Minutes of the General meeting
of the Poetry Society of Texas for Saturday,
October 10 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 J. Todd Hawkins, past president Catherine L’Herisson, and former chapter presidents, Loretta Diane Walker and Alice Parker.

Librarian Barbara Blanks had 13 books to announce for donation to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library. These book titles can be seen on page 12.

Treasurer Steve Sanders gave a brief September financial report, citing the opening of a new checking account for use with the PST Paypal account. Please remember membership dues can easily be paid online now, using our website address: poetrysocietyoftexas.org OR paypal.me/PSTexas.

Reminder: If you have not renewed your membership by November, your name will be removed from the membership roster.

Director Domingo Rodriguez gave the September Membership Report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. You can read the Membership Report and see the recognition of our new member Joebert Chong on page 12.

Spotlight on Poets Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell introduced our second Legacy/Spotlight Poet, Charlotte Renk. She says family and nature are the two most important things in her life. She read several of her poems.

Program Chair JDarrrell Kirkley introduced our Program Speaker, J. Todd Hawkins, winner of the 2019 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Award offered by PST, with his book, This Geography of Thorns. He grew up in Fort Worth, earned a BA in English and psychology from the University of Texas at Austin, and an MA in technical communication from Texas Tech. He’s 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’s 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’s earned an impressive number of awards and honors.

OCTOBER IS HALF OVER, but November is on the way, bringing a new plan for our Awards Ceremony. The Covid pandemic forced us to cancel our Awards Banquet, but it will not have the last word on the subject. On November 14, we will have an Awards Ceremony via Zoom. Sometime after October 18th, winners and members will be sent the time for the event and a link, so we can all join the fun. Irene Robertson and Rich Weatherly will read the 3rd thru 1st place winners’ names. It is still uncertain how reading the 1st place winning poems will be done, but our Executive Board will work it out. The prize checks will have to be mailed, but...

PST POETS WILL BE AWARDED FOR THEIR POETIC ACHIEVEMENTS!
Hope to See You There!
Todd said he doesn’t usually write poems that stand alone, but that focus on a theme, and his winning book displays that fact. The poems were inspired by or were about places he has traveled through in the Mississippi Delta area, where he saw a lot of unexpected things, and/or wound up eating unexpected things like a pig’s ear sandwich. He prefaced each poem with a description of what he had seen, heard, or felt at those particular places, like the site of Martin Luther King’s assassination.

Contest Chair Rich Weatherly announced the winners of the October contest. Susan Maxwell Campbell read both first place poems for the winners. After the contest winners were announced, President Irene Robertson adjourned the meeting.

OCTOBER MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS
20 Entries
Critic Judge: JoAn Howerton, Lexington, KY
1st: Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio ~ Holding Fast to the Anchor of Hope
2nd: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland
3rd: JDarrell Kirkley, Plano

Laugh Lines
Judge: Barbara Blanks, Garland
Winner: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Book Prizes
Popular: Dorothy Sells Clover, Beaumont
Wm. D. Barney Award: Von S. Bourland, Happyt
M. Tandy Deumke Award: Steve Sanders, Fort Worth
Naomi Simmons Award: Birma C. Castle, Beaumont

Other poems up for Book Prizes were: Christine Boldt, Beth Honeycutt, Irene Robertson, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Terry Jude Miller, and Jerry Johnston.

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

In Memory of All who have died from the Corona virus. I know some PST members who have lost loved ones and friends to this pandemic. I know one of my PST poet friends has lost three colleagues who were also friends. I am sure there are others who are mourning the loss of family, friends, or acquaintances. Please know that you are not alone. Your PST friends care and offer our heartfelt sympathy for your loss.

In Loving Memory of Jimmye Inez Sessions
February 28, 1941~September 21, 2020

Jimmye Inez’s long battle with cancer and diabetes (17 years a diabetic with 10 years of dialysis) finally ended as she peacefully left us for a better place. With her every step of the way was Karann Mason, her life partner for 34 years, who supported her and watched over her through this entire ordeal. Jimmye Inez was a sports fanatic, as well as a published poet. She was a long time member of the Mockingbird Chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas. She served as President of PST and won their highest award, the Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award. We already miss her so much. She leaves behind her life partner, Karann, her loving mother, Inez Grimes, her son, Tony, and an incredible number of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends (she never met a stranger). She also leaves behind the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Longhorns. A Celebration of her life will take place after the Covid crisis passes.

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to Lisa Toth Salinas and Family

Nancy Toth, mother of Lisa Toth Salinas, passed away on September 24, after many years of chronic illness. She died at home in the loving care of her devoted husband, Ron, and her three children. Nancy was a member of Poets Northwest for more than 10 years, where her poems won prizes in many of the annual contests. Her poem “Will You Care for Me?” was particularly meaningful to her family during her trying last week of life. In addition to her husband and children, Nancy leaves behind 11 grandchildren and her beloved dog, Bella.
National Federation of State Poetry Societies

33rd Annual
College Undergraduate Poetry
COMPETITION

FLORENCE KAHN AWARD
EDNA MEUDT AWARD

OPEN: DECEMBER 1, 2020 – JANUARY 31, 2021

SUBMIT: www.nfspsoffice.com
10 Original, Unpublished Poems
$10 Entry Fee

Each Award Prize Includes:
$500.00 CASH
Chapbook Publication
75 Copies of Chapbook
$300.00 Travel Stipend**

Complete Guidelines: www.nfspsoffice.com/CUP.html

* 1989 through 1999 – known as the Edna Meudt Memorial Scholarship Awards,
2000 – known as the NFSPS Scholarship Awards,
2001 through 2014 – known as the NFSPS College/University Level Poetry Competition,
2015 through present – known as the NFSPS College Undergraduate Poetry Competition

** Winners must attend the 2021 NFSPS convention to receive the travel stipend

COME ON COLLEGE UNDERGRADS,
LET’S WIN THIS FOR TEXAS!
THE IRVING CAMPBELL

Get Ready to Dialogue

The Irving Campbell Chapbook Contest will open before you know it! So here’s a reminder to trigger your creative flow. It is also guaranteed to strengthen your bond with a fellow poet through dialogue poetry.

Dialogue poetry is a writing partnership where poets respond to each other’s work with a response poem. Like face-to-face conversation, you never know where it will lead you. You venture into territory you may not otherwise discover. As you write, you can use some element in the preceding poem, i.e. mood, detail word, phrase, image, and so one, for your response. Each poem acts as an inspiration for the following poem, so that each new poem is both follower and leader in a continuing round of mutual exploration into the unknown.

The IC contest opens March 1, 2021—five months away. And for a chapbook of about 40 pages, you and your partner should begin to write now so that you can accumulate around 25 to 30 poems each.

This contest, now in its second year, is under the auspices of the Denton Poets’ Assembly, and is designed to encourage professional writing partnerships between authors in a dialogue exchange of poems.

The Illinois State Poetry Contest is open to all NFSPS member states. That means PST members can enter and win prizes. The Illinois Poetry Contest flyer is on page 10 so you can choose the contests you might want to enter along with the information on how to enter the contests, entry deadlines and where to send your poems.

GOOD LUCK! PUT TEXAS ON THE MAP IN ILLINOIS!
ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS
Antonia Murguia, Reporting

President Antoinette Winstead opened October’s meeting with a hearty welcome to everyone, followed by showing our nation’s flag on the screen. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence followed as we remembered all of the families touched by the virus.

Lois Heger gave an interesting workshop on how to make one’s own greeting cards and verses. Some of the points she made are the following:
1. You can actually sell verses to small card companies.
2. The verses need to be short, no more than two lines.
3. Humor, riddles, puns are a plus.
4. Try to make seasonal verses with a twist.

Sources for verses can come from poems you never finished. You can pick out two lines of special interest. You can also use portions of poems from well-known poets (credit given).

For artwork, you can use iconic art like a nice picture/drawing of a butterfly, which can be symbolic of many different things. You can also use a favorite photo you’ve taken. If you’re not artistic, you can use cookie cutters for outlines and then paint them.

September contest poems were judged by Mary Tindall who was very complimentary with her critiques, which is always appreciated. For the Open Topic the winners were as follows: 2nd HM, Carol Siskovic; 1st HM, Patricia Keoughan; Third Place, Antoinette Winstead; Second Place, Antonia Murguia; First Place, Iris Maahs.

The Assigned Topic winners were as follows: 2nd HM, Rene Ornes; 1st HM, Carol Siskovic; Third Place, Antoinette Winstead; Second Place, Sheila Moore; First Place, Patricia Keoughan.

President Antoinette Winstead then called the meeting to a close.

BEAUMONT CHAPTER
Birma Castle Reporting for Barbara Powell

Yea! I, Birma Castle, was able to participate in the PST Monthly Meeting on Zoom. This was really nice because I got to see a lot of sweet friends’ faces and hear their voices. I also got to hear our Dorothy Clover’s name called for the first Book Prize and it didn’t hurt that I heard my own name too.

Dorothy Clover was honored at Beaumont City Council by being appointed by the Mayor of Beaumont, Becky Ames, to the Commissions of Libraries Board, beginning September 29, 2020 to September 20, 2021. Congratulations Dorothy! We are proud of you and for you. But don’t stop writing your award-winning poetry.

Barbara Powell still has a grin on her face from her time spent holding her latest great-grandson. Her grandson and his wife live in Wyoming with the Air Force and have purchased a house there. Fortunately, the baby and his older brother, have grandparents in our area so, Barbara and Curtis get to see the boys several times a year. She isn’t writing much poetry but she is making a lot of wonderful memories.

We didn’t have to leave town this time for Hurricane Delta and didn’t have as much damage in SE Texas or Beaumont, but some in Port Arthur and Orange still had tarps on their houses and debris piled up on every street, so those who were very close to us were happy that things didn’t fly around much.

I judged and critiqued the San Antonio Poets Association’s contests for some very clever poets this month. Congratulations to all of them.

There were 20 PST monthly contest entries this month. Here’s a CHALLENGE: Write a new poem or send an old one, but send a poem to Richard Weatherly for November and something good will happen. You will have supported our wonderful PST! I dare you!! HUGS, Birma

DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY
Richard Kushmaul Reporting

The DPA chapter met via Zoom September 19, welcoming two guests. President Richard Kushmaul presided. Reports were given on the treasury, Banner, T-Shirt and Merging Visions Projects.

Merging Visions: although the in-person appointment showings at the Patterson-Appleton Arts
Center have concluded, you can still experience the magic and awe of this collaboration of the Denton Poets’ Assembly and the Visual Arts Society of Texas. The exhibit can now be seen online at: dentonarts.com/mergingvisions2020. Copies of the Collections XII Catalog/Anthology are available on Amazon.

Our “Spotlight” Poet for the Month was Michael Minassian. Michael was born in New York City, grew up in New York and New Jersey, and has been writing and publishing poetry since the 1970s. He has lived in Florida, California, Connecticut, North Carolina, and Texas. He taught overseas in England, Jamaica, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea.

As an educator, he served as a consultant in Spain and Ecuador. Michael earned a BA in Political Science at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey and an MA in English with a Certificate in Creative Writing at California State University at Dominguez Hills. He also studied and served as a guest tutor for ten years at Cambridge University’s Summer Study Program in the UK.

His poems and short stories have appeared in a number of periodicals and anthologies, both online and in print including Chiron Review, Comstock Review, Main Street Rag, Poet Lore, Third Wednesday, and The Texas Poetry Calendar. Michael is a Contributing Editor for Verse-Virtual, an online magazine. His chapbooks include poetry: The Arboriculturist (2010); and photography: Around the Bend (2017).

His poetry collection Time is Not a River was published in March. A second collection Morning Calm and a chapbook Jack Pays A Visit are both pending publication later in 2020. Michael has been a member of the Poetry Society of Texas and the Denton Poets Assembly since 2018.

Diane Glancy then conducted a “close reading” of the poem Lot’s Wife by Ana Ahkmatova, the studied poet of the month. We followed with readings of submitted “Read and Respond” poems, based on poems and background information that Susan Maxwell Campbell provided about Ana Ahkmatova during the month.

Susan Maxwell Campbell then introduced the featured poet for the October meeting, William Stafford. The meeting was adjourned with a reading of a quote by Jim Morrison: “Expose yourself to your deepest fear; after that, fear has no power, and the fear of freedom shrinks and vanishes. You are free.”

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY
Steve Sanders Reporting

The Fort Worth Poetry Society met via Zoom on October 13, 2020. President Patricia Ferguson, Vice President Denise Salerno, Treasurer Mike Baldwin, Secretary Steve Sanders, Susan Maxwell, Campbell, Marilyn Gilbert Komechak, Cade Huie, and John Bartell attended. Denise Salerno read the opening poem, “A Breath Away” by Marilyn Tucker. After minutes/treasurer’s report were received, the members discussed the successful publishing of The Limping Mermaid, Catherine L’Herisson’s winning entry in the 2020 William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest. The book is available for purchase on Amazon.

We discussed Waco WordFest and gave kudos to Steve Sanders for his poem, “Fire for Chang,” which was accepted for inclusion in the WordFest anthology. The members will begin advertising the 2021 William Barney Contest immediately, and there will be information about how to enter in this newsletter on page 10.

We will also have a Halloween poetry reading via Zoom AND Facebook Live on Friday, October 30, 2020 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Join us! We also noted that the FWPS had five people attending the October Poetry Society of Texas General Meeting. We plan on keeping that up and becoming more active within PST.

After the end of the business meeting, we critiqued eight particularly good poems submitted by members. We discussed submitting more of our poems to contests, especially the PST contests.

Our next meeting will be on November 10. If you want to join us, via Zoom or Facebook Live, please contact our secretary, Steve Sanders, at steve.sanders@gmail.com Visitors are always welcome!

HI-PLAINS CHAPTER
Frances Clegg-Ferris Reporting

The Hi-Plains Chapter met on August 15 at The Grill
Members present were: Frances Clegg-Ferris, John Schmidt, Katy Hupp, Bryan Hampton, Lana Velasquez, and visitor Pandra Keeling.

The meal was served on the patio from the Grill followed by the critiquing of the poems. Bryan, John, and Lana had poems to critique, and Von Bourland’s poems somehow got left at home.

The program was on the Minute form. The information on the form was given out to be worked on and returned as homework.

The form was invented by Verna Lee Hinegardner, the Poet Laureate of Arkansas. It consists of a rhyme scheme of a-a-b-b-c-c-d-d-e-e-f-f. The syllables are: 8-4-4-4 8-4-4-4 8-4-4-4. The meter is iambic tetrameter and dimeter. An internet example was given, and the group worked and read their partial or finished work. Those finishing a poem or almost finishing were: John Schmidt, Bryan Hampton, Lana Velasquez, and Frances Clegg-Frerris.

In Old Business, the June minutes were approved as sent out by email. John presented his new material and Lana presented her devotion books.

In New Business, everyone was reminded that the October luncheon is the 27th from 11:30 a.m. until about 1:30 p.m. at the Grill. We will each order our own meal and hopefully we will get to meet after the meal in the Park Place Tower’s Board Room.

Francis asked John to see about getting the man from Canyon, Donal Williams, who wants to speak to us and ask him to come for the October meeting. We have contacted him, and so far, he is concerned about the virus. We have some options and will get back to our membership.

We enjoyed a Round Robin with our members and then adjourned the meeting.

Update: our latest report from the Grill is that there is no way they will be able to have inside dining by Saturday October 24th. It looks like the weather will not be warm enough to meet on the patio, so the only option is the church. We must decide if we want to bring sack lunches and meet at 11:30 a.m. or move this meeting to 2:00 p.m. as we did earlier. Members are asked to contact Francis about this decision ASAP.

HOT/LIVE POETS OF CENTRAL TEXAS
Christine Boldt Reporting

The Live/HOT Poets of Central Texas met Thursday, October 8 for their regular monthly Zoom meeting. Guided by President Dwight Gray, we learned about the themes and techniques of our featured poet, Elizabeth Bishop, and then read works that we had written in response to several of her most well-known poems. The group also considered several poems that members had written on the prompt “Lamentation.”

Next month we will consider the work of the newly announced Nobel Prize winning poet, Louise Gluck, by responding to her poems “All Hallows,” “Mock Orange,” “Parable of the Dove,” “Wild Iris,” and “Telemachus’ Kindness.” Our prompt for November is “Celebration.” For information please 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 5, 2020 as a combination in person and virtual meeting. President Thomas Martin presided. A total of six in members met in person and two members joined virtually.

The minutes from the September meeting were approved. Treasurer Tarik Ahmed provided the Treasurer’s Report.

November and December Meetings: President Martin led a discussion about future meetings. We’ve been meeting online since April, and the meeting today was a combined online and in person with limited success in communication between the two. He will be meeting with the officers to determine the best solution going forward. The combined meeting going forward may not be the best option given the issues encountered today with limited bandwidth and feedback from the speakers causing the audio to garble.

December Holiday Luncheon: President Martin opened the discussion of the normal potluck luncheon for the December meeting. Tarik suggested that we order box lunches and meet outside. That is an option we can discuss with the officers.

National Poetry Day Open Mic (October 1, 2020): We celebrated open mic last Saturday with a small turnout, but were pleased to have Inez Grimes, who was celebrating her 99th birthday join us from her nursing home and share a poem with us.

November Election of Officers: President Martin
indicated that this year we will be electing a new president and a new secretary. President Martin appointed Beth Ayers to the nominating committee. She has one person who has agreed to serve and is working on the second position.

After the group’s business and sharing was completed, those attending in person and via video were invited to share a poetry reading. It’s always a pleasure to enjoy poetry from the group.

POETS NORTHWEST
*Eric Blanchard Reporting*

Poets Northwest has been meeting monthly via Zoom since March. At our August 2020 meeting, PNW members reviewed, discussed, and adopted long-needed revisions to our organization’s by-laws. At our September meeting, member Eric Blanchard read selections from his recently published first chapbook, *The Good Parts*. He then shared some insight into his process of gathering poems for the manuscript, as well as into its road to submission and publication. If you like, please join us on Zoom, until further notice, at one of our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month. Please contact PNW via social media. Members and guests are encouraged to read original or favorite works during the second half of each monthly meeting. Our PST chapter is on the web at http://www.poetsnw.com, on Facebook at http://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest, on Twitter as @HoustonPoets, and on Instagram as poets northwest.

POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY
*Lynn Lewis Reporting*

The minutes for the October 5, 2020 Zoom meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County are as follows: the meeting was called to order by President Ron Eddins. He asked for a moment of silence in honor and memory of recently deceased member, Louin Berry III. The Contemporary Poet Reader was Hollis Davis, who read poems by Wendell Berry.

Business, old and new: President Eddins appointed Susan Maxwell Campbell and Barbara Goerdel to the 2021 Officers nominating committee. A motion was made by Masood Parvaze and seconded by Jerry Johnston for approval of a stamp to be made using the new PTC logo. There was majority approval. Entries for our member contest are to be sent to Barbara Goerdel prior to our November 2nd meeting. A motion was made by Hollis Davis and seconded by Masood Parvaze to double the prize money for third, second and first place winners. This also received a majority approval.

Kudos reports were given. The treasury report was read. The minutes from the September meeting were approved as read. The Special Guest Spotlight Poet was J. Todd Hawkins. He read from his Catherine Case Lubbe Award winning book, *This Geography of Thorns* and spoke about blues poetry. Featured Speaker was Ron Eddins, with the topic of Lost Poetry. Members were recruited for future program topics and spotlights. 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, most recently by sharing six-word poems and other creative forms with each other. Congratulations to RCPS members Jackie McVey, Sue Roberts, and Carol Thompson whose poems were selected for the annual Art of Peace anthology for 2020. This year’s poems may be read or heard on the event website at tylerpeace.com. Anne McCrady, co-founder of Art of Peace and InSpirity contributing editor, compiled the poetry collection. The Art of Peace is, according to the website, “A week-long series of peace activities and programs throughout the city of Tyler, with community-wide participation in creative expressions of peace. Art of Peace celebrates the United Nations International Day of Peace (officially September 21) and Peace One Day.”

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION
*Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting*

Twelve SAPA members met by Zoom on September 19. Our new president, Sheila Moore presided. Valerie Martin Bailey who earned the Poet Laureate title for the 13th time gave the 20-21 Poet Laureate Address. She spoke on Five Essentials for a
Poet. She said Number 1 is Truth as stated by Shakespeare: “To thine own self be true....” She said, “You can create fictitious poems, but do not invent a fictitious you, be yourself.” The second essential is Originality—the use of fresh metaphors and similes, avoiding clichés. The third essential is Vision—the ability to see beyond the physical realm, to exercise imaginative contemplation. She noted, “It’s important to read and appreciate poetry of the past, but the poet with vision will root out echoes and stretch his own poetic wings and write from her own vision in her own unique voice. The fourth essential is technical mastery, which she said has nothing to do with inspiration and everything to do with perspiration. Mastery of your art is as essential to a poet as it is to a dancer, musician, vocalist or painter, and it requires discipline and diligence. She noted that the fifth essential may be the most important, and that is Teachability. She warns if we lose the ability to be taught, we stop; growing. To be teachable is to be willing to listen and learn from comments that are constructive and helpful and to politely ignore those that are not.

May contest winners were announced and those present read their winning poems. The judge was Aman Khan and winners in the assigned contest were: Sheila Moore, 1st; Clyta Coder, 2nd; Valerie Bailey, 3rd; Loretta Vaughan, HM. Winners in the Poet’s Choice contest were: Sheri Anderson, 1st; Sheila Moore, 2nd; Antoinette Winstead, 3rd; Margaret Mayberry, HM. After winners read their poems, members read the September poems, which will be judged by the inimitable Birma Castle of Beaumont.

TYLER ROSE GARDEN POETRY SOCIETY
Mary Tindall Reporting

Rose Garden Poets stay in touch by cell phone and email messages. Sharing ideas and poems encourages writing and stirs creativity in our group. A poem challenge writers attempted recently is a six word story. It’s a new stretch for us that comes together like a little puzzle. Some submitted their six word poems to a writing contest. Some posted their examples on email. We continue writing and enjoying poetry, and look forward to the time we will again sit together in the celebration of poetry. Our members are well. We hope you are all well also.

WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY
Linda Dabney Smith Reporting

Seven members and one guest met at 2 p.m. on September 9, in the Great Hall of the Kemp Center for the Arts. Program Chair Sheri Sutton presided in a space with large round tables which separated members, all of whom wore masks. Sheri asked each member present: What have you missed most and/or learned during this time of COVID-19? Answers were varied, of course, but interesting, especially since the WFPS had not met face to face since March.

After the business meeting when minutes and treasurer reports were accepted, the Mystery Art Show that the Kemp offers every October was the topic. Members will again write an ekphrastic poem to be framed by Nick, and then displayed and read at the Art on Tap on October 15.


Sheri presented a lesson on the Kerf, a form attributed to a mysterious Marie Adams, mysterious because she can’t be found in literature about poets. The Kerf is due to Sheri by September 30. Members then had the opportunity to hear the poems from five previous contests which had not been read to the group.

Sheri gave a report on the progress of the anniversary book to celebrate the WFPS’ 90th anniversary in 2021. A working template of the book has been created, the WFPS history is written, bios have been edited and formatted, and poems have been received and formatted. Self-publishing requirements are being pursued by Sheri, and a sponsor has funded the book in the amount of $600 to cover the cost of printing. The Poetry Book Committee will meet again in the future for additional planning.

WFPSF members are asked to bring a quote from a favorite poet to the October meeting, and both the poet and the quote will be discussed.

The November contest will be a poem based on the quote. The meeting was adjourned promptly at 4:00 p.m.
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.
1. Free Verse Award
Sponsored by ISPS
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Free Verse
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $15

2. Formal Verse Award
Sponsored by ISPS
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Any set form: (Identify the form at the top of the page)
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $15

3. Traditional Haiku (5-7-5) Award
Sponsored by ISPS
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Traditional 5-7-5 haiku
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $15

4. Modern Haiku Award
Sponsored by ISPS
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Modern haiku
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $15

5. ISPS Board Award
Sponsored by ISPS Board of Directors
• SUBJECT: Home
• FORM: Any
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $15

6. Fire & Police First Responders
Sponsored by Judith Tullis in honor of Chief Arthur A. Tullis & Lieutenant Steven A. Tullis
• SUBJECT: Fire & Police First Responders
• FORM: Any
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $20

7. Wilda Morris Appreciation Award
Sponsored by Jim Lambert in honor of Wilda Morris for her work in ISPS and NFSPS
• SUBJECT: Humor
• FORM: Rhyming
• PRIZES: $50, $30, $20
• LINE LIMIT: 24

8. Swords and Ploughshares Award
Sponsored by Jo Balistreri, Wilda Morris and Michael Escobas in honor of first responders in our COVID-19 crisis
• SUBJECT: Peace and justice
• FORM: Any
• PRIZES: $50, $25, $15

9. Love and Marriage Award
Sponsored by Idella Edwards in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Jack and Idella Edwards, 1960-2020
• SUBJECT: Love and Marriage
• FORM: Rhyming
• PRIZES: $30, $20, $10

10. Nature Award
Sponsored by Donna Pucciani & Beth Staas in memory of Glenna Holloway
• SUBJECT: Nature
• FORM: Free Verse
• PRIZES: $25, $20, $10

11. Southern Chapter Award
Sponsored by ISPS Southern Chapter, Carbondale
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Any
• PRIZES: $25, $20, $10

12. Highland Park Poetry Award
Sponsored by Highland Park Poetry
• SUBJECT: Any
• FORM: Huitain, 8 lines, ababbcbc rhyme, 8 to 10 syllables per line
• PRIZES: $25, $20, $10

13. Down Home Cinquain Award
Sponsored by Gail Denham in memory of her mother, Thelma Huovinen Bottemiller
• SUBJECT: Home Life
• FORM: Cinquain (2, 4, 6, 8, 2 syllables; rhyme optional)
• LINE LIMIT: 5 lines
• PRIZES: $25, $15, $10

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
1. Eligibility. Contest is open to anyone.
2. Original work and unpublished. Not in print or published electronically.
3. Previous Awards. Poems which have won monetary awards are ineligible.
4. Poem format
• In English, typed or computer-generated, 12 or 14 point; no fancy fonts or illustrations.
• 40-line limit, unless specified.
• One single-spaced poem per page, 8.5” x 11” white paper.

5. Titles. Except haiku, title all poems.
6. Awards. No haiku, title all poems.
7. Submit two copies of each poem: Originals. In the upper left-hand corner include: Number and name of contest; your name, address, e-mail, and phone number; the word “MEMBER” if you have current membership in ISPS.
Duplicates. In the upper left-hand corner include ONLY number and name of contest.
Two Stacks. Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order with originals on top.

Entry Fees
• ISPS Members: $8 for up to 8 poems, $1 each additional poem.
• NON-ISPS MEMBERS, $10, up to 8 poems, $1 each additional poem.

SUBMISSION PERIOD
Submissions must be postmarked: September 1 to October 31, 2020

Mail submissions with check payable to Illinois State Poetry Society to:
ISPS Contest % Jim Lambert
300 Twin Lakes Road
Carterville, IL 62918

For the winners’ list by mail, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your submission.

JOIN US or VISIT US...
For information on how to join ISPS or to see this year’s list of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and three honorable mention awards in each category, visit our website:
www.illinoispoets.org
MEMBERSHIP REPORT AUGUST 2020
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

Active Members........228  Sustaining Members........1
Associate Members........17  Recently Deceased........2
Life Members.............38  New Members..............1
Student Members.........12  Renewing Members.......2
Supporting Members.....2  Total Membership......295

WELCOME NEW PST MEMBER

Joebert Chong, The Colony
You Will ❤ PST

October Book Donations Report
From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports 13 new book donations to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library.

The Geography of Thorns, by J. Todd Hawkins
Here Be Doors, by Michelle Hartman
First Night, by Michelle Hartman
There Are No Doors, by Michelle Hartman
The Lost Journal of My Second Trip to Purgatory, by Michelle Hartman
Wanton Disarray, by Michelle Hartman
Irony and Irreverence, by Michelle Hartman
Disenchanted and Disgruntled, by Michelle Hartman
Merging Visions 2020 Collections XII, by Denton Poets’ Assembly
Would You Look at That! by Barbara Blanks
Waco Wordfest Anthology 2020
The Limping Mermaid, by Catherine L’Herisson
2019-2020 Student Awards Anthology, edited by Ann Howells

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.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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vbaileybulletin@att.net

News Deadline: 14th of each month by 8:00 p.m. The Bulletin will be published in all months (June & July only when necessary. Only annual contest results are published 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. Click on Publications.

Membership Chairman: Lynn Lewis
1704 Enderly Place • Fort Worth, TX 76104
817-921-9322 • elsquared59@yahoo.com

Please notify the Membership Chairman promptly if your address, phone, or e-mail address changes.

This Land is Your Land...This Land is My Land!
This land was bought for us with the blood of approximately 1,304,580 American patriots who gave their lives in 11 wars to buy our freedoms. One of those freedoms is to be able vote for those who will govern us, and help us make America a better place to live. Think hard and seriously about your vote and then vote your choice.

BE A POET PATRIOT ~ YOUR VOTE MATTERS!