

Writers' co-op offers publication chances

By Mary Shackelton

"Purify it, use it, keep it alive."

This is a writer's obligation to language, according to Willie Morrissey, co-founder of the new Lincoln Writers' Cooperative.

The co-op is for persons who now are not being paid for their writing but would like to sell their material for publication, Morrissey said. But membership is open to anyone interested in writing, according to Dale Kennedy, co-op co-founder.

About seven people have shown an interest in the co-op, Morrissey said.

Morrissey expressed discontent with established publishing procedures.

"If you write something and want it published, you have to send it to people you've never seen and never talked to, and it's up to them to accept or reject your work," he said.

"We expect to handle our own printing, probably using a member's equipment, and manage business matters ourselves."

Morrissey and Kennedy said they hope the co-op eventually will develop into a nonprofit organization, eligible for government funding and private donations. Any profits would go to the individual authors, not the organization, Morrissey said.

According to Morrissey, there will be almost no restrictions on the group's activities. He cited poetry readings, discussion among writers, lectures and workshops as possible undertakings.

Morrissey, a JNL custodian who attended San Francisco State University for three years, said the co-op idea occurred to him when he was typing and mimeographing his own poetry for Christmas presents. Paper, stencils and use of the printing equipment turned out to be more expensive than he had thought, he said.

Using cooperative publishing, he reasoned that co-op members could publish their material as cheaply and attractively as possible.

Persons interested in joining the co-op should contact Morrissey (477-5593) during the day or Kennedy (475-8071) in the evening.



Willie Morrissey helped found the Lincoln Writers' Cooperative as an alternative to current publication procedures.

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How super. These new denims for juniors. Sizes 5 to 13. The hi-rise pants have giant size bottoms. The matching blazer, buttoned in bronze, is just slightly belted with curved side slits and patch pockets.

The pants \$15
The blazer \$21