

The Bulletin



Poetry Society of Texas

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Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies

www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

Editor:

Fred Manchester

May 2025

jdk

"Together in Poetry": Annual Summer Conference 2025

Thursday, July 17 through —Saturday, 19, 2025

Please join us on Thursday, July 17, at the Springhill Suites in Denton, Texas. Registration opens at 3:00 pm and goes till 5:30. Then, we kick off the Conference with an open mic, emceed by Michael Guinn. (Please note, poems must be family friendly!) Then, it's off to get plenty of rest for the next day and a half of activities! Please note contest information (for attendees only!) below.

Registration is NOW OPEN!

Hotel and Registration Information – complete the form (payment can be made by mail or by PayPal (add \$2); either way, you need to send in the registration form by USPS or email). The Registration Form can be downloaded from the PST website.

www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

PayPal Payments: Payments for the conference can be made on-line if you have a PayPal account. If paying by PayPal, please add \$2 to cover fees.

Friday, July 18

Friday starts with a free breakfast for those registered at the hotel. At 8:30, Corbett Buchly will speak on “Balancing the Concrete with the Ambiguous.” At 9:30, Kathryn Merry, Roger Bussell, and Michael Guinn will provide us with what promises to be a very interesting and informative panel on poetry presentation. At 10:50, we will hear a reading from the winner of this year’s William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest. Next, we’ll have the first half of the “You Be the Judge” contest readings from Bob Schinzel and Steve Sanders. Then, we break for lunch – a box lunch provided by a local sandwich shop (you will get to choose your menu in a later email) with entertainment from DeCee Cornish, an award-winning storyteller! After lunch, we hear the rest of the “You Be the Judge” entries and then roll right into a critiquing circle panel with James Neiswender, Beth Honeycutt, Christine Irving and Bob Schinzel. Be sure to bring a poem or two to critique! At 3:00, Diane Glancy and Richard Kushmaul will give us a presentation on “How to Shape a Book,” using actual experience from “PIECE,” Diane’s Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest winner that Richard edited. Christine Irving and Susan Maxwell Campbell will present on “When Poets Meet” at 4:00 and then we will hear from University of North Texas Regents Emeritus Professor Bruce Bond. After a break, where you can stroll through the bookroom or freshen up in your room, we have our banquet with a whole host of “extras” – the DPA contest winners will be announced, “You Be the Judge” winners announced, we conclude the Life Member Auction, hear our keynote speaker, Megan Willome, author of “The Joy of Poetry,” and hear from our entertainer for the evening, Doug Burr, a singer/songwriter of unusual resonance! You might think that would be all for this very busy day, but we don’t call it quits until another open mic with Michael Guinn!

Saturday, July 19

On Saturday, we begin at 8:30 am with the PST Monthly Meeting and Councilor’s Meeting, including the announcement of Monthly Contest

winners. At 9:30, we hear from Betty Roberts with “Writing Prompts,” a workshop where you will get the chance to share. Then, we’ll have a Close Read Presentation with Q&A from Paul Causey, Beth Honeycutt, and Kathryn Merry. We close out our presentations with a talk by Steve Sanders on “Persona Poetry” and then have a quick plenary session to close out the 2025 conference.

Throughout the Conference

Throughout the Conference

Bookroom: All attendees and speakers may place their books for sale in the bookroom. These books must be pre-registered with Richard Kushmaul by email (before the 15th of July.) Send a list of all books you intend to sell with: Author’s name, Title of the book, Number of books of each Title, and the Price for each Title (MS Word .docx file). Richard sets up spreadsheets for each author in advance. Bring your books to the Bookroom already labeled and ready for sale. Place a 3”X 3” removable Post-it-Note label (or something similar) inside the cover, with the following information listed: Author, Title, Price.

Contests and Raffle

You Be the Judge Contest: A PST Tradition. A contest for attendees. In an effort to streamline this contest, the line length has been reduced to 15 lines, plus title. The line width is 60 characters. These poems will be read aloud then the attendees vote for the winners. Place your entry poem in a folder at registration.

DPA “When Poets Meet” Contest: Open NOW, this is a special contest sponsored by Christine Irving and Susan Maxwell Campbell. Check the PST Website to Submit

Life Member Raffle: A Friday Night Tradition. Prizes will be donated by PST Chapters and individuals. The proceeds help fund PST's Life Memberships. Prizes will be on display in the bookroom.

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Check the PST Website

PayPal Payments: Payments for the conference can be made on-line if you have a PayPal account. If paying by PayPal, please add \$2 to cover fees. **Early Registrations are very much appreciated!**

The Next PST General Meeting - September 13, 2025

Details in the August Edition of the PST Bulletin

Bulletin will be on hiatus during the months of June & July

Dead Poet's Quote of the Month

“The Poet is the Priest of the invisible.”

Wallace Stevens

Minutes Of General Meeting Of The Poetry Society Of Texas

Saturday, May 10, 2025, 2:30 p.m., via Zoom

by Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks

President Catherine L’Herisson welcomed our 24 attendees, and wished Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers present—and since we don’t have a June meeting, she later wished an early Happy Father’s Day to the fathers.

Corresponding Secretary Carol Thompson gave the **April Membership Report** for **Membership Chair Lynn Lewis**. Active Members 171, Associate

8, Life 30, Student 4, Honorary 5; Benefactor 1; Sustaining 3; Recently Deceased 0. We have two new Active members: Jerry Lovelady, Beaumont, and Lisa Holcomb, Tyler. And one new Sustaining/Active member: Rosemary Esehagu, Beaumont. PST welcomes you all! Total Membership: 223. Please encourage your chapter members to become members of PST to take advantage of the many things PST offers. We are one of the few societies that includes an anthology as part of our dues. Many other chapters make members pay for theirs in addition to dues. The *2025 A Book of the Year* is in its final proofing.

Acting Treasurer Barbara Blanks gave the **April Financial** report. The largest expenditure involved the Student Contests and Awards. Even without an awards ceremony, the cost of mailing entries to the judges, printing and mailing the award certificates, then printing, shipping, and re-shipping the prize anthologies was extremely costly. If the Student Contests are held next year—and that will depend on someone or a chapter volunteering to be Poetry in Schools Chair—only prize certificates will be mailed. Both paperback and eBook versions can be published on KDP/Amazon for very little, so winners can purchase their own copies.

Librarian Barbara Blanks had seven book donations to announce: Piece, by Diane Glancy, 2025 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Winner. Merging Visions 2024 Collections XIV, edited by Denton Poets' Assembly. PST Student Award Winners 2025, ed. by Barbara Blanks & Holly Jahangiri.

The One Called Jesus, by Sheri A. Sutton.

WordFest Anthology: Waco Cultural Arts Fest, Years 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, ed. by Sandi Horton.

These books will be added to the permanent collection at the Dallas Central Library, which preserves them for future generations.

Budd Powell Mahan will be retiring as **Annual Contest Chair** after the 2025 contest is

concluded. If you or your chapter are interested in the job, please contact President L'Herisson.

Director and Life Member Chair Betty Roberts said the **Summer Conference** Registration form is available at the PST website. The conference dates are July 17-19, with registration beginning on the 17th from 3-5 p.m., at the Springhill Suites in Denton. If you are entering the "When Poets Meet" contest, you must send the title of your poem with the registration form. Also, don't forget the "You Be the Judge" contest. Bring an unpublished 15-lines or fewer poem, no more than 60 characters per line, and leave it at the registration table.

If you have your poetry books to sell, please be sure to send inventory information to Richard Kushmaul, and have your books prepared as outlined in the registration information.

As specified in our Constitution, the election of our Board officers takes place in May. This year's Nominating Committee consists of Catherine L'Herisson, Chair; and committee members Budd Powell Mahan, Jeannette Strother, Irene Robertson, and Barbara Lewie Berry. Executive Board slate as proposed by the committee:

- President: Holly Jahangiri, Houston
- VP: open
- Recording Secretary: Barbara Blanks, Garland
- Corresponding Secretary: Carol Thompson, Tyler
- Acting Treasurer: Barbara Blanks, Garland
- Director: Lynn Roberts Grice, Houston
- Director: Betty Roberts, Denton
- Director: Catherine L'Herisson

President L'Herisson twice called for nominations from the floor. Director Holly Jahangiri nominated Michael Guinn, Irving, for Vice President. Michael was present and accepted the nomination.

VP added to the slate: Michael Guinn, Irving

President L'Herisson called for a vote by show of hands of those present at the Zoom meeting. 24 Yay, 0 Nay. Vote passed without dissent. **The new Executive Board seats on September 1, 2025.**

For details on the **NFSPS Summer Conference**, please visit www.nfsp.net. If you are planning on going, you could be a delegate for PST. Please contact President L'Herisson for details. Being a delegate allows you to vote on NFSPS agendas. Conference dates are July 23-27. Registration fee is \$125 for in-person or Zoom attendance.

Spotlight on Poets Chair Catherine L'Herisson introduced our **Spotlight Poet, Amanda Russell**, a member of Fort Worth Poetry Society. Amanda is editor of The Comstock Review, has authored two chapbooks, and is published in a variety of journals. Her website is poetrussell.wordpress.com. She read several of her poems.

Program Committee Michael Guinn introduced our **Program Speaker, Joshua Clark**, of Denton, who is also known as **Sculpted Roses**, and who founded Sculpted Roses Company. Roses loves flowers, especially roses, and used the rose to encompass all that he is as an artist, writer, songwriter, and life coach. He said, "Whether they're dead or in bloom, they are still precious." He addresses themes of faith, relationships, and mental health. He is the Texas Chapter President of the Poetry Business Network, and a member of the Rhythm of Poets, a new poetry collective in Denton. In addition to participating in numerous poetry and art shows throughout the DFW area, he has also been a featured voice at North Texas Giving Day. Roses aspires to spread messages of love and healing through his poetry and creative work. His website is www.sculptedrosescompany.com. Roses read several of his poems, saying he ends almost all of his poems with a "P.S."—a post script, a finishing afterthought. For instance, one of his poems about his best friend's mother who died last year, ends with "P.S. Can forever young be the end." In another poem he was inspired by the graffiti on three

side-by-side brick walls. His final poem was titled, “Ode to True Horror,” which he said was a celebration of his guilty pleasure of liking horror movies. However, he added that his new definition of horror—good horror—was how some of the most precious things “give fear goose bumps,” an example being, “falling in love is like falling to your death—and I’ll drink to the horror of love every time.”

In Memorium

PST offers our condolences to Membership Chair Lynn Lewis on the passing of her mother, Ola Vermadine Roquemore Lewis. Lynn’s poetry stands as a tribute to this strong woman. “Miles of granite that reach up to the sky and answer only to God.” May MissOla rest in peace.

PST Monthly Contest

Lynn Roberts Grice

Winners of the May contest. 15 entries.

General Contest Judge: Polly Opsahl, Oscodo, Michigan

1st—Barbara Blanks, Garland—*Lost*

2nd—Cade Huie, Grand Prairie

3rd—Catherine L’Herisson, Garland

Laugh Lines Judge: Kathryn Merry, Carrollton

LL Winner: LeAnne Reaves, Hurst

Book Prize winners: Popular—Betty Roberts, Denton; Badger—Stephen Schwei, Houston; Birma's Collection—Beth Honeycutt, Denton; Marshall—Fred Manchester, McKinney; Seadog CD— Manuel L. English, Poulsbo,

WA. Other poems were by Carol M. Siskovic, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Michael Vincent Elkins, Jeri Holcombe Ragan, and John McDermott.

Please review the complete Monthly Contest Rules on the PST website as they have changed. www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org General Contest Poems have a 28-line limit with no more than 60 characters per line, including punctuation and spaces. Laugh Lines have a 16-line limit. One-line titles and spaces between stanzas do not count as lines, but all other lines do—including second line of a two-line title, epigraphs, form identifications, etc. Submit one typewritten copy for each contest entered as a .doc or .docx attachment. (Not in the body of the email) No PDF's, JPG's, artistic fonts, or artwork will be accepted. Type General or Laugh Lines in the upper left-hand corner. Type your name, address, phone number, and email address in the upper right-hand corner.

Eligible entries will only be accepted from Life, Student, and Active members who have paid their annual dues. Please don't forget to renew your PST membership prior to submitting your entries if you haven't done so already. (*see below) Monthly contest entries should be sent to the official contest email address:

monthlycontestchair@poetrysocietyoftexas.org Please send ONLY contest entries to that address.

Please include – PST & “Month” Monthly Contest in the subject line

Or mail entries to:

Lynn Roberts Grice

9611 Magnolia Ridge Dr

Houston, TX 77070

A Note From Our PST Corresponding Secretary

Carol Thompson

PST CHAPTER NEWS

Hello, poets! We will soon start another PST year of writing poetry and making plans for our writing projects - a time of creative expectation! In the midst of writing, please take time to make sure your membership with the Poetry Society of Texas (PST) is current. Annual membership dues are \$ 25.00 payable by the end of June each year (or \$ 500.00 for life.) While we send out reminders, we know life gets busy and dues payment can fall by the wayside.

PST Membership Dues Are due Before July 1, 2025

You can mail your dues to Lynn Lewis, membership chair (elsquared59@yahoo.com) at

Lynn Lewis
1704 Enderly Place
Fort Worth, Texas 76104

and can even send them via Paypal ([paypal.me/PSTexas](https://www.paypal.com/US/merchstore/PSTexas)).

You can be dropped from the rolls for failing to send dues by November 30. We know that you don't want to be dropped! Membership entitles you to enter the free monthly contests, PST annual contests - and the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) for a reduced fee. Paying your annual PST dues means that you are automatically a member of NFSPS. You also receive PST's The Bulletin and A Book of the Year. Membership allows you to join the PST-For Members Facebook group to

receive current information and links not available to the general public. Pay your dues and keep up with us!

Our general PST meetings are now held on Zoom, so you can attend no matter where you live. Our meetings provide current information, member-featured Spotlight poetry, program speakers, contest results - and fun! You can read about both societies at poetrysocietyoftexas.org and at nfsps.org. Take an active part in these organizations – they are well worth your time!

Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest: 2025 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 (including editing, cover design, pricing, and ISBN registration). The winner will assume the cost of additional copies.

Who may enter: The competition is open only to active dues-paid members, life members, sustaining and supporting members, student members and officers writing in English. (Note: associate, honorary, and library members may not enter.). 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 to be arranged by the author. Entry in the contest acknowledges agreement with these stipulations. Past winners of this CCL and Eakin contests will not be eligible to enter again until the seventh year after previously winning. The CCL committee 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, 2025, and August 1, 2025.

Previously published material: The manuscript may include unpublished poems and poems previously 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.

Format: (1) Submit a single printed copy of the manuscript. (1.5) Submit an electronic copy of the paper version. (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 in the manuscript. (8) Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered. Do not send the only copy of the manuscript. Manuscripts will not be returned.

Include these items separate from the manuscript: (1) A title page with an entrant's 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) In sending the manuscript, do not include a list of acknowledgements for previously published poems. The manuscript must not include previously published poems exceeding 25 percent of the whole. You may include such a list in the book if you are the winner. (4) 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 Charlotte Renk, Lynn Lewis, Budd Powell Mahan, Terry Jude Miller, Susan Maxwell Campbell, Michael Minassian, Christine Irving, Courtney O'Banion-Smith, Robert Schinzel, and Diane Glancy (2016 and 2024)

NFSPS NEWS

Your PST dues include membership in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. The latest issue of Strophes, the NFSPS newsletter is on their website. Strophes is no longer mailed to PST so you have to go online if you want to see it or print it if you want a copy. Please make sure you are using NFSPS.net not “.com”.

The new April 2025 edition of Strophes is on the NFSPS website: NFSPS.net featuring:

- Exciting updates about the NFSPS Annual Convention, scheduled for July 23-28, 2025 in Albuquerque New Mexico, including a day by day agenda.
- A memoriam for our own Valerie Martin Bailey
- And Catherine's update on page 8

Poetry Society Of Texas Annual Contests

The brochure for the 2025 PST Annual Poetry Contest is now available on the PST website. Time to get started preparing your entries. Make sure your dues are paid up to ensure your eligibility. Budd Powell Mahan, Annual Poetry Contest Chair, has announced his retirement. The Board thanks Budd for his outstanding service as Chair. The Annual Contests are a cornerstone activity of PST. **We are seeking a volunteer (either an individual or a team) to ensure this important program continues going forward. Don't worry, we have great past Chairs to coach you. If you are interested please contact a PST Board Member.**

Volunteer Opportunity

Catherine L'Herisson

The Board of Directors of the Poetry Society of Texas is seeking a volunteer to lead the PST Poetry in Schools Student Poetry Program. The young poets of today are the poets who will to kindle a finer and more intelligent appreciation of poetry tomorrow. If you are interested in leading this important work, or serving on a committee that continues this important work - please contact Catherine L'Herisson.

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About the *Bulletin* of The Poetry Society of Texas

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Distribution: Carol Thompson (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 August through May; 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.

Mockingbird Poetry Society

Doris Brogan Reporting

Beth Ayers, a longtime Mockingbird member, published a new book of poems, "Mother World," in March. It is available on Amazon and was previously published as a CD.

Mockingbird president, Barry Rynk, hosted an open mic event in cooperation with the John and Judy Gay Library in McKinney on April 27 at 3 p.m.. It was open to the public.

A Mockingbird Visiting Poet Event

The Mockingbirds hosted a Visiting Poets Event featuring Diane Kendig on May 12, 2025 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Heard-Craig Carriage House where the Mockingbirds hold their monthly meetings.

Diane initially planned a trip to Texas from her home in Ohio, to visit a high school friend who lives in McKinney. She discovered our 2025 **Art Meets Poetry** event

information online in February and sent Susan Mardele, our past Mockingbird president, an email introduction. Barry Rynk, our current president, worked with Karen Zupanic, executive director of the Heard-Craig Museum, to organize the event.

Diane started her presentation with a Q & A session about Mockingbirds' experiences with our annual ekphrastic **Art Meets Poetry** event and ekphrastic poetry, in general.

A projector was set up for Diane to present color photos and plates from her latest book, *Woman with a Fan: On Maria Blanchard*, a series of ekphrastic poems and essays based on the painting *Woman with a Fan*, while she recited several poems from her book.

Her presentation was very interactive, with audience participation, historically informative and thought provoking.

Refreshments and snacks were provided by the Mockingbirds. Books were available for purchase and signing after her presentation.

Diane's book, *Woman with a Fan*, is based on Spanish painter Maria Blanchard, a contemporary of Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, Juan Gris and other artists in early twentieth century Paris. Feminist critics have recently resurrected her reputation on the grounds that it was overlooked due to her gender and disability. *Woman with a Fan* is her most famous

work and now hangs in the Riena Sofia Museum in Madrid next to Diego Rivera's work and above *Guernica* by Pablo Picasso.

Diane Kendig's bio, bibliography and a list of her many awards can be found at <https://dianskendig.com>

Alamo Area Poets of Texas

Antonia Murguia, Reporting

Our last meeting for the 2024 - 2025 year was held on May 3rd at Tobin Library. Rene Ornes, one of our members, was our featured speaker. Rene spoke about the narrative poem. stated that narrative poetry is saying more with less and that it has a beginning, middle, and end.

Rene had the group an exercise to write the first lines of a narrative poem. Everyone enjoyed his presentation.

Our March winners in the Open Topic were: 1st Place - Antoinette Winstead, 2nd Place - Sheila Moore, 3rd Place - Charles Jones, Honorable Mention - Antonia Murguia.

The March winners for the Assigned Topic were: 1st Place - Susan Sabino, 2nd Place - Rene Ornes, 3rd Place - Sheri Anderson, Honorable Mention - Sheila Moore.

For April, our winners in the Open Topic were: 1st Place - Charles Jones, 2nd Place - Antoinette Winstead, 3rd Place - Sara Hardy, Honorable Mention - Carol Siskovic.

The Assigned Topic winners for April were: 1st Place - Sheila Moore, 2nd Place - Sara Hardy,
3rd Place - Rene Ornes, Honorable Mention - Antonia Murguia

Alamo Area Poets of Texas have had a good year and are looking forward to next year.

We will start on September 6th. Have a great summer, everyone!

Rusk County Poetry Society

Janet R. Tyner Reporting

On April 17, 2025, nine members of the Rusk County Poetry Society met at the multi-purpose building of South Main Church of Christ in Henderson, Texas.

President Janet Tyner opened the meeting and Richard Hurzeler offered an invocation.

A committee was formed to develop plans for revitalizing the Tyler Rose Garden Poetry Society. Plans were also started for the October poetry celebration. Donna Farmer, Lisa Holcomb, Richard Hurzeler, Ilenya Marrin, Sue Roberts, Mary Tindall, and Janet Tyner read poems during open mic.

Carol Thompson and Janet Tyner incorporated some of their own poems and some poetic prose into a lesson previously created by Anne McCrady, presenting thoughts and tips for establishing place in poems. The writing prompt for this lesson is to write directions to your home or some other familiar place, being sure to include specific visual details, other elements of setting, and emotions. Ending with a turn in tone, thoughts, or understanding is recommended, too.

On Friday, April 25, Ilenya Marrin, Carol Thompson, Mary Tindall, and Janet Tyner attended the Northeast Texas Poetry in Schools Awards at

Region 7 ESC in Kilgore. They presented a scholarship to the graduating senior who won first place.

The next meeting of RCPS will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at the South Main Church of Christ in Henderson, Texas. March 20, 2025, seven members and guests of the Rusk County Poetry Society met at the multi-purpose building of South Main Church of Christ in Henderson, Texas.

Denton Poets' Assembly

Richard Kushmaul Reporting

Denton Poets' Assembly met Saturday, May 17, 2025, with 14 attending via zoom and 12 in person at the Emily Fowler Library.

To begin the meeting Ginger Sheppard presented a close read of the poem "Departure" by former U.S. Poet Laureate Henri Cole. Twelve members then read original response poems to Henri Cole's poems with James Neiswender presenting his Read/Respond Inspiration poem "Blue-Night Specter's Moon".

Members then shared "free" poems on PowerPoint, written on any subject or theme of their choosing. Roger Busséll provided the free poem inspiration read with his poem "Angles-Angles Ung" written for his daughter Wendy (who loves camels) , about overhearing the conversation between two camels.

Paul Causey then read an introduction for the June poet to be studied, Li-Young Lee, followed by an introductory mini-close read of Lee's poem "A Sad Story" by Susan Maxwell Campbell.

During the Kudo's portion of the meeting Bob Schinzel read his 2024 PST Contest #42 winning poem "Wasteland". This contest was offered by the late David Atamian of Arlington, Virginia, in memory of his parents,

Manoog and Turfanda Atamian, who lost their lives in the 1915 Armenian massacres in Turkey, for the best poem on world citizenship, and form, 36 lines or less.

Announcements were then made about the upcoming PST Summer conference to be held July 17 – 19 in Denton, Texas and the NFSPS Convention to be held in Albuquerque, NM July 23 – 28. Roger Bussell announced the new availability of a PST Summer conference T-Shirt that may be ordered directly on-line (See the Denton Poet's Assembly Website for information on how to order).

The next DPA Chapter meeting will be held Saturday, June 21, 10 am to 12 noon in-person and via ZOOM.

Poets Northwest

Holly Jahangiri Reporting

Poets Northwest held its annual Spring Fling Awards Banquet on May 17th. There were 310 poems entered in 25 categories and 17 award-winning poets! We were treated to readings of all the winning poems and enjoyed good food and conversation over lunch. We also had a silent auction where donated items gave our members a chance to support our chapter and go home with some special, one of a kind goodies - including signed, first editions of poetry and original artwork by well-known poets.

Poets Northwest welcomes visitors and guests. If you happen to be in the area, we invite you to join one of our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month from 10 AM to 12 PM at Windwood Presbyterian Church. Please contact PNW via email or 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 [https:// facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest](https://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest), on X as @HoustonPoets, and on Instagram as poetsnorthwest. We're now on Bluesky, as well! @poetsnorthwest.bsky.social

our April meeting, Poets Northwest celebrated National Poetry Month by each attendee sharing two poems: one published by a well known poet, and one in a similar style, written by the member. Everyone guessed who wrote which poem, and in many cases guessed incorrectly! In some cases, we preferred the member's poem to the more famous poet's work.

Fort Worth Poetry Society

Galen Steele Reporting

May potluck and poetry extravaganza

May 18 is the anniversary of the eruption of Mt Helens, and the FWPS was exploding with great talent and good times.

We consumed recipes as creative as our poetry.

We celebrated the 115th birthday of the Fort Worth Poetry Society.

We installed new officers:

President - Steve Sanders

Vice-President - Susan Ayres

Treasurer - John Bartell

Secretary - Galen Steele

Historian - Denise Salerno

We listened to tales of survival from the 2025 William D. Barney chapbook winner Immanuel A. Garcia.

We hope you will join us for our next meeting: June 24, 2025



Poetry Society of Texas
www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org

jdk