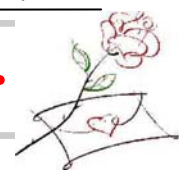


The Oklahoma Rose

Volume V Issue III

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

May 2020



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- VP.....**Billy Pennington
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Isolation in Poetry Land and more...

Charles Dickens' novel, **A Tale of Two Cities**, opens with, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

And, even though we are going through the COVID-19 Virus everywhere, our Mayor of Oklahoma City, David Holt signed a Proclamation proclaiming April as National Poetry Month for Oklahoma City! (*ninth year*)

Also, due to the Pandemic going on the Governor was not doing Proclamations or Resolutions at this time. So, State Representative, Tammy West thought that a Legislative Citation would be good in place of a Resolution this year. There is now a Citation for the State of Oklahoma making April National Poetry Month for the State of Oklahoma. Cool... (*ninth year*)

I sincerely appreciate both our Mayor and my State Representative caring enough about the importance of Poetry to take the time to acknowledge National Poetry Month!

Maybe during this time of staying home and staying in we can dig deep into the recesses of our minds and turn our thoughts to some meaningful poetry.

So many ideas and topics just waiting for pen and paper!

Our PSO Annual Banquet was held at Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City on 10th of March. We honored the "**Wearing of the green**" while also recognizing and awarding our members for their winning poems.

On another note, I have mentioned several times that we are very fortunate in Oklahoma and Oklahoma City proper to have many poetry venues. Once again I encourage you to take advantage of these to enjoy, participate and to learn while meeting other poets.

Everyone should have their 2020 PSO Yearbook/Directory. Thank you Billy and Mikki for getting them out to all our members.

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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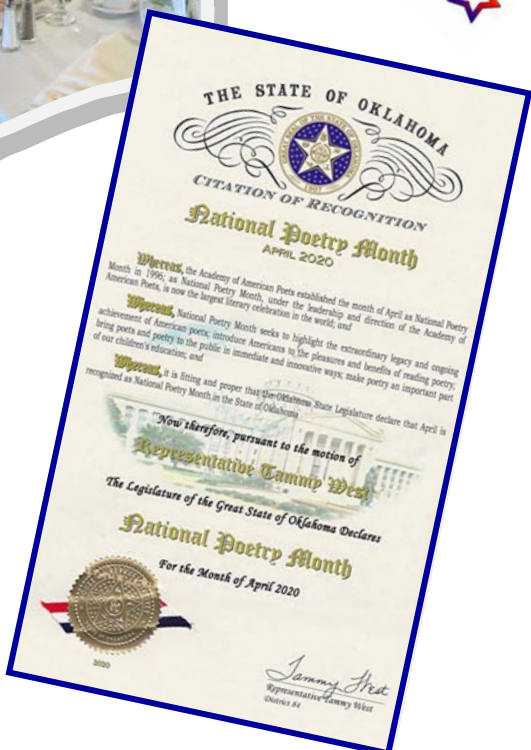
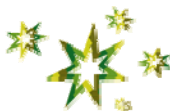
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...every year the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. offers as one of its poetry contests, the STEVENS POETRY MANUSCRIPT COMPETITION. The winning entrant receives one-

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PSO CELEBRATING MARCH



PSO Member News

CONGRATULATIONS to our PSO 2020 Poet Laureate ~ LaVern Spencer McCarthy! ...and runner up Patti Koch and Barbara Sheperd.

A "Thank You" to Kenneth Armstrong for sending several copies of one of his books as gifts for our members (*since he could not attend*).

Sandy Soli was in the hospital with pneumonia ** Dena Gorrell was ill **

Thank you Billy for having the 2020 Yearbook and Directories Corrected. Also, for keeping our PSO Website current.

Mikki, thank you for the work you do for all the contests.

Rob, thank you for photos and keeping our PSO Facebook page current.

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: pattikoch0@gmail.com

May's Poetry Form ~ Minute Poem from <http://www.poetrydances.com/>

The Minute Poem is a poem that follows the "8,4,4,4" syllable count structure. It usually has 3 stanzas that are exactly the same. So: 8,4,4,4; 8,4,4,4; 8,4,4,4 syllables.

A traditional Minute Poem has 12 lines total. It has 60 syllables. It is written in a strict iambic meter. The rhyme scheme is as follows: aabb, ccdd, eeff.

In this traditional example the author included both the rhyme scheme (aabb, ccdd, eeff) and the syllable count (8,4,4,4 for each stanza).

God's Artful Touch

The Arctic Clipper's frigid blast, (*rhyme: a*)
Its winds so fast (*a*)
And furious; (*b*)
Injurious. (*b*)
The stars and moon played hide and seek (*c*)
As clouds did streak (*c*)
Across night skies. (*d*)
Enchanting eyes (*d*)
With stunning iv'ry moon's display, (*e*)
God did portray (*e*)
His artful touch (*f*)
I love so much. (*f*)

- written by mountainwriter49

Continued from page 1...

thousand dollars (\$1,000), publication of the winning manuscript, and fifty (50) copies of the resulting book! This competition is open to all poets writing in English, except for previous Stevens Competition winners. Manuscripts is to be original work by a single author.

Now, you may be asking why this information is important? Because our own PSO Past President, John Coppock is this year's winner! TaDa! And, [CONGRATULATIONS](#), John!

When asked about this award John said, " I have a perspective I think from which others can draw inspiration.

Moral of my story: Live long, learn lots, and don't give up. I think many in our group could win The Stevens just by arranging and upgrading the collective works. Nothing is prohibited because of prior publication nor prizes. The elephant graveyard of old poems can be sensitively visited.

The Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition let me stop kicking myself for my naiveté. When I began winning prizes and accolades from poets like James Dickey and Thom Gunn for poetry in the 60's, I didn't realize that first publication in a college journal eliminated that poem from publication in any premiere journal. *The Atlantic* (Dickey the editor) couldn't print "No Day for Rest." My goal to be in *Poetry* was limited only to unpublished works and just how many fine works does one have? I had only those in my youth already published. I changed strategy and allowed only previously published poems to be published again, my saving the others for non-publishing competitions. Now old, in a time of vulnerability, best poems need a refresh and the new ones need wide, durable voicing. The NFSPS provided such a valuable venue permitting a reissuance of our best work and whatever more we wish to add, with professional publication and a big cash prize to boot. Consider organizing an entry in this time of hunkering down. Salvage all those early works from the quiet of your bookshelves."


PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2020



May	15th	Deadline for Contests for July Workshop*
July	25th	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>

NOTE: By default, Google Chrome blocks pop-ups from automatically showing up on your screen. When a pop-up is blocked, the address bar will be marked Pop-up blocked . You can also decide to allow pop-ups. Just click the popup blocked image in the address bar and tell it to allow this site.