

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



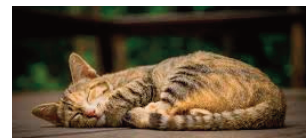
Editor: Valerie Martin Bailey

May 2020



### TERRY JUDE MILLER ~ PROGRAM SPEAKER FOR MAY

Program Committee Chair JDarrell Kirkley introduced our program speaker, Terry Jude Miller, of Richmond, who was also present via Zoom. Miller won the 2018 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Award for his book, *The Drawn Cat's Dream*. He has several other published books, and is a member of the Academy of American Poets, as well as Poets Northwest (Houston). He is the originator of the Texas Poets Podcasts. He thanked Patrick Marshall for editing his book. He then read several poems from it, with dialogue between. Susan Maxwell Campbell also showed accompanying slides in the background.



**Minutes of the General meeting of the Poetry Society of Texas for Saturday, May 9, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom**  
by Barbara Blanks, Recording Secretary

**President Irene Robertson** opened this historic meeting by welcoming everyone from across the state—from Houston to Fort Worth, from Tyler to Amarillo, and several places in between. The Covid-19 virus social distancing situation does not allow us to meet at the Preston Royal Library as usual (it is closed indefinitely), and thanks to Interim Director Susan Mardele who set up and moderated the Zoom meeting, we were able to welcome members who cannot normally attend.

**Librarian Barbara Blanks** announced two book donations to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library: books listed on page 10.

**Treasurer Steve Sanders** gave a brief financial report for April. PST is still in good shape. The largest expenditure was for printing the new *A Book of the Year*.

He also reported that a Paypal account has been created for those who would like to pay PST dues electronically. Links have not yet been set up on the website, but if you have a Paypal account, you

can go ahead and pay dues to [poetrysocietyoftexas@gmail.com](mailto:poetrysocietyoftexas@gmail.com). Please be sure to note that the \$25 is for dues. Also note that our membership year ends on June 30, and the new year begins on July 1. If you renew now, please also be sure to note that you are renewing for 2020-2021.

**Steve also reported that the Summer Conference in Fort Worth has been cancelled.** With the situation the way it is, and the uncertainty of whether enough people would register to make the conference economically feasible, and with the hotel deadline looming for a full deposit refund, it was unanimously decided to cancel. There is a possibility of a Zoom-type conference, but that is not definite at this time.

**Director Domingo Rodriguez** gave the April Membership Report for **Membership Chair Lynn Lewis**. That report can be seen on page 10.

**Nominating Committee Chair Catherine L'Herisson** explained the five-person nominating committee is appointed by the seated president. Traditionally, it consists of past presidents. This year, the other four committee members were: Marilyn Stacy, Jeannette Strother, Budd Powell Mahan, and Aman Khan. The committee first checks with the sitting board members to see if

they wish to stay on. In this case, Interim Director Susan Mardele declined to remain in office right now. The nominating committee offered this slate of officers for the 2020-2021 Executive Board of PST: President: Irene Robertson; Vice President: Rich Weatherly; Treasurer: Steve Sanders; Recording Secretary: Barbara Blanks; Corresponding Secretary: Susan Maxwell Campbell; Director: JDarrell Kirkley; Director: Domingo Rodriguez; Director: Beth Honeycutt.

L'Herisson called for nominations from the floor (members present via Zoom). There were no nominations.

L'Herisson called for a motion to accept the new slate of officers as presented. Lynn Grice Roberts, Houston, moved to accept. Anne McCrady, Tyler, seconded. By show of hands of members present via Zoom, the new board was voted in. The current board serves through August 31, 2020. The new board seats on September 1, 2020.

**Spotlight on Poets Chair Susan Maxwell Campbell** introduced our **Spotlight Poet, Jenna Pashley Smith**, Richmond, former editor of *A Book of the Year*. Jenna had recorded a remote video reading, but the video was unable to play. Instead, because Jenna was present via Zoom, she read some of her poems live.

**Contest Chair Rich Weatherly** announced the winners of the May Monthly Contests. 17 Entries. There was no reading of the ten poems up for book prizes. Instead, Critic Judge Donovan ranked the top six.

#### MAY MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

##### 17 Entries

**Critic Judge:** Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN

**First:** Steve Sanders, Fort Worth, TX ~ "Day's End Dream"

**Second:** Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX

**Third:** Hugh Burke, Temple, TX

##### Laugh Lines

Judge: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

Winner: Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX,

##### Book Prizes

Popular – Eric Blanchard, Houston, TX

Poetry for Poets – LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK

Wm. D. Barney – Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX

M. Tandy Duemke – Holly Davis, Trophy Club, TX

Naomi Simmons – Birma C. Castle, Beaumont, TX

Cliff Roberts Award – Loretta Dianne Walker, Odessa, TX

##### Other Poems were by:

Richard Hurler, Marilyn Stacy, Robert Schinzel, and JDarrell Kirley

Send contest entries before the 15th of each month to Contest Chair, Richard Weatherly at 7617 Palomar Dr., N. Richland Hills, TX 76180 • 817-428-8088 • [WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net](mailto:WeatherlyR@sbcglobal.net).



### To Barbara Blanks

On May 9, 2020

the Alabama State Poetry Society announced their Book of the Year Award, and the winning book was

*Resisting the Ground*

by our own Barbara Blanks.

**THERE WILL BE  
NO BULLETIN  
IN JUNE OR JULY.  
THE NEXT BULLETIN  
IS SCHEDULED FOR  
AUGUST 2020**

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## PST's Summer Conference is Officially

**CANCELED**

### Greetings, PST Leaders and Members,

I have been authorized by the President of PST to formally notify all of its members that the 2020 Summer Conference has been canceled.

This was not a step lightly taken but with the current circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty about the future, the officers and Board of PST believe that this is in the best interest of the organization and its membership. The Radisson Hotel has been very understanding and has accepted our cancellation and agreed to return 100% of our initial deposit. PST will not lose a penny over this decision.

We are all very sad that this step was necessary, but the health and safety of our members take precedence in this situation. If even one person contracted the virus as a result of a conference that would be too many. In addition, we cannot be sure that the Radisson would have a full staff to meet our needs.

Please send this notification out to all PST members everywhere; the widest possible dissemination within the Society is requested. This is especially important if you are a chapter president, please forward this notice to all your members. If anyone has made hotel reservations, the Radisson has assured us that they can be canceled without penalty. If you have already registered for the Conference, please contact the Fort Worth Poetry Society for a refund.

Steve Sanders  
Publicity Committee  
Poetry Society of Texas

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**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS PODCASTS  
ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL POETS.  
SEE THE INFORMATION  
IN THE NEXT COLUMN**

The Poetry Society of Texas has fourteen (14) episodes on its podcast page, and it is all FREE! Please share this information with every poet you know. If you are a chapter president, get this information to your members. Go check them out at:

<https://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/podcasts/>.

You can listen to the following:

### **PST Podcast Episode 014 Michelle Hartman with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Our guest is Michelle Hartman. Michelle's poetry books, *The Lost Journal of my Second Trip to Purgatory*, *Wanton Disarray*, *Disenchanted and Disgruntled* and *Irony and Irreverence*, are available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble websites. She is published in multiple journals and anthologies in the United States and overseas. She is the former editor of *Red River Review*. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Michelle Hartman – April 2020

### **PST Podcast Episode 013 Birma Castle with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Our guest is Birma Castle, who received PST's highest honor, the Hilton Ross Greer Outstanding Service Award. *A Book of the Year* was dedicated to her. Birma is a PST Life Member and is the emcee for its Life Member Raffle at the summer conference. She is Director of the Lucidity Poetry Retreat in Eureka Springs, Arkansas each year in April. Birma says, "If you really want your poems critiqued and learn, attend the Lucidity Retreat." The Website is: Lucidity Poetry Retreat or you can Google them. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Birma Castle – March 2020

### **PST Podcast Episode 012 Mary Turner with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Our guest is Wisconsin native Mary Creviere Turner. Mary and her husband, Don, have been married for 48 years and have lived in Houston for 37 years. They have three grown children and are looking forward to the birth of their seventh grandchild in the spring. Turner just completed her 10th year of mentoring at a local elementary school. She has been writing poetry for only five years and is

the author of a children's book of poetry and photos entitled *African Safari*. Mary won two first place awards in the Texas Poetry Society's 2019 annual contests. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Mary Creviere Turner – February 2020

**PST Podcast Episode 011 Sheila Tingley Moore with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Sheila Tingley Moore is the former Poet Laureate for the San Antonio Poets Association, serving that post seven times, the Kitchner Foundation's Texas Senior Poet Laureate, holding that post twice, and the Poet of the Year for the Alamo Area Poets Association. Sheila is a gifted and prolific writer. She writes both serious and humorous poems. Sheila is published in many anthologies, including *Voices Along the River*, *Inkwell Echoes*, Poetry Society of Texas' *A Book of the Year*, National Federation of State Poetry Society's *Encore*, *A Galaxy of Verse*, and *The Texas Poetry Calendar*. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Sheila Tingley Moore – January 2020

**PST Podcast Episode 010 Loretta Diane Walker with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Loretta Diane Walker is a multiple Pushcart Nominee, and Best of the Net Nominee. won the 2016 Phyllis Wheatley Book Award for poetry for her collection, *In This House* (Bluelight Press). Naomi Shihab Nye states, "Loretta Diane Walker writes with compassionate wisdom and insight—her poems restore humanity." Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Loretta Diane Walker – December 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 009 Jan Spence with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Our guest is Jan Spence, a poet, blogger, avid traveler and devoted yogi. She is a founding member of the Denton Poets' Assembly, establishing it as a Charter Chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas. She held various offices in the Denton organization prior to moving to Georgetown. Her chapbook, *Navigating the Old Road*, was chosen for publica-

tion by Finishing Line Press, and her poetry has won numerous awards. Her work has appeared in *The Stray Branch*, *Red River Review*, *The Senior Voice*, as well as other publications including several editions of *The Texas Poetry Calendar* and PST's *A Book of the Year*. Karla K. Morton, 2010 Texas Poet Laureate, characterized Jan's work as "A true gift of the heart." Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Jan Spence – November 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 008 Jenna Pashley Smith with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Our guest is Jenna Pashley Smith, a poet, author, and artist. Jenna brings a different perspective to writing poetry. Our listeners will enjoy Jenna's unique view on poetry form and other elements. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Jenna Pashley Smith – October 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 007 Christine Irving with Host Terry Jude Miller**

Christine Irving is first and foremost a storyteller. Her favorite métier is poetry, but her body of work also includes novels, memoir and travel writing. She is the author of five books of poetry and her poem, "Hardwood," won 1st place in the 2017 National Federation of State Poetry Societies poetry contest. Her latest work is a collaboration with poet Susan Maxwell Campbell, *Ping Pong Poems*, an experiment in poetic dialoging. Christine co-hosts a monthly open poetry mic in Denton, TX. Her Web site is <http://www.christineirving.com>. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor J. Darrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter. Click on Link: Christine Irving – September 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 006 Lisa Toth Salinas with host Courtney O'Banion Smith**

A national award-winning poet, genealogist and home educator, Lisa is also the 2014 winner of the Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Award given by the Poetry Society of Texas (PST). Her winning manuscript, *Smallest Leaf: A Collection of Poetry*, is available on her website: [smallestleaf.com](http://smallestleaf.com).



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Producer: Terry Jude Miller, Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Lisa Toth Salinas – August 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 005 Terry Jude Miller with Host Dr. Robin Davidson**

In this episode University of Houston Creative Writing Professor, Dr. Robin Davidson, interviews 2018 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Prize winner, Terry Jude Miller, about his book, *The Drawn Cat's Dream*. Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on link: Terry Jude Miller – July 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 004 Dr. Charlotte Renk with host Dr. Katie Hoerth.**

The guest for this episode is Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Award winner, Dr. Charlotte Renk. After completing her Ph.D. from Louisiana State University and teaching there for five years, Charlotte moved to Athens, Texas and found inspiration for poetry and stories that came from long walks in the woods behind her East Texas cabin and from reflections accumulated over many years while teaching English, Humanities, and Creative Writing at Trinity Valley Community College. She's won numerous poetry awards, has had her work published in a wealth of anthologies, and her latest book, which will be the topic of a future podcast. *The Great Turtle Heart: The Tao of Turtlism*, won the 2017 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Prize. We discuss Charlotte's book, *These Holy Hungers*. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on link: Dr. Charlotte Renk – June 2019

**PST Podcast Episode 003 J. Paul Holcomb with host Laura Pena.**

In this PST episode of Podcast we discuss an award winning book of poetry with its author. Our guest is the 2004 Winner of the Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Award, J. Paul Holcomb. We will discuss J. Paul's book, *Looking for Love in the Telecom Corridor*.

J. Paul is interviewed by Texas poet, Laura Pena. Producer: Terry Jude Miller. Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: J. Paul Holcomb – May 2019

**Note:** J. Paul's podcast is being converted to YouTube video. Please check later for conversion link.

**PST Podcast Episode 002 Budd Powell Mahan, with host Terry Jude Miller.**

Budd Powell Mahan is a poet, editor, artist, photographer, public speaker, and actor, who has been president of both the National Federation of State Poetry Societies and the Poetry Society of Texas. His works have won numerous awards that include the Stevens Manuscript Competition of NFSPS, the John and Marian Morris Manuscript Competition of the Alabama Poetry Society, the Dallas Poet's Community chapbook contest and the Fort Worth Poetry Society's inaugural William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest. The diversity, the insight, and the artistry of his poetry honors the Society's enduring desire to promote the production and appreciation of poetry, in all its forms. Budd's poetry has been described by Michael Baldwin, past President of the Fort Worth Poetry Society, as cerebral and always seeking the heart and reaching it. In the podcast, we'll discuss Budd's book, *Falling to Earth*, which won the Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter. Budd Powell Mahan Link – April 2019

is temporarily inactive:

**PST Podcast-Video Adaptation: Episode 001 Anne McCrady, with host Lisa Toth Salinas.**

Anne McCrady is the author of several books of poetry, including the 2003 Edwin M. Eakin Manuscript Prize given by PST. Anne discusses poems from her award-winning book, *Along Greathouse Road*. Producer: Terry Jude Miller; Technical Editor: JDarrell Kirkley; Music provided by Ed and Mim Frieter.

Click on Link: Anne McCrady – March 2019

Go to the page, click on the link to the interview you want, and it will magically appear on your computer screen! So much talent; so much information; so many beautiful words! Go listen for yourself and take what you will from this amazing treasure chest of poetry!

Steve Sanders, PST Publicity Committee.



## **BEAUMONT CHAPTER**

### ***Birma Castle Reporting for Barbara Powell***

Time is flying, at a snail's pace, yet, I don't seem to get much done. I do appreciate and look forward to the daily digital devotionals from my church. Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights for a full church service gives some normalcy to the "shelter-in-place" life. I have managed to write a couple of poems.

I missed the PST Zoom meeting, where I won the Naomi Simmons Book prize. Yea! Technology is a wonderful thing, once I get the kinks worked out, which I didn't before the meeting.

My daughter, Vicki Lynn, brought my three great granddaughters 3, 5, and 7, to stand on sidewalk to throw kisses and all talk at the same time.

I owe it to my family to stay safe, so they won't have to take care of me. So, I haven't touched another human being since the shut down started. I had Mother's Day Lunch with Vicki and husband Randy, their treat from Jason's Deli. They arrived with chairs, table, and drinks to sit on porch outside storm door and enjoy being together, with me inside. They also put black metal plaques with Faith, Hope and Love on my patio fence. It is a good thing I cleaned the glass door, because Vicki and I shared a kiss on opposite sides. Her lip prints are still there. Special memories make good poems (someday).

Some of you keep up with Barbara Powell on Facebook and know that she had a fall at 4 a.m. and two firefighters came to help her up. She didn't go to a doctor until Tuesday for a regular appointment. She felt she was all right, but her right leg has a large blood clot so she was admitted to the hospital. They are doing all sorts of testing and treatments to dissolve the clot. She enjoyed her son, his wife, granddaughter and grandson's visit on Mother's Day, but she is having a hard time now because she isn't allowed family or friend's visits. Solitude is really hard for her. She is in a regular room and is totally alone except when nurses and doctors do tests or treatments. Please pray for comfort. Just talked to Barbara today (5-14-20) and she may get to come home, with home health services.

Dorothy Clover has written some poems. Yea! She is pretty bored but she checks in from time to time. She is really disappointed that Lucidity and the Summer Conference have been cancelled. This would have been her first time to attend Lucidity. She is retired so doesn't have to worry about school.

Laurie Kolp is making the most of her free time (if there is any). She still enters and wins prizes in different venues. She has worked so hard on her Master's degree online and now she has to do everything for her School District position on line too. Congratulations, Laurie.

Sherry Morgan is busy going through her mother's house, finding treasures at every turn. Many memories are still fresh, but there are so many wonderful things to reminisce and savor. She takes her time to enjoy them.

Doretta Dover had great grandbabies for her Mother's Day guests. She checks in on me and reports her lifestyle of boredom. A stray cat has helped keep her days on track.

Lou Whitiker is doing better healthwise, and I am hoping she will write about some of the happier (funny) things about being sequestered.

Thanks to our Editor, Valerie Bailey, we still have a link with each other. Stay Safe! Birma.

## **DENTON POETS' ASSEMBLY**

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

Due to COVID-19 protocols DPA will continue to use a virtual meeting format. Our April meeting using Zoom went well.

DPA will meet from 10 a.m. through 12 p.m. for the regular meeting.

The DPA nominating committee will present a new slate of officers for the coming year and members will vote on the candidates.

Read & Respond poetry assignments will be based on the works of Paul Celan.

After the assigned readings Susan Maxwell Campbell will present a writing activity related to the lesson.

Members will be given an opportunity to read free-choice poems after the 11 a.m. break.

## **FORT WORTH POETRY SOCIETY**

### ***Steve Sanders Reporting***

For the second time, the Fort Worth Poetry Society met via Zoom and, again, it was a success! The May meeting is normally our social event but with the COVID-19 virus still lurking around, we decided to meet on-line again. Attending the meeting were: President Patricia Ferguson, Treasurer Mike Baldwin, Secretary Steve Sanders, Marilyn Gilbert Komechak, Susan Maxwell Campbell, and John Bartell. Our special guest was Heather Thompson.

The opening poems were read by President Ferguson, they were “The Apple Pie Doesn’t Call Far From the Tree,” an original by Patricia, and “Alone” by Edgar Allen Poe. After the preliminary minutes from the last meeting and Treasurer’s Report, we went right into old business. The main topic of discussion was the cancellation of the PST Summer Conference and the possibility of putting on some kind of virtual conference. We decided to meet again in one week and discuss proposals for a potential virtual conference and then present some kind of proposal to PST. We discussed everything from a simple series of Zoom/Facebook Live events to recorded presentations that we upload to the PST website for viewing at everyone’s leisure. A final proposal will be forthcoming.

The May meeting is also when we normally install a new slate of officers for the coming year. As a result of the disarray that the “shelter-in-place” orders have caused, our normal schedule has been interrupted. Instead, the Society voted to continue with the current officers and, once we are able to meet again, we will consider a new nomination/election process.

We honored our social tradition by conducting a “read around” rather than doing critiques. Everyone read at least two poems, either one of their own or one of their favorites. Following the second round of poetry, we adjourned until May 19th.

## **HI-PLAINS CHAPTER**

### ***Frances Ferris Reporting***

The Hi-Plains chapter did not meet in April or May. We plan to have the meeting in June if at all possible.

## **HOT/LIVE POETS OF CENTRAL TEXAS**

### ***Christine Boldt Reporting***

Christine says “No meetings and nothing to report.” But I envision these hot, lively poets, all sequestered in their homes, being obedient to the pandemic protocols, except no masks at home. I see them using their “shut-in” time to write towering stacks of great poetry. Let’s all do that!

## **MOCKINGBIRD CHAPTER**

### ***John Alexander Reporting***

MPS held its regular monthly meeting on May 2 as a virtual meeting. President Thomas Martin presided, and a total of sixteen members and one guest attended. The minutes from the April meeting were approved, and Treasurer Tarik Ahmen provided an update on the finances, including the checking and savings accounts balances.

PST President and Mockingbird member, Irene Robertson gave us a PST update:

- Last month’s meeting was canceled.
- *A Book of the Year is completed. Thanks to all who helped.*
- The May 9th meeting will be a Zoom meeting at 2:00 p.m., hosted by Susan Mardele (MPS member and PST Board member)
- Both the PST summer conference and the NFSPS summer convention are officially canceled.

A report on the Collin County Poetry Contest Awards and Wrap-up was given by Beth Ayers. Beth got the students’ home addresses and books and certificates were mailed to each winning student. There were three students whose addresses she should have soon. The anthology turned out well. It’s always rewarding to see pictures from the students with their awards. We discussed how we might encourage award recipients to send in photos showing them with their certificates.

A report on the Poetry Society Open Mic was given by Ann Marie Newman. She shared about the open mic Zoom event April 25th, 2-4 PM sponsored by Café Bohemia in Plano. As approved at the last meeting, MPS donated \$30 to Café Bohemia and to support the virtual event. Members were invited to make individual contributions to support the event. About 15 participated as Susan

Mardele hosted and acted as MC for the event. She did a wonderful job, and we all had a good time.

President Martin asked for new business. Based on the Governor's shelter-in-place directive, Tarik wondered when the Mockingbirds would begin face-to-face meetings again. It will depend on when the Heard-Craig house reopens, and then when we are comfortable meeting again. Going forward, it would be nice to continue having a video component as part of the meeting. We could include a virtual link as a standard addition.

Member Sharing time:

- Domingo Rodriguez offers counseling for several different groups. It is very helpful, and he would be happy to share with anyone who just needs to talk or share.
- Ann Marie Newman shared that a slam poet, Michael Glenn, has produced an anthology of poems during the Covid-19 pandemic that includes two of Ann's poems and also one of Beth Ayer's poems.
- John Alexander shared that his new blog is still growing, and he's seen people from as far away as Nigeria and South Africa visiting the site. ([www.alexander-novels.com/blog](http://www.alexander-novels.com/blog).)

After the group's business and sharing was completed, our visitor and members were invited to share a poetry reading. It's always a pleasure to enjoy poetry from the group.

### **POETS NORTHWEST**

#### ***Eric Blanchard Reporting***

PNW had another meeting via Zoom in April due to the public-health protocols being observed in our communities.

We celebrated National Poetry Month by sharing poems by some of our favorite 20th and 21st century poets, including Wendell Berry, A.E. Stallings, Jane Hirshfield, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Linda Gregg, Mary Oliver, David Wagoner, John Sibley Williams, Billy Collins, and Mark Waldron.

PNW's annual Spring Fling has been rescheduled for June 20th. Details are still being finalized. Stay tuned for updates.

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 at the Windwood Presby-

terian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress Rd, Houston, TX 77070, Room 126, (except May and December and during Covid-19 protocols).

Members 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>, on Facebook at <http://facebook.com>, on Twitter as @HoustonPoets, and on Instagram as poetsnorthwest.

### **POETS OF TARRANT COUNTY**

#### ***Lynn Lewis Reporting***

The minutes for the May 4, 2020 Zoom meeting of the Poets of Tarrant County are as follows: The meeting was called to order by President Ron Eddins. Jerry Johnston presented new ideas for our chapter logo design, to be determined and voted on at a later date.

Masood Parvaze was the Spotlight Poet. Contemporary Poet Reader Barbara Goerdel read from the works of Lisa Toth Salinas.

Barbara Berry gave the Treasury Report. A motion was made by Susan Maxwell Campbell and seconded by Jerry Johnston for Poets of Tarrant County to make an extra donation to the Thomas Place Community Center. There were no objections.

President Eddins introduced our featured speaker, Susan Maxwell Campbell, who used the topic "Sharing with Others" to discuss different ways to share in the poetry experience.

After the member poetry read-around, the meeting was adjourned by President Eddins.

### **RUSK COUNTY POETRY SOCIETY**

#### ***Janet Tyner Reporting***

The Rusk County Poetry Society members have not met in person this spring, but they are communicating electronically by sharing poems through emails and texts.

Rusk County Poetry Society congratulates Olivia Donnelly as the 2020 winner of the Mary Craig Scholarship, which is sponsored by RCPS. Ms. Donnelly's poem, "Breaking Even," earned first place for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the 2020 North east Texas Poetry in Schools competition.



Awarding the \$500 scholarship is an annual opportunity to help students develop their unique writing talents.

Ms. Donnelly's poem, as well as winning poems from 1st-12<sup>th</sup> grade public, private, or home-schooled students from the Northeast Texas region, may be read online at [yanetexas.org/north-east-texas-poetry](http://yanetexas.org/north-east-texas-poetry).

## **SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION**

### ***Valerie Martin Bailey Reporting***

The San Antonio Poets Association met using Zoom on April 18. Ten members were able to get ready for this meeting by then. Those attending were: President Michaud L. Lamrouex, Valerie Martin Bailey, Clyta Coder, Bruce Davis, Sheila Tingley Moore, Paige Parker, Loretta and Wallace Vaughan, Antoinette Winstead, and Darrell Pittman.

We had a casual unscheduled meeting on May 14 just to hone our skills with Zoom. We enjoyed informal chatting and reading poetry for about two hours. It was very enjoyable.

Our May 16th meeting will also be a Zoom meeting at 1:00 p.m., with a waiting room set up at 12:00 noon

At this meeting we will install our new officers, who are President: Sheila Tingley Moore, Vice President: Antoinette Winstead, Treasurer: Michaud L. Lamrouex, Recording Secretary: Valerie Martin Bailey, Corresponding Secretary: Clyta Coder. The Parliamentarian, Historian, and standing committee chairmen will be appointed by the President. We have never done an installation using Zoom, so we are treading new ground.

At this meeting, we will also announce SAPA's Poet Laureate Awards for 2020-2021. For the 13th time The Poet Laureate is Valerie Martin Bailey and the Poet Laureate Emeritus for the second time is Sheila Tingley Moore. The Poet Laureate runners up are: Michaud L. Lamrouex ~ First Runner-up; Loretta Burns Vaughan ~ Second Runner-up; Clyta Coder ~ Third Runner-up. The Poetic Excellence Award once again goes to Sheila Tingley Moore.

Contest Chair Valerie Martin Bailey announced the winners of the April contests, which were

judged by Barbara Goerdel of Arlington. We so appreciate Barbara for sharing her time and expertise with us.

Winners in the Assigned Topics contest were as follows: 1st place: Margaret Mayberry; 2nd place: Sheri Flowers Anderson; 3rd place: Sheila Moore; Honorable Mention: Pat Gibbs

Winners in the Poet's Choice contest were: 1st place: Paige Parker; 2nd place: Patricia Gibbs; 3rd place: Loretta Vaughan; Honorable Mention: Clyta Coder.

Because we are in a virtual meeting it is impossible to award trophies, plaques, and certificates, but all these are being provided and will be presented to the winners at the first face-to face meeting we are able to have, so rest assured all these winners will be appropriately rewarded as soon as possible.

Work on our anthology *Inkwell Echoes* has already begun and the cover has been designed. The Poet Laureate and Poet Laureate Emeritus may submit four poems to be published in the anthology. The Poet Laureate runners-up may submit three poems to the anthology, and all other members may submit two poems to the anthology.

One thing we do at our usual meetings that we all miss is our monthly book raffle. It will be so good to get back to having our meetings in the good old-fashioned way of direct human contact.

## **MY HOW OUR PERSPECTIVES HAVE CHANGED**

### **My Bucket List Last Year**

Get Rich  
Lose Weight  
Go on a Safari  
Spend Some Quiet Time at Home  
Touch a Falling Star

### **My Bucket List This Year**

Get a Hug  
Lose the Mask  
Go to the Store  
Spend Some Quality Time Out with Friends  
Touch My Face

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT APRIL 2020

from Membership Chair Lynn Lewis

Active Members.....205	Sustaining Members.....1
Associate Members.....17	Recently Deceased.....0
Life Members.....37	New Members.....5
Student Members..... 5	Renewing Members .....5
Supporting Members.....1	Current Member Total.....266

## WELCOME NEW PST MEMBERS

Hanh Chau (Associate), San Jose, California  
 Juan M. Perez, Corpus Christi, Texas  
 Jerry Johnston, Fort Worth, Texas  
 Andrew Kock, Krum, Texas  
 Kyle Lee, Garland, Texas

*You Will  PST*



## Book Donations Report

From PST Librarian Barbara Blanks

Librarian Barbara Blanks reports two new book donations to the PST collection at the Dallas Central Library. PST's *A Book of the Year*, edited by Linda Banks  
*The Quantum Uncertainty of Love* by Michael Baldwin

Members are encouraged to donate books to the Library. If you have published a collection of poems or your chapter publishes an anthology, please consider donating a copy to this collection. Send the books to Librarian Barbara Blanks at 1518 Running River Rd., Garland, Texas 75044-7254.

## Bulletin Editor: Valerie Martin Bailey

*vbailybulletin@att.net*

News Deadline: 14th of each month by 8:00 p.m. *The Bulletin* will be published in all months (June & July only when necessary. Only annual contest results are published in the November *Bulletin*. **Note:** Your *Bulletin* is now sent to you via e-mail, Notify the Editor if your e-mail address changes to prevent missing an edition of the *Bulletin*. If you do miss an edition you can request a copy from the editor or see it on our website at [www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org). Click on Publications.

## Membership Chairman: Lynn Lewis

1704 Enderly Place • Fort Worth, TX 76104  
 817-921-9322 • *elsquared59@yahoo.com*

Please notify the Membership Chairman promptly if your address, phone, or e-mail address changes.

## THE POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS MEETS

on the second Saturday of each month at 2:30 p.m.  
 at the Preston Royal Library  
 at 5626 Preston Royal lane in Dallas, except when emergency measures such as the Covid-19 Pandemic are rules are in effect. Then we meet by Zoom.

## ★ THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ★

### President: Irene Robertson

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### Director: Susan Mardele

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## SOME NOT SO "DEEP THOUGHTS" FOR THE TIMES:

1. Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- 2.. I used to spin the toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.
3. I need to practice social distancing from the refrigerator.
4. Still haven't decided where to go for vacation— the Living Room or The Bedroom.
5. HINT: Every few days, try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believing all is well in the kingdom.
6. Homeschooling is going well. 2 students suspended for fighting and 1 teacher fired for drinking on the job!
7. I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to Twilight Zone.
8. This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into the house, told my dog . . . we laughed a lot.
9. So, after this quarantine, will the producers of My 600 Pound life just find me or do I find them?
10. My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I use the bathroom, it cleans the toilet.