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 Volume 2 Issue 9

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Artsbridge/River Poets Writers Gallery

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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 week 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.

Seeking Artwork/Photography for the Monthly Newsletter
 To be displayed below or with Poetry/Prose



“Autumn Red”
 Photographer - Bill Donlen



“Vermont Gas Station”
 Artist - Bob Muller
 Oil Painting

**Next meeting of Artsbridge/River Poets:
 October 14, 2006 - 1:00 - 4:00 PM
 Lambertville Public Library, Lambertville, NJ
 2nd fl “ The Peggy Lewis Gallery”**

Submissions for 2006-2007 Anthology

Submissions have been received for the 2007 Writers Gallery Anthology. Over the next couple of months we will be reviewing all work for the selection process, and notifying the writers/artists/photographers of their inclusion in the anthology. We anticipate publication by Spring 2007.

Welcome New Member:
 Susan Tatiner

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.

Announcements

The month of September crept up on cat's paws, and before we could bid adieu to summer, we moved swiftly

into Autumn. It happens to be my favorite time of year, a season of great beauty, a time to breathe in, and linger for awhile before approaching winter. It was on such a perfect day, a prelude to Autumn, that a few of us met to read this month's poems and stories. Ted Peck read his passionate poem published herein, "For the Glory of God," on the atrocious acts committed in the name of religion. Carole Harris read her charming story on the most unforgettable character she ever met, "Tuillio Lucarelli," who did not believe the earth moved, and offered proof. Susan Tatiner read an excerpt of her new story, "Watch Over." and promised to bring us more. Ruth Deming read "Mother Mary," a great character study poem, published herein. Joe Treceno read "The Beat in the Cipher," an accurate take on what passes for music, ("it's hard to be a pimp,") and rage poetry of today. Bob Muller read his tongue-in-cheek poem, "Against the Law." Gloria Craig read "Afterimage," also published herein, and I read, "Breakfast Dance," on a man observing a beautiful illusive woman while breakfasting with his ordinary wife, who is observing him.

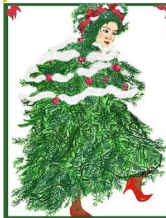
New Young Writers Workshop Start-up - November, 2006

Beginning in November, the new Young Writers group will meet once a month on Thursday evenings at Lambertville Library from 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

If you know of a young writer who would be interested in joining, please forward this information to them with my email address and phone number.

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Scheduled Dates to follow:



*December Open Mic
Celebrate the Holidays
At The Full Moon Café
23 Bridge Street
Lambertville, NJ 08530
\$10.00 Cover Charge
Includes Hors d'oeuvres
BYOB*



*Bring Your Holiday Poems/Prose/
Short-Short Stories - (under 500 words)*

Great Quotes

*Besides the autumn poets sing,
A few prosaic days
A little this side of the snow
And that side of the haze.
~Emily Dickinson*

*Youth is like spring, an over
praised season more remarkable
for biting winds than genial
breezes. Autumn is the mellower
season, and what we lose in flowers
we more than gain in
fruits. ~Samuel Butler*

*No spring nor summer beauty
hath such grace
As I have seen in one autumnal
face.
~John Donne*

Congratulations to Writers Among Us

- *Ruth Deming for her poem "The Men Who Love Me" published in the Innisfree Poetry Journal - <http://www.innisfreepoetry.org/>*
- *Carole Harris for publication of her "Trailer Park Birthday Story" in the Sarasota Tribune, and her "Peppers" article to be published in Primo. Carole now has her own column with 5 articles at http://www.newhopepa.com/voices/Carole_H/charris_index.htm*
- *Judith Lawrence for her poem "Winter Rising" & artwork "Snowflake Watch" published in Ancient Heart Magazine - <http://ancientheartmagazine.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/>*
- *Kathe Palka for her poem "El Capitan by Full Moon published along with a her son Joseph J. Palka's photo "El Capitan's Face" at Cezanne's Carrot - <http://www.cezannescarrot.org/volliss4/elcapitan.html>*

Thank You

*to all the Writers
who made our
Open Mic night
such a memorable
and entertaining
night, and to
Sandy Bender who
provided the music
background.*



*October Author Readings
Lambertville Library*

*Oct. 26 - The 2006 Bucks County High School
Poet Laureate Winners - Reading - 7:00 - 9:00 PM*

Introducing: Sara Steinhouse, a Pennsbury sophomore who has been writing since she was six years old was named the 2006 High School Poet of the Year. Steinhouse rose to the top of 120 entrants, says Dr. Allen Hoey, director of the Bucks County Poet Laureate program, which administers the High School Poet of the Year contest.

Lindsay DeMaria, Doylestown, Central Bucks East sophomore – first runner-up, Amanda Whitbred, Doylestown, Central Bucks East junior – second runner-up, Aly Pierce, top finalist, Central Bucks South junior, Amy Lasner, top finalist, Council Rock North sophomore.

The High School Poet of the Year contest is held each spring. It is open to Bucks County high school students in ninth through 12th grade. For more information, contact Dr. Allen Hoey at 215-968-8279.

Dr. Hoey will be reading at Lambertville Library on January 27, 2007

*Oct. 28 - Edwin Romond, Author & Poet
Reading - 2:00 - 4:00 PM*

*Edwin Romond is the author of *Home Fire* (Belle Mead Press, 1993) and *Dream Teaching* (Grayson Books, 2005)*

*Two chapbooks: *Macaroons* (1997) and *Blue Mountain Time: New and Selected Poems about Baseball* (2002.)*

*His poems have appeared in such journals as *The Sun*, *Rockhurst Review*, *Poet Lore*, *English Journal*, *Barrow Street*, *Spitball*, *Lake Effect*, *Zone 3*, *New Letters*, *Coal City Review* and many others.*

<http://www.edwinromond.com/>

*Artsbridge/River Poets & Guests
Open Mic Night Photos*





Writers Work - September 9, 2006 Meeting

For the Glory of God

For the glory of God, many centuries ago,
Joshua led his army to the walls of Jericho;
when the priests blew the trumpets,
the walls fell down flat, and they took the city.
Joshua said unto the people, Shout:
for the Lord hath given you the city--
and they utterly destroyed all that was in the city
both men and women, young and old
with the edge of the sword.

For the glory of God, in 1099 A.D.,
The Crusaders massacred the unbelievers,
with blood running waist deep in the streets
of the city of Jerusalem. and then
praised God for their victory.

For the glory of God, in 1453 A.D.,
the armies of Sultan Mehmet II broke through
the walls of Constantine's city on the Bosphorus
and slaughtered everyone they found in the city--
men, women and children without discrimination.

For the glory of God, in 1478 A.D.,
the priests of the Inquisition tortured the unbelievers
until they confessed their non-existent sins,
then consigned them to burning at the stake.

For the glory of God, in September 2001,
the holy martyrs, undaunted in their courage,
brought down the houses of the infidel
in fire and blood, causing the death of thousands.
One witness said this: "We were watching the people
fall

and the flames burn when I saw a passenger-size plane
crash directly into the other tower. After the explosion
and the ball of fire, the smoke billowed out
with literally tons of pieces of paper--
office papers, stationery, memos,
the mundane documents that people use every day--
and the sky was filled with paper like confetti,
the sunlight shimmering off of millions of pieces
of white paper in a clear blue sky."

For the glory of God, in the year 2003,
the new Crusaders unleashed their desert storm,
inducing shock and awe among the heathen.
A Red Cross spokesman described what happened
in one Iraqi village as "a horror." His team saw bodies
which were completely blown to pieces,
and dozens of severed bodies and scattered limbs;
there were at least 460 wounded;
all victims were "farmers, women and children."

For the love of God-- if I may use that expression--
what are we to make of this extensive history
of the lusts and passions of the human race?
Could it be that we would be better off
without this God, if this is what He asks of us?

---Ted Peck, September 11, 2006

MOTHER MARY

Tiny Mary with apron
and dragonfly eyes
behind glasses
walks alone with cane
among the still fields
behind her apartment.

Thinking, at ninety, she is
a barefoot girl back in Sicily,
she tumbles to the ground
as she grasps a mushroom
after the rain,
and vines
known only to her, Mary,
that twine upon
the old gatepost.

Born Catholic, but
never satisfied, she joined
a fierce denomination
of Christians that
abhorred the heathen
and pressed into my hand,
a little Jewish girl,
a tiny blue book:
At The Feet of the Master.

Read it and return it, she ordered,
with the high soprano voice that ordained
her husband to stop drinking
and he did
and stick to his shoemaking
in their Germantown store
where she wrote out bills
for Brand New Soles
at one forty-four apiece.

After her last tumble in the fields
her children decreed there will be
no more strolls
She declares it is I who will gather
the wild mushrooms
after the rain.

She and her younger sister Angie,
retired from Gimbel's,
fight over me when I visit.

Their family have closeted
them together,
Italian widows,
here in Village Green Apartments
sisters unto death.

I parcel out my time. Have you ever gone
shopping with a 90-year-old woman who
can't see or hear? She holds a can of corn
in trembling hands, then asks me to
read every blasted word on the label.
It's the last time I take her shopping.
That's what daughters are for.

In the unlit kitchen she feeds me,
offering pickled vine from a green margarine tub
No thank you, I say, pushing it away.
She pours me a glass of water
from the sink and puts a fork
in my hand and pushes the tub
across the table.

Not bad, I say, and clean the tub,
knowing all along I will never
return the book.

© Ruth Z. Deming



Photographer -Richard Carter

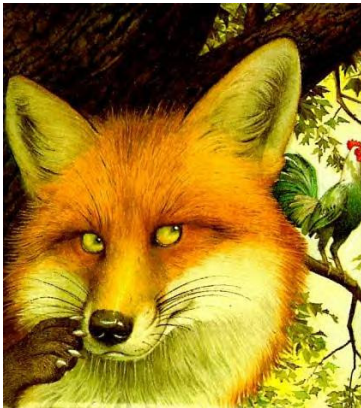
THE OPEN DOOR

The fox becomes true
at the opened barn door
accidentally discovered,
where the warmly-held eggs
lie splattered in their bed.

As if he had cleverly left his tail
brushing the old barn foundation,
where he lay crouching slowly counting
the thick asthmatic breathing of cows
with his small woodland brain.

And in his ghostly fight with a rooster,
whose wings have formed a black clip
over the cock's head.
The hen is still clamped
in the fox's jaws,
the story of the true fox
never ends.

© Gloria Craig



The Fox and the Rooster - Aesop's Fables



Auction Day - Photographer - Bill Coleman

Angel Hearts in Flight

To all you innocents,
full of love, joy,
and forgiveness,
your young lives
snuffed out cruelly
without reason or remorse.

Console your Angel hearts in flight
to the shelter of God's embrace,
and hide your tear stained eyes
from this heartless,
cruel, cruel world.

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(In memory of Amish School children - Paradise, PA 10/2/2006)



To School - Photographer - Bill Coleman



Sisters - Photographer - Bill Coleman

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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.

