

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

September 2014



PST's Flight 2014-2015 took off as scheduled with a full load of passengers and plenty of enthusiasm.

The landing was smooth, and we've arrived to focus on our fall plans. Next month, the spicy fragrances of October will be in the air, and the October meeting will hold pleasant surprises—no tricks, but lots of treats! It would be worth a trip to Dallas to join us on October 11 at 2:30 p.m. at the Preston Royal Library. This is *your* PST, and we welcome chapter members and guests to come and participate in our monthly meetings. Now take some time to read about what your poetry pals in Dallas and across the state are doing to cultivate and promote poetry in the Lone Star State.

MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

for Saturday, September 13, 2014

by Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks

Catherine L'Herisson began her second term as president as she called the meeting to order. She welcomed members of the Rusk County Poetry Society Chapter, who presented the program. She also welcomed guests: James and Jeannie DeGough, Center; Don Campbell, Dallas; Robin Lederer, Dallas; Rex Robertson, Springtown; and Patricia Ferguson, Burleson (president of the newly formed Johnson County chapter). Past presidents Jimmie Inez Sessions, Linda Banks, Marilyn Stacy, Budd Powell Mahan, and J. Paul Holcomb also attended.

President L'Herisson introduced the new Executive Board: Vice President Budd Powell Mahan, Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks, Treasurer Aman Khan, Director Beth Ayers, Director Barbara Goerdel, Director Susan Maxwell (not present), and Corresponding Secretary Jessica Gonsoulin (not present). She noted that former Director and Book Prize Chair, David Knape, recently moved to Houston with his family. He and his wit will be missed. Replacing David as Book Prize Chair is new Director Barbara Goerdel.

Treasurer Aman Khan gave the August Financial Statement. Annual Contest sponsorships form the largest deposit total. The largest expenditure was the hotel deposit for the November Awards Banquet. L'Herisson noted that much of PST's funds are tied up in perpetual funds.

Former Director Lynn Lewis continues as Membership Chair, but it is difficult for her to attend meetings. VP Budd Mahan gave the August report for her. We have three new members: Susan McGinn, Sherman; Robert Schinzel, Highland Village; and Lauren Walthour, Mico. We also have two new Associate Members: Esther Whitman Johnson, Roanoke, VA and Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR. PST is pleased to wel-

come all of you.

A PST president must spend a massive amount of time handling PST business. As thanks for that volunteer service, it is customary for a past president of PST to be made a Life Member. President L'Herisson asked immediate past president Jimmie Inez Sessions to stand. President L'Herisson then told her that the Executive Board had voted to make her a Life Member. She was given a well-deserved round of applause.

Other PST business announced: our Webmaster, Annie Neugebauer, was named Councilor-at-Large. Patricia Ferguson is the president of the newly formed Poetry of Johnson County Chapter, and an official charter will be presented to the

Continued on page 2

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

Critic Judge: Maxine B. Kohanski, Spring

First Place: Marilyn Stacy, Dallas ~ "The Essence"

Second Place: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK

Third Place: Catherine L'Herisson, Garland

Book Prizes

Reader: Barbara Blanks, Garland

Popular Prize: Sylvia S. Medel, McKinney

A Galaxy of Verse Prize: Linda Banks, Mesquite

Poetry for Poets Award: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak

William D. Barney Memorial: Barbara T. Goerdel, Arlington

M. Tandy Duemke Prize: Barbara Blanks, Garland

Other Poems Read By: Jessica Gonsoulin, Miriam Hasert, Naomi Stroud Simmons, Richard Peake.

Laugh Lines Judge: Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth

Winner: Catherine L'Herisson, Garland

Send contest entries before the 15th of each month to Contest Chair, Irene Robertson, at 3107 Marquise Court, McKinney, TX 75070. The e-mail address is: Rinii@tx.rr.com

PST's Monthly Meeting Report Continued

group. L'Herisson and Mahan were delegates to the NFSPS conference in Salt Lake City. Utah usually beats us for wins, but this time—counting our student wins—Texas whipped Utah. Winners of NFSPS contests were asked to stand, and they were given a round of applause.

L'Herisson presented Mahan with a certificate from NFSPS for “participation of young poets” in their student contests. For the first time in 14 years, Texas students did not take first in that competition, but came in second. Mahan said he received 3-5,000 poems, then selected those that went to nationals. The PST Student Awards for 2015 has a record 81 sponsored contests. He said he sent out an appeal when contest numbers had come up short, and was amazed that so many people stepped up to sponsor more. He sends his thanks to all who helped.

The City of Lewisville recently awarded J. Paul Holcomb, the poet from Double Oak, the title of first Poet Laureate of Lewisville. Holcomb, a former resident of Lewisville, is honored to receive this esteemed title. Congratulations, Paul!

Sylvia Medel was applauded as our new Publicity Chair. She is doing a fantastic job of dispersing PST information.

The Art of Peace Festival in Tyler started its weeklong festivities on September 13. Anne McCrady is one of the hosts. A chapbook titled *Hungering for Peace* will be published, and proceeds will go to a food bank.

The next PST general meeting is scheduled for October 11. There will be no meeting in November since the Awards Banquet will be held November 8, at the DoubleTree Hotel. Banquet information and registration form is in this *Bulletin* on

page 5. The theme is “Autumn’s Poetry Palette.” Sharon Turner is our Banquet Chair and Nancy Baass is our Contest Chair.

Barbara Terrell Goerdel subbed for Spotlight on Poets Chairman, Jessica Gonsoulin, and introduced September’s Spotlight Poet, Beth Ayers of Plano. Beth joined PST in 2009. She recently released her CD, “Mother’s Words,” on which she reads her poems. She is donating all profits to the LaLeche League of Plano—www.texasll.org.

If you would like to be a future Spotlight Poet, please contact Jessica Gonsoulin for details. If you cannot be present at the meeting, a reader will be selected for you. This is a wonderful opportunity for others to hear your work.

Our program was presented by members of the Rusk County Poetry Society Chapter of PST. President L'Herisson introduced each of the five speakers before they came to the lectern to read selections of their poetry. First up was Sue Roberts of Arp. She is president of the chapter and likes to write about nature, human nature, humor, and satire. Next up was Richard Hurzeler of Tyler. He writes inspirational poetry and enjoys being around other poets. Carol Thompson, also of Tyler, likes writing about the “ordinary” and childhood memories. Sharon Taylor of Longview was co-chair of their fall festival and likes history and traveling. Finally, Mary Tindall of Tyler shared her poetry. She is a teacher and a member of the Tyler Rose Garden Poetry Society.

After the break, Jimmye Inez Sessions assisted our new Contest Chair Irene Robertson in announcing the winners for September 2014. Congratulations to these winners. They are listed in the contest box on page 1.



ALAMO AREA POETS

Iris Maahs Reporting

After a summer break, the Alamo Area Poets of Texas reconvened in September with a new slate of officers. President Don Mathis presented the following awards for the assigned topic: Honorable mentions went to: Peter Holland, Peggy Mott, and Margaret Cook. 3rd place went to Sheila Moore, 2nd place went to Don Mathis, and 1st place went to Lucy Armijo McBee. In the open topic contest, Honorable mentions went to: Dee Carter, Billie Stroud, and Margaret Cook. 3rd place went to Kim Mott, 2nd place went to Sheila Moore, and 1st place went to Iris Maahs.

Members read poems in memory of Harvey Maahs who passed away in February. The 2013-2014 anthology of AAPT was also dedicated to Harvey. Antoinette Winstead will have a poem and a short story included in the anthology published by the Universal City Library. Juan Perez has also

published a new book titled *Live from LaPryor: The Poetry of Juan Manuel Peréz*.

Don Mathis welcomed new member Linda Crow. Our members send their thanks to Birma Castle of Beaumont for judging the May contests and for her constructive comments. Those who were lucky walked away with new poetry books won in the monthly book raffle.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY

Beth Kropf Reporting

On the next APS meeting on Saturday, September 20, ir'ene lara silva will discuss Flor De Nopal. The 6th Annual Art of Peace Festival will take place on Peace Day, Sunday, September 21 at the Cedarbrake Retreat Center, 502 Hwy. 317, Belton, TX, featuring poets Joyce and Mike Gullickson. For more information, visit www.artofpeacefestival.com/index.html. The Georgetown Poetry Festival is October 3-5 at the George-

town Public Library. For more information, contact Mike Gullickson at poetkind@yahoo.com, or visit sites.google.com/site/georgetownpoetryfestival/home.

In member news, Barbara Youngblood Carr's newest book *Love Poems for My Doctors and Other Such Foolishness* is now available. Contact barr2@austin.tx.com or Websites ancestorpoet.com and PoetryPics.com.

Jane Chance will read from her new book *Only Begetter* at Tyler Art Gallery (1201 Postoffice St., Galveston, TX) on September 13 at 7 p.m.

Cindy Huyser will have a reading and signing for her new chapbook, *Burning Number Five: Power Plant Poems*, at BookWoman on Sunday, September 14 at 3 p.m.

Bradley Strahan has a new book of poems, *A Parting Glass*, concerning time spent in Ireland. It will be published this fall.

For a complete list of member news and upcoming events, please visit austinpoetrysociety.org

FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY

Anne Jones Reporting

President Mike Baldwin opened the meeting with a quip on poetry by Robert Graves. In memory of September 11, Steve Sanders read the poem, "Storm Front" by Captain Charles Burrows. Minutes were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was given.

In old business, Susan Campbell has offered some grammatical changes to our constitution's bylaws, and Steve Sanders will incorporate them into the bylaws that are currently being worked on. We will then present them at our next meeting for a vote to accept them.

Mike said that there has been no progress on our chapbook project. A lengthy discussion ensued. Many ideas for promoting the contest were explored. Certainly the internet with Facebook, but also such places as the International Poetry Meeting that Steve plans to attend, and Artsgoggle, etc. We are in favor of a different time of the year for this contest, but we really want it to be open to non-PST members.

It was moved and seconded that we sponsor the chapbook contest, with the goal of encouraging new poets. It was decided to table the motion till Mike has talked to PST in October.

Artsgoggle will be held on October 11 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Steve will have mics for us, and we will again have a bell that can be rung by passers-by, so that we will take turns reading poetry to them. Since we have a meeting in October before this, he will have more information about where we will be and if it will be indoors.

This is always a fun time for us to meet people and read poems. Other poetry groups are invited to join us.

Paul Holcomb announced that the Grand Theater in Lewisville, will host a cowboy poetry reading, from 2-4 p.m. on September 27.

Kudos were read and six poems were critiqued.

MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER

Jessica Gonsoulin Reporting

The September meeting began immediately after a wedding in the Carriage House where we hold our meetings. Four members were able to attend. Acting Treasurer

Beth Ayers has been busy preparing fliers for the Collin County Poetry Contest in October.

A funny chain poem is to be sent around to Mockingbird members to celebrate Poetry Day October 15. Members enjoyed spending their time reading poems with much interesting discussion.

The meeting was adjourned with the suggestion that we each bring a friend to the next meeting.

PERMIAN BASIN CHAPTER

Jennifer Adkins

The Permian Basin Chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas hosted its monthly meeting and writer's roundtable on August 30 at the Ground Floor in Midland, as well as an open mic night on September 13. 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. Writing circles are also scheduled at various times throughout the month.

In preparation for the 100,000 Texas Poets for Change event on September 27, the Permian Basin Poetry Society has finished its anthology *Permian Basin Beyond 2014: Anthology Made in Texas*. The book features both written and visual art, and includes submissions from poets across the globe, as well as from several former Texas poet laureates. The anthology is now available from lulu.com. A shipment of the books is due for the day of the event, and all performers will be given a copy. The local September 27 event will be held from 2-8 p.m. in Wagner Noel Park in Odessa. Poets, singers, and other performers will attend. Featured acts will include: Dre & Marilyn, a tribute to Pete Seeger, the reading of a tribute that was written by Dustin Pickering of Houston, an Artist's Welcome by Permian Basin Poetry president Tony Henninger, Rockin' Picanoman Brant Travis, aerial dancing by Mary & Jorge, Soraida Montoya, Sister in the Rain, C&W Texas Treetop Flyers, featuring T.J. Rabbit's Robert Cobos & Band, and Gabriel Lopez.

Three special guests will attend the event as well: Art Leal of Una Voz Unida, Texas State Poet Laureate Larry D. Thomas, and Claire V. Camargo of the Austin International Poetry Festival. Poetry by Michelle Morzcaewski of Tennessee will be read, and local poets Jennifer McNeely, PW Covington, Connie Lane Williams, Kelly Hogue, Kayla Keel, Zach Pfalzgraf, Michelle Pfalzgraf, Marisa Hale, Loretta Diane Walker, Yvonne Wood, Henninger, Da Mudville Bard, Eduardo, Josh Weir, and Daniel Carlo Ramos will read original works. The event will be emceed by Henninger and Ramos, and sound will be provided by Reed Calder. The theme of the event will be worldwide positive change, as well as peace and sustainability.

POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY

Lynn Lewis Reporting

The September 8 meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County was called to order by President J. Paul Holcomb. Contemporary poet reader, Jerry Abbott, read “More” by Tracey Smith. The minutes from the June meeting were approved as read, and Chuck Poole gave his treasurer’s report. Announcements: PTC member Michelle Settle will be moving to San Antonio. Nominating Committee members will be appointed at the October meeting. Member contest entries are due by the November meeting—Topic: “Surprise.” Naomi Simmons filled in for Jeannette Strother as the Spotlight Poet. President Holcomb read the kudos list and presented two of PTC’s most recent anthologies to our featured speaker, Beth Honeycutt, who was introduced by Vice-President Hollis Davis. Beth presented a program on the necessary items for activating creativity, and she used the anagram of Presence, Openness, Energy, Transformation, and Significance. Assignment poems were read after the break. The meeting was then adjourned by President Holcomb.

SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION

Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting

On August 16, thirteen SAPA members met for a three hour summer session workshop. Valerie Bailey brought an hour and a half on the “Music of Meter,” “The Reasons for Rhyme,” and “How to Show, Not Tell.” Many informational handouts and writing opportunities were provided. Then Jean Jackson presented her half of the workshop on the subject: “Escaping the Ordinary: It’s All About Specificity.” Jean’s information was interesting and helpful, and she also provided plenty of handouts for members to use as resource material. We brought sack lunches and enjoyed an indoor picnic as we worked. It was an enjoyable afternoon of poetry.

Our first meeting of the fall season is September 20. Our new president, Margaret Mayberry, has lots of plans to move us forward for the next two years. At this meeting, Sheila Moore will bring her Poet Laureate Address, Michaud Lamrouex will collect our dues for the year, Valerie Bailey will present the new *Inkwell Echoes*, which features not only our members’ poems, but will include poems by each of the PST judges who judged our work during the year. This is the first time we’ve invited our judges to submit poems for our anthology, and we think this will be a fine tradition. We’ll find out who won the monthly contests from our May meeting. We’re all eager to see how our poems fared in the contests judged by Jimmie Inez Sessions. We’ll read our September poems on the topic “An Early Memory.” Budd Mahan will judge these poems.

We all have our fingers crossed pending the judges’ decisions on the poems we entered in PST’s annual contests. We are all watching our mailboxes to see if we get one of those coveted cards. Good Luck everybody!

Attention Members-at-Large:

PST members are urged to find a PST chapter to attend regularly. Fellowship with other poets keeps us challenged and helps us grow poetically. However, if you are a member-at-large and there is no chapter in your area, consider starting one. If that’s not an option, and you would like to be included in the monthly news, send news of your publications, reading engagements, and other poetic activities, and you will be included in the news exchange. Send your *Bulletin* news to vbaileybulletin@satx.rr.com, and indicate that you are a Member-at-Large. Please include the city, town or area in which you live.

CONGRATULATIONS **BRAVO** CONGRATULATIONS

Our Kudos to These PST Super Stars . . .

Charlotte Renk

This summer, Charlotte Renk co-won the national Blue Horse Press Chapbook competition, sponsored by San Pedro River Review out of California. Thus her third book titled *The Tenderest Petal Hears* has just been published. Charlotte would love to schedule readings and/or workshop presentations based on poems in this book if PST chapters and groups would like program presentations. Charlotte welcomes opportunities to share her work and ideas about writing.

J. Paul Holcomb

J. Paul Holcomb is well known to PST members. He was our 17th president and has been writing, teaching, and promoting poetry in Texas for many years. Everyone is delighted to share this news.

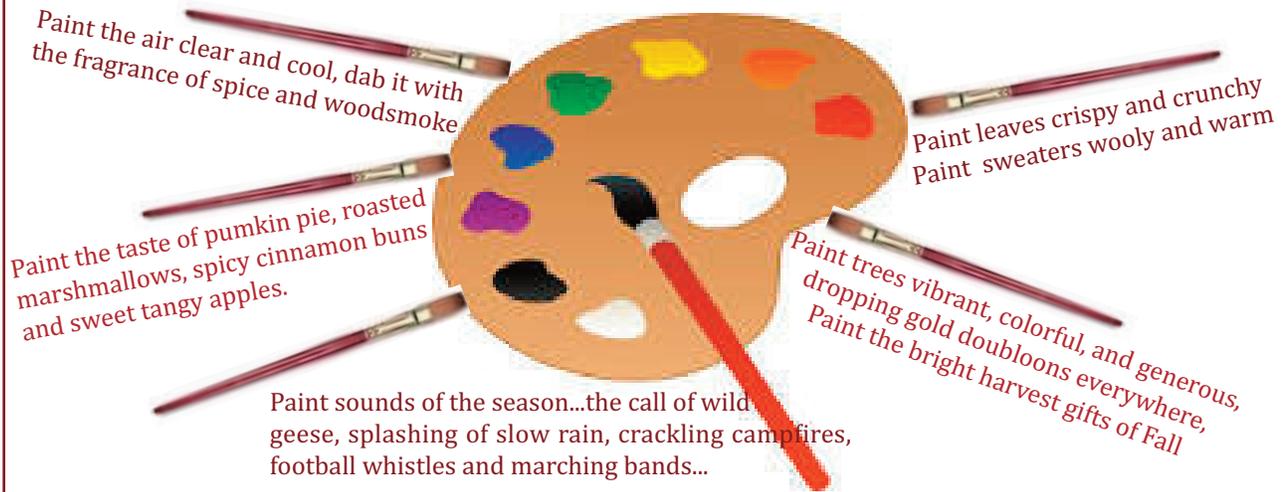
From cityoflewisville.com:

“Holcomb named Lewisville’s first Poet Laureate. J. Paul Holcomb has been selected to serve as Lewisville’s first Poet Laureate. As such he will create original poetry to commemorate special occasions and deliver educational programs in the community.”

This proclamation was read by Mayor Dean Ueckert at the Lewisville City Council meeting Monday, August 18. It was an impressive ceremony, and J. Paul was given a signed and sealed proclamation. Sue Ann was with him. Alan Birkelbach and Karla Morton were on the panel that made the selection, and both were present at the City Council meeting. J. Paul remarked, “I was almost at a loss for words, but I was asked to speak and my voice returned.”

J. Paul’s many friends are glad that his voice remains.

*Paint the World with the Brush of Poetry
and
Autumn's Poetry Palette*



Celebrate Your Senses at the 58th Annual Awards Banquet

Saturday, November 8, 2014

Double Tree by Hilton
(near the Galleria)

4099 Valley View Lane ~ Dallas, Texas 75244 ~ Phone: 972-419-7607

Hotel Reservations: (You may begin making reservations immediately)

Reservations for overnight stay in the hotel should be made directly with the hotel. The rate for PST is **\$89 plus tax**. Please call Ms. Alexa Cockrum, Monday-Friday 8-4, at 972- 419-7607. Give her the code **PST** to receive the special room rate. A credit card is required to hold your room and there is a 24-hour cancellation policy.

Order of Events on the Program:

- 10:30 a.m. Check-in and Seating
- 11:00 a.m. Banquet Service
- 12:00 n Introductions and Special Awards
- 12:15 p.m. Break
- 12:30-4:00 p.m. Presentation of Poetry Society of Texas Annual Awards

Paint Registration Form completely, cut on dotted line and mail to: Sharon Turner at 10807 Silhouette Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216

REGISTRATION FORM (Registrations due by November 3, 2014)

Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (H) _____ (C) _____ E-Mail Address _____

National, State, and Local Positions Held: _____

Check how many plates of each menu option you want: _____ Regular _____ Vegetarian _____ Gluten Free
(The only substitute on any menu option is "no sauce.")

Total number of plates ordered @ \$32 per plate _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2014
from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

Active Members.....153	New Members
Associate Members.....6	Susan McGinn, Sherman
Honorary Members.....5	Robert Schinzel, Highland Village
Library Members.....3	Lauren Walthour, Mico
Life Members.....59	
Recently Deceased	
Members.....0	
Student Members.....20	
Sustaining Members.....1	New Associate Members
Current	Esther Whitman Johnson, Roanoke, VA
Membership Total.....247	
New Members.....3	Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR
Renewing Members.....22	

Help us keep our membership roll up to date.

Please let Membership Chair Lynn Lewis know if there is any change in your contact information: address, phone, or e-mail address.

Contact Lynn at elsquared59@yahoo.com

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS:

Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. It is that way because PST must report membership to NFSPS by January 1 in order to receive copies of *Strophes* and for members to enter the national contests, which have a March 15 deadline. Part of your membership fee goes to NFSPS to allow you to be a member and enter their contests.

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Book Donations Report from Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks announces five book donations:

The Moccasin, Vol. LXXVI 2013 by League of Minnesota Poets. (contains a poem by a PST member).

A Galaxy of Verse, Vol. 34 No. 1, 2014, edited by Barbara Blanks.

The Parkinson Poems by Jan Seale.

Come Walk with Me: Selected Poems by DeLoris Duemke Whitney.

Second Shadow on the Wall: Poetry by Masood Parvaze.

Also being donated is:

A Texas Garden of Verses, An Anthology by PST. (A second copy is being donated for general circulation).

If you have book donations, please send them to Barbara Blanks at the address listed in the Executive Board box in the next column. They will be kept in the PST's permanent collection at the Dallas Central Public Library.

TIMELY TIPS

- If you need to pay dues, please remember they go to the Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. Her contact info is at the bottom of the next column. Please do **not** send dues to the Treasurer or the Contest Chair, send them to Lynn.
- Next year's Summer Conference will be in Beaumont with Birma Castle coordinating. Start feeding your piggy bank and begin making plans to attend what is sure to be an unforgettable Summer Conference.

★ THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ★

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