



## Ode to the Elderberry

Whatchur car doing long side the road?  
Neighbor Jim inquired the other day.  
Said I was in elderberry mode  
They're ripened now to purple grey.

Jim incompletely satisfied  
His curious notion did not stop.  
His wondering never sets aside.  
Whatcha doing with your roadside crop?

Tell your wife I'm thinking jelly  
Truth though is I'm making wine  
Either version mellows ones belly  
In mornin' or again at sweet bedtime.

Keeps at bay all sorts of afflictions  
A medicine chest for us county folk  
A healthy way to avoid prescriptions  
Tis true I shall not blow you smoke.

Loads of vitamins plus potassium  
A detoxed liver sleeps sound at night  
Consuming leads to healthier skin  
Plus nightmarish symptoms soon take flight.

Lowers the bad blood sugar  
And as anti-carcinogenic  
Fights off that cancer bugger  
Sniffles stifled 'cause they're allergenic.

A natural laxative and diuretic  
With stronger bones to boot  
A cholesterol correctic  
Sure makes sippin' wine a hoot.

A few days later I chanced to see  
His old Chevy truck beside the road  
Jim in the thick of an elderberry spree  
A fine fittin' end to this elderberry ode.

Don Adams

On Bethel Pond, August 2020