



# Whatcom Writers & Publishers

*Serving the Local Writing and Literary Community*

**Newsletter \* February 2013**

[www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org](http://www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org)

## Whatcom Writers and Publishers Board

Kathryn Brown: President  
Diane Wood: Program Director  
Carol Schultz: Treasurer  
Amanda Hagarty: Webmaster  
Carolyn Leeper: Membership Chair/  
Newsletter Editor  
(submit items to: [cdleeper@hotmail.com](mailto:cdleeper@hotmail.com))

## Calendar

March — Wendy Call:  
“Rejection: Get Over It!”  
April — Paul Hanson & Brenda Clark,  
Publishing Director, Village Books  
May — tba ... June — tba

## Website Directory Information

Do you have information or events to share?  
Want your name on the WWP website?

Contact the WWP web editor:  
[amandahagarty@gmail.com](mailto:amandahagarty@gmail.com).

To be listed in our membership  
directory, please fill out the  
[membership directory form](#).

We need your permission to  
publish your information.

See “Benefits of Membership”.

Whatcom Writers and Publishers,  
P.O. Box 2342,  
Bellingham, WA 98227.

[www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org](http://www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org)

***Meeting Location: Upstairs at***

**Nicki’s Bella Marina**

2615 South Harbor Loop Drive . . Squilicum Harbor

**The Fourth Wednesday**

**February 27 / 5:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

Seating is limited . . . . .

Go online and Reserve Your Spot Now!

***NOT a Set Menu, NOT a Set Price . . .***

***ORDER FROM THE MENU!***

For more info, contact Carolyn at:

**Speaker:**

**Caroline Dale**

***Editing for the Real World***

***How Writers and Editors Talk With Each Other***

***Is it Really All About Power, Money, Sex,  
and the Serial Comma?***

**Caroline Dale** has taught writing and editing courses at Western Washington University for more than 20 years. Through her freelance editing and consulting firm, she has worked with corporate and non-profit clients locally as well as abroad.

She brings a background of professional media work as a writer and editor for both news and features and is a co-author of the book “Fearless Editing: Crafting Words and Images for Print, Web and Public Relations,” published by Allyn & Bacon (2005).



***The Sudden Valley Women’s Club Invites You to  
Chocolates & Champagne Celebration Luncheon  
Dance to the Big Band Swing Music of the 40s and 50s  
featuring vocalist Mary Michaelson and The Prawns.  
Wednesday, February 13 — 12:00 noon!  
Sudden Valley Dance Barn — \$20.00 pp. RSVP: 714-8901***

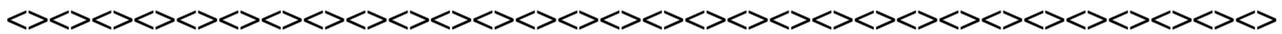
# Announcements



Our speaker for January, Peggy Watt, Professor of Mass Media Law at WWU, Contributing Editor, PC World magazine.

## *Copyright in the Age of Internet: What you need to know!*

**Peggy Watt** led us through the confusing web of privacy issues and libel laws. For instance: What is libel. What is and isn't private. Does one have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Is the release of the information likely to offend a reasonable person.



## **2013 Fairhaven Guide Published**

**Kate Weisel and Taimi Dunn Gorman have just published the 2013 edition of the Fairhaven Guide.**

Available at most Fairhaven businesses, hotels in Whatcom and Skagit counties and at visitor centers, the Guide contains current and historical on the south Bellingham district. The two researched old photographs of Fairhaven at the Whatcom museum and included several interesting pictures of transportation, life and architecture in the district. Kate Weisel and Taimi Dunn Gorman both photographed current life in Fairhaven in different seasons. Also included are ads from businesses and a map, making it a useful reference for locals and visitors alike. As in past years, 25,000 of the popular magazine have been printed. For information on advertising next year, contact Taimi Dunn Gorman, 201-8884. [www.taimi@gormanpublicity.com](mailto:www.taimi@gormanpublicity.com).



**Just Released**

**Havana Holiday**  
Jennifer Mueller

Out now in multiple ebook formats

**Return to Havana**  
Jennifer Mueller

Join 5 friends in 1930's Havana. 5 stories, 4 days, 3 nights, 2 times the fun and 1 heck of a good time.

Visit one year later to find out how the story ends!

More info at [www.jennifermuellerbooks.com](http://www.jennifermuellerbooks.com)

# Announcements

***The Less Subdued Excitement:  
A Century of Jazz in Bellingham  
and Whatcom County, Washington  
Milton Krieger***

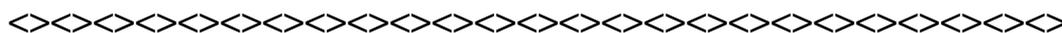


## **Prospectus**

Milton Krieger retired from Western Washington University's faculty in 2003, after thirty-eight years of teaching and with academic publications in African Studies including two books and several monographs and articles. His hobby and pleasure for half a century, jazz, has turned into a book: *The Less Subdued Excitement: A Century of Jazz in Bellingham and Whatcom County, Washington*. Previewed in the section on local jazz writings in Nat Hentoff's *At the Jazz Band Ball: Sixty Years on the Jazz Scene* (2010), it is 200 pages long and includes 150 visuals. The first such history, it draws primarily on private family sources, both audiotape and live interviews, photographs, recordings and the author's first hand experience of local jazz since 1970. It crosses genres, reproducing paintings, drawings and poems from locals that convey their sense of jazz. *A Less Subdued Excitement* fits significant niches in both local history and the growing literature on America's most original art form.

## **Back cover text**

Who knew there was a century's jazz history in Bellingham and Whatcom County, waiting to be discovered? Milton Krieger found this out and *The Less Subdued Excitement: A Century of Jazz in Bellingham and Whatcom County, Washington*, six years in preparation and current to mid-2012, is the result. It draws on the writer's career as an academic historian and forty years of local experience teaching at Western Washington University and in retirement. Using private and public archive sources, photographs, recordings and live performances, it constitutes a pioneer account of jazz in an unexpected "small town" setting.



**Memoir Writing Retreat at Whatcom Community College  
Saturday, February 23, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Treat yourself to a day of writing about your life!**

Join Susan Colleen Browne for "Memoir Writers Retreat and make real progress with your life story. In a relaxing setting, you'll explore your memories through writing prompts, with fun, creative exercises to help you transform your experiences into a compelling story line.

We'll discuss favorite memoirs you can use as an inspiration for your own story, and practice strategies to keep you writing long after the retreat.

Come with pen and paper or laptop, and leave with fresh content and a clear plan for your project. A 30-minute lunch break is provided; you are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

Susan Colleen Brown is the author of a memoir, "Little Farm in the Foothills" which was selected by the Washington State Library for their Summer Reads 2010 book list.

# Announcements

## Writing Children's Literature

*Your Passion for children's books has another chapter: a product of your own!*

Come to an info-session to learn more about Western Washington University's Extended Education class, "Writing Children's Literature."

Three professionals lead writers with a passion for children's books through a series of three classes and offer their insight, skill and unique perspective in writing children's literature to help fire up your creative abilities. During this non-credit course, you will experiment and sample the field exploring children's fiction and nonfiction, including picture books, chapter books, middle-grade books and books for young adults. Instructors will focus on essential literary elements such as plot, character, setting, dialogue and that all-important first chapter. There are no prerequisites for this program; all you need is paper, pencil and the courage to begin.

**Instructors: Laurel Leigh, Paul Owen Lewis, Nina Davis**

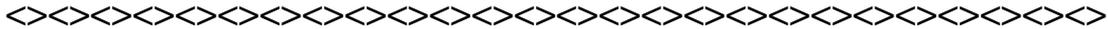
Thursdays; one night per week for seven weeks.

Classes start April 4, 2013 — 6:00-9:00 p.m. — at Western Washington University

Visit <[http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/home\\_childlit.shtml](http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/home_childlit.shtml)>

or attend an upcoming information session.

Info Session: Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:30-6:30pm at Village Books



## Knock Out Editing: From Polish to Publish

*Develop Editing Skills for your own writing!*

Come to an info-session to learn more about Western Washington University's Extended Education class, "Knock Out Editing." The first draft of a story or essay can be wonderfully inspired—and unfinished. For many writers, the grueling stretch begins when it's time to revise, and rearranging a few commas isn't going to cut it. Learn developmental editing techniques successful writers and editors use to turn a good start into a great finish with minimal artistic pain; build revision endurance and decide when to elaborate, when to revise, and when to kill a line (or twelve); and get tips for defining your audience, shaping the work, and honing your creative prowess so you can knock out an awesome final draft.

**Instructor: Laurel Leigh** <http://www.laurelleighwriter.com/>

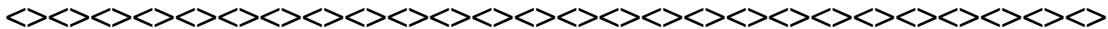
Thursdays; one night per week for four weeks;

Courses scheduled to begin May 23, 2013 — 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Western Washington University

Visit <[http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/home\\_knockout.shtml](http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/home_knockout.shtml)>

or attend an upcoming information session.

Info Session: Monday, April 15, 2013, 5:30-6:30pm at Village Books



## Candace Wellman: "Murder In Happy Valley"

(expanding on her article in the Whatcom County Historical Society journal)

More detail on the murder and Michael Padden family's origins before coming to Whatcom County

Whatcom County Genealogical Society

Monday, February 11, 2:00 p.m. Elks Club on Samish Way

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**Also: March 9 — D.A.R. program on intermarriages between  
Coast Salish women and settlers and military officers here in the 1850s.  
(time and location tba)**

# Announcements

**Two terrific mystery writers will be at Village books:**  
**Mary Daheim — author of the Alpine series — Friday, Feb. 15 — 7:00 p.m.**  
**J.A. Jance — author of several mysteries — Sunday, Feb. 17 — 4:00 p.m.**



## **Tips for reading at an open mic** **from Laurel Leigh, emcee for Village Books's monthly open mic**

Bring one short prose piece or a few poems—it's more effective to leave the audience wanting more vs. trying to squeeze in too much in the allotted time.

It's rarely necessary to read a piece in its entirety. Pick an excerpt that has enough of a dramatic arc to engage the audience or tease the audience with a lively opening to what promises to be a great story.

Practice ahead of time using a timer, so that you don't have to read in a rush. It will be more enjoyable for the audience—and for you—if you can deliver the work at a digestible pace.

Breathe! If you feel a rush of nerves or a little short of breath, pause and take a few slow breaths. The audience won't mind and you'll feel more confident when you begin again.

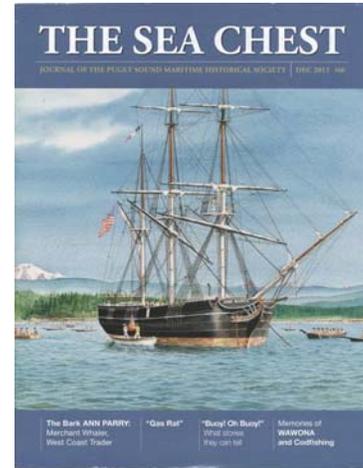
Refrain from apologizing or over-explaining your project before you read it. Let the work speak for itself and let the audience feel free to anticipate being surprised or amused or moved by what you present.

Approach the event with a relaxed attitude. Treat open mic as a place to share work, find encouragement, meet other writers in your genre, make friends, and develop your personal style for reading. If you goof up, smile and keep going and trust that your audience will be smiling with you.

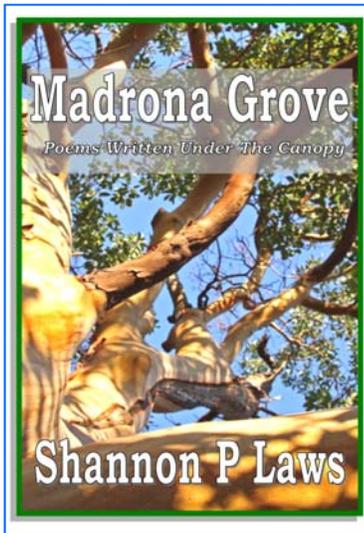
*Open mics at Village Books are the last Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Readings Gallery. Each open mic has an optional theme. For February 25, bring your heartfelt tales of the beloved, the unloved, the undead—or any creative work in progress. Sign up at the main counter on the first floor of Village Books or call (360) 671-2626. Laurel Leigh, local writer and teacher, will emcee. Read re-caps of open mics on Laurel's Dear Writers blog, found at [www.LaurelLeighWriter.com](http://www.LaurelLeighWriter.com).*

# Announcements

**Janet Oakley had a great publishing month in December.** Her article, “**The Bark Ann Parry, Merchant Whaler, West Coastal Trader,**” was the lead article in the prestigious maritime magazine, *The Sea Chest*. An essay, “First Walks,” was published in *Clover, A Literary Rag IV*, and an article, “Finding the City of Whatcom,” was in *The Journal*, publication of the Whatcom Historical Society. “*Sallie*,” selected for the anthology *Loyalty for Whatcom Writes*, will appear in late March or early April. Holding her breath for the outcome of *The Jossing Affair*. It’s a finalist in the Chanticleer Book Reviews manuscript contest historical fiction.



## Poetry



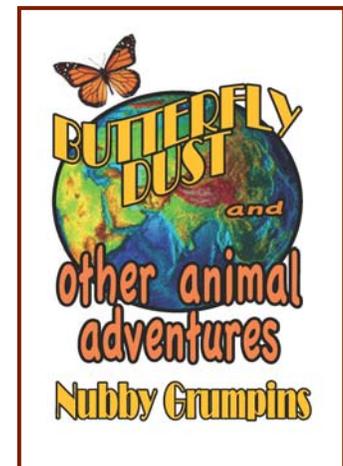
**Shannon P. Laws** takes us on a stroll through the mind, heart and mystery of dreams in her debut collection. Her poems, laid out like a fine picnic on a blanket in the shade of her beloved Madrona, reveal treasures that hide in everyday living. This majestic tree, native to her home on San Juan Island, has a skin-like bark, alive to the touch. They act as a sentry on her journey through ancient emotions and primal urges that stir within.

Born and raised just outside Seattle, Shannon is a regular at open mics, sharing poems and excerpts from her work of literary fiction. She has been found at such venues as Chuckanut Sandstone Writers, Village Books Open Mic, Poetry Night, Western Washington University Erotic Poetry Night, and Poets Across Borders in Canada. Shannon is also the host for the popular Village Books Poetry Group, which meets monthly. In addition, she is on the radio hosting two music programs, Classic Blues and New Americana, on KMRE, 102.3, SPARK Radio, in downtown Bellingham, WA.



*David Michaelson . . . writing as “Nubby Grumpins”*  
***Butterfly Dust***  
*and other animal adventures*

This is David Michaelson’s first children’s book written for young readers and youngsters who like stories read to them. The book can be found on-line by entering the title or the pen name. David Michaelson’s website is: [www.emjaypublishing.com](http://www.emjaypublishing.com)

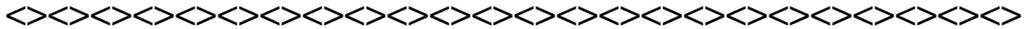


# Announcements



## Chanticleer Book Reviews

**“Rain Shine Secrets” by Alice T. Robb**  
awarded 1st Place Blue Ribbon  
in INDIE Manuscripts Division, Women’s Fiction.  
Robb masterfully intertwines the past and present,  
streams of consciousness and the lives of  
Rain Shine Secrets vivid characters.



## Nancy Canyon

Mondays, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. — Natalia Goldberg-style Writing Practice  
Morgan Block Building 1000 Harris #6, Historic Fairhaven  
Arrive a little early as parking can take a few minutes. The teapot  
will be on . . . So make yourself a cup of tea and join Nancy Canyon, MFA,  
for two hours of Natalia Goldberg-style writing practice — the perfect practice  
to develop your voice, discover story, build community, and generate scenes for  
your current manuscript. \$20 / 4-classes — \$6 / drop-in. 710-7139

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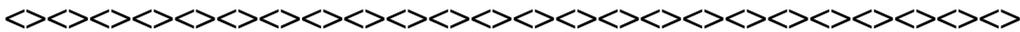
## More Nancy Canyon

### Wild Mind Writing II: Practice and Form

We’ll take our raw writing from daily practice into different structures:  
short stories, personal essays, and poetry. We will learn what is worth saving  
and what isn’t, how texture and depth can be added to our writing, and how to  
improve our writing at a sentence level, and where we might send our work.

Pre-requisite: Wild Mind Writing I or instructor permission.

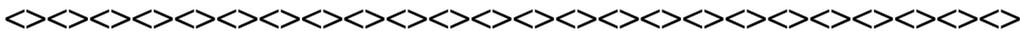
Call Whatcom Community College: 383-3200.



## A Deadly Suggestion — by R.W. Williams

is now available at Amazon, Smashwords, Apple iBookstore, Sony, and Kobo.

Watch for it at Barns & Noble.

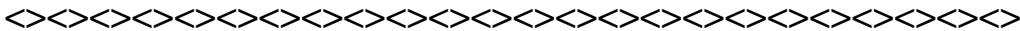


## Larry Goolsby \* (pen name Lawrence Kadow)

has self-published his second book in December. The Ferndale Sector  
(Fiction /post-apocalyptic) is the third book in the Button Boy Trilogy.

Larry used Createspace.com as a publisher for his second book.

He is currently working on a prequel to the series, a pre-apocalyptic  
story of a boy and his mother during the final economic collapse.



## Northwest Retirement Magazine

[www.nwretirementmag.com](http://www.nwretirementmag.com)

*A new feature of the magazine will be articles about Whatcom Writers and Publishers  
as an organization and about the individual members and their works.*

# Poetry

## Of This I Wish to Speak

They won't let us speak of it.  
They chat on and on of their  
Amorous relationships,  
Of their children's accomplishments,  
Of the things that matter to them.

But they won't let us speak of it.  
"Oh no, you're not getting old!"  
As if it were a bad thing,  
Some sin I might be guilty of.

"I won't LET you die.  
You're going to live forEVER!"  
They've even tried to talk me into  
Speed dating,  
Online match-ups,  
Salsa lessons.

Don't get me wrong,  
Salsa lessons might be fun.  
But that's not what I'm dealing with.  
I'm looking toward the end.  
It still may be far off,  
But things are changing.  
My hips are stiff in the morning.

No wonder I spend more time with  
Those who often forget their nouns.

When we were young adults  
My sister and I vowed  
We would never speak of  
The habits of our bowels.  
The creaks and shifts  
Tend to grab my attention,  
But I remember my vows.

More worthy topics  
Are the forbidden ones.  
We're expected to grouse  
About flatulence and dry eye.  
I wish to speak of death itself.

I wish to contemplate its Nature,  
It' Sacredness,  
It's flavor.

A friend, older than I,  
Last night mentioned that he used  
to tell his students,  
"You've been dead longer  
Than you've been alive.  
Where WERE you  
When I was nineteen?"

Beautiful, fascinating words  
That resonate through my chest.  
Of this I wish to speak.

Carol McMillan / Jan. 26, 2013

x x

### Poem

She's six months old  
As good as gold  
With eyes of blue and hair of gold  
Well, it should be

It could be brown  
Or maybe red  
Well, actually it just fuzz all over her head  
Well, sort of

Her brother loves her  
And hugs her to death  
Well actually he squeezes away her breath  
Well, kinda

She coos, he laughs  
They play so well  
And when they don't  
I have just to yell  
And once again they play so well  
Well, for a minute!

R.W. Williams

# Poetry

## Child of the Desert



Dry brush crisscross desiccated  
saguaro ribs bound with twisted  
fibers to weathered poles. Specks  
of shade in a solar sea cast  
their patterned light over an infant  
sleeping in a hammock gently  
rocked by grandmother sitting docile  
in her cobbled chair, beside a  
castoff table draped with checkered  
oilcloth, its tear tucked under an  
AM radio playing *faux* native  
music from an Anglo world  
across the desert, fifty miles away.

*Museum of Indian Arts &  
Culture, Santa Fe, NM*

## Sky People of a Thousand Years

*for Orlando Antonio (1958-2007) Acoma Pueblo Guide*

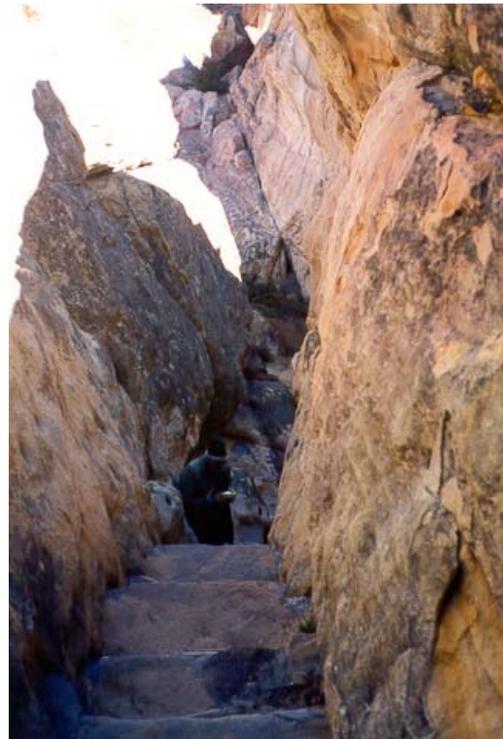
*A warrior of many days,  
sits on his kiva-step,  
high above the desert floor.  
In a voice low and worn,  
he remembers climbing  
with sky people of a thousand years.*

When golden fire touches the west,  
we People-of-the-White-Rock scale  
this sandstone cliff to glittering light,  
up a cleft, over boulders and scree,  
ceaseless steps scoured by sandaled feet.

With vessels of medicine, water, and meal  
on our heads, we climb through darkness,  
clutching handholds carved in rocks  
by sky people of a thousand years.

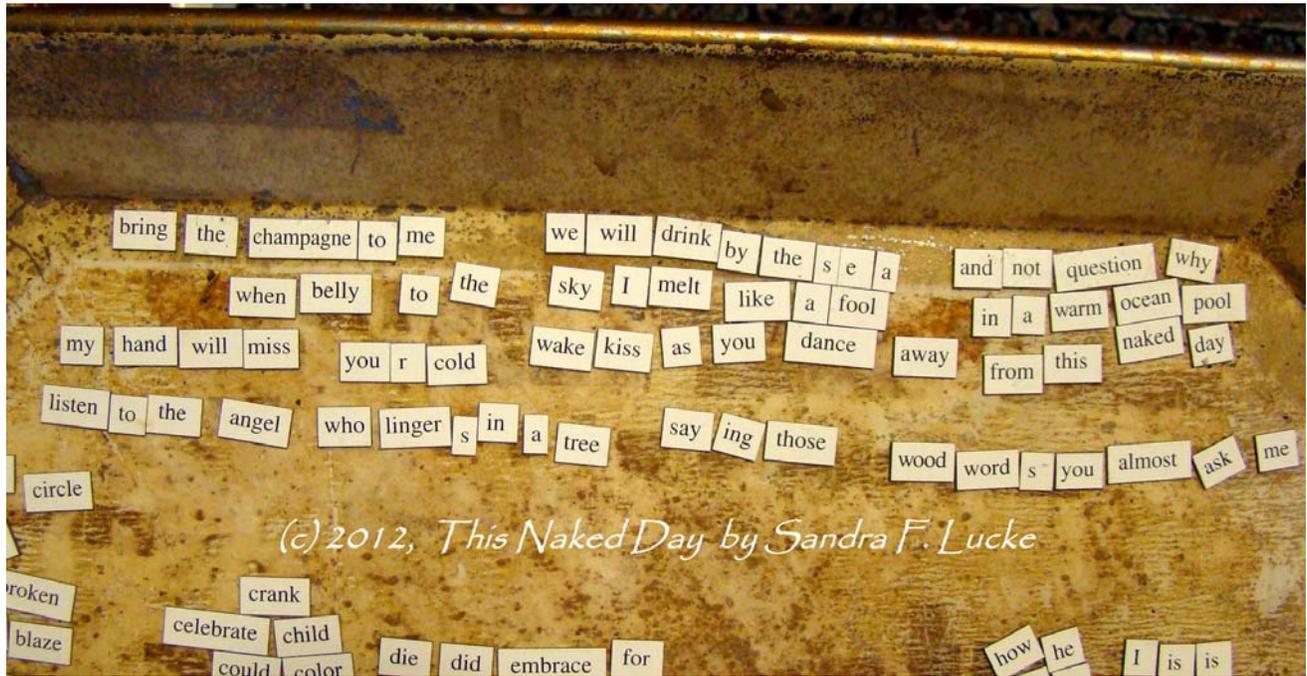
We reach for our lofty place.  
Grasp the niches of time.  
Pull through black to a clear day.  
Rise another step,  
we sky people of a thousand years.

*Acoma Pueblo, NM*



Arguably, the oldest continuously occupied community on the North American continent, Acoma Pueblo, one of the *Seven Cities of Cibola*, has stood on a dry mesa, 367 feet above the high desert floor of north-central New Mexico for 1000 years. *Akome* translates as “people of the white rock.” (From *Whatcom Writes!*, Holiday/Year’s End 1998, SunPorch Productions, Bellingham, WA)

# Poetry



*Dear Readers,*

*Poets have been using cut out words to present a collage of ideas and messages.*

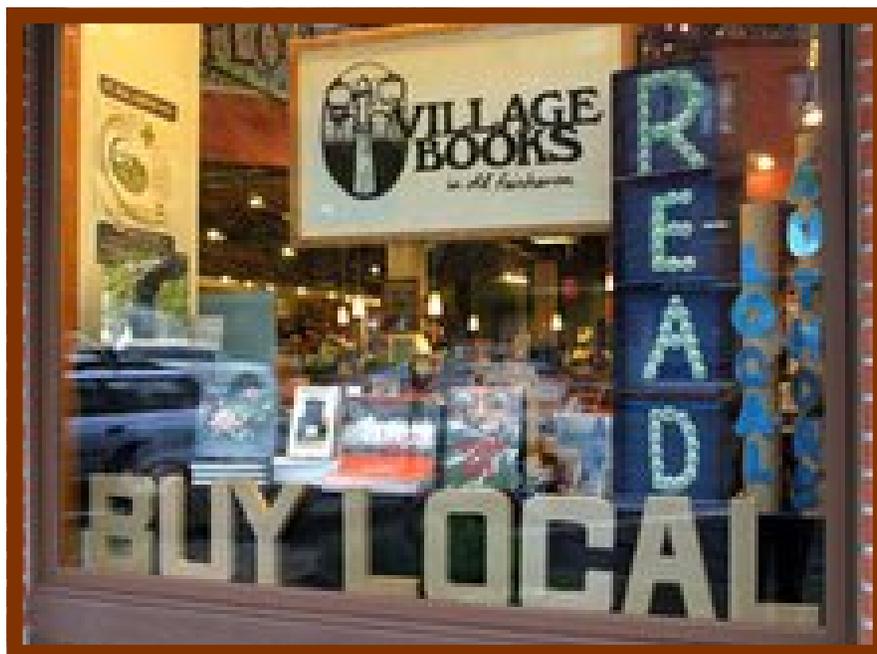
*A set of magnetic words were arranged on a metal serving tray and photographed.*

*The poem is made available during the month of St. Valentine's Day to Celebrate Love.*

*Sandra F. Lucke*

# Village Books

## Village Books Welcomes W.W.P. Members!



- Drive on down to Village Books in Historic Fairhaven to receive a 10% discount off all of your purchases (may not be combined with any other offer).
- Ready to publish your book? W.W.P members receive a 10% discount on our Printing Packages for the Espresso Book Machine (does not include the \$0.04/page cost). Contact Lindsey McGuirk for more info: [lindsey@villagebooks.com](mailto:lindsey@villagebooks.com)
- Need a nudge with your writing? Join one of our open writing groups or poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Newcomers welcome! Contact Paul Hanson for details: [paul@villagebooks.com](mailto:paul@villagebooks.com)

Village Books  
1200 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
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(360) 671-2626  
[www.villagebooks.com](http://www.villagebooks.com)