

Contributors to The R.D. Lawrence Commemorative Anthology

Maureen Alsop's poems have appeared or are pending in various publications including: *Barrow Street*, *Typo*, *Margie*, *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art* and *Texas Review*. Her poetry was twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize. She is also the recipient of *Harpur Palate's* Milton Kessler Memorial Prize for Poetry and is the author of two chapbooks, *Nightingale Habit* (finishinglinepress.com) and *Origin of Stone*. Most recently she has acted as the poetry curator at the Palm Springs Art Museum and Palm Springs Public Library. Her first full collection of poetry, *Apparition Wren*, is pending publication in 2007-08.

Wendy e. Bateman, Visual and Creative Arts Diploma, S.S.F.C. is owner of *Fibres WEB Studio*, Bluehawk Lake with her husband Sid Brinkman. She is a Textile instructor at various Ontario Colleges teaching weaving, spinning, colour and braiding. In spare time, she writes articles for textile publications. She is an O.H.S. Master Spinner, currently a juror for the Spinning In-depth Studies. Wendy has received numerous awards for textile works and travels throughout the province teaching her craft and sharing environmental ideas. She has many memories of sitting at the feet of Ron Lawrence listening intently to his life experiences.

Mikaela Charlesbois is an enthusiastic teen who enjoys writing stories and plays. Although she now resides in the Haliburton Highlands, she has lived many places such as California, Boston and Toronto. At her happiest among the trees and lakes of Ontario, she finds nature an inspiration. She also enjoys running, directing and learning. Invited to a writing enrichment program at her school, she learned about the call for submissions and worked hard to finish her story on time. It is about her little brother, George, who has always been an inspiration. Nature seems to like him, so this contest seemed just right for a story about George.

Maureen Curry was born in Scarborough in 1947, and moved to Whitby in 1980. Her love of nature was fostered by her father during vacations on Georgian Bay. This appreciation was enhanced by living, as a young teacher, in the interior of British Columbia. At the age of eight, Maureen started to write poetry, but as a teenager became shy of her "gift". After retirement, Maureen began to create poetry for children. Following an emotionally-charged event, she attempted her first "adult" poem and enjoyed the creative challenge. *Timber Wolf* is her latest artistic endeavour.

Teghan (Teggie) Lynne Dodds has been fascinated with nature from a young age and is inspired by the diverse world around her. Teghan was a part of the production *A Little Study in Scheming*, as well as recently, the musical *Annie*. Her favourite things include sunshine, smiling, flowers (gerbera daisies!), and time spent with friends, family, and her guinea pig, Bug. Currently, she journals to record her adventures, and would like to publish a novel. She is not your typical fourteen-year-old, and she seeks new learning experiences. Teghan hopes to make a difference one day, and believes that we should look for happiness in the little things in life.

Liz Dolan is a Pushcart nominee in both fiction and poetry and was recently a finalist in The Dogfish Head chapbook contest. She received an honorable mention for best poem of the year in *Gin Bender Review*, 2004 and placed third in the Pure Sea Glass poetry contest, 2006. She has been selected as an associate artist in residence with poet Sharon Olds, 2006. She has published in *Prism International*, *New Delta Review*, *Rattle*, *Natural Bridge*, and *Illuminations*. Her poetry in Mudlark was chosen as Best of the Web. She has also received a poetry fellowship from the DDOA and is on the poetry board of *Philadelphia Stories*.

Graham Ducker: After graduating with honours from Laurentian University, Mr. Ducker spent many years as a principal and primary specialist in Ontario schools. His memoir book *Don't Wake The Teacher!* received 9/10 by a U.S.A. book rating company. His poetry book *Observations of Heart and Mind* was launched in February 2007. On January 29, 2007 he joined the Canada Cuba Literary Alliance delegation to Cuba to do readings at the Ambassador's residence, the University of Havana, the Havana Library and by special invitation reading at the International Book Fair. He has many stories and poems published nationally and internationally.

Patricia Anne Elford, winner of local, national and international awards, a minister, educator, facilitator, editor and freelance writer, professional member of The Word Guild (www.wordguild.com), has been published in various *genres*; e.g., short stories, articles, humour, poetry, youth materials, worship services, hymn texts, sermons, book reviews, opinion pieces, monologues and devotionals in educational, literary and Christian publications, as well as in secular newspapers. A book ghostwriter, she also has four volumes of her very own in the works. Patricia is a wife, mother and proud grandmother, sharing litter-changes for two bossy black, affectionate cats in "The Pines", their country household.

Michael Fay studied creative writing with W. O. Mitchell, Alice Munro, and Richard Ford. Working as a journalist in the seventies, he was twice nominated for the National Magazine Award and twice elected President of the Periodical Writers Association of Canada. After a twenty-year career, working with refugees, drug users, street youth, he is a consultant working in health promotion among marginal populations. He has written two plays, including the award winning *Never Such Innocence Again*. He is completing his first musical, *Last of the Great White Pine*, which will be produced by the Minden Hills Cultural Centre in August 2007.

Tyler Gilligan is a grade 8 student at Archie Stouffer Elementary School and is 13 years old. She loves to dance, read and most definitely to write. She lives in Minden, Ontario along the Gull River and was born in Peterborough. She enjoys sitting on her dock while she writes and sketches. She has an 8 year old brother and three dogs. Tyler loves to camp and writes in her journal many a day. She is an aspiring young writer which is why she wanted to be a part of the *R.D. Lawrence Commemorative Anthology*.

Catherine Graham, author of *The Watch* and *Pupa*, teaches Elements of Poetry at Sheridan College and Creative Writing at the University of Toronto where she was nominated for an Excellence in Teaching Award. As creativity consultant, Catherine has worked with York University, GlaxoSmithKline, BookExpo and Environics Communications. She teaches Creativity Tools for Strategic Thinkers at the University of Toronto and her poems are featured in Discovery Landing, Burlington's new waterfront building. Catherine is Vice President of Bookmark Canada, a non-profit organization that seeks to mark the real places that serve as the setting for imagined stories. Visit www.catherinegraham.com

Kate Hall is a 'fringe dweller' who lives with her husband Doug and dog Michipicoten in splendid isolation surrounded by trees, rock and water. She feels a strong sense of place in the Highlands and is passionate about community. Kate is involved in a number of planning and development initiatives that aim to improve the quality of life in Haliburton County. She never ceases to be amazed by the generosity of spirit that exists in this place she calls home. To re-energize, Kate enjoys self-propelled activities such as walking, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing and canoeing that allow her to connect, reflect and be humbly on this Earth.

Barbara Hunt is a dry-eyed nostalgic who delivers contemporary bites of naked truth wrapped in a rich appealing texture. She writes poetry, fiction and non-fiction from her home in Port Perry, Ontario where she regularly contributes to a local monthly magazine, *Focus in Scugog*. She has been published with CBC Radio One, *The Globe and Mail*, Metroland,

Esteem and Homemakers Magazine as well as several anthologies. She can be reached at www.writersplayground.ca.

Ruth E. Johnson was born in Northern Ontario in a time when play was nurtured by imagination and nature was the best playground. She eventually moved to Pickering, Ontario where she raised a family while pursuing her artistic interests in painting, poetry and music. During her years of working with special needs children she continued to play with words, eventually becoming a member of the Writers' Circle of Durham Region. Ruth's love of the North has greatly influenced her writings and paintings and she continues to make and record memories at the family cottage.

Wendy M. K. Ladurantaye rediscovered the creative word while journaling her travels from Vienna to Northern Germany in the fall, 2000. While teaching scrapbooking and family memory preservation, she began capturing her family's stories. Pursuing writing more seriously resulted in short stories and submissions appearing in newspapers, and winning both fiction, *Say Goodbye Uncle Joe*, and non-fiction, *Don't Forget My Birthday*, categories in the *Liaisons Anthology 2006* Writing Contest. Wendy and her husband, Brian, enjoy their horse farm near Ingoldsby, and are most proud of Ryan, RCAF Gagetown, N.B.; Sarah and husband, Freddy, KY, USA; and Brock, Toronto police officer.

Christina Lovin is the author of *What We Burned for Warmth*. An award-winning poet, her writing has appeared in many other journals and anthologies. She has served as Writer-in-Residence at Devil's Tower National Monument, Wyoming, and at Andrews Experimental Forest in Oregon's Cascade Mountains as part of the Spring Creek Project. Lovin's writing has been supported with monetary grants from the Kentucky Foundation for Women and the Kentucky Arts Council, including a 2007 Al Smith Fellowship. She currently presents writing workshops at various venues around the country, while continuing to teach college writing courses in central Kentucky.

Tim Mayo's poems have appeared in *The Atlanta Review*, *Del Sol*, *The Rose & Thorn*, *The Cold River Review*, *Paris/Atlantic*, *Four Corners*, *Mannequin Envy*, *Poet Lore*, *5A.M.* and *The Chrysalis Reader*. He was a semi-finalist in the Discovery/*The Nation* 2000 Poetry Contest and recently received a grant from the Vermont Studio Center. He holds an ALB, *Cum Laude*, from Harvard University and an MFA from Bennington College. His first book *Dreaming of a Dependable Force* is a Finalist/Runner up for the Main Street Rag Poetry Award and will appear in the winter of 2008.

Wilf McOstrich is retired from a career in advertising and film, plus a second career teaching creative writing at Humber College. He's a well known water colourist, a director of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour and Aquarella. His landscapes feature the Ontario countryside. His work appears in galleries, at exhibitions and in collections in Canada, the United States and Europe. He is a graduate of the Haliburton School for the Arts. In summer, you'll find him happily painting the flora and fauna around Haliburton and Muskoka. He has a studio in Toronto and another at Kennisis Lake.

Nancy McSloy is a freelance writer based in London, Ontario. Her work has appeared in magazines such as *MacLean's*, *In Stride*, *The Anglican Journal* to mention a few. Her favorite writing is about nature and spirituality. She is a member of PWAC (Professional Writers of Canada), The Word Guild, Inscribe Christian Writers and most recently HHWEN. Her website has a complete bio. Visit <http://gweb1.com/nancyswritestuff/>.

Tara O'Sullivan is an 8 grade student at Archie Stouffer E.S. She enjoys writing and has been doing so since she was in first grade. Tara is very active at her school. She enjoys playing all sports and enters the speech competition every year. She has made it on to the legion for 4 of the 5 times she tried. Tara loves to read, which is probably why she likes to write so much. She lives in the forest so it was fairly easy for her to write something that had to involve nature. She is currently working on another story.

Alan Pearson was born in England in 1930 and was later apprenticed to be a Marine Engineer. He came to Canada in 1954 and lived in Montreal for 18 years before moving to Toronto. He worked for most of his life in a mix of journalism and corporate communications. He is now retired and lives in Huntsville, Ontario. Over the years he has written one novel and three books of poetry; many poems have appeared in anthologies, including two in Muskoka. He is interested in ideas and feelings and expresses them through the creative use of language.

Brenda Peddigrew is a poet, nature essayist and photographer. She is also an international facilitator and teaches facilitation to a variety of groups. Her most recently published work is *When the Bones Find Their Singing Place*. poems, published by Palabras Press. Two other books are in process of publication: *Soulwinds: poems of transformation* and *Finding the Line: essays of the Algonquin Highlands*. Brenda lives on the edge of the Little Kennisis River in Halls Lake.

Margot Roberts is a writer, wild life enthusiast and photographer. At retirement, she moved to Haliburton. *As Much as Me*, her first novel, was published in 2005; she's working on her second. She belongs to the Algonquin Resonance Writers' Circle, where she began writing short stories, often motivated by kayaking or photographing wild life. Margot's other passion is singing with Outloud Womyn's Voices, which is currently working on Carolyn McDade's Earth Charter music. For twenty-two years Margot has volunteered with Birds Canada's Canadian Lakes Loon Survey. She travels with a laptop, a camera and binoculars.

Elizabeth Schott has a doctorate in Art History from UC Berkeley and taught art history and writing for 12 years at Berkeley, USC, and UCSB. She has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to the Netherlands, as well as a Mellon Fellowship. She has also won a SBWC fellowship through the Community of Voices Poetry Contest. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in numerous literary magazines including *Mindfulness Bell*, *South Carolina Review*, *The Handmaiden*, *Illuminations* and the anthology *Mourning Sickness*. She works as a Poet in the Schools and writes for the *Santa Barbara Independent*.

Irene Sedeora is a published writer of poetry and short fiction. Her credits include *The Writer*, *Ampersand*, and *Working Hard for the Money*, an anthology by Bottom Dog Press. She lives in Morton, Illinois.

Kay Sexton: As well as writing for the UK's premier sustainability journal, *Green Futures*, Pushcart-nominated Kay Sexton has recently completed *Green Thought in an Urban Shade*, a collaboration with the painter Fion Gunn to explore and celebrate the parks and urban spaces of four cities in words and images. *Green Thought* was given residencies and exhibitions in London, Dublin and Beijing and stories from the project have been published around the world. Kay blogs about writing fiction at <http://writingneuroses.blogspot.com/> and has a regular column at www.moondance.org.

Marvella Smith was orphaned at a young age and raised in the Nova Scotia home of her grandparents, where she developed a strong sense of family and never tired of the people who visited her childhood home. More often than not, Saturday night drew to a close after the telling of tall tales and hair-raising ghost stories. Today, Marvella lives with her husband in the area of Halls Lake. She is extremely passionate about her sons, their families, quilting, writing and delights in adding to her many collections...marbles, cobalt blue glass, antique furniture, and any item that is sea related.

Claire Sylvan has been writing poetry since childhood, mostly as a way to cope with the vast and deep emotions that arise and stream through her, the aching beauty and delight of It All. She has had the privilege to live for 30 years in Haliburton County, where the natural world offers its presence and lessons in myriad forms every day, and where the human community offers the simple gifts of understanding, determination, and compassion.

Lynn Tait lives in Sarnia, Ontario. Her work has appeared in various journals including *Windsor Review*, *Lichen*, *Contemporary Verse 2*, *Carousel*, *Quills*, and published a chapbook titled *Breaking Away* in 2003. She is also an amateur photographer. When not crawling through the neighbours' gardens, she is traipsing around Lambton County's fields, forests and nature trails photographing the local flora and fauna.

Frank Talaber is a former member of the Langley Chapters Writers' Group and Edmonton's Writers of the Lost Ink. He calls himself a writer by soul and auto technician by day job. With five short stories published, two stories recently short-listed in competitions, and a novel finishing runner-up in this year's Canadian Literary Aid Contest, he knows he came here during this lifetime to be a writer. At forty-eight, blessed with two children, two loopy cats and a bonkers-mad English wife, he's working on his fourth novel. "I love getting up early in the morning and writing. It's just between me, the pencil and my imagination then."

John Unrau hails from the prairies. He holds a doctorate from Oxford, which he attended as a Rhodes Scholar. He has published two books on architecture, one on a prairie watercolourist, and a volume of poems, *Iced Water* (Salmon poetry, Ireland, 2000). From 1969 until moving to Minden in 2005, he was a professor at York University.

Rick Whitteker: I have always felt a kinship with the written word. However, when I became the editor of *Wolves*, my awareness of good writing took a leap forward. By taking some local writing courses, I gained further confidence. I find it most stimulating to write about the outdoors, environmental issues, unique people and travel experiences. On occasion, the quiriness of everyday life stimulates me to write and I seek out meaning from simple events. In the future, I would like to write creative stories or, perhaps, just write information, essay and journalism pieces more creatively.

Emma West was born on December 12, 1990. She grew up in Waterdown, Ontario. When she was 13 her parents separated and she relocated with her dad to Carlisle. She has two siblings: an older brother Ben, who is 19 and a younger sister Jessica, who is 11. She currently

attends Waterdown District High School and is in grade 11. She hopes to go to University and get a degree in English and become either a writer or a teacher (or both) after graduating from high school.

Lorraine O'Donnell Williams is a book author and freelancer born in Toronto's Beach area. She specializes in short stories and travel writing. Her hobby is singing jazz, and spending her summers in the family cottage country north of Huntsville Ontario with her husband and five children and their families. She is a member of the Writers Union of Canada and The Society of American Travel Writers. She currently has her memoirs of growing up at the Beach in the hands of three publishers and is awaiting word with anticipation!