

February 11, 2006
 Volume 2 Issue 2

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Meeting Format

- Bring copies of your work to distribute for reading (12-15 copies)
- Initial thirty minutes for beverage selection/preparation and discussion of upcoming literary magazine submissions, handouts and events.
- Readings begin clockwise from any beginning point. Group turns reader's copies face down until reader begins to read.
- After each writer completes reading, reader waits until all group responses are com-

pleted before responding to critiques. Brief critiques and responses are encouraged depending on size of the group.

Publications

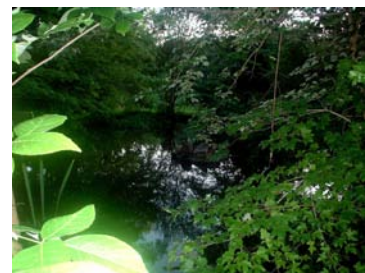
For viewing your Art/Photography in this newsletter, your publication updates, Art exhibits, scheduled readings or events, e-mail or call me in time for each month's newsletter within a day or two following the writers group meetings. The Artsbridge web site is updated once a month. If the newsletter update deadline is missed for your event, email me to forward to the members.



Natalie at the Fountain In Prague - Photography by Carole Harris



afternoon heat
 the slow blink
 of the bullfrog's eyes
 -Ed Markowski
 Tinywords.com



*Hidden Pond - Quakertown, PA
 Photography by Judith Lawrence*

**Next meeting of Artsbridge/River Poets:
 March 25, 2006 - 1:00 - 4:00 PM
 Lambertville Public Library, Lambertville, NJ
 2nd fl "The Peggy Lewis Gallery"**

Submissions for 2006-2007 Anthology

Email or snail mail entries for the 2006-2007 Annual Literary Anthology. Call me for mailing address. Submissions will be accepted through August 31, 2006. Seeking volunteers for an anthology committee in reference to publication/content/format, artwork, editing, etc. What is your expertise?

Welcome New Members:

Sharon Bisaha
 Sheila Cohill
 Bill Sloane
 Elena Lopez
 Carole Longo-Harris
 Delores Miller

Artsbridge is a registered 503C non-profit organization, comprised of painters, sculptors, photographers, writers, actors, musicians and filmmakers in the Delaware Valley dedicated to improving the public understanding of the arts in all the creative disciplines. The group supports local, state and regional arts and artists through its sponsorship of events focused on education, exhibition and performance.

February 11th, brought our second snow blizzard this year but didn't faze at least

20 writers who gathered round to read, listen, and celebrate the written word. Liz Bowman read her biting satiric Ode to Bush on fuel, "State of the Union 2006." In honor of Valentines Day, Bambi Kuhl read her amusing "Longevity" poem. Nell Sweeney proved adept with poetry as well as prose with her rich imagery poem, "Black Mountains." George Dabrowski read his playful poem, "Apples and Cheese," and his masterfully accomplished circular poem, "Bridges." Rashi Gupta read 3 of her lovely mystical poems. Carole Harris read her brilliant non-fiction piece on coal miners. Elaine Restifo read a poignant poem by Anne Marie Macari titled "Abort." Betty tried her hand at poetry and did very well for a first time poet. Mason as always gallant, joined us later with a Valentine's day box of truffles. Many of the newer members had forgotten to bring copies for the group/me to select work for this months newsletter, but hopefully all will return with work for a later issue. We are such an eclectic group of writers that I am excited each month anticipating what our next meeting will bring.

February 11, 2006 meeting



April Author Event Kathe Palka Reading

Artsbridge/River Poets member - Kathe Palka's poetry/prose has appeared in Bogg Magazine, The Bucks County Writer, Exit 13, Frogpond, paper wasp, and others. She received a Pushcart Nomination from The Journal of New Jersey Poets for work appearing in their 2002, 25th Anniversary Issue. Her 2004 chapbook, *The Grace of Light* published by Finishing Line Press, a lovely book of poetry I have read again and again.

Upcoming Events - May/June

Artsbridge/River Poets Poetry Slam - May

A night of poets competing against poets - Sign-up for the competition - Prize to be awarded.

Artsbridge/River Poets Short Story Contest - June

Dig down in those files and find your best short-short stories to read - Sign-up for the competition - Prize to be awarded.

Great Quotes

"I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart."
e e cummings (1894-1962)

"Dancing is silent poetry."
Simonides (556-468bc)

"If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance." George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

"I would have made a good Pope." - Richard M. Nixon (1913-1994)

Writers Among Us

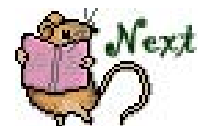
Congratulations to Mason Loika for his new position as corporate communications manager for Bio/Data Corporation. Mason has found his niche using his freelance Newspaper background to enlighten the public about the much misunderstood von Willebrand Disease and its misdiagnosis in women. To read more about Mason's important work in this field go to:
<http://biz.yahoo.com/bwml/060120/205103.html?>

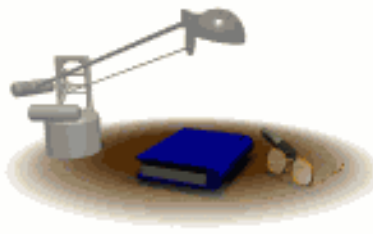
Check out "New Directions"

Artsbridge amazing woman, poet and tireless advocate, Ruth Deming is the Director for New Directions, a support group for mood disorders located in Willow Grove, PA.
<http://www.newdirectionssupport.org/letter.html>

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the wonderful, imaginative, diverse, writers in our group that make it so difficult each month for me to select work for the this Newsletter.





Writers Work - February 11, 2006 Meeting

Bridges

Brief as an eagle's fall to earth
Love is the bridge from love to birth

Brief as a call to the waiting midwife
Birth is the bridge from love to life

Brief as an ant's tale, told in a breath
Life is the bridge from birth to death

Brief as a snowfall, April driven
Death is the bridge from life to Heaven

Brief as the lightning's flash above
Heaven's the bridge from death to love

© George Dabrowski



Graveyard Pictures - wondertank



Hands - Jennifer Wagner

Write a Poem
about Graves or Hands
to submit to our
2007
Anthology

WINTER BLAHS

(March, 05)

There is more to this
than we thought,
more
much more,
and it seems as I awake
so timely from my nap
that I have known it all
and then upon awakening
forgot
what it was about.
or who I really am.

You can't go on like this,
it is getting harder by the minute,
some say easier,
it's hard to know.
depends upon
the exact perfect second,
which comes,
but never stays
though I clutch
the empty air
the falling rain
the moonbeams
wrestling them down
like an impotent tigriss.

© Ruth Deming



Corylus avellana 'Contorta' (Harry Lauder's Weeping Hick) 2000



Photographer unknown

A Proposition to a Bleeding Planet

If I said that I would love you
In a driving summer rain,
And I said this without speaking,
Would you hear me?
Would you hear me?

If I were transformed by a Greek god
Into a bursting flash of sunlight,
While my physical being never changed,
Would you see me?
Would you see me?

If I took you away until the 'morrow
To make love beside a rainbow,
With our bodies never touching,
Would you remember?
Would you remember?

© Mason Loika, 2003

Previously published by prosetoad.com



Future Marilyn Monroe - Photographer unknown

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No poem/prose may be reproduced without express permission by the author.

All photos in this newsletter are subjects for poems in our new anthology. Create a poem in reference to one of these photos to submit for the Artsbridge 2007 Spring Anthology, or if you have a painting or photo to submit for the anthology, please email to Judabah@aol.com, or bring a copy to the writers group meeting.

With Authors permission, all poems published in this newsletter will be entered in the Anthology submissions process. Since many of these poems are a work in progress presented initially in the group meetings, and the poem may be selected from the newsletters by the editors, the Author will be able to revise and submit a final version before publication. Due to the limitation of space in this newsletter, other poems or prose read at the meetings are also being considered for submission. During the selection process, all Authors will be contacted by the editors for legal permission to enter their work into the anthology and for final changes.

Any poem published in our own Writers Group Newsletter may still be submitted to other literary magazines and contests. Since it is an internal publication for the Artsbridge/River Poets members, it is not considered commercially published, for example a literary magazine, or an anthology, or online ezine, so is still eligible for submission elsewhere as an unpublished work.

When we publish our own anthology book which will be commercially available to the public and one or more of your poems have been accepted for the book, then you would need to sign a rights to publication agreement giving one time rights for the anthology. You then have to acknowledge the previous publication to wherever you submit it to next, which the publisher either lists on an acknowledgement page, or under the poem, for ex. previously published by Artsbridge/title of Anthology & date published. Alternately if you submit a poem for the Artsbridge anthology, it is accepted for inclusion, and it has been previously published by another publication, then our anthology would need to acknowledge where your poem had been published before. Dependent on the literary publication or contest, some publishers seek work never before published, and others have no preference as long as you acknowledge where it was previously published.



Wedding Day - Mitch Hazam

Write a poem
about
a Wedding
to submit to our
2007
Anthology

Write a poem
about
Water
to submit to our
2007
Anthology



Photographer Unknown

Announcement!

Due to an increase in number of tenants at Heritage Village, and difficulty parking for tenants and their guests, we are returning to Lambertville Library beginning March.

For the month of March only, we will be meeting on the 25th of the month due to an Art Exhibit reception held at the library on March 11th.

For the balance of 2006, we will continue to meet at the Lambertville Library on the second Saturday of each month.