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Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

Jeffrey Billerbeck, Blue Mounds
Roxann Bornemann, Wausau
Thomas Cannon, Oshkosh
Paulette Creswell, Madison
John Dollar, Prairie du Sac
Jami Hanreddy, Ellison Bay
Grace Matson, Hartland
Katherine McCoy, Madison
Nicholas Pedriana, Elm Grove
Mary Jo Peters, White Lake
Mary J Preston, Kenosha
Christine Reding, Lake Mills
Patrick Schultz, Stevens Point
Anthony Signorelli, Cable
Max Stern, Neenah
Chera VanBurg, Sturgeon Bay

Co-Presidents' Message

Greetings! There is much news to share—a successful conference in Wausau featuring excellent poetry and time for fellowship, passage of our amended Constitution and Bylaws and Mission in Action statement (at the Business Meeting and by email). **Minutes** and the **amended Constitution and Bylaws** are available on our website.

Looking ahead there is also much to do. After scarcely a year in office, we are learning that you want us to try new ideas. Early in 2023, the Board will begin a strategic planning process to discuss several questions—should we organize, as we traditionally have, two conferences a year or just one? Should we offer more regional meetings? What about more online poetry workshops? Additional publications? We've appreciated your feedback.

Two exciting developments:

1) A new partnership to hold a chapbook publication contest with **Brain Mill Press**. This contest will be open to all Wisconsin poets, with a particular interest in voices under-represented in traditional publishing. This partnership aligns with WFOP's mission to broaden its reach, building new audiences through chapbook workshops and Brain Mill Press's mission and reputation. Details to come.

2) A significant donation from Lifetime member and former VP Richard Swanson and his wife Fanny: \$16,000, \$4,000 per year for the next four years! We'll be getting a small group together to work with Richard and Fanny on how to allocate this extremely generous gift, with a special interest in support of emerging poets.

As we move forward, we continue to face the challenge of not enough volunteers. Most especially needed is a *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* Business Manager. Gillian Nevers and Steve Tomasko have offered to help with two aspects of this role for the 2024 *Calendar*, but we are still in need of someone to contact bookstores and coordinate with the printer. Beyond 2024, the *Calendar* may have to be put on hold until we can find volunteers to complete this critical work.

Wishing you happy holidays and a bright New Year.

—Cat & Ronnie

Chapbook &
Muse Contests
DEADLINE

February 1

wfop.org/
annual-contests

Remember ...

Notify *in advance* of address change. Mail is returned at WFOP's expense. Request e-mail instead; it's sent earlier, and you'll save WFOP \$! And for the weekly Events e-mail: wfopmuseletter@gmail.com

Our gratitude for your generosity!

Donations received from:

David Blackey
Carrie Sherrill

In Memoriam

Lenore (McComas) Coberly
February 23, 1925–September 28,
2022

Patricia Smith, Knapp
March 8, 2021

What's Happening in Your Region?

All events free & open to the public unless stated otherwise.

CENTRAL-FOX VALLEY

VPs: Mike Gadzik, mgadzik@yahoo.com

& Thom Singleton, thomsingleton@gmail.com

Poetry Unlocked returned to in-person readings in April at ACOCA Coffee and Cafe in downtown Appleton, with readings and an open mic. Featured readers included poets **Nancy Austin** and **Margaret Coombs** in June. More information at facebook.com/poetryunlockedappleton.

Fredric Hildebrand had poems in *Trouvaille Review*, *Round Table Literary Journal*, *Blood Tree Literature*, and *Blue Heron Review*.

EAST

VP: Ed Werstein, wersted@gmail.com

Christy Schwan, Cedarburg, received honorable mentions in Wilda Morris' September Blogspot for "Where Memories Hide" and in October for "Kayak Contemplation." Her poem "Thanksgiving Halftime" was in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Magic of Christmas 2022*.

Scott Lowery has two poems in the Fall *Talking Stick*, a northern MN journal. One of his poems is a finalist for the Hal Prize (a Door County Pulse contest).

Marilyn Windau's poem, "Moon Glow" was featured on *Your Daily Poem*. "Fall Jewels," "Equinox" and "Autumn Ginkgo" were published by *Highland Park Poetry*, and "Familial Breakfast" in the fall *Bramble*.

Gary Beaumier was the grand winner of the Sea and the Seaside contest for "The Shape of My Absence," published in an anthology of the same name by Wingless Dreamer Press.

Karl Elder had a poem, "In a Town Called Unincorporated," in the June *Literature Today*, and "The Recapitulation" in *Last Stanza Poetry Journal* 10.

Jocelyn Boor had "Resilience" in the *Poetry for Ukraine* anthology, and "At Some Point" in *Creative Wisconsin*.

East Region members who received Triad awards include **Ed Block**, **Heather Hanlon**, **Scott Lowery**, **Sara Sarna**, and **David Southward**. My apologies if I missed anyone.

MID-CENTRAL

VP: Kathleen Serley, kserley@dwave.net

Linda Aschbrenner had "Mishaps, Misfits, and Magic," "Running Away to School," and "Bench Mark" in *Moss Piglet*. Her poem about the George Ruder and Frank Mathie Wausau Breweries was one of Wausau's poetry walk poems and received a Viewer's Choice award. She read her brewery poem at the poster reading at the Center

for the Visual Arts in Wausau. "Long Ago Lilacs" and "Afternoon Tea with Geese and Chipmunks" appeared in *Poetry Hal*. "Orioles Heading South" and "October Recollections from Long Ago" were in *The Avocet*.

Mavis Flegle's poem "To Wausau and Back in 1948 with My Four-Year-Old Sister" appeared on a Wausau poster and was read at the poster reading at the Center for Visual Arts, Wausau.

Patricia Williams' "After Winterkill," "Remembering" and "Shadowed Paths" appeared online with the paintings of Carolyn Rosenberger in the Muse V Exhibition. "No Photosynthesis Occurs" was featured on *Your Daily Poem* in June. *Verse Virtual* published "I Listen to Gorecki's Symphony" in July; Highland Park Poetry Summer Muses' Gallery published "Praise Paper and Red Tape" online and in the anthology *Odes: Poets Praising People, Places & Things*. The *DNR 2022-2023 Calendar* published "Winter Sunlight." In September, the Central Wisconsin Book Festival's poetry walk included "All Hail Wausau, Wisconsin," which Pat read at the CVA poetry reception.

Karyn Powers recently participated in the WFOP Poetry walk held in conjunction with the Central Wisconsin Book Festival. The walk featured 24 poems posted in businesses through the downtown of Wausau. Karen's poem "Merchants of Dreams" was posted at Janke Bookstore" and received a Viewer's Choice award.

NORTHEAST

VP: Tori Grant Welhouse, torigrantwelhouse@gmail.com

Annette Langlois Grunseth earned a Gold Medal award for Best Memoir/Biography from the Military Writers Society of America for her book of prose and poetry *Combat and Campus: Writing Through War*; she had several poems in *Moss Piglet* and an essay in the summer *Bramble*.

Carol Lee Saffioti-Hughes had "On Contemplating the Fisher" in the November *Moss Piglet*, "Abandoned" in the fall *Of Rust and Glass*, and "On Being Two Places at Once" was a runner-up in the *Rosebud* poetry contest.

Jean Biegun had two poems in *As Above So Below*, three poems in *Goose River Anthology*, and two in *Sparks of Calliope*. Individual poems were published in *Mad Swirl*, *Gyroscope Review*, and *What Is All This Sweet Work?: A Poetry Anthology About Love and Loss* (Vita Brevis Press). Two poems were in the Art As Poetry As Art 2022 Exhibit of the Lakeshore Artists Guild in Manitowoc.

Lee LeVoy was the featured poet in the Dickinson Poetry Series in Ephraim on November 9, reading from *Sacred Moments: One Couple's Walk with Parkinson's*. Lee is the speaker for the "Care Partner Virtual Support Group" on November 29, offered by Wisconsin Parkinson.

NORTHWEST

VP: Nancy Austin, austin10929@gmail.com

Jan Chronister had four poems in *Red Cedar Review*. Her poem “Adjustments” was in Issue 10 of *Last Stanza Poetry Journal*. Jan read with **Peggy Trojan** in August at the Oulu Cultural and Heritage Center. “Weaning” is in the Fall *Bramble*. “Hidden Stuff” and “Little Girl Point” were in *Same Location, Multiple Perspectives*, the book that accompanied an exhibit of the same name at the Washburn Cultural Center, which also included the poems. “Perennial” was part of the Nature of Relationship exhibit at the Out of the Woods Winery in Hayward in which regional artists interpreted selected poems, organized by **Naomi Cochran**.

Peggy Trojan had poems in *Goose River Anthology* and *Talking Stick*. She read at the Out of the Woods Winery in Hayward at Art/Poetry Exhibit, The Nature of Relationship. She read at the book release and photo exhibit for *Same Location, Multiple Perspectives* in Washburn. Her chapbook *PA* was awarded Honorable Mention by North Eastern Minnesota Book Award.

Diana Randolph, Drummond, had a haiku in the *Ski & Tea Newsletter* of her women’s outdoor exercise group, three haikus and four art images in *Red Cedar Review* XXIV, and three poems in *Same Location, Multiple Perspectives*. A video of Diana reading the poem is on the book’s Vimeo page. She also had a poem in The Nature of Relationship at Out-of-the-Woods Winery.

Nancy Austin had “Oh Mama” accepted to Military Experience & the Arts’ literary journal, *As You Were*. She was the featured poet Oct 30 for Poetry in the Woods at The Tea House in Winter Park, Minocqua.

Elizabeth Tornes’ poem “Birches/Wiigwaasimitigoog” appeared in the Summer issue of *Bramble*.

Lucy Tyrrell had three poems “July, Beach in Ashland,” “Two Domes,” and “72-foot Cascade” (and a photo) in a book of photographs of water and waterfalls *Same Place, Different Perspectives* by Catherine Lange and Michael Ruth, as well as in the exhibit. “Gichigami Regalia” was in the Nature of Relationship art-poetry exhibit, and “Flocking to Wausau” in the history of Wausau Poetry Walk in September (organized by **Kathleen Serley**). “Return to Capistrano” is in *Blue Heron Review*, and “beneath the boughs of frenzy” in *Alaska Women Speak*. Lucy organized the second annual Bayfield Poetry Trail in which 26 Bayfield Chamber member businesses posted a poem of their choice in their windows for the month of September during Art Escape and Bayfield Festival of the Arts. She also organized a drop-in magnetic poetry booth (writing poems about Lake Superior) at the Bayfield Festival of the Arts. Lucy was one of the poets laureate in the panel discussion organized by **Kathleen Serley** at the fall WFOP conference.

SOUTH CENTRAL

VP: James P. Roberts, jrob52162@aol.com

Richard Merelman’s sonnet “Voir Dire” appeared in the Summer *The Road Not Taken* online.

Mary Rowin had “Waiting For A Poem” published in *Riddled With Arrows*.

Alecia Beymer took 2nd place in the 2022 *Wisconsin People & Ideas* Poetry Contest for her poem “A Couple Months After My Father’s Death, I Read About Songbirds Mysteriously Dying in Pennsylvania.”

Jess L. Parker won 3rd place in the 2022 *Wisconsin People & Ideas* Poetry Contest for her poem “Neptune.”

James P. Roberts and **Antonio Re** read with Rusty Russell at the Dark Horse Art Bar in Madison on September 7.

Catherine Young’s poem “In Answer to Your Question” was in the print *Farmer-ish*. She gave a Celebrating Our Wisconsin poetry workshop at the Bekkum Memorial Library in Westby September 30.

F. J. Bergmann had “A Map of Heaven” in *Star*Line*, “Nurture” in *Dreams and Nightmares*, “Again and Again” on One Sentence Poems, “Raising Spirits” audio poem at sfpoetry.com/halloween.html, an essay on editing poetry in *Weird House Magazine*, and an essay on technique, “Dislocating the World,” in *Writing Poetry in the Dark*, ed. Stephanie M. Wytovich (Raw Dog Screaming Press), with an interview published online. She read on Zoom for Fright Fest Horror, hosted by the Hampton (VA) Public Library and read her horror poetry at the Talbot Gallery in Madison on November 4.

WEST CENTRAL

VP: Sandra Lindow, lindowleaf@gmail.com

Recent fall days have been particularly lovely in the Chippewa Valley. As the last leaves separate and fall with effortless grace, we fall gently into leaves of poetry. The Writers’ Group is presently meeting at Room 105 of the Eau Claire Public Library, 2–4 pm, the first Thursday of each month. January and February we will probably be meeting on Zoom 7–9 pm, the first Thursday. Saturday December 10, 2–4 pm, there will be a *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar* Celebration Reading and Christmas Cookie Exchange in Room 104 of the Eau Claire Public Library. This is the 40th issue of the *Poets’ Calendar*. Sunday, January 15, 2023, 2–4 pm, **Yvette Flaten** will host the Winter Solstice White Pine Celebration of music and poetry at Menomonie First Congregational United Church of Christ. Signup begins at 1:30 pm. For more information contact **Sandra Lindow** at lindowleaf@gmail.com.

Red Cedar Review, published by UW–Barron County, features Chippewa Valley poets—**Yvette Viets Flaten**: “Abscession Layer,” “January 21st,” “Autumn Day,” “On mornings like this,” and “Alignment”; **Candace Hennekens**: “Call and Response,” “Living on the Banks of a River,” “My Origin Story,” and “My Island”; **Erna Kelly**: “Flow,” “His Last Appointment,” “Fluid Fills the Space,” “Sedum Season,” and “Photo Shoot”; **Sandra Lindow**: “Alligator Tao,” “Farmers Pursue Panties,” “In the Summer of Not-Quite Love,” “What the See Saw,” and “Sleeping on Rollers.” Kelly’s “Moonset at Sunrise” appears in the Fall *Blue Heron Review*. Flaten’s “Beach” appears in *Blue Heron* 15, and “My mother, eating churros” in Silver Birch Press’s One Good Memory series. *Your Daily Poem* published “Nunc Dimittis” September 4 and “In Appreciation of Bob Ross” October 29 (that would have been Bob’s 80th birthday). Lindow’s recent publications include “Intergalactic Baba Yaga” in *Dreams and Nightmares* and “Mother Hubble’s Speeding Ticket” in *Star*Line* 45.4.

Looking for a poetry critique group to join? Contact your regional VP. If your group is open to new members, notify the *Museletter* editor: wfopmuseletter@gmail.com



Bramble Guest Editor **Tori Grant Welhouse** seeks poems inspired by dreams. What does your dreaming self know that your waking self does not? What objects or symbols appear in your dreams that might require interpretation? To what fantastical or surreal place do your dreams take you? Who is your guardian in dreams? In what ways are your dreams oracular? Is dreaming a kind of shared consciousness? As Alice Notely writes, “Dreams remind us that we can shape the world, that it doesn’t fit into the categories we tend to make for it: we think and observe with our dreams and communicate with unconscious others, moving about in a time and space whose walls are down.”

One poem from the issue will be selected for a feature and made into a limited edition broadside. The selected poet gets 10 complimentary copies. Each contributor gets a complimentary copy of the broadside, in addition to their print contributor copy of *Bramble*. Submit **December 1, 2022–January 15, 2023**:

wfop.org/bramble-how-to-submit

Community Poets Laureate

State Poet Laureate **Peggy Rozga** and Door County Poet Laureate **Nancy Rafal** are compiling a list of all Poet Laureate positions in the state. If you know of any community PL program please send the information to Nancy: mrsticket@gmail.com or PO Box 340, Baileys Harbor WI 54202-0340. Please include the following: 1) date program established 2) names of poets laureate & dates of post. 3) selection procedure, 4) any other significant information.

Publications by Our Members

100 Umbrellas by Ron Czerwien (Bent Paddle Press, 2022), 108 pp. \$14 from bentpaddlepress.com.

Hitchhikers to Eden by Jean Biegun (Kelsay Books, 2022), 42 pp. \$17 from kelsaybooks.com.

Northern Skies by Elizabeth Tornes (Muriel Press, 2022), 52 pp. \$14 on **Amazon**.

Resurrection Lily by Angela Hoffman (Kelsay Books, 2022), 48 pp. \$17 on Amazon or kelsaybooks.com.

Ripple, Scar, and Story by Karla Huston (Kelsay Books, 2022), 74 pp. \$20 Venmo @karlahuston or PayPal karlahuston@hotmail.com.

The Shoeshiner’s Rag Pops and Sings: Poems New and Old and In Between by Richard Swanson (Bent Paddle Press, 2022), 90 pp. \$15 from bentpaddlepress.com.

Son of Norway by Jan Chronister (Poetry Harbor, 2022), 38 pp. \$10 on **Amazon**.

The Suitcase by Gary Busha (Wolfsong Publications, 2022), 28 pp. \$5 from gbusha@wi.rr.com.

Toes, Toads, Turtles, & Tulips: A Miscellany of Verse by Mike Orlock (Four Windows Press, 2022), 145 pp. \$15.95 online and at Novel Bay and OtherWorlds Books & More, both located in Sturgeon Bay.

Tripping the Light Ekphrastic by Ronnie Hess (Kelsay Books, 2022), 58 pp. \$20 from kelsaybooks.com.

NOTE TO MEMBERS WITH NEW BOOKS

Have a new poetry book or chapbook? Send the title, publisher, date, # of pages, price, and a place to buy the book, or your email, to wfopmuseletter@gmail.com

2023 WFOP MUSE PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN POETRY CONTEST RULES
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 1, 2023

1. Contestant must be a Wisconsin resident 18 years of age or older.
2. Only one original unpublished poem not under consideration elsewhere may be entered in the WFOP Muse contest. "Published" includes any print or electronic presentation except copies of drafts shared with critique groups. Seventy-five line maximum.
3. Prizes are: 1st place - \$200.00, 2nd - \$100.00, 3rd - \$75.00.
4. Contest opens on November 1, 2022. The deadline is **February 1, 2023**.
5. Send the submission in the body of a single email to **2023WFOPmusecontest@gmail.com**. The subject line should read: "Muse Contest Entry from (Last name, First name)." Attachments will not be opened. The body of your email should include your name, address, email address, phone number, poem title and confirmation of payment of entry fee (see #7, below).
6. Snail mail entries will be accepted from people who have no access to email. Deadline for receipt of snail mail submissions is January 25, 2023 because the poems will have to be retyped into the email file going to the judges. PLEASE DO NOT SNAIL MAIL IF YOU HAVE EMAIL! Mailing address: **Mary Rowin, 7426 Voss Pkwy, Middleton, WI 53562**. Include your name, address, phone number, poem title and whether you are willing to have your poem published in the WFOP Museletter if it wins a prize on a separate page. Include confirmation of payment of entry fee or a check (see #7, below). Do not send a SASE. Entries will not be returned.
7. There is an entry fee of \$4.00 for WFOP members and \$8.00 for non-members. The payment may be made at **wfop.org/annual-contests**. Include confirmation of payment in the email with the poem. Paper checks may be made out to WFOP Literary Fund and mailed to: **2023 WFOP Muse/Rowin, 7426 Voss Pkwy, Middleton, WI 53562**. Payment will be matched to submissions. Submissions without payment will not be judged.
8. You will receive a return email acknowledging that your poems have arrived. There will be no notification if an entry is disqualified for failure to follow any of the above rules.
9. Only the winners will be notified prior to the WFOP Spring Conference. The list of winners will be published in the WFOP *Museletter* and posted on wfop.org after the conference.
10. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the judge determines that an entry warrants a prize.
11. The first-place winner of the Muse Prize will be ineligible to enter for three years.
12. Author retains all rights to his/her work.

MUSE PRIZE JUDGE: Ed Bok Lee is the author of *Real Karaoke People*, *Whorled*, and *Mitochondrial Night*, recipient of the American Book Award, Asian American Literary Award (Members' Choice), Minnesota Book Award, and PEN/Open Book Award. Lee attended kindergarten in Seoul, South Korea and holds an MFA from Brown University. He teaches in Fine Arts at Metropolitan State University in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. www.edboklee.com

Museletter submissions: Send news to your regional VP or **wfopmuseletter@gmail.com** (include region!), in body of e-mail. Please format as in *Museletter*; no .pdfs or press releases.

Poetry news only; send only poetry publications, **not** acceptances or forthcoming; don't bother including WFOP awards or *Museletter* or *Calendar* appearances. *Please* don't double-space after periods.

Advertise books, etc., to the WFOP membership in the *Museletter* or Events e-mail at the following rates:

\$15	eighth page	\$40	half page
\$25	quarter page	\$75	full page
\$10/100 wds in Events e-mail			

Striving for Excellence

Dear Poets,

Please, *please* pay attention to specific spelling, nomenclature and punctuation when sending in announcements for the *Museletter*. This issue set an all-time record for errors in submitted material. I made close to 3 dozen corrections, and our proofreaders found many more....

Transcribe proper nouns carefully. Only a single space after punctuation. Quote marks belong outside periods and commas but inside other punctuation. Poem titles in quotes; book titles are italicized. Terseness is appreciated.

A Chicago Manual of Style is your friend when it comes to literary stylistic accuracy!

Meet the Board!

Sandra J. Lindow is a semi-retired teacher, writer, and editor. She has served as WFOP's West Central Regional Vice President since 1988, the longest-serving VP in the history of the Fellowship. She has been actively involved in conference planning and poet/artist collaborations. She has nine collections of poetry; *Chasing Wild Grief* is the most recent (Kelsay Books, 2021). Her awards include the WFOP's Edna Meudt Award for narrative poetry, and the WFOP's Triad and Muse prizes. She has edited two statewide poetry quilt celebrations, an issue of *Bramble*, and the 2011 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar*, with co-editor Peg Lauber.



Naomi Cochran has been with WFOP since 2006, after having learned about the organization through the annual *Poets' Calendar*. She currently serves as the Membership Chair and has enjoyed the behind-the-scenes

nature of that role since 2015. She also served as the 2022 Chapbook Contest coordinator.

Some of her earliest work was published in a little magazine out of Duluth, MN: *Steelhead 3* (1973; Louis Jenkins, editor). Paging through a copy four decades later, she finally noticed the name of another contributor—Coleman Barks with “A Glass of Beer” and “Bible Stories.” Involvement with the Fellowship has been instrumental in the eventual publication of three chapbooks and a full-length collection. She has also been twice featured on *The Writer's Almanac* with Garrison Keillor.

Naomi lives in northern Wisconsin with her husband of 44 years, who is a professional safe-cracker and master locksmith. Their two adult children live in Madison.

 More board member intros coming in future *Museletters*!

2024 Wisconsin Poet's Calendar

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets is accepting poems for the 2024 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar*. The theme for this year's calendar is Margins. Think boundaries, outer limits, peripheries. Explore perimeters, borders, embankments. Consider how all things may be marginalized. Write about how margins affect our lives.

Poets must be at least 18, a Wisconsin resident or have a close connection to Wisconsin. Send 1–2 poems. Deadline February 1, 2023. See wfop.org/poets-calendar-guidelines.

The 2024 *Calendar* editors are **Nancy Austin** and **Kathleen Serley**. Nancy is the author of 3 poetry collections, most recently *Something Novel Came in Spring* (Water's Edge Press, 2021). Kathleen serves as VP for WFOP's Mid-Central region and is the author of *Statements Made in Passing* (Water's Edge Press, 2022).

Congratulations! 2022 Triad Contest Winners

66 people entered the Triad. Barbara Crooker judged *Poets' Choice*, Marjorie Maddox judged *Theme*, and Julie Moore judged the *Kay Saunders Memorial Emerging Poet* category.

Theme (Primary Colors) • 53 entries

- 1st “Covid Colors,” Jenna Rindo
- 2nd “Ekphrastic Blue,” Annette Langlois Grunseth
- 3rd “Ode to My Feet: A Prayer of Thanksgiving,” Angela M. Williamson Emmert
- HM “Until Further Notice,” Scott Lowery
“Golden Fields,” James P. Roberts
“Shadows,” Kathleen Serley

Poets' Choice • 59 entries

- 1st “On Your 95th Birthday, You Tell Me,” Joan Wiese Johannes
- 2nd “Sleeplessness,” Scott Lowery
- 3rd “Pilgrimage,” David Southward
- HM “How to Leave Your Husband,” Gail Sosinsky
“Praise All Unnoticed Things,” Sandy Stark
“All the Tiny Sounds,” Jeanie Tomasko

Kay Saunders Memorial Emerging Poet • 15 entries

- 1st “Dreams,” Heather Hanlon
- 2nd “Mid-Country Love Story,” Sara Sarna
- 3rd “Grackles in Ukraine,” Angela Hoffman
- HM “Rondeau,” Ed Block
“According to Her Lights,” Meredith Mason

2023 WFOP CHAPBOOK PRIZE RULES

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets is dedicated to promoting poetry in Wisconsin and seeks to expand its contest offerings by honoring the best chapbooks published in the previous year by Wisconsin residents.

1. Contestant must be a Wisconsin resident 18 years of age or older. A resident is a person who maintains a permanent residence in Wisconsin or who has lived for at least six continuous months in the state during 2022.
2. Contest opened September 1. Entry form must be completed in full, included with the submission and entry fee, and postmarked by **February 1, 2023**. Complete guidelines at wfop.org/annual-contests.
3. Chapbooks must be published in 2022. Proof of publication date must be printed in the book.
4. Total finished length not to exceed 48 pages.
5. Chapbooks may be entered by the author or the publisher, and may be self-published.
6. The non-refundable entry fee is \$7 per chapbook for WFOP members and \$15 per chapbook for non-members. Mail chapbook, entry form, and check (made out to WFOP Literary Fund) to:

Shoshauna Shy
878 Woodrow Street
Madison, WI 53711

7. Prizes: First Place—\$200; Second Place—\$100; Third Place—\$50. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the contest judge determines that an entry warrants a prize.
8. The contest is judged by a writing professional who resides outside the state.
9. Winners will be notified prior to announcement at the Spring Conference and posted in the Summer *Museletter* and at wfop.org.
10. The 1st-place winner of the WFOP Chapbook Prize will be ineligible to enter that contest again for three years. WFOP is not responsible for lost books. Entrants will receive email acknowledgment of receipt. Entries will not be returned. Failure to follow any of the above rules may result in disqualification. Questions? shoshaunashy@gmail.com

CHAPBOOK JUDGE: Joe Cottonwood has balanced his life as a home-improvement contractor by day, author by night. Joe has been published and translated around the world. His latest book of poetry is *Random Saints*. Previous poetry books include *Foggy Dog: Poems of the Pacific Coast*. He is the author of many popular novels for adults and children and the award-winning memoir *99 Jobs: Blood Sweat and Houses*. He lives in La Honda, California. joecottonwood.com
On Facebook: facebook.com/JoeCottonwood

***About Your Membership* Renew NOW before you forget!**

All memberships are **CALENDAR YEAR—January through December**. Only new memberships October–December are automatically extended through the following year. **Renewal payments** are due by **December 31** each year. Your membership expires at the end of the year on your *Museletter* mailing label. Contact wfopmembership@gmail.com with any questions. To receive reminders and official news, make sure we have your email address. Renew online at wfop.org/join-or-renew. **NB: If you lapse, then renew, you will be entered as a new member. Continuous membership is required for service awards.**

If you vacation elsewhere, only first-class mail forwards. We are charged for returned bulk mail. Signing up for e-mail-only *Museletter* (.pdf) saves WFOP \$ and arrives at least 2 weeks before the print *Museletter*. Notify wfopmuseletter@gmail.com to opt out of print delivery. The Events weekly e-mail is separate and opt-in; request from wfopmuseletter@gmail.com. Send all address changes or *Museletter* delivery inquiries to wfopmuseletter@gmail.com.

2023 CHAPBOOK PRIZE ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE (postmark): February 1, 2023

Poet's Name _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapbook Title _____

Publisher and Date (month and year) _____

CHOOSE AND SIGN ONE:

___ I am a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older. The chapbook I am submitting is my own original work.

Signature _____ Date _____

___ As publisher, I am submitting this chapbook for _____, who, to my knowledge, is a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older, and contains his/her original work.

To my knowledge, the poet ___ is ___ is not a member of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets.

Signature _____ Date _____

[Optional] Newspaper (name and address) to be notified if this chapbook is chosen as First, Second, or Third Place.

Enclose published chapbook, entry form and fee (\$7 member/\$15 non-member per chapbook; make check payable to "WFOP Literary Fund").

Mail entry to: **Shoshauna Shy**
878 Woodrow Street
Madison, WI 53711

Membership Renewal Form KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT.

All renewals are due by December 31. Dues MUST be current for you to enter WFOP contests, receive mention in the *Museletter*, receive mailings, and to have a page on wfop.org. Contact **wfopmembership@gmail.com** if you are not sure when your membership expires.

*SAVE POSTAGE and renew or join online at **wfop.org/join-or-renew***

*or mail to: **Colleen Frentzel, 1410 N Wuthering Hills Dr, Janesville WI 53546***

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Poems ^{BY} Our Membership
—SHERYL SLOCUM & KIM PARSONS, EDITORS

FALL NOT

In 15 lines or fewer, use three of the following six words in a poem that is NOT about Autumn:
migration, harvest, deciduous, russet, nippy, hibernate.

Reunion

It was the annual gathering of the clan
bringing the russet-headed progeny back home
a return migration from the old and toothless
to nippy toddlers gnashing wobbly milk teeth

Into this homogenous humanity I stumble
watching heads turn, lips firm, chins point
my faulty Irish genes always forsake me
Black dreds bounce as I straighten, eyes bright

I'm an O'Neil, damnit!

~Karyn J Powers, Wausau

Battlefield

Attack! Like the thunder of migrating bison,
rushing en masse into volleys of fire.
Thick harvest of dead, bright blood muting
to russet. Lain away in graves, silent.
War's hibernation. Sad winter quarters.

~Yvette Flaten, Eau Claire

H. G. Wells on Mars, 1897

The okra harvest done, we prepared
for migration back across the red desert.
Bundles perched precariously on their three humps,
the jamala stood, silent, their russet fur waving
in the nippy wind; we hustled them
along toward the distant deciduous forest,
hoping to reach it before the Martian night fell.

Meanwhile, our spacecraft headed for Earth.

~James P. Roberts, Madison

At Last

When Sam, our loquacious cat,
migrated to a celestial address,
he didn't say a thing: no harvest
of our emotions (we, the childless
couple, always in search of his
Rosetta Stone), no complaints
about the yippy, nippy Sheltie
who harassed him while he dozed
on the front stoop. No, he didn't
make a sound as he lazed
under the boxwood all day, near
the door, before we noticed he wasn't here
anymore, but there, on the other side,
where he'll finally be understood.

~Nancy Jesse, Madison

FIRE & ICE

Stephen Kalmar has accepted the position of Poems by Our Membership Editor. He is currently the President of the Racine/Kenosha Poet Laureate Committee and was previously that area's Poet Laureate.

Next Prompt: Haiku about fire and ice. Send by January 25 to skalmar@wi.rr.com or by post to:

Stephen Kalmar
3653 Montgomery Dr
Racine WI 53402

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Next Issue Deadline FEBRUARY 1, 2023

A Witch's Remorse

Deciduous oak sleeps.
Listen!
Russet leaves crack,
aged limbs creak.
Hibernation a distant dream,
migration a missed opportunity.
Flight cancelled—
a stalled broom.
Grounded in December,
next time I'll fly electric.

*~Susan Schwartz Twiggs,
Marshfield*

Poet's Confession

when words escape me
fall through my fingers
roll to the ground, lifeless
my mood turns nippy
I hibernate, they incubate
when seedlings sprout
push up through my psyche
unfurl their inspiration
I harvest shoots voraciously

*~Christy L. Schwan,
Cedarburg*

The Earth Stirs

Russet buds adorn our maple,
the first deciduous tree
to show signs of awakening
from hibernation.

The nippy days of March
give way to April
and we await
the cranes' migration,
springtime's harvest
of hyacinth and frog song.

~Kris Rued-Clark, Arpin