

WISCONSIN
FELLOWSHIP
OF POETS

wfop.org

Museletter
WINTER 2016



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Remember ...

Notify *in advance* of address change. Only first-class mail forwards, or the *Museletter* is returned at WFOP's expense.

The .pdf link is sent before the print *Museletter*; sign up for e-mail instead and you'll also save the Fellowship money!

Get the weekly Events e-mail:
wfopmuseletter@gmail.com

.....
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

Chapbook & Muse Contests
DEADLINE
February 1

Rules & entry forms:
wfop.org/chapbook-contest
wfop.org/muse-contest

President's Message

With the fall conference fresh in my mind, I want to say a heartfelt thank-you to everyone involved in the planning and execution of this event, especially **Joan and Jeffrey Johannes**, who stepped in for **Jim Pollock**, who was recovering from surgery. Feedback has been very positive, and I know we all went home with a lot to think about: bird, bees and beyond.

Our members continue to advance poetry around the state by staging quality events and participating in many others. Mini-grants were awarded to the following:

- **Liz Rhodebeck** to support publication of the poetry anthology *Hear My Voice: Poems of the Unheard Girls From the House Of Love*.
- **Tori Grant Welhouse** for cash prizes in the Kid's Animal Poetry Contest held in conjunction with the NEW Zoo and Adventure Park in Brown County.
- the Original Voice reading series held at the Coloma Hotel for readers' stipends.
- Namekagon Music and Arts Festival for prizes in the youth category of the poetry jam.
- **Carol Lee Saffioti-Hughes** for an art/poetry collaboration with the Spectrum Gallery in Racine.

I want to recognize **Fred Kreutz, Paula Schultz, Tom Davis, Constance Morgenstern** and **Thomas Erickson** for presenting at the WWA conference and for **Nancy Rafal** for coordinating this. WFOP received a \$300 donation for their efforts. Thanks to **Tori Grant Welhouse** and other volunteers at the Door County Winefest for donating their "pay" to WFOP (\$100) and to **Ed Werstein** for representing WFOP at the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English fall convention.

Because of our hard-working members and your membership dues, WFOP is able to support the Poet Laureate with \$500 annually and this year donate the same amount to Friends of Lorine Niedecker.

Some exciting changes and new projects are happening! The new WFOP online poetry journal has debuted and is open for submissions. Check our website for details. Thanks for the idea and execution goes to **Christina Kubasta** and **Tori Grant Welhouse**. We also have vibrant new membership brochures and posters available from regional vice-presidents and membership chair **Naomi Cochran** as a result of efforts by Naomi and Tori.

Richard Swanson and **Peg Lauber** were recognized with honorary lifetime membership at the fall conference in recognition of their years of service to WFOP.

The next conference in Milwaukee promises to be stellar. Mark Doty will speak and read at the conference and at a special post-conference reading on Saturday night. Mark your calendars for April 28 and 29, 2017, in Milwaukee.

As always, contact your regional VP or the officers if you have questions, comments, suggestions. I have a new email (wfoppres@gmail.com) and look forward to hearing from members. And we are looking for a new Poetry Page editor.

Write on, Wisconsin poets!
—JAN

Join WFOP at wfop.org

What's Happening in Your Region?

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

CENTRAL-FOX VALLEY

VP: Christina Kubasta, ckubasta@new.rr.com

Jean Biegun had poems in *Blue Heron Review* Summer and *Goose River Anthology* 2016.

Barbara Germiot's poem "A Trip Back Home" won the 2016 Mill Prize for poetry and "Caught at Being Old" was in *Creative Wisconsin Literary Journal*, October 2016.

Christina Kubasta's "Pantoum for Baltimore" appeared in *The Seventh Wave*; "The Covenant of Mouths" was in the August issue of *Tinderbox Poetry Journal*.

Wendy L. Schmidt's poem "The Fallen" appeared in *Eternal Remedy*; "Map Of You and Saints and Sinners" was published in *Rat's Ass Review*.

Paul Wiegel's poems appeared in the following: "Road Trip" in *Clementine Unbound*, October 2016; "Driving Behind Alex Orchowski's Combine" in *The English Journal*, Sept. 2016; "Ascend" in *riverbabble* 29.

EAST

VP: Ed Werstein, wersted@gmail.com

Poets Monday every Monday, Linneman's, 1001 E Locust St, Milwaukee. Open mike 8 PM. Featured reader 9 PM. See weekly Events e-mail for featured readers. \$3 cover.

A launch party for *Hear My Voice: Poems of the Unheard Girls From the House of Love*, edited by **Liz Rhodebeck**, was held Sept. 18, at Legacy Christian Church, Menomonee Falls. The collection is by teen girls in the foster care group homes run by the nonprofit House of Love Youth Homes, Inc. All proceeds from the book (\$10 ea.) benefit the organization. For info, email Liz@waterwriter.com.

Phyllis Wax and **Sylvia Cavanaugh** each had poems and art included in the show *ARTiculate: Passages* at the Intercontinental Hotel, Gallery M, on November 5.

Eileen Mattman has two poems in the 2016 *Ariel Anthology*.

Mark Zimmerman, David Southward, Lisa Vihos and **Ed Werstein** read at the Milwaukee School of Engineering October 17 as part of Zimmerman's class Is Poetry a Current Event?

WFOP members, including several from the East region, have poems on *Verse Virtual*, verse-virtual.com.

WFOP 2017 Spring Conference will be April 28 & 29 at the Park East Hotel, 916 E State St, Milwaukee (one block from Lake Michigan and a short walk from the Milwaukee Art Museum). More info at wfop.org.

Featured presenter: **Mark Doty**, the author of nine books of poetry, including *Deep Lane* (April 2015), *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems*, which won the 2008

National Book Award, and *My Alexandria*, winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the T.S. Eliot Prize in the UK. He is also the author of three memoirs: the New York Times bestselling *Dog Years*, *Firebird*, and *Heaven's Coast*, as well as a book about craft and criticism, *The Art of Description: World Into Word*. Doty has received two NEA fellowships, Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships, a Lila Wallace/Readers Digest Award, and the Witter Byner Prize. A Distinguished Professor at Rutgers University, he also teaches in NYU's low-residency MFA program in Paris.

MID-CENTRAL

VP: Jim Pollock, jimpollock@charter.net

Joan Wiese Johannes had poems published in *California Quarterly*, *Fox City Review*, and the anthology *Our Last Walk: Using Poetry to Grieve and Remember our Pets*.

Jeffrey Johannes has two poems in the 2016 *Ariel Anthology*.

Elmae Passineau, Wausau, has two poems, "Invisible Fences," and "Connections," in the 2016 *Ariel Anthology*.

Kurt Luchs had five poems accepted by the *Former People Journal*: "My Personal Doom," "Looking into a Face," "Medical Report," "The Germ of an Idea," and "Focus Group."

James Botsford was the featured poet at the Open Mic in Wausau October 20. For additional information and to be a featured reader, contact Kathy Serley at kserley@d.wave.net or Elmae Passineau at 715-845-2061.

Mike Kriesel recently judged the Science Fiction Poetry Association's 2016 contest. He was the featured reader at the Coloma Hotel's Original Voice reading series September 14. His review of *Impersonations*, **Mark Zimmermann's** poetry collection, appears in the fall issue of *Wisconsin People & Ideas*. His poem "Clark Kent's Vacation" appeared in *Rosebud* 61, "Feast" in *Star*Line* 39.3. "USS Haleakala" appears in *Right Hand Pointing* 103 and in *Viet Now*.

Victoria Lindsay's poem, "Our Olympics," is in the 2016 *Ariel Anthology*.

Kris Rued-Clark, Arpin, was a guest author of the annual Hidden Studios Tour-Art along the Ice Age Trail, with *Adventures on Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail, Day Hikes, Weekend Jaunts, and Family Vacations*, co-authored with **Sylvia Oberle**. A poem from the book, "October on the Ice Age Trail," was in *Avocet* 202. In September and October, Kris read from the book at Temple Beth Israel Synagogue Museum, Stevens Point; Portage County Library, Stevens Point; and Marathon County Public Library, Wausau.

NORTHEAST

VP: **Tori Grant Welhouse**, torigw@twc.com

Green Bay Poetry Reading: The Reader's Loft, Thursday, November 17, 5:30–7:30 PM, featuring **Kathryn Gahl** & **Sarah Gilbert**. houseofthetomato.com/poetry-events/

Woodland Pattern bookstore, Milwaukee, has named **Nancy Rafal** as a 2016 "36th Anniversary Gala Honoree."

NORTHWEST

VP: TBA

Peggy Trojan had poems in *Ariel Anthology*, and her poem "Maturity" won a Merit Award in the LOMP contest. She read at Second Sunday.

Nancy Takac's manuscript *The Worrier* won the 2016 Juniper Prize for Poetry and will be published in spring 2017 by the U. of Massachusetts Press.

Diana Randolph's book *Beacons of the Earth and Sky, Paintings and Poetry Inspired by the Natural World* (Savage Press) was featured in the August issue of The Barnes Blog under "Book Corner." She read a poem at the Forest Lodge Library open mike in Cable in September, and hosted and read at the Northwest region *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* reading at Art Market 63, Cable, in October.

Jude Genereaux read from a collection of new poems at the "Moveable Feast" reading in Ellison Bay in September. Jude hosted an Opening Reception at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Ephraim October 2, featuring paintings from Norbert Blei's eclectic watercolor works, and read his poetry. Northeast region poets **Sharon Auberle** and **Ralph Murre**, Door County's Poet Laureate, were guest readers at the reception, reading from Blei's work.

Jan Chronister's poems appeared in *Quiet Courage*, *Zoetic Press*, *Pure Slush*, *Rat's Ass Review*, and *Ariel Anthology*. She received an honorable mention and two awards of merit in the League of Minnesota Poets annual contest. Seven poets attended her four-week "Jumpstart Your Poetry" class held at WITC–Superior in October. She read at the 2017 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* publication party at ArtMarket 63.

Naomi Cochran, Hayward, read from her new collection *Fill in the Blank* at the Weiss Library in Hayward October 19 and at What Goes 'Round Books in Bayfield October 20. More info on her member page at wfop.org.

SOUTH CENTRAL

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

Pauquette WordCrafters meets at Portage Public Library 4th Wednesdays 9:30–11:30 AM. Writing Prompts at each meeting. Bring a poem or two, any style, to share.

PAMP (Portage Area Muses Project) meets 3rd Thursdays at Portage Public Library 6–8 PM to support

Poetry OutLoud Project. Bring original or favorite poetry for critique and/or recitation, or to listen and discuss poetry.

Robin Chapman had poems recently in *About Place Journal*, *Flyway*, and *Terrain.org*.

Catherine Jagoe's poem "Cillini" won the Joseph Gahagan Prize at the 2016 Milwaukee Irish Fest and her poetry book *Bloodroot* won the Settlement House American Poetry Prize and has been published by Settlement House Press. Catherine held a book launch party at **Robin Chapman's** house October 30.

James P. Roberts had two poems published in the Fall 2016 issue of *The August Derleth Society Newsletter*.

Shosauna Shy and **Angela Rydell** read at Mother Fool's Coffeehouse, Madison, August 5.

Kimberly A. Blanchette and **Cristina R. Norcross** read at the Voight Music Center, Janesville, September 1.

Andrea Potos and **Katrin Talbot** read at the Copper Rock Cafe in Appleton on September 14.

Steve and Jeanie Tomasko read at Mother Fool's Coffeehouse, Madison, September 23.

Sarah Sadie Busse read at the Tupelo Press 30/30 Project at Arts & Literature Lab, Madison, September 23.

Catherine Jagoe joined Jesse Lee Kercheval and Karen Kovacik in a Watershed Reading of poetry from two books of translations: *America invertida: An Anthology of Emerging Uruguayan Poets* and *Scattering the Dark: An Anthology of Polish Women Poets* on October 14.

Oscar Mireles was a featured speaker at the 2016 Lorine Niedecker Poetry Festival, Fort Atkinson, October 15.

Rita Mae Reese read at the Madison Central Branch Library during the Wisconsin Book Festival October 23.

Linda Voit read at the Caramel Crisp Cafe, Oshkosh, October 25.

Marilyn Taylor read at the THELMA Center for the Arts, Sheboygan, November 1, and will read from her new book, *Step on a Crack*, at Mystery to Me bookstore, Madison, November 22 at 7 pm.

Brent Christianson's poem "Reading Bly in the Waiting Room" appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* October 18.

F.J. Bergmann won second place in the 2016 SFPA Dwarf Stars Award. "Gender Tolerance" and "Shore" were in *Dreams and Nightmares* 104, "Not a Destination" in *Eye to the Telescope* 22, eyetothetelescope.org/archives/022issue.html, "How Far Does Night Have to Fall" in *Future Fire*, and "Supernatural Seduction" in *Twisted Moon*.

In the 2016 Woodrow Hall Top Shelf Awards, sponsored by Woodrow Hall Editions, Madison, an imprint of **Shosauna Shy's** Poetry Jumps Off the Shelf, the \$500 Grand Prize went to Emari DiGiorgio, Ventnor City, NJ. Alison Townsend, Stoughton, WI, took 2nd place

and \$300. Three \$100 finalists: Richard King Perkins II, Crystal Lake, IL; Amy MacLennan, Ashland, OR; and **Lisa Vihos**, Sheboygan, WI. This contest was for poems with prior publication or placing in other contests. Entries came from 27 U.S. states and 5 other countries. Read the winning poems at PoetryJumpsOfftheShelf.com

WEST CENTRAL

VP: Sandra Lindow, lindowleaf@gmail.com

Fall has been gentle in the Chippewa Valley. English Primroses are reblooming; poetry has been bountiful. This fall **Elise Gregory** and **Kate Maude** had a successful River Falls Lit Crawl, 5 groups of readers at four different venues beginning with 5th-grade students reading their poems, ending with an open mic. September 8, a celebration of the 2017 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* at the EC Public Library featured **Yvette Flaten, Linda Frank, Erna Kelly, Peg Lauber, Sandra Lindow, Karen Loeb, and Jeannie Roberts**. September 22, Lindow participated in an Autumn Equinox White Pine Celebration of poetry and music at Simply Dunn in Downsville. October 12, Lindow led an El Duende poetry workshop at Volume One, Eau Claire, as part of the Chippewa Valley Book Festival. October 14, the annual Nadine St. Louis Poetry Conversation featured Ron Wallace and **Rita Mae Reese**.

Laurel Devitt has a poem in *Concert for America* and one in Franciscan Spirituality Center's *Reflections from the Center*. In September **Phyllis Beckman's** poem "Family History" was included in Concert Across America at the Pump House in La Crosse. In October her poem "cracked minds" was read as dancers interpreted it at the show *Simple Gifts*, also at the Pump House. **David Blackey's** poem "On Course" appeared in *Avocet*, Fall 2016. Kelly's poem, "Curling Inward," Roberts' poems "Finding the Light" and "Shadow People," and Lindow's poems "Peregrine Heart" and "On Calling the Mover" appear in the 2016 *Ariel Anthology*. In October Kelly's poem, "The Late Life of Apples," appeared in *The Aurorean*, a Maine journal. October 1–9, those who drove the route for Sauk County's Fermentation Fest saw Kelly's poem "Legume Legacy" on Burma Shave-like signs.

Lindow's poem "Yolanda's Research" was published online in *Spirits Tincture*, November 2016.

The Writers' Group at the Library meets on first Thursdays, usually at 7 PM, in the Chippewa Room. During winter we may meet 2–4 PM. Contact **Sandra Lindow** at lindowleaf@gmail.com for more information.

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POETRY CRITIQUE GROUPS

Looking for a group to join? Contact your regional VP. If your group is open to new members, notify the *Museletter* editor.

Members' Pages on wfop.org

As part of your membership to Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, poets are entitled to a member's page on the website: **wfop.org/member-pages**

If you would like a Member's Page, please send the following to **wfopweb@gmail.com**:

- Contact info (address, email, website)—one or all, your preference
- Bio
- List of publications
- Sample poems—1 or 2
- Pictures—poet photo, any book or chapbook covers

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2017 Wisconsin Poets' Calendars still available!

Order extras for gifts now; see **wfop.org/poets-calendar/**

Past *Calendars* still available at impressive discounts!

Publications by Our Members

&s by C. Kubasta (Finishing Line Press, 2016) is available at Amazon.

Anno Domini by Ed Block (Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2016) is available from Wipf and Stock or from the author at greendalebrushandquill.com.

Fill in the Blank, 65 poems from the past ten years by Naomi Cochran (Just a Thought Press, 2016). 72 pages; \$12. Order at naomicochranpoetry.wordpress.com or the author's member page at wfop.org.

The Port Side of Shadows, a chapbook by Patricia Williams (Finishing Line Press, 2016). Order by mail or online at finishinglinepress.com. Click on "Bookstore." Patricia will donate \$3 for each book ordered before Dec. 16, divided between the Humane Society and WFOP.

Sheepshead, by Gary Busha (Wolfsong Publications, 2016). (Sheepshead are drum fish plentiful in Lake Winnebago.) Contains short poems/haikus, a variety of fish/boy subjects, and a couple of short fiction pieces. 26 pgs. Small-book format. \$5. gbusha@wi.rr.com.

Slow, a full-length collection by Richard Swanson (Fireweed Press, 2016), features two new departures for him as it includes narrative poems and a section of stand-up comedy pieces with offbeat persona narrators.

Step on a Crack, a chapbook by Marilyn L. Taylor (White Violet Press, 2016). Order from Marilyn at mlt@mltpoet.com, or from Amazon.com.

RULES FOR WFOP 2016 MUSE PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN POETRY CONTEST
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 1, 2017

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. The poem may not be a simultaneous submission and it may not have won a monetary award in any contest. Seventy-five line maximum. Send two copies of poem. Plagiarism disqualifies the contestant.
4. Manuscript must be typed on 8 ½" x 11" white paper, one side only. Writer's name should not appear on the page with the poem.
5. An entry fee of \$4.00 for WFOP members and \$8.00 for non-members must accompany the submission or may be paid online at wfop.org/store. Checks are to be made out to WFOP Literary Fund and mailed to WFOP/Muse/Jagielski, 572 Berwyn Drive, Fontana, WI 53125. Please send entry in #10 business-size envelope.
6. Prizes are: 1st place - \$200.00, 2nd - \$100.00, 3rd - \$75.00.
7. 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.
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 Muse Prize will be ineligible to enter for three years.
10. WFOP is not responsible for lost manuscripts. 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.

2017 MUSE PRIZE JUDGE: TBA

New WFOP Literary Journal

Bramble, the literary magazine of WFOP, is open for submissions. Each quarterly issue will have a different editor, theme, and guidelines, to be announced. For our inaugural issue, C. Kubasta will edit, and the theme is "beginnings," interpreted as broadly as you wish. The issue will go live in January 2017.

Please send 1-3 poems (any length and style) to bramble@wfop.org. Deadline December 10. You must be a WFOP member to submit to the first issue; do not submit more than once to this issue. Please put your last name and "Poetry Submission" in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include a cover letter, brief bio, and your poems. No attachments, please. No previously published poems; no simultaneous submissions.

Postal submissions (*only* if unable to email) to:

C. Kubasta
***Bramble* submission**
2312 Oregon St
Oshkosh WI 54902

More info at wfop.org/bramble-lit-mag/
Poems must be received by December 10.

2018 Wisconsin Poets Calendar Call For Submissions

Submissions are open until **December 1, 2016**. Poems arriving after 11:59 PM on December 1 will not be considered.

Advice from the past: shorter poems have a better chance of getting in. We want to include as many poems as possible. Strict 30-line limit, including stanza breaks. Lines longer than 60 characters count as 2 lines.

Seasonal works have a slight advantage; accessible poems as well: remember, the audience is not just other poets but the general public. That said, we have no specific theme but encourage you to send "your best stuff."

Submissions are open to all with a Wisconsin connection, but strong preference will be given to those who are year-round (or almost year-round) residents.

Send no more than three poems; previously published is OK, but credit first publisher and include year of publication. E-mail 1-3 poems, a bio of 30 words max and your postal address in one .doc (no .pdfs) to 2018wfoppoetscalendar@gmail.com

Put "[last name] [first name] sub" in the subject line.

Thank you and good luck to all.

Editors: Richard Swanson and Ed Werstein

ENTRY FORM FOR THE 2017 MUSE PRIZE
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2017 (postmark)

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____ E-Mail _____

City, State, Zip _____

Poem Title: _____

First Line: _____

If my poem wins, I agree to have it published in the Museletter ___yes ___no

I am a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older. The poem I am submitting is my own original unpublished work, is not under consideration elsewhere at this time, nor has it won a monetary award in any contest.

Signature _____ Date _____

Entry Fee Enclosed: Current WFOP Member - \$4.00 _____ Non-member - \$8.00 _____

Make Check Payable to: WFOP Literary Fund, or _____ (check here if paid online at wfop.org/store)

Mail Entry to: **WFOP/Muse/Jagielski**
572 Berwyn Drive
Fontana, WI 53125-1556

General Announcements

Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS SINCE SUMMER 2016 ISSUE

Gary Banker, Superior
Shelby Boone, Elk Mound
Gary Haren, Appleton
Katherine Hutchinson, Palatine IL
Nanci McAtee, Madison
Melanie Meyer, Middleton
Thomas Moder, Milwaukee
William Schrub, Wausau
Write On Door County, Fish Creek

The *Museletter* used to frequently publish essays and columns on poetry craft, publishing and poetics. We want to revive the custom, and look forward to your poetry-related articles for future issues! Send to **wfopmuseletter@gmail.com**

Are you on Facebook?

Like WFOP's page: **facebook.com/wfopoets**
Join the WFOP public group:
facebook.com/groups/1088414487891479/

A clarification for *Museletter* submissions

Send news either to your regional VP or directly to **wfopmuseletter@gmail.com** (be sure to include region). Please send in the body of an e-mail; format as in *Museletter*; don't send .pdfs or press releases. Poetry news only; please send only publications, not acceptances; don't bother including WFOP awards or *Calendar* appearances, which are made available to all members. *Please* don't double-space after periods.

FROM THE ARCHIVIST

Please send WFOP correspondence, photos, conference/workshop programs/handouts, regional memorabilia, personal mementos, etc. Returnable; postage reimbursed!

Lewis Bosworth, WFOP Archivist
2829 Barlow St, Madison WI 53705-3621
lewisbosworth@gmail.com ~ 608-238-3648

WISCONSIN FELLOWSHIP OF POETS 2016 CHAPBOOK PRIZE CONTEST RULES

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

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 the contest year. A contestant does not need to be a member of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets.
2. The contest opens December 1, 2016. The entry form must be completed in full, included with the submission and entry fee, and postmarked by the contest DEADLINE, which is February 1, 2017.
3. Chapbooks published in 2016 may be entered by the author or the publisher, 16–47 pages. Chapbooks may be self-published. Print only; online and e-book chapbooks do not qualify.
4. The non-refundable entry fee is \$10 per chapbook. Mail chapbook, entry form, and check (made out to WFOP Literary Fund) to:
Steve & Jeanie Tomasko
6725 Century Ave
Middleton WI 53562
5. The prizes are: First Place—\$100.00; and Second Place—\$50.00. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the contest judge determines that an entry warrants a prize.
6. The contest will be judged by a writing professional who resides outside the state. This year's judge will be **Amy Lemmon**, of New York; see her bio at wfop.org/chapbook-contest-judge.
7. Only the winners will be notified prior to the Spring Conference in April. First Place and Second Place winners are invited to the awards luncheon as guests of WFOP. Winners will be posted in the WFOP *Museletter* and at wfop.org.
8. The First Place winner of the WFOP Chapbook Prize will be ineligible to enter that contest again for three years. Plagiarism disqualifies the contestant.
9. The WFOP is not responsible for lost books. 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.
10. Author retains all rights to his/her work.
11. Address questions to Steve Tomasko: stevetomasko2@gmail.com

About Your Membership

Renewal payments are due **December 31st** each year. Your membership expires at the end of the year on your *Museletter* mailing label. To receive reminders, make sure we have your current e-mail address.

NB: *If you allow your membership to lapse, then renew without paying dues for the intervening time, you will be entered as a new member. Continuous membership is required for service awards.*

If you winter or summer elsewhere, mail must be sent first class to forward. We are charged for returned bulk mail. Signing up for e-mail-only *Museletter* (.pdf to download or read online) saves WFOP \$ and arrives 2 weeks before the print *Museletter*. Notify wfopmuseletter@gmail.com to opt out of print delivery.

The Events weekly e-mailing is a separate, opt-in list; to receive it, notify wfopmuseletter@gmail.com.

DO NOT send social media invites (e.g., LinkedIn, FB) to the *Museletter* editor; they will be ignored.

Send all address changes or *Museletter* delivery inquiries to wfopmuseletter@gmail.com.

Send membership inquiries to Naomi Cochran, Membership Chair, wfopmembership@gmail.com or W1598 Lee Rd, Hayward WI 54843

**WISCONSIN FELLOWSHIP OF POETS
2017 CHAPBOOK PRIZE CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

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.

Signature _____ Date _____

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

Enclose published chapbook, entry form and fee (\$10 per chapbook; make check payable to "WFOP Literary Fund").

Mail entry to: **Steve Tomasko**
6725 Century Ave
Middleton WI 53562

DEADLINE (postmarked by): February 1, 2017.

Membership Renewal Form KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT.

Renewals are due by January 1. Expiration year follows your name on the mailing label. Dues **MUST** be current to enter WFOP contests, be in the *Museletter*, and to have a page on wfop.org. Contact the *Museletter* Editor if you are not sure when your membership expires.

SAVE POSTAGE and renew or join online at wfop.org
or mail to: Colleen Frentzel, 1410 N Wuthering Hills Dr, Janesville WI 53546
Please make checks payable to: WFOP

Active \$30.00
Student \$15.00
***** 5 for 4 Deal *****
\$120 paid now will give
5 years of membership
for the price of 4! Save \$30!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip+4 _____

E-mail address _____

Willing to help WFOP save \$?
 Check to get *Museletter* via e-mail.

2016 TRIAD Awards

Angela Sorby, winner of the Felix Pollak Prize, the John Fiske Poetry Prize, University of Chicago Brittingham Prize in Poetry, and the Lorine Niedecker Award, judged the 39 entries in the Kay Saunders Memorial New Poet Award Contest. Sorby was born in Seattle and teaches at Marquette.

<i>1st Place</i>	Bobbie Lovell for “Customer Lounge”
<i>2nd Place</i>	Karen Middleton for “On a Gray Pebble from Lake Michigan”
<i>3rd place</i>	Kate Franzmann for “On the Phone with the Dispatcher”
<i>Honorable Mention</i>	Kathleen Phillips for “Afterwards”

The judge for the Theme category was Matthew Siegel, winner of the Felix Pollack Prize and a former Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford. He now teaches literature and writing at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. There were 93 entries for the theme “Birds, Bees, and/or ‘The Birds and the Bees’”.

<i>1st place</i>	Roseann St. Aubin for “Crows”
<i>2nd place</i>	Bobbie Lovell for “Birds and Bees”
<i>3rd place</i>	Maryann Hurtt for “Launch Party”
<i>Honorable Mention</i>	Sandra Lindow for “Knees”
	Richard Swanson for “Cowbirds”
	Guy Thorvaldsen for “The Problem with the Birds and the Bees.”

There were 98 entries in the Poets’ Choice contest, which was judged by Joanne Diaz. Diaz is the author of *My Favorite Tyrants*, which won the 2014 Brittingham Prize, and *The Lessons*, from Silverfish Review Press. She is the co-editor of *The Little Magazine of Contemporary America* and teaches at Illinois Wesleyan University.

<i>1st Place</i>	Martha Kaplan for “City of Light”
<i>2nd Place</i>	Karen Middleton for “A Summer Day in Texas—To My Sister”
<i>3rd place</i>	Laurel Devitt for “Yesterday”
<i>Honorable Mention</i>	Georgia Ressemeyer for “An American History”
	Ed Werstein for “Somewhen”
	Thomas Erickson for “The Weave”

ENVY THE SEA LIONS

Some nights, I cannot sleep. I’ve no idea why
strange sheep leap and run so fast I can’t think
much less count. Fleece bright white in the sun
behind my closed eyes desperate to drift off and
dive deep in fathomless dreams heavy as stones
to carry me deeper. The sheep leap less
and start counting us, and they seem more alive
lying in the long grass counting more than
me. Desperate to drift dreaming at sea
on my back like satisfied sea lions.

—T. A. Cullen, Madison

OLD WASHINGTON PARK ZOO

As a child at home I used to wonder why
I could not hear the lions. I had to think
they prowled about in moonlight and sun
shade, searching for their prey and
hiding within the walls and behind stones.
The life here in the zoo fulfilled them less.
Instead of looking at strangers, they craved to be alive
in wilderness with those more like themselves than
caged here in the city across the sea
lonely and quiet, unlike real roaring lions.

—Julia Rice, Milwaukee

Poems ^{BY} Our Membership

—JEANIE TOMASKO, EDITOR

*The prompt was to construct a 10-line golden-shovel poem; i.e., every line ends or breaks on a word (in order), from this:
“Why think sun and stones less alive than sea lions” ... —Mark Doty, “Robinson Jeffers”*

THE ADLER BROTHERS GO WEST TO FIND THEIR FORTUNE IN ALASKA

They sang so long to New York City despite the why
their mother formed around her lips, a think
before you leave me melody, the sun
sets here refrain. (They didn't listen.) And
sure, the crazy boys would miss her, digging for stones,
a hardscrabble life worth nothing except drink, less
money than madness, snowbound, barely alive,
more Russian than American, more faithless than
true, not what her family, pioneers, nervously crested the sea
in a packed ship for, bound for glory, stately as lions.

—Ronnie Hess, Madison

GOD SMACKED

Why do creationists sipping their coffee
think creation could be easy as bakery,
sun and stars molded like dough, dropped
and fired like bagels of enlightenment,
stones with dinosaur bones buried for mystery,
less celestial effort than breakfast, everything
alive, bacteria and bison, designed more perfect
than any dazzle of dizzying happenstance,
sea and sky separate, as blankets and sheets
lions and lambs predestined by teeth?

—Sandy Lindow, Menomonie

LIONS POUNCE

Lions pounce. I don't ask why
Sea urchins cling, I think
Than why compare? Sun
Alive, beams until we blink, and
Less required of silent stones
Stones know this, more or less
And thinking proves we are alive
Sun shines as though to stress more than
Think deep thoughts of sea
Why urchins? Pounce on, lions

—Phyllis Beckman, Onalaska

LIVING STONES

The August full moon shook me awake and asked me why
I was sleeping through this life. I think
She wanted me to feel the flowing winds, pulsing sun,
and dancing rain; to see how they shaped earthen clay and
ancient sediments to form craggy cliffs and carved canyons. Stones,
rocks, boulders—aggregated from tiny minerals, every speck no less
than elemental building blocks. Abundantly alive
with history and presence; no less significant than
the stardust shaping constellations in the heavenly sea,
birthing us and a blue-hearted Leo, the most luminous of all lions.

—Chris Daleiden, Fond du Lac

REFLECTION

Sometimes I wonder why
People overlook beauty; I think
Of a warm midsummer sun
That spotlights a quiet place and
Warms irregular gray stones
Around a woodland pool—less
Obvious, but more alive
With curious ants and bugs than
A swimming pool with plastic sea
Toys, rowdy as roaring lions.

—Marion H. Youngquist, Brookfield

O MY

An EEG would have revealed why
I would possibly think
that I could trek for days in blistering sun,
follow an outdated map of Namibia, and
rely on an occasional cairn of stones
to direct my travels, much less
come out at the appointed destination alive.
I am sitting, this time, on a pile of stones, rather than
studying them, my undersized brain soon either to be lost at sea
or my tired bones digested by hankering lions.

—Judy Kolosso, Slinger

A DESERT OF STONE

Don't ask me why
I sit, think-
ing in the blazing heat of the sun.
The rattler sleeps, drowsy and
lethargic. Stones
shine like opals, no less
valued gems. We are alive,
each winged insect more precious than
the entire Persian sea—
a gecko scuttling in the dust tantamount to a pride of lions.

—Susan Twiggs, *Marshfield*

MARKING TIME IN SAN FRANCISCO

I stood beside the Bay and wondered why
the tourists, driving down from Tahoe, think
it worth the trouble, just to see the sun
come up over Alcatraz. They stop and
stare at old cable cars that grind the stones
of Powell street; they couldn't care less
who teaches the addicts how to stay alive.
They walk on down the Wharf, less conscious than
the gulls that weave above the running sea,
more dense than Chinatown's plaster lions.

—Ed Block, *Greendale*

SAFARI

We didn't have to ask ourselves *why*
we wanted to go out into space. Just think:
how could we be content with one small sun,
knowing that an unending savannah of light (and,
it must be said, near-empty darkness; dead stones,
cold gases, and dust) is out there? Though less
likely, what we are made from lets us be alive:
whatever form of matter terms itself other than
dark; physical wonders afloat in a vast sea
of universes, where we track invisible lions.

—F.J. Bergmann, *Poynette*

WHO DO WE THINK WE ARE?

We wake up now and then to wonder why,
and revel in the thought we are because we think.
We forget to give our thanks each day to dirt, to sun.
We fear our loss; all those things that end in fits and
starts, life itself, our work, our loves, and rolling stones
that always tumble clean. Who knows more and who knows less
of all these truths we don't possess? The gift, to be alive.
We think we know it all and think we're more than
all the rest. But fools, beware. We are nowhere deep as sea
or strong as moss. Not one of us has sat in peace with lions.

—Lisa Vihos, *Sheboygan*

POET

Spirit she is, and I do not ask why,
for her art rises above the need to think.
The breaking of a cloud reveals a ray of sun,
steady in its beam toward earth and
I do not ask whether it caresses mountain or mere stones.
It is enough, I say, that beauty and grace are of no less
importance than food and water in keeping us alive.
Is the Spirit of a human subject to greater scrutiny than
the essence of beings that inhabit the air or sea?
Or must words paw, frantic like the claws of lions?

—June Nirschl, *Baileys Harbor*

NOTHING IMPORTANT DEADLINE JANUARY 15

Write a poem in response to the prompt
“*Nothing important happened today except ...*”
Limit 15 lines. Do not put prompt in poem.

Send to: wfoppres@gmail.com

Or snailmail to: **Jan Chronister**
3931 S County Rd O
Maple, WI 54854

WHY THINK

I am among those who have quit asking why
there are so many people unable to think
still believing that the sun
revolves around the earth and
divine a future by rolling bones and stones

It does not matter why they have settled for less
I am glad I am still alive
and able to continue to seek more knowledge than
a slithery something that swims in the sea
that washes ashore to be eaten by lions

—John Patrick Redell, *Sister Bay*

QUESTIONING THE MOON

I ask the loyal, ever-steady moon why
she remains in her orbit. *Do you ever think
to book a vacation, circle closer to the sun
to warm up, to feel something new, and
might you toss your one-of-a-kind stones
out to the stars, or to far galaxies, no less?
Go orbitless, I suggest. How alive
and unstrunged you'd be, traveling more than
you've ever done before. Go, see unimagined seas.
Roam space free as a wild lion.*

—Linda Aschbrenner, *Marshfield*

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