

August 12, 2006
 Volume 2 Issue 8

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Monthly Update

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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.



“Van Sant Bridge” near Bowman’s Hill, PA
 Artist - Larry Chestnut
 Plein air painting



“Boys of Summer”- 2004
 Artist - Judith A. Lawrence
 Acrylic

**Next meeting of Artsbridge/River Poets:
 September 9, 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 September 30, 2006. Seeking volunteers for an anthology committee in reference to publication/content/format, artwork, editing, etc.

New Members Welcome:

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 dog days of summer hit us early in August, followed by torrential rains, but our writers were busy being

published all over the map. The monthly group meeting as usual produced some amazing new works. From Carole Harris's piece, "America's Favorite Curse Word" a rollicking tale sure to find a publisher soon, to Kathe Palka's picturesque poem "Gypsies," about summer visitors to local farms during the depression, which triggered my memory to begin writing a new short story titled "Miranda and the Gypsies." George Dabrowski read his tribute to young women from the eyes of an older man poem, "Death and the Maiden." Bill Donlen read his profound poem, "My Thing With God," published herein. Ruth Deming read her prose piece "The SS Man" about an encounter in Barnes & Noble. Carolyn Constable reminds us in "Providence" that in these difficult times, "God's providence prevails." Joe Treceno read his lampoon poem "Time running Out," and Bob Muller commended me for my work with the group in his endearing "Ode to Judith" poem, both published within. I read my new poem, "Uncluttered," about ridding the clutter in our lives, what we leave behind, and the desire to shed our skin and begin anew.



**Artsbridge/River Poets
Open Mic Night
September 22
7:00 - 10:00 PM
The Full Moon Café
23 Bridge Street
Lambertville, NJ 08530
\$10.00 Cover Charge
Includes Beverage & Dessert
Bring your poems,
short-short stories,
sing, play an instrument,
dance, whistle a tune.
be creative.**

Great Quotes

"The problem with people who have no vices is that generally you can be pretty sure they're going to have some pretty annoying virtues."
- Liz Taylor

"To die and not to have told our story may be one of the biggest tragedies that can befall a person. If you let a loved one die without hearing his or her stories, it will leave a hole in your being that can never be refilled."
- Richard Stone in Stories, The Family Legacy

Congratulations to Writers Among Us

- **Carolyn Constable** for publication of her poem "Fractured" in *Lucidity* - <http://lucidity.poetryinarts.org/>
- **Ruth Deming** for her poem "Wedding Belles" to be published in the "Poems for All" series - Her poem # is 644 <http://www.sacfreepress.com/poems/about.html>
- **Carole Harris** for publication in *New Hope PA voices*: http://www.newhopepa.com/voices/Carole_H/charris_index.htm
- **John Alexanderson** - His poem "Spark" won an honorable mention in the spring contest from *Time of Singing: A Magazine of Christian Poetry*

Hobo Facts - *The Hobo News 1915-1929* was a monthly Newspaper started by James Eads. It was a mix of jobs news, poems, sentimental short stories and Hobo lore.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to all of our writers who inspire me monthly to publish this newsletter, and who never fail to surprise, touch and delight me with their poetry and prose.



Two Announcements

In addition to our monthly 2nd Saturday of the month group meeting at Lambertville Library, we will also have a once a month Tuesday Open Mic night at:

**Rojo's Roastery
243 North Union Street,
Suite 150
Lambertville, NJ 08530
609-397-0040
www.rojasroastery.com**

Scheduled Dates to follow:

New Young Writers Workshop Start-up - October/November, 2006

We are kicking off the new Young Writers Workshop on Oct. 26, with the 2006 Bucks County High School Poet Laureate Winners Reading at Lambertville Library from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Five of the winners will each read a selection of their poetry.

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.

Scheduled Dates to follow:

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.

**Judabah@aol.com
215-638-2493**

***October Author Readings
Lambertville Library***

***Oct. 26 - 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](mailto:Dr.Allen.Hoey@buckscounty.org) at 215-968-8279. Dr. Hoey will be reading at Lambertville Library on January 27, 2007

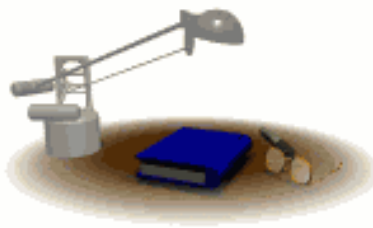
***Oct. 28 - Edwin Romond, Author & Poet
Reading - 2:00 - 4:00 PM***

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/>



Writers Work - August 12, 2006 Meeting

"My Thing With God"

alpha

This snow,
this storm
came at us
covering everything
We blinked.
We had to.
Nature flexed and
we flinched
And wisely so.

To challenge

was to embrace defeat,
chagrin guaranteed
and frozen toes to boot.

Best

when gauntlet's thrown
by power impossible to us?
Embrace, admire,
involve senses,
mere strength's trumped
By what we mayn't subdue
despite God's charge in Genesis.

beta

"Fill the Earth and
Subdue it"

No God with any sense
would ever issue that
to such as we

If God knew what was
being said and understood.

gamma

From mythic gods' view
how silly we must seem
challenging what'll never change
and
changing what would benefit
to what will kill us all
in Capitalism's grasp.

© Bill Donlen 11 Aug., 2006



www.estatevaults.com - Boston Blizzard

TIME RUNNING OUT

No time to fill
streets with confetti
and honor
Lawrence Ferlinghetti
To provide saltpeter pills
for wayward priest ills
Time's run out on Shakespeare
and a bagel with
creamcheese shmear

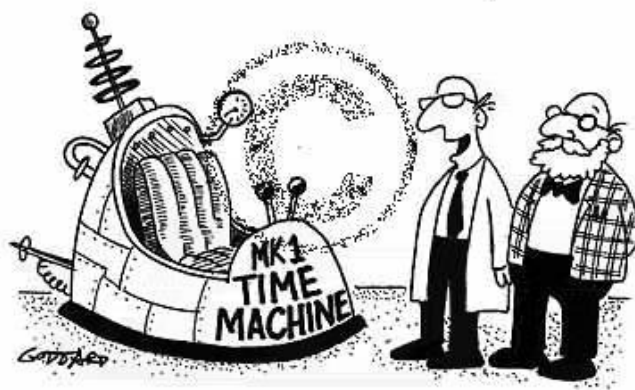
Too late to follow
"Blue Suede Shoes"
towards Graceland's
celestial blues
For government to forget
tax shelters and worry
over homeless shelters
For bush to stop waving
at Stevie Wonder

Time for Hoover Dam
to take down its
"No Handball Allowed" sign
For Mademoiselle Liberty
to leave her pedestal and
pole-dance over at Scores
And matadors to sell
advertising space
on their capes

For Sigmund Freud
to ride through space
on an asteroid
Becalmed on funeral time
and prophet flame
Too late to stop blood-wound
slaughter in Allah's name
Heading for heaven
and no time
to pack sandwiches

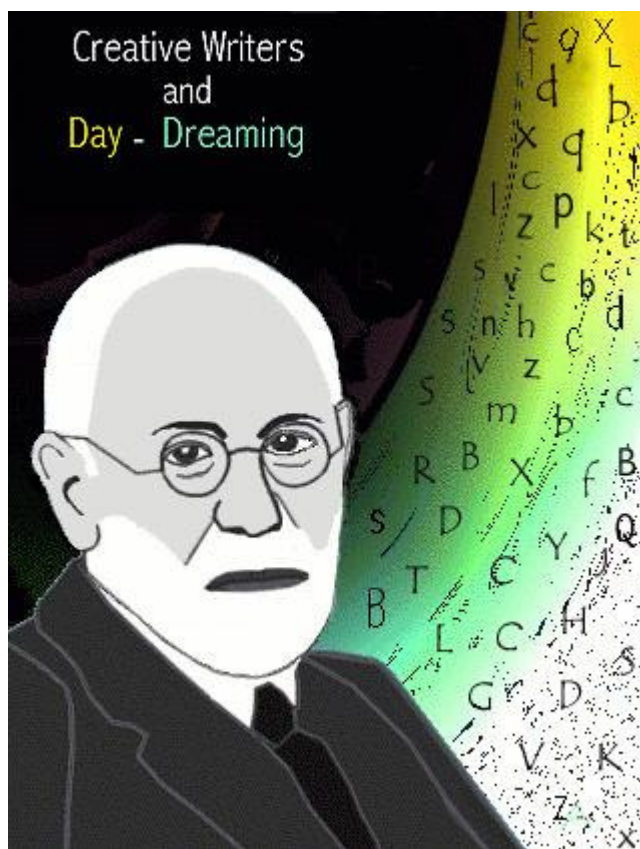
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©Joe Treceno



"It takes you back, doesn't it".

Einstein Cartoon



Sigmund Freud - Artist Unknown

By Popular Request - Bob's Tribute Poem

ODE TO JUDITH

A guy named Bob did an adequate job.
This lady named Judith, who is the cutest.
Since she took over, we're all in clover.

The E-mails she sends us, will make your head spin.
The info, they give us, let's us all win.

Where does she get all of this knowledge?
I say she's a walking, home made college.

You want it designed? Judith can do it.
She'll help you say yes, when you're ready
to say screw it.

Her monthly newsletter.
It couldn't be better.

A professional job if ever there was one.
How she puts it all together, leaves me in a conundrum.

She's got the talent to run this show.
So give her a cheer and yell, GO Judith, GO!

© Robert Muller 08/11/06

~

My Poem to Ruth

VISIT WITH RUTH IN HER YELLOW HOUSE

My friend Ruth,
she lives like a writer...
stacks of notes, books,
scraps of poems everywhere.

In contrast to this writer,
who lives like a proper
New Englander Hausfrau
eclectic collector gone mad.

Bouncing along,
with barefoot surefooted steps,
or curling childlike in her chair
her cap of spiked pale yellow hair,
bobbing as she speaks,
her quizzical eyes flashing,
she is forever young.

Her agile mind is
capable of leaping

from Boston Chicken
to funeral processions,
and woe to those
who may get lost
sliding down her
"Alice Through the Looking Glass,"
rabbit hole journey.

Her playful artwork is
tucked here and there,
ribbons of confetti,
assorted colorful
objects d'art
reflected through
streaming sunlight
from curtain-less windows.

The only draped room,
the Master bedroom,
her muse's lair with jeweled lamp,
and un-primped bed which
contains on one half of the bed
piles of her morning reading,
in lieu of husband/lover,
because "I never met a man,
who I wanted to sleep with
all night long," she wrote.*

She gives me white hydrangeas on parting,
fresh cuttings from her garden,
I watch her bare feet scramble
up the walk to her yellow house.

I drive home,
arrange my flowers in a crystal vase,
curl up in bed to nap,
roll a grouchy sleepy pup
to the bottom of the bed,
and toss a book or two,
along with the scratchy penned
beginning of this poem
to the other side of my plumped up
Martha Stewart approved bed,
where I lay dreaming
of childhood summer walks
along rose scented trellis porches
and fenced white Hydrangea bushes
in long ago West Philadelphia.

© Judith A. Lawrence - 8/17/2006

* Quote from Ruth's poem "Master of the House."

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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.

