

MAY, 2015

MUSELETTER

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 41346

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704

WWW.AUSTINPOETRY SOCIETY.ORG



The 2015 Annual Awards!

On **Saturday, May 16th, 1:30-3:30p.m.**, join us at **The North Door at 501 Studios** (501 N. IH-35) for the last event of the 2014-2015 program year, the Annual Awards ceremony. APS President Bronmin **Shumway** will be the Master of Ceremonies, awarding prizes to the winners of the 26 contests.

The North Door is at the North-West corner of East 5th and Brushy St. Parking is available along Brushy and 5th, as well as in a lot directly south of the building (on the other side of 5th Street). The venue features a bar, a pizzeria, large ground-floor and balcony seating areas, a stage and a 25-foot HD projection wall (entrants in Contest #3 should expect to perform on stage; most other readings take place on the ground floor). 1st Place winners will read their winning poems from the projection on the wall; 2nd Place, 3rd Place, and Honorable Mentions will be listed and announced as well.

Also at this meeting, be sure to thank your APS board members: Caire **Juettner**, Barbara **Gregg**, Allyson **Whipple**, Usha **Akella**, Judith Austin **Mills**, Bronmin **Shumway**, Claire Vogel **Camargo**, Brad **Strahan** and Susan **Rooke**. These are the folks who give of their time and energy to make the poetry wheels keep spinning month-by-month, and without whom we would be at a loss.

A reminder to APS members who've not yet renewed their memberships: This meeting is a fine time to bring a check. If you have renewed, we thank you very much! Your support helps us enrich the lives of poets and poetry in Austin.

And just like all of our meetings, this event is free and open to members and nonmembers alike. The Annual Awards Ceremony is a great chance to see what our organization is all about, so do join us!

Looking Ahead: APS in 2015-2016

The APS is here to serve its members. If you have suggestions for improvements, programs you'd like to see, community-outreach ideas, workshop outlines, activities from year's past you'd like to re-activate: let us know! We want the APS to continue to be the best Poetry Society in Texas, and the more we know about how to serve you, the more equipped we'll be to meet your needs. Bring your typed/written suggestions to any of our meetings (like the Annual Awards Ceremony on May 16th), or send an e-mail to Barbara Gregg at bgregg2@austin.rr.com

The Year In Review

This year the APS has brought you inside information about the Austin International Poetry Festival, the Flor de Nopal Literary Festival, and Visions International. We've hosted talks about Spontaneous Poetry, Promoting your Poetry, Extended Metaphor and publishing via small presses. We've featured our members at a variety of Open Mics and broadcast your accomplishments in the Poetry Society of Texas Awards, various journal and review publications, and are looking forward to publishing many members in Best Austin Poetry in the wake of this year's Annual Awards!

And through it all, your commitment to art, to sharing and learning the craft of poetry, has in turn fueled Austin Poetry Society's commitment to continue bringing you the latest poetry news, workshops, audiences and awards. Thank you, and viva la poesia!

APS Events in May

The APS Critique Group: Saturday, May 30th, 1-3p.m. Bring 10 copies of a poem in progress to discuss with friendly fellow poets. Optional prompt: Write a poem using the words "magnanimous," "windy," and "florid." Hosted by Elizabeth **Kropf** at the Yarborough Branch Public Library, 2200 Hancock.

The APS 4th Thursday Open Mic: Thursday, May 28th, 7-9pm. This month features the 2015 AIPF Board Members: Susan Q. **Stockton**, Lynn **Wheeler-Brandstetter**, James **Jacobs**, Mark **Wendel** and Joe **Brundidge**, along with founding members Herman **Nelson** and Thom the **World Poet**. The indefatigable Linda Marie **Cossa** hosts at NeWorlDeli, 4101 Guadalupe. Come early and enjoy a good meal with a side of fine poetry.

What if the traveler shuns my hut,
 What if the world forgets to be,
 What if I have the Tiger's heart,—
 The Tiger-Woman loveth me!

—Donald (Grady) Davidson
 from "The Tiger-Woman"

Gregory Pardlo has won the **2015 Pulitzer Prize** for Poetry for his collection *Digest* (Four Way Books). Read more about the Brooklyn-based poet and translator at PoetryFoundation.org: <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/gregory-pardlo>

Frank **Pool**, our April Critic/Judge, has distinguished himself in central Texas literary circles over the years in several ways. His credentials include a career of teaching English and Creative Writing, as well as turns at managing and editing the Youth Anthology for AIPF. His poetry collection *Depth of Field*, published by Plain View Press, is offered at Malvern Books, and online followers look forward to his insightful posts about language, philosophy, and current events. He has taught AP English courses at Anderson High School for many years.

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS CONTESTS

The Poetry Society of Texas sponsors **100 poetry contests** each year. **Deadline for submissions is August 15th**. To enter, **you must first be a member of PST**. (Membership in APS does not automatically convey PST membership.) To join, send a \$25 check to Lynn **Lewis**, Membership Chairman, 1704 Enderly Place, Fort Worth, TX 76104. Then go online for the list of contests and guidelines: <http://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests/annual-contests/>. APS members do well in these contests each year, and the more you enter, the better your chances of winning. **1st Place poems receive a cash prize and are published in the PST Book of the Year.**

April Monthly Meeting Contest

General Verse

Critic/Judge: **Gloria Amescua**

Poem	Author	Judge's Rating
Making Soup	Barbara Blanks	1
Reading	Monty Jones	2
Among the Ruins	LaVern Spencer McCarthy	3
Backlit by Sunlight	Michael D. Jones	4
Queen, Ascending	Jay Jones	5

Humorous Verse

Critic/Judge: **Frank Pool**

Poem	Author	Judge's Rating
Science	Monty Jones	1
A Chip Off the Old Writer's Block	LaVern Spencer McCarthy	2
Faking It	Ralph Hausser	3
A Rancher's Advice to His Son	Barbara Blanks	4
Armadillo Love	John Hoag	5

Calls for Submissions

If and Only If: A Journal of Body Image and Eating Disorders seeks submissions related to body image, the body and eating disorders for its Summer 2015 issue. They accept art, fiction, nonfiction and poetry for publication in an online journal, as well as interviews and audio/video submissions. **Deadline: May 15th**. Go to www.ifandonlyifjournal.com for guidelines and to submit your work.

Really System will publish its seventh issue in June 2015. We are looking for vibrant poems inflected by our shared technocultural moment and the ways it envelops us, fascinates us, dances with us, ignores us, and fails us. **Deadline: June 1, 2015**. More information at reallysystem.org.

Red River Review is currently accepting submissions for its 56th Issue. Published quarterly, submission deadlines fall in sync with the according issue-release date. The August 2015 **deadline** is **June 30th**. Visit <http://www.redriverreview.com/> for more information.

San Pedro River Review accepts poetry during the month of July for a non-themed issue. **Deadline: July 31st**. Visit <http://www.sprreview.com/> for more information.

EDUCE Literary Journal is committed to showcasing visual artists and publishing innovative literary fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction by established and emerging writers from the queer community. We are a full-color, magazine-sized, biannual publication that operates primarily on an e-platform, but utilizes print on demand. Queer = Other. **Deadline: August 15th**. www.educejournal.com

The Chattahoochee Review seeks submissions for its Fall/Winter 2015 double issue with a special focus on Migration. Literal and figurative translations of the theme welcome. Not only flight, but also movement; not only movement, but also kinetics; not only kinetics, but also conflict; not only conflict, but also arrival; not only arrival, but also immersion. Dare to be topical, but also sincere. Microbiology, Animalia, suburbia, electronica, strata-relocate, dislocate, elocute. **Deadline: September 15, 2015**, or until the issue fills. Guidelines at thechattahoocheereview.gpc.edu/submissions.htm.

The Cape Rock is one of the oldest ongoing journals in the nation: 50 years strong! We publish established and emerging poets. Send 3–5 previously unpublished poems, any style, with cover letter and SASE to Susan Swartwout, *The Cape Rock*, One University Plaza MS 2650, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. **Submissions accepted year-round**. www6.semo.edu/universitypress/TheCapeRock/

The Transnational seeks political and socio-critical poetry that is often difficult to place—nothing written to satisfy the imagined capacities and desires of an audience. We are looking for ambitious and challenging creative texts which fit the concept of the Transnational—meaning that they make a constructive contribution to the political and social developments in the present. **Submissions accepted year-round.** www.the-transnational.com/get-involved.html

Yellow Chair Review is an online journal of poetry and flash fiction/nonfiction. We are looking for words that knock the air out of your lungs. **Submissions accepted year-round.** For guidelines please visit www.yellowchairreview.com.

Illya's Honey, the literary journal of the Dallas Poets Community, believes that poetry is not a casual endeavor, but rather a noble vocation through which we can achieve redemption and transcendence. They attempt to provide a setting in which writers, in a gathering of their peers, can create their best poetry and share information on issues of craft, content, and venues for recognition. **Submissions accepted year-round.** Visit <http://www.illyashoney.com/> for more information.

The Bleeding Lion is now reading submissions for its Fall & Winter issues. *TBL* is a journal of contemporary arts and letters with a special focus on anatomy, the macabre, cross-cultural, visual arts, and diverse pieces. We love brave and tenacious artists who have something to say and are loud and cavernous in their roar. For guidelines visit thebleedinglion.com.

Big River Review seeks poems that sing, move, shout, and dance, poems that make us think, laugh, wonder, or cry. No greeting card verse, limericks or gimmicks, although rhyming poetry is welcome. No fantasy, dark horror or sci-fi genre poems will be considered, nor will poems that depict gratuitous violence or vulgarity. Image driven and abstract poems are fine unless they are esoteric; "if we read it twice and it makes no sense, it won't be published here. We like poems that describe the worlds around us, seen and unseen, and relate them to the human condition. Please send us only your best work." **Submissions accepted year-round.** Visit <http://bigriverpoetry.com/> for more info.

Carbon Culture Review seeks submissions that intersect literature, art, technology and contemporary culture. **Submissions accepted year-round.** For guidelines and to submit, visit <https://carbonculturereview.submittable.com/submit>.

Poetry Coming Down All Around Us

Kaye **Abikhaled** will be a featured reader at BookWoman on July 9th.

Roberto **Bonazzi** has recently published a book of literary commentary, *Outside the Margins* (Wings Press). He is also the author of a column in the San Antonio Express-News, "Poetic Diversity," where he reviews books of poetry.

Von S. **Bourland** has won a variety of prizes, including multiple 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Honorable Mention, Citations and Special Recognition poems in the following Poetry Society-sponsored states: Oklahoma, Mississippi, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Utah & Massachusetts. She has also judged poems for contests sponsored by the Wichita Falls, Rusk County and Hi-Plains Poetry Societies, the last of which was on behalf of the Poetry Society of Texas Youth Contest.

Claire Vogel **Camargo** is excited to have her poem "Touching the Edge of Darkness" accepted for publication in *Deep Water Literary Journal*. Her poem "Riverstone Words" appears in the *Poetry at Round Top 2015* anthology. Her poems "At the Train Station, Then and Now" and three haiku are in the new *Small Canyons 9 Anthology 2014*, published in February 2015 and available on Lulu.com.

Jane **Chance** has organized three Contemporary Medievalist poetry sessions for a new book in which eight of her poems appear, *New Crops from Old Fields: Eight Medievalist Poets*, edited by Oz **Hardwick**. The first reading will take place at the annual Modern Language Association Conference in Austin this January, following by readings for the Medieval Academy of America in Boston, February 25-27 and for the New Chaucer Society in London, England, July 10-15.

Elzy **Cogswell's** poem, "Go On, No Matter What" was posted permanently online in the *Poetry Superhighway* annual Yom Ha Shoah Issue, works about the Holocaust. To support AIPF, Elzy reprinted in the festival program his poem, "The Banking Business," previously published in *Farfelu* (Winter 2006). *Pecan Press* (which publishes poems by residents of Hyde Park) published two of his poems in the April issue: "Waller Creek and a Heron" and "What to Love." He also recently discovered a book containing a useful survey of English poetry: "I've just read *Best Poems of the English Language* edited by Alissa **Heyman**. She devotes an economical page to a biography for each English poet (from the old English *Beowulf* poet to T. S. **Eliot**). She includes one or more notable poems for each. She covers 193 poets, providing a good background. I'm keeping it handy just to for easy access to the people and the poems, like **Wheatley's** "On Being Brought from Africa to America," **Blake's** "The Tiger," and **Carroll's** "Jabberwocky." I was astonished to learn how many good poets in England had their heads chopped off."

Cindy **Huysen** will be co-editing a new anthology of Southwest persona poems with Scott **Wiggerman** for Dos Gatos Press. Look for the call for submissions from Dos Gatos later in the year.

Poet Ken **Jones** and Friends have been in studios in LA, Houston and Austin recording tracks for CONNECTION, a double vinyl album of his original songwriting. For a preview, go to www.notrecordstapes.com and click on the link to "Daisy's Song."

Beth **Kropf** decided that until she can write a poem that sufficiently describes how awesome her mom is, naming a child after her will have to do. The Kropfs welcomed Emma RuthAnn on April 25.

Catherine **Lee** reports that stART Playing Poetricity jazz poets did 2 San Antonio appearances. Cat **Lee**, Victoria **Conerly** and Ed **Cody** read originals with the band Zarabande at Carmen's de la Calle on International Jazz Day, April 30. Then on May 2 they joined all the local university poetry instructors and students for a reading at Northwest Vista College. The video of our finale performance on March 31 is forthcoming. Our curriculum is now available online for remote study. Contact Cat@extraordinary-words.com for more info.

Christa **Pandey** had work accepted in three publications. Her poem "1945" was published in *Pan's Shadow* (online journal). She also continues to read with the Poetry Caravan, where in one venue the poets read and conducted some writing exercises for the participants, which were well received.

Susan **Rooke's** poem "Imaging Center in the Hospital of Last Resort" will be included in a chapbook of poems sponsored by The College of Physicians of Philadelphia in honor of National Poetry Month. Physician-poet Jack **Coulehan** will co-edit the collection. Susan is the featured reader at BookWoman's 2nd Thursday reading series on Thursday, May 14th, 7p.m. The series is hosted by Cindy **Huysen**.

Bradley **Strahan's** poem "The Mountaineer's Daughter" was accepted by Appalachian Heritage.

Susan Beall **Summers** enjoyed an exciting April and has a new chapbook, *Mirrors of Myself and Places I've Dreamed*. She'll be going to Racine, WI to support Marcie **Eanes** as her editor/collaborator for a book signing of *Cameo* and her new chapbook, *Wind Point*. She will also be featured at Grass Roots in Racine and plans to attend the Poetry Foundation's Kundiman Reading in Chicago and some local open-mics while in the area. Two of her poems are scheduled to be published by Owl Moon Raptor Center in a fund-raising anthology, and she is waiting on news from several poetry publications.

Mark **van Gelder's** poem, "Traumatic Stress Order", appears in the May issue of the *Texas Observer*.

Austin is Poetry City: Events

Sundays, 7-10p.m. Kick Butt Coffee Shop, 5775 West Airport Blvd., #725, 512-454-KICK. **Spoken & Heard** with music. Many hosts.

1st Sundays, 3-5p.m. Recycled Reads, 5335 Burnet Rd., Austin, TX. All-ages **open mic**. Hosted by Louise Gail **Richardson**.

2nd Sundays, 4-6p.m. Malvern Books, 613 West 29th Street, Austin, TX 78705. **Austin Writers Roulette**. Reading and performance of original writing. Juried and hosted by Teresa Y. **Roberson**. Monthly themed reading, followed by an Open Mike; check out upcoming themes at austinwritersroulette.com. To be a featured reader, send theme-inspired material to mathdreads@yahoo.com. 18+

3rd Sundays, 3-5p.m. Recycled Reads. Spoken Word Sundays, all-ages open mic. Hosted by Ralph **Hausser**.

Wednesdays, 1-3p.m. Strange Brew, 5326 Manchaca Rd. **Harriett's Writing Group**, read, write, hangout. Share your creative process with willing eyes and ears. An opportunity to write together with fellow writers. Hosted by Robin **Barratt**, 512-878-7636.

2nd Wednesdays, 7-8:30p.m. Malvern Books. Mind Maze Reading Series, organized by Raw Paw Press. Features: Laura **Guli**, Tony **Cartlidge** and Ebony **Stewart**; no chapbook release this month. Hosts: AR **Rogers** and Wade **Martin**.

4th Wednesdays, 7p.m. St. George's Episcopal Church, Kleburg Hall, 4301 N. IH 35, Austin, Texas 78722. **Austin Quantum Artists**, an open-source creative community of collaborators, patrons and partners. Hosts: Dora **Robinson** and Pete **Sebert**.

2nd Thursdays, 7:15-9p.m. BookWoman, 5501 A-105 N. Lamar. **Featured poets** followed by **round robin** open mic. The March 12th featured reader is APS's own Susan **Rooke**. Hosted by Cindy **Huysen**.

2nd Thursdays, 7:30p.m. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, mezzanine. Monthly **open mic** with featured poets. Co-hosted by Barbara Youngblood **Carr** and Herman M. **Nelson**. For more info call 418-8985 (Barnes & Noble) or 343-7940 (Carr).

3rd Thursdays, 7p.m. Dripping Springs Ranch Park, 1042 Event Center Dr, Dripping Springs. **Thirsty Thursday**, May theme: Poets. Featuring: Nathan **Brown** and David **Thornberry**. Open Mike follows. Host: Nancy **Fierstein**. Call (512-858-2024) for info.

3rd Thursdays, 7:30p.m. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, mezzanine. Monthly **poetry workshop** hosted by Barbara Youngblood **Carr**, author of 17 books of poetry/prose and short stories, and published author Herman M. **Nelson**. Bring 10 copies of a work in progress for friendly critiquing. For more info call 418-8985 (Barnes & Noble) or 343-7940 (Carr).

4th Thursdays, 7-8p.m. Malvern Books. W. Joe's Poetry Corner, in which host W. Joe **Hoppe** interviews a poet, who will then give a reading and answer questions from audience members.

2nd & 4th Fridays, 6:30-8:30p.m. Cianfrani Coffee Company, 109 West 7th St. (on the Square), Georgetown, TX. **Poetry Plus Open Mic Night**. Hosted by Mike Jones (8direct@gmail.com) and Mike & Joyce Gullickson (poetkind@yahoo.com).

3rd Fridays, 1-3p.m. Twin Oaks Library, 1800 S. 5th at West Mary. **Share Your Stories**, a gathering to share life stories in poetry, prose, flash fiction, music, song, etc. Swapping stories just for fun. All welcome. Host: Ralph **Hausser**.

1st Saturdays, 6-10p.m. Austin Baha'i Center, 2215 E M Franklin Ave, Austin, TX 78723. **Expressions**, an all-ages themed reading featuring a pot luck (bring a dish) and Poets Pantry (bring canned food). Various hosts and featured poets, followed by an open mic. June theme: More Peace, Please. www.austinbahai.org

2nd Saturdays, 1:30-3p.m. Round Rock Public Library, 216 E Main Ave, Round Rock, TX 78664. **Round Rock Reading Series**, Featuring Joyce **Gullickson** and W. Joe **Hoppe**, open mic to follow. Host: Dr. Bradley **Strahan**. Note: The Round Rock Reading Series will be on hiatus during July and August, resuming in September.

3rd Saturdays, 7:30-10p.m. Geo-Growers Crossroads Garden, 12002 Hwy 290, Austin, TX 78737. **Awesmic City Café**, poetry, music and a Taco truck. Look for the string-lights in the garden entrance, or come through the parking lot to the back area of the business. Contact host Anyah **Dishon** for more info: anyah7777@aol.com.

April 14th-June 10th (various dates, times and locations), Austin Public Library Branches. Badgerdog Spring Workshops for Adults, a series of poetry workshops on nature, odes, confessionalism, joy, persona and biliomancy, taught by Kelsey Erin **Shipman**, Wade **Martin**, Logan **Fry**, Tyler **Gobble**, Julie **Choffel**, and Amanda **North**. For more exact information, visit http://www.austinlibrary.org/site/PageServer?pagename=bdog_adult.

Tuesday-Sunday, May 12-17, various times and locations. **Austin Poetry Slam**, celebrates 20 years of poetry with **APS20**, a week-long festival of performances, conversations, homage and dancing. See <http://austinslam.com/> for more details.

Wednesday, May 20th, 7:30. BookWoman. Strange Pilgrims: A Poetry Reading, featuring Carrie **Fountain**, Laurie **Filipelli**, Lisa **Olstein**, Lauria **Sauborn** and Sasha **West**.

Sunday, May 24th, 9:00am-4:00pm. The Writing Barn, 10202 Wommack Road, Austin, TX 78748. **Write-Away Day**, a day of writing in the company of other writers amidst 7.5 acres of scenic beauty. State your goals, work on your projects, get to know other writers, and share your progress at the end of the day. E-mail wbprogramassistant@gmail.com for more information, or visit <http://www.thewritingbarn.com/>.