

The Oklahoma Rose

Volume VIII Issue IV

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

July 2023

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2022 - 2023

**

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♪♪ Summertime and the living is easy! ♪♪



Summer has certainly arrived in Oklahoma! It is hot, wet and muggy.

Poetry Society of Oklahoma has scheduled its annual Workshop 22nd July at Belle Isle Library in Oklahoma City. And, what an exciting workshop we have planned! It is picnic time...

We are honored to have as our key-note speaker and instructor, our own Ron Wallace! Ron is an Oklahoma native and currently an adjunct instructor of English at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, in Durant, Oklahoma, where he was born and raised.

He is the author of ten books of poetry, five of which have been finalists in the Oklahoma Book Awards with *Renegade and Other Poems* winning the 2018 Oklahoma Book Award. Ron Wallace's Choctaw, Cherokee, Osage heritage is intertwined with his Scots-Irish roots and often reflected in his writing.

We are looking forward to a great learning time and workshop and encourage everyone to attend, to bring a friend and enjoy this time of poetry, learning and recognition.

If you are attending (*and we hope you are*) please bring pen and paper ~ and be prepared to work and learn (it's a WORKSHOP!).

Also, winners of the July Contest will be announced, winning poems read, poets recognized and awards given. We will have a delicious picnic box lunch to celebrate our **PSO Poetry Workshop** and the beginning of summer!

On another note, **PSO Board** met and discussed several items of importance that various members have asked about. Some investigation, research and inquiries are in the works "As we speak!" These items will be featured in a future **PSO Oklahoma Rose Newsletter** and will be discussed at our annual business meeting this October. Stay tuned...

Please remember to check our **PSO website** and our **PSO Facebook page**. <http://www.angelfire.com/poetry/ps/>

Until next time ~ Keep writing those poems! And...

"Come and Grow at PSO!

-- Patti Koch, PSO President

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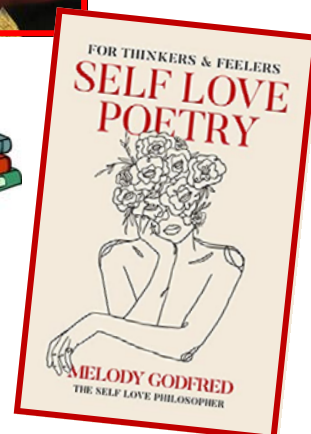
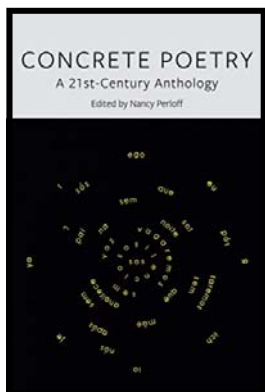
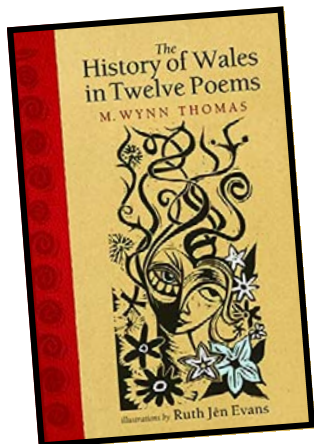
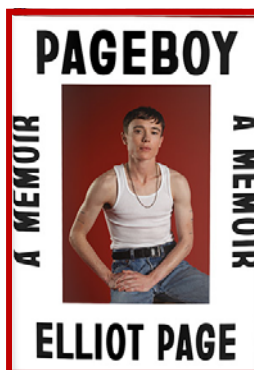
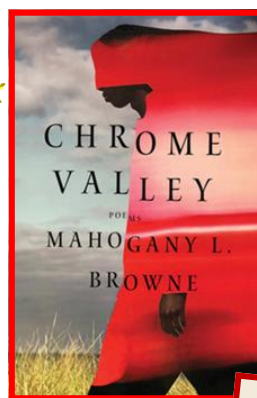
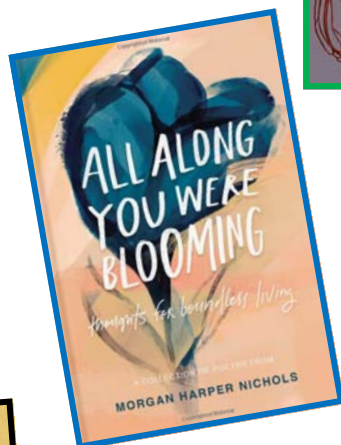
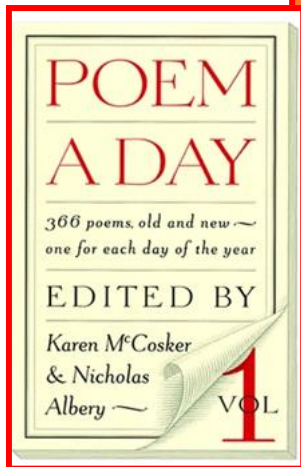
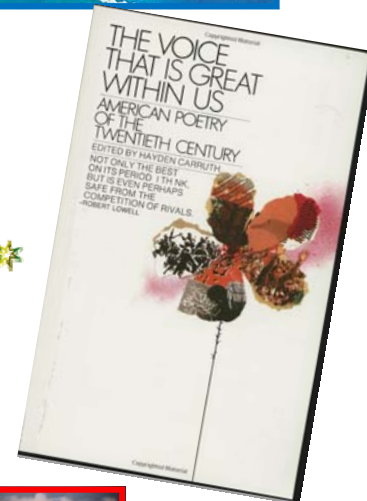
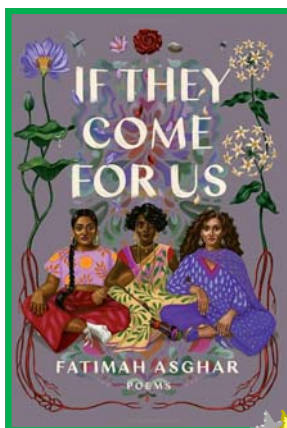
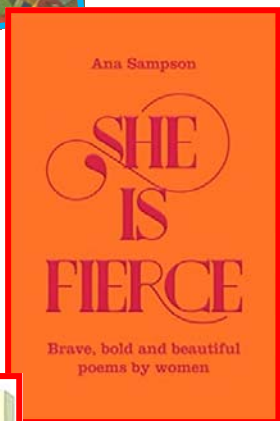
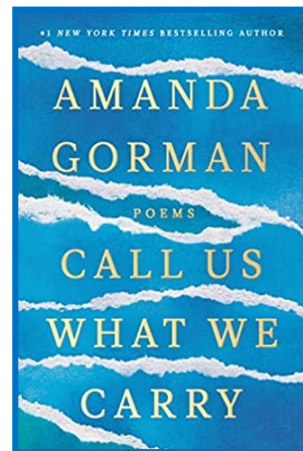
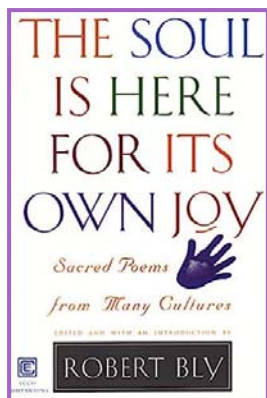
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Did You Know...

that the *Woody Guthrie Folk Festival* is held annually in mid-July to commemorate the life and music of *Woody Guthrie*. This year it is from July 12th thru July 16th. The **Woody Guthrie Folk Festival** is held annually in mid-July to commemorate the life and music of Woody Guthrie. The festival is held on the weekend

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POETRY BOOKS FOR SUMMER READING!



PSO Member News

Dena Gorrell fell and had hip replacement surgery. She had rehab and is now recuperating at home and doing well. Please keep Dena in your thoughts and prayers.

Catherine L'Herrison also had hip replacement surgery and is now in a rehab center. Let's keep Catherine in our thoughts and prayers, too.

Congratulations to our PSO, Vice-President Judith Rycroft for winning the OWFI "Best Poetry Book of 2023" award!

Sharon Martin has been invited to read her poetry for The Norman Galaxy of Writers at main library in Norman, Saturday, July 8th.

Barbara Sheperd has three poems accepted for the new Woody Guthrie anthology "**The Working Man's Hand**" and scheduled to read with the Woody Guthrie Poets on July 14th at National Saddlery in OKC's Stockyards.

Poetry Readings

The Depot (in Norman) is still trying to get their poetry programs at the Depot up and running! They are looking for a volunteer for the poetry program. **If you are interested contact them.**

www.facebook.com/normandepot (405) 307-9320

Last Sunday Reading (Feature & Open Mic)

Full Circle Bookstore, 2:00 P.M.

50 Penn Place, Oklahoma City

2nd Sunday at **Tidewater Winery** (Drumright), 2:00 P.M., coordinated by Sharon Martin

Word Pulp (Queen of Sheba Restaurant) - First & Third Thursday Monthly, 7:30 P.M.

Coffy's Café Open Mic - Every Friday, 8:00 P.M.

Third Thursdays: **Shawnee Poetry Night** 7:00 P.M.

Red-Dirt Poetry Open Mic—every other Wednesday

7:30 sign in show 7:30

Ponyboy, 423 NW 23rd St — Oklahoma City, OK

oklahomapoetryevents@gmail.com for additional events (Open Mic for poetry)

Send member news to: pattikoch0@gmail.com

July's Poetry Form ~ Spoon River ~~ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spoon_River_Anthology

Spoon River Anthology, by Edgar Lee Masters, is a collection of short free verse poems that collectively narrates the epitaphs of the residents of Spoon River, a fictional small town named after the Spoon River, which ran near Masters' home town of Lewistown, Illinois.

Cassius Hueffer

THEY have Chiseled on my stone the words:
'His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him
That nature might stand up and say to all the world,
This was a man.'
Those who knew me smile
As they read this empty rhetoric.
My epitaph should have been:
'Life was not gentle to him,
And the elements so mixed in him
That he made warfare on life,
In the which he was slain.'
While I lived I could not cope with slanderous tongues,
Now that I am dead I must submit to an epitaph
Graven by a fool!

Edgar Lee Masters

<https://www.theotherpages.org/poems/master01.html>

Continued from page 1... closest to July 14 - the date of Guthrie's birth - in Guthrie's hometown of Okemah, Oklahoma. Daytime main stage performances are held indoors at the Brick Street Cafe and the Crystal Theatre. Evening main stage performances are held outdoors at the Pastures of Plenty. The festival is planned and implemented annually by the Woody Guthrie Coalition, a non-profit corporation, whose goal is simply to ensure Guthrie's musical legacy. The event is made possible in part from a grant from the Oklahoma Arts Council.

The festival, which over the years has morphed into being called "WoodyFest" by attendees, was founded in 1998 and the inaugural festival included performances by Guthrie's son Arlo Guthrie, British folk-punk-rock artist Billy Bragg, Ellis Paul, Jimmy LaFave, Joel Rafael, and The Red Dirt Rangers. For the festival's founding, the Woody Guthrie Coalition commissioned a local Creek Indian sculptor to cast a full-body bronze statue of Guthrie and his guitar, complete with the guitar's well-known inscription: "This machine kills fascists". The statue, sculpted by artist Dan Brook, stands along Okemah's main street - named Broadway - in the heart of downtown Okemah.

WoodyFest is pleased to welcome back the Woody Guthrie Poets. Starting in 2005 the Woody Guthrie Poets have had a presence at WoodyFest. Initially the poets showcased their talents at the History Center, eventually moving their location to the Methodist Church where they remained for the next several years. As their audience continued to grow, their location was moved to the Bound for Glory stage at the corner of Broadway and Third Street.

The Woody Guthrie Coalition wanted the Guthrie family's approval before establishing the festival. Arlo Guthrie and his sister, Nora, felt strongly that their father would want the festival accessible to all and stipulated that they would sanction the festival if it were free. The Coalition complied and for 17 years the festival was free, except for a nominal parking fee. After struggling financially for several years, in 2015 the Coalition initiated an admission fee for two venues, while still providing free music at another two venues. To keep expenses at a minimum, artists donate their time, although the Woody Guthrie Coalition pays for the artists' transportation and lodging. The festival is a wonderful event!

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woody_Guthrie_Folk_Festival

PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2023

July	22nd	July Workshop Belle Isle Library (OKC)
August	15th	Deadline for Contests for Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day **
October	TBA	PSO Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day (Deadline August 15th)**
November	5th	Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks
November	23rd	HAPPY THANKSGIVING
December	15th	Deadline for Annual Spring Contest (celebrate next March 2024)
December	25th	MERRY CHRISTMAS
December	31st	PSO Annual Membership dues are payable before the end of the calendar year ~



Poetry Society of Oklahoma Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/poetry/psol/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Poetry-Society-of-Oklahoma/psol/>