

Dictated, but not read, by Lee Netzer, 10/19/2016 to Janet Tomlinson, Historian, STCA, via telephone:

"I started writing poems when I was about 7 years old. It wasn't until somewhere about 20 years later that I started writing dog poems. At that time, I had a Scottie, and he was unruly. So I joined an obedience club, the Fox Valley Dog Training Club, located in Illinois."

"The instructor for the class that I was in happened to be the Club's newsletter editor. She asked me to write something for the newsletter. I started out writing humor pieces. I wrote four or five pieces. Then I wrote that first poem. I thought maybe she might publish it. We didn't have e-mail back then, but we mailed each other using the Post. So we would mail newsletters to each other. The poem went out in the newsletter and the phone went off the hook. This was wonderful. That started it off. That's how I started writing poems."

"I had two dogs Andy and Heather at the time I moved to Hawaii. Moving was an awful experience due to the months they had to spend in quarantine. Later when I was about to lose the dogs, I decided I would make a collection of the poems. I found a place in CA that would print 70 copies for a flat rate price for the number of pages I had. I typed up the book and they printed them."

"I gave those books away to all the people who had helped me. I mailed them to the regional club people and so forth. I got rid of all the copies and again the phone rang. I had 250 more printed and sold them out of my suitcase. I ordered another 250 or so and then 500 and sold them. I have only a dozen copies left. So that's how *"Once In love With A Puppy"* started."

"Then I put out a second book. If you read the Bagpiper, I am still writing poetry. The Bagpiper is a great magazine. I finally got to meet some people at the Denver show, in August. I have been going to that. The sweepstakes judge was, Pam Williams, a past editor of the Bagpiper. I got to speak with her then. I have been grateful for that and the Bagpiper today."

"I joined the Canadian Club about 10 or 15 years ago. I made a donation while I was traveling up there, camping, vacationing. An idea came to me. You end up with Canadian money. What do you do with it? You stop at the last gas station and you have, say \$12.34 in your pocket. Purchase \$3.34 worth of gas. Put the \$9 Canadian in an envelope and send it to Canadian Rescue. So I wrote an article about the idea and sent it to the Canadian STC and started writing for them. I have been writing for them ever since."

"I was much honored when three years ago the Canadian STC asked me to write the poem for their 50th Anniversary. I was proud of that. They had a five day shindig up in Calgary and the poem was included in all of their advertising."

"I have continued to write since the two books. I have no idea how many I've poems I've written. I have about 60 or 70 people I send a copy to -- my friends. I send them to them because they wouldn't see them in the Canadian club newsletter. I've given up on the idea of writing another book now, but I still write."