



# Poetry Society of Texas

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

## Bulletin

February, 2010

Next PST General Meeting: March 13, 2010

### Minutes of the Poetry Society of Texas

**Saturday, February 13, 2010**, President Jeannette Strother called the meeting to order by reading two poems.: one in honor of Black History month and one in honor of Valentine's Day.

**Lynn Lewis** will replace Lee Carroll as the Membership Chair, beginning in April.

**Amy Sandberg** presented the Treasurer's Report: Beginning Balance: \$26,789.58; Checks Paid: \$1,417.72; Deposits: \$4,915.00; Stock Dividends: \$0.00; Ending Balance: \$30,286.86. Amy announced PST pins for members are for sale for \$15 each, and said checks for ALL PST services or functions must be made out to PST and not to her.

**Current Members:** please be sure your contact information is up-to-date. Any address, phone or e-mail changes should be sent to Lee Carroll and/or Linda Banks or Marilyn Stacy. (See Editor's Note, page 6)

**Barbara Blanks**, Librarian/Director, announced the receipt of three poetry books by Coke Brown, Jr.: "The Train and Beyond", "Cancer Stick #94,912 and Other Poems", and "Move and Rest: Poetry by Coke Brown."

#### Announcements:

#### Coming Poetic Events:

##### Lucidity Ozark Poetry Retreat #18:

<http://sol-magazine-projects.org/events/Lucidity2010.pdf>

##### Poetry Society of Texas Student Awards 2010:

May 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 P. M. in the downtown Dallas Library.

##### Permian Basin Poetry Slam: February 27, 2010

##### Voices de la Luna:

<http://www.voicesdelaluna.com/homepage.html>

##### Baylor House of Poetry:

<http://www.baylor.edu/English/index.php?id=45865>

**Jimmye Inez Sessions** introduced the guest speaker: UNT Professor Gary Swaim, who read several of his published poems.

**David Bowman**, Monthly Contest Chair, announced the winning poems for the month: February's Critic Judge: Christa Pandey, Austin, TX. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Beth Honeycutt, Denton, for "The Apothecary's Wife - 1453 A.D.", read by Jimmye Inez Sessions; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Catherine L'Herisson, Garland; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK.

**Laugh Lines Winner:** Geneva Fulgham, Bellaire, for her poem titled, "Calculated Risk", read by Barbara Blanks. **Laugh Lines Judge:** Pat Randolph, Dallas.

**Reader:** David Knape, Plano, read for the Book Awards' finalists and those present cast their votes. **POPULAR:** Jessica Gonsoulin, Dallas; **GALAXY:** Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas; **LUBBE:** Roberta Pipes Bowman, Haltom City; **LYNCH:** Richard Peake, Galveston; **WENDY DIMMETTE:** Linda Amos, York, PA; **LIFE MEMBER AWARD:** Carol Halliday, Houston.

#### 2009-2010 PST General Meeting Program Schedule:

##### March - Charlotte Renk, Athens

April - Robert Duchoquette, Dallas

May - Caroline & Bob Florek, Houston Press

Anthology of Texas Poetry

### PST schedule of events for 2010

#### NFSPS Contest Entries: Postmarked March 15, 2010.

There were omissions in the November and December Bulletins of the titles of books donated. They included:

##### November:

"The Agony of Words" by George Klawitter

"Country Matters" by George Klawitter

"Caedmon's Song" by Violette Newton

"Walk Softly on the Autumn Leaves" by Jo Ellen

Fant and Dorothy Marie Roberts

"Childhood in the Third Reich: An Epic Poem",

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, by Kaye Abikhaled

"Childhood in the Third Reich—Kindheit im dritten Reich", a bilingual edition by Kaye Abikhaled

##### December:

"Prisms: Refracting Light of Women's Lives" by Jacqueline Dobyns De Hon, Ph. D.

### Notes of Interest

**June 10-13, 2010**, the 51<sup>st</sup> NFSPS Annual Convention will be hosted by the Poetry Society of Tennessee, the Mississippi Poetry Society and the Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas, meeting in Memphis, Tennessee at the Holiday Inn on the University of Memphis campus.

## Announcing A Coming Attraction!

The 2010 Summer Conference  
of the Poetry Society of Texas  
“The Show Must Go On”

will be Produced and Directed by:

**Budd Powell Mahan** <and> **Nancy Baass**  
NFSPS President (2004-2006) <>NFSPS President (2008-2010)

and will Star the Keynote Speaker:

**Pat Stodghill, NFSPS President (1990-1992)**

who will entertain attendees

along with a Star-Studded Cast

who will present a variety

of poetry related programs and workshops!

Stay tuned to the PST website and the Bulletin

for the dates and site of this major production

and for Registration Information!

**Barbara Blanks**, PST Librarian, sends this note:  
**Authors:** If you have had a book published, let me know so I can announce it at the monthly meeting. If you would like to donate a copy for the PST permanent collection at Dallas Central Library, let me know.  
**Include** your email address when you donate a book for archives and I will notify you of its arrival. **Send** purchase information, i.e., your website, Amazon, via email, etc. for anyone who is interested in making a purchase.

**Please remember to add the “L” in Blanks in my email address.** [BarbaraBlanks@aol.com](mailto:BarbaraBlanks@aol.com)  
[www.barbarablanks.books.officelive.com](http://www.barbarablanks.books.officelive.com)

**NFSPS Rules:** “Members Only” eligible if a paid-up member of a state society, listed in alphabetical membership roll sent to the Contest Chairman by January 15, 2010, and updated as required by the Contest deadline.

Non-members may enter most contests at \$1.00 each (except \$5.00 for each entry in Contest 1 – NFSPS Founders Award). Non-members may not enter Contests marked with an asterisk\*\*, and/or “Members Only”.

Members may enter up to 8 contests for \$1.00 per poem or \$10.00 total for entries in more than 8 contests (except for: Contest 1 – NFSPS Founders Award which is \$5.00 per poem).

For **Poetry Society of Texas** “Members Only” contest rules, see the back of *A Book of the Year, 2009*, pp. 149-150, or consult the Poetry Society of Texas website: [www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/bulletin.html](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/bulletin.html)

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**Von Bourland, Bulletin Editor, requests all reports and news be sent via email if possible, preferably before the “Next Meeting Date” at the top of your Bulletin. Subject Line: PST Bulletin. If you must use snail mail, please postmark between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, as she lives in a rural area and receives her mail late. Thanks! Please note my new address for POETRY NEWS ONLY:**

**poetry or bust@amaonline.com**

**Von Bourland, 37861 I-27, Happy, TX 79042**

## BULLETIN BULLETIN BULLETIN BULLETIN

The *Bulletin* appears on the PST Website:

<http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/bulletin.html>

as an Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. With Adobe Reader software (or Adobe Acrobat), you will be able to view and print the *Bulletin* in the very same format as you receive it in the mail. Adobe Reader is free, installs itself, and comes from one of the best names in computer software.

If you note needed corrections, additions, or deletions to the Website, contact any PST officer to convey the changes through proper channels to our webmaster. Our webmaster is a volunteer with a day job—does not claim omniscience. Your kind assistance will be appreciated in our ongoing efforts to keep the Website up-to-date.

## Alamo Area Poets

Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, President Kim Mott presided.

Winning poets from December: Open Topic: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Iris Maahs; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sheila Moore; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Peggy Mott; Honorable Mention: Peter Holland. Assigned Topic: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: (tie) Vivian Yatteau and Peter Holland; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Harvey Maahs; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Iris Maahs; Honorable Mention: Peggy Mott. Judge: John David Brantley.

After enjoying delicious snacks provided by Iris and Harvey Maahs and Sheila Moore, the January poems were presented and book door prizes were given.

Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, President Kim Mott presided.

January contest winners were announced. Open Topic: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Sheila Moore; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Place: Billie Stroud; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Antoinette Winstead; Honorable Mentions: Iris Maahs and Toni Murguia. Assigned Topic: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Billie Stroud; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sheila Moore; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Toni Murguia; Honorable Mention: Nancy Carter. Judge: Von Bourland, Happy.

After enjoying snacks provided by Dee and Nancy Carter and Carol Siskovic, the February poems were presented.

AAPT meets every first Saturday, September through May, at 2:00 P.M. in the Garden Villa, University of the Incarnate Word, unless otherwise announced. Contact info: Libby Bishop, [elizbis@aol.com](mailto:elizbis@aol.com) or Kim Mott, President: [celticwarriorwom@aol.com](mailto:celticwarriorwom@aol.com)

## Austin Poetry Society

The January Contest, form: Light Verse was judged by Von S. Bourland, Happy, with 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Nancy Feirstien’s “Please Don’t Eat the Daisies”; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shubb Bala Schiesser’s “Nature’s Mad Dance”.

APS meets Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 1:30– 3:30 P.M. in the Austin History Center, 9<sup>th</sup> & Guadalupe, to hear Dillon McKinsey, producer of a weekly radio program, *Writing on the Air* to discuss “Poetry in the Air: The Art of Reading Aloud.” The Featured Reader to open the meeting will be Cindy Huyser.

From 11:00 to noon on the same day (March 27<sup>th</sup>), bring poems to discuss with the APS Critique Group, hosted by Beth Kropf, upstairs dining area of Central Market, Lamar & 38<sup>th</sup> Street.

APS Fourth Thursday open mic, 7:00 P.M. on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 4101 Guadalupe, features Deb Akers and Greg Silver. Bring your poems for open mic. Ralph Hausser is the host.

Until March 31<sup>st</sup>, APS is accepting entries from members for its Annual Awards, including some 21 contests with over \$1,300 total prizes. [Only members may enter, so join first.] Prizes will be awarded in May.

The List of Contests and Guidelines can be accessed at: <http://www.austinpoetrysociety.org/contests.htm>

Kaye Voigt Abikhaled gave a poetry presentation to 23 1<sup>st</sup> Graders at Trinity Episcopal, Austin, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Twenty-three Thank You letters came the following week with the most innovative spelling words one can imagine. Kaye: "*Such a joy to read to them.*"

The University of Texas at Austin Ladies Club commissioned Kaye Voigt Abikhaled to write a poem in honor of their 50 and 60-year members. Kaye presented and read the poem, "*Occasion*" with an epigraph by Morislav Holub, at their February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Austin Women's Club. The Program Committee provided copies of the poem for member distribution at the end of the meeting. The poem garnered applause and appreciation.

For More Information : [www.austinpoetrysociety.org](http://www.austinpoetrysociety.org)  
[apsinformation@austinpoetrysociety.org](mailto:apsinformation@austinpoetrysociety.org). For the APS newsletter online: send your e-mail address to [poetryplease@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:poetryplease@mail.utexas.edu).

### "Occasion"

*"Garlands of fatted words are strung through the city from mouth to mouth..."*-----Morislav Holub

*A friendship group of University Ladies celebrating fifty years of aiding in social educational and recreational activities at the Longhorn University of Texas. Today we honor their devotion.*

*Garlands of good works are many  
and many are good deeds unmentioned  
the desire to weigh in for younger generations  
to pave their way and ease their strains  
of academic education, to fatten with good hope  
the lives of those striving after us.*

*Garlands of support have they strung  
passing a Golden Ball to those who later come.  
Their deeds of kind support, of funded interest  
in quiet ways accomplished and bequeathed  
to a beloved university, the UT Ladies Club  
and to those who follow in their path.*

*Fifty years of friendships formed,  
today we celebrate longevity.  
Fifty years and more of dedication,  
today we spread their garlands of devotion  
from mouth to mouth as our modes token.*

Kaye Voigt Abikhaled (Austin Poetry Society)  
February 5, 2010

## Bea Land-Phoenix Chapter

Bea Land-Phoenix Chapter (Garland) met February 6, 2010, 10 A.M. at the South Branch Garland Library located at Oates and Broadway.

President Catherine L'Herisson welcomed guest Gene Pickens, a PST member who can recite fifty poems from memory. He mentioned that the Barnes & Noble at Firewheel Mall hosts a poetry/music/art program the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

1<sup>st</sup> Place in the December contest went to Barbara Blanks—prize: *A Galaxy of Verse, 2004*.

The theme for the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is "Anything April".

We meet at South Branch Garland Library, Broadway at Oates, 10:00 A.M. Guests are always welcome.

FMI: [catherinepoet@juno.com](mailto:catherinepoet@juno.com) 972-270-4994, or [barbarablanks@aol.com](mailto:barbarablanks@aol.com)

## Beaumont Chapter

Members will continue to meet at the Jefferson Rehabilitation and Nursing Home as long as Violette is able to participate. Several members visit weekly with Violette. Her past frequently intrudes on the present, but her amazing sense of humor shines through to make us laugh.

February's lesson was to write a poem to fit "You and Me Against the World", Category 5 of the Poetry Society of Texas' Annual Contests. Members read their poems and Lou Whitaker will mail them to Evelyn Corry Appelbee for critique. We are blessed to have Evelyn give her opinion on ways to improve our poems.

The March lesson assignment is to compose a monologue poem. As you can tell, Birma Castle, our President, is preparing lessons so we will have poems for this year's PST Contest.

We hope to see some of you in Eureka Springs for the Lucidity Retreat, April 20-22, 2010. (See notice on page 8)  
FMI: Barbara Green Powell, [lostlakeln@aol.com](mailto:lostlakeln@aol.com).

## Denton Poets Assembly

DPA meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, from 10 A.M. to noon. Free and open to the public.

DPA also sponsors "Basement Poetry", an open-mic poetry reading night at Recycled Books, 200 N. Locust Street, Denton, from 7:30 – 8:30 P.M. Sign-up begins at 7 P.M. This is held the third Tuesday monthly, and is also free and open to all ages. FMI: website below, or email Samika Swift, Host, at [basementpoetry@yahoo.com](mailto:basementpoetry@yahoo.com) .

FMI: [www.dentonpoetsassembly.weebly.com](http://www.dentonpoetsassembly.weebly.com) , call Jan Spence, President at 940-206-5783, or email her at [janspence@att.net](mailto:janspence@att.net) .

## Fort Worth Poetry Society

### The Fort Worth Poetry Society's Centennial Celebration

Saturday, April 17, 2010

10:30 to 3:30 P.M.

100 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Enjoy: Poetry readings, exciting PowerPoint presentations, open mic (bring a poem to read!) a program for elementary and for middle school children, a table with our history on display, and a recently published Centennial Book of prize-winning poems!

Fort Worth Poetry Society is alive, well and writing.

Come on by!

Hosted by the Fort Worth Central Library

500 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street,

Fort Worth, TX 76102-7305

(Parking on street or nearby garages FREE – validate tickets at Library's Circulation Desk.)

FWPS meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at the Benbrook Public Library, 1065 Mercedes Street, Benbrook, Texas 76126 at 7:00 P.M. The purpose of our meetings is to critique poems written and submitted in advance by members to our secretary, who copies each poem into a handout for the group. The writer of a poem remains anonymous until after the critique, and is identified at the end of the meeting. Critiques focus on how poems are written rather than content.

FMI: Don Shook – [Dshook77@aol.com](mailto:Dshook77@aol.com)

## Hi-Plains Chapter, Amarillo

February 20, 2010, our meeting will again consist of poetry forms presented by each member who volunteers to read one or two poems, including a short explanation of each poem's form, which may be utilized in the workshop to follow all readings.

February's assignment: write/bring a poem for critique in one of the forms presented at the December meeting: Ballad; Cinquain (or Cinquain Sequence); Couplets; Lament; Limerick; Minute; Scallop; or Triolet.

Visitors are always welcome!

Hi-Plains Chapter meets bi-monthly beginning in February at the Amarillo Sr. Center, 1217 South Tyler Street, Amarillo. FMI: Contact Mary Yokum, President, [marila13@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marila13@sbcglobal.net) or Marianne Logan, Membership Chair, [mmmltx@nts-online.net](mailto:mmmltx@nts-online.net) (806) 374-4354

## Houston Chapter

Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month, McGovern Library, 7405 Stella Link @ Aberdeen Way, Houston, 1:30 – 3:30 P.M. Read-arounds and questions are most welcome. Visitors are always welcome. FMI: Vice-President, Doris Ferguson, 713-722-8818

## Mockingbird Chapter

Saturday, February 6, 2010, our meeting mostly consisted of discussion about the Chapter's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Collin County Contest for Grades 1-12, college students and adults, and Mockingbird Members. All entry poems were counted, read and judged, and the lists of winners finalized and turned-over to C. J. Dunning, Contest Chairperson. The Awards Program is set for Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 P.M., at Heard-Craig Hall in McKinney. The judges are Beth Ayers, Kay Boruff, Edmund Burke, Don Croucher, C. J. Dunning, Inez Grimes, Jeannette Jordan-Hibbs, David Knape, Sylvia Medel, Jim Ricks, Irene Robertson, Jimmie Inez Sessions, Shannon Williams, and J. Paul Holcomb for the Mockingbird Members.

For the Read-Share-A-Poem segment, most members read poetry. Some members read their poems about love and friendship, the theme suggested for February. Jim Ricks reminded the members about the *Be Kind* motto, to say "Thank you", give little smiles and simple words of appreciation, not only to co-Chapter members, but also to others.

Jim Ricks announced the appointment of Mike Ramsey as the Chapter's Webmaster. He was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for creating the website for the Mockingbirds.

Don Croucher and Nelda and Jim Ricks distributed sweet Valentine candies. C. J. Dunning brought Valentine cupcakes and children's Valentine cards to give away.

The next regular meeting will be on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, usual time and place. Other chapter activities can be found at: <http://texaspoetryevents.info/>

FMI: Jim Ricks, 214-548-6258 or [ajntweety@tx.rr.com](mailto:ajntweety@tx.rr.com)

## Permian Basin Poetry Society

The February meeting saw new PBPS 2010 officers installed:

Vice President: Joey Carlisle; Treasurer: Loretta Walker; and Secretary Elizabeth York.

February 27<sup>th</sup> – Poetry & Motion. Enjoy an evening of Spoken Word performers who have competed in poetry slams, and poets' readings choreographed with music and dance. Featured: Saxophonists: Bobby Jackson and Loretta Diane Walker; Harpist: Megan Metheney; Guitar & Vocalist: Aurora Wynne; Dancers: Misti Tytanic, Paul DuPont; Poets: Thomas H. Christ; Julie Gunn; Levi the Poet; Epic; Christen Reighter; Audrey E. White; and Aurora Wynne. Director: Carl Beery Moore. Assistant Director: Jermaine Harmon. MLK Community Center, 2300 Butternut Lane, Midland, 7 – 9 P.M. Adults: \$8.00; Seniors/Students: \$5.00; Under 12 – Free. Tickets at MLK Community Center: 432-685-7376.

February 20<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, and April 24<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 5 P.M. MLK Jr. Community Center, Midland—Poetry Slam hosted by EPIC – [myspace.com/cgv3](http://myspace.com/cgv3) - compete with original poetry, rap, prose, short stories, and/or freestyle.

PBPS's next meeting will be sharing poems on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 P.M. at The CAF Airpower Heritage Museum, 9600 Wright Drive, Midland..

New Members & Guests Always Welcome!

FMI, Please contact: Kat Copeland @ (432) 697-4205 or [kopykat@grandecom.net](mailto:kopykat@grandecom.net)

## Poets Northwest

February 13<sup>th</sup>, Lynn Roberts Grice presented "Love, Emily D. – the Life and Love Poetry of Emily Dickinson.

Jeffrey Lickson will read from his new book, *L Am Cautious* at the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Poets Northwest meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from 10:00 A.M. to Noon. OUR NEW LOCATION IS CYPRESS CREEK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

FMI: Kitty Mobley (Vice-President) 281-259-7755 or [bobkat3442@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobkat3442@sbcglobal.net) Web: [www.poetsnw.com](http://www.poetsnw.com)

## Poets of Tarrant County

February 1<sup>st</sup>, President Lynn Lewis presided. J. Paul Holcomb read "Dangerous Astronomy" by Sherman Alexie. Handbooks were distributed and three new members were recognized: Barbara Goerdel, Rene Gomez, and Lenora Gomez. Kudos were read.

President Lewis announced that PTC is invited to read poetry for children at the Fort Worth Public Library on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Spotlight Poet, Jeannette Strother, read several of her poems on a variety of themes.

Featured Speaker, Izola Collins, read from her book, *Island of Color*, which is based on her grandfather's journal. Additionally, she shared selections from her poetry books, *Divine Light Never Goes Away* and *I know That's Right*. She included a brief discussion of her book for children, *Pip, Squeak, and Zoom* which was illustrated by her grandchildren.

Assignment poems were read before the meeting adjourned.

Poets of Tarrant County meets the first Monday of each month at First Methodist Church, Fort Worth.

FMI: Lynn Lewis, 817-921-9322/  
[elsquared59@yahoo.com](mailto:elsquared59@yahoo.com)

## Rusk County Poetry Society

January 21<sup>st</sup>, President Vina Hathaway presided. Invocation by Fairon Spears.

Installation of Officers was conducted by Richard Hurzeler and Jan Mathew, with a charge to uphold the respective responsibilities assigned each officer and to promote poetry in 2010, following which President Hathaway presented certificates of merit to members for their outstanding work in 2009.

Spotlight Poet, Justin Robinson, read "She Reeks of Ketchup", the title a quote from his wife Kimberly; "Six AM Today", "The Sweetgum Fruit", and other poems, all beautifully crafted, outstanding poetry.

Anne McCrady presented a lesson on *persona poems*, reading examples by other poets and one of her own, "Homesteading". Our lesson is to write a poem using the persona of someone from the news.

During the break everyone enjoyed refreshments of Boston Cream Pie, grapes, and nuts, furnished by Anne McCrady.

Last month's lesson, presented by Richard Hurzeler, on how objects affect the senses was critiqued by Shirley Cosby. Poems were read and comments discussed.

Attending were: Bill Anderson, Evelyn Appelbee, Vina Hathaway, Richard Hurzeler, Jan Mathew, Anne McCrady, Justin Robinson, Fairon Spears, and Sharon Taylor.

Meetings are held in Henderson on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 2:00 P.M. except June and July, at the First Church of Christ on South Main Activity Room, 402 S. Main, Henderson.

The Executive Committee meets at 12:00 noon to 1:30 P.M. at the Filling Station Restaurant, 303 South Main, prior to each meeting.

FMI: call Sharon Taylor, 903-753-2354, [chasha@cablelynx.com](mailto:chasha@cablelynx.com). Visitors are always welcome.

## San Antonio Poetry Association

January 16<sup>th</sup> dawned clear, cool, and breezy as 20 poets gathered for an afternoon of poetry and friendship.

Our Guest Speaker, Eric Cruse, recently moved to San Antonio from Austin. Eric, both poet and high school English teacher, is working on a manuscript for a poetry book and read this manuscript to us. It was the first public reading of these excellent poems. His book is inspired by the New Testament story of Lazarus who was raised from the dead by Jesus. The book takes the reader through four sections: dealing with Lazarus' thoughts and feelings about his unique experience. The first section deals with Lazarus' thoughts and feelings in the grave, and he talks about seeing the "roots of things." The second section deals with Lazarus' feelings immediately after his resurrection as he tries to adjust to being alive again. The third section deals with Lazarus' thoughts on life as he continues to live and appreciate life as he never did before, noticing things he had never savored before losing his life. In the fourth section Lazarus deals with the fact that he will eventually die again, and his surprising lack of fear because he has been there before. It is a thought-provoking book and deals with the subject matter with great sensitivity and insight.

Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, judged our December Contests. Assigned Subject: "wings": 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Juan Perez, *Ancient Wings*"; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sheila Moore, *San Miguel de Allende, Mexico*"; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jean Jackson, "Wing Watching". Honorable Mentions: Sharon Turner, "Heart Wings" (haiku), and Iris Maahs, "Broken Wings."

Open Contest: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Iris Maahs, "Thoughts on a Gift of Potholders"; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Valerie Bailey, "The Power of the Rings; the Circle of the Earth"; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Margaret Mayberry, "Who Would Not Delighted Be?" (lyrical poem). Honorable Mentions: Loretta Vaughan,

“*Treasured Gifts*”; Sheila Moore, “*Martha Stewart Didn’t Try It with Five Children!*” (hilarious!). Our January poems will be judged by Jimmie Inez Sessions, Lewisville.

President Valerie Bailey was asked to write an E-Review for a new poetry book by Juanita Torrence Thompson, editor of *Mobiüs, the Poetry Magazine*, out of New York. Thompson’s book, *Breath of Life*, has been nominated for a Push Cart Prize. Valerie wrote the review, submitted it to *Rattle Magazine*, and it was accepted. It can be read currently online at [www.rattle.com](http://www.rattle.com)

Several SAPA poets are hosting other poetry venues around the city. Michaud Lamrouex hosts a large venue at the Northwoods Barnes and Noble, 7:00 P.M., last Thursday of each month. Laura Davis and Margaret Mayberry assist Steve Johnson in hosting the Poetry from the Heart venue at 8 P.M., Monday evenings at the LaTaza Coffee Shop in Brookhollow. Peter Holland is hosting a new venue at 6:30 P.M., 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month, Granados House at the end of Panda Drive.

SAPA meets in the Fellowship Hall of Bethany Congregational Church, 500 Pilgrim Drive, San Antonio. You are invited. FMI: Valerie Bailey, 210-494-2982, or [vbailey@satx.rr.com](mailto:vbailey@satx.rr.com)

## San Jacinto Chapter

SJC meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, 1:00-3:00 P.M., Sunset United Methodist Church, 709 Allendale Road, Pasadena, Texas—please use the porte cochere entrance. Anyone who is interested in writing, reading or listening to poetry is invited to attend. Bring some of your own poems, or some of your favorites if you would like to read. We discuss the lives of poets as well as poetry styles. Our snacks are pretty good, too! We encourage poetry and arts in the schools through contests and shows.

FMI: Kathy Wieboldt—call 832-754-4041, or email at [info@sanjacintopoetry.org](mailto:info@sanjacintopoetry.org)

## Texoma Poetry Society

In February we celebrated Black History Month, and hosted an African-American poetry program of reading given by “Black Expressions”, a group of creative Austin College students. Their coordinator was Marian Fields of Frisco, a talented sophomore. The event publicized by an article including a photo of “Black Expressions”, attracted more than 25 people and was one of our most whole-hearted and enjoyable meetings. The students, followed by our members and other guests, read from Maya Angelou, Phillis Wheatley, Langston Hughes, Niki Giovanni, Paul Dunbar, Arna Bontemps, James Weldon Johnson, Claude McKay and others.

After the main program, Don Mathis handed-out a dozen library books on Black poetry and invited impromptu readings.

During the break we enjoyed a punch bowl and cookies, then had a Round Robin of original work.

T.P.S. meets the first Saturday of each month, except July, at the Sherman Public Library, 2:00-4:00 P.M. All poets and poetry lovers are always welcome.

FMI: Frances Neidhardt at [neidhardt@verizon.net](mailto:neidhardt@verizon.net)

## Wichita Falls Poetry Society

January 16<sup>th</sup>, we met in the Texas Room of the Kemp Center for the Arts. January Chair Genie Ratliff conducted the meeting and presented an excellent and in-depth lesson on the life and works of Alfred Noyes, who is noted for “*The Highwayman*”.

New member Mike Pennix was welcomed and introduced.

Winners in the January contest for the best Pantoum are: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Sheri Sutton; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Leta Hedrick; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Linda Smith; 1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention: Geneva Rodgers.

The next meeting will be at 2:00 P.M. at the Kemp Center on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at which time Nona Bailey will present a lesson on Elizabeth Barrett Browning and the sonnet form.

FMI: Doyle “Doc” Wood at [dr1943@yahoo.com](mailto:dr1943@yahoo.com), or 940-322-4566. Visitors are welcome!

## Editor’s Note

Please note my new email address which is for poetry news only: [poetryvorbust@amaonline.com](mailto:poetryvorbust@amaonline.com) All email of personal interest should still be directed to my other address: [vondelita@amaonline.com](mailto:vondelita@amaonline.com) This should enable me to expedite the Bulletin news more quickly.

**Retraction:** In the January PST General Meeting minutes, this was printed:

**Current Members:** please be sure your contact information is up-to-date. Any address, phone or e-mail changes should be sent to Lee Carroll and/or Linda Banks or Marilyn Stacy. **All Chapters:** Please be sure your annual reports are current with co-editors Linda Banks or Marilyn Stacy by February 1<sup>st</sup> in order to be included in the 2010 BOTY.

**Linda Banks** requests that they not receive info from members, but only from Board Members or Committee Chairs whose job is to keep up with info for the entire year since they only want FINAL information when it is time to compile a new BOTY. In other words, they do not want to keep up with changes.

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS  
STUDENT AWARDS 2010**

**\*\*\*SEND POEMS TO\*\*\***

*Budd Powell Mahan, 7059 Spring Valley Road,  
Dallas, TX 75254*

**RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTERING  
STUDENT CONTESTS**  
**DOWNLOAD YOUR OWN COPY**  
[poetrysocietyoftexas.org](http://poetrysocietyoftexas.org)

**PROCEDURES FOR ENTERING CONTESTS**

Entries must be prepared according to the rules and instructions listed on the website. **All entries must be received by MARCH 1, 2010**. Entries will be mailed to judges who will have the copy with no identification. Judges will select the top poems. The Poetry Society of Texas publishes first place winning poems in their anthology **STUDENT AWARD WINNERS 2010**, and selected poems may be entered in the Manningham Awards and Student Award of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. (NFSPS). Winning poets will be notified. Questions regarding entries should be directed to: Budd Powell Mahan, 7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254, 972-233-6348 or [buddmahan@att.net](mailto:buddmahan@att.net)

**32<sup>nd</sup> Nimrod Literary Awards  
Katherine Anne Porter Fiction Prize  
and the Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$2,000 and publication

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$1,000 and publication

Jan. 1 – April 30<sup>th</sup>, postmark deadline

Poetry: 3 – 10 pages

Fiction: 7,500 words maximum

Unpublished. Author's name must not appear on the manuscript. Include a cover sheet with major title and subtitles, author's name, full address, phone and email. "Contest Entry" should appear on both the outer envelope and the cover sheet. Please staple manuscripts or bind with a black clip. SASE for contest results. Results also posted on *Nimrod's* website.

[www.utulsa.edu/nimrod](http://www.utulsa.edu/nimrod)

Submitters must have a U. S. Address by October of 2010 to enter the contest. Winners will be brought to Tulsa for the Awards Ceremony in October.

Entry/Subscription Fee: \$20 includes both entry fee & one-year subscription (two issues). Each entry must be accompanied by a \$20 fee (this is a per-category charge—not per envelope).

Mail to:

Nimrod Journal  
Literary Contest – Fiction or Poetry  
The University of Tulsa  
800 S. Tucker Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74104

**2010 Beall Poetry Festival**

PST members are invited to attend the  
16<sup>th</sup> Annual Beall Poetry Festival  
at Baylor University,  
Thursday, March 25 – Saturday, March 27

Featuring poets:

John Koethe

Carol Frost

Stanley Plumly

and Charles Altieri, Critic

All events are FREE and open to the public. In conjunction with the Beall Festival, the Baylor English Department is also hosting their Annual House of Poetry, Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Two PST members are appearing as this year's House of Poetry invited guests: 2010 Texas Poet Laureate, Karla K. Morton, giving the morning presentation, and PST Councilor, Anne McCrady, who will offer an early afternoon workshop.

Anne's topic will be *Poet to Poet: Writing in Conversation*. Celebrating the work of this year's Beall Poetry Festival feature poets, Anne will lead workshop participants to consider poetry as a creative dialogue among literary friends. Participant activities will include reading with curiosity, listening for connection, courageously exploring self, and writing in response.

FMI: [www.baylor.edu.beall](http://www.baylor.edu.beall) or 254-710-1768

## Lucidity Ozark Poetry Retreat #18

April 20, 21 & 22, 2010 Eureka Springs, Arkansas

**Tuesday April 20 -**

**Registration 3-5 PM – First Session 7-10 PM**

Poetry Contest Awards Banquet Critique

Workshops Poetry Lectures Poetry

Workshop Open Mikes Book Table

Breaks to explore beautiful Eureka

*~ Time for visiting with interesting poets from  
all over the United States ~*

TED JUDGES THE CONTEST (BLIND), BUT HE CAN  
NO LONGER ATTEND

Deadline for contest poems and critique workshop poems  
March 15, 2010

## **Accomplished Poets and New Poets ~ All are welcome**

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(exceptional food)**

***I would appreciate knowing if you  
plan to attend.***

*Birma Castle, Director*

**1092 Sun Meadow Dr.**

**Beaumont, TX 77706**

**birmacastle@yahoo.com, please  
send e-mail address for up-date  
information.**

**409-866-3219**

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**Lucidity Retreat Registration Form ~  
April 20, 21 & 22, 2010**

**Name**

**Make checks payable to Birma Castle**

**Address**

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

Please list as you want it to appear in  
the Retreat Workbook

(Please write so old eyes can  
read it)

Retreat Registration \$35 \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet  
\$18 \_\_\_\_\_ (or may be purchased at retreat sign in)

*Contest Award Prize Donations \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Thank  
you for your generosity.*

Cash Prizes and number of prizes are awarded  
by Donations Only.

**Poetry Society of Texas**  
**610 Circle View Drive**  
**Mansfield, TX 76063**  
**www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org**

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