Minutes of the General Meeting
April 9, 2022, 2:30 p.m. via Zoom
Submitted by Barbara Blanks, Recording Secretary

President Irene Robertson welcomed our 32 attendees and thanked Neal Ostman for again hosting the meeting on his personal Zoom account.

Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the March membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis (report on page 7). Librarian Barbara Blanks announced three books for donation to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library (book titles on page 7). Treasurer Neal Ostman gave the March financial report. The largest expenditures were payments for NFSPS contests sponsored by PST and for the meeting hall at the Arboretum for the May 22 Spring Fling. Darrell Kirkley, Chair for the Arboretum event, reminded everyone that the RSVP deadline is May 10. He also clarified that registered attendees can obtain free passes to the Arboretum if they want to return on May 25, but they must request them.

Past President Catherine L’Herisson reminded us that April is Poetry Month. If you or your chapter do anything special to celebrate, please send the information to the Bulletin Editor, Valerie Bailey, at vbaileybulletin@att.net and to Extension Chair, Carol Thompson, at btt0212@hotmail.com. If you celebrate Poetry Day in October, please send that news also as PST reports activities to NFSPS every year.

L’Herisson also introduced our Spotlight Poet for Spotlight on Members Chair, Valerie Bailey. Barry Rynk, a member of the Mockingbird Chapter, said he is a “right brain engineer and a left brain poet.” Barry read several of his poems, including one that honored Inez Grimes, oldest and longest member of the Mockingbirds and one for David Knape. Both Inez and David are recently deceased.

Steve Sanders, president of the Fort Worth Our Guest Speaker for May is Lori Trotter
Lori Trotter is better known in the poetic community as Ladydwarf. She is a fantastic presenter of words. Lori is a registered nurse who loves people and is a community mentor. She explores her world and those with whom she shares it. She is sometimes humorous, sometimes poignant, and always brutally honest. Lori is a multi-published poet and spoken word artist who appears at venues throughout the Dallas and Fort Worth area.
Poetry Society announced the winners of their William D. Barney Chapbook Contest, judged by Bernadette Perez, president of the New Mexico State Poetry Society. The winner is Eric Blanchard for “Beware a Poet.” Eric read the title poem from his winning manuscript.

Michael Guinn introduced our program speaker, Kathy “KT” Witten. KT and her family moved from Colorado to Fort Worth ten years ago. She noted that in Colorado, you are either in the city or in the mountains, but she finds Texas to be a study in contrasts. Driving along one highway you can see cattle in a field, then a 7-11, then a mansion, then maybe a creek. She said, “It sparked in me the ability to appreciate the quick changes and encouraged me to think more broadly.”

KT is a writer, poet, playwright, director, storyteller, and speaker and has presented her work at conferences, symposiums, and venues all over Dallas and Fort Worth. She has also been a radio host with a successful show called Woman to Woman. She has done voice-overs for NASA’s Fiske Planetarium, Google, and other local businesses. She said that most people call her KT because the initials stand for “Kinda Tall,” and she is 6’4” tall. Her spoken word album, Listen, is now streaming on all platforms, including Spotify and Pandora.

KT said she finds peace in words, and that poetry is not convenient because, “It comes to you at the oddest times. Before I write about the event, I write about the feeling the event gave me. When I write, it feeds a part of me that nothing else does.”


A Friendly Reminder

Don’t forget to pay your annual PST dues. For Active Members that is $25. Send your dues to Membership Chair Lynn Lewis, at 1704 Enderly Place, Fort Worth, TX 76104. If you have Paypal, you can pay your dues this way: https://www.paypal.me/pstexas. Please be sure to note if this is a renewal or a new membership.

MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

22 Entries

Critic Judge: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
First: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas – “A Song for What is Kept”
Second: Terry Jude Miller, Richmond
Third: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Laugh Lines
Judge: Irene Robertson, Little Elm
Winner: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Book Prize Winners
Popular: Barbara Blanks, Garland
Wm. D. Barney: Eric Blanchard, Houston
Naomi Stroud Simmons: Patrick L. Marshall, Keller
Ted Badger Mem. Prize: Fred Manchester, McKinney
Castle Poetry Collection Prize: Beth Honeycutt, Denton.
Other Poems were by: Sheila Tingley Moore, Hollis Davis, Sarah Wood, LaVern Spencer McCarthy, and Anna Rosa.

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

Celebration of Creativity

Did you or your chapter celebrate Poetry Month in a special way? Share with us what you did to celebrate. Send your Poetry Month Celebration Report to: Bulletin Editor/Director Valerie Bailey, at vbaileybulletin@att.net and also to Director/Extension Chair Carol Thompson, at btt0212@hotmail.com
THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS ANNOUNCES THE 2022 CATHERINE CASE LUBBE MANUSCRIPT CONTEST

Are your poems begging to be published? Do you have poems that sparkle with heart and wit? Do they beg to become a collection so they may sing together? Are you ready to give your poems to the world?

Here’s a grand opportunity! The Poetry Society of Texas sponsors annually the Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest, and it is open to all active dues-paid and Life members of PST, writing in English.

You may submit your manuscript of 45 to 60 pages of poetry between June 1 and August 1, 2022. The prize will be fifty copies of your book, ready to market, and a monetary award of $100. Now is the time to start considering your entry. Read the full rules on the web page of the Poetry Society of Texas, and good luck!

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE A Special Summertime Treat in the Heat. A Summer Conference This Year.

After a long, dreary pandemic when the Covid virus changed the way we lived our lives, we are beginning to resume some normalcy. With a great stress on masks and a new term, “Social Distancing,” we lost the convenience and fun of in-person meetings. Conferences and conventions were canceled and people became terrified of being in crowds. We stopped having in-person poetry meetings and opted for Zoom meetings where we could at least see and hear each other. Every facet of our social lives changed from eating out in restaurants, to church and school attendance. This is why this summer conference is so exciting.

It will be held July 14-16 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Allen, Texas, hosted by the Mockingbird Chapter, so thank you Mockingbirds! Make plans now to attend. This is the same hotel where we met in 2012 and 2016.

A good time is guaranteed!

HERE ARE MORE GOOD REASONS TO BELONG TO PST
6. Longevity: At 100 years old, PST is here to stay. It is an enduring organization.
7. Affiliations: PST is an affiliate of the American Academy of Poets and observes Poetry Month in April and Poetry Day in October.
8. Welcoming: Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to join. Many lifetime friendships are formed among our poets.
9. Councilors: Councilors and Councilors at Large, appointed by the Board of Directors, represent PST Chapters in areas throughout Texas.
10. Members and non-Members: May sponsor contests to honor or memorialize friends and loved ones.
11. Members Receive: A monthly e-mailed eight page newsletter, The Bulletin, which contains news from all the chapters, thus sharing many good ideas.
12. PST Publishes: A Book of the Year, approximately 155 pages of its members’ prize winning poems.
13. PST Sponsors: A permanent collection of books and holograph poems by its members that is archived in the permanent collection of books housed in the Dallas public library.
14. Self Improvement: The more you write and have your work judged, the more you will learn and your writing will steadily improve.
ROUNDED UP THE PST CHAPTER NEWS
FROM ACROSS THE STATE OF

ALAMO AREA POETS
Toni Murguia Reporting

President Antoinette Winstead opened the meeting with greetings and after pledging allegiance to the flag, a moment of silent meditation was observed. Carol Siskovic was our featured speaker and gave a wonderful presentation. She spoke about life as a tapestry, that we are like a metamorphosis of starting and restarting. She shared poems to illustrate this theme. Carol spoke of growing hope, like a 90-year old woman who believes we are planting and replanting, growing and regrowing. All lives rely on plants, and she keeps living this belief. We are all interdependent: the world, nature, and people. Carol says we all grow with poetry because we are all connected with feelings, and this is how we grow. Carol then had us create a poem of a memory when we were young. We were to write the poem as if we were there again. We shared our poems and thanked Carol for her presentation. The winners of the March assigned topic contest were: HM: Vivian Skinner; 3rd: Rene Ornes; 2nd: Iris Maahs; 1st: Patricia Keoughan. Winners in the open topic contest were: 2nd HM: Lea Fagin; 1st HM: Antoinette Winstead; 3rd: Robert Lamphar; 2nd: Iris Maahs; 1st: Patricia Keoughan.

We read our April poems to be judged by Barbara Berry. The assigned topics are The Child In You or A Sonnet. May’s featured speaker is Jean Jackson. Our new slate of officers for next year: President: Antonia Murguia; Vice President: Louise Taylor; Treasurer: Sheila Moore; Secretary: Carol Siskovik; and Parliamentarian: Rene Ornes. Lea announced that a poetry reading will be held at Windcrest’s Takas Center for poetry month.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY
Jeffrey Taylor Reporting

The Austin Poetry Society (APS) continues to hold its meetings on Zoom (link sent to members).

The April monthly meeting on April 6 will feature Louise Richardson. Winners of the most recent APS poetry contest will be announced.

DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY
Richard Kushmaul Reporting

The Denton Poets’ Assembly held their March 19th chapter meeting. Ten were in attendance in person and 14 via Zoom. Vice President Betty Rogers introduced the Spotlight Poets of the month, Roger Bussell, who read his “Sweetest Moon,” a “Storied Haiku,” which captured a month of moments in a woman’s life as she recounts to her daughter her 1929 honeymoon.

Susan Maxwell Campbell introduced the March Read/Respond poet for April: Paul Muldoon. She then provided a close read of Paul Muldoon’s “The Briefcase.” Paul Muldoon’s Read and Respond poems were then read, followed by the Free Choice poem readings.

James Neiswender provided the “Inspiration” readings of “The Weaver’s Stitch” for Read/Respond, then “Bait and Switch” as a Free Choice reading.

Chapter business included an update by Roger and Becca on Merging Visions 2022, the treasurer’s report, and a book proposal by Susan Maxwell Campbell that we create a book of DPA’s Read and Respond poems.

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY
Steve Sanders Reporting

The Fort Worth Poetry Society had a hybrid meeting on the evening of April 26. Several members attended by Zoom, but several members attended by coming to the home of President Steve Sanders. In attendance were Steve Sanders, President; John Bartell, Vice President; Mike Baldwin, Treasurer; Marilyn Gilbert Kornechak, Historian; Hilda Mendoza, Webster; Mary-margaret Belota; Helen Bernard;
Mestyanek is the driving force who organized this endeavor. These are the ten founding members: Maria Avila, Alyssa Chaney, Jessica Chaney, Ed Mestyanek, Brook Miller, Trevor Riley, Zach Riley, Refel Rushing, Abundo Vazquez, and Amy Waters.

THE MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER
Barry Rynk Reporting

The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on Saturday, April 2 at the Heard-Craig Carriage House with 13 members attending. Ten engaging poetry readings followed club business. The Collin County Poetry Contest CCPC awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m. at the Church Street Auditorium.

Three members of the Mockingbirds: Beth Ayers, Susan Mardele, and Barry Rynk have poems in the Collin College Forces 2022 literary magazine, which premiered on April 12.

Alice Parker was featured in an America Tonight national radio show interview with Kate Delaney for her book Choices.

Edmund Burke celebrated his 80th birthday.

POETS NORTHWEST
Eric Blanchard Reporting

For our March meeting our homework assignment was to find a poetic form that we had never used before and write a new poem using that form. Attendees brought their new poems using the newly discovered form to share at the meeting and gave a brief presentation introducing the new form to the group. Many of us felt we could keep the new form in our poetry arsenals and use them in our future repertoires.

Congratulations to Stephen Schwei and Forest Martino who each recently published collections of poetry.

Poets Northwest welcomes visitors and guests. If you happen to be in the area, feel free to join one of our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month. Please 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.

GREATER ELLIS COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY
Reporter To Be Announced

PST has a new chapter in the Waxahachie area. Ed Mestyanek is the driving force who organized this endeavor. These are the ten founding members: Maria Avila, Alyssa Chaney, Jessica Chaney, Ed Mestyanek, Brook Miller, Trevor Riley, Zach Riley, Refel Rushing, Abundo Vazquez, and Amy Waters.

RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY
Janet R. Tyner Reporting

On March 17, eight members of the Rusk Poetry So-
Congratulations Sheila!

VICTORIA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY
Nick Schreiber Reporting

Ten members and two guests met in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts to discuss all things poetry. Mark Sutton provided refreshments and drinks.

One guest, Ms. Katelynn Wood, is currently a teacher at McNeil Middle School in Wichita Falls, and she is working toward her master’s degree in fine arts. She expressed her concerns to the group on the need for creative writing in elementary and secondary schools today. She hopes to create a young writers program in Wichita Falls.

The various committee reports brought updates on the ongoing topics and upcoming events the group will soon attend.

Cowboy True has officially ended and was a great success. The members discussed the collaboration between the society and the Sculpture Garden Unveiling.

Sheri Sutton presented a program on Breakneck Poetry, which is an idea that came from Terry Miller when he presented a program at the Alamo Area Poets of Texas in San Antonio. The idea is to create a subtle or sudden twist in direction of a poem that still ties back to the beginning. She also presented wonderful information on the Pirouette form, which is great for Breakneck Poetry.

For the contest, members are to write a poem in the style of a Pirouette. These poems are due to Mark Sutton by April 30th.

Birma Castle of Beaumont served as the judge for our April contest with the following results:

1st Place: Linda Smith for “What’s Music?”
2nd Place: Robert Parkey for “Cowboy Songs.”
3rd Place: Lynn Hoggard for “He Whispered I Love You.”

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION
Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

For our March program, SAPA’s Program Chairman, Michaud Lamrouex, presented an audio and visual program of our earliest recorded poets beginning with Alfred, Lord Tennyson. It was amazing to hear Tennyson, Robert Browning, and Walt Whitman recorded on Thomas Alva Edison’s wax cylinders. Other featured poets were William Butler Yeats, Gertrude Stein, Robert Frost, Carl Sandburg, Wallace Stevens, James Joyce, William Carlos Williams, Ezra Pound, H.D. and T.S. Eliot. To hear (and read along) as each poet read his and her poems was enlightening. Beginning with the pedantic monotone and graduating to a more metered cadence, and almost achieving our modern technique of reciting poetry. The entire program was illuminating as we heard these great poets read their poem in their own voices, many who read worse than amateurs would.

Our president, Sheila Moore, just published a new poetry book titled The Heart of the Matter.

APRIL IS POETRY MONTH, SO PARTICIPATE: WRITE POEMS, AND ENCOURAGE OTHER POETS TO WRITE POEMS
MEMBERSHIP REPORT MARCH 2022
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

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WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS

Brian Cummings, Allen Zack Riley, Palmer
Preston F Kirk, Waco Jack Gibson, Hideaway
7 New Members from Waxahachie
Mary Avila, Alyssa Cheney, Jessica Cheney
Ed Mestyanek, Brook Miller, Trevor Riley, Abundio Vasquez

YOU WILL LOVE PST!

Book Donations Report
From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

There were three book donations to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library this month:

*Cascades* by Joan Canby
*Tracks Through Harlem**The One in Georgia* by Beth Turner Ayers.

*Poetic Progression* by Beth Turner Ayers and Ann Marie Newman. *This book was the winner of the Irving Campbell Chapbook Contest in 2020.*

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 Barbara Blanks. Her address is listed with the Executive Board.

Our Sincere Sympathy to the family and friends of David Knape

David Knape died on March 14. He was a former PST board member and a member of the Mockingbird Chapter. His service was held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Ammannsville, Texas on March 19. He is survived by his wife Paula, their three children, two grandsons and a host of poet friends.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Irene Robertson
1625 Gayla Creek Dr. • Little Elm, TX. 75068
972-849-5690 • yranie@att.net

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

Treasurer: Neal Ostman
1104 Tinker Rd. • Colleyville, TX 76034
817-937-2570 • neal@nealostman.com

Recording Secretary: Barbara Blanks
1518 Running River Rd. • Garland, TX 75044
972-495-7311 • barbarablanks@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary: Sarah Wood
753 Parkhurst Dr. • Dallas, TX 75220
214-470-2494 • sswood753@gmail.com

JDarrel Kirkley: Director/Webmaster
580 E. Holley St. • Alba, TX 75410
214-957-8616 • jdarrell@jdkcom.com

Carol Thompson: Director/Extension Chair
1215 South Sneed Ave. • Tyler, TX 75701
903-539-0458 • btt0212@hotmail.com

Valerie Martin Bailey: Director/Bulletin Editor
2207 Parhaven Dr. • San Antonio, TX 78232
210-494-2982 • vbailey@att.net

Bulletin Information
vbaileybulletin@att.net

News Deadline: 14th of each month by 10:00 p.m. (no exceptions) The Bulletin will be published in all months except June and July, however the November Bulletin contains only PST Annual Contest results, so no news submissions in November. Your Bulletin is sent by e-mail, so notify the editor if your e-mail address changes. If you miss an issue, request a copy from the editor or see it on our website—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.