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Contributors

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Contributors

Raymond Philip Asaph has published poems or fiction in *Poetry*, *Glimmer Train*, *London Magazine*, *Mississippi Review* and *The Humanist*. His good fortunes have included a grant from the Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation, a Stadler Semester to Bucknell University and a graduate fellowship to NYU. Off the page, he goes by “Philip” and can be reached via facebook or at longislandwriter@gmail.

Born into a military family, **Ashleigh Balog** can only claim to be from America. Although Tulsa, Oklahoma shows on her birth certificate, she didn’t grow up in these parts, but now finds herself back in Oklahoma as an adult pursuing her degree in English at Cameron University. She was homeschooled her entire primary education, and believes it prepared her for the challenge of college more so than her public schooled counterparts. Balog decided to get her degree in English, focusing on creative writing, because it’s the only thing in this world that she can do for the rest of her life without it feeling like work. She primarily writes short story fiction and novel length fantasy. Poetry is a late blooming skill, one she still grapples to fit into her writing from time to time. She now puts her writing to use as a public information officer for her current home, Comanche County, and it still doesn’t feel like work.

Mark Belair’s poems have appeared in numerous journals, including *Alabama Literary Review*, *Atlanta Review*, *Harvard Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Poetry East*, and *The South Carolina Review*. His books include the collection *While We’re Waiting* (Aldrich Press, 2013) and two chapbook collections: *Night Watch* (Finishing Line Press, 2013) and *Walk With Me* (Parallel Press of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, 2012). A new collection, *Breathing Room*, is to be published by Aldrich Press this year.

Eileen Cleary is a nurse and poet, currently studying for her MFA at Lesley University. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Bird’s Thumb*, *First Things*, and *Literary Mama*. She has attended writing workshops with Grub Street Boston and New York Writer’s Studio.

Peter Doerfert has been a long time admirer of the human spirit in diverse and difficult conditions. His first career was a police officer, then a school teacher, and his third career teaching safety at a community college. His own collection of works included police reports and school memos. He always enjoyed the works of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John and other popular authors of the living book. He almost always preferred non-fiction over fiction and always fiction over poetry. Then one day he woke up with an idea for his new genre, “Evangeline”.

John Grey is an Australian poet currently residing in the U.S. His works have been published in the *New Plains Review*, *Perceptions*, and *No Achilles*.

Dixon Hearne teaches and writes in Louisiana. His work has been twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize. His poetry has been anthologized in the Texas Review Press’s *Southern Poetry Anthology: Louisiana, Vol. 4* and is forthcoming in *Down the Dark River*, a new anthology from Louisiana Literature Press. He recently received an award from *Midwest Literary Magazine* as well as a 2014 Spur Award for poetry. Other poetry appears in *Tulane Review*, *New Plains Review*, *Weber: The Contemporary West*, *Big Muddy*, *San Pedro River Review*, *The Milo Review*, *Picayune Literary Magazine*, and elsewhere. He is currently at work on new poetry and short story collections.

Robert Lee Kendrick lives in Clemson, SC. He has previously published, or has work had forthcoming, in *The South Carolina Review*, *Kestrel*, *Concho River Review*, *Chiron Review*, and *Main Street Rag*.

A native of Tulsa, **Dr. Jim Kerbaugh** was educated at the University of North Texas (Ph.D. 1984) and since 1987 has taught creative writing and medieval literature at Illinois College. Over 40 of his poems have appeared in literary journals.

Dr. Robert Sam Lackey is a 5th Degree Black Belt in Tai Chi and a retired professor from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He is a previous contributor to *Westview*, and he currently instructs Tai Chi at the Wellness Center on SWOSU's campus.

Lucille Lang Day is the author of a memoir, *Married at Fourteen: A True Story*, which received a 2013 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Literary Award and was a finalist for the 2013 Northern California Book Award in Creative Nonfiction. She has also published a children's book, *Chain Letter*, and eight poetry collections and chapbooks, including *The Curvature of Blue*, *Infinites*, and *The Book of Answers*. Her award-winning short stories, essays, and poems have appeared in more than 100 literary journals, such as *The Chattahoochee Review*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Green Hills Literary Lantern*, *The Hudson Review*, *The MacGuffin*, *Nimrod International Journal*, *Passages North*, and *Paterson Literary Review*. The founder and director of a small press, *Scarlet Tanager Books*, she received her MFA in creative writing at San Francisco State University and her PhD in science/mathematics education at the University of California, Berkeley. For more information, see <http://lucillelangday.com>. Twitter: @LucilleLDay.

Wulf Losee lives and works in the Bay Area. His poems and short stories have appeared in journals such as *Crack the Spine*, *Forge*, *FRiGG*, *Full Moon*, *The New Guard*, *The North Coast Literary Review*, *Oak Square*, *Poetalk Magazine*, and the *Rio Grande Review*. Wulf dabbled in poetry while he studied at the University of Connecticut. Once he entered the "real world" the muse abandoned him, because of his neglect of her. After a twenty-year hiatus, in which he did not write a word of poetry, the muse knocked on his door again. She has since taken up full-time residence in his mind. Wulf has mixed feelings about this relationship, because, as with any codependent partner, the muse can often be demanding and unreasonable. Wulf has asked her to go to relationship counseling with him, but her only response has been: "Shut up and write the poem already!"

Richard Luftig is a Midwesterner now living California. He is a recipient of the Cincinnati Post-Corbett Foundation Award for Literature and a semi finalist for the Emily Dickinson Society Award for Poetry. His stories have appeared in numerous magazines including *Bloodroot*, *Front Porch Review*, *Broadkill Literary Review*, and *Pulse* literary magazine. One of his published short stories was nominated for a 2012 Pushcart Prize.

Greg Moglia's poetry has been accepted in over 100 journals in U.S., Canada, England, Australia, India and Sweden including *Rattle*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *Tampa Review*, *William and Mary Review*, *Paterson Literary Review*, and the *South Carolina Review*. He is also a six time winner of an Allen Ginsburg Poetry Award.

Joddy Murray's work has appeared or is forthcoming in over 70 journals, including, most recently, *The Broken Plate*, *DUCTS*, *Caliban Online*, *Existere*, *Lindenwood Review*, *Licking River*, *Meridian*, *McNeese Review*, *Minetta Review*, *Moon City Review*, *Moonshot Magazine*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Pembroke Magazine*, *Southampton Review*, *Stickman Review*, and *Texas Review*. He currently teaches writing and rhetoric in Fort Worth, Texas.

Cyndy Muscatel has written features and humor for *The Desert Sun*, *Desert Magazine*, 92260, *LQ Magazine*, and *Healthy Living*. She has also written for many other publications including *The Seattle Times*, *The Mercer Island Reporter*, *The Desert Post Weekly*, *Palm Canyon Times*, and *Westlake Magazine*. A former high school English teacher, she now teaches creative writing in Palm Springs. Her blogs, *A Corner of My Mind* and *Writing Do's and Don'ts*, are on wordpress.com. Her fiction, non-fiction, and poetry have been published or are forthcoming in *Penmen Review*, *Wisconsin Review*, *descant*, *Haight Ashbury Literary Journal*, *Puget Soundings*, *The MacGuffin*, *Main Street Rag*, *North Atlantic Review*, *Quercus Review*, *RiverSedge*, *EDGE*, *Existere*, *Jet Fuel Review*, *Snakeskin*, *Highlights for Children*, *Turtle*, *Phantom Seed*, *The Legendary*, *Wild Violet*, and others.

Sheryl L. Nelms is from Marysville, Kansas. She graduated from South Dakota State University. She has had over 5,000 articles, stories, and poems published, including fourteen individual collections of her poems. She is the fiction/nonfiction editor of *The Pen Woman Magazine*, the National League of American Pen Women publication, a contributing editor for *Time Of Singing, A Magazine Of Christian Poetry* and is a four time Pushcart Prize nominee.

An MFA from a State University? No. **Lance Nizami** has no formal training in the Arts. He is active in the world's most competitive profession, yet without an institutional appointment. He started writing poetry during a long airplane flight in 2010, and has written much since then in-flight.

John Nizalowski is the author of three books – a multi-genre work *Hooking the Sun* (Farolito Press, 2003), a book of poetry *The Last Matinée* (Turkey Buzzard Press, 2011), and an essay collection *Land of Cinnamon Sun* (Irie Books, 2013). His writings have appeared in *Westview*, *Digital Americana*, *Slab*, *Measure*, *Puerto del Sol*, *Blue Mesa Review*, *Chiron Review*, *Under the Sun*, *Weber Journal*, *New Mexico Poetry Review*, *Bloomsbury Review*, *Blueline*, and elsewhere. He currently teaches creative writing, composition, and mythology at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction.

Dr. Dennis Ross is a retired professor from Iowa State University and am trying to learn the art and craft of writing poetry with the help of two women poets, one in the U.S. and the other in Germany. Frequently, he reads poetry, and admires and studies poets such as Collins, Frost, Heaney, Hirshfield, Kooser, Merwin, Plath, and Stevens. About 160 of his poems have been published in journals such as *Barbaric Yawp*, *Hurricane Review*, *Illuminations*, *Iodine Poetry Journal*, *Listening Eye*, *Mad Poets Review*, *Pinyon*, *Poetry Motel*, *River Oak Review*, *Slant*, *Westview*, *White*

Pelican Review, and others. His chapbook, *Relatives and Other Strangers*, was recently published by Finishing Line Press.

Tom Pescatore grew up outside Philadelphia dreaming of the endless road ahead, carrying the idea of the fabled West in his heart. He maintains a poetry blog: amagicalmistake.blogspot.com. His work has been published in literary magazines both nationally and internationally but he'd rather have them carved on the Walt Whitman bridge or on the sidewalks of Philadelphia's old Skid Row.

J. Allen Whitt served as a Navy officer aboard an aircraft carrier off Vietnam (1964-1967). He has an MA and a PhD in Sociology from the Univ. of California, Santa Barbara. In addition, he taught at the Univ. of Louisville for 25 years and retired as a Professor Emeritus in 2008. An academic book of his published by Cambridge University Press won a national prize, and Princeton University Press published his second academic book. A member of the local VA veterans' writing group, he won a first place prize and two second place prizes at the National Veterans' Creative Festival. His novel *Notes from the Other Side of the Mountain* was a finalist in the 2013 New Mexico-Arizona Book Awards.

Helen Wickes lives in Oakland, California, and worked for many years as a psychotherapist. In 2002 she received an M.F.A. from Bennington College. Her first book of poems, *In Search of Landscape*, was published in 2007 by Sixteen Rivers Press. Her second book, *Dowser's Apprentice*, was published in 2014 by Glass Lyre Press, along with her third collection, *Moon over Zabriskie*. Her poems published by online journals can be read at my author's page, <http://www.sixteenrivers.org/authors/helen-wickes>, and poems can be read and heard online at *From The Fishouse*.

Donald Mace Williams has written nearly all of his fiction and poetry since retiring from a career as mostly a newspaper writer and editor. His novel *Black Tuesday's Child* was published in 2006 by River's Bend Press (Minnesota), and a second novel, *The Sparrow and the Hall*, is coming out from Bagwyn Books. His short story *Period of Grace* was published in the summer 1981 issue of *Southwest Review*. He has a Ph.D. in English from the University of Texas.

Dr. Ernest Williamson III, a self-taught painter and composer, has published creative work in over 600 journals. Professor Williamson has published poetry in over 200 journals, including *The Oklahoma Review*, *The Roanoke Review*, *Pamplermousse*, formerly known as *The Gihon River Review*, *The Copperfield Review*, *The Penwood Review*, and *Wilderness House Literary Review*. Some of his visual artwork has appeared in journals such as *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art*, *The William & Mary Review*, *New England Review*, *The Tulane Review* and *The Wisconsin Review*. He has published articles on comparative education in the academic journal *Academic Exchange Extra* (University of Northern Colorado), and his research has been cited in journals such as *The Urban Review* and *The Public Purpose* (American University). Many of his creative works have been published in journals representing over 80 colleges and universities around the world; Williamson is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the English Department at Allen University and his poetry has been nominated three times for the Best of the Net Anthology. Williamson holds a B.A. and an M.A. in English/Creative Writing/Literature from the University of Memphis, a PhD in Higher Education Leadership, Management, & Policy from Seton Hall University, and a certificate from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.

Photos and illustrations

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