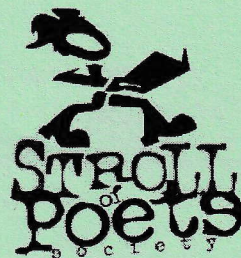
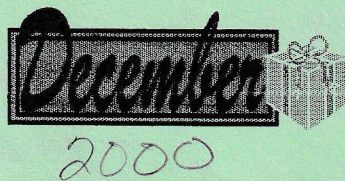


Stroll of Poets Society
Box 35082, Oliver P.O.
Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8
<http://www.ccinet.ab.ca/stroll/>



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I was pumped. It was, you see, an invigorating experience. Here I was, driving Clifton Joseph to the airport. As one of the guest poets for Stroll 2000, Clifton came from Toronto with great credentials: recording artist, TV personality, organizer of the World Dub Poetry Festival down east. A deeply moving performer, Clifton is also one of those people you gravitate to. He is like the sun. He shines his light on others. On the way to the airport, he shone his light on Stroll 2000, calling it "the best, most open literary festival" he had been to. Ever. "It's not about ego," he said, smiling. "It's about expression."

On the way back home, my car nearly ran out of gas. On the highway. With a big beast of a truck inches from my back fender. Now, a month or so later, I've been hit — SMACK! — and laid O-U-T with a bout of mono. So life has a way of balancing itself out.

Even in my zombie-like state, however, it thrills me to look back at Stroll 2000. The Sunday Stroll itself was great (thanks very much to people like Rusti Leahy, who coordinated it, and our gifted guest speaker, Jeffrey McDaniel, from California). The week itself featured energetic and inspiring readers from guest poets like Jeffrey, Clifton, Sherri D. Wilson (from Vancouver), Susan Musgrave (from another galaxy, I think) and U of A's new writer-in-residence, Marilyn Dumont. There were some fun and ground-breaking events, too, in particular the Stroll's first Poetry Slam and XXX Poetry.

HUGE thanks must go to Gord McRae and especially Jocko for planning the week.

Oh. Another example of how HEALTHY the "word" is these days is the continuation of the RAVING POETS Open Stage series at Backroom Vodka Bar, every Tuesday night at 7:00. The owner of the bar, Glen, was so happy with the first series he approached a sponsor — Big Rock — on his own and lined up great prize: \$50.00 for each weekly winner, \$350.00 for the winner during the final night (Dec. 12th). Runners-up receive gift certificates from Greenwood's Bookshoppe.

And just so you know, the TV pilot for 100 Percent Maple Verse — a documentary of the final night of the first Raving Poets series — is almost finished and will soon be pitched to the BRAVO TV Network. For a Stroll of Poets event to gain national TV coverage is further proof that Edmonton has a wildly vibrant poetry scene.

And now, onto the REALLY IMPORTANT STUFF. The Stroll 2000 Anthology — our special "10th Anniversary" Edition — will soon be hitting the shelves of prominent Edmonton bookstores, getting *your* words out to the public. To receive your one free copy before the Anthology hits the streets — and to pick up additional copies as great Christmas gifts for your friends and family — attend the prestigious Anthology launch, December 17th, 2 — 4 p.m. at City Hall.

At the Anthology Launch, we will also be giving you complete details about The 12 Days of Poetry, which will turn January into a month of dynamic, living, breathing poetry. After that, the gush of inspiration continues with Poetry Tuesdays, running February thru April, 2001.

By the way, we still need a host-coordinator for the month of March. And if you didn't previously sign up to read during Poetry Tuesdays, contact the host-coordinators NOW (Ben Murray for February, 425-4044, Philip Jagger for April, 437-5014). If you wish to read in March, contact me at 490-1414.)

Long live the Word.

Mark Kozub (a.k.a The Alberta Beatnik) (780) 490-1414

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12th Day Judges
Volunteer Opportunities
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Reasons to Celebrate
New Email Addresses Members
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ANTHOLOGY 2000 LAUNCH

the 10th Anniversary issue of the Stroll of Poets Anthology with Readings, Music, Mingling. 12 Days finalists announced Pick up your copy of the Anthology

Dec, 17 at 2:00 PM — 4 PM City Hall

If you submitted a poem for the anthology, you are entitled to one free copy of the Anthology. This is the place and time to come and pick up your copy of the Anthology. Additional copies are available for \$10.00

Coffee will be provided and members are asked to bring some of their favourite Christmas baking to be served with the coffee.

Volunteers are needed to come at 1 PM for set-up and to stay afterwards to put away the chairs. If you are able to volunteer, contact Nancy Mackenzie at 484-6934.

12 Days of Poetry Once Again

The schedule for the first 11 Days of Poetry. Venue:

Grounds for Coffee Cafe & Antiques, 10247 - 97 Street. Thursday, Jan. 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th, and the 18th. All start times 7:00 PM. Great food and beverages, including wine and beer. Members' books and Stroll merchandise available and on permanent display for the duration of the event. Hosts will briefly address the question: What is poetry? Or some variation thereon. Schedule available at the Anthology Launch.

12th Day: Saturday, January 20, Sidetrack Cafe, 7:00-9:00 PM. Food and beverages available from Sidetrack. Stay and party. Details available at the Anthology Launch.





HERE ARE THE 12TH DAY JUDGES:

1.) Donna Rollie, Municipal Advisor, Alberta Municipal Affairs. 2.) Nancy Critchley, Creative Director, Shandwick International. 3.) Sandhano Schultze, Artistic Director, Northern Light Theatre. 4.) Gordon McClure, Business Services Advisor, Alberta Municipal Affairs. 5.) Michael Phair, Councillor, The City of Edmonton. 6.) Peter Brown, Host of CBC's RadioActive. 7.) Lori Nagy, Community Investment Advisor, ATCO Gas

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR! VERY IMPORTANT:

The Stroll of Poets Board is looking for people who are great at writing grant applications! Because are technically eligible for "Festival Status" and for a special "Spoken and Electronic Words Program" from the Canada Council for the Arts, we feel we would ALL benefit greatly from the extra funding available. If you have expertise in writing effective grant applications, contact Mark Kozub at (780) 490-1414.

ALSO IMPORTANT:

In the coming year, Rusti Leahy will no longer be coordinating the Sunday Stroll and as of the May 2001 issue of the Stroll Scroll will no longer be editing the newsletter.

Sadly, Jo-Ann Godfrey is stepping down as the Anthology Sales Coordinator for the year 2001. We have a hot new 10th Anniversary Anthology coming out at the end of this year. If you are interested in promoting your works and those of your fellow poets, if you are interested in making strong contacts with Edmonton's book stores, this exciting volunteer position is yours for the taking.

Incidentally, the 1999 Anthology spent some time on Edmonton's Top 10 Bestseller list. With good promotion, we can achieve the same — and MORE — with this special 10th Anniversary edition.

This is sad, since both did a great, great job in all capacities.

However, if anyone has an interest in handling either of these (and YES, it literally PAYS \$\$\$\$ to be a Sunday Stroll coordinator, as well as a small honorarium for the newsletter editor), email <abeatnik@telusplanet.net> Contact Rusti <rustilee@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca> or Jo-Ann at 467-7087.



ALSO VERY IMPORTANT: we're STILL looking for a host-coordinator for MARCH of 2001, for Poetry Tuesdays. All this host-coordinator has to do is contact and schedule the readers, send that schedule to the Stroll Board (since the Stroll Board will be handling all publicity and promotional materials for the event). AND they can either HOST each Tuesday in March (all at the same venue) or line up a host for each week, their choice! It's a nice way to make \$50.00.

OPEN STAGES ARE EVERYWHERE: FROM THE STROLL PREZ:

It's an epidemic! (Open stages, that is.) A really GOOD epidemic.

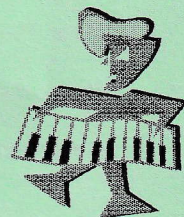
Now, mark your calendars for these stages:

1) The Paris Market Reading Series, first Saturday of every month. The second half is an open stage. The first half is for scheduled readers. Please, please email Mark at <abeatnik@telusplanet.net> if you want to be a scheduled reader and get a \$10.00 honorarium.

2) RAVING POETS CONTINUES!!!! (and that means money for poets!)

Due to the Backroom Vodka Bar receiving a number of requests to keep the Raving Poets "open stage" series going, it's back! Until December 12th at 7 p.m., Raving Poets returns. And this time, it's bound to be bigger and better. There will still be the excitement of "performance-oriented" poetry co-mingling with live improv music, courtesy of co-hosts and organizers The

Alberta Beatnik and Thomas Trofimuk (as well as guitarists Randy Edwards and "Mysterio.") And for all you poets requiring lower-priced alcohol to fuel the muse, Big Rock product is \$2.75 every Tuesday night.



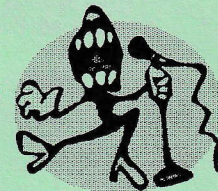
Tell all your friends. Tell your enemies. Most of all, tell people we are turning the Backroom Vodka Bar into an exciting new home for poetry. Check it out. Any questions? Call Mark Kozub (Stroll President) at 490-1414. <abeatnik@telusplanet.net>

3) The Olive Series, and it takes place on the second Tuesday of every month at Martini's Bar and Grill (9910-109 street). The next reading is December 12th starting at 7:00 and has guest poet Jocko. For further information contact andy via cardiganman@excite.com

4) An Open Stage/Spoken Word/Music etc.. Hosted by Francis A Willey and Kevin Solez. Every Sunday at LUNA LOCA 8409-112st 3PM-6PM for anyone that wishes to read, come and check it out...cool!!! First come first read... Poets sign up to read... Poetry, silent art and live music.... Drink specials!!! Happy hour prices!!! and they have an excellent menu plus organic fair trade coffee... free refills. Hope to see aspiring souls to make this a place for culture and expression every Sunday. The run away brain child added some new and improved features.... 1. First prize \$25.00 Gift Certificate 2. Second prize (Mystery) Come out and enjoy spoken word... peace everyone! Contact Francis via <orpehusound@angelfire.com>

(People have written me (Rusti) to say how much they enjoy going to the Poetry readings on Sunday afternoons at the Luna Loca. Kevin and Francis do a wonderful job and Roger Ogden (the owner) has been offering a \$25 gift certificate to the winner. And Frances has been giving a way a bit of his art as a 2nd prize. Such a fun afternoon. But more poets and friends would be very welcome! It really is a great venue. Good grub too!)

5) The Alberta Beatnik's Open Stage "Grounds for Jammin'" at Grounds for Coffee 10247-97 Street, the last Saturday every month. Next one is December 30th. Call Mark @ 490-1414 or via <abeatnik@telusplanet.net>



WORKSHOP YOUR POEMS FOR THOSE OPEN STAGES:

The Stroll poetry circle is up and going again. The dates for the rest of the year are as follows: December 11, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 9, and May 14. These are all Mondays, promptly from 1:00 - 3:30 at Jennie Frost's house. Anyone is welcome to come with a poem to workshop (or without a poem if s/he just wants to help the other people). Please bring 6 - 8 copies of your poem. If you do want to attend please phone Jennie at 433 2932 so she knows how many to expect and she can provide directions. You will need a parking permit from Jennie to park in the district.

WITHOUT YOU, I'D HAVE BEEN LOST

I'D LIKE TO SAY THANKS. A BIG HUGE THANKS!!!!

Audrey Whitson, you were awesome. You had an elegance that was perfect for the Sunday finale, and a prelude to a great week. I'd have lost my head without you.

Clarice Eckford, what a treat to watch you do the sweatshop. I hope you had as much fun leading it as I did watching you and the people who participated. Thanks to you, I went home with some energy.

Francis Willey, what a novel idea to spin vinyl. I still have a poem begging to be written about you and all the gifts you are in one neatly packaged human.

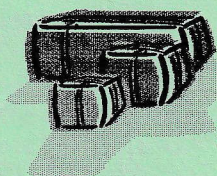
Ron Kurt, a thousand thanks and psychic hugs for stepping in like a Stroll hero when my volunteer open stage host didn't show up. What a great guy you are!

And to all of you who did the one hundred and one other things that it takes to make the Stroll, happen, I thank you. You make it look easy!

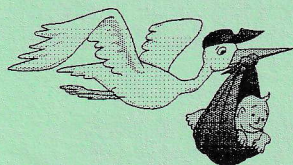
THANKS FOR DONATING PRIZES

Jocko
Katie Oppen
Cindy Lou Prokopy
Greenwoods
Joyce Harries X2

Thomas Trofimuk
Rusti Leahy
Candace Neill
Orlando Books
Francis Willey



SO MANY REASONS TO CELEBRATE

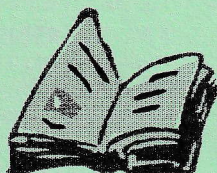


Cindy Lou Prokopy & Thomas Trofimuk are thrilled with Marie Mackenzie who arrived Wednesday, November 29 at 8:35 p.m. after 3.5 hours of labour. She weighed in at 9 pounds, 3 ounces and is 21.75 inches long. She has long, blond hair. Welcome Stroller Baby!!!

Celebrate with Alice Major who launched her new book "Corona Radiata" December 1, 2000.

Alice talks about Corona Radiata:

Corona Radiata is a meditation on the development of an embryo into a human being. It is structured in nine sections, each corresponding to a different part of the developing fetus and to a different kind of journey. It became a nexus for many things that have interested me over the years: the science of the brain, the history and making of maps, folklore, fable and philosophy. It is a great pleasure to have the book published by St. Thomas Press. The series provides exactly the right size, format and spirit to suit this particular book. St. Thomas Poetry Series ISBN: 0-9685339-3-0 Copies are available at Orlando Books, and at Laurie Greenwood's Volume 2 Bookstore. The book can also be ordered through the League of Canadian Poets new web bookstore, at www.poets.ca



CHECK OUT THE PAPER LATELY

Edmonton Journal entertainment section (Saturday, Nov. 18th) page 3. At the bottom of the page where the Radio Chart Listings are, under the Top 10 Listings for CISR-FM, the Alberta Beatnik CD "Husband = Idiot" is NUMBER 7!

So cool for our very own president, but also cool for a CD of Spoken Word Songs done by a local artist to chart like this. Congratulations Mark. Way to go!!!

Girdles and Other Harnesses I Have Known has been on the Journal's non-fiction best-seller list for a number of weeks. Joyce enjoyed a great launch with more than 150 people squished into Volume 11. Check out her book! Cheers to you, Joyce!!



Jannie Edwards had some good news that is a must share. She won first place for her poem "An Old Woman Dreams of Sleep." in the Acorn-Livesay People's Poetry Festival Lapointe Prize and her poem "Water Ghazal" was an Editor's Choice finalist in the Arc Poem of the Year contest.

And of course Jocko would win this one: People's Poetry 7th Annual Peoples Political Poem Contest. Jacques Benoit of Edmonton, Alberta for "Hitler's Birthday". The winning poems and personal essays on political poetry by the winning poets are featured in the current Fall/Winter issue of People's Poetry Letter. To purchase a copy of this issue, send \$5.00 to People's Poetry, Box 31, 2060 Queen St. E., Toronto, ON M4E 3V7. Subscriptions are \$15 for three issues.

STROLL OF POETS DIRECTORY: BOARD MEMBERS

President: Mark Kozub
Vice President: Jocko
Past President: Nancy Mackenzie
Y2K Coordinator: Jocko
Secretary and Membership Secretary: Cindy Lou Prokopy
Treasurer/WebMaster: Gordon McRae
Volunteer Coordinator: Thomas Trofimuk
Workshops: Linda Jennings
Members at Large: Beckie Garber-Conrad, Ronald Kurt

COORDINATORS

Stroll Coordinator 2001: Vacant
12 Days Jury Coordinator: Thomas Trofimuk
12 Days Coordinator: David Huggett
Reading Series: Ben Murray (Feb.), Philip Jagger (Apr.), ??(Mar.)
Anthology Publisher: Nancy Mackenzie
Newsletter Design & Editing: Rusti Leahy
<rustilee@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca>

A note about e-mail: if you are not receiving sporadic e-mails from Rusti (that's me) and have e-mail, send me your address. :>) You'll hear what I hear about poetry and Stroll news as soon as I do!

E-Mail Updates

New email addresses for members. Change your directory.
Audrey Whitson <awhitson@powersurf.com>,
Doug Elves <elv@telusplanet.net>
Sharon Rempel <srempe1@home.com>
Jalal <bakht57@hotmail.com>

Stroll Member Website Update

John Chalmers has just updated his web site and put up his Christmas poem for kids this time. Go to www.tgx.com/ccl and scroll to the typewriter icon. Click on it to go to "John's NetLetter". Then scroll down to Poem of the Month, which will take you to the poetry he has posted there. The Christmas poem is called "Elwin's Special Gift."

A WHOLE PAGE OF PLACES TO SUBMIT

Snakeskin calls for submissions on fathers/fatherhood for its February 2001 issue of the online magazine Snakeskin. The theme will be fathers and fatherhood, and they are looking for poems or very very short prose (say one page) on these topics. (*This is for you Thomas!!!*)

Submissions can be sent to this email address (jessyrandall@yahoo.com) until January 15. Plain text within the body of the email is preferred as opposed to in an attachment. All submissions must be electronic. The URL for the current issue of Snakeskin, in case you are curious, is: <http://www.snakeskin.org.uk>

THE HARPWEAVER: CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: SUMMER 2001

The journal is now requesting submissions for the Summer 2001 issue. Deadline: January 31st, 2001. The anticipated deadline for the Winter 2001 issue is June 30th, 2001. We accept poetry, short fiction, short dramas, personal essays, photography and visual arts from published and emerging artists. Material sent for consideration must be unpublished work.

Manuscripts should be double-spaced, and under 5,000 words, with pages clipped, not stapled. Poetry may be single-spaced. The author's name should not appear on the work, but a brief biography, postal address, e-mail address, FAX and telephone number should be part of a covering letter. For acknowledgment, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Submissions from outside Canada must include International Reply Coupons for acknowledgment. All manuscripts will be recycled unless appropriate return postage is included.

Visual artists and photographers must submit original work. Quality 8in. by 10in. black and white photographic documentation and slides are also acceptable. Slides should be accompanied by complete information about the work they present. The selected work will be photographed for reproduction. Please send your work, appropriately packaged, with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please include a brief biography characterizing both you and your work, and drawing attention to your achievements and professional status. Postal and e-mail addresses, FAX and telephone numbers should also be included.

SEND TO:

the Harpweaver, Department of English Language and Literature, Brock University, 500 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1

Electronic submissions can be sent to: harpweav@spartan.ac.brocku.ca

NEW WRITERS MARKET [MONTHLY - PAYING]

701 Niagara, a news and lifestyle internet site premiering in March, will have a monthly place for fiction called Niagara Stories. Writers are invited to submit short stories of 1,000 wds or less for consideration. There is only one requirement: the story can be in any genre, any time period, any subject, but **MUST** be set in Niagara. Examples - any honeymoon story set in Niagara Falls, anything set in historic Niagara-on-the-Lake or other area city or town, during the War of 1812, upon a Great Lakes freighter in or near Niagara ports or canal system, during the mid 1800's when the Underground Railroad for southern slaves passed through Niagara, during Marilyn Monroe's filming of 'Niagara' [1952], etc. One selection will be made monthly for publication on the 701 Niagara site. Writers whose work is chosen will be paid \$50 [CDN]. Please submit via mail to James Vincent Fusco, Editor, 701 Niagara, P.O. Box 670, 91 Geneva St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 4M9, via email to fusco@computan.on.ca, or via FAX to 905-688-4820

INTERNET LIT. 'ZINE QWERTE

has just posted a poetry slam at <http://www.unb.ca/qwerte/slam> Poems are presented as written and performed during one of the live poetry slams held by paper 'zine QWERTY and its on-line cousin qwerte. Darryl Whetter, Ph.D. Candidate, University of New Brunswick, ph. (506) 455-7767. <http://www.unb.ca/qwerte>

THE POETRY KIT

This site is starting to put together the first revision of The Poetry Kit magazine section for the year 2000, and invites submissions of poems or articles. Poems on any subject or style. Articles should be largely non-academic and of interest to newer writers. Ted Slade, Editor, The Poetry Kit <http://www.poetrykit.org/>

SEEKING SUBMISSIONS

New online anthology about poetry scenes nationwide (U.S.) seeks reviews (less than 500 words) of open mics, author appearances, festivals, writing groups, workshops, etc. Poetry Podium, Kristine Hansen, Editor, 2157 Alma Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301

THE CAMBRIDGE WRITERS COLLECTIVE ANNOUNCES

its eighth annual literary competition. Deadline October 16, 2000. Blind judging. Winners in four categories of Short Story (to 2500 words), Prose (to 1000 words), Poetry (max. 32 lines, any form but NO CONCRETE poetry), and Short Poetry (to 8 lines max., e.g. haiku, senryu, tanka, cinquain, free verse, limerick). Prizes of \$100, \$75, \$50 will be awarded in each of those four categories. Entrants may send one short story, two prose pieces, three poems, or up to five short poems for the submission fee of \$10.00 per. Multiple entries welcome. Winners and other selected works, to be published in the annual anthology Writers Undercover Vol. VIII, in the spring of 2001. Complete guidelines and entry forms, which must accompany each submission, are available at all Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo, Guelph, Brantford, and surrounding regional and area libraries. E-mail copies may be acquired by sending to this address, with CWC in the subject box: dave1allen@earthlink.net

7TH ANNUAL PEOPLE'S POEM FALL CONTEST

Two poems will be selected in the Fall Contest, a first-place-winner and a runner-up winner. \$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. Up to two previously unpublished poems of any length may be entered. Blind Judging. Do not include name on manuscript. Include a brief biography. Entry Fee: a minimum donation of \$15 to People's Poetry to support its programs, publications and awards. Deadline: postmarked by December 15, 2000. Send entries with fee (\$15.00), or SASE for entry form, to: People's Poetry, Box 31, 2060 Queen St. E., Toronto, ON M4E 3V7.

Previous winners include: David Benson, Steven Michael Berzensky, Joan Crate, Erina Harris, Susan Ioannou, John B. Lee, Shelley A. Leedhal, Robin Lovell, Tanis MacDonald, two-time winner Alice Major, Anne Miles, Chad Norman, Catherine Patrick, Susan Phillips, Linda Rogers, two-time winner Frances Ward, Duane Williams, Richard Woollatt and Beryl Young.

GRAIN RAISES PAYMENTS TO WRITERS

Grain magazine has increased payments to our contributors! Beginning with the summer 2000 issue, Grain's new contributor payments will be raised to \$40 per page to a maximum of \$175 for poetry and fiction. Former rates were based on a sliding scale from \$30 to a maximum of \$100.

A huge thanks to all our donors who responded to the 1st annual Write Way Up! donation campaign. Your generosity has played a big role in bringing this vision to life!

GRAIN MAGAZINE, Box 3092, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan CANADA S7K 3S9, Phone: (306) 244 2828 Fax: (306) 244 0255, email: grain.mag@sk.sympatico.ca <http://www.skwriter.com>