

# Read The Complete Story

*Editors make blunders. I, as editor of the newsletter, made two dramatic errors with stories that Jim Ladendecker sent me for the January issue. The first story was two pages in a word document. I copied the first page but missed the second page. This story was cut short. Here is the story in its entirety.*

## A Conversation About Poe

"Today I'd like to talk about Poe," Larry stated.

"I had Poe in Hawaii....didn't care for it, very bland."

"Jim. I believe you're referring to poi. It's a food staple in Hawaii, and I agree it tastes terrible," Larry patiently explained. "but I'm talking about Poe."

Bob answered to clarify, "POE is an acronym in the military, which has many meanings, the most common being, Port of Entry."

"No argument there," agreed Larry, "but, that's not what we're talking about today."

"It's the poe people in the south, I knew a lot of them, very sad," SanDe interjected.

"Very true, being poor is sad. However, Poe is spelled and pronounced differently," Larry grimaced.

"Not in the south." SanDe challenged.

"Okay, but the definition is different," Larry continued. "Poe was a literary genius."

"I dated Poe's granddaughter when I lived in Bulgaria," Bill proudly stated. "She was a dancer."

"A dancer?" Larry questioned.

"Yes, her name was Paula, and she was a pole dancer." Bill smiled.

"So, Poe's granddaughter was named Paula and was a pole dancer?" Larry said, shaking his head.

Sherry asked, "Was she a poe dancer or pole dancer? It's important. The P should be uppercase if it's Poe."

"This discussion is running off the rails," Larry stated. "Can we get back to the topic at hand?"

"Was the Poe tato named after Poe?" Marcia asked. "Hmm—potato soup sounds good for lunch, yes a nice hearty potato soup."

"No, Marcia, the Poe I'm speaking about had nothing to do with vegetables," Larry calmly stated.

### Here is The Rest of The Story...

"Is it Poe Tato or Pa Tato? Marcia asked. "Which is correct, Sherry?"

"Really, either is correct, it has to do with your character's voice and the content of the story." Sherry informed Marcia, "but I'll check further and get back to you."

"Let me explain, we are talking about Edgar Allan Poe. He was an American writer best known for his short stories and poetry." Larry said confidently, "Poe, people, Poe."

"Did he write the nursery rhyme, 'Run rabbit, run?'" Jim asked. "I loved that as a kid."

"That's great, Jim, it really is, but Poe didn't write nursery rhymes." Larry seemed exasperated. "He is best known for his tales of mystery and the macabre. Maybe we should move on to another subject, like music. Is everyone familiar with Bach?"

"Ahh! Bach." Jim commented.

"I believe that's a military term," Bob said, "but I shouldn't say anymore."

Bill smiled. "When I lived in Germany I had dinner with....."

The conversation continued without Larry's input. He just laid his head on the table and groaned.

The waitress came to the table to take lunch orders. Looking at Larry she asked, "Would you like to place your order now?.....If I may make a suggestion, we have a great Poe-boy and it comes with fries or Poe tato chips."

Larry lifted his head showing a wide grin, "Yes, the Poe-boy sounds good and I'll take it with the chips, Poe-lease." —*Jim Ladendecker*

## Footnotes...on Steroids

*As I mentioned in the above introductory remark, I made errors with two stories that Jim Ladendecker sent me for publication in the newsletter. The second story was submitted as a roast of his friend and author Larry Duerbeck, titled "Footnotes...on Steroids." The article appeared on page seven and credited Larry Duerbeck as the author of the article when in fact Jim Ladendecker is the author.*

—*Wes Ginther, Editor*



Jim Ladendecker