

December
1999

Stroll Scroll
Stroll of Poets Society
Box 35082, Oliver PO
Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8
<http://www.ccinet.ab.ca/stroll>



President's Message

Fellow Strollers,

November already. Post-Stroll, in other words. And the Anthology is coming together, but still a long way off till December 18, when the Anthology will be launched. Hmmm. What to do? Ah, the Poetry for Windy Nights at the Idlewyld on October 21st was a hoot. With a good-sized audience and complimentary coffee and cookies, we couldn't have asked for more. The essence of the Stroll was brought home again in the singular and distinctive points of view by the five poets who read together.

But now, what's a Stroller to do? November, and the cold winds are coming. Orlando Books, thank the muse, continues to host some of the best readings in town. The U of A Press issued an open invitation to join them in launching 5 titles at the Timms Centre for the Arts on October 28. Alice Major launches her new book, *Tales for an Urban Sky*, on November 18 at Volume II. So, there *have* been events to keep us out of the cold.

As I sorted through the Anthology submissions on the chilly evening of October 2, I was so eager to read each poem, each bio, but knew I had to get the manuscript ready for photocopying so the jurors could get to work. Choosing the 44 poems from about 125 poems is no easy task. Each voice, each idea, each word in the Anthology comes at the reader from different compass points, different interior geographies and sensibilities. What makes one poem work for a juror, and another poem not work? Personal connections to the poem, in many cases. Simple druthers in other cases. Remembering that the jurors are looking at these poems without knowing who wrote them makes their choices, in the end, so much more exciting, and so much more the better.

When I finally get a chance to read the poems and put them together with the bios into the Anthology, I can't wait to find out who wrote each poem. Not being a juror, I unabashedly flip the poem over to read the poet's name on the back. That's part of being with the Stroll, I guess. Matching up personalities and physical beings with their poetry, and slowly, slowly developing a sense of who the poet is makes the job of editing the Anthology and the joy of being part of the Stroll such a pleasure.

You know, there is a lot of interest in the Stroll outside of our community too. Ask Vanna Tessier or Jenine Dumont, two of the tireless volunteers who sat at the Stroll booth at The Word Is Out Book Fair. A special thanks to you both for making the presence of the Stroll felt in the literary community! It's important for the information/membership forms/Anthologies to be available at events like the Book Fair. Jo-Ann Godfrey is to be thanked as well for showing up at this event as well as almost every single reading to sell the Anthologies.

Thank you all for participating in the 9th Annual Stroll of Poets Festival. A warm thanks to Dean McKenzie and Spiritus for hosting a marathon Poetry Sweatshop, and to Rusti Leahy for putting together a smooth-running, vibrant Stroll. Thanks to all the board members for giving their time, and putting themselves forward before, during, and after the Stroll.

Until the 18th of December, then, when you are all invited to the Anthology book launch and Stroll Christmas Party at City Hall 2-4 PM. Be of good cheer.
Nancy Mackenzie

STROLL OF POETS DIRECTORY

BOARD MEMBERS

President: Nancy Mackenzie
Past President: Anna Mioduchowska
Vice President: Beckie Garber-Conrad
Secretary and Membership Secretary: Candyce Neill
Treasurer/WebMaster: Gordon McRae
Volunteer Coordinator: Jenine Dumont
Members at Large: Pamela Young, Jacqueline Bell

COORDINATORS

Stroll Coordinator: Rusti Leahy
12 Days Jury Coordinator: Myrna Garanis
12 Days Coordinator: David Huggett
Reading Series: Mark Kozub (The Alberta Beatnik)
Anthology Publisher: Nancy Mackenzie

Newsletter Design & Editing: Rusti Leahy

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES GALORE

The Stroll of Poets is pleased to announce the launch of their 9th Annual Anthology.

Where: City Hall Foyer

When: 2-4 P.M. December 18

Why: 1.) The schedule for the 12 Days of Poetry and Tickets for the 12th Night of Poetry will be available. 2.) Pick up your complimentary copy of the Anthology if you strolled and have a poem in the Anthology. 3.) Meet with Strollers, enjoy refreshments and poetry readings! (Please bring a small plate of Christmas goodies like veggies, cheese and crackers, baked goods to share.) 4.) You will want to pick up additional copies for \$10.00 to give as a gift to someone special. Look inside this anthology and you'll find a place to sit down and rest for a spell. One hundred and sixteen poets have reached out under the poetic firmament to bring you this book of poems. Open it up. Each page is a small gift from a poet who wants to share what he or she has learned of the world. Sit down, if you will, on that chair in the moonlight. Let the poems gather you in and breathe you out, entertained by the words and their crafting. Nancy Mackenzie

RECENT BOOK LAUNCH

Alice Major launches Tales for an Urban Sky, Thursday, November 18, @ 7:30 P.M. @ Volume 2 Bookstore, 12433 - 102 Ave. (This collection won the inaugural Poets Corner Award, sponsored by Broken Jaw Press of Fredericton.) Contact Alice if this announcement came too late and you missed her launch. She'd love to hear from you.



12th DAY OF POETRY NEWS

A 12th Day of Poetry with a Wicked Twist — Friday, January 21, 2000 Strathcona Legion.

Every year only 44 members are chosen by jury to read during the 12 Days of Poetry. Worse, only four finalists are privileged to perform on the 12th Day, leaving many fine poets out in the cold.

To correct this grave injustice, and to lend an edge of gripping drama to the event, we offer two unique door prizes to members only (excluding finalists).

What constitutes an ideal door prize for a poet? Why, a chance to read, of course, in front of the largest annual gathering of poetry-lovers in Edmonton.

To qualify, just enter your name in the draw at the door. Come prepared to recite your original works for precisely five minutes.

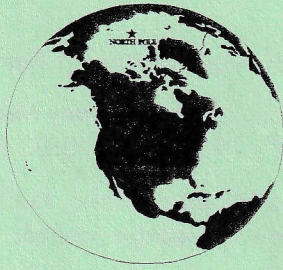
One draw follows the first set of readings. Another draw precedes the second set.

Wear loose comfortable clothing and don't forget to bathe beforehand. The suspense will keep you in sweat.

Look for the 12 Days of Poetry schedule and advance tickets at the Anthology Launch on December 18. For more information, contact 12 Days 1999-2000 Coordinator David Huggett at 414-1534.

Only 5 minutes!





EDMONTON ARTISTS TRUST FUND BENEFIT CONCERT

T.A.L.E.S. Edmonton, sponsored by the Edmonton Public Library, is giving a storytelling concert called Tellabration on Friday, November 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the downtown Stanley A. Milner Library Theatre. 9 tellers are telling one story each; you will hear a wide variety of stories from several cultural backgrounds. There will also be refreshments and door prizes, all for the amazing price of \$5. The tellers are Jean Burgess, Gail de Vos, Colette Frohlich, Jennie Frost, Merle Harris, Roberta Kennedy, Helen Lavender, Marie Anne McLean, and William Thompson. The concert is part of a world-wide celebration of story held simultaneously in Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, Japan, and France. Tickets are available at TIX on the Square, or you can phone Jennie Frost at 433 2932.

CONSIGN YOUR BOOKS

WordWrights, a local Edmonton fiction group, will accept any Stroll Member's self-published books on consignment. They are self-publishing their own collection in the spring of 2000. For further information, please contact Tina Dmytryshyn <dmytry@planet.eon.net> Phone: 475-4012. They have a Christmas reading on Sunday, December 12th. The reading will begin @ 1 P.M. @ Steeps the Urban Tea House, 12411 Stony Plain Road. They are shy a few readers for Christmas and if there are any poets from the Stroll who also write fiction, Tina would sure like to hear from them.

ALBERTA AUTHOR CONNECTION

Hello: My name is Ellen Wells. I am a member of the Stroll and also an English teacher at Ross Sheppard High. I am currently working with a team of teachers who work with the Telus Learning Connection in conjunction with the Edmonton Public School Board on a special Internet project called the Alberta Author Connection. The AAC is a special project aimed at connecting Alberta students with Alberta authors. Our group is interested in students in the province having access to Alberta poets. We think that we could set up a special interactive page at our site www.e-psb.edmonton.ab.ca/pd/tlc which students could submit poetry to Stroll Poets who might be interested in assisting such students with their work. We could provide a platform for such interaction - we would just need to know what interested Stroll members would think might work best. Please consider this Tele-collaborative project. Students all over the province benefit significantly from it. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Ellen Wells

<ewells1@epsb.edmonton.ab.ca>

STROLL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The next volunteer brigade is needed for the 12th Day wind-up Party on January 21, 2000. People are needed to sell tickets at the door, and will be booked for 30 minute slots. Please call Jenine Dumont @434-4665.

SALLY ITO BOOK LAUNCH

Sally Ito launches Season of Mercy @ Orlando Books, 10123-82 Avenue, 7:00 P.M. Friday, November 19, 1999.





CONTESTS

Sidney Booktown Poetry Contest. First Prize \$300. Second Prize: \$100. Postmark deadline December 15th, 1999. For complete contest rules and entry fees, visit:

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

6TH Annual People's Poem Fall Contest \$200 in cash and poetry book prizes to winners.

Winning poems will be published in People's Poetry Letter. All entrants receive a year's subscription (3 issues) to People's Poetry letter. Send entries with fee, or SASE for entry form, to: People's Poetry, Box 31, 2060 Queen St. E., Toronto, ON M4E 3V7. For complete contest rules and entry fees, visit:

<http://webhome.direct.com/~tplantos>

W.O. Mitchell—City of Calgary Book Prize and Alberta Book Awards: 18th Annual Book Competition For full details, please contact the Writer's Guild @ Writers Guild of Alberta, Awards Program, Percy Page Centre, 11759 Groat Road, Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 3K6 or call (780) 422-8174, toll free number 1-800-665-5354 or e-mail wga@oanet.com.

(Due to space restrictions in the Stroll Scroll, the one page plus details are not available.

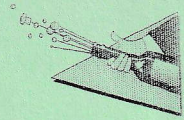
MORE EVENTS

Other Voices Fall Launch

GMCC City Centre, Rm. 6-319, November 25th, 1999, 7 P.M.

Readings by: Josee Johnston(non-fiction); Rusti Leahy(poetry); Julie McKenzie (fiction); Amber Hayward (fiction); Karen Solie(fiction). Also visual artists, Elizabeth Ginn and Evalyn Berg, will be presenting a display of photographs and paintings.

What to do. So much poetry and a person can only be in one place at a time.



Celebration of Alberta Writing Past & Present

Edmonton Public Library Stanley Milner Branch
November 25th, 1999 7:30-10:00 P.M.

Readers: Anna Mioduchowska, Rudy Wiebe, Caterina Edwards, George Melnyk

Refreshments. R.S.V.P. 422-8174

STROLL WORKSHOP #2

A WORD FROM THE EDITORS

There is still time to register for the second workshop of the fall series, entitled "A Word from the Editors." Presented by Shirley Serviss, Jocko and one of the Other Voices editorial collective. Saturday, November 20, 1999, 9:30 A.M. to Noon, 6th Floor, Stanley Milner Library

Come and find out what editors look for when choosing poems for publication in periodicals and books. Learn the characteristics of an effective cover letter. If you would like to register, please send a cheque for \$10 made out to The Stroll of Poets Society c/o 10454 - 78 Ave., Edmonton, AB T6E 1P2. For further information, call (780) 439-7118. See you there!



A HOLIDAY PRESENT FOR YOU

As the Stroll Coordinator this year, I had some very sad phone calls too late after the deadline from people who forgot to register and therefore couldn't read in this year's Stroll. Some people have shared the following tip with me: they give themselves a present of membership at the 12 days. It's the logical time to join b/c the stroll is just past and you always know that you are paid up for the coming year and get to see some of your favourite poets on at least one of the 12 days. There's always someone there with a registration form and can take the paltry \$10.00 membership fee. It's a great way to remember to register in the stroll. Have a great holiday season! See you at the launch.

Rusti, your Stroll Scroll Editor 444-7307. :>)
<rustilee@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca>

NEWS OF INTEREST

Check out THE LITERARY NETWORK'S Top Ten Canadian Poetry Books for Fall, 1999. Recommended reading by an independent panel of poets and editors from across Canada.

1. The Saning by Linda Rogers
2. Songs for Relinquishing the Earth by Jan Zwicky
3. The True Name of Birds by Susan Goyette
4. Things That Do Not Change by Susan Musgrave
5. Why We Stand Facing South by E. Russell Smith
6. Sex, Death & Travel by Mona Fertig
7. Blue Marrow by Louise Bernice Halfe
8. Inward to the Bones by Kate Braid
9. Mean by Ken Babstock
10. The Blue Field by Barbara Klar

TOP 5 CANADIAN POETRY CHAPBOOKS

1. Breathing November by Tanis MacDonald
2. Arrangement in Grey and Black: Portrait of the Artist's Mother by Louise D'Andrade
3. Guessing at Madeline by Richard Scarsbrook
4. In the Waiting Room of the Speedy Muffler King by Walt Peterson
5. Voices from the Other Side of the Moon by Joy Hewitt Mann

For further details visit website:

<http://webhome.idirect.com/~tplantos>

BOOKFAIR REPORT

Special thanks for attending the Stroll Information booth to: Julie Robinson, Myrna Garanis, Tracy Murray, and Shirley Serviss. An extra thank you to Vanna Tessier for helping to organize the booth. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Vince Pallier who offered to help and made themselves available. Thanks to Jennie Frost, Rusti Leahy, and Francis Willey who bravely read at the Gazebo!!! Thanks to all the Bus Readers who seemed to enjoy the experience: Shirley Serviss, Jackie Bell, Diane Bennett, Gail Sobat, Len Gierach, Kenneth Sutton, and Jocko. If I have missed anyone, I apologize. Special thanks to Francis Willey who helped distribute Stroll Posters. Thanks to Gordon McRae for doing his end of the University Campus.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Jean Carmichael McKenzie for recently winning three awards. Events Edmonton and the North Central Alberta International Year of the Older Person Committee honoured Jean October 2, 1999, for being an Outstanding Edmonton Senior in the categories of Writing, Academics, and Visual Arts.



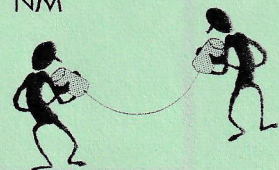
STROLL REPORT

So many people and places to thank and so little space and time. I think I covered the thank you base on the day of the Stroll which was magnificent, thanks to all of you. It may look like a big job, but really it isn't. The board is there to assist and support the coordinator all the way and all the members at large were most helpful in filling in all the volunteer spaces. So one last big THANK YOU to all of you. You know who you are. If you want to ask Marilyn Hooper or myself, how gratifying it is to coordinate the Stroll, please do. Think about submitting a resume to coordinate the Stroll next year. There are many qualified people out there. I know it, because the number one qualifying factor is to care about the Stroll.

A NOTE FROM OUR ANTHOLOGY EDITOR

It is great to be published in the Anthology and I think most Strollers really look forward to having their poems published in the annual Anthology. Some of you will be a little surprised when you open up the Anthology to find that your poems are slightly different from the poems and bios you had submitted. Here's why your work has been changed:

People who submitted poems in handwritten format, or poems that were too long or too wide, may find their work seriously edited. Some people neglected to submit a bio. While I tried to contact each person whose work had to be edited, not everyone returned my calls or was willing to help out. Some poets, it seems, just can't write shorter lines or shorter poems. So, if you find your poem has had new line breaks inserted, or has been shortened, please remember this: each poet is allowed one page for bio and poem. The specs of 58 spaces wide and 30 lines long for a poem, and 75 words per bio have to be adhered to, or the anthology won't work. NM



**YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE
YOU LOVE THE ARTS.**



SO ARE WE.



**The Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts**

Alberta
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS

The 12 Days of Poetry

Orlando Books
Ph. 432-7633

Grounds For Coffee & Antiques
Ph. 429-1920

December 28 to January 21
1999

CBC 4 radio **ONE**
740 NEWS AND NOEL

La Bohème
Ph. 474-5693
Upper Crust Cafe
Ph. 433-0810

the 1st day of Poetry
Tuesday, December 28, 1999, 7 pm
Orlando Books, 10123 Whyte Ave
Host: David Huggett

Sue Croll
Danica Lorier
Joyce Pinkney
Sally Ito

the 2nd day of poetry
Wednesday, December 29, 1999, 7 pm
Orlando Books, 10123 Whyte Avenue
Host: Helen Lavender

Pierrette Requier
James Thurgood
Jocelyne Verret
Jacqui Bell

the 3rd day of Poetry
Thursday, December 30, 1999, 7 pm
Orlando Books, 10123 Whyte Avenue
Host: Nancy Mackenzie

Jannie Edwards
Beckie Garber-Conrad
Mary T. McDonald
Ben Murray

the 4th day of Poetry
Friday, January 7, 2000, 7 pm
Grounds For Coffee, 10247 97 Street
Host: Fabian Jennings

Andy Weaver
Linda Jennings
Adriana Davies
Jo-Ann Godfrey

the 5th day of Poetry
Saturday, January 8, 2000, 7 pm
Sundays For Coffee, 10247 97 Street
Host: Janine Dumont

Rusti Leahy
Gerald St. Maur
Naomi McIlwraith
Gordon McRae

the 6th day of Poetry
Sunday, January 9, 2000, 2 pm
Grounds For Coffee, 10247 97 Street
Host: Ivan Sundal

Tom Emmens
Paul Pearson
Colleen Morrell
Sandra Mooney-Ellerbeck

the 7th day of Poetry
Wednesday, January 12, 2000, 7 pm
La Bohème, 6427 112 Avenue
Host: Gabrielle Kruger

Audrey Whitson
Chris Bullock
Louis Munan
Dean McKenzie

the 8th day of Poetry
Thursday, January 13, 2000, 7 pm
La Bohème, 6427 112 Avenue
Host: Candyce Neill

William Nichols
Myrna Garanis
Danielle Dalton
Diane Buchanan

the 9th day of poetry
Friday, January 14, 2000, 7 pm
Upper Crust Cafe, 10909-86 Avenue
Host: Anna Mioduchowska

Jocko
Joyce Harries
Kath MacLean
Terence Harding

the 10th day of Poetry
Saturday, January 15, 2000, 7 pm
Upper Crust Cafe, 10909-86 Avenue
Host: Shirley Serviss

Alice Major
Trevor Dekort
Jonathan Meakin
Cheryl Chamberlain

the 11th day of Poetry
Monday, January 17, 2000, 7 pm
Upper Crust Cafe, 10909-86 Avenue
Host: Andrew Thompson

Sherrilyn Jahrig
John King-Farlow
Faye Francis
Rebecca Schellenberg

the 12th day of poetry

Friday, January 21, 2000, 7 p.m.
Program begins 7:30 p.m.
Strathcona Legion, 10416-81 Avenue

MC: Krysia Jarmicka, CBC Radio One
Audience favorites of the first 11 Days
Music: Eddie Patterson

Tickets: \$8.50 advance, \$10.00 at the door
\$5.00 students/seniors/fixd income
Available: Orlando Books, 10123 Whyte Ave.
Ph. 432-7633

Admission to the first Eleven Days is Free, but please observe a reasonable minimum charge at the hosting venues

* All readings during the first Eleven Days begin at 7:00 p.m. except Sunday, January 9, 2:00 p.m.

And then the finale:

The 12th Day of Poetry

Friday, January 21, 2000 at 7:00 pm.
Program begins 7:30 pm sharp.
Strathcona Legion, 10416 81 Avenue

Audience favorites from the first 11 Days of poetry

*Musical Ambience by
Eddie Patterson
The Poet's Musician*

Specialty coffees & fine desserts, food & beverage concession operated by the Strathcona Legion

New this year: Two Door Prizes open to all non-finalist members. Bring five minutes of original poetry and be prepared to read to the largest annual audience of poetry lovers in Edmonton.

MC: Krysia Jarmicka, CBC Radio One

Tickets: \$8.50 advance available from Orlando Books, 10123 Whyte Avenue (432-7633); and from members. \$10.00 at the door. \$5.00 students/seniors/fixed income.

Sponsored by The Stroll of Poets Society
Oliver Post Box 35082, 11229 Jasper avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2R8
<http://www.ccnet.ab.ca/stroll>

With assistance from:

Alberta Foundation for the Arts
Edmonton Arts Council
The Writing Centre, Grant MacEwan College
Orlando Books
CBC Radio One
The venues as listed
The Strathcona Legion
Writers Guild of Alberta

Information: 414-1534

WINTER 2000 COURSES

Call (780) 497-5346

the MACEWAN
writing
WORKS

Word by Word

WRIT 0238 (570) 8 Mondays, Jan. 24 - March 27 CC campus
\$128 noncredit 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. **Instructor: Shirley Serviss**

Write for Young Readers

WRIT 0128 (570) Saturday & Sunday, March 11 & 12 CC campus
\$104 noncredit 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Instructor: Mary Woodbury**

Writing Romances

WRIT 0230 (570) 10 Tuesdays, Jan. 25 - March 28 On-Line
\$174 noncredit 7:00 p.m. start **Instructor: Tracy Cooper-Posey**
WRIT 0230(571) 10 Wednesdays, Jan. 26 - March 29 CC campus
\$174 noncredit 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. **Instructor: Tracy Cooper-Posey**

Writing Romances II: The Workshop Edition

WRIT 0235 (570) 6 Mondays, Jan. 24 - Feb. 28 On-Line
\$104 noncredit 7:00 p.m. start **Instructor: Tracy Cooper-Posey**
WRIT 0235 (571) 6 Thursdays, Jan. 27 - March 2 CC campus
\$104 noncredit 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. **Instructor: Tracy Cooper-Posey**

A Weekend of Free Fall Writing

WRIT 0120 (570) Saturday & Sunday, April 15 & 16 CC campus
\$88 noncredit 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Instructor: Cora Taylor**

Fairy Tales, Folk Tales, and Legends

WRIT 0228 (570) 5 Wednesdays, Feb. 2 - March 1 CC campus
\$104 noncredit 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. **Instructor: Reinekke Lengelle**

The Ins and Outs of Writing a Non-fiction Book

WRIT 0244 (570) 8 Wednesdays, Jan. 26 - March 15 On-Line
\$144 noncredit 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Instructor: Marg Rutlan**

Writing for the Web

WRIT 0209 (570) Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 26 & 27 CC campus
\$154 noncredit 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Instructor: Marg Rutlan**

Inventing the Truth

WRIT 0127 (570) Saturday & Sunday, March 18 & 19 CC campus
\$94 noncredit 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Instructor: Shirley Serviss**

Your Book-Get it Written, Get it Published!

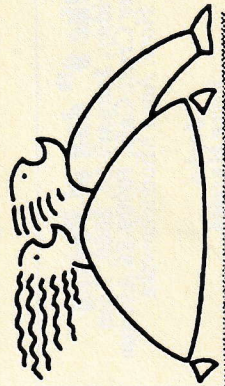
WRIT 0147(570) Saturday, Feb. 5 CC campus
\$74 noncredit 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Instructor: Barbara Smith**

The 12 Days of Poetry

December 18, 1999

to

January 21, 2000



STROLL of POETS



The Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts

Edmonton
Arts Council