

## Activities 2014 – Friends of Lorine Niedecker

Mission – Dedicated to preserving and expanding the legacy of Lorine Niedecker

### “Solitary Plover” Newsletter Published

- Winter issue #18, Poetry Editor Tom Montag
  - Summer issue #19, Poetry Editor CX Dillhunt
- Circulation – email 425, snail mail 244  
All issue can be found on the Web site.

### Web Initiatives

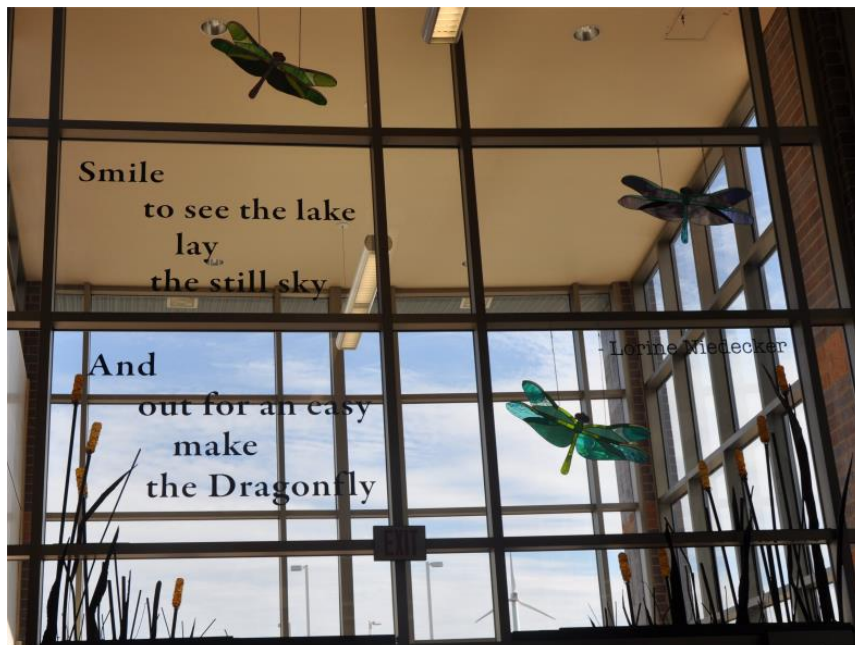
- The Web continues to be Lorine’s link to the world. There were approx. 83,670 unique visitors to the Niedecker Web site this year. Lorine currently has 1,142 Facebook Friends, and increase of 11% over last year.
- A new link to “Field Guide to the Birds of Lorine Niedecker’s Collected Works” by Susan Tichy was added to the site. This list references all the birds included in Lorine’s poems.

### Educational Initiatives

- None but not for lack of trying. More attempts in 2015.

### Public Art Projects

The FOLN have embarked on a project to install a Lorine Niedecker poem in every school in Fort Atkinson. Early this year Amy Lutzke contacted Dr. Jeff Zaspel, Superintendent of the Fort School District who enthusiastically embraced this project. He suggested starting with the High School. Amy met with Art teacher, Angie Szabo to review wall words projects that include Lorine’s poetry. The first project is an installation at the front entrance. The dedication was on December 14<sup>th</sup>. This initiative will continue.



- There have been two meetings with Beloit College to explore a public art project that will honor Lorine Niedecker on the campus.
- Margot Peters coordinated two Niedecker poems to be included in a sidewalk poetry project in Lake Mills Wisconsin.

### Regular Events

- **Third Thursday Poets**  
January 8 - Christina Norcross  
February 20 – canceled due to snow  
March 20 – Jean Preston  
April 17 – Marilyn Taylor  
May – Wendy Vardaman and Shoshauna Shy  
June 19 – Geoff Collins
- **Solitary Plovers Study Group**  
January 18 – Pat Moran  
April 12 – Dorothy Kent  
June 28 – Margot Peters  
August 23 – Chuck Stebleton  
November 8 – Karla Maternach

Note: Third Thursday Poets had a successful run. After reviewing the three year project we noted declining attendance and decided to take a break.

- **Board Meetings**  
\* April 12  
\* June 28  
\* August 28 - Monograph committee meeting  
\* November 8

- **Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry Festival**

The sixth Festival was held on October 10 and 11. Nineteen poets and authors made presentations focused on the theme “the short poem.” Open mics, workshops and a final presentation “Increase Lapham” and how he influenced Niedecker was included.

An art and poetry collaborative exhibition was hosted by the library for two weeks. Mary Gates was honored with a memorial event and a broadside created by Chuck Stebelton.

Attendance was the highest to date.

### Additional Activities

- A wood carving of a Piping Plover was commissioned for the second anniversary of the Solitary Plovers. Jerry Schoen of Whitewater was the artist and donated it to the FOLN collection.
- FOLN were represented at the UW Madison Library - Special Collection’s reception for acquisition of Woodland Pattern archives.
- Spring clean up on Blackhawk Island
- Margot Peters interviewed on Wisconsin Public Radio celebrating Lorine’s birthday. Margaret Schroeder wrote a Lorine birthday poem-to-the-editor, published in the Daily Union.
- \$55 donation to the Ridges Sanctuary Capital Fund from the Friends of Lorine Niedecker so FOLN would be included in the funder list. (Donation-anonymous)
- Letters of support for Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets grant application to the Wisconsin Humanities Council to support the WFOP conference. A Niedecker presentation will be made in June 2015.

- Arrangements are in progress with the Wisconsin State Historical Society and the Jefferson County Preservation Commission to nominate the Lorine Niedecker Cabin to the National Historic Registry. The WSHS approved the property for nomination, Jefferson County will hire an agency to complete the nomination.
- Chuck Stebelton coordinated a bird walk in Fort Atkinson at Dorothy Carnes Park and Blackhawk Island with visiting poet Merrill Gilfillan. Good attendance on a beautiful day.
- A Monograph Committee has been created and will launch a biannual monograph dedicated to further understanding Lorine Niedecker. These will be accessible essays that will eventually be published.
- Work has begun on a Lorine Niedecker genealogy by Karen O'Connor, former curator at the Hoard Historical Museum.
- List created of books read/referenced by Lorine, not in her library, culled from Cid Corman and Louis Zukofsky letters. Thanks to Nancy Shea.

### Also Worth Noting

- Mary Gates passed on January 16. Family requested Lorine's poetry at her funeral. The Family donated \$ 460 to the Friends of Lorine Niedecker.

### Acquisitions

- Piping Plover, donated by artist, bird carver Jerry Schoen, Whitewater. (Won second prize in the Mary hoard Art Show.)
- French volume CCP (cahier critique de poesie) 2013 (26, 2012/2)  
Translated to French, Corman and Zukofsky letter, and essays.
- Mary Gates & Gates Family donation  
Little Enough (Haiku) versions by CID Corman  
A Cooking Book (Longhouse Publishing)  
Niedecker by Kristine Thatcher  
New Goose (2002)  
Lorine Niedecker: Solitary Plover by Phyllis Walsh  
Harpichord & Salt Fish by Lorine Niedecker (1991)  
America's Greatest Unknown Poet by John Lehman  
Between Your House and Mine Letters of LN to CID Corman by Lisa Pater Franda  
Rosebud #14,15,16
- Nancy Shaw's Poetry Festival paper "Books Read by Lorine Mentioned in Cid Corman Letters.
- Article, Door County Living, Late Summer, Vol 12, Issue 2 "Wintergreen Ridge" By Alisa Ehurke (About the Baileys Harbor Mural)
- Blog Entry, Issac's Untidy Hut, The Poetry Blog for Lilliput Review, Small Press Friday. Features "Blues Chicory."
- Donated by CX Dillhunt, Editor of Hummingbird Press, a complete collection of "Hummingbird Magazine of the Short Poem." 1990 – to present. We will continue to keep this collection current. This small press chapbook was started by Phyllis Walsh, a librarian who worked with Lorine at the Dwight Foster Public Library.
- BroadSides
  - Chuck Stebelton for Mary Gates
  - Margaret Bergland poems by Increase Lapham