

Bios of the Poets

Ace Boggess graduated from Marshall University and received his law degree from West Virginia University. His published poetry includes: *The Prisoners* (Brick Road Press, 2014) and *The Beautiful Girl Whose Wish Was Not Fulfilled* (highwire press, 2003). After graduation from law school, Boggess devoted himself to literary pursuits and did not under-take the practice of law.

Lee Warner Brooks (A.B., University of Michigan; M.A., University of Pennsylvania; J.D., University of Michigan Law School) began writing sonnets in 2004 and has also written several novels. Brooks' sonnets have appeared in *The Iowa Review*, *Passager*, *Light*, *Poetry in Performance*, and the on-line *Bear River Review*. A collection of sonnets, *Novlets*, was published by the *Legal Studies Forum* in 2009. He has been a Yellow Cab driver in Ann Arbor, an editor and writer for publishers in Pennsylvania and Maryland, and a partner in the litigation department of the law firm of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn in Detroit, Michigan. Brooks now teaches writing at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

James Clarke was born in Peterborough, Ontario, and attended McGill University and Osgoode Hall. He practiced law in Cobourg, Ontario, before his appointment to the Bench in 1983 serving as judge of the Superior Court of Ontario. Clarke, now retired, resides in Guelph, in southwestern Ontario. He is the author of eight collections of poetry: *Silver Mercies* (Exile Editions, 1997), *The Raggedy Parade* (Exile Editions, 1998), *The Ancient Pedigree of Plums* (Exile Editions, 1999), *The Way Everyone Is Inside* (Exile Editions, 2000), *Flying Home Through the Dark* (Exile Editions, 2001), *How to Bribe a Judge: Poems from the Bench* (Exile Editions, 2002), *Forced Passage: A Short History of Hanging* (Exile Editions, 2005), and *Dreamworks: New and Selected Poems* (Exile Editions, 2008). He is also the author of three memoirs: *The Kid from Simcoe Street* (Exile Editions, 2012), *A Mourner's Kaddish: Suicide and the Rediscovery of Hope* (Novalis, 2006), and *L'Arche Journal: A Family's Experience in Jean Vanier's Community* (Griffin House, 1973). The *Legal Studies Forum* has published five collections of Clarke's poetry: *The Juried Heart* (2012); *All the Broken Places* (2013); *Designated Dreamer* (2014); *Reluctant Witness* (2015); *Fugitive Light* (2015). A major collection of Clarke's poems, *The Juried Heart*, was published by Pleasure Boat Studio in 2015 and republished in Canada by Exile Editions in 2017 under the title, *Oblique Verdicts*.

James McKenna served as a Maine Assistant Attorney General from 1979 to 2012 and in 2010 was elected to the American Law Institute. McKenna is the author of a collection of poetry titled, *The Common Law* (Moon Pie Press, 2012).

Charles Dowling Williams, a graduate of Duke University and the University of Kentucky College of Law, practices law in Munfordville, Kentucky. His poetry—a lifelong pursuit—touches upon caves, nature, and tobacco culture, as well as light verse about his days in law school. His first collection of poetry, *Asparagus Seems Deaf*, was published by Harmony House Publishers in 2006. At West Wind Farm, Williams has undertaken conservation and forest ecosystem work that received recognition from the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, the American Forest Foundation, and the Arbor Day Foundation. In 2011 he was nominated for National Tree Farmer of the Year. In 2016, the *Legal Studies Forum* published a collection of Williams' haiku titled *Seasons at West Wind Farm*.