Even if you didn’t enter or win a contest come for some wonderful fellowship and great poetry. Visit the PST website or check your email (10/11/22 from Sarah Wood) for a registration form. Forms are due to Beth Ayers by November 4th.

National Poetry Day Celebration
On Tuesday, October 11, Rusk County Poetry Society hosted its annual celebration of poetry with an open mic poetry reading at the McMillan Memorial Library in Overton, Texas. “Verses and Snacks” was enjoyed by 18 poets and library patrons from the East Texas area. A drawing was held for a two-night stay at Cottage Court in Hot Springs, Arkansas.
President Rich Weatherly welcomed our 23 attendees, and thanked Susan Maxwell Campbell for hosting the meeting on her personal Zoom account. He also introduced the rest of the Board who were present: Vice President Catherine L’Herisson, Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks, and Directors Carol Thompson and Valerie Martin Bailey.

Our Spotlight on Members Poet for October was Barbara Lewie Berry, of Mansfield. Barbara, who introduced herself, read autumn-themed poems from her chapbook, “Up, Up and Away,” which is available on Amazon.

Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the September membership reports for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis.

As Assistant Treasurer, Blanks also gave a brief September Financial report for Treasurer Neal Ostman. There were no large expenditures and no major income.

Annual Contest Chair Lynn Roberts Grice said the Verification Committee is meeting on October 13. Winning email postcards will be sent out shortly after that. Be sure to check your Spam folders, just in case. She also said the full Winners’ List will not only go in the Bulletin, but will be posted on
General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

the website as soon as possible, and Corresponding Secretary Sarah Wood will email that November Bulletin to members.

Annual Awards Banquet Chair Beth Ayers stated the banquet will be on November 12 at the Doubletree Hotel in Dallas. Details will be posted on the website as soon as possible. And you should find those same details in this Bulletin. Please remember that you and your guests can attend the banquet whether you entered the contests or not. The luncheon is always a day of fun, fellowship, and poems.

There was a brief discussion about our contests, and about why the same names often turn up as winners in the contests. The answer is because the same people enter the contests consistently—and they follow the rules. It sounds obvious, but you can’t win if you don’t enter, and you won’t win if you don’t follow the rules. PST encourages all members to enter our contests and to not give up—because you can never predict what a judge will choose as a winner.

Immediate past president Irene Robertson said the chapbook she compiled from humorous poems sent to her by our members should be available at the banquet as her gift to PST members.

Poetry in Schools Chair Nancy deHonores is hosting the Student Awards at Texas Woman’s University Library, in the Joyce Thompson Room, on November 5th. Nancy will be stepping down as Chair after that. If you are interested in taking the position, please contact any of the Board members. Students may now enter the NFPS Manningham Contest via Submittable. Details are at the NFPS website.

October 15th is National Poetry Day. If you or your chapter do anything special to celebrate, please send the news to both Fred Manchester, Bulletin Editor, and Carol Thompson, Extension Chair. Their emails are included with this newsletter.

Director Carol Thompson introduced our program speaker, Cade Huie of Grand Prairie, for Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley. Cade was born and raised in Texas, earned a degree in Computer Programming in El Paso, a BA degree in English from the University of Texas, and has postgraduate work in education. She is a member of the Fort Worth Poetry Society and PST. Her poems appear or are forthcoming in A Book of the Year, Texas Poetry Calendar, NFPS Encore, Blue Hole, Beall Poetry Festival Anthology, and Waco Wordfest Anthology. She has won several awards for her poetry, including the Therese Lindsey award in 2021, and is currently working on a manuscript for a book of poetry to be published later this year.

C a d e r e f e r r e d u s t o a n a r t i c l e a t www.writersrelief.com that talked about eight items that can lead to a well-written poem. They are: Tackle a big idea; use the best form to convey the idea; make perfect word choices; use powerful images; cut non-essentials; give away neither too much nor too little. And while you may not witness it, you want your reader to have a strong emotional or intellectual reaction. A “big idea” just needs to be something that has meaning to you and hopefully to your reader. She said, “I think poetry is an art of emotion, but sometimes its purpose is to make us think, not necessarily feel.”

She added a ninth point: Use figurative language, where you use concrete images to attach to abstract images. Metaphors and similes can give the reader what Cade calls “the gasp effect,” where something is startling and satisfying in that element of surprise when a phrase or word touches emotions you were not even aware they were touching.

Monthly Contest Chair Rich Weatherly announced the winners of the October contest.

Dead Poet’s Quote of the Month…

“Poetry is one of the ancient arts, and it begins as did all the fine arts, within the original wilderness of the earth.”

-Mary Oliver
October Monthly Contest Results
16 Entries

**GENERAL CONTEST**
Judge
JoAn Howerton, Lexington, KY
1st: Irene Robertson, Elm—“Baffled”
2nd: Terry Jude Miller, Richmond
3rd: Sylvia S. Medel, McKinney

**Book Prizes:**
**Popular**—Dorothy Clover, Beaumont; **Wm D. Barney**—Elaine Henderson, Melissa; **Badger**—Catherine L’Herisson, Garland; **Birma’s Collection**—Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio.

Other poems were by Juan Perez, Eric Blanchard, Alicia S. Azaha, and Fred Manchester, Jr.

**LAUGH LINES CONTEST**
**Laugh Lines Judge:** Alicia S. Azahar, Mansfield
**Laugh Lines Winner:** Juan Perez, Corpus Christi

Welcome Our New Members!
• Sandra Gustin, Houston
• Mary Loss, Abilene.

Membership Report (Lynn Lewis)
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>Total Membership</td>
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No Books Were Donated This Month

Members are encouraged to donate books to the library. If you have published a collection of poems your chapter publishes an anthology, please consider donating a copy to this collection. Send books to Barbara Blanks. Her address is listed with the executive board.

2022 Anthology of Student Award Winners

Nancy W. De Honores, PST Chair Student Program announces the publication of the 2022 Student Award Winners’ Anthology. This booklet contains schools, student winners, their feelings, vision, and perception of the world our youth offers about their local community, Texas, and our country. The books will be distributed free of charge to around 55 students and school teachers. They are also available in Kindle and paperback editions through Amazon at: Bluebonnet Verses: An Anthology of Student Award Winners 2022 (Poetry Society of Texas Student Anthologies): Poets, Texas Student: 9798351552835: Amazon.com: Books
Attention Volunteers!
PST needs YOU

The Following Roles are Open:
• Editor for A Book of the Year.
• Annual Contest Awards Chair
  (Perhaps members of a chapter could share the work.)
• Poetry in Schools Student Awards Chair.

If you are interested, please reach out to a Board Member for more information.

About the Bulletin of The Poetry Society of Texas

Bulletin Editor: Fred Manchester
fmanchester@yahoo.com
Graphics: JDarrell Kirkley
Distribution: Sarah Wood (Corresponding Secretary)

News Deadline: 14th of each month by 8:00 p.m. Please include the name of the Chapter in the Subject Line. The Bulletin is published monthly September through June; however, only annual contest results are published in the November Bulletin (Edited by Lynn Roberts Grice, Annual Contests Chair). Bulletin is distributed to members via e-mail through the Corresponding Secretary and posted on our website at

Copies of Book of The Year Needed

The Fort Worth Poetry Society

In Cooperation with the Poetry Society of Texas Offers

The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2023

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 10 free copies of the published chapbook. **Deadline: March 1, 2023.**

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. Payment should be made to: paypal.me/FWPoetrySociety.

2. Contestants should email their manuscript as a (.doc, .docx, or .pdf) attachment to fwpspoetry@gmail.com. Please put "Barney Chapbook Contest" as the subject line. English only, no translations. The manuscript 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 name of author, address, phone, email, and title of the manuscript in the body of the email. **Entries will be received between January 1 and midnight, March 1, 2023.**

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 10 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. Announcement of the winner will be at the April, 2023, PST meeting and by email to entrants.

10. Address any questions about the contest to: Michael Baldwin at librmike@hotmail.com.
Ten prizes will be awarded in each division:
First Place - $75, Second Place - $50, Third Place - $40, Fourth Place - $35,
Fifth Place - $30, and five Honorable Mentions - $10 each.
All winning poems will be published in the Manningham Trust Poetry Student Award Anthology. Winners will receive complimentary copies. The schools of each winning student will receive a complimentary copy for the school library.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there were no awards given for 2022. Any student who submitted a poem to the 2022 contest is encouraged to resubmit their poem for the 2023 contest.

No entry fee

1. There are two divisions: Grade 6-8 (Junior Division) and Grades 9-12 (Senior Division). Competition is open to all qualified students. Poems may have been previously published and/or have won previous awards.

2. The competition is open to all USA students in grades 6 – 12. Public, private, and homeschools are eligible for entry by individual submission. Individual poets may only submit one poem.

3. All entries must be entered through Submittable, and the proper application form must be completed, indicating poet’s contact information, school attended, & grade student is currently in. All students can open a Submittable account for no cost and there is no entry fee for the contest. Go to www.nfsps.submitable.com and check the appropriate grade level to submit.

4. Each poem must be neatly typed or computer-generated and have no more than 35 lines including space lines with no line having more than 60 characters including spaces and punctuation. Student’s one poem entered should appear on a single sheet. There should be no large or unusual fonts or illustrations. Times New Roman is the suggested font. No font larger than 12 point should be used. Larger fonts also make it impossible to confine the poem to one page, which is required.

5. The poem submitted must not have ID information. There should be no indication of prior awards granted or publication information. Winners may be asked for that information to be provided at the time of publication.

6. Each entrant must make a declaration of originality. The statement will be included in the Submittable application “I certify that this poem is my original work and has not been copied in whole or part from any author’s poems in print or posted on the Internet. Signed: _____________________”

7. Entries must be received on Submittable between September 15, 2022 and November 15th, 2022.
Notice of winners will be sent to each state’s Manningham (Youth) chair. Awards (certificates, checks, anthologies) will also be mailed to the student. Each member state is responsible for celebrating their state’s winners. The top winning poems will be read at the Annual NFSPS Convention held in June 2023.
Any questions can be directed to nfspssecretary@gmail.com.
Individual Chapter Updates

**Alamo Area Poets of Texas**

Sheila Moore, Reporting

After two years of non-travel, October is the month to vacation, so with several of our members being scattered from San Antonio to Ireland, Vice President Lou Taylor opened the meeting with a welcome to the members present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. September's minutes were accepted with no corrections.

The featured speaker Sheila Moore gave a reading from her new book of awarding winning poems, *The Heart of the Matter*. She earned the San Antonio Poetry Society's Laureate, 2021, title for the 8th time and the Poetic Excellence Award for the 15th time. She was Poet Laureate Emeritus, and for two years served as Texas Senior Poet Laureate for the Kitchner Foundation. She also won Poet of the Year at Alamo Area Poets of Texas.

Editor Stelli Munnis of Red Sulphur Press says, *Her poems always evoke emotion; your eyes may brim with tears or you may ache from laughter. Through Sheila's searching eyes and inquisitive mind, we see the world anew and ponder the ordinary and the difficult. Her poems are insightful and wise.*

After the presentation, last month's contest winners were announced:

Assigned Topic: 1st, Robert Lanphar; 2nd, Carol Siskovic; 3rd, Lou Taylor; Honorable Mention, Rene Ornes.

Open Topic: 1st, Sheila Moore; 2nd, Rene Ornes; 3rd, Lou Taylor; Honorable Mention, Carol Siskovic.

An array of delicious refreshments furnished by Robert Lanphar were then served during the break. Afterwards, October's poems were read. This month's assigned topic is "Integrity," and Richard Weatherly will be the judge.

During new business discussions, we learned that our new member Robert Lanphar is a published writer of novels and poetry, so we look forward to his sharing his work with us at a future date.

There being no other business, Vice President Lou Taylor adjourned the meeting.

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**Fort Worth Poetry Society**

*Helen Bernard Reporting*

The Fort Worth Poetry Society met via Zoom on the evening of September 27, 2022. In attendance were Steve Sanders, President; John Bartell, Vice President; Mike Baldwin, Treasurer; Helen Dent, Secretary; Shae Shaw; Galen Steele; Mary-Margaret Belota; Cade Huie; Lori Trotter; Denise Salerno; Neal Ostman; Marilyn Komechak; Michael Davies; and a visitor.

Galen opened the meeting with selected verses from Lewis’s Carroll’s *Sylvie and Bruno*. Helen read the minutes of the August meeting.
Fort Worth (Continued)

Mike gave the treasurer’s report - the Society has $3,392.27 in current funds.

Old business: The state of Texas has approved our application for a FWPS historical marker. The proposed location of the marker is still to be approved. The search for a Poet Laureate of Fort Worth continues, and the committee is developing a nomination process that will probably be modeled after the state’s process. The FWPS chapbook and CD are nearing completion and should be available before Christmas. Waco WordFest will be held September 30-October 2; FWPS will have a booth. ChupaCon will be held Oct. 22; Steve will be reading Steampunk poetry. Steampunk November tickets are still being sold for November 11, 12, and 13; there will be a Slam on Saturday night with prizes. A poetry day sponsored by FWPS is now planned for Spring 2023.

Announcements: Dr. Jeckyll’s Beer Lab will host an open mic on October 2. Cade Huie will be the featured speaker for the PST meeting on October 8. The FWPS has merchandise available; contact Mike Baldwin to place an order.

Kudos: Cade Huie won the September PST Members’ Contest. Lori Trotter published a book of her students’ poetry entitled A Poem is a Song Your Heart Sings. It is available on Amazon.

Members critiqued 8 poems before adjourning. The society’s next meeting will be October 25, 2022 at the Benbrook Public Library.

Mockingbird Chapter

Barry Rynk Reporting

The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on Saturday, Oct. 8th, at the Heard-Craig Carriage House. Attending the meeting were eight members and one guest. Following club business, members and guests shared eight original poems. Our Sylvia Medel is collaborating with a local pianist on a "Music Meets Poetry" project based on her memoir of poetry, Ageless and Endless, Journey to Poetry, 2019. The Oct. 1st Heard-Craig Center for the Arts Jim Boone poetry reading event was well received. Jim Boone is a former long-time McKinney resident involved for many years with the local poetry scene. November meeting attendance is important since we will be electing a new President and Secretary.

Poets Northwest

Eric Blanchard Reporting

At our August 2022 meeting, Poets Northwest examined the relationship between poetry and music with a program themed “Music as Poetry.” Attendees brought and shared examples of songs which they considered to be particularly poetic. These examples ranged from traditional hymns to songs by Bob Dylan and The Monkeys and from Eminem to Cake. Member Forrest Martino brought his guitar and shared a sampling of songs by various songwriters and discussed several musical elements which we could possibly mimic in our poetry to achieve specific effects. As always, our group read-around was filled with many impressive original poems.
Poets Northwest (Continued)

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. 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.

Rusk County Poetry Society
Janet R. Tyner Reporting

On September 15, 2022, seven members of the Rusk County Poetry Society met in the multi-purpose building of the South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. President Mary Tindall called the meeting to order. Richard Hurzeler offered a prayer. Charles Taylor presented the treasurer’s report. Minutes from the August meeting were read. Jackie McVey updated the contact list. Plans were finalized for the October poetry reading event in Overton and all poets present read from the 50th anniversary chapbook. Sharon Taylor shared a copy of the 1986 RCPS Anthology which includes the biography of Ima Keeling Huff, the first president of RCPS and a member of the church where the society meets.

Spotlight Poet Richard Hurzeler read his original poems written for and about his grandchildren. Richard also presented a lesson based on an acrostic of the word CHILD. Each letter represented characteristics of children and featured one or more poems. The prompt for the month is to write any style of poem about a child or your inner child, or honoring children, or written with a child as the speaker.

On Tuesday, October 11, RCPS hosted its annual celebration of poetry with an open mic poetry reading at the McMillan Memorial Library in Overton, Texas. “Verses and Snacks” was enjoyed by 18 poets and library patrons from the East Texas area. A drawing was held for a two-night stay at Cottage Court in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The next meeting of RCPS will be held at the usual location in Henderson on Thursday, October 20.