

# THE BULLETIN



## ★ THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS ★

Founded November 5, 1921

A member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org



Editor: Valerie Martin Bailey

April 2014

### THE PST MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

Submitted by Barbara Blanks, Recording Secretary

Saturday, April 12, 2014

Vice-President Catherine L'Herisson called the meeting to order. President Jimmye Inez Sessions was not feeling well due to a low hemoglobin count, and just before we began, Dr Aman Khan drove her to the hospital. She is doing better now. It's nice to have a doctor in the house!

L'Herisson welcomed our speaker, J. Paul Holcomb, the poet from Double Oak and our guest, Donnie Smith. Several new members attended, as well as past presidents, Catherine L'Herisson, J. Paul Holcomb, and Budd Powell Mahan.

Director Beth Ayers gave the March financial statement for Treasurer Aman Khan, who was at the hospital with Jimmye. The largest expense was payment for printing the 2014 *A Book of the Year*. L'Herisson displayed a copy of the new anthology, noting that Editor Linda Banks had sent it to the printer just before her husband Robert was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Linda received a round of applause for her effort and dedication. Members present at the meeting received copies. The rest will be mailed by the Mailing Committee.

Beth Ayers also gave the March membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis (report and new members listed on page 6).

Librarian Barbara Blanks announced seven donated books (listed on page 6). Barbara also read a note sent by past president Jeannette L. Strother following the slaying of her nephew Joseph Strother on March 28 in Ohio. Jeannette said, "*Please convey my deepest gratitude to everyone who reached out to me at this sad time. My poetry family means so very much to me and to know they continually lift me up in love and prayer. Sincerely, Jeannette Strother.*"

The slate of Executive Board Officers will be announced, and voted on at the May 10 meeting. The Nominating Committee consists of former presidents: Jeannette L. Strother, chair; J. Paul Holcomb; Budd Powell Mahan; Linda Banks; and Marilyn Stacy.

Budd Powell Mahan briefly spoke about the Austin International Poetry Festival, where he was a featured speaker. He reminded us that the Student Awards Festival will be held April 19, from 1-3 p.m. at the Dallas Central Library. Student winners come from all over the state, and all first, second, and third place winners in attendance will read their poems. Only first place poems are published in the Student Awards anthology.

Budd also displayed a Certificate of Participation in the

Manningham Student Contest sponsored by NFSPS. Texas once again had winning students.

Beth Ayers introduced C. Wesley "Wes" Vines as the "Spotlight Poet" for Spotlight Chair Pat Randolph. Wes, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, says his favorite subjects are "my mental health, my grandmother, and the act of writing." This lawyer has been married for 33 and half years, and has two children. His favorite saying is, "Ignorance takes you more interesting places than knowledge."

Program Chair Catherine L'Herisson introduced our speaker, J. Paul Holcomb. Paul is a past PST president, a Life Member, winner of the Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award, member of the Fort Worth chapter and the Denton Poets' Assembly. He has been published in numerous journals and anthologies. His first book of poems, *Love or Something Like It*, won the Lucidity Chapbook Book Award. *Looking for Love in the Telecom Corridor* won the Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award. He writes "Discussing Poetic Forms with the Poet from Double Oak" for the DFW Poetry Review. Paul is a retired software engineer, and is married to Sue Ann. They live with their five cats in Double Oak.

Paul said, "I don't consider myself a form expert. I consider myself a form *fan*." He has a mathematical mind, and noted that "form poetry is kind of like numbers—in that they

*Continued on page 2*

### MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

April 2014

**Critic Judge:** Lynn Roberts Grice, Houston.

**First Place:** Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth –*While Standing on the Ocean Floor*

**Second Place:** Catherine L' Herisson, Garland

**Third Place:** LaVern Spencer McCarthy. Blair, OK

#### Book Prizes

**Reader:** Amanda Nobis, Dallas

**Popular Prize:** Linda Banks, Mesquite

**A Galaxy of Verse Prize:** Amanda Nobis, Dallas

**Poetry for Poets Award:** John L. Smith, Roanoke

**William Barney Memorial:** Barbara Blanks, Garland

**M. Tandy Duemke Prize:** Aman Khan, Dallas

**Other Poems Read By:** C. Wesley Vines, Sylvia S. Medel, Annette Schwartz, J. Paul Holcomb, Beth Honeycutt

**Laugh Lines Judge:** Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas

**Laugh Lines Winner:** Barbara Blanks, Garland

### Monthly Meeting Report...Continued

click together, and have a kind of formula to them.” He was a math major in college and wound up with an English minor. When he took Creative Writing in his senior year, he discovered form poetry. His very first sonnet was published.

Paul provided an eight-page handout, and his program focused on French forms of poetry, beginning with the sestina, then the villanelle, and the triolet. He noted that originally triolets were not written in iambic tetrameter, but many contests now require it. He also covered various kinds of sonnets.

After the break, VP L’Herisson announced the winning April poems for Contest Chair, Jimmye Inez Sessions (winners are listed in the Contest Box on page 1). Before the meeting was adjourned, the following reminders were noted.

#### REMINDERS:

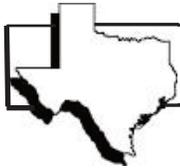
- The NFSPS Convention will be June 26-29 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The April *Strophes* will have more information.
- April 24 is “Poem in Your Pocket” day. Share a poem with others on that day.
- The Poets Northwest Chapter will host the PST Summer conference July 10, 11, 12. More details as they are available.
- If your chapter, or you as an individual, do anything special for Poetry Month in April, please let Valerie Bailey know at

vbaileyBulletin@satx.rr.com so she can publish it in the *Bulletin*. Also please contact Catherine L’Herisson so she can include it in her report to NFSPS.

- The Mockingbird Chapter will host an open mic on April 29, between 3–5 p.m., at the Barnes & Noble at Park and Preston in Plano. A fund-raising book fair will be part of the festivities, so member books will not only have an in-store presentation, but online sales will continue for a full week after the fair. The Mockingbirds will receive a small portion of sales proceeds. Contact Beth Ayers for details.
- For the fourth year, the Denton Poets Assembly will join the Visual Arts Society of Texas in a “Merging Visions” exhibit, to be presented throughout April. Poetry and art are paired—sometimes the art came first, then the poem; and vice-versa. Beginning in May, the exhibit moves to different libraries, and a book will be published. Contact J. Paul Holcomb for details.

Everyone mentioned here can be contacted through the Website. The Website now has a Photos Page, which has, or will soon have, pictures of our speakers, the Awards Banquet, and the Summer Conference.

Our next meeting is May 10. You are invited to attend our friendly, informal meetings. We hope to see you in May.



## From Our Member Chapters... Poetry NEWS from Across Texas

### AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY

*Beth Kropf Reporting*

On Saturday April 19, the Jenny Lind Porter Scholarship will be presented to a local student. The remaining program will be an open mic. Also in April, new board members will be nominated. APS members were very well represented in the *di-verse-city* anthology and at the Austin International Poetry Festival. Scott Wiggerman led a workshop called “Tell It Slant: Extending the Metaphor” at Baylor’s House of Poetry in Waco on March 26, and he led another called “Writing the Bad Sonnet” on April 5 for the Austin International Poetry Festival at ACC/Rio Grande.

Debra Winegarten’s latest poetry book, *Where Jewish Grandmothers Come From*, will be out the last week in April. The book can be ordered from [www.sociosights.com](http://www.sociosights.com). Poet Susan Beall Summers is interviewed by Herman Nelson as part of “Texas Nafas Presents” on Channel 16, Time Warner cable. For air times, go to [www.channelaustin.org](http://www.channelaustin.org) and search under “Watch.”

On Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m.–1p.m. at the Resistencia Bookstore, 4926 E. Cesar Chavez Street—Spiritual Memoir Writing workshop with Ana Castillo—Price: \$175. Register now by e-mailing [irenelarasilva@yahoo.com](mailto:irenelarasilva@yahoo.com). The workshop will be followed that evening (May 17 at 7 p.m.) by a reading, with poet and novelist Ana Castillo at the 2nd Floor Performance Studio in the Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River Street—free to the public.

Please see the full *Museletter* at [austinpoetrysociety.org](http://austinpoetrysociety.org) for a full listing of member news and events.

### BEAUMONT CHAPTER

*Barbara Green Powell, Reporting*

Spring wings its way to stardom in our area. Wildflowers decorate our highways and birds are singing in our backyards, creating the right spirit for writing poetry for the annual PST state contests. First, we need to get our poems ready for the Galaxy of Verse contests with the deadline coming up this month. Go to the Galaxy Website and click on contests. Barbara Blanks makes it as easy as possible to enter any or all of the contests by e-mail. Thanks Barbara for the great job you do as editor. Another spring happening is the annual Lucidity Retreat held in Eureka Springs, Arkansas this month. Four Beaumont members, Jo Fant, Sherry Morgan, Birma Castle, and Barbara Powell will head out on April 21st. Birma and Barbara will welcome and register poets from 3 to 5 p.m. on the 22nd. The grandeur of the mountains and wildflowers entertain and amaze us each year. If you live in an area as flat as ours you understand.

We still meet at Calder Woods Retirement Center each month from 10 to Noon the third Thursday of each month. Lunch and conversation follows at the Black-Eyed Pea Restaurant down Calder a couple of blocks. We love our small group of poets and always enjoy talking about our poetry. Come see us any time.

### DENTON POETS’ ASSEMBLY

*Richard Weatherly, Reporting*

Denton Poets’ Assembly met on Saturday April 19. Our chapter is living up to the spirit of National Poetry Month with

plenty of activity. During the meeting, members read a Cinquain based on J. Paul Holcomb's March lesson. Members and guests also read free choice poems.

Kudos to Beth Honeycutt who just made the following announcement: "*I'm so excited! One of my poems won first place in the North Central Texas College Creative Writing Contest, and a short story I submitted received an Honorable Mention!*"

The Merging Visions Reception will be held Thursday, April 24, 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. at the Center for the Visual Arts (400 East Hickory in Denton, across from the fire station on Hickory at Bell Ave.). The Meadows Gallery, housing the exhibit, is on the left as you enter the main door of the building, coming from the parking lot. Merging Visions, is a collaboration exhibition between Denton Poets' Assembly and Visual Arts Society of Texas.

Re: Length of Exhibit: After the reception date, the Merging Visions Exhibit will be open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. each Tuesday thru Sunday, and will continue until June 6th. If you have questions or comments, contact: Richard L. Weatherly Denton Poets' Assembly President.

### **Fort Worth Poetry Society**

#### ***Anne Jones Reporting***

To open our meeting, Ray Henson recited Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken." President Steve Sanders told us that we would read poems on April 24 at a reading sponsored by Down Town Fort Worth, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We may also read on Friday, April 25 in the evening. The location has not been announced. It will be in the format of featured poets, each of us reading a couple of poems. Paul Holcomb reported that the chapbook discussion with PST is still not satisfactory, but he will talk to them again. We will do a chapbook contest, but would like PST to be a part of it. Nominees for next year's offices were presented and voted on. Their installation will be held next month at our yearly luncheon. The new president will be Mike Baldwin and the new vice-president will be Steve Sanders. All other officers will remain the same. The luncheon is potluck at Steve's house. Steve is taking entries for our yearly poetry contest, and the winners will be announced in May. There will also be a read-around. Susan Campbell passed around copies of the amended bylaws, and we will make final corrections at our luncheon, or at a our June meeting. Then Susan can print new year books for us. Eight poems were critiqued.

### **MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER**

#### ***Jessica Gonsoulin Reporting***

The Mockingbirds held their regular monthly meeting on April 4, 2014. Joseph Parelli, a nature enthusiast, was present as a guest. David Knape will send Linda Banks a condolence card on behalf of the Mockingbirds. Another get-well card was passed around for signature for Ed Burke.

Beth Ayers handed out fliers regarding a poetry presentation at Barnes and Noble on April 27 and also certificates to the judges of the Collin County poetry contest. Irene thanked Beth for her hard work as contest chair and presented her with

a bouquet of mini chrysanthemums. Her assistants David and A.J. Chilson were given their choice of candy bars. Beth noted that chocolate chip cookies were a big hit at the ceremony.

David said that he had paid out \$250 for hall rental for the ceremony and was recommending a garage sale to raise money for 2015.

### **PERMIAN BASIN CHAPTER**

#### ***Jennifer McNeely Reporting***

The Permian Basin Chapter hosted its monthly meeting and writer's roundtable on March 29 at the Ground Floor in Midland, as well as an open mic night on April 12. Local poets are encouraged to attend these monthly events, which occur on the last Saturday at 2 p.m. and the second Saturday at 7 p.m., respectively.

The group held the "Flow in the Dark" poetry slam and rave March 29 at the Black Box Theater, where 12 poets performed. Slamarillo poets Nuff Said and Thomas H. Christ were the featured poets, and CovenantMS, Rolanize, and DJ-Kamehouse were the DJs. Poets who placed in the slam were: Troy A Lira, first place; Stephanie Milam, second place; Daniel "Danny Boy" Sherman, third place; Kayla Keel, fourth place; and Jennifer McNeely, fifth place.

Poets also gave readings on March 29 at the UVU Cesar Chavez Day March in Odessa. Daniel Carlo Ramos read his own poem "Apathy," as well as "Worn Jeans" by Aurelio Arley Sanchez and "Defender of the People" by James Campbell. Kat Copeland read her ekphrastic poem "Cebolla." On March 30, Permian Basin poets had a booth at the Celebration of the Arts at Centennial Plaza in Midland.

Poets will participate in Forrest Fest in Lamesa on April 24-26. Forrest Fest is a multicultural international poetry festival whose mission is to provide literary, educational and quality of life opportunities for a diverse economically disadvantaged community. For more information, visit the Forrest Fest Website at [www.forrestfest.wordpress.com](http://www.forrestfest.wordpress.com). A Social Justice Poetry Slam is also planned for April 26 at Coast 101 Cafe in Odessa.

West Texas Poets, a group that includes many Permian Basin Chapter poets, published an anthology titled *We Are the 500*. The paperback is available on Lulu.com. Kat Copeland was featured in the *Midland Reporter-Telegram* with an article about the anthology. The Permian Basin Chapter is planning another anthology for the fall, which they will promote during the 100,000 Poets for Change event Sept. 27 at Noel Plaza Park in Odessa.

As always, the Permian Basin chapter continues to promote poetry through its own Facebook page and through West Texas Poets, which gained new administrators this month: Rose the Poet and Finch the Poet. West Texas Poets is a Facebook page created by the Permian Basin Chapter, Poetry Society of Texas. This page is a collection of poets of all ages, male and female, who want their voices heard throughout the community. Poets who participate on the page are from a wide range of cities in West Texas, including Odessa, Midland, Gardendale, Big Spring, Lamesa, and Lubbock. Poetry styles, age, race, gender, and sexual orientation are all diverse.

## POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY

### *Lynn Lewis Reporting*

The minutes for the April 7, 2014 meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County are as follows: The meeting was called to order by President J. Paul Holcomb. The Contemporary Poet Reader was Naomi Simmons, who read "Abandoned Farmhouse" by Ted Kooser. Minutes from the February meeting were accepted as read. The treasury report was not available. Ron Eddins was the Spotlight Poet. Announcements: Roberta Bowman is receiving palliative care at her home.

The Emblematic Poetry Society meeting will be at the Lost Oak Winery, 2 p.m., April 26. Mike Matthews was the Featured Speaker, with the topic "Poetry Writing Tips." Assignment poems were read after the break. The meeting was adjourned by President Holcomb.

## POETS NORTHWEST

### *Carol A. Taylor Reporting*

PNW holds monthly meetings at Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts at 6815 Cypresswood Drive in Spring, TX. We meet on the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon, and new members and guests are always welcome. Our speaker for February was David Orchard, poet and geologist, who traced the occurrence of geology through prose and poetry from the late eighteenth century to the present. Mike Owens was PNW's speaker for March. Mike spoke about developing his new book, *St. Aidan's: A Doorway to Grace*, and read from his book. We were happy to welcome several visitors to the meeting. At our next meeting on April 19, in addition to our regular read-around of original poetry, we will celebrate National Poetry Month by reading a favorite poem from a poet who inspired us to become poets. Judging is in process for PNW's 27th Annual Spring Fling to be held on May 17 in lieu of the monthly meeting, presenting the winning entries in 36 sponsored contests.

PNW is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest](http://www.facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest). The page has information about our programs and events. Copies of our bi-annual PNW anthology are available for sale at meetings, or can be obtained by contacting Lynn Grice. PNW will host the PST Summer Conference, and we hope to see you all in Houston in July.

## RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY

### *Vina Hathaway Reporting*

The monthly meeting of RCPS was held on Thursday, March 20 at 2 p.m. at the South Main Church of Christ with thirteen in attendance: Sharon Taylor, Richard Hurzeler, Mary Tindall, Fairon Spears, Reta Maxted, Carol Thompson, Marie Dixon, Vina Hathaway, Jane Cheatham, Joyce McGee and guest Kent Dixon. Due to the illness of President Sue Roberts, the meeting was brought to order by Vice-President, Sharon Taylor. Fairon Spears was asked to open the meeting with prayer.

Sharon submitted the treasurer's report showing an ending balance of \$4,669.66. Jane Cheatham was the Spotlight Poet and delighted members with the reading of several of her outstanding published poems.

Richard Hurzeler presented a lesson on the choices we have when someone makes us angry, and how we can be positive or negative. He challenged members to write a poem on anger showing where it helps and/or hurts the human race. Refreshments were hosted by Jane who supplied an array of finger sandwiches and baked goods. After the break poets read their critiqued poems from the January lesson on the use of assonance and alliteration. Marie Dixon read her verse style narrative of early Alaska she submitted for the Anchorage 50th anniversary observance of the 1964 Good Friday earthquake.

Each Spring for more than thirty years, young poets in East Texas have had the opportunity to submit their poems to the Poetry in Schools contest. Begun by RCPS cofounder Mary Craig, the contest has recognized thousands of East Texas student poets in grades 1-12. This year, the tradition of Poetry in Schools was handed off to new sponsor, Young Audiences of Northeast Texas, a Tyler organization whose mission is to bring arts into area schools. RCPS member, Anne McCrady, continues to coordinate the event. With nearly 500 submissions accepted in February and after judging taking place in March, the winning poets have been invited to read their work at Caldwell Auditorium in downtown Tyler at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29. RCPS poets are encouraged to attend the awards ceremony, where Anne will emcee the readings and recognize poets in attendance. For more information, see the Young Audiences website at [www.yanetexas.org](http://www.yanetexas.org).

One of the highlights of the year for many poets is the annual House of Poetry, a spring gathering at Baylor University in Waco sponsored by the Baylor English Department. Preceding Baylor's celebrated Beall Poetry Festival by one day, House of Poetry offers poets a day of fellowship, a printed collection of submitted poems, a literary lecture, a lovely lunch, an afternoon workshop and poetry readings, all free of charge in the beautiful Armstrong Browning Library.

This year, as in several past years, RCPS member Anne McCrady was one of the featured speakers. Her 2014 topic was: "Poetry—The Original Hypertext." The House of Poetry workshop was given by Scott Wiggerman focusing on extended metaphors. Among the nearly 50 attendees this year were RCPS members: Vina Hathaway, Sue Roberts, Mary Tindall, Jane Cheatham, Marie Dixon, Sharon Taylor, and Carol Thompson.

## SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION

### *Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting*

The San Antonio Poets Association met on March 15. President Sharon Turner, presided. Floyd Lamrouex led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation. Minutes sent to the membership by Recording Secretary, Loretta Vaughan, were approved as sent. Treasurer Floyd Lamrouex read the treasurer's report. There were no questions and it was approved. Sharon Turner welcomed former member Teresa Brown and invited her to "show and tell" about two new paintings she had done on glass, a new medium for Teresa. Sharon also welcomed a guest, Francis Hicks, who was invited by Margaret Mayberry. Sharon also announced that Poet Laureate score sheets must be turned in at the April meeting and the

SAPA Poet Laureate will be announced in May. The slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee is as follows: President: Margaret Mayberry, Vice-President: Sheila Moore, Treasurer: Floyd Lamrouex, Corresponding Secretary: Valerie Bailey, Recording Secretary: Loretta Vaughan. The new President, as per our bylaws, will appoint the Historian, Parliamentarian, and Standing Committee Chairmen. Members unanimously approved the slate of nominees.

Program Chairman, Floyd Lamrouex introduced our guest speaker, Diane Gonzales Bertrand, a prominent San Antonio poet. Diane is Writer-in-Residence at St. Mary's University where she teaches English composition and creative writing. She is also faculty moderator for the university's literary magazine, *The Pecan Grove Review*, and she is an award-winning children's author who visits schools and libraries to promote reading, writing, and family literacy. She is published in *Concho River Review*, *English in Texas*, *Palo Alto Review*, *San Antonio Express-News*, and *The Texas Poetry Calendar*. Her first book of poetry, *Dawn Flower*, published by Pecan Grove Press, along with several of her children's books were available for our members to purchase.

Diane read from two of her children's books and noted that the author of a book does not tell the illustrator what to draw, but draws from the images he/she perceives from the words. Readers of our poems do the same; they create their own images from our words. She likes to write about San Antonio and read two San Antonio poems, "Varsity Drive-In" and "Fiesta Flutters." She read a poem tribute to Maya Angelou and a poem about the day Palmer Hall (local publisher) died, titled "Rain Embraced Me." Her in-depth program was both entertaining and educational.

After we enjoyed refreshments provided by Jean Jackson and Gerry Rackley, President Turner announced the February contest winners in the absence of Contest Chair, Wallace Vaughn. The February contests were judged by Loretta Diane Walker of Odessa. Winners in the assigned topic were: Sheila Moore (1st), Margaret Mayberry (2nd), Valerie Bailey (3rd), and Pat Gibbs (HM). Winners of the open topic contest were: Joan Seifert (1st), Sheila Moore (2nd), Valerie Bailey (3rd), and Elva Smith (HM). After winners were awarded certificates and trophies, members read their March contest poems, which included the assigned topic: Irish Madness. Marilyn Stacy of Dallas will judge these poems. Our guest Francis Hicks also read a prose poem he had written about being an immigrant in the land of poetry.

### TEXOMA POETRY SOCIETY

#### *Peggy Silha Ritzer Reporting*

This National Poetry Month, TPS began what we hope will be an ongoing tradition: We invited all the Texomaland poets submitting poems in the *Sherman-Denison Herald Democrat* "Good Morning" front-page column's April recognition to come read their works to us at our meeting April 5th.

More than a dozen members and guests participated and everyone agreed, "a good time was had by all." In addition to readers of the spoken word, they were treated to a performance by local folk-singer, Peggy Houlihan, who not only ac-

companied her songs on her guitar, but explained how she created the poetry that became her songs.

President Peggy Ritzer interspersed guest readings with recitations of three of her own limericks created for her grandnephew, Morgan Spears, to read to his 5th grade class for Poetry Month some years ago. Perhaps embarrassed by the idea of a "crazy auntie" who did this sort of thing regularly, he never read them to his class!

For May we have rescheduled state Membership Director, Lynn Lewis, to come and read from her Edwin Eakin Award-winning manuscript *Somewhere To Come From, Just This Side of Paradise*.

As always, poetry-lovers as well as poets are welcome at TPS meetings, the first Saturday of the month, 2:15 p.m.– 4:15 p.m. in the Sherman Public Library's Community Meeting Room. Meeting Programs are always free.

### WICHITA FALLS POETRY SOCIETY

#### *Linda Smith Reporting*

The Wichita Falls Poetry Society met in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts on Saturday, March 15 at 2 p.m. Wichita Falls is in a stage 4 drought, and five members and one guest assembled with thanksgiving because we were experiencing a wonderful rain! March chairperson Linda Smith welcomed members and guest Albert McCawley and opened roll call with the question: What do you know about Acrostics?

Brag Time followed and corrected minutes and the treasurer's report were approved. Treasurer Sheri Sutton reported that the WFPS netted \$84 on the Home & Garden ticket sales, and a big thanks was voiced for Doc Wood and Genie Ratliff who worked the event as volunteers on our behalf. New Business included a volunteering of officers: President—Linda Smith, Secretary—Monica McCawley, and Treasurer—Webb Key. Webb will serve also as our Kemp Center Liaison, and Monica will include publicity in her secretarial duties. Programs for September, November, and January are in place with four other volunteers deciding on their months of presentation. PST President Jimmye Sessions will be our special guest in April.

After a pause for refreshments, contest winners were announced and poems were read. They are Doc Wood (1st), Linda Smith (2nd), Sheri Sutton (3rd), and Monica McCawley (1HM). Critic Judge was Jeannette Strother of Mansfield.

A lesson with examples of acrostic poetry was presented by Linda Smith with an exercise in writing one by all attending. The April contest poem will be an acrostic poem no more than 24 lines, either rhymed or non-rhymed. Writers are encouraged to bold their acrostic letters. They are due to Sheri no later than March 31. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with rain continuing!

**NOTICE PST MEMBERS:** If there has been any change in your contact information (address, phone, or e-mail), please let our Membership Chair, Lynn Lewis, know so she can update our roll. (*Lynn's contact info is in the Executive Board box, page 6.*)

## THE APRIL 2014 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis*

Active: 179; Associate: 4; Honorary: 5; Library: 3; Life: 62;

Student: 24; Supporting: 1; Recently Deceased: 0.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 278

New Members: 10 • Renewing Members: 3

### WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS

#### Joined April 2014:

Jan Benson ~ Fort Worth

Alexander Bernath ~ Sherman

Susan K. Musch ~ Houston

Amanda Nobis ~ Dallas

Liz Olsson ~ Dallas

Sandra L. Yeo ~ Dallas

Bob Anterhaus ~ Dallas

Pat Hauldren Alley ~ Grand Prairie

Trilla Pando ~ Houston

Carolyn Tarter ~ Cleburne

### RENEWING MEMBERS

David Cowen ~ Houston

Karon Flagg ~ Kemp

Amy Sandberg ~ Mesquite

### TIME TO PLAN FOR LIFE MEMBER RAFFLE

It's time for each PST chapter to plan for their chapter's contribution to the Life Member Raffle that takes place every year at our Summer Conference (July 10-12) to fund our Life Membership Fund. Each chapter is responsible to provide items to be raffled. Sharon Martin Turner, Life Member Chair-man asks that chapter representatives contact her at: [sdmturner@aol.com](mailto:sdmturner@aol.com) and let her know what you will bring to the raffle. We hope to have interesting and worthwhile donations in order to raise funds for this worthy cause.

Poetry Society of Texas  
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Mansfield, TX 76063  
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### Book Donations Report from Barbara Blanks

At the April meeting, Librarian Barbara Blanks reported that 7 new books were donated to the PST's permanent collection at the Dallas Central Public Library. Please note that all anthologies donated must always include work by at least one PST member. If you have a book(s) you would like to donate to the collection, please send it to Barbara Blanks at the address listed in the Executive Board box. The 7 new books are: *Special Ed Teacher Man*, by Bob Anterhaus; *Ask a Lonely Man: Love Lyrics*, by Ted O. Badger; *Unstinted...*, by Ted O. Badger; *Grandmother Earth XX 2014*, Edited by Frances Cowden; *Write to Woof 2014*, Edited by Diana Kathryn Plopa and Jennifer Koch; *di-verse-city 2014*, Anthology of the Austin International Poetry Festival, Edited by Susan Stockton; *Poetry Society of Texas Student Award Winners 2014*, Edited by Budd Powell Mahan

### *The Poetry Society of Texas Extends Sincere Sympathy to Two Former PST Presidents:*

*Jeanette L. Strother and family at the death of Jeannette's nephew, Joseph Strother, on March 28 in Ohio.*

*and*

*Linda Banks and family at the death of her beloved husband, Robert Banks, on April 4, after a brief battle with cancer.*

## ★ THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ★

### President:

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