Alicia S. Azahar, is an author, actress, model, public speaker, spoken word artist, writer and the owner of Uninterrupted Thoughts. She teaches a Social and Emotional Intervention class at The Phoenix Academy in Mansfield, TX. In her spare time, she loves to volunteer wherever she can to give back to the community. Recently, she was selected as one of the performers for WFAA Channel 8 and the American Heart Association's Go Red Live Luncheon in Dallas and Ft. Worth to bring awareness to heart disease among women. She has a poetry book called "Uninterrupted Thoughts" and has won several Poetry Slam competitions within the DFW area. Her motto is "Making an impression one thought at a time."
President Rich Weatherly welcomed our 29 attendees. Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the February membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. 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 to enter the annual contests at a reduced fee. Your name must be listed continuously in A Book of the Year in order to accumulate Life Member status.

Treasurer Neal Ostman gave the February Financial report. There were no major expenditures. Majority of income came from annual contest sponsorships.

Director Steve Sanders contacted several hotels about hosting the Summer Conference in July. The three that are currently available are in Granbury, Fort Worth, and Arlington. Further research and negotiations are ongoing.

Director JD Kirkley reminded members about the Spring Fling in Jefferson. Deadline for entering the Fling poetry contest (topic: “spring”) and for RSVPs is March 29. $20-flee per person/group to offset expenses. There will be door prizes, refreshments, and a chance to explore historic Jefferson.

Extension Chair Carol Thompson asked that Chapter presidents or designated chapter contact persons contact her with current officer, councilor, and meeting information. Listings on the website, in ABOTY, and in the PST promotional flyer need to be updated.

Vice President Catherine L’Herisson said the Nominating Committee for the 2023-2024 Board consists of herself as Chair, plus Budd Powell Mahan, Jeannette Strother, Barbara Berry, and one additional person as yet unnamed.

Spotlight on Members Chair Catherine L’Herisson introduced our Spotlight Poet, Paul Causey, a Denton Poets Assembly member from Saint Joe. Causey has several poems published in on-line journals. He recommended visiting www.medium.com to view numerous publishing opportunities. He read both serious and humorous poems. https://medium.com/@pcausey17

Continued on the next page…

Caution: Don't think out loud when creating a poem, the Ides of March will blow your words away! It did mine...jdk
Program Committee Member Mike Guinn introduced our Program Speaker, Rene Micha’el Jones, a Dallas actor, activist, poet, playwright, fashion designer, and content creator. She is also the founder and director of Roots for Youth, an arts and 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. Renee has starred in film and stage and has received numerous awards for her writing and performances.

Renee also teaches theater to 3rd, 5th, and 9th grade students at Lancaster ISD—and that includes creative writing and apparel art—which are all forms of expression. Teaching her students different ways to express themselves helps to connect them with their cultural heritage and increases self-esteem. As a fashion designer, she said fabric can help to tell stories—like fabric from passed-down items and made into quilts have stories of their own. Renee read a variety of her multi-layered poems.

**March Monthly Contest Results**

23 Entries

**GENERAL CONTEST**

Judge
Critic Judge—Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
1st—Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio-- Annual Pilgrimage
2nd—Cade Huie, Grand Prairie
3rd—Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield

**LAUGH LINES CONTEST**

Laugh Lines Judge—Catherine L'Herisson, Garland
LL Winner--Sheri Flowers Anderson, San Antonio

Book Prizes:
Popular – Eric Blanchard, Houston
Wm Barney—Patrick Lee marshall, Keller
Badger—Budd Powell Mahan
Birma's—Michael Minassian, Fort Lee, NJ

Other poems were by: John Brooks, Sylvia S. Medel, Antonia S. Murguia, Sheri Flowers Anderson, Anna Rosa, and Irene Robertson

**Membership Report (Lynn Lewis)**

from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

Active Members….. 191  Sustaining Members… 4
Associate Members….. 11  Recently Deceased….. 0
Life Members………. 30  Benefactor Members… 1
Student Members…… 5  Honorary Members….. 5
Supporting Members… 2  Total Membership… 248

**Welcome Our New Member!**

We have one new member: Nick Sweet, Shepherd. PST welcomes you!

**Book Donations Report**

There Were No Book Donations

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.
Dead Poet’s Quote of the Month
There's no money in poetry, but then there's no poetry in money, either.
-Robert Graves

An Invitation from the

Fort Worth Poetry Society
Since 1910

The Fort Worth Poetry Society (FWPS) will be featured at the 2023 Winnsboro Festival of Books. On May 6, 2023, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, the FWPS will have a booth at the Festival and will have its “poetry bell” there for people to ring to “add poetry” to their day. FWPS invites all PST poets to come by our booth and sign up for a time slot to stay in the booth and read your poetry to those souls brave enough to ring the bell! Bring any merchandise you have and you can sell it while you are “on duty.” See you in Winnsboro!

See https://winnsborocenterforthearts.com/event/2023-festival-of-books/ for more info!

Poetry Society of Texas
Annual Contests Brochure 2023
Has been Posted
on the
Poetry Society of Texas Website!
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) richardkdpa@gmail.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.
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 - 2024

Volunteer Now & Spend a Year Learning the Ropes From Experts
Budd Powell Mahan (This Year’s Chair)
and Lynn Roberts Grice (Former Chair)
Individuals and Chapters are Welcome

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. 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 March SAPA meeting. She was excited to introduce the featured speaker, Jen Yañez-Alaniz, who is a Chicana Mestiza activist, educator, and poet. She is a PhD Fellow in Culture, Literacy, and Language in the Department of Bilingual Bicultural Studies at the University of Texas San Antonio. She has co-founder of Welcome: A Poetry Declaration, she brings awareness through equity-driven cultural conversations centered on language justice, the preservation of language, and language literacy. Her work has been appeared in The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism, South Dakota Review, Rogue Agent Journal, Mom Egg Review, West Trestle Review, Cutthroat: Puro Chicano Writers of the 21st Century Anthology, Boundless Anthology, and more. Yañez-Alaniz, a Pushcart nominee, has a new book, Surrogate Eater, will be released by early April.

Yañez-Alaniz spoke to us about her studies on matrilineal control, which is where our children learn to imitate the parent’s behavior, positive or negative. She read her poems about her life experiences and gave us her business card. We enjoyed her presentation. Thank you Jen.

The winning poems for February are as follows: Assigned Topic- Discovering Art in Ordinary Things. The winners are Honorable Mention: Valerie Bailey, 3rd Place: Clyta Coder, 2nd Place: Robert Lanphar, Jr., 1st Place: Jazz Phillips. The Open Topic winners are Honorable Mention: Rene Ornes, 3rd Place: Jazz Phillips, 2nd Place: Margaret Mayberry, 1st Place: Sheri Anderson.

The Assigned Topic for April is Anything Related to the Kitchen. I can’t wait to hear our poems next month. I know they will be funny and great! Happy St. Patrick’s Day from SAPA.

Fort Worth Poetry Society
Helen Dent Reporting

The Fort Worth Poetry Society met in a hybrid meeting, in person and via Zoom, on the evening of February 28, 2023 at College Avenue Baptist Church. In attendance were Steve Sanders, President; John Bartell, Vice President; Mike Baldwin, Treasurer; Helen Dent, Secretary; Neal Ostman; Galen Steele; Mary-margaret Belota; Cade Hui; Lori Trotter; Jeffrey DeLotto; Denise Salerno; Doris Brogan; Don Shoole; and Taylor Hayden.

The meeting opened with a poem by Dorothy Parker, “One Perfect Rose,” read by Lori Trotter. Steve read the minutes of the January meeting. Mike gave the treasurer’s report - the Society has approximately $3,830 in current funds.

Old business: The state of Texas is still reviewing our application for a FWPS historical marker. The search for a Poet Laureate of Fort Worth continues, though responsibility for that search may move to the Fort Worth Public Library. The FWPS chapbook and CD are still in the works. We have received eight submissions for the Barney contest; it will be judged by Martin Griffin of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

New business: The FWPS will have a free booth at the Winnsboro Book Festival on May 6th in exchange for “Ring the Bell” poetry. ArtsGoggle will be held in October.

Announcements: Steve will be the featured poet at the DFW Vampire Court Ball on April 1. The Lucidity Poetry Retreat will be held on March 27-29 in Eureka, Arkansas. The FWPS will be looking for a new historian, as Marilyn Komechak has moved.

Kudos: Mike’s sonnet was accepted by Moonstone Arts. Taylor applied to a writing program in Massachusetts. Neal recently submitted 12 poems and is publishing a chapbook that will be available on Amazon in March. Galen won a PST book prize for his poem “The Way Back.” Cade won a PST book prize. Steve was the featured poet at “Pirates on the Prairie.” Steve was also a panelist at the People’s Poetry Festival.

Members critiqued 9 poems before adjourning. The society’s next meeting will be March 28, 2023 at College Avenue Baptist Church.

Beaumont Chapter
Jerry Sells & Dorothy Clover Reporting

We are still regrouping since the passing of our dear friend Birna. The torch has been passed to Dorothy Clover, who is diligently working to recruit members. Laurie Kolp says one of her poems was selected to be placed in a time capsule and sent to the moon. Another poem is included in poetry machines in New York. Melissa Hudler is holding a writing workshop monthly @TASI. Lou Whitaker has been placing in several contests! I’m so proud of my peeps! Oh, and I host several poetry events in the area.

Continued on next page…
Mockingbird Chapter
Brian Cummings Reporting

The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on Saturday, March 4th at the Heard-Craig Carriage House. Attending the meeting were 13 members and two guests, Beth Riddle, and Jim Boone from Galveston. Alice Parker presided. Beth Ayers reported that there were 688 entries in the Collin County Poetry Contest, 183 were from fourth graders, twelve were from adults and four from college students. The remainder were from fifth, sixth and seventh graders. Final judging occurred after the meeting. The award ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 23 at the Heard-Craig Auditorium. Elaine Henderson gave a report regarding The Common Language Project, which has published 30 words for the 2023 Event. Deadline is March 31 and the theme is Networks. John Alexander’s book, “Donkey Tale” is now available on Amazon. Alice shared her music score and TV spotlight with Logan Crawford. Thirteen members and two guests shared poems after the business meeting.

Rusk County Poetry Society
Janet R. Tyner Reporting

On February 16, 2023, eight 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. Mary T. encouraged participation in the NFSPS annual contest and shared her first-place sonnet from an earlier competition. Janet Tyner read the report from the January meeting. Carol Thompson presented the financial report and encouraged participation in the PST Spring Fling set for April 29 in Jefferson.

Donna Farmer, Jo Morrow, Mary Tindall, Carol Thompson, and Janet Tyner read their poems. For a sharing moment, those present discussed where they like to write. Sue Roberts presented a lesson titled “A Difference in Poetry and Music.” She compared points in the lesson to the lyrics of “River in the Rain,” a song by Roger Miller. The song influenced Sue’s own poem, “The Journey.” Sue shared information about Mary Small Fitzgerald, Spotlight Poet for February. Fitzgerald was a native of Tyler, Texas. Sue read aloud Fitzgerald’s manuscript from 1927, An Etching, which inspired Sue to write her own poem and read it to the group. The next RCPS meeting will be March 16, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m., in the multi-purpose building of the South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. The writing prompt, based on Sue’s lesson, is to select one poem from your portfolio and revise it to become a song.

Poets Northwest
Eric Blanchard Reporting

At our February meeting, Poets Northwest gathered to discuss the myriad of rhetorical devices every poet should have in their arsenal, including alliteration, onomatopoeia, symbolism, simile, metaphor, and imagery that appeals to all five senses. Attendees were encouraged to share one or two poems that utilize some of these devices and/or certain forms like the Golden Shovel, Erasure Poems, Found Poems, Acrostics, and Ekphrastic Poems, and their thoughts on and experiences with such devices and forms.

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.