

**Executive Board
2023**

President

David James
jamesfam3@charter.net

Vice President

Robin Church
rrchurch123@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Susan Herman
(231) 429-2443
Treasurer.PSM@
gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Jerry Lang
jerry.lang61@comcast.net

**Membership
Coordinator**

Debra Belcher
membership.psm@
gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Phillip Sterling
(616) 897-4258
sterlinp@ferris.edu

Webmaster

David Jibson
davidkjibson@gmail.com

Peninsula Poets Editor

Debra Belcher
[2024 Member's Issue]
springeditor.psm@gmail.com

Contest Chairperson

Diana Hart
psmppcontest@gmail.com

Historian

Inge Logenburg Kyler
(517) 646-9569
ingekyler@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Jerry Lang
jerry.lang61@comcast.net

Honorary Chancellor

Eric Torgersen

Poetry Society of Michigan



"Encouraging Poets Since 1935"

December 2023

President's Message

Welcome to the holiday season! It's often a hectic, commercial time, but I hope you find some peace and joy among the bustle. And may the new year bring you and yours some lovely blessings!

Word has it that the Fall 2023 meeting in October, hosted by our Vice President **Robin Church** at the Interlochen Library, was a big success! I want to thank all of you who helped, attended, and presented, especially **Teresa Scollon** from the *Dunes Review*, **Kathlene Barrett** and **Nicole Birkett**, from *Making Waves*, and **Glen Young**, from *Walloon Writers Review*. I'm sorry to have missed it. (I was out-of-the-country, vacationing in Scotland with my wife.)

SAVE THE DATE: PSM Spring Conference, Saturday, April 13, 2024, Hackley Public Library in Muskegon. We will send out more specific and detailed information in the new year. We'd love to see you at our conference—it's always a learning opportunity and an inspiring day of poetry reading, discussion and writing prompts, plus lunch! If you've never attended, I think you'd be pleasantly surprised by the camaraderie and friendliness of the group. If you have been to our conferences, you know what I'm talking about!

Here's a little writing prompt to get you through the holidays. I call it the "falling rhyme" poem. It's a poem of 16 lines—four stanzas of four lines (although once it's completed you can do what you want with the stanza breaks). There is one end rhyme that "falls" through each stanza. Here is the rhyme scheme: **Abcd eAfg hiAj klmA.** (So the first line rhymes with the second line of the second stanza, the third line of the third stanza and the last line of the last stanza.) The rhyming is unobtrusive, almost invisible, but creates a certain music through the poem. Give it a try! Consider this my holiday gift to you.

I hope you keep writing through the chaos and violence in the world in order to 1) make sense of what's happening, 2) create some order, 3) offer a miracle or moment of joy or 4) find a way to be hopeful and sane.

Be well. Be safe.
David James

Call for Submissions *Peninsula Poets Spring 2024* (Members Edition)

Members only! You must be a member in good standing with your dues paid thru 2024. Visit poetrysocietyofmichigan.com for full membership details. If you are unsure of your standing, you can contact membership.psm@gmail.com

Submissions accepted until **February 1, 2024**. By email (preferred), send up to 3 unpublished poems in a single attachment, with one poem per page, your contact info on each page, in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect format, to springeditor.psm@gmail.com.

Please note new address!

If you don't have email, send up to three poems, one poem per page, with contact info on each page, to PSM Spring Edition, PO Box 1035, Cadillac, MI 49601 (Must be postmarked by midnight February 1, 2024)

If you have any questions email Debra Belcher at springeditor.psm@gmail.com. We are looking forward to reading your work!

We are also seeking cover photo submissions.

We have become aware of the wealth of artistic talent beyond poetry among our membership. We would love to include your artwork, painting, drawing, pottery, quilting, stained glass, even doodles or simple line drawings for chapter pages! Please send jpg photos of your work so we can make a collage or quilt style cover and headings for chapters. Email to springeditor.psm@gmail.com

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READ ME!

October was PSM annual membership renewal month. BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE. Members who renew (or join) by the end of December 2023 will be included on the 2024 roster submitted to the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS), which allows participation in and/or discounts on all the national contests. Membership dues are only \$30 per person per year. In addition to membership in the NFSPS and quarterly copies of its *Strophes* Newsletter, PSM membership provides quarterly copies of our *PSM Newsletter*, as well as copies of our distinguished poetry journal *Peninsula Poets* printed twice a year. That's quite a Bargain! Mail your check today to the address below.

2024 Dues
c/o PSM Treasurer
Box 1035
Cadillac, MI 49601

Thank you in advance for helping us keep our roster up to date!

Deb Belcher, Membership Coordinator

The Poem

Like the chickadee flits
branch to branch
just out of reach
of the bribe of seed
in your outstretched hand

It calls from an overhead limb
again and again
testing your resolve
to stand in the snow
and surrender

Jane Wheeler

CALL for NOMINATIONS

It's that time again! Elections for two-year terms of PSM Executive Board Positions will be held at the **2024 Spring Meeting in Muskegon**. Elected positions are: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2024..

From the By-laws:

ARTICLE III: Officers and Elections

A. The Society shall be governed by an Executive Board consisting of (1) President, (2) Vice President, (3) Treasurer, (4) Recording Secretary, (5) Newsletter Editor, (6) Membership Coordinator, (7) Webmaster, (8) *Peninsula Poets* Editor, (9) Contest Chairperson, (10) Historian, and (11) Parliamentarian. A majority of the Members of this Board shall constitute a quorum to conduct the business of the Society. Each Officer will have a single vote in Board matters.

B. The Offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary will be determined by general election of the Active Membership. The term of office for elected Officers shall be two years. President and Vice President shall hold office for no more than two consecutive terms.

C. The Offices of Newsletter Editor, Membership Coordinator, Webmaster, *Peninsula Poets* Editor, Contest Chairperson, Historian, and Parliamentarian shall be Appointed by the President under advisement of the Elected Officers of the Executive Board, based upon nominations from the general membership. **Members may self-nominate**. The terms of service for Appointed Officers are not limited but shall be reconfirmed during general elections.

Parliamentarian **Jerry Lang** will be accepting nominations until **January 15, 2024**: email jerry.lang61@comcast.net.

A ballot will appear in the March 2024 *PSM Newsletter*.

(Note: Current officers **David James**, **Robin Church**, **Susan Herman** [formally Anderson], and **Jerry Lang** have been nominated already.)

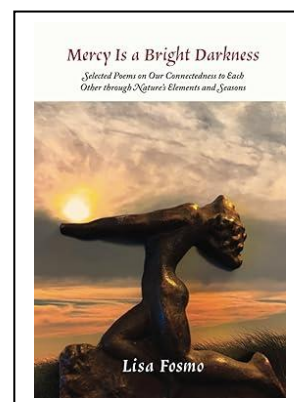
News from UP North

SAVE THE DATES: The third annual **Great Lakes Poetry Festival** will be happening from **April 21 to April 27, 2024**, at **Peter White Public Library** in Marquette, Mi. The GLPF will feature readings from local and nationally-known poets, poetry workshops, and poetry contests. Visit the PWPL website (pwpl.info) for updates and information.

The regular meeting of the **Marquette Poets Circle** takes place the second Thursday of every month in the Shiras Room at Peter White Public Library. If you haven't heard, the ten-year Marquette Poets Circle anthology, *Superior Voyage*, was chosen as a U. P. Notable book.

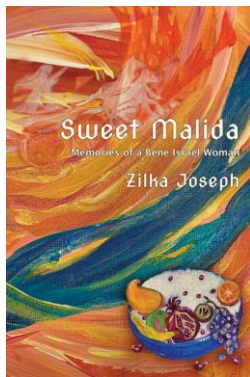
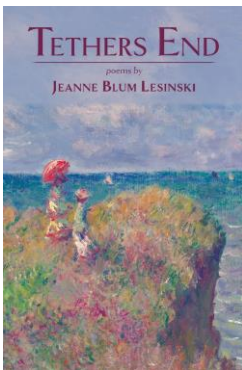
Peter White Public Library will be hosting a two-month series of teen poetry workshops led by members of the Marquette Poets Circle. The series is called 'Write On,' and the goal of the workshop is to have all teen participants publish individual chapbooks of poems, funded by the estate of poet **Helen Haskell Remien**. For more information, visit PWPL's website (pwpl.info).

UP poet **Lisa Fosmo** has a new book out, a full-length collection of poetry titled *Mercy Is a Bright Darkness* published by Golden Dragonfly Press. Subtitled *Selected Poems on Our Connectedness to Each Other through Nature's Elements and Seasons*, the book is available on Amazon (paperback \$16.99). After reading Fosmo's poems, writes **Carolyn Riker**, "I felt I was sent back in time, where the pace honors the sound of trees and visits with the bright blue jays. She embraces the seasons with brilliant intimacy. Fosmos's daunting imagery captivates the reader with her poetic sensibilities."



The Printed Word

Jeanne Blum Lesinski announces the publication of her first poetry book, *Tethers End*, by Shanti Arts. While family life in a handful of different Midwest and Eastern states informs much of the collection, not all poems are simply autobiographical. Many offer cultural observations and commentary. Throughout the book, Lesinski grapples with questions of constraint and freedom, the controllable and chaotic, in poems that range from traditional forms to lyric prose. “Lesinski works in a variety of poetic forms to tackle difficult subjects,” writes **Carol Barrett**, “while simultaneously reminding us of the presence of nature, the ‘almost imperceptible whirs of gulls’ wings. . . . This is a collection that affirms the tenacity of human emotion, that refuses to deny its power, ultimately concluding that ‘history is the final proof.’” *Tethers End* is available (\$14.95) from the publisher (shantiarts.co), Bookshop.org, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and many local bookstores. Or from the author: jeannemlesiniski@gmail.com.



Zilka Joseph’s new book *Sweet Malida*, a collection of poems and prose centered around the Bene Israel Jewish community, will be released from Mayapple Press in February, 2024. Using various poetic forms, the poet launches on an imaginative journey, delving into the history and culinary customs of this small community of Indian Jews, exploring its special connection to the Prophet Elijah, while seamlessly weaving in the author’s experience, bringing to life the past and lost loved ones as well. “In this deeply moving collection,” writes **Nancy Naomi Carlson**, “Zilka Joseph takes us on a journey through memories scented with cumin and cardamom, grief and regret, as her Bene Israel heritage comes alive. Joseph’s precise and passionate descriptions transcend time and space.” Preorder at a special price by going to: mayapplepress.com.

Congratulations to PSM member **Bob Darnton**! His collection of poetry, *Benedictions*, has been published through Barnes & Noble Press. Paperbacks are \$10, hardcover \$17, including shipping. An avid trout fisherman who has traveled the world to fish in exotic locations, Darnton has brought together in *Benedictions* poems and meditations on his family, his love for fishing, and observations he has made in his travels. In one example, “Rita Carol,” Darnton captures with tender honesty the nuances of being a caregiver to his wife of 41 years. In “Father’s Day,” the simple ritual of taking the dog out for the last time before going to bed is rich with the atmosphere of a summer’s evening and the subtle shift of emotions. Darnton lives with Tippy, his Springer Spaniel, in Flushing. Copies of *Benedictions* can be ordered directly from Bob at bobwritestrout@gmail.com.

Those Winter Sundays*

Sundays too my father got up early
and put his clothes on in the blueblack cold,
then with cracked hands that ached
from labor in the weekday weather made
banked fires blaze. No one ever thanked him.

I’d wake and hear the cold splintering, breaking.
When the rooms were warm, he’d call,
and slowly I would rise and dress,
fearing the chronic angers of that house,

speaking indifferently to him,
who had driven out the cold
and polished my good shoes as well.
What did I know, what did I know
of love’s austere and lonely offices?

Robert Hayden

*from *Collected Poems of Robert Hayden*, edited by Frederick Glaysher. Copyright ©1966 by Robert Hayden.

Crazy Wisdom Poetry Series 2024

hosted by

Edward Morin, David Jibson, and Lissa Perrin

Second and Fourth Wednesday of each month, 7-9 p.m.

Second Wednesdays: Poetry Workshop. All writers welcome to share and discuss their poetry and short fiction. Sign-up for new participants begins 6:45 p.m.

Fourth Wednesdays: Featured Reader(s) for 50 minutes. Open Mic reading for 1 hour. All writers welcome to share their own or other favorite poetry. Sign-up begins at 6:45 p.m.

All sessions are virtual and accessible through Zoom.
Email cwpoetrycircle@gmail.com for Zoom link.

Featured Readers for Winter-Spring 2024:

January 24 - Ellen Bass, protégé of Ann Sexton, has poems in *The New Yorker*, *American Poetry Review*, and nine poetry collections—*Indigo* being her most recent. She co-wrote a groundbreaking guide for survivors of child sexual abuse and one for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth. Chancellor Emerita of the Academy of American Poets, she teaches creative writing at Pacific University.

February 28 - Rachel DeWoskin began her career starring in the Chinese TV serial *Foreign Babes in Beijing*, watched by 600 million viewers. Returning to the U.S., she published 5 novels and, most recently, two collections of poems: *Two Menus: Poems* and the forthcoming *absolute animal: poems*. She teaches fiction at The University of Chicago.

March 27 - Ken Meisel, a Detroit area psychotherapist whose poems dramatize personal and social conflict and recovery, is author of nine poetry collections, including *Mortal Lullabies*, *The Drunken Sweetheart at My Door* and—released just this year—*The Light Most Glad of All*. He was featured poet in the movie *Detroit: Tough Luck Stories*.

March 27 - Russell Thorburn, has authored five books of poems, including *Somewhere We'll Leave the World*, and *Let It Be Told in a Single Breath* due for publication in 2024. Among his awards is a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. In 2013 he was the Upper Peninsula's first Poet Laureate.

April 24 - Zack Rogow is author, editor, and translator. His memoir *Hugging My Father's Ghost*, will be published in April 2024. His dad was also a writer, and in the memoir, Rogow attempts to solve the mystery of the father he never knew.

Zack's ninth poetry collection is *Irreverent Litanies*.

www.zackrogow.com

Springfed Arts Winter Workshops

Classes and workshops are filling fast! Still available:

Advanced Prose with Maureen Dunphy (Morning Class): Online Zoom Workshops, Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 6 & 13, 11am-1pm. Instructor approval required before registration; contact info@springfed.org. Limited to 6 participants. Share your work in progress with a supportive group while you practice taking paths employed by successful writers.

Poetry 101 with Kelly Fordon: On Zoom, Thursdays, February 8, 15, 22, 29th, and March 7th and 14th, 1pm-3pm. In this introductory class, we will learn to write poetry by studying the basic tenets of the craft: imagery, line breaks, stanzas, form, rhythm, meter, and narrative versus lyric poetry. We'll write new poems and read work by established poets as well. This is a generative class. We will have opportunities to share our work, but the primary aim is to write new poems and learn the craft.

Personal Essay and Memoir with Carolyn Walker (ONLINE CLASS—flexible schedule). Six consultations during the 3 months after you register. Send in up to 10 pages of work for in-depth review. Writing prompts given upon request, as well as recommendations of books, memoirs, and essays to learn from. Phone consultations can be arranged.

For **registration info**, **leader bios**, and other information about **Springfed Arts** activities, visit springfed.org.

Snow

Precious winter gift
Hills for sledding and skiing
Snowmen standing proud

Mary Ann Bozenski

The Creative Courage of Poetry

by Ron Weber

To some degree, we all are consumers of creative works: visual arts, performing arts, novels, non-fiction prose, paintings, photography, music and, yes, poetry. I believe it can safely be said that poetry is the least lucrative genre of all of the arts. That fact alone attests to the courage required to even contemplate pursuing it, let alone actually doing so.

As with all of the arts, poetry is an expression of self, but to a more significant degree, it is a transcendence of self. Is your poetry likely to be meaningful to others on some basic human level? Keep in mind that most poets we are familiar with paid their bills and made a living doing something besides just writing poetry. Creating meaningful verse was therefore a subtle yet very apparent act of creative courage.

Robert Graves pointed out that, "To be a poet is a condition rather than a profession." Success in any of the creative enterprise is more often than not a crap shoot, and more so for poets. In personal correspondence, Kurt Vonnegut put it this way to me: "The literary marketplace, as you are surely aware, is a lottery. But you can't win if you don't have a ticket."

For those who have indeed made a long term commitment to poetry (i.e., being a poet and internalizing it), there is always the reality of the authority of the status quo that must periodically be wrestled with. And that authority exists in every corner of life: government, school, corporations, the media, religion, et al. The objective in every case is control. It can be in their stated purpose or a byproduct of that overall goal, but someone is always after something from you, if not you entirely. Thus a tension exists between the authority and forces of traditionalist doctrine and creative bravery. Two paramount examples to my mind would be E. E. Cummings and Walt Whitman. Voices of the status quo cringe that artists should dare to innovate and challenge convention.

By way of caveat, Whitman wrote, "Re-examine all you have been told at school or church or in any book, dismiss whatever insults your own soul." Mark Twain admonishes, "Don't let school get in the way of your education." And the revered Mr. Einstein put it this way: "Education is what remains after one has forgotten everything he learned in school."

Consequently, the poet's challenge and most relevant function is to make his imagination a beacon or searchlight, if you will, in the mind of others. Robert Penn Warren said, "And in the end, the poem is not a thing we see. It is, rather, a light by which we may see."

I believe that some of the best poets in the country are unpretentiously walking among us at the local and regional levels. They are every bit as good as the big names we know. Ezra Pound said, "It is important that great poems get written, and it doesn't matter a damn who writes them." Poetry conveys man's joy, heartache, hope and despair, and it is one of the leading ways man turns knowledge into wisdom.

The Heavens Turn *December 7, 2022*

The heavens turn; the Archer draws his bow
Above us as we take our little walks
Under the stars, knowing our status quo
Is fragile, subject to the thousand shocks
That flesh is heir to. But your birthday's here,
And soon we'll sit with friends and kin to mark
Our great good fortune that another year
Has found us still ascending like the lark,
Singing our songs and celebrating breath.
The day itself is cursed by history
For one dark act of infamy and death;
But every year I view it selfishly
As one more chance to thank the stars above
For one more precious year of life and love.

Arnold Johnston

A Christmas List for Santa*

A Wednesday afternoon with no thoughts of Thursday

Three weeks in the woods, two by myself, one with my father

My father

Cups of tea, plates for sugar cookies, the first ones I ever made,
the dough still sticking to my fingertips

Comic books from the late '40s: *Little Lulu*, *The Green Hornet*, *Felix the Cat*

Every creek from the upper peninsula of Michigan

The last page from twenty unpublished novels

The ease of a dog's sleep

Five gold rings

A moon-draped evening among the birds in the hemlocks

Any snow-covered pile of leaves

Photographs, I don't care how many, of my daughter just before she smiles
for the camera

Seven moments with the lucidity of cutting yourself with a bread knife

Whatever happens between what happens

The liturgy of an old monk laughing

—Jack Ridl

*from *Practicing to Walk Like a Heron* (Wayne State University Press 2013)

In Other News . . .

Members of the **River Junction Poets** are reminded that dues for 2024 (still only \$20!) are due by the end of the month. If you aren't able to pay at the annual **Christmas event** on **Saturday, December 9**, at 1pm in the **Zauel Library**, you can mail your check to RJP treasurer **Celeste Gerard**, at 492 Wilson, Hemlock, MI 48626. The first RJP meeting of 2024 will be **Saturday, January 27**, at 1 p.m. in the Zauel Library Meeting Room.

An **Online Holiday Store** in support of the **Friends of Roethke** is now open and will continue through Mid-December. It features original Roethke merchandise designed by **Mary McDonnell**, a Friends of Roethke Board member and recent SVSU Dow Visiting Artist. The Friends of Roethke Membership Drive for 2024 offers new incentives for new or renewing members. More information about the Holiday Store, Membership, and other Roethke House events can be found at friendsofroethke.org.

Jack Ridl recently sent out a link to a short video of **Steven Fry** reading a letter written by **Nick Cave** to two of his fans. It's an inspiring letter about Artificial Intelligence and creativity. It's well worth viewing on YouTube:

https://youtu.be/iGJcF4bLKd4?si=DUQ-z_e_tnK8jahd. (You could also Google *Steven Fry Nick Cave letter* and find the video). Be on the lookout for Jack's new book coming out from **CavenKerry Press** in 2024! And remember, you can always find out about working with Jack one-on-one or sign up for his weekly blog (tracking Jack's move and adjustment to "7 acre woods") by going to his website at www.ridl.com. Jack wishes everyone as "jolly a holiday as possible."

The Year After Which It Was Never Quite The Same*

An orange was all a young lad could expect, what with
the war and rationing and father gone two springs.

More often, we'd do without—our *expectation*
like some jolly radio celebrity who

promises the dismal, smoky sky will brighten
by mid-afternoon (for listeners who believe . . .)

And then come morn our shoes were like horizons plump
with sun! Incredible! Each blessed Christmas Day!

Dad furloughed home the year the oranges bled, their pulp
the tint of Beaujolais. We peeled the yellow rinds

in shapes of doves and hung them from the sash. They filled
the room with citrus—spice—well past Epiphany.

Phillip Sterling

*From *Local Congregation: Poems Uncollected 1985-2015* (now available from Main Street Rag: mainstreetragbookstore.com)

“The Ballad of the Line”

by Ed Morin

“The Ballad of the Line” is a song I began writing in 1985, just after the UAW’s disastrous negotiations with the Big 3 auto companies. As a technical writer at the GM Technical Center in Warren, I documented GM’s “transfer of technology” to Japan, the first of many beneficiaries in American corporations’ quest for cheap foreign labor. Since then, the UAW’s rise and fall has been a sad story—until this year with the union’s renewed spunk under Shawn Fain’s courageous leadership. The last two stanzas of my song celebrate that change.

A complete audio version of “The Ballad of the Line” is available on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yw59Ci268eE>

Selected lyrics from “The Ballad of the Line”:

About the time that I was born,
 the floods washed out our corn.
 Locusts and the Dust Bowl brought hard times.
 When banks and companies fail,
 your best meals are in jail.
 Man, I’m tired—have you got a dime?

*Hey Brother, don’t you give up—
 the Lord will fill your cup.
 They say Ford’s pays five dollars a day!
 If you reach Detroit in time,
 join the production line
 and whistle your troubles away.*

[. . .]

We built war planes and tanks
 and opened up our ranks
 to women and minorities.
 Unions fought for civil rights
 as the country set its sights
 on bigger cars and prosperity.

*Hey Brother, why give up now?
 We’ve got benefits and how!
 We’re makin’ more than fifty bucks a day.
 Come on and work some overtime
 on the line, line, line,
 and laugh all your troubles away.*

Oil crisis and recession
 forced us into concessions:
 Management had more chance to compete.
 They outsourced parts with ease
 to makers overseas,
 then bargained us right out into the street.

*Brother, we gave away the store
 in nineteen eighty-four.
 Foreign robots are receiving our pay.
 I was afraid to strike that time.
 Now where the hell’s our line?
 I’m sorry we voted it away.*

Hey Brother, don’t you give up—
 The Lord will fill your cup.
 They say Ford’s pays five dollars a day!
 If you reach Detroit in time,
 there’s *unemployment* lines
 to whistle your troubles away.

Management’s remuneration
 soared well above inflation,
 leaving the working man behind.
 We were hired in lower tiers,
 pensions shrank in later years,
 Detroit and the middle class declined.

*Well, the union’s had enough;
 we’re tired of the bosses’ guff.
 We are rising to a brand-new day.
 We want the bosses’ respect
 with a living-wage paycheck,
 and we’re not going to give it away.
 This time, we’re not going to give it away.
 We won’t give it away!*

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

Business Address:

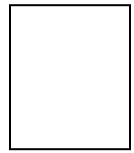
PSM Treasurer
PO Box 1035
Cadillac, MI 49601

Email: Treasurer.PSM@gmail.com

Website:
poetrysocietyofmichigan.com
& FACEBOOK

an affiliate of

The National Federation of
State Poetry Societies
www.nfsps.com



Literary Locals: Writers Welcome

Coronavirus Alert! Confirm with Organization before Attending!

Downriver Poets & Playwrights meets regularly on the first Tuesday of the month at Bacon Memorial Library in **Wyandotte** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact **Dennis White** at 734-755-5988 or denniswhite@mail.com for more information.

The **Detroit Poetry Salon** is a bi-weekly ZOOM meeting of poets who have, according to liaison **Nancy Shattuck**, “bonded in Spring Fed [Arts] poetry classes.” You do not need to be a Springfed or PSM member to join. Interested poets should contact Nancy for more info at shattucknj@gmail.com.

Crazy Wisdom Poetry Circle of Ann Arbor meets on 2nd Wednesdays of each month, 7-9 p.m. for writers’ workshop and on 4th Wednesdays with featured reader(s) and open mic. All sessions are virtual and accessible through Zoom. Listing of featured readers: <https://cwcircle.poetry.blog/>. Email cwcircle@gmail.com for Zoom link

For information about the many activities and gatherings of **Friends of Poetry—Kalamazoo**, contact **Elizabeth Kerlikowske** (mme642@yahoo.com) or visit their Facebook page.

Rochester Poets’ Society meets at the Rochester Hills Public Library, in **Rochester**, from 1-3 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. For more info Contact **Nancy Stevens** 248-217-4034 or email writings80@yahoo.com.

Bards of Bird Creek hosts a round-robin poetry reading at the **Port Austin Welcome Center** at 6:30 p.m. the last Wednesday of each month, June through September. Everyone welcome. Call (989) 738-7641 to confirm dates or for more information.

Marquette Poets Circle meets on first Monday of the month in the Peter White Library Conference Room at 5:30 for workshop, 6:30 for Open Mic. For more info contact **Marty Achatz** at machatz@pwpl.info or 906-226-4322.

The **Southeast Michigan Poetry Meet-up** meets from 7-9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Panera Bread, 27651 Southfield Road in **Lathrup Village**, MI. For more information, call **Carla Dodd** at 248-861-3636.

River Junction Poets of Saginaw meet regularly throughout the year. For dates and times and other info, visit their Facebook page or call RJP President **Jim Fobear** at 989-714-5124.

The **Lansing Poetry Club** generally meets once a month at a different member’s house. For more info or to confirm a meeting, visit Facebook or email LPC President Ruelaine Stokes (ruestokes@gmail.com) or Board member Cheryl Caesar (caesarc@msu.edu).