



the Stroll Scroll

Stroll of Poets Society
Box 35082, Oliver P.O.
Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8
Website:
www.strollofpoets.com

May 2003

The Stroll of Poets Society semi-regular newsletter



President's Message

Hello Stroll members. We are embarking on the thirteenth year of this remarkable journey. Superstitions aside, it promises to be a great year. The board of directors has had its first meeting, and I am happy to report that there was enthusiasm around the table for making plans. With your help, I think we can make some exciting creative plans this year.

The founding mission statement of the society basically says that our goal is to promote the acceptance of poetry in the community. The Stroll has done this every year of its life so far. Our festivals - the Stroll and the 12 Days - bring out a fair crowd of people every year. The 12 Days this year, with the dedicated help of CBC as a media sponsor, pulled out very good crowds, and finished off by selling out in advance for the 12th Day. And the connection with CBC didn't stop there: for the first time, CBC selected the poets for CBC's Poetry Faceoff from the eleven finalists in the 12 Days. And, in case you haven't heard yet, Mary T. McDonald, winner of the local Poetry Faceoff, went on to win the national CBC's Poetry Faceoff! Congratulations Mary! That's terrific! And thank you for helping to raise the Stroll profile even more. Imagine: from the local Stroll stage to the national radio stage.

I have a couple of goals in mind for this year. One concerns publicity: I think we can continue to raise our profile if we focus on getting the word out about our events. If we raise our profile more and draw bigger crowds, then we will be satisfying our mission statement by involving the poetry community even more in the greater community; and we will be making our funders happy. The other goal I have in mind concerns membership involvement. A lot of people give their time to the Stroll programs and events, which is why the society is thriving. I think, however, that even more people are needed to share the work. And I don't primarily mean the nasty sense of 'work', but rather the sense that occurs in 'work of art'. We need more people involved in the fun part, the creative part, putting on the show. On the new membership form there is a question about volunteering. It lists a half dozen Stroll programs or needs, most of which could be managed by committees rather than single coordinators. You will also see in the ad for coordinators in the newsletter that we would like to appoint up to three coordinators for the Stroll and for the 12 Days. The advantages of involving more people in the creative work are numerous: hours of work will be shared and fewer people will burn out, people will get to know each other, more people will learn how things work in the Stroll, fresh ideas will come forth, more people will take ownership of the Stroll programs, and the strength and health of the society will improve. Please give thought to giving some time to a committee; this society is worth it. The major committees will include representatives from the board to chair planning meetings and to report to the board. If you don't have time for this kind of work, there will of course still be some nasty work, like putting up posters or setting up chairs, so please sign up for volunteering even if you have only a little time. Regards, Ivan Sundal

Volunteer Spotlight

Currently camera shy: Andy, Katherine & TDL

Appreciation goes out to these new board members who have taken the opportunity to serve after only being part of the Stroll for one year: Michael Appleby, Katherine Charr, Andy Michaelson, and Oswald Myer. Also appreciation goes out to Tim Cusack who commuted from Brooks for 4 years to be part of the Stroll and now that he has moved to St. Albert he has stepped on board. Appreciation also to long time Stroller TDL Turner for taking her turn and also to Pierrette Requier for coming back for another term and of course appreciation to Ivan ☐ founder, and past: President - Membership Secretary - Stroll Coordinator, and 12 Days Coordinator!



TIM



MICHAEL



OSSIE



PIERRETTE

Member News

Congratulations to all of you who have had poems published in the last couple of months and best of everything to all of you who continue to brave the markets. If you would like your news shared with the membership - Contact: s_mooney_ellerbeck@hotmail.com

Congratulations to Mary T. McDonald for being CBC's national face off winner ☐ Canada wide! Way to Go Mary! Rusti Leahy envied a certain mystery stroller for years. Not only for his good looks but for his skill in writing and all those contests he won. He let her in on his winning secret: "send stuff out". It works. Recently her non-fiction piece "Colours Like Oil and Water" won an honourable mention in an anthology contest and her story "Losses" won third place in the Acrostic "Awakened By Silence" contest sponsored by Bruce Dale Press. Also two of Rusti's poems were accepted for Other Voices 15th anniversary issue ☐ Congrats Rusti

OTHER VOICES LAUNCH

Monday June 2nd at 7 pm ☐ Room 2-36
University Extension Centre, 8303-112 St.

How to Sign up for the Stroll

Send your \$10.00 to the Stroll of Poets Society Before JULY 31, 2003. Use Registration Form In this newsletter or sign up on-line at our Website: www.strollofpoets.com
Snail Mail to:

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Past Board Member and Stroll Enthusiast John Chalmers adds: This time of year, is a good time to renew your membership Keeping your membership current entitles you to participate in the annual Stroll Day, to publish in the annual anthology, and to participate in other Stroll programs and activities. Some 80% of our members are connected to e-mail. If you have recently acquired an e-mail connection and wish to be informed of events and activities which the printed newsletter does not always have time to print, be sure to notify Trevor by sending a note to trevor@dekort.ca. The e-mail newsletter often includes events from other organizations as well as our own, both in Edmonton and in other cities such as Red Deer and Calgary.

Membership Roster

The following people have renewed their membership as of April 30, 2003:

Ruth Anderson Donovan, Jo-Lynn Batke, Amanda Brailey, Chuck Brailey, Carole-Anne Brown, Eric Bryer, Don Butler, Harold Cashman, John Chalmers, Kathryn Charr, Tom Emmens, Mechelle Flynn, Ruth Galloway, Myrna Garanis, Brian Genereux, Nicole Harrison, Penny Hutchison, Ken Johnstone, Joy Lardner, Rusti Leahy, Connie Lloyd, Brenda Love, Anne Marshall, Jean Carmichael McKenzie, Derek Newell, Lana Phillips, Monica Rosborough, Anna Rozwadowska, Dennis Rusinak, Audrey Shield, Patti Sinclair, John Sylvestre, Vanna Tessier, T.D.L. Turner, Ellen Wilson.

If you have renewed your membership in the meantime and want to double-check contact: Membership Secretary: TDL Turner at: skydogs@ecn.ab.ca

Spring Series Success

Thank you Tom Emmens and co-helper Marilyn Hooper for the success of our spring series - thanks to all the readers who participated and all those who came out to support the event!

THE STROLL TEAM

Working to bring you
the best of poetry

Stroll Coordinator: vacant
12 Days Coordinator: vacant
12 Days Juror Coordinator: vacant
Anthology Publisher: vacant
E-mail Coordinator: Trevor DeKort
Anthology Sales: Paul McLaughlin
Newsletter Editor: Sandra Mooney-Ellerbeck
Webmaster: Doug Elves
Stroll of Poets Board of Directors:
President: Ivan Sundal
Vice President: Oswald Myer
Past President: Sandra Mooney-Ellerbeck
Treasurer: Katherine Charr
Secretary: TDL Turner
Volunteer Coordinator: Sandra Mooney-Ellerbeck
Workshop Coordinators: Andy Michaelson and Pierrette Requier
Reading Series Coordinators: Tim Cusack and Michael Appleby

The board will consider appointing up to three coordinators each for the following

Stroll Day Coordinator

- Locate venues
 - Make up poet roster
 - Liase with publicity director, anthology publisher & volunteer coordinator
 - Take care of organizational details for the event □ tickets, posters, hosts, brunch, no bards, sweatshop, etc)
- Honorarium will be confirmed pending grant application acceptance □ shared between 3 coordinators

12 Days Coordinator

- Locate venues
 - Make up poet roster
 - Liase with publicity director, 12 days juror & volunteer coordinator
 - Take care of organizational details for the event □ tickets, posters, hosts, 12th night venue, etc)
- Honorarium will be confirmed pending grant application acceptance □ shared between 3 coordinators

Anthology Publisher □ 1 Position

- Collect & collate Stroll submissions
 - Enter submissions on computer & format anthology
 - Liase with graphics artist re: cover, anthology printer, publicity director, & volunteer coordinator
 - Organize Launch
- Honorarium will be confirmed pending grant application acceptance

12 Days Jury Coordinator □ 1 Position

- Photocopy anthology submissions
- Distribute to 9 Jurors you have located to vote for the top 44 poems
- Jurors should be represented from the media, literary, arts, and business community

For the above jobs please submit your written application to the Stroll of Poets Society by June 2, 2003.

Anthology Cover Art:

- Submit graphic art for consideration for the cover of the 2003 Anthology. Color photos or photocopies of artwork will be accepted.
- Deadline: July 1, 2003
Honorarium confirmed pending grant application acceptance

CALGARY STROLL

September 7, 2003

Deadline for submissions: June 1, 2003
Submit 3 unpublished poems (no more than 33 lines each - including line breaks) typed in times new roman (include your name, address, phone number and email on the poems, and an up to 75 word bio with a \$10.00 cheque Payable to: The Society of Poets, Bards, and Storytellers, P.O. Box 22428, Calgary, AB T2P 5G7
Your payment ensures reading time and includes a copy of the 2003 anthology.

CHARTED BUS TO CALGARY

Sign up for the Rollin on the Bus Workshop to Calgary Stroll NOW! -

Deadline August 1 □ but do it NOW □ so you won't miss a spot on the bus □ it was so successful last year that we're doing it

again □ contact Andy Michaelson at: andymichaelson@telus.net

\$25.00 gives you a return trip from Calgary and a fun workshop along the way!

On Reading Another Poet □ Elizabeth Brewster

I think we are being given the same messages
that oracles are speaking in our dreams
warning admonition code
syllables of unknown meaning.

We are not in competition.
If I say the same thing
it is not because I copy
but because the voice says so.

Maybe there will be hundreds of us
Like choric echoes.
It will not matter
that the words repeat themselves

so long as what is said
rises like the tide in all our separate waves
and beats upon and shapes the dreaming shore.

Writer Circle:

contact
Jennie Frost
mjfrost@accessweb.com

May 4 from 12-6 □ **Earth Day** at Hawreluk Park will have poetry! Anyone out there writing great environmental poetry, endangered species ballads, etc? Contact Sherrilyn Jahrig for more info at 455-9912.

STROLL REGISTRATION

Open stage, for those who do not register for the Stroll by July 31, 2002, will still be available, but performers on the Open Stage will not see their poems in the Anthology. You have until July 31, 2003 to register using the form below or on-line at www.strollofpoets.com

Stroll 2003 Registration Form

Yes! I need to renew my membership and I want to perform in this year's Stroll on Sunday, October 5, I also want to continue receiving the Stroll Scroll.

Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email _____

Would you like to perform in the Stroll on October 5, 2003? _____

Would you like your name, phone number, and e-mail address in a Stroll Directory? _____

Would you like to volunteer? _____

YES NO

\$10.00 for renewals/membership. Donations welcome.

Mail to: **Stroll of Poets Society, Box 35082, Oliver PO, Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8**

Are you connected yet?

Most Stroll members have e-mail, but those who don't are missing the frequent e-mail announcements about upcoming events and news in literary circles. If you have recently connected, be sure to let Doug Elves know your e-mail address, and give your address to our e-mail editor, Trevor Dekort at trevor@dekort.ca so he can add you to our distribution list. Likewise, if you are connected to the Internet, visit our Stroll web site at www.strollofpoets.com