



# friends of WILLIAM STAFFORD

A Newsletter For Poets & Poetry

Volume 8, Issue 1 – January 2003

## Stafford Birthday Readings begin Jan. 7

William Stafford was born January 17, 1914, in Hutchinson, Kansas. Every year, Friends of William Stafford celebrates his birthday and honors his life with a series of poetry readings throughout the Portland Metro area, up and down the Willamette Valley, west to the coast and east of the Cascade Mountains.

Event Chairperson Paulann Petersen has scheduled 27 readings over three weeks.

They include two in Washington and one in Lexington, Kentucky. The Lexington event is being organized by Christine DeLea, formerly of Oregon, now a professor at Eastern Kentucky University, and author of *Ordinary Days in Ordinary Places*.

Each event is a celebration, and each celebration a package of surprises. Paulann recalls past years: "how each person who stepped up to read a Stafford poem also voiced a common refrain, 'Yes, I knew him too. I knew his wisdom, his humor, his witnessing for peace and justice. He's a friend!'"

Paulann adds that "securely waiting in each of Stafford's poems is an invitation, an extension of hospitality. His poems tell us that a community exists, one that includes us; our inclusion is a simple result of our engagement at that moment, with one of his poems."

As FWS members, you are invited to be a part of the January events: bring a friend, read a favorite Stafford poem, and share a personal anecdote about Bill. Paulann will host all of the Portland-area readings, and Dorothy Stafford will be the honored guest at some readings. Prints of the FWS frameable broadsides "Note" and "A



Photo/Patricia Carver

Paulann Petersen and Dorothy Stafford

Story That Could Be True" will be available at the readings for \$10 each. As usual, the broadsides are also available by mail from Nan Atzen, 29365 NE Putnam Rd., Newberg, OR 97132 for \$10 plus \$3.85 postage.

Remember, January is the time to renew your membership, by mail or at one of the readings. Your membership dollars support the work of FWS, including the newsletter, web site, and the exhibit of traveling broad-

sides, "How The Ink Feels."

So, beginning Jan. 7 at Bloomsbury Books in Ashland, come, share and be a part of this poetry community that we call the Friends of William Stafford. See the complete schedule on Page 2.

### One Evening

On a frozen pond a mile north of Liberal  
almost sixty years ago I skated wild circles  
while a strange pale sun went down.

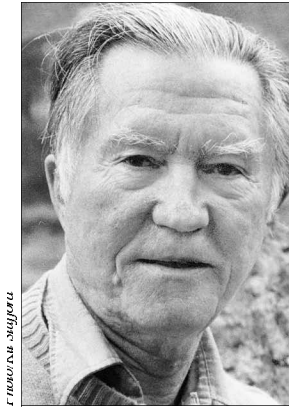
A scattering of dry brown reeds cluttered  
the ice at one end of the pond, and a fitful  
breeze ghosted little surface eddies of snow.

No house was in sight, no tree, only  
the arched wide surface of the earth  
holding the pond and me under the sky.

I would go home, confront all my years, the tangled  
events to come, and never know more than I did  
that evening waving my arms in the lemon-colored light.

William Stafford

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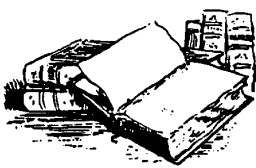
Photo/Nan Atzen

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*Friends of William Stafford is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness of poetry and literature, using the legacy, life and works of the late award-winning Oregon poet William Stafford.*

## January FWS Birthday Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 	6	7 Bloomsbury Books, Ashland, 7 p.m. Alice Hardesty, <a href="mailto:aliceh@charter.net">aliceh@charter.net</a>	8	9 Beaverton City Library, 7-9 p.m. Michele Caldwell, 503-526-2209, or <a href="mailto:mcaldwell@ci.beaverton.or.us">mcaldwell@ci.beaverton.or.us</a>	10 Mountain Writers Center, Portland, 8 p.m. Mountain Writers Center, 503-236-4854, or <a href="mailto:pdxmws@aracnet.com">pdxmws@aracnet.com</a>  Newport Public Library, Newport, 7 p.m. Wyma Rogers, <a href="mailto:wyma@newportlibrary.org">wyma@newportlibrary.org</a>	11 St. Helens Public Library, St. Helens, 6:30 p.m. Terri Washburn, 503-397-4544, or <a href="mailto:terriw@ci.st-helens.or.us">terriw@ci.st-helens.or.us</a>
12 Deschutes Public Library, Bend, 2 p.m. Judi Montgomery, 541-330-1454, <a href="mailto:JHMontgom@aol.com">JHMontgom@aol.com</a>  Fishtrap, Enterprise, 3 p.m. Rich Wandschneider, <a href="mailto:rich@fishtrap.org">rich@fishtrap.org</a>	13	14 University of Portland, 7:30 p.m. Herman Asarnow, 503-943-7244, <a href="mailto:asarnow@up.edu">asarnow@up.edu</a>	15 Lake Oswego Library, 7-9 p.m. Colleen Bennett, 503-635-6950, <a href="mailto:colleen.bennett@attbi.com">colleen.bennett@attbi.com</a> <a href="mailto:jerickson@ci.oswego.or.us">jerickson@ci.oswego.or.us</a>	16 Multnomah Cent. Library, Portland, 7-9 p.m. Julie Rodenberg, 503-988-5578, <a href="mailto:julier@multcolib.org">julier@multcolib.org</a>  Hamersly Library, WOU, Monmouth, 7:30 p.m. Michele Price, 503-838-8493, <a href="mailto:pricemv@wou.edu">pricemv@wou.edu</a>	17 <i>William Stafford's Birthday</i>	18
19 • Salem Public Library, 2-4 p.m. Jan Markee, 503-581-5211, <a href="mailto:michaelmarkee@mac.com">michaelmarkee@mac.com</a> or Eleanor Berry, 503-859-3045, <a href="mailto:eberry@wvi.com">eberry@wvi.com</a> • Community Library, Vancouver, WA, 3-5 p.m. Betty Barton, 360-750-0165, <a href="mailto:gbartongsh@aol.com">gbartongsh@aol.com</a> • Tsunami Books, Eugene, 4 p.m. Ingrid Wendt, 541-343-5101, <a href="mailto:103411.2104@compuserve.com">103411.2104@compuserve.com</a> or Erik Muller, 541-344-1053, <a href="mailto:traprock@bossig.com">traprock@bossig.com</a>	20	21 Barnes & Noble, Medford, 7 p.m. Mitzi Miles-Kubota, 541-552-9484, <a href="mailto:wurdnurd@mind.net">wurdnurd@mind.net</a>	22 Belmont Branch Library, Portland, 7-9 p.m. Steve Armitage, 503-988-5382, <a href="mailto:stevea@multcolib.org">stevea@multcolib.org</a>	23 West Linn Library, West Linn, 7-9 p.m. Amy Schauer, 503-656-7857, <a href="mailto:aschauer@ci.westlinn.or.us">aschauer@ci.westlinn.or.us</a>	24 Silver Creek Coffee House, Silverton, 7 p.m. Steve Slemenda, 503-873-7638, <a href="mailto:sles@chemeketa.edu">sles@chemeketa.edu</a> or John Burke, 503-874-9419	25 Rodriguez Lib. Annex, Madras, afternoon Jarold Ramsey, <a href="mailto:jwr1937@madras.net">jwr1937@madras.net</a>  Joseph Beth Booksellers 161 Lexington Green, Lexington, KY, 2 p.m. Christine DeLea (859) 273-6933 or (800) 248-6849 <a href="mailto:christine.delea@eku.edu">christine.delea@eku.edu</a>
26 Oswego Heritage House, Lake Oswego, 2-4 p.m. Susan Headlee, 503-635-6373  Benton/Linn County Central Library, Corvallis, 1-3 p.m. Ann Staley, 541-757-0135, <a href="mailto:annellen@cmug.com">annellen@cmug.com</a>  <i>Feb. 2</i> White Salmon Valley Community Library, White Salmon, WA, 2 pm Contact: Jennifer Hull, 509-493-1577 or 509-493-1132	27 Open	28 Broadway Books, Portland, 7 p.m. Roberta Dyer or Gloria Borg-Olds, 503-284-1726, <a href="mailto:bookbroads@aol.com">bookbroads@aol.com</a>	29 Heathman Hotel, Portland, 7:30 p.m. Jeff Carpenter, 503-241-4100, <a href="mailto:JTCarpen@heathmanhotel.com">JTCarpen@heathmanhotel.com</a>  McMinnville Library, McMinnville, 7 p.m. Barbara Drake, 503-883-2288, <a href="mailto:bdrake@linfield.edu">bdrake@linfield.edu</a>	30 Clackamas Comm. College, Oregon City, 7 p.m. Kate Gray, <a href="mailto:rowpo@hevanet.com">rowpo@hevanet.com</a> or Diane Averill, <a href="mailto:branchesobstacle@aol.com">branchesobstacle@aol.com</a>	31 <p>"A poem is anything said in such a way, or put on the page in such a way, as to invite from the hearer or the reader a certain kind of attention."</p> <p>– William Stafford</p>	

## FWS helps sponsor Confluence Press poetry project

With unanimous Board approval, Friends of William Stafford has contributed \$500 toward the *Ask Me: Poetry in Public Places* project that will bring a variety of literary events to the Lewiston, Idaho, and Walla Walla, Washington areas.

The project, undertaken by the non-profit Confluence Press of Lewiston and scheduled to run for three years, and perhaps longer, has recently gotten underway in part because of our sponsorship. Twelve poems by William Stafford will be on display the first year, with poems by other poets the following years. The project draws its title from one of Stafford's most notable poems, "Ask Me," which begins,

*Some time when the river is ice ask me  
mistakes I have made. Ask me whether  
what I have done is my life ...*

Specifically, the grant from FWS will help pay for materials – 12 3'x 6' cloth panels, each featuring a poem by Stafford—that will be displayed and rotated monthly at 12 different urban, suburban, and rural sites in the Lewiston-Walla Walla area.

Confluence Press has commissioned textile designer Arin Arthur to create the panels which can be seen and easily read from a distance of several feet. They will hang from long wooden dowels on the interior walls of libraries, schools, hospitals, and other public buildings. A "tool kit" containing photographs and biography of the poet, along with a guest book, mental exercises, questions, and comment forms, will be provided at each poem's site.

According to Christy Collins, Development Officer for Confluence Press, Stafford's poetry was chosen to initiate the project's first year because his poems "are highly accessible not only to adults but to children." His poems "promote world peace, harmony, justice, racial equality, tolerance, and humor. (They) also embrace nature and love while asking the questions of life that we all must ask ourselves."

### Poetry Downtown will feature James Tate, Louise Glück, Galway Kinnell

Portland Arts & Lectures is presenting its third annual Poetry Downtown miniseries, featuring James Tate, Louise Glück and Galway Kinnell. The readings will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium of the Wieden + Kennedy building (224 NW 13th Ave.) in the Pearl District. Series tickets are \$45; \$36 seniors & college students; \$15 high school students. Single tickets are \$18; \$12 seniors & college students; \$5 high school students. To order tickets, call Literary Arts at (503) 227-2583 or visit the website [www.literary-arts.org](http://www.literary-arts.org).

Feb. 4 – James Tate: Currently a professor at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Tate's books of poetry include *Memoir of the Hawk* (2001), and *Selected Poems* (1991), which

During the project's three years and, hopefully, for long afterwards, the panels will be on display for readings, lectures, classes, and workshops. "This is an innovative project that truly has no boundaries. Our goal is to create a lasting legacy," Ms. Collins said.

FWS is pleased with our alliance to and participation in this project. We commend Confluence Press and its editor-publisher James R. Hepworth (featured on Page 4 in this Newsletter) to bring poetry and pictorial arts to all the citizens in the Lewiston-Walla Walla area.

### FWS OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Nearly 100 people stopped by the Friends of William Stafford table at the Multnomah Central Library's successful Writers' Resource Fair held November 10. Most of these "visitors" asked about FWS and its mission; many picked up brochures, newsletters, and membership forms, and a few bought broadsides. Special thanks to member David Rutiezer for helping the Chair represent FWS at the Fair. His bright demeanor, enthusiasm, and knowledge of FWS were real assets.

Don't forget the Stafford Birthday Commemorative Readings held throughout the Portland-Vancouver area and in many towns throughout Oregon during the month of January. Please see the schedule on Page 2 for dates, times, and places of the readings. Finally, my sincere thanks to the members of the FWS Board for all their dedication, hard work, perseverance, and patience the past year. Thank you, too, all members of Friends of William Stafford. Your commitment to and your recognition of the value of literature help make decent a world that is often trivial and grim. A special thank you to Ceil Huntington, who stepped down this month, for all of her dedication and work these many years on the board. We will miss you, Ceil.

won the Pulitzer Prize and the William Carlos Williams award. March 4 – Louise Glück: Author of *The Wild Iris* (1992), which received the Pulitzer Prize and the Poetry Society of America's William Carlos Williams Award, Glück teaches at Williams College and lives in Cambridge, Mass.

March 25 – FWS Member Galway Kinnell: Author of several volumes of poetry, including *Imperfect Thirst* (1996) and *Selected Poems* (1980), for which he received the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, Kinnell is a professor of creative writing at New York University and lives in New York City. Marylhurst University will feature one of these poets as guest speaker, TBA. Phone 503-699-6313, [www.marylhurst.edu](http://www.marylhurst.edu).

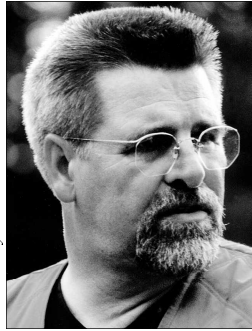
### Notes from the Chair



Joseph Soldati

## Member Profile: Jim Hepworth & Confluence Press

Since 1984, Jim Hepworth has been the Executive Director and Publisher of Confluence Press Inc. He is a professor of literature and languages at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho. His special interests include 20th Century American Literature, Western American Literature, American Indian Studies, Creative Writing and Publishing. Hepworth has won several honors, fellowships and awards, including the Western States Book Awards for both Fiction and Poetry. He has studied at Luther College and the University of Arizona, where he earned his Ph.D. with a dissertation on the poetry of Wallace Stegner. Born in 1948 in Ontario, Oregon, he is married and the father of three children.



Photo/Christy Collins

Jim Hepworth

Hepworth has acquired, edited, and published about 50 books of poetry, fiction and essays, including *The Stories That Shape Us: Contemporary Women Write About the West*. He has also been published in many scholarly journals and his reviews have appeared in periodicals such as *The Bloomsbury Review*, *The Gramercy Review*, *The Idaho Arts Journal*, *The Idaho Statesman*, *Western American Literature* and *The Oregonian*. He currently writes a column for the *Lewiston Morning Tribune*.



Photo/Michael Markee

Bill Stafford and Jim Hepworth at Bumbershoot at Seattle Center, Labor Day weekend, 1992.

The award-winning Confluence Press was founded in 1975 as an independent, non-profit organization to encourage, foster, and promote excellence in the literary arts and to encourage and develop critical thinking and imaginative abilities in children and adults. It publishes books, sponsors readings, lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences, classes, exhibitions, and performances in the arts, sciences, and humanities as well as several community projects. To date the press has received four Western States Book Awards, two Idaho Book Awards, six Pushcart Prizes, and two awards from the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association. Confluence Press has published three books by William Stafford: *My Name is William Tell* (1992), *The Methow River Poems* (1995) and *Even In Quiet Places* (1996) and *Braided Apart* (1976) by William and Kim Stafford.

Currently, Confluence Press has a dozen books in various stages of development. Two first books, *The Wild Awake* by Oregon poet and FWS Board Member Paulann Petersen, and *Of Earth & Sky* by Laurie Lewis have been recently released.

*Ask Me: Poetry in Public Places* is the newest of the special projects designed to promote literacy and the literary arts in an underserved community. Textile designer Arin Arthur was commissioned to create twelve 3'x 6' cloth panels to be hung, scroll-like, from long wooden dowels on the interior walls of twelve public buildings. These include local libraries, schools, and hospitals. Panels will be easily seen and easily read from a distance of several feet. Once a month for twelve consecutive months, the twelve panels will be rotated from site to site. Along with the poems, the press will also distribute "toolkits" to each of the twelve sites. These will include a guest book containing the author's photograph and biography as well as questions, mental exercises, and space for comments.

"William Stafford is the ideal poet to kick off this project," Hepworth said. "At the time of his death in 1993, Stafford was perhaps the most popular American poet since Robert Frost. Best of all, Stafford's poems are highly accessible not only to adults but to children. Along with art and literacy, the 12 selected poems promote world peace, harmony, justice, racial equality, tolerance, and humor. The poems also embrace nature and love while asking the questions of life that we all must ask ourselves."

At the end of the first year, Confluence Press will offer other regional organizations the chance to host the exhibit or, depending on the availability of funds, they may travel the exhibit themselves, using the exhibit at lectures, fiction readings, classes and workshops. "This is an innovative project that truly has no boundaries. Our goal is to create a lasting legacy," Hepworth said.

The press has also sponsored "Let's Talk About It," a book club for adults; and the "What If Everyone (and Every Kid) Read The Same Book?" projects. Their website is [www.confluencepress.com](http://www.confluencepress.com). Confluence Press takes its name from the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers, at Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington, in the valley where Lewis and Clark once camped on their way to the Pacific Ocean.

## National Advisor Profile: Christopher Merrill

William Stafford is usually thought of as an Oregon poet. Sometimes he's remembered as a Kansas poet. But in the early 1950s, Stafford earned his Ph.D. in English at the Iowa Writers Workshop, so that also makes him an Iowa poet. His alma mater, the University of Iowa, now is home to The International Writing Program (IWP), directed by FWS National Advisor Christopher Merrill. Founded in 1967, "it is housed in a glorious Victorian mansion across the street from the Writers Workshop, from which William Stafford graduated," Merrill said.

IWP has hosted nearly 1,000 well-known writers from more than 115 countries for a residency unique in the world of letters. Poets and writers, essayists and playwrights, all come to write and reflect, deliver public readings and participate in panel discussions. They also soak up impressions of Iowa and other parts of the United and also of one another. "This is why we call the IWP the United Nations of writers," said Merrill.

More information about the IWP can be found at the web site – [www.uiowa.edu/~iwp](http://www.uiowa.edu/~iwp). Read about the most recent visitors – 35 writers from 29 countries – as well as selections of their work and a link to the online journal, *91st Meridian*.

When "How The Ink Feels," the FWS traveling exhibit of broadsides, was displayed at the University of Iowa, the audience consisted of the visiting writers, students from the Writers Workshop and Translation Workshop, members of the community and faculty and students from the Center for the Book. "On some days when the show was up, as many as 150-200 people saw the broadsides," Merrill said. "And now that the exhibit has traveled on and the writers have returned to their homelands, the Shambaugh House feels very empty!"



Christopher Merrill

Merrill reminisced about Bill Stafford: "I knew Mr. Stafford mainly through his work. His poems and essays were a crucial element of my own literary apprenticeship. Indeed I have often thought that if I had not discovered his poems and the essays and interviews included in his *Writing the Australian Crawl*, my life would have taken a radically different course – far from literature. I met him only a couple of times – at a reading he gave in Salt Lake City and then at a reading in his honor not long before he died. On both occasions I knew I was in the presence of greatness. I rate those meetings as among the most important of my life."

Christopher Merrill's books include four collections of poetry, *Brilliant Water*, *Workbook*, *Fevers & Tides*, and *Watch Fire*, for which he received the Peter I. B. Lavan Younger Poets Award from the Academy of American Poets. His three books of non-fiction are *The Grass of Another Country: A Journey Through the World of Soccer*; *The Old Bridge: The Third Balkan War and the Age of the Refugee*; and *Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars*. Merrill has made 10 trips to the Balkans, often traveling on foot, and speaking with artists, writers and a wide array of locals. He has been the director of the Santa Fe Writers Conference and also director of the writing program for Recursos de Santa Fe. He was the founder and director of the Taos Conference on Writing in the Natural World. He has held the William H. Jenks Chair in Contemporary Letters at the College of the Holy Cross, and is now professor of English and director of the International Writing Program at The University of Iowa.

## Ceil Huntington leaves FWS Board

Ceil Huntington has stepped down from the FWS Board of Directors. She joined the Board shortly after FWS was organized, and has served as vice-chairperson for the past four years.

Ceil and her husband, Bob, moved to Lake Oswego in 1958, and soon after that, she met Bill Stafford at the Lake Oswego Library. She has long admired his work, especially the way he expressed values for the earth and nature in his writings. Her favorite Stafford poem is "A Ritual to Read to Each Other."

Ceil graduated from Antioch College in 1951, with a major in Contemporary American Literature. After graduation she worked



Photo/Dennis Schmidling

Ceil Huntington

at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she was editorial assistant. During her college years, she worked at Harper's Publishing as a manuscript reader. After moving to Oregon, Ceil worked at Reed College as Director of Public Relations. She is a permanent member of Reed College Women's Committee. She pursues her interest in literature by serving on the Advisory Board for Literary Arts. She also volunteers at the Lake Oswego Library and belongs to a local book club. Ceil is a member of the Jane Austin Society of North America (JASNA) and usually attends its annual conference. She is an active member of the Unitarian Church, serving on the Women's Alliance Committee, which raises money and public awareness for the social issues of women and children.

Ceil and Bob have three children and six grandchildren. They enjoy traveling, and recently spent a month in China. Thank you, Ceil, for serving on the FWS Board. You will be missed.

## News and Notes

### HOW THE INK FEELS

"How the Ink Feels" FWS' traveling exhibition of letterpress broadsides by distinguished artists and writers, has moved from its December home at Philips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire. It is at Marist School, a Catholic high school in Atlanta, Georgia, through mid-February. Then it returns to Oregon for exhibition at the University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., from March 17 through the end of April. For more information, call 503-943-7911 or go to our website at [www.williamstafford.org](http://www.williamstafford.org).

### MADLINE DEFREES HONORED

The Academy of American Poets and *The Nation* magazine have announced that Madeline DeFrees's *Blue Dusk* (Copper Canyon Press, 2001) has been selected for the 2002 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. This annual award for the most outstanding book of poetry published in the United States in the previous year, has been increased this year from \$10,000 to \$25,000. DeFrees's book was chosen from more than 180 submissions. The jurors were Joy Harjo, Michael S. Harper, and Lawson Inada. Of DeFrees's work, jury chair Michael S. Harper writes: "These poems teach by example, over five decades, about the solitary works of service and epiphany. You are always conversant with the world of humans, while climbing over the rigorous treadmill of poetic mastery, lucid and cunning ..." DeFrees, a member of FWS, was featured in the April 2002 FWS Newsletter. The award is named in honor of Lenore Marshall (1897-1971), a poet, novelist, essayist, and political activist.

### PEN/MALAMUD AWARD

Ursula K. LeGuin, a member of FWS National Advisory Board, has been named a winner of the PEN/Malamud Award, along with Junot Diaz. Given annually by the PEN/Faulkner Foundation in honor of

the late Bernard Malamud, this award recognizes a body of work that demonstrates excellence in the art of short fiction. LeGuin's science fiction and fantasy novels examine contemporary problems by restating them in terms of other imagined worlds- the possibility for perfect anarchic society, in *The Dispossessed*, and life in an androgynous world, in *The Left*

### Note

straw, feathers, dust –  
little things

but if they all go one way,  
that's the way the wind goes.

William Stafford

"Assurance" copyright 1970, 1998 by the Estate of William Stafford. Reprinted from *The Way It Is: New & Selected Poems* with the permission of Graywolf Press, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

*Hand of Darkness*. She is also the author of a fantasy series for children, the *Earthsea* trilogy, and has received many awards, including the Boston Globe-Hornbook Award for juvenile fiction and the National Book Award for the children's book *The Farthest Shore*. "It's been a good autumn for awards," LeGuin chuckled. Her book *The Other Wind* won the 2002 World Fantasy Convention award for best novel, and LeGuin's short-story collection *Tales From Earthsea* just won the Endeavour Award, given annually to the best science-fiction or fantasy book by a Pacific Northwest author.

LeGuin's next book, *Changing Planes*, is a collection of short stories with illustrations by Canadian artist Ken Nut to be published in July by Harcourt. Check out her website [www.ursulaklequin.com](http://www.ursulaklequin.com).

### POETRY MAGAZINE BEQUEST

Ruth Lilly, heir to the Eli Lilly pharmaceutical fortune, has made a bequest worth \$100 million to *Poetry* magazine, turning the literary journal into one of the world's richest publications. *Poetry* maga-

zine, which just celebrated its 90th anniversary, has always been poor. At times, its assets were less than \$100. But it has been rich in content, having published not only the works of William Stafford, but also T.S. Elliott, Carl Sandburg, Dylan Thomas, Robert Frost, and Ezra Pound. What it did not publish were the poems of Ruth Lilly, which she submitted in the 1970s. Editor Joseph Parisi has said that part of the gift will be used to expand the magazine's four-person staff and move into larger quarters. For more information, go to [www.poetrymagazine.org](http://www.poetrymagazine.org).

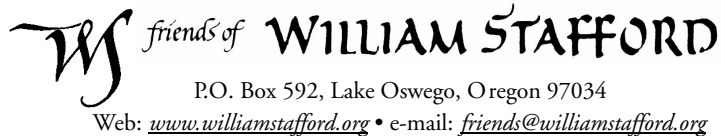
### ASHIRA Y. BELSEY, 1932-2002

FWS extends condolences to the family and friends of Ashira Y. Belsey, who died Nov. 15, 2002. Ashira was a member of FWS and the Oregon State Poetry Association. She was born April

17, 1932 in Queens, and earned degrees from Sarah Lawrence College and Smith College. She married Richard E. Belsey in 1952. A social worker, poet and singer, she moved to the Portland area in 1981. She began writing poetry after retiring from social work in 1990. She was an accomplished singer, folklorist, and winner of the 1993 OSPAContest for her poem, "Invitation to Peruse a Tree." She is one of five poets included in the book *Blooming In The Shade*, (1997) Media Weavers. Survivors include her husband, and her daughter Karen, a sister and a grandchild.

### WINTER AT FISHTRAP

Fishtrap, at Wallowa Lake in Eastern Oregon, is hosting the workshop, "Eating Locally, Thinking Globally," with Gary Paul Nabhan, Diane Josephy Peavey, Lief Christoffersen, and Portland chef Greg Higgins, Feb. 21-23. Local author Lynne Sampson will do an optional food writing workshop on Friday, Jan. 21. For more information, go to [www.fishtrap.org](http://www.fishtrap.org) or phone (541) 426-3623.



### MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to provide ongoing education in literature, particularly in poetry, in a way that will encourage and enrich a broad community of readers and writers. In the spirit of William Stafford's gifts as a teacher, we are also devoted to the free expression of literature and conscience. We seek ways to share his work and advance the spirit of his teaching and literary witness. We direct our work toward education in local communities, to contribute to the poet's legacy for generations to come.*

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

William Stafford's direct work as a writer ended with his death in 1993, but through the *Friends of William Stafford*, his gifts as a teacher continue. He traveled widely in pursuit of the free expression of literature and conscience. We aim to continue to spread his work, "a plain unmarked envelope passing through the world," by advancing the spirit of his teaching. By joining the *Friends of William Stafford*, you will be contributing to his legacy for generations to come. Annual membership includes:

- Newsletters that let you know about activities of *Friends of William Stafford*
- A forum to promote poetry in your community
- Opportunities to volunteer for *Friends of William Stafford* projects
- A network of other poets, writers, and poetry organizations

Your membership dollars support our newsletter and web site and the traveling broadside exhibit, *How The Ink Feels*, as well as the reading, writing and enjoyment of poetry.

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#### Membership:

*(Please check ALL appropriate boxes!)*

- New  Renewal  Gift  
 Standard \$25  Retired \$10  
 Student: \$10  Lifetime \$150

#### Volunteer Opportunities:

(Check any you're interested in)

- Organize Poetry Readings in your community  
 Help with Refreshments/Set-up  
 Distribute Posters/Flyers  Publicize Events

How did you learn about *Friends of William Stafford*? \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Please make check payable to "Oregon Community Foundation fbo Friends of William Stafford" Mail to: *Friends of William Stafford*, PO Box 592, Lake Oswego, OR 97034.

**Memberships (except for Lifetime) are due and renewable each January.**

Please copy or use this form to renew and let us know if you change your address.  
 Consider a gift membership to someone else. Thank you!

#### Lifetime Members

Terry & Nan Atzen – 2002  
 Sarah P. Simmons – 2002  
 Doug Erickson – 2002  
 James & Ginette DePreist – 2002  
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 Penelope Scambly Schott – 2002  
 Robert & Kerstin Adams – 2002  
 Karen Braucher – 2002  
 Bill Howe – 2002  
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 Carlos Rivera – 2001  
 Jane B. Glazer – 2001  
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 Brian & Gwyneth Booth – 2001  
 Ceil Huntington – 2001  
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 Linda Hathaway Bunza – 2001  
 Philip Miller & Colleen Cain – 2001  
 R. Virgil Ellis – 2001  
 Shelley Reece – 2001  
 Patty & Vince Wixon – 2001  
 Marilyn S. (Marsh) Noll – 2001  
 George & Elizabeth Barton – 2001  
 Sulima Malzin – 2000  
 J. Alma Tedrow – 2000  
 Linda Richard – 2000

#### New Members Oct-Dec. 2002

Dan Sisco  
 Grey Elliott  
 Maureen E. Sullivan  
 Dan Ehrehfreund and Cathy Cain

#### Renewals

Please Remember to renew your membership in January for 2003!

#### FRIENDS OF WILLIAM STAFFORD Newsletter©

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Send comments, letters, news, and info on poetry events, etc. to:

FWS, P.O. Box 592, Lake Oswego,

OR 97034 or by e-mail to

[friends@williamstafford.org](mailto:friends@williamstafford.org)

## News and Notes

### WINDFALL IN EUGENE

The Windfall Reading Series, sponsored by the Lane Literary Guild in Eugene, holds readings on the third Tuesday of every month at the new Eugene Public Library. Each reading usually features one reader from outside the community and one local reader. Joe Soldati, FWS Chair, read last month, along with Laurel Kessler of Eugene. The January reader will be Ursula K. LeGuin. In February, readers will be Steven Sher, poet from Corvallis; and Carol Ann Bassett, University of Oregon journalism professor. For more information, see the Guild website, [www.laneliteraryguild.org](http://www.laneliteraryguild.org).

### LITERARY ARTS AWARDS

Congratulations to FWS Member Willa Schneberg of Portland for winning the Hazel Hall Award for Poetry for her book, *In The Margins Of The World* (Plain View

Press). Judge Lorna Dee Cervantes calls Schneberg's poems "honest and deftly wrought ... crisp new work from a bright new seer." The award was presented at the 16th Annual Oregon Book Awards on Nov. 7. Sponsored by Literary Arts Inc., the awards recognize Oregon writers of excellence. Noted author Sherman Alexie was the emcee. FWS Board Member Rich Wandschneider of Enterprise accepted the Frances Fuller Victor Award for Literary Nonfiction on behalf of Alfred Habegger, who won for *My Wars Are Laid Away in Books* (Random House), a biography of Emily Dickinson. Habegger and his wife Nellie live in Wallowa County, outside the little ghost town of Flora. He was in Japan, lecturing on Emily Dickinson. Judge Jo Ann Beard said about his book: "A meticulously researched and psychologically astute examination of Emily Dickinson's life and work; as compelling as a good novel." Other winners were:

H.L. Davis Award for Fiction to Gina Ochsner of Keizer for *The Necessary Grace to Fall* (The University of Georgia Press); The Leslie Bradshaw Award for Young Readers to Sara Ryan of Portland, for *Empress of the World* (Viking); the Stewart H. Holbrook Award for Outstanding Contributions to Oregon's Literary Life went to Carla Perry, founder and director of the monthly Nye Beach Writers' Series in Newport. Kudos to all and to the folks at Literary Arts who put on the event.

### OSPA POETRY CONTEST

The Oregon State Poetry Association's 4th Annual Oregon Student Poetry Contest, for K-12, is accepting entries. The deadline is Feb. 1. Winners will be announced at the Spring Poetry Festival on Saturday, April 26. Check the OSPA website at [www.oregonpoets.org](http://www.oregonpoets.org) or phone 503-655-1274 for details.

Please notify sender of change of address.

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