

November 14, 2018



Fisherpoets!

Days have finally grown short and rainy here. Time to fire up the stove and the FisherPoets Gathering planning machinery.

We hope you who've earned a living in the commercial fishing industry will join us and other kindred spirits here in Astoria, either again or for your first time, at the 22nd annual FisherPoets Gathering, the last weekend of February as always, to creatively celebrate some more the work we love mostly.

The 2019 FisherPoets Gathering starts Friday, February 22 and winds up Sunday February 24 around noon but, if you can make it to town by Thursday evening, join us then for our traditional no-host, pre-function dinner and open mic.

If you haven't been on the schedule before, it's important that you send us a sample of your stuff. Keep commercial fishing in mind and don't stray far from our working roots. If you've been strictly a prose writer, in the best spirit of the Gathering, have a go at a poem anyway. You'll never find a more empathetic audience and we don't want to change our name.

Plan on fifteen minutes at the mic on Friday and Saturday evenings both.

If you know people who may not write but who, with some encouragement, can tell a good story, let us know. We'll consider asking them to participate in Saturday's Story Circle.

If you've an idea for Saturday's workshops you'd like to present or see presented, let us know. We'll consider it.

Bring your chapbooks, cards, artwork, CDs and so forth. You can sell these, thanks to our volunteers, at no cost as always, at our FisherPoets Gathering Gearshack.

Those who've performed at previous FisherPoets Gatherings who haven't already done so, ought to climb aboard [In the Tote](#), our on-line anthology of fisherpoetry painstakingly curated by Pat Dixon. Reach him at [dixonphoto@comcast.net](mailto:dixonphoto@comcast.net).

Those of you in the commercial fishing community who are visual artists can anticipate a general call for submissions from graphic artist and FPG planner Jamie Boyd. She has ideas of publishing a fisherpoets' art book in the future. Spread the word among your commercial fishing friends. Reach Jamie at [azure100@icloud.com](mailto:azure100@icloud.com) to find out more.

The Astoria Riverwalk Inn (503.325.2013 or [www.astoriariverwalkinn.net](http://www.astoriariverwalkinn.net)) at the west mooring basin is offering \$70 rooms to fisherpoets and friends again this year. On-line use the code "fisher" or, by phone, simply ask the receptionist.

The Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce has plenty of other lodging information at [www.travelastoria.com](http://www.travelastoria.com). If you have special needs or requests, give us a shout. We'll see what we can do.

After we pay our bills, we'll divvy up the gate as always and send participants a modest travel stipend, graduated in consideration of those who travel farthest.

Let us know by the New Year if you're coming so we can build a happy schedule in a timely fashion. This has become a considerable challenge and we appreciate hearing from you sooner rather than later. We'll keep a running official list of confirmed participants at our FisherPoets Gathering website [www.fisherpoets.org](http://www.fisherpoets.org).

Check to see your name is there if you're coming. If you are and it's not, to avoid our terrific embarrassment at leaving you off the schedule, we need to know. Thanks.

More from here after the New Year for you who will join us.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Astoria pretty soon. Best wishes to you and yours as the days grow shorter, then longer.

For the FisherPoets Gathering Committee,

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