

# The Bulletin


## Poetry Society of Texas

Founded November 5, 1921

Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies

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

Editor:  
Fred Manchester

December 2023 

jdk

**PST January**  
 January 13, 2024  
 2:30 p.m.



Our Annual  
 Memorial For Members Lost in 2023  
 &  
 Poem-a-Thon

Bring 1 or 2 Poems to read  
 (number depending on time.)



**Dead Poet's Quote of the Month**

Follow your inner moonlight; don't hide the madness.  
 Allen Ginsberg



The Poetry Society of Texas  
 wishes all members and their families  
 a Safe & Happy Holiday Season.  
 See you in 2024!



# PST General Meeting Minutes December 9, 2023

Submitted by Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks



President Rich Weatherly welcomed our 31 attendees.

Recording Secretary Barbara Blanks gave the October/November membership report for Membership Chair Lynn Lewis. Active Members 221, Associate 15, Benefactor 1, Life 31, Honorary 5; Student 5; Supporting 2; Sustaining 5; Recently Deceased 0. Total Membership: 285. We have three new Active Members: Lauren Walthour, Mico; Vanessa Caraveo, Los Fresnos; and Shiny Wu, Plano. PST welcomes you!

As Librarian, Blanks had 4 book donations to report: Postcards from a Small Town: Untold Myths of Texas, by Fred Manchester, Jr. PST's An Anthology of Student Award Winners, edited by Barry Rynk. Dreams & Nightmares, 2023 Anthology, edited by Poets Northwest. Barefoot in Rain, by Amanullah Khan.

Treasurer Neal Ostman gave the November Financial report, which was all normal activity, except the over \$7,000 paid out in Annual Contest prizes.

## Reminders:

Budd Powell Mahan will once again Chair the annual contests. He is sending out new and renewal contest sponsorship forms. Please be sure to indicate you prefer your contest be open only to PST Active members if you don't want it open to the general public.

The Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Prize is open for submissions between June 1 to August 1. Details are on the website.

PST Flyers with society information are available for distribution from Extension Chair Catherine L'Herisson. Please email her at [catherinepoet@juno.com](mailto:catherinepoet@juno.com) if you would like her to mail some to you or your chapter.

Beth Ayers, Awards Banquet Chair, has posted a picture collage of the event on the PST website. Click on the Events tab, then click on "Awards Banquet."

At the January 2024 meeting, VP Catherine L'Herisson will present the Memorial for members lost in 2023. It will be followed by the Poem-Athon, hosted by Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to read one or two of their poems.

Spotlight on Members Chair Catherine L'Herisson introduced our Spotlight Poet, John Alexander, a member of the Mockingbird Chapter in McKinney. John said he is a late-blooming poet, having written his first poem at age 70. He loves rhyming poems, and read several of his Christmas poems, displaying them with colorful background pictures. You may visit his website at <https://quiettimerhymes.com/>

## PST Board Members

**President: Richard Weatherly**  
7617 Palomar Dr. • N. Richland Hills, TX 76180  
817-428-8088 [WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net](mailto:WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net)

**Vice President: Catherine L'Herisson**  
518 Grinnell Dr. • Garland TX 75043  
972-270-4994 • [caterinepoet@juno.com](mailto:caterinepoet@juno.com)

**Treasurer: Neal Ostman**  
1104 Tinker Rd. • Colleyville, TX 76034  
817-937-3922 • [nealrost@gmail.com](mailto:nealrost@gmail.com)

**Recording Secretary: Barbara Blanks**  
1518 Running River Rd • Garland, TX 75044-7254  
972-495-7311 • [barbarablanks@aol.com](mailto:barbarablanks@aol.com)

**Corresponding Secretary: Carol Thompson**  
806 Festoon Court • Tyler 75703  
903-539-0458 • [btt0212@hotmail.com](mailto:btt0212@hotmail.com)

**Director: J Darrell Kirkley**  
528 Choctaw • Quitman, TX 75783  
214-957-8616 • [jdarrell@jdkcom.com](mailto:jdarrell@jdkcom.com)

**Director: Steve Sanders**  
6709 DelPrado Ave • Fort Worth TX 76133  
817-896-2570 • [steve.sanders@gmail.com](mailto:steve.sanders@gmail.com)

**Director: Ann Howells**  
1621 Brighton Drive • Carrollton TX 75007  
972-394-1580 • [annhwlls@gmail.com](mailto:annhwlls@gmail.com)

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**Program Chair JDarrell Kirkley** introduced our Speaker, **Diane Glancy**, winner of the 2023 Wm. D. Barney Chapbook competition, with her manuscript, "Jawbone." Diane lives in Gainesville, Texas, near the crossroads of I-35 and the Red River. She is a member of the Denton Poets Assembly, PST, and has gone to the NFSPS conventions for over 30 years. Diane focused on her recently published book, "Psalm to Whom(e)." She said poetry is observations and arrangements of those observations—"as when the texture of the land gets transfigured into poetry." Or like the descriptive details in her poem about feeding Pete the horse. Sometimes she adds letters to words—like the 'e' in 'whome' because then she can see 'home.' And the 'w'

reminds her of a picket fence. Diane noted that iambic pentameter tends to be our natural speech pattern, so while there are many different forms of poetry, prose can also be filled with prosody—that is, it can have the patterns of rhythm and sound used in poetry. She addressed questions about her writing process—which was simply sitting at her computer and writing—"to just plod along like the donkey in a field," referencing one of her poem. And about putting a book together—"You need to know what the core is—what holds it together." Diane has been writing and being published for over 40 years. You can visit her Amazon author's page at <https://tinyurl.com/3xjsjxkb>

## December Monthly Contest Results

### 19 Entries

### General Contest

General Contest Judge: Julie Cummings, Conifer, Colorado

- 1st place—Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, "Speaking His Name"
- 2nd—Fred Manchester, McKinney
- 3rd—Steve Sanders, Fort Worth

**Laugh Lines Judge:** JDarrell Kirkley, Quitman  
**LL Winner:** Barbara Blanks, Garland

### Book Prize Winners:

**Popular**—Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield; **Wm Barney**—Barbara Blanks, Garland; **Badger**—Galen Steele, Fort Worth; **Birma's Collection**—Richard P. Hurzeler, Tyler; **Marshall Prize**—Irene Robertson, Little Elm.

**Other poems were by:** JDarrell Kirkley, Manuel L. English, Eric Blanchard, H.O. Davis, and Sheila Tingley Moore.

## Membership Report

*from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis*

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Active Members.....221  | Sustaining Members....5 |
| Associate Members....15 | Recently Deceased.....0 |
| Life Members.....31     | Benefactor Members...1  |
| Student Members.....5   | Honorary Members.....5  |
| Supporting Members....2 | Total Membership...285  |

## 3 New Members

Lauren Walthour, Mico; Vanessa Caraveo, Los Fresnos; and Shiny Wu, Plano.

**PST welcomes you!**

PST Extends our sympathy to the family of Mary Margaret Carlisle, a former member and former councilor, who passed on November 10, 2023.



## Book Donations Report

**Librarian, Barbara Blanks** reported

- Postcards from a Small Town: Untold Myths of Texas, by Fred Manchester, Jr.
- PST's An Anthology of Student Award Winners, edited by Barry Rynk.
- Dreams & Nightmares, 2023 Anthology, edited by Poets Northwest.
- Barefoot in Rain, by Amanullah Khan.

**Members are encouraged to donate books to the library. If you have published a collection of poems your chapter publishes an anthology, please consider donating a copy to this collection. Send books to Barbara Blanks. Her address is listed with the executive board.**

# PST 2023 Annual Awards Banquet



2023

For Details Check the PST Website

## The Fort Worth Poetry Society



In Cooperation with the Poetry Society of Texas Offers  
The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2024

The contest honors the late Fort Worth poet William D. Barney, one of the most distinguished poets Fort Worth and Texas has produced, a former member of FWPS, and past president of the Poetry Society of Texas. Barney won the national Robert Frost Award in 1961 and was Texas Poet Laureate in 1982-83.

The winner will receive \$50 plus 10 free copies of the published chapbook. **Deadline: March 1, 2024.**

### Rules for Entry:

1. This contest is open to Texas residents and/or active PST members only. Entry fee for Members of the Poetry Society of Texas is \$15. Entry fee for Texas resident non-members of PST is \$25. Payment should be made to: [paypal.me/FWPoetrySociety](https://paypal.me/FWPoetrySociety).
2. Contestants should email their manuscript as a (.doc, .docx, or .pdf) attachment to [fwpspoetry@gmail.com](mailto:fwpspoetry@gmail.com). Please put "Barney Chapbook Contest" as the subject line. English only, no translations. The manuscript should be a minimum of 20 but no more than 30 pages of poetry with no more than one poem per page. Poems should be in 12-point Times New Roman font and have no more than 50 characters per line including spaces. The manuscript may include both published and unpublished poems, but may **not** include poems from other books or chapbooks by the author. A majority of unpublished poems is preferred but not required. Do **not** include acknowledgments with the manuscript. The winner will supply an acknowledgments page, if needed, during arrangements for publication. The author must **not** be identified on the manuscript. Include name of author, address, phone, email, and title of the manuscript in the body of the email. **Entries will be received between January 1 and midnight, March 1, 2024.**
3. Manuscripts with poems that contain explicit sexual language or expletives will not be considered.
4. Fort Worth Poetry Society will assume the production costs of developing the manuscript into a market-ready, soft cover collection. This includes editing, cover design, pricing and ISBN registration. Upon publication of the finished chapbook, the author will receive 10 free copies of the chapbook, with additional copies available at the author discount of 50%. FWPS reserves the right to print and sell additional copies at retail cost. Except for the rights granted to the FWPS, the winner will retain the copyright to the chapbook.
5. The winner of the contest will not be eligible to enter again for six years. Current members of the Fort Worth Poetry Society are not eligible to enter this contest.
6. A qualified, impartial judge selected by FWPS, but not a member of FWPS or PST, will select the winning manuscript. The judge's name will not be announced until the winner is announced.
7. The winner will be invited to do readings from the chapbook at a PST Conference; at a monthly meeting of PST in Dallas; and at a public poetry program sponsored by FWPS.
8. Entering the contest acknowledges agreement with these stipulations.
9. Announcement of the winner will be at the April, 2024, PST meeting and by email to entrants.





# Poetry Society of Texas

## ZOOM jdk

### Program Speaker

PST is seeking poets with an interest in presenting a program at one of our 2024 Zoom meetings. There are five openings. Programs run about 30 minutes and are "family friendly." They should include some kind of educational information such as writing tips, working with different poetry forms, preparing for and entering contests, etc. Personal poems can be used as examples but program should not consist of just reading your poems.

If you are interested, please send your contact information, a current photo, a synopsis of your program idea, and one of your poems. Your submission will be acknowledged. Dates for programs will be arranged later. Thank you for your interest in PST!

Please remit information to:

JDarrell Kirkley,  
PST Program Chairman  
jdarrell@jdkcom.com (Subject Line: *Speaker Program*)  
or Mail to:  
JDarrell Kirkley  
528 Choctaw  
Quitman, TX 75783



## NFSPS News

Your PST dues includes 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.



Forest Poetry: Warm Moon

Daniele Jones

ART & POETRY PAIRINGS

+ LIVE READINGS

Thank you to our supporters:



FEB 3rd, 2024  
2pm-8pm  
at



Presented by the  
Mockingbird Poetry Society  
and the  
Art Club of McKinney

mockingbirdpoetry.org

402 N TENNESSEE ST MCKINNEY 75069

**PST is only as strong as our members. Please review the current critical open roles listed below. Help make sure PST remains strong in our second century.**

**ATTENTION!**

## **Attention Volunteers!**

**PST Needs a Monthly Contest Awards Chair  
Starting Immediately**

**ATTENTION!**

Richard Weatherly, after five years as the Monthly Contest Chair, is retiring from this role. Rich will still be available to coach the new Contest Chair. There are nine contests a year. As the monthly chair, you will collect the poems, certify them (check for participant eligibility, ensure the number of lines/characters per line requirement is met), assemble and forward the packet to a pre-selected judge, then announce the results in the PST monthly meeting. You will also conduct the process of determining the Book Prize winners with the Executive Board. One of the benefits of this role is to interact with the PST Executive Board and with judges, all accomplished poets, around the country. The Contest Chair is ineligible to enter the Monthly Contest.

## **Attention Volunteers!**

**PST Needs A New Web Master  
Starting Immediately**

If you are interested, please reach out to J Darrell Kirkly or another Board Member for more information.

## **About the Bulletin of The Poetry Society of Texas**

**Bulletin Editor: Fred Manchester**

**[fmanchester@yahoo.com](mailto:fmanchester@yahoo.com)**

**Graphics: JDarrell Kirkley**

**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](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org) under the "Publications" tab.

# PST CHAPTER NEWS

## Alamo Area Poets of Texas

### *Antonia Murguia Reporting*

We began our December meeting with a delicious Holiday Luncheon. President Antonia Murguia started the poetry meeting and we recited the pledge and approved the minutes.

During October, our poems were lost in the mail and we had to send them to a new judge.

Thus, we announced both October's winners and November's winners during this time.

October's winners are: Assigned Topic: 1st Place - Sheila Moore, 2nd Place: Susan Sabino, 3rd Place: Carol Siskovic, Honorable Mention: Jazz Phillips. Open Topic: 1st Place: Antoinette Winstead, 2nd Place: Sheri Anderson, 3rd Place: Susan Sabino, Honorable Mention: Rene Ornes.

November's winners are: Assigned Topic: 1st Place: Sheila Moore, 2nd Place: Sheri Anderson, 3rd Place: Carol Siskovic, Honorable Mention: Pat Gibbs. Open Topic: 1st Place: Sheri Anderson, 2nd Place: Charles Jones, 3rd Place: Rene Ornes, Honorable Mention: Pat Gibbs.

Next meeting will be on January 6, 2024, Our featured speaker will be Jim Villa De Havalin. The last time Jim was with us, everyone enjoyed his presentation. This time Jim will present a short workshop. We are all excited about his coming visit.

Until next time,  
Merry Christmas from the members of Alamo Area

## Denton Poets Assembly

**Denton Poets' Assembly met** Saturday, Dec. 16 at the Emily Fowler Library with 10 present in the room, and 13 additional attendees by Zoom. **Beth Honeycutt presented a close read** of "Speaking Tree" by former U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, the poet featured in December's Read & Respond series. Beth pointed out Harjo's use of alliteration, enjambment and punctuation. Fourteen response poems inspired by some aspect of Harjo's work and 13 "free" poems were shared on Powerpoint. **As Inspiration Readers, members Gene Kusterer and Becca Hines spoke** about the process of writing their poems.

**The Read & Respond poet** for January 2024 is Kay Ryan, the first of the U.S. Poets Laureate series for 2024. Ryan was U.S. poet laureate from 2008-2010.

**President Richard Kushmaul said** there are 30 pairings of poetry with art for the Merging Visions 2024 exhibit, an ekphrastic exhibition which opens May 4 at the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center in downtown Denton. A catalog of the poems and art is included.

**Because DPA is committed** to the hybrid style of meeting to accommodate members who live too far to drive to Denton, we invite all interested persons to contact President Richard Kushmaul ([richardkdpa@gmail.com](mailto:richardkdpa@gmail.com)). We meet the third Saturday of the month, year-round.

## Fort Worth Poetry Society

### *Galen Steele Reporting*

**Fort Worth Poetry Society, a fierce band of dedicated poets**, met for fellowship and mutual support at Mexican Inn on Hulen on Tuesday, November 28. The wit, the passion and raw talent were mesmerizing and inspiring.

**Opening poem: Mary-margaret Belota read** "On not seeing the lunar eclipse" by Alan Birkelbach

**Business: FWPS voted to continue** funding the Derry Tutt prize for the annual PST contest.

**Kudos: Cade Huie was selected as a judge** for the San Antonio monthly contest. **Doris Brogan was selected** as the editor for the Mockingbird Poetry Society's anthology Art Meets Poetry. **Jeffrey DeLotto's two poems accepted** for publication in the Writing Texas Anthology were errantly omitted. **Cade Huie and Galen Steele had some winning poems** in the PST Annual Contest. **Amanda Russell had a poem accepted** by Power of the Feminine Eye.

**Members critiqued** 8 pretty awesome poems before adjourning.

Next meeting:  
Date: Sunday Dec 17.

Time: 2:00

Location: Steve Sanders' Hideout - 6709 Del Prado Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76133

What to bring: Snacks, poems to read (no critique - just fun reading). They can be your poems or your favorite poet's.



## Mockingbird Chapter

### *Brian Cummings Reporting*

**The Mockingbird Poetry Society met on Saturday, December 2** at the Heard-Craig Carriage House in McKinney.

**President Susan Mardele presided.** Attending the meeting were 12 members and three guests. There being a quorum of members at the meeting, Susan moved for the election of Lori Hawk Fyfe as vice president and Irene Robertson as treasurer. Both were approved in separate votes by unanimous acclamation.

**Beth Ayers announced that entries were being accepted** for the 53rd Annual Collin County Poetry Contests.

**Barry Rynk reported that the 3rd Annual Art Meets Poetry Contest** was underway. To date, 20 pieces of artwork and 26 poems have been submitted.

## Poets Northwest

### *Eric Blanchard Reporting*

**For our October 2023 meeting, we were assigned** an exercise called “Refrigerator Magnet” poetry. Using a random-word generator, participants composed verse using as many of the 25 randomly generated words as we could. This exercise allowed Poets Northwest members to demonstrate their talents with an eclectic use of free-flowing thought or through painstaking manipulation, leading to some very impressive results.

**At the November 2023 meeting, we celebrated** the release of Poets Northwest’s 2023 member-sourced anthology, *Dreams + Nightmares*, in which 20 of our members contributed a total of 52 poems. Contributors in attendance read their included poems to the delight of all who were present. As usual, many wonderful poems were also shared during the read-around portion of our monthly meetings.

**Poets Northwest welcomes visitors and guests.** If you happen to be in the area, feel free to join one of our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month. Please contact PNW via social media for more information. Members and

guests are encouraged to read original or favorite works during the second half of each monthly meeting. Our PST chapter is on the web at <http://www.poetsnw.com>, on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest>, on Twitter as @HoustonPoets, and on Instagram as poetsnorthwest.

## Rusk County Poetry Society

### *Janet R. Tyner Reporting*

**On November 16, 2023, ten members and guests** of the Rusk County Poetry Society met at the multi-purpose building of South Main Church of Christ in Henderson. President Mary Tindall opened by reading “Joy Is” by Jerry Hardesty, which was published in the PST 2023 *A Book of the Year*. Congratulations were extended to Richard Hurzeler, Jackie McVey, Sue Roberts, Carol Thompson, Mary Tindall, and Janet Tyner for their winning poems in the 2023 PST Annual Contests. Several poets read some of their writing: Donna Farmer, Richard H., Jo Morrow, Sue R., Carol T., and Janet T.

**Our spotlight poet, Carol Thompson, shared three poems** about special people and times in her life. She then presented a lesson on lyric poetry, which explored its personal and musical natures. Lyric poems are usually short, focused on one subject, and can be written in various forms; however, the lyric poem always intends to evoke an emotional response in the reader. Carol shared a rondeau by Barbara Blanks, which won first place in the lyric category of the PST Annual Contests. The writing prompt from this lesson is to write either a lyric poem in any suitable format or a rondeau.

**The next RCPS gathering will be a holiday potluck lunch** on December 14, 2023, at the home of Jo Morrow in Henderson. Non-perishable food items will be collected and donated to “We Care Too” in Arp, Texas.

**Mary T. closed the meeting by reading “Let Poetry Speak”** by Doris Brogan, published in the PST 2023 *A Book of the Year*.



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