

# LOMP*lighter*

A Quarterly Publication of the League of Minnesota Poets

December 2017

## about us >>>

League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP), organized in 1934, holds biannual meetings, supports regional chapters in Minnesota, and publishes the *Moccasin* poem anthology. [www.mnpoets.com](http://www.mnpoets.com)

Advertising Rates:  
Fees for an 2.5" x 5" ad are \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members. There can be no more than 8 ads per edition.

## membership >>>

Annual membership fee: \$20 (\$10 for K-12 students)  
Membership includes the quarterly newsletter, *LOMPLighter*, National Federation of State Poetry Societies membership, and the NFSPS annual publication, *Strophes*.

Mail fees to LOMP Treasurer Mary Schmidt  
4921 33rd Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55417

## chapters >>>

Heartland Poets ... Brainerd Lakes

Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers ..... Twin Cities

Southeastern Minnesota Poets ..... Rochester

Southern Minnesota Poets Society ..... Mankato

Grand View Poets ..... St. Cloud/Sartell

Cracked Walnut ..... Twin Cities

## 19th Annual

### BLIZZARD WRITERS POETRY RETREAT

Join us Thursday, January 25, midafternoon, through Sunday, January 28, 2018. (Or who knows how long if we get snowed in!) Single day participation welcome as well.

**WHERE:** At the home of Sue Chambers and Henry Panowitsch, located on 10 wooded acres next to the Big Cobb River, 10 miles south of Mankato, MN. There are many bedrooms in the main house. There are fireplaces to curl up in front of, a full library so we can consult the authorities, and good places to hike, ski or skate.

**WHO:** You! This retreat is for all who are interested in poetry.

**LOGISTICS:** Bring food to share and a poetry program that is at least 30 minutes in length. The program can be anything that tickles your fancy—physical activity that will stimulate writing; a writing workshop; a favorite author; a new form; a lecture; a special taped program that you want to lead a discussion on...the possibilities are endless. Joint programs are also permissible. Please contact Sue Chambers at least 3 weeks in advance so that beds and food options can be coordinated. (507)278-4200 or [schambersmediator@yahoo.com](mailto:schambersmediator@yahoo.com)

### DIRECTIONS TO BLIZZARD POETRY RETREAT

You'll need to find County Road 16 where it becomes 169th Street.

- If heading south on Highway 22 from Mankato, go 7 or 8 miles, then watch for a little white church on the right—about a half-mile further and turn west (right) onto County Road 16 (AKA 169th Street).
- If heading south on County Road 16 from Mankato, cross two rivers, the Le Sueur and the Big Cobb.
- If coming from Mapleton, head north on Highway 22, go 6 miles (through Beauford) and turn west on County Road 16.

Continue to the second gravel road on your left, a T-intersection where you'll turn south (left) onto 574th Avenue, follow it for almost a mile, then turn right onto 166th Lane. Notice the "dead end" sign. It is the first house on the right; look for the large garage and brown house. If you go down the hill on the minimum maintenance road, you have gone too far.

## Leadership Report >>>



This time of year is a time of reflection and appreciation. It is also a time many spend with families. Family can take on many different forms. I am greatly thankful to all of the members of the League of Minnesota Poets. While writing itself is often an individual effort, for me, having a family of poets has been vital to me as a poet. Hearing others read their poems, the exercises and programs others give, or feedback on one of my poems, have all been instrumental in how I write and understand poetry. The Blizzard Writing Retreat is something I look forward to every year. It's a weekend that allows me to connect to other poets in all those ways. So thanks to all you in being a part of League that has been an important part in my writing, and many others.

The League of Minnesota Poets is an organization that is run entirely by volunteers. We rely on so many members to keep the organization thriving and vibrant. From the board member, the chapter presidents that keep poetry groups and events alive and well in their areas of the state, to all those who have helped put on the conferences. We can only do these activities with the help and dedication of our members. Its great to have such members that are willing to step up and help out, even without being asked. And of course, the more people that help out, the more we can accomplish as well. If you would like to get more involved, we do have some specific areas where we could use some more volunteers. You will notice that we have a section in the newsletter calling for volunteers in specific areas. Please email myself or Amanda at the email listed and let us know if you'd like to help out.

Sincerely,  
Peter Stein  
President of the League of Minnesota Poets

## Our Achievements >>>

Lee Landau has work appearing in *Reed* 150th Anniversary issue published by New Millennium Writings, the Spring/Summer 2017 edition of *Common Ground Review*, *Crosswinds Poetry Journal*, *Literary Orphans*, *Modern Poetry Quarterly Review*, and *Cease, Cows*.

*Martin Lake Journal* 2017 will publish three of Donna Isaac's poems; one of her poems will be included in the Winter 2018 edition of the on-line journal *Shark Reef*; and another will be published in the Sprint 2018 edition of *Crosswinds Poetry Journal*.

## 2018 NFSPS CONVENTION

Save the date: The Columbine Poets of Colorado will host the convention May 31-June 4 in Denver, Colorado, at the Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel, 3801 Quebec St. The deadline for hotel reservations is May 10, 2018. Single and double rooms are \$119 per night. The hotel allows for easy access to the Denver Zoo, the Denver Art Museum, and the Downtown Aquarium.



Convention details and online registration are available at:  
[www.columbinepoetsofcolorado.com/2018-nfsp-convention](http://www.columbinepoetsofcolorado.com/2018-nfsp-convention)

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

**LOMP needs you!** If you live in or near the Twin Cities, could you spend 4-5 hours each quarter helping with membership and LOMPlighter mailings? Schedules are extremely flexible.

Assistance is also needed for event planning and logistics; marketing and publicity; and with the LOMP Annual Contest.

#### Great Benefits include:

- undying appreciation from your fellow LOMP members
- working with the phenomenal Mary Schmidt and other board members (like the one writing this ad)
- and maybe an occasional pizza

If you are interested in supporting LOMP with your time, please email the membership chair, Amanda Bailey, at [scienceheckler@aol.com](mailto:scienceheckler@aol.com)



## About LOMP

### *officers* >>>

**PRESIDENT:** Peter Stein  
pwilliamstein@yahoo.com

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
Amanda Bailey  
scienceheckler@aol.com

**SECRETARY:**  
David Stein  
hennepindave@gmail.com

**TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP:**  
Mary Schmidt  
marylschmidt2014@gmail.com

**ASSISTANT TREASURER:**  
Susan Stevens Chambers  
(507) 278-4200  
schambersmediator@yahoo.com

**PAST PRESIDENT:**  
Dennis Herschbach

### *appointments* >>>

**LOMP Poet Laureate:**  
Doris Stengel

**MOCCASIN EDITOR:**  
Meredith R. Cook

**HISTORIAN:**  
Shirley Poliquin

**LOMPLIGHTER EDITOR:**  
Joe Anderson

**PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN:**  
SuzAnne Wipperling

**YOUTH CHAIRMAN:**  
Brendan Brophy

## LOMP membership

Your membership in the League of Minnesota Poets has these benefits:

- You may publish your work in our annual poetry magazine, *The Moccasin*.
- Membership in the NFSPS (National Federation of State Poetry Societies)
- *LOMPlighter*, our quarterly newsletter
- Reduced rates to attend the spring and fall LOMP conferences
- An invitation to participate in our two annual poetry retreats (winter and summer)
- Reduced rates for entering the LOMP and NFSPS annual contests
- Opportunities to meet and share work with other poets
- Access to members-only portions of our website including our online poetry forum)
- Opportunity to sell your books at meetings and online

To pay online via PayPal, visit [www.mnpoets.com](http://www.mnpoets.com), click the white "Join" button, then click the "Pay membership online here" link. Then pay with your PayPal account or use a credit/debit card. Your payment will be processed securely by PayPal.

## 33RD ANNUAL LOMP CONTEST WINNERS

Claire Van Breemen Downes Memorial	1) Wendy Brown-Baez, Columbia Heights MN; 2) Laurel Smith, Cottage Grove MN; 3) Christina Flaughter, Mapleton MN
Stevens Family Award	1) Kolette Montague, Centerville UT; 2) Annette Gagliardi; 3) Jennifer Jesseph, Pine Island MN
Cracked Walnut Award	1) Micki Blenkush, St Cloud MN 2) Siham Karami, Orlando FL 3) Annette Gagliardi, Minneapolis MN
Blizzard Writers Award	1) Susan McMillan, Rochester MN; 2) Patricia Barnes, Wyanotte MN; 3) Nick Sweet, Shepherd TX
Woodtick Poets Award	1) Alice Duggan, St Paul MN; 2) Rose Ann Spaith, Columbus OH; 3) Judith Feenstra, Maple Lake MN
So MN Poets Society Award	1) Davi Walders, Chevy Chase MD; 2) Sue Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder MN; 3) Alan Perry, Eden Prairie MN
Grand View Award	1) Ellen Lager, Robbinsdale MN; 2) Laura Hansen, Little Falls MN; 3) Micki Blenkush, St Cloud MN
Lilian Osborn Memorial Award	1) Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN; 2) Mary Robinson-Jamison, St Paul MN; 3) LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair OK
John & Helen Pappas Memorial Award	1) Nancy Cook, St Paul MN; 2) Kolette Montague, Centerville UT; 3) Ellen Lager, Robbinsdale MN
Florence Hynes Willette Memorial Award	1) Alice Duggan, St Paul MN; 2) Rose Ann Spaith, Columbus OH; 3) Judith Feenstra, Maple Lake MN
Musica Award	1) Susan McMillan, Rochester MN; 2) Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL; 3) Jennifer Hernandez, New Hope MN
Janelle Hawkridge Memorial Award	1) Dr. Emory Jones, luka MS; 2) Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder MN; 3) Micki Blenkush, St Cloud MN
SE MN Poets Award	1) Steven Vogel, Rochester MN; 2) Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte MI; 3) Lucille Morgan Wilson IA
You Go, Brophy! Award	1) Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN; 2) Kolette Montague, Centerville UT; 3) Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA
Lost in Translation Award	1) Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN; 2) Mimi Jennings, St Paul MN; 3) Nancy Cook, St Paul MN
Stepping Off the Cliff Award	1) Tricia Knoll, Portland OR; 2) LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair OK; 3) Ruben Rivera, Minneapolis MN
Poets Potluck Award	1) Ruth Hill, Chetwynd BC; 2) Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder MN; 3) Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN
Bring Back the Prairies Award	1) Sara Gipson, Scott AR; 2) Christina Flaughter, Mapleton MN; 3) Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA
Minnesota Pen Women Award	1) Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA; 2) Robert La Fleur, Ponsford MN; 3) Beth Spencer, Eden Prairie MN
Poem by Post Award	1) Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN; 2) Margaret Anderegg, Odessa TX; 3) Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte MI
Mississippi Valley Poets Award	1) Barbara Blanks, Garland TX; 2) Christina Flaughter, Mapleton MN; 3) Evan Guilford-Blake, Stone Mountain GA
Let Love Show	1) Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN; 2) Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London ON; 3) Micki Blenkush, St Cloud MN

# MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## Poetry Contests

### NFSPS COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE COMPETITION

Undergraduates currently working toward a degree in an accredited U.S. college or university are encouraged to submit a manuscript of ten unpublished poems to compete for two \$500 prizes.

To enter, upload your manuscript file between December 1 and midnight Pacific Standard Time, January 31, 2018, via [nfspssubmittable.com/submit](http://nfspssubmittable.com/submit) (the site will not allow uploads outside of the submission period). See [www.nfspss.com/CUP.html](http://www.nfspss.com/CUP.html) for more information.

### CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

Mississippi Poetry Society Spring contest entries are due March 1, 2018. For more information, visit [www.misspoetry.net/contests.html](http://www.misspoetry.net/contests.html)

Pennsylvania Poetry Society contest entries are due January 15, 2018. More information is available at [www.nfspss.com/pa/PPS-Competitions.html](http://www.nfspss.com/pa/PPS-Competitions.html)

Utah State Poetry Society's 2018 contest allows entries from December 1 until February 1, 2018. [www.utahpoets.com/contests/contests.html](http://www.utahpoets.com/contests/contests.html)

### ZUMBROTA CROSSINGS CALL FOR POETRY

Zumbrota Crossings is seeking poetry for the 17th Annual Poet Artist Collaboration exhibit. The deadline is Wednesday, January 10, 2018, and the exhibit will run from March 26-April 26, 2018 in the gallery at Crossings (320 East Ave, Zumbrota, MN). All are welcome to attend the poet/artist reading and reception at the theatre next to Crossings on Saturday, April 21, 6:30pm. [crossingsatcarnegie.com/exhibit\\_html/PACXVII.html](http://crossingsatcarnegie.com/exhibit_html/PACXVII.html)

### INTO THE VOID MAGAZINE

A poetry contest by *Into the Void* magazine, a print and digital literary magazine, is accepting unpublished entries (via Submittable) until midnight EST, December 31. There are no restrictions on style or genre, but poems must not exceed 60 lines. Details available at [intothevoidmagazine.com/into-the-void-poetry-competition-2017](http://intothevoidmagazine.com/into-the-void-poetry-competition-2017)

Monday, December 4, 7:00pm—  
Celebrate the **90th birthday of the late poet James Wright** with Jonathan Blunk, Elmer L Anderson Library Room 120, 222 21st Ave S, Minneapolis

Friday, December 8, 6:00pm—  
**Heartland Poets** monthly meeting, Brainerd Public Library, 416 S Fifth St, Brainerd

Saturday, December 9, 1:00pm—  
Donna Isaac teaches **Seeing and Writing the World**, focusing on writerly vision, image creation and figurative language, The Loft at Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave S, Minneapolis

Saturday, December 9, 12:30pm—  
**Southern MN Poets** monthly meeting, Emy Frentz Art Guild, 523 S 2nd St, Mankato

Thursday, December 14, 7:00pm—  
**Writers Read with Donna Isaac**, Coffee Shop Northeast, 2852A Johnson St NE, Minneapolis

Friday, January 12, 7:00pm—  
**Reading with poet Jennifer Kwon Dobbs**, The Loft at Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave S, Minneapolis

Monday, January 22, 2:00pm—  
**Poet's Roundtable** sponsored by Southeast MN Poets, contact [poets.semn@gmail.com](mailto:poets.semn@gmail.com) to register.



Looking for a place to send your poems? Consider submitting to Err. Formed in 2014 by a group of friends who wanted to make a space where good art met good vibes, Err is a Twin Cities artist collective focused on turning emerging artists into up-and-coming artists. They throw art-filled parties and make party-filled art. Their monthly events and handmade zines feature local artists of all mediums. Each month there is an open call for submissions. Email [errmpls@gmail.com](mailto:errmpls@gmail.com) with questions or visit [www.ErrArtistCollective.com](http://www.ErrArtistCollective.com) for more information or to submit your work for a future event.

# LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ANNUAL DUES: Adults \$20.00, Students (K-12) \$10.00. Dues are payable in January of each year.

The League's fiscal year begins January 1st and ends December 31st. To receive all membership advantages, please pay promptly. Dues cover basic operating expenses. All League officers are volunteers who donate their time to the organization.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:** League of Minnesota Poets dues entitle you to full participation in all League events and automatically make you a member in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. Events include state and national poetry contests, conventions, and annual workshops. Also included are state and national newsletters, as well as the opportunity to publish your poetry in our nationally distributed annual publication, *The Moccasin*.

The League of Minnesota Poets promotes poetry at local, state, and national levels. We sponsor annual student contests and participate in the national Manningham student poetry awards.

Members who plan to enter poetry in the national contest need to pay their dues by January 1st of each year in order to participate at the member rate. Those joining after that date must pay the non-member rate to participate in that contest.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Make checks payable to LOMP and mail to:

Mary Schmidt  
4921 33rd Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55417

For more information about our organization, visit our website at [mnpoets.org](http://mnpoets.org)

Would you, or someone you know, like to advertise a service, chapbook, or published work? LOMP members may place a 2.5" x 5" ad in the *LOMPlighter*

for \$25; non-members pay \$35. Ads for the next issue are due 10 days before publication.

Email ad copy and/or graphics\* to [joellyn.anderson@outlook.com](mailto:joellyn.anderson@outlook.com). Mail payment to Mary Schmidt, 4921 33rd Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55417.

\*Graphics should be at least 1500 pixels wide; preferably in png or eps format.