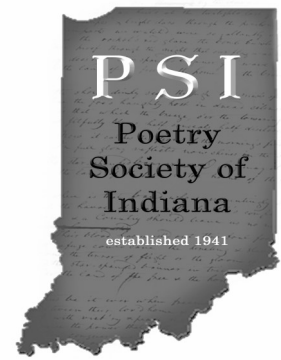


INDIANA POET



NEWSLETTER OF THE POETRY SOCIETY OF INDIANA (FORMERLY , Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs—ISFPC)

—Affiliated with the National Federation of State Poetry Societies—

VOLUME 77 WINTER 2018

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

- Another busy season behind us; another busy season in front of us. With the Fall Rendezvous ending and priorities defined, we first set out to publish the Second Volume of “Ink to Paper”, an anthology of the first, second, and third winning Contest poems. We have focused energies in addressing ways to drum up membership, especially with the youth, and, we have started a Youth PSI social media presence and promoted the Manningham Contest.
- There will be a slight change of timeframe for our Statewide Poetry Contest: June 1st through August 1st. Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the Contest Brochure—along with the National Contest brochure— in addition to its posting on our PSI Website and Facebook pages.
- In preparation for our Spring Fling the first Saturday in May, the Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the PSI Board: president and vice-president. We have set this year’s priorities, including updating the By-Laws and being intentional about including youth membership with a focus on the Manningham Award opportunities.
- Just a reminder: Membership Dues are to be received by July 1st each year. You can access the Membership Form on our PSI Website. The cost, which covers State and National fees, remains at \$ 18.00. Send your completed form and check to Jenny Kalahar, Treasurer 634 North A Street Elwood IN 46036

*“To be a Poet, you
must live the life
poetic.”*

*Jim Barton,
NFSPS President*

POETRY RESOURCES

*As noted above, the Second Volume of “Ink to Paper” is now available for purchase on Amazon.com. The first Volume is available on the website and through board members.

*Our “75th Anniversary Anthology” can be purchased through a board member or via the Amazon website. We have received many fine kudos for this tome. It was designed as an historical document, in addition to being an anthology of poems by past and current members. One local organization has purchased multiple copies of this book and donated them to the local library.

*Member Dennis White shared with our group an opportunity: worldpoetryopenmic.net is an internet poetry show hosted on Friday evenings at 10:00pm ET (720-240-9766). Not only can you listen to other poets, but you are welcomed to call in and read your own poems.

A WORD FROM THE PREMIER POET

As long as poetry has been written, poets have penned love poems. Many famous people have written about love. One of my favorite thoughts follows:

“If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day
so I never have to live without you.” Winnie the Pooh (AA Milne)

Now, just for all of you, a love poem you’ve probably never heard:

AH GOD, THE WAY YOUR LITTLE FINGER MOVED

Ah God, the way your little finger moved,
As you thrust your bare arm backward
And made play with your hair
And a comb, a silly gilt comb
—Ah God—that I should suffer
Because of the way a little finger moved.
Stephen Crane

CONTEST WINNER — THE POETRY OF EVERY DAY THINGS

THE HAIRBRUSH

A hair brush
Lies lonely on the counter,
From its bristles
A minute tangle of wispy white
Testament of solitary Seniority.

Found their way to other places,
Stroke the hair around other faces,
Managed the hair on heads so dear,
Sometimes spent a few days here.

But now, a hairbrush
Lies lonely on the counter.

Other brushes
Once labored here,
Smoothed hair so baby fine,
Calmed cowlicks, eased tangles,
Sped over buzz cuts, upsweeps,
Straights and perms.

Maxine Wheeler
Columbus, IN

Opening our arms to the younger poets in our midst....

We have been making arrangements and completing tasks to offer a place for younger poets to land in our organization. There is now a common meeting place on our Youth-PSI website; there is a real go-getter at the helm of the Manningham Contest—namely, Linda Eaton; and, we have created a donation-based line item in our budget to accept funds to help pay for young poets to attend our Fall Rendezvous and Spring Fling. Thank you to Spike Wilson for birthing this idea and to Joyce Zephyrin for her kind and appreciated financial contribution. Please send to any Board Member your ideas and tasks you have done to open the arms wider and to supporting these young artists.

Be sure to purchase your copy of the Winning Poems Anthology from our 2017 Fall Rendezvous Poetry Contest: **INK TO PAPER.**

This is available on Amazon.com. It includes the first, second, and third place winning poems in all Categories of the Contest.

A CHALLENGE , SHOULD YOU SO ACCEPT.....

So many nights, tossing and turning, worrying.

After returning from this summer's National Convention in Texas, I have been ill at ease, leading to fitful evenings. You see, the seeds had been planted, and we were given the charge of addressing the mission: "How should we grow our Membership at the National, State, and Local levels? What changes do we need to make; what actions do we need to take?"

Hmmmmmm????

Yes, let's start with the National Federation of State Poetry Society Mission Statement: addressing who we are: "An educational and literary organization dedicated to the writing and appreciation of poetry in America."

Some of you are members because you prefer the intimate gatherings to share your art. Some are members to be teachers and share the enthusiasm of the art form. Some are members because they are inspired by the cadence and thoughts of other word artists. Some are members to an opportunity outside the grind of daily tasks and work. Some, still are defining and seeking....

So, here is the Challenge:

Talk among yourselves. Talk to us on the Board.

Tell us:

—Who you are

—What you seek

—How best can we provide what you need

—What are we missing

We can only begin to grow once we have fully identified who we are and what we have to offer.

Looking forward to a more restful evening.

Yours truly,

Deborah

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SAVE THE DATE

PSI Spring Conference Saturday, May 5, 2018

10:00 am to 4:00pm Conner Prairie Fishers, IN

National Convention May 31 — June 3, 2018

Renaissance Hotel Denver, CO

2018 Fall Rendezvous October 5 — 7, 2018

Turkey Run State Park Marshall, IN

2019 Fall Rendezvous October 18 — 19, 2019

McCormick Creek Canyon Inn Spencer, IN

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Visit our newly-created website for updates and happenings: poetrysocietyofindiana.org

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE