

An Extra Day

“Where does the time go?” I may often remark
Seems I just view the sunrise and it’s suddenly dark
It was never this way during long hours of school
Waiting for summer to come and the town’s swimming pool.

We’ve all heard the analogy comparing life to toilet tissue
Moving faster near the roll’s end, yes, that is the issue.
We sound like an actor in an old western flick
Saying “Whoa” to slow horses; but slowing time, that’s a trick.

Well here’s an alternative, and it happens this year
While time may keep moving, one thing’s very clear
That Roman guy, Julius Caesar, before his demise
Came up with a calendar which, as you might surmise

Provided a gift, amounting to an extra 24 hours
To read more of the newspaper or take those long showers

Or finish that quilt that you've worked on for weeks
Or caulk cabin windows where you've had all those leaks.

Perhaps such a day means you'll pay your bills later
Or take grandkids to view the zoo's new alligator
Your washing machine warranty won't expire quite as soon
You'll have added time to hum your favorite tune.

If that tax deadline seemed to be coming too quickly
You've now one more day to resolve things that are prickly.
There's that dear friend from college you've intended to call
Or returning the sweater which you bought at the mall.

One whole extra day, what delights it can hold
One more sunset to cherish, though temps may be cold
Perhaps a dear friend could use a big hug
What better use of your time, you big lug.

A hike round Johnny's Pond, no small undertaking

One more pan of rich brownies, if you're still into baking
Or look at old scrapbooks, pics of some youthful smooch
Or toss tennis balls for the family pooch

There's lots of potential and you'd not want to waste it
Just every four years and once gone, what's replaced it?
You'll soon face that night when you must change your clock
As "Daylight Saving" arrives, sending you into shock.

So I sure hope you've planned for this infrequent treat
Yes, it's Leap Year, and that extra day sounds awfully sweet.
You don't have to buy it; you surely can't win it
Just savor those hours; relish each bonus minute.