J. Todd Hawkins, PST’s Guest Speaker for October

J. Todd Hawkins grew up in Fort Worth. He earned a BA in English and psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and an MA in technical communication from Texas Tech. He is currently an editor and writer for an educational publishing company. His poetry has appeared in *The Louisville Review, Bayou Magazine, American Literary Review,* and elsewhere. He has presented and discussed poetry on panels at the University of Mississippi’s Southern Writing Conference, Tarleton State University’s Langdon Review Arts Festival and others too numerous to list. He has earned an impressive number of awards and honors. We are honored to have him as our October speaker.

Minutes of the General meeting of the Poetry Society of Texas for Saturday, September 12 2020 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom by Barbara Blanks, Recording Secretary

President Irene Robertson called the meeting to order. She welcomed everyone who joined the meeting via Zoom, including our program speaker Melanie Pruitt, and her friends Chris Menos and Sherri Wilcox. She introduced our new Director, Beth Honeycutt, of Denton. She thanked Valerie Martin Bailey for producing the August *Bulletin.* Thanked Steve Sanders for using his Zoom account to make the meeting happen. And congratulated all the poets who had been selected for inclusion in the WordFest anthology.

Treasurer Steve Sanders gave a brief August financial report, citing income from membership renewals and annual contest entry fees.

Reminder that membership dues were payable in June/July. Dues may be paid via check or through Paypal at www.paypal.me/PSTexas. If you have not renewed by November, your name will be removed from the membership roster.

Membership Chair Lynn Lewis was present and gave the August Membership report. You can see the details and new members on page 10.

Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley introduced our Program Speaker, Melanie Pruitt, a longtime Dallas poet who has hosted the Dallas Poets Community’s First Friday monthly poetry event at a local bookstore, since the summer of 2001. She is also a former co-editor of the DPC’s literary journal, *Illya’s Honey.* Her poetry has appeared in many locally published ‘zines, literary journals, and anthologies. Her interest in writing in general extends to her blog, *Confessions of a Movie Queen.*

Melanie believes poetry should teach and delight. She encouraged the reading of many different poets because, “If you want to become a better writer, become a better reader.” When writing about a moment and a feeling, the poet should not tell you what to feel, but let the feeling come to you. She suggested reading screenplays to see how precise language can be, because scripts are heavy with subject/verb. She said her love of poetry began with the lyrics from “Ode to Billie Joe,” and how Bobbie Gentry juxtaposed the horrific with the banal. The entire song contains maybe five adjectives; the rest is subject/verb. Melanie suggested trying to write stories or poems with only...
55 words as a way to learn preciseness.

**Spotlight on Poets Chair**, Susan Maxwell Campbell, announced an offshoot of Spotlight: Legacy Poets. She is contacting several of our long-time poets and asking them to record videos of themselves reading their poetry.

She introduced our **first Legacy/Spotlight Poet Diane Glancy**. Diane splits her time between Texas and Kansas. She is a poet, playwright, novelist, with numerous awards. She read four excerpts from her newest book, *Island of the Innocent: A Consideration of the Book of Job*.

**Contest Chair Rich Weatherly** announced the winners of the September contest. Terry Jude Miller read his first place Critic’s award poem, and Barbara Blanks read her Laugh Lines winning poem.

President Robertson made these announcements before the meeting was adjourned:

**Nancy DeHonores** has agreed to become Student Contest Awards Chair. We thank **Ann Howells** for her service, and for once again producing a Student Anthology.

While the Annual Awards Banquet has been cancelled due to the pandemic, the Board voted to send digital award certificates as well as prize checks this year. The feasibility and possibility of a Zoom awards is being investigated.

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**SEPTEMBER MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS**

**25 Entries**

**Critic Judge**: Jim Lambert, Southern Illinois  
**1st**: Terry Jude Miller, Richmond ~ *Exspiravit*  
**2nd**: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas  
**3rd**: Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

**Laugh Lines**  
**Judge**: Birma Castle, Beaumont  
**Winner**: Barbara Blanks, Garland

**Book Prizes**  
**Popular**: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK  
**Wm. D. Barney Award**: Johnnie B. Carter, Humble  
**M. Tandy Deumke Award**: Sheila T. Moore, San Antonio  
**Naomi Simmons Award**: Michael Minassian, Mound  
Other poems up for Book Prizes were: Linda Banks, Eric Blanchard, Barbara Blanks, Birma Castle, Ann Howells,, JDarrell Kirkly,

Send contest entries before the 15th of each month to Contest Chair, Richard Weatherly, at 7617 Palomar Dr., N. Richland Hills, TX 76180 • Phone: 817-428-8088  
*WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net*

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**Waco’s WordFest**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Waco Cultural Arts Fest that sponsors WordFest is not having an ‘in person’ festival at the usual location (Waco Convention Center and Indian Spring Park). This year, the music, art, and dance fests will not meet. The science and film fest will meet virtually.

The WordFest will meet ‘in person’ in a new location, the Martin Museum of Art on the Baylor Campus in Waco, on Saturday, October 3 from 10 am-5 pm. We will be limited to 30 attendees.

The annual anthology read will be from 3:30-4:30 pm. The anthology read will also appear on Facebook Live. The theme in 2020 is **FIRE**. Poets in the anthology are asked sign up to attend by emailing wacowordfest@yahoo.com. There will be poetry events all day on October 3. The complete schedule will be published on the Website: [http://www.wacoartsfest.org/wordfest](http://www.wacoartsfest.org/wordfest) closer to the date.


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**WE PUT OUT A CALL**

For a Poetry in the Schools Chair, and we are happy to announce that **Nancy De Honores** has answered the call. We are excited that Nancy is willing to do this vital job. No one could be happier than Ann Howells who has done an outstanding job in this position, and was so concerned about finding a replacement. She put out a student anthology for this year, even though she was resigning the position. Our heartfelt thanks to Ann for the job she has done. She will take Nancy under her wings and make sure she knows what the job requires  
**THANK YOU NANCY FOR STEPPING UP!**

This is such an important job and as noted in last month’s Bulletin... Remember  
**STUDENT POETS ARE PST’S NEXT LEADERS**
CATHERINE CASE LUBBE MANUSCRIPT AWARD GOES TO J. TODD HAWKINS

The annual Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest for 2019 was awarded to J. Todd Hawkins for This Geography of Thorns: Blues Poetry from the Mississippi Delta & Beyond.

It has been the practice of PST to introduce the book at the summer conference. Todd’s book was to have had a splendid debut at that time with his presence to autograph copies. It is now available at: http://www.jtoddhawkins.com/bookstore.html.

Adam Tavel, professor of English at Wicomico Community College in Salisbury MD, director of the Echoes & Visions Reading Series, and judge for the 2019 Lubbe contest, writes:

Haunted, meditative, and lyrical, This Geography of Thorns takes readers on an engrossing, Dantesque sojourn through the American south in search of that most authentic of American art forms: the blues. To call this book a mere homage to the blues, however, would be a disservice to its heart, its sophistication, and its astute avoidance of cliché. [It is] an impressive collection, but these poems offer far more. First and foremost, they recognize the grim historical legacies of both slavery and sharecropping, honoring the tenacity of African-American communities to make art in the face of oppression, injustice, and terror. … [P]age after page stuns with rich descriptions of southern landscapes, reminding us that poetry, music, and our very survival are inescapably rooted in the survival of our ecology.

The poems offer vignettes of the 1930s as well as of today’s South with an affection palpable in each line. The collection goes beyond the impressive writing and raises its voice to encourage positive social awareness—appreciation, acceptance, and equality in the search for beauty and meaning.

ANOTHER UPCOMING J. TODD HAWKINS EVENT

October 5, 2020 Todd will be a featured presenter at the monthly meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County, a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas. Come on out to hear Todd read from his new full-length poetry book, This Geography of Thorns: Blues Poetry from the Mississippi Delta & Beyond, winner of the 2019 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Award sponsored by the Poetry Society of Texas. The event will take place between 10:00 a.m. and noon at the historic Thomas Place Community Center at 4237 Lafayette Ave, Fort Worth, 76107. Hope to see you there.
DON’T MISS THE IMPORTANT STUFF!

We are all busy and sometimes because we are rushed, we just skim the general meeting minutes and hurry on to the feature pages, but in doing so, we often miss important announcements. For that reason, one thing needs to be emphasized. We are all sad that our wonderful annual Awards Banquet is another casualty of Covid-19. However, while the Annual Awards Banquet has been cancelled due to the pandemic, the Board voted to send digital award certificates as well as prize checks this year. The feasibility and possibility of a Zoom awards is being investigated. Kudos to our hardworking, thoughtful Board! We all appreciate your efforts to make our contest wins meaningful. Thank you from all of us!

Be a PST Sweetheart ~ Sponsor a Life Member

We did it!
Together we raised $825
and sponsored 100% all 33 Life Members!
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!
Our Life Members thank you!
Here are the great sponsors who made this happen!

Alamo Area Poets of Texas ~ 1
Beaumont Chapter ~ 2
Laura Birkelbach ~ 1
Von S. Bourland ~ 2
Birma Castle ~ 3
Denton Poets Assembly ~ 2
Florene Flatt ~ 1
Diane Glancy ~ 1
Lynn Grice ~ 1
HOT Poets ~ 1
Adrian Johnson ~ 1
Andrea Marshall ~ 1
Patrick Marshall ~ 1
Kate Lacy ~ 1
LaVern McCarthy ~ 2
Sylvia Medel ~ 1
Pegasus Chapter ~ 2
Poets Northwest ~ 1
Poets of Tarrant Co. ~ 1
Charlotte Renk ~ 1
Rusk County Poets ~ 2
S.A. Poets Assoc ~ 1
Bob Schinzel ~ 1
Carol Thompson ~ 1
Tyler Rose Garden ~ 1

THIS IS A PRAYER REQUEST
FOR JIMMYE INEZ SESSIONS

Jimmye’s breast cancer has returned, and she is undergoing another course of treatment and has requested prayer. Please pray for this treatment to be effective and that pain be kept to an absolute minimum, and most of all for Jimmye and her sweet mother, Inez Grimes to have the peace that passes all understanding, which is possible through their great faith in God.

Cards would be a nice way of letting her know that you are thinking of her. Calling her is not advised because she is weak and tires easily.
ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS
Antonia Murguia, Reporting

Alamo Area Poets of Texas met through a Zoom screen on September 5th. President Antoinette Winstead opened the meeting and welcomed a full house. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance in front of a beautiful displayed flag provided by Antoinette. A moment of silence followed.

September’s featured poet was Rod Carlos Rodriguez, aka, Rod Striker. He has been running the Sun Poets Open Mic Poetry Venue for over 20 years, the longest running in Texas. His group meets on Facebook Live Sun Poets at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday. Anyone is welcome to join and to read his/her poem, or the moderators will read the poem for him/her.

Rod Striker spoke to the members about the importance of reading their poetry aloud, the best way a poet can connect to the audience, and the audience can connect to the poet. When asked how a poet can overcome his/her emotion when reading an especially evocative poem, he said that practice helps, i.e., reading the poem aloud to oneself, and even if one becomes emotional while reading, the audience understands and is even more connected to the poet. He believes the more personal a theme, the more universal it becomes. After Rod’s interesting commentary, he shared some of his poems with the group.

The winners for the May contest, judged by Birma Castle, were for the Assigned Topic: 1st Pl: Sheila Moore; 2nd Pl: Antoinette Winstead; 3rd Pl: Vivian Skinner; and HM: Carol Siskovic. For the Open Topic: 1st Pl: Rene Ornes; 2nd John Friedland; 3rd Pl: Sheila Moore and HM: Carol Siskovic.

The topics for October are "The Point of No Return" or "Profile of Courage" were announced. President Winstead then closed the meeting.

BEAUMONT CHAPTER
Birma Castle Reporting for Barbara Powell

I just looked over the August News and I am sorry that I won’t be seeing any of you in November at the Awards Banquet. But I can hope that by next summer the virus will be history, or at least controlled.

We still aren’t meeting on a regular basis. We met to judge the Beaumont Contest. I hope we picked your poem for First Place and the rest of you for Second, Third and to #12. Congratulations! I won the Laugh Lines contest and got to judge this month’s contest.

I judged the Humor Contest for the Missouri State Conference and didn’t waste any time picking the winners to get back to them before I had to evacuate for Hurricane Laura. I went to Austin with my daughter, Vicki, granddaughter Jennifer, great granddaughter Presleigh, (4 generations) and two small dogs. They were the only people I had touched for six months. I finally saw the dentist, and lab people, but had not touched anyone to HUG in all that time. NOW, I think I will survive.

I am super excited about the “Be a PST Sweetheart and Sponsor a Life Member for 2020.” I am not giving away any secrets, but look for the Honored Donors List in the September Bulletin. I enjoyed the challenge of getting this done by a different method, but I surely did miss the Life Member Raffle and selling tickets.

Thankfully, Beaumont was spared any serious damage by Hurricane Laura, but neighbors Port Arthur and Orange didn’t fair so well.

What if I told you, you could get recognition, win a prize and it wouldn’t cost you one penny? You can enter the General Contest and Laugh Lines Contest through email each month. Why not help promote the Monthly Contest for PST by sending in just 2 poems before the 15th of each month to Contest Chair, Richard Weatherly, at WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net

See you next month. Love, Birma

DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY
Christime Irving Reporting

The DPA continued with its virus free Zoom meetings on August 20 with Betty Roberts conducting. Reports were made on the ongoing Banner and T-Shirt and Merging Visions project. Merging Visions, a collaboration of DPA and Visual Arts Society of Texas has been on display at the Patterson...
son-Appleton Arts Center on a “limited group, appointment basis.”

Christine Irving gave a comprehensive and very informative “close reading” of “Jersey Rain” by the Read and Respond Poet of the Month, Robert Pinsky. Read and Respond poems, inspired by Robert Pinsky, were read by submitting attendees. The second half of the meeting included readings of Free Choice poems.

Susan Maxwell Campbell introduced the Read and Respond poet for the September 19 meeting, Ana Akhmatova. Shortly before his death, J Paul passed responsibility for familiarizing us with poetics to Susan. She brings an entirely different approach to enhancing our understanding of poetry. Every month she offers information and examples from the life and work of influential modern poets. We have been introduced to ways of thinking and writing heretofore outside our purview, and they have influenced and honed our own skills in visible ways. The supplemental information she provides may include bios, interviews, critiques by other poets, speeches, etc. Susan does an enormous amount of work gathering, collating, and distributing this information. We are extremely grateful to her for so generously sharing both her extensive knowledge and her limited time.

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY
Michael Baldwin Reporting

Once again the Fort Worth Poetry Society is offering the William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest. Page 9 in this Bulletin has been designated as the information page regarding this contest. Please take a look and consider entering this contest.

HOT/LIVE POETS OF CENTRAL TEXAS
Christine Boldt Reporting

The Live/HOT Poets held our monthly Zoom meeting on Thursday, September 10. We did a Round Robin read of poems in response to the prompt, “The Bright Side”

Beginning in October, we plan to spotlight one poet each month. October’s poet is Elizabeth Bishop. Chapter President, Dwight Grey, has given us the following optional prompts:

1. Describe a person based on the place they occupy, perhaps a work place or a home. Example: Bishop’s Filling Station – https://poets.org/poem/filling-station.


4. Choose another Bishop poem and write in response to it.

Dwight suggests that The Fish or The Armadillo could also go hand in hand with our October theme of Lament.

For questions you may contact Chris Boldt at: pacboldt@sbcglobal.net.

MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER
John Alexander Reporting

MPS held its regular monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 3rd as a virtual meeting. President Thomas Martin presided. A total of fifteen members and two guests attended.

The minutes from the August meeting were approved, and Treasurer Tarik Ahmed provided the treasurer’s report. President Martin announced that we have a new Vice President. Lisa Flaggert has graciously accepted and will complete the vacated term of the Vice President.

President Martin led a discussion about our last three meetings for 2020—October, November, and December We have been meeting online since April. Several have expressed interest in a face to face meeting in the near future. The Executive Committee will make the decision, but they wanted to get a sense of how many would come if we meet again in the Carriage House.

Several options were discussed, including meeting online through the end of the year, or a combined in person and online meeting. When asked who would attend in person if that were an option, twelve members indicated they would attend.

In November we will elect a new president and a new secretary. President Martin will appoint a nominating committee. The Executive Committee
discussed a few names and could offer the Nominating Committee some suggestions, but any decision about candidates is up to the Nominating Committee.

For the December Holidays we usually have a potluck luncheon, but it is likely we won’t be able to do the usual thing. President Martin invited the group to consider options. One of the things discussed was a poem exchange. We will bring this discussion back to the table in October when we’ve had time to get input from others.

National Poetry Day Open Mic is October 1, 2020. President Martin suggested that we use the hillside at Bonnie Wenk Park in McKinney on Saturday, Sept. 26 in the early evening around 5:30 p.m. Sunset will be at 7:17 p.m. that day. Several options were discussed. President Martin will contact the City of McKinney and see if he can set up a meeting in the park. Plan B would be to do it on Zoom. Susan Mardell will contact the owner at Filtered and let her know we won’t hold it there this year.

PST President Irene Robertson shared some thoughts with the group about PST. First is our need for a new Webmaster. She said all the information is in the August Bulletin. She says it’s not a time consuming job. She also said that the PST student program in a great way for students to win prizes for their work. PST dues are $25 and anyone can join online. Annual winners are announced at the November banquet every year, and Beth Ayers always does a great job with the banquet. Irene regrets there will be no banquet this year due to Covid-19. She noted that next year is PST’s 100th anniversary. She closed by saying the Mockingbird Chapter rocks! We agree!

Beth Ayers shared that Mockingbird sponsors one of the contests for PST She just received the entries. She will send out information to solicit volunteers for judging. The results need to be returned to Nancy Baass, Contest Chair by September 21st.

During member sharing time, John Alexander announced that his book Quiet Time Rhymes was released in August. It contains 148 poems written from February through July. Alice Parker announced her book Trip to Oz is now available on Amazon. Susan Mardele’s display at Heard Craig was well attended with more traffic than the prior six months combined. She has also added her poems online on her website. She is also working with her mother on a history of her mom’s life, including photos. Reach out to Susan for links. Beth Ayers noted that every Monday through Friday, Billy Collins, former US Poet Laureate does a Facebook live broadcast and is there for at least a week. Nathan Brown, former Oklahoma Poet Laureate is also doing a live broadcast on Facebook titled: “Man, That Poem Just Killed me”

After the group’s business and sharing was completed, the members were invited to share a poetry reading. We always enjoy hearing poetry from our group.

POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY
Lynn Lewis Reporting
The minutes for the September 14, 2020 Zoom meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County are as follows: The meeting was called to order by President Ron Eddins, who was also the Contemporary Poet Reader. As a tribute and acknowledgement of the recent passing of PTC member Louin Berry III, he read poems from a previously published Spring Anthology that was produced by the Poets of Tarrant County. Vice President Lynn Lewis filled in for the original featured speaker. She gave a brief overview of the Poet Rumi, and played a recorded YouTube recitation of his poem, “A Great Wagon.” Hollis Davis was the Spotlight Poet. The treasury report and minutes from the June meeting were given. Following the member poetry read-around, the meeting was adjourned by President Eddins.

RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY
Janet Tyner Reporting
The Rusk County Poetry Society members continue to stay in touch, although the group has not met in person recently. President Mary Tindall mailed cards to each member, enclosing the following message of encouragement:

“Dear Poet Friends, how proud I am of the things I hear about the poets I know. Writing and encouraging; publishing and editing; revising and submitting. Some are sending poems for other poets to read and enjoy. Wow! It seems you have found some clever ways to give poetry a prominent place in your days.”

Member Jo Morrow has offered to read and react to RCPS poems written in response to her lesson on
understatement in poetry, as well as general poems. Members may send one understated and one general poem to her. Send a self-addressed envelope so she can return the poems, or she will return them at the next meeting. Poets are also writing haiku on 3x5 cards for the RCPS’ fiftieth anniversary publication. Those should be given to Carol Thompson.

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION  
Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

We will hold our September meeting on the 19th and as in April and May, it will be way of Zoom. We will have our new president, Sheila Tingley Moore presiding and Valerie Martin Bailey, this year’s Poet Laureate, will bring the Poet Laureate’s address.

Birma Castle has agreed to judge our September poems and our assigned topic will be a Spoon River Poem. The other contest is always Poet’s choice. Our anthology *Inkwell Echoes* is almost completed and ready for the printer. Like everyone else we are looking forward to meeting again in person someday. It is everyone’s goal, but fortunately poets are strong willed, and we have all made a way to continue writing and sharing our poetry.

One of our past presidents, Pat Gibbs lost her husband, John, on September 6th and he will be missed by everyone. He was a great guy. We also lost John Friedland in June, and just this month another former president Wallace Vaughan fell at work and broke his hip. I’m happy to report he is now recuperating at home. Our September has been touched by sorrow, but we are all looking up and hoping for a better and brighter fall season.

WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY  
Linda Dabney Smith Reporting

Because of the pandemic, the WFPS has not been meeting face-to-face, but members have still been receiving lessons and information via email and YouTube. Members have also continued to write for the monthly contests. There have been many changes and adjustments, but the WFPS is still “in business!” Following are the results of several contests.

**February Contest:** a narrative poem on human suffering, judged by Jeannette Strother of Mansfield. The lesson was taught in January by Robert Parkey in the Kemp Center for the Arts. 

**February bonus contest**— a poem in any form with the subject Spring Dreams, written to be displayed and read at the Arts Alive! Home & Garden Show. These poems were judged by poet and gardener Benjamin Vogt of Lincoln, Nebraska, who also gave a program at the Show. The results are: 1st: Doyle Wood, 2nd: Robert Parkey, 3rd: Geneva Rodgers, 1HM: Lynn Hoggard, 2HM: Sheri Sutton, 3HM: Rosellen Sheetz.

**March Contest** – The lesson on the Senryu was taught in February in the Kemp Center for the Arts by Cynthia Archibald. The poems were judged by Sheila T. Moore of San Antonio. The results are: 1st: Mark Sutton, 2nd: Geneva Rodgers, 3rd: Linda Smith, 1HM: Nick Schreiber, 2HM: Sheri Sutton, 3HM: Robert Parkey

**April Contest** – The program for March was implemented by Nick Schreiber. Each member offered a poem to be critiqued, and all poems were sent to all members for their input. Nick offered guidelines for critiquing via email and handled all the electronic juggling so that everyone benefitted from the opinions of other members. The results of this contest, judged by Birma Castle of Beaumont are: 1st: Linda Smith, 2nd: Mark Sutton, 3rd: Rosellen Sheetz, 1HM: Nick Schreiber, 2HM: Geneva Rodgers, 3HM: Roberta Sund.

**May Contest** – Members could not meet face-to-face in May, and therefore could not benefit from the “Reading Your Poem Aloud” program Geneva Rodgers had planned, so she decided that it would be appropriate to write a prose poem about the Coronavirus. That contest was judged by Barbara Berry of Mansfield. Here are the results: 1st: Geneva Rodgers, 2nd: Robert Parkey, 3rd: Linda Smith, 1HM: Sheri Sutton, 2HM: Mark Sutton, 3HM: Roberta Sund.

**Our Big News!**— the WFPS will celebrate a 90th anniversary in 2021. Sheri Sutton is the editor, and a Poetry Book Committee is working with her to publish an anniversary book in February of 2021. Members have submitted their bios of approximately 100 words, and each member has selected six poems to be included in the book. More details about our celebration will follow as they become available.
The Fort Worth Poetry Society

In Cooperation with the Poetry Society of Texas Offers

The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2021

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

The winner will receive $50 plus 15 free copies of the published chapbook.

Rules for Entry:

1. This contest is open to Texas residents and/or active PST members only. Entry fee for Members of the Poetry Society of Texas is $15. Entry fee for Texas resident non-members of PST is $25. Make your check or money order payable to the Fort Worth Poetry Society. No cash please.
2. Contestants should submit a single paper copy of their manuscript in English only, which should be a minimum of 20 but no more than 30 pages of poetry, and no more than one poem per page. Poems should have no more than 50 characters per line including spaces. The manuscript may include both published and unpublished poems, but may not include poems from other books or chapbooks by the author. A majority of unpublished poems is preferred but not required. Do not include acknowledgments with the manuscript. The winner will supply an acknowledgments page, if needed, during arrangements for publication. The author must not be identified on the manuscript. Include a separate identification sheet with name of author, address, phone, email, and title of the manuscript. Please retain a digital copy of your manuscript; the paper contest copies will be destroyed by the judge.
3. Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered.
4. Fort Worth Poetry Society will assume the production costs of developing the manuscript into a market-ready, soft cover collection. This includes editing, cover design, pricing and ISBN registration. Upon publication of the finished chapbook, the author will receive 15 free copies of the chapbook, with additional copies available at the author discount of 50%. FWPS reserves the right to print and sell additional copies at retail cost, with a 10% royalty to the author. Except for the rights granted to the FWPS, the winner will retain the copyright to the chapbook.
5. The winner of the contest will not be eligible to enter again for six years. Current members of the Fort Worth Poetry Society are not eligible to enter this contest.
6. A qualified, impartial judge selected by FWPS, but not a member of FWPS or PST, will select the winning manuscript. The judge’s name will not be announced until the winner is announced.
7. The winner will be invited to do readings from the chapbook at the PST Summer Conference; at a monthly meeting of PST in Dallas; and at a public poetry program sponsored by FWPS.
8. Entering the contest acknowledges agreement with these stipulations.
9. Entries will be accepted with postmarks between January 1 and February 15, 2021.
10. Announcement of the winner will be at the April, 2021, PST meeting and by email to entrants. Entries should be mailed to: FWPS Chapbook Contest, 10148 Fieldcrest Drive, Benbrook, TX 76126. Include your email or SASE to be notified of delivery.
MEMBERSHIP REPORT AUGUST 2020
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

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WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS

Annie Neugebauer ~ Denton
Hank Longerier ~ Lindale (Supporting Member)
Darrell Pittman ~ San Antonio
Anna Rose ~ Wake Forest, NC
Melissa Spencer ~ McKinney
Sarah Susanna Wood ~ Dallas

You Will ❤️ PST

May—September Book Donations Report
From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports 9 new book donations to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library.

Dust from the Heels of Pegasus by Virginia Spates (1934)
Time in Your Hand, by W.E. Bard
Shawl of Song, by Grace Dupree Ridings
Two in One, by Louis Gibbons
Season of Shadow, by Keith Thomas (1946)
Needle and Thread, by Sunshine Dickinson Ryman (1951)
Panta Rei, by S. Lloyd Cowan (1947)
Arrow Unspent, by Patrick D. Moreland (1931)
Out of My Mind: Flights of Truth & Fiction, by Barbara Blanks

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

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to: Patricia Gibbs, and her grown children, Tim and Andrea Gibbs, and grandchildren: Lauren, Claire, and Maxx at the home-going of husband, father, and grandfather, John, on September 6.
John’s Visitation and Rosary will be on September 22 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in San Antonio. The funeral service will be held at 12 pm on September 23 at the same church. Pat’s strong faith is giving her strength in this difficult time. Prayer is appreciated.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Irene Robertson
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yranie@att.net

Vice President: Richard Weatherly
7617 Palomar Dr. • N. Richland Hills, TX 76180 • 817-428-8088
Weatherlyr@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Steve Sanders
6709 Del Prado Ave. • Fort Worth, TX 76133 • 817-896-2570
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Our Sincere Sympathy to: Barbara Berry, her sons, Mike and Mark, daughter Kimberly and husband, Mikel and their four grandchildren and two great-grand sons. Barbara and Louin married in 1956 and shared life for 64 years. Louin’s service was held online on September 14th under the direction of the Blessing Mortuary in Mansfield. Louin and Barbara were members of the First Methodist Church in Mansfield where Louin was a Lay Minister.