



LAUGHING BEAR NEWSLETTER 101

October 1997; edited by Tom Person; Copyright © 1997 by Laughing Bear Press; ISSN 1056-0327; Estab. 1976
P.O. Box 613322, Dallas, TX 75261-3322; 817-283-6303; e-mail: laughingbr@aol.com
http://www.LaughingBear.com; \$12/12 issues, \$14/Canada, £12/UK & Eire, \$22/other

The Surviving Small Press: A World Wide Domain

Laughing Bear has a new address on the world wide web: www.LaughingBear.com. There were a number of reasons I felt a domain name was worth the extra expense.

Reason No. 1. I turned 45 and wanted a really cool birthday gift. That's not a very good reason, but it is the truth.

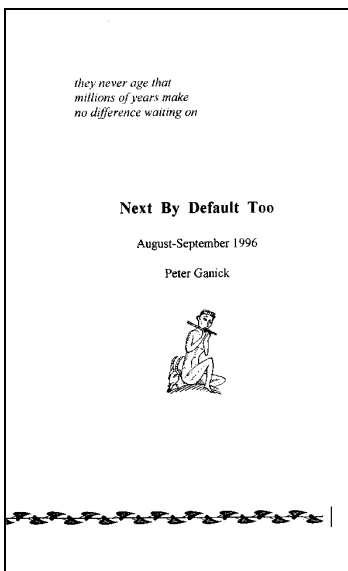
2. The Laughing Bear name was still available, and I wanted to grab it before someone else did. There is at least one other Laughing Bear Newsletter online (a college student's personal zine) and other sites using the phrase, Laughing Bear.

I was just going to register the name so no one else could use it, but I got caught up in the excitement and well, see reason no. 1.

3. A domain name is a permanent address on the internet. I can change my internet service provider or web host, and still keep the same URL (address).

I've lived in four different states, and every time I move there's a mess with forwarded mail and out-of-date directory listings. This address stays the same no matter where I go.

(Continued on page 3.)



Next By Default Too

by Peter Ganick
Luna Bisonte Prods, 137
Leland Ave., Columbus, OH
43214; 32 pp, 8½ x 5½,
saddle, \$7.00

This is a set of 32 1-page poems written from August to September 1996. Each is a firecracker, a meditation, a Japanese painting, funny, profound, nonsense.

Together they are a roomful of voices from which you catch snatches of conversation. Nothing makes sense by itself, but the overall effect is mesmerizing.

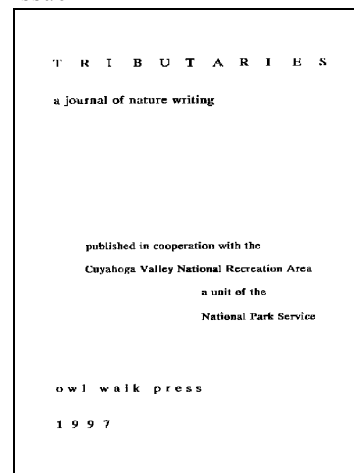
This is a hard book to put away. It's filled with perfect phrases that creep back when you're not looking.

"if your epidermis reacts visibly / to deficient madness", read this book.

Tributaries a journal of nature writing

edited by Cyril A Dostal and
Jill Sell

Owl Walk Press, 7666 N.
Gannett Rd., Sagamore Hills,
OH 44067; 44 pp, 8½ x 5½,
saddle, \$6.00 for the premiere
issue



Tributaries is a new magazine of nature writing comes from the Cuyahoga Valley Nature Writers Workshop in cooperation with the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area and the National Park Service.

The editors have blended writers with diverse styles and visions of nature to create an anthology that does its complex subject justice.

Tributaries uses essays, short fiction, and poetry. Send an SASE for writers guidelines.

LAUGHING BEAR NEWSLETTER 101

The Self-Publishing Manual

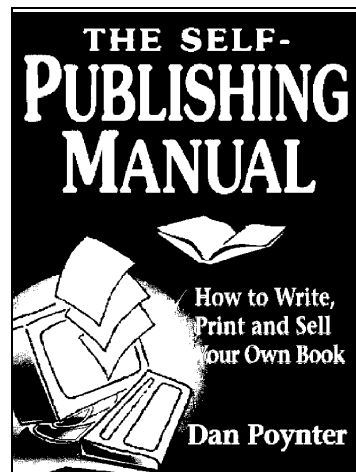
by Dan Poynter
Para Publishing, PO Box 8206,
Santa Barbara, CA 93118-
8206; 464 pp, 5½ x 8½,
perfect, \$19.95 + \$4.00 p&h

The Self-Publishing Manual is now in its 10th revised edition, and remains the most complete single reference on self-publishing.

Also to his credit, Poynter doesn't candy coat the prospects of self-publishing by insinuating this is an easy way to make a buck. He emphasizes that publishing a book is hard work.

He's managed to be as successful promoting self-publishing as he's been for the past 18 years because he's honest with his audience. And because he started out as a self-publisher himself of parachuting books.

A unique aspect of Poynter's services to self-publishers is all the free information he gives away. He has a fax-on-demand system for free documents, a great web site (www.ParaPublishing.com), and a free newsletter. Call 1-800-PARAPUB.



Dedicate Me To Your Favorite Charity

by Ted Gehrke
AboutTime Press, PO Box
529, Redwood Estates, CA
95044; 86 pp, 5½ x 8½,
perfect, \$14.95

Refreshing. That was my first impression on diving into this collection of Ted Gehrke's poems.

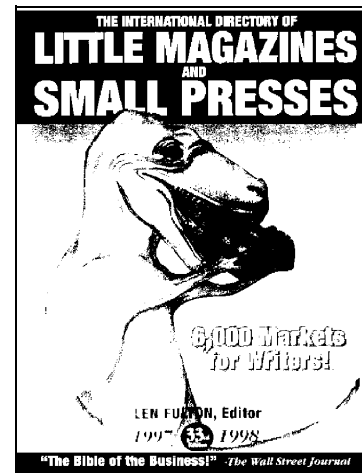
This is poetry without a pose. The poet isn't winking at the reader, or taking a stance, or elevating the mundane.

These are simply straight out, hit-you-in-the-face images and thoughts.



There is an uncompromising strength to these poems. They have nothing to prove. Each is a slice of real life. A moment. And each is different. Gehrke's poems knock against each other in clashing voices.

The book's designer took that discordance a step further by using a different typeface for each poem. That is in violation of a cardinal rule of typesetting, but seems a perfectly natural setting for for this vibrant collection.



The International Directory of Little Magazines and Small Presses

edited by Len Fulton
Dustbooks, PO Box 100,
Paradise, CA 95967; 963 pp, 6
x 9, perfect, \$32.95

This is the one directory a writer who wants to get published in the small press absolutely needs. In its 33rd edition, with 6,000 listings, there is no other directory that contains so much information about small press.

For small press publishers, this is the first directory in which you should make sure you are listed. The *International Directory* is my bible to find out about any publisher I haven't dealt with before.

There's no way to put a value on the contribution Dustbooks has provided to the small press community over the years by publishing this and its other directories: *Directory of Small Magazine/Press Editors and Publishers*, *Small Press Record of Books in Print*, and *Directory of Poetry Publishers*. And, of course, *Small Press Review*.

LAUGHING BEAR NEWSLETTER 101

World Wide Domain

(continued)

4. The domain name is easy to remember. My old address, <http://members.aol.com/laughingbr>, was bulky.

And since the address is permanent, I can put it on business cards, stationery, and mailing labels. It becomes a part of Laughing Bear's identity.

5. The web hosting service I got my site through, T3 West (www.WebCow.com), offers flexibility America Online doesn't.

I enjoy designing and programming my own web site. My new site gives me 30 Mb of storage space and the freedom to do my own CGI programming.

This all cost \$240 to get up and running. You can find deals for much more or less, but this fills my needs. That's \$100 for two years registration of the name, \$90 for the first three months of web site hosting, and a setup fee of \$50. And I still need to subscribe to an internet service provider to get online.

If you want to be able to take secure credit card orders or have the site designed for you, the cost is much higher.

To find out if your choice of a domain name is taken, you can go to www.InterNIC.net or call InterNIC at 703-742-4777. You can also search for available names at www.WebCow.com.

At InterNIC, you can register your domain name, which means no one else can use it so long as you pay the \$50 annual fee.

That may be a useful alternative if you are not ready to go online with a site now, but want to reserve the name to use later.

Announcements

● **Newspaper Mania – Internet Press** (<http://www.club.innet.be/~year0230/american.htm>) is a publicist's dream. The site provides links to over 5,000 news sources, including newspapers, TV, radio, and news agencies worldwide.

● **International Titles** (Loris Essary, dir.; 931 E. 56th St., Austin, TX 78751-1724; 512-451-2221, fax 512-467-1330, leint@eden.com) will be taking its exhibition services to Asia's largest book fair, the Taipei International Book Exhibition, February 19-24, 1998. The cost to participate is just \$136 per title. Deadline to register: December 1.

● **Talus and Scree** (Carla Perry, ed.; PO Box 851, Waldport, OR 97394; [\\$20/2 issues, sample \\$11](http://www.teleport.com/~cbs/talus)) is an international literary journal that has just published its 3rd issue. Uses poetry, short fiction, essays, reviews, art, and photos. Deadline for issue #4 is February 15.

● **Tom Jordan**, a friend of mine who has nothing to do with publishing, has a very funny personal web site with a set of links to everything from Sea Monkeys to sites where you can track down anyone on the internet. The URL is <http://www.flash.net/~tomj>.

● **The Directory of Publisher Organizations** is coming along. I have about 25 groups listed. The deadline to get survey forms in for the print version of the directory has been extended to November 30, 1997. The directory will be sent out with Issue 103 in December. There will also be an online version of the directory that can be updated at any time.

● **A Book Collectors Bookstore** (www.abcbooks.com) is the Bay Area Publishers Association's affiliate bookstore.

● **Curious about who's web pages has links to yours?** Go to the Altavista search engine (www.altavista.digital.com). In the Search box, type: `link:yourwebpageURL` (for instance, I'd enter `link:www.LaughingBear.com`). The search will come up with a list of every site with a link to your page.

● **Council of Literary Magazines and Presses** (CLMP, 154 Christopher St., Ste. 3C, New York, NY 10014-2839) has a new executive director. Jim Sitter, who served as executive director since 1989, has left CLMP to work as a consultant out of St. Paul, MN. Celia O'Donnell, a program director at CLMP, replaced Sitter as executive director October 1.

● **Rodeo Town** (\$12 + \$2 p&h), a collection of 53 stories about Ellensburg, and a number of other John Bennett books are available direct from the author. Send an SASE to John Bennett, 605 E. 5th Ave., Ellensburg, WA 98926, for a price list.

Advertising: *Laughing Bear Newsletter* does not accept classified advertising. Press releases, review copies, and samples of products can be sent to the editorial offices. If deemed useful to *LBN* readers, they will be mentioned in the Announcements section of the newsletter. Insert ads, in the form of flyers inserted in newsletter mailings are welcome. Send 150 copies of the ad and \$50 and the ad will go out with the next issue of the newsletter. There are no deadlines. **Contests or any other events or promotions that solicit money in the form of reading or entry fees will not be accepted.**

Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use, or the internal or personal use of specific clients, is granted by Laughing Bear Press, provided that US\$.35 per copy (\$1.00 for an entire issue) is paid directly to Laughing Bear Press, P.O. Box 613322, Dallas, TX 75261-3322.