

The Un-Newsletter
January 2008, Southern Minnesota Poets Society

Because our President (that would be me) and our newsletter editor got so caught up in the busy-ness of the holidays, the official Thistledown is taking a holiday break. However, I did want to let all of our friends and members know about this month's SMPS activities.

Have a great start to the new year, and I hope to see you at the January 12 luncheon meeting, and at the Third Thursday Poetry Evening on January 17!

Jana Bouma
President, SMPS

SMPS Events

✓ **Saturday Luncheon Meeting: Poetry Critique (This Saturday!)**

Saturday, **January 12th 2008**. Meal at **12:30pm** ... program / meeting at **1:00pm**. Emy Frenz Arts Guild. No cost to attend. Bring a lunch and a beverage. If you volunteered to critique a poem, remember to bring your critique! *Dessert provided by Sandra Newbauer.*

✓ **Third Thursday Poetry Evening: Poetry and Wine!**

Thursday, **January 17 2008, 7 p.m.** Emy Frenz Arts Guild. No cost to attend. Featuring readings by John Rezmerski and Sue Chambers, followed by an open-mike reading. This is an informal, low-key event. Don't be shy; share your poems! Or come just to listen! *Beverages provided by Sandra Newbauer.*

✓ **2008 Blizzard Poetry Retreat (It's almost here!!!)**

Friday to Sunday, **January 27th - January 29th 2008**. Contact Susan Chambers right away to let her know that you'll be attending this wonderful event! All poets are welcome! This retreat provides a warm, welcoming atmosphere in which to gain inspiration, share poems, and learn about poetry. Overnight accommodations are provided (—drop-in guests are also welcome). Meals are potluck style. There is **no charge** to attend the retreat, but guests are asked to pitch in and provide food, assist with meal preparation, and help with cleanup duties. Each guest will also give a presentation on some aspect of poetry. At the home of Susan Chambers: 57310 166th Lane, Good Thunder, MN.

To sign up for the Blizzard Retreat or just ask for information, **contact Susan at (507) 278-4200 or chambersmediator@yahoo.com**

Have you renewed your membership???

The new SMPS membership year began on January 1. If you have yet to renew your membership, please send your membership form and dues to treasurer Dorla Wachter, 224 W. 5th St., Mankato, MN 56001.

SMPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Other Phone:** _____

New member: _____ **Renewing member:** _____

Dues enclosed: Regular (\$15.00) _____ Student (\$7.50) _____