

Verse of Ages Brings Poets Young and Old Together

Our annual Verse of Ages, held on April 13 at Taborspace, was both well attended and well received. Local poets from every decade read their verse aloud to the delight of the OWC members and friends in attendance.



Top row (l to r):

*Sophia Mautz, Armin Tolentino,
Neil Aitken, Heather Jane,
Rosanne Parry.*

Bottom row (l to r):

*Vargus Pike, D'Norgia Price,
Paulann Petersen, Marilyn McDonald,
Annette White-Parks.*



colonygram

is Going Electronic

Receiving this month's Colonygram as a PDF in an email is only the beginning. By summer's end, we hope to launch a whole new Colonygram in the form of three regularly updated blogs on the OWC website.

What will stay the same?

- **News** of upcoming events, as well as reports of past events will still be covered and reported to you.
- **Features** such as member articles about why we write, tips on writing craft, paths to publishing, and occasional fiction or poetry will still be published.
- **Member News** regarding books published, awards, readings, and other events will still be updated on a regular basis.
- We will publish a PDF version, which you may or may not print out at home for yourself, twice more this year. Publication dates are August 3 and November 16.

What will be different?

- Beginning in 2017, instead of your news coming to you, you will go to it. It is no harder to check the website than to check your email. We will train you by keeping a predictable schedule of updates so you will know when to look for new articles.

* Some things that used to be found in Colonygram, such as Colonyhouse availability, the OWC Calendar, the list of Board Members, and general information about Oregon Writer's Colony, will have their own place on the website.

Why We Write

By Dell Isham

We write because we have ideas in our brain that deserve to be released from their confinement.

We write to inform, entertain, and create.

We write because we recognize that our lives are short and there is a part of us that can live for generations beyond us if we write it down. Our lives have meaning beyond us.

Writing gives us pleasure, an opportunity to understand ourselves, and others.

Writing is a lonely pursuit. Maybe we write because we are bashful egotists. We know we are important but too timid to say it out loud.

Writing offers little hope of great monetary gain.

Like the failed prizefighter late in life who mumbles, "I could have been a contender." But we are optimists too. We believe in ourselves.

We write because we are inspired.

Writers write. It is who we are.

Dell Isham is a former Oregon Senate Majority Leader. His latest novel is Rock Springs Revenge, available at Bob's Beach Books in Lincoln City, Amazon Books, Kindle, and many other outlets.