

AN EVENING OF PEACE AND POETRY

September 10-21, 2007 are Days of Decision: We The People Declare Peace in Springfield, Illinois. Among other “Local Actions in solidarity with the Declaration of Peace and national actions,” PWLF is collaborating with Building Justice in “An Evening of Poetry and Peace.”

Invited local poets will read their own works and the inspiring, peace-related works of other writers. Admission is free, but donations (made payable to Building Justice) are strongly encouraged to offset the costs of the venue and the refreshments.

PWLF hopes to see members and their friends in attendance.

For more information about “An Evening of Poetry & Peace,” contact Théa Chesley, 217-544-3611.

FALL GATHERING

The date for the PWLF Fall Gathering is Saturday September 29th from 1 to 4:00 p.m. Shelter #3 (the largest) at Douglas Park has been reserved for the event.

The Board of PWLF will be providing additional information at upcoming venues—join us at Gallina’s for more information—and on the website, www.pwlf.com

For more details about Days of Decision, or Building Justice (or to volunteer for Days of Decision or other Building Justice activities), contact dianelopezhughes@gmail.com 217-899-2743

Please plan to attend the evening of Peace and Poetry.

When: September 12, 7-9 PM

Where: Club Room at the Hoogland Center for The Arts

Who: Invited readers:

- Mark Russillo
- John Knoepfle
- Liz Huck
- Peg Knoepfle
- Corrine Frisch
- Anita Stienstra
- Théa Chesley
- David Pitchford

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday the 12th.

This event is for Forum members, people interested in being Forum members, and members of other writing organizations. Please feel free to share the invitation with those you know fit in these categories.

Members are asked to bring a favorite food to share with others, their own table settings and chair if you want to sit down! If you have a preference on beverage (non-alcoholic please) feel

free to bring that as well.

The Forum will be providing charcoal for the grill and some meat; however, if you have a hankering for something specific, please feel free to bring it along and we’ll toss it on the grill for you! We plan to provide a few extras and welcome the same from everyone.

Come join the fun for a relaxing afternoon with friends, poets, and other writers.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

5th Wednesdays	2
Calendar Pages	3-4
Membership Form	5
Events at a Glance	6
Tidbits	6



FIFTH WEDNESDAY JOURNAL

"DEFINING LITERATURE. IN REAL CONTEXT"

The PWLF Board has discussed making the "Fifth Wednesday" of the month (occurring only about 4 times each year) a special occasion rather than just an extra open mic event. As so often happens, I was searching the internet for some math, lore or mystique about fifth *whatevers* in a month, and I found something even more compelling and interesting than my original question, the website <http://www.fifthwednesdayjournal.com/> :

FWJ is a print literary journal.
Our inaugural issue - October, 2007
Guest Fiction Editor Daniel S. Libman
Guest Poetry Editor Nina Corwin

Nina Corwin had been a memorable PWLF featured reader! Awed by the synchronicity, I read on:

"*Fifth Wednesday Journal* is a literary print journal published twice a year by Fifth Wednesday Books in Lisle, Illinois. Our inaugural Fall/Winter issue is planned for October 31, 2007. The Spring/Summer issue will appear in April/May of 2008.

"We are dedicated to encouraging good writing and good reading. We seek to bring together readers and the best poets and storytellers we can find, both established writers and fresh new voices. We are committed to quality writing which is entertaining, intellectually stimulating, and emotionally meaningful for the reader. In short, we seek to publish work that we enjoy and can enthusiastically recommend to our readers.

"We welcome prose and poetry in any style—traditional, realistic, modern, and experimental—you name it, as long as it meets our standards for high quality in content and form. We intend to offer a broad range of poems and stories with appeal for a wide range of quality readers. If you think we might like your work, but are in doubt, submit it and find out.

"We welcome black-and-white photography which enhances our journal and meets our esthetic expectations. While we do not look for thematic association between visual art and the prose and poetry we publish, we hope that the one art form will

complement the other to provide the reader with a more enjoyable experience.

"If you think we meet our goals, please remember to tell your friends and your favorite booksellers about us."

What a discovery! A new literary journal to read and enjoy, a new publication that solicits both writing and photographs -- and news of Nina Corwin's current project.



Nina's bio on the site:

Guest Poetry Editor

Nina Corwin. Nina's first collection of poetry, *Conversations with Friendly Demons and Tainted Saints*, was published by Puddin'head Press (1999). She co-edited *Inhabiting the Body: A Collection of Poetry and Art by Women* (Moon Journal Press, 2002). Her poetry has appeared in *Another Chicago Magazine*, *Atlanta*, *Nimrod Int'l*, *Poetry East*, *RATTLE*, *Spoon River*, and *Southern Poetry Reviews*, as well as in the anthologies, *Visiting Frost* (University of Iowa Press, 2005) and *Poetic Voices Without Borders* (Gival Press). You'll enjoy reading more about Nina's very active involvement in poetry and performance art in Chicago in our inaugural issue.

I hope you'll consider *Fifth Wednesday Journal* -- for submissions of your own fiction, poetry or photographs, of course, but also for the promise of great reading and inspiration, from Nina Corwin and the superb poetry she will undoubtedly select for this inaugural issue.

-- Théa Chesley
Local Poet and Wag
PWLF Board Member

I think continually of those who were truly great.
 Who from the womb, remembered the soul's history
 Through corridors of light.
Sir Stephen Spender
<http://www.age-of-the-sage.org>

September 2007

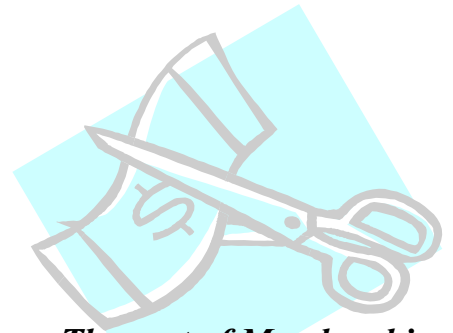
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Open Mic @ Gallina's 7 p.m.	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Peace & Poetry @ Hoogland Center for the Arts 7 p.m.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Open Mic @ Gallina's 7 p.m.	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Fall Gathering @ Douglas Park 1 p.m.
30						

October 2007

One in whom persuasion and belief
Had ripened into faith, and faith become
A passionate intuition.
William Wordsworth
<http://www.age-of-the-sage.org>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Open Mic @ TBA 7 p.m.	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Open Mic @ TBA 7 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Happy Halloween 			

Membership in PWLF



*The cost of Membership
just got lower!!*

Have you thought about renewing your membership? Well, good news—the cost of membership just went down! That’s right, we’ve rolled prices back to earlier days. Each of you are an important component to the success of this organization—whether through your efforts to grow the organization, your presences at open mic events, or just through the support of your fellow artists...each of you matter to PWLF.

Wherever you fit into the picture of what PWLF has been —is—and could still become, we hope you will consider – or re-consider—your membership with this organization. We are asking you to please renew your membership today. Help us replenish the coffers so that we can continue such programs as Navigating the Maze and reaching out to other writing organizations and purveyors of poetry and prose such as the Museum of Funeral Customs.

Simply complete and return the form below. PWLF is a not-for-profit 50c3 organization. Check with your tax advisor regarding deductibility.

Please renew my membership in Poets & Writers Literary Forum.
My check is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

email: _____

____ Student \$10 ____ Single \$15 ____ Family \$20 ____ Other Donation

I would like to be more actively involved in PWLF. Please call me (____) _____ or email me at the above address to discuss volunteer opportunities.

Return this form with your check to: PWLF, P.O Box 5666, Springfield, IL 62705



Poets & Writers Literary Forum

P. O. Box 5666
Springfield, IL 62705

Email: submissions@pwl.com

If you are interested in contributing to the PenChant, please contact any of the PWLF Board members. It is scheduled for publication once every two months.

It is through the contributions and energy of all that we are successful.

Your Forum needs strong leadership. Please either volunteer or encourage anyone you know with administrative skills to volunteer to help the Board.

Let's keep the Forum thriving.

PWLF

To increase awareness and appreciation of Literary Arts

CLASSIFIEDS

Poetry and Prose Wanted: .
Information on deadlines and submission guidelines available at:

~ www.pwl.com

~ www.daybreakpoetry.com

Submit work today!

Calendar of Events



September 5th—7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Open Mic at Gallina's

September 12th—Peace & Poetry @ the Hoogland Center for the Arts—
in the Club Room 7:00 p.m.

September 19th—7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Open Mic at Gallina's

September 29th—PWLF Fall Gathering—

Douglas Park, Shelter #3—1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Watch Here for New Venues!

TIDBITS. . .

November is NaNoWriMo, or National Novel Writing Month! The idea is that you take a month and write the rough draft of a novel at least 50,000 words long.

You can't cheat and use the month to finish a novel you've already started; you're supposed to start fresh on November 1st. You can have outlines and character sketches and any preliminary work that will support your novel but you start writing on the 1st of the month of November 1.

And at the end of the month, you have the rough draft of a novel! The endeavor is supported by the website, nanowrimo.org, with tips and guidelines, and you can be connected with other writers who are undertaking the same challenge.

Visit the website now, sign up in October or November, and surprise yourself! PWLF members who want to undertake the challenge can support one another, as well as finding support and guidance from the website.

Those interested in seeing something new and different on the website are invited to send ideas and content to Liz Huck.

Watch the website and the pages of PenChant for upcoming announcements on possible new venues as well as special events. As indicated on the website, we will not be having a 'regular' 5th Wednesday open mic (see article on page 2 as well).

We would like to hear from you, the membership, on how to

revive the Forum, increase attendance and open mic events, and increase membership through interactions with other writing organizations. If you are interested in being involved in a writing sub-group (small poetry critique group or fiction writing or play writing...) feel free to contact a board member to discuss your ideas.

We look forward to your active participation!

Be well—Write well.