

LOMP *lighter*

March 2021

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

MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fee:
\$25 (\$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
PO Box 17344
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

Story Portage Poets Ely

Duluth Poets Duluth

UNMUTE! LOMP SPRING CONFERENCE APRIL 23-25

Reconnect to poets and poetry via this online conference. Formal presentations will be via Zoom, while socializing and interactive creativity will be via GatherTown.

FRIDAY, April 23

6:00pm	LOMP Board Meeting
7:00pm	Social Hour
8:00pm	Poetry Open Mic

SATURDAY, April 24

10:00am	Workshop
11:00am	LOMP Member Meeting
12:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm	Workshop
2:00pm	Poetry Activities & Social Hour
3:00pm	Workshop
5:00pm	Book Sale
6:00pm	Dinner Break/Optional Social Hour
7:00pm	Open Mic
9:00pm	Poetry Activities & Social Hour

SUNDAY, April 25

1:00pm	Poetry Critique Session
3:00pm	Celebration of Poetic Collaboration

Wanted: Books to showcase at our Book Sale on Saturday. If you'd like your publication included, please email Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com with the book title, an image of the cover, and a website where the book can be purchased.

KEY DATES

March 14, 2021

Daylight Savings Time begins

April 21, 2021

Registration deadline for Spring Conference

April 23-25, 2021

LOMP Spring Conference

LeadershipREPORT

As we approach spring, we look forward not only to warm weather, but the possibility to begin spending more time with one another. This winter has been tough on us all for many and varied reasons. Spring in Minnesota has always been a time of new life and renewal but spring this year will smell especially like hope. We have been continuing our Pandemic Penpal Poetry Project and the Pandemic poetry prompts by email. Poets and Pints has continued its monthly readings and are available on Zoom. We have some exciting new projects in the work by our members. The Southeastern Minnesota Poets put on a Bright Lights, Stories in the Night poetry competition for the Rochester area. As part of the project, they had artists respond to the selected poems and created a digital chapbook to read. You can find a link to their e-book on our website. The seeds have also been planted for an online poetry journal called *Paper, Rock, Poem*, which will be sprouting sometime this summer so keep your eyes out for more details as they bloom.



And this spring we are trying out a new way to connect through technology. We'll be setting up GatherTown for our League Spring Conference. This will allow us to engage in more conversation as well as engaging writing activities during the conference. You will be able to walk around the 2D conference hall, check out booths featuring our members books, and interact with others in small group video chat. While we cannot wait to see you all again in person, we look forward to seeing your faces virtually.

Sincerely,

Peter Stein

President, League of Minnesota Poets

LOMP CHAPTER NOTES

Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers will meet via Zoom on Saturday, March 20 at 1pm. RSVP to annette.gagliardi@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/groups/356196838817845

The Duluth Poetry Chapter meets every Sunday at 1:00pm via Zoom
www.facebook.com/duluthpoetrychapter/

The Southern Minnesota Poets' Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/southernmnpoets/

Poets & Pints YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCrqqVoVHBtgE87WFOaRqjA

Please visit our member's websites to give them support.

LOMP Member	Website
Micki Blenkush	mickiblenkush.com/
Jan Chronister	janchronisterpoetry.wordpress.com/
Nancy Cook	www.nancylcook.com
Annette Gagliardi	annette-gagliardi.com/
Patrick Cabello Hansel	www.artecabellohansel.com/
Margaret Hasse	www.MargaretHasse.com
Donna Isaac	www.donnaisaacpoet.com
Evelyn Klein	evelynkleinauthor.com/wordpress
Laura Kozy Lanik	booksnob-booksnob.blogspot.com/
Alan Perry	alanperrypoetry.com
Toni Plocido	www.mentalvalley.com
Bill Quist	www.billquistpoet.com
Peter Stein	www.steinography.com
Linda White	www.bookmaniaonline.com

MEMBER *Achievements*

Patrick Cabello Hansel's second book of poetry *Quitting Time* was released February 10 by Atmosphere Press. His poem "A Day Without Immigrants" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by *Pirene's Fountain*. He recently had poems published in *Nine Cloud Journal*, *Poet's Choice*, *Welker 55*, and the anthology *Goodness* by Wising Up Press.

Annette Gagliardi's poem "Cascade" will be featured in *Sylvia Magazine* on April 2.

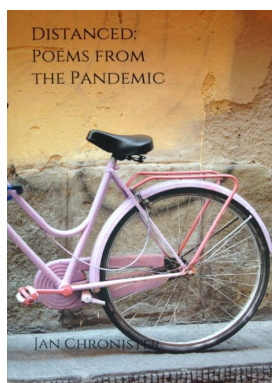
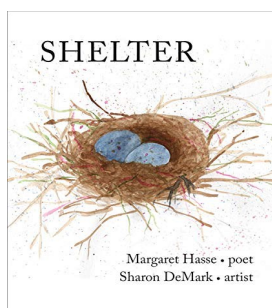
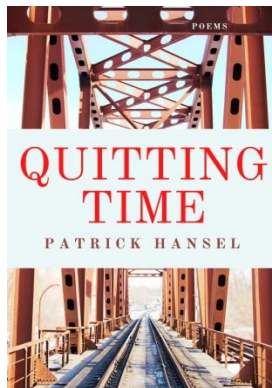
Margaret Hasse's sixth book of poetry, *Shelter*, a collaboration with watercolor artist Sharon DeMark, was published in late 2020 by Nodin Press.

Alan Perry's poems "Aurora" and "The Sum of Her Numbers," were published in *Open: Journal of Arts & Letters* in their featured series on elegies. The poem "COVID Wing—Day 97" appeared in the print anthology *Lockdown Literature*. Three poems, "A Bookmark in Her Bible," "Marking Time," and "Foreclosing," appeared in the print anthology *Childhood*.

Donna Isaac's poem "Costumes" will be published in the *Midway Journal's* Volume 15, Issue 2, viewable online April 15. Her poem "End of November" was selected by Beth Spencer to be featured in the March 21 blog of *Sunday Morning Lyricality*, a Minnesota-based collective of poets, lyricists, and patrons.

Jan Chronister's most recent chapbook, *Distanced: Poems from the Pandemic*, documents the months of February through November 2020. Copies are available on amazon or from the author at whispertreepress@gmail.com. Her poems "Learning from Beans" and "Winter Weight" appear in *Last Stanza Poetry Journal, Issue 3: Altered States*. "Intruder" is included in the forthcoming *Sheltering with Poems* (Bent Paddle Press), and "Harvest" was the selection on *Your Daily Poem* for November 7, 2020. "Progress" appears in *Birth*, and "Uncle Bill" was published in *100 Lives*, both anthologies from Pure Slush Books.

On January 31, **Laura Kozy Lanic** began *The 100 Days Project*, a global art project of people who commit to 100 days of creating. Enjoy Laura's daily poetry creations on social media (Instagram @booksnob24, Twitter @booksnob, Tumbler @Booksnob's Blog) or online at booksnob-booksnob.blogspot.com/



ABOUT LOMP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
Peter Stein

VICE PRESIDENT/
MEMBERSHIP:
Amanda Bailey

SECRETARY:
Jana Bouma

TREASURER:
Mary Schmidt

PAST PRESIDENT:
Dennis Herschbach

APPOINTMENTS

LOMP Poet Laureate:
Doris Stengel

MOCCASIN EDITOR:
Meredith R. Cook

HISTORIAN:
Amanda Bailey

LOMPLIGHTER EDITOR:
Joe Anderson

PUBLICITY CHAIR:
open

YOUTH CHAIR:
Brendan Brophy

CONTACT US

Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com

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from [Pixabay](#)

POETRY CONTESTS & CALLS

DYLAN FEST POETRY CONTEST

The Duluth Dylan Fest Committee announces a poetry contest celebrating Bob Dylan's 80th birthday. Poems must use one of two titles: "Miles from Home" or "Changing Course" to honor the artist's life, music, career, or artistry – in short, some aspect of Bob Dylan's 80 years. Entries are due April 1.

www.bobdylanway.com/dylan-fest.php

EDITOR TYPES WANTED

Val Gryphin, the Editor-in-Chief of Typehouse Magazine, is looking to fill a few spots for Poetry Feedback Editors and Prose Regular Editors. The link below is to TLM's website where the position responsibilities are more fully described, and includes Val's email to which candidates can express interest.

typehousemagazine.com

-1000 BELOW CONTEST

Enter *Midway Journal's* -1000 Below: Flash Prose and Poetry Contest for a chance to win the \$500 grand prize! Entries must be received by June 1.

The staff of *Midway Journal* will select a group of finalists from all the contest entries. Finalists will be chosen for strong work regardless of genre and sent to the judge by September. The finalists will be sent to judge blindly. A winner will be announced in October.

midwayjournal.com/contest/

CONVENTION MADNESS! NFSPS CONTEST

Your poem could win hundreds in the NFSPS Convention Madness contest if you are a LOMP member who qualified for NFSPS membership AND you register for the 2021 NFSPS Convention. The first place winner will receive \$600, second place receives \$200, and the third place prize is \$100. Entries are due April 30; the fee is \$10 for each three poems submitted (you may submit as many as you like).

nfsp.us/nfsp-2021-national-convention

LAKE SUPERIOR WRITERS

Lake Superior Writers is accepting entries in multiple genres for its annual writing contest. Submissions should explore the theme "Lockdown," and are due April 12. Write about the tension found in everyday experiences or the profound struggles faced by people, resulting in a feeling of being in "Lockdown" or actually being in Lockdown. Winners will be notified by May 11. lakesuperiorwriters.org/2021-writing-contest/

PANDEMIC PENPAL POETRY PROJECT

Help LOMP reach out to our neighbors in congregate housing who may have little or no opportunity to get outside, and may not be able to welcome visitors during this time of COVID 19 isolation. Send cheerful, encouraging poems and messages (your own poems or works in the public domain) for distribution to people of all ages. Email your contributions in the body of an email or as Word docs to penpalpoets@gmail.com. Use an easy-to-read font since many of the poems will be delivered to elders.

POETRY CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

Submissions for the 2021 **Florida State Poets Association** Contest will be accepted May 1 to July 15. www.floridastatepoetsassociation.org

Entries for the Naomi Cherkofsky Memorial contest, sponsored by the **Massachusetts State Poetry Society**, are due June 30.

mastatepoetrysociety.tripod.com/id14.html

Entries for the **California State Poetry Society's** monthly contest must be postmarked during the month of the contest in which they are entered.

April entries should focus on travel, history, mythology, or other cultures. The theme for May is portraits, persons, or characters.

www.californiastatepoetrysociety.org/our-contests

Connecticut Poetry Society's Connecticut Poetry Award entries may be submitted between April 1 and May 31. www.ctpoetry.net/contests.html

NEWS & EVENTS

2021 NFSPS CONVENTION JUNE 11-13

This year's convention will be held virtually, Friday, June 11 through Sunday, June 13. Workshops will be led by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Bud Powell Mahan, Eleanor Berry, and others. The keynote speaker will be Diane Glancy. nfsp.us/nfspd-2021-national-convention

MIDSTREAM READING SERIES

Thursday, March 11, 7:30–8:30pm, Midstream Reading Series presents poetry readings (via Zoom) by Mary Moore Easter, Sean Hill, Kermit Pattison, and L. Renée. Music from Jay Reusch. Host: Mimi Jennings. Recordings of previous readings are available. midstreamreadingseries.wordpress.com

WITNESS WRITING PROJECT

The Witness Writing Project hosts free creative writing workshops, usually on the 1st Saturday of the month. Currently, workshops take place via Zoom from 10:00am to noon. They are led by teaching artists, who provide prompts, samples, and craft guidance. Time is built in for writing, voluntary sharing, and connecting the literary arts to other arts, such as painting, music, or textiles. Workshops are free and are designed for creative writers of all experience levels, from absolute beginners to advanced writers. For more information, or to get on our email list, contact Nancy at witnesswriting@gmail.com

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Literary Lights presents *Women Honoring Women Poets* for Women's History Month, Sunday, March 7, 2:00pm, with writers Wendy Brown-Baez, Shirley Smith Franklin, Marge Barrett, Ethna McKiernan, and Terri Ford. Register for this [Zoom](#) event. www.nextchapterbooksellers.com/event/2021-03

MINNEAPOLIS POETRY SANCTUARY'S OPEN MIC

The Poetry Sanctuary will host an online open mic Sunday, March 28, 6:30pm, and every second and fourth Sunday following. Email Frances at [mplspoetrysanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:mpls-poetrysanctuary@gmail.com) if you'd like to present a reading. www.facebook.com/events/478880689776863

POETS & PINTS ON YOUTUBE

Subscribe to the Poets & Pints YouTube channel to view the monthly poetry show hosted by Tony Plocido. www.youtube.com/channel/UCrqqVoVHBtqE87WFoOaRqjA

BLCA READINGS RESUMES

Participate via Zoom at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of every month for the Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts Reading Series. The curator will invite two authors (of any genre) to read a short selection of their current work. Event links will be posted here:

www.banfill-locke.org/reading-series

NORTHWOODS CONFERENCE

The Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference invites you to join them virtually Monday, June 21 through Saturday, June 26.

This year's workshop faculty members are Jennifer Elise Foerster (Poetry), John Murillo (Poetry), Faith Adiele (Creative Nonfiction), J. Drew Lanham (Creative Nonfiction), Danielle Evans (Fiction). Nikky Finney, the acclaimed National Book Award-winning poet, will be our Distinguished Visiting Writer.

www.northwoodswriters.org

POET-ARTIST COLLABORATION

Red Wing Arts will be hosting the 20th Annual Poet-Artist Collaboration exhibit, Friday, April 30 to Sunday, June 20, 418 Levee Street, Red Wing.

NFSPS ENCORE ANTHOLOGY

Paperback copies of *Encore*, the anthology of NFSPS prize-winning poems from 2020, are available on Amazon. All royalties support NFSPS.

NEWS & EVENTS

BRIGHT LIGHT STORIES IN THE NIGHT

Southeastern Minnesota Poets is pleased to announce the completion of their Bright Light Stories in the Night Poetry and Illustration Contest.

View selected poems and illustrations in an e-chapbook available online:

issuu.com/domsinicropedesign/docs/blsn_book_final

Congratulations to the winning poets: Tim Brennan, *Allegretto* (Austin), D.E. Green, *Tree on a Hill: Marine-on-St. Croix*, Minnesota – (Northfield), Jennifer Jesseph, *With Wings* (Pine Island), Scott Lowery, *To My Brother, Again* (Rollingstone), Steven McCown, *Genesis* (Northfield), and Jean Prokott, *Prose Aubade Ending with Lipstick* (Rochester).



Judges for the contest were Minnesota poets Micki Blenkush, James Cihlar, and Chavonn Williams Shen and Minnesota artists Ayub HajiOmar, Kate Halverson, and Simon Huelsbeck. This activity was made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.

QUILTS AND POETRY EXHIBIT IN ST. PETER

Gustavus Adolphus College's Hillstrom Museum of Art, St. Peter, presents *From These Hands: Fiber Art and Poetry* by Gwen Westerman, featuring the work of Dakota scholar, artist, and poet Gwen Westerman. The exhibit of hand-made quilts and poems will be on display through April 18, 2021. gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom/



League of Minnesota Poets

2021 LOMP Spring Conference Registration

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Register and pay online via PayPal at www.mnpoets.org or mail this form, with your check made payable to LOMP, to PO Box 17344, Minneapolis, MN 55417

Register by **Wednesday, April 21, 2021.**

Pay what you can. The cost of the conference is about \$25/person. If you can afford that, wonderful! If you can pay extra to support those poets who are struggling financially, even better!

Number of persons participating _____

Contribution (suggested \$25/person) _____