

Georgia Poetry Society

July 19 Summer Meeting in Atlanta at Spelman College with Michael Dilbert and Lucinda Clark

Michael Diebert, a native of Kingsport, Tennessee, is the author of *Life Outside the Set* (Sweatshoppe, 2013). He holds degrees from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and he is the recipient of a residency from the Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow in northwest Arkansas. He is a cancer survivor and has had poems published in a variety of places including *JAMA*, *The Meadowland Review*, *Southern Indiana Review*, *Southern Poetry Review*, and more recently in *Iodine Poetry Journal* and *The Comstock Review*. He teaches at Georgia Perimeter College in Atlanta and serves as poetry editor for *The Chattahoochee Review*.



Lucinda Clark is the founder of Phoenix Rising Art Enterprises Inc. She is also the founding publisher and managing editor of P.R.A. Publishing a division of PRA Enterprises Inc. She has worked to bring the literary works of authors to audiences for the last eleven years and has showcased the poetry of new voices to audiences of all ages across the globe. Her poetry project Poetry Matters is going on its thirteenth year. Her company has published several award-winning



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GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY

Contact Information

www.georgiapoetrysociety.org

gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org

678-242-0153

2014 Officers:

Ira E. Harrison, President
Ann Gillespie, V. President
DuAnne Kaiser, Secretary
Jeff Jones, Treasurer

2014 Board:

Sandy Hokanson
Lynn Farmer
Henrietta Andrews
John K. Ottley, Jr.
Lynn Pedersen

July 19, 2014 Quarterly Meeting Schedule

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8:00 – 9:00 Coffee and mingling

9:00 – 9:15 President's welcome and announcements

9:15 – 9:45 Unveiling of ROS 2014 – Karen Pickell

9:45 – 10:00 Open Mic – those in Member Section of ROS encouraged to read

10:00 – 10:10 Break

10:10 – 11:10 Reading and Workshop: Poetry Matters by Lucinda Clark

11:10 – 12:15 Lunch in The Suites near parking deck (\$6.75 including tax)

12:15 – 1:00 Karen Pickell - How to submit poems on line to ROS and GPS poetry contests. Award for Excellence Winners read, certificates awarded.

1:00 – 1:15 Break

1:15 – 2:15 Reading and Workshop: Learning from the Rejection Letter by Michael Deibert

2:15 – 2:30 NFSPC National winners announced, read poems

2:30 – 2:45 Open Mic

2:45 – 3:00 Raffle/Closing Comments

3:00 – 4:00 Board Meeting

Upcoming Events

October 25 - Fall Quarterly Meeting, Brenau University, Gainesville, GA

Lucinda Clark (continued)

titles, *Echoes in Exile*, *Sleep Walk Society*, and *View From the Middle of the Road IV* and is set to release more in 2013. A blogger, poet, and public speaker, Clark has begun expanding her reach into other media projects that include showcasing of creative talent on her YouTube channel.

Clark loves community service. She has been a member of the Martinez-Evans Rotary Club since 1995, where she has served in numerous positions including President in 2002. She has served her District as Public Relations Chair, Laws of Life Chair, and Assistant Governor. Her work with other clubs in foreign countries led to a trip to Buenos Aires in 2010 where she helped dedicate a state of the art incubator to a local hospital in San Isidido Argentina.

She is also an active member of the Workforce and Education Committee with her local Chamber of Commerce. This work has lead to helping develop collaboration with local middle, high school and college students. She currently sponsors an internship with Georgia Regents University, formerly known as ASU.

Her involvement as a member of WNBA- Washington D.C. Chapter as Publicity Chair has lead to the promotion of programs and collaborations with other local writers and sister chapters nation wide.

Her membership in IBPA has lead to judging of literary works through the Ben Franklin Awards program for the last 4 years.

Her hobbies include gardening, stargazing, travel and reading. She is an avid fan of Book-TV. She resides in Augusta, Georgia, with her husband Dr. Robert Clark and their two dogs Harry and Michu. They have two adult children Jessica, a junior at Arizona State University, and Xavier, a junior at University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

----- (mail with your check) -----

April 26th Lunch Details

Lunch will be in the Spelman cafeteria, so there will be no lunch reservations this meeting.

Directions to Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia

For those using GPS, the following address will bring you directly to our entrance:

440 Westview Dr. S.W.
Atlanta 30310

From I-75/85 North and South

Take I-20 West and exit (#55B) at Lee Street. Turn right onto Lee Street and continue through the next traffic light (Westview Drive). You will see a large parking lot on the right-hand side. Turn right into the first driveway and you will approach the gates of Spelman College.

From I-20 East

Exit (#55A) at Lowery Blvd. Cross Lowery Blvd. and continue on Oak Street to the next traffic light. Turn left onto Lee Street and cross the bridge over I-20 and continue through the next two traffic lights. You will see a large parking lot on the right-hand side. Turn right into the first driveway and you will approach the gates of Spelman College.

From I-20 West

Exit (#55B) at Lee Street. Turn right onto Lee Street and continue through the next traffic light (Westview Drive). You will see a large parking lot on the right-hand side. Turn right into the first driveway and you will approach the gates of Spelman College.

From Downtown Atlanta

Take Peachtree Street south to Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and turn right. Continue on M.L. King Jr. Drive to Northside and turn left. Continue on Northside through next three traffic lights (passing Burger King on the right). Turn right at the fourth traffic light (Greensferry Avenue). Continue on Greensferry through the stop sign. Turn left into the gate of Spelman College.

There are public safety booths located at both gates of the College. Upon your arrival, the public safety officer(s) will inform you of where to park and give other directions and instructions as needed.

The meeting will be in the Ennis Cosby Reading Room on the 2nd floor of the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby building, #11 on the campus map.



- 13. Not Used
- 14. Packard Hall
- 15. Rockefeller Hall
- 16. Reynolds Cottage
- 17. Sisters Chapel
- 18. Read Hall
- 19a. Academic Computing Center
- 19b. Tapley Hall
- 19c. Albro-Falconer-Manley Science Center
- 20. Laura Spelman Hall
- 21. Morehouse-James Hall
- 22. Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall
- 23. Giles Hall
- 24. Milligan Building
- 25. The Suites

- 1. West Campus Parking Deck
Public Safety
- 2. Sally Sage McAlpin Hall
- 3. Dorothy Shepard Manley Hall
- 4. Howard-Harrel Hall
- 5. Donald and Isabel Stewart
Living & Learning Center I
- 6a. Johnnetta B. Cole
Living & Learning Center II
- 6b. LLC II Auditorium
- 7. Bessie Strong Hall
- 8. MacVicar Health Services
- 9. Manley College Center
- 9a. Bookstore/Post Office
- 10. Facilities Management & Services
- 11. Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby,
Ed D. Academic Center
- 12. Rockefeller Fine Arts Building
RWWL. Robert W. Woodruff Library

A closer view of the Spelman map is available on the college website:

<http://www.spelman.edu/about-us/visit-us/campus-map>

Poetry News

Free Online Poetry Class Offered Fall 2014 by University of Pennsylvania Through Coursera.org

GPS members wishing to expand their knowledge of poetry may join 40,000+ online class members who register each fall for Modern and Contemporary American Poetry (MODPO, for short). The course is offered through the University of Pennsylvania Kelly Writer's House as a community outreach and educational service. This online class requires nothing but computer internet access and your time and enthusiasm. There is no tuition to pay, and no books to purchase. The course begins in September and ends in November. You can follow along with everyone else, or work at your own pace. In the past, the course materials have remained online for a year after the class begins. The course begins with Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson and moves through the modern era of William Carlos Williams, Gertrude Stein, Frank O'Hara, and Wallace Stevens.

GPS member Lynn Pedersen has taken the course and highly recommends it. The format is a weekly series of webcasts and video lectures focusing on the poems assigned for the week. Each poem is discussed by professor Al Filreis and his students. GPS members will learn new approaches to understanding poetry, and appreciate how poetry has changed over time. There are online discussion forums and short 500-word assignments, but these are optional.

You will:

- 1) Learn more about poets you already love
- 2) Discover new poets you never studied in school
- 3) Explore aspects of poetry that may help you to see your own work in a new light
- 4) Meet thousands of other poetry enthusiasts from all over the world

Class sign up is on the coursera.org page.

More information on the class is here in an article from the Poetry Foundation, "One Class, 36,000 Students" by Elliott Holt.

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/article/245074>

Policy on Local Poetry Groups Adopted by GPS Board

The Georgia Poetry Society Board, in a effort to improve outreach to the community and to foster poetry across the state of Georgia, has initiated a program to help start and mentor local poetry groups. The board met and discussed the initiative at the April GPS meeting in Columbus. Much of the input for the program was gathered through a survey done by Bob Lynn, who contacted various poetry groups around the state and asked details about their members, and what specifically the Georgia Poetry Society could do for them.

This new program is seeking a GPS member-coordinator, who will be responsible for communicating with these groups and their leaders, placing up-to-date contact information on the GPS website, and working as a liaison to help connect the groups to Georgia poets and guest speakers. The liaison is not expected to travel or lead a group. More details of the position will be forthcoming, but if you are interested in being a liaison, or starting a group in your local area, please contact Ira E. Harrison.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL POETRY GROUPS TO THE BOARD OF THE GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY

In the 35 years since the founding of the Georgia Poetry Society, the landscape of poetry in Georgia has changed. Out of a sense of felt need there have arisen over the state numerous small groups of poets with the simple but important goals of encouraging each other as poets, developing poetry skills, enjoying good poetry, and fostering poetry in their communities. Of course, these purposes are shared on a statewide level by the Georgia Poetry Society. The Special Committee has found and examined 12 of these Local Poetry Groups and has come to believe there are twice that many such groups in existence in Georgia.

And the Special Committee is convinced it is wise and timely for GPS to recognize these groups, to reach out and support the groups, and to strive to join with them in fostering the advancement of Georgia poetry.

The special Committee on Local Poetry Groups was named in 2013 by GPS President Sandy Hokanson and enlarged in 2014 by President Ira E. Harrison. The members are Robert L. Lynn, Chair, Bill Early, Ann Gillespie, Gay Williford, Sandy Hokanson, and Ira E. Harrison.

HOW GPS CAN ASSIST LOCAL POETRY GROUPS

We believe the Georgia Poetry Society can serve to strengthen the effectiveness of these groups in several ways:

- 1) By offering quality poetry workshops and presentations by leading poets at quarterly GPS meetings.
- 2) By providing opportunities for annual Georgia poetry competition and national competition through NFSPS. (continued on following page)

- 3) By providing an array of workshop leaders for Local Poetry Group meetings.
- 4) By permitting participation as GPS members in such outstanding programs as Poetry in the Schools and a quality annual poetry anthology, The Reach of Song.
- 5) By offering space on the GPS web site for publicizing of programs and meetings of Local Poetry Groups, and for recognizing their achievements.
- 6) By electing a Coordinator of Local Poetry Groups to assist these groups, provide counsel and training, and foster the formation of such groups in new areas over the state.

HOW LOCAL POETRY GROUPS CAN STRENGTHEN GPS AND POETRY IN GEORGIA

And we believe that these Local Poetry Groups, by linking hands with GPS, can make poetry stronger in Georgia in the following ways:

- 1) By providing an avenue in their communities for poets to have their poems critiqued;
- 2) By encouraging their members to join GPS, participate in Open Mic at GPS meetings, in GPS contests, in The Reach of Song, in Poetry in the Schools, and in GPS Poetry Road Shows.
- 3) By helping to launch a new group in an area not served by a Local Poetry Group.
- 4) By offering in their communities a local poetry workshop and/or poetry festival.
- 5) By offering to the GPS President and Board ideas and suggestions for improving GPS and for strengthening Local Poetry Groups.

THEREFORE, we heartily recommend the establishment of an ongoing partnership between the Georgia Poetry Society and Local Poetry Groups in Georgia for the general enhancement of poetry within the State.

April 26, 2014

Robert L. Lynn

Call for Submissions

A Note from Caroline Dewey (Indiana Poetry Contest)

Entries into Indiana's Fall Rendezvous Poetry Contest will be accepted BEGINNING JULY 1st. The ending date is SEPTEMBER 1st. Win the biggest prize since the contest began in 1941, the "Ultimate Grand Prize Award of 2014." 1st Place 250; 2nd 150, then 3rd 100 dollars. You will see the details and rules below. Please take part and challenge yourself. It is very enjoyable.

Information is on the ISFPC website at www.isfpc.org. Call if you have questions (Caroline 260-484-6806 or email CarolineDewey1@aol.com)

Ridgeline Literary Alliance

Can you write 10 poems or one prose piece in a month? Ridgeline Literary Alliance is sponsoring a community project, Poetry Month and Prose Months, for submissions of work to be included in an anthology. We hope our project sets loose a landslide of creative writing from near and far. We are issuing a challenge to all writers of prose and poetry to commit to writing and submitting their work according to the following schedule:

Poetry Month

July 2014

Write and submit at least 10 new poems or prose poems during the month. Deadline: July 31, 2014.

Prose Months

July, August, September 2014

Write and submit at least three literary prose pieces (e.g., short story, excerpt from novel, play, essay, creative nonfiction, etc.) during the three-month submission period. Deadline: September 30, 2014.

How to Sign Up

For complete guidelines and to sign up, please visit <http://www.ridgelineliterary.org/calendar/poetry-month-and-poetry-months.aspx>. There is no fee to participate.

This should be a fun and productive project! We hope you will join in. Please help us spread the word!

Mary Ricketson

President

Ridgeline Literary Alliance

www.ridgelineliterary.org

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY ORDER FORM

	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
PREORDER The Reach of Song 2014 (available in July)	_____	x \$15.00 =	_____
Copy for local library/school	_____	x \$15.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2013 <i>limited qty</i>	_____	x \$13.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2012	_____	x \$10.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2011	_____	x \$ 7.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2010	_____	x \$ 5.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2009	_____	x \$ 3.00 =	_____
The Reach of Song 2008 <i>limited qty,</i> 2006-07, or 2001-02	_____		_____
Indicate year requested: _____	_____	x \$ 2.00 =	_____
Under a Hundred (2011) <i>limited qty</i> Ron Self; Francis Alix; Mildred Greear	_____	x \$ 8.00 =	_____
South of the Ordinary (2014) Sandy Hokanson	_____	x \$ 10.00 =	_____
The Rare, Persistent Light (2012) Lynn Farmer	_____	x \$ 5.00 =	_____
More Than Atoms (2010) Kandice Cook	_____	x \$ 3.00 =	_____
String Theory (2007) Alice Teeter	_____	x \$ 2.00 =	_____
TOTALS	_____		_____
			(includes shipping)

CONTACT NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE _____ **EMAIL** _____

LIBRARY DONATION (check one) **Will Deliver Myself** ____ **Mail To Address Below** ____
LIBRARY NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Make out checks & money orders to **Georgia Poetry Society** and mail along with this form to:
 Wanda Reagan
 2492 Gum Creek Rd.
 Oxford, GA 30054

For questions about ordering, please call Wanda Reagan at 404-295-6198.

Member News

Lynn Pedersen has had a chapbook accepted for publication by Finishing Line Press as part of their New Women's Voices Series. Information on the release date of *Tiktaalik, Adieu* is forthcoming.

Karen Holmes's full-length poetry collection, *Untying the Knot*, was published by Aldrich Press. The book is a memoir in poetry telling the story of the end of a long marriage, the divorce, and healing. Poet Tom Lux says it's told with "grace, humor, self-awareness, and without a dollop of self-pity." Available from Amazon, or for a personalized copy, email Karen at kpaulholmes@gmail.com.

Karen also has three poems in the Kentucky Review <http://www.kentuckyreview.org/poetry/2014/karen-holmes.aspx> and a poem in the most recent issue of Falling Star magazine.

She is teaching a class at the most magical place, a camp for adults in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Your Write Time

Date: Friday, Aug 1 - Sunday, Aug 3, 2014, \$334 (optional room and board is extra)

John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Itching to write, but can't find time? Or do you need a jumpstart to get you going? Give yourself the gift of a weekend devoted to writing. The instructor will provide inspiration, encouragement, writing prompts, editing tips, and one-on-one coaching. The Folk School provides the creative energy. Write here, then go home motivated to write more! For prose (fiction, non-fiction, memoir, blogging) or poetry. All levels welcome.

Here's the link to the Folk School class and registration information:

https://classes.folkschool.org/class_details.aspx?pk=16869

Upcoming Meetings

October 25 -

Fall Quarterly Meeting,
Brenau University,
Gainesville, GA

Future Newsletters

To include content in upcoming newsletters please contact:

gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org

or send member news to

Lynn Pedersen at:

lynn.pedersen.poetry@gmail.com