Dillon McKinsey, Guest Speaker for October

G. Dillon McKinsey Robinson (http://inacs.org/wp-content/uploads/200706/dillon1.jpg) is president of Robinson Enterprises, Inc.; CEO of Brothers Smoked BBQ in Bismarck, ND; and owner of Austin Postal International.

He was a founding member of the Austin Poetry Slam; three-term president of Austin Poetry Society; past editor of the monthly newsletter of the Poetry Society of Texas, The Bulletin; and editor of Ardent, the poetry journal of Poetry in the Arts, Inc. For nearly a decade he was the co-host, engineer, and programmer of record for Writing on the Air on KOOP Radio, 91.7 FM, and served on their board of directors for seven years. He is also a co-founder and life member of the National Association for Regulatory Administration (naralicensing. (http://www.naralicensing.org))

Dillon holds a master’s degree in Public Administration and another in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis on dream work. He has lectured widely around the globe and given over 6,000 public presentations on a variety of topics including parenting, dispute resolu-

General Report of PST Meeting, September 11, 2021, 2:30 p.m., via Zoom

by Barbara Blanks, Recording Secretary

President Irene Robertson called the meeting to order. She thanked outgoing Board members Domingo Rodriguez, Beth Honeycutt, Catherine L’Herisson, and Steve Sanders for their servi. She also welcomed new Board members Carol Thompson, Valerie Martin Bailey, and Betty Roberts. Twenty-four members and guests from all over the state were in attendance.

Neal Ostman, a retired CPA, was also present. After “interviewing” Neal, Nomi-

nating Committee Chair Catherine L’Herisson spoke with committee members Budd Powell Mahan, Jeannette Strother, Aman Khan, and Barbara Lewie Berry, and all agreed Neal was a good candidate for the Treasurer position. Our constitution requires Board nominations to be presented to, and voted on by, members present at a General Meeting.
General Report continued:

Catherine asked if there were any nominations from the floor, repeated three times. No other nominations were offered. Steve Sanders moved that Neal Ostman be elected PST Treasurer; Valerie Martin Bailey seconded. By show of hands, Neal was voted in by acclamation. Welcome to the Board, Neal Ostman!

Outgoing Treasurer Steve Sanders gave a brief Financial Report. Contest entry fees provided the most income; no major expenses.

Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the August Membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. Active Members 205, Associate 16, Life 31, Student 13; Supporting 3; Sustaining 1; Recently Deceased 0. Total Membership: 270. We have five new Active members: Patricia Keoughan, San Antonio; Ailana Larson, Austin; Aparna Hemanth, Allen; Lori Hawk Fyfe, McKinney; and Benjamin Pehr, Austin. PST welcomes you all.

Librarian Barbara Blanks presented 22 book donations for the Dallas Central Library PST Collection. Three of those books date from the 1940s—work by members that might have been forever lost. This is why it is important to donate work by our members, past and current. Books donated over the summer:

From the Cow’s Eye and Other Poems, by Loretta Diane Walker, Wm D. Barney 2021 Chapbook Winner.


Prize Poems 2021, ed. by PA Poetry Society, Inc. (prize poems by members included)

Animal Tales 2021, ed. by Tablerock Poets.


A Lifetime of Words, by Jan Seale.

In the Days of Our Seclusion, by Nathan Brown.

In the Days of Our Unrest, by Nathan Brown.

In the Days of Our Undoing, by Nathan Brown.

In the Days of Our Resilience, by Nathan Brown.

Up, Up & Away, by Barbara Lewie Berry.


The Ocean Waves, edited by JK Larkin.

Poet Lore, Spring 1974, by A National Quarterly of World Poetry.

Quicksilver, Spring 1953, & Winter 1959, ed. by Mabel Kuykendall.

Pass the Salt, Peter, by Wade E. Cutler.

May I Come In?, by Mary Sivley.

These Things Shall I Remember, by Clara Hood Rugel.

President Robertson sent out special thanks to Nancy Baass for all her years as Annual Contest Chair, and thanked Lynn Roberts Grice for taking on that job.

She also thanked Valerie Martin Bailey for all her years as Bulletin editor. She then announced that Doris Brogan of Dallas has agreed to be the new editor. Sarah Wood, also of Dallas, will handle the emailing and mailing of the Bulletin.

Congratulations to all whose poems were included in the Waco Wordfest Anthology. Reading of the poems takes place in October, in Waco.

Annual Awards Banquet Chair Beth Ayers said plans for our Awards Banquet and Centennial Celebration on November 5th and 6th are progressing.

Poetry In Schools Chair Nancy deHonores said the recent Student Anthology is now available on Amazon.
General Report continued:

**Spotlight on Poets Chair Catherine L’Herisson** asked *Spotlight Poet Barbara Blanks*, Garland, to introduce herself, which she did, before reading five short poems. Former Spotlight Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell had asked Barb to record a Legacy/Spotlight video. It, and others, can be viewed on the PST Youtube channel. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrdjoDnFysw

Barbara Blanks introduced our speaker, Michael Minassian, for **Program Director JDarrell Kirkley**. Michael Minassian was the winner of the Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Award for 2020, with his book, “A Matter of Timing.” Born in New York City, he recently lived in Flower Mound with his wife, but has also lived in Florida, California, Connecticut, and North Carolina, and lived and taught overseas in England, Jamaica, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea. His poems and short stories have appeared in a number of periodicals and anthologies, both online and in print. He is a Contributing Editor for Verse-Virtual, an online poetry journal. A member of PST and the Denton Poets Assembly, he is currently working on a new book of poems and a blog devoted to current and classic cinema.

Michael stated Time was the central motif of his book, and his poems played with that entire concept. Part of his process was to pick a character or person, then pluck them from their time period and put them in another to see what would happen. For instance, he pulled Medusa out of mythology and put her down in his home town, then described a young man following her and her “writhing snakes of desire boys just can’t resist.” He placed Icarus on a New York City subway, citing one person’s reaction to the “guy taking up the whole half the car with those dirty wings.” And then there was Zhang Ji from the Tang Dynasty set down in Yellowstone after a man was eaten by a bear, observing how “no amount of art or artifice will keep you safe—it’s just bad luck to run into a grizzly.”

**Monthly Contest Chair Rich Weatherly** encouraged members to participate in these contests before announcing the winners of the September contest. 17 entries.

Critic Judge: Al Rocheleau, Orlando FL

1st—Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas – *A Vocabulary of Ovation*

2nd—Terry Jude Miller, Richmond

3rd—Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

**Laugh Lines Judge:** Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio

**Laugh Lines Winner:** Barbara Lewie Berry, Mansfield

**Book Prize Winners:**

*Popular*—Richard P. Hurzeler, Tyler

*Wm Barney*—Patrick Lee Marshall, Keller

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**Poetry Society of Texas**

**AWARDS SEASON!**

Come join the fun in Dallas at the **DOUBLETREE HOTEL**

November 5 & 6

**Sarah Wood, PST’s new distribution manager,** will be emailing the registration letters when they become available. Check your inbox!
ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS

Sheila Tingley Moore Reporting

The AAPT met on Saturday Sept. 4th with a featured guest visit by teacher and published poet James Brandenburg. His three books of poetry are: *In Pursuit of the Butterfly*, *Somewhere Everywhere Irgendwo Uberall*, and *Eyes in the Dark*.

James introduced his workshop with the Italian iambic pentameter poem "Ozymandias," by Percy Bysshe Shelley, from the Romantic Period. The group discussed the question “What lasts?” Afterwards, the group was challenged to write poems about the question within the timespan of seven minutes. Group poems are being submitted for publication in *Voices de la Luna*, San Antonio, TX.

May’s winning poem announcements: In the Open Contest, Carol Siskovic won 3rd HM; Antoinette Winstead won 2nd HM; Rene Ornes won 1st HM; Toni Murguia won 3rd Place; Patricia Keoughan won 2nd Place; Sheila Moore won 1st Place.

In the Assigned Topic Contest, Rene Ornes won 3rd HM; Lea Fagin won 2nd HM; Patricia Keoughan won 1st HM; Carol Siskovic won 3rd Place; Sheila Moore won 2nd Place; and Iris Maahs won 1st Place.

For member announcements, Sheila Moore won July’s PST humor contest, and Patricia Keoughan will be published in the *Milagro Anthology* to be released at the Boerne Book Festival.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY

Jeffrey Taylor Reporting

No Sept. meeting reported.

BEAUMONT CHAPTER

Birma Castle Reporting for Barbara Powell

The Beaumont Chapter is still not meeting on a regular basis. Covid numbers seem to rise around the third Thursday in Beaumont.

Birma and Dorothy Clover have managed to enter the monthly contest on a regular basis. Dorothy has won a Third Place book prize. You cannot win unless you enter. Those were the words Violette Newton, co-founder of the Beaumont Chapter and our mentor for many years, said to us every chance she got, and that was often. I try to pass along her wisdom, because she was a wise lady.

Violette passed away February 2, 2012 at 100 years-old. Anyone who knew her admired her dramatic flair when she read her poems. She is still missed by the poets who attended the Summer Conferences of the late 1960 through early 2000. She helped a lot of people win First places by following her advice in critique groups. Birma has been having a barrage of medical test and will not know the results before next week.
DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY
Richard Kushmaul Reporting
Amazon link to Student Anthology:
https://tinyurl.com/2cc3p

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY
Steve Sanders Reporting
No Sept. meeting reported.

HI-PLAINS CHAPTER
Tom and Frances Ferris Reporting
Six members and a guest met at the Miracle Covenant Church on Saturday August 21st. Attendees: John Schmidt, Frances Clegg-Ferris, Bryan Hampton, Leonard and Barbara Merchant Katy, Hupp and Pandra Keeling.

Frances Clegg-Ferris opened the meeting to say we will critique all members’ Pantoum poems. Submitted poems were,

John Schmidt’s “Knowledge Abounds”
Katy Hupp’s “Just Once”
Byran Hampton’s “The Silence of the Night”

For October, each member is to work on the Rubai (Rubaiyat). The workshop in October will be announced.

The group decided to investigate the possibility of planting one or more trees in memory of Von Bourland in a national forest.

John Schmidt discussed his new book Notes to Writers from a book publisher.

There was no round robin due to the heavy rain.

HOT/LIVE POETS OF CENTRAL TEXAS
Christine Boldt Reporting
No Sept. meeting reported

MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER
Barry Rynk Reporting
The Mockingbirds met on Saturday Sept. 4th at Heard-Craig Carriage House in McKinney. Thirteen members plus a guest attended. Member poetry, haiku, and tanka readings followed business reporting.

Several members of the Mockingbirds gathered on Aug. 28th to celebrate the life of longtime Mockingbird member Jimmye Inez Sessions at the Cathedral of Hope in Dallas.

Congratulations to Edmund Burke, another longtime Mockingbird, for the recent opening of Frisco’s Municipal Courthouse with his namesake: The Edmund Burke Municipal Courthouse.

The Mockingbird’s Saturday October 2nd meeting will be replaced by an open-mic Zoom event that celebrates National Poetry Day. All PST members and guests are invited to join and read poetry. Please contact Barry Rynk at barryr03@gmail.com, or email mockingbirdpoets@gmail.com, for Zoom dial-in information.

POETS NORTHWEST
Eric Blanchard Reporting
Poets Northwest have had hybrid meetings all summer, with some members attending in-person and others joining via Zoom, and we have stayed busy.

During our June meeting, we discussed abecedarian poems and shared examples members had written in anticipation of our meeting. In July, we explored those poets or persons that have influenced us—our poetic hero(ine)s or role models—and shared some of our poems resulting from those influences.

Our August 2021 meeting focused on erasure poetry, and we tried our hands at writing various types. For September, PNW paid homage to the coming season and shared poems on the theme of autumn.
It was really nice to see some of our friends and fellow poets in person again this summer.

If you are in the area, join one of our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month. Contact PNW via social media for more information. 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 poetsnorthwest.

**POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY**

*Barbara Goerdel Reporting*

The Poets of Tarrant County met on Monday September 13, due to the Labor Day holiday. Spotlight poet was Hollis Davis; however, Hollis could not make it to the meeting so he was assigned for the October meeting.

Our program by Christine Irving will be October 4. A nominating committee will be selected then.

Ron Eddins was our contemporary reader with several wonderful poems from Barbara Lewie Berry’s newly published book, *Up, Up & Away: A Collection of Prize Winning Poems*.

Announcements were made for the PST 100th anniversary party on Friday November 5 and annual awards luncheon on Saturday November 6.

**RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY**

*Janet R. Tyner Reporting*

On July 15, members of RCPS met in person at the Henderson Church of Christ for the first time since March 2020. President Mary Tindall called the meeting to order, followed by a prayer from Richard Hurzeler. Spotlight poets were each of the members present, reading poems they wrote during our long absence due to Covid 19 precautions. Richard Hurzeler was congratulated for winning the PST poem of the month in July. Plans were discussed for the October Celebration of Poetry. The writing prompts for the August meeting are any traditional metered form of 42 lines or less, or a poem about an animal, 24 lines or less.

On August 20, members of RCPS met at the Henderson Church of Christ. President Mary Tindall called the meeting to order and, as the invocation, read a poem by the late Vina Hathaway, who is greatly missed by the society. Richard Hurzeler offered a prayer. Jo Morrow, spotlight poet, read a poem by Pat Schneider, “The Patience of Ordinary Things,” and then shared one of her own poems, “The Cardinal.” Plans for the October celebration were discussed. Jo distributed scrapbooks dating from 1971, so members can develop 3 to 5-minute presentations of the society’s history.

Sue Roberts taught a lesson on narrative poetry and issued a prompt to compose a narrative poem for the September 16 meeting.

The Rusk County Poetry Society invites everyone to its 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday October 23, 2:00-4:30 p.m., in the community hall of the Henderson Church of Christ. In honor of this milestone, members of both the Rusk County Poetry Society and the Tyler Rose Garden Poetry Society have published a book of members’ haiku and other poems. Copies of the book, *Celebration: 50 Years of Poets and Their Poetry*, will be available for purchase at the event. The church is located at 1948 State Highway 323W, Henderson, TX 75653.
SAN ANTONIO
POETS ASSOCIATION
Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

The San Antonio Poets Association met on Zoom on Sept.18. SAPA does not meet during the summer months, so our last contest was in May. Contest Chair Valerie Bailey announced the winners for the May contest. In the assigned topic contest, the topic was “Spontaneous Combustion,” and the winners were: HM: Sheri Anderson, 3rd place: DaRell Pittman, 2nd place: Valerie Bailey, 1st place: Sheila Moore.

For the Poet’s Choice contest, the winners were: HM Clyta Coder, 3rd place: Sheila Moore, 2nd place Sheri Anderson, 1st place: DaRell Pittman.

Our president, Sheila Moore, who is also this year’s Poet Laureate, gave us a writing workshop instead of a Poet Laureate’s address. She had us all write for seven minutes about “our mother’s clothes.” It brought forth some interesting articles that she challenged us to turn into poems.

Our Zoom meeting was well attended and we had a great meeting. SAPA has decided to meet for the rest of this year by way of Zoom and in January try to resume in-person meetings. It all depends on the situation with Covid. The nice thing about the Zoom meetings is that our non-resident members can attend and enjoy the fellowship with old friends. In fact, we plan to continue using Zoom even after we resume in-person meetings. That is courtesy of our Zoom Coordinator, Michaud Lamrouex. We all appreciate him more than he knows.

WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY
Linda Smith Reporting

On Saturday Sept. 18, nine members met in-person and one member met virtually for the first meeting of the year in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts, in Wichita Falls.

Following tradition, members met at 1 pm for an informal luncheon to catch up on each other’s activities. A generous spread of food and refreshments was provided.

The first meeting of 2021 formally began at 2 pm. After working through the formalities, we moved into the President’s report, the first by our new society president, Dr. Robert Parkey. He caught the group up on various collaborations ahead with the Kemp Center for the Arts.

Discussion then turned to our upcoming book release for our very own publication, which will be held on October 14. The members discussed how best to advertise the book and the release event.

Members have the opportunity to purchase books for family and friends at a reduced rate. It’s been a long, educational journey of eighteen months, but books are now in hand and it’s time to sell!

Society member Rosellen Sheets presented a program on Children’s Poetry and members took turns reading samples and bringing up those from our own foggy memories of youth. For the monthly contest, we are to choose any topic or form appropriate for children which follow the standard rules of 60-character lines and 36 line maximum. Poems can rhyme or not. September Contest results are as follows: 1st: Lynn Hoggard - "Limerick"

2nd: Rosellen Sheetz - "Berkana"
3rd: Linda Smith - "The Great Mole Hunt"

1 HM: Robert Parkey - "Ode to the Bow Tie"
2 HM: Ysabell de la Rosa - "Ode to My Group Therapist"
3 HM: Mark Sutton - "Like None Other"

MEMBERS AT LARGE
None reported
The Sunflower Brigade

A thwart of wildflowers ‘cross a farmer’s field, a thousand
strong: The Sunflower Brigade waving their colors
defiantly in the breeze!
Metal machines, teeth bared, buckets turned down.

Advancing, circling.
A Band of Brothers surrounded by a ring of trenches,
amid the moon-scape of broken ground. Browning
overgrowth stacked for dead in piles.
The hummingbirds and butterflies kiss their lips, like
fine ladies come out to view the battle.

A farewell for the brave boys standing shoulder-to
shoulder, even now as the yellow tractors approach
the lines of the Sunflower Brigade.

O I cannot watch them all mowed down! So minuscule,
defenseless against invading Panzers and Tigers!

Like the rag-tag Polish army in 1939. The orders simple:
fight to the last man. The Sunflower Brigade, waving
their yellow and orange colors defiantly in the breeze!
The PST had an exciting, fun-filled summer gathering to celebrate poetry and our 100th birthday! For the 1st time ever, the get-together was held in Poetry, TX, on June 27. A plenitude of great poetry, fellowship, fun, and food was shared by all who attended the day-long event in the beautiful East Texas setting. The mayor of Poetry even made a welcoming appearance!

Don’t forget to mark November 5 & 6 on your calendars! It’s awards season! All the contest winners will finally be revealed. The Nov. 5 awards ceremony will recognize those special persons who have made significant contributions to PST. The Nov. 6 Annual Awards Luncheon Banquet will end our suspense and announce the winners of those many contests. Good luck to all!

Let’s Celebrate 100 Years

November 5 & 6 at the

Doubletree Hotel in Dallas!
The Fort Worth Poetry Society

In Cooperation with the Poetry Society of Texas Offers

The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2022

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 with 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 a PST 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, 2022.
10. Announcement of the winner will be at the April, 2022, 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 SEPT. 2021

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WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS

Patricia Keoughan (N22)  Lori Hawk Frye (N22)
San Antonio        McKinney
Ailana Larson (N22)  Benjamin Pehr (N22)
Austin                  Austin
Aparna Hemanth (N22)  Allen

HELP WANTED!
PST needs a new A Book of the Year editor. Anyone interested should contact President Irene Robertson by phone at 972-849-5690 or email at yranie@att.net.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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dlbrogan27@yahoo.com

Hi PST Members. I’m the new kid on the block. I’ll introduce myself more formally next month when time isn’t such an issue.

News deadlines: Midnight on the 21st of the month to accommodate those who meet on the third Thursday of the month. The Bulletin will be published each month except July. Only annual contest results will be published in November, The Bulletin is now sent via email. Notify Sarah Wood, distribution manager, at sswood753@gmail.com if your email address changes. Notify the editor if you miss an edition of The Bulletin or go to the PST website at www.poetrysocietyoftexas.com. Click on Publications.

THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS MEETS
on the second Saturday of each month at 2:30 p.m. by Zoom until the pandemic passes.

Remember

National Poetry Day

October 1, 2021