
brings joy to neighbor growers
Four dump loads of poo
~Pam

A handsome ceiling
and a newly shingled roof:
glamorous Greypiers!
~Pat

Met Opera Gala
The great ones singing from home
Favorite arias
~Anne

Braiding Sweetgrass book
plants botany science with
Indigenous thought
~Amy

Cooking lots today
Sticky buns and samosas
Breakfast and dinner
~Karen

Comfort given love
Waistline expands no complaint
Exercise helps some
~David

Blah, four syllables
Blah, blah, blah, four syllables
Blah, four syllables
~Nick

Someone has the blahs
Perhaps tis time for Thor to
Take Nick for a walk
~Eagle
April 27
Sore muscles feel good
Many poo loads moved and spread
Grateful Eli helped
~Pam

Tech never obeys
Laws of time and convenience
Life continues on
~David

This cold. rainy day
Is great for yellow birches
I planted last week
~Nick

How did all that poo
arrive at Anne's computer?
I can't imagine!
~Pat

I am ready to put
My sweaters away til fall
But cold rain persists
~Karen

Acadia asks
What day is it? Wait. What year?
Confusion abounds.
~Amy

I didn’t ask that
Mama you are a liar 😊
That is so not true
~Acadia

April 28
Ultimate practice
In appreciating now
Rather than waiting
~Pam

One local barred owl
Became two talking today
I found their nest hole!
~Karen

Testing out futures,
I can't find a single one
without summer scones
~Pat

Right now in my yard
Nothing bad is happening
I can live with that
~Nick

Scones are tastiest
On the porch with family
In Kennebunkport
~Eagle

Anne and David here
Sitting at a safe distance
Getting me restored
~Anne
April 29
Eli made us a delicious cheesy yeast bread to go with our soup.
~Pam

Not for a moment did I call that gull a hawk--quite impossible.
~Pat

What a surprise!
My big toilet paper pack Held paper towels
~Nick

On our big shop day
Strange empty shelves after a lifetime of full ones
~Karen

Heard rumors that yeast
Is in short supply these days
Yay for sourdough!
~Eagle

Masks, food, and new Chrome
Family is my support
Thank you all so much
~Anne

Balance is good form
Teen does not practice balance
Extremes bring us stress
~David

April 30
George was asking what Philosophical question would you have answered
If the answer would make you happy and align with your own logic.
~Pam

How much, if at all, can human behavior change? That now is crucial.
~Pat

Why are we here now?
To help others of course now Helping brings love now
~David

What matters to us
When our encrusted habits Crumble in the plague?
~Eagle

Can humans transcend evolutionary trends? Survival for each?
~Anne

Inequity lives Are we "in this together"
Privileged bubble, I
~Amy

What is the purpose Of reason? Maybe to probe and understand life.
~Karen
May 1
Working on method
to predict the cold water
Salmon habitat
~Pam

Joy in the mountains
Kids, adults and dogs
The calendar turns
~Anne

Warm misty morning
Quiet except distant train
And birds who must sing!
~Karen

On the calendar
carrying us into May
dogs and people leap!
~Pat

Back to Zealand Falls
Memories of Coqui leap
Fly through time and space
~Eagle

Letter from Thoreau
Who may have something to say
To Corona-bound
~Eagle

May 2
This week was harder
Riding the roller coaster
Really sinking in
~Pam

Deliver meals, smiles
Was feeling need to give more
Volunteering helps
~Amy

A surgical mask
hanging on a car's mirror--
and more, around necks.
~Pat

A game of croquet
In the yard at Marjorie's
Lively afternoon
~Anne

Old homestead visit
Dug plants and salvaged old wood
Left the world behind
~Karen

Mister porcupine
Why did you come to my yard?
I have to choose Thor
~Nick

May 3
Still finding streets that
I haven't walked down before
Exploring near home
~Pam

Two trout lilies bloom
The first for my fern garden
A wee joy of May
~Anne

Today's morning walk
Strange display protecting nest
Who is this cool bird?
~Eagle

I stop to listen
to noises in the deep woods
trills and whisperings.
~Pat

New walk near river
Below Mt Holyoke's peak
Floodplain comes alive
~Karen

Sun is shining bright
Heat feels good with birds singing
Plants explode sharply
~David
May 4
Canoeing Cold stream
Watched an osprey catch a fish
While a snake swam by
~Pam

Towhees are not shy
About sharing their advice
When it comes to tea
~Nick

Monday morning starts
Work and chores make day fly by
Not going anywhere
~David

The birds are coming
Baltimore Orioles sing
Sky is blue and bright
~Anne

In one field of view
a Wood Thrush and Hermit Thrush
so how about that!
~Pat

I heard in distance
the song of a black-throated blue
alas I searched in vain
~Karen

May 5
Pea seeds have sprouted
Onion and leek seedlings in
Asparagus up!
~Pam

Cooking dinner hard
Eating dinner is easy
Take out comforts best
~David

Mountain view meadow
Bubbling with Bobolinks
Splendor in the grass
~Anne

A Prairie Warbler
sings out and then shows itself--
all shiny yellow!
~Pat

Brilliant crisp blue skies
Haze of green fills the forest
Full moon waxing
~Karen

May 6
Avian haiku
Are bountiful and striking
Flocks arrive daily!
~Pam

Connecting circle
'Balance' was the theme last night
An intense exchange.
~Anne

Sad to resourceful
School sleepover camp cancelled
Camp indoors instead!
~Amy

Our summer bookends,
Monhegan and Glimmerglass'
wiped out by Covid.
~Pat

Long life rituals
Are suddenly up in air
Will new ones begin
~Karen

Our plans upended--
First summer without Greypiers
In many decades?
~Eagle
May 7
Monhegan, pups, friends
Sabbaticals, sleepovers
Sense of secureness
Many small losses
Although not life, job or home
Suck nevertheless
~Pam

An unmasked young man
Waits in line with a puppy
Just to order smokes
~Nick

Sitting by a stream
and listening to Catbirds,
I drop out of time.
~Pat

The black-throated blue
was less elusive today
Singing his heart out!
~Karen

Personal delights
Despair over the country
How to reconcile?
~Anne

Zoom with friends now
Winter weekend friends tonight
Interesting times
~David

Nature’s wonders shine
Killdeer broken wing display
Green growth from brown mud
~Amy

May 8
There once was a leader named Trump
Who put us all in a frump
He wouldn’t be masked
Even when asked
He really belongs in the dump.
~Pam

There is a good friend named Alice
Her home for her is a palace
She brings me lilacs
And biscotti in packs
Unable to visit alas.
~Anne

A problem that's bound to be sticky:
To find the right rhyme is quite tricky
It's quite a great strain
As I search my poor brain
And hope that you all won't be picky
~Pat

This sends the brain into a spin
Synapses have turned into tin
From time in one room
And on and off of the zoom
Hard to balance the yang and the yin
~Karen

Karen is Liam's Mother
She works hard to do this and the other
He gives her hard times nearly every day
If only he knew every day is Mother's day
The Earth also is our cherished everyday
Mother
~David

My grandfather loved dirty limericks
If it was filthy you knew he'd be into it
I never understood
What made smutty rhymes so good
I still don’t
~Nick
May 9
Wow no haiku today
I wonder where they got to
Maybe they are gone
~Eli

In my Spanish class
We each write haikus today
Ideas spreading
There once was a Spanish class
Converted to haikus alas
We made an attempt
Gave praise -- not contempt
Then we seemed to run out of gas.
~Anne

Winter reappears
Back to the flannels and fleece
Trees shake in the wind
~Pat

Wind howls above us
Hard to believe this is May
Except for flowers
~Karen

May 10
Thanks to Eli for
Carrying on during my
Haiku hiatus

Heading to Greypiers
For a bit of spring cleanup
Dreaming of porch time
~Pam

Birds everywhere
Several nests on our roof
Starlings--Mozart's muse __
~Eagle

He said as he passed,
"Nobody is sick anyway,"
when he saw my mask.
~Pat

Musical Service
We attempt community
But it's not the same.
~Anne

I cook and vacuum
If momma aint happy aint
Nobody happy
~David

May 11
They ate lots of eggs
No record of scones alas
Greypiers middens found
Ball found in garden
A fitting memorial
To sweet Perseus
~Pam

Greypiers arrival
Race to the blue garage bin
Find a ball to play!
~Nick

Wood thrush walked close by
Whispering soft e-oh-lay
What a morning treat.
~Anne

A sunny morning!
If I sit here long enough,
birds will sing to me.
~Pat

Working on laptop
Happened to glance out window
Small bear strolled on by ~Karen

Bear walks slowly by
Must be hungry lunch time now
No blueberries here ~David
**May 12**
One sixty. No way.
Incentives are completely wrong.
Price of gas is sick.
~Pam

The oil bubble goes
right on without notice of
death and destruction
~David

The stand is open
Asparagus on toast points
Mem’ries of the past
~Anne

An unseen virus
makes us see differently,
says Doctor Shah.
~Pat

Barred owlet inspires
and creates community
and some distraction
~Karen

**May 13**
Eli pointed out
Should be happy gas is low
Cause folks aren’t driving
~Pam

Big flocks of waxwings
Cedar or Bohemian?
I don't have a clue
~Nick

My very first thought:
What a strange looking chicken!
Insulting the grouse.
~Pat

Rare lady slipper
Found one about to flower
Nice kind of workday
~Karen

Today the woods echoed
Ovenbirds filled the forest
Orange-topped teacher
~Karen

**May 14**
Students don’t want work
They are confused about life
What is important?
~David

Gangly tomatoes
Anxious to plant out seedlings
Still freezing at night
~Pam

The mighty Thor stares
Transfixed at the pond surface
Stalking wily frogs
~Nick

Unmotivated
Children and adults alike
Goes beyond our home
~Amy

Watched cat videos
On Facebook feed this morning
Scrabble anyone?
~Eagle

Shorebirds on the pond
Some on their way to Greypiers
Five feeding species.
~Anne

Groceries arrive--
a major help in these times.
Many thanks to Pam!
~Pat

Six hopeful chickens
do you have something more than
those dry pellets?
~Karen
May 15
Why would face masks be
Against our democracy
sign that we aren't free?
Rather masks can be
personal accessory
showing unity
~Pam

On a walk today
a Wood Thrush kept on singing--
stunning company!
~Pat

Veery's in distance
Orioles and wrens out front
Ovenbirds behind
~Karen

 Masks in the forest
Lola, Yellow-throat and I
Protected from whom?
~Anne

May 16
Morning birding
oriole and tanager
in front of my house
In the afternoon
three tanagers at one time
glowing red in sun
Birdathon brings us
together and fundraises
61 species
(so far)
~Karen

Bright Birdathon Day
Exceeded expectations
In more ways than one
~Anne

Too many choices
Each day about what is safe
We may never know
~Pam

Our sandplain grasslands
although barren at first sight,
are full of treasures.
~Pat

May 17
Missing Monhegan,
I imagine that I'm there,
wandering the trails.
~Pat

Good long morning walk
Wave to friends out with coffee
sitting on porches
~Pam

A walk in the woods
A Sunday with the Covid
Zoom church and meetings
~Anne

Birding, transplanting
the month of May is busy
with both birds and plants!
~Karen

Walk with frog lover
Lots of birds, bees, dogs, and trees
But no frogs today
~Eagle
May 18
Just like Grandpa George
I admire dandelions
on the front lawn.
Like Grandma Fonty
I admire them just as much
and then dig them out.
And then, like Hihi,
proud of the ancient digger,
I admire my job.
~Pat

Sometimes work is hard
And I can’t make my brain work
Laziness I guess
~Pam

May fertility
Common Merganser offspring
Twelve bobbing fluffballs
~Anne

While spring showers fall
Grim staff meeting about cuts
Still no decisions
~Karen

Walking and walking
The chipmunks are everywhere
Trees blossom pretty
~David

May 19
Our Covid haiku
Puzzle for historians
One third about birds
~Pam

Great growth in birding
During Covid pandemic
A hobby for all
~Anne

Birding the floodplain
Visiting restoration
Spring Stebbins delights
~Karen

Birds and words
Ornithology haiku
It’s all the rage now!
~Nick

It is far from strange
that birds soar through our haikus,
giving them all wings.
~Pat

A winged haiku
Brings much-needed distraction
From earthbound sorrows
~Eagle

Chickadees nesting
Appreciation of home
Hummingbird visits
~Amy

Biking on rail trail
No big hills or cars around
Not crowded also
~David
**May 20**

How can one help it on a thirteen-warbler day, talking about birds?

~Pat

Unfortunate lawn
Frustrating social construct
Home of grubs and skunks

~Pam and Eli

The woods are alive
Black-throated blues and thrushes
So much to enjoy.

~Anne

When I need a break
I circumnavigate house enjoying each plant

~Karen

**May 21**

Opera each night
A covid education
Drinking from fire hose

~Pam

Online meetings work
Spring is springing out
Bike rides I feel free

~David

Thor races nose down
A turkey takes off and glides
Smoothly down the hill

~Nick

Oak and Maidenhair
Fern garden is at its peak
A great joy to me

~Anne

Small things now loom large:
the scroll on top of a fern;
the song of a thrush.

~Pat

Houses we could see in winter are now hiding in leafy green nests

~Karen

**May 22**

Lovely fern garden
Inspired by Grandma Ann(a)
Lady and Christmas

~Pam and Eli

The lawn needs mowing
Today or whenever fine
Time to care for house

~David

Kidnapped? Adopted?
Mom Merg now has nineteen chicks
Lined up on a log

~Anne

There once was a time when we would plan things ahead--now it’s day by day.

~Pat

Feeling need to plan
Something to look forward to
Provides diversion

~Amy

One day at a time
A wise organization’s Motto proves its worth

~Nick

Foray into world for vegetables to plant feels like summer day!

~Karen
May 23
On the narrow paths
we eye each other warily,
masks at the ready.
~Pat

Memorial Day
scones for few are not the same
as scones for many
~Karen

Ate Challah French toast
Tasty start to our weekend
But scones would be nice
~Eagle

Missing family time
On this beautiful weekend
Tots first world problems
~Pam

Covid decisions
To get a haircut or not
Accept a new style
~Anne

Crows chase a raven
Black birds against a blue sky
Purple flowers watch
~Nick

Camping trip with friends
Seems norm to plan then realize
That it hasn't been
~Amy

May 24
Dark purple violet
volunteers fill the garden
My most welcome weed.
~Pam

Birds are thinning out,
meaning fewer bird haiku.
Some will be grateful!
~Pat

Drink drink drink drink tea
Even towhees like to turn a phrase
In their own fashion
~Nick

New tomato plants
Parsley and basil growing
Garden is starting
~Anne

An upward trill rings
Out in scrub near the quarry
Prairie warbler sings
~Karen

May 25
We remember those
Who sacrificed so we might
Find freedom to choose
~David

I have no issue
With extensive bird haiku
Someday I will learn
~Pam

The line for Starbucks
stretches out to the highway.
Make sense out of that?!
~Pat

On my bed eyes closed
Yo Yo Ma plays Bach's five suites
Tears are flowing down
~Anne

Misty hike among
giant trees and lovely songs
in another world
~Karen
May 26
Alas, they seem distant,
strawberry shortcake and scones,
on a warm morning.
~Pat

First garden produce
Asparagus and spinach
and scallions. Yum. Yum.
~Pam

Lawn never so good
On Memorial Day weekend
Working and biking
~David

Pam, Eli, and I
Watch funny shows and laugh lots
It makes me happy!
~Nick

Damnation of Faust
What a way to spend the day!
But a good hike, too
~Anne

May 27
A heat wave arrives
Eggplant and peppers love it
Eli and Nick don't
~Pam

Didn’t it just snow
Out in your neck of the woods?
Watch out for whiplash
~Eagle

Some of us in Maine
might like a little more Spring
before Summer comes!
~Pat

Rhubarb pear smoothie
It's the first of the season
Shorts down from attic
~Anne

Two orchids blooming
both rare and a treat to see
solitary ones
~Karen

Sunshine Heat Flowers
Joy to things opening up
Massage day for me!
~Amy

May 28
Healthy chicken eggs,
asparagus and fresh kale:
wonderful good food!
~Pam

Drumming on a log
Pileated, Oh so close
No binocs needed
~Anne

Another tooth lost
That's 2 for Acadia
COVID Tooth Fairy
~Amy

Pandemic shopping
requires patience and grit
almost aerobic
~Karen
May 29
On a hot May day
You might actually see
Asparagus grow
~Pam

Special treats, Oh my!
Along with my groceries
Thank you to Karen
~Anne

An unlikely fog
blows over the empty beach.
I look for shorebirds.
~Pat

Chipmunks are cuties
but not in my strawberries
have-a-heart deployed
~Karen

Staycation is new
We are fortunate for choice
Movie night is fun
~David

May 30
Provides in all months
Bees love the yellow flowers
Admirable kale
~Pam

Night shower welcome
Omelet with asparagus
Kingfisher diving
~Anne

It is hot outside
It is just too hot for me
Thor is also hot
~Nick

As the fog lifts off,
plovers appear on the beach,
stopping on their trek.
~Pat

Greens are coming in
including dandelions
weed into salad
~Karen

Things opening up
Stanley Park bike ride and beer
Almost felt normal
~Amy

May 31
No mask to be seen
on the walk I took today...
what does that suggest?
~Pat

2 weeks without rain
Extremes are the new normal
Quel contradiction
~Pam

End of the jetty
Twelve herons stand silently
Waiting for something
~Eagle

Humidity gone
feels like mountain hike day
that is what we'll do!
~Karen

Jour de montagne!
As Grandpa George would proclaim
Let's head for the Whites!
~Anne
June 1
The ferns have popped out
all along the woodland paths--
lush, green, and fruiting.
~Pat

Cerulean sings
All morning on the mountain
Worm-eating buzzes
~Anne

Sad day has arrived
Five colleagues have lost their jobs
Including my boss
~Karen

We struggle for rights
All races deserve to live
Freedom rings out loud
~David

June 2
A sure sign of spring:
pink flamingos have arrived--
all twenty of them!
~Pat

Maine flamingos - WOW!
Thanks for cheerful, hopeful thoughts
Versus disheartened
~Amy

Police took the knee
Northampton demonstration
Led by high school kids
~Anne

Beautiful back roads
Craggy sugar maples line
Stone walls and field views
~Karen

What is one to do
Days that even though you stew
Haiku evades you
~Pam

Power through, haiku
Find words in the mind’s tangles
Or birds, in tree’s leaves
~Eagle
Biking and working
School will end very very soon
People traveling
~David

June 3
Why listen to news
If not to help suffering?
What is the action?
~Pam

We struggle for rights
All races deserve to live
Freedom rings out loud
~David

Understanding news
Sometimes helps me work harder
To change things I can
~Nick

It's hard to believe
that our small actions matter,
yet we still do them.
~Pat

Balance and routine
Don't let news overwhelm me
Do my little bit
~Anne

News is important
Just wondering what I can
do with the knowledge.
~Pam

If we aren't aware
our bubble is even worse
donations can help
~Karen
**June 4**
A blaze of orange  
A Grandma Fonty poppy  
on my windowsill  
~Pat

Hummingbird just near  
Wings flutter so fast so small  
Could almost touch it  
~David

Light cottonwood seeds  
Floating on currents of air  
Spring in the valley  
~Karen

Jan, a friend, is bored  
She wants to learn about ferns  
Fern garden and walk  
~Anne

**June 5**
Extravagantly,  
thirty bright orange poppies  
bow to the ocean.  
~Pat

Grading students now  
End of school year upon us  
Out for the Summer  
~David

Venture into world  
exploring permaculture  
Great to meet like minds  
~Karen

Took care of the car  
Watered the tomato plants  
Necessary chores  
~Anne

Why does Trump come here?  
Bringing hatred and disease  
He is not welcome  
~Pam

**June 6**
Summer is here now  
Phased opening brings changes  
Anti-climatic  
~David

We elders have seen  
climate and racial outrage  
over and over.  
~Pat

But it is quite clear  
that one has to look further  
at deep corruption.  
~Pat

The flowers perk up  
Thunder and lightning pass through  
Cool the air and me  
~Anne

So grateful for rain  
Even a measly tenth inch  
All moisture welcome!  
~Pam

Two turtles today  
One was small and smooth to touch  
The other fearsome  
~Nick

Snapping turtle takes  
one look and heads back to pond  
Maybe won’t nest now?  
~Karen

Thousands demonstrating  
State police, dogs, barricades  
I watch from the porch  
~Anne

Everyone in masks  
State police drive off barking  
Dancing on Main St.  
~Anne
June 7
I sit by the marsh, immobile, silent, waiting, much like the heron.
~Pat

I sit and watch trees toss as the storm approaches Rain is so needed.
~Karen

June 8
Virus and protests climate rapidly warming a tide coming in.
~Pat

Climbed up Sugarloaf Indigo Bunting greets me A sunny, cool day
~Anne

A beautiful day belies the outside chaos a suffering world
~Karen

June 12
Cheers Pam, Eli, All Family haiku elixir Refuge from COVID
~Amy