

Thistledown

Monthly Photo



This month's image is by Terry A. Ernest (see page 3 for details)

LOMP Poet Laureate

Come to the **League of MN Poets Regional Meeting** October 7-8, 2011 in Mankato, MN (information on page 2) and help us CONGRATULATE Shirley Ensrud, our new LOMP Minnesota Poet Laureate. Way to go Shirley!

Poetry Challenge

Your poetry challenge this month starts with a walk. Go to either downtown Mankato or North Mankato and view some of the CityArt sculptures, pick one of them that speaks to you, and write a poem inspired by it.

Submit poems to ycariveau@gmail.com.

We may find a way to work with the CityArt committee on a project...

You will find a map of the sculptures and can view photos of them online at <http://www.cityartmankato.com/tour>.

- Yvonne

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Located at 523 South 2nd Street in downtown Mankato

Image and the Word V: Submissions Welcomed

For the 5th year, the Image and the Word exhibit will be presented Jan 11 to Feb 15, 2012 at the Emy Frenz Guild, 523 S. 2nd Street, Mankato, MN.

Photographs are being accepted now and until October 15.

Photos will be on the web site in October and November for poets that wish to view them and submit a poem.

We hope everyone will submit for the exhibit this year!



Submit photographs and poems at: <http://www.imageandtheword.com>



☞ Poetry Events, Near and Far ☛

✓ Spice of Life Variety Show

October 15, 2011 8-10pm at the Coffee Hag, Mankato
Performance poetry, singing and well, a variety of things.
Derek Liebertz will be the first act from 8:05 or so to 8:30pm

✓ Third Thursday Open Mike Poetry Reading

October 20, 2011 8-9:30pm at the Emy Frenzt Guild
Bring a few poems to share.

☞ NFSPS Award Winners ☛

[Congratulations to these SMPS NFSPS Winners!](#)

✓ **Utah State Poetry Society Award**

2nd Honorable Mention—Susan Stevens Chambers

✓ **Florida State Poets Association Inc. Award**

5th Honorable Mention—Susan Stevens Chambers

✓ **Jesse Stuart Memorial Award**

4th Honorable Mention—Susan Stevens Chambers

✓ **Arizona State Poetry Society Award**

5th Honorable Mention—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Poets Roundtable of Arkansas Award**

1st Place—Susan Stevens Chambers

1st Honorable Mention—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Our American Indian Heritage Award**

1st Honorable Mention—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Louisiana State Poetry Society Award**

2nd Place—Shirley Ensrud

✓ **Poetry Society of Oklahoma Award**

1st Place—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Poetry Society of Michigan Award**

6th Honorable Mention—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Iowa Poetry Association Award**

3rd Honorable Mention—Shirley Ensrud

✓ **Gingerbread Poets Award**

5th Honorable Mention—Shirley Ensrud

✓ **San Antonio Poets Association Award**

1st Honorable Mention—John Calvin Rezmerski

✓ **Two Maggies and Kate Award**

3rd Place—John Calvin Rezmerski

6th Honorable Mention—Meredith Cook

☞ Poetry Events, Near and Far ☛

✓ **League of MN Poets Regional Meeting**

October 7-8, 2011 in Mankato, MN

Register and get full info at <http://www.mnpoets.org>

Friday, October 7, 2011 [Free]

3:00pm Registration - Mankato City Center Hotel

Followed by a LOMP Board meeting, Dinner at the hotel restaurant, then a walk to the Emy Frenzt Guild.

7:00 pm Program on the NFSPS Convention and 27th Annual LOMP Contest Results

Saturday, October 8, 2011 [\$25, reservation req;d]

8:20 Registration at Emy Frenzt Guild

8:30—9:20 Read-around, bring a poem to share

9:30 Keynote: Scott King “Persistence in Poetry”

12:00 Lunch then General LOMP meeting

1:30 Critique session

REGISTRATION FORM IS ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER.

☞ Blast from the Past ☛

As I scanned a box of old Thistledowns and added them to the SouthernMNPoets.org web site, I found the old articles fascinating—what were SMPS members doing back then? Each month, I'll pull something out of those old newsletters and share it with you here.

September, 1981 Thistledown,;

Meeting on the second Saturdays at Mr. Rene's restaurant in Mankato over lunch. The October speaker was Elvira Johnson from Duluth talking about “Shaping UP for Publication”.

Bring a poem to share about an item that is not man-made—bring the item to share and show it. No trees please!

22 members and 6 guests attended the Sept. meeting. Monica Haack had fallen and broken her arm that fall.

There was something called a “writing member” - anyone remember what that was?

☯ SMPS Officers ☯

President	Derek Liebertz bajanothwest@yahoo.com (507) 243 - 4050
Vice President	John Rezmerski rez@gac.edu
Regional VP	Susan Chambers poetsue@aol.com
Treasurer	Gerry Tostensen gerrytos@hickorytech.net
Recording Secretary	Jana Bouma jbouma@hickorytech.net
Newsletter Editor	Yvonne Cariveau newsletter@southernmnpoets.org
Correspondence Secretary	Sandra Newbauer snewbauer0147@charter.net

☯ Editor's Corner ☯



lease write a short article for the Thistledown.

The subject is up to you and length around 200 - 300 words. Suggested topics: Why you write poetry? What SMPS meetings do for you? Why you write for contests? What makes a great poetry reading for you personally? Pet peeves in poetry—what drives you nuts? (maybe it's hyphens in sentences...)

Send to newsletter@southernmnpoets.org.

The newsletter image is by an artist named Terry A. Ernest from England. I really enjoy this type of art—bright colors, shapes and unexpected things throughout the piece. You can see the original image in larger size and more detail at:

http://www.twilighttimes.com/octo3/t_Ernest22b.html

Happy reading and writing, everyone.

Your editor, **Y V O N N E**

☯ Membership Renewal ☯



reminder to renew your SMPS and LOMP membership. The outer page of this newsletter has a form to complete for SMPS, and on the LOMP website — www.mnpoets.org — you can find their renewal form.

A reminder:

For SMPS to be a LOMP chapter, one half of our members must also be LOMP members – we urge you to join our state organization.

☯ SMPS Member News ☯

Shirley Ensrud, Doris Stengel, Char Donovan and Sandra Newbauer all had poems published in this year's edition of [Talking Stick](#), a Minnesota literary journal.

KSMQ is planning to do a segment on Mankatos Word-Walk sidewalk poetry program.

☯ I Signed Up For What!?!? ☯

We need help with desserts for Saturday meetings or drinks for a third Thursday. Sign up at the next meeting or email newsletter@southernmnpoets.org -- thank you!

Saturday Meeting Desserts & Third Thursday Beverages

(TTB)	Oct, 2011	Sue Chambers
(SMD)	Nov, 2011	Gerry Tostenson
(TTB)	Nov, 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(SMD)	Jan, 2012	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(TTB)	Jan, 2012	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(SMD)	Feb 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(TTB)	Feb 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(SMD)	Mar 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(TTB)	Mar 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(SMD)	Apr 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(TTB)	Apr 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>
(SMD)	May 2011	Meredith Cook
(TTB)	May 2011	<i>need a volunteer</i>

Southern Minnesota Poets Society
c/o Yvonne Cariveau, Newsletter Editor
1131 E Main St
Mankato, MN 56001

Be sure to keep SMPS as a part of your life! Just fill out the form below and send it with your membership fee to our Treasurer Gerry Tostensen. Thanks for supporting Southern Minnesota Poets Society!

The SMPS membership year runs from **January 1st** - **December 31st** of each calendar year

SMPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____

New Member? Yes No (circle one)

Dues Enclosed: Regular (\$15.00) ____ Student (\$7.50) ____

Mail application and check to: **Gerry Tostensen SMPS Treasurer, 24070 577th Lane, Mankato, MN 56001**

All SMPS members are encouraged to also become members of the League of Minnesota Poets (<http://www.mnpoets.org>)

HARVEST OF VOICES
League of Minnesota Poets Fall Meeting
October 7 & 8, 2011
Mankato, Minnesota
hosted by the Southern Minnesota Poets Society

Featuring poet **Scott King**, of Red Dragon Fly Press
Title: ***Persistence In Poetry***

ACCOMMODATIONS
Mankato City Center Hotel
101 East Main Street
Mankato, MN 56001
phone (507) 345-1234*
www.mankatomnhotel.com

Special room rate: \$105.00 plus tax

Room details: Two queen beds; complimentary breakfast

Room reservation deadline: ***Wednesday, September 7, 2011***

***Call and ask for LOMP Fall Meeting room rate.**

Driving Directions

From the North: HWY 169 South to Downtown/North Mankato exit. At the top of the ramp turn left onto Belgrade and proceed across the bridge. Merge into the far right lane and exit onto 2nd Street/Main Avenue. Turn right again onto Main Avenue and the hotel is located 1/2 block on your left.

FRIDAY, Oct. 7, 2011

3:00 p.m. "Welcome To Mankato" **early registration**

WHERE: Lobby at the City Center Hotel

4:00 p.m. LOMP Board meeting *101 Main Street Restaurant*
private dining room

5:00 p. m. Dinner in the hotel *101 Main Street Restaurant*
private dining room (Each orders from menu and pays for their own)

6:45 p.m. Participants car pool or walk over to Art Center
WHERE: **Emy Frentz Art Center, 523 South Second Street**
(approximately 4 blocks from the City Center Hotel)

7:00 to 7:20 p.m. **Meredith Cook June 2011 NFSPS Convention**

7:30 to ??? **27th ANNUAL LOMP Contest Results**

SATURDAY, Oct. 8, 2011

WHERE: Emy Frentz Art Center, 523 South Second Street
(approximately 4 blocks from the City Center Hotel)

8:20 a.m. registration –
8:30 a.m. to 9:20a.m. “Read-a-round”—bring a poem to share
9:20 to 9:30 break
9:30 to 11:45 a.m. Keynote Speaker **Scott King “Persistence In Poetry”**
11:45 to noon set up for lunch/break
12:00 noon LUNCH (catered)
12:30 p.m. LOMP General Meeting
1:30 p.m. Critique Session, **by LOMP Members to be announced**

For further conference information: Visit the LOMP website www.mnpoets.org
or contact: Sue Chambers schambersmediator@yahoo.com (507) 278-4200.

2011 LOMP Fall Meeting Registration

Fee (includes Saturday lunch): LOMP member, \$25.00; non-member, \$30.00

Registration Deadline: September 16, 2011

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Zip code: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____

Registration for LOMP Members: \$25 _____

Non-member registration: \$30 _____

<p>IMPORTANT: Please make checks payable to SMPS (Southern Minnesota Poets Society).</p>

Mail registration form and registration fee by September 16, 2011 to:

Gerry Tostenson
SMPS Treasurer
24070 577th Lane
Mankato, MN 56001