



Poetry Society of Texas

A Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

Bulletin

February, 2009

Next Meeting: March 14, 2009

Monthly PST Board Report

Poetry Society of Texas met Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 2:30 P.M. at the Preston Royal Library, Dallas.

President Jeannette Strother called the meeting to order and recognized former PST Presidents: J. Paul Holcomb, 17th; Linda Banks, 18th; and Marilyn Stacy, 20th. She also welcomed guests: Judy and Darrell Kirkley of Dallas; Lindsey Horton of Wylie; and Karann Mason of Lewisville, and new members: Nelda and Jim Ricks of McKinney, and Lynn Lewis of Fort Worth.

Amy Sandberg presented the Treasurer's Report for January 11th through February 14th. Balance: **\$27,127.92**.

Lee Carroll, Membership Chair, announced PST membership now stands at 373, which includes four renewed members and two **New Members**: Sybil P. Estess of Houston, and Annie Lauren Neugebauer of Denton.

In the absence of Budd Mahan, Poetry in Schools Chair, Jeannette announced the date for the Student Poetry Awards is April 18, 2009, at the Central Library in downtown Dallas. She encouraged the membership to attend the Awards Ceremony in support of the contestants and their families, as well as Budd Mahan, who works tirelessly on this event each year. She noted that everyone should come listen to the future of Texas Poets.

Barbara Berry announced the Summer Conference date: July 9 – 11, 2009 in Fort Worth at the Holiday Inn North – Fossil Creek, a brand new facility. Registration forms will be mailed on or about May 1st. She mentioned there would be outstanding speakers, plus workshops.

President Strother made the following announcements:

- Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award Editor, Virginia Messer, passed away. Eakin Publishing is continuing to support PST with the Adult Manuscript Contest; however, the Children's Book Contest has been cancelled.
- Nelle Fertig, former member and annual contest winner, of Glendora, California, also passed away.
- Nancy Baass, Annual Contest Chair, submitted the new contest list to the editors of the Book of the Year, which will be available in March.
- Lucidity Conference will be held March 31 through April 2 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Birma Castle of Beaumont is Conference Chair.

- NFSPS is sponsoring a contest to win Convention expenses for the National Conference June 11-15, 2009, in Duluth, Minnesota. Deadline for entries is February 28, 2009. See nfsp.com

The President recognized Darrell Kirkley, who announced a poetry contest benefiting The Bridge of Dallas, Texas in support of a cure for chronic homelessness. Poems should address the topic "Homelessness" and/or "humanitarianism". Deadline is May 1, 2009. Entry fee is \$20 for up to three poems, 50 lines or less. Three prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$400.00; 2nd - \$200.00; and 3rd - \$100.00. Mail to: Judy Kirkley, P. O. Box 700383, Dallas, Texas 75370.

Spotlight Chair Pat Randolph presented the mother-daughter team of Inez Grimes and Jimmye Inez Sessions, who each read from her own collection of writings.

Due to the illness of the Program Chair, Peggy Zuleika Lynch, Irene Carmichael introduced Barbara Youngblood Carr of Austin who entertained the group with her poetry and life adventures.

Valentine refreshments followed the program.

David Bowman, Monthly Contest Chair, announced that this month's Critic Judge was Madelyn Eastlund of Beverly Hills, Florida. 1st Place, Roberta Pipes Bowman, Haltom City, for "*For Just a Little While*"; 2nd Place, J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak; 3rd Place, Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth.

Laugh Lines Winner: Annette Schwartz, for "*Where There is a Will*". Laugh Lines Judge was: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak.

Laugh Lines Judge: Marilyn Stacy, Dallas.

Reader: Pat Randolph, Dallas, read the Book Awards' finalists and the group voted. POPULAR, James Ricks, McKinney; GALAXY, Linda Banks, Mesquite; LUBBE, Von S. Bourland, Happy; LYNCH, Jeannette Strother, Mansfield; WENDY DIMMETTE, Lynn Lewis, Fort Worth; LIFE MEMBERS AWARD, Silva Slaten, Wylie.

Other poems read were by: Catherine L'Harrison, Garland; Carol Halliday, Houston; Annette Schwartz, Houston; and David Knappe, Plano.

PST schedule of events for 2008 - 2009

July 9 - 11 – PST Summer Conference – Ft. Worth

Notes of Interest

Poetry Society of Texas Summer Conference

Holiday Inn Fort Worth – Fossil Creek (a brand-new facility) Wonderful speakers and workshops.

Welcome Party and Entertainment, Thursday evening.. Banquet and Key-note speaker on Friday evening.

Conference “You be the Judge” Contest for attendees only.

Guests welcome with Conference registration. Watch for Registration Forms around May 1st.

Notice to All Members: The initial list of all current PST Members presently qualified to enter the NFSPS Annual Contests has been sent to the NFSPS Contest Chairman. There are still members who have not yet renewed for the current fiscal year, 2008-2009. Please check the mailing label on your next PST Bulletin to determine if you have or have not renewed. If you have not renewed, and intend to enter the NFSPS Annual Contests, please pay your dues, \$25.00, no later than March 7th. We must have your payment by that date to get your name on an amended list of qualified PST Members. Dues received after March 7th will be applied to membership for next year. Please send dues payable to Poetry Society of Texas to PST Membership Chairman: Lee Carroll, 3909 Gable Lane, #611, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Von Bourland, Bulletin Editor, requests all reports and news be sent via email if possible, preferably between the 8th and 10th of each month. Subject Line: PST Bulletin. If you must use snail mail, please postmark between the 5th and 8th, as she lives in a rural area and receives her mail late. Thanks!

vondelita@amaonline.com

Von Bourland, 37861 I-27, Happy, TX 79042

What it was, was poetry

As the Poetry Society of Texas Bulletin is first and foremost about poetry, I offer each of you a chance to share and shine by printing your short (no more than 12 lines), published poetry in our state Bulletin. Said poem will be considered published by all contests, as our circulation is near 400; therefore, be certain you own the rights to your poem, and will grant permission for publication.

Challenge:

The response to the Cinquain Challenge has been great! I have also received two other short poems which will be published after the end of the year, when the Cinquain Challenge runs its course, or before if I do not receive enough cinquains to finish the year. At this date, I have 3 more waiting to be published. If you know the poets who have submitted their work, please congratulate them!

Send an already (or ready-to-be) published Adelaide Crapsey Cinquain - Syllable count: 2,4,6,8,2 for the next

Bulletin. If I receive more than I can print, they will be saved for other issues. Please mention your chapter membership in your entry.

Snail or email no more than one poem apiece to Von S. Bourland, Editor, at the above address(s).

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The Bulletin appears on the PST Website:

<http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/bulletin.html>

as an Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. With Adobe Reader software (or Adobe Acrobat), you will be able to view and print the *Bulletin* in the very same format as you receive it in the mail. Adobe Reader is free, installs itself, and comes from one of the best names in computer software.

If you note needed corrections, additions, or deletions to the Website, contact any PST officer to convey the changes through proper channels to our webmaster. Our webmaster is a volunteer with a day job—does not claim omniscience. Your kind assistance will be appreciated in our ongoing efforts to keep the Website up-to-date.

Poetry Society of Texas is seeking worthy donations from our talented members for the 2009 Summer Conference Life Membership Drive Raffle. Contact: Sharon Turner, Life Membership Chair or any Board Member.

***** 2009 Lucidity Retreat *****

Birma Castle, Lucidity Chair, invites all of you to Eureka Springs, Arkansas for the 2009 Lucidity Retreat, March 31st – April 2nd. Email or call Birma Castle for more details about this wonderful poetry learning experience. birmacastle@yahoo.com or 409-866-3219

Monthly Contest Chairman: David Bowman. The 15th of the month is the deadline receiving date for submissions for the next month's contest. See rules in the back of the BOTY. David Bowman, P. O. Box 37113, Haltom City, TX 76117.

Member and Supporter News

Loretta Diane Walker's father recently passed away. Loretta is a member of Permian Basin Chapter, and PST.

“We are sad to report that Virginia Messer, a long-time supporter of PST, died on December 30, 2008.

“Virginia was an advocate of poetry at Eakin Publishing. She worked closely with the Eakin Manuscript winners to produce the winning book each year. In addition, she created the Eakin Manuscript competition for a children's book in 2008 before her illness was diagnosed. An artist at heart, Virginia planned to create the art for the winning books. Ms. Messer was the daughter of Edwin M Eakin, whose service to PST preceded her own. Her son, now in charge at Eakin Publishing, has authorized the continuation of the Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award.

We now owe three generations of the Eakin family a debt of gratitude”-----Budd Powell Mahan, Reporting

Please continue to remember Helen Jones, Juanita Griffey, and all of those who recently lost loved ones with calls, cards, emails, letters and prayers. Also, remember our President, Jeannette Strother, who has been struggling with health issues.

Alamo Area Poets

February 7, 2009 Meeting: January contest winners were announced: Open Topic: 1st Place – Iris Maahs; 2nd Place – Sheila Moore; 3rd Place – Peter Holland; Honorable Mentions – Vivian Yatteau, Billie Stroud and Carol Siskovic. Assigned Topic: 1st Place – Harvey Maahs; 2nd Place – Libby Bishop; 3rd Place – Carol Siskovic; Honorable Mentions – Billie Stroud, Antoinette Winstead, and Toni Murguia. Judge: Nancy Baass, Victoria. After delicious snacks provided by Lucy and Bob McBee and Antoinette Winstead, the February poems were presented.

AAPT meets every first Saturday, September through May, 2:00 P.M. in the Garden Villa. Contact info: President, Sheila Moore, Smooore2942@aol.com or Libby Bishop, elizbis@PeoplePC.com or elizbis@aol.com

Austin Poetry Society

February 26th, will feature Austin International Poetry Festival Volunteers. APS members included will be Deb Akers, Barbara Youngblood Carr, Patricia Fiske, Ralph Hausser, Dillon McKinsey, and Neil Meili. Other AIPF volunteers reading will be Lynn Brandstetter, Luis Cuellar, Shlomi Harif, Ashley Kim (Austin International Poetry Festival Dir., aipfdirector@gmail.com), Angela Patterson, and Brandon Poland. Perhaps you too might want to help AIPF get going this year and become part of the biggest poetry event in Austin.

Submissions for the APS Annual Awards Contest – March 31st deadline. www.austinpoetrysociety.org

Kaye Voigt Abikhaled kudos: Writer’s Digest 16th Annual International Self-Published Book Awards Certificate of Participation for outstanding story development and linguistic presentation in the Young People’s Literature Category, November, 2008. Poetry readings, Dripping Springs Community Library Fundraiser with donation of 15 books, October 30, 2008. Exhibitor at the Texas Writers’ League Booth, Annual Book Fest at the Capitol, November 2, 2008. Finalist: XXVIII Fernando Rielo World Prize for Mystical Poetry, Madrid, Spain, December, 2008 – Finalists’ to be published in a forthcoming anthology. KOOP FM 91.7 (University of Texas) one-hour Radio Interview, “*Writing on the Air*”, January 7, 2009; Featured Poet at their monthly poetry round robin, Book Woman, Austin, January 8th.

APS sponsors an open microphone each month, Fourth Thursdays (except December), 7:00-9:00 P.M. in the NeWorldDeli, 4101 Guadalupe, each with a featured reader and Round-Robin readings. Bring yourself, bring a friend, bring poems. See the web site, www.austinpoetrysociety.org. APS newsletter online: send your e-mail address to poetryplease@mail.utexas.edu.

Beaumont Chapter

We are enjoying the heart-warming rays of sun, and ideas for Spring poems come to the fore long before Spring begins. But, alas, our assignment is to write about the dead. Yes, people who have passed on, or even pretend we are dead, writing from our grave or the great beyond. This is Spoon River poetry (Voices from the Dead), and definitely new to most of our members, so reading our poems at the next meeting could be somber affairs or laugh riots.

Each month, we read our poems which have been graciously critiqued by Evelyn Appelbee, then present members critique said poems. It is amazing how much you can learn by listening to other poets’ ideas. (That is the reason I love the Lucidity Eureka Springs Retreat—we are assigned groups and critique each other’s poems.) Next, we read our monthly assigned lesson poems and Lou Whitaker mails them to be critiqued. Each monthly meeting is a joy. We are family! Some of our poems will be entered in contests, perhaps win an award, and be published. Being published is a thrill, knowing your poem will live on after you become *a voice from the dead*.

Beaumont Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Ridgewood Retirement Center on I-10. Your visitation would brighten our day. Create a new life via poetry! FMI: Barbara Green Powell, lostlakeln@aol.com.

Hi-Plains Chapter

Saturday, February 21st, our chapter will commemorate President’s Day (or Month) by members bringing their homework: poetry by and about U. S. Presidents. A thirty minute workshop will include individual writing about a president of each member’s choosing. Sparks may fly, but it should be an interesting meeting!

Hi-Plains Chapter meets at the Amarillo Sr. Center, 1217 South Tyler Street, Amarillo. FMI: Contact Mary Yokum, President, marila13@sbcglobal.net or Marianne Logan, Membership Chair, mmmltxnts@nts-online.net

Houston Chapter

February 7th marked the celebration of the Houston Chapter’s 38th Annual Winter Poetry Fest. The day was bountiful with sunshine, chapter cooks’ offerings, visiting, and, last but not least, top-notch poetry read by this year’s winners.

Guests are always welcome to our meetings, which are held the first Saturday of each month, McGovern Library, 7405 Stella Link @ Aberdeen Way, Houston, 1:30 – 3:30 P.M. Visitors are always welcome.

FMI: June Chalon, 713-772-8818, or chalon@hal-pc.org

Mockingbird Chapter

We met January 17th and February 7th at the Carriage House. Don Croucher was elected Vice-President of the Mockingbird Chapter. Members David Knape, Edmund Burke, Don Croucher, Inez Grimes, Jimmie Sessions, Mike Piper, Jo Steiner, A. J. Chilson, Dr. Jim Ricks, Beth Ayers,

Kay Boruff, and new member Nelda Ricks judged almost 1,000 poems for the 38th Annual Collin Co. Poetry Contest. Winners will be announced at the Awards Program meeting March 8th at 2:00 at the Heard-Craig Auditorium.

The next regular meeting is March 7th at 1:30 at the Carriage House.

FMI: David Knape dkanpe1969@yahoo.com

Permian Basin Poetry Society

Our next regular meeting will be March 14, 2009, at Manor Park, Midland, Texas, 2-4 P.M. Poems in the style of our favorite poets will be shared, along with a short bio of the poet. Other members will read a poem of their choice. Critiquing will be available. Adult Member Only Contest Announced. Student Contest Deadline, April 3rd.

New Officers for 2009: President: Kat Copeland; Vice President: Julia Welker; Secretary/Treasurer: Loretta Diane Walker.

NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME!
FMI, Please contact: PBPS Publicity Chairman, Pat Peek, at 432-520-4679

Poets Northwest

February meeting - Saturday, February 14, 2009: June Brown Leap will bring a fascinating program on love poems by ancient poets (Egyptian, Roman, and Chinese), followed by British, Spanish and American poets. Each poem will be matched with a corresponding love category, i.e." love between a man and woman, love of God, love of nature, etc. June's unusual approach to love poetry will introduce us to love in a brand new way.

June Brown Leap was born in Somerville, Texas, but has lived in many different states where she traveled with her husband, Howard and children, Howard III and Nancy Patterson Leap. She also lived across the highway from NASA in Nassau Bay, Texas when her husband, a scientist, helped put astronauts on the moon. Her many publishing credits include: *American Bard* and *Flame* poetry journals, *Nature Magazine of America*, *PST Book of the Year 2007*, plus many other publications and anthologies. She is a past member of the National League of American Penwomen, California Federation of Chaparral Poets; and a current member of Poets Northwest, PST, and NFSPS.

Regular meetings conclude with a Read-A-Round for members and visitors to share their poetry.

Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon at Barnes & Noble, Champions Forest Dr. & FM 1960 W. in Houston.

FMI: Kitty Mobley (President) 281-259-7755
bobkat3442@sbcglobal.net or Claire Ottenstein Ross
(Vice-President) 281-252-6434
claireandtom@abcgloba.net .

Poets of Tarrant County

February 2, 2009: The Contemporary Poet chosen and read by David Bowman was Jeannette Strother. Spotlight Poet: Lynn Lewis. The Kudos list was read. Naomi

Stroud Simmons distributed the book, *Sowing Seasons*, containing poems written by members of the society.

Barbara Berry gave a report on the PST Summer Conference July 9-11 in Fort Worth.

Guest Speaker: David Bowman, presented a writing workshop for all members present. Assignment poems concluded the program

Poets of Tarrant County meets the first Monday of each month at First Methodist Church, Fort Worth.

FMI: Lynn Lewis, 817-921-9322/ elsquared59@yahoo.com

Rusk County Poetry Society

On January 15th, at 2:00 P.M., we met at South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. After Fairon Spears gave the invocation, President Richard Hurzeler presided over the installation of the 2009 Officers: President, Vina Hathaway; Vice-President, Anne McCrady; Treasurer, Bill Anderson; Recording Secretary, Evelyn Appelbee; Corresponding Secretary, Sharon Taylor.

Featured poet, Vina Hathaway, read "Hide" and other selections of her poems. Anne McCrady presented a lesson using the zoom lens of a camera as metaphor for writing poetry, focusing in for close-up, and out for distance pictures.

Our lesson poems, critiqued by Charlotte Renk, were read.

Vina Hathaway served refreshments.

FMI: call Sharon Taylor, 903-753-2354,
chasha@cablelynx.com . Visitors are always welcome.

San Antonio Poetry Association

January 17th twenty-seven members and guests met to enjoy an afternoon of poetry.

Our guest speaker, Steve Johnson, a retired teacher, hosts a poetry venue every Monday night at the LaTasa Coffee Shop , and heads an organization of motorcycle riders who ride for children's charities. Steve entertained us with wonderful poems about his family heritage.

We welcomed several guests: Charles Jones brought his wife, Donna; Joan Seifert brought Pat Gibbs, and Margaret Mayberry brought Laura Davis. Emily Keller came on her own after finding our Website (thanks to Floyd Lamrouex, our excellent Webmaster). Emily joined, and Pat Gibbs and Laura Davis are considering membership. We are grateful for members who go out and enlist others to enjoy our poetry family.

Contest Chair, Gerry Rackley, announced the December contest winners: Assigned Topic (City Sidewalks): 1st Place – Pete McKinnon; 2nd Place – Margaret Mayberry; 3rd Place – Lucy McBee; Honorable Mentions – Sheila Moore and Loretta Vaughan. December Open Topic Winners: 1st Place – Iris Maahs; 2nd Place – Juan Perez; 3rd Place – Joan Seifert; Honorable Mentions – Valerie Bailey and Antoinette Winstead. Judge: Mary Margaret Carlisle, President, Gulf Coast Poets.

Vice-President Wallace Vaughan conducted our monthly book raffle and we earned \$25 for our treasury. Last month the book raffle earned a record \$48.

Congratulations to Iris Maahs, for publishing a beautiful new book of her poetry titled *Kaleidoscope*. You are invited. FMI: Valerie Bailey, 210-494-2982, or vbailey@satx.rr.com

San Jacinto Chapter

At the Saturday, February 14th meeting, Donald Graham asked everyone to write a five-line poem (cinquain) for the next meeting. Don will make a special page for the website to showcase all of the poems, and will publish any poem of five lines or less. Graham reminded each poet he needed permission to publish their poem(s) on the website.

A "Read-a-Round" and refreshments followed.

FMI: Kathy Wieboldt, 832-754-4041, or info@sanjacintopoetry.org

"Discarded Album"

*Brittle
faded album
found in a flea market;
lovely family. Where are they now?
Who cares?*

Donald Graham
San Jacinto Chapter

Texoma Poetry Society

Robert Anderson, Austin College Associate Professor of English, specializing in Post-Colonial & World Literature, as well as Creative Writing, presented our February 6th program.

A South African writer and academic, Anderson read his own poetry about the South African liberation struggle, as well as works from 20th Century Scottish poet, Hugh MacDiarmid.

The round-robin subject dealt with "Love, love, hooray for love,,!" with members choosing to read love poems of their own or their favorite love-poets. "Love" was defined

as love of sweetheart or spouse; children, grandparents or other relatives; friends; pets or favorite places.

T.P.S. meets the first Saturday of each month, except July, at the Sherman Public Library, 2:00-4:00 P.M. All poets and poetry lovers are always welcome. FMI: Peggy Silha Ritzer, 903-891-1978.

CONTESTS

Austin Poetry Society Annual Awards Contest has a submission deadline of March 31st.
www.austinpoetrysociety.org

Dos Gatos Press' 2010 Poetry Calendar Contest
Postmarked March 20, 2009
For guidelines, check our website:
www.dosgatospress.org

National Federation of State Poetry Societies Annual Contests – Postmark Deadline – March 15, 2009.
www.nfsps.com

San Antonio Poetry Fair has a contest category available to poets nationwide. 1st Place, \$250.00; 2nd Place, \$100.00; 3rd Place, \$50.00. Postmark June 15, 2009.
Details available at: www.sanantoniopoetryfair.com

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www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

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