

THE NEW WANDERINGS

No. 15

01 June 2012

Ralph J. Coppola

r_j_coppola@hotmail.com



<http://citizenscientistsleague.com/>

I have noticed that many web sites and Internet services no longer support Microsoft's Internet Explorer IE7. Therefore, if you are still using IE7, you'll have to [upgrade your browser](#) in order to view these sites.

Feature:

**"Fillet of a fenny snake
In the cauldron boil and bake
Eye of newt, and toe of frog
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting
Lizard's leg, and howlet's wing
For a charm of powerful trouble
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble."**

[William Shakespeare](#) ---- [Macbeth \(IV, i, 14-15\)](#)

<http://wanderings.ca/Index.htm>

It is speculated that the items in the Witches Brew may be alternate names for plant based ingredients. For example, in a post to *wiki.answers.com*, Kristina Allen-Bradley said "The term "eye" in herbal folklore actually means the inner part of a blossom and "Newt" is a type of mustard plant with black seeds. If you finish that quote with "toe of frog", "toe" stands for the leaf, and "frog" is an old name for the plant cinquefoil."

Now what does this have to do with Citizen Science? Well, thinking along similar lines, I thought that it might be of historical interest to the readers of the [Citizen Scientist League Blog](#) to post the ***Table of Obsolete Chemicals*** that appeared on pages 654 and 655 of the 2000 [Dixie Gun Works](#) catalogue. After receiving permission from them to allow me to post the table, I did a quick Web search spot check several of the items and found several sites that had an almost identical table to the one in the catalogue.

Therefore, instead of transcribing the table from the DGW catalogue, I took the easy way and saved myself a ton of work, and am posting the links to the sites that I found.

So if some of you want to try that formula that you found in some old scroll you may be able to find the modern equivalent to the ingredients in one of these links.

[Chemical Cross Reference](#)

This list was found in the ftp archives of a [Living History Group](#).

[Chemical Names of Common Substances](#)

Dr. Anne Marie Helmenstine, at About.com, compiled this list of alternate chemical names of familiar materials.

[Common Versus Chemical Names](#)

The *Two Wanna Bees* site has a list of some of the more well-known chemicals and their commonly used names. They also post [a list of chemicals](#) that we may come in contact with during our daily activities.

And for the alchemist or sorcerer the following may be of interest:

[Alchemical and Archaic Chemistry Terms](#)

This list is from the [Alchemy Web Site](#)

[A Guide to Medicinal and Aromatic Plants](#)

"We hope that this web site will provide technical assistance to you in your search for sound scientific information about medicinal, spice and aromatic plants, and in particular be of benefit in the introduction and production of these unique and fascinating specialty crops and natural plant products."

[Dr. Duke's Phytochemical and Ethnobotanical Databases](#)

Dr. Duke's site is an extensive index of the activities of many plants and chemicals.

=====

Wanderings:

[Can Amateur Scientists Do Theoretical Science?](#)

"It's hard enough for amateur scientists to do any kind of science, and be taken seriously. But theoretical science appears to be 100% the domain of professionals. Is there any way that amateur scientists can make a useful contribution to the development of scientific theories?"

[Conspiracy of Light](#)

"This website examines historical and modern experiments on the nature of space and light, and possible new interpretations based on an alternative approach to the scientific evidence at hand."

[Millersville University's Experiment of the Month Archive](#)

"Experimentation is the cornerstone of science." The experiments, in this archive, do not have detailed instructions. It is hoped that each experimenter will come up with their own unique interpolation.

In the archive you will find the description for [A Simple Piston Driven Pendulum](#) that can be used to build a [Foucault Pendulum](#) and demonstrate that the earth turns.

[Build a DIY Photocell](#)

Alan D. Gleue shows you how to build Grätzel photovoltaic cells

[DIY Projects @ Research Media & Cybernetics](#)

RM Cybernetics supplies information and products for scientific education and research.

[The Alternate Energy Resource Network](#)

There are many interesting projects that are linked from this site. Be aware, though, some of them are "over the edge".

[DIY Thermal Photography](#)

The [Public Laboratory](#) shows us how to take thermal photographs using a DIY Thermal Flashlight.

[**A Speed of Light Demonstration by the Foucault Method**](#)

Foucault's original technique is easy to set up in the classroom and makes an excellent way to measure the speed of light.

[**The Foucault Method of Measuring the Speed of Light**](#)

This site goes into the Foucault Method a bit deeper.

[**Using a Laser to Measure the Speed of Light in Gelatin**](#)

Outfit yourself with a simple handheld laser pointer, a protractor, and gelatin and you're ready to measure the speed of light.

[**Measure the Speed of Light**](#)

It will be demonstrated, in this experiment, that a fairly sophisticated measurement can be conducted with a few inexpensive items.

[**Blinkenlight**](#)

Udo Klein presents several experiments that are based on the [**Arduino Blinkenlight Shield**](#).

[**Hacklog**](#)

You may find an interesting item among the many pages of ideas at the Hacklog site.

[**Do It Yourself Gadgets**](#)

Try your hand at some of these interesting DIY projects.

[**DIY Geomagnetic Storm Monitoring Magnetometer**](#)

This site kicks the [**Simple Pop Bottle Magnetometer**](#) up a notch or two.

[**The Mystery of Dark-Matter**](#)

A new study by the European Southern Observatory claims that this now established theory could be in trouble.

[**The Electric Universe**](#)

"The Electric Universe theory highlights the importance of electricity throughout the Universe."

[**Autodesk's 123D Family of Programs**](#)

The *Autodesk 123D* family of free 3D design apps work with each other to help you make your ideas real.

[**FFT for Dummies**](#)

Renato Romero simplifies Fast Fourier Transforms for us dummies ☺

[Images of Earth Surrounded in Space Junk](#)

You'd think that people would clean up after themselves ☺ The European Space Agency (ESA) has released computer generated virtual images of space junk that is floating around Earth.

[Another Compiler for Arduino](#)

BASCOM is a BASIC compiler for the Arduino family. It will produce code that is more compact and faster than Arduino 'C'.

[OpenRelief](#)

The OpenRelief project's aim is to assist disaster relief efforts by developing better communications tools such as their [Robot Plane](#) or Drone prototype.

[DesignSpark](#)

The gateway to online resources and design support for engineers

[DesignSpark PCB](#)

DesignSpark PCB is a free and easy to use printed circuit design tool.

[The Electropaedia](#)

"This site provides a comprehensive knowledge base about energy supply and battery technologies, battery applications, chargers and ancillary equipment."

=====

From Instructables, YouTube & Make:

[Instructables: Microcontroller Interface to Forrest Mims's Electrometer](#)

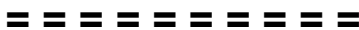
With a few components, a microcontroller and an old Coleman's Mustard Powder tin, the author was able to build a device to measure static electricity based on a design by Forrest Mims.

[Instructables: Make Quantum Dots](#)

The NurdRage demonstrates how to make cadmium selenide [quantum dots](#). Visit their [web site](#) to see their other experiments.

[YouTube: The Geekgroup](#)

"The Geek Group is a non-profit science and technology educational organization dedicated to creating a peer group and support network for anyone with a sincere and passionate desire to learn."



The Kids Room:

[Steve Lower's Resources for Chemistry Education](#)

Steve has a collection of general chemistry resources for teachers and students.

[A Lab for the Future](#)

NSM students get new state-of-the-art science facility

[Teach Engineering](#)

Teach Engineering is a web-based library collection of standards-based engineering curricula for use by K-12 teachers.

[JVC's Science Fair Projects](#)

This is your guide to science fair topics, ideas, experiments, and winning displays.



Random Samples:

[Google Celebrates Bob Moog's Legacy with a Fully Playable Synthesizer](#)

Note: This should be run with the Google Chrome browser.

[How to play the Moog Doodle](#)

Jacob Turcotte, a staff writer with The Christian Science Monitor, explains the operation of Google's Synthesizer a little deeper.

[Journey to Forever](#)

The Journey's focus is on DIY technology in the fields of sustainable energy, sustainable farming, family nutrition and local self-reliance.

[Hinton's Lilac Chaser](#)

View this startling optical illusion

[Military Compasses](#)

Ted Brink shows us his extensive collection of military compasses from around the world.

[Home Made Tools](#)

This is an online forum for DIY Tool Builders

[Kindle for PC](#)

With this free app from Amazon, you will be able to read Kindle books on your PC.

[The Young Bill Gates \(1976\)](#)

Read Bill's comments on Software Pirates.

=====

Suppliers and Stuff:

[Scientific American's "The Amateur Scientist" \[CD-ROM\]](#)

This CD contains the complete The Amateur Scientist columns from Ingalls to Carlson.

[United Nuclear Scientific Supplies](#)

The items that are stocked by *United Nuclear Scientific Supplies* are geared to help us to put the "fun" back into science.

[Power Switch Tail II](#)

Easily control 120vac from your PC or microcontroller.

=====

From The Far Side:

[Pseudoscience](#)

Stephen Lower gives us a look at pseudoscience, pathological science, junk science, hoax science, fraudulent science, scientific misconduct and lastly bad science.

[Water Related Pseudoscience, Fantasy and Quackery](#)

The purpose of this site is to examine the credibility of so called "wonder waters" such as ionized, alkaline and oxygenated waters from the standpoint of modern chemistry and physiology.

Secrets of Egypt's Pyramids

Professor Michel Barsoum reports that he has found evidence suggesting some of the stone blocks were cast, not quarried.

Are Aliens Artists?

Here is a collection of 110 Crop Circles that prove that aliens or perhaps supernatural beings appreciate the visual arts ☺

The Circle Makers

Than to burst our bubble, here is a group of British humans that document how they, not **Greys**, make crop circles ☺

Loohan's Orgone Site

Join Loohan in his search of negative Extra-Terrestrials, Black Magicians, Illuminati, Demons and various Evil Spirits.

===== 15 =====



Ralph J. Coppola

r_j_coppola@hotmail.com