The Next PST General Monthly Meeting  
March 11

Our March speaker will be Rene Micha’el Jones

Rene lives in Dallas, Texas and is and actor, activist, poet, playwright and content creator. She is also the founder and director of Roots for Youth a arts & culture cognitive development system developed to promote African heritage. She is an instructional Partner at Big Thought and an actor at Soul Rep Theatre Company. She has a Masters of Psychology: Child and Adolescent Developmental Psychology at Northcentral University, and studied business Administration/Management at Dallas College Richland Campus. Renee has starred in film and stage and has received numerous awards for her writing and performances.

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!
President Rich Weatherly welcomed our 24 attendees. Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the January membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. Rowlett. PST welcomes you! Please contact Lynn Lewis (elsquared59@yahoo.com) if you have not renewed your PST membership or if you’re not sure if it’s up for renewal. Your membership must be current in order to enter the monthly contests. And your name must be listed in A Book of the Year continuously in order to accumulate Life Member status.

As Librarian, Blanks announced one book donation to the permanent collection at the Dallas Central Library: Smiles Behind the Lines, A Laugh Lines Anthology, edited by Irene C. Robertson, with Linda Banks, Sylvia Medel, and Richard Weatherly. It is available on Amazon.com.

Treasurer Neal Ostman gave the January financial report. There were no major expenditures or income. He also warned members about spam emails that look like they came from a board member, asking for money, gift cards, etc. A board member will never ask you for help with some emergency.

Vice President Catherine L’Herisson reminded us that as PST members, we are also NFSPS members, which allow us to enter their annual contest for a reduced rate. Since NFSPS does not mail a printed Strophes any longer, please check their website for the current issue, which has all the details about their summer convention. It will be held in West Des Moines, Iowa, from June 21-26. Deadline for these two contests is Feb. 28: Convention Madness (first place is five nights at the Mariott), and Invocation Contest. Please also check their information about the Student Contests. (nfsps.com)

**PST is still in need of an Annual Contests Chair.** Budd Powell Mahan is chairing the contest for this one year only.

Spotlight on Members Chair Catherine L’Herisson introduced our Spotlight Poet, Doris Brogan, Dallas. Doris is a member of both the Mockingbird Chapter and Fort Worth Poetry Society. She read several of her poems.

Continued on the next page…

Dead Poet’s Quote of the Month

“Poetry is an echo, asking a shadow to dance.”
-Carl Sandburg
Director Carol Thompson introduced our Program Speakers for Program Chair J Darrell Kirkley. Christine Irving and Susan Maxwell Campbell are both members of Denton Poets Assembly, which is one of our largest and most active chapters. It was established in 2005, and J. Paul Holcomb presented poetry-form lessons and challenges from the beginning. He encouraged revisions and critiquing in ways that were helpful. That teaching baton passed to Campbell. Members are given a sheaf of poems from one master poet each time, and everyone selects a poem to study in depth, and then write a response poem that has a similar theme to the original one, even though it may not be apparent at first.

Campbell and Irving called their program, “When Your Riches Overflow,” with subtitles: “When Poets Meet—The Read and Respond Program.” They each read a poem, analyzed it in depth, then read the poem they had written in response, and analyzed the connections to the original poem. Irving says, “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!”

When Poets Meet—A Read and Respond Anthology is available at Amazon.com.

December Monthly Contest Results
16 Entries

GENERAL CONTEST
Judge
Critic Judge: Crystal Robbins, N. Hollywood, CA
1st—Fred Manchester, McKinney – “Cane River”
2nd—Beth Honeycutt, Denton
3rd—Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio

LAUGH LINES CONTEST
Laugh Lines Judge: Sylvia Medel, McKinney
LL Winner: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Book Awards
Popular—Christine H. Boldt, Temple
Wm Barney—Melissa Hudler, Beaumont
Badger—Galen Steele, Fort Worth
Birma’s Collection—Manuel L. English, Poulsbo, WA.

Other poems were by Eric Blanchard, Sarah Wood, Dorothy Clover, Peter Holland, and Cade Huie.

Membership Report (Lynn Lewis)
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

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Welcome Our New Member!

We have three new Active Members: Lorrie Castellano, Austin; Stephen Souris, Denton; and Nancy Gilbert, Rowlett. PST welcomes you!

Book Donations Report

Smiles Behind the Lines, A Laugh Lines Anthology, edited by Irene C. Robertson, with Linda Banks, Sylvia Medel, and Richard Weatherly. It is available on Amazon.com.

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.
Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest, 2023 - Poetry Society of Texas

Are your poems begging to be published? Do you have poems that sparkle with heart and wit? 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 open to all active dues-paid and Life members of PST, writing in English. You may submit your manuscript of 45 and 60 pages of poetry between June 15, 2023, and August 1, 2023, The prize is fifty copies of your book, ready to market, and $100. Now is the time to start considering your entry! Read the full rules on the Poetry Society of Texas web page (and below) and good luck!

Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest: 2023 Requirements

Prize: The winning entrant will receive a cash prize of $100 and fifty copies of an Amazon KDP published, market-ready, 6 by 9 inch soft-cover book (includes editing, cover design, pricing, and ISBN registration). The winner will assume the cost of additional copies.

Who may enter: The competition is open to all active dues-paid and Life Members of PST, writing in English. The manuscript must be original work by a single author. The winner must agree to three public readings from the book. (1) A reading for a PST monthly meeting; (2) A reading at the annual summer conference, following the announcement in November; (3) A third reading will be arranged by the author. Entry acknowledges agreement with these stipulations. The winner of this prize and Eakin winners will not be eligible to enter again for six years. PST will select a judge whose name will be announced when the winner is announced. All rights revert to the winner after publication.

Deadline: Manuscripts must be postmarked between June 1 and August 1, 2023.

Previously published material: The manuscript may include unpublished poems and poems published in journals and anthologies (not to exceed 25 percent of the whole submission) but may not include poems from poet’s other books or chap books, print or electronic. The submitter must have rights to previously published poems at the time of submitting the manuscript.

Entry fee: $10 payable by check to Poetry Society of Texas for each submitted manuscript. Multiple entries are allowed with separate fees.

Length: The submitted manuscript should contain between 45 and 60 pages of poetry, one poem per page, not including other written matter. Only poems submitted in the winning contest manuscript will be published. No poems may be added or replaced nor images added to the poetry during the winning entry publication process.

Format: (1) Submit a single copy of the manuscript. (2) No line of poetry shall contain more than 60 characters (letters, spaces, and punctuation). (3) The manuscript must have a title page without author identification. (4) The pages should be numbered. (5) It must include a table of contents. (6) It must be bound in some manner (manuscript clip preferred). (7) No identification should appear on the manuscript. (8) Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered. Do not send your only copy of the manuscript. Manuscripts will not be returned.

Include these items separate from the manuscript: (1) A title page with entrants name, address, phone number, and email address. (2) A single copy of a poem from the manuscript. If your manuscript wins, this poem will be printed in A Book of the Year and read at the awards banquet. This copy should have author identification and a note that it is part of your Lubbe manuscript. (3) A list of acknowledgements for previously published poems (not to exceed 25 percent of the whole). (4) A check for $10.00 payable to PST for each manuscript entry.

Send to: Richard Kushmaul – 9612 Sandlewood Drive, Denton, Texas 76207. 704-608-9702 (c) richardkdpagmail.com.

Past winners include Diane Glancy, Charlotte Renk, Lynn Lewis, Budd Powell Mahan, Terry Jude Miller, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Michael Minassian, Christine Irving, and Courtney O’Banion Smith.
NATIONAL SPOKEN AND WRITTEN WORD POETRY CONTEST

BlackBerry Peach Poetry Prizes 2023

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES

CASH PRIZES • 1ST PLACE $1,000
2ND PLACE $500 • 3RD PLACE $250

 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.

Submissions Accepted
January 1 to March 15, 2023

• Submit Your Best Four Original Poems as Both Text and Audio
• Guidelines at www.nfspso.com
Follow “Contest” link to enter
CONVENTION MADNESS!
POETRY CONTEST
Win Your Way to NFPS Convention
June 21-June 26, 2023 Des Moines, Iowa Must attend to receive prize
1st Place—5 nights stay at the West Des Moines Marriott ($745.00)
2nd Place—All meals (package) (approximately $200.00)
3rd Place—Registration Fee ($75.00)
• DEADLINE: February 28, 2023. Winners will be notified by March 31, 2023. For more on Contest Rules see the NFSP Website.

Student Contests
Student Award: Grades 9 – 12
Sponsored by Julie Cummings (CO), Catherine L'Herisson (TX)
1st Prize: $50, 2nd Prize: $30, 3rd Prize: $20.7 Honorable Mentions: $5 each.
Subject: Any.
Form: Any.
Line limit: 32.

Poetry in the Classroom Award: Grades 6 – 8
Sponsored by the New Mexico State Poetry Society.
1st Prize: $25, 2nd Prize: $15, 3rd Prize: $10.
Subject: Any.
Form: Any.
Line limit: 32.

Poetry in the Classroom Award: Grades 3 – 5
Sponsored by the New Mexico State Poetry Society.
1st Prize: $25, 2nd Prize: $15, 3rd Prize: $10.
Subject: Any.
Form: Any.
Line limit: 32.

RULES
No entry fee is required for these student competitions. Open only to students in grades 3 thru 12. Include grade with name and summer mailing address on the second copy only (see Contest Rule 1) or enter via Submittable. One poem per student. Mail entries to 2023 Contest Chair.

COMPLETE RULES ON THE NFPS Website

CONVENTION MADNESS!
POETRY CONTEST
Invocational Poems - The NFPS Board will host the NFPS national convention in West Des Moines, Iowa in June of 2023. NFPS is pleased to announce the Invocational Poems Contest.

• Invocational poems to be read by winners at the beginning of convention meals.
• The paramount consideration is poetic value, not religious orthodoxy: “It must be first of all a poem.” Poems should be suitable for a religiously diverse membership, should use gender-inclusive, contemporary language, and should have equal value for the religious and the non-religious.
• Any form, not to exceed 30 lines. Name the form on your entry.
• Open to all poets. No fee to enter. Limit 4 poems. Must be the original work of the poet, unpublished, not submitted elsewhere for publication, and not a previous host-contest winning poem. Typed or printed from computer. One poem per page. Send entries after January 1, 2023.
• February 28, 2023 postmark.
• Noed individually in April of the year 2023. We place a high value on your reading of your own poem, but we will provide a substitute reader if you cannot be present at the convention in June.
• Two. Your name, email and postal address and name of your chosen form at upper right corner of one; name of contest and chosen form only in upper right corner of the other. Poems will not be returned.
• NFPS receives the right to have the poem read at this convention. You retain all other rights.
• Susan Chambers
700 Agency Trail, Unit 207 Mankato, MN 56001
schambersmediator@yahoo.com 507-387-8154
Poetry Society of Texas Summer Conference 2023

In preparation for our Summer Conference which will likely take place in the latter half of July, the Board is seeking volunteers to help with the following categories:

- Zoom meetings in local chapters
- Zoom general meeting for the keynote speaker
- Food
- Registration
- Speaker greeters (to meet and direct speakers on where to go)

If you have an interest in helping with the conference please email Sarah Wood at sswood753@gmail.com subject line “PST Summer Conference”.

Attention Volunteers!

PST still needs an Annual Contest Awards Chair
For Next Year
Volunteer Now & Spend a Year Learning the Ropes From Expert
Budd Powell Mahan (This Year’s Chair)
Individuals and Chapters are Welcome
If you are interested, please reach out to a Board Member for more information.

If you sponsored an Annual Contest last year, or are interested in becoming a sponsor. Please contact Budd ASAP!

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. 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
Antonia Murguia Reporting

President Antonia Murguia opened the February meeting and introduce the featured speaker. Our featured speaker was the wonderful Alexandra Van de Kamp, Executive Director for Gemini Ink, San Antonio’s Writing Arts Center. Alexandra has many published books. Her latest book, Ricochet Script (Next Page Press) published in April 2022 is an extraordinary book that she read from. She also showed us her second book, Kiss/Hierarchy (Rain Mountain Press) 2016 and her first book, The Park of Upside-Down Chairs (CW Books) 2010. She has won the 2010 Burnside Review Chapbook Contest. Her work has been nominated for five Pushcart Prizes and Best of the Net.

Alexandra entertained us with her fascinating poems and writing prompts. Some of the prompts were writing your own list poems, a version of your ‘Survival Guide”, life lessons as inspiration for poems and a quirky love poem. We enjoyed Alexandra’s presentation and learned how to inspire our muse. Finally, she stated she reads poetry before writing as inspiration for herself, great idea to pass on. Thank you to Alexandra for coming to SAPA.

We read the winning poems for January. The Assigned Topic: HM: Cleat Coder, 3rd Place: Sheri Anderson, 2nd Place: Sheila Moore, 1st Place: Iris Maahs. The Open Topic: HM : Iris Maahs, 3rd Place: Sheila Moore, 2nd Place: Margaret Mulberry, 1st Place: Cleat Coder.

The Assigned Topic for March is Discovering Art in Ordinary Things which I foresee to be wonderful poems. Until next month, Happy Valentine’s Day from SAPA.

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 hosted about 150 people at the second annual Arts Meets Poetry exhibit held Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Heard Craig Center for the Arts Carriage House in McKinney, TX. The exhibit, held jointly with the Art Club of McKinney, featured 34 art/poetry exhibits. Barry Rynk from MPS and Beth Mortenson of the Art Club of McKinney were co-chairs of the event. MPS chapter President Susan Mardele called it a “tremendous success that far surpassed our expectations.” The event raised $622 to be shared between three McKinney food charities.
**Poets Northwest**  
*Eric Blanchard Reporting*

Poets Northwest started 2023 by inviting members who had won and/or placed in the 2022 PST annual contests to read a sampling of their contest poems at our January meeting. Readers who made a showing in the PST contests included Cheri Bell, Eric Blanchard, Daniel Hunter, Karen Mastracchio, Lisa Salinas, Donald Samp, Stephen Schwei, and Mary Turner. We saw a good turnout to begin the new year, and many of our attendees shared poems during the read-around portion of our meeting.

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.

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**RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY**  
*Janet R. Tyner Reporting*

On January 19, 2023, nine members of the Rusk County Poetry Society met at the multi-purpose building of South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. President Mary Tindall called the meeting to order and Richard Hurzeler offered an invocation. Richard has contacted Jennifer Scott at the Tyler and Longview newspapers. She asked for photos and a short write up about RCPS. Sharon Taylor collected dues and presented the financial report. Carol Thompson invited everyone to register for the PST Spring Fling which will be held in Jefferson on April 29. Carol Thompson installed officers for 2023: President Mary Tindall, Vice President Jackie McVey, Recording Secretary Adrienne Pamplin, Corresponding Secretary Janet Tyner, and Treasurer Charles Taylor (who was absent). Mary T. collected our hopes and dreams for RCPS for 2023.

Mary Tindall presented a lesson on the importance of verbs in poems. Her interactive lesson emphasized avoiding trite verbs and selecting verbs that “say more, show more, do more” as a revision technique. Mary introduced the dorsimbra form and shared several dorsimbstras she has written. After Mary’s lesson, the following poets read their own works: Donna Farmer, Jackie McVey, Jo Morrow, Adrienne Pamplin, Sharon Taylor, Janet Tyner.

The next RCPS meeting will be February 16, 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 dorsimbra, the prompt from Mary Tindall’s lesson.