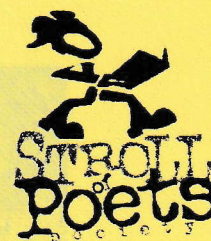


Stroll of Poets Society
Box 35082, Oliver P.O.
Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8
<http://www.ccinet.ab.ca/stroll/>

September
2001



President's Message Urgent Business!!



The date of this year's Sunday Stroll has been CHANGED. It is now Sunday, October 14th (not October 7th as we'd previously stated on the Stroll web site). The reason is simple. No matter how great poetry is, it cannot cannot CANNOT compete with the annual tradition of sitting around with family and feasting for hours on turkey.

That's right. The October 7th weekend is Thanksgiving. So we moved the Sunday Stroll, which usually takes place on the first Sunday of every October.

There is a LOT to be thankful for, however. If you dig The Word with the same intensity I do – and I'm sure you do, because you're a Stroll member! – you will be thrilled to know that the Stroll 2001 Committee has worked itself silly to bring you FOUR DAYS of poetry, with the Stroll 2001 Weekend Walkabout.

The action starts Thursday night with a BIG BANG, a DOUBLE WHAMMY: Alice Major's book launch followed by an open stage with the Raving Poets band, all at the acclaimed Yardbird Suite. Friday night, poetry and art mingle during an exquisite mixer at the SNAP Gallery downtown. Saturday offers a virtual cornucopia of literary events downtown, from Poetry for Kids at the Stanley A. Milner Library to Poetry By New Canadians at Grounds For Coffee, to a night of Poetry & Dance at Paris Market.

Sunday, very nearly the full membership of the Stroll of Poets Society descends upon the sunny streets of Whyte Avenue with three special events: the Sunday Brunch with guest poet Bert Almon, the Stroll itself (your chance to get out and READ), and the No Bards Barred Bar, a great chance to mingle and to participate in the Poetry Survivor "show," our loving dig at "reality TV."

I sincerely hope you have a good time at these events we've planned. In advance, I'd like to thank the people on the Stroll 2001 Committee who worked so hard to make this thing happen: Stroll Vice President Thomas Trofimuk, Stroll Membership Secretary and Sunday Stroll Coordinator Cindy Lou Prokopy, Alice Major, Pam Young, Stroll Volunteer Coordinator

John Chalmers and Stroll Workshop Coordinator Philip Jagger.

Thanks, too, to all the POETRY FRIENDLY venues that are gladly opening their doors to this four-day celebration of The Word. It is very important that we, as local poets, support the venues that give us such a glorious platform to sound our "barbaric YAWPS."

Me, I'm going ULTRA BARBARIC during the Stroll Weekend Walkabout. Don't be surprised if you see me reading in a loin-cloth and chewing meat right from a newly severed and still bloody bone.

It is, after all, a party. Enjoy yourselves!

Mark Kozub
The Alberta Beatnik
Stroll of Poets Society President
(780) 490-1414

Stroll of Poets Board of Directors

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12 Days Jury Coordinator: TBA
12 Days Coordinator: TBA
Tuesday Reading Series: TBA
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Newsletter Design & Editing: Kathie Sutherland
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Bert Almon

Our guest poet for the Stroll Day Brunch is Bert Almon.

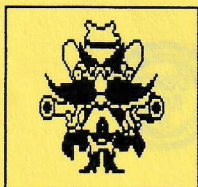
Bert is a founding member of the *Stroll of Poets* and read on that first very cold morning, October 27, 1991. He has the honour of being the first poet in the first anthology and, to date, Bert has published the only one-word poem in any Stroll anthology. That first poem gave the Stroll anthology the perfect epigrammatic beginning.

He has been a Creative Writing teacher at the University of Alberta since 1972. Twenty-four of his students have gone on to publish some 40 or more collections of poetry. Those students include: Shawna Lemay, Shirley Serviss, Monty Reid, Paulette Dubé, Nancy Mattson, Beth Goobie, Bonnie Bishop, Wendy McGrath and Tim Bowling.

Bert has nine poetry collections including *Earth Prime* (Brick Books), *Mind the Gap* (Ekstasis Editions) and a forthcoming *Hesitation Before Birth* (Beach Holme).

His poems appear in 300 American, British, Australian and Canadian magazines ranging from *The Malahat Review* to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. He's also been published in 35 anthologies and textbooks.

He was awarded the Writers' Guild of Alberta Prize for outstanding poetry collection of 1995, First Prize in the Prairie Fire Creative Non-Fiction Competition and most recently, was a finalist in the Times Literary Supplement Poetry Contest (2001)



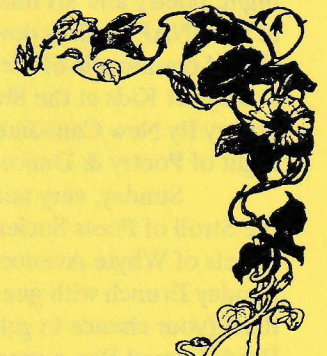
Watch for upcoming
Workshops
With Phil Jagger,
The Cowboy Poet

SNAP Project

This August, six print makers from the Society of Northern Alberta Print Artists (SNAP) joined together with six Stroll poets to create a deliciously special book of 12 images and 12 poems, which will be debuted (no matter how far along the project is) during the Stroll 2001 celebrations. The Stroll members, chosen at random from a list of interested poets includes: Kathy Fisher, Ryan Baier, Gordon McCrae, Ellen Wells, Alison Nicholls and Shirley Serviss. Under the direction of facilitator Steve Dixon, an expert print maker, the poets were matched up with print artists and have been meeting weekly since mid-August.

The goal is the creation of a handbound, limited edition book of 12 images and 12 poems. The magic, hopefully, will occur between the poets and the artists. Do the poems feed the images, or do the images inspire the poems? Or is it a little of both. In the end, the Stroll will have a small number of copies of the book to auction, or sell.

Members of both societies will get a chance to see a special peek preview of the project, and hear some of the poets read at a gala celebration at the SNAP Gallery on Friday, October 12th. (10137 - 104 Street)



Last Chance To Submit Your Art

Anybody who wants to see their art on the cover of *Rolling Stone*, ooops, I mean *The Stroll Anthology 2001*, please submit cover art samples without your name on the art along with a cover letter describing your submission to the Stroll of Poets via snail mail. The Board will be voting on all submissions prior to the Stroll.



Hot News

Strollers on Bravo TV

On July 5, 2001, Bravo TV aired a national one-hour program of local poets on its "Backroom Beat" program. Taped live at the Backroom Vodka Bar, the program was recorded during the launch of the "Raving Poets" CD recorded at B Scene Studios in August 2000. With the bar packed by poetry enthusiasts, the performance was recorded by Michael Hamm and company of Frame 30 productions in Edmonton. Interspersed with poets reading and performing their own works were comments by the poets made during interviews with Kerrie Long.

Last July and August, a series of weekly open mike poetry readings was held at the Backroom Vodka Bar, the site of many Stroll of Poets readings over the past year. The audience voted for their favorites, who then participated in the recording of the CD. Only days after recording the CD at Todd Kuziw's B Scene Studios, the finished CD was complete and ready for distribution.

Poets featured on the TV broadcast include Stroll president Mark "The Alberta Beatnik" Kozub, v-p Thomas Trofimuk, John Chalmers, Liam Kelly, Darlene Spong Henderson, Terence Harding, Yoav Engelberg and Trevor King, all accompanied by the Raving Poets Band. The band, consisting of regulars Mark Kozub, Thomas Trofimuk and Randy Edwards, plus whoever else shows up, often including Mike "Mysterio" Kozub, has provided improv music for many nights of poetry in addition to the TV taping. The Raving Poets Band will appear at activities of the upcoming Stroll Week in October.

In addition to the CD recorded prior to the Bravo TV broadcast, other CD projects have been undertaken by individual Stroll members and an upcoming CD will feature audience favorites from the June-August Tuesday night series at the Vodka Bar. It's all part of the vibrant spoken word scene promoted by The Stroll of Poets in Edmonton. The CDs, the annual Stroll Anthology of members' work, Stroll T-shirts and other products will be available at Stroll Week events in October.

The Ugly Albertan

Reviews from Fringe audiences and were across the board on Mark Kozub's play. Complete strangers wept, saying this play spoke "the truth." Others told him about relatives who had died of cancer. Still others called this "the best play they'd seen at the

Fringe this year" And there were those who left seething with contempt or utter confusion. THE UGLY ALBERTAN sparked much controversy. Perhaps this is what you get when you mix black humour with tragedy, cancer with venomous deathbed bigotry and then, on top of that, you throw songs into the mix. We'd like to hear your opinion.

Thanks! Thanks!

Sincere applause in appreciation of individuals and groups who support The Stroll of Poets:

☺ Scott Alderson	☺ Dorothy Ansdell
☺ Pritam Atwal	☺ Jalal Barzangi
☺ Diane Buchanan	☺ Leo Campos
☺ Harold W. Cashman	☺ Richard Davies
☺ Adriana Davies	☺ Christine Downing
☺ Jannie Edwards	☺ Kathy Fisher
☺ Faye Francis	☺ Jo-Ann Godfrey
☺ Doug Grimes	☺ Rick Guthrie
☺ Joyce Harries	☺ Lady Hawk
☺ Denise P. Isaac	☺ Helen Lavender
☺ John King-Farlow	☺ Fred Marshall
☺ Alice Major	☺ Marcia O'Connor
☺ George Brian Metcalf Jr.	
☺ Paul McLaughlin	☺ Michael Penny
☺ William Nichols	☺ Pierrette Requier
☺ Katie Oppen	☺ Shirley A. Serviss
☺ David Reddall	☺ Rawn Sidor
☺ Irma Schuur	☺ Kenneth Sutton
☺ Kelly Shepherd	☺ Andrew Thompson
☺ Gail Sobat	☺ Christina Tower
☺ Cliff Therou	☺ Ellen Wilson
☺ James Thurgood	☺ Amber Young
☺ Audrey Whitson	☺ Pamela Young



Don't miss out

Stroll information e-mailouts are packed with up to the minute news and info about upcoming events. If you have changed your address, phone number or email address, please let us know. Contact Cindy-Lou Prokopy at cinlu@telusplanet.net or call her 477-0102 or contact Rusti Leahy at her email address at rustilee@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca with your current information.

Anthology Specifications:

*Poets, read these guidelines very carefully. Poems and/ or bios that ignore the specifications for the Anthology may need to be cut, narrowed, shortened, or have lines broken. This may unintentionally change the meaning of your poem or bio. So challenge yourself to make your poem and bio fit.

1. Poems **must** have a title.
2. **Maximum length of poem: 30 lines.** This includes a one-line title and blank lines between stanzas.
3. **Maximum width of poem: 58 spaces.**

Submission Formatting:

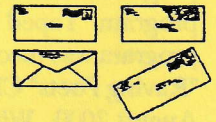
4. Poems & bios must be **typed** each on their own 8.5 x 11" crisp white paper in 12 pt. Times New Roman.
5. Print & sign your name on the back of the poem.
6. **Important:** Print "Yes" or "No" & "I (do or do not) want to be included in the 12 days contest.
7. **Do Not** staple your poem and bio together. Your copies must be free of wrinkles and stains as photocopies will be made for the 12 day jurors.
8. Give your poem and bio to the Host of your performance group at the Stroll.

* The starred line above is exactly 58 spaces wide in a 12 point Times New Roman font. Your poems must be this width or less and 30 lines or less.

Bio Formatting:

Bios are to be no more than 75 words like this column blurb here.

Every poet who performs at the Stroll is invited to submit one 30-line poem and one 75 word bio for inclusion in the Stroll of Poets Anthology. The poem doesn't have to be one performed at the Stroll, but it must be one that fits the specs listed here. Each poem & bio get one page in the Anthology.



Interesting Internet Literary E-zines to Visit:

www.disquietingmuses.com
www.conspire.org/
www.poetscanvas.org/
www.mochamemoirs.com
www.hawkwindcreations.com
www.prairiepoetry.org/

or how 'bout

filling Station deadline for their poetry contest is December 15. Enter up to 10 pages of poetry for \$\$ prizes Entry fee \$20 (includes 1 year subscription). Send cheque to *filling Station* with your entry to *filling Station* Poetry Contest Box 22135, Bankers Hall, Calgary, AB T2P 4J5. For more info contact editor@fillingstation.ca.

Rusti Leahy, your 2001 Anthology Publisher
thanks you in advance for your attention to detail.
Happy Strolling!

Poetry Workshops And Classes



Faculty of Extension, U of A
Ph. (780) 492-3093 to register, or go to:
<http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/register/index.html>
<<http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/register/index.html>>
Check out our other writing courses at:
<http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/writing>

Writing Haiku 3238FA1

Bruce Ross, instructor
8 Thurs., Sept. 20, Oct. 4, 11, 18, Nov. 1, 15, 29, Dec. 13, 2001; 7-9:30 pm
Fee: \$185

Haiku, the shortest poetic form in the world, is now practiced on every continent. It provides an insight into nature and our daily experience, whether a cloud or a chat with a friend. Sometimes deep and sometimes playful, these "haiku moments" provide the "ah!" moment of recognition. Cultivate and gain a sensitivity to writing such moments in this course and enhance your ability to experience them, thus deepening your emotional relation to experience. Reference material and texts: *Haiku Moment, An Anthology of Contemporary North American Haiku*, ed. Bruce Ross (Required) *How to Haiku, A Student's Guide to Haiku and Related Forms*, Bruce Ross. Current issue *Modern Haiku*, ed. Robert Spiess (Recommended) "As a practicing and teaching poet over many years specializing in the haiku form, I have learned that each poem, each haiku, had a reason to come into being. In other words each haiku offers us an insight we can cherish. So I try to be attentive to that insight in the work of each student. Often, with a little polishing, such work may become truly striking and move us to something deep or something playful." - Bruce Ross

Accidental Verse: The Best Part of Written Mistakes is Poetry 3232FA1

Marilyn Dumont, instructor
8 Wed. starting Oct. 10, 7-9 pm; Fee: \$185

This is an introductory poetry workshop for the beginner to generate poems "that will ache with their own echo." We will read a plethora of poetry as well as use a journal for some unconventional writing exercises to explore what we want to say.

Member's Books and CDs

Is the cost of gasoline keeping you in the city?
Get away from it all in verse!!

Christina Tower has published *Lake at Mile 27 and other poems*, a collection of nature poetry inspired by her work as a forest-fire lookout. *Lake at Mile 27* sells for \$9.95 and is available at Orlando's Books, 10123 Whyte Avenue. Launch night is October 19, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at Orlando's. For more information call 432-7633.

***Some Bones and a Story*: A new collection of narrative poems in the voices of different female saints.**

Alice Major's new collection from Toronto poetry press, Wolsak and Wynn, was launched in Toronto on September 6th. The Edmonton Launch will be on October 11th as part of the Stroll's "Weekend Walkabout." Put this on your must-see, must-hear readings!

***Just West of East*: A collection of over 70 poems which focus on discovery, journeys, travelling, and relationships.**

Tim Cusack's new book of poetry is the first to be published by one of Edmonton's newest presses: Prairie Ocean Press. Cost \$10.00 + GST. This collection will be made available at several local bookstores (including Audrey's on Jasper). Copies can also be obtained from Greg Robson, Editor of Prairie Ocean Press, @ 488-5533, or by email grobson@powersurfr.com, and also at the Stroll in October. The back cover review by former Stroll member Glen Kirkland notably from *Spiritus Lundi* comments, "*Just West of East* makes insightful comments, largely on relationships and nature, prompting readers to think about such things as the beauty of nature, the meaning of life, memory and time. Timothy P. Cusack is a genuine poet with worthwhile poetic thoughts to share. I look forward to reading more of him in the next while..."

think of me naked

Kathy Fisher and the Raving Poets band have collaborated on Kathy's new CD. This not-to-be-missed launch takes place at the Backroom Vodka Bar at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23. Kathy, Mark Kozub, Thomas Trofimuk, and Randy Edwards worked together with producer Todd Kuziw. Back up vocals were provided by Raving Poets band members and Becky Schellenberg. Expert violin work by Becky and back up drums by Mark rounded out this high-quality production!

Congratulations



To all the "Backroom Beats" Winners from The Alberta Beatnik

The "Backroom Beats" Open Stage summer series at the Backroom Vodka Bar was an overwhelming success, with record-breaking numbers of poets (sometimes over 20 a night!) and consistently bigger and more enthusiastic crowds. Each night, the audience chose their favourite poet by secret ballot.

Each winner will be featured on the upcoming "Backroom Beats" CD, sponsored by Big Rock Brewery and featuring musical accompaniment by The Raving Poets Band (me, Thomas Trofimuk, Randy Edwards, Mysterio). The release date of that CD is unknown, although my eyes are fixed on doing something in conjunction with the 12th Night in January 2002. However, keep your eyes and ears open for this compilation including some of Edmonton's brightest, boldest up-and-comers in a growing Spoken Word scene.

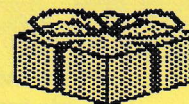
The winners included: Kathy Fisher, Amir Ghahary, I'm, Gary Lee, Chandra Pederson, Kevin Solez, Gabriel Motshegoa, Vivek Dasoar, and Rob Pue. Congratulations, gang!



Here's To Alice Major

who has been elected to her second year as president of the League of Canadian Poets.

Door Prize Plea



Have you got something brand new, never been used, a gift that wasn't really you that would be suitable for a brunch door prize. Or maybe you know of a business that would be willing to donate a door prize? If so contact Cindy Lou Prokopy at cinlu@telusplanet.net or call 477-0102 or contact Rusti Leahay at rustilee@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca.

Announcing ...
Just Christmas 2001!
 A Global Crafts Marketplace
Nov.16-17 at
The Prince of Wales Armouries
10440 - 108A Avenue

Friday Nov. 16/ 6:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 Saturday Nov. 17/ 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Crafts and other worldly goods, live
 entertainment and delicious finger foods &
 refreshments available!

Just Christmas
 (from "justice at Christmas")
 is an alternative global marketplace
 for quality crafts and other goods.
 Market participants are philanthropic
 not - for - profit organizations whose
 mandate is to foster global awareness
and to support *international*
development projects.

Admission is free – but **donations**
 are encouraged (thanks!)



For more information
 please call, **474-6058**
 (or) E-mail: leocamposa@aol.com

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors
Edmonton
Arts Council



POETS & PASTA NIGHT

A fundraiser for
MYLES KITAGAWA
 Ward 4 City Council Candidate

Readings and Music by
 Alice Major, Fabian Jennings,
 Dale Ladoceur, Ben Murray, and
 The Alberta Beatnik

3 Chef pasta judging contest!
YOU pick the best!
 September 18, 6-9 pm,
 Royal Glenora Hall
 (11160 River Valley Rd)
 \$10(low income), \$20(regular),
 \$100(corporate)
 Tix at the door
 or call Sonja at 425-0015
 for more info



Sell Your Wares at the NBBB!

Stroll members are invited to sell their published works
 such as books, chapbooks and spoken word CDs at the No
 Bards Barred Bar at the South Side Legion, starting at 5
 p.m. on Sunday, October 14. The NBBB is an opportunity
 to wrap up the day's events, wind down, and sell your
 goods! Members are invited to bring a supply of their
 published works for sale at the No Bards Barred Bar and
 are expected to spend a short shift, about 15 minutes,
 helping each other to sell their products. It's a chance to
 promote your work and make it available to those would
 like to buy a copy. Bring copies of your works and help
 each other sell. If you plan to be there and sell your wares,
 please inform John Chalmers by phone at 435-8194 or
 email to jchalmers@powersurfr.com.