



AMY KITCHENER'S

ANGELS WITHOUT WINGS FOUNDATION

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THE DIPLOEMAT

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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

CALLING ALL POETS AGE 50 AND OLDER . . .

Last call for entries in Senior Poets Laureate Contest

If you're planning to enter the 2008 Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition for American poets age 50 and older—regardless of where you are living or vacationing in the world—you still have time to get your entries in the mail. The deadline is June 30, 2008. However, since snail mail can sometimes take several extra days to reach its deadline, especially if it winds up sitting in the post office for a few days, we will wait until July 7, 2008 before returning submissions that trail in late.

The rules for this year's competition appear on the back page of this newsletter. Whether you are a newcomer to the "SPL" Contest or you've been supporting it since its inception sixteen years ago, you might find the following facts of interest:

The lowest number of entries ever received was 85 in 1993, the year Vera-Jane Goodin Schultz and I started the contest as a local Ozarks Mountains regional competition for Senior Pages Newspapers readers. She edited the Springfield edition and I edited the Joplin edition here in Missouri. First winner was John L. Mullins, retired school janitor, from Springfield, Missouri. Highest number of entries ever received was 1500, midway through the competition's history. Average entries range from 300-600 per contest.

In 1994 we added a copy of **GOLDEN WORDS**, chapbook containing winning poems, to the event, and this tradition continued until this year. Instead of producing hard-copy chapbooks, **GOLDEN WORDS** will appear online at our website at www.amykitchenerfdn.org. The reasons for reaching this decision are basically: 1) Entries in the 2008 competition are down, perhaps because of rising costs of food and gas; therefore, cost projections to produce **GOLDEN WORDS** in both time and money indicate more expenses than the subscriptions will bring in to pay for the book's production. 2) It appears, at this time, that my many-year struggle to sell my flood-ravaged property to the City of Springfield is about to conclude. I am planning to move back to my home state of California and must concentrate on finding homes for my beloved cats and getting rid of stuff that has collected. My move will coincide with the fall publication date for **GOLDEN WORDS**.

Last year we inquired whether any of our reader/participant senior poets would be interested in taking over the Senior Poets Laureate competition. To date, the answer appears to be no. If the **GOLDEN WORDS** online version is successful, I might continue the competition from the Monterey Peninsula next year. If not,

you will be notified in a future edition of *The Diploemat*. So, get your entries in now. Winners will appear in the September newsletter. May the Muse be with you.

Wanda Sue Parrott, Editor

POETS AS INVENTORS

Frieda Risvold's new poetry form "Atom" is a winner! The new literary form introduced in our March edition of *The Diploemat*'s **THINK ABOUT IT** challenge drew 44 entries and lots of interesting comments. For details, turn to page 2, then try your hand at writing a few of these fascinating little gems yourself. And remember:

POETRY SHOULD BE FUN

IN MEMORIAM
ROCHELLE BRENER

2007 ARIZONA
SENIOR POET
LAUREATE
Rochelle died in
Sedona, Arizona
March 19, 2008.
Details on Page 2.

