

WYOPOETS MEMBERS-ONLY CONTEST

DEADLINE: February 14th postmark, 2010

Eligibility - All WyoPoets members in good standing are eligible to enter. (Poets may join WyoPoets at the time of submission by including \$15.00 dues with their contest fees.) Winning poems will be published in the newsletter **only** with permission of the poet.

Rules

1. Any subject, any form. Limit 40 lines.
2. One category; may include traditional, free verse, Haiku, experimental.
3. Limit; members may enter up to three poems only.
4. Entry fee; \$2 per poem or three poems for \$5.
5. Prizes; \$50, \$35, \$20 plus certificates. Certificates for honorable mention.

Submission Rules –

1. Send **two** copies of each poem, one with identity in upper right hand corner; one without; the form, such as sonnet, free verse, etc, in left hand corner.
2. **Deadline:** Only poems that meet the **February 14th postmark deadline** will be considered. No poems will be returned so keep copies. ENTRIES MUST CONFORM TO THESE GUIDELINES.
3. Winners will be notified by mail and recognized in the newsletter and at our spring workshop. No poems will be published in WyoPoets' Newsletter without the author's written permission.
4. SEND ALL ENTRIES TO:
Christine Valentine
P.O. Box 547
Birney, MT. 59012

NOTE: **Membership in WyoPoet's is \$15 and may be included with entry fee and sent to contest chair.**



Eugene V. Shea

Many thanks once again to Gene Shea for chairing our annual WyoPoets National Contest. Gene is a past president of WyoPoets and as a tribute to his work, the National Contest is named for him.

RESULTS OF THE EUGENE V. SHEA NATIONAL CONTEST

| Winners List | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Name & State | Title of Poem | |
| 1 st Catherine Moran Little Rock, AR | STARTING OVER | |
| 2 nd Lou Layman Rifle, CO | THE LURE OF THE WOODLAND | |
| 3 rd Glenna Holloway Naperville, IL | WHILE HE'S AWAY | |
| **1 st HM Linda Rhule Worland, WY | GLITTER | |
| 2 nd HM Eugene M. Gagliano Buffalo, WY | LESSON OF THE TREES | |
| 3 rd HM Marilyn Larrabee Bountiful, UT | METAPHOR FAILS | |
| 4 th HM Pat Randolph Dallas, TX | THE GREAT DIVIDE | |
| 5 th Hm Colleen Purves Lander, WY | FOOTPRINTS ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL | |

****Please note: The correct spelling for 1st Hon Men is Linda Ruhle**

Congratulations to WyoPoets:

**Lou Layman
Linda Ruhle
Eugene Gagliano
Colleen Purves**

who all placed in this contest!



WYOPOETS'

JANUARY 2010

NEWSLETTER

Serendipity Poets' Christmas Presentation to Sierra Hills Residents



Timothy Stark



Jim Rolf



Patricia Corrigan



L to R: Tim Stark; Michael Riversong; Ruth Kanaris; Patricia Corrigan; Jim RolfPhotos by Tom Hamm

WYOPOETS' SPRING WORKSHOP

SAVE THIS DATE!!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24
AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN, IN CASPER
FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM**

Rooms available at the group rate of \$79 per night, at the **NEW HAMPTON INN** (next door to the Hilton Garden Inn)

Workshop Presenter.....Poet and Writer

SOPHIA PUCCINI

Sophia Puccini self-published her first collection of 88 love poems, *The Poet*, in 2006. A second collection of 88 more love poems, *Il Lupa* will be published in 2010. She has appeared in *Art Times*, *Woven on the Wind* (Houghton Mifflin, 2001), and in the second of the series, *Crazy Woman Creek* (Mariner Books, 2004), among others.



SOPHIA PUCCINI

Her approach to finding a poem involves tricking the mind so that the poem is not approached logically. Through different exercises, some involving movement, some involving the telling of a story, there will be a beginning of a poem, which will then become like a framework to hang on or weave imagery into. As Sophia says, "it is the way of water, coming from many directions."

Sophia has studied dance extensively, especially Flamenco, traveling the world to study various styles. She has taught dance and yoga, and also teaches and performs with students from elementary grades to high school.

Sophia also sings Spanish love songs, cante flamenco, and a little Dean Martin in Italian. She has sung at funerals, on street corners, in grocery stores, the dinner table, and two karaoke bars.

She and her husband Dave have raised four children and have eleven grandchildren. They ranch in Carbon County, Wyoming raising cattle and sheep.

**Watch for a flyer in your mailbox
by the end of February, with full details
of the workshop schedule, cost,
and registration form**

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www.wyopoets.com

POETRY PROMPTS

When we first started our column "Poetry Prompts" several years ago Laurie Wagner Buyer contributed columns for the first year. We are indebted to her for getting us started! Now married to her friend of many years, writer and singer W.C. Jameson, Laurie contributes two short articles for this issue about procrastination and getting re-started. Thank you Laurie!



Laurie with her husband W.C. Jameson at the Western Heritage Awards

Part I

I find encouragement for my writing life in some of the oddest places. The other day I opened a box of St. Claire's Organics Peppermints and found the following quote printed on the inside of the lid:

"Do not wait, the time will never be just right. Start where you stand, and work with whatever tools you may have at your command. Better tools will be found as you go along.".....Napoleon Hill

For several weeks I have been putting off a new writing project because I didn't feel like I was in the right place or the right frame of mind. I didn't feel as if I had the correct attitude or the best outline of a working schedule organized. I worried that I had too many other irons in the fire to begin something new with conviction and dedication. Now, however, I realize that waiting for the right time to occur is not likely to happen. I understand that I simply have to start with whatever ideas I have in my mind and whatever bits of time I can scrounge up. The only way to start is to simply begin.

And so I shall. As soon as I save and close this article I will pull up a blank document and begin work on my new book.

Part II

When I work with writers as a mentor or editor one of my biggest challenges is getting them to write. I know that sounds silly but it is true. People want to write. They have great ideas, compelling stories, interesting plots, dynamic characters, a wealth of words, a fine knowledge of craft, and plenty of education but oftentimes what they lack is the true desire to sit down at their desk and get the work done. I used to tell my clients that all they needed to be a good writer was passion, patience and persistence. I realized not long ago that I needed to add the word practice to that list. Without a regular routine of engaging with words on the most intimate level there is no way to be a writer.

Practice makes perfect is an old adage but it holds up. Anything we hope to create is never done with ease or excellence the first time around. With every attempt at our art we discover new ways to do things better. I'm convinced that inspiration comes from a Divine Source as does talent, but neither of those things can come to fruition without the desire to do the work.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

From Lou Layman: I WON SOMETHING. I entered some poems in a contest of the Missouri State Poetry Society, and I got an honorable mention for one poem and for another one, "Insight," I got a third place and \$10. It's a nice surprise to get not only a certificate to hang on the wall, but actual money, and this was only a third place. NOTE - Congratulations again to Lou for winning 2nd place in our WyoPoets' Eugene V. Shea National Contest!

From Lori Van Pelt: I'm pleased to let you know that my essay, "The Icebreaker," appears in the new anthology, WRITERS AND THEIR NOTEBOOKS, edited by Diana Raab and published by the University of South Carolina Press. My essay focuses on how I used my journal to help me while writing my book, AMELIA EARHART: THE SKY'S NO LIMIT (Forge, American Heroes series, 2005). Some of the other writers included are poet Dorianne Laux and mystery author Sue Grafton.

From Bret Norwood: I've had a long narrative poem called The Arboretum published at www.soundzine.org in their online November issue. The same poem placed first in the deviantART.com Epic Poetry Contest last summer.

From Joan Feagins: Thank you to all my friends for their concerns during my surgery. I am recuperated well and ready to get to work.

From Helen C. (Colleen) Purves: I had 3 poems published in a little chapbook out of Cheyenne...SERENDIPITY POETS OF CHEYENNE, 2009...and I placed 5th Hon Mention in WyoPoets National Poetry Contest.

From Rose Hill: My mother turned 100 on January 7 and we celebrated with a family get-together at West View Health Care Center and a total of 32 people from over the state. She seemed to enjoy the proceedings—as did we all. She has four daughters, twelve grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren and if my count is right, eleven great-great grandchildren.

From Chris Valentine: I had a 2nd place in the SDPS Annual Contest for my poem "Shipping the Old Boar." Also my poem "Thunder's Voice" was published in the 2009 FSPA Members' Anthology, and I received a 1st HM from the Minnesota LOMP Contest and 2 citations from Florida's FSPA Annual Contest.

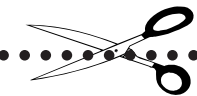
Congratulations to the following members with poems in this year's *Serendipity Poets of Cheyenne Journal* Colleen Purves; Frank Good; Nancy Gerlock; Chris Valentine; Tom Hamm; Jim Rolf and Ed Warsaw.

From Gene Gagliano: As I recently discovered, I won a second place in the Wyo Poets National Poetry Contest. I also placed third for a poem in the Missouri State Poetry Society's 2009 Summer Contest. I just entered the Poetry Society of Virginia contest. On January 23, 2010 I will be the main speaker for the **Raising Wyoming Readers** benefit luncheon in Casper.

From Ed Warsaw: For the past eight weeks we have been in Cape Cod doing a lot of reading and writing. We return to Cheyenne tomorrow.

From Jim Rolf: The Serendipity Poets have had several moves this winter: The Synergy Cafe closed, so the Plains Hotel kept their coffee shop open late for a few weeks to allow us to meet there, and the poets are now meeting at a downtown Starbucks. I enjoyed Christmas with my son and his family (including 9- and 5-year old granddaughters) who came to my house to spend Christmas Eve. I prepared dinner (a lobster bake, grilled steak, dry-rub ribs, baked chicken, and burgers for the girls), we attended a Childrens' Mass, and then came back to the house to open more presents than any of us needed. Went to holiday funerals, including the loss of Wyoming Cowboy Poet Mike Schroll.

To **join WYOpoets** or to **renew your membership** you may use the form below:



Name:

Address:

Telephone # _____ E-Mail: Permission to use for WyoPoets? YES ___ NO ___

Please check one: Adult membership: \$15.00 per year _____ **Student membership 7.50 per year _____

(Year = July 1st to June 30th) Send to: Pat Frolander, Treasurer-WYOpoets, 19652 US Hwy 14, Sundance, WY. 82729

Is this a gift for someone? _____ Anonymous gift? ___ I wish to donate \$ _____ to the WyoPoets' Scholarship fund

** individuals through age 18, and college students enrolled in a degree or certification program through an accredited educational institution.