

Georgia Poetry Society

April 16th Spring Meeting Athens, GA



Alx Johns is Associate Professor of English at the University of North Georgia, where he teaches creative writing and American literature. He was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, and currently resides in the (Continued page 3)

Gregg Murray is Assistant Professor of English at Georgia State University and the editor of *Muse/A Journal*. Gregg has recent poems in *Caketrain*, *Sou'wester*, *DIAGRAM*, *Pank*, *New South*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, *Carolina Quarterly Review*, *Berkeley Poetry Review*, (Continued page 3)



Rupert Fike's collection *Lotus Buffet* (Brick Road Poetry Press) was named Finalist in the 2011 Georgia Author of the Year awards. He received Honorable Mention in the 2015 Ron Rash Fiction Award, and one of his poems was a finalist in Poetica's Rosenberg Award (Continued page 3)



In This Issue

April Workshop Leaders	1
Schedule	2
Lunch Reservations	4
Directions/Map	5
Poetry News	6
Reach of Song/Book Order	8
Upcoming Meeting	9

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY

Contact Information

www.georgiapoetrysociety.org

gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org

678-242-0153

2016 Officers:

Michael Diebert, President

Ronald Boggs, V. President

DuAnne Kaiser, Secretary

Jeff Jones, Treasurer

2016 Board:

Ira E. Harrison

Stephen Shields

Liz Garcia

Terry Hensel

Ann Gillespie

Spring 2016 Meeting Schedule
Classic Center, Athens

9:00-9:30: Coffee, pastries, mingling

9:30-9:45: Welcome, announcements, updates

9:45-10:00: Morning open mic

10:00-10:20: Alx Johns reading

10:20-10:50: Presentation of 2016 Youth Contest winners: Clela Reed, chair

10:50-11:00: Break

11:00-12:00: Rupert Fike presentation

“The First Draft as a Scaffold.” Generative craft talk and reading; participants will respond to specific line prompts and jump-start a poem draft.

12:00-1:00: Lunch

1:00-1:45: Gregg Murray presentation

Gregg will discuss his recently launched online poetry journal, *Muse/A*. How does one start an online journal from scratch, without funding? He will discuss technical matters, such as WordPress themes and formatting codes, but will also balance this out with an interactive exploration of litmag aesthetics.

1:45-2:00: Ron Self reading

Ron will read from his winning chapbook in the GPS chapbook contest.

2:00-2:15: Afternoon open mic

2:15-2:30: Closing remarks

2:35: Board meeting

July Meeting - TBA

Alx Johns (Continued)

Athens, Georgia, area. Alx is the recipient of the 2013 Pavement Saw Press Chapbook Prize for “Robot Cosmetics,” and his poems have appeared in *Town Creek Poetry*, *Stray Dog Almanac*, *Chaffin Journal*, *The Oklahoma Review*, *Red River Review*, *Two Drops of Ink*, *Kota Press*, *Scrivener’s Pen*, and *Bellemeade Books*, and other publications, and were featured in the *No Small Measure* Georgia BroadSides project. Alx is the managing director of Athens Word of Mouth, a popular monthly reading series bringing together nationally known and local writers.

Gregg Murray (Continued)

Quiddity International, and elsewhere. He has a poetry e-chapbook, *Ceviche*. Gregg also holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Minnesota and has written scholarly essays for *The Huffington Post*, *Continent*, *The Chattahoochee Review*, *Real Pants*, *KurzweilAI*, and others.

Rupert Fike (Continued)

for Contemporary Jewish Writing. He has Pushcart Prize nominations in fiction and poetry with work appearing in *The Southern Review of Poetry*, *Natural Bridge*, *A & U America’s AIDS Magazine*, *The Buddhist Poetry Review*, and others. He has a poem inscribed in a downtown Atlanta plaza, and his non-fiction book, *Voices from The Farm*, which accounts life in a spiritual community in Tennessee, is now in its second printing.

(mail with your check)

Spring Meeting, April 16, 2016
Lunch Reservations

Menu One: Grilled chicken on focaccia, herb alioli and provolone cheese--w/whole fruit, chips, cookie or brownie, bottled water.

Sandwich: \$15

Please list all names for this choice: _____,

_____ ,

_____ , _____

Menu Two: Portabella mushroom, grilled zucchini, tomatoes, jalapeno jack cheese, Sun-dried tomato pesto--w/whole fruit, chips, cookie or brownie, bottled water.

Sandwich: \$15

Please list all names for this choice: _____<

_____ ,

_____ , _____

_____ Total number of lunches you are reserving

\$_____ Total Payment

Make your check out to **Georgia Poetry Society** and **mail no later than Apr. 4** to:

Ron Boggs
1280 Compton Way
Suwanee, GA 30024

Directions to The Classics Center, Athens

The Classics Center page at https://classiccenter.com/general/visitor_information/directions.html#.VQ3AO-FRI-o has four different sets of directions for all points of the compass.

The street address is: 300 N. Thomas Street, Athens, GA 30601

The Classic Center is made up of several buildings. The Foundry Building is a historic building on Foundry Street just behind the other buildings on N. Thomas Street. It has the name of the building in large letters on the outside and it is near the parking deck. You can also park behind the Foundry Building and walk in the back door. The Cypress Room is just inside the back door.

The parking deck charges are as follows:

- First 30 Minutes - Free
- Each Additional Hour - \$1
- \$7 Max (24 hr)

Credit Cards Only - No cash accepted. Please see Classic Center website for payment options.

Member News

Several GPS members, **Sandy Hokanson, Liz Garcia, Lynn Pedersen, Trish Thomas, and Karen Paul Holmes**, were among ten Atlanta poets who read at the inaugural reading of the Atlanta Women's Poetry Collective at Georgia Center for the Book on March 14, 2016. Each of the ten poets was given five minutes to read her work. More information can be found about the AWPC at www.awpcga.wordpress.com.

Karen Paul Holmes was interviewed and read her poems on the internet radio show, *Timna Live*, on March 20. She received two nominations for Best of the Net, and recent publications of her poems include *Pilgrimage, Circe's Lament: Wild Women Anthology, Snapdragon Journal*, and *Verse-Virtual*. Her book, *Untying the Knot* (Aldrich Press, 2014) was reviewed by Glynn Young for TweetSpeak Poetry <http://www.tweetspeakpoetry.com/2015/04/28/poetic-voices-karen-paul-holmes-and-claire-trevien> and Abriana Jetté for *Stay Thirsty Magazine* <http://www.staythirstymedia.com/201510-090/html/201510-jette-poets-seasons.html>

Karen hosts **Writers' Night Out at the Union County Community Center in Blairsville, GA** on the second Friday of the month at 7 pm, April through November. It's in its sixth year and includes a featured reader plus open mic. The 2016 schedule is:

April 8:	Rupert Fike and Janice Townley Moore
May 13:	Carol Crawford
June 10:	Jonathan Rice and Ronald Moran
July 8:	Rosemary Royston and Karen Paul Holmes
August 12:	Ginger Murchison and Lynn Alexander
Sept 9:	Jim May
Nov 11:	Christopher Martin and Staci Bell

Karen is teaching a workshop "Song Lyrics and Poetry" in May at the John C. Campbell Folk School.

Song Lyrics and Poetry

Date: Friday, May 20 - Sunday, May 22, 2016

Subject: Writing, Music

Instructor: Karen Paul Holmes

Who are your favorite lyricists? Who are your favorite poets? We'll have fun looking at how their words make their songs/poems connect to the listener/reader. What elements give some lyrics such wonderful poetic qualities, and what elements give some poems such wonderful lyrical qualities? Learn to apply these techniques to your own poems or songs. For poets and songwriters of all levels - or anyone who appreciates powerful words.

Tuition: \$334.00

More information here:

https://classes.folkschool.org/class_details.aspx?pk=18605

Member News

Lynn Pedersen's full-length book, *The Nomenclature of Small Things*, was published February 3rd, 2016 (Carnegie Mellon University Press). Lynn has participated in readings at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Georgia Center for the Book, and Reinhardt University. Her book can be purchased from Carnegie Mellon (University Press of New England UPNE) or major booksellers. <http://www.upne.com/0887486098.html>. She has a book signing in Los Angeles during the Associated Writers and Writing Programs Conference March 31. Future readings include SHORE: Acworth's Creative Reading Series on May 2 at Herron's Wine Bar in Acworth, Georgia.

Terry Hensel and **Lynn Pedersen** were featured poetry readers at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center on February 11, 2016. Turnout was excellent, including several GPS members in the audience. Terry's reading had to be interrupted to add chairs to accommodate attendees, including a local school's English class.

Poetry News

New Local Low-Residency MFA Program

The new Etowah Valley Low-Res MFA at Reinhardt University (1 hour north of Atlanta) has received its final approval from SACSCOC and is ready to start admitting students. Poets teaching and reading include Donna Coffey Little, David Bottoms, Bill Walsh, Sandra Meek, Chris Martin, Will Wright, and Earl Braggs. Genres include poetry, fiction, creative-nonfiction and scriptwriting. Application deadline is April 18. Go to www.reinhardt.edu/mfa-cw to apply. Please share!

Upcoming Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Readings

Poetry Reading with Eric Nelson & Ginger Murchison, April 14 @ 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Poetry Reading with Eric Ganaway & Brent Calderwood, May 12 @ 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Open Mic Poetry Night, June 9 @ 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm. See website below for more information.

\$5 admission for Callanwolde events (cash or check). Free to members.

Address:

980 Briarcliff Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

www.callanwolde.org

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY ORDER FORM			
		QTY	PRICE
ANTHOLOGIES	<i>NEW The Reach of Song 2016</i> Available for pickup in July Copy for local library/school	_____ x	\$ 15.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2015</i>	_____ x	\$ 13.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2014</i>	_____ x	\$ 10.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2013</i>	_____ x	\$ 7.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2012</i>	_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2011</i>	_____ x	\$ 3.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2010</i>	_____ x	\$ 2.00 = _____
CHAPBOOKS	<i>NEW Requiem for the Unconvinced</i> by Ron Self	_____ x	\$ 10.00 = _____
	<i>South of the Ordinary (2014)</i> by Sandy Hokanson	_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
	<i>The Rare, Persistent Light (2012)</i> by Lynn Farmer	_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
	<i>Under a Hundred (2011)</i> Ron Self; Francis Alix; Mildred Greear	_____ x	\$ 3.00 = _____
	<i>More Than Atoms (2010)</i> by Kandice Cook	_____ x	\$ 2.00 = _____
	TOTALS	_____	_____
CONTACT INFORMATION			
NAME _____			
ADDRESS _____			
CITY, STATE ZIP _____			
PHONE _____			
EMAIL _____			
LIBRARY DONATION (circle appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Will Deliver Myself (no address needed) OR <input type="checkbox"/> Please Mail to this address:			
NAME OF LIBRARY _____			
ADDRESS _____			
CITY, STATE ZIP _____			
Make checks and money orders to Georgia Poetry Society and mail along with this form to: Milford Green 2335 Wilson Drive SW Atlanta, GA 30311			
For questions about ordering, call Milford Greene at 404-758-2416.			
Orders will be filled in August			

Decatur Book Festival Launches Decatur Writers Studio

Local writers of any genre will want to take note of the new Decatur Writers Studio opening in Decatur on April 1.

Classes will be held at Decatur CoWorks at 708 Church St. and will be limited to 12 participants. The first set of courses will be taught by authors Susan Rebecca White, Jessica Handler, and Laurel Snyder.

In addition to offering classes, which are open to the public, DWS will provide a limited number of memberships to writers who seek space for their endeavors. Writers can purchase a DWS membership, which includes quiet workstations, access to printing, scanning, and copying, lightning-fast wireless internet, conference rooms with audio/video capacity, kitchenette and break area.

More information at the link below:

www.decaturnwritersstudio.com

Upcoming Meetings

July - Location TBA

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