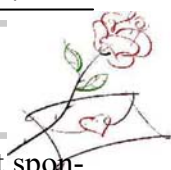


The Oklahoma Rose

Volume V Issue I

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

January 2020



PSO Officers

2020 - 2021

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“HAPPY NEW YEAR!”

“HAPPY NEW YEAR!”

Did you know that 2020 is the Year of the Rat according to the Chinese zodiac? Though people consider the rat not adorable, and it even makes its way into derogatory languages, it ranks first on the Chinese zodiac signs. It has characteristics of an animal with spirit, wit, alertness, delicacy, flexibility and vitality. Sounds like the characteristics of some good poets!

Some famous poets born in the year of the rat: William Shakespeare is the most **famous**—Edgar Allen Poe—Charles Dickens—Williams Wordsworth—Geoffrey Chaucer—John Milton—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and John Keats are just a few.

Now, on to our next **PSO** event—one we all look forward to ~ the Annual Spring Banquet Saturday 14th March 2020. It is the day we all come together for food, fun, fellowship and to celebrate the winners of our **PSO** Annual Contest! What a day! And, our **PSO** Poet Laureate for 2020 will be announced! This always an exciting time for our **PSO** members.

Mark your calendar - send contest sponsorship monies to Karen Kay (treasurer) and fees for contests to Mikki Pennington (contest chair). **Deadline** for receipt of contest sponsorship: January 31, 2019.

The **2020 NFSPS Convention** will be held at the Holiday Inn Aladdin, Kansas City Missouri, June 11th-14th, 2020. Room and Convention Registration information will be posted on www.nfsps.com/conv.html as soon as available.

April is National Poetry Month. Our Mayor of Oklahoma City has had a Proclamation and my State Representative a Resolution stating April is National Poetry Month for the last eight years!

Please remember to check our **PSO** Facebook page and our **PSO** website: <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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4 Did you know... there is an Official State Poem of Oklahoma?

Oklahoma designated "Howdy Folks" by David Randolph Milsten as the official state poem in 1941. The poem describes the dedication of the the Will Rogers Memorial at Claremore, Oklahoma on November 4, 1938.

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PSO 2020 Officers



PATTI KOCH ~ PRESIDENT



**BILLY PENNINGTON
VICE PRESIDENT**



**KAREN KAY BAILEY
TREASURER**



**ANNA STERLING
RECORDING SECRETARY**



**ED ROBERTS
PARLIAMENTARIAN**



**JOAN & EDDIE WILCOXEN
PAST CO-PRESIDENTS**



**ROB BURGESS
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

PSO Member News

Congratulations to our Oklahoma PSO members that have placed in the following contests:

Dena Gorrell—Tennessee, Indiana, PSO

Barbara Sheperd—Oklahoma City Writers and Norman Galaxy of Writers

Mary Chase—PSO

Karen Kay Bailey, Trina Lee, LaVern McCarthy and Patricia Koch all placed in the Arkansas Contests

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Barbara Blanks has a new Poetry book published: UNSTABLE: Twisted Tales and Tasty Entrails

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Dena Gorrell (President of Penn Women) has invited any of our members interested to their meetings (1st Saturday of each month). Contact Dena for details.

Poetry Readings

The **Second Sunday** Poetry Readings program provides a monthly venue for selected regional poets to share their work. Former Oklahoma Poet Laureate and Oklahoma Book Award winner **Carl Sennhenn** hosts. The Depot, 200 S. Jones—Norman

Last Sunday Reading (Feature & Open Mic)
Full Circle Bookstore, 2 p.m.
50 Penn Place, Oklahoma City

Individual Artists of Oklahoma - IAO Gallery
706 W Sheridan Ave, Oklahoma City

Word Pulp

First Thursday Monthly, 7:30 p.m.
Slam and Feature, Psi Certified
Queen of Sheba Restaurant, OKC
2308 N Macarthur Blvd

Coffy's Café Open Mic

Every Friday, 8 p.m.
Spoken Word & Singer/Songwriter
1739 N.W. 16th Street, OKC

Send member news to: pkoch7@cox.net

January's Poetry Form ~ Epic Poems *Common Types of Poetry—Your Dictionary*

An epic is a long and narrative poem that normally tells a story about a hero or an adventure. Epics can be presented as oral or written stories.

"The Iliad" and "The Odyssey" are probably the most renowned epic poems. But, let's take a different direction and check out a sampling from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Here's an excerpt from the epic poem, "The Song of Hiawatha" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

By the shore of Gitchie Gumee,
By the shining Big-Sea-Water,
At the doorway of his wigwam,
In the pleasant Summer morning,
Hiawatha stood and waited.

Continued from page 1...

"Howdy Folks"

Well, here goes some scribblin' that's a little past due,
But I reckon I'm always a-thinkin' 'bout you.
I've been readin' the papers in my own little way,
And I see where you messed up my last birthday.
Through divine television I caught the dedication
And heard some tributes by a mighty swell nation.
Now that's a powerful nice shack you built on the hill;
But that's just like the Sooners, it gives them a thrill.

I never did nuthin' to cause all that fuss;
And sometimes, folks, I could almost cuss.
But, dern you, I love you, I guess it's my pride
That chokes me all up and hurts me inside.
I heard Jesse, Irvin, Cohan and Fred
And Amon and Eddie, what nice things they said.
I always called Claremore a big little town,
With guys like Mort Harrison and others around.

I see where Joe Crosson winged there for a day;
Remember him, Wiley? We slept all the way.

But I'll tell you the part which touched me the most,
And it ain't like me to speak up and boast.
It was when dear Mary pulled the curtain string
For my act in bronze -- what a homely thing!
But I guess it was sentiment that filled the place,
'Cause my kids kind of cried and I saw Betty's face.

God bless my old partner, she held up her head;
and though none of you heard me, she knew what I said.
And I spied Sister Sally with a shy little glance;
She's all the West means, charm and romance.
Old Jo had a job a-chisslin' my mug;
Why, I got more wrinkles than a Navajo rug.
So you're honorin' Oklahoma with a replica of me --
Move over Sequoyah, for another Cherokee.

Well, much obliged friends, for the money you spent,
And the words that were spoken by our President.
I wish you had erected a memorial to peace;
We'd be happy up here if war talk would cease.
But I ain't ungrateful, I just can't see
Such a hullabaloo 'bout a cowboy like me.
Well, so long folks, it's time to retire;
I got to keep a date with Odd McIntyre.

PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2020



January	1st	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
January	31st	Deadline for receipt of contest sponsorship
January	31st	Deadline for Directory Information (sponsorships for contests and/or donations (may not be printed in 2020 directory)
March	14th	Annual PSO Spring Banquet
March	8th	Daylight Savings Time starts –Spring forward!
May	15th	Deadline for Contests for July Workshop*
July	TBA	July Workshop and Contests (<i>Deadline May 15th</i>)*
August	15th	Deadline for Contests for Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day **
October	10th	PSO Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day (<i>Deadline August 15th</i>)**
November	1st	Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks
November	26th	HAPPY THANKSGIVING
December	15th	Deadline for Annual Spring Contest (celebrate next March 2020)
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/ps/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Poetry-Society-of-Oklahoma>