

LOMPlighter

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 PoetsSt. Cloud/Sartell

Cracked Walnut

| I win Cities | |
|------------------------|--|
| Story Portage PoetsEly | |
| Duluth PoetsDuluth | |

33RD ANNUAL WOODTICK POETRY RETREAT

Let the woods and water of Northern Minnesota once again inspire you at the 33rd annual Woodtick Poetry Writing Retreat on Horseshoe Lake, Merrifield, MN, held Thursday, July 15 through Sunday, July 18. Sleeping accommodations at the cabin will be limited this year to allow participants to distance, but you are welcome to camp out on the property. Or you may book a room at one of several nearby motels. Poets who live nearby should plan to return home at the end of each day.

You will be required to demonstrate that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and received your second shot (or only shot if you received a single-shot vaccine) by June 30.

Join fellow poets for writing, reading, presenting, swimming and swatting mosquitoes. Bring food, your poems, a swimsuit, and a long-sleeved shirt for evenings when the mosquitos are likely to join us. Be prepared to climb a few stairs in and around the cabin. Housekeeping will be a shared responsibility.

Each poet should be prepared to lead a 30-minute (or longer) writing workshop, discussion on a topic of their choosing, or a reading from a famous poet. We will also have several read-around sessions to share

and critique poetry.

Reserve your spot on or before July 9 to Sue Chambers so she can coordinate rooms and meals: 507-420-4031 schambersmediator@yahoo.com.



KEY DATES

| Friday, July 9, 2021 | Deadline to register for Woodtick Retreat |
|-------------------------|---|
| Saturday, July 31, 2021 | Deadline to enter LOMP Poetry Contest |
| October 22-24, 2021 | LOMP Fall Conference |

LeadershipREPORT

Poetry is going live! We are excited to announce that the League of Minnesota Poets will be returning to in-person poetry again for the first time since our Blizzard Retreat of January 2020. As I was unable to attend that retreat, it has been nearly two years since I have enjoyed the camaraderie of your poetic faces and voices in person. While we were fortunate to be able to find ways to connect virtually on Zoom and Gather.Town, I know most (if not all) will be happy to return to live poetry where we will not have to unmute, work through bad connections, and the only feedback we receive will be from other poets rather than the computer audio.



As things stand, our Woodtick Retreat, our Fall Conference, and Poets and Pints will all be returning to inperson events. With the return of in-person events, we are still committed to taking precautions for the health and safety of our members. For the Woodtick, we are requiring participants to be vaccinated from COVID-19 and will be limiting participant this year. Please see the information included and be sure to get your reservation in. If you plan on attending Poets & Pints, please be aware of local requirements and restrictions as well as any guidelines that the venue Sisyphus may have in place. Our Fall Conference will be at the Marriot in Hopkins, where we held it two years ago. Info on the save the date is also included in the newsletter. We hope you book your rooms early as we have a limited amount of rooms reserved for our block. As we get closer to that event, we will share any requirements in place as the situation may dictate. We hope that everyone continues to stay safe and doing there part so that we can continue these events moving forward.

Sincerely,

Peter Stein President, League of Minnesota Poets

SAVE THE DATE: LOMP FALL CONFERENCE

The 2021 LOMP Fall Conference will be October 22-24 at the Minneapolis Marriott West, 9960 Wayzata Boulevard, St. Louis Park. <u>www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mspsp-minneapolis-marriott-west/</u>

LOMP CHAPTER NOTES

Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers Facebook group: www.facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/356196838817845 The Duluth Poetry Chapter meets every Sunday at 1:00pm via Zoom: 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.gacebook.com/southernmnpoets/

DIRECTIONS TO WOODTICK POETRY RETREAT

13362 SW Horseshoe Lake Rd, Merrifield—From the mall in Brainerd, go north on 8th Ave NE (also known as Hwy 25 or County Rd 3) to Merrifield (about 8 miles). North of Merrifield, you'll need to turn right (east) at the Half Moon Saloon to stay on County Rd 3. Continue 7 miles north, (past Ossipee Corners), where the speed limit reduces to 45. Turn right (east) on the first blacktop road after you see "Jim's Campers" on the right. Take Mission Park Dr to Oak Spur and turn left (north). At the first stop sign, make a sharp right onto Horseshoe Lake Dr, then take the first driveway on the left. Look for the *Daughters of MURRY & BARBARA STEVENS* sign in front of the cabin.

MEMBER Achievements

Annette Gagliardi was named a Poet of the Week on the Poetry Super Highway, and her poem "Summer Moon" was featured online the week of May 31 - June 6 <u>www.poetrysuperhighway.com/psh/poetry-from-annette-</u> gagliardi-and-melanie-browne/

Susan McMillan's poem "Heart of the City" was featured in the *Post Bulletin*. <u>www.postbulletin.com/entertainment/art/7021336-Poem-Heart-of-the-City</u>

Please visit our members' 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 |

Ist Wednesday month Up Close: WATCH 4 EVENT Meet the Poet Behind the Verse

Interested in being interviewed or Nominating someone else send contact info + website & bio to upclosepoets@gntail.com



ABOUT LOMP

OFFICERS PRESIDENT: Peter Stein

VICE PRESIDENT Amanda Bailey

SECRETARY: Jana Bouma

MEMBERSHIP/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

NESOTA POET

CONTACT US Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com

Cover image by <u>Kate Hansen</u> from <u>Pixabay</u>

NEWS – EVENTS – CONTESTS

WRITING RETREAT IN WARROAD

Red Shoes Writing Retreat on Lake of the Woods will inspire your creative writing in a place where the natural landscape and local culture offer both stimulation and serenity. We'll gather from September 26-October 2 to write, relax, and explore the art, history, and culture of the Lake of the Woods area in northern Minnesota. Ride a tandem bike, take a boat ride, taste walleye, see toboggans and snowshoes made, harvest honey, tour a CCC camp, hike in the state forest, learn about willow basket-making, painting and sweat lodges from Ojibwe artisans, enjoy locally roasted coffee and craft beer, participate in a community storytelling event, and stay in a historic inn or newly constructed hotel. All kinds of writers are welcome. Whether you write fiction, nonfiction, memoir, short stories, essays, humor, or poetry, the craft sessions contain something new for everyone, beginners and experienced alike.

Each of the ten workshops will provide you with new lessons on writing craft and challenge you to write something new and original. These workshops will not focus on criticism and you will not be required to share your work or read aloud.

During the retreat, you will have the opportunity to schedule a one-on-one private consultation with both a published author (Kim Hruba) and a literary agent (Jill Swenson) to receive feedback on your writing, ask questions, and receive publishing advice.

Registration is limited to 10 writers and the price of the retreat is \$1500 for participation, lodging, and meals. Thanks to a Northwest Minnesota Arts Council Cultural Legacy Grant, the registration fee has been reduced to keep access to the arts affordable. The retreat experience is valued at \$3000.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota sota through a grant from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund. <u>kimhruba.com/red-shoes-writing-retreat/</u>

VIRTUAL LAUNCH OF 'WORLDLY THINGS'

On Tuesday, June 8 at 6:00pm, Kleber-Diggs and former U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith presented the virtual launch of Michael Kleber-Diggs's Worldly Things-the 2020 winner of the Max Ritvo Poetry Prize—co-presented by Milkweed Editions, the Alan B. Slifka Foundation, the Academy of American Poets, and the Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop. This event launched the new Max Ritvo Poetry Prize Presents virtual event series, bringing poets and poetry advocates together for celebration, poetry, and conversation. Milkweed Editions is proud to amplify the voices of debut poets through the annual Max Ritvo Poetry Prize, particularly because fostering a dynamic poetry community was integral to Max Ritvo's work and life. This annual virtual event series will provide Max Ritvo Poetry Prize winning poets a platform to introduce their work to readers across the country with the support and enthusiasm of their publisher, the Alan B. Slifka Foundation, the Academy of American Poets, and a local literary organization of their choosing. The event recording is available on YouTube. youtu.be/QB6CMtEUtbM

Michael Kleber-Diggs will also participate in a virtual event sponsored by Next Chapter Booksellers on Monday, June 14 at 7:00pm.

www.nextchapterbooksellers.com/event/worldly-thingsmichael-kleber-diggs

POP-UP POETRY IN WINONA

Join local poet Marcia Ratliff for pop-up writing sessions in public spaces around Winona this summer. At each event, you are invited to write or create in whatever way feels best to you. Paper, pencils, and ideas will be available to get you started. Bring your own blankets or chairs, and stay as long as you like. Events are free and open to all ages:

- June 12, 1:00pm at Levee Park
- July 15, 6:00pm at the East End Rec
- August 14, 1:00pm at the learning plaza of Winona Public Library

POETRY CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

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

Entries for the Naomi Cherkofsky Memorial contest, sponsored by the **Massachusetts State Poetry Society**, are due June 30. <u>mastatepoetrysociety.tripod.com/id14.html</u>

Entries for the **California State Poetry Society**'s monthly contest must be postmarked during the month of the contest in which they are entered. July entries should focus on childhood. The theme for August is places/locations.

www.californiastatepoetrysociety.org/wf-menu-profiles/our-contests

The **Arizona State Poetry Society** is sponsoring a national poetry contest. Submissions will be accepted through August 31, 2021. Winning poems will be published in the 2021 *Sandcutters*, the annual journal featuring monthly winners and annual contest winners. <u>azpoetry.net/contests/</u>

The **Poetry Society of Indiana**'s 43rd annual poetry contest will accept submissions from July 1 until September 1. www.poetrysocietyofindiana.org/psi-annual-contest.html

Entries for the **Poetry Society of Tennessee**'s 65th annual contest are due August 6. Winners will be announced October 9. www.poetrytennessee.org/annual-festival-and-contest.html

Choose from 100 categories in the annual contest of the **Poetry Society of Texas**. Entries must be postmarked by August 15. poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests/annual-contests/

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

LITERARY LIGHTS POETRY READING

Join us for a Literary Lights' reading, A Celebration of Summer, Sunday Zoom matinee, July 11, 2:00-3:00pm through Next Chapter Booksellers featuring Minnesota poets Sharon Chmielarz and Richard Terrill; Cincinnati's first Poet Laureate Pauletta Hansel; and Virginia Poet Laureate Emerita Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda. With host Donna Isaac. www.nextchapterbooksellers.com/event/literary-lights-celebration-summer

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. Thursday, June 10 readers are Cate Berry and Naomi Cohn. Event links will be posted here:

www.banfill-locke.org/reading-series

NORTHWOODS CONFERENCE

The Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference is proud to present the MNWC Evening Reading Series, June 21-26. These readings by the faculty of the Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference are free and open to the public.

www.northwoodswriters.org

BOOK CLUB FOR WRITERS

Lake Superior Writers is presenting book discussions (via Zoom) with Minnesota authors Linda LeGarde Grover on July 20 and Danielle Sosin on November 16. Both events start at 6:30pm. Register by emailing writers@lakesuperiorwriters.org

MIDSTREAM READING SERIES

Thursday, June 10, 7:30–8:30pm, Midstream Reading Series presents poetry readings via Zoom. Host: Mimi Jennings. Recordings of previous readings are available. <u>midstreamreadingseries.wordpress.com</u>

LOMP 37TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

JOHN CALVIN REZMERSKI MEMORIAL 8. WOODTICK POETS AWARD Prizes: \$ 125 \$ 75 \$ 50 \$20 \$60 \$40 \$20 Prizes: Any subject / any form / limit 50 lines Subject: Aging Entry fee for this specific category: any form / limit 40 lines \$1/poem for LOMP members; Sponsor: Woodtick Writers Retreat \$2/poem for non-members. Sponsor: League of MN Poets 9. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY POETS & WRITERS Prizes: \$ 50 \$ 40 \$ 30 Subject: Daily Routines any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Mississippi Valley Poets any form / limit 40 lines 10. SOUTHERN MN POETS AWARD Prizes: \$60 \$35 \$15 Any subject / narrative form limit 40 lines Sponsor: Southern Minnesota Poets 11. PAUL WALCH MEMORIAL AWARD Sponsor: League of MN Poets \$50 \$35 \$20 Prizes: Subject: Tilting windmills Free verse / limit 50 lines Sponsor: Southeastern MN Poets limit 45 lines 12. JOHN & HELEN PAPPAS MEMORIAL *Includes (but not limited to) Prizes: \$50 \$30 \$20 farce, satire, absurdism, etc. Subject: Ancestry/Heritage any form / limit 50 lines Poets & Pints Sponsor: Charmaine Pappas Donovan

13. FLORENCE HYNES WILLETTE MEMORIAL Prizes: \$60 \$40 \$25 Subject: Growing up on the farm any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Mary Willette Hughes

14. BRING BACK THE PRAIRIES AWARD Prizes: \$50 \$30 \$20 Subject: Prairies any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Henry Panowitsch

15. AN ORDINARY AWARD

Prizes: \$50 \$30 \$20 Subject: In praise of the ordinary ode / limit 25 lines

Sponsor: Susan McMillan

16. STEINOGRAPHY AWARD Prizes: \$50 \$20 \$10 Subject: Ekphrastic, based on an image from steinography.com any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Steinography

17. SOUTHEASTERN MN POETS AWARD

Prizes: \$35 \$25 \$15 Subject: Off the highway any form / limit 50 lines Sponsor: Southeastern MN Poets

18. LOST IN TRANSLATION AWARD Prizes: \$30 \$ 20 \$ 10 Subject: Foreign Language any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Ruth Schmidt-Baeumler In Honor of Hellmut Schmidt-Baeumler

19. HEARTLAND POETS AWARD Prizes: \$25 \$15 \$10 Subject: The Unusual any form / limit 30 lines Sponsor: *Heartland Poets*

20. CORAL PETERSON MEMORIAL Prizes: \$25 \$15 \$10 Subject: travel / any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Linda White

Category 3 (The Moccasin Award) is for LOMP Members only. Previously published—but not prize-winning-poems will be accepted for this category (and only this category). All submissions in this category will be considered for publication in The Moccasin.

2. STORY PORTAGE AWARD

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Prizes: \$ 50 \$ 50 \$ 50 Subject: Traits of your poetic self Sponsor: Story Portage

3. THE MOCCASIN AWARD

(LOMP MEMBERS ONLY) Prizes: \$125 \$75 \$50 Any subject / any form / limit 32 lines Poems in this category will be submitted for publication in The Moccasin.

4. MIKE FINLEY HUMOR AWARD

Prizes: \$100 \$75 \$25 Subject: Humor* / free verse or prose

Sponsor: Cracked Walnuts and

5. STEVENS FAMILY AWARD

Prizes: \$75 \$50 \$25 Subject: Relationships any form / limit 50 lines

Sponsor: the Stevens Family: in memory of Barbara, Murry, & Scott Stevens

6. APPAREL AWARD Prizes: \$75 \$45 \$30 Any subject / lyrical form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Steven & Mary Vogel

7. **BLIZZARD WRITERS AWARD**

Prizes: \$60 \$40 \$25 Subject: Myths and Fairy Tales any form / limit 40 lines Sponsor: Blizzard Retreat Participants Send entries and fee in one mailing to the contest chair:

LOMP Poetry Contest PO Box 17344 Minneapolis, MN 55417

Email Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com

Entries must be postmarked **no later than July 31, 2021**. Make checks payable to LOMP in \$US.

QUALIFICATIONS

Poems must be the original work of the contestant. You may submit previously published poems for *Category 3* if your submission has never won a prize. All other submissions must be unpublished.

Poems that have won monetary awards are not eligible.

FEES FOR LOMP MEMBERS:

- *Category 1*: \$1 per poem (limit 8 poems)
- All other categories:
 \$1 per poem
 (limit 1 poem per category)

FEES FOR NONMEMBERS:

- *Category 1*:
 \$2 per poem (limit 8 poems)
- All other categories:
 \$2 per poem
 (limit 1 poem per category)

Poems will not be returned.

Enclose a SASE if you would like to receive a copy of the contest results.

SUBMISSION GUIDE

- 1. A poem can be submitted for only one category.
- 2. Submit only one poem per category, except *Category 1*, where the limit is 8 poems.
- 3. Sponsors may enter a poem in the category they sponsor.
- 4. Print poems on plain 8 1/2 x 11 white paper. Do not include artwork or copyright marks. Choose a legible font, use only one column, and do not duplex.
- 5. All poems—with the exception of haiku—must be titled.
- 6. If the poem exceeds one page, keep the pages together. Do not use staples.
- 7. Submit 2 copies of each poem:
 - Include only the category number and category name in the upper left corner. This copy will be used for judging, and must not have any identifying marks.
 - On the second copy, add your name, address, email address and LOMP membership status to the upper right corner.



POETRY SPEAKS!

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