GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Georgia Poetry Society: Serving Georgia's Poets Since 1979 Volume 32, Number 1: Spring 2010

Don't Miss 125th GPS Meeting in Dahlonega

The 125th Quarterly meeting of the Georgia Poetry Society convenes Saturday, **April 24th**. 9:00 A.M. at North Georgia College & State University, in the Special Collections Room in the Library/Technology Center.

There's free parking on campus during the weekends. Our meeting room is on the 3rd floor. There is an elevator off the main floor (to the left as one enters the Library). Click this URL to <u>http://www.ngcsu.edu/library/</u> see a picture of the building. The parking is to the left, in a large parking lot that is clearly visible from the Highway 60 entrance into the University. There's a little building in the middle of the road leading into the campus. The library sits on a hill above and is very visible. **(Campus map p.11)**



Georgia novelist and poet B. J. Robinson

In This Issue

Member Announcement and Awards 2-4
2009 GPS Poetry Award Winners 4-6
Quarterly Meeting Information6-8
Accommodations, Restaurants and Things to Do in Dahlonega
NGC Campus Map11
Reach of Song Order Form12

Featured Speaker: North Georgia Poet, B. J. Robinson

B. J. (Bonnie) Robinson earned her Bachelor's degree at Wesleyan University in Connecticut and her Master's and Ph. D. degrees at the University of Virginia. Her fields of interest include Nineteenth and Twentieth Century British literature and Creative Writing. She has published several articles on late Victorian writers and guest edited a special issue of Victorian Poetry on British Women Writers at the Turn of the Century. She's the Founder and Director of the University Press of North Georgia. She is a guest lecturer for The Creative Writing Program at Emory University, and she is a published novelist and poet.

Lou Jones Spotlighted at GPS Spring Meeting

Lou Jones is a former Marine and retired Caterpillar Inc. Business Manager. During his working years he authored many essays and papers for business journals and magazines. He received Commendations from the Institute of Management Accountants as well as a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute for International Research for his contributions to business literature. After retiring Lou turned his writing endeavors toward the more creative. To that end he joined the Greensboro Writer's Guild in 2006 and, working with accomplished writers, developed an interest in poetry. He subsequently joined the Georgia Poetry Society and was the Contest Chair for the 2009 Contests. Lou's poems reflect his keen interest

in the human condition; our behaviors, relationships, beliefs, ideologies, our scientific concepts; how we perceive our world and the universe in which we reside.

After joining GPS Lou developed a friendship with Mildred White Greear who, in due course, urged him to publish a collection of his poems. He will read from the recently published collection, *From Microbe to Consciousness*.

A lifelong runner, Lou has completed 25 marathons. He enjoys golf but admits to being mediocre at best. Lou and his wife Toni reside at Reynolds Plantation at Lake Oconee, near



Georgia.



Lou (above) is currently finishing a novel that he hopes to have published by early summer.



JC Reilly to Lead Workshop

JC Reilly is a displaced Louisiana poet living in Atlanta, with two strange cats and a quirky Socialist husband. Her work has recently appeared or is forthcoming in *Southern Women's Review*, the *Arkansas Review*, *Cider Press Review*, and online. Her chapbook *La Petite Mort* is forthcoming in July from Finishing Line Press.



JC blogs at http://jcreilly.wordpress.com/

Member Announcements and Awards

Clela Reed has had a chapbook of 27 nature-related poems *Of Root and Sky* accepted for publication sometime this year by Pudding House Press.

Brenda Kay Ledford's poetry is upcoming in Bella Review, Fresh Literary Magazine, Illogical Muse, and Willows Wept Review.

Karen Paul Holmes had a poem accepted for the Spring 2010 issue of *Poetry East*.

Starkey Flythe, noted South Carolina and Georgia author and poet, will read from his new book, *The Futile Lesson of Glue* (Snake Nation Press), on Saturday, April 10, at 2PM. Paperwhites, 102 Courthouse Square, Edgefield SC 29824. Warming up for him will be Laurel Blossom, curator of the Poetry@Paperwhites series, and author, most recently, of the book length narrative poem, *Degrees of Latitude* (Four Way Books). Refreshments will be served. Voluntary admission fees will benefit Edgefield Regional Arts.

For further information, contact: Laurel Blossom 204 Promised Land Rd. Edgefield SC 29824 803-640-0625 <u>laurel.blossom@earthlink.net</u> www.laurelblossom.com

Mildred Greear gave a two hour program on the love poems of Byron Herbert Reece on Feb. 21 at the Northeast Georgia History Museum located at Brenau University in Gainesville. Previously scheduled for a

valentine's day event by hostess Myra Meade of the Hall County Book Exchange and Yonah Mountain Book Exchange in Cleveland, the event drew guests from Atlanta, Athens, Rome, Mentone, Alabama, and a cadre from White County. The love poems by Reece, patron saint so to speak of the Georgia Poetry Society, are few, but fervent, and are to be located most easily in the four collected volumes printed first by E. P. Dutton, and now by Cherokee Larlin Press in Marietta. Mildred gave answers to number of questions from those а attending, and as one remarked, "there were lots of laughs and some tears."



Mildred will read for the members of the Johns Creek Poetry Group on Saturday, March 27, from 1:15 to 3:00. The location is Northeast Spruill Oaks Regional Library, 9560 Spruill Road, Johns Creek, Ga.

On May 1, Mildred will return to Tiger, Georgia to read for Georgia Forest Watch at a second billing. She plans to read some requested favorites, and from a new selection of strongly anti-war poems.

Also in April she will read from her collection *Moving Gone Dancing* for the

Cleveland, Ga. Rotary Club and associate some of her poetry with early stories of life in her adopted home of Helen before the town became tourist oriented. "I wrote all those essays about children and chickens" Mildred says, and now that world seems like a dream.

> "My retrieval of some of those files is for now titled: Once Upon A Dream." She now has а professional typist helping her complete her studies of Reece's wind images. "That is my biggie; a must do. It is almost finished, and is titled 'A Very Liveness of the Air,' a line from his poem, 'I know a Valley Green with Corn,' his homesick poem written from UCLA as he longs for his home place in Choestoe."

Her reading at Oglethorpe University has been postponed.

Betsy Hollis-Frey, a member of the *Pine Mountain Poets* and *GPS*, garnered both Poetry First Place and First Place Overall (total points from both poetry and short story categories) for the Georgia Writers Association FINAL 2009 Writing Contest.

Betsy, а native of Alabama, was transplanted to Georgia when young, keeping one foot in each state, and her head in the clouds. She believes she arrived with a pencil in hand as words danced in her head. Following a stint at Massey College she worked in the art department of an Atlanta business, then relocated to Bartow County where she worked at the local newspaper. The day job, she held for thirty years, was with the Georgia Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries. The first twelve years she edited the "Children's Messenger." As the agency grew she continued in administration serving as the Executive Assistant to the President utilizing her creative skills by day and writing at night. Betsy is a member of the Pine Mountain Poets; the Alabama State Poets Society, the Georgia Writer's Association and attended two of the Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference.



Betsy Hollis-Frey "surprised" by her award from Georgia Writers Association.

GPS Chapbook Contest Winner: Kandice Cook



Kandice Cook (above) is the winner of the 2009 GPS chapbook contest for her collection entitled *More than Atoms*.

Kandice, born in Columbus, Georgia, and raised in rural Troup County, was a student

at Oglethorpe University where she studied creative writing under Dr. Linda Taylor. She now attends LaGrange College where she studies English, history, and religion. Her poems have appeared in the *Inkblot*, *The Reach of Song, The Tower*, and The Troup County *Banner*. She attended the Sewanee Young Writers' Conference in 2007 where she studied poetry with Dr. Juliana Gray, and, along with three other writers formed "The Modest Poets' Society". She has also attended the Chattahoochee Valley Writers' Conference in both 2007 and 2009.

Chapbook Contest Judge

The chapbook contest judge was Doris Lueth Stengel, a distinguished servant of the national poetry community, a visionary leader, and herself the winner of numerous highly competitive poetry contests. After attending Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, Doris earned a BS in education with a major in English at the University of North Dakota. She taught English in high school and continues to do so part time at an alternative school.

Doris is a member, and past president, of the League of Minnesota Poets. She served two years as president of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies and holds the office of immediate past president.

Her poetry has appeared in *Dust & Fire, Talking Stick, Lake Country Journal, Encore* and other magazines and anthologies. She was presented a hand-carved Bardic chair for winning the oral and written Eidstedfodd competition at a Welsh poetry festival. Three of her poems were chosen from work submitted by 130 poets for the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Anthology, *County Lines*, in 2008.

Ms. Stengel commented,

This manuscript immediately drew me into its narratives of an unusual family whose stories are told in language that is fresh and filled with details and concrete images. We hear tales of a family which learned to call owls, smelled like burning cedar, creek water, and dirt and was plagued by the lazy eye. Each life story is fascinating and told with love and respect. This is a read which will make you smile, but wince a bit, too. It is one you will remember after you lay the book down. Talk about an original genealogy!

Ms. Stengel reported that here were 23 total entries. 3 entries were disqualified (2 for non-compliance with the rules, 1 not being current with GPS dues).

2009 Georgia Poetry Society Contest Winners

There were 341 total entries, including 2 foreign language entries.

Foreign Language Contest--no prize was awarded due to insufficient number of entries.

Educator's Award (61 entries) Judge: Alice Friman 1st Place: "Pushing Narcissus" JC Reilly Atlanta, Georgia 2nd Place: "A Place du Tertre, Montmarte"

Jill Jennings Woodstock, Georgia

3rd Place: "Home Run" **Ann Gillespie** Cleveland, Georgia

Edgar Bowers Award (36 entries) Judge: John Bush

1st Place: "Triptych, Plus One" Linda Lee Harper Augusta, Georgia

2nd Place: "Charleston Sonnet" Nathan Friedman Richmond, Virginia

3rd Place: "Ballade of December Night" **Enriqueta Carrington** Highland Park , New Jersey

Honorable Mention: "Mementos of Moscow " Charles Hughes Park Ridge , Illinois

Mnemosyne Award (70 entries)

Judge: Lynn Alexander

1st Place: "To Pioneers William and Easter"Larry Hand Woodstock , Georgia2ndPlace: "The Art of Loss" JC Reilly

Atlanta, Georgia

3rd Place: "The Reminder" **Martha R. Phillips** Athens, Georgia

Honorable Mention: "An Ode on a Sunset Porch" Larry Hand Woodstock, Georgia Honorable Mention: "The Night Before" JC Reilly Atlanta, Georgia

Langston Hughes Award (31 entries) Judge: Beverly Head

1st Place: "Daddy Left With His Guitar"
Terry Hensel Alpharetta, Georgia
2nd Place: "Dancing in the Dark, 1944 Style"
Anderson Frazar Columbus, Georgia
3rd Place: "The Last Ride" Francie Smith-Rountree Sautee-Nacoochee, Georgia

Byron Herbert Reece International

Award (61 entries)

Judge: Tom Lombardo

1st Place: "Ode to an Outhouse" Larry
Hand Woodstock, Georgia
2nd Place: "Flames" Robert Walton King
City, California

3rd Place: "Easter Pageant" **Janet Lombard** Athens , Georgia

Honorable Mention: "The Innocents" Robert Lynn Duluth , Georgia

Honorable Mention: "A Good days Work" Sandy Hokanson Alpharetta, Georgia

Honorable Mention: "Fangs at my Fingertips" Larry Hand Woodstock, Georgia

Founders Award (80 entries) Judge: Maudelle Driskell

1st Place: "Ghosts in the Hashbrowns" Linda Lee Harper Augusta, Georgia .

2nd Place: "Flying Kites With Kirsten on a Thursday Afternoon" JC Riley Atlanta , Georgia

3rd Place: "Eighty" **Karen Burnette Garner** Dacula, Georgia

Honorable Mention: "God in Flight" John Ottley Jr. Alpharetta, Georgia

Honorable Mention: "Safe" Lynn Farmer Decatur, Georgia

Honorable Mention: "The River" Wilson Williams Columbus, Georgia

"Thanks to all for participating in the 2009 Georgia Poetry Society contests."

Lou Jones Contest Chair

Opportunities and Contests for GPS Members

Georgia Writers Registry by Lynn Pedersen

GPS members who have publishing credits may want to look into the new Georgia Writers

Registry (GWR), a program of Georgia Council for the Arts. The purpose of the GWR is to provide the general public, libraries, schools, and nonprofits with a listing of writers in all genres who are available for readings and other projects.

There are eligibility requirements, and applications are accepted at any time and reviewed on a quarterly basis. Applicants must be residents of Georgia and have a minimum of 12 publication points based on this scale: 12 points each book, 6 points each chapbook, 2 points each poem. There is no cost to apply.

For GPS members, the Georgia Writers Registry provides opportunities to build a wider audience, and to help bring poetry to all of Georgia.

An added bonus of inclusion in the registry is grant money. Literary event sponsors who choose GWR authors can apply for funds to support their events through Literary Event Grants of Georgia (L.E.G.G.). The only requirement is that the event be held outside of Cobb, Fulton or Dekalb counties.

Application forms and more information can be found on the Atlanta History Center website. <u>http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/cms/Geo</u> <u>rgia+Writers+Registry/271.html</u>

More information about Literary Event Grants of Georgia can be found through the Georgia Writers Association website.

https://www.georgiawriters.org/legg

Callanwolde Poetry Readings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14; 8 pm POETRY READING Join two amazing poets Christopher "Cocktails" Cornell and James May as Callanwolde celebrates the art and performance of poetry with readings in the unique setting of the Callanwolde Library. Tickets are sold at the door. \$5 General Admission, \$3 Students with and Members. ID, Seniors, For more information call 404-872-5338 visit or www.callanwolde.org

Free Book of Poetry

Hi, I am a member of the Illinois State Poetry Society, and I am writing to ask if you'd be kind enough to pass along the following message to the individuals in your poetry group. I have many extra copies of my poetry books and would love to give them away. I am done promoting and selling them, and just want them to reach poetry lovers. Thank you!

FREE POETRY BOOK! Anyone from this poetry group can send Jason Sturner (member of the Illinois State Poetry Society) an email with your shipping address and he will send you one of his poetry books for free. These books are also available as free downloads. Please see his website for details. Jason Sturner, Email: <u>flowerpetalsonthecreek@yahoo.com</u>, Website: <u>www.jasonsturner.blogspot.com</u>

The Alabama State Poetry Society is accepting submissions for the Annual John and Miriam Morris Memorial Chapbook Competition. Deadline is May 31. Winner receives \$100 and 50 copies of his/her winning chapbook.

Poems may be previously published if poet retains all rights. Send 20-24 total pages of poetry, (poems may be longer than one page, but total page count must be 20-24) with two (2) title pages: one with author identification, and one with NO author identification.

Please send manuscript with a \$15 reading fee

payable to New Dawn Unlimited, Inc. Mail to: Jerri Hardesty, ASPS 2010 Morris Memorial Chapbook Competition, 1830 Marvel Road Brierfield, AL 35035.

Anyone interested in joining a poetry critique group in Buckhead/Midtown Atlanta? We generally meet the fourth Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. Please contact Karen Paul Holmes for more information send email to feb2479@gmail.com.



Improvoetry a NEW Class offered at Callanwolde

Instructors: Lesly Fredman and Alice Teeter. Blend and merge your talents in writing and performing. Use improvisation exercises as a springboard for creating poetry and employ writing practices for use in spoken and nonspoken improvisation. Learn spontaneous techniques to use as writing-block releases and for poetic inspiration. Poems written on the spot will be used to invent scenes and characters. These classes will enhance any prior knowledge as well as create new pathways for expression by using the whole body as both a tool and a toy to liberate your imagination and improve self-confidence! All levels of acting and creative writing experience welcome; bring notebook and pen. Min. 8, max. 16. Fee: \$175 members/\$185 non-members, Class #4666, Thursdays, April 15 - May 20 -- 10 weeks, 7:00 -9:00 p.m.

Chattahoochee Valley Writers Poetry Contest

Guidelines for Submission: *Send* \$15 for up to five poems. (Submitter may send as many entries as s/he wishes.) For complete entry information log onto the CVW website at http://www.chattwriters.org/CVWCContestsAd ult2010.shtml Prizes: First Place: \$150.00, Second Place: \$100.00, Third Place: \$50.00 Honorable Mention: Certificate. Manuscripts not meeting guidelines will be disqualified. All entries must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2010. Mail to: Chattahoochee Valley Writers' Conference, ATTN: Jim Cummins, Adult Writing Contest Coordinator, P. O. Box 2184, Columbus GA 31902.

Save the dates, September 23-25, 2010!



125th Quarterly Meeting Important Information

When: April 24th at 9:00 A.M. Where:

North Georgia College & State University 82 College Circle

Dahlonega, GA 30597

**Meetings will begin in Special Collections Room at the Library/Technology Center (see campus map page 11.)



From Atlanta Area : Take GA 400/US 19 north toward Dahlonega. Travel north on GA 400 until ends at GA 60/US 19 (approx. 56 miles). Turn left on GA60/US 19. Travel north toward the city of Dahlonega . Travel to the first stoplight on to GA 60/US 19 (business). Proceed through the intersection. The main entrance to campus is about 200 yards on the left. (Approx. drive time from I-285: 1 hour)

From Augusta Area : Travel I-20 W to 285 North, to GA 400/Us 19 North toward Dahlonega. Travel north on GA 400/US 19 until it ends at GA 60/US 19 (approx. 56 miles). Turn left on GA 60/US 19. Travel north toward the city of Dahlonega . Travel to the first stoplight on to GA 60/US 19 (business). Proceed through the intersection. The main entrance to campus is about 200 yards on the left. (Approx. drive time 3 hours)

From Macon Area : Take I-75 N to Atlanta, GA. In Atlanta, take I-85 N. Bear right onto GA 400. Travel north on GA 400 until ends at GA 60/US 19 (approx. 56 miles). Turn left on GA60/US 19. Travel north toward the city of Dahlonega . End the first stoplight on to GA 60/US 19 (business). Proceed through the intersection. The main entrance to campus is about 200 yards on the left. (Approx. drive time: 2hrs., 45 min)

From Columbus/Lagrange Area: Take I-185 N to I-85. Follow I-85 N to I-285 W. Take I-285 N/W GA60/US 19. Travel north toward the city of Dahlonega . Travel to the first stoplight on GA 400. Travel GA 400 N until ends at GA 60/US 19 (approx. 56 miles). Turn left on GA 60/US 19 (business). Proceed through the intersection. The main entrance to campus is about 200 yards on the left. (Approx. drive time: 3 hours)

Places to Stay in Dahlonega

Historic Worley B&B Inn (c.1845)

168 Main Street West Dahlonega, GA 30533-1005 (706) 864-7002

Mountain Laurel Creek Inn & Spa 202 Talmer Grizzle Road Dahlonega, GA 30533-2934 (706) 867-8134

Cedar House Inn and Yurts

6463 Highway 19 North Dahlonega, GA 30533-1938 (706) 867-9446 Top of the Square Bed and Breakfast 90 N Public Square

Dahlonega, GA 30533-1206 (706) 867-5009

Lily Creek Lodge

2608 Auraria Road Dahlonega, GA 30533-5918 (706) 864-6848

Dahlonega Spa Resort 400 Blueberry Hill Dahlonega, GA 30533-8909 (706) 865-7678 Long Mountain Lodge B & B and Cabin 144 Bull Creek Road Dahlonega, GA 30533-2604 (706) 864-2337 Mountain Top Lodge at Dahlonega 447 Mountain Top Lodge Rd. Dahlonega, GA 30533-4464 (706) 864-5257 Dahlonega Square Villa 40 S Park St Dahlonega, GA 30533 (706) 429-5418 **Park Place Hotel** 27 South Park Street

Dahlonega, GA 30533(706) 864-0021

Comfort Inn

127 Beartooth Parkway Dawsonville, GA 30534 (706) 216-1900

Historic Smith House Inn

84 South Chestatee Street Dahlonega, GA 30533 (706) 867-7000

Holiday Inn Express

835 South Chestatee Street Dahlonega, GA 30533-1610



Edelweiss German Inn & Vines European Cuisine 47 Duncan Bridge Rd · (GA Hwy 384) Sautee, GA 30571

<u>Piazza</u>

24 East Main St. · On the Square Dahlonega, GA 30533

Crimson Moon Cafe', The

24 North Park Street Dahlonega, GA 30533-1103 (706) 864-3982

Corkscrew Cafe

51 West Main Street Dahlonega, GA 30533-1000 (706) 867-8551

Historic Smith House Inn

84 South Chestatee Street Dahlonega, GA 30533 (706) 867-7000

April Is National Poetry Month



The 2010 National Poetry Month poster, designed by Marian Bantjes is available from the poets.org website. Press "Ctrl+click " to follow link and request a free poster:

Request a free poster for April 2010 >

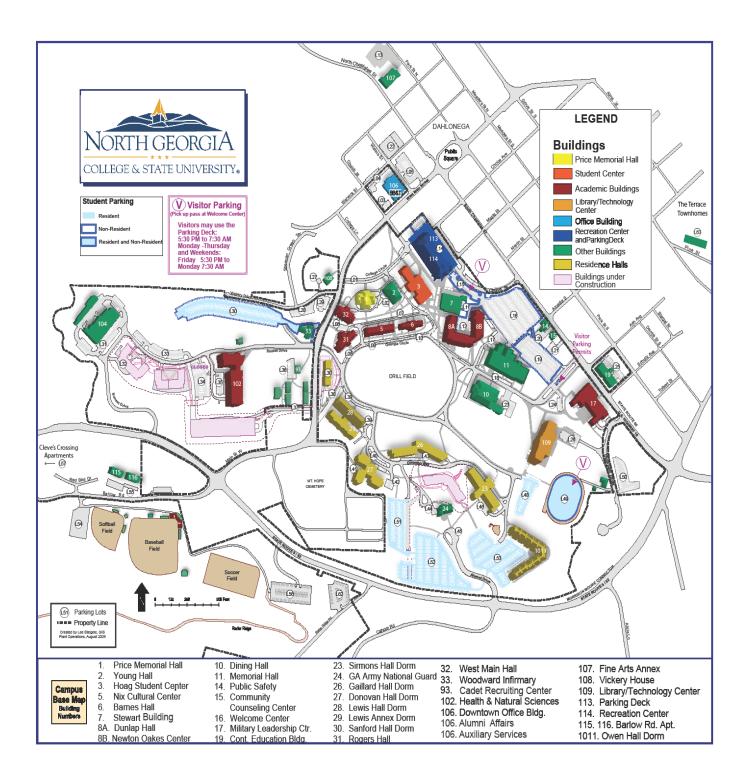
Things to Do In Dahlonega

Damn Yankees (musical) playing at the Historical Holly Theater, 69 West Main Street, 30533 Tel 706-864-3759 Box Office telephone; 706-864-3394; Friday, April 23--8:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 24--8:00 p.m.; Sunday, April 25--2:00 p.m. Tickets: \$20-\$19-\$14

For more information, go online to the Dahlonega Chamber of Commerce--www.dahlonega.org,

Note: Traditional music is played on the square on Saturdays from 3 until 6:00 p.m.

Tourist guides available at: <u>http://www.dahlonega.org/index.php/visitor-resources.html</u>



GPS Reach of Song ORDER FORM						
	QTY		PRICE		TOTAL	
The Reach of Song 2010 (advance copy)		x	\$15.00	=		
(Delivery at July Meeting or by mail) Copy for local library/school		x	\$15.00	=		
The Reach of Song 2009		x	\$15.00	=		
The Reach of Song 2008		x	\$13.50	=		
The Reach of Song 2006-07		x	\$ 7.50	=		
The Reach of Song 2003-04		x	\$ 3.50	=		
The Reach of Song 2001-02		x	\$ 3.50	=		
<i>String Theory</i> Chapbook by Alice Teeter, 2007		×	\$ 5.00	=		
To 'Talk in That Book' of Nature Chapbook by Lynn Veach Sadler, 2005		x	\$ 4.00	=		
TOTALS						
(Includes Shipping) Complete information below, include check or money order (these constitute your receipt) made out to Georgia Poetry Society, and mail to:						
Sandy Hokanson, <i>The Reach of Song</i> 640 Sweet Gum Forest Lane Alpharetta, GA 30005						
Name						
Address						
Phone						
Email						

LIBRARY or SCHOOL ADDRESS Yes No (circle one)