

# The Oklahoma Rose

Volume IV Issue III

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

May 2019

## PSO Officers 2018 - 2019

**President.....**Patti Koch

**VP.....**Ed Roberts

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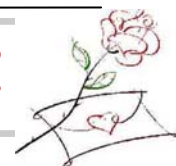
Keith Jones

**Past Co-Presidents....**

Joan & Eddie

Wilcoxon

## Spring has Arrived in Oklahoma!



Spring has indeed arrived in Oklahoma!

**Poetry Society of Oklahoma** held our Annual Spring Awards Banquet March 9<sup>th</sup> at Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City. As always this was quite an event! Winning poems were read, poets recognized, awards given and a delicious Easter banquet celebrated this special day. Our theme was the observance of the Easter season.

Congratulations went to Barbara Shepherd - Barbara received the honor of Poet Laureate for PSO 2019!

April was National Poetry month and people all over the world celebrated. Once again, **PSO** was honored to have the OKC City Council presenting a Proclamation proclaiming April as National Poetry Month in Oklahoma City (for the eighth year in a row!).

Also, our Oklahoma State Legislators presented a Resolution stating April as National Poetry month for the State of Oklahoma (again, for the eighth year in a row!). Yes, **PSO** does indeed like to celebrate National Poetry month in Oklahoma!

Also celebrating April as National Poetry Month was our Metropolitan Library system in the greater Oklahoma City area. The OKLAHOMAN (our newspaper) had an article regarding April as National Poetry month. Love it!

**PSO** is looking ahead to an exciting summer. In July, **PSO** will host a workshop (again at Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City); this will be an in-house (morning and afternoon) workshop presented by **PSO** members and a keynote speaker. At that time we will also be presenting awards for the July contest winners. As always, our workshop will include a delicious noontime buffet.

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

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## Previous PSO Presidents

4 PSO's May issue will tell about Billy Pennington as he was co-president with Vivian Stewart in 2004 and 2005. 2003 co-presidents were Jo Taylor and Vivian Stewart. Obviously, Vivian

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# PSO's March Annual Banquet And More!



## PSO Member News

Congratulations are in order for our own PSO member, William Bernhardt. Bill received the Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2019 Oklahoma Book Awards. The 30th annual book awards banquet was held at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, the awards recognize books published in 2018 by Oklahomans or about Oklahoma. Bill stated "It seems wrong to get an award for doing exactly what you've dreamed of doing your entire life..."

Also enjoyed Bill Bernhardt reading at Full Circle 31st March and Carl Sennhenn the 28th of April. Great job!

Our sympathy to Clark Elliott's family on the loss of his wife, Louise. Clark passed away several years ago and Louise was very supportive of his poetry and PSO.

## 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  
**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

Send member news to: [pkoch7@cox.net](mailto:pkoch7@cox.net)

### **May's Poetry Form ~ clerihew** *from Wikipedia*

A **clerihew** (*[/ˈklerɪhjuː/](#)*) is a whimsical, four-line biographical poem invented by [Edmund Clerihew Bentley](#). The first line is the name of the poem's subject, usually a famous person put in an absurd light, or revealing something unknown or spurious about them. The rhyme scheme is AABB, and the rhymes are often forced. The line length and metre are irregular. Bentley invented the clerihew in school and then popularized it in books.

#### George the Third

Ought never to have occurred.  
One can only wonder  
At so grotesque a blunder.

The clerihew form has also occasionally been used for non-biographical verses.

The Art of Biography  
Is different from Geography.  
Geography is about Maps,  
But Biography is about Chaps.



*Continued from page 1...*

Stewart was pretty busy (1998) (2003) (2004-2005) and (2009-2010)!

Billy's wife, Mikki joined PSO in 1994. She did not drive so Billy took her to the PSO meetings. Rather than just dropping her off he would attend them as a guest. Amy Violet Davis was the President then.

Also in 1994, he was given my very first computer and discovered he was better with computing skills than poetry! Billy went "worldwide" on the internet in 1995 and was amazed to find websites. That set a chain of events in play leading to the PSO website.

Remembering the problems Mikki had finding PSO, Billy decided then that he and PSO were going to be great friends. In 2001 he joined PSO and started to work on designing a website. Lew and Jo Taylor were Presidents of PSO at that time. Billy asked them if they would consider a website and they happily agreed. For the next two years he must have designed and rejected at least a dozen websites. Finally, in 2003 he had a design he thought was good enough for PSO. Billy posted it online in 2003.

Another important event occurred for Billy in 2003. He was elected First Vice President of PSO and Oklahoma Lore Annual Youth Contest was introduced to PSO by Vivian Stewart and Marianne McNeil Logan. Billy served as PSO Co-President from 2004 - 2008 and again from 2010 -2012. He has also served as PSO webmaster from 2003 to the present. From 2014 to 2016 there was another website used as PSO website but the original site was returned back online in 2016.

Billy also worked extensively with Oklahoma Lore, The 2007 National Convention Committee, and various NFSPS and endeavors to improve communication between all state societies for the purpose of public exposure and membership. As you probably know, Billy is currently webmaster of PSO, NFSPS, and PPS.

As an added note - the PSO logo was designed by Mary Chase and with her permission Billy added the Rose to it in 2004 when the Oklahoma Rose was made the State Flower of Oklahoma. Billy is still very active in PSO!

## PSO ~ The Year Ahead \*\*\* 2019

May	15th	<b>Deadline</b> for Contests for July Workshop*
July	13th	July Workshop and Contests ( <i>Deadline May 15th</i> )*
August	15th	<b>Deadline</b> 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	<b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>
December	15th	<b>Deadline</b> for Annual Spring Contest (celebrate next March 2020)
December	25th	<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>
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>