



LOMP *lighter*

Summer 2022

ABOUT US

The League of Minnesota Poets, organized in 1934, holds biannual meetings, supports regional chapters in Minnesota, and publishes *The Agates* poem anthology.

www.mnpoets.com

MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fee:
\$25 (\$10 for K-12 students)

Membership includes National Federation of State Poetry Societies membership, and the NFSPS annual publication, *Strophes*.

Mail fees to
League 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

Penned Poets Virtual

34TH ANNUAL WOODTICK POETRY RETREAT

Let the woods and water of Northern Minnesota once again inspire you at the 34th annual Woodtick Poetry Writing Retreat on Horseshoe Lake, Merrifield, MN, held Thursday, July 14 through Sunday, July 17. 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 8 to Sue Chambers so she can coordinate rooms and meals: schambersmediator@yahoo.com.



KEY DATES

July 8, 2022

Registration deadline for Woodtick Retreat

July 31, 2022

Deadline to enter League annual poetry contest

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

Those words are as true now as they were in 1964 when Bob Dylan released his album of that name. Of course, those words could never be untrue. Change, though sometimes subtle, is always happening. It's an ongoing bittersweet attribute of growth, something's lost and something's gained.

At the Spring meeting in Rochester, members passed a fresh update of our bylaws and voted in a new slate of officers. Anyone can request a copy of the bylaws by contacting the board at leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com. Going forward, the board will publish an annual report to record activities, expenses and internal changes from year to year. The report will be available to all members and will be archived with the state historical society at the History Center in St. Paul.

In February, the board voted to change the name of our anthology, *The Moccasin*. The League of Minnesota Poets has been publishing *The Moccasin* in one form or another for 84 years. The publication was named after the Minnesota state flower, the Showy Lady's Slipper, also commonly known as the Moccasin in the Anglo culture of our founding members in the 1930s. The word "moccasin" is an anglicization of the Ojibwe word "makizinan." History has not changed, but our understanding of it has. Today, we acknowledge the painful wounds of ethnocide, genocide and the forced displacement of indigenous people here in Minnesota. We cannot change our past, but we can examine it and use our understanding of it to improve our future together. Going forward our annual publication will be titled *Agates*. Glaciers dispersed the Lake Superior Agate, Minnesota's state gem stone, throughout the state making them both common and unique. Like us, each has its individual beauty.

Another important change is that this will be the last issue of the *LOMPlighter*, the League's quarterly newsletter. After ten years of much appreciated service Joellyn Anderson is resigning as its editor and producer. Going forward, written communication with membership will happen through direct email and the annual report. Please let us know if you do not have access to email. Quarterly times ten, means Joe has painstakingly put together 40 fantastic newsletters for the League of Minnesota Poets. For that we deeply thank her and wish her well in future endeavors.

Though it is with some sadness that we say goodbye to Joe and our outgoing officers, we do look forward to a bright future as we continue our growth as a welcoming multicultural, inter generational organization inclusive of all people and poetry styles.

Amanda Bailey
President, League of Minnesota Poets

MEMBER *Achievements*

Ruben Rivera published his first book of poetry, *Z is for Zapatazo: Poems Between the Spaces*, published by Atmosphere Press.

www.amazon.com/dp/1639882472

Summoned, **Margaret Hasse's** sixth full-length collection of poetry, was launched at Rain Taxi's Book Festival in October 2021. Finishing Line Press will bring out a chapbook, *The Call of Glacier Park*, in June 2022 with 26 poems that honor Glacier Park and Margaret's family connection to that beautiful wilderness. www.MargaretHasse.com

Please visit our members' websites to give them support.

LEAGUE 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

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.



ABOUT US

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
Amanda Bailey

VICE PRESIDENT
Adam Rangel

SECRETARY:
Jana Bouma

MEMBERSHIP/TREASURER:
Mary Schmidt

PAST PRESIDENT:
Peter Stein

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS:
Susan Chambers Lisa Higgs
Michael Moore
Nicole Borg
Nancy Cook

MEMBER AT LARGE:
Brendan Brophy

APPOINTMENTS

LOMP Poet Laureate:
Doris Stengel

AGATES EDITOR:
Meredith R. Cook

HISTORIAN:
Amanda Bailey

LOMPLIGHTER EDITOR:
Joe Anderson

YOUTH CHAIR:
Brendan Brophy

CONTACT US

Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com

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POETRY CONTESTS & EVENTS

POETRY CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

Submissions for the 2022 **Florida State Poets Association** Contest will be accepted until July 15. www.floridastatepoetsassociation.org

Submissions for the 2022 **Massachusetts State Poetry Society's** annual contest are due August 1.

mastatepoetrysociety.tripod.com/id27.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. July entries should focus on childhood. The theme for August is places/locations.

www.californiastatepoetrysociety.org/our-contests/guidelines

The **Arizona State Poetry Society** is sponsoring a national poetry contest. Submissions will be accepted through August 15. Winning poems will be published in the 2022 *Sandcutters*, the annual journal featuring monthly winners and annual contest winners.

azpoetry.net/contests/

The **Poetry Society of Indiana's** 44th annual poetry contest will accept submissions from July 1 until September 1.

www.poetrysocietyofindiana.org/psi-annual-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/



BLACKBERRY PEACH NATIONAL SLAM POETRY COMPETITION

On October 20-23, 2022, the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) in cooperation with the Florida State Poets Association (FSPA) are sponsoring the first annual national championship slam poetry competition in Daytona Beach, Florida. Competitors are expected from across the country and will be limited to 48 of the top spoken word poets.

OLMSTEAD CO CALL FOR POETRY

As part of a 2022 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Individuals grant, local poet Lisa Higgs will be curating a "Heart of Our City" exhibition with Threshold Arts. This project was recently expanded to include an outdoor Rochester poetry loop featuring these works throughout downtown Rochester, thanks to a Rochester Downtown Alliance Startup Event Grant.

Per her grant funding, Lisa will provide a stipend of \$100 to fifteen Olmsted County poets and photographers whose work is selected as part of this themed exhibition and outdoor poetry loop.

Selected work will be exhibited in Threshold Arts' new gallery at the Chateau this fall, with an opening reception and poetry reading on September 15, 2022. Poems and photographs will be paired for display on poetry loop signage placed in downtown Rochester from mid-September into 2023, starting and ending on Peace Plaza.

Submission deadline is June 20, 2022.

LOMP CHAPTER NOTES

Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/356196838817845

The Duluth Poetry Chapter meets Sundays 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/UCrqqVoVHBtqE87WFoOaRqjA