

Georgia Poetry Society

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER:
SERVING GEORGIA'S POETS SINCE 1979

Schedule for 23rd of October GPS Meeting in the RiverCenter Studio Theatre:

8:30 am - Coffee and Mingling
9:00 am - Call to Order and Announcements
9:15 am - Morning Member Poetry Reading
9:45 am - Morning Break
10:00 am - Presentation of NFSPS Winners' Poems
10:15 am - Featured Member Poet - John Ottley
10:35 am - Featured Poet, Justin Blackburn
10:55 am - Featured Poet, Kandice Cook
11:15 am - Book Signing
12:00 am - Lunch
1:00 pm - Raffle
1:15 pm - Afternoon Member Poetry Reading
1:45 pm - Afternoon Break
2:00 pm - Dr. Daniel Ross, Presentation on Seamus Heaney
2:30 pm - Closing Comments
3:00 pm - Board Meeting

DIRECTIONS to the October GPS Quarter Meeting in Columbus GA on 10/23/2010:

RiverCenter is located at 900 Broadway,
Columbus, GA 31901

• Directions from Atlanta (From the North)

- Take Interstate 85 South to Interstate 185
- From I-185, take exit 10 (Highway 80 West, toward Phenix City, Alabama)
- Follow until Exit 1, 2nd Avenue
- Continue on 2nd Avenue to 10th Street
- Take right onto 10th Street
- Turn left onto Broadway, then right into River Center Parking garage

• Directions from Macon (From the East)

- Take US Highway 80 West
- When you enter Columbus you will take Exit 1, 2nd Avenue
- Continue on 2nd Avenue to 10th Street
- Take right onto 10th Street
- Turn left onto Broadway, then right into RiverCenter Parking garage

RiverCenter Parking Garage

Total number of spaces in the garage 685;

Handicap spaces=13

Parking spaces available during the day =93

There are 62 parking spaces around the block of the RiverCenter.

LUNCHEON ORDER FORM: (Please send in your order with your check and this order form to our treasurer:)

T. Hensel, P. O. Box 999, Alpharetta, GA 30009

Make check payable to Georgia Poetry Society.

Two choices: () **Hawaiian chicken**

OR () **Burgundy beef tips.**

If you are placing orders, please remember what you ordered since there will not be enough of either one item for everybody to have without orders. Side dishes are: Potatoes Rankin, grilled vegetables, and tossed salad. Desert comprises of Lemon Lush dessert. Buffet lunch will be served beginning at 12:00 at a cost of \$17 per person.

Please include: **Name(s):** _____ and _____

Phone Number: _____; **Email:** _____

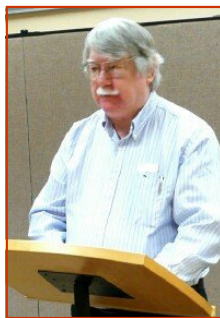
Postmark deadline: October 16th, 2010 or Call Keith before sending if you received this too late

(334) 448-4715

King To Be Anointed President!

CONGRATULATIONS ALL!

The elected officers and directors will begin serving in their new capacities on **January 1, 2011**:



Robert King

The Georgia Poetry Society election results for the 2011 year are in as follows:

President: Robert King; **Vice-President,** Jill Jennings; **Secretary,** JC Reilly; and **Treasurer,** Elsie Austin. **Newly elected Board Members** include: Terry Hensel, George Williams, Dr. Robert Lynn, Dr. Berthena Lankford, Keith Badowski, and Dr. Robert Simon.

Robert King, our new president, is now serving as GPS Webmaster, and has been writing poetry seriously since his discharge from the United States Navy in 1972. He is currently Director and Editor-in-Chief of Future Cycle Press. He is the author of two chapbooks, **When the Stars Fall Down as Snow** (Garland Press, 1976) and **Dream of the Electric Eel** (Wolfsong Press, 1982). His full length poetry collections include **The Gravedigger's Roots** and **The Hunted River**, both from Shared Roads Press. His poems have appeared in such journals as **The Kenyon Review**, **Charitan Review**, **Lullwater Review**, **Midwest Quarterly**, and **Spoon RiverPoetry Review**, among others.



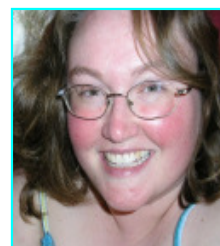
Jill Jennings

Vice-President **Jill Jennings** has won top awards from the Georgia Poetry Society, Atlanta Writers Club, and other writing organizations and groups. A retired journalist, she served as editor of **West Michigan Magazine**, as a regular columnist and reviewer for **The Athens Observer** newspaper, and as public relations director for two PBS affiliates.

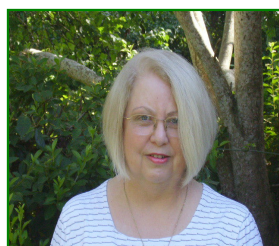
For 18 years, she taught Latin and English in public schools where she also developed writing workshops for the English portion of the SAT exam. Since retiring in 2004, she has devoted herself full-time to writing and teaching writing workshops for SAT preparation and for writing poetry.

Her first full-length volume of poetry, **The Poetry Alarm Clock**, came out August 1, 2008.

Our new secretary, **JC Reilly**, wishes everything could be written as a poem, including editorials, cereal ads, and weather reports. She is a displaced Louisiana poet living in Atlanta. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Kalliope: a Journal of Women's Literature and Art*, *The Reach of Song*, *Rive Gauche*, the *Xavier Review*, the *Arkansas Review*, and two online journals, *Ouroboros Review* and *Sweet: A Literary Confection*. Her chapbook, **La Petite Mort**, was recently published by Finishing Line Press.



JC Reilly



Elsie Austin



Left to right: R. Simon, G. Williams, and K. Badowski



Terry Hensel

Elsie Austin is a veteran of the 30-Day Novel genre and has completed the annual online event for the past 5 years. She conducted "30-Day Novel" 6-week workshops at Columbus State University, Continuing Education, in the fall of 2009 and Spring of 2010 and recently served on the faculty of the Chattahoochee Valley Writers' Conference with a 30-Day Novel workshop. She has also taught a 6-week course, "Awaken the Writer within You."

Elsie has written two screenplays that earned her a coveted invitation to Ken Rotcop's semi-annual "Art of the Pitch" workshop in Hollywood in 2007. Her screenplay mentor, Esther Luttrell, worked at MGM for many years, and Elsie has attended her workshops from Burt Reynolds' Ranch to Providence, Rhode Island, as well as Boston and Concord, MA and Miami, FL. Her poetry has been published in **The Reach of Song**. She also has been a contributor to Columbus' **"Playgrounds Magazine"** for several years and is currently treasurer of the Chattahoochee Valley Writers, Inc.



Robert Lynn

GPS Is Introducing Two New Contests This Year!

The Anderson Social Poetry Prize (\$500)

The award is given to honor two young men, Forest Anderson Rogers and Mathew Anderson Crowe, who had deep interest in how people interacted in past and current social conditions. One winner will be awarded \$500.

Note: There are no 2nd or 3rd place awards in this contest.

Guidelines

Entered poems must exemplify the category of "social poetry." Social poetry reflects a keen interest in the human condition: our behaviors, relationships, beliefs, ideologies, scientific concepts, and how we perceive our world and the universe in which we reside. Poems submitted may be any form with a maximum length of 40 lines. Enter up to 3 poems. Poems submitted must also adhere to the Georgia Poetry Society "General Rules" for contests including the postmark deadline, October 31st. Please locate "Out, Out—" by Robert Frost, "The Death of the Hat" by Billy Collins, and "In the Waiting Room" by Elizabeth Bishop for examples of social poetry.

Entry Fee: Ten (\$10) per poem for non-GPS members and \$5 per poem for GPS members. (This is an exception from the standard fees for GPS contests.)

Under a Hundred Chapbook Competition (In Honor of Edward Davin Vicker)

Every two years, the Under a Hundred Chapbook Competition selects for recognition three poets to be included in a combined chapbook. Below are the contest rules and guidelines for the 2010 Under a Hundred Chapbook Contest.

How to Enter

Send two copies of not more than 100 lines of poetry. You may include a title page, table of contents, and acknowledgments pages. These will not count as part of the 100 line limit for poetry. A conventional typeface like Times Roman is acceptable in 12-point font.

Illustrations and translations are not allowed. Poems must be typed and in English on an 8 ½ X 11-inch white paper only. Although any subject and any form are allowed, poems must demonstrate appropriate language and good taste. In general, poems will be disqualified if found to contain indecencies, obscenities, defamations, or hateful expressions.

Place your name and address on one copy of the manuscript. No author identification of any kind should appear on the second copy, which will be sent to the judge. No email, text message, disc, MP3 or other electronic submissions. GPS determines printing and binding specifications and book design. Publication rights rest with GPS until the chapbook is published. After that, rights revert to the author.

Three winners will be chosen. No honorable mentions or runners-up. Winners receives \$50 and 25 printed copies of the chapbook. The authors may dispose of these as they deems appropriate, including selling them. GPS will print additional copies of the winning chapbook over and above those presented to the authors and reserves the right to sell these copies. ***The contest will not be judged by a GPS member.*** The judge's decision will be final.

Entry Fee

Ten (\$10) per submission of less than 100 lines. Make check/money order payable to Georgia Poetry Society. No cash, please! Only one entry is permitted per person. Entrant need not be a member of the Georgia Poetry Society.

Deadline: Must be postmarked by October 31, 2010, or next business day. Late entries will NOT be considered. Mail entries to: Georgia Poetry Society, ATTN: Under A Hundred Contest, P. O. Box 2184, Columbus, GA 31902. Enclose a SASE if you want to know whether or not you won prior to the official announcement.

Three Featured Poets in the Morning

Kandice Cook, winner of the 2009 Charles Dickson Chapbook Contest, was born in Columbus, Georgia, was raised in rural Troup County, and 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. Along with three other writers, Kandice formed "The Modest Poets' Society". Also she has attended the Chattahoochee Valley Writers' Conference in 2007 and 2009.



Along with three other writers, Kandice formed "The Modest Poets' Society."

John Ottley, Jr., is presently retired, but he once managed two orthodontic professional associations. He graduated from Davidson College (1953, Bachelor of Arts in English) and Columbia University (1954, Master of Science in journalism). He edited and published *Midwest Poetry Review*, earned several Army decorations and badges and is the only non-dentist to receive the Southern Association of Orthodontists' Distinguished Service Award.

Born on October 8, 1931, in Atlanta, he is married and has four children, eight grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. He was president of the Georgia Poetry Society and treasurer of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies.



John Ottley is the only non-dentist to receive the Southern Association of Orthodontists' Distinguished Service Award.



In collaboration with Kenny Norsworthy, Blackburn created a controversial stir with the US Government with their powerful novel *Gifted Disabilities* (2005).

Justin Blackburn of Greenville, South Carolina began laughing at himself around the age of six and has not looked back. In collaboration with Kenny Norsworthy, Blackburn created a controversial stir with the US Government with their powerful novel *Gifted Disabilities* (2005). This novel caused quite an uproar in the underground world especially with lead singer of the acclaimed Fat Possum Record's band The Company, Brian Hannon who published a collection of Blackburn and Norsworthy's early poetry, "It's Hard To Get There When You Are Already There," which led to Justin Blackburn being voted Upstate Poet Of The Year in *The Beat Magazine* in 2007.

In 2009, Blackburn's two chapbooks of poetry were published: the hilariously wild "Farting Fire" by Virgogray Press and the emotional cleansing "Female Human Whispers Of Strong Masculine Gentleness" by Shadow Archer Press and became the highest seller for both publications. Blackburn has had hundreds of poems published through the literary world in magazines, literary journals, zines, and anthologies including *Fissure Magazine*, *Semantics*, *Left Behind Literary Journal*, *Speed Poets*, *Open Mind's Quarterly*, *Decanto*, *Angel Voices*, *A & U's America AIDS Magazine*, etc. He has performed and has been featured in numerous venues/colleges/high schools across the country including Brick City Poetry, Verse Works, Witsend, TRAM Arts Festival, Converse College, Leaf Festival, Louder Arts, etc. In 2010, Blackburn became a member of the New Danger Slam Team as well as having his words featured throughout the music world due to the success of Coma Cinema who took lines from his poems and based songs on his poems.

Afternoon Presenter

Daniel Ross will present a seminar on "**Seamus Heaney, the Prophetic Tradition of Poetry.**" He is Professor of English at Columbus State University where he serves in his 21st year.

He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. in English from Purdue University. For several years, he has been heavily involved in study- abroad programs, and he currently is director of the



university system's summer program in London. Ross is also the co-editor of the scholarly journal *ANQ* and the editor of a book of criticism on William Styron. He has published some twenty scholarly articles including two on Seamus Heaney.



Ross has published some twenty scholarly articles including two on Seamus Heaney.



The Night Before the Quarterly Meeting



From the North

1. Turn left to merge onto GA-411 S/I-185 S
 2. Take exit 10 to merge onto GA-22 W/US-80 W
 3. Take exit 1 for GA-22 toward GA-85/DowntownColumbus
 4. Merge onto 2nd Ave/GA-22C Continue to follow 2nd Ave
 5. Turn right at 13th St
 6. Turn left at Broadway
- Destination will be on the right

From the South

1. Make your way to Veterans Pkwy (N)
 2. Turn left at 10th St 0.3 mi
 3. Turn right at Broadway 0.1 mi
 4. Make a U-turn
- Destination will be on the right 0.1 mi

Parking

Parking is available curbside directly in front of *My Party Place* and also in the front street parking deck. To park in the deck, turn right on 10th after passing *My Party Place* on the right and then turn right again. The parking deck will be on the right and you will be able to access *My Party Place* through the courtyard entrance located just a few feet from the parking deck.

From the parking deck, if on the first floor, head towards Broadway. Go past courtyard (and a back entrance) to *My Party Place*. Walk through the breezeway to Broadway, turn left and enter *My Party Place*. If on the 2nd floor, take the elevator or steps down to the first floor and follow the steps above.

On Friday evening, October 22nd, there will be a coffee & dessert poetry reading from 7 to 8:30 at ***My Party Place*, 1019 Broadway, Suite 1 in Columbus, GA.** This event will feature readings by the outgoing and incoming GPS presidents and vice presidents: Keith Badowski, Robert King, and Jill Jennings, and outgoing Treasurer, Terry Hensel. See directions to *My Party Place*, 1019 Broadway, Suite 1, Columbus, GA, left.

The Dahlonega Literary Festival will begin on Friday, November 12, and conclude on Sunday, November 14.

The Dahlonega Literary Festival 2010 promises to be a lively event! If you wish to read during this event, please notify Tonette Long at tlong@northgeorgia.edu or skylark39@windstream.net. Limited reading times will be available, so send your requests early. The reading is scheduled for Saturday, November 13, from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m., in the Dahlonega Marketplace on the Dahlonega Square.

What is it? Stonepile Writers, a group of writers sponsored by North Georgia College and State University and including writers from the Dahlonega community and the University, gather monthly to learn about writing and to critique each other's work. Stonepile Writers will be presenting a poetry reading. **Poets from other writing groups in the area (and beyond) are invited to join the Stonepile poets during the Festival.**

Thomas Lux and David Bottoms will read!

Member Announcements

Early November in North Georgia is not just a good time for poetry but also for leaves, pumpkins, and apples, so make your plans now. Check out the Festival program as it develops at <http://www.literaryfestival.org/>.

Further details will be sent closer to the event.

White County Historical Society Meeting

Mildred Greear provided the September program for the White County Historical Society Meeting in Cleveland, Georgia on September 2, 2010. As has become usual for the society, significant attention is paid to Byron Herbert Reece, northeast Georgia poet and novelist.

Reece's roots extended from his birthplace in Choestoe over to neighboring White County where he had three aunts and a number of

cousins whom he visited throughout his life.

Additionally, Greear and her husband, Philip Greear, were early advocates of the poet, and they became best friends.

Greear knew Reece for the last fifteen years of his life when his work was at its peak. Philip Greear had been a classmate of Reece and a fellow poet when they were students at Young Harris College.

"It is so gratifying to see that interest in the work of this great poet and novelist continues to grow," Greear said, pointing out that a large audience responded to the invitation to read a poem of their own selection.

Shirley Black, official Historian of White County, has suggested that the society feature Reece's work every September, which is his birth month.

Dr. Robert Simon, assistant professor of Spanish at Kennesaw State University, has a full-length book of poetry, *The Traveler / el viajero / o Viajante*, coming out in late October. It will be published by Cyberwit, a poetry publisher in India. This will be his first book and will be available for purchase at cyberwit.net and Amazon.

Important Reminder:

Hurry! Time is racing very fast to the deadline for the 2010 GPS Contests. Enter your poems by **October 31st, 2010.**

For more information, see contest page at

georgiapoetrysociety.org or contact Keith Badowski for a brochure.

A Writing Workshop with Maya Stein October 18, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of short-form writing exploration with San Francisco writer and poet **Maya Stein**. Luckily for us, she will be stopping in Dahlonega as part of her traveling poetry tour around the country. Maya has been writing and sending out an original 10-line poem every Tuesday to an email subscriber list since June of 2005.

"Tour de Word: On the Road with 10-line Tuesdays" is taking Maya on a two-month journey to 25 cities and small towns to gather poems from workshop participants that will culminate in an anthology to be published when she returns home.

The writing workshop will include a variety of unique activities and exercises to generate writing and will touch on themes of structure, rhythm, and language. Also to be discussed are such issues as inspiration and writer's block, metaphor and myth, and story- and poem-gathering. Participants will have the opportunity to contribute to the 10-line anthology. (Submission deadline is November 30, 2010). Participants will have an opportunity to share work and discuss their writing experiences, techniques, practices, and challenges. The workshop is open to writers of all kinds, including those who don't consider themselves writers.

CALLANWOLD POETRY READINGS Location: 980 Briarcliff Road, N.E. • Atlanta, Georgia 30306 • 404-872-5338

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13; 8 pm

Callanwolde's regular poetry series continues featuring **Barry Marks** and **Phil Smith** as they read from their latest published works. Experience an evening of poetry in the unique setting of the Callanwolde Library. **Barry Marks** (l) is the author of *Possible Crocodiles* (Brick Road Poetry Press, 2010), and has won numerous contests including the Alabama State Poetry Society chapbook competition for *There is Nothing Oppressive as a Good Man*. He is a member of the Georgia Poetry Society. Tickets are sold at the door. \$5 General Admission, \$3 Students/Seniors/Members. For more information call (404) 872-5338.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 8pm

Karen Paul Holmes (GPS Member) and **Anya Krugovoy Silver** are the featured poets for the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Poetry Series in Atlanta on November 10 at 8 pm. Tickets will be sold at the door. General Admission is \$5 and \$3 for Students/Seniors/Members. For more information call (404) 872-5338 or visit <http://www.callanwolde.org/events/index.html>

A Writing Workshop with Maya Stein

Cost is FREE, but donations toward the project will be gratefully accepted. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided. To learn about Maya's tour, visit

<http://www.kickstarter.com/e/Jiymy/projects/MayaStein/on-the-road-with-10-line-Tuesday>.

To read some of her poetry, visit <http://papayamaya.blogspot.com/>.

If you'd like to join the 10-line Tuesday subscriber, write to: papayamaya@earthlink.net

Laurence Holden will present a reading of recent poems at the Sycamore Place Gallery in Decatur, Georgia on October 15. His Poem "We Are Always Vagabonds" was included in the nationally traveling exhibit "The Hand to Hand Project."

Laurence Holden presented several of his poetry walks and hikes in the North Georgia Mountains this year. The reading selections were from his own and others' poems: "Show & Tell" at the Amicalola State Park Len Foote Hike-Inn on June 19, "Water Walk with Poetry" on June 30, "Forest Walk with Poetry," on July 17 at the Hambidge Center, Rabun Gap, "Poetry on the Mountaintop" on August 15 at Rabun Bald sponsored by Georgia Forest Watch.

He opened his exhibit "Within Reach of a River: Poems & Paintings 2000-2010" at Westminster Schools in Atlanta with the reading of his recent poems on September 29. In October, Laurence will be in residence at Westminster Schools reading, writing, and drawing poems with the students.

Laurence Holden can be reached at Laurenceholdenart@gmail.com.

Karen Paul Holmes will teach a writing class at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina. This camp for adults features fun classes in the fine arts as well as crafts, cooking, blacksmithing, writing, folk dancing and nature studies. Stay on campus for the full experience.

Sing and Paint with Words

January 30-February 5

Tuition \$546

Come and get inspired. Through music and other arts, we'll stir the creative juices. We might listen to Beethoven or Elvis, look at paintings by Monet or Finster, read literary masters or contemporary writers -- all to generate ideas for our poems, fiction, or essays.

You'll receive editing tips and one-on-one critiques to make your work stronger and more readable. Open to anyone who needs inspiration and help perfecting the art of writing.

Karen Paul Holmes is an award-winning writer whose work has been published in business magazines, literary journals, and anthologies. Her enthusiasm for teaching has given her top ratings for her writing workshops at international conferences. She also taught poetry to students through the Georgia Poetry Society's "Poets in the Schools" program. Karen is a writing coach, poet, freelance writer, and the editor of the North Carolina Writers' Network's *Netwest News*.

For more information, see www.folkschool.org.

Johns Creek Poetry Festival on Saturday, November 13

The second annual Johns Creek Poetry Festival will be held on Saturday, November 13, 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon at the Northeast Spruill Oaks Regional Library. John K. Ottley, Jr. is our featured poet, reading from his new book, *The Seventh Deadliest Fear*. Dr. Steven Shields will preside.

Here's what we ask each member to consider volunteering **now** for as many of these actions as you can:

- (1) Place the Festival on your calendar and strive to bring a guest or two who love poetry. Let's reach out to all of this area of Greater Atlanta.
- (2) Print on your PC 10 to 15 copies of the Karen Garner-designed poster (available from Robert Lynn email to request robertlynn@comcast.net) and post them in stores and shops near you. Almost every merchant will be glad to help. Take a roll of transparent tape with you.
- (3) Sign up now to read two to three of your best poems in the Open Mic section. Lavonne Westbrooks, Larry Hand, Megan Koblitz, Steven Shields and William Wang are already on the list; program time will permit more of you poets to register.
- (4) Commit to bring a plate of goodies or drinks (punch, coffee, or soft drinks). Jean Huges, Megan Koblitz, Steven Shields and Lavonne Westbrooks are already on this list.

THIS FESTIVAL WILL BE WHAT WE MAKE IT. LEND A HAND, PLEASE!!

If you have news for the next Johns Creek Poetry newsletter, send to me at robertlynn@comcast.net

Best,

Bob Lynn

770-876-2904