

Museletter Editor

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Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

Kathi Ashmore, Waunakee  
Rita Cairns, Madison  
Robert Ebbe, Madison  
Susan Freiss, Madison  
Jennifer Jordan, Sheboygan  
Kathleen Lowry, Minneapolis, MN  
Scott McConnaha, Plymouth  
Joseph Oulahan, Milwaukee  
Deb Rosman, Wisconsin Dells  
Roman Ryan, Madison  
Laura Kiecker Selenka, Oshkosh  
Lynne Shaner, Whitefish Bay  
Tara Sparbel, Stevens Point  
Duane Steen, Sheboygan  
Olga Trubetskoy, Middleton

Co-Presidents' Message

WFOP's members were out in full force for the Spring conference April 28–29 in Oshkosh, our largest turnout in several years. Some 95 members and guests were in attendance for a series of talks and conversations about “The Work of Poetry.” Among the conference's highlights were readings and presentations on craft by Wisconsin's new poet laureate Nick Gulig and keynoter Amorak Huey. Chapbook and Muse Prizes also were given out. (See elsewhere in this issue for mention of the winners.) Special thanks to co-Vice Presidents Mike Gadzik and Thom Singleton and all their volunteers for a beautifully conceived and orchestrated program.

Our next conference will be in Sheboygan, tentatively April 26–28 2024. Although we're now holding only one full conference a year, we'll be working to create more activities on a regional level, including a variety of gatherings, workshops, and readings. The Board has approved the addition of an online calendar connected to the website, to enhance the visibility of events throughout the state, and we are adding a “donate now” option to our website to encourage donations to help us grow and prosper. Before the conference, the Board also approved a new finance policy for the organization. We'll share more on these once they become active and accessible for all on the WFOP website, [wfop.org](http://wfop.org).

We are also exploring ways to further fellowship, especially among new members, to include a new member orientation, critique groups, ride and room sharing opportunities for conference participation and a scholarship fund to support our members with limited means.

We welcome hearing from you on these plans. As a membership organization, all voices count!

—Cat & Ronnie

Triad Contest  
DEADLINE  
September 1

<https://www.wfop.org/triad-contest-rules>

The 2023 Triad contest will open **June 1**. The deadline is **September 1**, two weeks later than last year. Rules and guidelines are posted on the WFOP website. Theme for the theme category will be: *What Could've, Would've, or Should've Been If...*

In Memoriam

Elayne Clipper Hanson  
June 4, 1929–March 9, 2023

As a writer, her poetry and prose appeared in national and regional publications, as well as anthologies published by WFOP and the local “Writers at the Portage” group, of which she was a longtime member. She self-published two books, *So This is Me* and *The World According to Clipper*, and served for several years as president of the Wisconsin Regional Writers Association.

Remember ...

Notify [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com) in advance of address change. Mail is returned at WFOP's expense. Request e-mail instead; it's sent earlier, and you'll save WFOP \$!

To receive the weekly Events e-mail: [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com)

# What's Happening in Your Region?

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

## CENTRAL-FOX VALLEY

VPs: Mike Gadzik, [mgadzik@yahoo.com](mailto:mgadzik@yahoo.com)  
& Thom Singleton, [thomsingleton@gmail.com](mailto:thomsingleton@gmail.com)

WFOP's 2023 statewide conference was hosted in Oshkosh April 28–29 with the theme of The Work of Poetry. Many thanks to all the panelists, speakers, volunteers, and all who attended. Special thanks to **Cathryn Cofell** and **Christina Kubasta** for all their guidance and support throughout the planning of the conference.

Poetry Unlocked continues on 2nd Mondays. December–March events were held virtually, featuring **Tom Montag** & **Sue Blaustein** in December, **Karla Huston** & **Ronnie Hess** in February and **Mboya Sharrif** and **Nathan Reid** in March. In April, the series returned to Acoca Coffee and Cafe, featuring poets whose work can be found on city sidewalks in Appleton. **Andrea Potos** and **Katrin Talbot** read in May; upcoming are **Ed Werstein** and **Anneliese Finke** in June, **Thomas Cannon** and **Mike Orlock** in July.

**Thomas Cannon**, the Poet Laureate of Oshkosh, is holding open mics at the New Moon Café in downtown Oshkosh third Fridays at 7 pm. Poetry and prose of all types are encouraged.

## EAST

VP: Ed Werstein, [wersted@gmail.com](mailto:wersted@gmail.com)

**Jim Landwehr** recently had poems in the *See Me Anthology*, *Borderless Journal*, and *Moss Piglet*. Two of his concrete poems were also displayed in the window of the Center for Visual Arts in Wausau for the month of April.

**Scott Lowery's** poem "Somewhere in America" won the Julia Darling Memorial Poetry Prize from Kallisto Gaia Press and is in the current issue of *Ocotillo Review*. He also has poems in the current issues of *Pinyon*, *Portage Magazine*, and *Bramble*. He performed songs and poems and talked about music and poetry at the Marathon County Public Library for National Poetry Month, and has a shape poem on display at the Center for the Visual Arts in Wausau. His poem "Tonight", in remembrance of Robert Bly, is part of the annual Poet Artist Collaboration show through June 18 at Red Wing Arts (Red Wing, MN).

**Kathrine Yets** has organized a poetry workshop series, Let The Lines Inspire, Tuesdays May 23–July 11, 7–8:30 PM. For more information on workshop fees, email [yetskd09@gmail.com](mailto:yetskd09@gmail.com).

The long-running Racine performance poetry, BONK!, is accepting contestants for its first Poetry Pentathlon. If you are interested and able to perform in

Racine in November, register before October 1. For more information: [bonkseries.org/poetry-pentathlon-2023/](http://bonkseries.org/poetry-pentathlon-2023/).

**Peggy Rozga's** poem "Pandemic Dreaming" appears in the Winter/Spring *Bramble*. "I am" is in *Portage*. Also appearing in *Portage* is Alexandra Caucutt's review of *Through This Door: Wisconsin in Poems*, the anthology she co-edited with **Angie Trudell Vasquez**.

**CJ Muchhala** has 3 poems in the Summer 2023 issue of *Portage*, poems in the April & May issues of *Moss Piglet*, and in the *Ekphrastic Review* challenge for April 7 (Manuel Espinoza's *Opresion*).

## MID-CENTRAL

VP: Kathleen Serley, [kserley@dwave.net](mailto:kserley@dwave.net)

**Carol Bezin** had poems in the print and online *Avocet*.

**Jane Osypowski** taught four poetry classes in April at Pacelli Middle School on terza rimas and a couple different group poems and held a Poetry Month contest.

**Patricia Williams'** poem, "Lyon Gastronomique" was published in April by *Your Daily Poem*.

**Vlasta Karol Blaha** published "Bird Dog Contemplation" (March) and "Me and My Kayak" (May) in *Moss Piglet*. The spring issue of *Avocet* published "Spring Reboot," while "Hints of Spring" was online in the *Weekly Avocet* 536.

**Joan Wiese Johannes** has three poems in the current *Portage*. In April and May, she taught a zoom workshop for emerging writers, "Releasing Your Inner Poet," for WFOP.

## NORTHEAST

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

## NORTHWEST

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

**Jan Chronister's** poem "Chichen Itza" was published by Silver Birch Press in their "One Good Memory" series. *The Nemadji Review* published "Interrupted Dream" and "You're Never Too Old" in their print journal. Three of Jan's poems appear in *Tabi Po*. Her poem "Empty Grave" was awarded third place in the Architecture category in *Highland Park Poetry's* annual contest. *The Thunderbird Review* published "We All Feel Heat" and "Zenith City All Dressed Up" in the 2023 print journal. The *Home* anthology by Pure Slush Books in Australia includes Jan's poem "Homeless. Her poem "Diamonds Are Forever" (winner of a past Muse Prize) was selected for the annual Yom HaShoah project by *Poetry Super Highway*.

**Lucy Tyrrell** participated in Karla Huston's poetry workshop "From Rolling Pins to Wrenches" February 23 and was one of the poets in a *Cirque Journal* poetry

reading via Zoom February 28. Lucy constructed three six-inch cardboard blocks on which she pasted fifteen of her “Earth” poems (five on each block; an Earth caricature was on the sixth side of each block), part of the multi-media art show Listening In: The Earth is Speaking at the Washburn Cultural Center in March. Lucy attended Joan Johannes’s “Releasing Your Inner Poet” workshop April 6. She organized a poetry program for the CORE Community Resources “Friday Friends” lunch in Bayfield April 14.

**Diana Randolph**, Drummond, had a poem in *The Thunderbird Review* Issue 11. She led the first annual poetry reading during National Poetry Month after the Ski and Tea (women’s exercise group) workout at the Samuel C. Johnson Family Outdoor Center in Seeley. Nineteen women attended and thirteen shared poetry.

**Elizabeth Tornes’** poem “Omphalos” appeared in the Concrete Poetry display at the Center for the Visual Arts in Wausau this spring.

## SOUTH CENTRAL

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

**Ronnie Hess** had a poem in the anthology *Between Paradise and Earth: Eve Poems*, edited by Nomi Stone and Luke Hankins.

**Cynthia Marie Hoffman** had a prose poem, “Trash Angel,” published in *Image Journal*.

**Angela Hoffman** had five poems in *Lothlorien Poetry Journal*.

**James P. Roberts** had four poems in *Spirit Lake Review* and three poems in *Portage Magazine*.

The following South-Central poets read at the 2023 Winter Festival of Poetry, held at the Arts & Literature Lab in Madison January 22–March 12: **Angela Trudell-Vasquez, Cristin Jacque, Ron Czerwien, Tom Boswell, Christopher Chambers, Cynthia Marie Hoffman, Mindy Shah, Lynn Patrick Smith, Joe Lutz, Jodi Vander Molen, Donna Carnes, Kimberly A. Blanchette, Rosie Rey, Marilyn L. Taylor, Beth Ann Workmaster, Martha Kaplan, Gillian Nevers, Angela Voras-Hills, Jo Scheder, F. J. Bergmann, Sharon Daly.**

**Nathan J. Reid** read poems at Mystery To Me Bookstore in Madison February.

**Robin Chapman** was among the readers at the Watershed Reading Series held at the Arts & Literature Lab in Madison February 18.

**Rita Mae Reese** joined other poets with host **James P. Roberts** on WORT Radio 89.9 FM’s “Access Hour” February 20.

**Lynn Patrick Smith** read poems and performed music at Wild Hog In The Woods in Madison March 10.

**Ronnie Hess** and **Marilyn L. Taylor** read poems at

Mystery To Me Bookstore in Madison March 22.

**Mark Kraushaar** and **Ronnie Hess** read poems at Crossroads Coffeehouse in Cross Plains March 24.

**Mark Kraushaar** and **Richard Merelman** read with **B. J. Best** and **Tom Erickson** at Mystery To Me April 5.

**R. B. Simon** and **Lisa Marie Brodsky** read poems at A Room of One’s Own in Madison April 12.

**Brenda Lempp, James P. Roberts** and **Jodi Vander Molen** were readers at the International Haiku Day reading at the Arts & Literature Lab in Madison April 17.

**F. J. Bergmann** had “Messages in a Klein Bottle” and “Nikola Tesla” in *Star\*Line*, “Nurture” and “Benjamin Frankln” in *Dreams and Nightmares*, “Matins” on *NewMyths.com*, “Icebergs” and “Inversion” in *13 Myna Birds*, “Leaves” in *American Diversity Report*, “Climacteric” (winner of the WFOP 65th Anniversary poetry contest) in *Portage*, and “Globular Cluster” was selected as an SFPA Dwarf Stars Award candidate.

## WEST CENTRAL

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

The Writers Group at the Library continues to meet on first Thursdays either in person or by Zoom. Presently we plan to meet in person 2–4 PM at the Phillips Memorial Library in Eau Claire. August 3, we will meet at **Sandra Lindow’s** home in Menomonie. Contact Lindow at [lindowleaf@gmail.com](mailto:lindowleaf@gmail.com) for more information. March 19, **Yvette Viets Flaten** has three poems, “Basket,” “Hospice,” and “Opening Day,” in *Portage*; she read her poetry at the annual White Pine Spring Equinox Celebration held at the Family Learning Center in Menomonie. The audience was large and appreciative. The Summer Solstice White Pine Celebration is to be held June 25, 2–4 PM, at Wilson Park, 800 Wilson Ave, Menomonie. Sign-up begins at 1:30 PM. March 17, **Sandra Lindow** read her Mother Hubble series as part of the International Conference of the Fantastic in the Arts in Orlando, Florida. April 2, **Lopamudra Busu, Max Garland, Erna Kelly, Karen Loeb** and **Jessi Peterson** participated in a Poetry for the Planet reading at Unitarian Universalist Sanctuary in Eau Claire. April 5, **David Blackey, Carol Labuzetta, Bud Andrews** and **Dylan Woodman** participated in a relaxing evening of poetry and coffee (or tea) at the charming French Island Campbell Library: (F.J. Robers Library) in La Crosse. Blackey’s poem “Dancing in the Dunes, appears in the April *Avocet*. April 6, **Erna Kelly** read her poetry as part of UW–Eau Claire’s annual Robert Frost Celebration of American Poetry at the Flesch Family Welcome Center in Eau Claire. April 18 and 25, Kelly taught “Exploring Poetry: Timing, Rhyming, and More,” sponsored by Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement, at the L.E. Philips Senior Center in Eau Claire.

**2023 MUSE POETRY CONTEST WINNERS**  
(84 entries; this year, a three-way tie for First Place)

**1<sup>st</sup> place winners:**

“That Night,” Nancy Jesse

“After Roe v. Wade Was Overturned,” Bobbie Lovell

“Say it Softly,” Pauline Witte

**Honorable Mentions:**

“My Grandfather,” Gene Gilbert

“The Tip of My Tongue Slipped Through My Fingers,”  
Roman Ryan

*Submitted by Mary Rowin, 2023 Muse Contest Coordinator*

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**2023 WFOP CHAPBOOK CONTEST WINNERS**

**1<sup>st</sup> place:** *My People Redux*, Angela Trudell Vasquez

**2<sup>nd</sup> place:** *Cutting the Dusk in Half*, Thomas J. Erickson

**3<sup>rd</sup> place:** *Northern Skies*, Elizabeth Tornes

*Submitted by Shoshauna Shy, 2023 Chapbook Contest Coordinator*



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[/about-shoshauna-shy](http://about-shoshauna-shy)



## ***Publications by Our Members***

*Around the Bend* by Gary C. Busha (Wolfsong Mini-Chapbook Series, 2023). 26 pp. \$5 to Gary C. Busha 3123 S Kennedy Dr, Sturtevant WI 53177.

*Mythos of the Door* by Tom Davis. At bookstores and online.

*Olly Olly Oxen Free* by Angela Hoffman (Kelsay Books, 2023). 60 pp. \$20 from [kelsaybooks.com](http://kelsaybooks.com) and Amazon.

**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)*

## **Let The Lines Inspire Workshop Series**

*by Kathrine Yets*

Need a workshop series this summer? Join Following Format workshop series! From African Drum Songs to Sijos, let's explore where the challenge of form takes us. Lead by author Kathrine Yets. For WFOP members, it's \$20 a workshop or \$100 for series. Part of proceeds go to WFOP. Held second and fourth Thursdays of the month for 8 weeks, starting June 8th, 6–7:30 PM. Email Kathrine at [yetskd09@gmail.com](mailto:yetskd09@gmail.com) for more information.

## ***Poet Critters***

Looking for a poetry critique group to join? Contact your regional VP. If your group is open to new members, notify the *Museletter* editor: [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com). A weekly Madison east side group currently has openings: contact the *Museletter* editor.

## **Community Poets Laureate**

Former Poets Laureate Peggy Rozga (State) and Nancy Rafal (Door County) are compiling a list of all Poet Laureate positions in the state. Send info about any community PL program to Nancy: [mrsticket@gmail.com](mailto:mrsticket@gmail.com) or PO Box 340, Baileys Harbor WI 54202-0340. Please include: date established, names of poets laureate & dates of post, selection procedure, and any other significant information.

# Meet Your Members!

More board member intros coming in future *Museletters*!

**Meet Beth Ann Workmaster:** Many years ago, before I gave poetry much thought besides the occasional appreciation, a friend of mine said, “You should be a poet.” I asked her why and she elaborated that I often made seemingly odd comparisons and quirky observations. I wasn’t sure at the time if I should take that as a compliment or not, but I laughed and shrugged it off and went on making seemingly odd comparisons and quirky observations. Around 2013, I ran into Steve Tomasko at a *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar* reading (that, oddly enough, Gillian Nevers was about to take over organizing). I didn’t really know Steve, but we work in the same building at UW–Madison, and so we started chatting. And later, he introduced me to his wife, Jeanie, and by that point they were encouraging my budding interest in writing poetry, and I was hooked.



One of the things I enjoy about meeting members of WFOP and other poets is that our backgrounds are so varied. Sure, there are the English teachers, editors, and artists, but there are also non-profit organizers, credit union managers, and nurses. I fall in with this latter bunch, more or less, with my undergrad (Bryn Mawr College) and graduate degrees in Anthropology (archaeology, specifically) and then Horticulture (both UW–Madison, long story!) thrown on top. I currently work as a fruit crop (think cranberry, grape, strawberry, raspberry, oh my) physiology researcher in the UW–Madison Horticulture Department.

I haven’t worked too many artifacts, piles of dirt, or plants into my poetry yet but I am fond of Triscuits, butter, fitted sheets, and Fiestaware, among other topics. Publishing hasn’t been a high priority for me so far, but I have had work appear on [pioneertownlit.com](http://pioneertownlit.com) and in *The Midwest Review*, as well as WFOP’s anthology *Sheltering with Poems* and several *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendars*. For a handful of years now I have organized the Madison installment of the *Calendar* reading (taking over from Gillian), a job I find rewarding because the event both creates community and gives many people a chance to read their contributions to a receptive audience. As luck would have it, the *Calendar* Manager position was determined to have promise as a triad effort. Gillian and Steve had already signed on, and so that made it an easy “yes” for me! Gillian is our communications whiz (particularly with bookstores and others all over the state); Steve is our online ordering aficionado; while I am the Google Drive organizer who will tally some sums.

I live in Madison with my spouse, Linda, and our risen-from-the-ashes 16-year-old cat, Grainne. When not busy in fruit research, I like to birdwatch, hike, and camp, ponder wind and weather, and learn from Buddhist philosophy and meditation.

\* *WFOP Member Beth Ann Workmaster is one of three Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar Business Managers, along with Gillian Nevers and Steve Tomasko.*

## Museletter submissions:

Send news to your regional VP or to [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com) (please 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 or forthcoming; don’t bother including WFOP awards or *Museletter* or *Calendar* appearances, which are already available to members.

Advertise poetry books, services, workshops, etc., to the WFOP membership in the *Museletter* at the following rates (send to Treasurer):

\$15	eighth page	\$40	half page
\$25	quarter page	\$75	full page

For the weekly Events & Opportunities mailing: \$10/100 wds in Events e-mail

## 2023 WFOP TRIAD POETRY CONTEST JUDGES

POET'S CHOICE: **Ellie Schoenfeld** is the author of three collections of poetry including *The Dark Honey: New & Used Poems* (Clover Valley Press, 2009). Her work has appeared in an assortment of anthologies, small press journals, and on *The Writer's Almanac*. She was a co-founder of Poetry Harbor and served on the board of Spirit Lake Poetry Series. She has participated in many projects working with artists from various genres and worked with regional literary organizations on community poetry projects. She has been the grateful recipient of ARAC/McKnight fellowship grants and served as the 2016–2018 Duluth Poet Laureate.

THEME: **Daniel Khalastchi** is an Iraqi Jewish American. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and a former fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, he is the author of three previous books of poetry: *Manoleria* (Tupelo Press), *Tradition* (McSweeney's), and *American Parables* (University of Wisconsin Press, winner of the Brittingham Prize). His work has appeared in numerous publications, including *American Poetry Review*, *The Believer*, *Colorado Review*, *Granta*, *The Iowa Review*, *the Jewish Book Council's Paper Brigade*, and *Best American Experimental Writing*. A recent visiting assistant professor at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, he currently lives in Iowa City, where he directs the University of Iowa's Magid Center for Writing. He is the cofounder and managing editor of Rescue Press. His fourth book, *The Story of Your Obstinate Survival*, is forthcoming from the University of Wisconsin Press in 2024.

KAY SAUNDERS EMERGING POET: **Molly Spencer** is a poet, critic, and editor. Her debut collection, *If the House* (2019), won the Brittingham Prize, and a second collection, *Hinge* (2020) won the Crab Orchard Open Competition. Her next collection, *Invitatory*, won the 2022 New Measure Poetry Prize and is forthcoming from Parlor Press. Molly's poetry has appeared in *Blackbird*, *FIELD*, *New England Review*, *Ploughshares*, and *Prairie Schooner*. Her critical writing has appeared at *The Georgia Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *West Branch*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, and *The Rumpus*, where she is a senior poetry editor. She has received awards from the Poetry Society of America, *Prairie Schooner*, and the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan, where she teaches at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. More at [mollyspencer.com](http://mollyspencer.com).

## *More Tips for Punctuation and Grammar*

*Compiled by Lucy Tyrrell*

Here are a few more tips about correct word usage to help your poems and any written communications. Often, a quick proofread will catch mistakes such as the use of the wrong word.

### Everyday/Every day

"Everyday," one word, is an adjective meaning "used or seen daily," or "ordinary." "She made writing an everyday practice." "Every day," two words, is an adverb phrase meaning "daily" or "every weekday." "They go to the barn twice every day to milk the cows." If you can put another word between "every" and "day," as in "every single day," then you want the two-word adverb.

### Farther/Further

"Farther" means "more" in a literal physical distance. "The deer ran farther into the woods." Use "further" for basically everything else that means "more," i.e., for abstractions like ideas or thoughts. Some people think farther and further are the same, but nothing could be further from the truth!

### Their/There/They're

"They're" is a contraction for "they are." "There" is used to mean "at that point" or "in that place." "Their" is the possessive form of the third-person plural pronoun "they" meaning "belonging to them." "We're sitting in their chairs."

### Your/You're

"You're" is a contraction for "you are." "You're one of my favorite poets." "Your" is a possessive pronoun meaning "belonging to you." "Your poems are delightful."

## 2023 WFOP TRIAD POETRY CONTEST RULES

1. Contestant must be a current WFOP member in good standing (dues current).
2. There is no entry fee. Do not send SASE. Entries will not be returned.
3. Contest opens on **June 1**. Entries must be *emailed* by **September 1**. Snail mail entries will be accepted from people who have no access to email; deadline for *snail mail* is **August 23** because the poems will have to be retyped into the file going to the judges. **PLEASE DO NOT SNAIL MAIL IF YOU HAVE EMAIL!**
4. Enter only one original, unpublished poem in each category. To clarify: “published” includes any print or electronic presentation except copies of drafts shared with critique groups. The same poem may not be entered in more than one category. Categories are on the Entry Form. Theme: *What Could've, Would've, or Should've Been If...*
5. Manuscript must be typed on 8½"x11" white paper, one side only, one poem to a page. **Type the category in the upper left corner.** Writer's name should **NOT** appear on the page with the poem. Please do not center poems. Fonts will be standardized before poems are sent to judges. Put poems in body of email, or attach .doc or .docx in case of unusual formatting.
6. Send the poems together in one email to [jjohannes7@gmail.com](mailto:jjohannes7@gmail.com). The subject line should read: “Triad Entry from Last name, First name.” In the email body, include your name, address, email address, phone, the category, title and first line of each poem, and the following statement: “I am a current WFOP member. The poetry submitted is my original, unpublished work not under consideration elsewhere. If I am entering the Emerging Poet category, I meet the criteria.”
7. Only the winners will be notified by mail. The winners' names will be posted on [wfop.org](http://wfop.org) and included in the *Museletter* following the judges' decisions.
8. The First Place winner in each category will be ineligible to enter that category the following year.
9. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the judge determines that an entry warrants an award.
10. Sorry, but WFOP cannot accept responsibility for lost manuscripts, and there will be no notification if an entry is disqualified for failure to follow the rules. Author retains all rights to their work.
11. Please do not post your entries on your webpage until after the contest has been judged.
12. Prizes in each category (Theme; Poet's Choice; Kay Saunders Memorial New Poet): \$100, \$50, \$30.

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### ***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 your email address. Renew online at [wfop.org/join-or-renew](http://wfop.org/join-or-renew). **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, only first-class mail forwards. We are charged for returned bulk mail. Signing up for e-mail-only *Museletter* (.pdf) saves WFOP \$ and arrives at least 2 weeks before the print *Museletter*. Notify [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com) to opt out of print delivery. The Events weekly e-mail is separate and opt-in; request from [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com). Send all address changes or *Museletter* delivery inquiries to [wfopmuseletter@gmail.com](mailto:wfopmuseletter@gmail.com).

**2023 TRIAD CONTEST ENTRY FORM** ~ *Email deadline September 1*: see other side for instructions

Use this form **only** for postal entry (**August 23 postmark** deadline)!

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*I am a current member of WFOP. The poetry I am submitting is my original unpublished work and not under consideration elsewhere.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

You may enter only one poem in each category. Complete for each category you enter.

**THEME: *What Could've, Would've, or Should've Been If...*** (75 lines maximum)

Poem Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Line: \_\_\_\_\_

**POET'S CHOICE: Any subject/form** (75 lines maximum)

Poem Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Line: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*KAY SAUNDERS MEMORIAL EMERGING POET: Any subject/form** (75 lines maximum) **This category is reserved for emerging WFOP poets, those poets who may have started to publish their poetry and/or participate in workshops and classes, but have not won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a contest as an adult.**

Poem Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Line: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*I meet the criteria (restricted; see rules) for this Triad contest.* Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entry postmarked by **August 23** to:

**Jeffrey Johannes**  
800 Ver Bunker Ave  
Port Edwards WI 54469

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

All renewals are due by December 31. Dues **MUST** be current for you to enter WFOP contests, receive mention in the *Museletter*, receive mailings, and to have a page on 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/join-or-renew](http://wfop.org/join-or-renew)

or mail to: **Colleen Frentzel, 1410 N Wuthering Hills Dr, Janesville WI 53546**

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# Poems <sup>BY</sup> Our Membership

—STEPHEN KALMAR II, EDITOR

SNEER & CACKLE

## Time Left

*You see that? That's how much longer you've got to live!  
And it isn't long, my pretty. It isn't long.*

—Wicked Witch of the West

My iconic hourglass just sold for a half a million;  
that device that measured the time remaining  
for that orphan girl from Kansas on her mission to get herself home  
along with her sad companions, oozing with self-doubt,  
rusted in place, full of cowardly failure.  
There are not many days on a calendar,  
hours on a clock, minutes on a watch left for any one of you,  
believing in your fairy tales, pursuing what you've already got.  
You too are trapped in your bright shiny land, now in upheaval.  
The few with gold lord over the little people, those deceived.  
Clicking ruby slippers together? Pure lunacy.

—Angela Hoffman, Jefferson

## Rumpelstiltskin Is My Name

Look at it this way—I was the fall guy.  
The others should have taken the blame.  
The miller, the king, the miller's daughter—  
all they cared about was using people,  
money-making, taking control of the realm.  
I was the one with real talent,  
the one who wanted to change things up.  
I was no kidnapper. I just wanted to raise a child  
differently, give it a good home, love, a good name.  
They called me imp, dwarf, devil, drove my feet into the earth,  
but it's my limbs that hold up the world's honor—for what it's worth.

—Ronnie Hess, Madison

### ODES

*Next Prompt:* Write an ode to your favored mode of transportation—car, bicycle, skateboard, feet, etc. *Ode:* a lyric poem usually marked by exaltation of feeling and style, varying length of line, and complexity of stanza forms. Extra points for over-the-top sensory, mixed metaphor, sarcasm. No more than 4 stanzas, 24 lines total. Send by July 25 to [skalmar@wi.rr.com](mailto:skalmar@wi.rr.com) or by post to:

Stephen Kalmar  
3653 Montgomery Dr  
Racine WI 53402

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MADISON WI 53704-3290  
WFOP.ORG

*Return Service Requested.*

*Next Issue Deadline* AUGUST 1, 2023

## Reflections of Boris Badunov

I'm getting so tired of Natasha  
with her slinky black dress and long cigarette.  
We could be ruling Madison or Menasha  
instead of stuck here in a cartoon subplot.  
I've always been the plotter and conniver  
while she's the bait for the trap.  
I'm short and wide—and much the wiser  
but I'm always being taken for a sap.

I have the world's best pencil-thin mustache  
and my accent has always been pseudo-Russian,  
but Natasha's the one with sultry panache,  
still . . . the time has come to be movin' on.  
Then into my eyes there comes a twinkle:  
I'll just give her to Rocky and Bullwinkle!

—James P. Roberts, Madison

## Witch's Bone Broth

the recipe seemed easy enough  
fill the cauldron with water  
drawn from a spring-fed well  
drop in a fistful of leeks  
chopped parsnips and parsley  
boil knuckles, joints, jaws, and ribs  
until they make a popping sound  
and the meat falls off the bone  
serve topped with stale bread crumbs  
I never dreamt  
that a little lost boy and his sister  
could trick me into the flame  
I have no one else to blame

—Christy Schwan, Cedarburg