

Activities 2019 – Friends of Lorine Niedecker, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin
Mission – Dedicated to preserving and expanding the legacy of Lorine Niedecker.

“Solitary Plover” Newsletter Published

- Winter issue #29
- Summer issue #30

Circulation – email subscribers 587 (17% increase), snail mail 245 (16% increase)

All issues can be found on the Web site. www.lorineniedecker.org

Monograph Published

- The fourth in the “What Region” series is “Lorine Niedecker in Spain” by Natalia Carbajosa

Educational Initiatives

- The Solitary Plover Study Group met on June 22 and October 19.
- April 4, Poetry Month Poetry Reading at Café Carpe, in partnership with the Dwight Foster Public Library hosted Lewis V Clark III author of “How To Be An Indian In The 21st Century.”
- Tom Montag included poems by Lorine Niedecker for discussion in his "Writing the Luminous Poem" classes taught at The Mill: A Place for Writers in Appleton, Wisconsin.
- Max McKenna--a teaching assistant for ModPo - a free and open online course on American poetry--taught a monthlong "mini-course" on Lorine Niedecker through ModPo's Coursera site. It included discussions of "Mourning Dove," "My Friend Tree," "Paeon to Place," and other poems.
- Max McKenna hosted a gathering on Blackhawk Island. He recorded a 15 minute segment at Lorine’s examining the poem ‘Foreclosure.’ It is posted as part of the Coursera ModPo blogg.
- The 4th Grade and High School Fort Atkinson school curriculum includes a segment on poetry and includes Lorine Niedecker. An element of this study takes place at the Hoard Museum.

Web Initiatives

- The Web continues to be Lorine’s link to the world. We transferred to a new platform this year. Measurements will be available next year.
- Lorine currently has 1,400 Facebook Friends, a slight increase over last year.

Public Art Projects

- Rockwell Elementary School completed a mural including “bird signing, ringing yellow green.”

Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry Festival

This year the Festival was comprised three separate events.

- “Write the Walk” An observational writers workshop on Black Hawk Island Road, taught by Richard Meier and Chuck Stebelton. Saturday, May 11.
- “Writing at Lorine’s” Writers workshop at Lorine’s Cabin taught by Lisa Fishman. Saturday, September 28
- FOLN Open Mic at Café Carpe, Friday, October 1. Moderator Amy Lutzke

Board Meetings

- The board met on Saturday, September 28 at the Dwight Foster Public Library. Guest presenter, Max McKenna, presented his experience teaching an on-line Niedecker course through Coursera.

Presentations and Activities

- Birthday Party for Lorine Niedecker, May 11 at the Hoard Historical Museum, included cake and a Scavenger Hunt.
- Re-printed 5x5 chapbooks “Along the River,” our fourth printing. (1,500)
- Met with David Pavelich, Director, Library Special Collections, University of Wisconsin – Madison to discuss collections management and access.
- Karl Gartung gave a poetry reading and talk about LN’s Lake Superior poem in conjunction with the opening of artist Kathy Kuehn’s exhibit of embroidered wall hangings of LN poems at the Passages Bookshop in Portland, Oregon on July 20.
- Purchased and mounted a plaque for the designation of the cabin to State and National Historic Registries. Also a plaque for the poem, “My friend tree” was placed to left of front door. (pictures below)
- Presentation made to the Jefferson County Preservation Committee regarding the plaque and a property update.
- Margot Peters spoke to Daughters of the American Revolution on September 12.
- Margot Peters and Ann Engelman spoke to the Vantage group at the Madison Club on September 19.
- Karl Gartung in partnership with novelist and biographer, Martha Berglund and wildlife naturalist and cultural ecologist Jim Uhrinak lead a tour of the Penokee Hills and adjacent Lake Superior shoreline for the Milwaukee Audubon Society, September 30 to October 3. Martha and Karl led a discussion of LN’s poetry on September 30. Karl gave a talk about LN’s Lake Superior poem with emphasis on the Sand Lake poem that closes the sequence on October 1.
- Art exhibit at the Able Contemporary Gallery, Stoughton, Wisconsin.
“Of Water, Air and Poetry: Perspectives en Plein Air” by Diane Washa”
Titles of the paintings are lines from Niedecker poetry. November/December.
Chapbooks, bookmarks and visitor information was made available during the run of the show. A Niedecker poetry reading and artist talk event was held in the gallery on December 15.
- Amy Lutzke and Ann Engelman have undertaken a project to organize the ephemeral material connected to Lorine and the Friends organization with the goal of creating finding aids for interested researchers.

Acquisitions

- Able Contemporary Gallery guide to the exhibit, “Of Water, Air and Poetry: Perspectives en Plein Air by Diane Washa” November, Stoughton, Wisconsin
- “Poetics and Praxis ‘After’ Objectivism” edited by W. Scott Howard and Broc Rossell Contemporary North American Poetry Series, University of Iowa Press, 2018

Plaque for designation to the Registry of National and State Historical Places



Additional small plaque with a poem was placed to the left of the front door. The company was able to include her signature.

