

Thistledown

☞ Thistledown Photo ☛



This month's image is used with permission by the photographer Brian Ecott of the United Kingdom.
<http://www.hainaultforest.co.uk/3Fruits.htm>

☞ Third Thursday ☛

The April Third Thursday will be a fun evening of poetry reading at the Emy Frenz Guild.

Apr 19, 2012 7:30pm

INVITE any poets you know to join us and bring some of your poems to share.



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Regular Meetings

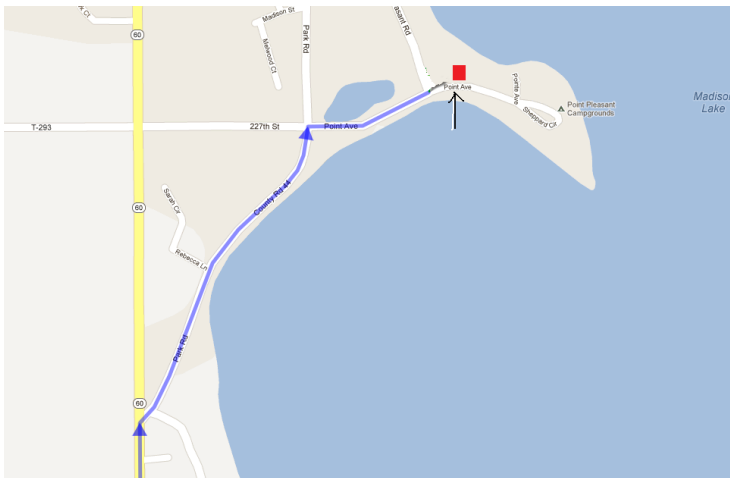
2nd Saturdays at 12:30 pm
3rd Thursdays at 7:30 pm



[Facebook.com/southernmnpoets](https://www.facebook.com/southernmnpoets)

☞ Floating - April Workshop Meeting at Madison Lake ☛

Our April meeting (on the 14th) will be held at the beautiful home of Dawn and Darold Schaefer on Point Pleasant in Madison Lake. Dawn is a poetess herself and may join us! We will have a gorgeous location looking over the lake for our writing—outdoors if weather permits or indoors if not. The theme for this meeting is "Floating". We will do two writing exercises and read-arounds. Enjoy this inspiring location with us! Bag lunch at 12:30pm with meeting starting at 1:00pm, April 14, 2012.



DIRECTIONS

ADDRESS:

From Mankato—take Hwy 14 East, then Hwy 60 to Madison Lake.

Before entering town at the large stone sign saying Madison Lake—take a slight right off the highway onto County 44 /Park Road. Take the 2nd right onto Point Avenue. Turn left into the drive at the Schaefer's half way down the point—we'll have balloons or a sign at the drive on the road.



Located at 523 South 2nd Street
in downtown Mankato



☞ Calls for Poetry—Contests and Others ☛

Roadside Poetry—Your Poem, Outdoors and LARGE

Like the Burma Shave signs from the 1950s, Roadside Poetry is a set of 4 billboards with one line of a poem on each.

The mission of The Roadside Poetry Project is to celebrate the personal pulse of poetry in the public landscape. Submissions for Summer, 2012 are being sought now.

More information: <http://www.roadsidepoetry.org/>

You are Hear: mnartists.org literary podcast

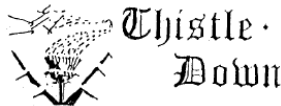
Stories, poems, spoken word. Any southern MN poets interested in having their poetry recorded—for submission to this podcast, for the SMPS web site or for your own purposes—contact Yvonne at newsletter@southernmnpoets.org. Submission information for You Are Hear <http://www.mnartists.org/article.do?rid=301228>

Lake Region Review

A literary magazine of regional writing. Submit by 5/1/12. http://www.lakeregionwriters.net/?page_id=318

☞ Blast from the Past ☛

<http://www.southernmnpoets.org/newsletter/> now has issues from this one back to 1980. We are still missing a few issues, but the collection is pretty complete. If you have an issue that is not on the page, we'd love to scan it for the web site and return it to you.



From the Thistledown, Volume 10, October, 1989

The meeting was held at JD Truffles. The recent LOMP meeting had been good and there were a number of SMPS winners.

Among the winners were: Susan Stevens Chambers, Shirley Ensrud, Meredith Cook, Loraine Mueller, and Barbara Stevens.

Assignment was to find a published haiku and expand it into a longer poem, but with a 28 line maximum.

☞ Visit a Poet ☛

Our own Marv Ostrom is at Hillcrest (714 Southbend Avenue,) recuperating from some health issues. He would love visits and has written many poems he'll be happy to share!

☞ Arts by the River ☛



Susan Stevens Chambers June 11, 2011

Arts by the River Fine Art & Music Festival
Saturday, June 9
& Sunday, June 10

For the Arts by the River Festival, Riverfront Park in Mankato, comes alive with people, music, smells of delicious food and ART—paintings, photography, pottery, fabrics, wire, books, glass and poetry.

Southern MN Poets will have a table at the festival both days and we will be reading poetry on the main stage between musical acts!

We need lively performance pieces for reading and helpers at the table.

Contact Sue Chambers or Derek to sign up.

If you have books or other materials to sell, please bring them to our table at the park on Saturday between 9 and 10am and pick up at 5pm on Sunday.

More information: www.artsbytheriver.com

☞ LOMP Spring Meeting ☛

April 28, 2012 Spring LOMP Meeting

9700 France Ave. South Bloomington, MN 9am to 3pm

Keynote Speaker is Kris Bigalk

Registration form and more information at

<http://mnpoets.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/PDFOnline1.pdf>

☪ Poetry Events ☪

Good Thunder Reading Series

April 12, 2012

Fiction writer Danielle Evans and Fiction and creative nonfiction writer Amy Bloom will be speaking. Reading at 7:30pm at MN State Student Union Rom 253.

More Than Writing Conference and Bookfair

April 22-23, 2012: MSU Student Union Ballroom

A conference hosted by MSU's Creative Writing MFA program will feature a bookfair, used book sale, panel presentations, and readings. The conference is free and open to the public.

Southern MN Poets will have a table. Authors are invited to have tables at this fair. More information: Angie Mullen, angela.mullen@mnsu.edu

Crossings at Carnegie Reception

April 21, 2012 Gala Reception and Poetry Reading 6:30pm

320 East Avenue,, Zumbrota, MN

Show runs 4/2 to 4/26

open from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. M, T, W and F; 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Thursdays; and from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

☪ SMPS Officers ☪

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☪ Editor's Corner ☪

Two more SMPS meetings before the summer break! Boy, this year has really zoomed along! The April meeting will be at the home of a poet, that like, like me runs a business. She doesn't have much time to write, but when she does, I really enjoy the result.

As the weather warms, and we spend more time in the garden, on the river, on a lake or walking in the woods—I forget to write. Starting now and with our April meeting at the lake, I'm resolved to bring my notebook and pen with me to more outdoor locations this summer—I hope to see you all writing in parks and while floating too!

We are thinking about speakers for next fall and winter—if you know a poet that you'd like to invite to speak at a future SMPS meeting, let us know!

News to share? newsletter@southernmnpoets.org or post at <http://facebook.com/southernmnpoets>

Happy reading and writing, everyone.

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

☪ I Signed Up For What?!? ☪

Thanks to everyone that has promised to provide refreshments for meetings!

Saturday Meeting Desserts & Third Thursday Beverages

(SMD) Apr 2012 Janelle Hawkrige
(TTB) Apr 2012 Kay Helms

(SMD) May 2012 Meredith Cook
(TTB) May 2012 Derek Liebertz

☪ Membership Renewal ☪

Thanks to the following for renewing their 2012 membership: Faye Mattison, Jana Bouma, Derek Liebertz, Marie Crawford and Sandra Newbauer. We also welcome new member Heidi Newbauer!

A reminder to renew your SMPS and LOMP (League of Mn Poets) 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.

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>)