

Meeting The Muse Section

Angels Without Wings, world's most-unique literary society, celebrates 7th birthdayby **Wanda Sue Parrott**

The seventh anniversary since the inception of Amy Kitchener's Angels Without Wings Foundation was memorable because we were recovering from a huge flood in June which filled my Honda with sewage-laced stormwater and a burglary of the home-office that threatened to interfere with completion of the 16th Annual Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition on time. Since I am chief operating officer of the organization, I try to keep things as simple as possible; this includes a single-entry accounting system in which financial transactions are kept in a checkbook register. Quarterly Reports are contained on the register's pages and are transferred into a journal at yearend. Lots of poets keep similar accounting records, since we are "small" business people whose net incomes often qualify us to exemplify our well-known reputation as "Starving Poets" (even though most of us eat quite well). Compounding the mess of losing all I.D., including my credit cards—which were used at local convenience stores for several hundred dollars worth of purchases—was the fact that the Springfield, Missouri police department apprehended a young man who confessed to stealing my wallet and who turned out to be someone I had considered a good friend. The other cause for true celebration was the fact the City of Springfield advised my attorney it is going to buy my flood-ravaged home. I was hoping to be able to share more details in this letter, such as the date the deal will close and I will move, and the new address to which future snail-mail correspondence and other contest-related mail should be sent. As those of you who are long-time readers know, the house in which all the newsletters are produced has been in a flood zone for years and I have been seriously pursuing resolution of selling my otherwise-unsalable property to the city since 2000. So, since the city has still not committed anything to writing, but the date of October 31, 2008 is rumored to be the time I must be out, I just don't know. Since I just don't know, I just cannot plan any future contests or other activities of a new nature, which means I am taking a "sabbatical leave." We will finish everything involved with this year's Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition (see Page 8 for information about GOLDEN WORDS anthology), and hope to be able to give you more details about whether the foundation will continue or cease to be in our December newsletter. Sometimes laughter is the best medicine, and so I share this natural-light photo taken by gifted webmaster Al Baker in the kitchen from which all foundation material is edited. The muse is still with me at 73. I share our closing salutation with love. May the Greater Muse always be with you, too. Stay tuned!



Summer Scrolls
(Dedicated to all poet-scribes regardless of species)

Scribbling is to toddlers like the sunlit silver slime trail is for snails and slugs in the Garden of Life;

Printing is to school children like the web is for silk-spinners supping on fly-flesh fruit from the Tree of Life;

Writing is to adults like musk of tomcat spray is, to fellow felines, on leaves of Eden-gold grass;

Poetry is to all ageless spirits like ripe runnels of urine are, to canines, on red and yellow hydrants, and gnarled gray tree trunks, and old truck tires:

Summer Signatures proclaiming:

I am here!

This is my mark!!

And I am wonderful!!!

Wanda Sue Parrott, Founder
Amy Kitchener's Angels Without Wings Fdn.

Amy Kitchener's Angels Without Wings Foundation is a non-profit literary society incorporated July 31, 2001 in the state of Missouri. It is supported by contest fees, contributions and income from website postings. All officers and board of directors members serve as volunteers.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP SAVE OUR
SENIOR POETS LAUREATE CONTEST**

Last year, anticipating that I might finally find resolution to the long-standing problem with my property, which would necessitate devoting time and energy to closing down the house that served as my office, clearing out an accumulation of things that piled up over the years, and moving, I asked readers if anyone was interested in taking over the Annual Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition in order to save it, rather than let it die. No one came forward, so I remained at the helm. Why? Because I believe it is a great project and this year's grandest-yet entries proved me right. Help is needed!

Senior Poets Laureate deserves to live on, and I feel sure that, given another year, it will. However, for reasons I've shared above, I must withdraw energy and refocus it to resolve my personal situation. If you or your poetry organization has any interest in SPL, e-mail me, please, at amykitchenerfdn@hotmail.com. We need to keep the event alive, also, through publicly announcing the results of this year's contest, and you can help do that. Please read details in the GOLDEN WORDS section, Page 8. Let's save SPL