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2022**

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Poetry Society of Michigan



"Encouraging Poets Since 1935"

March 2022

President's Message

Dear Friends,

As COVID rates decline and the promise of spring is in the air (I've seen robins already!), I'm looking forward to the PSM spring meeting, which will take place on **Saturday, April 9, 2022**, at the **Veterans' Memorial Library in Mt. Pleasant** (301 S. University Ave), between **10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** (Note the later start time than usual as the library doesn't open on Saturday until 10 a.m.) **Robert Fanning** from Central Michigan University will be conducting a writing workshop for us. Fanning is a wonderful poet and teacher, author of numerous books, including *Severance* and *Our Sudden Museum*. Please plan to join us for the poetry readings, the fellowship, and the laughter, along with lunch and literary inspiration.

Melanie Dunbar, editor extraordinaire of our twice yearly *Peninsula Poets*, has decided to give up the position. She has served us well over the years, and we thank her! Stay tuned for developments on a new editor. (PSM members interested in helping with Peninsula Poets or with the annual contests, please let me know dljames@oaklandcc.edu).

In recognition of upcoming **National Poetry Month**, here is a little writing exercise that I've always found productive. From *In the Palm of Your Hand* by Steve Kowitz, it's called the Controlling Metaphor. Use an unusual metaphor in a line and then try to extend the analogy as far and as long as possible. Some examples include:

You are made of ____ (glass? needles? bark?)

His/her past was a ____ (shovel? broken vase?, bonfire?)

My love is a ____ (potato? an anchor? tire?)

His/her heart is a ____ (ratchet? jar of mustard? sparrow?)

If nothing else, your poem will be unique and memorable and that's half the battle.

I hope you'll join us this April at the spring meeting. Bring your poems to share! Let's work together to make the Poetry Society of Michigan a literary force to be reckoned with!

David James

PSM Spring 2022 Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the Poetry Society of Michigan will be held in-person on **April 9**, hosted by **Veterans' Memorial Library in Mt. Pleasant** (301 S. University Ave), part of the Chippewa River District Library System. [All Isabella County health and safety regulations will be observed, should any still be in effect.] Held in the Annex Room, the meeting will consist of introducing the new members of the Executive Board and updating their activities, the appointment (or reappointment) of non-elected positions, the Traveling Trophy reading contest, distribution of the 2022 Members' issue of *Peninsula Poets*, and reports from committees. A workshop will be led by distinguished Michigan poet and CMU faculty member **Robert Fanning**. Your \$25 registration should be sent (or arrangements made with Susan Anderson) no later than **April 2** to:

SPRING MEETING 2022
The Poetry Society of Michigan
PO Box 1035
Cadillac, MI. 49601

YES! I plan to attend the 2022 Spring Meeting in Mt. Pleasant!

I've enclosed my registration fee of \$25/each in the form of a check made out to
The Poetry Society of Michigan.

Name _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Lunch preferences (circle):

Herbivore Carnivore Vegan Non-gluten

Bring my own No preference

WORDVIEW

Art Inspiring Art

WordView, “a juried exhibition of artwork that incorporates both literary and visual components,” has been lauded as “a triumph,” “inspirational,” “the best show LowellArts has ever hung.” Funded in part by a grant from **Michigan Humanities**, and in partnership with the **Poetry Society of Michigan** and the **International Society of Experimental Artists**, the exhibit, hosted by LowellArts, was the concluding event in a series of panels, presentations, and workshops on topics related to the creation of works of art that incorporate image and text, including ekphrastic poetry, illustration, book making, and collaboration. The exhibit itself was shown at the LowellArts gallery between January 8 and February 20, 2022.

Six works in the exhibit were award Jurors' Prizes of \$400: *Japanese Garden: Four Seasons*, by **Nola Nielson** and **Nellie deVries** [PSM Member]; *The Market West of Town*, by **Francis Hull**; *Nature Revealed*, by **Sandy Meyer**; *Paper Garden Trilogy*, by **Sharon Oleniczak**, **Charles B. Oleniczak**, and **Emily Stoddard**; *Pins & Needles*, by **Kim Kleinhardt**; *Slips*, by **Mary Jane Pories**.

Among the PSM members and regional poets who had work accepted for display in the exhibit were **Colleen Alles**, **Patricia Barnes**, **Linda Nemece Foster**, **Robin Church**, **Jennifer Clark**, **Nellie deVries**, **Elizabeth Kerlikowske**, **Patricia Clark**, **Jane Wheeler**, **Emily Stoddard**, **Miriam Pederson**, and **Janice Zerfas**.

Copies of the complete **WordView** exhibition booklet can be purchased for \$15 at LowellArts or ordered through the website: lowellartsmi.org

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Art Talks Back

The **Muskegon Museum of Art**'s annual ekphrastic poetry contest is in full swing. Between January 20 and **March 24, 2022**, Michigan writers are invited to submit an original ekphrastic poem based on one of five works of art selected from Museum's permanent collection, such as Winfred Rembert's *Yellow Rows* pictured here:



The contest is free to enter and open to all Michigan residents, including students of high school age and those enrolled in college. Cash prizes of **\$200** (1st), **\$100** (2nd), **\$75** (3rd) and **\$25** (Honorable Mentions) plus 1-year Museum memberships will be awarded.

Several PSM members have been previous winners.

The contest guidelines, images of all five of the selected artworks, and the required entry form can be found at the Museums' website: muskegonartmuseum.org. Or visit the Museum in person before the March 24 deadline. Entries must be digital submissions via Google Forms (as explained in the guidelines).

PSM is a contributing sponsor of *Art Talks Back*.

Observation One Day in Spring

I wish baby leaves
unripe green would fringe
the tree branch
beyond the pale spring

Tiny maple leaves unfold
curl my finger
like the pink wrinkled palm
of a newborn baby's hand

The watercolor dash
of showers
blends to deeper greens

Tree shade splotches
heavy-handed hues
upon the grass

Summer leaves
are thicker things

Whipped by driving rain
they cling like determined children
climbing trees

Julie George

Blue Water Poetry Zoom

Open Mic.

PSM member **George Wylie** from the Downriver Poets & Playwrights hosts a weekly Open Mic on Zoom **every Monday** at 8 PM EST. Among recent *Guest Bards* who open the program was distinguished poet and artist **Patricia Barnes** (Feb 28). The rest of the time is round-robin open mic.

You can join us at Zoom Meeting ID **850 8444 3586** Passcode **312195** or try this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85084443586>
Direct any questions to George at whwylie@gmail.com

Notes from UP North

The **Marquette Poets Circle** will again be meeting in person in the Shiras Room of **Peter White Library in Marquette**. Workshops and Open Mics are usually held on the 1st Monday of the month. Holidays may cause the event to move to the 2nd Monday instead. Contact **Janeen Rastall** for up-to-date info: janeenpergrin@gmail.com.

The Marquette Poets Circle will also be participating in the **Great Lakes Poetry Fest** sponsored by **Peter White Library** and **Northern Michigan University**. There will be events every day of April (**National Poetry Month**) including readings, workshops, a broadside exhibit, films, and an Easter Egg Hunt/Poetry Party for kids. Featured readers include **Thomas Lynch** and **Kathleen Heideman** on **April 12th** at 7 p.m. in the Peter White Library; **Keith Taylor** and **Milton Bates** on **April 19th** at 7 p.m. in the Peter White Library; and **Cindy Morgan Hunter** and **Lynn Domina** on **April 24th** at 7 p.m. in the Morgan Chapel, of **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**, Marquette. For more details contact **Martin Achatz**, Adult Programming Director, Peter White Public Library: machtz@pwpl.info.

The **Upper Peninsula Poet Laureate Foundation** is raising funds to distribute poetry broadsides to all the tribal communities and high school and public libraries in the U.P. The broadsides are part of a project for Marquette Art Week 2022. The poems will be combined with artwork and displayed on the Cultural Heritage path. The display will be portable and available for use by other communities.

The Foundation is accepting donations to cover printing and project costs via credit card or PayPal through the Foundation's webpage (uppoetlaureate.org/u-p-poet-laureate-foundation/) or by check to The Upper Peninsula Poet Laureate Foundation, c/o Janeen Rastall, 2100 M-28 E, Marquette, MI 49855.

Find out more about at uppoetlaureate.org

Laughing Song

When the green woods laugh with the voice of joy,
And the dimpling stream runs laughing by;
When the air does laugh with our merry wit,
And the green hill laughs with the noise of it;

When the meadows laugh with lively green,
And the grasshopper laughs in the merry scene,
When Mary and Susan and Emily
With their sweet round mouths sing "Ha, Ha, He!"

When the painted birds laugh in the shade,
Where our table with cherries and nuts is spread,
Come live & be merry, and join with me,
To sing the sweet chorus of "Ha, Ha, He!"

William Blake (English, 1757-1827)

Spring

Spring fever is surely catching.
Mama Robin with eggs hatching.
Green grass growing,
Lawns in need of mowing.

Blossoms in the trees.
Sound of buzzing bees.
No more ice or snow,
Streams of water swiftly flow.

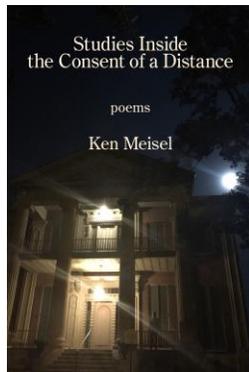
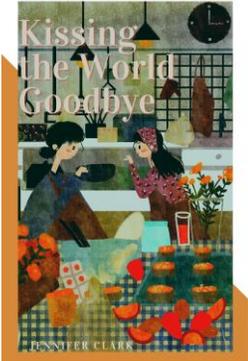
Sunshine does much to bring a smile.
Colorful flowers show off their style.
Bunnies and rabbits at play,
Spring is here to stay.

Mary Ann Bozenski

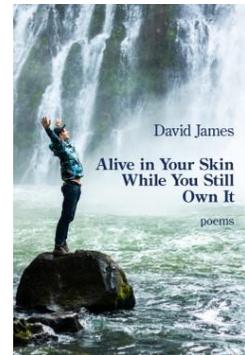
The Printed Word

Jennifer Clark's latest book, *Kissing the World Goodbye*, to be released by **Unsolicited Press** on March 15, braids family tales with recipes. **Gail Griffin** writes, "When you close *Kissing the World Goodbye*, you will already be missing her scientist father, in his gentle, wise intimacy with tiny invertebrate creatures; her mother, who always has something up her sleeve and who vanquishes incompetent bankers; her brother, epidemiologist and inspirational chef; and above all her sister, the exasperating and relentlessly loving Holly, queen of Costco and maker of killer strawberry-jalapeño margaritas. **Clark**, who has worked mostly in poetry, here mines the secret of memoir: that in the ragged particulars of our lives lies the vast human story, full of yearning, grief, loyalty, intimacy, laughter, and appetite."

The book is available for pre-order from **Unsolicited Press**. More information can be found on Clark's website: jenniferclarkkzoo.com.



Ken Meisel's new book, *Studies Inside the Consent of a Distance* is being published through **Kelsay Press** and is dedicated to his good friend, **Joy Gaines-Friedler**. Distinguished Michigan poets **Jack Ridl**, **John Jeffire**, and **Jeff Vande Zande** have each provided a generous blurb for the book. In recognition of the book's release (and National Poetry Month) **Meisel** and **Gaines-Friedler** will be reading (via Zoom) on **April 19**, at **7 p.m.**, hosted by the **Royal Oak Library**. More info can be found on the library's website. Follow Meisel on Facebook.



Colleen Alles' first full-length collection of poetry will be released on March 16th. Published through the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point **Cornerstone Press**, as part of the Portage Poetry Series. "All the poems in *After the 8-Ball*," says an early press release, "want answers, and so have thrown themselves at the mercy of a black plastic 8-Ball filled with dark blue alcohol and a tiny twenty-sided die. Love, loss, and Lake Michigan feature prominently . . ." Ordering info for this collection (or for Alles' chapbooks) can be found on her website: colleenalles.com.

David James' seventh book is out from Kelsay Books, *Alive in Your Skin While You Still Own It*. It is a strange combination of his poems discovered from the late 1970s and early 1980s combined with newer poems. The question is, can you guess which poems are forty years old and which ones are new? Order from Kelsay Books or from David at dljames@oaklandcc.edu.

Elizabeth Kerlikowske's new chapbook, *The Vaudeville Horse: Prose Poems*, will be published by Etchings Press of the University of Indianapolis in May 2022. Watch for additional info in future Newsletters.

News from River Junction Poets

The **March Meeting** of River Junction Poets will take place on **Saturday, the 26th**, at **1 p.m.** at **Zauel Library**.

The 2022 RJP Poetry Contest for Middle and High School students is a GO! after two years of hiatus due to COVID. **Celeste Gerard**, Contest Chairperson, announced that the deadline for entries will be March 25, though other details are still being finalized. RJP will, sadly, **not** host a Spring Performance again this year (where the winning poems are usually celebrated with a reading). Further info on a prize presentation ceremony or student reading will be announced in the *RJP Newsletter*.

Roethke House Events

A number of presentations and workshops will be held in virtual format through May. All offerings are free and open to the public, but registration is necessary. Recent and upcoming events include: **Holly Hughes** on March 1; **Tess Gallagher** on March 8; a writing workshop with **Anita Skeen** on March 15; **Jennifer Clement and Suzanne Mallouk** on March 22; and a writing workshop with **Carol Barret** on March 29.

National Poetry Month will be celebrated with writing workshop led by **Anita Skeen** on **April 5**; a workshop led by **Carol Barrett** on **April 19**; and a workshop led by **Diane Seuss** on **April 26**. Selected writing produced during these workshops will be published in chapbook form.

During May a series of programs by poets included in **William Barrilla's** anthology *Field Guide to Roethke's Poetry* will take place. Participants include **John Rohrkemper** on **May 1**; **Katherine Bubel** on **May 10**; and **David Wojahn** on **May 25**.

For more info about **Roethke House** activities, or to register for events, go to www.friendsofroethke.org.

& Other News

Linda Nemeč Foster had new poems and flash fiction accepted or published in numerous journals including *MacQueen's Quinterly* where Editor Clare MacQueen, nominated Linda's "The Irish Guest at the Wedding in Krakow," for the 2022 *Best Small Fictions Anthology*. Foster's latest book, *The Blue Divide*, was featured in DMQ's Virtual Salon for January. Her poem "My Silent Uncle and His Orchids" was published in the 2022 *Roethke House Calendar* sponsored by Saginaw Valley State University. And another poem, "History of the Hand," was featured on the Poetry X Hunger website—a project that works to end hunger worldwide. Her video/poem "City of Stone, City of Trees" was a finalist in Slippery Elm's Deanna Tulley Media Contest. Two of Linda's collaborations, with visual artists **Meridith Ridl** and **Dianne Carroll Burdick**, were included in *WordView: Art Inspiring Art* sponsored by LowellArts. Foster's manuscript of prose poems, *Bone Country*, was one of three finalists chosen from over 450 submissions for the Off the Grid Poetry Prize.

On Friday, March 4, at 8 p.m. **Jack Ridl** will be reading with **Rachael** and **Joel Peckham** and son **Darius** on The Greatest Indoor Reading Series from Queens, NYC. It's on Zoom and will be recorded and released later. Joel and Rachael have published collections and widely in various magazines. Rachael was named Teacher of the Year at Marshall University. Darius is one of the country's six Youth Poet Laureates. He is a student at Harvard. You can keep up with Jack's many activities and publications at ridl.wordpress.com.

A Zoom reading will be held by **Friends of Poetry** in Kalamazoo to celebrate the **Celery City Chapbook winners of 2021**. Readers include **Beth Bullmer** and **Michelle Ringle-Barrett** from Michigan's west coast and PSM members **Joy Gaines-Friedler** and **Diana Dinverno** from the east on **March 23**, at **7 p.m.** Visit the Friends of Poetry website to RSVP (friendsofpoetry.org).

Zilka Joseph was in conversation with *Rattle* editor **Timothy Green** about her book *In Our Beautiful Bones* and other topics on the program *Rattlecast*. The program can be watched on Youtube. Zilka's reading for *Third Wednesday Magazine*, hosted by **David Jibson**, can be seen at the *Third Wednesday Website* (<https://thirdwednesdaymagazine.org/2021/12/07/in-our-beautifu-bones-zilka-joseph/>)

Warbler Days

Kinglets and Yellows fall
from trees like lemon drops

and a Magnolia zips past
dark streaks a-blur
chasing a Cape May out
of its just-claimed kingdom
then a Redstart challenges both

will the same Prothonotary
(repeat that fast) blaze of gold
return to its tree in the swamp
build a nest and will the same
wren pull it apart

if it's your lucky day a Black-throated
Blue and/or a Black-throated Green
will suddenly perch so close
you can see a gnat in its beak

then flit away so quickly
you are dazed
light plays with winged jewels
leaping shadows

look there look there a crowd gathers
gasping oh my oh my
it's the first Blackburnian of the season
how it flares with a deep orange flame

and now blue and white flashes above
a Cerulean (OMG) appears
we are mere mortals
(heads thrown back
necks outstretched)
burning for a glimpse
of something like heaven

Zilka Joseph**Hard Freeze in the Fruit Belt**

Easter egg blue oozes over the Midwest on the weather map.
The forecaster warns us to cover up our plants or bring them in.
Anxiety of commercial growers palpable as a ripe peach, an apricot.
If the blossoms fall, there will be little fruit and little income.
Smudge pots and hope are not enough against the unusual cold.
Frost seems almost welcome, a nuisance, compared to freeze.
In the predawn dark, the growers cup their coffee and wait to see
if the vineyards have been saved by the warmth of Lake Michigan,
if drifts of apple blossoms skirt the trees, and in the next orchard,
if peach blossoms scatter like pieces of mowed-over hose, pink
as their dogs' tongues, breaths making clouds in the half light of dawn.

Elizabeth Kerlikowske

2022 Springfed Arts Writers Contest

RULES: Funded and sponsored by Springfed Arts, this annual contest is open to active members (new and renewing by April 15) of Springfed Arts. Entries accepted by email from February 15, 2022 through April 15, 2022. Prizes in both poetry and prose: 1st Prize \$150, 2nd Prize \$100, 3rd Prize \$75.

The poetry judge for 2022 is Dunya Mikhail. The prose judge is Linda Sienkiewicz.

Submission Guidelines: Free submission for current or new Springfed Arts members only. No name on poetry or prose submission pages. Prose (fiction, nonfiction or memoir) must be double-spaced, 10 pages or less. (An excerpt of a longer piece may be used.) A cover page should include your name, address, phone, email, and title of piece. Poetry should include 3 poems no more than 5 total pages, with name, address, phone, email, and titles of poems on cover sheet. All submissions must be typewritten and previously unpublished. Submissions must be emailed as a Word attachment to info@springfed.org.

Join or renew a membership online. There is no contest application form. Your membership will suffice. For more information about membership, the contest, or Springfed Arts classes and retreats visit Springfed.org.

Contest Deadline: must be emailed by midnight of April 15, 2021. Manuscripts that do not follow the above rules will be discarded. Your manuscript is non-returnable.

Joye Lucille Smith Giroux, 1930-2022*

Michigan poet and PSM member Joye Lucille Smith Giroux died peacefully Sunday, January 23, surrounded by loved ones. She was the epitome of a life well lived, loved by many who will miss her impish humor and wisdom.

Born May 31, 1930, to Joseph Earl Smith and Olive Birdie Jenkins Smith, Joye was the youngest of four children. Her sister Margaret and brothers Otis and Jim, all preceded her in death. Her early years were spent on a farm in rural Michigan. She graduated from Bay City Central and earned her teaching degree from Central Michigan University. Joye married Philip Giroux in December 1951.

During many years as a beloved educator, Joye taught French and English, at South Lake High School in St. Clair Shores, MI, and at Big Rapids High School. She began to write poetry to ease the pain of losing her husband to cancer in June 1969. Eventually poetry became an invaluable part of her life. She served as President of the Poetry Society of Michigan and published several books. She retired in 1989 and moved to North Carolina to live with her daughter, Patti.

She is survived by two daughters, Patti Giroux, and Helen (John) LaVere; two grandsons, Philip (Callie) LaVere and beloved great-granddaughter Piper, and Derrick LaVere and Amanda Welsh; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to poetry, family was very important to her, and she will be greatly missed.

*Obituary adapted from Bryan-Lee Funeral Home website.

2022 Westminster Art Festival

2022 marks the 10th year of the **Westminster Art Festival**, which will take place **April 30–June 15** at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Portage. This annual event is a juried exhibition of art and poetry with an environmental theme, which changes every year. This year's theme is "A Certain Slant of Light," based on Emily Dickinson's well-known poem. Jurors will be **Mary Brodbeck** for visual art, and **Susan Blackwell Ramsey** for poetry. Artists or poets sixteen years of age are eligible to submit. Poetry awards will range from \$100-\$300; visual art awards from \$25 (Honorable Mentions) to \$800 (First Prize). Visit westminsterartfestival.org for guidelines and entry fees.

Entries should follow Emily Dickinson's lead as she suggests that "a certain slant of light" impacts how we see things. Westminster's Call for Submissions suggests: You might explore the rhythms of light and dark; you might consider how human beings misused light to negatively impact the environment; you might shed light on what we are doing to the earth; you might celebrate light and its life-sustaining capacities . . .

The Westminster Art Festival is sponsored by **Westminster Presbyterian Church** in Portage, with support from the **Beim Foundation** and the **Presbytery of Lake Michigan**. The Festival aims to attend to and celebrate the connections between "art, care for the earth, and faith," yet participation is open to all artists and poets regardless of faith.

Questions? Email: jerryorjanet@wpcportage.org

Kindred with Walt

By **Ron Weber**

Recently I found myself once again staring at a blank computer screen as I arm wrestled, jostled with, or otherwise confronted that nemesis that periodically afflicts all poets and writers, at least the ones I know: i.e., writer's block. Finally realizing I was not the Alpha in this confrontation, I shutdown the computer, kicked back with my glass of vino and, for some reason, found myself nostalgically ruminating over my life, and what brought me to this compulsion to put words on paper. Part of the motivation, I decided, could be traced back to an experience I had with the bestselling novelist Kurt Vonnegut, which, it seemed to me, paralleled an experience Walt Whitman had with Ralph Waldo Emerson.

As I'm sure most of you know, Whitman sent Emerson a copy of the first edition of *Leaves of Grass* (1855). Emerson was one of the titans of literature at the time and Whitman knew that whatever positive comments Emerson might make, if any, would hold a lot of currency. Emerson praised the book in a congratulatory letter to Whitman, excerpts from which Walt used generously in his marketing of the book. The rest, as they say, is history.

As for me, I took the Emerson-Whitman exchange as a lesson in self-promotion and so dedicated my first book of poetry to Kurt Vonnegut, who in our time had a literary reputation equal to Emerson's. Vonnegut was my idol. Yet given his reputation, I didn't really expect much more than a form letter back, if that. The world of writerly fame and endorsement had expanded significantly since Emerson's time, and I didn't really have an expectation of a reply at all. To my surprise, several weeks later, I received a personal letter from Kurt.

I have to tell you that, upon receiving Kurt's letter, I knew exactly how Walt Whitman must have felt when he received that now famous letter from

Emerson. I was thrilled *beyond words*, awe-struck by the thoughtfulness, encouragement, and warmth of Vonnegut's comments. Me, a small town rube from the Midwest getting a letter from Kurt Vonnegut! Incredible! And one of the practical realities of getting the letter is that it afforded me some marketing pull-quotes that I was able to use in press releases to the media and general public. (While this may appear self-indulgent, it's sad to say that there's a lot of personal promotion required of poets these days, relative to marketing and exposure. The literary world is highly competitive, as Whitman understood quite well.)

The positive response I received from Vonnegut gave me the courage to approach Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks. Shortly after Vonnegut's letter, Brooks had an appearance and poetry reading at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, which I attended. Afterward, I wrote her, expressing my appreciation for a great poetry experience and included a copy of my book. I received back a short but very complimentary note in her tight handwriting on beige paper. This, too, provided me with yet another blurb for marketing—and from Gwendolyn Brooks, of all people!

I am relaying these experiences to urge the rest of you burgeoning poets to consider doing the same. The writers we admire so much from a distance can end up being such warm, caring, generous, and genuine people that a personal reply from them is next to priceless. We might assume they just don't have the time for folks like us but—you know what?—it appears that many will make the time. At least, I know that some of them do.

So, give it a shot. You may have to do a little internet research to find an address for your muse.* I ended up having to actually write Vonnegut and Brooks in care of their agents. You can also try going through the publisher of their books. Be patient, and good luck. These were, for me, unforgettable experiences.

*Editor's note: Try Poets & Writers website (pw.org).

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

Business Address:

PSM Treasurer
PO Box 1035
Cadillac, MI 49601

Email: Treasurer.PSM@gmail.com

Website:
poetrysocietyofmichigan.com
& FACEBOOK

an affiliate of

The National Federation of
State Poetry Societies
www.nfsps.com



Literary Locals: Writers Welcome

Post-COVID Alert! Confirm with Organization before Attending!

The Lansing Poetry Club

generally meets at 3 p.m. of the 3rd Sunday of the month at Dublin Square Irish Pub & Restaurant (327 Abbot Rd., **East Lansing**, MI 48823). For more info or to confirm a meeting, visit Facebook or email LPC President Ruelaine Stokes (ruestokes@gmail.com).

The **Detroit Poetry Salon** is a bi-weekly ZOOM meeting of poets who have, according to liaison **Nancy Shattuck**, "bonded in Spring Fed [Arts] poetry classes." You do not need to be a Springfed or PSM member to join. Interested poets should contact Nancy for more info at shattucknj@gmail.com.

Downriver Poets & Playwrights

meets regularly on the first Tuesday of the month at Bacon Memorial Library in **Wyandotte** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact **Dennis White** at 734-755-5988 or denniswhite@mail.com for more information.

Friends of Poetry – Kalamazoo.

For information about the many activities and gatherings of this group that has served the literary arts of the greater Kalamazoo area for nearly 40 years, contact **Elizabeth Kerlikowske** (mme642@yahoo.com) or visit their Facebook page.

Rochester Poets' Society

meets at the Rochester Hills Public Library, in **Rochester**, from 1-3 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. For more info Contact **Nancy Stevens** 248-217-4034 or email writings80@yahoo.com.

Bards of Bird Creek has suspended meetings until further notice. Typically *May through October* at 7:00 p.m. in the **Port Austin** Welcome Center. Call (989)738-7641 to confirm dates or for more information.

Marquette Poets Circle

meets on first Monday of the month in the Peter White Library Conference Room at 5:30 for workshop, 6:30 for Open Mic. For more info contact **Janeen Rastall** at janeenrastall@yahoo.com or 906-451-4473

For current activities of **3rd Thursday Poetry** which prior to COVID met each month at Horizon Books in **Cadillac** (with breaks in Dec. & June-Aug.) contact **Susan Anderson** at (231) 429-2443 (treasurer.psm@gmail.com) or Horizon Books Cadillac at (231) 775-9979.

River Junction Poets of **Saginaw** meet regularly throughout the year. For dates and times and other info, visit their Facebook page or call RJP President **Jim Fobear** at 989-714-5124.

The **Southeast Michigan Poetry Meet-up** meets from 7-9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Panera Bread, 27651 Southfield Road in **Lathrup Village**, MI. For more information, call **Carla Dodd** at 248-861-3636.