

TAKE HEART

A Conversation in Poetry

*Edited & Introduced by Wesley McNair,
Maine Poet Laureate*

In his poetry Thomas Moore of Brooksville often writes about people and places in Maine. Today he concentrates on Episcopalians in a nearby coastal town.

Summer Episcopalians

~notes from an introvert

by Thomas R. Moore

They are more self-confident than I,
and even though I'm one of them,

they rattle me when I overhear their spiels
in *deli* about imported Swiss before

choosing Champagne Brie, or when
the women, white-haired, blue-blooded,

chat so self-assuredly in *coffee and tea*,
their crisp tennis dresses showing

their pedigree with baskets full of organic
pears, natural chicken thighs,

and English breakfast tea. The men
are clean-shaven with jaws that say

prominent, sailing tans melding
into winter's Merlot seas. Their

faces are almost names. I dodge
into *canned vegetables* and flee.

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