



The Urbana Free Library

210 West Green Street • Urbana, Illinois 61801 • 217-367-4057 • [urbanafreelibrary.org](http://urbanafreelibrary.org)

**Jim Jones East-Central Illinois Poetry  
Collection, 1976-2002**

**COLLECTION 35**

**Champaign County Historical Archives**

**Creator/Corporate name:** Jim Jones.

**Inclusive Dates:** 1976-2002.

**Physical Description:** 1 box, (1.1 linear feet).

**Provenance:**

The Jim Jones East-Central Illinois Poetry Collection was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives, The Urbana Free Library, by Missouri State University, Meyer Library, in November 2006.

**Access:**

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The Jim Jones East Central Illinois Poetry Collection (1976-2002) contains letters, anthologies, poetry manuscripts/typescripts, books, and journals (both signed and unsigned) that document the relationships Jones developed with aspiring poets and the legacy they left through their work. As an instructor in the English Department at Millikin University in the 1980s, Jones perhaps received the most work from Alex Sawyer (b. 1911-?), a local poet from Urbana, Illinois. Sawyer was perhaps the most versatile of the poets contained herein, ranging a gamut of topics in his material including love, nature, and religious themes. Other materials in the collection include letters and manuscripts sent to his colleague, Charles Collinson; correspondence and poetry from Ron Shafer, a teacher in Decatur, and Carmen Pursifull, a Hispanic-American poet writing from Champaign. They, along with a handful of others, actively submitted their work for publication to journals such as those in the Moraine and Matrix (from The Red Herring) series also included in this collection.

**Arrangement:**

The collection is arranged into three series:

**Series 1: Correspondence & Manuscripts**

**Series 2: Journals**

**Series 3: Books**

**Container Listing:**

**Box 1**

**Series 1: Correspondence & Manuscripts**

- Folder 1: Brown, Vonna to Charles Collinson, 1981
- Folder 2: Bumgardner, John S. to Charles Collinson (*incl. manuscripts*), 1981
- Folder 3: Haines, Thomas to Charles Collinson (*incl. manuscripts*), 198[1]?
- Folder 4: Johnson, Al to Charles Collinson (*incl. manuscripts*), 1981
- Folder 5: Margias, Norma to Charles Collinson (*incl. manuscripts*), 1981
- Folder 6: Bender, Harold to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1983
- Folder 7: Bumgardner, John to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1982-1983
- Folder 8: Chagdud Gonpa Foundation to Jim Jones, 1994
- Folder 9: Etter, Dave to Jim Jones, 1989-1990
- Folder 10: Ford, Martha to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1981-1983
- Folder 11: Harris, Bertha to Jim Jones, 199[2]?
- Folder 12: Hedin, Laurie to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1991-1992
- Folder 13: Johnson, Al to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1982
- Folder 14: Margias, Norma to Jim Jones, 1982
- Folder 15: Pursifull, Carmen to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1990-1992
- Folder 16: Sawyer, Alex to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1982-2001
- Folder 17: 2 March 1982
- Folder 18: 2 March 1982
- Folder 19: 2 March 1982
- Folder 20: 2 June 1982
- Folder 21: 23 July 1982
- Folder 22: 1989-1990
- Folder 23: 1990-1997
- Folder 24: 18 March 1991
- Folder 25: 2 January 1993
- Folder 26: 16 March 1993
- Folder 27: 13 April 1993
- Folder 28: 199[6]?
- Folder 29: 199[6]?
- Folder 30: n.d.
- Folder 31: Sawyer, Alex and Janet to Jim Jones, 1994 and 2002
- Folder 32: Shafer, Ron to Jim Jones (*incl. manuscripts*), 1990-1997
- Folder 33: Walker, Ruth to Jim Jones, 1990-1991
- Folder 34: Sawyer, Alex to Dave Etter, 1990
- Folder 35: Etter, Dave to Alex Sawyer, 1990
- Folder 36: Beck, Marjorie, n.d.
- Folder 37: Boose, Janey M., 1981
- Folder 38: Ferry, Dick, n.d.

Folder 39: 1982

**Series 2: Journals**

Bensen, Robert, ed. *Matrix II: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: Channing-Murray Foundation, 1977.

Berger, Sidney, ed. *The Moraine Poets*. Decatur, IL: Moraine Press, 1981.

Collinson, CW, ed. *Moraine II*. Decatur, IL: Moraine Press, 1982.

Daldorph, Brian and Sandra Tompson, eds. *Coal City Review*. Champaign, IL: Coal City Review, August 1990.

Jones, Jim and Ron Shafer, eds. *Moraine III*. Decatur, IL: Moraine Press, 1982.

LaRue, James, ed. *Matrix Six: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1981.

Leland, Kurt, ed. *Matrix VII: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1982.

Murphy, Kay, ed. *Matrix Five: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1980.

Pursifull, Carmen M. and Ruth S. Walker, eds. *Matrix XV: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1990.

Pichaske, David R. *The Spoon River Quarterly*. Peoria, IL: Spoon River Poetry Press, 1982.

Walker, Ruth, ed. *Matrix XVIII: The Red Herring Poets*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1993.

**Series 3: Books**

Daldorph, Brian. *Songs of Exile*. Urbana, IL: Channing-Murray Foundation, 1990.

Ferry, Dick. *Street of Mansions: Poems by Dick Ferry*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1983.

- Hedin, Laura. (Karen Kowalski-Singer, ed.) *Voices of Light and Grace: Reflections on the Lifework of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan Macy*. Urbana, IL: Red Herring Press, 1991.
- Kerr, Kathryn. *Equinox: Poems by Kathryn Kerr*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1979.
- McGinty, Patricia A. *Dirges to Dance By*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1981.
- Pursifull, Carmen M. *The Many Faces of Passion*. Champaign, IL: Hawk Productions, 1996.
- Pursifull, Carmen M. *The Twenty-Four Hour Wake*. Urbana, IL: Channing-Murray Foundation, 1989.
- Pursifull, Carmen M. *Dreamscapes*. Atlanta, GA: Triglav Press, 1987.
- Pursifull, Carmen M. *Elsewhere In A Parallel Universe*. Urbana, IL: The Red Herring Press, 1992.
- Sawyer, Alex, Lucia Wainwright, and Dimitri Mihalas. (Lucia Wainwright, ed.) *Trilogy in a Minor Key: Poems on Depression and Manic-Depression*. Urbana, IL: The Trilogy Press, 1991.
- Sawyer, Alex. (Lucia Wainwright, ed.) *Let Him Heal Us: Poem Prayers*. Champaign, IL: (appears self-published), 1992.
- Sawyer, Alex. (Lucia Wainwright, ed.) *Journey: New and Selected Poems*. Urbana, IL: The Trilogy Press, 1994.
- Sawyer, Alex. *Incident at the Bulletin Board*. Champaign, IL: The Garfield Press, 1986. (2 Copies)
- Sawyer, Alex. *In Praise of East Central Illinois*. Champaign, IL: The Garfield Press, 1976. (3 Copies)
- Sawyer, Alex. *In a Time Meant for Love*. Stafford, VA: Dan River Press, 1980. (4 Copies)
- Schott, Carol and Patricia Lieb. *Catholics and Publics*. Bourbonnais, IL: Lieb-Schott Publications, Inc., 1983.