

Wisconsin Fellowship Of Poets Museletter

founded 1950



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Spring 2006

www.wfop.org

Editor: Christine Falk

Welcome

Welcome to the following new members of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets that have joined since the Winter *Museletter* issue:

Jeffrey Aderman	Pewaukee
Ricki Bellos	Maplewood
Naomi Cochran	Hayward
Thomas Erickson	Shorewood
Erica Falk-Huzar	Camp Douglas
Dan Faulkner	Franklin
Rob Ganson	Washburn
Anjie Greene-Martin	Palmyra
Lynne Johnson	Madison
Jane Kircher	Shorewood
Nikol Knapmiller	Waukesha
Carole Machek	Washington Island
Elizabeth McGinnis	Fountain Hills, AZ
Kim Parsons	Oconomowoc
Mike Patenaude	Madison
Tom Rohe	Waukesha
Paula Schulz	Slinger
Lorelee Sienkowski	Packwaukee
Bruce Taylor	Eau Claire
Sarah Taylor	Egg Harbor
Sandra Tully	Delafield
Jean Paul Zagorski	Milwaukee
SSND	

New member inquiries should be directed to Peter Piaskoski, the membership chair. His contact information is listed in the masthead.

Welcome to all!

President's Message

Happy Spring—I hope! I'm writing this in early February under gray skies and a dreary forecast. Let's hope the weather is better by the time you get this.

It's been a busy time for the Fellowship. The *Museletter* deadline is several weeks before the winter Board meeting, so I don't have a lot of news yet about decisions and policies. Nothing has changed since the Fall conference, but by our Spring get-together in Door County, we'll have a lot to talk about.

We're still in conversations with the Marriott in Racine about overcharges from the Spring '05 conference. We know we're in the right, but once the vendor has the money they're seldom in a hurry to make amends.

We're still developing a job description for a Conference Coordinator, who will work with each regional vice president in organizing the conferences. This should provide continuity to the planning, and help prevent some of the problems that cropped up last spring.

We also hope to have news on internet payment options for membership dues and "Fellowship" articles such as sweatshirts and mugs. Our webmistress, Jeannie Bergmann, is looking in to the possibility of using PayPal for payments online. There are plenty of details to consider, but other organizations are using this successfully.

Several members have put together a set of ideas to freshen up our conference doings. We have gotten too large to continue with both the Friday-night "Open Mic" and Saturday morning "Roll Call" readings: there simply isn't enough time to get everyone in. We will be talking a lot about other ways to share both our members' work and their creative ideas. Please feel free to join in. If you have thoughts about programs or sessions that you'd like to see at one of our conferences, please get in touch with your regional vice president.

We've made a small adjustment to the conference rotation schedule. The dates will remain the same, but the locations for Fall '06 and Spring '07 have been switched. This means that the Fall '06 conference will be hosted by the West-Central VP, Sandy Lindow, in Eau Claire November 3-4, 2006. The Spring '07 conference will be hosted by the Central-Fox Valley VP, Ia Bolz, April 27-28, 2007. Please see the article "Same Time, Different Place" elsewhere in this *Museletter*.

Hope to see everyone at The Landmark in Door County April 21-22, 2006.

Hugs,

Peter

How to reach the Editor

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Museletter
Deadline
May 5, 2006

What's Happening in Your Region?

East Region

Cary Fellman, East Regional VP
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Marion Youngquist won First Prize in the Arthur (Skip) Potter Memorial Contest 2005, sponsored by the Massachusetts State Poetry Society, Inc. for her poem, "Kennedy's Inauguration."

Winners in the AllWriters' First Annual Writing Contest included two WFOP members. **Janet Leahy** from Brookfield won first place with her poems, "chasing haiku down duval street", "estate sale", and "psalm of the river." **Kathleen Phillips** from Waukesha received an honorable mention for her poem, "something bad happened." AllWriters' Workplace and Workshop is located in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Members of the Poetry People, **Janet Leahy, Barbara Bach-Wiig** and **Kathleen Phillips** read at the Woodland Pattern Poetry Marathon in Milwaukee.

On Sunday, March 12th, from 1:30-2:30, The Poetry People are reading at Good Harvest in Waukesha. After the reading there will be an open mic.

Janet Leahy's poem "Requiem" was published in the January issue of *Byline Magazine*.

Charles P. Ries has had poems appear or accepted for publication in: *Mannequin Envy, Angel Head, Diddler, Mastodon Dentist* and by *Lulu* for an anthology entitled, *A Common Spring*. He has had short stories appear in: *Mannequin Envy, Sein Und Werden* and *Girls With Insurance*. His essays have appeared or been accepted for publication in: *Burning, Cynic Review* and *Free Verse*. His poetry reviews have appeared or been accepted for publication in: *Open Wide, Hiram Poetry Review, Sein Und Werden, Cynic Review, LummoX, Writer OnLine, Plutonic 3 Way, Poesia, Underground Window, Pen Himalayla, Free Verse, Poets West, Sunpiper, and Bathtub Gin*. He was appointed Poetry Editor for *Pass Port*

Journal (www.passportjournal.org).

Mardi Fries picked up her issue of *The Arrow of Pi Beta Phi* and perused the cover story, "Maintain Healthy Bodies & Minds By Managing Your Stress." Several women were featured. In the copy for "Quilter & Poet", she saw the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets and our Regional Vice-President **Cary Kay Fellman**.

Phyllis Wax was the featured poet at Linneman's Poets' Monday on Valentine's Eve with a program entitled "Love and Its Consequences." She also read at the Woodland Pattern Marathon and was featured at Schwartz Books in Mequon. Recent publication credits include *California Quarterly, Free Verse, New Verse News, and TMP Irregular*.

Jane Osypowski had three poems accepted by *Free Verse*. They include "Blind Words," "Potatoes," and "Promises of Spring."

Sandra M. Tully is new member of WFOP. In addition to her published writings in *The Catholic Herald, Science of Mind* and *Country Magazine*, Sandra is the 2005 recipient of the Wisconsin Regional Writers Association (WRWA) Jade Ring Award in the Nostalgia category for her work entitled, *Barefoot on Stones*.

C.K. (Char) Zehfus has poems appearing in the *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar: 2006*, and *2006 Everyday Blessings: A Year of Inspiration, Comfort and Gratitude*, edited by June Cotner. Two of her poems received honorable mention in the August 2005 *Byline* contests, one as new-talent poetry, and the other, a children's poem. Her article about her experience as a first-timer at the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Fall 2005 Conference will appear as a prelude to the WFOP April 2006 Conference in the Spring edition of the *Wisconsin Academy Review*.

Central-Fox Valley Region

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Constance Morgenstern's poem "Waking Day," a free-verse description of a luminous "first" spring day set to paintings by such artists as Monet, Renoir and van Gogh, is featured in the

all-ages picture book called *Waking Day*. The book also includes Constance's thoughts on impressionism and the artists and their paintings used as illustrations in her book. *Waking Day* is published by NorthWord and is available on Amazon.com. Constance will do a book signing at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum in Neenah on March 18th.

The following WFOP poets were featured poets for the months of January, February and March at Between The Pages Coffee Shop in Appleton: **Ellen Kort, Rusty McKenzie, Michael Koehler, Cathryn Cofell** and **Karla Huston**.

Here is some more poetry "news" to be put under the Central-Fox Region column of the spring 2006 *Museletter*.

Ia Bolz was the featured speaker at the Fox Cities private elementary, middle and high schools' February 2006 Librarians Conference in Appleton. Ia spoke on her poetry writing experience and read several of her poems. Ia was one of many poets who participated in a February 28, 2006 Mardi Gras Talent Show at Unity Church in Appleton. Ia's recitation of her two poems "Falling Leaves" and "Inner Tubing On Stoney Hill" are featured on The Appleton Art Center produced CD entitled *Wisconsin's Four Seasons* which will be used in the Fox Cities preschool to elementary schools' creative arts program. The CD will be released in March 2006 and coincides with the art exhibit by the same name at The Appleton Art Center which runs March thru April 2006. Ia participated in the annual Writers' Realm at St. Joseph Middle School, Appleton on March 8, 2006. Ia spoke on her creative process for writing her poetry and read several of her poems to the middle school students in attendance.

Jon Corelis participated in the "Gourmet Organic Poetry" night at Harmony Cafe in Appleton on January 11, 2006.

submitted by

Ia Bolz, Central-Fox Valley Regional VP

Karla Huston has poems accepted and forthcoming in *The Axe Factory Review, New Zoo Poetry Review, Buckle &, Parallel Press 10th Anniversary Anthology* and *Rattle 25th Issue Anthology*. She will read at Conkey's Bookstore, Appleton, March 21st, at

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Barnes and Noble with **Marilyn Taylor** in Madison, April 30th, and the Waukesha Library, April 29th. She will teach a class at AllWriters, Celebrity Saturday event in Waukesha, on May 20th.

Northeast Region

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Peter Sherrill read his poem "The Man in the Golden Helmet" at the artists' salon held by Peninsula Art School on Saturday, January 14th where he also played jazz guitar for visitors in the gallery. In addition, he served as preliminary judge for the *Wisconsin Academy Review's* annual poetry contest.

Lyn Hirst writes a poem each month that is published in the *Door County Advocate*.

Kathryn Gahl's short story, "Dancer," appears in the January 2006 issue of *Notre Dame Review*. Poetry is forthcoming in *The Hawaii Pacific Review*, *Willow Review*, and the *Baltimore Review*. Kathryn taught "Written Expressions: Discovering Your Story on Paper" at Day of the Arts held in January at the Rahr West Art Museum, Manitowoc, WI.

Sue DeKolver has had two poems accepted by *Main Channel Voice* and one by *Sheepshead Review*. She received first place in the *Free Verse* "Something You Found" contest and second place in the "Mask of Ordinarity" contest. Her poem, "Fair to Partly Broccoli" will appear in the next issue of *Free Verse*.

Jerry Hauser will be the featured poet at Barnes and Noble (Oneida St., Ashwaubenon) on Thursday evening, April 13th. Open mic reading starts at 7:00 p.m. and **Judy Roy** will read from about 7:30-8:00 p.m.

Ralph Murre's recent publication credits include *The Cliffs "Soundings"*, *Peninsula Pulse*, *Backstreet Quarterly*, *Free Verse*, and the online magazine, *Angel Head*. Some of his poetry also appears on his blog at [http://](http://caparem.blogspot.com)

caparem.blogspot.com.

Nancy Rafal read at the 10th annual Woodland Pattern Poetry Marathon in Milwaukee on February 28th.

Jean Biegun is writing a poem for each seasonal issue of the Woodland Dunes Nature Center newsletter in Two Rivers.

Billie Williams' book, *Bed and Breakfast Murders*, was published in January by Wings ePress, Inc.

Cynthia Johnson has given away (free) more than 600 copies of her book *The Way Crows Really Fly* since August in an interactive art project named "The Ripple Project." She has received responses (poems, books, art work, etc.) from people in twelve states. The project to give away 1,000 books will culminate in an art exhibit in Door County in the Fall or Winter of 2006. For more information about participating in this project, contact Cynthia at cbjohnson@itol.com. In January Cynthia presented her book to several people in Delhi and Chandigarh, India, while she was traveling with an art/culture study trip from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

Judy Roy received a first place in the *Free Verse* contest for a poem about a clock as well as an honorable mention for a poem about a door.

submitted by

Judy Roy & June Nirschl, Northeast Regional VPs

South-Central Region

Kathy Miner, South-Central Regional VP
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ATTENTION SOUTH CENTRAL MEMBERS: This is the last column I will be writing for the *Museletter*, as I am stepping down as regional VP. Until a successor is found, you are on your own to send in your news. Email your announcements and achievements to Chris Falk, editor, at thefalks@frontiernet.net. I believe the deadline for the next issue will be Friday, May 5th.

South Central poets were very busy in November 05. **CX Dillhunt** read at the Montello Public Library (hi, Bruce!) on the 7th ... on the 20th, **Brent Christianson**, **Nancy Jesse**, **Gillian Nevers**, **Richard Merelman**, and **Linda Newman Woito** read at Avol's Bookstore in Madison. They had all taken a workshop from **Laurel Yourke** ... Meanwhile, **Judith Zukerman** traveled

back to Amsterdam in the Netherlands. On November 23rd, she read from her book *Amsterdam Days* at The English Bookshop there.

And on November 28th, it was time for the annual Calendar reading. All South Central poets whose work appears in the *WFOP Calendar: 2006* were invited. **Ray Hsu**, **Kathy Miner**, **Fran Rall**, **Peg Sherry**, **Dave Scheler**, **Phil Wissbeck**, **Barbara Houghton**, **Joan Zeier**, **Susan Godwin**, **Ron Ellis**, **Marie Balistreri**, **Brent Christianson**, **Richard Swanson**, **Jeannie Bergmann**, **Judith Strasser**, **Jeri McCormick**, **Alice D'Alessio**, **Ron Czerwien**, **Wendy Vardaman**, **Robin Chapman**, **John Lehman**, and **Norma Gay Prewett** read their poems. The work of **Miriam Hall**, **Katrin Talbot**, **Mike Patenaude**, **Charles Cantrell**, **CX Dillhunt**, **Diane Harvey**, **Phyllis Reisdorf**, **Linda Newman Woito**, **Coral Bishop**, **Lenore Coberly**, **Jackie Langetieg**, **Tim Walsh**, **Brian Powers**, and **Deborah Kades** was read by others.

As for December, on the 5th **Robin Chapman** read from her new book *Images of a Complex World: The Art and Poetry of Chaos* at Avol's. The book is a fusion of Robin's poetry and Clint Sprott's artwork ... on December 7th, whether you were in Madison or in Appleton, you could have heard South Central members reading their poetry. **John Lehman** and **Shoshauna Shy** read at Avol's that evening, celebrating the recent releases of John's book *Shorts* and Shoshauna's *White Horses on Sale for a Song*. Donations of canned food for the St. Vincent DePaul's food pantry were accepted at the reading. At the very same hour, **CX Dillhunt** and **Ron Czerwien** were reading at Conkey's Bookstore in Appleton, as part of the Central-Fox Valley region's WFOP Calendar reading.

Alison Townsend was among the readers from the anthology *Sweeping Beauty: Contemporary Women Poets Do Housework* on January 24th at Borders West in Madison. Many South Central members were in the audience. Yours truly happened to get a copy of that book as a premium from WORT radio during their fall pledge drive, on the day the book's editor was interviewed on the air.

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Susan Elbe, Robin Chapman, and Sara Parrell participated in the Woodland Pattern Poetry Marathon on January 28th in Milwaukee. Susan was recently appointed to the Poet Laureate Commission, replacing **Marilyn Taylor** as a representative of the Council for Wisconsin Writers. And, she was the featured poet on *Verse Daily* online on February 5th, with her poem "Perseveration."

On February 10th, **Yvonne Yahnke** was the featured reader at the Village Booksmith in Baraboo, reading from her two chapbooks ... that same evening, **Katrin Talbot** presented a multimedia concert on the UW campus. Katrin collaborated with trombonist Mark Hetzler and other musicians to produce *Visions of America*. Her contribution was photography, not poetry, this time.

Here's a whole bunch of news about **Jeannie Bergmann**: she has recently had poems accepted by *Main Street Rag*, *Hummingbird*, *Rosebud*, *Lumina*, *Mississippi Review*, *Margie*, *Ur-Vox*, *Blue Unicorn*, *The Binnacle*, and *Raintown Review*. She's been published online by *asininepoetry.com*, *Right Hand Pointing*, *Circle Magazine*, *Unpleasant Event Schedule*, *horse less press*, *nth position*, *Blackbox*, and *Espresso Stories*. Her poems appear in the online Big Bridge Press anthology *Export: Writing the Midwest*, and in the Random House anthology *180 More*, edited by Billy Collins. She won third places in the "New Discovery-the Writer" and "Lumina Ultra-Short" poetry competitions; honorable mention for the Mississippi River Prize; and first place in *Rosebud's* Mary Shelley Imaginative Fiction Contest.

As of the deadline for this *Museletter*, the annual WFOP Winter Festival of Poets was taking place on Sunday afternoons at Avol's in Madison. **Lynn Patrick Smith** masterminds this marvel of scheduling; I will leave it to some future columnist to report all the readers. Looking ahead, **Kathy Miner's** poem "Fire Rescue" is scheduled to appear in *Wisconsin Trails* in April, and **Gillian Nevers** will have her poem "Longing for Casita del Mar" published in *Miller's Pond* in May.

submitted by

Kathy Miner, South-Central Regional VP

Linda Newman Woito read some of her poetry as part of her church's Women's Christmas Program in December, and recently received news her poem, "The Milkmaid's Tale," was one of ten runners-up in the Wisconsin Academy's Statewide Poetry Contest. She and other contest winners will read their poetry at Avol's Bookstore in Madison on April 20th, at 7 p.m.

Shoshauna Shy participated in the Festival of Poets at Avol's in January. She had poems published in *Prime* and *The Seattle Review*.

Josephine Zell was a featured reader on January 7th at Barnes and Noble on Madison's West Side. The evening was a Writers' Place event, arranged by **Fran Rall**.

Patrick T. Randolph and his wife Gamze Randolph of Madison, Wisconsin are now developing rather euphoric wings, as Patrick has completed his M.A. degree in Applied English Linguistics at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. He tackled a 7 hour comprehensive on January 4th addressing such titillating topics as syntax theory, phonology, second language acquisition, dialectology, conversation analysis, teaching theory and methodologies, and general linguistics. He cheerfully received very favorable results on January 25, 2006. He will graduate in May. This month, instead of listing publications, Patrick would like to ask all of the "fellows" and "fellowettes" of the W[FF]OP (The Wisconsin "Fellowship" and "Fellowshipette" of Poets) what is the Essence of Poetry? He is hoping to receive a bundle of responses, assuming someone—at least one poor soul—reads this announcement. Again, the question, What is the Essence of Poetry? Please direct your responses to Patrick's email: patrickrandolph2003@yahoo.com. Happy contemplating and happy writing! Remember, the soul which attempts to define, reaps the taste of intellectual wine!

Northwest Region

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In November **Diana Randolph** of Drummond read a couple poems at the

open mic at Second Sunday Poets' gathering at the Drummond Public Library. She will have a poem included in *Dust & Fire 2006*, an anthology of women's writing, published by Bemidji State University of Bemidji, Minnesota. Diana has been busy teaching a variety of art classes and workshops in northern Wisconsin. If you'd like to receive her e-newsletter please contact her at oiabms@cheqnet.net.

Connie Sanderson, Eastman, had two poems, "Tigger" and "Murphy Burgers" published in *Main Channel Voices*. Another poem is forthcoming in *Hummingbird*.

Margaret L. Been of Phillips, Wisconsin, will be teaching a workshop on "Writing Life Stories" at Northcentral Technical College-Phillips Campus in April, 2006.

West-Central Region

Sandra Lindow, West-Central Regional VP
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In the Chippewa Valley it's been the warmest winter on record. On February 2nd, it was 47 degrees as I drove home from work. Though war still runs rampant in various parts of the world, it is peaceful here. Pieces from last year's Epidemic Peace Project Imagery Show in Eau Claire are now on their way to a new show in California.

Candace Hennekens has received honorable mention in *Free Verse* for her poem "The Kitchen Clock at Dover Street" and though she didn't place, her poem "Old Fences" was recognized as having special merit by **Timothy Walsh** in his contest on "The Mask of Ordinairiness." Later this month Candace will be touring Europe in search of inspiration.

On Tuesday, January 17th, **Dina St. Louis** did a poetry reading at Hope Lodge in Rochester, MN. Hope Lodge is a residence provided under the auspices of the American Cancer Society for patients undergoing daily radiation and/or chemotherapy at Mayo Clinic. The reading date was just two days short of one year from her own departure, and her first return. She found the atmosphere was just as welcoming and supportive as it had been back when she was staying

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there. She also reading her poetry at Laurie Bieze's annual Valentine's Day Reading on February 11th.

Sandra Lindow's poem "New From the Götterdämmerung Shop" has received her 14th Rhysling Nomination for the best speculative poem published in a certain year. Her poems "Heat" and "Hell On Wheels" have been accepted by *Asimov's*. "Why We Won't be Coming to Visit Thursday" and "New From the Gotterdämmerrung Shop" will be appearing in the *From the Asylum Anthology 2006*. "Mama Story's Button Box" will be published in the Spring 2006 issue of the new magazine *Illumen*. Her poems "Dwarves" and "Touched By the Gods," will be appearing in the Spring 2006 issue of the *Magazine of Speculative Poetry*.

submitted by

Sandra Lindow, West-Central Regional VP

Jane-Marie Bahr, Menomonie, won an Honorable Mention in the Clock Contest of *Free Verse* #82 for her poem "Coincidence." Her poem, "Cocky", will appear in a future issue of *Free Verse*. "Recognition" was published in the winter issue of the *Museletter*.

Mid-Central Region

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Bruce Dethlefsen gave a poetry reading at Barnes & Noble, Madison, on February 26th.

Barbara Cranford and **Joan Wiese Johannes** were recently nominated for Pushcart Prizes. Barbara conducted a poetry workshop in Hancock in January. Those attending from this region were **Linda Aschbrenner**, **Kris Rued-Clark**, **Mary Lou Judy**, and **Sue Twiggs**.

Poets with work in *Free Verse* #83 and/or #84 were **Grace Bushman**, **Barbara Cranford**, **Laurie C. Pech-Daley**, **Jeffrey Johannes**, and **Joan Wiese Johannes**. **Barbara Cranford**, **Joan Wiese Johannes**, and **Jeffrey Johannes** won cash prizes in recent *Free Verse* contests. **Joan Wiese Johannes** and **Grace Bushman** won books in *Free Verse* contests.

Linda Aschbrenner has a tribute to

poet Albert Huffstickler published at *centrifugaleye.com*.

Books published by Marsh River Editions in 2005 will be displayed at the Poets House Showcase Exhibit in New York City in April.

The Final Friday Open Mic is held at 7 p.m. the last Friday of the month, January through October, at Thimbleberry Used and Unusual Books, 166 S. Central Avenue, Marshfield. All poets are invited to attend and read.

Lincoln Hartford has done a program, "Lincoln Reads Lincoln", at Annie Randall's Village Booksmith in Baraboo, and at Hatch Public Library in Mauston. The program consisted of poems from his collection, *Choose Peaches*, and also readings of poetic passages from the speeches of Abraham Lincoln. Homebaked peach pie was served on both occasions. Hartford also will be one of the facilitators for the annual Writers' Workshop at the high school in La Crosse, on March 16th.

George Saunders, Award Sponsor, Dies

Long-time Fellowship member George Saunders passed away recently. He was preceded in death by his wife Kay, who is fondly remembered by many Fellowship members for her support of new poets. After Kay died, George established the "Fearsome Foursome Fund," named after Kay's writing group. The fund was created to give a permanent endowment to the Fellowship's "Kay Saunders New Poet's Award," part of our annual Triad Contest.

We are grateful for George's generosity, and extend our condolences to his family.

The Central-Fox Valley region would like to thank everyone who made the 2005 Conkey's poetry readings such a great success. We were inspired by readings from a great variety of poets, from past and present Poet Laureates to several excellent first time readers, and we also appreciate everyone who participated in the open mics. Thanks especially to featured readers:

Peter Sherrill
Linda Nett-Duesterhoeft
Cathryn Cofell
Ellen Kort
Denise Sweet
John Lehman
Sarah Gilbert
Susan Kileen
Judy Kolosso
Paula Anderson
Ann Arntson
Lenore Coberly
Sheryl Slocum
Mary Downs
Liz Hammond
Dale Ritterbusch
Angie Greene-Martin
Jerry Hauser
Tom Montag
Roberta Fabiani
Kay Sanders
and
Sue De Kever.

Also special thanks to CX Dillhunt and Ron Czerwien for all the great info at our annual Poets' Calendar reading.

If you missed these readings, don't feel left out. We have another great line up for 2006. If you are ever in the Appleton area on the first or third Tuesday (7 p.m.), please stop in—and bring a couple poems for open mic.

Sincerely,
Sherry Elmer



Written by Julie Cousin, WFOP member and daughter of Dorothy Schwenkner

Dorothy Schwenkner of Janesville, WI will proudly tell you she turned 80 last year. Dorothy is a poet who has been writing poetry since third grade in a one room country schoolhouse. Dorothy lived on the family farm between Beloit and Janesville.

She recalls the "most fun" she had was at age ten, naming an island for the story line of the "Little Orphan Annie" radio contest. The sponsor was Ovaltine. She won a pair of roller skates, but on the farm the only slab of cement was in the cow barn! More poetry followed in her schooldays. She had her first poem published in the *Bluebird*, a high school booklet, in 1940. She sang her way through her graduation with a parody she wrote for "Sing Out", which was to the tune of "The Casson Song." She continues to write poems for the reunion booklets for the class of 1942.

She comments that writing "comes naturally" to her.

Dorothy and her husband, Wayne, had one son and three daughters. She continued to write all those years of raising children and contributed to her children's elementary school's history for its silver anniversary. Her children all remember their Mom winning contests by writing various jingles. Her winnings included prizes from Pepsi, 7-Up, a local drive-in and Conoco gas.

Dorothy often wrote parodies for the church women's programs. One of the songs is still used today. She wrote a farewell poem for a retiring pastor and was introduced during services as the "Poet Laureate" of First Lutheran Church.

Dorothy also held jobs working in the local school system and retired as a secretary from the Alumni office at Beloit College in 1990.

Dorothy soon broadened her writing skills by attending various writing courses. She attended two sessions of a creative writing class at the Janesville vocational school and two similar classes at UW-Rock County campus in Janesville. The courses were taught (at U-Rock) by Professor Al P. Nelson from the University Extension in Madison. She stated that attending several sessions at the Rhinelander School of the Arts, has encouraged her to keep writing.

Dorothy is a member of her local writing club, The Janesville-Beloit Area Writers Club. She has been a member of the WRWA since 1969 serving 4-four year terms on the Board of Directors. She was a co-chair of the WRWA Jade Ring Contest. Dorothy won 1st in the Jade Ring contest in the photography category.

She has also been active in the WFOP since 1982, serving as secretary for one year, hosted two conferences in Janesville, and was in charge for two years of the WFOP student poetry competition.

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Fiscal Third Quarter Financial Report

October 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005

General Account: submitted by Nancy Rafal, treasurer

Balance October 1, 2005		\$48,002.82
Income:		
Dues	\$4,467.50	
Shirt/mug sales	102.00	
'05 Fall conf. reg & room	3,023.00	
Total Income:	\$7,592.50	
Expenses:		
<i>Museletter</i>	\$1,298.67	
'05 Fall Conference	9,512.01	
Student contest printing	504.64	
VP stipend (Bolz)	100.00	
Wis. Dept. of Financial Inst.	10.00	
Triad clerk expenses	13.07	
Check printing	23.50	
Misc. (postage)	81.99	
Total Expenses:	(\$11,543.88)	
Closing Statements Balance on December 31, 2005		\$44,100.38
five uncashed checks	\$48.94	
General Account Balance on December 31, 2005		\$44,051.44

Literary Fund Account: submitted by Susan Kileen, Literary Fund Co-Chair

Balance September 30, 2005		\$1,155.19
Income:		\$0.00
Expenses:		
Postage	\$129.50	
Triad Prizes	230.00	
Muse Notices	19.50	
Award Covers	44.94	
Total Expenses:	(\$423.94)	
Balance December 31, 2005		\$731.25
Outstanding Checks as of December 31, 2005:		
#1022 Muse Prize	\$30.00	
#1026 Muse Prize	20.00	
#1029 Muse Prize	20.00	
	(\$70.00)	
Adjusted Balance on December 31, 2005		\$661.25

Calendar Account: submitted by Michael Farmer, Calendar Business Manager

Balance October 1, 2005		\$2,395.93
Income:		
Calendar Sales	\$3,913.13	
2 remedied mischarges	158.58	
Total Income:	\$4,071.71	
Expenses:		
Postage-USPS	\$151.61	
Supplies	22.29	
Mischarges		
Kohler room charge	99.00	
Viking Office Supply	59.58	
Total Expenses:	(\$332.48)	
Closing Balance on December 31, 2005		\$6,135.16

Fiscal year is April 1 to March 31 to coincide with our federal tax filing.

General Fund	\$44,051.54
Literary Fund	\$661.25
Calendar Fund	\$6,135.16
Total	\$50,847.95

Corrections:

Some of you may have noticed errors in the 2nd quarter financial report printed in the last issue. Somehow the wrong data was transmitted to the Museletter editor. If you would like a copy of the corrected report, contact Nancy Rafal, treasurer. Contact information is on front page.

Don't Forget...

to notify the *Museletter* editor
if you move or change your
email address.



Markets

Judith Zukerman • PO Box 5442 • Madison, WI 53705-0442 • jzukerman7@earthlink.net

This column highlights: 1) a general valuable marketing resource which I hope will lead you to new markets to explore for your work; 2) a unique journal, *The Rejected Quarterly* and 3) specific markets suggested by WFOP members or magazines in which some WFOP members have been published.

A reference librarian in the Special Collections (where literary magazines are stored) at University of Wisconsin-Madison Memorial Library revealed one of the librarians' treasured resources which is kept behind the main desk, *The Literary Press and Magazine Directory 2005/2006*.

On the book cover, Fiona McCrae, Director of Graywolf Press says, "...The Literary Press and Magazine Directory is THE tool of choice for the independent creative writer and the independent editor."

This resource which I encourage you to explore is prepared by the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses, published by Soft Skull Press, 71 Bond Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217, www.softskull.com Distributed by Publishers Group West, www.pgw.com or 1.800.388.3123, ISBN 1-832360-75-1, \$19.95, Printed in Canada.

In the foreword written by Grace Paley, she writes, "This is a hard time for publishers...The small and not-so-small independent bookstores...have disappeared. But if you pick up the directory published by the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses, you can see at once that there are women and men poets, storytellers, critics of literature and the criticized who have not given up. They have to write and they have to publish...The Council is so fine and useful to writers as well as to small and larger presses and magazines..."

If you cannot buy the book, ask your public library to buy it as a reference book for you and other writers in your area to use.

What are you doing with those rejection slips you have been collecting? The second highlight of this article is a unique and attractive journal, *The Rejected Quarterly* for fine literature that has been rejected at least five times. Along with fiction submissions, you MUST include at least five rejections. Poetry is welcome and rejection slips are strongly recommended. At the current time, the quarterly is only looking for rejection related poems. Rejection slips optional. Usually uses one to two poems per issue. No simultaneous submissions. The following issues, Winter Spring 2004, Summer Fall 2005 and Winter Spring 2005 that I examined in late January 2006 included: The Art of Rejection, Schlagel Press Strategy, Words from the Weiss, Interviews, Book Reviews, Rejection Selections, Rejection-Related Poetry and The Best Darn Rejected Literature Available Anywhere, Rating the Rejectors (Hack Writers, Adequate Authors, Respectable Writers), EZ Rejection Form Letter for Writers: Literary Mag Version. Note in these issues poetry and art are addressed in some of the articles but the literature included was fiction. Send submissions to BPP, *The Rejected Quarterly*, P.O. Box 1351, Cobb, CA 95426. For your information: email: bplankton@juno.com Editors: Daniel Weiss, Jeff Ludecke.

Specific markets to explore include: Two online markets suggested by Charles Ries, Milwaukee. He is the new poetry editor for both (Pass Port Journal and Word Riot) and looks forward to seeing some submissions from WFOP members. Explore these sites and you will find at a WFOP member is already featured there, Michael Kriesel.

1) **Pass Port Journal**, submissions go to Editor, Lucia C. Greer at PJeditor@aol.com. Charles Ries reminds members to follow the guidelines carefully. Submit in TEXT file format within the email sent to the Editor. Only original work that has not appeared elsewhere in print or on line. Only one manuscript per submission. Full name, street, city, state address including zip code, telephone number, date written or copyright date of submission, number of photographs to be submitted if article accepted. Deadline, on or before May 1st for July August September Publication; and on or before August 1st for October November December publication. See www.passportjournal.org for more guideline details and deadline dates.

2) **Word Riot**, online, opened in March 2002 as part of a music site. This monthly provides interviews, book reviews, best writing from the literary scene. Poetry submissions, send no more than six poems in the body of your email to poetry@wordriot.org Please do not send as an attachment. Word Riot publishes the forceful voice of up-and-coming poets. In their words, "...we like edgy. We like challenging. We like unique voices." No snail mail. "We reserve the right to edit works as we see fit." (www.wordriot.org)

3) **Gettysburg Review**, an award winning quarterly (2003 Celj Award for Best New Design), is published in January, April, July and October and reads submissions from September through May. Indicate in your cover letter whether the manuscripts are under consideration elsewhere. Stanley Kunitz wrote, "Each issue of the *Gettysburg Review* demonstrates the care and intelligence and devotion to literature with which it is edited."

Personally on my journey of reading more and more journals preparing these markets columns, I loved holding this journal in my hand, reading poem after poem, story after story, essay after essay and lingering over the artwork.

Markets continues on page 11

The Blues

GOING OUT FOR NEW ORLEANS

Some evening when the air is so mild
it subdues even the loudest of talkers,
take your New Orleans friends to a place
where the host wears a ruffled shirt
with silver cufflinks and offers
the house wine or sherry as the perfect
complement to any meal.

The talk is tentative and the piano,
bass, and drum kit wait for the first set.
The waiter suggests a platter of crawfish
and cups of chicken gumbo soup.
For the main course, you can order
a shrimp jambalaya that leaves your mouth
tingling in time to the drummer's cymbals.

When the combo plays a 12-bar chorus
and repeats, this is the way of the blues,
where lost and found balances like a tight-
rope walker, and right on the beat the waiter
appears with praline and café brulot.

You and your friends talk homegoings
like tight-rope walkers who know the net
is ripped in more than one place.
The sax improvises on the trumpet's line.
When the bass walks easy and the drummer
slides his brushes, the combo repeats the chorus.

-----Richard Roe, Middleton

WOMAN AS COASTER

This is my life's work:
to keep you
from leaving a mark,
to contain
your spilling parts,
to be that flat nothing
you fondle
when you have nothing
decent to say,
to be your rain gutter,
to carry your weight,
your cold
smothering weight.

-----Cathryn Cofell, Appleton

GREY DAYS

I saw the sun the other mourning
as I drove into town. He was standing
just above the horizon,
holding a faint sign: *the east*.

-----Lincoln Hartford, New Lisbon

VISTA

The lake is smooth and turquoise as a Formica
plastic countertop—that color they called *aqua*
in the sixties, though it looked nothing like water
until now.

Even in nature the color seems unnatural, startling:
aquarium-gravel cyan of greenbrier berries,
ethereal sky manifesting on the hydrangeas,
the nobody's—home aquamarine eyes
of a spotted horse.

Everything shall be that cerulean hue
when I have my way: skin, string, condoms,
cement, lawns, leopards' lustrous pelts as blue
as the clouded flesh of air.

All the objects will align themselves neatly
on a non-reproducible azure grid,
pale intentions and paradigms
as abscissa and ordinate vanishing into
an ordered, tenuous future.

Intangibles will melt like blue moon ice cream
into a sticky, contiguous layer, the same thickness
for everyone, syrup smoothed by a small child
until the surface is perfectly even,
even though she will not share.

That child has eyes the color of the lake and she
is *not*, was never, me.

-----F.J. Bergmann, Poynette

BACKWATER BLUES

watch me drift into
midnight muddy
waters howlin' hey
now howlin'
wolf, casting lead
belly bobbers - hush hush
mississippi - I'm
just fishin' and it ain't
nobody's business this
whiskey headed night
rolling hoodoo road
long lonesome river
little rain rocking
to morning coffee blues

-----Linda Aschbrenner, Marshfield

*Theme for
Summer issue:
"Spring Cleaning"
Deadline:
Friday, May 5,
2006*

HOUSE OF BLUES, 1959

She drove an air-conditioned Impala the color of Summer Blues Delphinium and decorated her unused kitchen with a few well-selected pieces of Meissenware. She reserved for their private quarters all the blue spilled over from the summer sky.

They slept in separate beds, each shrouded in ocean blue: she between two layers of wool; he with an electric connection. The same blue carpeted the floors, flowed through his dressing room and hers, like a silent stream to the room she called her haven.

It, too, was a place she never used. Meant to be the most intimate room in the house, the library waited in shades of blue, unpacked boxes stacked around the goose-down stuffed, pin-stripe covered reading chair, three years after the move.

She spent her days at the club, doing I'm not sure what. She didn't mention blue skies she'd seen while playing golf or tennis, swimming in the pool. It was I who saw them late afternoons, just as the sun began to nestle in

among the subdued hues of the Japanese-inspired landscape. Following orders, I turned the sprinklers on, and droplets of water reached skyward to touch the blue in an arc of glistening pleasure.

-----June Nirschl, Baileys Harbor

FRANKIE COX

Our homes burrowed into the cold ground cutting into the shoreline of Lake Superior where the Irish, Norwegian and Polish stewed in a maze of shipbuilding, music and booze while Frankie Cox played his golden saxophone down by the docks at the International Club where the bar's low lights and smoke-hinged air diluted his blackness in the drink-laced crowd.

-----Susan Kileen, Watertown

FEBRUARY

All winter
the sky's a gray hammer

when I'm outside
I stare at the ground

so it won't hit me

-----Michael Kriesel, Aniwa

BLUES ON A NORTH CAROLINA NIGHT

Down at a bog water juke joint,
a sharecropper's son sidles in
on a North Carolina night
to work his beat-up box guitar
and whisper low and lonesome
'bout a black-haired beauty
who brought him the blues.

His muddy brown boot keeps time
takes him to the funky side of the South
where ghost light gleams in swamps,
sounds from six strings rise
plump from the Piedmont,
and memories dark as muscadine
haunt every step.

He walks these strings
all tang and sweet-bottomed
keeps the bass beat going
with a bruised thumb
and lets his guitar talk
of hard times and travels
on tobacco road.

It's a percolating rhythm,
bold as a bullfrog,
old like a river he rides
among azaleas and dogwood,
loblolly and long leaf pines,
searching for a sweet gal
who done him wrong.

He rocks it sly and mellow,
makes that jelly roll,
when he puts bent blade to steel
to bleed out a blue note
all rump, red rooster and
Saturday night.

Outside, the rain applauds
as he deals one last chord
to a song he's rolled
and tumbled so many nights
praying for his Danville girl
to make her way back home.

-----John Bloner, Jr., Kenosha

Submit poems to:

Wendy Vardaman, 2336 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711 OR tadubois@facstaff.wisc.edu
(No Attachments, Please)

Membership status must be current to be considered for publication on these pages.

Workshop & Writing Opportunities

Strange Devices:

A Poetry-Generating Workshop

Saturday Afternoon Poetry Workshop: 1-4 p.m. March 4th, Avol's Books, 315 W. Gorham Street, Madison, taught by Jeannie Bergmann.

We'll investigate a selection of unusual exercises and methods that can help poets of all levels generate new and inventive work. You'll never be stuck for inspiration again! Fee: \$10. For more information email Jeannie at demiurge@fibitz.com or call (608) 255-4730 (w) or (608) 635-3966 (h). Please pay in advance to reserve a spot; workshop space is limited. Send \$10 to:

Jeannie Bergmann
W5679 State Road 60
Poynette, WI 53955

F.J. (Jeannie) Bergmann has won a number of awards and prizes for her poetry and speculative fiction, including the 2003 Mary Roberts Rinehart National Poetry award, the 2003 Pavement Saw Press chapbook award, the 2004 Ellis Prose Poetry prize, and the 2005 Mary Shelley Prize for Imaginative Fiction. Her poems have been published in the *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Margie*, *North American Review*, *nth position* (UK), *Southern Poetry Review* and many other journals. Her poem "An Apology" was selected for the anthology *180 More* (Random House, 2005) edited by Billy Collins. Some of her work may be seen at <http://fibitz.com/poetry.html>.

Poetry: From Personal to Powerful

Facilitated by John Lehman, Saturday, March 18th, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., \$195, lunch included, enrollment limited. Workshop held at Redbird Studio, 3195 S. Superior Street, Bay View. For more information see website at www.redbirdstudio.com or call (414) 481-3195.

What do you bring to the writing of a poem and what stays with someone after they read it? Come prepared to grow—to intensify your poetry by sharpening its drama; to shape its movement so its form fits its content. Discover how to transform an entire piece into a metaphor for your reader by choosing the correct titles and endings.

Attendees may submit one of their own poems prior to the workshop (send to John Lehman, 315 E. Water Street, Cambridge, WI 53523). There will also be time after the seminar for individual conferences.

John Lehman is a national published writer and poet with twenty years experience teaching creative writing and twelve years as a creative director/senior copywriter for Midwest advertising agencies. He is the poetry editor of the *Wisconsin Academy Review* and his poetry has appeared in over twenty literary magazines and anthologies. He is founder and first publisher of *Rosebud*, one of the fastest growing magazines of short fiction, poetry and art in America today, as well as publisher of the free quarterly *Cup of Poems and a Side of Prose*, distributed in Madison, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Iowa City and North Chicago.

Poetry Camp: Making Connections

Robin Chapman & Judith Strasser will teach a weeklong

poetry workshop at The Clearing, Door County, May 28-June 3, 2006 entitled Poetry Camp: Making Connections (poem with poem, poet with other poets). See The Clearing website for registration, http://theclearing.org/summer_schedule06.php.

Drop-in Contemplative Writing sessions

facilitated by Miriam Hall, (608) 441-0203

Madison Shambhala Center, Thursdays 7:30-9:30 p.m., 408 S. Baldwin (side door) Recommended: attend regular meditation with the larger group from 7-7:30

Contemplative writing is inspired by the contemplative arts tradition (Nalanda) of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, founder and teacher of the Shambhala tradition in North America. In each session, we do a group meditation for 10 minutes. There is a short breathing exercise, followed by a suggested writing exercise. Writing is then for 20 minutes. After a break, participants are invited to, but not required to, share their work with the group. This can offer a chance to give compassion to ourselves and others in ways which are unexpected and rare. The open courses runs Thursdays 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.. We ask for a \$5-\$10 donation each session. There will also be a committed course, 7-9 p.m., Tuesday nights in March and April, same location. Please contact Miriam Hall for registration.

Spring Poetry Workshop: Craft and Critique

(taught by Angela Rydell)

Length: six weeks; date/time: (final TBA) Wednesdays, mid-April through June*, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. (*Dates/times will be finalized based on student schedules, and will be confirmed via email at least a week before class starts.)

Dylan Thomas has said, "What I like to do is treat words as a craftsman does his wood or stone or what-have-you, to hew, carve, mould, coil, polish and plane them into patterns, sequences, sculptures, fugues of sound..." But how, as poets, do we carve and mold, create "fugues of sound" through our craft? Together we will attempt to answer this question, look closely at our own and each other's work, engage in exercises and discuss specific craft elements such as music, structure, figurative language, voice, persona, all the while exploring the relationship between poetic content and form. This workshop is for poets who want a critique group as well as a chance to expand their knowledge of the craft of poetry, from those first impulses to mold and carve to the final polish. The goal is that you leave the workshop with new ideas, additional revision techniques, fresh ways to articulate your responses to your work and that of others, and renewed excitement and commitment to the process of writing. Fee: \$95. For more information (including location) contact Angela at ajrydell@wisc.edu or call (608) 251-6679. She is also available for private critiques.

Write-by-the-Lake Workshop

Angela will be teaching poetry in UW-Madison's Write-by-the-Lake program this summer. Sign up or find out more at: <http://www.dcs.wisc.edu/lisa/writing/wbtl.htm>.

Workshops & Writing continues on page 11

Workshops & Writing from page 10

Creative Writing Workshop: Coming to our Senses

(taught by Angela Rydell, as part of Edgewood College's Personal Enrichment Program).

Meets Monday, March 20-April 10 (4 meetings), 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Edgewood College.

Writers need to keep all five senses on alert and at the ready. Sensory imagery can help ground a scene, grant an essay the right analogy or a poem a perfect ending. But a memoir bogged down with details can obscure the structure, a poem full of descriptive language can lose its center. In this class, we'll work to find the balance between too much and too little, and practice using luscious concrete language while at the same time coming to our senses in our writing. Sessions will include lively discussion, creative exercises, and critique of our own work as well as the work of established writers. For writers of all kinds: fiction writers, essayists, memoirists, poets, journalists, etc. From beginner to experienced writer. Fee: \$55.00. Call Edgewood at 608-663-2270 to register.

Same Time, Different Place

The dates for the Fall '06 and Spring '07 conferences will remain the same, but the locations are reversed. The Fall '06 conference (November 3-4) will be held in Eau Claire. The Spring '07 conference (April 27-28) will be held in the Fox Valley. This is the opposite of what was published in the last *Museletter*.

There was a miscommunication that wasn't noticed until planning for the fall Eau Claire conference was well underway. Fortunately, our two regional vice presidents were able to swap the dates without much trouble. Your president blushes and apologizes for the mixup.

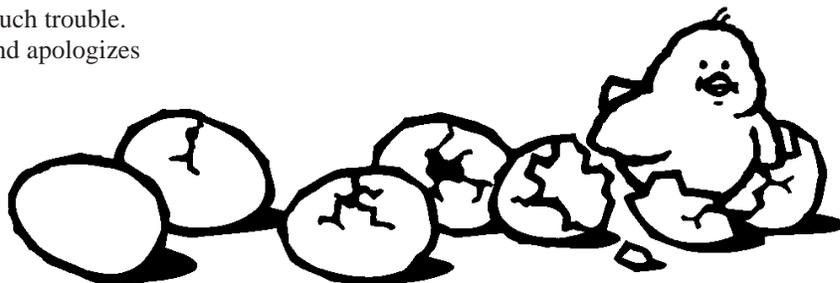
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4) *The MacGuffin*, Schoolcraft College, published three times a year (Increase from 2x beginning in 2005) 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI 48152, macguffin@schoolcraft.edu Phone: (734)462-4400 ext. 5327 website: www.schoolcraft.edu/macguffin/submit.htm. In the Fall 2005 edition, Steven Alfred Dolgin, Editor wrote, "There is a great deal of fine material making its way to literary magazines and journals for consideration. As always, we have endeavored to select the best work and have made the difficult decision to bypass other strong, insightful and often edgy work due to space limitations..." What does MacGuffin mean? Originating in Victorian England, the moving force and sometimes the solution of a work of mystery fiction was referred to as a MacGuffin. Alfred Hitchcock used the term and stated that "No film is complete without a MacGuffin" because that's what...everybody is after." Send submissions to address above or submit electronically to macguffin@schoolcraft.edu. Please submit each work as a separate Word or WordPerfect document attachment. Submissions in the body of the email will not be considered. Please include name, email address and address on every page. List titles and brief bio in cover letter. Accepts simultaneous submissions if informed. SASE for reply only. For poetry, consider traditional, formal, free verse and experimental poetry, up to 400 lines. No subject biases. Poems should be typed and single spaced, and one per page. Poetry editor: Fall 2005 Carol Was and on website, February 2006. Single issue, \$9. Samples and back issues \$6. One year subscription, \$22.

5) *The Bitter Oleander*, A Magazine of Contemporary International Poetry and Fiction, Editor and Publisher Paul B. Roth. Spring and Fall Publication. \$8 per issue, \$15 per year subscription. Includes features, interviews, poetry in translation, short fiction and poetry. 2006 Frances Locke Memorial Poetry Award 10th annual award for which the winning imaginative poem will earn \$1000, publication in *The Bitter Oleander* and five copies of Fall 2006 Award Issue. Include SASE with submission for final decision. \$10 Reading fee for up to five poems. Additional poems \$2 each. Submissions received up until and including June 15th postmark. Specific guidelines with SASE. Sample copy *The Bitter Oleander*, \$8. *The Bitter Oleander* Press, Frances Locke Poetry Award—2006, 4983 Tall Oaks Drive, Fayetteville, New York 13066-9776. www.bitteroleander.com info@bitteroleander.com

6) February 9th News Flash from *Cream City Review* Poetry Contest, December 1st. Reading period for magazine, year round. Fee: \$10 for 3-5 poems, payable to *Cream City Review*. Prize: \$100 plus publication. Address submission to: The Erica F. Wiest Award for Poetry, *Cream City Review*; Dept. of English, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Submissions must be typed, double-spaced, and include the author's name and address plus a SASE (for results only). Simultaneous submissions are okay as long as the *Cream City Review* is notified in the event a manuscript is accepted elsewhere. The reading fee is non-refundable. Website: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/English/ccr> Telephone: 414-229-4708. Julie Anne Faulhaber, Intern, email: julieaf2@uwm.edu.

Thanks again to all the WFOP members who have shared information on possible markets for our members to explore. The input from members is much appreciated.



Meet Your Key Personnel: Michael Farmer, Calendar Business Manager

I'm not saying Lou Roach has big feet, but taking over from her, I found I had some rather large shoes to fill! Getting the calendar out to the world is challenging and sometimes a bit frustrating but worth every effort. I never thought I'd be involved in the writing world. I was raised in Omaha, Nebraska with a voracious reading appetite and not much else. While things were hard, books were free from the library. I was secretly thrilled with Shakespeare's plays, poetry in several forms and pretty much everything in prose. Working to get through school left little time for much but reading filled even the smallest time out. I went to college on a bet since "our kind don't go to college." My sister and I were the only ones to graduate from high school out of more than a hundred living kin at the time.

When the college door opened, I could not believe it! ALL of those books! ALL of that information and knowledge! After several starts in varied fields, I earned a B.S. in Natural Sciences. I earned my own way through school and ended up working construction and related areas of work, such as interior décor cleaner and inspector, sales, design and more.

My daughter, now 32, is a managing chef at a dinner restaurant on Nantucket Island. When I was 34, I took her to a Tae Kwon Do class led by a blind instructor. If he could do it, so could I and I did. I managed 23 schools and became the main school instructor after earning my Black Belt and training in Korea. An injury during a demonstration put the skids on the physical part of the training and competition, but the mental side gets used constantly.

While I kept up reading, I hadn't gotten back into writing the poetry and stories as I'd done in school until a few years ago. After an environmental exposure to toxins made me sick enough to have to quit work I met Nancy who invited me to

an evening event of poetry at the last Landmark WFOP conference. I hadn't realized how much I'd missed it and now only get frustrated when I can't write because of other things, or can but the Muse gets fickle!

I've had work accepted in the *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar: 2005, Free Verse, The Common Ground Anthology*, the *Museletter* and been on the telly in Milwaukee for the Woodland Pattern Marathon in 2003. I've recently (thank you Ellen Kort!) discovered James Baxter, a New Zealand poet and enjoy many of the Native American writers. Playing with words is challenging and it doesn't hurt to have some fun with the words once in a while as well.

When not wrapping calendars and the Muse isn't co-operating, I teach classes in and make Native American style drums, flutes and do some beadwork. I have recently taken up carving to further challenge the mind and dexterity. I'm also trying to learn to play the flutes I make! (I'd thought the neighbors dogs were accompanying me..!) I used to get frustrated at dry spells in my writing, but that has been tempered a bit by the toxin exposure, which took me from a Type A, 12 hour per day, 6-7 day week working plus many other activities, to being generally inert 20 hours a day. I'm alive, can still do many things and am a lot less stressful on my body!

Have patience. The mind and body know and when the time is right, it will become writing time. I am so thrilled to see the range of people who write poetry and who perform as well. It is such a pleasure to see and hear the variety of stories coming from all of you. I'm proud to be a member of WFOP and proud to be trying to fill the shoes of Lou Roach! And I'm proud to be the servant of three cats and partner to your wonderful Treasurer, Nancy Rafal.

Amusen 1 from page 6

Dorothy's husband took her to the various conferences and she recalls their trip to Salt Lake City in 1989 to the NFSPS convention.

She has been published in many areas. Dorothy had some of her poems read on Chicago's WGN radio by Paul Saliner in the 1950-60s for his "Gad About Show."

Her favorite was a limerick that was printed by Charlie House in his "Open House" column in the *Milwaukee Journal*.

Her local writer's club published 2 anthologies, *Sinissippi Sketches*, for which she chose the name and designed the cover and another anthology entitled, *Everybody Has At Least One*. Her short story, "No Malice Toward Alice", was published in the anthology, *About Cows*. She wrote a poem for an anthology by a Beloit College student in the 1980's.

Her talents for designs continued when she won \$50.00 for a logo drawing used on a tote bag for the Rhinelander School of the Arts, Inc. The bags were sold at the Rhinelander School of the Arts.

She has been published in the poetry page of the *Northwest Herald* newspaper in Crystal Lake, IL., *Farm Wife News*, *Appleton Post Crescent*, *Woman's World*, the *Country Gazette* and reminiscences in the *Janesville Gazette*.

Dorothy shares her poetry talents with her daughter and they published a book of poetry, *Partners In Rhyme*, and edited the *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar: 2003*.

She has met many people over the years and says she is happy to have known Robert Gard and Edna Muedt.

Dorothy Schwenkner is indeed the "Amusen 1", as indicated by her license plate and her email address.

WFOP Spring Conference 2006

The Landmark
Egg Harbor, Wisconsin
April 21-22, 2006

These Are the Voices

The Spring conference will be held April 21st and 22nd at The Landmark Resort in Egg Harbor with poet Jan Weismiller (bio on back side of this page) as the guest speaker on Saturday afternoon.

Check-in will be from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday the 21st and again from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Accommodations at this Door County resort are in suites with kitchenettes and either one or two bedrooms as well as a pullout couch in the living room. The suites can accommodate 4 to 6 persons and are priced at \$85 to \$127 per night. Reservations must be made directly with **The Landmark at 1-800-273-7877**. A block of rooms will be held for WFOP members until March 21st.

A continental breakfast is included in the room charge. Those who will not be guests of The Landmark will find coffee and tea available at the meeting. While dinner is available at The Landmark, attendees may choose to select from the list in the conference packet of suggested restaurants in Sturgeon Bay and Egg Harbor.

Members of the WFOP board will meet early Friday evening. While other members of the organization may attend that meeting, Friday evening's highlight is the open mic which begins at 7 p.m. Saturday's scheduled activities will begin at 8:30 a.m. and include the business meeting, roll call poems by the membership, awards, and the featured speaker. A buffet luncheon is included in the registration fee of \$40.00 if paid before March 20th or \$45.00 from March 20th to April 15th. **We encourage early registration.**

Saturday evening will feature a performance of *Niedecker*, a play which contains telling scenes from the life of Lorene Niedecker, noted Wisconsin poet, at the Third Avenue Playhouse in Sturgeon Bay. Tickets will be available at \$8.00 during the conference or for \$12.00 at the theater.

Directions to The Landmark: All roads lead to The Landmark, site of the 2006 WFOP Spring Conference. Driving time from Green Bay to The Landmark is about 75 minutes. Take U.S. Highway 42 north past Sturgeon Bay for approximately 11 miles. Directional signs for The Landmark will appear on the west side of the road at Hwy. G.

WFOP Spring 2006 Conference Registration

Please print

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I need table space to sell my work: Yes _____ No _____

This is my first conference: Yes _____ No _____

Early registration (by March 20) \$40 _____ (Eligible for drawing)

Registration after March 20 \$45 _____

Total _____ *Remember to include your check!*

Please make checks payable to WFOP and mail to Judy Roy, P.O. Box 211, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202.

Conference attendees make their own reservations with The Landmark. Please see instructions above.

WFOP Spring Conference 2006

The Landmark
Egg Harbor, Wisconsin
April 21-22, 2006

Photo: Jane Martin

Live from Prairie Lights: These Are the Voices

Jan Weissmiller's roots extend deep into Midwestern soil. A fifth generation native of Carroll County, Illinois, and educated in Iowa, she lives in Iowa City as poet, chief curator/purchaser for poetry at Prairie Lights book store, and recurring teacher at the Iowa Writer's Workshop Summer Writing Program. Her BA in history and English (1979) and MFA from the University of Iowa's Writer's Workshop (1984) stand her in good stead as head of the Prairie Lights Poetry Series. Since 1990 when the series began, Ms. Weissmiller has scheduled readers for the live broadcasts of WSUI Radio.

Ms. Weissmiller's presentation on Saturday will include a history of the award-winning Prairie Lights Bookstore and its relationship to the renowned Iowa Writers' Workshop. We will learn how the distinguished series originated and hear archived audio clips. We will hear her poetic voice in the latter part of the presentation.

This year Jan Weissmiller, with co-editor Jerry Harp, will publish *A Poetry Criticism Reader*. Her book of poetry, *In Divided Light*, won the Loess Hills Poetry Prize in 1999. Individual poems have appeared in *The Iowa Review*, *River Styx*, *Pavement*, the *Coe Review*, *Delmar*, and the collection, *Voices on the Landscape*.

Looking Ahead: WFOP 2006 Fall Conference

November 3-4, 2006, Ramada Inn Civic Center, Downtown Eau Claire

Finding Your Poet Center: Looking, Listening, Reading, Writing

You are invited to beautiful Eau Claire, Wisconsin, for the 2006 WFOP Fall Conference. The conference will be held at the downtown Ramada Inn just a few short blocks to the confluence of the Chippewa and Eau Claire Rivers and our new Phoenix Park where we can walk its newly completed meditational labyrinth if the weather holds. The conference theme is "Finding Your Poet Center: Looking, Listening, Reading, Writing." We will be analyzing the creative process and how it circles in to Muse Central while we are living the rest of our lives. Are there ways we can encourage our internal Green Man or Green Woman to emerge from the vast linguistic hedge row. Can we dive into the briar patch ourselves or must we wait helplessly for an idea to come to us? Award winning poet Joyce Sutphen, our guest of honor, will lead us in examining the poetic process. Sutphen, who grew up on a farm near St. Joseph, Minnesota, currently teaches literature and creative writing at Gustavus Apolphus in St. Peter, Minnesota. She has three books of poetry available through Amazon.com. Her most recent, *Naming the Stars* uses metaphysical imagery to explore the difficulties of long term intimate relationships. In 1994 she won the Barnard New Women Poets Prize for her book, *Coming Back to the Body* (2000). Other awards include a Loft-McKnight Award, the Eunice Tietjen's Memorial Award for poetry, a Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship and a Travel and Study Award from the Jerome Foundation. My friend and sometimes Lady Poetess from Hell, John Rezmerski, assures me that his colleague Joyce is a wonderful much sought after teacher. Sutphen readers will find that she has much to say both about the writing process and about living in the natural world. Here is a poem from her book, *Straight out of View*:

Ways of Passing

This paper I come to is already slightly yellowed.
Lying on the shelf these months, it has had time
To dream itself back into the heart of a tree.
When the winds blow, the sheaf of broken wood moans.
Nothing is forgotten, only changed.

A pheasant flies up from the oat field.
Afterward, the horse remembers
the horror of that place:
the tattered beat of wing,
the ringed neck rising.

Crows, flying over the field
ripple their shadows
over the grainy sea.
Nothing of that remains.



Put Xes on your calendars for November 3rd and 4th. The West Central WFOP poets look forward to seeing you.

Poetry Publications

This section is for the listing of recent publications by WFOP MEMBERS EXCLUSIVELY. Recent publication: Copyright 2005-06. For more information, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the author or publisher.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Publication</u>	<u>Author</u>
<i>Darkling I Listen, and for Many a Time... and Other Imaginations</i>	Short Stories	James P. Roberts 324 Kedzie Street #30 Madison, WI 53704 jrob52162@aol.com (608) 242-7340 \$30.00 (limited edition hardcover)* \$15.00 (paperback) Available at: Borders West, Avol's both in Madison; The Village Bookshop in Baraboo; Amazon.com *available only from author
<i>Rebel</i>	Poetry	TomRohe Goblin Fern Press www.goblinfernpress.com or Amazon.com \$10.00
<i>A Time Under Heaven</i>	Poetry/Essays	Margaret Been 4031 Musser Heights Lane Phillips, WI 54555 Elk River Books, may be ordered by emailing corgispin@pctnet.net or writing to author \$10.00 plus \$1.59 media mail postage
<i>Waking Day: a poem by Constance Morgenstern with fine art by Monet and friends</i>	Picture Book	Constance Morgenstern (920) 727-4735 published by NorthWord part of www.tkidsbooks.com Available through Amazon.com



Membership Renewal Form

Dues for the 2006 membership year were due **January 1, 2006**. Your membership is past due if your mailing label does not say (06) after your name. The new policy states you will be dropped from the WFOP member list if you haven't paid the '06 dues by (approximately March 31, 2006). Because of this new policy, a little leeway has been given. Don't let your membership lapse!

Mail to: **Nancy Rafal, PO Box 340, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202-0340.**

Please make checks payable to: WFOP.

Active \$25.00

Student \$12.50

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip+4 _____

Email address _____

New 5 for 4 Deal***

\$100 paid now will give Active members 5 years of membership for the price of 4 (2006-2010)! This is a \$25.00 savings!

Museletter Advertising Rates

Books for Sale in Poetry Publications section
\$5.00 per listing (This price is not discounted to
Members. Discount is built into the one free
listing per book, per year).

Sizes

Business Card \$25.00
Quarter Page \$50.00
Half Page \$100.00

Prices are for camera-ready advertisements.
Specialty designs or advertisement setups are
available at a price to be determined. Contact
Museletter editor if interested in purchasing
advertisements.

WFOP Conference Rotation Schedule

Updated 1/17/2006...note change from last issue

Spring 2006 April 21-22 Northeast VPs Judy Roy & June Nirschl	Fall 2008 November 7-8 Northwest VP Jan Chronister
Fall 2006 November 3-4 West-Central VP Sandra Lindow	Spring 2009 April 24-25 South VP Frank Konieska
Spring 2007 April 27-28 Central-Fox Valley VP Ia Bolz	Fall 2009 November 6-7 East-Milwaukee VP Helen Padway
Fall 2007 November 2-3 Mid-Central VP Joan Johannes	Spring 2010 April 23-24 Northeast VPs Judy Roy & June Nirschl
Spring 2008 April 25-26 South-Central VP Kathy Miner	Fall 2010 November 5-6 Central-Fox Valley VP Ia Bolz

Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets
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