

The Oklahoma Rose

Volume IV Issue IV

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

July 2019

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It's Summer in Oklahoma!



We can tell that Summer has certainly arrived in Oklahoma! It is hot, wet and muggy.

Poetry Society of Oklahoma has scheduled its annual Workshop 13th July at Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City. And, what an exciting workshop we have planned!

We are honored to have as our key-note speaker, Maria Veres. Maria is an accomplished writer whose poetry, fiction and nonfiction have appeared in a wide variety of publications. A recent poetry collection, *Church People*, was an Oklahoma Book Award finalist. Maria speaks about writing, gives poetry readings throughout the greater OKC Metro and teaches adult creative writing classes at Francis Tuttle.

We 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!).

PSO always has an In-House workshop with exercises – this year “Paint Chip Poetry!” Also at this time, the winners of the July Contest are announced, winning poems are read, poets recognized, awards given and we have a delicious noon buffet to celebrate our **PSO Poetry Workshop**.

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

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

“Come and Grow at PSO!

-- Patti Koch, PSO President

Inside this issue:

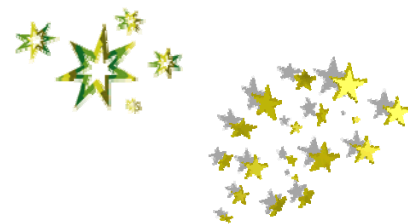
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Previous PSO Presidents

Moving right along with our past PSO's Presidents we are up to the years 2006 to 2008 for our July issue. Mikki and Billy Pennington were co-presidents those two years. Since our May issue had Billy as co-president with Vivian Stewart we will not repeat his information!

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PSO's July



Joy Harjo becomes first Oklahoman

and

first Native American named U.S. Poet Laureate

Harjo is a native and resident of Tulsa and a member of the Muskogee Creek Nation.

“It’s such an honoring for Native people in this country, when we’ve been so disappeared and disregarded,” Harjo told NPR. “And yet we’re the root cultures, over 500-something tribes and I don’t know how many at first contact. But it’s quite an honor. ... I bear that honor on behalf of the people and my ancestors. So that’s really exciting for me.”

“To her, poems are ‘carriers of dreams, knowledge and wisdom,’ and through them she tells an American story of tradition and loss, reckoning and myth-making,” said Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden in a statement. “Her work powerfully connects us to the earth and the spiritual world with direct, inventive lyricism that helps us reimagine who we are.”

(...from THE OKLAHOMAN)



This brilliantly poem written by Abdullah Shoaib can be read both ways, and both messages are incredibly powerful. An example of what a difference poetry can make...

Read it below:

*I'm very ugly
So don't try to convince me that
I am a very beautiful person
Because at the end of the day
I hate myself in every single way
And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying
There is beauty inside of me that matters
So rest assured I will remind myself
That I am a worthless, terrible person
And nothing you say will make me believe
I still deserve love
Because no matter what
I am not good enough to be loved
And I am in no position to believe that
Beauty does exist within me
Because whenever I look in the mirror I always think
Am I as ugly as people say?*

Now read the same words, but bottom up.



PSO Member News

Congratulations are in order for our own PSO members Sandy Soli and Barbara Shepherd. Their poems are included in the Walt Whitman Bicentennial Anthology Poets to Come. The 500-page book was revealed in New York on May 31st at a convention celebrating Whitman's 200th birthday.

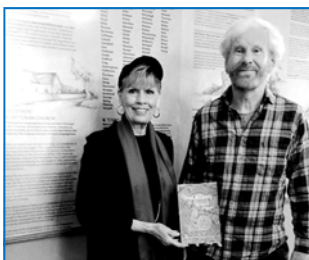
<http://www.waltwhitman200.com/>

{*}{*}{*}{*}{*}{*}{*}{*}

The publication of *Anna McCamey, by Way of Ireland* by Karen Kay Knauss (Bailey) was recently accepted into the Monreagh Ulster Scots-Irish Heritage Centre in Carrigans, Ireland. The poetic narrative and genealogical chronicle will be featured in the Reverend Francis Makemie Study Room. Karen and Reverend Francis are descendants of Robert and Helen Makemie. The family immigrated to Virginia in 1690, and changed the spelling of the name to McCamey prior to settling in Oklahoma in 1900.

During her recent tour of Ireland, Karen was invited to visit the Centre and present her book and a reading of selected poems on a promotional video for the Heritage Centre.

PHOTO: *Stewart Buchanan, Makemie descendant and Chairman of the Heritage Centre's Board.*



Poetry Readings ___(In the great Oklahoma City area)

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

FIRST Sunday of the month

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

Prayers with PSO Recording Secretary, Anna Sterling home from the hospital after surgery and a bout with pneumonia.

And, please keep Betty Personette in your prayers—she has had a stroke.

Send member news to: pkoch7@cox.net

July's Poetry Form ~ Quintella from *Poetry Soup*

Definition

This is a Spanish form of eight syllable (Iambic Tetrameter) lines. The rhyming scheme can vary in presentation ie a.a.b.b.a, a.b.b.a.a. etc but only two consecutive lines may have the same rhyme scheme.

Example

In the Example below, the poet uses two couplets and links back to the starting rhyme in this very graphic poem:

a flickering flame, on the wall
the sound of a, coyotes call
the desert winds, singing at night
sandstorms dancing, in the moonlight
embracing lovers, to befall

Continued from page 1...

Mikki Pennington noted that before joining Poetry Society of Oklahoma she belonged to several poetry groups online. They presented and critiqued their various poems together via private chat rooms. During that same time, she was trying to find information about any poetry group(s) in Oklahoma.

In 1994, during one of her numerous visits to the Moore Library she came across a flyer for the Kaleidoscope Poets. This was a group that met in the library. There she met Violet Amy Davis, Betty Personette, JoEtta Street, and some others whose names she cannot remember! They shared poetry and did some heavy duty critiques. She joined them and they led her to PSO. That group encouraged her to enter the PSO contests one year and out of ten entries she received seven awards. It was also at this time she met Vivian Stewart.

In 1996 Mikki offered to do a newsletter for PSO to help the Co-Presidents, Jo and Lew Taylor promote PSO. She enjoys being an active part of PSO and is grateful to have met so many others, in all of their diversity, who express themselves best in poetry.

In 2010 Mikki was asked by the NFSPS President at that time, Nancy Baass, if she would consider being the Contest Chair for National Federation of State Poetry Societies. She agreed and continued in that position through 2015.

At one time, Mikki was membership coordinator and is currently Contest Chair for the Poetry Society of Oklahoma and has held that position for the last four years, doing an excellent job!

An added note or correction - Vivian Stewart stated that Wilma Goodman, not Marianne McNeil Logan, and Vivian originated OKLAHOMA LORE as the youth contest



PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2019

July	13th	July Workshop and Contests (<i>Deadline May 15th</i>)*
August	15th	Deadline for Contests for Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day **
October	12th	PSO Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day (<i>Deadline August 15th</i>)**
November	3rd	Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks
November	21st	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>