

## January -- A Month of Waiting

Thanksgiving through New Year's is a festive time  
From stuffed turkeys to hung stockings to Old Ang Syne  
Frenzied fun fills decked halls with song and mirth  
Merry gentlemen seldom rest seeking peace on earth

But when the wreaths and swags are stowed away  
In closets and attics for their ten month stay  
The stable bared and wrong sizes returned  
A peaceful January month of waiting is earned

Serene viewing as snow comes then melts  
Stews simmer as wood stoves warmth are felt  
Books put aside find a catching up time  
Writing an overdue letter to a friend is fine

Birds feeder feasting at break of day  
Chattering - scattering when comes the blue jay  
Dull yellow of the finch slowly morphs to gold  
Viewing nature's annual magic a wonder to behold

Seed catalogs nest beside the easy chair  
Creating notions of the garden to prepare  
For the tastiest tomatoes and stringless beans  
Patiently now one anticipates the green

Viewing woods fill as leaf buds swell  
Winter's sun bathing its annual all's well  
A crocus leaf emerging a treat to savor  
A welcome gifting of winter's frigid waiver

Pastured cattle gently grind their cud  
Await a calf to birth to be tongue scrubbed  
Numbers of summer's hay bales in slow decline  
Coming months greening welcome and devine

Best of all is my mid-day nap  
Horizontal with afghan on lap  
Dreamless snoozing legs nearly straight  
Yep - even the waiting can wait

Don Adams, waiting on Bethel Pond  
January, 2023