



Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc.

Founded August 30, 1979 Incorporated June 11, 1981 Atlanta, Georgia

Member, National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

Affiliate, The Academy of American Poets

THE
NEW
LETTER

Volume 8, Number 2

Ethelene Dyer Jones, Editor
P. O. Box 120, Epworth, Georgia 30541

January, 1987

GSPS WINTER MEETING JANUARY 17 AT MERCER UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Schedule:

- 9:00 - 9:30 Registration, Coffee, Pastries
9:30 - 10:30 Members' Readings
10:30 - 11:30 Reece, Tanner, Henry, Service
to Youth and Editor's Choice
Awards; Book Reviews;
Business
11:30 - 12:00 Break; Browse and meet the
First Lady of Georgia
12:00 - 12:30 Luncheon; Mrs. Elizabeth
Harris, honored guest
12:30 - 1:30 Presentation of Creative Sup-
port of Poetry Award;
Presentation of books for
Governor's Mansion Library

For reservations call 404-934-1647 and
leave names on tape. Cost of luncheon,
\$7.50.

OTHER SOCIETY MEETINGS IN 1987

- Spring, April 18 - Special Workshop Pro-
gram, Youth Contest Awards
Summer, August 15 - meeting in Macon;
Georgia poetry highlighted; Sidney
Lanier "impersonation;" visit to Sidney
Lanier Cottage
Fall, October 17 - National Poetry Day
Program

Our October meeting was so much fun! The nearly 200 people who saw John Forrest Ferguson as "Rab" (Robert Burns) came away delighted. Nearly 90 members and guests remained for our luncheon and the rousing, lively commentary on Burns by Mercer's Dr. Dick Gibson. Happily, we broke even for our share of the costs for the program and showed our ability as a Society to sponsor or cosponsor events of distinction. Congratulations to you, the members, for making it work!

Be sure to come to our January 17 meeting. The First Lady of Georgia, **Mrs. Elizabeth Harris**, will join us to receive the first Creative Support of Poetry Award for her efforts in behalf of the library in the Governor's Mansion. Society poets will be able to present autographed copies of their books to the First Lady. Come join in a hearty welcome to Mrs. Harris from the Society!

We continue to grow and prosper as a Society. Each of you has shown enthusiasm and solid support for GSPS. We are all beneficiaries of our common efforts. Thank you, and keep it up!

I hope each of you had a blessed Christmas and will have a happy new year. See you January 17!

Sincerely,


Jerry Zeller, President

GEORGIA STATE POETRY SOCIETY, INC.

Dr. E. Jerome Zeller	President
Ethelene Dyer Jones	Vice-President
Richard H. Rodgers	Secretary
Virginia C. Veal	Treasurer

Jo Ann Yeager Adkins **Editor Reach of Song 6**

Catherine B. Stealy	GSPS Contests Chairman
Jo Ann Yeager Adkins	Finance Chairman
Edward Davin Vickers	Historian
Betty M. Gore	Membership Chairman
Ethelene Dyer Jones	Newsletter Editor
Charles B. Dickson	Publicity Chairman
Bob Lowrance	Parliamentarian
Flora Eberhart	<u>Strophes</u> Reporter
Richard M. Rodgers	Youth Contest Chairman

The Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc. is a member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc., and an affiliate of the Academy of American Poets.

The Georgia State Poetry Society Newsletter is published quarterly. News of Society meetings, contests, achievements of members, and news pertaining to poetry events of interest to members should be sent to

Ethelene Dyer Jones, Editor
P. O. Box 120
Egworth, Georgia 30541
Phones: 404-492-3309 (h)
404-632-2081 (w)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

By May 30 for Summer Issue
By August 30 for Fall Issue
By November 30 for Winter Issue
By February 29 for Spring Issue

The Georgia State Poetry Society Newsletter is supported in part through a grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts appropriated by the Georgia General Assembly.

MORE WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Many thanks go to those who were unable to attend the "Rab, the Rhymer" performance in October, but who sent money to help support the project anyway. Such money came from as far away as California and New York! The "landslide" of responses from members everywhere

made it clear that they keep careful tab on Society events even though they cannot always attend. Some examples of warm communications follow:

Anita T. Eden: "...had an operation the first of June; I am up and out (but) try to rest some each day." Get strong, Anita!

Chris Wade: At present my job is so demanding. I am required to spend most of my time in California." We miss you, Chris. Hope you'll be home 17 January so we can see you.

Nelle Ennis: I enjoy getting the newsletter and am proud that my poems have been in three of the yearbooks." We're proud of you, too, Nelle. Good luck on future poems.

William Henry Williams: "...due to current family illnesses I am unable to attend." Hope folks are mending, friend!

Irma Smith Dowis-Edwards: "Conflicts! I would love celebrating my birthday with Rab, but our host and hostess have designated October 18 as Smith Family Reunion Day and I feel I must attend." Hurrah for you, Irma! Know you had a great day, and congratulations!

Alice Howard: "The day is too long for me at present. I am sorry to miss the program and seeing all the lovely members of the Society." We miss you, too, Alice!

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAST DUE

Some members have overlooked their payment of dues for the 1986-87 year. Since dues include participation in members-only contests, entry in and receipt of The Reach of Song, the quarterly GSPS Newsletter, Strophes, and many other benefits, this is an important matter.

If you have any questions about your status, call Virginia Veal (404-634-3077) or write her at 2233 Drew Valley Road, NE, Atlanta 30319. Dues are \$15.00 for each year and were due in September for the 1986-87 year. According to Society By-laws, members must be dropped from the mailing list unless dues are paid.

Please mail your \$15.00 today, without further delay!

BOOKS FOR GOVERNOR'S MANSION LIBRARY

You should have received a special mailing which contained a form to be used if you wish to present a book to Mrs. Elizabeth Harris for the Governor's Mansion Library at the January 17 meeting.

Please be sure to contact Jerry Zeller (404-934-1647) if you have any questions. This is a wonderful opportunity for Society poets to become a part of a significant collection of Georgia writers. Let Jerry know how to help you in presenting your book.

1987 YOUTH COMPETITION

The announcements have gone out to the school systems, libraries and private schools in Georgia for the 1987 Youth Competitions. If you wish additional information about the program, be sure to call Richard Rodgers (404-636-5615, home) or (404-447-4488 - work). Entries must be sponsored by schools or institutions, so personally-sponsored poems cannot be accepted. Richard Rodgers, our 1987 chairman, is doing a good job and we thank him!

PUBLISHED A BOOK?

Sometimes it is not know that our members have published a book or books. At various meetings (e. g., our 17 January meeting) it is good to have books reviewed for our membership. In this way, the Society members can share the happiness of the published poet and can have a chance to purchase copies for their personal pleasure.

Don't hide your book under a bushel! Let us know about it!

PLAN NOW FOR SUMMER MEETING IN MACON

The special Summer 1987 meeting of the Society in Macon will require considerable advance planning. The Society can sponsor an air-conditioned bus which would leave the Mercer parking lot at 9:30 A. M. August 15 and return about 4:00 P. M. The cost will be pro-rated among those who reserve seats and will be kept as low as possible. If you begin to plan now we

can make this outing a truly pleasant one as we seek to draw together poets from all parts of Georgia. More later.

SYDNEY LEA ON GEORGIA POETRY CIRCUIT FOR 1987

Note the schedule for Sydney Lea in poetry readings scheduled across Georgia for January, 1987 on the insert to this Newsletter sent by Adrienne Bond of Macon.

He is editor of the New England Review/Bread Load Quarterly and his poems have been published in various journals and periodicals. You may want to make a special effort to hear him at a location near you.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF MEMBERS

Will Carter received a first special recognition in serious poetry and a second honorable mention in light verse in the Atlanta Writers' Club fall contests. World of Poetry awarded him the "Golden Poet Award" and Heaven Bone accepted a poem for publication.

A collection of poems by **James E. Warren, Jr.**, entitled Poems of Lovett has recently been published by the Lovett School where he serves as historian. It is his sixteenth published collection of poetry and has been given to special friends of the Lovett School in recognition of their generosity to the school.

M. Rosser Lunsford has been accepted for membership by the American Poetry Society. He won a certificate of merit from Rhyme Time magazine and won an award of merit (# 6) from World of Poetry. Poems have been accepted for publication in Parnassus Literary Journal, Explorer Magazine, and Manna.

Ed Vickers won two third place awards in the 1986 Mid-South Poetry Festival sponsored by the Poetry Society of Tennessee. He was a finalist in the Eve of St. Agnes national competition and will be published in Negative Capability. He was a winner in The Haven Haiku contest and will be published in the next

issue of The Haven. Ed represented Marel Brown (who has been hospitalized with broken bones) and the Georgia State Poetry Society by presenting the poetry prizes for the 1986 Reading and Writing Program of the Atlanta Area Boys Clubs. At Marel's request, he gave a short talk on poetry and poetry reading. GSPS provided judges for the contest. The program was originated by Marel.

Charles B. Dickson won first prize in the Sylvia Alkoff Memorial Award in the 1986 competition of the Florida State Poets Association, first prize in the Anita Fairbanks Memorial Award, and third prize in the major contest, The Florida State Poets Award (from 297 entries). He also received honorable mention and special citations in three other FSPA categories. His second book of poetry, A Touch of Wholeness, was released by Skyefield Press, Deer Isle, Me., in October. It is a 67 page, numbered limited edition of 100, typeset in Mallard and printed on Mohawk Ticonderoga paper. In addition to new work, it contains poems which have appeared in thirty-one publications. These have recently accepted his poems for publication: California Quarterly, Amelia, Black Bear Review, Alura Quarterly, Mayfly, Jeans Journal and Daybreak.

Harriet Stovall Kelley won six first prizes and judged the "Old South" contest in the Poetry Society of Texas at their annual awards dinner in November. She is sponsoring her first contest this year with the Society. She writes of an interesting custom through the years. Her great aunt, now 95, in Manchester, Georgia, read of the formation of GSPS in the late 70's and sent Harriet the money to join. Since then Harriet has contributed the "Jewell Smith Honorary Gift Membership," not regularly but when she meets someone interested in poetry who does not quite know how to get started or is unaware of the organization. Recipients in Georgia have been Sara Gordon Harrell (Banks) of Madison and Mark Conway of Flovilla and Atlanta. Texas recipients have been dolores Thurman of Houston, Elinor Cox Cobb of Atlanta and Dallas. The 1986 New Mexico honoree is Betsy Alden of Indiana, recently moved from Dallas to Albuquerque. Harriet has lived in all

three states and has attended poetry society meetings in each place as a member. The Kelleys are moving to Tampa, Florida in January (Chuck is transferring with IBM). After 50 years in Atlanta, nearly 36 in the same house in Morningside, Harriet feels disconcertingly global all of a sudden. Please write to her!

Bettie M. Sellers has a new book of poems, Liza's Monday and Other Poems published by the Appalachian Consortium Press, 1986. Poems published or forthcoming are in The Chattahoochee Review, the 40th Anniversary Retrospective of The Georgia Review, Women in Literature by Prentiss-Hall, Literature by Little-Brown, More Golden Apples (an anthology about women athletes), Number One, and Now and Then. Fall readings have included McKendree College, Lebanon, IL; Clark College, Dubuque, IA, DePaaw University, Greencastle, IN, AARP, Hayesville, N. C.; Young Harris College (reading and autographing of Liza's Monday); and at the Fall Festival at Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, N. C.

Mary Ann Coleman taught poetry workshops at Barrow and Fowler Drive Elementary Schools in Athens. She is listed in International Authors and Writers Who's Who and Who's Who of American Women. A poem was accepted for Poets On: Tenth Anniversary Edition. She read at Rosemary Daniell's workshop in Savannah.

Memye Curtis Tucker read at Callanwolde in November and has two poems in the October/November Georgia Journal; one in the fall Sing, Heavenly Muse!; and one reprinted in Light Year, '87. She served as one of the judges for The Cotton Boll/Atlanta Review poetry competition. Her new puppet play, "Quinhoolin," opened in September for a year's twice-daily performances at the Cobb County Youth Museum (her sixteenth year for writing and directing plays for them). She has been nominated as Cobb County Woman of the Year by the Junior League of Cobb-Marietta.

Theima Hall spent the summer in China as one of one hundred teachers chosen through the English Language Institute based in California to teach English to Middle School teachers. She says, "I stayed at Zhengzhou University, Henan Province; the whole

experience was unforgettable."

Five of her poems have been set to music by Dr. Peter DeWitt for piano and voice. Phoebe Pomeroy of the Shorter College music department sang the songs when the three were presented in concert recently. October 18 she conducted a poetry workshop at Brenau College, Gainesville, for the Northeast Georgia Writers' Club. She has had poems published recently in Number One, Perceptions, and The Georgia Journal.

Virginia Cole Veal had poems published in the summer and fall issues of Parnassus Literary Journal. Her poem, "And One for the Crow," won "best of issue" in the fall Parnassus. Her poems are in these anthologies: Mid-South Poetry Consortium, 1986 and Tennessee Voices, 1986.

CHEROKEE PRESS TO PROMOTE GSPS' REACH OF SONG ANTHOLOGIES

Mr. Kenneth W. Boyd of Cherokee Press, Marietta, has offered to promote The Reach of Song anthologies by listing them in his catalogs and fliers. He has also made an offer to publish the 1987 Reach of Song Book 7.

GWENDOLYN BROOKS AWARD WINNERS

Sponsored by Herbert W. Denmark and judged by Michael A. Brown, winners are:

First, "Station Wagon," by Paul Douglass, 3133 Boxwood Drive, Atlanta 30345

Second, "Harvest," by Beverly V. Head, 682 Catherine St., SW, Atlanta 30311

Third, "Words for a Runaway," by Esther M. Leiper, Box 96, Jefferson, NH 03583

DANIEL WHITEHEAD HICKY NATIONAL AWARDS, 1986

Sponsored by GSPS as a national contest, this year's entries totaled 626 from 162 poets in 30 states and D. C. A total of \$550.00 in cash prizes went to these winners:

First, "When the Stars Are in Our Trees," by Pete Link, 1984 Wellbourne Drive, # 5, Atlanta 30324

Second, "Kalypso," by Catherine A. Rogers, 1078 Briarcliff Road NE # 4, Atlanta 30306

Third, "The Hunger Moon," by Glenna Holloway, 913 E. Bailey Road, Naperville, IL 60565

Best Sonnet, "This Weather..This Weather," by Nelle Fertig, 743 Canyon Lane, Glendora, CA 91740

Special Recognitions:

First, "Act of Purification," by Mildred Barthel, Box 120, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314

Second: "Chimney Sweeping," by Martha Marinara, 47 Francis Avenue, Hamden, CN 06517

Third, "Marta and the Hermit," by Jon Daunt, 609 D St., Davis, CA 95616

Fourth, "On Hearing Loss," by Dorothy Hoogterp, 260 Paris SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Fifth, "Space," by Pete Link (also first place winner)

Honorable Mentions:

First, "Seven Cities of Cibola," by Clarence P. Socwell, 2737 N. 650 East, Ogden, Utah 84404

SEcond, "The Vision of Rain," by Ann L. Zoller, 6717 S. Evanston, Tulsa, OK 74136

Third, "Houses I Once Lived In," by Julia Evatt, Route 1, Box 133, Ellijay, GA 30540

Judge for the 1986 Daniel Whitehead Hicky National Awards was June Owens of Blackstock, S. C. She wrote, "Judging poetry is like looking for jewels...Some poems ache with humanity...some rocket their beauty straight into the consciousness...Some few poems take hold, hold us, will not let us go, even after the closing lines or the turning of the page. **They stay, nibbling at the memory. So reading after reading...the winners would not be denied.**"



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THREE POETRY CONTESTS ANNOUNCED FOR WINTER 1987 BY GSPS

CONNIE SMITH WATSON POETRY AWARD

The **Connie Smith Watson** award honors a well-known poet and member of GSPS from **Fitzgerald, Georgia**. The contest is sponsored by Anne O'Connor, Keith Watson and Carol McConnell, honoring their mother's arrival at the age of Medicare. The award will be announced at the Society's spring meeting on Saturday, April 18, 1987.

PRIZES:

First.....	\$50.00
Second	\$25.00
Third.....	\$10.00
Fourth-Sixth.....	\$ 5.00 each

ELIGIBILITY: Open to members of Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc., only.

ENTRY FEE: None.

SUBJECT: The whimsical side of growing older

FORM: Any form

LINE LIMIT: Sixteen

LUCILLE BENNETT POETRY AWARD

The Northeast Georgia Writers' Club of Gainesville is sponsoring the contest in memory of their member and friend, the late Lucille Bennett. Lucille, also an active member of the Georgia State Poetry Society, was a winning poet blessed with the ability to see humor in any situation. Prizes will be awarded at the Spring meeting of the Society on Saturday, April 18, 1987.

PRIZES:

First	\$50.00
Second	\$30.00
Third	\$20.00

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all.

SUBJECT: Humor

FORM: Traditional

LINE LIMIT: 40 lines per poem

ENTRY FEES: No fee for Georgia State Poetry Society Members. An entry fee of \$2.00 per poem is required of non-members. There is a limit of 2 entries per poet. Make check payable to Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc.



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CHRISTINA WALSH HOLLAHAN POETRY AWARD

PRIZE: A collection of new, hard-bound books of verse and/or related books (letters of poets, biographies, etc.). The retail value will be \$50.00 or more.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all

ENTRY FEE: Free to members of Georgia State Poetry Society.
A fee of \$2.00 per poem to non-members.

SUBJECT: Best "Nature" poem.

FORM AND MOOD: Any

LINE LIMIT: One hundred lines maximum; no minimum.

FOR EACH OF THE CONTESTS, FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

MANUSCRIPTS: POEMS SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL AND UNPUBLISHED (except for the Bennett Award they may have been previously published if poet has rights). Poems should be typed on one side of 8½ x 11" paper. Submit two (2) copies (clear xerox copies acceptable) of each poem with name, address and telephone number on one copy only. Place the contest name on each copy in the upper left hand corner.

RIGHTS: Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc., shall have rights to publish (or not to publish) money-winning poems in the *Reach of Song* after which rights revert to the poet. (Depending on space, poems may appear in the GSPS newsletter, also.) Keep copies of poems submitted. Do not send SASE for return of poems; non-winning poems will be destroyed.

DEADLINE: Entries **must be received by March 21, 1987.**

INQUIRIES: Inquiries must be accompanied by a **self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE)**. Winners will be notified. A list of winners will be supplied to to anyone sending a SASE.

MAIL TO: Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc.
Catherine B. Shealy, Contest Chair
3187 Henderson Mill Road
Chamblee, Georgia 30341

Note: Please specify the **contest name** on the envelope.

DONORS: If you wish to sponsor a contest for a particular form, subject or category, please contact GSPS at the above address or call (404) 938-9403.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM
Membership Year 9/1/86-8/31/87

(Fill in, clip out and send to treasurer:
 Virginia C. Veal, 2233 Drew Valley Road,
 NE, Atlanta, GA 30319.)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Amount enclosed (\$15.00, annual dues)

Check _____ M. O. _____

Contribution \$ _____ for _____

Suggestions: _____

I volunteer for _____

BOOK ORDER FORM



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The Reach of Song, Book 6 (Fall '86)

- _____ The Reach of Song, Book 5 (pub. Fall, 1985)
- _____ The Reach of Song, Book 4
- _____ The Reach of Song, Book 3
- _____ The Reach of Song, Book 2
- _____ The Reach of Song, Book 1***

POEMS of Daniel Whitehead Hicky

*** Winner, Dixie Council of Authors and Journalists,
 Inc., 1983 Author of the Year Award in Poetry

PRICING (includes all mailing costs):

\$7.50 each, one or two books
 \$6.50 each, three or more books

Total # books	Price each	Amount
_____	@ _____	= \$ _____

Checks payable to Georgia State Poetry Society, Inc.
 Contributions to GSPS are tax deductible.

Order from: Jo Ann Yeager Adkins
 Special Funds Chairman
 2826 Evansdale Circle, NE
 Atlanta, Georgia 30340

Mailing Label: _____

NOTE: Members and Friends, Do libraries and schools in your community have copies of **The Reach of Song**? In order to insure publication of future volumes, we **need** your order for additional copies.

Each dues-paid member for 1985-86 is entitled to one copy of **Book 6** free.

Fannin County High School
P. O. Box 937
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

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