

CONTRIBUTORS

COLLEEN ABEL is the author of *Housewifery*, a chapbook (dancing girl press, 2013). She is a former Diane Middlebrook Poetry Fellow, and her work has appeared in numerous venues, including *The Southern Review*, *Colorado Review*, *Mid-American Review*, *West Branch*, *Pleiades*, *Cincinnati Review*, and elsewhere. She lives in Wisconsin.

JAMES BALLOWE, an FWJ founding editor, is Distinguished Professor of English Emeritus at Bradley University. His *A Man of Salt and Trees: The Life of Joy Morton* was published in 2009. In 2010, he edited the anthology *Christmas in Illinois*. He has also published a book of poetry, a history of The Morton Arboretum, an edition of George Santayana's essays, an edition of Welsh poetry with Tony Curtis and Raymond Garlick, and more than one hundred essays, poems, and reviews. He is currently working on a book of essays and a book of poetry. This is his eleventh interview of an Illinois poet for FWJ. Learn more about him at:

www.bradley.edu/academic/departments/english/contests/essay/ballowe.dot.

JENNA BAZZELL has an MFA from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She holds three honorable mentions for her poems from the Academy of American Poets and has been published in *Crab Orchard Review*, *Cream City Review*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Passages North*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Southern Indiana Review*, and *Sou'wester*.

BOB BLEDSOE was born and raised in Southern California. His fiction has appeared in *Ploughshares* and has been anthologized in *The Habit of Art: Best Stories from the Indiana University Fiction Workshop*. He is the director of the Indiana University Writers' Conference and a Senior Lecturer in the English Department at Indiana University, Bloomington.

MARK BRAZAITIS is the author of six books of fiction, including *The River of Lost Voices: Stories from Guatemala*, winner of the 1998 Iowa Short Fiction Award, and *The Incurables: Stories*, winner of the 2012 Richard Sullivan Prize and the 2013 Devil's Kitchen Reading Award in Prose. His latest book, *Truth Poker: Stories*, won the 2014 Autumn House Press Fiction Competition.



BRIAN CLIFTON lives in Kansas City, Missouri. He coedits the literary magazine *Bear Review*. His work can be found in *The Denver Quarterly*, *Cutbank*, *The Pinch*, and other magazines.

KYLE DACUYAN is currently completing his MFA in Poetry at Emerson College, where he also teaches in the First Year Writing Program and serves as the Poetry Editor of *Redivider*. He is the recipient of a Davidson Fellowship in Literature and an MFA scholarship from the Sewanee Writers' Conference. Recent work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Crab Orchard Review*, *RHINO*, *DIALOGIST*, and *The Volta*, among other places.

STEVE DE JARNATT toiled in Hollywood for many years. The cult feature *Miracle Mile* is among his credits. His fiction has appeared in *Santa Monica Review*, *Quiddity*, *Joyland*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Missouri Review* (Prose Audio Contest winner), *New England Review*, *New Stories from the Midwest 2013*, and *The Best American Short Stories 2009*. He was a Fiction Scholar at Sewanee Writer's Conference 2012 and Bread Loaf Writer's Conference 2013.

ANGIE ESTES is the author of five collections of poetry, most recently *Enchantée*. Her previous book, *Tryst*, was a finalist for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize. Her awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Pushcart Prize, an NEA Fellowship, and the Alice Fay di Castagnola Prize from the Poetry Society of America.

SOHRAB HOMI FRACIS won the Iowa Short Fiction Award for *Ticket to Minto: Stories of India and America* (University of Iowa Press). "The Summer of the Strike" is the fourth published excerpt from a novel, *Go Home*. He worked on it as an artist in residence at Escape To Create and Yaddo.

VIEVEE FRANCIS is the author of *Blue-Tail Fly* and *Horse in the Dark*. Her third book, *Forest Primeval*, is slated for release in 2015. Her work has appeared in numerous venues including *Poetry*, *Best American Poetry*, and *Angles of Ascent: A Norton Anthology of Contemporary African American Poetry*.

STEVE FRAZIER became interested in photography while living in the San Francisco Bay Area a few years ago. While primarily a landscape and sunset photographer, he also shoots night scenes and portraits. He is a Getty Images contributor and a member of Martin Bailey's landscape photography cohort in The Arcanum. Professionally, he is a senior technology leader in higher education who has served at



colleges and universities in six states. He and his wife now live in rural western Illinois. His website is stevefrazierphotography.com.

CAL FREEMAN was born and raised in Detroit. His poems have appeared in many journals, including *Commonweal*, *The Journal*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, and *Drunken Boat*. He currently lives in Dearborn, Michigan, and teaches at Oakland University. His first collection, *Brother of Leaving*, is forthcoming from Antonin Artaud Publications.

KARIE FRIEDMAN holds an MFA from New England College and was for many years the assistant editor of *Reviews of Modern Physics*. Her poems have appeared in *Atlanta Review*, *Barrow Street*, *Indian River Review*, *The Naugatuck River Review*, and *Off the Coast*, as well as in the 2013 anthology *Best Indie Lit New England*. A native of Los Angeles, she now lives in rural Maine.

AMANDA GAHLER calls the tiny town of Cologne, Minnesota, home. You'll find her cruising around in her dream car — a snap orange Volkswagen Beetle. She spends her mornings whipping up coffee as a barista, her days as a photographer, and her nights as a puppy and kitty momma to Penny the coonhound and Gypsy the cat. Amanda and her affectionately named camera Gertrude enjoy the adventurous aspects and smiles of a photography career together.

MARCENE GANDOLFO's debut book, *Angles of Departure* (Cherry Grove Collections, February 2014), is a collection of poems that explores motherhood, grief, compassion, and healing. Last year the book was a finalist for the Melissa Lanitis Gregory Poetry Prize and the Patricia Bibby First Book Award, as well as a semi-finalist for the Washington Prize. Her poems have been published widely in literary journals, including *Poet Lore*, *Bellingham Review*, *Bayou*, *DMQ Review*, and *Paterson Literary Review*. She has taught writing and literature at several northern California colleges and lives in Elk Grove, California. For more information about Marcene and her work, visit her website at www.marcenegandolfo.com.

TAYLOR GARCÍA's fiction has appeared in *The Chagrin River Review* and will appear in the forthcoming edition of *Pearl Magazine*. He is also a contributor of personal essays at the *Good Men Project*. He is a graduate of Pacific University Oregon's Masters in Writing program. He lives in Southern California with his family.



RACHEL HALL has received honors and awards from publications such as *Glimmer Train*, *Lilith*, and *New Letters*, as well as from the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, the Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts, Ragdale Foundation, and Ox-Bow School of the Arts. "Generations" is from her novel-in-stories, *Heirlooms*, which is based on family history. Other portions of the novel have been published in *Gettysburg Review*, *Water-Stone*, and *Bellingham Review*. She directs the creative writing program at the State University of New York at Geneseo and holds the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

JOHN HALLWAS is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Western Illinois University. A literary scholar, historian, and archivist, he has written or edited more than two-dozen books related to the Midwest, including such titles as *Cultures in Conflict*, *The Bootlegger*, *Keokuk and the Great Dam*, and *Dime Novel Desperadoes*. The last of those won the 2009 Midland Award for "Best Biography." He has also written scores of articles, mostly on Midwestern writers. His special focus as a writer and scholar is nonfiction, and he has spoken at well over one hundred colleges and communities in the Midwest.

NANCY A. JONES is a founding member of the Emiquon Corps of Discovery, organized in 2005, and is trained to document the restoration of a large Nature Conservancy project near Havana, Illinois, known as the Emiquon Preserve. She has kept a journal of photographs, drawings, and writings, recording the changes of the flood plain, its shallow lakes, and the flora and fauna for the past nine years. Her photographs in this issue of *Fifth Wednesday Journal* are part of that record.

KEN KASHIAN has been a professional photographer for thirty-five years. He is Director of Photographic Services for the Illinois Farm Bureau. Exhibitions of his work include *DETAILS, Architectural Details of Downtown Bloomington and its Surrounding Areas*; *The Mackinaw River Project*; and *In The Eye of the Hurricane* (rural damage in Louisiana caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita). He has published a book, *Along The Mackinaw River*, which pairs some of his photographs with poems from thirteen poets.

KATHLEEN KIRK is the author of six poetry chapbooks, most recently *Interior Sculpture* (dancing girl press, 2014) and *ABCs of Women's Work* (forthcoming from Red Bird in 2015). Her work has appeared previously in *Fifth Wednesday Journal*, as well as *After Hours*, *Eclectica*, *Museum of Americana*, *Nimrod*, and elsewhere. A



past associate editor of Poetry East and co-editor of *RHINO*, she is currently the poetry editor for *Escape Into Life*.

LIZA KLEINMAN is a freelance writer who lives in Portland, Maine. Her fiction has appeared in several magazines, including *Crossborder*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, and *Portland Magazine*, as well as in the anthology *Writes of Passage: Coming of Age Stories and Memoirs from the Hudson Review*. Her first novel, *Azalea, Unschooled*, was recently published by Islandport Press.

SHARON E. KNIGHT is a landscape photographer who makes her living as an academic administrator in western Illinois. She recently had an image on exhibit at the Neville Public Museum in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Her work can be seen at www.sunearthsky.com.

MARIA KUZNETSOVA has a BA in English from Duke University and an MA in Creative Writing from University of California, Davis. Her work appears in *The Iowa Review*, *New Ohio Review*, *The Summerset Review*, *The Southeast Review*, and elsewhere. She lives and writes in Oakland, California.

KRISTIN LATOUR's first full-length collection, *What Will Keep Me Alive*, is forthcoming in 2015 from Sundress Publications. Her poetry has also appeared in *Cider Press Review*, *Escape Into Life*, *Massachusetts Review*, and the anthology *Obsession: Sestinas in the 21st Century*. She teaches at Joliet Junior College and lives in Aurora, Illinois, with her writer husband, a lovebird, and two dogitos. Readers can find more information at www.kristinlatour.com.

ROBERTO LOIEDERMAN has been a merchant seaman, TV scriptwriter, kibbutz cook, English teacher, and journalist. He's had more than one hundred articles published in *Penthouse*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Jewish Journal*, and other publications. He is coauthor (with Richard Linnett) of *The Eagle Mutiny* (Naval Institute Press, 2001), a nonfiction account of the only armed shipboard mutiny on a United States vessel in modern times.

SARAH PRESSMAN LOVINGER, a community health center physician, lives in Evanston, Illinois with her husband and daughter.

BOB MARTIN's early years in the newspaper business required many hours both taking photographs and in the dark room. Through this experience he developed an appreciation for black and white



photography. His interest in flying was fueled in part by the fact that it would provide him an aerial perspective for taking pictures.

JORY MICKELSON was born and raised in Montana. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Florida Review*, *CutBank Literary Journal*, *The Carolina Quarterly*, *Superstition Review*, *The Collagist*, *The Los Angeles Review*, *The Adirondack Review*, and other journals. He received an Academy of American Poets' Prize in 2011 and was a 2013 Lambda Literary Fellow in Poetry. He served as the 2014 Guest Poetry Editor for *Codex Journal*. You can follow him on Twitter @poetryphone.

DAVID MOOLTEN is a physician who lives, writes, and practices in Philadelphia. His most recent book, *Primitive Mood*, won the T.S. Eliot Prize from Truman State University Press and was published in 2009.

MATT MORTON is the winner of the *Sycamore Review* 2014 Wabash Prize for Poetry. He has been a finalist for a Ruth Lilly Fellowship and a finalist in the Narrative, 30 Below Story and Poetry Contest, and his poems appear or are forthcoming in *Gulf Coast*, *Indiana Review*, *The Paris-American*, *West Branch*, and elsewhere. Originally from Rockwall, Texas, he is a Lecturer in the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University.

AMY NEWMAN's *On This Day In Poetry History* is forthcoming from Persea Books in 2015. Her other books include *Order, or Disorder* (Cleveland State University Poetry Center, 1995), *Camera Lyrica* (Alice James Books, 1999), *fall* (Wesleyan University Press, 2004), and *Dear Editor* (Persea Books, 2011). Her poems and essays have appeared in such journals as *The Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Hotel Amerika*, *The Georgia Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, and *Colorado Review*, as well as a number of anthologies. She teaches at Northern Illinois University.

LADAN OSMAN has received fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center, Cave Canem, and the Michener Center for Writers. Her work has appeared in *Narrative Magazine*, *Prairie Schooner*, *RHINO*, and *Vinyl Poetry*. Her chapbook, "Ordinary Heaven," appears in *Seven New Generation African Poets* (Slapering Hol Press, 2014). Winner of the Sillerman First Book Prize, *The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony* will be published by University of Nebraska Press and Amalion Press in 2015. She teaches in Chicago.



SHANA RITTER's chapbook, *Stairs of Separation*, is available from Finishing Line Press. Her poetry has appeared in numerous magazines and she is pleased to have her first short story published in *Fifth Wednesday Journal*. She is currently at work on a historical novel and a new collection of poetry. A three-time recipient of the Indiana Individual Artist Grant, she keeps a weekly blog at shanaritter.wordpress.com.

MAXINE ROSALER's fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Southern Review*, *New York Press*, *Able Muse*, *Glimmer Train*, *The South Carolina Review*, and other literary magazines. She is the recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts Fiction Fellowship and a story was cited in *The Best American Short Stories*. "The Lost Boy" is part of a collection of stories she wrote about the mothers of autistic children.

NICOLE SIMONSEN's first published story appeared in the November 2013 issue of *Talking Writing*. Since then, her work has appeared in multiple publications, including *SmokeLong Quarterly*, *Full Grown People*, and *Bartleby Snopes*. When she is not writing or taking care of her children, she teaches English at a public high school in Sacramento, California. The town of Locke, about forty minutes from her home, is a favorite getaway.

LOUIS STAEBLE lives in Bowling Green, Ohio. His photographs have appeared in *Agave*, *Blinders Journal*, *Digital Papercut*, *Driftwood*, *Four Ties Literary Review*, *Gravel*, *Iron Gall*, *Microfiction Monday*, *On The Rusk*, *Paper Tape Magazine*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, *Up The Staircase Quarterly*, and *Your Impossible Voice*. His web page can be viewed at staeblestudioa.weebly.com.

REBECCA THOMAS's work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Prairie Schooner*, *Hunger Mountain*, *Gulf Stream*, and *Graze Magazine*. She received her MFA from West Virginia University. Originally from Orange County, California, she now teaches writing in Morgantown, West Virginia.

PATRICK VENTURELLA is a freelance writer and poet living in Cincinnati, Ohio. His work has previously appeared in several publications including *The Sheepshead Review*, *The Boiler Review*, and *Petrichor Machine*.



NICHOLAS WONG's *Crevasse* will be published by Kaya Press in spring 2015. He was a finalist of New Letters Poetry Award, Wabash Prize for Poetry, and, recently, the poetry contests of *Tupelo Quarterly* and *Better: Culture and Lit*. New work is forthcoming in *Barn Owl Review*, *Grist*, *Los Angeles Review*, *Salamander*, and *Southern Humanities Review*. Based in Hong Kong, he is an assistant poetry editor for *Drunken Boat*.

ROLF YNGVE is a retired US Navy captain. His short fiction has appeared in a number of journals since 1975. Recent work is associated with *Glimmer Train*, *Indiana Review*, *Kenyon Review*, and others. He was a 2012 MacDowell Fellow, a 2013 Bakeless Bread Loaf Camargo Residency Fellow, and holds an MFA from the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. He surfs, writes, consults, and lives in Coronado, California.

DAVID ZALAZNIK, an Iowa native, has been a photojournalist for over twenty-five years with an interest in exploring the Midwest landscape, focusing on the beauty that is often unseen at first glance. He lives and works in central Illinois.

