The New Mexico State Poetry Society is Proud to Host the National Federation of State Poetry Societies Diamond Jubilee Convention

Diamonds Crown the Poet in the City Different Santa Fe, New Mexico June 23-26, 2019

The Denton Poets’ Assembly is Proud to Host the Poetry Society of Texas’ 50th Golden Anniversary

Golden Prompts and Pathways to Poetry Denton, Texas July 11-13, 2019

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Poetry Society of Texas for Saturday, May 11, 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, Joan Canby, Garland; guest Howard Pelton, Garland; past PST presidents Jeannette Strother, J. Paul Holcomb, and Catherine L’Herisson; chapter presidents Domingo Rodriguez (Dallas/Pegasus), Steve Sanders (Fort Worth Poetry Society), and Rich Weatherly (Denton Poets’ Assembly).

Treasurer Patrick Marshall gave the April financial report. Our biggest expense was printing A Book of the Year 2019. Current members will receive their copies soon. The mailing committee just needs to get them packaged and to the Post Office.

Librarian Barbara Blanks gave the April Membership Report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis (Report on p. 16). She also announced one new book addition to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library (See p. 16). Delegates to the NFSPS convention in Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 23-26, will be Aman Khan, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Steve Sanders, Catherine L’Herisson, and possibly Patrick Marshall.

J. Paul Holcomb, head of the Nominating Committee for the election of the 2019-2020 Executive Board, took the lectern. He acknowledged and thanked committee members Jeannette Strother, Catherine L’Herisson, Budd Powell Mahan, Marilyn Stacy, and Jimmye Inez Sessions. He then presented the nominees:

President: Irene Robertson
Vice President: Rich Weatherly
Treasurer: Steve Sanders
Recording Secretary: Barbara Blanks
Corresponding Secretary: Susan Maxwell Campbell
Director: Patrick Marshall
Director: JDarrell Kirkley
Director: Domingo Rodriguez

After calling for nominations from the floor three times, a motion to accept the slate of officers as offered was moved, seconded, and passed by acclamation. The new board will seat on September 1. Our thanks to all who served on the Nominating Committee.

Spotlight on Poets Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell introduced our Remote Spotlight Poet, Karen Mastracchio of Spring. Karen is a retired English teacher and chapter member of Poets Northwest.

Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley presented our program speaker, Joan Canby of Garland. Joan is a retired technical writer, course developer and project manager for the aerospace and telecommunication industries. She teaches at Richland College, UT at Dallas, and

Joan said many poets now “are ‘skimmers of life’ who Google-search information that leads to associative poems. Poetry of stuff is the dominant subject of poetry, with nothing deeper to them. Superficial knowledge is not really knowledge. Poetry is the yearning of the soul; it is hopeful.” She thinks poetry should reflect life, have self-reckoning, make you laugh or cry, talk about relationships. “If you don’t go to the hard places, why write it?”

The good thing is poetry is not in the past—it is not in the hands of academia, but in the hands of storytellers. It is more communal and accessible to both listeners and readers. While Joan claimed to be embarrassed by admitting it, she said when she is asked who her favorite poet is, she replies, “I am. Don’t we all love our own poems?”

After the break Contest Chair Rich Weatherly announced the winners of the May Monthly Contests, after which, the meeting was adjourned.

**MAY MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS**

24 Entries

**Critic Judge:** Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN

1st: Beth Honeycutt, Denton ~ “One Woman”

2nd: Terry Jude Miller, Richmond

3rd: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

**Laugh Lines**

Judge: J. Paul Holcomb

Winner: Domingo Rodriguez, Dallas

**Book Prizes**

**Reader:** J. Paul Holcomb

Popular Prize: Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

Poetry for Poets Award: Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa

Naomi S. Simmons Mem. Award: Johnnie B. Carter, Humble

Wm. D. Barney Mem. Award: Eric Blanchard, Houston

M. Tandy Duemke Mem. Award: Richard Hurzeler, Tyler

Robby K. Mitchell Mem. Award: Domingo Rodriguez, Dallas

Other Poems Read by: Robert Schinzel, Irene C. Robertson, H.O. Davis, and Barbara Blanks

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**POETRY SOCIETY of TEXAS**

You are Lookin’ Good!

Thanks to the tireless work of many dedicated members who share their time and talents to make this progress possible. If you had a part in any of these projects, you know who you are, and we appreciate you. Our progress this year included:

- Moving to a digital Bulletin.
- Implementing The PST Podcasts.
- Starting to promote PST as a 501(c)3 nonprofit, so we can obtain needed funds to expand and improve the Society. Testing a small fundraiser, collecting $1,150 for the 2019 PST Summer Conference.
- Seeing more remote “Spotlight Poets” through the use of self-made movies created with iPhones and iPads and shown on the Big-Screen TV at our monthly meetings. These have been archived and we are looking into ways to make them available to members for viewing.
- Efforts to define a real PST Business Plan.
- Keeping Poetry in Schools alive with plans for growth.
- Receiving and setting up funds, encumbered and dedicated to the Poetry in Schools program.
- Beginning an effort to document PST’s monthly processes and personnel procedures manuals. These will make it easier for new officers and directors to understand the organization and their responsibilities, resulting in more productive participation in a reduced time frame.
- The Facebook page continues to change and meet users’ needs. This year it began to focus attention on a new Chapter each month. It has grown steadily. It now has nearly as many members as the Texas Poetry Society.

In closing, I offer these personal thoughts. I look forward to attending a relaxing, fun, and productive May meeting. I think we each need to thank our President, Dr. Aman Khan. Under his watch, we have made significant progress.

This article was submitted by Patrick Marshall, PST’s current Treasurer and a PST Director elect.
THREE SHINING SUPER STARS STEP DOWN TO TAKE A MUCH DESERVED REST. Now IT’S YOUR TURN TO STEP UP AND SHINE, SHINE, SHINE!

7 Years
ANNIE NEUGEBAUER
Served As
Our PST Webmaster

2 Years
JENNA PASHLEY SMITH
Served As Our
A Book of the Year Editor

1 Year
SYLVIA S. MEDEL
Served As
Our PST Publicity Chair

COME ON, PST MEMBERS… WILL YOU STEP UP TO THE PLATE?

We need three volunteers to fill some big shoes and hit some homeruns for us. If you have the ability to do one of these jobs please come forward...don’t make us hunt you down! Choose the job you know is the one for you ~ We need the following:

*A Webmaster     *An Editor for *A Book of the Year  *A Publicity Chair

If you can fill one of these important positions, please contact Patrick Marshall at marshall_patrick@sbcglobal.net

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THESE THINGS!

Note #1
The PST Facebook-page Header features one PST chapter a month. If you would like your chapter spotlighted this way, please contact PST’s Facebook Administrator, Barbara Blanks, at barbarablanks@aol.com. Send the chapter name, a jpg of your logo if you have one (it’s not necessary), and the city/town where your chapter meets.

Note #2
To PST Chapter Presidents and Bulletin Reporters. There will be an abbreviated June Bulletin, to feature our Summer Conference in Denton and give final information about it. So if your chapter meets during the summer months or goes through June, or you have any news to share, go ahead and send it to the Bulletin Editor Valerie Bailey at vbaileybulletin@att.net. by June 10.

Note #3
During the summer the Bulletin Editor will send you the Podcast links so you can enjoy these special programs through the summer. The one for May will feature J.Paul Holcomb. See the article on page 10.
A L A M O  A R E A  P O E T S  O F  T E X A S  
Antonia Murguia reporting

Lois Heger gave an excellent poetry workshop. She asked everyone to give a prompt. After reading all the prompts, she had us pick one and write for ten minutes. Then we had to choose four sentences to include in each stanza. We then took our four sentences and created poetic lines for our poem. We read our poems at the end. Everyone enjoyed this exercise.

We voted in the slate of officers for next year: President–Lois Heger; Vice President–Carol Siskovic; Secretary–Antonia Murguia; Treasurer–Sheila Moore; and Parliamentarian–Patricia Keoughan. We look forward to planning a great 2019 to 2020 poetry year.

The April winners in the assigned topics are: 1st HM–Antonia Murguia; 3rd place–Patricia Keoughan; 2nd place–Lois Heger; 1st place–Sheila Moore. Open Topic: 1st HM–Peter Holland; 2nd HM–Antonia Murguia; 1st HM–Lois Heger; 3rd place–Sheila Moore; 2nd place–Patricia Keoughan; 1st place–Iris Maahs.

September’s topics are Man or Woman of the Year or A Drought. Our anthology will be presented in September. Each member is asked to submit two poems. Deadline for the poems is June 30.

September’s meeting is September 7 at 2 pm at the Retirement Center Garden Room at Incarnate Word University. All members were encouraged to keep writing and perhaps we can meet to read our poems at Sun Poet’s Society that meets every Wednesday of the year.

A U S T I N  P O E T R Y  S O C I E T Y  
Jeffrey Taylor Reporting

The results of the Austin Poetry Society’s annual contests will be announced at the May meeting on Saturday, May 18 at the Carver Branch Library. Come hear the first place poems and congratulate the winners.

Our members have achieved many honors lately. Among them are: Kaye Voigt Abikhaled, who was notified by the UK Film Festival Script Competition Team that her script, “Rail Road to Siberia” has made it to the final 50. Kaye also honored “Poets Past” in a remembrance at the Austin International Poetry Festival, and she is editor of this year’s ‘di-vêr-sé-city’ Youth Anthology 2019. In addition, she hosted the Youth Awards celebration at St. Edwards. Brad Strahan’s poem “Walt Whitman Speaks” was accepted by Reunion. Christa Pandey’s poem “Memories” was included in the Poetry@Round Top 2019 Anthology, and her haiku “last bouquet tossed” appears in Best Austin Poetry 2017-18. Jeffrey Taylor’s poems “Burden” and “Dare Devil” were included in the Best Austin Poetry 2017-18 anthology. Nancy Fierstien was presented with a Poet of the Year Award from the Friends of the Dripping Springs Community Library!

At our monthly APS meeting, Diana Concies presented a writing exercise she is developing. Those present gave it a try with encouraging results. We expect several of the resulting poems to make it into publication. She also showed her recent books. Our thanks to Diana.

All APS memberships expire in May of each year, so now is a good time to renew. We start our monthly meetings and contests again in the fall, so don’t miss out. To get a membership application form, visit our Website at www.austinpoetrysociety.org and click on “Join the APS” and follow the directions. All Texas poets and their supporters are welcome to join the Austin Poetry Society.

B E A U M O N T  C H A P T E R  
Barbara Green Powell Reporting

Beaumont Chapter members are enjoying cooler weather than usual for May. We received a call from a poet interested in attending our meetings during the summer, as she is a teacher and can’t come during school year. We are thrilled to have anyone visit or join us on the third Thursday from 10-12 noon.

Vacations to get away from it all can be material for poems. Also reading more poetry gives us an incentive to write. If you are having muse problems, and all of us do at times, start reading. The Summer Conference will give all of us an opportunity to buy more books. We’ll see you at the PST Summer Conference in July.

D E N T O N  P O E T S ’  A S S E M B L E Y  
Richard Weatherly Reporting

The Denton Poets’ Assembly Meeting began at 10 a.m. May 18 at the Emily Fowler Public Library in Denton. This was our final meeting before the Merging Visions XI reception. Merging Visions, a collaborative exhibit of art and poetry, will open with a reception 6:00-8:00 pm., June 7 at the Patterson-Appleton Art Center (PA-
AC) 400 E. Hickory Street in Denton. The event is open to the public. The fun-filled reception will provide opportunities to view the art paired with poetry, participate in a drawing for vintage glass, porcelain and ceramic swans from the estate of Mary Smith Williamson, as well as join in a silent auction for 6” x 6” paintings by artists from the Visual Arts Society of Texas (VAST) and poets from the Denton Poets’ Assembly (DPA).

Kudos to Rebecca Hines for keeping this project on track, coordinating collection of exhibition statements and biographies from participating poets.

Our appreciation goes to Richard Kushmaul and the PST 50th Annual Summer Conference Committee as we are now on the threshold of the conference.

Member response poems centered on the poetry of Wislawa Szymborska and an essay by the poet.

Susan Maxwell Campbell’s presentation focused on the works of Szymborska. After her presentation, Susan distributed materials for a creativity excursion.

Our Spotlight Poet, Christine Irving, read following the break, and after the Spotlight poetry readings, members and guests read free choice poems. After the readings, we adjourned at noon.

The Denton Poets’ Assembly meets on the third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.–noon at the Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street in Denton. Our meetings are free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit http://DentonpoetsAssembly.weebly.com.

HI-PLAINS CHAPTER
Tom & Frances Ferris Reporting

The Texas High Plains Writers announce their first annual Amarillo Arts Fest May 10-12. It will be held at Arts in the Sunset (formerly Sunset Center), and it will feature films, literary activities, performances, and music. Their slogan is “There’s more happening here than you know.” This is a free event and there’s something for everyone at the Arts Fest. If you miss this first one, next year’s date is already planned so you can plan to attend in 2020 on June 19, 20, and 21 (Father’s Day weekend). The Hi-Plains Chapter will take part in many of the activities and festivities. There will be poetry readings, information such as Keys to Self Publishing and So You Want to Write a Novel, poetry inspired works of art, slam poetry, a Haiku Smackdown, Six Stories in 60 Minutes, and all kinds of other activities. The Hi-Plains chapter is proud to be participating in the first Amarillo Arts Fest.

MOKINGBIRD CHAPTER
John Alexander Reporting

MPS held its regular monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, in the Heard-Craig Carriage House in McKinney. President Tom Martin presided, and a total of eleven members attended.

Treasurer Susan Mardele provided a summary of the finances, including account balances, expenses associated with the anthology and awards ceremony, and income from books sold at the event.

President Tom Martin received emails from Rich Weatherly about PST’s monthly contests. The monthly contest dates are posted on the PST website at www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests.

President Martin provided a synopsis of the April Open Mic event. Seventeen people attended and sixteen poets shared during the open mic. The Coffee House in Plano provided the perfect venue and Evie, the owner, was thrilled to have us. In addition to the Mockingbird poets present, we had two from the weekly writers group that meets at the café, two from Denton Poets’ Assembly, one from Carrollton who is an active member of the Dallas Poets Community, and one of Tom’s colleagues who shared one of her father’s poems. We will consider this venue again for next year.

Vice President Beth Ayers reported on the Collin County Poetry Contest awards ceremony held 2:00 – 4:30 PM, Sunday, April 28 at the Church Street Auditorium, across the street from the Heard-Craig House.

The awards ceremony is an important event, and Beth thanked everyone involved in making it a success. Over 200 attended the ceremony. Combined sales of the 2019 anthology and 8 copies of the Songs of the Mockingbirds covered the cost of the anthology printing. 59 winners and 13 teachers received complimentary copies of the 2019 anthology. Mockingbird member Domingo Rodriguez suggested that we provide handouts with written instructions on stage presence at the mic to help students be better prepared when reading their poems. Readings this year were much better than past years thanks to Mockingbird member Ann Marie Newman assisting students by adjusting the mic and getting each person into position.

Treasurer Susan Mardele reminded the group that the open mic for National Poetry Day is set for Saturday, September 28, 1:30–3:30 pm at the Filtered Coffee Shop in McKinney. Last year’s Octoberfest brought in people who would otherwise never have listened to a poetry reading, and because it again coincides with Octoberfest, we expect that it will do the same this year.
Susan puts the event into the Convention and Visitors Bureau calendars. There is now a cultural district calendar where our MPS event can be listed. Our event does not qualify for the main city calendar.

Mockingbird member and PST president, Aman Khan, suggested that the Mockingbird Poetry Society seek opportunities to collaborate with the McKinney Arts Commission or other similar local groups in Collin County.

**PERMIAN BASIN POETRY SOCIETY**  
*Kat Copeland Reporting*

Most of the time the members of the Permian Basin Poetry Society meet electronically. All of our teachers and students receive free memberships; plus, our sponsors and special guests receive lifetime honorary memberships.

Our guest poet in May is Michelle Hartman from Fort Worth, who will read at the University of Texas Permian Basin.

We have an upcoming workshop on August 3 conducted by member Melisa Reeves Wells. We also have the West Texas Wordsmiths Basin Public Broadcasting series on Saturdays at 3 p.m. from May–December, 2019.

Members featured are Dr. Tom Parks, who will do interviews with the following: Loretta Diane Walker on May 18; 2008 Poet Laureate of Texas, Larry D. Thomas on June 8; and Kat Copeland on June 22.

Our annual 100,000 Poets and Others event is scheduled for September 28 of this year. Our Brew St. coffee shop open mics are held on the second Thursday monthly.

We are considering an additional open mic at an additional venue. We look forward to being a featured chapter in the near future.

**POETS NORTHWEST**  
*Lynn Grice Reporting*

On May 18, we celebrated our 32nd Annual Spring Fling, which honored the winners of our Spring Fling Contest. It was held at Clementine’s Restaurant, where the poets and their guests enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner and the reading of the money-winning poems. A Silent Auction was also held to raise funds for our chapter.

Members Courtney O’Banion Smith and Terry Jude Miller had poems accepted for the 2020 Texas Poetry Calendar.

If you plan to be in the Houston area on the third Saturday of the month, please join us at one of our monthly meetings at the Windwood Presbyterian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress Rd. in Houston, Room 124 (except May & December) Members and guests are encouraged to read original or favorite works during the second half of the meeting. Our chapter is on the web at www.poetsnw.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 May 6 meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County was called to order by President Barbara Goerdel. Tom McChesney was the Contemporary Poet Reader. He read “Here and Now,” and “Aerial in the Pines” by Stephen Dunn.

Vice President Angie Goin introduced our Special Guest Poet and Speaker, Todd Hawkins. His topic was “Pushing the Boundaries of Form.”

The April minutes were approved as read, and there was no change in the treasury report. Our Spotlight Poet was Hollis Davis.

Old Business and Announcements: Masood Parvaze created signs for the community center’s front desk during meeting times as a way to invite the general public to attend. The Fort Worth Poetry Society has published an anthology, *Words in Concert*, with proceeds going to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. It is available for order on Amazon.com.

Historian Jerry Abbott read the Kudos List. Assignment poems were read after the break. The meeting was then adjourned by President Goerdel.

**SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION**  
*Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting*

President Michaud Lamrouex called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance and a brief prayer. He then introduced our special speaker who was no stranger to us. Our own talented John Eubanks led us in our National Poetry Month celebration. Twelve members enjoyed the presentation by John, a gifted writer, poet, former educator, and actor. John is the author of a chapbook, *Second Stories* and a full collection of poetry and prose titled *Life Support of Another Sort*. John also currently writes a Saturday feature column, usually on the subject of language, for the San Antonio Express-News.

He began the hilarious entertainment with his famous poem “Hungry,” and continued with a number
of mostly humorous poetic skits, although he threw in a couple of thought provoking skits as well. He was well received with much well-deserved applause.

The March contest winners were announced and awarded after reading their poems that were judged by Michael Baldwin of Benbrook. The assigned contest was on the topic “A Crack in the...” Winners were: 1st place—Valerie Martin Bailey, 2nd place—Bruce Davis, 3rd place—Floyd (Michaud) Lamrouex, HM—Carol Siskovic. Winners in the open topic contest were: 1st place—Valerie Martin Bailey, 2nd place—Pat Gibbs, 3rd place—Loretta Burns Vaughan, HM—Carol Siskovic.

After a tasty break with the goodies provided by Jean Jackson and John Friedland, we read our April poems that will be judged by PST Membership Chair. Lynn Lewis of Fort Worth.

In new business, President Lamrouex suggested we distribute our large supply of extra Inkwell Echoes to the PST collection in the Dallas Library, to local school libraries and to nursing homes and other places where they can be enjoyed instead of being stored in boxes. He also suggested that we have workshops in June and July led by Valerie Martin Bailey and Sheila Tingley Moore.

At our May meeting on the 18th, our members look forward to hearing Jean Jackson, an accomplished poet and educator bring a much appreciated lesson on poetic terms that many of our beginning poets have not heard. This presentation should be helpful to all of us.

**WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY**

*Linda Dubney Smith Reporting*

Eleven members and one guest met on Saturday, April 20, at 2:00 p.m. in the beautiful Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts with Monica McCawley presiding.

Members enjoyed refreshments provided by Lynn Hoggard and were treated to the reading of poetry written by children ages 4-11, who had entered poetry in the Cowboy True event at the Kemp Center.

Members of the WFPS judged the poetry. Sheri Sutton had chaired that committee and read the youngsters’ poetry. Kudos to the Throckmorton teacher who encouraged the students in poetry.

In the business meeting, the minutes of the March meeting and the treasurer’s report were accepted as read. No corrections had to be made. Treasurer Sheri Sutton reported that she had sent a $100 gift to Hospice of Wichita Falls in memory of Dr. Webb Key, our recently-deceased member.

In further business, President Nick Schreiber, who also creates and prints the handbook, asked for volunteers to present lessons and preside at meetings. He was able to fill up all the “slots” for programs for the new year beginning in September.

In September, Linda Smith will step down as secretary, and Cynthia Archibald will take on that responsibility.

Members will write ekphrastic poetry for the upcoming Sculpture Garden event at the Kemp. Those poems will be framed by Nick and displayed in the hallway that leads out to the garden. This will be finished in time for the May 11 opening of the event.

Pictures of the sculptures had been provided by the Kemp via Sheri Sutton, and members have selected a sculpture to immortalize in poetry.

Winners were announced for the March contest, judged by Val Shultz of Crowell. The poems entered were those that had been critiqued at the March meeting, and as members read their poems, they expressed appreciation for the suggestions made to improve the poems.

The winners were: 1st place – Linda Smith; 2nd place – Mark Sutton; 3rd place – Rosellen Sheetz; 1HM – Lynn Hoggard; 2HM – Nick Schreiber; 3HM – Geneva Rodgers.

The lesson was presented by Monica McCawley, who had stepped up to take over for the lesson that Webb had intended to teach on humorous poetry. The contest poem for May will be about seasons, as Webb had intended, and these poems are due to Sheri Sutton by midnight on April 30.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:**

There will be an abbreviated June Bulletin to provide updates about our July Summer Conference in Denton. If your chapter continues meeting in the summer or at least goes through June, please feel free to submit news from your chapter and it will be published. I would like to send out the June Bulletin before the usual deadline, so please submit your June news to me by June 10th at vbaileybulletin@att.net.

We really missed hearing from the following chapters: Fort Worth, Gulf Coast, Rusk County, Texoma, Trinity Valley and Tyler. Have a great summer and we hope to see you all at the Summer Conference.
POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE MONTH
The Mockingbird Chapter with Their Number One Annual Project since their 1970 Founding:
The Collins County Poetry Contest ~ The 2019 Winners Featured Here

Above are the happy 2019 winners of the Collins County Poetry Contest, including Mockingbird sponsors: Beth Ayers 1st row, far left; Sylvia Medel 1st row, far right. David Knape, Back row, far right.
Left are several Mockingbirds who were present to help with the 48th Annual Awards Ceremony for the Collins County Poetry Contest. L-R: Domingo Rodriguez, Sylvia Medel, Jimmy Inez Sessions, Ann Marie Newman, John Alexander, and Alice Parker.

The Mockingbird Chapter was founded in 1970 and they meet the first Saturday of the month, year-round from 1:30–3:30 p.m. at the Carriage House, 205 West Hunt Street in downtown McKinney. At their meetings, they share their poetry and organize their activities: public readings in senior homes; open mic events; and library displays. They sponsor the annual Collin County Poetry Contest for students, adults, and members. They also publish anthologies of winning poems. The Officers for the Mockingbird Chapter are: President ~ Thomas K. Martin (ntmart@tx.rr.com), Vice President ~ Beth Ayers, Treasurer ~ Susan Mardele, and Secretary ~ John Alexander.
THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS – 50th ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
Thursday, Friday, Saturday — July 11, 12, 13, 2019 — Theme: “Prompts and Pathways”

Thursday July 11
3:00 - 6:00 pm Check in Embassy Suites Hotel, Denton Texas (Bookstore open to receive books at 3:30 pm)
6:00 pm Official Welcome
6:15 - 7:30 pm Reception and Light Buffet, Entertainment: Steve Sanders and the Sea Dogs
7:45 - 8:15 pm Spotlight on the Poet: Catherine Case Lubbe Award, Terry Jude Miller
8:30 - 9:30 pm Open Microphone with Michael Guinn, Master of Ceremonies

Friday, July 12
6:00 - 8:00 am Breakfast (Hotel Buffet, included with room reservation)
7:00 - 7:45 am Early Bird Open Microphone with Christine Irving, Master of Ceremonies
8:00 am Second Welcome
8:15 - 9:30 am Three perspectives on “Prompts and Pathways.” A writing and reading workshop with Denton Poets Assembly’s Christine Irving, Beth Honeycutt, and Bob Schinzel
10:00 - 10:45 am Nathan Brown, Oklahoma Poet Laureate (2013-2014)
11:00 - 11:45 am Loretta Diane Walker, “Prompts and Pathways”
12:15 - 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 pm Texas Poet Laureates: Karla Morton (2010) and Alan Birkelbach (2005)
2:15 - 3:00 pm Prompts and Improvisation in Poetry and Music, Paul Slavens
3:30 - 4:15 pm Bruce Bond, Regent Professor, University of North Texas
4:30 - 5:15 pm Carol Coffee Reposa, 2018 Texas Poet Laureate
5:15 - 5:45 pm Michael Guin, Spoken Word
5:50 - 6:25 pm Free Time: Break, Bookstore or Dress for Banquet
6:30 - 7:15 pm Banquet
7:15 - 8:00 pm Keynote Address: Diane Glancy, Poetry Society of Texas & Denton Poet’s Assembly
8:15 - 8:30 pm William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Winner Reading
8:30 - 9:15 pm Life Member Raffle with Birma Castle, Master of Ceremonies
9:30 - 10:30 pm Open Microphone with Michaud Lamrouex, Master of Ceremonies

Saturday, July 13
8:00 - 9:00 am You Be The Judge Readings
9:00 - 9:15 am PST Monthly Contest
9:30 - 10:15 am Panel Discussion: Lynn Lewis and Beth Honeycutt
10:30 -11:00 am Winner Announcements: High School / College / YBTJ / 50th Anniversary Contests
11:00 -11:15 am Close of Conference
11:15 am-1:00 pm Bookstore check-out - Lunch on our own

SUMMER CONFERENCE BOOKSTORE INFORMATION
Michaud Lamrouex has agreed to serve as Bookstore Manager again this year. If you plan to bring books to sell, you must email the following list of information to lamrouex@sbcglobal.net by July 6 before 5 p.m. A complete list of all books you intend to sell must include: (1) Author’s name, (2) All book titles, (3) Price of each book, (4) Number of copies of each book you bring. Michaud must input this information into his computer before books will be accepted for sale in the Bookstore. Important additional preparation you must make before you arrive at the Bookstore: Also required before your books will be allowed to be sold in the Bookstore. Prepare each book for sale by placing a removeable 3” x 3” Post-It note on the inside front cover of each book. Please print legibly on the sticky note the following information: (1) Author’s name, (2) Book title, (3) Price of book. Credit cards will be accepted for buying books, but there is a three percent (3%) surcharge to pay the card company for the convenience of using the credit card. The Bookstore will be the only site for all book sales. It will also be the place to view items donated to the raffle to benefit the Life Member Fund.

For the convenience of conference attendees, Michaud will endeavor to keep the Bookstore open at all times with the exception of meals and necessary breaks.
GET YOUR POEM PUBLISHED — DO THIS NOW
2019 PST Summer Conference Anthology
Qualifications for Submission:

Who Can Enter a Poem for Publication?
You do not have to be a PST member to attend the conference.
Everyone registered for the conference before June 1st can submit a poem for printing
in the Summer Conference Anthology.

Requirements for Submitted Poem:
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 or the “Prompts and Pathways” contest.

Poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives cannot be considered for publication
in the anthology.

Send only one of your original unpublished poems, 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 line/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 line
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 the poem exactly how you want it printed in the body of an email or an attached 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.

Deadline for Submission:
Your poem must be received by June 1, 2019 in order 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.

For further information about the conference refer to the PST website
at https://poetrysocietyoftexas.org or the Denton Poets’ Assembly website at:

THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS PODCAST FOR MAY

EPISODE 3: In this episode of the Poetry Society of Texas Podcast
we discuss an award winning book of poetry with its author.
Our guest, J.Paul Holcomb, is the 2004 winner of the Edwin M.
Eakin Memorial Award. We will discuss J. Paul’s book,
Looking for Love in the Telecom Corridor. J. Paul is interviewed
by Texas poet, Laura Peña.

J. Paul Holcomb
PLANNING TO CELEBRATE PST’S 50th SUMMER CONFERENCE?
A Celebration Preparation
TO DO LIST

Find rules and additional information on each item below at either
www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/events/summer-conference/ or

TAKE ACTION IN MAY – NOW!

1. Make hotel reservations now.
   Stay at the best all-around deal in town. 
2. Send your registration form and your PST Summer
   Conference Anthology poem in now!
   Deadline for anthology submission is June 1, 2019

JUNE and JULY

3. Send your “Prompts and Pathways” poem for the contest.
   First Place: $75, 2nd Place: $50, 3rd Place: $25
   Deadline for “Prompts and Pathways” poem July 1, 2019

4. Prepare your books for Bookstore sales.
   Instructions are provided on page 9 in this Bulletin.

5. Prepare your “You be the Judge” poem to bring with you.
   This poem is due at Registration.
   First Place: $75, 2nd Place: $50
   Deadline 2:00 pm, Friday, July 12.

6. Prepare your contribution to the Life Member Fund, whether
   it is a gift card or a gift, put a tag on it that identifies the giver,
   chapter, or organization. Final details will be in the June Bulletin.

7. Organize some family friendly poems you can read at
   “Open Mic” events.

RELAX — YOU ARE READY!
Enjoy a stellar and diverse celebration of art, music, camaraderie, and poetry available to you this year.
Examine the program and speakers committed to impart knowledge, entertain, and give you something
To remember. This is an abundance of talent committed to one event. Don’t miss this opportunity.

If you have questions, contact Richard Kushmaul at pst2019conference@gmail.com/
POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS – 50TH ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE
“Prompts and Pathways” Poem Contest – Entry Rules

Qualification for entry:
Entrants must have paid the non-reimbursable conference registration fee of $25 and must be present to win.

Requirements for Submitted Poem:
The poem may NOT have been previously published and may NOT be the same poem that has been submitted for the 50th Summer Conference Anthology or the “You Be The Judge” contest.

A Poem that contains explicit sexual language or expletives will not be accepted.

Poems should be printed with Times New Roman 12-point font, single spaced.

Poems will have a 24 line and 55 characters per line limit including: titles, subtitles, epigraphs, footnotes, dedications, blank lines for spacing or stanza breaks, and any other lines.

Your Name, Title of Poem, and address to be included at the bottom of the page.

Entries Submitted Where and When:
Entries may be submitted via email or post mail
AND MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE JULY 1, 2019 at one of the addresses below:

On-line:  pst2019conference@gmail.com

Postal Mail:  Attn: “Prompts and Pathways” Poetry Contest
Richard Kushmaul
9612 Sandlewood Drive
Denton Texas 76207

Awards:
Cash awards will be given to winners: First Place: $75, Second Place: $50, Third Place: $25

Winners Announced:
Winning poems will be announced at the 50th Summer Conference on Saturday, July 13.

PST’s SUMMER CONFERENCE OFFERS LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES
• LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ART OF POETRY
• SHARE THE MAGIC OF YOUR OWN POETIC STYLE.
• GET PUBLISHED IN THE ANTHOLOGY • ENTER CONTESTS “YOU BE THE JUDGE” and “PROMPTS AND PATHWAYS”
• LEARN NEW POETIC SKILLS FROM THE BEST OF THE BEST
• HAVE A GREAT TIME MEETING OLD FRIENDS AND MAKING NEW ONES
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM AND INFORMATION

For The
Poetry Society of Texas 50th Annual 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: Call: 940-243-3799

Special Conference Rates: (Ask for “PST”) $119 (single/double) $129 (triple) and $139 (quad) occupancy (Double or Queen as available) Includes: Complimentary parking and made-to-order breakfast for overnight hotel guests /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).

See Bulletin page 9 for the Program Schedule and Detailed Bookstore Instructions

Cut along the dotted line

SUMMER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: (Print for your name tag)_________________________________________________________/
Address:___________________________________________________________________________/
City________________________________ Phone:________________ Email:________________________
Chapter:_________________________ State Zip Code:

Registration:___@$25+Friday Lunch*___@$30+Friday Evening Banquet & Program____@$40 Total = $95

Guest Options: Friday Day Pass** & Lunch___@$50 Friday Eve Banquet* & Program___@$40 Total = $95

Check Total________
Make check payable to pst2019Conference

* 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
The Austin Poetry Society
President: Barbara Gregg
In celebration of National Poetry Month, the Austin Poetry Society presented its annual International Poetry Festival on the first weekend of April, Thursday through Sunday, April 4–7. Austin Poetry Society members registered and their poems were published in this year’s ‘di-vêrsé-city 2019’ anthology. Elected to the Board, Kaye Abikhaled served as Director of Youth Poetry.
Submitted by Kaye Abikhaled
PST Councilor for Austin

The Beaumont Poetry Society
President: Birma Castle
Most of the Beaumont poets celebrated National Poetry Month the first week in April by attending the fabulous Lucidity Retreat in beautiful Eureka Springs, Arkansas.
Submitted by Barbara Green Powell
Bulletin Reporter for Beaumont Poetry Society

The Denton Poets’ Assembly
President: Richard (Rich) Weatherly
The Denton poets have been celebrating poetry all year by working tirelessly on the production of our annual Summer Conference which they will host this summer, July 11, 12, & 13.
Observed by Valerie Bailey, Bulletin Editor, who has been reporting their efforts.

The Fort Worth Poetry Society
President: Patricia Ferguson
Fort Worth poets celebrated National Poetry Month with their poets participating in a Poetry in Your Pocket event. Steve Sanders advertised the event for April 18, and members carried poems in their pockets and read a poem to anyone who asked.
Submitted by Anne Jones,
Bulletin Reporter for Fort Worth Poetry Society

The Mockingbird Society
President: Tom Martin
The Mockingbirds celebrated NPM by holding an Open Mic on April 27 at Café Bohemia in Plano. It was open to all poets and flyers were circulated to help draw a crowd. Also Vice President Beth Ayers teamed up with creative art work from Ann Marie Newman to make a fun display for the McKinney Library. The art work was shown in our April Bulletin.

Poets Northwest
President: Eric Blanchard
Poets Northwest celebrated at the April meeting by picking their favorite American Poet of the 20th or 21st Century and sharing bio info and a couple of poems from that poet. It was fun and educational.

Rusk County Poets
President: Mary Tindall
Rusk County Poets celebrated NPM by commemorating the life and poetry of Mary Oliver who recently passed away and had been the winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for Poetry. Sharon Taylor presented the program and reminded members that Mary Oliver was this country’s best-selling living poet. Oliver’s poems “Wild Geese” and “When Death Comes” were read and discussed. It was a fitting tribute for National Poetry Month.
Submitted by Cherry Day
Bulletin Reporter for Rusk County Poets

The San Antonio Poets Association
President: Michaud Lamrouex
SAPA celebrated National Poetry Month with a special presentation by one of our talented members, John Eubanks, an excellent poet and actor who has played many roles in Little Theater productions in the San Antonio area. He is also a former educator and writes a Saturday column, mostly about language, for the San Antonio Express-News. He presented an entertaining variety program of poetic skits complete with costumes and props. A few were serious but most were hilariously funny. We also made plans to donate our extra anthologies, Inkwell Echoes, as gifts to nursing homes, the Haven for Hope homeless shelter, and area libraries and PST’s archived collection at the Dallas Library.
Submitted by Valerie Martin Bailey
Publicity Chair for SAPA and PST Councilor for San Antonio.
Mahan Prize
Sponsored & Judged by Budd Powell Mahan
1st Place: “Time” by Travis Andrew Nolan
Cistercian Preparatory School—Gary Nied, teacher
No other citation awarded

Naomi Stroud Simmons Memorial Award
Sponsored by the family of Naomi Stroud Simmons
Judged by Judy Simmons Kirkpatrick
1st Place: “Fireflies” by Libby Warren—Hockaday School
2nd Place: “The Sights Nobody Can See” by Ben Hughston—Parish Episcopal School
3rd Place: “Silence” by Laiba Effendi—Sugarland Middle School
4th Place: “Just a Normal Kid” by Jordan Whitaker
Parish Episcopal School—David Loveland, teacher
5th Place: “Shadows” by Julia Oesterreicher—Faubian Middle School

Note: This contest had more than 350 entries. The judge also awards the following Honorable Mentions:
“The Shop” by Zachary Bortek, Faubian Middle School—Debbie Bennett, teacher.
“Messy Room” by Samantha Lyons, Gorzycki Middle School—Emily Mazac, teacher.
“Novels” by Julia Cloyd, Gorzycki Middle School—Emily Mazac, teacher.
“Life” by Charu Pillai, Sugarland Middle School—Kristi Person, teacher.
“Darkness” by Shifa Irfan, The Hockaday School—Deidre Thompson, teacher.

Pat and Don Stodghill Award
Sponsored by Pat Stodghill—Judged by: Christine Irving
1st Place: “The Colors of the Sky” by Aditi Gangasani, Hockaday School—Deidre Thompson, teacher
2nd Place: “Personification” by Eddie Prall—Gorzycki Middle School—Emily Mazac, teacher
3rd Place: “Contemplating” by Weston Lyddane—Faubian Middle School—Debbie Bennett, teacher
4th Place: “Your Mistake” by Annemarie Graham—Parish Episcopal School—David Loveland, teacher
5th Place: “Leap” by Sylvia Buckner—The Hockaday School—Deidre Thompson, teacher

Marcella Siegel Memorial Award
Sponsored & Judged by Ann Howells
1st Place: “More Than Food” by Grant Metten
Parish Episcopal School—James Hermon, teacher
2nd Place: “Beating Burkitt’s” by Graydon Moore
Parish Episcopal School—Kimberli Guillory, teacher
3rd Place: “Ode to Friendship” by Joni Blanchard—Faubian Middle School—Debbie Bennett, teacher
4th Place: “Intoxicated” by Natalia Gonzalez
Faubian Middle School—Debbie Bennett, teacher
5th Place: “Marble Floors and Beamed Ceilings” by Bobbie Behrens—Parish Episcopal Middle School—Kimberli Guillory, teacher

Karle Wilson Baker Memorial Prize
Sponsored & Judged by Patrick Marshall
1st Place: “Crowned with Red” by Kaitlyn Chen
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
2nd Place: “Colors of Dance” by Megan Li
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
3rd Place: “Tea Time” by Ellie Bell—The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
4th Place: “Hail” by Lola Railsback—The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
5th Place: “The Bassoon” by Georgia LaGrone
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher

Mildred Vorpahl Baass Memorial Award
Sponsored & Judged by Nancy Baass
1st Place: “Song of the Birds” by Evelyn Yau
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
2nd Place: “Wind” by Anjali Konda—The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
3rd Place: “Corn flower Blue” by Jessica Moran
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
4th Place: “Weedy” by Kathryn Elizabeth Epperson
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
5th Place: “Sock” by Melinda Hu—The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher

John D. Vaughn Memorial Award
Sponsored & Judged by Aman Khan
1st Place: “Life” by Kathryn Elizabeth Epperson
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
2nd Place: “Leaves” by Leela Philip
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
3rd Place: “The Wake-Up Call” by Sena Asom
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
4th Place: “Alone” by Lkshmy Anoop
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
5th Place: “Willows” by Chole Oeschger
The Hockaday School—Lisa Waugh, teacher
**MEMBERSHIP REPORT ~ APRIL, 2019**

(from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis)

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<tr>
<th>Active Members</th>
<th>199</th>
<th>Sustaining Members</th>
<th>4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Members</td>
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<td>Recently Deceased</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Members</td>
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<td>New Members</td>
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<td>Renewing Members</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Members</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Current Member Total</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS**

There were no new members again this month. We all need to get busy recruiting new members for our great organization. Make sure all members of your chapter who have not joined PST realize what a great deal they are missing. If you can get all members of your chapters to join PST, you will hear them say:

*We Love PST!*

**Book Donations Report**

From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports one new book donation this month. Members are urged to donate books to our collection. The new books donated was:

*Resisting the Ground*, by Barbara Blanks

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

**Editor’s Note:** My face is red! I must apologize for a mistake I made in the April Bulletin. I wrote that the membership report was for April, but it was for March and in this month of May, you are now reading the April Membership Report—mea culpa. Of course it is a month behind. Duh!

**Enjoy your Summer! Use it to write lots of poetry!**

**THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**President:** Aman Khan  
6717 Talmadge Lane • Dallas, TX 75230 • 792-385-8338  
aman1963@gmail.com

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**Membership Chairman:** Lynn Lewis  
1704 Enderly Place • Fort Worth, TX 76104  
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Please notify the Membership Chairman promptly if your address, phone, or e-mail address changes.

**Bulletin Editor:** Valerie Martin Bailey  
vbaileybulletin@att.net

News Deadline: 14th of each month by 8:00 p.m.  
*The Bulletin* may be published in June or July, but only annual contest results in the November *Bulletin*.  
Note: Your *Bulletin* is now sent to you via e-mail. Notify the Editor if your e-mail address changes to prevent missing an edition of the *Bulletin*. If you do miss an edition you can request a copy from the editor or see it on our website at www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

**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 IN DALLAS, TX 75229

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**THE MONTH OF MAY REMINDS US**  
“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”  
~ Les Brown