

# ***The Loyalhanna Review***



**2009**

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## From the Editor

Since the last issue of this literary magazine appeared, Ligonier Valley Writers has had an eventful year. Our website was hijacked and held for ransom. Who would have known such a thing was possible? Recovery was rocky and time consuming but ultimately successful. Winners of our flash fiction contest read their stories at West Overton Museum and Barnes & Noble. We sponsored a successful mystery dinner theater as our major fundraiser, presented library workshops on character development, and provided poetry lessons for teachers and writers. From editor Cathi Gerhard Williams, we learned about submissions for and behind-the-scenes work at another local publication, the *Laurel Mountain Post*. We enjoyed fall picnics, holiday parties, and a limerick contest. Our Student Poetry Awards ceremony at Barnes & Noble, produced the largest ever crowd of students and their families. The student readings, certificates, and keepsake booklets of all the winning poems have become very popular. *The Review's* first publication party is a reception honoring authors and artists. This year's conference brings four multiple award winners to our community: Faith Adiele, Kirk Nessel, Ellen McGrath Smith, and Karen Williams. And the beat goes on. We hope you'll join us.

Ruth McDonald, Editor-in-Chief

### *Special Thanks to Our Friends and Supporters*

J.M. Abstract	Brendan Kelemen
Catherine Durkin Harper	Edward Kelemen
Greensburg Writers' Group	Lynn Kelemen
Topaz Butterfly Creations	Stephen Kelemen
Weavers Old Stand	Dave Long
Judith Gallagher	Joan McCann
Margaret Bondi	Ruth McDonald
Lyle Brunot	Donald Miller
Linda Ciletti	Barbara Miller
Jackie Dixon	Mary Ann Mogus
Gabi Nastuck	Nancy Ponko
Janice Dunn	Jennifer Rodkey
Rebecca Dunn	Ronald Shafer
Hallie Geary	Anita Staub
Sandi Hahn	

*Great Appreciation for The Loyalhanna Review  
Editorial Staff – Especially Judith Gallagher*

**Front Cover:** Diana Williams created "Azure Blue," the butterfly photo on the front cover, and another piece on page 11. The tiny Azure is also called Common Blue, but in this artist's photo, this beautiful gem is anything but common.

Diana Williams says, "I have been shooting photos of flowers and butterflies since I was old enough to earn my first Brownie camera selling seeds as a child. I have no training as a photographer, only an eye for what seems pleasing in form, color, and design. My perennials and rose garden provide nectar which draws the adult butterflies for digital capture."

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**Ion Wind** by *William Patterson*

**William Patterson**, a former English teacher, residing in Derry, says, “You might say I am the new kid on the block. I paint in oils and create fractal art.”

A fractal is a geometric pattern repeated at ever smaller scales to produce irregular shapes and surfaces that cannot be represented by classical geometry. They are used especially in computer modeling of irregular patterns and structures in nature. To create his own fractals, he pictures a black splotch, or sometimes many, and controls color using linear, square root, cube root, etc.

“I see art and beauty in almost everything. I have so many things in my head that I want to paint; I don’t know when I will get time to do them. I am also a member of the Beanery Writers’ Group and have been writing quite a lot lately.” (He also created “Cosmic Caterpillars” on p. 14.)

“We all dwell in a house of one room —the world with the glorious starry firmament for its roof — and are sailing the celestial spaces without leaving any track.”

— John Muir in *John of the Mountains*



**Butterfly Garden at the Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve** by *Patricia Dickun*