

Wisconsin Fellowship Of Poets Museletter

founded 1950



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Winter 2010

www.wfop.org

Editor: Christine Falk

Welcome

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

Beth Erickson	LaCrosse
David Graham	Ripon
Donna Nelson	Shawano
Jo-Ann Polinske	Oconto

New member inquiries should be directed to Gillian Nevers, the membership chair. Her contact information is listed in the masthead.
Welcome to all!

Keep your info up to date

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



President's Message Karaoke Needs No Applause

I am of the opinion that everyone should sing in the shower. We should also sing along with the radio when alone in our cars. There's certainly a place for karaoke and music games. But not everyone should sing in the choir. And if you do, you ought to make it an act of worship. You should practice, study, and sing your very best. The audience—and the art—deserve no less.

I'm of similar opinions concerning poetry.

Not long ago, I attended an open-mic reading that was more of a karaoke session than a celebration of the art. Little of the verse showed any signs of effort in its making. Most was casual stuff, forgotten as quickly as it was read. One person even introduced a chapbook by saying, "This is my series about ____" (the subject doesn't matter); "I just write these down as they come and never rework them."

To me, that's like saying, "These are my ragamuffin kids. I just pop them out and can't be bothered to bathe them, dress them, or teach them manners."

You know what? I don't want to meet those kids.

I'm not claiming that my own poems (or children) are paragons. But I do take both seriously, laboring over them, worrying about them, consulting other poets I respect, reading the classics, and digging through literary theory to figure out how poetry got to this place and where it is headed.

Donald Hall said, "I see no reason to spend your life writing poems unless your goal is to write great poems." Longinus wrote in the third century, "Inferior and average talent remains for the most part safe and faultless because it avoids risk and does not aim at the heights." Bukowski said of modern poetry, "Nobody reads the stuff now because there's no juice, fire, adventure, dance, and truth to it."

Raymond Hammond argues in *Poetic Amusement* that much of the blame can be placed on the plethora of MFA workshops in this country. By treating creative-writing students as a cash crop, and selecting instructors more on *quantity* of publication than on *quality*, colleges have flooded the market with "factory produced" poetry. Some of it is clever, like a piano recital, but little of it has any soul. At the same time, I'd suggest that with the exception of some good rap-influenced verse, open-mic poetry has degenerated to little more than a confession of feeling, all sounding the same, with no great concern for craft or discipline.

Wordsworth famously defined poetry as "the spontaneous overflow of powerful emotion, recollected in tranquility." Without passion, the muse, nothing of any worth is written. But without crafting and polishing during tranquil recollection, the first is but an uncut diamond, lumpy and cloudy.

To use a more Wisconsin-appropriate metaphor, "The ablest writer is only a gardener first, and then a cook: his tasks are, carefully to select and cultivate his strongest and most nutritive thoughts; and when they are ripe, to dress them, wholesomely, and yet so that they may have a relish" (Augustus William Hare and Julius Charles Hare, *Guesses at Truth, by Two Brothers*, 1827).

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What's Happening in Your Region?

East Region

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or

Janet Leahy, East Regional Co-VP
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Kudos to **Cristina Norcross** and **Liz Rhodebeck** co-editors of the "One Vision" art and poetry collaboration in Waukesha. Some of the poets participating were: **Paula Anderson**, **Mary Jo Balistreri**, **Judy Kolosso**, **Janet Leahy**, **Katy Phillips**, **Virginia Scholtz**, **Paula Schulz** and **Judy Wucherer**. Poetry and art work are on display at the Oconomowoc Arts Center through November.

submitted by

Janet Leahy and Carolyn Vargo, East Regional Co-VPs

Sr. Irene Zimmerman's poem, "A Song of Seasons," won the Grand Prize in the Oneswan Productions 2010 Writing Competition. Ten poems from her book *Incarnation* appear in *Through Another Lens: Reflections on the Gospels Year A*, by Barbara Jean Franklin (Liguori Publications, 2010). Her poem "Word Made Flesh" appeared in the fall edition of *Review for Religious*.

Cristina M. R. Norcross had her article, "Making Your Poetry Event Memorable" published in the summer 2010 online issue of *Verse Wisconsin*. Cristina co-edited and co-hosted the poetry reading and art exhibit for the PAAC sponsored event, "One Vision: A Fusion of Art & Poetry in Lake Country" with her co-editor **Liz Rhodebeck** on Oct. 16, 2010. Cristina's recent ekphrastic collaboration with artist, Holly Kallie, the fine art/poetry giclee "A Prayer for the Waters" can be ordered online at the artist's website: www.hollykallie.com. This giclee is on exhibit at several Wisconsin galleries,

and all profits go to the National Wildlife Federation.

Cristina Norcross was the poetry open mic host for a poetry reading at Books & Co., featuring **Liz Rhodebeck**, on Saturday, October 23rd. Cristina recently had her poem "The Last Party" published on YourDailyPoem.com and is due to have another poem published on this website in November 2010. In February, Cristina will be the book club guest author, reading from her book *Unsung Love Songs* at The Guild on the Triangle Gallery in Whitewater.

Northwest Region

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Diana Randolph, Drummond, was one of the 2011 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* readers at the Drummond Public Library in September. She had essays published in the August and September issues of *The Bottom Line*; and is working on a manuscript of poetry and art—*Beacons of the Earth and Sky*—which will be published by Savage Press in 2011.

West-Central Region

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It is difficult for me to write this article; although many good things have happened in the Chippewa Valley this fall, our dear friend **Nadine S. St. Louis**, poet laureate of Eau Claire, died September 29, 2010, after a valiant seven year battle against cancer. She kept writing until she was too weak to hold a pen. However, her legacy lives on in innumerable ways including the Chippewa Valley Book Festival which is now in its eleventh year and the oldest book festival in the state. This year the festival ran from October 19th to the 24th and included events at the Fall Creek and Menomonie libraries as well as public schools. High points included a splendid reading by WFOP's Prairie Fire Poets on Saturday, October 23rd,

which was followed by a five course gourmet meal at the Eau Claire Golf and Country Club.

Yvette Viets Flaten won first prize in the WRWA Jade Ring Dramatic Poetry Category for her poem "Good Humus Man." Two of Flaten's poems, "Voice" and "Red Silk" have been published by the *Haz Mat Review*. Her poems "On Learning the Diagnosis is Leukemia," "La Coiffure de Germaine" and "Dolls' House" appeared in *Verse Wisconsin* and the *Poetica Grandmatica* has accepted Flaten's poem, "Penelope" which honors her mother.

Sandra Lindow's poems, "Nothing Given to a Child Is Ever Was" and "Just" have been published in Inglis House's poetry anthology, *Their Buoyant Bodies Respond*.

Sandra Lindow's poem, "Apostles of the Interstate" and **Peg Lauber's** poem "Flight" appear in the Fall 2010 *Verse Wisconsin*.

Finally, the West Central District was responsible for this year's fall conference, November 5th-7th, in Stevens Point. I would like to thank **Candace Hennekens**, **Yvette Flaten**, **Peg Lauber** and my husband, Michael Levy for all the work they did to help make the conference a success.

submitted by

Sandra Lindow, West-Central Regional VP

Jane-Marie Bahr, Menomonie, had a poem published in the September 2010 issue of *Hummingbird*.

Northeast Region

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On August 27th **Janet Taliaferro** gave a reading from *Breaking the Surface*, a book of poems about the lake in Northern Wisconsin where she spent every summer since she was eight. This was the first poetry reading she had ever given, and she was pleased to see a group of her friends from the Minocqua area gather at Yawkey Hall in Hazelhurst. It is a small city hall in a small town and if six people had shown up Janet said would have

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been pleased. Instead, fifteen gathered and a number of other people stopped at a shop in Minocqua to buy the book and have her sign it later. She was especially happy to see people buy a number of copies for gifts. There is no way to test the written word, other than the feedback one gets from readers. While the lake was the inspiration for this chapbook, she credits the poets of Wisconsin for their support, encouragement and help. The members of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, her buddies in her online critique group (all from Wisconsin) and the people she met at Rhinelander School of the Arts and The Clearing all made this possible. Congratulations, Janet!

Mary Jo Stich has been awarded 3rd place for a poem in the 2010 Annual Poetry Society of Michigan Contest in the category of weather.

Nancy Rafal won first place in the Grutzmacher Literary Contest in the *Peninsula Pulse* for her short fiction, "Pastry Lesson."

Sharon Auberle, Ralph Murre, read with **Annie Parcels, Marilyn Stark, Steve Tomasko** and **Jeanie Tomasko** at Aurora Books in Menominee, MI on October 23rd.

Ralph Murre was featured reader for the Dickinson Poetry Series at the Unitarian Fellowship in Ephraim in October and **Sharon Auberle** was featured reader in November.

Nancy Rafal will be teaching a class at the Clearing in Winter about Wisconsin poet, Lorine Niedecker.

Sharon Auberle and **Nancy Rafal** will be reading in Baraboo at the Village Booksmith on December 10th.

Sharon Auberle, Nancy Rafal, and five other women poets were featured at Brew Cafe in Ellison Bay in an art and poetry exhibit called Ekphrasis. The poems had been written in response to artworks.

Door County now has an official poet laureate. Frances May, who died in 2005, will be honored as the first to hold this appointment. There will be several readings in Door County with poets reading May's works. In April 2011 a poet will be appointed Door County Poet Laureate for the next two years.

The template developed by Wisconsin Regional Writers Association was used to get the ball rolling on this project.

South-Central Region

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Tom Cullen had the poem "Before the Summer Concert" published in the Autumn 2010 *Mused—The BellaOnline Literary Review*.

F.J. Bergmann held a workshop on "Submitting Poetry and Short Fiction" at the Whispering Woodlands in Verona, Wisconsin on October 17th. She followed that up with another workshop, "SF, Fantasy, and Horror Poetry" on November 13th.

David Scheler has a new poetry publication, *Casting For Meteors*, out from Finishing Line Press.

Sandy Stark has a new book of poetry, *Counting On Birds*, published by Fireweed Press.

Kimberly Blanchette has issued a new poetry chapbook, *Naked*, from their new venture, Pickle Barrel Press.

The Wisconsin Book Festival was invaded by the usual plethora of South-Central and WFOP poets. September 29th saw **Fabu** once again hosting the Bus Lines High School Poetry Awards. **F.J. Bergmann** and Thomas Ferrela reprised their Cold Read presentation on September 30th. Also reading that day was **Ronnie Hess** while **Wendy Vardaman** and **Sarah Busse** moderated a panel on *Verse Wisconsin*. The spirit world was with us in the guise of **Richard Roe** and **Dave Scheler**, who joined **Bruce Dethlefsen, Karla Huston** and **Marilyn Taylor** invoking...? **John Lehman** took us back to the Sixties on Sunday, October 3rd.

Angela Rydell and **Laurel Yourke** presented a workshop at the Lorine Neidecker Poetry Festival in Fort Atkinson on September 25th. **John Lehman** hosted a Wisconsin Poetry Showcase while WFOP Prexy **Lester Smith** held sway at the Friday night Open Mic at the Cafe Carpe.

Richard Roe was on Radio Lit, WORT, 89.9 FM, September 15th, at 7:30. He read a poem by **Shelley Hall**, promoted some

poetry events, the Poets' Calendar, Avol's, *Verse Wisconsin*, and read a couple of his own poems.

Angela Rydell is teaching a brand-new online poetry course, "Taking the Poetic Leap."

Kimberly Blanchette and **Michael Koehler** read poetry at Avol's in Madison on October 10th.

November 14th featured a poetry reading by **Sandy Stark**, author of *Counting on Birds*, and **Cliff Dillhunt**, reading from his manuscript, "The Glass Man Poems" at Avol's in Madison.

F.J. Bergmann had a poem, "Diminutive", published in the Fall 2010 issue of *Weird Tales*.

Alice D'Alessio is honored to have lines from her poem "Inventory" etched in granite (and who said poets aren't immortal?) in the newly remodeled Lisa Link Peace Park on State Street in Madison, Wisconsin.

Judith Zukerman's "Mary Cassatt" will be published in *Alehouse 2011*.

James P. Roberts has a poem "Bad River" in a new collection of poetry & photography, *A Trail For All Seasons: Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail in Words & Pictures* by B. Clay Shannon, published by Lulu.com.

*submitted by
James P. Roberts, South-Central Regional VP*

Shoshauna Shy announced the latest Poetry Jumps Off the Shelf call for submissions in partnership with *Verse Wisconsin*. Go to the website, www.PoetryJumpsOfftheShelf.com for guidelines, deadline November 30, 2010. Shoshauna also was a featured reader at the 10/10/10 Shining Oaks Poetry Festival outside Rockdale, performed with the Prairie Fire Poetry Quartet at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival, and had a poem published on the site called Your Daily Poem.

Lou Roach had two poems accepted for *Verse Wisconsin's* "On the Road" feature. Three of her poems were printed online recently by *Clark Street Review*. Three others appeared in the September issue of *WRITE ON!* Earlier this year three short poems were accepted by *Hummingbird*. Lou reviewed books by **Peg Sherry, Kay Sanders** and Marine Robert Warden for *Verse Wisconsin* in the July issue, as well as Gerald Locklin

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in the October issue.

Idella Anacker and **Sarah Mautz**, both of Portage, and **Lou Roach** had poems that appeared in the 2011 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar*. *Verse Wisconsin* published a poem by **Idella** in the most recent edition. The editors have accepted a second by her.

Central-Fox Valley Region

Sarah Gilbert, Central-Fox Valley Reg'l VP
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Cathryn Cofell had two poems receive Special Merit awards in the Muriel Craft Bailey contest; both poems will be published in an upcoming issue of *Comstock Review*. An essay was published in *Verse Wisconsin*, and poems appeared on the Your Daily Poem website and on bookmarks as part of the Fond du Lac Poetry at the Market collaborative. She appeared at the Windhover Center for the Arts as part of Poetry at the Market program, and with Obvious Dog (aka **Bruce Dethlefsen** and Bill Orth).

Sy Regan had a poem accepted by *Stoneboat*, a new literary magazine published by Lakeland College. He read at the Paradigm Cafe in Sheboygan on November 3rd.

Voices Education Project, a global humanitarian organization and pedagogical institute and **Barbara Kaufmann** just released a curriculum called "Words and Violence" which is a work in progress for middle school, high school and college students. It addresses bullying from the individual to bullying on a global stage. Barbara's features are included as is a whole section on poetry (with her poems as well.) They will soon release a video that she wrote and produced in collaboration with another artist. For more information go to www.voiceseducation.org. If you have questions about it, you may contact Barbara at barbk@athenet.net.

Jeff Boire has published his first book, *Quiet Musings by the Sea*. Jeff donated a portion of the sales (through October 15th) to the Juvenile BiPolar Research

Foundation. For more information on ordering Jeff's book, see the Poetry Publications section.

Mid-Central Region

Joan Johannes, Mid-Central Regional VP
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Port Edwards, WI 54469

Bruce Dethlefsen received a 2010 Outstanding Achievement in Poetry award from the Wisconsin Library Association for his book, *Breather*. He read and talked about being a Wisconsin Poet Laureate finalist at Sennett Middle School on October 26th.

Barb Cranford held the 37th all-day, poem-making workshop at her home October 23rd. One of the high points,

besides the food and the poems, was the introduction of **Jeanette Lindelof's** first book of poetry, *A Bouquet of Secrets*, with photos by husband Chuck. Among those who attended were WFOP members, **Linda Aschbrenner, Julie Eger, Mary Lou Judy, Jeanette Lindelof, and Lou Roach.**

Joan Wiese Johannes has had poems recently accepted by *Verse Wisconsin, Poetry Motel*, and the *Fond du Lac Foot of the Lake Poetry Collective*. She was a finalist in the Mississippi Valley Poetry Contest. She, along with her husband Jeffrey, are the editors of the 2012 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar*.

submitted by
Joan Johannes, Mid-Central Regional VP

Verse Wisconsin News

Issue 104 Now Available

Verse Wisconsin 104 is now available in print and online and includes prose and poetry about belief, as well as an interview with Milwaukee poet-philosopher John Koethe, the 2010 Academy of American Poets' Lenore Marshall Prize winner for his book, *Ninety-fifth Street*. As always, the online & print versions are complementary but different: *Verse Wisconsin* magazine includes poetry about belief and reflections on spirituality and poetry by Cathryn Cofell & Chuck Nevsimal, as well as an essay on craft by Sarah Busse, "Working at the Endings of Our Poems." VWOnline, <http://versewisconsin.org/issue104.html>, features "On the Road" poems and two inspiring projects that incorporate poetry & art: Marilyn Annucci & Russell Gardner, Jr.'s "Six Poems in Search of Their Book" and the Lake Effect Poets' work with photographer Thomas Ferrella on "Borderland"—a series of photographs and brailled poems. Also featured are a "Letter from the Frost Place," by Wisconsin poet Adam Halbur, Michael Kriesel's Encyclopedia of Wisconsin Forms & Formalists, and "Marco Polo" paintings by Nora Sturges—plus audio, book reviews, and more!

Message from the Editors

Verse Wisconsin would like to thank all of our subscribers and contributors for your support during our first year. We'll take this moment to remind everyone that purchasing a gift subscription for a family member, the local community center, senior center, or library is a generous gift both to them and to us. We'd also like to encourage you to donate to the magazine. This is one way we measure how much support we have in the community of Wisconsin poets. Even a small contribution of \$10 can go a long way. Again, we thank you mightily and look forward to hearing from you as we embark on our second year. We'll announce a new theme in March, and will appear at various venues around Wisconsin through the spring. Find us online at versewisconsin.org. Or reach us by mail: *Verse Wisconsin*, P. O. Box 620216, Middleton, WI 53562.

Poetry Publications

This section is for the listing of recent publications by WFOP MEMBERS EXCLUSIVELY. Recent publication: Copyright 2009-10. 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>CASTING FOR METEORS</i>	Poetry	David Scheler Publisher: Finishing Line Press www.finishinglinepress.com Click on "New Releases and Forthcoming Titles"
<i>COUNTING ON BIRDS</i>	Book	Sandy Stark Publisher: Fireweed Press To order contact Sandy at: 2720 Gregory Street Madison, WI 53711 sestark@wisc.edu \$12.00 plus \$1.50 postage
<i>ESSENTIAL INKLINGS</i>	Poetry, Fiction, Non-Fiction	Includes poetry from Beth Erickson and Phyllis Beckman To order contact: Franciscan Spirituality Center 920 Market Street LaCrosse, WI 54601 (608) 791-5295 fscnter@fspa.org \$10.55
<i>QUIET MUSINGS BY THE SEA</i>	Poetry	Jeff Boire Publisher: Peace River Publishing ISBN: 1-930209-01-1 Ordering information: www.jeffreyboire.com www.peacriverpublishing.com/ quietmusings

Poems By Our Membership Pages Theme & Guidelines Spring '11

SEVENS!

The Spring Issue of the Museletter Poetry Pages invites submissions of poems on SEVEN OF ANYTHING! Seven lively arts, seven wonders, seven dwarfs, seven husbands... it's entirely up to you.

The rules:

1. Any form, rhymed or unrhymed.
2. 24-line maximum
3. Have fun with this!

Guidelines:

1. Submit no more than ONE POEM PER MEMBER, please.
2. **Title of poem, name of poet and home town of poet must appear on the submission itself. Please!!**
3. Email submissions vastly preferred, either as Word attachments or in the body of the e-mail. Send to: mlt@uwm.edu
4. Previously published poems are fine, with a citation.
5. Snail-mail submissions? If you must. Send to Marilyn Taylor, 2825 E. Newport Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211. (Poems will be recycled.)

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

Deadline: Friday, February 4, 2011.

2011 Wisconsin Poets' Calendars Order Form for WFOP Members

As a current WFOP member, you are entitled to a discount on the purchase of calendars for personal use and gift giving. If you are a contributor, a calendar containing your poem would make an excellent birthday, anniversary, holiday, or special occasion gift. There is no limit to the number of calendars that members may purchase at the wholesale rate of \$9.00 each (retail price is \$13.95). Past issues are available for \$5.00 each. Please use the following form to place your order. Send to: Michael Farmer, Business Manager, *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar: 2011*, PO Box 555, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202-0555 Phone: (920) 839-2191 Email: mfarmer1876@gmail.com (Information is for in-house use only and not to be sold, traded or given away.)

I would like _____ books @ \$9.00 each (2011 issues) \$ _____

I would like _____ books @ \$5.00 each (older issues, specify year) _____ \$ _____

If ordering by mail, please add shipping charges: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: Make checks payable to **WFOP Calendar Account** \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____

1 book: \$3.00
2-3 books: \$4.00
4-5 books: \$5.00
6-10 books: \$6.50
over 10: Call or email

In Memory

Nadine S. St. Louis

Nadine S. St. Louis, Poet Laureate of Eau Claire, and WFOP member, died Wednesday, September 29th, after a courageous eight-year battle with neuroendocrine cancer. She was seventy-three. A long time UW-Eau Claire professor and chair of the English Department, Dina was a co-founder of the Chippewa Valley Book Festival. After retirement she was actively involved in bringing poetry to public schools, helping to create a Writer's Festival at Eau Claire's South Middle School. She became Eau Claire's first poet laureate on April 13, 2010. Her poetry collections include *Weird Sisters* (Wolfson, 2000) and *Zebra* (Marsh River, 2008). *Zebra* was written during her struggle with cancer and describes treatment, CAT scans and losing her hair, fearful times handled with intelligence and abiding humor. Dina's poems have won a number of awards. They are known for their uncommon sureness of voice and an interweaving of narration with an ironic edge. Dina's dedication and support for the arts will be remembered for a long time. The last months of her life she was on oxygen support but nevertheless still came to the Writer's Group at the Library, attending the last one August 3rd shortly before she was hospitalized for the last time. We will miss her deeply.

Star Powers

Star Powers, WFOP member since 1950, passed away on October 24, 2010 of natural causes. She was 87 years old. Star grew up in the Milwaukee area, attended high school at Milwaukee's Washington High School and married her high school sweetheart in Colorado during World War II after he finished pilot training. Star attended the Wisconsin Conservatory of Speech and Music and took poetry and literature classes at the University of Chicago.

In the 50's, Star took over the *American Poetry* magazine which was founded in 1919. Eventually the Powers family moved to Taylor County, Wisconsin. She was part of the group that was instrumental in getting Timm's Hill recognized as the highest point in Wisconsin, above Rib Mountain which was the highest point at that time. Her love of nature led her to be involved in the creation of the Rustic Roads program in Taylor County. After retirement, Star and her husband returned to the Milwaukee area. She was preceded in death by her husband in 2005. She is survived by her three children, Deana, Claudia and Kay; and grandchildren.

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I challenge you, then, to champion poems that show both passion and craft. Judge with your mind as well as your heart. Applaud poems that transcend their makers; memorize such verses and share them. But when dull, safe, "more-of-the-same" poetry is read, whether at the university or a public reading, avert your eyes and sit on your hands. I'll be joining you. Karaoke needs no applause.

Les

In House

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets has a new program to post poets who have had a change of address, In House. With the column, Michael Belongie updates Fellowship members of new addresses or temporary postings for members who may have relocated to nursing homes, assisted living or a new home in a warmer climate.

Michael wishes to be respectful of privacy, but is encouraging our membership to remain in touch. In House informs members that:

Ann Penton has a new address:	Mariella Fischer-Williams
4181 S. Anastacia Ct.	405 N. 8th Street #110
Green Valley, AZ 85622	Mt. Horeb, WI 53572-3424

Josey Zell
can be reached by email;
josephinezell@yahoo.com

Helen Fahrback
c/o son Dennis Fahrback
233 E. Sunset Court
Madison, WI 53705

As of November 10th, I was alerted to the passing of Star Powers, a past president of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, and an original charter member in 1950.

Star passed away on October 24, 2010. Star Powers was well-thought of in our Fellowship. Both a widely published poet and editor, her distinction as editor of *American Poetry* magazine is notable.

Star and I were co-chairs of the Fellowship's fiftieth anniversary celebrated in Green Lake on June 10, 2000. Marge Piercy was our guest poet, and anyone attending our anniversary event was effusive with gratitude.

For me, a distinguished poet and lovely friend of the Fellowship gives a farewell:

Jubilee

Fellow poets enjoy your Jubilee
Be open, and let what you see restore
you, and what you hear soak into
every pore ... find new meanings
for old words, be inspired to
combine in new phrases ...
Create the growing liturgy
to rank with the stars as they
continue to multiply
in our expanding universe!
Make a promise.

Star Powers

Contact Michael Belongie: poetpow@charter.net

Don't Get Mad, Get Even!

The Girlfriend's Curse

May your untended splinters
fester

May your back itch
in unreachable places

May you sit alone at movies
with no one to hold your hand

May your palms grow hairy and
your head bald

May you wake at midnight drowning
in a vast empty sea, your long legs
anchored in the bedding

—Phyllis Wax, Milwaukee

Getting Even

I'd been mad,
card carrying crazy,
since winter of '93,
bi-polar with psychotic incidents,
when three horny toads,
intent on a transforming kiss
hopped onto my duvet.
Abilify, Millennium and Wisconsin
made their moves,
kissed me thrice.
Mania, Depression and Anxiety
limped off like
lame metaphors.
Now,
I'm even!

—Phyllis Beckman, Onalaska

What the Hell!

I can't believe I said that
not being the type to shout
in church or anywhere else
while my brain takes in war
and mountain top removal mining
and back to Lester Wilkerson
who pushed me down the second floor
fire escape in fifth grade
and how I was glad he couldn't
get *Silas Marner* and I
simply toss the new
rejection slip into
the recycling bin

—Lenore McComas Coberly, Madison

Awesome

says the Jiffy Lube guy,
and uneducated in the vernacular
of young men in drive-through car stores,
I don't understand the context.

Maybe it's directed at my car
or, heaven forbid, at me. Awesome
could mean: *how does this old girl keep truckin'?*
or: *Awesome, She's real well preserved.*

Then, they keep coming to my window saying: *Ma'am this*
and *Ma'am that* and *Ma'am, this is your air filter,*
Ma'am. . . Ma'am. . . Ma'am . . .
until I'm aging faster than milk in the sun. But actually,

I'm sitting here, in the car, trying to write this poem,
and I've gotten a bit grouchy with my answers, so perhaps
Awesome is what I am—a sharp cookie with something to do
someplace to go, just waiting to rev my engine and peel off.

Awesome!

—Jackie Langetieg, Verona

Loving Telemarketers

Using the wonderful invention of Caller ID
I pick up the telephone receiver and say
So glad to hear your voice I've been waiting
for your call there's a short hesitation
on the line *excuse me ma'am?* I reply
hey listen to this poem I wrote "The dog runs
through the field his tail waving in the wind"
I go on for several minutes all about the size of the dog
his breeding credentials how well trained he is
Excuse me ma'am Excuse me I need to....
I read another stanza and another *Excuse me*
but I'm not really interested in.... I read the final
three stanzas of the poem and tell the voice on the line
that the poem is in a book of poetry I wrote that it has
a really nice cover is reasonably priced and she could
pay for it in three easy installments and seeing as how
she has my number if she'd like she can call me again
anytime I wait for her reply....*click*

—Ellen Kort, Appleton

Big Money

Alliance
Of giants
Who finance
Compliance

—Richard Merelman, Madison

Questions Anyone?

don't feel like getting mad, or even getting even.
can't remember who I was last angry at, that proud
sycophant who stroked injustice like a pet dog, then
turned the vicious four-legged on me.

It is October, gracious, gentle, genuine, special
October, when days lower the trajectory
of the sun's rays, cradling us in long-shadowed light.
Still, it is also the season of fetid politics.

Our noble month shows the face of terrible anomaly.
Dressed in autumnal beauty, she declares that
though we are garbed like her, in gorgeous color,
like her, we shall all die. don't feel like getting mad—

—Lincoln Hartford, New Lisbon

Message to Death

Death is visiting our neighbors,
urging their youngest son
to pack for a one-way trip.
Beat it, I think.
Use someone else's frequent flyer miles.
Stop marketing your streets-of-gold
driveway to that once-little boy,
who has always lived across the blacktop
in the white two-story colonial.

Like a snake-oil salesman, Death,
hawk your too-good-to-believe product
someplace else.
I don't buy your banal,
everyone-has-to-die-sometime line.
This 37-year-old traveler
has plenty of time for a faraway cruise.

—Jan Bosman, Woodstock, IL

Circe

Just yesterday he came with all his crew
Who lounged around as if they owned the place,
And so I laced their cocktails with a trace
Of something I concoct, my special brew.
They laughed and asked if I would ride my broom,
But when they ate my cheese and sipped my wine,
I had them grunting like a herd of swine,
Cavorting hogs, bumbling from room to room.
On him my magic did not work as planned;
Instead he cast his captive spell on me:
The strange, hypnotic strength within his eyes
Caught all my charms and powers by surprise,
And I fell victim to his recipe,
Transformed to pliant dough beneath his hand.

—LaMoine MacLaughlin, Amery

Boomerang

Eat your cereal. All of it. Every last cornflake.
I'm not hungry.

I don't care.
Put your dirty dishes in the sink.
Wipe the table where you spilled your milk.
I don't want to.

I don't care.
Put your homework in your backpack.
Put your shoes on. Now.

I don't know where they are.
They're where you left them. Now get going.
I can't find them.

I don't care.
Find them and put them on.
I swear I'll take you to school barefoot.

I don't care if I go to school barefoot.
Well, I do. What will people think?
I'll just say I have a mother who doesn't care.

—Susan M. Huebner, Mukwonago

The Cut

The neighbor clear cut his property across the road.

Sawn were the hard maples and oak
the red and white pine.
Crushed to pulp the fearful aspen
and the vain birch.
A few striplings were left
amid the tangle of bracken and alder,
bereft survivors.

Those on the lake side
mumbled murder
threatened lawyers
and complained to each other
while avoiding the miscreant's eyes
at the Post Office.

Six years past,
anger subsides into resignation
while on her own
Nature puts a Band-Aid
of wild raspberries
on the cut that this year
will bleed sweet rubies.

—Janet Taliaferro, Leesburg, VA

Epigram for Her Excellency

Epigrams are pointed
to the damned or the anointed
and to all the others in between.
So speaking of your snideness,
your rudeness and unkindness,
as bitches go, you clearly are the queen.

—Camille Wade Maurice, Rhinelander

Sterosis

The begonia went steroid on me:
draped its arms over the back of the couch
ran its torso up the window
shaded out the sunlight
with its elephantine leaves

I lobbed off stalks with a knife
set them in a mason jar of water
hairy tentacles of roots swelled
leaching the blue glass into greens
and yellows

I tossed the mess under the pines
in the side yard and I heard them shout,
Alleluia.

I dare not look out my window.

—Susan F. Kirch-Thibado, Menomonie

The Affair's Over

You say:

*Time to move on—
but we can still be friends.*

I say:

Sure—here's to you!

*May the kind killer bees embrace your brawny biceps
and the solicitous tiger find your tasty tongue toothsome.*

*May the compassionate cobra spit softly in your eye
as the tender tarantula tickles your charming chest.*

*May the perfume of skunk permeate your noble nose
while the genial hyenas massage your lovely liver.*

*May the memory of our satin-smooth caresses be there
as the pleasant piranha fondle your beautiful butt!*

—Barbara Larsen, Sister Bay

New Assistant

Thornton grabbed wet kisses
under the mistletoe,
ran his hand down her spine,
lingered there with small pats,
a quick pinch to her behind.

The staff laughed, *When he calls,
take care or he'll take it all.*

Spider-like, she spun her web—
poisoned him with honeyed nouns,
skewered him with sweet sarcasm,
stabbed him with a sly word-sword,
hung him with his text messages.

She smiles from his walnut desk.

—Marion H. Youngquist, Wauwatosa

Scorpion

Choice they were, those seconds,
moments that might have made one think
that a god of mischievous payback had planned them.

Corrupt he was, the local official, and he worked hard
taking bribes, (or bites - *morbidas*) deciding with care
what permits he'd give, to whom, and, paramount,
for what price or personal favor.

Then one day, home from the town, smug, in his belly
a beer or two he'd extorted from a cantina owner
named Pascal, he sat himself down on his ultra modern
bathroom throne where the scorpion waited
under the seat, not wanting to be disturbed.

Oh it was mean that *morbida*, right on the ass
and deep as justice. Even his wife, household
mother of mercy, snickered, out of his presence.

—Richard Swanson, Madison

Holy Annulment, Batman

Annulment means to reduce to nothing,
obliterate, act as if it never was—
and that is what you did, I heard, mouthing
lines to get your holy paper signed. Is it

so you can say your Hails and Holy Prayers
guilt-free? So you can stand inside the hall
and say *I do*, and *I do not remember
her, or those children, Father.* The gall.

According to my palm I have no heart-
line, by fate my marriage groove is split.
But I've a scar that is not on the chart.
Call it a line of retaliation. Oh, sweet

fortune. I'll send you (I've got your number)
one kid's college bill, and you'll be torn asunder.

—Jeanie Tomasko, Middleton

Revenge

I know I disgust you
You cringe at the sight of me
never see the beauty
of my legs, numerous,
long, quick

You bolt for a house slipper
to squash me
before I dash into a crack
or a drain

But tonight I'll wait here
on the ceiling above your bed
I'm pretty sure I won't fall off when you
turn off the light

—Karen Kerans, Milwaukee

Righteous

As a child in Sunday School, I read,
 "Our righteousness is as filthy rags."
 But that was long ago—Isaiah's dead—
 Now our righteousness is a waving flag!
 It's the Crystal Cathedral on our TV set,
 Money in the bank, this Promised Land.
 Not a wail for prayer from a minaret
 On some filthy, backward patch of sand.
 Our righteousness is laser guided—
 A million-dollar cruise missile's cool aplomb.
 Not the desperation of the suicided,
 With a bloody faith and a dirty bomb.
 Our righteousness is the power to kill
 With advanced precision, and an iron will.

—Lester Smith, Delavan

I Don't Get Angry Much

I'm thought to be the gentle kind,
 Whose goal is to live and let live,
 With never a bloody axe to grind,
 And willing always to forgive

The first string quarterback who bolts
 To join our worst competitors,
 And even politicians who steal,
 But not those evil editors

Who give my stuff a drowsy read
 And straightway throw it in the bin.
 They're the only reason I need
 To satisfy my taste for blood.

It isn't nice to say so, but:
 Imagine the thrill, once I am hired,
 In helping St. Peter's daily count-
 ing up of prospects for the fire.

With the power of an ancient lord,
 Just as reaping follows sowing,
 I shall turn my right thumb toward
 The direction they are going.

Then say with glee the torture just
 Whereby they pay their creditors
 By reading rejected verse aloud
 To all the other editors.

—Robert Treu, LaCrosse

Theme for Spring issue:
SEVENS!!

See page 5 for more specific
 submission information.

Deadline: Friday, February 4, 2011

Buddha's Revenge

As General Xiao strode imperiously
 through the conquered village,
 annoyed, he stopped in the presence
 of Wang Fei meditating in her garden.

Aware that here was a person who
 did not cringe before his arrogance,
 he drew his sword and addressed her.
 "Do you not know that with
 a sword stroke I could kill you?"

Understanding the nature of the insult,
 realizing no greater fool could fail better,
 pulling all the peace of a summer morning
 around her with one smile, she replied
 softly, "Do you not know how little I care?"

Astonished, General Xiao stood motionless
 for the eternity of a minute;
 then, his sword flashed in the sunlight as he
 placed it on the ground beside her and left.

—Peter Piaskoski, Shorewood

I Thought We Were on the No-Call List

All those calls asking to take a little time
 for a survey make a donation to
 the policemen's benevolent group listen
 to a brief commercial why I should not vote for
 that lying S.O.B. as described
 by his opponent. I don't let them get past
 the full name of the organization.

It's getting harder to be nasty
 to solicitors since my granddaughter—
 by necessity, not choice—entered the fray
 and has to ask people
 to renew something they can't live without.
 She has the second best success rate in her group.
 The one who comes in first they call
The Barracuda.

One time I snarled at the recording
 that reminded Don of an appointment
 but it's much more satisfying to do it
 to a human being

My son-in-law always asks the caller
 for his phone number. *I really would like
 your number so I could call you
 and talk some more! Interrupt your dinner!
 and make you late for your kid's soccer game!*
 He sometimes goes along with everything,
 asks questions talks slowly and when it is time
 for the credit card number he thanks him
 and leaves the phone off the hook.

—Loraine Brink, Ephraim

Fiscal Second Quarter Financial Report

July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010

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

General Account: submitted by Nancy Rafal, treasurer

Balance July 1, 2010	\$43,959.32
Income:	
Dues	\$625.00
5 for 4 CD Interest	28.33
Literary Fund Interest	737.64
Conference Reg. Fall '10	896.00
Adjustment	460.00
Total Income:	<u>\$2,746.97</u>
Expenses:	
<i>Museletter</i> +Other Printing/Mailing	(\$1,324.40)
Actelite-web domain/hosting	(91.85)
New Member Booklets	(159.00)
Total Expenses:	<u>(\$1,575.25)</u>
Total	\$45,131.04
Closing Statements Balance on September 30, 2010	\$45,131.04
General Account Balance on September 30, 2010	\$45,131.04*

*\$25,000 of this is invested in three interest bearing CDs. One \$5,000 CD (22 months) for the General Account to help bridge the gap created by "5 for 4" and two \$10,000 CDs (13 months) the interest from which goes to the Literary Fund for our contest prizes.

Literary Fund Account: submitted by Jackie Langetieg, Literary Fund Co-Chair

Balance July 1, 2010	\$289.56
Income:	
Deposit	\$100.00
Total Income:	<u>\$100.00</u>
Expenses:	
Triad-Judges	(\$300.00)
Total Expenses:	<u>(\$300.00)</u>
Literary Fund Balance on September 30, 2010	\$89.56

Calendar Account: submitted by Michael Farmer, Calendar Business Manager

Balance July 1, 2010	\$485.70
Income:	
Calendar Sales	\$3,592.84
Total Income:	<u>\$3,592.84</u>
Expenses:	
Postage	(\$611.41)
Supplies	(14.98)
Total Expenses:	<u>(\$626.39)</u>
Calendar Account Balance on September 30, 2010	\$3,452.15

General Fund	\$45,131.04
Literary Fund	\$89.56
Calendar Fund	\$3,452.15
Total	\$48,672.75

Wisconsin People & Ideas/ Wisconsin Book Festival Poetry & Short Story Contests

Win cash, prizes, publication in *Wisconsin People & Ideas*, and a reading at the 2011 Wisconsin Book Festival!

Submission deadline: December 15, 2010

Poetry Contest Prizes: 1st—\$500, 2nd—\$100, 3rd—\$50
Short Story Contest Prizes: 1st—\$500 (the John Lehman Poetry Prize), 2nd—\$250, 3rd—\$100

For more information, call (608) 263-1692 or visit wisconsinacademy.org

Wisconsin Poets' Calendar 2012 Submission Guidelines

Cities and towns are often under-represented when poets write about Wisconsin, so we have chosen *Alleys and Valleys* as the theme for the 2012 calendar. We hope that you will interpret this theme broadly, but we want to encourage you to think about the urban areas of Wisconsin, as well as the rural areas. Poets must be 18 or older and live in Wisconsin (or have some connection to the state) to submit.

Submission period is from **November 1, 2010 to February 1, 2011**. Poems received before or after those dates will not be considered.

We prefer e-mail submissions; however, we will be happy to accept snail mail submissions, as well. Send e-mail submissions with the poems in the body of the e-mail (please, no attachments) to jjohannes7@gmail.com with "Calendar Submission" as the subject line, or snail mail your submission to:

WFOP Calendar
c/o Jeffrey and Joan Wiese Johannes
800 Ver Bunker Avenue
Port Edwards, WI 54469-1126

Please do not e-mail poems with unique formatting, which may be changed in cyberspace. We will confirm the receipt of e-mail submissions by e-mail. Please send a self-addressed stamped postcard if you would like confirmation of snail mail arrival. We will acknowledge receipt of your submission as soon as we receive it. Then we will carefully read/consider your poems and respond by April 15, 2011.

Please include the following with your submission:

- Contact information (name, address, e-mail address, phone number)
- Biographical note of fewer than 50 words. (We may need to edit biographies longer than three lines.)
- Up to 3 poems
 - Maximum of 32 lines/poem, including spaces (shorter is better)
 - Publication information if previously published
 - Single-spaced, standard font
 - Left-justified preferred (Poems may be right justified in the calendar; please type *Left Justified Only* in the upper left of your poem if this change in justification is NOT acceptable.)

We're looking forward to reading your work. You can contact us at the e-mail address above if you have any questions or call us at 715-887-2217.

Thank you in advance for your submissions.

Jeffrey and Joan Wiese Johannes
2012 WFOP Calendar Editors

Rules for Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Muse Prize for Excellence in Poetry

1. Contestant must be a Wisconsin resident 18 years of age or older.
2. The entry form must be completed in full, included with the submission and postmarked by the contest deadline date listed on the entry form.
3. Only one original unpublished poem not under consideration elsewhere may be entered in the WFOP Muse Prize contest. 75 line maximum. Send **two** copies of poem. Plagiarism disqualifies the contestant.
4. Manuscript must be typed on 8½” x 11” white paper, one side only. Writer’s name **should not** appear on the page with the poem.
5. An entry fee of \$3.00 for WFOP members and \$6.00 for non-members must accompany the submission. Checks are to be made out to WFOP Literary Fund and mailed to WFOP/Muse/Jerome J. Jagielski, 572 Berwyn Drive, Fontana, WI 53125. Send entry in business size envelope **only**.
6. Prizes are: 1st place—\$200.00 and trophy; 2nd—\$100.00; 3rd—\$75.00.
7. Only the winners will be notified prior to the WFOP Spring Conference held on April 16, 2011 in Lake Geneva. The list of winners will be published in the WFOP *Museletter* and posted on the web site, www.wfop.org, after the conference.
8. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the contest judge determines that an entry warrants a prize award.
9. The first place winner of the WFOP Muse Prize will be ineligible to enter that contest again for three years.
10. WFOP is not responsible for lost manuscript. Do not send a SASE. Entries will **not** be returned and there will be no notification if an entry is disqualified for failure to follow any of the above rules.
11. Author retains all rights to his/her work.

WFOP's Bruce Dethlefsen Named Poet Laureate

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced the appointment of Bruce Dethlefsen as the Poet Laureate of Wisconsin.

“Bruce Dethlefsen is a dedicated and talented poet,” Governor Doyle said. “He has exceptional credentials and a devotion to poetry and representing our great state. I am confident he will be an outstanding Poet Laureate.”

The new Poet Laureate will succeed Marilyn Taylor. As Poet Laureate, Bruce Dethlefsen will choose and lead one large-scale project that contributes to the growth of Wisconsin poetry. He must also plan and attend at least four statewide literary events each year and perform in at least four government, state and civil events as requested by the Governor’s office, school systems and literary organizations. Dethlefsen will begin his two-year term on January 1, 2011.

“I look forward to being an ambassador for the wonderful poets and poetry of Wisconsin,” Bruce Dethlefsen said. “Serving

Poet Laureate continues on page 16

Markets

John L. Campbell • 17800A Caribou Pass • Brookfield, WI 53045-2141 • jcampbell52@wi.rr.com

Note from the Marketing Curator: *Duotrope's Digest* (www.duotrope.com), from which I obtain most of the following leads for poetry publications, lists 3120 poetry markets plus another 1930 either dead, closed or removed. Some print publications are going online (i.e. see *Zygote in my Coffee* listed below) It seems unfair, to those of us who write verse, that editors, almost without exception, request unpublished poetry. For if we faithfully adhere to their guidelines, a poem is dead for alternative exposure after being published once online or in print; and online poetry sites seem to come and go like fall leaves in a blustery wind. So, choose with care where you submit your work.

Alaska Quarterly Review, www.uaa.alaska.edu, Ronald Spatz, Editor, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Dr. (ESH 208), Anchorage, AK 99508 accepts simultaneous submissions requesting that you notify the editor if your poetry has been accepted elsewhere. Publishes 2x a year, reading period from August 15th to May 15th. E-mail submissions accepted in the body of your e-mail: ayaqr@uaa.alaska.edu. Publishes only print copies spring/summer and fall/winter.

Barge Journal, www.bargepress.com under 6 months old, a fledgling print publication 2x a year and electronically 2x a year. Poetry open to all themes including experimental. Edited by Shawn and Justin Madday. Submit with bio and cover letter to bargejournal@gmail.com.

Borderline, <http://borderlinepoetry.tumblr.com> is an online publication less than a year old. Editor-in-Chief, Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory, e-mail rhapsodyinblu@gmail.com, is seeking cutting edge persona poetry, journal obsessed with coloring outside the lines and pushing the limits of existence to new heights. Send no more than 3 poems per submission.

Boston Literary Magazine, <http://www.bostonliterarymagazine.com>, welcomes new writers of poetry and haiku. Robin Stratton, Editor in Chief, Lucy Spinetti, Managing Editor. Contact and submit by e-mail, no attachments, copy poems in the body of the e-mail BostonLiterary@aol.com. Website reached by Googling Boston Literary Magazine. Also, reviews chapbooks on line.

Clutching at Straws, www.clutchingatstraws.wordpress.com, Shawn Misener, Editor, seeking head-scratching, absurd, hilarious poetry for daily on line publication. "No rules, but if your poetry rhymes, it better be damn funny." E-mail with a short bio no more than 3 poems to shawnmisener227@gmail.com. Simultaneous submissions okay. Misener's guidelines follow customary poetry editors who prefer unpublished work.

Dinosaur Bees: A Journal of the Carefully Strange, www.dinosaurbees.com, an online publication edited by Carolyn Zaikowski, Assistant Editor, Mike Young. Submit 5 poems max. with bio and cover letter all on an e-mail dinosaurbees@gmail.com

Floorboard Review, www.floorboardreview.com is a new online site for poetry to be published 2x to 4x a year by Jen Kindbom who teaches at Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. Submit up to 4 poems to jen@floorboardreview.com. Simultaneous submissions are acceptable.

Guerilla Pamphlets, www.guerillapamphlets.webs.com is a unique broadside publication headed for its 5th printing. September 20th was the deadline for issue #4. Go online and check it out. The editors, four of them, put their poetry selections and art work online, and allow you to do the printing of as many issues as you like. There are so many possibilities like this on the Internet that no poet with access to a computer and printer should ever go unpublished. Submit to gpcconfidential@hotmail.com.

Literary Burlesque, www.theliteraryburlesque.com. Another online publication, where editor, Melanie Brown, is seeking poetry exhibiting surrealism, irreverence, satire and absurdity. Submit your poetry in the body of an e-mail to brigitte.barton31@yahoo.com.

Minnetonka Review, Open for submissions from October 15th to May 15th. Accepts both Internet in .RTF or .DOC file formats and postal submissions at *Minnetonka Review*, Attn: Poetry Editor, P. O. Box 386, Spring Park, MN 55384 with SASE. Send up to 8 poems, allow 3 months for reply. Cover letters appreciated. Samples issues \$8. Editor's Prize of \$150.

Markets continues on page 15

Markets from page 14

awarded for one poet in each issue. Contributors receive 3 issues. Simultaneous submissions allowed, but request notice if work has been accepted elsewhere. This is an outstanding print edition.

Muddy River Poetry Review, a print edition in the 90's, is being remodeled into a PDF file and the new issue should be online soon after November 1st, this according to Zvi A. Sesling, Editor. The next issue will have four poems by Tess Johnson, a senior in college, who shows great talent. When contacted, Zvi said, "Feel free to have your poets (WFOP) submit. I have reviewed chapbooks by a couple of Wisconsin poets, so I know you have some fine ones there. The next issue will have reading periods also." E-mail submissions to mrpr@comcast.net NOTE: I am unfamiliar with this editor and her choices of material.

Phantom Kangaroo is a new online site seeking paranormal, supernatural, weird tales like UFO abductions. Publishes 13 poems on the 13th of each month, issue #3 will be December 13th. Submit@phantomkangaroo.com, simultaneous submissions allowed.

Poetrylist, www.poetrylist.com is a Maryland based publication edited by Robert Whetzel, who is one enlightened editor accepting previously published poetry. Whetzel is college student whose publication is unaffiliated with his school. He can be reached on e-mail at colonelmustard@poetrylist.com.

Red Skies Press, www.redskiespress.proboards.com is new, started August 20, 2010 online by editor Mark Crittenden, who seeks stories of lycantropy (man turning into an animal like the wolfman) or a process by which people transmogrify (I love that word) into something more animal-like than human. Are all these weird sites cropping up because of Halloween?

Zygote in my Coffee, (www.zygoteinmycoffee.com) poems should have a sense on the absurd, perhaps a good spot for the incoherent bewilderment and muddled mystery genre. Publishes 20x a year online and 2x in print. Submit to submissions@zygoteinmycoffee.com with a bio plus submission in the body of your e-mail. Doesn't want simultaneous submissions and/or previously published poetry.

Membership Renewal Form

KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT. Dues for the 2011 year are due January 1, 2011. If your mailing label doesn't have (11) (P) (L) or years beyond '11 after your name, please pay your dues immediately to keep your membership current. Dues MUST be current to participate in the Triad contests and to be published in the *Museletter* poetry pages.

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 _____

*****5 for 4 Deal*****

\$100 paid now will give Active members 5 years of membership for the price of 4 (2011-2015)! Save \$25.00!

CWW Opens 2010 Wisconsin Writers' Contests in Poetry

The Council for Wisconsin Writers invites submissions of work published by Wisconsin poets in 2010 in two categories, full-length (48 pages of poems) books for the Posner Poetry Award; and a set of five individual poems (at least two published in 2010) for the Lorine Niedecker Award. The submission period opened November 1 and closes on January 31, 2011, the postmark deadline. All submitters must be current residents of Wisconsin. An award of \$500 will be made in each category. Entry fee is \$20.00; out-of-state judges will make the selections. Nominations are also open for the \$1000 Major Achievement Award, which is given to a writer for one or more distinguished publications over the past five years, a growing reputation as an important literary artist, or a lifetime of career achievement. Specific guidelines, entry forms, and important additional information for each category are available on the website, www.wisconsinwriters.org, or by writing contest co-chair Marilyn L. Taylor, 2825 E. Newport Ave., Milwaukee 53211, indicating the contest categories needed.

CWW is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Wisconsin's literary heritage and writers.

WFOP Triad Contest 2010 Results

Poet's Choice – Judge Patricia Valdata, 85 entries*

First Place:	F.J. Bergmann	“Is it Here”
Second:	Richard Roe	“The Lesson”
Third:	Cathryn Cofell	“In Search of Women”
HM:	Shoshauna Shy	“The Letter She Tried”
HM:	Mary Lou Judy	“Quilter”
HM:	David Scheler	“Doppler Shifts”

Theme: Other Places – Judge Stephen Powers, 82 entries*

First Place:	F.J. Bergmann	“Point of Order”
Second:	Lisa Vihos	“Machine Dream”
Third:	Joan Wiese Johannes	“Wish You Were Here”
HM:	Gary Powell	“In a Place called Haditha”
HM:	Lisa Cihlar	“The True Story”
HM:	David Clower	“The Speed Limit of the Univ.”

Kay Saunders Memorial New Poet Award – Judge Barbara Crooker, 44 entries*

First Place:	Nancy Takacs	“Night Game – School”
Second:	Karen Loeb	“Tables”
Third:	Janet Leahy	“Recalcitrant Poem”
HM:	Lisa Vihos	“Dollar Value”
HM:	Ann Penton	“Egoistic Frogs”
HM:	David Scheler	“Tobacco, Cedar and Sage”

*Numbers are approximate due to a problem with the PC midway during the entry period.

Poet Laureate from page 12

as Wisconsin's Poet Laureate is a tremendous honor, and it represents a great opportunity to encourage and support local cultural and creative talent.”

Bruce Dethlefsen received a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, and an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. He has written three books and recorded one CD. Dethlefsen is the recipient of multiple distinguished poetry awards. He spends much of his time organizing and leading workshops and judging poetry throughout Wisconsin.

Dethlefsen intends to use his position as the State Poet Laureate to bring poetry to new audiences around the state, promoting the writing and sharing of poetry.



Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets
9556 Upper 205th Street W
Lakeville, MN 55044
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED