

Dear Readers,

The Cornfield Review has been published by The Ohio State University at Marion for 40 years. Since its inception, the magazine has published poetry, prose, and visual art. While the focus of the publication has been largely literary, over time it has morphed into a truly unique display of talent in both writing and visual art. As an example, there were only two photographs published in the entire first issue. This year, however, the editorial board combed through nearly forty submissions of photographs, drawings, and other visual art alone!

It is exciting to remember where we have been, and to imagine where we are going. To commemorate this milestone, we read through our very first issue, published in 1976, and decided to share our favorite piece from each category with you here.

The editorial process is never easy, but it is very fulfilling to be able to contribute to the assembly of this yearly snapshot of talent from our campus to share with the world. We look forward to many more decades of The Cornfield Review.

*Sincerely,
The Cornfield Review Editorial Board*

Joker

Cards— who are the cards?
Are they the pasteboard
Or the people?
Do the players lead the trump
Or is the trump soul leader Guiding hands to its glory in play
Laughing at the guided?
Is the joker in the deck
Or the deck held by the joker?

—Bud Bricker