President Budd Powell Mahan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and recognizing past presidents: J. Paul Holcomb, Catherine L’Herisson, and Pat Stodghill, and Mockingbird president Alice Parker.

Vice-President Aman Khan gave his final September financial statement. The “seed” money used to handle the NFSPS convention expenses has been re-deposited. Patrick Lee Marshall has officially accepted the position of Treasurer. He is working closely with Assistant Treasurer Barbara Blanks during the transition. Aman also mentioned that Blanks is continuing with the PST audit, which she hopes will be concluded soon.

Director Beth Ayers gave the September Membership Report for membership chair Lynn Lewis. The report is posted at the top of page 6.

Extension Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell reported that she is mailing newsletters to PST councilors once a month to let them know what other chapters are doing and about various awards. She asked to be contacted with this kind of information, so ideas can be circulated among the chapters.

Director Beth Ayers displayed a Certificate of Participation, awarded by NFSPS, for PST’s activities during Poetry Day and Poetry Month. She presented it to President Mahan, who is also the PST Archivist.

Beth then put on her Awards Banquet Chair hat, and reminded everyone that November 11 is Awards Banquet Day, where “we celebrate the winners of the PST contests.” Even if you didn’t enter the contests, or don’t receive a winners’ e-mail or postcard, you can come for the companionship and the fun, and to enjoy poetry.

The banquet registration form is online, and is also inserted in this Bulletin. Please get your registration to Beth by November 4, as she needs to get the information to the hotel for meal planning.

The verification (of winners) meeting is being held on Sunday, October 15. A winning notice will be emailed or if the winner has no e-mail address, a postcard will be mailed after this meeting. Remember, things have been delayed because of Hurricane Harvey. Contest Chair Nancy Baass has done an incredible job as in spite of the hurricane.

Councilor Aman Khan is attempting to form a Dallas chapter of PST, which would function differently from the state meeting. It is still in the organizational phase—no days/time set up, but if you are interested, please contact him.

Continued on page 2
You can be a member of more than one chapter.

**Spotlight on Poets Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell** presented former president and vice-president **Catherine L’Herisson as our Spotlight Poet**. Catherine is a native of Louisiana, and has been a member of PST for more than 30 years. Her poetry is included in many anthologies, and she read from some of them.

**Program Chair Catherine L’Herisson** introduced our speaker, **J. Paul Holcomb, the Poet from Double Oak**. He is also the first Lewisville Poet Laureate, and now in his second term. He was PST president for three years, and is a member of the Denton Poets Assembly, where he has taught about different forms every month for more than ten years. He called his program, “Paul’s Letters to the Poets, Chapters 1,2 & 3.” Since his program was about French forms, he first

pointed out that the information about the Rondeau that is printed in both the NFSPS 2018 contest flyer and posted at the website is incorrect. The correct Rondeau pattern is: aabba aabR aabbaR. It is a 15-line poem.

Paul talked about the Rondeau, which he likes because it lends itself to both serious and whimsical subjects. He also talked about Shakespearean (or English), Spenserian, Petrarchan, and terza rima sonnets. He pointed out the rhyme patterns and read examples of each. He also said there are several books that delineate the different forms and are good for reference.

After the break, **Contest Chair Budd Powell Mahan** announced the winners in the October Monthly Contests. See contest results are posted in the Contest Box on page 1.

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**ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS**

**Antonia Murguia Reporting**

Eight members gathered for the October meeting, along with two new members: Carlos Carreon and Jeannie Sanders and two guests, Jim LaVilla-Havelin and our guest speaker, Michelle Hartman. President Lois Heger welcomed everyone.

After the pledge and a moment of silence, Lois introduced Michelle Hartman of Fort Worth. Michelle has published four books, *Disenchanted and Disgruntled, Irony and Irreverence*, *The Lost Journal of My Second Trip to Purgatory*, her latest book, *There Are No Doors*. Michelle, editor of *Red River Review*, read her poetry—some serious and some hilarious. She also told us her publishing story and gave us pointers on publishing. We were glad she brought her books for us to purchase.

We greatly enjoyed Michelle’s visit.

Winning poems for September’s assigned topic were: 3rd HM—Carol Siskovic; 2nd HM—Lois Heger; 1st HM—Antonia Murguia; 3rd place—Sheila Moore; 2nd place—Lea Fagin 1st place—Peter Holland. Open topic winners were: 3rd HM—Peter Holland; 2nd HM—Carol Siskovic; 1st HM—Billie Stroud; 3rd place—Antonia Murguia; 2nd place—Sheila Moore; 1st place—Iris Maahs. Our thanks to our judge, Shirley Elliot Cosby of Emory.

Delicious refreshments were provided by Kim Mott. We had a book raffle, and the October poems were read. The assigned topics were: Out of Dante’s Inferno or Getting Started. The judge will be Budd Mahan of Dallas. After announcements we adjourned. Our next meeting is November 4 at 2 p.m. We thanked our guests and new members for joining us.

**BEAUMONT CHAPTER**

**Barbara Green Powell Reporting**

Beaumont poets thank everyone for their concern during hurricane Harvey. It was devastating to many of our friends and family but all our members were blessed and had no water in their homes. Beaumont and surrounding cities were islands, so everyone had to stay home and deal with the stress of no water, since Beaumont’s water was compromised for a week or so. It raised our spirits to know you cared.

Calder Woods Retirement facility is not feasible for meetings at this time so we’re back to meeting in our homes, mainly Birma’s and Barbara’s. We did it this way back in the days when Violette Newton started the Beaumont Chapter. It was a welcome relief to get together after the hurricane. Friends and poetry helped relieve the stress of living through Harvey. Many still have a long way to go, and we pray for them daily.

In case we didn’t brag earlier, two members of the Beaumont Chapter placed in the national contests. Laurie Kolp won a 2nd and Barbara Green Powell won a 1st. Birma encouraged and helped Barbara enter while she was dealing with breast cancer, so Birma deserves to share credit for Barbara’s 1st place win. Love you Birma!

Dorothy Clover still promotes poetry in Beaumont. The first Monday of October, she hosted a reading at the Logon Café. She was well received and enjoyed leading the other poets in attendance. We’re proud of Dorothy and her skill in poetry recitation.

Barbara Green Powell was honored to be asked by Janet Watson of FSPA Student Poetry to judge one of the contests that takes place in December. Barbara thanks whoever recommended her for this honor.

We’re hoping to see you at the Awards Banquet in November. Praises to Nancy Baass who was also affected by Harvey and still took on the huge task of getting poems to judges and the million other details it incurs. You’re the Best, Nancy!

**DENTON POETS ASSEMBLY**

**Richard Weatherly Reporting**

On October 21, Denton Poets’ Assembly members and guests met. We held a critique session at 9 a.m. followed by our regular monthly meeting at 10 a.m. that continued until noon.

We began with a short business meeting during which guests were recognized. After the meeting, members read assigned poems from J. Paul Holcomb’s September lesson, “The Terza Rima Sonnet.” Following the readings, J. Paul presented
This October, Gulf Coast Poets set aside our typical monthly meeting to host Poetry Out-of-Bounds, the kick-off event for the Houston Poetry Fest. Coordinated by Master of Ceremonies Laura Pena, the event included Guest Poet Vanessa Zimmer-Powell as well as readings by GCP members Mary Margaret Carlisle, Daniel Carrington, David Cowen, Ann Fogelman, John Gorman, CeJac, Weasel Patterson, Matthew Riley, and Tria Wood, along with other invited area poets.

Also in the news, Dos Gatos Press announced the winners for their third, as-yet-untitled collection of 100-word poems about the American southwest, due out in early 2018. GCP would like to congratulate the following members on being selected for inclusion: Jane Chance, Michael Galko, John Milkereit, Matthew Riley, and Vanessa Zimmer-Powell.

We would like to honor those members selected for and participating in the ongoing 2017 Houston Poetry Fest, hosted by the University of Houston-Downtown. This year’s Featured Poet is Gabrielle Langley, and the Juried Poets include L.A. Merrill and Vanessa Zimmer-Powell. Congrats to all three of them!

**HOT POETS SOCIETY**  
**Sandi Horton Reporting**

Several members of our chapter helped with the Waco Cultural Arts WordFest on October 6-8 at the Waco Convention Center. Mary Evans hosted the open mic on Friday night. Chris Boldt was the proofreader for the 91 page WordFest Anthology that was compiled and edited by Sandi Horton. More than 70 poetry lovers attended the Anthology Read on Saturday night. Poetry features during the three day WordFest included Karla K. Morton, Joyce and Mike Gullickson, Ann Howells, and Michael Guinn. Sandi Horton was the chairperson of the WordFest for the fourth year.

The Hot Poets Society will hold our regular “first Saturday of the month” meeting on November 4 from 3–5 p.m. at a new downtown art gallery called “7twelve” at 712 Austin Avenue in downtown Waco. It is located a few doors down from the Hippodrome where the HOT Poets had previously been meeting. All poets are welcome!

**MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER**  
**Jessica Gonsoulin Reporting**

At the monthly meeting on October 7, President Alice Parker welcomed guests John and Lee Alexander. John is a children’s author who came across PST on the internet.

Sylvia Medel is in charge of readings at retirement homes, and five members read last Saturday to 10 residents at Stoneridge. Willie Sims sent a thank you letter to say how much he enjoyed reading. Several books were donated to the Stoneridge library.

John Martin distributed copies of the revised bylaws and reviewed them briefly. The Purpose section was particularly poetic. Changes were suggested in terms of officers. Changes will be voted on in November. Nominations will also be made in November for the new year. Alice appointed Tom Martin, Ed Burke, and Sylvia Medel to the nominating committee.

Beth Ayers is working on the next Collin County Poetry Contest and enlisted the help of many members to update email addresses.

**PERMIAN BASIN POETRY SOCIETY**  
**Kat Kopeland Reporting**

The Permian Basin Poetry Society sponsored the 100,000 Poets for Change (Global) event on September 30 in downtown Odessa from 7 p.m.–midnight. The house was packed. The positive support and sharing by the poets, musicians, visual artists, and audience was astounding! In spite of the constant rain and flooding all day, the feel among the eclectic crowd was electric and enthusiastic.

Dee’s is a perfect artsy venue. It’s a brick building built in the 1940s, the former Ector County Presidential Museum. It includes brick floors and it’s decorated with antiques and collectibles. Our talented emcees, who are also musicians, were Ernesto Calderon and Kyle Youngblood. An additional singer and five bands of multiple genres performed. The Poetry/spoken word artists were: Shaobeny Chanprell (recent Slam Poetry winner), David Limer, Ashley Alley, Amanda Rudloff, Ann Swan, Lorrie Norris, Courtney Simpson, Martha Zulema Barraza, Kionne Lewis, Vince Angeles, Josh Weir, Isaiah Mata, Jared Madrigal, Boudre Williams, Angel Sanchez, Kat Copeland, comics Adam Rhee and Jesus Herrera. Fifteen visual artists, including multi-talented poets and other artists displayed in the gallery. Authors were welcome to do book signings. Merchandise was for sale. Cynthia Ruby (Michelle Hall Pfalzgraf), one of the performing poets and visual artists, arranged for Beth Atkins, reporter for UTPB’s Mesa Journal to interview artists. Video was done by Isaiah Villafranco. Our flyer on Facebook received 23,000 likes.

Open mics are held on the second Thursday of each month at Brew Street Coffee House in Midland. They continue to have standing room only. Poets, musicians, other performing artists, and audiences are always welcome. The hours are 8-10 p.m. The location is 4610 North Garfield. Phone: 432-218-7334

**POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY**  
**Angie Goin Reporting**

The Poets of Tarrant County met on October 2, President Ron Eddins presiding. Hollis Davis gave the program foreword introducing poets: Steve Sanders, Susan Campbell, and Susan Taylor. In the performance of “Two Lilies,” a collaboration of two arts: music and poetry, Campbell and Taylor read their poems to the background rhythm of drums, flutes, and thunder—musical tones choreographed and published by Sanders, who currently serves as President of the Fort Worth Poetry
POETS NORTHWEST
Lynn Grice Reporting

Poets Northwest’s meeting space at the Pearl Fincher Museum suffered damage during Hurricane Harvey’s floods, so September’s meeting was cancelled. Thankfully, most of our members suffered little or no damage. We are in a temporary location at least for October and November. October’s meeting was a Big Read-A-Round and November’s program will be announced later.


Karen Mastracchio was the winner of PNW’s Anthology Cover Art Contest. Our 2017 anthology, Honoring Art: An Ekphrastic Anthology, is tentatively scheduled for December.

If you are in the Houston area on the third Saturday of the month, please join us at one of our monthly meetings, held temporarily, at the Windwood Presbyterian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress Rd. in Houston. Poets and guests are encouraged to read original or favorite works during the second half of the meeting. Our PST chapter is on the web at http://www.poetsnw.com and on Facebook at http://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest.

RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY
Jo Morrow Reporting

The Rusk County Poetry Society met on September 20 at the Community Building of the Henderson Church of Christ with 13 attending. The meeting was conducted by Sue Roberts who asked Richard Herzeler to offer an opening prayer. Minutes were read by Carol Thompson and approved. The treasurer’s report was given by Charles Taylor who explained the complications involved in moving the Society’s account to a more convenient bank. The group voted not to make the move. Due to Evelyn Appelbee’s passing, the need for a second signature on the account was announced, and Carol Thompson agreed to provide that service.

The group voted to continue our practice of offering a scholarship to a promising high school senior. Members received their previously critiqued poetry from Mary Tindall, and she collected new poems from last month’s assignment to submit. Mary also presented the informative lesson, “Writing Poetry from the Inside Out.” November’s writing assignment is to write a poem from the perspective, “Barefoot in Summer.”

Following the lesson, refreshments were provided by Sue Roberts and Sharon Taylor. New business included the appointment of the nominating committee for next year’s officers. The committee will consist of Richard Hurzeler, Jackie McVey, and Mary Wood. The rest of the meeting was devoted to completing plans for the “Celebrate Poetry” event in October, which will include: open mic poetry reading; lunch; a raffle for a weekend in Hot Springs; and memorial tributes for Evelyn Appelbee and Dr. David Craig. The highlight of the event will be guest speaker, Dr. Charlotte Renk, retired college literature instructor and widely published poet.

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION
Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

SAPA met on October 21 with President Pat Gibbs presiding. After the pledge and a moment of meditation, everyone was welcomed and the minutes and treasurer’s report were approved.

The Poet Laureate for 2017 was announced by Contest Chair, Sharon Martin Turner. Sheila Tingley Moore earned the honor again this year. Valerie Martin Bailey is 1st runner-up, Michaud L. Lamrouex is 2nd runner-up, Loretta Vaughan is 3rd runner-up. The winner of the Poetic Excellence Award this year is Valerie Martin Bailey. Plaques, certificates, and other recognition gifts were awarded these winners.

The awards ceremony was followed by the annual Poet Laureate’s address by Sheila Tingley Moore on the subject “Strange Paths to Poems.” This workshop style presentation was interesting, entertaining, and informative. It will be helpful to
our constant quest to write better poetry.

Next winners of the September contests were announced and awarded. In the assigned topic contest (subject “obsolete,”) the winners were: 1st – Valerie Martin Bailey, 2nd – Jean Jackson, 3rd – Joan Seifert, and HM – Margaret Barrett Mayberry. The open topic contest winners were: 1st – Sheila Tingley Moore, 2nd – John Friedland, 3rd – Joan Jackson, and HM – Carol Siskovik. The judge for September was Michael Baldwin of Benbrook. Our heartfelt thanks for his time and excellent judging ability.

Our refreshment break featured goodies from Mary Cer- vantes and Lois Heger. Our new Social Chairman is Sharon Martin Turner who graciously offered to take on this job.

After the break, we read our October poems, which will be judged by Lisa Salinas of Spring. After our book raffle, the meeting was adjourned.

TYLER ROSE GARDEN POETRY SOCIETY
Mary Tindall Reporting
The Rose Garden Poetry Society met Thursday, October 12 in the Hanks Senior Center with seven members present. The first half hour was spent preparing table favors for the Celebration of Poetry Day in Henderson shared annually with the Rusk County Poetry Society. Events and expectations of that day were discussed.

Poets read their minute poems assigned for October. For November, Carol Thompson suggested a 12 line serious poem to meet an NFPS category requirement. Carol brought us news of her recent trip to the WordFest in Waco. She mentioned informative sessions and inspirational events.

Poets considered two lists, one from the current PST Bulletin offering suggestions from contest judge Budd Mahan, and one in the NFPS Strophes by Russell H. Strauss, of Tennessee on a rating system for judging. Making submissions more appealing to judges is a goal of the Rose Garden Poetry group.

The meeting was adjourned after sharing poems and ideas for writing better poems. Members left looking forward to the Celebration of Poetry Day on October 14 in Henderson with keynote speaker Charlotte Rink.

The Fort Worth Poetry Society
In Cooperation With the Poetry Society of Texas Offers
The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2018

The contest honors deceased Fort Worth poet William D. Barney, one of the most distinguished poets Fort Worth has produced, a former member of FWPS, and past president of the Poetry Society of Texas. He won the national Robert Frost Award in 1961 and was Texas Poet Laureate in 1982-83.

The winner will receive $50 plus 25 free copies of the published chapbook.

Rules for Entry:

1. This contest is open to Texas residents and/or active PST members only. Entry fee for Members of the Poetry Society of Texas is $10. Entry fee for non-members of PST is $20. Make your check or money order payable to the Fort Worth Poetry Society. No cash please.
2. Contestants should submit a single copy of their manuscript in English only.
3. Manuscripts should be a minimum of 20 but no more than 30 pages of poetry, and no more than one poem per page. The manuscript may include both published and unpublished poems, but may not include poems from other books by the author. A list of acknowledgments of published poems should not be included. The winner will supply an acknowledgments page, if needed, during arrangements for publication. The author should not be identified on the manuscript. Include a separate identification sheet with name of author, address, phone, email, and title of the manuscript.
4. Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered.
5. Fort Worth Poetry Society will assume the production costs of developing the manuscript into a market-ready, soft cover collection. This includes editing, cover design, pricing, and ISBN registration. Upon publication of the finished chapbook, the author will receive 25 free copies of the chapbook, with additional copies available at the author discount of 50%. FWPS reserves the right to print and sell additional copies at retail cost, with a 10% royalty to the author. Except for the rights granted to the FWPS, the winner will retain the copyright to the chapbook.
6. The winner of the contest will not be eligible to enter again for six years. Current members of the Fort Worth Poetry Society are not eligible to enter this contest.
7. A qualified, impartial judge selected by FWPS, but not a member of FWPS or PST, will select the winning manuscript. The judge’s name will not be announced until the winner is announced.
8. The winner will be invited to do readings from the chapbook at the PST Summer Conference; at a monthly meeting of PST in Dallas; and at a 2nd Friday Poetry program at Benbrook Public Library in Benbrook, Texas.
9. Entry of the contest acknowledges agreement with these stipulations.
10. Entries will be accepted with postmarks between January 1 and February 15, 2018.
11. Announcement of the winner will be at the April, 2018, PST meeting and by email to entrants. Entries should be mailed to: FWPS Chapbook Contest, 10148 Fieldcrest Drive, Benbrook, TX 76126. Include your email or a SSAE to be notified of delivery.
MEMBERSHIP REPORT ~ SEPTEMBER 2017
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

Active Members...........224  Sustaining Members...........6
Associate Members........13  Recently Deceased...........0
Life Members...............46  Renewing Members..........18
Student Members.........37  New Members ...............5
Supporting Members.......1  Current Member Total....327

WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS
John Brooks ~ Bedford
Johnnie B. Carter ~ Humble
Ann Howells ~ Carrollton
Ilene Kitchens ~ San Antonio
Christopher S. Soden ~ Dallas

We are glad you joined, you will ♥ PST!

HELP OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR...
Keep our membership roll up to date. Notify Lynn Lewis right away if there is any change in your contact information: address, phone number, or e-mail. Lynn’s e-mail address is: elsquared59@yahoo.com, and her telephone number is: 817-921-9322.

BOOKDonATIONS REPORT
From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports that no additional books were donated in September to the permanent collection of the Dallas Central Library other than the ones listed in the September Bulletin and none so far in October.

If you have published a collection of poems or your chapter has published an anthology, please consider donating a copy to this collection. Send your books to Librarian Barbara Blanks at 1518 Running River Road, Garland, TX 75044-7254.

Attention Members-at-Large:
You Can Toot Your Own Horn in the Bulletin
If you are a member-at-large with no chapter in your area, consider starting one. If that’s not an option, and you have no group to report your poetic achievements, you can still share your good news with your PST poetry family. If you win an award, get published somewhere, or win a significant contest that we don’t already report, send a notice to Bulletin Editor, Valerie Martin Bailey. Keep it brief (4-6 lines) and remember we do NOT advertise members’ books. If we did, there would be no room in the Bulletin for anything else. Most of our members have books for sale, and we cannot advertise them all. The Bulletin news deadline is the 14th of each month by 6:00 p.m. (except June, July and November). Send your news to vbaileybulletin@att.net.

THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS MEETS...
On the second Saturday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at Preston Royal Library
5626 Royal Lane
Dallas, Texas 75229

The poetry year runs from September through May, with the exception of November, when the annual Awards Banquet is held in a Dallas hotel (TBA). The annual Summer Conference convenes in a different area of the state each July.

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