

Karen Gimbel

# WRITTEN ON WATER

## Get hooked on shared stories and the spoken word at the 22nd annual FisherPoets Gathering

By **JONATHAN WILLIAMS**  
FOR COAST WEEKEND

**T**he best stories are shared aloud with friends. For more than 100 fishermen from as far away as Vineyard Haven, Mass., to Alaska, Idaho, the West Coast and provinces of Canada, poetry is, too.

The Fisherpoets Gathering in Astoria, now in its 22nd year and running from Friday, Feb. 22, through Sunday, Feb. 24, is a celebration of spoken word poetry and a reunion for fishermen.

“People come all the way from the

### MORE INFO

Check out the official program to this year's FisherPoets Gathering starting on page 11.

East Coast to read twice for 15 minutes or down from Alaska,” said Jon Broderick, one of the Gathering's founders and organizers.

Readings are at Astoria Brewing Company, the Columbian Theater, the Voodoo Lounge, Fort George Brewery, KALA, the Labor Temple Bar and the

Liberty Theatre. Admission buttons are \$15 for the weekend.

Singing and story circles, poetry slams, a poetry contest, workshops, environmental issue presentations, a Gearshack bookstore full of poets' work and two art shows are all on tap.

This year, 11 new poets will join the more than 100 presenters.

“People who give it a go for the first time, people you wouldn't otherwise hear from, that's a real goal of the FisherPoets Gathering, is to get people who wouldn't otherwise write down a poem

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Corey Arnold  
Waves in the Bering Sea, captured by  
photographer and fisherman Corey Arnold.