The Next PST General Monthly Meeting
January 14, 2022

2023 Annual Memorial
Join us in celebrating the lives and art of those we lost in 2022

2023 Annual Poem-a-thon
Bring 2 poems - Everyone will have a chance to read 1 poem - If time permits perhaps an opportunity to read a 2nd poem - To afford as many attendees as possible an opportunity to read, please bring only one page length poems (preferably 35 lines or less).

New Poetry in Schools Chair
Barry Rynk!

Barry lives and works in the North Dallas area in the defense sector as an engineer, and enjoys writing part-time both poetry and short stories. Barry’s poetry is largely inspired by Nature and his outdoors’ experiences, especially hiking, camping, and sailing. Publications include the Waco WordFest, Texas Poetry Calendar, Collin County Forces Magazine, Collin County Poetry Contest, and Altadena Poetry Review.

New Book of the Year Editor
Janet Tyner!

Janet R. Tyner joined PST in 2018, She serves as corresponding secretary for the Rusk County Poetry Society and is also a member of Tyler Rose Garden Poetry Society. Janet is a retired middle school English teacher, and her articles have been published nationally in professional journals and in locally produced devotional booklets.

Attention Volunteers!
PST still needs an Annual Contest Awards Chair
(Perhaps members of a chapter could share the work.)
President Rich Weatherly welcomed our 26 attendees.

Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the November membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis.


Treasurer Neal Ostman gave the November Financial report. The largest expenditures were for the Awards Banquet and contest prize money awarded, which totaled over $7,000, most of which was paid for by contest sponsors.

Acknowledged with applause and appreciation:
Janet Tyner, Tyler, our new *A Book of the Year* Editor.
Barry Rynk, Allen, our new Poetry in Schools Chair.
Fred Manchester, McKinney, our new Bulletin Editor.

Since Spotlight on Members Chair Valerie Martin Bailey was unable to provide a Spotlight Poet, the Board volunteered Director J Darrell Kirkley. In the short time between Board and General meetings, Darrell found several of his short humorous poems to read.

Awards Banquet Chair Beth Ayers sent thanks to everyone who sent her photos from the awards banquet. She prepared a .pdf photo collage which is on the PST website. Click the PHOTOS tab, then click the words, “2022 Annual Banquet Photos.”

Continued on the next page…

Critic’s Choice Award for 2022
Judge: Charmaine Donovan

Cade Huie, Grand Prairie
“It Was Her Fault (for Loretta)”
Continued from prior page…

Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley introduced our program speaker, Christine Irving, winner of the 2021 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest, with her manuscript, Predator/Prey. Christine is the author of several volumes of poetry, two novels, one hybrid and a smattering of other works. The poetry in her winning volume incorporates a life-long study of Jungian psychology and world myth. The animal world figures predominantly in symbology and reflects humankind’s long intimate relationship with the rest of the natural world. The desire to honor her fellow animals and bring them to greater human consciousness prompted the writing of Predator/Prey.

Focusing on only one of her poems as an example, Christine talked about “Up Close and Personal: Creating a Close Read.” From titles to epigraphs, to how words relate to each other in a poem, to the different poetic techniques (allusion, consonance, syntax, imagery), to analyzing what a poem is about, Christine urged examining the structure on which the content of a poem hangs. She also said if you are reading older poetry, be aware that the meanings of words change over time. Look up unfamiliar words—or even what seem to be familiar words, because in the context of that poem, the meaning might not be what it seems.

December Monthly Contest Results

GENERAL CONTEST
Judge
Julie Cummings, Conifer, CO.
1st: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland—“In the Autumn of My Life”
2nd: Barbara Blanks, Garland
3rd: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas

Book Prizes:
Popular Prize—Cade Huie, Grand Prairie; Wm Barney—Manuel L. English, Poulsbo, WA; Badger Collection—Nancy Bowman Ballard, Springtown; Birma’s Collection—Eric Blanchard, Houston.

Other poems were by Sylvia S. Medel, Marilyn Stacy, Juan Perez, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Richard P. Hurzeler, and Fred Manchester.

LAUGH LINES CONTEST
Laugh Lines Judge: Juan Perez, Corpus Christi
Lines Winner: Irene Robertson, Little Elm

Welcome Our New Member!
Gail Atwater, Dallas

Book Donations Report

On Days Like This, by Maxine B. Kohanski.

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.
The Poetry Society of Texas wishes all members a Happy and Healthy New Year! May we all find inspiration in 2023 to make the world a better place with our poetry.

While we are kicking off a new calendar year with PST, just a quick reminder that our membership year ends on June 30, and a new membership year begins on July 1. PST membership renewal / annual dues are due by June 30, 2023 for the year beginning July 1, 2023.

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

Dead Poet’s Quote of the Month…
“The poets have been mysteriously silent on the subject of cheese.”
- Gilbert K. Chesterton

2022 Anthology of Student Award Winners
National Federation of State Poetry Societies

35th Annual College Undergraduate Poetry Contest

EDNA MEUDT MEMORIAL AWARD
FLORENCE KAHN MEMORIAL AWARD

Winners Receive:

$500
chapbook publication
75 copies of chapbook
$300 travel stipend* to national convention in
Des Moines, Iowa, June 2023

open Dec 1, 2022 – Jan 31, 2023
submit 10 original, unpublished poems
$10 entry fee
nfsps.submittable.com

complete guidelines: nfsps.com/CUP.html

*Winners must attend the 2023 NFPS Convention in person to receive travel stipend
The Alamo Area Poets of Texas met on December 3, 2022, for their combined monthly meeting and annual Christmas Potluck. All enjoyed the good food and conversation.

After the potluck, the November contest winners were announced.

The assigned topic for November was “Texas Weather” and the winners in this category were:

First Place: Antoinette Winstead
Second Place: Iris Maahs
Third Place: Sheila Moore

For November’s open topic the winners were:

First Place: Sheila Moore
Second Place: Antoinette Winstead
Third Place: Lou Taylor

The reading of the winning November poems was followed by the reading of the poems for the December contest.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous vote by members of the Alamo Area Poets of Texas to merge with the San Antonio Poets Association, beginning January 2023. Should San Antonio Poets Association also pass the merger, December 2022 will mark the final meeting of the Alamo Area Poets of Texas.

The Alamo Area Poets of Texas was founded in 2006 by 16 members, including the late Chris Crabtree, Bille Stroud, Libby Stutz Bishop, Dee Carter, Jeanne Gutherie, Harvey Maahs, and Robert McBee, all devoted and active members of AAPT until their passing.

It is hoped that the merger will strengthen both groups, while at the same time continue the legacy of powerful, thought-provoking poetry established by the founders and members of the Alamo Area Poets of Texas.

Beaumont Chapter
Dorothy Clover Reporting

We meet every 1st. Thursday of the month at The Art Studio Inc. In Beaumont. We read our poems and discuss them extensively. We critique those who request it. We give advice about publication and the sale of merchandise.

Fort Worth Poetry Society
Helen Dent Reporting

Our Annual Christmas Social is soon December 20. Further updates in January.
The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on the first Saturday of each month, October-November, at the Heard-Craig Carriage House. We wish to welcome new President Susan Mardele and new Secretary Brian Cummings. On Oct. 1st, at the Heard-Craig Center for the Arts, Jim Boone recited his poetry, which was very well received. Jim Boone is a long-time McKinney resident, and now residing in Houston, that used to be involved with the local poetry scene. We all enjoyed our annual pot-luck luncheon on Dec. 3rd, filled with home-made holiday specialties, treats, cheer, and, of course, poetry! The 52nd Annual Collin County Poetry Contest officially launched on Oct. 15th. The program is open to all Collin County residents. The contest has no entry fee and winning poems are published in an anthology. Please contact Beth Ayers for more information, or check out the weblink here: https://mockingbirdpoetry.org/12-2/. The 2nd Annual Art Meets Poetry program launched on Nov. 8th, with a current running tally of twenty art/poetry stations from local artists and poets. The art exhibit/food drive is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 4th, '23 between 1-5 PM, at the Heard-Craig Carriage House in McKinney, and is open to the public. Please contact Barry Rynk for more information.

Recent member news: Sylvia Medel's "Never While the Grass Grows" poem, from her Ageless and Endless: Journey to Poetry memoirs in poetry book, was selected for pairing with original classical music. Yolanda Mosely recently recited her original poem, "Hope Aspires," at both a luncheon at a local restaurant and at her hospital workplace. Her poem was published in the Hospital Newsletter. Alice Parker attended the Frankfurt International Book Fair by invitation for her book, Changes, Choices and Friends. John Alexander's book, The Velveteen Rabbit Lyrical Rendition, is now available for purchase at both Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Poets Northwest
Eric Blanchard Reporting

For our October 2022 meeting, Poets Northwest members were encouraged to write and share poem they considered to be on the humorous side. Life has given us plenty of material with which to work. At the November meeting of PNW, attendees rose to the challenge of wrestling with the infamous villanelle. Many of the resulting poem were quite impressive. 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. In December, Poets Northwest forego our regular meeting for our annual holiday gathering.

Jackie McVey presented a program called “Bridge-Building: Reading Poetry with Vigor and Clarity.” She shared a method of marking performance notes on poems and demonstrated the process with a reading of her own works. The prompt for the month is to write acrostic poems for VIGOR and CLEAR and practice marking them to identify presentation strengths and areas for improvement. Donna Farmer, Sue Roberts, and Janet Tyner read poems to the group.

On November 17, 2022, ten members of the Rusk County Poetry Society met at South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. President Mary Tindall called the meeting to order. Richard Hurzeler gave the invocation and asked
members to sign a card for Adrianne Pamplin. The group remembered the service of Birma Castle.

Charles Taylor presented the treasurer’s report and the minutes from the October meeting were read. The nominating committee reported that all current officers have agreed to serve another term. Mary Tindall, Carol Thompson, and Janet Tyner reported on the PST Annual Awards Banquet, and congratulations were extended to the RCPS members whose poems placed in the PST contests: Richard Hurzeler, Jackie McVey, Mary Tindall, Carol Thompson, and Janet Tyner. The society presented a gift to Mary Tindall in appreciation for her leadership as president. Poems were read by Donna Farmer, Richard Hurzeler, Jo Morrow, Sue Roberts, Sharon Taylor, and Janet Tyner.

Carol Thompson presented a program on the dizain poetry form and on ways to self-evaluate the quality of one’s own poems. The prompt for January is to compose a dizain. Carol, as spotlight poet, shared several poems, including two that earned first places in the 2022 PST Annual Contests.

The poets concluded the afternoon by preparing Christmas cards with a greeting from RCPS. The cards were delivered to residents at Henderson Health and Rehab Center.

The December 15 meeting will be a luncheon at the Tyler Museum of Art.

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**About the Bulletin of The Poetry Society of Texas**

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**Copies of Book of The Year Needed**

**Marymcturner@gmail.com** or text at 281-731-1655.