The Next PST General Monthly Meeting
February 11

Our February speakers will be Susan Maxwell Campbell and Chris Irving, two members of Denton Poets Assembly, who will present *When your riches overflow!*, their experiences with their many talented writing friends and how their works turned into *When Poets Meet*. This remarkable anthology, curated by Campbell and Irving, draws together the skeins of inspired and inspiring creations into a rich pattern that reminds us why poetry lives. In following the Read & Respond program for four years, members have seen firsthand how poetry remains vital to the healthy life of the contemporary artist. “We are not merely standing on the shoulders of those writers who have come before us but walking beside them, engaging them in insistent questioning, being moved to tears and laughter by what we see and hear in return, says Campbell. This Read & Response anthology goes about the business of creating poetry, sometimes in quiet, often in the heat of passion. Irving adds, “We sincerely believe collaborative writing energizes, inspires, and sets new directions for all of us. Read & Respond is a treasured approach for all to consider!”

Christine Irving is enamored of the craft of poetry. She firmly believes poetry is at its best spoken aloud and heard. The more Christine writes, the more interested she becomes with how poems are structured and sound. The revision process has become increasingly fascinating for her with each new endeavor. Christine is the author of seven books of poetry and one hybrid as well as *Ping-Pong Poems*, a collaboration with Susan Maxwell Campbell featuring a dialog process they have engaged in for several years. Her work is available on Amazon, and her book of Irish poems *Sitting on the Hag Seat* will be up soon on the Audible Ap.

Susan Maxwell Campbell grew up in Dallas and is retired from teaching languages in public schools. She has two degrees in French and a degree in creative writing from University of North Texas, where she received the University Writing Award for Graduate Poetry. Her poems have appeared in several publications and have won awards from PST, NFSPS, and other groups. Her collection *Anything You Ever Wanted to Know* was selected the 2015 book winner of Poetry Society of Texas. Other titles include *Ping Pong Poems* with Chris Irving; *Summer’s Back*; and the CD *Two Lilies* with the late Susan Vogel Taylor. Her principal activities are gardening, birdwatching, and singing. She lives in Mansfield, Texas.
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 December Financial report. There were no major expenditures or income. Director and Spotlight on Members Chair Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, has stepped down from both positions due to ill health. With approval from the Executive Board, former treasurer Steve Sanders, Fort Worth, has accepted the Director position. Vice President Catherine L’Herisson has accepted the Spotlight on Members Chair position.

**PST is still in need of an Annual Contests Chair.**

Extension Chair Carol Thompson reported the San Antonio Poets Association and Alamo Area Poets of Texas chapters have merged to form the SAPA chapter. Also, Daniel Ortiz and Jan Seale are working to create a Rio Grande Valley chapter.

Director J Darrell Kirkley is currently investigating a new venue for a 2023 Spring Fling Fund Raiser, Prospective location is Jefferson, on April 29, with a $20 fee per primary attendee.

Barry Rynk, Allen, is our new Poetry in Schools Chair. If you would like to sponsor a student contest, please contact Barry directly. Sponsorships begin at $25.

Vice President Catherine L’Herisson presented the Memorial Program for members lost in 2022, with two who passed in 2021 since PST wasn’t notified until 2022.

Annette Schwartz, 98, died November 5, 2021. Married for 65 years, she and Robert raised four children. She was a Life Member of PST, published three books, and regularly entered PST contests.

Continued on the next page…
Clara Inez Grimes was 100 years old when she passed away on April 19, 2022, in McKinney. Born on September 28, 1921, she was born before PST was formed. She was a member of the Mockingbird Chapter. Reading and poetry were some of her passions.

Susan Vogel Taylor, a longtime member of Fort Worth Poetry Society, passed away June 22, 2022. She organized the “SawGrass” poetry performance troupe, and coordinated monthly readings at Fort Worth Contemporary Art and the Benbrook Public Library. Her work has been anthologized.

Frances Neidhardt was 94 when she passed away in Sherman on June 15, 2022. She was a member of the Texas Institute of Letters. Her art-lit comparative essays appear in print. She chaired the Texoma Poetry Society for several terms. Her book, Things Seen and Seen Again, was cited the first poetry book handled by the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Loretta Diane Walker, 63, passed away on July 5, 2022, after years of battling breast cancer. A member of the Permian Basin Chapter, she authored seven award-winning poetry books, and taught music at Reagan Magnet Elementary School for 39 years. Loretta believed “kindness is a language in and of itself, and when children speak, listen.” She was in demand as a speaker, was active in her community, and a member of several organizations. The Odessa City Council declared February 22, 2022 “Loretta Diane Walker Day.”

Betty Jean Kersh died peacefully at home on July 18, 2022, at age 93. She was President of the Houston Poetry Society in the 1970’s, and when her family moved to Cypress, cofounded Poets Northwest, where she remained active into her 80s. She also excelled at painting.

Geneva Fulgham was 94 when she passed away in Houston on August 22, 2022. At the age of 19, she received her Bachelor’s degree from Sam Houston State University as the first ever female Journalism major. While never published as a collection, her poetry packs seven binders. Many individual poems were printed in magazines, journals, and short works of all kinds. She also entered and won many contests.

Birma Castle, born on Christmas Day in 1932, probably made her appearance wearing purple. She passed away on October 20, 2022, at age 89. Birma, who likely never met a person she didn’t hug, was a Life Member and Councilor of PST, and president of the Beaumont Poetry Society. She hosted the Lucidity Poetry Retreat in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, for many years, most often with the assistance of her friend Barbara Green Powell, after taking up the event for Ted Badger, who created it. A few months before her death, Birma donated her collection of poetry books, which form one of our monthly contest book prizes.

Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley hosted the annual Poem-Athon. Each of the 21 attendees had a chance to read one poem, and there was enough time after the monthly contest announcements to go around a second time.

Dead Poet’s Quote of the Month
(respectfully quoted in honor of those Stars we lost…)

from
Adonais: An Elegy on the Death of John Keats

“I am borne darkly, fearfully, afar;
Whilst, burning through the inmost veil of Heaven,
The soul of Adonais, like a star,
Beacons from the abode where the Eternal are.”

Percy Bysshe Shelley
December Monthly Contest Results
16 Entries

**GENERAL CONTEST**

Judge
Critic Judge: Lynda LaRocca, Salida, CO
1st—Barbara Blanks, Garland –“Finding Tranquility”
2nd—John Bartell, Aledo
3rd—Fred Manchester, McKinney

**LAUGH LINES CONTEST**

Laugh Lines Judge: Irene Robertson, Little Elm
Winner: Sylvia S. Medel, McKinney

Popular Prize—Beth Honeycutt, Denton;
Wm D Barney Prize—Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio;
Badger Prize—Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield;
Birma's Collection Prize—Ann Howells, Carrollton.

Other entries were by Johnnie B. Carter, Cade Huie,
Manuel L. English, Joe Houchin, Budd Powell
Mahan, and JDarrell Kirkley.

Membership Report (Lynn Lewis)
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

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Welcome Our New Member!
Julie Hogg, Dallas

Save-the-date: **Saturday, April 29th.**

Poetry Society of Texas will be 102 years old this year. Our legacy has thrived because of members like you!

We invite you, your family, and friends to spend time with us in an East Texas town that, like PST, is rich in history.

Come read poetry in quaint & beautiful downtown Jefferson, TX.

This year there is a $20.00 entry fee per member, non-member, or group, to help offset the expenses of hosting this Spring Fling event.

More information to come!

Book Donations Report

*Barefoot in Rain*, by Amanullah Khan.
*When Love Comes Rushing In*, by Sylvia Medel.
*Ageless and Endless Journey to Poetry*, by Sylvia S. Medel.

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 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.
SUBMISSIONS
Accepted January 1 to March 15, 2023

Submit Your Best Four Original Poems as Both Text and Audio

Guidelines at www.nfsps.com
Follow “Contest” link to enter

Winners will be published nationally in Book Form, as Audio on Soundcloud.com, in a video on YouTube.com, and will qualify to compete in the National BlackBerry Peach Poetry Slam at the NFSPS Convention June 21-26, 2023, in Des Moines, Iowa.
Please ask K-12 students to enter the 24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Poem Contest. The deadline is February 15th, 2023. Contest guidelines are available by writing to Melinda Gohn at poem@maui.net.

International Peace Poem Project
PO Box 102
Lahaina, HI 96767
(808)-875-0315
www.peacepoem.org
Attention Volunteers!

PST still needs an Annual Contest Awards Chair
(Perhaps members of a chapter could share the work.)
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
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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 www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org under the “Publications” tab.
San Antonio Poets Association  
The Merged San Antonio Poets Association and the former 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  
Steve Sanders Reporting

The Fort Worth Poetry Society met on Tuesday, January 24th, at a new location - the College Avenue Baptist Church. We are continuing to have hybrid meetings but are looking for a new, semi-permanent home for our meetings. Thanks to one of our newest members, Galen Steele, we had the chance to check out this facility and it seems perfect! Thank you, Galen! Attending this meeting were President Steve Sanders, Vice-President John Bartell, Treasurer Mike Baldwin, Mary-margaret Belota, Doris Brogan, Michael Daves, Taylor Haden, Cade Huie, Denise Salerno, Shae Shaw, Galen Steele, Lori Trotter, and we had one guest: Nathan Cabuco. We had our usual business meeting which included updates on the State Historical marker that is being planned to honor the FWPS, the upcoming chapbook from the Society, preparing for several events this year which will feature Society poets, and selecting a judge for this year's Barney Chapbook Society Contest. We then critiqued seven excellent poems. Before adjourning we set our next meeting for February 23rd.

Mockingbird Chapter  
Brian Cummings Reporting

The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on Saturday, January 7th at the Heard-Craig Carriage House. Attending the meeting were 17 members and one guest. Beth Ayers announced that the 52nd Annual Collin County Poetry Contest will be April 23 at the First Methodist Church in McKinney. Entry deadline in Feb. 4. Beth encouraged all members to submit poems for the Mockingbird Category. Barry Rynk reported that there are 24 art and poetry pairings for the 2023 ARTS MEETS POETRY exhibit and food drive which will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, February 4 at the Carriage House in lieu of our monthly meeting. Newly elected President Susan Mardele and Beth Ayers made a presentation to McKinney Arts on Jan. 19 seeking a grant for MPS. If awarded the grant may be used to add audio-visual support to the county poetry contest awards ceremony and update the cover for the contest anthology. Fourteen members shared poems after the business meeting.

Continued on next page…
Poets Northwest
Eric Blanchard Reporting

Poets Northwest finished out 2022 with our annual end-of-year get-together, hosted by long-time member, mentor, and PNW matriarch, Maxine Kohanski. Congratulations to the holiday contest winners, Holly Jahangiri and Steve Schwei. With much gratitude, Poets Northwest honors our outgoing President, Mary Turner, who courageously served an unprecedented three terms through unprecedented and often difficult times. PNW looks forward to all the exciting things 2023 has in store for us.

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 December 15, 2022, ten members of the Rusk County Poetry Society and one guest met for lunch at the Tyler Museum of Art. President Mary Tindall opened the gathering by reading “Bucket List, Revised” by Marilyn Stacy which was published in the Texas Poetry Calendar 2013. As an invocation, Richard Hurzeler read “A Christmas Carol” by Christina Rosetti. Mary received a nice thank you note from South Main Church of Christ in response to our donation. Poems were read by Peter Hoheisel, Jackie McVey, Adrianne Pamplin, Sue Roberts, Sharon Taylor, and Janet Tyner. Peter Hoheisel invited everyone to join the Jacksonville Poetry Group at the Jacksonville Library for an open poetry reading at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 28, 2023.

The next RCPS meeting will be held on January 19, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m., in the multi-purpose building of the South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. Members are asked to bring an original dizain, the prompt from Carol Thompson’s November lesson, to sign a card for Adrianne Pamplin. The group remembered the service of Birma Castle.

** In the final Processing of the December 2022 edition of the Bulletin The Heading for the Rusk County Poetry Society was accidentally deleted. Apologies to the members of Rusk County group.