



WHEREAS, Kirby Congdon found his calling after post-graduate school on the F.I. Bill at Columbia University in New York where as a country boy he responded to the huge construction machines of the post-war years with his first collection of poems, *Iron Ark* (1962) and the popular hero, Superman, with *Juggernaut* which was exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in a visual study of man in the industrial world; and

WHEREAS, His memoir, *Novels*, consists of literary portraits of people in rural New England while two books of prose-poems covered the motorcycle cult, his essay of poetry criticism are collected in *Crank Letters*; and

WHEREAS, Congdon compiled a bibliography of motorcycle books and another on poetry anthologies, his skill as a typesetter for encyclopedia houses led to his position as an Editorial Assistant and as a Man Friday for a literary agency; and

WHEREAS, he has been the editor and publisher of his own press with the late Ralph Simmons for 43 years, he has also provided book reviews and essays on poetry for decades for *The Small Press Review*; and

WHEREAS, High School literature surveys and many anthologies include his work; a bibliography by a Long Island University Professor covers 300 poems while the University of Washington, Seattle and the University of Kansas have collected his work in depth; and

WHEREAS, He feels that his country has a special genius for its spontaneous activity in regard to poetry and for its usefulness as an outlet for the general public as well as a touchstone to this nation's psychological identity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
May 15th, 2012 as

Kirby Congdon Day

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 15th day of May 2012.

Craig Cates, MAYOR