Minutes of the General Meeting of the Poetry Society of Texas
for Saturday, March 9 2019, 2:30 p.m.
at the Preston Royal Library in Dallas
Submitted by Recording Secretary, Barbara Blanks

President Aman Khan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, including our speaker, Alan Gann, guest Jay Gewertz, past presidents Catherine L’Herisson and J. Paul Holcomb, and Dallas Chapter (Pegasus) president Domingo Rodriguez.

Catherine L’Herisson reminded us that the House of Poetry at Baylor University in Waco will take place on April 3, and that Birma Castle will once again be hosting Lucidity Poetry Retreat in Eureka Springs, AR, on April 2-3-4. Nathan Brown and Charlotte Renk will be program presenters. Our summer conference will be held in Denton in July. Details and forms are in this Bulletin and on our website at www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org.

April is National Poetry Month. If you or your chapter does anything to celebrate, please send the information to Valerie Bailey for the Bulletin, and to Susan Maxwell Campbell to include in the report to NFSPS.

Librarian Barbara Blanks turned in the last 36 books that had been previously announced and donated to the PST permanent collection. She has been holding them while changes were being made at the Dallas Central Library.

She also gave the February Membership Report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. The report can be seen on page 15.

In addition to the financial report, Treasurer Patrick Lee Marshall announced the death of long time member Leona Welch of Pottsboro on March 5. Leona was a Councilor Emeritus and recipient of the Hilton Ross Greer Award in 1999. Her family made a donation in support of the Student Awards program in her name. Mary Yokum another long time PST member and past president of the Hi-Plains Chapter passed away on March 1. A tribute to both ladies can be read on page 9.

Spotlight on Poets Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell introduced our Remote Spotlight Poet, Angie Goin, of Fort Worth, who is Vice President of Poets of Tarrant County. Angie, who would love to be a food critic and “taste her way around the world” read several of her poems.

Program Co-Chair JDarrell Kirkley presented...
our program speaker, Alan Gann, who is a longtime member of the Dallas Poets Community. He is also on their Board of Directors and helps edit their journal, *Illya’s Honey*. He has been published in several venues and has been nominated for Pushcart Prizes. He says one day he hopes “to make the leap from anonymity to obscure regional poet.”

Alan is a barefoot poet—literally. He said, “If I’m barefoot and standing up, I will recognize great lines more easily. Once you read a great poem, notice how your body feels.”

He began his program, titled “Lines & Sound: Remembering What We Already Know,” with a poem by Lawrence Ferlinghetti titled, “Constantly Risking Absurdity.” It equates poets with acrobats who, in order to get better, must climb to “where Beauty stands and waits/with gravity/to start her death-defying leap.”

He challenged the audience by asking what favorite lines we remembered. He put a Mary Oliver poem on screen and asked if it was a poem (we were all wrong); he displayed a piece of sheet music and asked if that was music. One person was correct: it was a representation of music, but not music itself.

Poetry, like music, is not necessarily what you see—it is what you hear, what vibrates in the air and into your brain. Poetry is a spoken art form, and that’s why sound and rhythm matter. To write a great poem, you have to write great lines. Not all lines will be great, but you must have some in order to turn a good poem into a great poem. “The world is filled with mediocre poems. We don’t need any more.” He urged us to read aloud what we think are our finished poems, because “until you hear it, you don’t know if it’s finished or not.” He gave us a three-part challenge:

1. **Create A Synthetic Poem**: select 8-15 lines from different poems and arrange them into a new poem. Focus more on how it sounds than literal meaning. It might not make sense, but it will sound great.

2. **Write a New Poem**: select a favorite line from your synthetic poem and use it as the first line in the new poem.

3. **Share Your New Poem**: ask for feedback only if you want it.

In all steps, the poem should be read aloud, perhaps more than once, and it should be given a title.

Also, do some analysis, like “How does the lyrical content influence the overall effect and effectiveness of the poem?”

Alan answered questions after his program and signed books. He also gave us envelopes containing strips of paper with 8-15 lines from his favorite poems to get us started on creating synthetic poems.

After the break **Contest Chair Rich Weatherly** announced the winners of the March Monthly Contests, after which the meeting was adjourned. See the winners in the box below:

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**March Monthly Contest Winners**

28 Entries

**Critic Judge**: Crystal Robbins, Memphis, TN

1st: Angie Goin, Fort Worth, “Spring is in the Air”

2nd: Barbara Blanks, Garland

3rd: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas

**Laugh Lines**

Judge: Aman Khan, Dallas

Winner: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

**Book Prizes**

Reader: Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

Popular Prize: Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

Poetry for Poets: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Naomi Stroud Simmons Award: Aman Khan, Dallas

Wm. D. Barney Award: Manuel English, Paulsbo, WA

M. Tandy Duemke Award: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak

Robby K. Mitchell Award: Sheila T. Moore, San Antonio

Other poems read were by: Marilyn Stacy, Christopher Soden, Rebecca Burroughs, and Hilda F. Wales

Send contest entries before the 15th of each month to Contest Chair, Richard Weatherly, at 7617 Palomar Dr., No. Richland Hills, TX 76180 • 817-428-8088 • WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net.

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**PST’S APRIL MONTHLY MEETING will not be held at the Preston Royal Library.**

We will meet for APRIL ONLY at the Texas King Indo-Pak Cafe and Grill 6900 Alma Dr., #100 in Plano, TX 76023.

Tea and Samosas will be served.
The meeting will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Cafe & Grill phone number is: (972) 517-5151

(Email for directions)
ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS  
Antonia Murguia Reporting

Our March meeting was a fun-filled meeting. Secretary, Antonia Murguia, presented a fun poem workshop. The workshop involved creating a poem using phrases, words, and letters from magazines. Everyone was quiet while cutting from the magazines. Carol Siskovic stated, “I never thought I would be cutting words from a magazine to write a poem today.” We laughed and agreed. Our poems were wonderful. At the end of the workshop, Antonia stated that she always likes to surprise her participants and keep the workshop hands on.

The February winners are as follows: Assigned Topics. HM~Sheila Moore; 3rd Place~Lea Fagin; 2nd Place~Iris Maahs; 1st Place~Patricia Keoughan. Open Topic: 2nd HM~Carol Siskovic; 1st HM~Lou Taylor; 3rd Place~Lois Heger; 2nd Place~Patricia Keoughan; 1st Place~Antoinette Winstead.

Rene Ornes brought delicious snacks, and the secretary conducted our book raffle. We read our March poems about a Favorite City or Second Place/Choice.

April’s topics are Chaotic Joy or Beach Combing. Our April meeting in honor of Poetry Month will be at the Landa Library on April 6 at 2 p.m. All AAPT members are to bring cookies; some will bring water.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY  
Jeffrey Taylor Reporting

On Saturday, April 18, from 1:30-3:30 p.m., we invite all our readers to gather at the Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock Dr., for an Open Mic poetry reading in celebration of April and National Poetry Month. We look forward to the pleasure of your company and your poems; bring both to share.

And for those whose pens have been running a bit dry lately, check out some of these excellent selections at BookWoman or Malvern Books and then share your favorites: Faithful and Virtuous Night by Louise Gluck, Instant Winner by Carrie Fountain, 3 Sections by Vijay Seshadri, What Work Is by Philip Levine, Turtle Island by Gary Snyder, Gasoline by Gregory Corso, Geography III by Elizabeth Bishop, or Blood Dazzler by Patricia Smith.

We’ll learn from Greg Silver the results of the April Monthly Meeting Contests. Members will also vote in the April officers election. Our meetings are free and open to the public, so non-members, please join us!

BEAUMONT CHAPTER  
Barbara Green Powell Reporting

Beaumont Chapter is marching on, hoping the cold spells won’t kill off our budding flowers and trees. Although our President, Birma Castle, will welcome a reprieve from the pollen that plagues her sinuses. With the recent cold weather, everyone looks forward to spring to bud poetry in our minds.

Now that I have poetry on your minds, don’t forget Lucidity’s April Get Away Retreat the first week of April. I have great news for you, Texas’ own Charlotte Renk is joining with Nathan Brown to make this the best Retreat ever. This Retreat is the best for critiquing your poems. When you participate, it not only improves your poem, it also improves your mind and helps you critique your own poems. I can’t wait, and I’m hoping all of you poets will join us April 2–4 in Eureka Springs.

Beaumont poets are looking forward to our next meeting on March 21, where we’ll read and critique our 3 by 3 by 3 poems. Best of all is the friendship we poets share when we get together. Food helps us fellowship as we go out to eat at a nearby restaurant immediately following the meeting. Come join us for the fun poetry brings.

Hope to see you on April 2–4 in beautiful Eureka Springs, AR. Poetry is in the air!

DALLAS PEGASUS POETRY SOCIETY  
Domingo Rodriguez Reporting

The Pegasus Poetry Society meets monthly at the Preston Royal Library, in Dallas. This month we will meet on Thursday, March 14 at 6 p.m. Come on out and be one of our lucky charms to gather for poems, fellowship, and laughs. The following is from our very own Charlotte Renk:

“Dear Pegasus Workshop Participants, because our numbers have dwindled, I want you to know that I have missed you and that I draw good energy from your participation. I welcome your poems and your input as we strive to help each other improve our poems. I hope you will bring a new poem (based on a
past assignment or not) with 10-15 copies so that we might learn from you.

"I'll share a very short lesson to inspire new ideas, which I'll call 'Poems of Preservation,' based on a recent, rather alarming cultural deletion. I hope to see your smiling, eager faces, poems in hand. With eager anticipation, Charlotte."

Kay Merkel Boruff has invited us to her book signing, March 21, 7-8 p.m. at Interabang Books at Preston/Royal, (southeast quadrant between Central Market and the Gap) Q&A and book signing for her book, Z.O.S.

DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY
Richard Weatherly Reporting
DPA’s March 16 meeting began with a welcome to visitors and a short discussion of new and old business. Following the discussion, members read “Response” poems to works by Elizabeth Bishop. Susan Maxwell Campbell gave a presentation designed to encourage creativity, and DPA member, Bob Schinzle, was our Spotlight Poet. After members read free choice poems, the meeting adjourned at noon.

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY
Anne Jones Reporting
The March meeting of the Fort Worth Poetry Society was opened by our president, Steve Sanders. Susan Campbell read “Harvesting the Cows” by Ellen Bryant Voigt. It had appeared in the New Yorker. Susan had handouts so we could follow as she read it. She commented at some length on its alliteration, and the way it begins far off and then comes nearer and nearer. A very fine poem.

Mike Baldwin announced that we have 15 entries in the Mr. Barney Chapbook contest. They will be judged by Christine Bolt, and the winner will be announced at the Summer PST Conference.

Tricia Ferguson reminded us of the House of Poetry at Baylor University on April 3, as well as the International Poetry Convention in Austin the same weekend. Steve reported an excellent Valentine reading at Hulen Mall and also the Black History Month reading there at the end of the month. Both were well received, and Steve received a kind letter from Daniel Robb.

In new business, Steve announced a reading at Hulen Mall on March 17 with Irish and British poems the first hour and original poems by us the second hour.

Mike Baldwin mentioned that our members will read from noon till 2 p.m at Leaves Book and Tea Store on Saturday, March, 23 to celebrate National Poetry Day.

Steve asked for a slate of officers, to be voted on in April. Marilyn Komechak and Mike Baldwin will visit the Fort Worth Library to submit various materials to our archives there. It’s been a while since we’ve done that.

Finally, Mike has completed the anthology of poems about classical music, and it will be ready to publish in April. Our group of poets was large, so there were many poems to critique. They seemed extra fine tonight. Kudos followed.

GULF COAST POETS
Daniel Carrington Reporting
In March, Gulf Coast Poets welcomed poet, artist, and photographer Brian Kehinde as this month’s featured reader. Brian read from his newest collection, Filthy Knowledge III: Amethyst Fantasy Vol. I, available online through Ankletibers Publishing. He also shared poems on a variety of topics from earlier collections. Thank you, Brian!

In GCP member news, Matthew Riley will host a new installment of his Off the Page Poetry Series on March 20 at 7 p.m. at Friendswood Public Library. Fellow GCP members David Cowen, Choonwha Moon, and John Milkereit will be among the six featured readers.

Also in the news, the Horror Writers Association has announced that former GCP president David Cowen is a finalist for the 2018 Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in a Poetry Collection. His nominated collection, Bleeding Saffron, is available online through Weasel Press. We congratulate him on this great honor and wish him the best of luck!

HI-PLAINS CHAPTER
Tom & Frances Ferris Reporting
Members present at the February 16 meeting were: John Schmidt, Frances Clegg-Ferris, Bryan Hampton, Von and Barry Bourland, Karl Smith, and Katy Hupp. Visitors: Panda Keeling, Adele Dawson, and Joe Warren.

Frances Clegg-Ferris, President, opened the meeting with a critique session on the Eril form. The following poets submitted poems: Von Bourland, John Schmidt, Bryan Hampton, Katy Hupp, and Adele Dawson.

Following the critique session the workshop started on the Etheree form. Frances gave out instructions and examples. Poem titles were: “Pain,” “Reaching Out,” “Instincts,” and “Mountains up North.” (Editor’s note: author’s names withheld from Bulletin).

Business Meeting: the minutes of the December
MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER

John Alexander Reporting

MPS held its regular monthly meeting on March 2 in the Heard-Craig Carriage House in McKinney. President Tom Martin presided. Eleven members attended and two new members joined at the end of the meeting.

President Martin reminded us about PST’s monthly contests. Entry deadline for these contests is the 15th of each month. The information about the monthly contests is posted on the PST Website: www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests. President Martin also reminded the group of the upcoming Texas Storytelling Festival March 7-10. Members Ann Marie Newman and Jiaan Powers will be active participants in the event. Many events are available, some free, others at a minimal charge.

Vice President Beth Ayers reported on the upcoming Collin County Poetry Contest. Judging is in progress. The Mockingbird independent judging is complete. Congratulations to the finalists (in no particular order): David Knappe, Sylvia Medel, and Beth Ayers.

The Awards Ceremony will be held 2:00-4:30 p.m., April 28 at the Church Street Auditorium, across the street from the Heard-Craig House. Members plan to arrive at 1:00 p.m. to prepare to greet the guests.

President Martin reported that the National Poetry Month commemoration open mic will be April 27, 1:30–3:30 p.m. at the Café Bohemia in Plano, near the intersection of Los Rios and Park. The National Poetry Day, October 3 commemoration open mic will be September 28, 1:30–3:30 p.m. at Filtered in McKinney.

President Martin shared with the membership an early edition of the 30th edition of Forces, a Collin College literary magazine that features poems by Ann Marie Newman and Beth Ayers. An evening event is set for March 27, followed by a workshop on March 28.

President Martin shared a summary of the officers’ meeting in February, which had good discussions and ideas. Synopsis:

• We’ve had free facilities in prior years for the Awards Ceremony, but we can’t count on getting free facilities every year. Dues next year will be raised to $20 to make sure we cover expenses and keep the Mockingbird contest going in the future.

• Membership Maintenance: Field trip to DMA with Ann Marie was inspiring, and we hope to do more events this year. Possibilities include: Frisco Arts Center, Cove Art Studio in McKinney, Last Gallery on Louisiana Street in McKinney, Mast Studio tour in the fall, Heard Nature Center, and Paint Chip Poetry activity.

• Opportunities to add variety with specific inspirational/informative presentations such as Ann Marie’s offer to present “how to use a mic.”

Mockingbird member, Domingo Rodriguez, shared that the 2019 Heroes’ Voices National Veterans Poetry Contest is accepting entries now through mid-April. (see www.heroesvoices.org).

After the group’s business was completed, the members each shared a poetry reading. It’s always a pleasure to enjoy poetry from our members.

POETS NORTHWEST

Lynn Grice Reporting

On January 19, members of PNW read their award winning poems from the Poetry Society of Texas Annual Contests. Readers included: Eric Blanchard, Daniel Hunter, Karen Mastracchio, Mary Creviere Turner, and Sharon E. Young.

At our February 16 meeting we wrote ekphrastic poetry. PNW’s 2017 anthology, Honoring Art—An Ekphrastic Anthology, is still available for $6 each. Contact Lynn Grice at texaspoet53@hotmail.com to purchase the anthology.

If you plan to be in the Houston area on the third Saturday of the month, join us at one of our monthly meetings (except May and December) in room 124 at the Windwood Presbyterian Church 10555 Spring Cypress Rd. in Houston. Members 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.poetsnww.com, on Facebook at http://facebook.com/ Poets Northwest, on Twitter at @HoustonPoets, and on Instagram Poetsnorthwest.

POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY

Lynn Lewis Reporting

The minutes of the March 4 meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County are as follows: The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Goerdel. Susan Maxwell
Campbell was the Contemporary Poet Reader. She read from the works of Nobel Laureate Wislawa Szymborska.

The Spotlight Poet segment was given to Lynn Lewis and Barbara Berry, who paid tribute to the memory of Naomi Stroud Simmons. Lynn acknowledged the members of Naomi’s family who were present and gifted them with a floral arrangement in Naomi’s honor. Barbara read an original poem that she had written years ago as a tribute to Naomi.

March membership birthdays were J. Paul Holcomb and Mona Lynn McDaniel, and they were celebrated with song.

Mona read the Kudos List in the absence of Historian Jerry Abbott, who had just returned from a trip to Israel. Other remarks and tributes to Naomi were made before the break.

Vice President Angie Goin introduced our special guest poet, Karla K. Morton, Texas State Poet Laureate 2010. In further tribute to Naomi’s memory, Karla read selected original poems that were Naomi’s favorites, in addition to those written by Naomi that she herself loved. Before the meeting was adjourned by President Goerdel, Karla was presented with our “Flowers from Naomi” floral arrangement.

**RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY**

*Cherry Day Reporting*

President Mary Tindall called the February 21 meeting to order, and Richard Herzeler offered remembrance and kindness in his opening prayer. We had one guest, Mary Reed, who is a close friend of longtime member Mary Ellen Wood.

Carol Thompson, our February spotlight poet, read three beautiful, profound works: “Peace Takes the Podium,” “Haven,” and an untitled poem on monarch butterflies.

Recording Secretary Adrianne Pamplin read the January minutes, which included an expanded definition of the pantoum form of poetry and a spelling correction of a name. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Then Charles Taylor, Treasurer, shared some new information to add to last month’s Treasurer’s Report, which was accurate as to the bottom line, but which now could be more fully explained and understood.

In addition, Charles discussed the pros and cons (relating to the RCPS’s tax status) of continuing our $500 scholarship program, since the three years of approved funding for it had expired.

Mary Tindall led a lively group discussion on matters relating to fundraising and the process of selecting the winning student poet, which ended with a move by Sue Roberts to continue offering the scholarship for another three years. This was seconded by Carol Thompson and unanimously approved.

In wrapping up the business meeting, Sue Roberts reported that she had renewed our $25 prize category in the annual PST poetry competition, and Mary Tindall reminded us about the NFSPS competition deadlines, the standing invitation from member Peter Hoheisel to participate in seasonal poetry readings at the Jacksonville Public Library, and the need for more haikus from the membership for our fiftieth anniversary.

At this point, our guest Mary Reed joined as the newest member of our group, amid words of welcome from delighted members. We broke for refreshments provided by Mary Tindall and Cherry Day, which included Mary’s ever popular cheese ball, its assortment of vegetables and crackers, and Cherry’s homemade chocolate cake with chocolate-pecan icing.

After the break, Mary Ellen Wood presented our lesson: “Traditional Poetry and History.” She began by saying that two traditional forms, the pantoum and villanelle, seem intimidating because of their structured repetition of lines. She told a motivational story of the potentially great impact of a pantoum, a form first developed in the fifteenth century. Although the lines repeat, they have a slightly different meaning in each repetition, which captivates the reader. She shared tips on how to create a pantoum from an “ah!” moment in your life, to memorialize the moment by first simply writing down twenty phrases about the moment, then choosing the ten that best further the story, followed by ways to combine and condense some of the unchosen ideas into the necessary ten lines that create the poem. After more discussion, Mary distributed a handout designed to help us, along with a copy of her winning pantoum, “Tumbleweed: West Texas Legacy.” Our homework assignment was to write a pantoum or villanelle.

To further encourage us, Carol Thompson read her recent villanelle, “Edge of Day,” then she passed out the critiqued poems from last month’s homework. Six members read their poems and the critiques aloud and discussed briefly what they learned from the exercise.

Just before Mary Tindall adjourned the meeting, Sue Roberts asked to read us an inspirational poem about the
ways poets, who have no wings, nevertheless do soar. It was the perfect ending to our fun, fact-filled meeting, which was adjourned until our next gathering on Thursday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m.

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION
Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

Thirteen members attended SAPA’s February meeting in the Fireside Room of the San Pedro Presbyterian Church. President Floyd Lamrouex called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a brief time of silent prayer. The January minutes were approved, and the treasurer’s report was given.

President Lamrouex then introduced the Spotlight Poets who presented the program. Jean Jackson, teacher and educator in the public schools and in ALIR for more than 40 years, and John Friedland, with a long career as teacher, principal, and school superintendent. Jean and John entertained us with selections of their poems that were both humorous and poignant, and greatly enjoyed by all.

After the program, Contest Chair Valerie Bailey announced the winners of the January contests, both open and assigned topic “Let It Snow,” and awarded certificates and trophies. The contests were judged by Sandi Horton of Waco, Texas. Winners in the assigned topic contest were: 1st~Carol Siskovic, 2nd~Margaret Mayberry, 3rd~Loretta Vaughan, and HM~Joan Seifert. Winners in the open topic contest were: 1st~Loretta Vaughan, 2nd~Valerie Martin Bailey, 3rd~Pat Gibbs, and HM~Sheila Moore.

We took a break for refreshments furnished by Charles Jones. He provided venison chili and rice with individual cornbread squares. Joan Seifert provided the sweet treats with cookies and crispy sugary crescents. Charles also provided coffee, assorted juices, and ice water.

After the break, President Lamrouex briefly discussed the contests SAPA has sponsored for many years for both PST and NFSPS. We pay $60 to sponsor each contest for a total of $120 per year. Lamrouex asked the membership to think about these contests and decide if we want to continue the sponsorships. We will later vote on the issue. The contests are a worthy expenditure, but President Lamrouex feels that the entire membership should have a voice in deciding whether or not we sponsor these contests.

President Lamrouex also brought up the issue of videotaping members as they read their poems, so we will have a valuable visual historical record of our members and their poetry. In the event of a member’s death, a videotape made available to his or her family would be a meaningful and much appreciated gift. President Lamrouex assured members that these videos would remain in our archives unless the member signs a release to allow us to use the video on our website or elsewhere. No one will have a poem recorded or aired anywhere without the poet’s permission and a signed release.

After this discussion, the poems for February were read, both open topic and assigned topic, which was “Believe It or Not.” Many funny and thought provoking poems were read. These poems will be judged by Irene Robertson of Little Elm. After the reading, the monthly book raffle was held with the help of Jean Jackson and President Lamrouex in the absence of Book Raffle Chair/Vice President, Paige Parker. After the raffle, the meeting was adjourned.

WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY
Linda Dabney Smith Reporting

Twelve members met on January 19, at 2 p.m. in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts. The chairman was Doyle Wood, who asked members to offer a brief bio, including something that “we don’t know about you.” Members were encouraged to write an autobiography to leave for family. In the business meeting, minutes of the November 2018, meeting were approved, as was the treasurer’s report. The WFPS, as a Member Organization, participates in the Kemp Center’s main fundraiser, the Home & Garden Festival on February 23–24. The WFPS bought tickets at $1.50 from the Kemp and will sell them (or buy for personal use) for $6, thereby netting the Society $4.50 per ticket. Because we are a Member Organization, we also provide two volunteers to work the festival. Volunteers this year are Monica McCawley and Nick Schreiber. At the February meeting, members will sign up to man the WFPS table at the festival.

In new business, it was decided that in lieu of the Villanelle lesson scheduled for February’s lesson, members will bring a poem of their own, without a name on it, and these will be distributed among those present. They will be read and
critiqued with suggestions for improvement. Sheri will talk with Carol of the Kemp about the possibility of our writing poems about the artwork displayed in the Sculpture Garden of the Kemp in May, and having them displayed in the hallway exiting the building into the garden.

After a short break to enjoy a delicious cake and drinks provided by Sheri and Mark, the ekphrastic trimerics written in October in conjunction with the Mystery Art event at the Kemp were read. Those poems are now on display in a shop window at Sikes Senter Mall. They were critiqued and judged by John Schulze of Wichita Falls. This was a bonus contest. Results are: 1st: Webb Key, 2nd: Cynthia Archibald; 3rd: Nick Schreiber; 1HM: Lynn Hog- gard; 2HM: Linda Smith; 3HM: Sheri Sutton. There were five other participants.

Doyle then presented an excellent lesson on the Italian/Petrarchan Sonnet. In the information presented and discussed was an interesting facet of the Petrarchan Sonnet: the sestet rhyme scheme can vary (cdcdcd, cddcdc, cdcde, cdecd or cedcde). Samples of both the Petrarchan and Elizabethan sonnet were available and were discussed.

Twelve members and one guest (Poet Laureate Jim Hoggard) met in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts at 2 p.m. on February 16. Lynn Hoggard chaired the meeting and called on each poet present to answer the question: What draws you to poetry? The answers, varied, unique, and interesting, gave insight into lives and dreams.

Refreshments provided by Doyle Wood were enjoyed at the beginning and during the meeting.

In the business meeting, the minutes of the January meeting and the treasurer’s report were accepted after a motion, second, and vote.

The main topic of business was the WFPS participation at the Home & Garden Festival, the primary fundraiser of the Kemp Center. The plan is for members to man Table B-14 on the aisle of non-profits both Saturday and Sunday, February 23 and 24. This will increase our visibility in the community and perhaps interest prospective members. President Nick Schreiber will arrange with members via email.

In other business, it was announced that Sheri Sutton will chair the Cowboy True poetry contest for young people, and that Linda Smith and Doyle Wood will also serve as judges. Each judge has arranged for an alternate in the event they are unable to serve. The event dates are March 29 and 30. Judges have received the judging criteria.

In the interest of time and because the Home & Garden event is upon us, it was decided that discussion of WFPS participation in writing poetry for the Sculpture Garden event at the Kemp in May be delayed until the March meeting.

Nick asked members to think of programs for next year and to bring those ideas to the March meeting. Programs must be settled by April in order to have our yearbooks ready for distribution at the May meeting.

Winners in the January contest for best poems based on Genesis, Psalms, or Proverbs are: Rosellen Sheetz (1st), Sheri Sutton (2nd), Mark Sutton (3rd), Paulette Bowden (1HM) and Linda Smith (2HM). This contest was judged by Jeannette Strother.

Winners in the February contest for the best Petrarchan sonnet are: Sheri Sutton (1st), Mark Sutton (2nd), Geneva Rodgers (3rd), Rosellen Sheetz (1HM), Lynn Hoggard (2HM) and Robert Parkey (3HM). The judge was Whitney Halsell of Crowell.

For the program/lesson, Lynn had requested that each member bring 12 copies of a poem written in the past so that the poet might get suggestions for improvement. Each member took a poem at random and after careful reading and re-reading, used a worksheet to make comments and suggestions.

This was a new approach to a lesson, with the benefit that members could take advantage of the ideas and expertise of other members in their writing.

The meeting ran out of time to do the program justice, so it was decided that members would take the 12 (different) poems home and take time to look at each one before the March meeting.

Everyone agreed it is an excellent idea and deserves plenty of time. Therefore, this will be the March lesson. Members who were not present will receive email copies of the 12 poems that were brought to the meeting in February.

The April meeting will be chaired and taught by Monica McCawley, and the lesson on Ballads by Nick will be moved to May.

The March contest will be in any form, on any subject with 36 lines maximum length. These poems will be due to Sheri Sutton by midnight on February 28.
THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS ANNOUNCES ITS FIRST PODCAST

The Poetry Society of Texas is starting a regular series of Podcasts featuring Lone Star poets. You can access the podcast at the link in the body of the e-mail that brought you this Bulletin.

Episode 001 of the Poetry Society of Texas Podcast features Anne McCrady, author of several books of poetry, including the 2003 Edwin M. Eakin Manuscript Prize given by the Poetry Society of Texas. Anne and the host of this episode, Lisa Toth Salinas, discuss poems from Anne’s award-winning book, Along Greathouse Road. The producer is Terry Jude Miller and technical editor is J. Darrell Kirkley. Music is provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Future episodes will feature Alan Birkelbach, Budd Powell Mahan, and J. Paul Holcomb. Additional interviews are being arranged by podcast producer, Terry Jude Miller. April’s Bulletin will feature another Podcast and more information about this exciting program.

The purpose of the Poetry Society of Texas is to secure fuller public recognition of the art of poetry, to encourage the writing of poetry by Texans, and to kindle a finer and more intelligent appreciation of poetry, especially the work of living poets who interpret the spirit and heritage of Texas.

To learn more visit www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

A FAREWELL TRIBUTE TO TWO GREAT PST LADIES

Mary Yokum of Lubbock, formerly of Amarillo, died March 1 in Lubbock. Born in New Orleans February 1, 1931, Mary was 88 years of age. She is survived by her son, Jeff Yokum; daughter and son-in-law, Kristin and Richard Cooper; six grandchildren, and siblings: Anthony J. Gendusa Jr., Gertrude May Gendusa, and sister-in-law, Darlene Gendusa. Mary is preceded in death by her half-sister Mary Lou Morrison, brother, Salvatore Gendusa, her parents, and ex-husband, Calvin Yokum.

Mary received a B.A. degree with Honors from Southeastern Louisiana University and was a member of Delta Zeta Sorority. Her teaching career began as a first grade teacher in Covington and Baton Rouge, LA. She later achieved her M.Ed. in Counseling and Psychology, as well as her Master’s as a Professional Educational Diagnostician from West Texas A&M University in Canyon. A counselor with the Amarillo School system specializing in special education, she also taught undergraduates in the Department of Education/Psychology at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

Mary retired after 33 years in the public school system. Her special interests were writing poetry, sewing, handcrafts, biographies, and pursuing family genealogy. Mary was president of the Hi-Plains Chapter of PST and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Amarillo.

Upon retiring, Mary became more involved in the Panhandle Professional Writers group and Hi-Plains Poetry Society. She wrote numerous stories and poems; selections of her poetry have been published online and in various literary volumes. She co-authored two flash fiction books: Flash Tales-An Adventure in Words and Flash Tales 2, A Collection of Flash Fiction. Her goal was to publish her poetry books and anecdotal records of life in the Deep South: Louisiana and Mississippi.

Leona Welch of Pottsboro died on March 5. She was born July 20, 1938 in Tulare, California, the daughter of W.W. and Winnie Oleta (Wilcox) Swinney. She was a truck driver, and for more than thirty years, enjoyed traveling and seeing the beauty of America. Leona was an avid reader and loved poetry.

She was a member and corresponding secretary for the Poetry Society of Texas. She was the head of the “Poetry in Schools” project in Texas, and Young Poets of Texoma. Leona served as the past editor of A Galaxy of Verse, and past president of the Galaxy of Verse Literary Foundation. She was a Councilor Emeritus and a recipient of the Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award in 1999.

Leona loved spending time with her family, especially attending bluegrass festivals with her sister and best friend, Betty.

Leona leaves behind her beloved daughters: Suzie Mays and husband Craig; Shelly Reedy and husband Billy; Saleen Hearon and husband Rickie; son-in-law, Ted Lankford; and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Meleta Lankford; son, Michael Welch, mother, Oleta Hunter; sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Charles Isaacs; sister and brother-in-law, Lorine and Terry Griffith.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, in the Eisenhower Room at the Denison Public Library in Denison. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to the Poetry Society of Texas, Poetry in the Schools program. Her passing leaves a void in our lives and she will live on forever in our hearts. Mail donations to: Patrick Marshall, 556 Royal Glade Dr., Keller, TX 76248.
Chapter of the Month will be a new *Bulletin* feature this coming year. Each chapter is encouraged to send a group photo of your membership to the *Bulletin* editor. Members absent for the photo will be listed if the membership roll is sent to the *Bulletin* editor along with the photo. Also please identify those pictured row by row, front to back and left to right. Our first featured group is:

**The Poets of Tarrant County.**

Officers for this chapter are as follows:
- President: Barbara Goerdel
- Vice President: Angie Goin
- Secretary: Lynn Lewis
- Treasurer: Barbara Lewie Berry
- Historian: Jerry Abbott

Poets of Tarrant County was organized as a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas in 1971. Meetings are held monthly from September through June at 10:00 a.m. until noon, on the first Monday of each month unless announced otherwise. The current meeting location is at the Thomas Place Community Center, 4237 Lafayette Avenue in Fort Worth. Meetings consist of a Spotlight Poet selected from the membership, readings from a Contemporary Poet, and assignment poems. Programs include outside speakers, symposiums, and workshops. Members participate in local service projects and join in area poetry events. Please contact Barbara Goerdel, president, at bgoerdel@att.net for further information about the Poets of Tarrant County. Visitors are welcome to attend.

**April 1 is the Deadline for Nominations**

**For the Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award**

Hilton Ross Greer was the first President of PST. His tireless service and devotion to PST set the standard of service for those who receive this prestigious award—the highest award PST bestows.

**Eligibility:** Any dues-paid PSTmember may nominate another dues-paid member for the award. No campaigning is allowed. The nominee’s biography is the sole basis for voting. A chapter may submit one nomination, as a group. The award will not be given in a year when there are no nominations, or if no nominee meets the criteria. A posthumous award may be made if a nominee dies during the calendar year and subsequent to the nomination. Award winners may not be eligible for nomination again for ten years from the date of their selection. Members of PST’s Board of Directors are not eligible for nomination.

**Criteria:** The following criteria are suggested in working up a nomination.
1. Volunteer work (both time and effort) in support of the purposes of PST at the state or local level.
2. The support and encouragement to poets and poetry across the state.
3. Financial support to PST, such as monetary awards (adult or student); benefactions and such.
4. Regularity of attendance at state or local meetings.
5. Outstanding service to a local chapter.
6. Consideration should be given to cumulative service.

**Procedures for Making Nominations:** Nominations shall be submitted in letter form before April 1, 2019 to the Chairman of The Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award, Budd Powell Mahan, at 7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254.

1. The basis for the nomination should be reduced to summary form. Be specific. Note the suggested criteria above.
2. PST Councilors will reduce the nominations received to three finalists, should more than three nominations be received.
3. Selection of the winner of the Award will be made by the entire membership of PST. Details and a ballot will be provided in the May *Bulletin*. Ballots will be mailed to Budd Powell Mahan at the address given above. He will make the final tabulation.
PST Presents the 2019 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest

The 2019 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Award is chaired by Susan Maxwell Campbell and assisted by Diane Glancy and Barbara Goerdel. The Bulletin will provide reminders about the contest from now until the entry deadline, but listed here are the revised rules. It’s not too early to start writing a manuscript.

HERE’S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO ENTER THIS PRESTIGIOUS CONTEST

The Prize:
The winning entrant will receive a cash prize of $100 and fifty copies of a market-ready, soft-cover book. This includes editing, cover design by KDP.com (Amazon’s Kindle Direct Publishing), pricing, and ISBN registration. The winner may assume the cost of additional copies.

Who May Enter:
The competition is open to all Active dues-paid and Life Members of PST, writing in English. The manuscript must be the original work of a single author. The winner must agree to three public readings from his or her book: one reading for a PST monthly meeting; one at the annual PST summer conference, following the announcement in November; and a third reading to be arranged by the author. Your entry acknowledges agreement with these stipulations. The winner of this prize and Eakin winners will not be eligible to enter again for six years. PST will select a judge whose name will be announced when the winner is announced. All rights revert to the winner after publication.

Deadline:
Manuscripts must be postmarked between June 15, 2019 and August 1, 2019.

Previously Published Material:
The manuscript may include both unpublished poems and poems published in journals and anthologies, but may not include poems from your other books, print or electronic. You must have rights to previously published poems. No more than 25% of the manuscript may be previously published.

Entry Fee:
A check for $10 payable to the Poetry Society of Texas is required for each manuscript submitted. Multiple entries are allowed with separate fees.

Length:
The submitted manuscript should contain between 45 and 60 pages of poetry, not including other matter.

Format:
Submit a single copy of your manuscript. No line of poetry in the manuscript should contain more than 60 characters (that is, letters, spaces, and punctuation). The manuscript must have a title page without author identification. Number the pages; include a table of contents. It must be bound in some manner (manuscript clip preferred). No identification should appear on the submitted manuscript. Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered.

Include these items separate from the bound manuscript:
1. A manuscript title page with your name, address, phone number, and email address.
2. A single copy of one poem from the manuscript. If your manuscript wins, that poem will be printed in A Book of the Year and will be read at the PST Awards Banquet. This copy should have your author identification and a notation that it is part of your Lubbe manuscript.
3. A list of acknowledgments for the published poems

Send manuscripts to:
Susan Maxwell Campbell
115 North Wisteria
Mansfield, TX 76063-1835

Judge and Winner
will be announced at the annual PST Awards Banquet, November 9, 2019.

Recent winners include:
Lynn Lewis, Lisa Toth Salinas, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Diane Glancy, Charlotte Renk, and Terry Jude Miller.

Please keep a copy of these rules. They will not be listed in the Bulletin again. Only reminders to enter and the deadline date of June 15 will be appear in the Bulletin.
GET YOUR POEM PUBLISHED
In the 2019 PST Summer Conference Anthology

You do not have to be a PST member to attend the conference. Everyone registered for the conference before June 1 can submit a poem for printing in the Summer Conference Anthology. You decide which poem you would like to publish. (Do NOT use the same poem that you bring to the conference for the “You Be the Judge” contest.) Poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives cannot be considered for publication in the anthology.

Please send only one unpublished poem, that you have rights to, that is 24 lines or less with no more than 55 characters per line, including punctuation marks and spaces. Use Times New Roman 12-point font, single spaced. The 24 lines, 55 characters per line includes poem titles, subtitles, epigraphs, footnotes, dedications, blank lines for spacing or stanza breaks, and any other lines. All lines are considered part of the poem and counted as part of the 24 lines and 55 characters per line limit.

At the bottom of the poem type your name, city where you reside, and the name of your PST chapter if you have one. Send it exactly how you want it to be printed, either in the body of an email or attached as a Word or text document to pst2019conference@gmail.com.

Put your name on the subject line of the e-mail. You will receive a confirmation when your poem has been received. Your poem must be received by June 1, 2019 to be published. You will receive a free copy of the anthology when checking in at the summer conference registration area inside the Embassy Suites Hotel in Denton, Texas.

Aspirational Goal: Our goal is for this conference to be entertaining, educational, and family friendly; one that attendees will fondly remember for years to come. Considering the current national political and social environment, we are urging all submitters to refrain from making current political references / commentary and to forgo the use of profanity and offensive expletives, which seem to be in vogue these days. Thank you for honoring and adhering to this goal.


SPECIAL CONFERENCE HOTEL RATES
July 11, 12, 13 ~ PST 50th Summer Conference

At this point, the currently reserved block of special rate hotel rooms is 75 percent booked. This block rate will be extended as long as there is availability. Call TODAY to ensure that you get the conference rate, which is: $119 (single/double), $129 (triple), and $139 (quad) occupancy. Reservations include complimentary parking, made to order breakfast, and for Hilton Honors members—Free Wi-Fi. Ask for “PST” block.

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Hotel and Convention Center: 940-243-3799.
Poetry Society of Texas 50th Anniversary Summer Conference
July 11, 12, 13, 2019, Denton Texas
“Prompts and Pathways” Hosted by Denton Poets’ Assembly
Embassy Suites by Hilton Hotel and Convention Center **
**Hotel Association of North Texas 2018 Hotel of the year – AAA Four Diamond Award
Leeds Gold certified for energy efficiency, 3100 Town Center Trail, Denton, TX 76201
RESERVATIONS: 940-243-3799

Special Conference Rates:  $119 (single/double) $129 (triple) and $139 (quad) occupancy (Double or Queen as available)
Includes: Complimentary parking – made to order breakfast for overnight hotel guests (Ask for “PST”) /Free Wi-Fi (with Hilton Honors Account) FIRST COME FIRST SERVED UNTIL RESERVED BLOCK IS FILLED (Book now as quantity is limited)
Check in: 3:00 p.m. / Check out 12:00 noon. Guests arriving before 3:00 pm will be accommodated as rooms are available.

Thursday, July 11
PROGRAM
Opening reception with light buffet, Steve Sanders and the Seadogs • Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Prize, Terry Jude Miller. Open Microphone with Michael Guinn Moderator

Friday, July 12
Morning:
Early Bird Open mic session, Christine Irving Moderator • “Three perspectives on Prompts and Pathways” with DPA Poets: Christine Irving, Beth Honeycutt, and Bob Schinzel • Life Member Workshop with Jim La Villa-Havelin • Loretta Diane Walker

Afternoon:
Karla Morton and Alan Birkelbach • Paul Slavens “Music and Poetry improvisation” • Bruce Bond, UNT Regent Professor • Carol Coffee Reposa

Evening:
Banquet, Keynote speaker Diane Glancy • Life Member Raffle with Birma Castle • Open Microphone with Michaud Lamrouex

Saturday, July 13
You Be The Judge Contest • Panel Discussion with Lynn Lewis and others • Contest Winners: High School and College Poetry Contest, You Be The Judge, Contest, and PST 50th Anniversary Contest

MENU – Being finalized, to be announced

BOOKROOM: If you are bringing books to sell, before MONDAY JULY 8, please email the following information to:
Bookroom Manager Michaud Lamrouex at: lamrouex@sbcglobal.net
1) Book Title 2) Author’s name 3) Price of book 4) Numbers of copies you will bring. Place a sticky tab on the inside of each cover (before you arrive) with the following information: 1) Book title 2) Author’s name 3) Price of the book

REGISTRATION
Name: (Print for your name tag) ____________________________________________________________
Address: Street ____________________________________________ City: __________________ Zip:________________
Chapter: ______________________ Phone: ___________ Email: _____________________________________

Registration: _____@$25 + Friday Lunch* _____@$30 + Friday Eve Banquet* & Program _____@$40 Total → ($95)
Guest Options: Friday Day Pass** & Lunch* _____@$50 Friday Eve Banquet* & Program _____@$40 Total =_________

* Includes drink, dessert, tax, and service charge.
** Day Pass includes session attendance and lunch (does not include contest entry, anthology entry, or banquet)

Guest Name: (Print for name tag)_______________________________________________________________________
List any special dietary requirements: __________________________________________________________________

Mail Registration and check to Richard Kushmaul, 9612 Sandlewood Drive, Denton, TX, 76207
Questions? Email: pst2019conference@gmail.com
For updates and information: www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org
Contest Guidelines:
• The contest is open to all Texas public, private, and home schooled students in grades 11-12.
• Only one poem relating to the theme Prompts and Pathways may be submitted.
• Entry must not exceed 25 lines, not counting the title.
• E-mailed entries must be in Microsoft Word (doc) format. Times New Roman or Arial, size 12 font.
• Double-spaced, minimum of one inch margins on all sides. Do not put your name on the entry.
• Paper entries should be typed on only one side of the paper.
• Originality and good taste in language and subject matter are required. Rough language and adult situations are to be avoided.
• All entries must be submitted by April 18, 2019 with the required entry form.
• Submitted poems will be judged by a select committee of poets from the Poetry Society of Texas.
• Winning poems will be published in the 50th PST Conference anthology. Winners will be notified in mid-May, 2019. All entries become the property of the Poetry Society of Texas.

Winner Prize Awards:
1st Place—$75   2nd Place—$50   3rd Place—$25
E-mail your submission to: bjrjournal@aol.com or (Copy or photograh this form as needed).
U.S. Mail to: 2019 PST Contest, c/o Betty Roberts, 706 Hillcrest St., Denton, TX 76201

HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST ENTRY FORM
Please Print Legibly

Name:_________________________________________
School:_______________________________________
Address:_______________________________________
City:__________________________Zip___________
Phone:_______________________________________
E-mail:_______________________________________
Poem Title:_____________________________________

First Line of Poem:

This form is required with your entry

COLLEGE CONTEST ENTRY FORM
Please Print Legibly

Name:_________________________________________
School:_______________________________________
Address:_______________________________________
City:__________________________Zip___________
Phone:_______________________________________
E-mail:_______________________________________
Poem Title:_____________________________________

First Line of Poem:

This form is required with your entry
Librarian Barbara Blanks reports no new book donations this month, but the last 36 donated books have been delivered to our permanent collection at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. These are from the Naomi Simms’ collection, and/or individual donors whose books the Librarian has been holding until changes at the Central Library are completed.

If you have published a collection of poems or your chapter has only annual contest results in the November Bulletin.

Our Sincere Sympathy to…
The family and many friends of Mary Yokum who passed away March 1 in Lubbock at the age of 88. She was a member and past president of the Hi-Plains Chapter of PST. A Celebration of Life Memorial will be held on Saturday, March 23 at 2:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Amarillo. A tribute to Mary’s long service to PST can be read on page 9 of this Bulletin.

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to…
The family and many friends of Leona Swinney Welch who passed away March 5 in Pottsboro. Leona was a long time member of the Poetry Society of Texas, and served the Society in many capacities. A celebration of Life Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9 in the Eisenhower room at the Denison Public Library in Denison. A tribute to Leona’s long service to PST can be read on page 9 of this Bulletin.

Our Deepest Sympathy to…
 Von S. Bourland on the passing of her sister, Velesta June Black on February 25 at the age of 81. Von would appreciate prayers for Velesta’s children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, her brother, Weldon Sumrul, and for herself. A memorial service will be held in Palestine on February 27 at 8:00 p.m. Our condolences to all the family.

Welcome Springtime...the Earth is Sweetly Blooming!