

# 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

January 2018

### *February ~ a Little Month with a Big ♥ Will Feature...*

National Performance Poet/Actor/Speaker Michael Guinn presenting original poems and spokenword on the topic **Freedom**. His presentation is titled **Free 2 Be Me**, an interactive and engaging presentation. Michael, a member of PST, lives in Grand Prairie and holds a Masters Degree in Social Work from UT Arlington. He is the CEO of Uplift Your Life, Inc., a 501(c) (3) organization. In addition to being a motivational speaker-poet-Urban Youth Specialist, specializing in Educational Enhancement for Youth Empowerment, Michael Guinn is also a multi-published poet and author. **Don't miss this exciting program!**

**Minutes of the General Meeting of the Poetry Society of Texas  
for Saturday, January 13, 2018, 2:30 p.m.  
at the Preston Royal Library in Dallas  
Submitted by Recording Secretary, Barbara Blanks**

**President Budd Powell Mahan** opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He recognized past PST presidents J. Paul Holcomb, Linda Banks, and Catherine L'Herisson, as well as Mockingbird Chapter president Alice Parker.

**Treasurer Patrick Lee Marshall** gave the December 2017 Financial Statement. PST is in good shape.

**Director Beth Ayers** gave the December 2017 Membership Report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis (see report on p.6).

**Librarian Barbara Blanks** had no donated books to report.

**Extension Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell** said Leona Welch of Denison was granted Councilor Emeritus status. She also asked that councilors put PST in the email subject line when sending information to her. She requests updates on all matters concerning members, including births, deaths, illnesses, pictures, etc.

Campbell is the NFSPS Contest Chair this year, and asked those entering the NFSPS contests to please not wait until the last minute to send their entries.

**President Mahan** made several announcements:

**Patrick Lee Marshall** has agreed to chair the Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest.

**Director Irene Robertson** had surgery on one carotid artery, and is scheduled to have surgery on the other one.

**Barbara Blanks** will be the Featured Reader at the Dallas Poets' Community First Friday meeting on February 2.

**Pauline Durrett Robertson**, an Amarillo Life Member, died on January 7.

**Cliff Roberts of Fort Worth** died on December 23, 2017. While not a current member because of numerous health issues, Cliff was a past president of the Poets of Tarrant County, and both he and his wife Brenda Roberts (a Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding

Service Award nominee), founded a Haiku society in Fort Worth.

The Executive Board voted to set aside \$2500 to fund a special celebration in 2021: PST turns 100 years old. It is the oldest continuous state poetry society in America. **Vice President Aman Khan** chairs the committee that will plan the event. If you are interested in helping, please contact him.

The Board also voted to sponsor a new PST annual contest—the Countdown Award—from 2018-2021, in anticipation of our 100th year. Details will be in the 2018 contest brochure.

**Dallas Councilor Aman Khan** announced the Board's approval of a charter for the recently formed Dallas chapter.

*Continued on page 2*

#### JANUARY MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

**Critic Judge:** Christine H. Boldt, Temple

**1st Place:** Barbara Blanks, Garland ~ "Monarch"

**2nd Place:** Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth

**3rd Place:** LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK

#### BOOK PRIZES

**Reader:** JDarrell Kirley, Dallas

**Popular Prize:** Linda Banks, Mesquite

**A Galaxy of Verse Prize:** Richard Hurzeler, Tyler

**Poetry for Poets Award:** John Brooks, Bedford

**William D. Barney Mem. Award:** Sheila Moore, San Antonio

**M. Tandy Duemke Mem. Award:** J. Paul Holcomb

**Robby K. Mitchell Mem. Award:** Susan M. Campbell, Mansfield

**Other Poems Read By:** Von S. Bourland, Nicholas Schreiber, Mahlon Foreman, and Catherine L'Herisson.

#### LAUGH LINES:

**Judge:** Birma Castle, Beaumont

**Winner:** Barbara Blanks, Garland

Send contest entries before the 15th of each month to Contest Chairman, Budd Powell Mahan at 7059 Spring Valley Rd., Dallas, TX 75254. The E-mail address is: buddmahan@att.net.

Sixteen people have already signed up. The chapter will emphasize learning, and welcomes both novices and the more experienced. The first meeting will be the second Thursday of March, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Preston Royal Library.

Past President **Linda Banks**, Mesquite, presented the Memorial Program for members lost in 2017.

She began by reading a poem by long-time member **Doris K. Ferguson**, of Houston. She died in November, just a few weeks before her 96th birthday. Doris and her cousin Jeanne Couvillon-Powell sponsored the Acadian Award for many years.

**Juanita R. Griffey**, Fort Worth, died October 14, at 90. She is survived by her husband Manuel. Juanita was a member of Poets of Tarrant County and Fort Worth Poetry Society. “She was well-known for her funny poems and the ability to make others smile.”

**Dr. T. Jervis Underwood**, of Oak Point, was 85 when he died on April 26. He was a member of Denton Poets Assembly. He and his wife Carmen “collaborated with her paintings and his poems for Merging Visions: A collaborative Exhibit of Art and Poetry, co-sponsored by the DPA and Visual Arts Society of Texas. Jervis was an educator, musician, military veteran, and community servant.”

**Margaret Firth-Eagland Scott** was 93. She died February 5. The Amarillo resident was a Life Member of PST, past president of the Hi-Plains Chapter, and member of the Panhandle Pen Women. “Margaret co-authored the book, “Eve’s Version” in 1983—which was edited and designed by Pauline Durrett Robertson. It contained her poems and poems by PST members Nova Bair, Mildred Speer, and Paula Britt.”

Linda noted these recent 2017 deaths:

**Wendall Van Horn**, former president of the now defunct Garland Chapter.

**Cliff Roberts**, founder of the Fort Worth Haiku Society.

She also included three members who died in 2016, but PST officials did not learn of their deaths until after last year’s memorial service:

**Inez Bivins** of Terrell, who died December 31, 2016, at

96. She was a Life Member of PST, and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Story League, and the Business & Professional Women’s Club in Terrell. She served as a Navy WAVE in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. She was first an English teacher, and then had a 35-year career as a Psychiatric Social Worker at Terrell State Hospital.

**Verna Ray Humphrey** of Palestine was 96 when she died on December 21, 2016. She wrote her autobiography, *That’s the Way It Was*, and published three books of poetry. She was a long-time member of A Galaxy of Verse, and the Holy City Strummers Band. “The group played for nursing homes, churches, schools, and the Old Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, and The Texan in Branson.

**James Barcus**, Waco, was 77 when he died on February 20, 2016. He was an Honorary Member of PST. He was a co-founder of the House of Poetry at Baylor University. He was not only the chair of Baylor University English Dept. for several years, but served as Baylor’s Graduate English Program Director.

Linda closed the memorial by quoting from William Wordsworth’s “Preface to Lyrical Ballads.” “...the Poet binds together by passion and knowledge the vast empire of human society ... Poetry is the first and last of all knowledge—it is as immortal as the heart of man.”

**President Mahan** said, “The January program is You!” However, Spotlight on Poets Chair **Susan Maxwell Campbell** had asked **Bob Schinzel**, Highland Village, to be the Spotlight Poet. Bob graciously shortened his allotted time by reading only three poems. Bob has several science degrees. He not only worked with the Forest Service in California, but was an arson and financial crimes specialist, working with several U.S. federal agencies. He is an active member of the Denton Poets’ Assembly.

**JDarrell Kirkley**, Dallas, is one of three new Program Chairs for PST. He moderated the Poem-athon, with each person present taking a turn at the microphone—except for Beth Ayers, who performed her humorous poem with the assistance of a Raven hand-puppet.

After the break, Contest Chair Budd Powell Mahan announced the winners in the January Monthly Contests.



## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBER CHAPTERS FROM ACROSS THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS

### ALAMO AREA POETS OF TEXAS

#### Antonia Murguia Reporting

President Lois Heger called the meeting to order and asked Vivian Skinner to lead the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence. She then welcomed our guest, Chris Billings. We had a full house, and everyone was glad to be back.

Sheila Moore motioned that the December minutes be approved and Rene Ornes seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. Sheila Moore also introduced our guest poet, Chris Billings, the Barefoot Poet. Chris read a selection of his poems from his book, *Stoetry*. Chris said his wife came up with the name

for his book. His poems are insightful story poems, and we enjoyed his poetry. He announced *Stoetry* was for sale. Mr. Billings invited everyone to come to Sun Poet’s meetings on Wednesdays at the Sabinas Coffee House. He is temporarily hosting the meeting, and promised it would be a relaxed, fun-filled night of poetry.

December’s winning poems were announced and read. The winners in the assigned topic contest were: 2nd HM—Antonia Murguia, 1st HM—Iris Maahs, 3rd Place—Sheila Moore, 2nd Place—Patricia Keoughan, and 1st Place—Carol Siskovic. The open topic winners were: 3rd HM—Lois Heger, 2nd HM—Antonia Murguia, 1st HM—Patricia Keoughan, 3rd Place—Carol Siskovic, 2nd Place—

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Rene Ornes, and 1st Place—Sheila Moore.

January's poems were then read. The January judge will be Loretta Diane Walker. The topics for February's contest are "Rain" or "Due to Circumstances Beyond Our Control."

We concluded the meeting after announcements. AAPT's next meeting will be February 3 at 2 pm. We thanked Mr. Billings for joining us at our January meeting.

### **BEAUMONT CHAPTER**

#### ***Barbara Green Powell Reporting***

Beaumont Chapter Poets, like the rest of the country, are trying to thaw out. We have had two snowfalls, a rare occasion for us. The beauty of the snow on the landscape and vegetation was breathtaking. This reporter snapped lots of memory pictures. I almost cried when it started falling off the shrubs and trees. I know Northern folks laugh at us for getting so excited about snow. Maybe some good poems will recreate more memories.

We skipped our December meeting so it seems like forever and we're having poetry withdrawal symptoms. The third Thursday meeting can't get here too soon. We're looking forward to sharing and reading our critiqued poems from November. It's encouraging to be with other poets. Hopefully we'll have more poetic news next time.

### **DENTON POETS ASSEMBLY**

#### ***Richard Weatherly Reporting***

The Denton Poets' Assembly welcomed members and guests for our monthly meeting on January 20 at the Emily Fowler Public Library in Denton. We held a critique session from 9 a.m. to 9:45, and at 10 a.m. we resumed with our regular meeting and continued until noon. Our regular meeting began with chapter business.

During our discussion period Rebecca Hines distributed contracts to those poets who have paired with artists for Merging Visions.

Members read assigned poems from J. Paul Holcomb's October lesson on, "Ars Poetica." Following the assigned readings, J. Paul Holcomb presented his lesson for January. Later, members and guests were given an opportunity to read free choice poems.

Denton Poets' Assembly meets on the third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. – noon at the Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street in Denton. Meetings are free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit <http://DentonPoetsAssembly.weebly.com>

### **FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY**

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

FWPS meeting was opened by Anne Jones, who read poems by Hardy and Yeats, comparing the strengths and the differences between the two poets.

In our old business, we discussed at length, the programs and panels that we will present at the FW Con, the third weekend in February. This is a writing conference that has asked our group to include several programs on poetry. Steve Sanders, our president,

is spearheading this endeavor. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel at 820 and I-35. It should be outstanding.

Other old business concerned our website. Hilda Mendoza, our webmaster, reported that it has been compromised and she does not know how to fix this. Steve and Mike Baldwin offered to help with this. Most likely they will make a fresh website. Our Facebook page has had a large number of "likes." It seems to be doing well.

In new business, the Sunrise nursing home has asked us to come back for another visit. Tricia Ferguson and Fil Peach were able to do the first one. Tricia said it was very well received. They read some of their own poems, and some of the old classics that the residents would remember.

We are excited to have two new members, Mary Margaret Belota and Terry Little. They visited us at our Christmas meeting and liked us! Eight really good poems were critiqued. That is always so enjoyable and rewarding.

### **GULF COAST POETS**

#### ***Daniel Carrington Reporting***

Gulf Coast Poets celebrated a great end to 2017 with our annual December luncheon. The guest of honor this year was former Houston Poet Laureate Robin Davidson. It was a great afternoon of food, festivities, and poetry. The event was held at Avenida Brazil steakhouse in Webster, Texas.

In January, we kicked off the new year with new leadership. David Cowen, our president for the last five years, stepped down and handed over the reins to Larry "Weasel" Patterson. GCP would like to thank David for his years of service, and we wish him the best as he transitions back to private citizen and poet.

GCP member LuLynne Streeter led off 2018 as our first featured poet. She showcased her wonderful poetry as well as her recent foray into novel-writing, having published *Frozen Lives* (Schiffer Publishing, 2016). It's an in-depth exploration of the decades-long relationship between the painter Andrew Wyeth and the farming couple, Karl and Anna Kuerner. Thanks, LuLynne! And congratulations!

### **HOT POETS SOCIETY**

#### ***Sandi Horton Reporting***

The Hot Poets Society will meet on Saturday, January 20 at our regular meeting place, 'Cultivate 7twelve' located at 712 Austin Avenue in Downtown Waco, for a special presentation by poet B. Rae Perryman from Washington DC.

B. Rae will read her short poetry book *Substance*. Then she will speak about drug addiction, mental illness, and her journey to writing *Substance*, which is intended to be an example of arts engagement to promote healing among those suffering from trauma or wrestling with addiction. After her reading, she will engage the audience in a conversation about healing from addiction and welcome others to share or ask questions.

B. Rae Perryman is a Waco, Texas native, and a graduate of Midway High School and Baylor University. She lives in Washington, DC, where she is a recovery advocate who promotes

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evidence-based drug policy and a shift from a punitive model to a harm reduction strategy. She also works at The Writer's Center, where she heads up Development and Community Outreach. She facilitates a weekly arts engagement and therapeutic writing program at Walter Reed Military Hospital for special forces troops suffering from PTSD. Her publication of *Substance* is the first step toward working to create similar programs for those in treatment for mental illness and substance abuse. B. Rae started using drugs in the late 1990s. Her sobriety date is April 13, 2013. She is coming up on five years.

### **MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER**

#### *Beth Ayers Reporting*

The Mockingbird Poetry Society started the new year with their monthly meeting on January 6 with President Alice Parker presiding. There was a light turnout with seven members attending. Several members were ill. We continue to discuss plans for the 47th annual Collin County Poetry Contest with the deadline of February 1 fast approaching. The Awards Ceremony will be held on April 29 at the Collin College McKinney Campus. We are grateful for the support and participation of Collin College and look forward to our second year of awards in the excellent facility they provide for us. We also began formulating a plan to schedule an April poetry reading and open mic to celebrate Poetry Month. We will again do an April display in the McKinney Public Library.

### **PERMIAN BASIN POETRY SOCIETY**

#### *Kat Copeland Reporting*

December was an enjoyable month for poets and musicians. "Very Merry Midland," organized by several area businesses, was held in downtown Midland from December 16-23. It included ice skating, holiday games, Mr. and Mrs. Santa, and performers. Jerry Rogers read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" and Kat Copeland recited a poem from the 1940s, "Christmas Secrets." Musicians were Ernesto Calderon, guitarist, and Isabell Rose, who sang "Little Drummer Boy." The Binka Band performed "White Christmas," "Run Rudolph Run," and several other holiday songs.

Holiday open mic at Brew St. was also held in December for poets and other performers.

Open Mic on January 11 featured spoken word artist, Sammy Torres as emcee. Kyle Trueblood was sound man.

We welcomed eleven members who took advantage of the free 2018 membership through December 31, 2017.

February 3 is the Poetry and Hockey event. Poems about the Odessa Jackalopes will be read during intermissions. Poets will be selling their books and CDs.

Our poetry group is happy to announce their 501(c) (3) will soon be a reality.

### **POETS NORTHWEST**

#### *Lynn Grice Reporting*

Our January 20 meeting featured some of these Poets Northwest members who won in the PST Annual Contests: Cheri Bell, George Fredric Campbell, Lynn Roberts Grice, Daniel Hunter, Maxine B. Kohanski, Karen Mastracchio, David M. Orchard,

Michael Owens, Lisa Toth Salinas, Jenna Pashley Smith, Warren Spates, Nancy Toth, and Sharon E. Young.

As usual, members were encouraged to bring poems to share during our Read-Around.

At the December Christmas party, the Holiday Poem Contest was won by Maxine Kohanski. Past President, Michael Owens, was presented with a plaque honoring his two years as President of Poets Northwest. Incoming President, Eric Blanchard has had two poems, "Identity Crisis" and "Not the Dregs" published in the Fall 2017 Issue (#31) of *Poetry Quarterly*.

If you plan to be in the Houston area on the third Saturday of the month, please join us at one of our monthly meetings, temporarily at the Windwood Presbyterian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress Rd, Houston, TX. Poets and guests are encouraged to read original or favorite works during the second half of the meeting. Our PST chapter is on the web at <http://www.poetsnw.com> and on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest>.

### **POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY**

#### *Lynn Lewis Reporting*

The January 8 meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County was called to order by President Barbara Goerdel. Lynn Lewis was the Contemporary Poet Reader, and she read poems by Loretta Diane Walker. The minutes from the December meeting were accepted, with one correction, and the treasury report was given. The historian report was a brief roundup of the PTC year 2017. The recent passing of past president Cliff Roberts was noted. Susan Maxwell Campbell filled in for the under-the-weather Angie Goin as Spotlight Poet. President Goerdel read the Kudos List, assignment poems using the theme "Keep the Change" were read before the break. PTC members who placed or were winners in the PST annual contests read their poems. The members present who read were Susan Maxwell Campbell, J. Paul Holcomb, Barbara Berry and Barbara Goerdel. The meeting was then adjourned by President Goerdel.

### **RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY**

#### *Jo Morrow Reporting*

Rusk County Poetry Society Minutes for November/December 2017: The Society met November 16 at the Henderson Church of Christ Community Room and was called to order by President Sue Richards. The opening prayer was offered by Richard Hurzeler. We had three visitors. The October minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved, and the group was thanked by Sue Duran for honoring her mother, the late Evelyn Appelbee at the October Celebration of Poetry. It was reported that the event raised \$400 for the annual scholarship fund.

Richard Herzeler presented the nominating committee's recommended slate of officers for the year 2018. Those serving with Richard on the committee were Mary Wood and Jackie McVey. The floor was opened for further nominations. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate as nominated. The new officers are: President—Mary Tindall, Vice President—Jackie McVey, Treasurer—Charles Taylor, Recording Secretary—Adrienne Pamplin, Corresponding Secretary—Jo Morrow. Committee chairs will be filled

at a later date. Joyce McGee, who was recognized for an outstanding job on the newsletter will be giving up publication. Hers will be a difficult, if not impossible, act to follow and she has the appreciation of everyone in the Society. Refreshments provided by Richard Hurzeler and Vina Hathaway, were enjoyed as members cast votes for poet of the year to be announced at the Christmas party to be held at the home of Sue Roberts on December 19.

Critiqued poetry was returned and new poems collected for submission. Several members were recognized for winning and placing in the 2017 Poetry Society of Texas annual contest. Jo Morrow was Spotlight Poet for November and Jackie McVey presented an informative lesson touching on poetic voice and including a self-assessment tool to give insight into one's individual style. An assignment was made to write a poem and analyze it based on poetic elements of structure, sound, sensory style, etc. Members are to bring a Christmas poem to read at the next meeting.

On December 19 a Christmas party was held at the home of Sue Roberts in Arp, Texas. The house was beautifully decorated and a good time was had by all in attendance. Christmas poems were read and refreshments were enjoyed. In lieu of a gift exchange, members brought food items to donate to a local food bank. Members look forward to another year of fellowship and poetry sharing.

## SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION

### *Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting*

The first order of business when SAPA met on December 16 was our annual Christmas Potluck Party, organized by Valerie Bailey, substituting as Social Chair for her sister, Sharon Turner, who has been critically ill since October 30. Sixteen members and two guests enjoyed the feast accompanied by beautiful taped Christmas music provided by President Pat Gibbs.

Before the meal, Floyd (Michaud) Lamrouex offered the blessing for the food and also prayed for Sharon Turner whose serious illness kept her from being with us. Members provided one of the most delicious holiday meals we've ever shared. Charles Jones even brought ice cream to go with our cake and cookies. On a cold day, ice cream hit the spot in the cozy Fellowship Hall of the San Pedro Presbyterian Church.

After the party, we held our regular meeting with President Pat Gibbs presiding. After the pledge, minutes, and treasurer's report, Valerie Bailey, acting as Contest Chair for her sister, Sharon, announced the November contest winners. The contests were judged by Barbara Berry of Mansfield. Our thanks goes to Barbara for her time and expertise. Winners in the assigned topic contest were: 1st place: Valerie Bailey; 2nd place: Margaret Mayberry; 3rd place: Jean Jackson; HM: Sheila Moore. Winners in the open topic contest were: 1st place: Jean Jackson; 2nd place: Iris Maahs; 3rd place: Sheila Moore; HM: Valerie Bailey.

After reading our December poems, we held our popular monthly book raffle. SAPA's Recording Secretary, Lois Heger, has published a new book of poetry for young people titled *Under Dragon Wings*. She donated a copy of this book to our raffle, and it was won by Valerie Bailey, who was delighted to have it in her collection of poetry books by friends.



### UPDATE ON THE HOT POETS' PLANS FOR OUR SUMMER CONFERENCE IN WACO

**Save the Date: Thursday, July 12 ~ Saturday, July 14, 2018**

\* **Location Change:** It will **not** be at the Hilton Waco. We are finalizing the contract with the SpringHill Marriott Suites—a wonderful facility and there will be food, fun, and fellowship, along with great presenters and special events. Look for more information in the next *Bulletin*.

\* **Our theme:** "Poetry: A Bridge to the World."

\* **New this year:** conference attendees will have an opportunity to send a poem to be included in a book length anthology. Attendees will receive the books at check-in. More details later.

### February 16 is the Deadline To Enter The 2018 William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest

This contest is sponsored by the Fort Worth Poetry Society in cooperation with the Poetry Society of Texas. Entries will be accepted with postmarks between January 1 and February 16, 2018. Winner to be announced at the April 2018 PST meeting and by e-mail to entrants. Mail entries to: Fort Worth Poetry Society Chapbook contest, 10148 Fieldcrest Drive, Benbrook, TX 76126. Include your e-mail or a SASE to be notified. Complete entry guidelines and fees are on the PST Website at: [www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org). Click on contests.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO BULLETIN REPORTERS

Many *Bulletin* Reporters are not regularly reporting their chapter's news to the *Bulletin*. This month we missed the following 8 chapters. (Legend: *Last Known Reporter: LKR*)

Austin Chapter - LKR: Wade Martin

Hi-Plains Chapter - LKR: Mary Yokum

Johnson County Chapter - Reporter Never Appointed

San Jacinto Chapter - LKR: Donald Graham

Texoma Poetry Society - LKR: Susan McGinn

Trinity Valley Poets - LKR: Charlotte Renk

Tyler Rose Garden Poetry Society - Reporter: Mary Tindall

Wichita Falls Poetry Society-Reporter: Monica McCawley

If your name appears here, it may have been given to me in error. I am often given a president's name rather than a reporter. Sometimes the President is also the Reporter. The name may be a former reporter who's been replaced, and the new reporter didn't know what to do.

Chapter Presidents: please appoint a reporter and send his/her name, e-mail and phone to [vbaileybulletin@att.net](mailto:vbaileybulletin@att.net) and I will send them the information needed to get started sharing your chapter news. Help me make the *Bulletin* a truly representative newsletter for all our PST poets.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT ~ DECEMBER 2017**  
*from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis*

Active Members.....183	Sustaining Members.....5
Associate Members.....12	Recently Deceased.....0
Life Members.....44	Renewing Members.....11
Student Members.....37	New Members .....3
Supporting Members.....0	Current Member Total.... 281

**WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS**

**René M. Ornes ~ San Antonio**  
**Hugh Burke ~ Temple**  
**Emory D. Jones ~ Iuka, Mississippi (Assoc. Mem.)**

*We are glad you joined, you will ♥ PST!*

**HELP OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR ...**

Keep our membership roll up to date. Notify Lynn Lewis right away if there is any change in your contact information: address, phone number, or e-mail. Lynn's e-mail address is: [elsquared59@yahoo.com](mailto:elsquared59@yahoo.com), and her telephone number is: 817-921-9322.



*Our Deepest Sympathy  
 Is Extended To The Following:*



The family and friends of **Pauline Durrett Roberts** of Amarillo who died January 7. She was a Life Member of The Poetry Society of Texas.

~\*~

Brenda Roberts at the death of her husband **Cliff Roberts** on December 23. The Roberts were not current PST members due to health issues, but Cliff was a past president of Poets of Tarrant County and Brenda was a Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award nominee, and a former *Bulletin* editor. Together they founded the Fort Worth Haiku Society.

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[www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org)

Non-profit org.  
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 Permit #1597



**BOOK DONATIONS REPORT**

**From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks**

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports that no books were donated in December to the permanent collection of the Dallas Central Library: *Let's make January a more generous month for our book collection.* If you have published a collection of poems or your chapter has published an anthology, please consider donating a copy to this collection. Send your books to Librarian Barbara Blanks at 1518 Running River Road, Garland, Tx 75044-7254.

**Attention Members-at-Large:**

**You Can Toot Your Own Horn in the *Bulletin***



If you are a member-at-large with no chapter in your area, consider starting one. If that's not an option, and you have no group to report your poetic achievements, you can still share your good news with your PST poetry family. If you win an award, get published somewhere, or win a significant contest that we don't already report, send a notice to *Bulletin* Editor, Valerie Martin Bailey. Keep it brief (4-6 lines) and remember we do NOT advertise members' books. If we did, there would be no room in the *Bulletin* for anything else. Most of our members have books for sale, and we cannot advertise them all. The *Bulletin* news deadline is the 14th of each month by 6:00 p.m. (except June, July and November). Send your news to [vbaileybulletin@att.net](mailto:vbaileybulletin@att.net).

**★ THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ★**

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