

Poetry Society of Texas

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

Bulletin

May, 2009

PST Summer Conference: July 9-11, 2009

Next Meeting: September 12, 2009

A Message from the President

Hello, Members—

Please discuss with your chapter and investigate the idea of hosting the next PST conference. Contact Catherine L'Herisson, Extension Chairman or me for the guidelines. We would love that invite for the 2010 Summer Conference to come from your city.

Sincerely,
Jeannette L. Strother, President

Monthly PST Board Report

Poetry Society of Texas met Saturday, May 9, 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: Budd Powell Mahan, 16th and 19th; J. Paul Holcomb, 17th; Linda Banks, 18th; and Marilyn Stacy, 20th. She also welcomed guests: Shirley Clements Fouts from El Paso; also Irma and Edie Peinado.

Jeannette read a poem celebrating Mother's Day titled, "Lineage" by Lynn Lewis, President of Poets of Tarrant County.

Amy Sandberg, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report.

Lee Carroll, Membership Chair, announced PST membership now stands at 317, which includes six renewed members and three **New Members**: Don Mathis, Sherman, and Susan Langan, San Antonio. There are 243 active members; six honorary members; two library members; 56 life members; and 10 student members. Lee asked for clarification as to Student Membership. Students may join as a Student Member with dues at half-price, or as Active Members which requires full payment of dues.

Budd Powell Mahan presented a report on the Student Awards Program which was held April 18th. He estimated attendance of 150 people. The program at the downtown Dallas Public Library was well received. Budd reported that the contest was self-supporting; in fact, donor money had been under-spent.

Barbara Berry, Summer Conference Chair, noted that the Registration Form was included in the current Bulletin; and also appears on the PST Website and the Gulf Coast

Poets website. Those are: www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org ; <http://gulfcoastpoets.info/PST2009SummerRegistration.pdf> She encouraged everyone to make early hotel reservations as there were a limited number of rooms available at the special conference price.

President Strother made the following announcements:

- Pat Randolph has applications for Spotlight Poet.
- Sharon Turner has tickets available for the Life Member drawings. Each chapter should obtain some to sell.
- Two lithographs--prizes in the Life Member drawings are displayed on the table along with an autographed copy of John J. Nance, Peggy Z. Lynch's son's most recent novel which will be awarded as a meal-paid door prize.
- Other items on the table include notice of an Agent's Conference sponsored by the Writers League of Texas.

Marilyn Stacy, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the slate of officers for the 2009-2010 year:

President – Jeannette L. Strother, Mansfield
Vice-President – Catherine L'Herisson, Garland
Treasurer – Amy Sandberg, Mesquite
Recording Secretary – Sylvia Slaten, Wylie
Corresponding Secretary – Jimmye Inez Sessions, Lewisville

Director – Pat Randolph, Dallas

Director – David Knape, McKinney

Director – Barbara Blanks, Garland

Marilyn asked for other nominations from the floor. There being none, Barbara Berry made a motion to elect the slate by acclamation. Peggy Lynch seconded. The motion carried, and Marilyn asked the retiring officers Barbara Lewie Berry, Lee Carroll and Peggy Zuleika Lynch) to stand. Afterward, Marilyn introduced each new officer, who stood to be recognized.

In lieu of the usual Spotlight Poet presentation, the President asked those present to share what they had done in observance of Poetry Month (April) or on Poetry Day. Some who responded were:

Peggy Lynch – attended a Poetry Festival in Austin.

Shirley Clements Fouts went to an art gallery to study the paintings and is writing a poem about each painting.

Barbara Blanks served as a guest speaker and had poems published in *Senior Voice*.

J. Paul Holcomb reported the Denton Poets Assembly collaborated with the Visual Arts Society of Denton and held a "Poetry & Painting" display. He also participated in a "Poetic Chorus" at Trinity Valley College in Athens.

Lee Carroll participated with other poets in a "Second Tuesday" read-around at the Benbrook Library.

David Knape continues to send poetry information via e-mail to poets in his area.

Budd Powell Mahan spoke at UT/Tyler and presented the PST Student Awards in Dallas.

Robert G. Duchouquette presented his new 100-poem book which was published in April.

Jeannette Strother printed poems and distributed them at the local library, and at her favorite coffee house.

Catherine L'Herisson conducted a program at the Garland Library.

Jeannette made the following announcements:

- o Cliff Roberts has a stress fracture in his tibia.
- o Jimmie Inez Sessions severely injured her knee.
- o NFSPS Delegates are: Nancy Baass, Lead Delegate; Mildred Vorpahl Baass; Naomi Stroud Simmons; Linda Banks; and Catherine L'Herisson.
- o Naomi Simmons won the contest to receive paid accommodations at NFSPS. Congratulations!!!
- o NFSPS is conducting a Special Award Program, asking for chapter input about altruistic endeavors contributed over the past 18 months.

Peggy Zuleika Lynch, Program Chair, introduced Shirley Clements Fouts of El Paso who entertained us with her poetry and life events.

David Bowman, Monthly Contest Chair, announced May's Critic Judge: Hilda Wales, Albuquerque, New Mexico. 1st Place, Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth, for "Parting" (read by Jeannette L. Strother); 2nd Place, J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak; 3rd Place, Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson.

Laugh Lines Winner: Marianne McNeil Logan, Amarillo, with her poem titled: "Unfortunate Timing".

Laugh Lines Judge: Pat Randolph, Dallas.

Reader: Beth Ayers, Plano, read the Book Awards' finalists and the group voted. POPULAR, Mary Cimarolli, Richardson; GALAXY, Marilyn Stacy, Dallas; LUBBE, Carol Halliday, Houston; LYNCH, Ron Burt, Athens; WENDY DIMMETTE, David Knape, Plano; LIFE MEMBERS AWARD, Catherine L'Herisson, Garland. Other poems read were by Jeffrey Qualls, Richardson; Geneva Fulgham, Bellaire; Beth Ayers, Plano; and Lynn Lewis, Forth Worth.

David Bowman announced that the next deadline for the Monthly Contest would be June 15th with reading and judges results at the PST Summer Conference in July.

President Strother reminded those present there would be no meetings in June or August. NFSPS Conference is in June, and the Summer Conference is in July. The next PST meeting will be September 12, 2009.

Program for September 12th: **Roberta Pipes Bowman, from Haltom City.**

PST schedule of events for 2008 - 2009

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

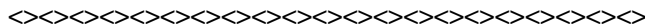
Poetry Society of Texas Annual Contests – Postmark Deadline, August 15, 2009.

Poetry Society of Texas Annual Awards Banquet..... November 14th, Dallas.

Notes of Interest

Correct Information for the 2009 BOTY

Linda Amos-Ganther, York, PA requests that 'Ganther' be removed from her name.



Von Bourland, Bulletin Editor, requests all reports and news be sent via email if possible, preferably before the "Next Meeting Date" at the top of your Bulletin. 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** *****

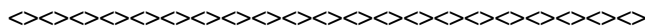
As the Poetry Society of Texas Bulletin is first and foremost about poetry, I offer each PST member a chance to share and shine by printing your short (no more than 12 lines), published poetry in our state Bulletin. Said poem will be considered published by all contests, as our circulation is near 300; therefore, be certain you own the rights to your poem, and will grant permission for publication.

Challenge:

Thank you for your response to the Cinquain Challenge! I still hope to receive enough Cinquains to finish the year. At this date, I have cinquains for several more months. **We need more chapters represented, so send in your cinquains now!** If you know the poets who have submitted their work, please congratulate them!

Send an already (or ready-to-be) published Adelaide Crapsey Cinquin - 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 (one of) the above address(es).



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: 10807 Silhouette Drive, San Antonio, TX 78216 210-342-3032, sdmturmer@aol.com or notify any PST Board member.

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, mmmltx@nts-online.net (Please note corrected email address for Marianne.)

Houston Chapter

Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month, McGovern Library, 7405 Stella Link @ Aberdeen Way, Houston, 1:30 – 3:30 P.M. There is always a read-around and help with your poetry. Visitors are always welcome. FMI: Doris Ferguson, 713-722-8818

Mockingbird Chapter

May 2, 2009, members David Knape, Edmund Burke, Patsy Alexander, Sarah Cramer, Beth Ayers, Inez Grimes, Jimmie Inez Sessions, Jo Steiner, Mike Ramsey, Howard Fisher, Sylvia Medel, Kay Boruff, and Jeannette Hibbs met in McKinney.

We had one new member: Jessica Gonsoulin. Each member read two of their original poems.

Marilyn Stacy, past President, Poetry Society of Texas, Guest Speaker, read from her published poems and spoke of her abiding interest in poetry.

The next meeting is June 6, 1:30 at the Carriage House. FMI: David Knape dknape1969@yahoo.com

Permian Basin Poetry Society

Highlights for 2009:

Hands-On Workshops.

June 13 - Dr. Jim Wilson from Abilene, Poems of Everyday Life.

July 11 – Amy Johnson, recent graduate of ACU – Slam Poetry.

September 12 – Sue Roseberry, Storyteller from “Celebration of Light”: composing a spiritual poem.

NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME!
FMI, Please contact: Kat Copeland @ (432) 697-4205 or kopykat@grandecom.net

Poets Northwest

IMAGISM: A STRATEGY FOR IMPACT

May 9, 2009, Featured Speaker: John Gorman, teacher of Literature and Creative Writing at University of Houston-Clear Lake. His poems, collected in 3 chapbooks, have appeared in dozens of venues in Texas, nationally, and in Canada. His poem, “*Slice of Life*”, was chosen as Best Poem in Texas Poetry Calendar, 2009.

John told how Free Verse was formed 100 years ago and led to a vividness, compression, and linguistic force that commands attention, and ‘proves’ the text, however irregular, to be a poem.

He presented some imagist standards, considered a few early imagist poems, and traced the effect of imagist discipline in the 20th Century.

John also shared some of his own prize-winning poems.

At each meeting there is a Read-A-Round where members and visitors can share their poetry.

Poets Northwest meets the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10:00 A.M. to Noon at Barnes & Noble at Champions Forest Dr. & FM 1960 in Houston.

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

Poets of Tarrant County

May 4, 2009, President Lynn Lewis recognized Roberta Pipes Bowman, who read the opening poem.

Kudos List was acknowledged.

An update on the PST Summer Conference to be held at the Fossil Creek Holiday Inn in Fort Worth July 9-11 was presented.

Spotlight Poet: Lynn Lewis.

Guest Speaker, Linda Banks, included a discussion of her writing process and the reading of several poems from her file: “*Poems You May Never See in Print*”.

After refreshments (chocolate-chip cookies and coffee), assignment poems were read.

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

Rusk County member Linda Amos, York, PA, received notice from Baylor University that several of her poems have appeared in the *House of Poetry* Reading Sessions Publication. Due to job commitments, she was unable to attend the 3-day event in Waco when invited to read.

Lone Star Magazine, of San Antonio, a poetry anthology, will include her poems, “*No One Left to Create a ‘Welcome Home’ Anymore*”, and “*A Promise Kept*”, excerpts from her latest manuscript, *Widowhood Sucks!* These two poems were written when Linda was facing widowhood, while her husband, George Wm. Ganther, was recovering from a complete liver transplant.

Linda is not a native Texan, but claims ‘she got there as fast as she could’ and she plans to return to her beloved Texas when funds are available.

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

San Antonio Poetry Association

What a fantastic April meeting the San Antonio Poets Association enjoyed! After the blessing of soaking rains, the sun came out on Saturday and with it 27 happy poets came forth like spring flowers to share their poetry. We welcomed first time guest Susan Langan who discovered SAPA at the Laurel Crown Poetry Festival on April 4th. New member, Tom Keene, noted San Antonio Poet, winner of the Therese Lindsey Award, 2008, is welcome—we are excited to have him as a member.

March contest winners: Assigned Topic (Just Outside My Door-): 1st Place – Loretta Vaughn; 2nd Place –Karen Schneider; 3rd Place – Sheila Moore; Honorable Mentions – Valerie Bailey and Joan Seifert. March Open Topic Winners: 1st Place – Sheila Moore; 2nd Place –Juan Manuel Perez; 3rd Place – Valerie Bailey; Honorable Mention – Pamela Ferguson. Judge: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, Texas.

For our April National Poetry Day event, Program Chair Floyd Lamrouex planned a *Show-n-Tell, Swap-n-Sell* book event. SAPA members brought their published books. Each member talked briefly about his/her book and read a poem from it. During our refreshment break we browsed the books and purchased or swapped them. This event was so well received and so much fun, we want to do it again!

Members read their April poems on the Assigned Topic: “Fire”, which will be judged by Linda Banks of Mesquite.

After the reading, SAPA voted on a momentous change. SAPA--founded in 1979 is one of the oldest poetry organizations in the city—possibly the oldest. For 30 years we have met regularly, rain or shine, 3rd Saturday of the month from September to May. We have always had a summer recess, but are so enthusiastic about what we are doing that we voted to meet year-round and call our summer meetings: SAPA Summer Sessions. These will be informal, with no contests, minutes, treasurer’s reports, or any of the usual structure. Committee chairs will get a break from regular duties with the exception of the president presiding and the notifications chair continuing to remind us of our meetings. We have work-shops, critiques, book swaps, learn how to publish a chap-book, and anything else that we haven’t had time to do during the regular year. SAPA is growing and we are excited about our future and the future of poetry in our city.

You are invited. FMI: Valerie Bailey, 210-494-2982, or vbailey@satx.rr.com

San Jacinto Chapter

For our April program, President Marvin Trent discussed the life and works of Percy Bysshe Shelly. Our Read-Around was cut short due to unexpected flooding in the area.

April 25th, the chapter had a booth at the Armand Bayou Watershed Festival, an Environmental Awareness program sponsored by the City of Pasadena. Billie Preston, Debbie Webb and Marvin Trent read various poems on stage.

No program is planned for the May meeting. We encourage everyone to bring poems to read after the Business Meeting.

Our website is featuring a poem by Edward Clay, Poet of the Month, and two guest poets. Please visit the site at: <http://www.sanjacintopoetry.org>.

San Jacinto Chapter meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, Sunset United Methodist Church, 709 Allendale Road, Pasadena, Texas.

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

Texoma Poetry Society

April 4, 2009 at Sherman Library, President Frances Neidhardt announced the May 2nd election of officers by slate and/or from the floor. Nominating Committee: Sue Sappenfield, Chair; Althea Hunt, and Barbara Pent.

A local citizen’s anonymous PST membership gift was presented to Don Mathis, who was chosen for published poetry, service, and leadership in Texas poetry circles. The TPS Improvement Survey he chairs will report in June.

Jan Bacon, former Air Force Academy teacher, presented the program; “A ‘One-of-a-Kind’ Woman” .

TPS celebrated April as National Poetry Month with a Poem-in-the-Pocket project. Cuttings of 22 poems from the 6th century BC to the present were distributed in the community from jiffy bags. Snippets from Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Gwendolyn Brooks were selected online from hundreds of Poetry-in-Motion posters seen since 1972 in NYC subways and buses. Poetry-in-Motion is sponsored by NYC Transit, Poetry Society of America and the NEA. TPS’ project was a variation of the widely advertised Poem-in-Your-Pocket, through which the National Academy of Poets showered the nation with poems on April 30th.

All 8 present read poems.

May 2, 2009, Allan Hust opened the meeting , reading Pablo Neruda’s long poem “*Poetry*”.

The program was an interactive “*Lectio Divina*”, or medieval-style ‘divine reading’ of a deep poem by Nobel Poet Juan Ramon Jimenez (trans. Robert Bly). Leader: Scottie Johnson of SMU’s Perkins Seminary.

All present read poems.

New Officers: President, Don Mathis; Vice-President, Frances Neidhardt; Secretary-Treasurer, Sue Sappenfield.

Peggy Silha Ritzer received notice her poem, “*Runaway Bay, Summer of 1977*” will be published in the 2010 Texas Poetry Calendar. Also, she won 2nd Place in the March Contest of Massachusetts Poetry Society.

Don Mathis, Incoming President received the Silver Star Award for Poetry awarded at the Telling Our Stories 20th Festival.

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

Adelaide Crapsey Cinquain Challenge

“*Inauguration Day*”

*Flags wave
above hushed crowds.
One steps down. Another
rises to nation’s high office.
Takes lead.*

Mary Tindall
Rose Garden Poetry Society - Tyler

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