



AMY KITCHENER'S

ANGELS WITHOUT WINGS FOUNDATION

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THE DIPLOEMAT

News Letter

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of the World's most unique Literary Society
where we turn Scribblers into Scribes and Meeting the Muse is a way of life

Wishing You a Happy Holiday Ho Ho Ho...

17th Annual National SENIOR POETS LAUREATE Competition is "Go"

There's great news for all senior poets who wondered, as we did, whether there would be another National Annual Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition for American poets age 50 and older. As I explained in the September 2008 edition of The Diploemat, my impending settlement of the 8-1/2-year legal matter with the City of Springfield, Missouri makes administering the 2009 contest impossible. As this newsletter is being sent, my moving date—the day the city is slated to take possession of my flood-ravaged property—is New Year's Eve! But the great news is that Yvonne Nunn, Dean of the Cyber-College of Online Poetry, and her Bardlets class, have volunteered to administer and judge the 2009 event! Yvonne Londres, SPL's 2008 Senior Poster Poet, and I will also be members of the panel of judges, and Al Baker will remain as webmaster. We've made some changes to the Rules in order to streamline the event while also raising the award amount for the National SPL winner. I have deliberately kept this edition of The Diploemat short in order to be ready to move during the busy—and often icy—holiday season, so see the Rules on Page 2. They will be online as of 1/1/09. I will publicize the contest and invite you to do the same.



Wherever you go, and whatever you do,
may the joy of this season raise memories anew
of the times of your life you most loved what was done--

and we'll bet they included verse written in fun.
Please send us a fun poem—pretend it's a kiss--
as I'm now sharing mine. Poets, can you top this?

Amy's Holiday E-mail Challenge:

Show the World Poetry Should be Fun . .



Back in 1993, when I visited the Ozarks Empire Fair on a sweltering day in August, poetry was the last thing I had in mind until I happened upon a "Ham It Up" special event in which farm folk were competing for the Champion Hog Caller title. As a city-bred girl, I'd never even been close to a hog in my life. I remembered how my mother told me about her childhood when her mother called hogs by squealing soo-ee, soo-ee, soo-ee. My muse reared its funny head and possessed my cool one. Next thing I knew, I was on the stage delivering a spontaneous little hog call in pseudo-free-verse with a French accent. I won!

My most-unusual poetry award is memorialized in this photo. I call my false hog snout "Porky's Oscar." I don't eat pork, so donated my half-hog prize to charity, but kept the cash and lots of free meals at local Ozarks eateries. Here is the little verse I challenge you to beat—which shouldn't be too hard. E-mail only. No snail mail, please. We are giving electronic submission a try. Winners will appear in our March 2009 edition to prove poetry not only should be fun, it can be and downright IS fun. Here's my little ditty. Beat it, please!

E-mail your fun verse by 2/15/09 to: amykitchenerfdn@hotmail.com

Please state "Fun Poem" in your Subject line and include your full name
One entry per poet. Surprise gift for winners—oink oink.

Come to Mama, Piggy

Je vous aime. I love you, mon cheri.

Please come, Piggy. COME, Piggy!

Non? Well, phooey! Soooo-EEEEEE!

Wanda Sue Parrott, Editor