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## Welcome!

### NEW MEMBERS

Nathaniel Bek, De Pere  
Alecia Beymer, Madison  
Peter Donndelinger, Eau Claire  
Susan Foley, Wauwatosa  
Karen Havhom, Eau Claire  
Ronald Jevaltas, Pittsville  
Stephanie Kutz, Oregon  
Kai Mills, Sheboygan  
Kelly Morlen, Kansasville  
Melanie Serafin, Janesville  
Dylan Woodman, La Crosse

### Remember ...

Notify *in advance* of address change. Only first-class mail forwards; bulk is returned at WFOP's expense. Request e-mail instead; it's sent earlier, and you'll save WFOP \$! And for the weekly Events e-mail: [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com)

Muse Contest  
DEADLINE  
February 1

Rules & entry forms:  
[wfop.org/contests/muse.html](http://wfop.org/contests/muse.html)

## President's Message

I joined WFOP 28 years ago. Since then, I've come to know and admire many poets from all over Wisconsin. Some have become good friends. With the ongoing pandemic, it's been difficult to plan in-person events, and WFOP has had to cancel four conferences. This makes it hard for us to maintain our connections with each other. I'm not much of a "Zoomer," so I miss out on many virtual events. Because of this, I value any chance to hook up with other poets through online sites or print publications.

One of my favorite morning routines is to visit *Your Daily Poem* ([yourdailypoem.com](http://yourdailypoem.com)) and take a few minutes to read the poem for the day. (Actually the poem is waiting for me as soon as I turn on my phone or desktop.) A few minutes often becomes more as I click on the covers of the featured poets' books to learn more about them and their work. I am often delighted to see a WFOP member's poem featured. Now Jayne Jaudon Ferrer, the site's founder and administrator for twelve years, has compiled "100 poems selected out of the nearly 4000 archived on YDP for their ability to make you smile." The exciting news is 13 poets from Wisconsin (most of them members of WFOP) are included, second only to California which has 14! The book is called *Poems to Lift You Up and Make You Smile* and is available through [Parsonsporch.com](http://Parsonsporch.com). Watch for announcements of upcoming readings around the state in the weekly events mailing and both WFOP Facebook pages.

WFOP's own stellar publication *Bramble* is now open for submissions. Check out the theme and guidelines on [wfop.org](http://wfop.org) to see what guest editors **Gillian Nevers**, **Keesia Hyzer** and **Nancy Jesse** are looking for. Also watch for the publication of the 2022 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar*, edited by **Jane Osypowski** and **Suzy Wedeward**. The advance proofs are lovely.

Speaking of the *Calendar*, we still need someone to manage distribution and promotion. This job has defaulted to me, a 72-year-old woman who needs a wrist brace to type and a back brace to lift and drive. I could obviously use some help. If you can do even part of the job, it would be much appreciated. Please email me at [wfoppres@gmail.com](mailto:wfoppres@gmail.com) if interested.

Ballots for executive officers for the new three-year term will be emailed before October, so please watch your inbox. If you do not use email, please send me your current mailing address. We want as high a percentage of members voting as possible!

As I sign off, I wish you all writing success and good health.

Our gratitude for your generosity!

Michael Kriesel donated \$100 to WFOP  
in memory of John Lehman

Stay safe,  
—Jan

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets is online at [wfop.org](http://wfop.org)

## *What's Happening in Your Region?*

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

### **CENTRAL-FOX VALLEY**

VPs: Cathryn Cofell, ccofell@gmail.com &

Christina Kubasta, ckkubasta60@marianuniversity.edu

Please send your news! Email **Cathryn Cofell** to be added to the area events list. Poetry Unlocked (coordinated by **Bobbie Lovell, Cathryn Cofell, and Sarah Gilbert**) continues readings with open mics via Zoom. Email [poetryunlockedappleton@gmail.com](mailto:poetryunlockedappleton@gmail.com) or find on FB.

**Dg Clearing's** poem "Mom" was syndicated and appeared in over 14 newspapers including the front page of the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, the *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, *Appleton Post-Crescent*, *Wausau Herald* and others. His poem "To the Keeper of My Soul" is in *Love Letters to Gaia, an Anthology*, of works about healing the planet.

**Ron Houssaye**, Two Rivers, has three poems in *Moss Piglet*, on themes from Shakespeare to film to the Old West. "Painter and Poet" appears in the summer *Bramble*.

**C. Kubasta** gave a reading & led a workshop, Writing the Uncanny in Prose, in conjunction with Poetry at Large, out of the Green Bay region.

**Cathryn Cofell** had poems appear in *Verse-Virtual*, *Bramble*, *Portage Magazine*, and in the *Sheltering With Poems* anthology. Two of her poems have been stamped into concrete near Waupaca's Main Street.

**John Fritzell's** poem 'Election Night Roadkill' appeared in the Summer 2021 *Plainsongs*.

### **EAST**

VP: Ed Werstein, wersted@gmail.com

**Christy Schwan's** poem "Homeward" won first place in Wilda Morris's Poetry Challenge for June (the theme was "road trip.")

**Meg Muthupandiyan's** recent publications include the poems "By January" and "Along the Boulevard, the Middle Way" in *Great Lakes Review*, "Day Thirty-Nine" and "The Feast of St. Mark" in the anthology *Sheltering With Poems*, and poetry illustrations 'And the quarantine begins' and 'The arroyo wilderness' in *Chitro Magazine*.

New poems from **CJ Muchhala** appear in *Poeming Pigeon: From Pandemic to Protest* (Fall 2021), *Portage* (Spring 2021), and the SAQA-Florida anthology, *Fresh Fish: Textile Artists and Poets Explore Underwater Life*.

**Elisabeth Harrahy's** recent publications include poems "The Sliver in My Heart" in *Bramble* (Summer 2021), "A New Day" in *Pinyon* (Spring 2021), "Aunt Kathy Rising" in *Tipton Poetry Journal* (Spring 2021), and "Winter Into Spring" in *The Sandy River Review* (2021).

Her poem "Center of the Universe" was awarded second place in the 2021 Jade Ring Writing Contest.

**Scott Lowery** continues splitting time between Milwaukee and Rollingstone, MN. He did an in-person reading June 19 as part of the annual Red Wing Arts Poet Artist Collaboration. WI-based poets should check out that event; submissions usually in January. He loved performing for live listeners again. He also had a Regional Winner in the Maria Faust Sonnet Contest (Winona, MN).

The South Shore poets will host Poetry on the Patio August 18, 6 PM, at the Cudahy Family Library outdoor amphitheater. Poets are invited to share up to 3 poems and listen to fellow poets. We are asking for only your original works, published or unpublished. For more info, contact **Patricia Carney** at [patcarneypoet@gmail.com](mailto:patcarneypoet@gmail.com).

**Dawn Hogue**, Sheboygan, runs Water's Edge Press. For the full poetry catalog visit [watersedgepress.com/shop](http://watersedgepress.com/shop).

**Barb Geiger's** first chapbook, *Mississippi Meanderings*, was awarded First Place in Local Gems Press National Poetry Writing Month Chapbook Contest, and will be published by Local Gems Press. Barb credits the encouragement of WFOP poets and AllWriters' Workplace & Workshop for helping her along the way.

**Janet Leahy's** poems, "Breakfast at The Clearing," "Spring Comes On Blossomed Feet," and "On the Credenza," have been published in *The Clearing Folk School 2020 Recollections*, a yearbook of newsletters from The Clearing in Door County.

July–August, **Margaret Rozga** hosted twice-weekly Write-In sessions at the UWM Waukesha Field Station.

### **MID-CENTRAL**

VP: Kathleen Serley, kserley@dwave.net

**Linda Aschbrenner's** poem "The Word Hope at the Neighborhood Thrift Shop" was in the spring *Blue Heron Review*. "Fourth of July with the Northern Lights on the Shore of Lake Superior" in the summer *Avocet*, and "Spring Sugaring Traditions" in *Weekly Avocet* 443. Three poems appeared in the *Vividly: the Beauty of Consciousness* project: "Shore Prayer," "Vital to Life: Friendship," and "Surviving High School with the Help of a Friend."

"Me and My Kayak" by **Vlasta Karol Blaha** was published online in *Weekly Avocet* 446 on June 20.

**Patricia Williams**, Iola, had two poems in *Your Daily Poem*, "Feral Tenacity" in May and "Distress Signal" in July. *Rat's Ass Review* published "The Mask Behind the Man" in March.

**Sue Twiggs** published three poems in the *Project Vividly Zine*. They were in an exhibit at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (JMKAC).

**Joan Wiese Johannes** and **Jeffrey Johannes** had poems published in *Portage Magazine* and continue to publish regularly in *Moss Piglet*. They both read in the “Lullabies and Confessions: An Evening of Poetry” podcast presented by Mystery to Me, and Jeffrey read in an online *Sheltering with Poems* reading.

**Elmae Passineau** has had a poem, “Lady Macbeth to her Sister,” published in the summer issue of *Bramble*.

**Victoria Lindsay** had two poems published by the Portage Center for the Arts to accompany their *Art that Blooms* exhibit.

## NORTHEAST

VP: **Tori Grant Welhouse**, [torigrantwelhouse@gmail.com](mailto:torigrantwelhouse@gmail.com)

**Doris Bezio** placed third in the WWA Jade Ring Poetry contest with her poem “Sea Turtle.”

“Liminal” by **Kathryn Gahl** received Honorable Mention in the *Wisconsin People & Ideas* Poetry Contest.

**Annette Langlois Gruneth** launched a new book, *Combat and Campus: Writing Through War*, featuring her brother’s letters from the Vietnam war and her documentary poems in response. Her poem “On Behalf of a Grateful Nation” from the book was featured on the Facebook group Pantsuit Nation x Supermajority (3.0M members) for Memorial Day. Her poem “Theory of Choir” was featured in *Choral Journal*, June 2021, (the national choir directors journal). She had three haiku in *Poetry Hall*, a Chinese-English journal. Her poem “Quietest Place on Earth” appeared in *Moss Piglet*, and “How to Live like a Water Lily” was in *The Avocet* online.

**Tori Grant Welhouse** published poems “Chaps” and “Deliberately Walking” in *Moss Piglet* and “Season of Sun-Bleached Mandible” in *Portage Magazine*.

Eighteen poets were featured at the *Poetry as Art as Poetry* exhibit at the Basil Ishkabibble Art Gallery in Two Rivers. **Annette Gruneth** gave a reading of her poem “Tomatoes on a Steamy, Summer Day.” Other poets represented include **Paulette Laufer**, **Kathryn Gahl**, **Emily Bowles**, **Lisa Vihos**, **Stephen Kalmar II**, **Tori Grant Welhouse**, **Marilyn Zelke Windau**, **Maryann Hurtt**, **Patricia Carney** and **Elizabeth Tornes**.

## NORTHWEST

VP: **Nancy Austin**, [austin10929@gmail.com](mailto:austin10929@gmail.com)

**Lucy Tyrrell** had the following poems published: “Gichigami Regalia” in *Talking Stick*, “Ruby’s Water Welcome” in the summer *Avocet*, “Walking Miles for Moments,” “Both Sides of the Fence,” and “Gray Day of Caribou” in *Alaska Women Speak* (summer), “Turns of

Friendship” in Pure Slush’s *Friendship* anthology, and “On the Race Trail” in Pure Slush’s *25 Miles from Here* anthology. Lucy wrapped up the organizing, editing, and printing of *A is for Apostle Islands* (A-Z with 48 artists and poets, many WFOP members) and *Island Intersections* (15 artists, 15 poets responding to talks by 15 researchers), plus an exhibit at the Washburn Cultural Center June 2–30 of all the poems, original art, and science summaries from both books, whose printing was covered in part by grants from Chequamegon Bay Arts Council and WFOP. Copies of *A is for Apostle Islands* were given to local libraries (school, public, and tribal). Lucy had “Gaylord Anton Nelson” and “To Devils Island Sea Caves” included in *A is for Apostle Islands*, and “Fire” in *Island Intersections*.

**Diana Randolph**, Drummond, had poetry and artwork published in *A is for Apostle Islands* and *Island Intersections*, both edited by **Lucy Tyrrell**. Diana’s poetry and art were also included in a large group exhibit at the Washburn Cultural Center for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore project coordinated by Lucy.

**Jan Chronister** has poems appearing in *memoryhouse* (University of Chicago), *Last Stanza Poetry Journal*, *Shoes* (Highland Park Poetry), *Friendship* (Pure Slush), *Capsule Stories Second Isolation Edition*, *Talking Stick* and *Portage Magazine*. A review of her second full-length poetry collection, *Decennia*, also appears in *Portage Magazine*. *Decennia* recently won the 2020 Kops-Fetherling International Book Awards poetry category.

**Peggy Trojan** has poems appearing in *Growing Up* (Pure Slush), *Talking Stick*, and *Your Daily Poem* (July 19). Three of her poems are featured in *Goose River Anthology* and two in *Thunderbird Review*. Peggy won First Place in Wilda Morris’s challenge for May on the theme of “Fishing.” She has a piece in *Project Bloom: Diverse Reflections on Surviving the Pandemic*.

## SOUTH CENTRAL

VP: **James P. Roberts**, [jrob52162@aol.com](mailto:jrob52162@aol.com)

**Thomas Dunne**’s poem, “My One True Home”, has won the Merit Poetry Prize in the 2021 Arts For All Wisconsin call for art and poetry. The poem was selected by the Madison Poet Laureate, **Angela Trudell-Vasquez**.

**Angela Trudell-Vasquez** and **Nydia Rojas** were among the poets reading at Café Coda on June 13.

**Ron Czerwien** had a poem, “Hundred Year Afternoon,” published in *3rd Wednesday*.

**Rene B. Simon** read virtually at Mystery To Me on July 7.

**Dominic Holt**’s “Moonshot: United States” was an Honorable Mention in the *Wisconsin People & Ideas* Contest.

**Marilyn L. Taylor's** sonnet "Block That Trope" was a Laureate's Choice in the 2021 Faust Sonnet Contest.

**Ron Czerwien** and **Angela Trudell-Vasquez** were among the poets who read from *Sheltering With Poems* at the Arts & Literature Lab virtual reading on July 17.

**Ronnie Hess** and **Shoshauna Shy** were among the poets who read "Lullabies and Confessions" virtually at Mystery To Me on July 22.

**Jess L. Parker's** poetry collection, *Star Things*, has won the Dynamo Verlag Book Prize and will be published in October. Her poem "Uprooted" appeared in *Kosmos Quarterly's* Summer Gallery of Poets online.

**F. J. Bergmann** has poems "Lesser Eternity" in the 2021 *Dwarf Stars*, "The Meadows of Night" and "Uses of Enchantment" in *Spectral Realms* "Daily Fire" in *Star\*Line*, "Journey" in *Simultaneous Times*, "This Time" in *New Tales of the Round Table*, ed. Bradley McIlwain (Roasted Poet), and "You Are My Sunshine" in *Phantom Kangaroo: The Anthology*. She moderated poetry panels and readings at Diversicon in Minneapolis July 30–August 1 and read in the LitBalm Surrealist Poetry Extravaganza on Zoom August 7.

## WEST CENTRAL

VP: **Sandra Lindow**, [lindowleaf@gmail.com](mailto:lindowleaf@gmail.com)

The Writers' Group that previously met at the Eau Claire Library continues to meet via Zoom, the first Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 PM. Contact **Sandra Lindow** at [lindowleaf@gmail.com](mailto:lindowleaf@gmail.com) for more information

**Phyllis Beckman's** poem "I am for the time, being" has been included in the *Best of Your Daily Poem Anthology*. **Karen Loeb's** poem "This Way or That" was published in the *Flipsides* anthology. **David Blackey's** "Rising Water" appears in the July *Avocet*. **Sandra Lindow's** concrete poem "Darning" placed third in the 2021 Science Fiction & Fantasy Poetry Association Rhysling Award for speculative poetry published in 2020. She participated in several poetry events at Diversicon, a science fiction and fantasy convention held annually in the Twin Cities area.

## In Memoriam

**Steven Hull**, Larsen, passed away in May 2021.

*In House* WFOP members may inform the membership of a move to a new postal address, an email address change, a member's illness or convalescence—with that member's permission.

Contact Michael Belongie at [poetpow@gmail.com](mailto:poetpow@gmail.com).

**Museletter submissions:** Send news to your regional VP or to [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com) (include region!), in body of e-mail. Please format as in *Museletter*; no .pdfs or press releases.

Poetry news only; send only poetry publications, *not* acceptances; don't bother including WFOP awards or *Museletter* or *Calendar* appearances. *Please* don't double-space after periods.

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	

## Publications by Our Members

*A is for Apostle Islands*, ed. Lucy Tyrrell (self-published in conjunction with the Bayfield Carnegie Library, 2021), 90 pp, \$20. Available through local bookstores, art galleries, and other shops in the Bayfield–Ashland area. Bayfield Carnegie Library (715) 779-3953 has a list of where the book is being sold.

*Combat and Campus: Writing Through War* by Annette Langlois Grunseth (Elm Grove Press, 2021) 180 pp, \$17. [annettegrunseth.com](http://annettegrunseth.com) and [elmgrovepress.org/bookstore](http://elmgrovepress.org/bookstore)

*String Theory and Other Selected Poems* by Larry Eriksson (2020). 98 pp, free at [quartersectionpress.com](http://quartersectionpress.com)

*Thuribles* by John Fritzell (Kelsay Books, 2021), 36 pp. \$16. [kelsaybooks.com](http://kelsaybooks.com) or Amazon.

*Forty Days in the Wilderness, Wandering* by Megan Muthupandiyani (Finishing Line Press, 2021). 106 pp, \$21.99. [finishinglinepress.com/product/forty-days-in-the-wilderness-wandering-by-megan-muthupandiyani](http://finishinglinepress.com/product/forty-days-in-the-wilderness-wandering-by-megan-muthupandiyani)

*It Is Enough* by Elmae Passineau (2021), 50 poems. All copies have been distributed.

*Leading a Life* by Georgia Ressimyer (Water's Edge Press, 2021), 53 pp, \$10. [watersedgepress.com](http://watersedgepress.com)

*I Fly with Feathered Forelimbs: a collection of bird poems* by Lucy Tyrrell (2020), 38 pp, \$7. Available from [IngramSpark.com](http://IngramSpark.com)

*Communiqué: Poems From The Headlines* by Ed Werstein (Water's Edge Press, 2021). 88 pp, \$15.

[watersedgepress.com/product/communique-poems-from-the-headlines](http://watersedgepress.com/product/communique-poems-from-the-headlines)

## 2023 Wisconsin Poet's Calendar

Heads up: the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets will begin accepting poems for the 2023 *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* beginning **November 1, 2021**.

The theme for this year's *Calendar* is "Mythos of Wisconsin". A mythos is a traditional or current theme, or a set of beliefs. A mythos can be a myth, of course, but it can also be a person or a landscape or even an historical moment that illuminates what Wisconsin is all about. The basic idea is that a mythos underlies the lives we, as poets, mythmakers and storytellers, are living now. It explores how our Wisconsin lives have come to be how they are.

Poets must be at least 18, a resident of Wisconsin or have a close connection to Wisconsin. Submission guidelines will appear on [wfop.org](http://wfop.org) in late October. Submissions received prior to November 1 will be returned. Deadline is **February 1, 2022**.

Editors for this year's calendar are **Thomas Davis, Ethel Mortenson Davis, and Mike Orlock**. Thomas Davis is the author of three books of poetry, five novels, and one nonfiction volume. Ethel Mortenson Davis is an artist and the author of six books of poetry. Mike Orlock is the current Poet Laureate of Door County and author of four books of poetry.

### NOTE TO MEMBERS WITH NEW BOOKS

Have a new poetry book or chapbook? Send the title, publisher, date, # of pages, price, and a place to buy the book, or your email, to [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com)

## WLA Poetry Book Awards

The following WFOP members were recognized by the Wisconsin Library Association for an Outstanding Book of Poetry:

Jan Chronister, *Distanced: Poems From the Pandemic*

Thomas Davis, *Meditation on Ceremonies of Beginnings*

Kathryn Gahl, *The Velocity of Love*

Richard M Merelman, *A Door Opens*

Peggy Trojan, *River*

## 2022 WFOP Chapbook Contest

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Chapbook Contest opens **September 1, 2021**, with a deadline of **February 1, 2022**.

The contest is for poetry chapbooks 16–47 pages long, published during the calendar year 2021. First prize is \$200, second prize \$100, and third \$50. The chapbook contest is open to Wisconsin residents 18 and over. The contest judge is Margaret Hasse from St. Paul, MN. See [wfop.org/annual-contests](http://wfop.org/annual-contests) for rules and entry form. Complete details will also appear in the Winter *Museletter*. This year's contest coordinator is Naomi Cochran, [naomicochran@outlook.com](mailto:naomicochran@outlook.com).

## 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.

## About Your Membership

*Renew NOW—before you forget!*

**All memberships are CALENDAR YEAR—January through December.** Only new memberships October–December are automatically extended through the following year. **Renewal payments** are due by **December 31** each year. Your membership expires at the end of the year on your *Museletter* mailing label. Contact [wfopmembership@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmembership@gmail.com) with any questions. To receive reminders and official news, make sure we have a current email address.

**NB:** If you lapse, then renew, you will be entered as a new member. Continuous membership is required for service awards.

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

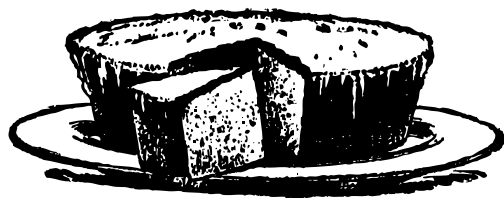
The Events weekly e-mailing is a separate opt-in list; to receive it, notify [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com). Send all address changes or *Museletter* delivery inquiries to [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com).

# October 9 ~ Makin' Cake

**Dasha Kelly Hamilton**

Wisconsin's Poet Laureate

in her acclaimed and illuminating presentation



Join the Ozaukee County League of Women Voters at *Makin' Cake*, 2 p.m. October 9 at the Cedarburg Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and are available through the Cedarburg Performing Arts Center website. Buy your tickets at [cedarburgpac.com/ticket-information](http://cedarburgpac.com/ticket-information).

**Dasha Kelly Hamilton**, Wisconsin's 2021–2022 Poet Laureate, is what many of us need now. She provokes, but does so with heart and soul. Gender, race, age, or who we are don't matter; Dasha compassionately pushes us all to think about our community, what we do, where we connect, and what our concerns are.

Through her amazing multi-media artistry, Dasha creates an experience that brings community together and concludes with everyone at the same table eating delicious, sweet cake. Literally and figuratively, since Dasha's *Makin' Cake* performance will be followed by an informal talk-back session with the audience, then by a cake reception. We look forward to seeing you!

**Bramble**, WFOP's literary magazine, is open to submissions from Wisconsin writers; deadline **September 15**. Check the website for guidelines.

Issues are guest-edited by WFOP members and open to all Wisconsin poets. For queries, please email [bramble@wfop.org](mailto:bramble@wfop.org). *Bramble* is now web and print. Full guidelines at:

[wfop.org/bramble-how-to-submit](http://wfop.org/bramble-how-to-submit)

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

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

## *Friends of Lorine Niedecker*

209 Merchants Ave  
Fort Atkinson WI 53538  
(920) 563-7790  
[lorineniedecker.org](http://lorineniedecker.org)



Dedicated to preserving and expanding the legacy of Lorine Niedecker. Our organization offers access to archives, educational materials, and a semiannual newsletter.

Community Poets Laureate flourish throughout Wisconsin. State Poet Laureate **Peggy Rozga** and Door County Poet Laureate **Nancy Rafal** are compiling a list of all Poet Laureate positions in the state. If you know of any community PL program please send the information to Nancy: [mrsticket@gmail.com](mailto:mrsticket@gmail.com) or PO Box 340, Baileys Harbor WI 54202-0340. Please include the following: 1) date program established 2) names of poets laureate & dates of post. 3) selection procedure, 4) any other significant information.

## *Membership Renewal Form* KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT.

All renewals are due by December 31. Expiration year follows your name on the mailing label. Dues MUST be current to enter WFOP contests, be in the *Museletter*, receive mailings, and to have a page on [wfop.org](http://wfop.org). Contact [wfopmembership@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmembership@gmail.com) if you are not sure when your membership expires.

**SAVE POSTAGE and renew or join online at [wfop.org](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Check to get weekly Events e-mail.

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



# Poems BY Our Membership

—SHERYL SLOCUM & KIM PARSONS, EDITORS

## JACKSON: A GRANDMOTHER'S SUPER HERO

Standing with sheaves of strength, his legs anchored to the batter's box, eyes the color of rainclouds, he patiently awaits the pitch. Covid-19 memories and fears fly away faster than the ball heading his way.

His eight-year-old consciousness tosses the rigors of virtual learning into the catcher's mitt of educational success.

His hermit encasement eroded, kernels of hope, determination, and fortitude become life's linchpin.

—Susan Anderson,  
Baraboo

**YOU'RE MY HERO**  
Poems about your  
superpower in 15 lines  
or fewer.

## SUPER POWER

In times long past I kept a calendar in my head, all appointments, each engagement, noted and precisely kept. I maintained as well a tally of grudges, slights and hurts, each held close and nurtured.

An elder now, I lean on notes and lists, the calendar on the kitchen wall.

As for wounds of any sort, I've happily forgotten nearly all.

While some might favor time travel, invisibility, the Midas touch, I accept the peace forgetting brings.

—Judy Roy, Baileys Harbor

## THE BONE GROWER

I am the mistress of Earth's cold bones, pink-flecked granite, gray-faced basalt, the mineral skeleton that at my thought, heaves from the grave of time to pierce prairies and wedge continents in two, the grinding rise of range, the promising promontories, these stony bones, more arrogant than Babel's puling tower, my pinnacles and peaks thrust up to challenge Heaven itself.

All I need is a dismal afternoon and a molehill.

—Gail Sosinsky, Madison

## MY SUPERPOWER

*What if?* and *How?*  
power my superpower:  
IMAGINATION.

Wild dreaming, scheming,  
brainstorming streaming  
from two little questions.  
*What if?* and *How?*

—Ann Steinbach,  
Milwaukee

## DREAM POWER

I can circle the earth in a single night dipping into whatever exotic place pulls at my sleeve

I can climb the walls of sea match the flying pulse of dolphins or smoothly move in armadas with ponderous bodies far below

I can conjure a storm—all wind and thunder—throwing lightning from fingers across wild skies

then wake to pushing rain spilling streams on dry grasses admire its real power to cleanse replenish beyond dream

—Karen Haley, Wauwatosa

## POET'S CHOICE DEADLINE OCTOBER 15

Write a poem on any topic, max 14 lines. Only unpublished poems; one poem per person. Editors, **Sheryl Slocum & Kim Parsons**.

Send poems to [museletterpoems@gmail.com](mailto:museletterpoems@gmail.com)

or by post to **Sheryl Slocum**  
8025 W Oklahoma Ave Apt 2  
Milwaukee WI 53219

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*Next Issue Deadline* NOVEMBER 1, 2021

MUST NEEDS

Imbued by nature  
with a great sense of balance,  
I can jenga dishes and books  
and all sorts of lagniappe  
into towers of tomorrow's  
promise of *I'll get to that*,  
against the urgency of  
today's white paper.

—*Yvette Viets Flaten,*  
*Eau Claire*

Givers of life.  
Nurturers of dreams.  
Working 24/7.  
No sick leave.  
No retirement package.  
No monuments or medals.  
A life of servitude  
based on love, trust, and hope.  
From you I gain  
purpose, strength, and courage.  
From you I gain  
knowledge of self.  
Superheroes, mothers all!

—*Marge Westrich,*  
*Abbotsford*

ENOUGH

No need to stop a train  
No need to lift a boulder  
No need to hear through concrete  
No need to melt steel beams  
No need to fly to my rescue  
Just hold my hand  
Just look into my eyes  
Just listen to my thoughts  
Just speak words of love  
Just stand beside me

—*Christy L. Schwan,*  
*Cedarburg*