The University of Oregon Creative Writing Program wishes to acknowledge the passing of

George Parks Hitchcock 
on August 27, 2010 in Eugene, OR.

Born on June 2, 1914 in Hood River, OR, he was an alumnus of the University of Oregon, where he received his B.A. in 1935. Hitchcock was a poet, journalist, actor, labor organizer, painter, and noted editor of kayak, the iconoclastic literary magazine of the 60s.

“A kayak is not a galleon, ark, coracle or speedboat,” read the motto printed with each issue. “It is a small watertight vessel operated by a single oarsman. It is submersible, has sharply pointed ends, and is constructed of light poles and the skins of furry animals. It has never yet been successfully employed as a means of mass transport.”

George Hitchcock was a cavalier of life—warm-hearted, flamboyant, funny—and generous to three generations of younger writers and artists. He was a friend to our Program and will be sorely missed.