

Rejuvenation
By George Dodge

The retreat of snow
Cold and darkness losing
Its grip
Rivers give up their ice
Shorelines cling to their
Last bits of ice
The horse leaning into its
Harness, making another
Trip from the maple grove
Laden with barrels of sap.
The sugar shack giving
Off clouds of steam, leaving
The sweet smell of spring
In the air.
The sounds of honking geese
V-shaped flocks, each
Pair headed to its own
Pond or river, to claim its
Own grassy points to
raise their young.

Sand and Salt being washed
From cars, campus parking lots
Swept clean of another
Winter.
The bustle of college students
New sunglasses, shorts, sandals,
Gallons of lotion. In airports; highways,
All looking for sand and sunshine
In the warm southern hemisphere.
Purging the cold and darkness, and
Hours of work and study from
Their minds.
Rejuvenation of earth, animal kingdom,
The minds of our young all ready -
For the tests of spring.

Weekends sleeping in
Sunday evening dinner
wine, and conversation.