

Past Pres. Marge Carlson Conceived Olympic Fest

Past president Margery Carlson, who put GPS on the world map with the Olympic Poetry Festival in 1996, died February 22nd at 71. A memorial service was March 1st. A principal survivor is our treasurer, Roy Carlson, her widower.

Marge saw an opportunity for GPS to participate in the Cultural Olympiad and thought up the idea of an international poetry festival coinciding with the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. The poetry contest drew more than 1,000

Please turn to page 2

Marge Wrote an Update on the NFSPS Convention

EDITOR'S NOTE: Committed to the end, Marge Carlson wrote the following update on the forthcoming 1999 national convention of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies in Atlanta only weeks before she died.

Plans are progressing for the 1999 NFSPS convention in Atlanta. We hope soon to issue a full list of all the participants: speakers, workshop leaders, etc.

Please turn to page 4

Contest In Marge's Memory

Ethelene Jones and Emery Campbell have made contributions to create a poetry contest in memory of the late Marge Carlson (see story above).

Others wanting to add donations may send them to:

Emery Campbell
GPS Contest Chairman
369 Cottage Way, SW
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Index

Application to Join	11
Board of Directors	05
Book Orders	10
Convention Update	01
Poetry Contests	06-08
Poetry People	03
New Members	04
President's Report	02

Georgia Poetry Society



Newsletter

March, 1998

Published Quarterly

Spring Quarter Membership Meeting

Jackson County EMC

Lawrenceville, GA

Saturday, April 18, 1998

NOTE: See page two for directions.

Registration, coffee, refreshments	9:30 a.m.
Call to order, announcements, welcome	10 a.m.
Emily Vail, president	
Welcome new members	10:15 a.m.
Mary Stripling, co-chairperson	
Members reading	10:20 a.m.
Grady Thrasher, chairman.	
Book reviews	10:50 a.m.
Ethelene Dyer Jones	
Marel Brown Youth Awards	11:15 a.m.
Rev. E. Keith Jones	
Narrative Poetry Reading	11:45 a.m.
Carole Fessenden	
Lunch	Noon
Reservations <i>required</i> . See below.	
Georgia Poet Laureate's Address	1:15 p.m.
Bettie M. Sellers	
Contest awards	2 p.m.
Emery Campbell, chairman	
Byron Reece Awards	2:20 p.m.
Betty Maine, Chairperson	
Adjournment	2:40 p.m.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Advance reservations *are required* if you wish to have lunch with the membership at our quarterly meeting on 18 Apr 98 at Jackson County EMC in Lawrenceville. The cost of the catered luncheon will be \$11 a person.

Call Milton Stephens at 770-358-2816 not later than Tuesday, 14 Apr 98, to reserve your place.

NOTE: see page 2 for directions to the site.

Deadline is a Word not to be Exceeded Even by Me

By Emily Blake Vail

Persons who aspire to be poets love words. My friends and I love contemplating all aspects of these mysterious and intriguing entities. I have been known to study the dictionary.



Words have literal meanings: the root, the prefix, the suffix. Then, there's the connotative, every-day meaning of the word derived from its usage.

Indeed, words have histories which relate to a foreign language and past times. Often used as symbols, or figures of speech, words become for the writer an intoxicant and the viand.

What about the word, *deadline*? For it, my Random House volume,

The American Dictionary of the English Language, has a brief entry. Coming between *deadlight* and *dead load*, it reads, in part: "deadline n. 1. A time limit, as for payment of a debt or completion of an assignment. 2. A boundary line in a prison that prisoners can cross only at the risk of being shot."

Why am I in a contemplative mood about that word? With my newsletter editor, I have a deadline and it's (WOW!) already past. I have gone beyond the line! What will be my penalty? I could be shot!

In the dictionary referred to above, the word, *deadline*, has no history from the past. Might I hope it also has no future?

So, enough already! Whimsy and nonsense over! Creativity stay!

Since spring is here, may we all look forward to many happy and productive hours.

MARGE CARLSON Continued from Page 1

entries from around the globe. The winners were celebrated at a significant event here and their works memorialized in a hardback anthology.

She was a major influence in convincing the Coca Cola Co, to assist in the cost of the festival with a sizable grant.

Convention

Drawing on the success of this event, Marge persuaded the National Federation of State Poetry Societies to select Atlanta as the site of its 1999 national convention and headed the planning committee until her death.

A native of South Africa, she had written poetry since her childhood on a 5000-acre farm in the Transvaal Province. She survived revolutions in Lebanon and Iran

before settling with Roy in Snellville.

Marge had won a number of poetry awards in contests conducted by GPS and others, including first place for both a poem and essay in the Georgia Writers, Inc.'s annual competition and third place in *Midwest Poetry Review's* January sonnet contest. Her work had been published in numerous magazines throughout North America.

Spirituality in Poetry

Her daughter, Winona Carlson, New Orleans, said that her mother's poetry has a "sense of spirituality and often ended with something to make you laugh, to pick you up".

Emily Vail, currently GPS president, was quoted in the *Atlanta Constitution* as stating that Marge was "a lyric poet" who wrote evocatively about home, family, and nature.

Marge was a member of the First Church of Christ Scientist, Lilburn, and was on the advisory board of the National Creative Society being organized in Rome, GA.

Also Accomplished Painter

She was an accomplished painter and, just before her death, presented a program for the Old Campbell County Women's Club. Her topic: "The Interrelationship between Poetry and Art". She showed original paintings and sketches relating to poems she had written.

In January, she judged a short story contest for the Lakes Region branch of the National League of

American Pen Women.

Other survivors include two sons, Randall, Miami, and Warren, Cumming; and a brother, Vause Raw, Durban, South Africa.



Your Directions to Site of the Meeting in April

I-85 north to GA 316. Exit right onto GA 316 toward Lawrenceville.

Second traffic light is GA 20. Turn left on GA 20 toward Buford.

Next traffic light is Swanson Dr. Turn right on Swanson Dr.

Jackson County EMC is the first building on the right on Swanson Dr. Street number is 461 Swanson Dr.



News of Georgia Poetry Persons



We were saddened to learn that **Aurelia Austin**, Atlanta, and **Marge Carlson**, Snellville, died.

Emery Campbell, Lawrenceville, won honorable mention from Armadillo Poetry Press for a poem from a collection entitled, *Fire and Ice*.

The award-winning photography of **Janet Habas**, Atlanta, is on exhibit at Garden Topia, 414 Church St., Decatur. There will be a "meet the artist" gathering from noon to 3 p.m. there on March 21st. Janet's poetry has appeared in every volume of *The Reach of Song*.

Georgia Poet Laureate **Bettie Sellers**, Young Harris, was the keynote speaker at the Governor's Awards in the Humanities. Her topic: *Westward from Bald Mountain: Valleys for Writers*. In it, she discussed how terrain, history, folklore, and local culture influenced Byron Herbert Reece, Zell Miller and herself.

Jeanne Osborne Shaw, Decatur, had a piece about grief and recovery in a series run by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Later, it was added to their Stacks information service.

She had prize poems in the 1996 NFSPS anthology and the 1997 yearbook of the Poetry Society of Georgia.

Her biography is in the 15th edition of *Who's Who in the World*.

Her poems were read at churches and at the 19th Century Study Club.

She reviewed a history book by herself and her deceased husband, Harry, for new members of Druid Hills Baptist Church.

Nancy Thompson, Marlton, NJ, who writes as "Ann Tomerlee", conducts a poets roundtable monthly at the Borders book store there. Authors are encouraged to bring samples of their work.

Dorothy Worth read her poetry at the December "writers reading" program of the Village Writers Group in Decatur.

One of her poems was selected to appear on the cover of the program for the holiday party of the volunteers at Fernbank Museum of Natural History.

She was the subject of a feature in *Perspective*, the alumni magazine of the State University of West Georgia. It was about her chapbook, *Desert Places*.

In January, she read her poetry at a meeting of the International Women's Association of the Georgia Council of International Visitors. She also presented to the group a program on Spain. Also that month she attended a board meeting of the Southeastern Writers Association to plan for the group's annual June workshop at which she will teach a short course on photography for writers.

One of Dorothy's poems was accepted by *Vistas*.

She judged a poetry competition in South Carolina.

She recently presented a program at Oak Grove United Methodist Church on native American beliefs as they relate to spirits in nature and read illustrative poetry. Also at Oak Grove, she gave a talk on early Celtic religious poetry.

In February, she represented the International Women's Association at the Georgia Humanities Council awards in Atlanta.

DeKalb Reading to Mark National Poetry Month

In partnership with the DeKalb County Public Library System, the Georgia Poetry Society will present a poetry reading on Thursday, 02 Apr 98, in commemoration of National Poetry Month.



The reading will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the auditorium of the main library branch at 215 Sycamore St. in Decatur. This is one-half block from the MARTA rail station. Parking is available behind the library.

Original poetry and selections from their favorite poets will be read by GPS members and other guests. The special featured poetess will be Dorothy Williamson Worth.

After the program, an open reading will be held.

The program is free and open to the general public. The library is wheelchair accessible.

Thanks, People of Georgia

This publication is funded in part by a grant from the taxpayers of Georgia, made possible by the Georgia General Assembly, and administered by the Georgia Council

for the Arts. The Georgia Poetry Society welcomes as members all persons who enjoy writing or reading

poetry without regard to race, gender, age, religious affiliation, national origin, political orientation, or choice of lifestyle. The society makes every effort to ensure that all meeting sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have special needs, and wish to attend the meetings, please call Joanne Bishop at 770-934-3075



Welcome Our New Members



Jessie Brooks, Lawrenceville, is a Mississippi State University alumna who retired after teaching 25 years in elementary school. She joined the Mississippi Poetry Society, learned much about poetry from a critique group, and hopes to do likewise here. Her poetry has ap-

peared in the MPS anthology.

Lavonne Schoneman, Seattle, WA, has been published in *Family Circle*, *Writers Digest*, a book on how to cope, and "dozens of newspapers and newsletters world wide".

CONVENTION UPDATE Continued from Page 1

Thank you, those who already have returned the yellow questionnaire to me. These are being processed and we look forward to filling all the positions needed in due course. The majority of forms, however, have come from members who live beyond the metro Atlanta area and thus may not be able to participate in day-to-day jobs during the convention.

You May Be Called

If you have not returned your sheet, please do so ASAP. NOTE: we asked you to note "interested/not interested" on each item. If you don't check "not

interested", you probably will receive a call asking you to fill a slot.

This convention is hosted by the Georgia Poetry Society, which includes YOU! The more who participate, the less work for everyone.

Poetry readings will be held twice daily. Some of you have

indicated an interest in those. We're delighted. We need, however, *leaders* for these readings who will keep the program moving, supervise the order of reading, and ensure proper use of the mike. The leader does not read on these occasions. He may read at a reading other than the one he supervises.

Book Room Shifts

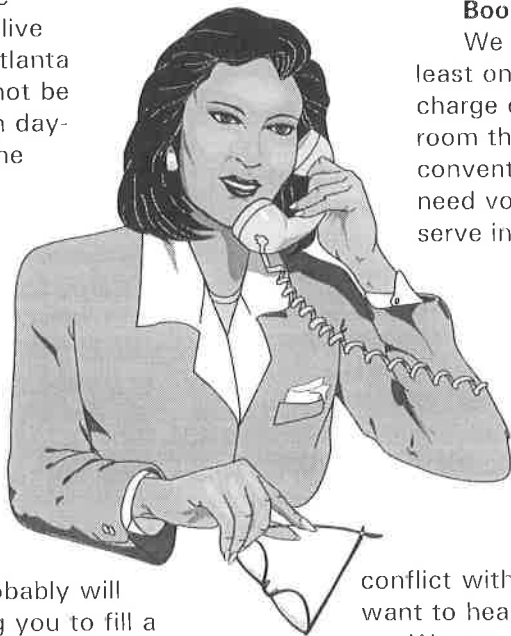
We will have at least one member in charge of the book room throughout the convention, but we need volunteers to serve in short shifts.

This is a great opportunity to see all the books which are available. We will do our best to allocate a slot which won't

conflict with programs you want to hear.

We especially need volunteers who will contact organizations to solicit items for the "goodie bags" and/or door prizes.

If you have ideas on financial supporters, please let us know. Perhaps another organization to which you belong might be interested.



Poetry in Schools Project Visits Columbus Twice

By Jean Mahavier
Chairman

Poetry in the Schools Project

In January, Thomas Haynes, Joanne Bishop, and I made presentations on poetry at River Road Elementary School in Columbus. Angie Burns's new poetry book for children was a big hit.

Each of us received a copy of a book of poems written by students there after a prior visit by a poet. We will use these books in other GPS student presentations.

River Road asked us to return next year.

On Valentine's Day, Tom Haynes, Emery Campbell, and I were back in Columbus at Forrest Road Elementary School helping students write poems about love and friendship.

We now give each school copies of *The Reach of Song* and *Poetry in Motion*, the GPS Olympic anthology as well as other suitable books, such as *Midwest Poetry Review*. Teachers appreciate having these in the school library for the children to access.

Let me know if you want to become an assistant, an observer, or a full-fledged poet-volunteer in this project. You have to try it to see how much fun you'll have.

No GPS Members Place in S. U. Geste Contest

A total of 21 GPS members submitted 32 poems in the recent Shirley U. Geste Memorial Awards Humongous Poetry Competition. None, however, placed among the top three winners. The overall total of poems received was 145.

Pulitzer Prize nominee Charles Ghigna judged the contest.

Taking first prize of \$49.99 was Mikki Hodgman, Waterbury, CT.

Selma Calnan, Topaz, CA, garnered the second award of \$31.67.

Kenneth C. Leibman, Archer, FL, took third and got a check for \$16.23.

1997-98 Board of Directors

Officers

President	Emily Blake Vail
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Treasurer	Roy Carlson

Poetry Contests

General Chairman	Emery Campbell
Reece Awards	Betty Maine
Vickers Award	Carole B. Fessenden
Marel Brown	Keith Jones
Newsletter Contest	Dorothy Worth

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<i>Reach of Song</i>	Ethelene Dyer Jones
Chapbook	JoAnn Adkins
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	Thelma Hall
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Projects

Poetry in Schools	Jean Mahavier
Special Events	Herbert Denmark

Artistic Directors

Terry Kay
Dr. Linda Schrenko

Next Board Meeting Is Set

The next GPS Board meeting is Saturday, 04 Apr 98, at 9:30 a.m., at the residence of Jean Mahavier, 1632 Tamarack Tr., Decatur.

Directions: from I-85 take the Clairmont Road exit #32 toward Decatur and Emory University. Turn left on LaVista Road (second traffic light after leaving the freeway). Go about one-half mile to Alderbrook and turn left. Tamarack Trail then will be your first right. #1632 is at the end of the street.

From I-285, take the LaVista Rd. exit #28 toward Atlanta. Go about 3.5 miles. Cross Oak Grove Road. Turn right at Alderbrook. Proceed as above.

Disoriented? Call 404-633-3129

Meeting Highlights

Carole Fessenden to Read a Georgia-Based Ballad

At the April 18th membership meeting, Carole Fessenden,



Gainesville, will be the featured morning speaker. She will present *The Mountain Whippoorwill*, a ballad by Stephen Vincent

Benet which she chose because it is "accessible and fun with its story and characters and wonderful Georgia imagery."

The afternoon featured speaker will be Georgia's new poet laureate, our own, beloved Bettie Sellers, Young Harris. Her topic: "This is My Place".

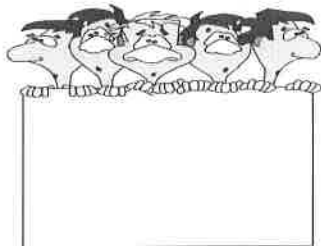
Our special guests will be the winners of the statewide Marel Brown Youth Contest. We hope as many of their parents will attend as possible.

These Rules Apply to ALL Georgia Poetry Society Contests

1. By submitting an entry to a GPS contest, you affirm that the poetry is your own original work to which you hold all rights, is not currently submitted for publication, or entered in any other contest, has not previously appeared in any publication, and is not a previous winner of higher than honorable mention in any other contest.

2. The Byron Herbert Reece Awards, and the Edwin David Vickers contest, are not open to anyone who has won higher than honorable mention in the previous year's contest.

3. Write each poem in English. Type, or neatly hand write, it on one side of an 8.5 x 11 inch sheet of paper. One poem per page.



4. Subject matter of poems should be in good taste. No pornography, sexual or racial slurs, offensive language, or obscenity. Winning poems may be published in *The Reach of Song*, our annual anthology which goes to school and public libraries. Students are among its readers.

5. Send two copies of each poem. At the upper right corner of both: name of the contest. On one copy only: your name and address under the contest name.

6. Any poem entered in a GPS contest which does not comply with these rules may be disqualified.

7. Poems will not be returned. Non-winning poems will be destroyed.

8. Make checks for entry fees payable to Georgia Poetry Society, not to the contest chairperson. Send entries with fee to the chairperson announced in the rules of each contest.

9. A contest receiving fewer than 10 entries may be canceled and the fees refunded.

10. We use qualified judges who are not GPS members. Exception: entries in the society's annual statewide youth contest may be judged by GPS members.

11. Winners will be announced at the quarterly GPS meeting following the contest deadline. Winners not present will be notified by mail.

12. Enclose a SASE to receive a winners' list.

13. You may not win more than one monetary award in any individual contest. If you've been selected for more than one monetary award, only the highest will be awarded. (Judges choose alternative winners to cover this situation.)

14. We reserve the right to publish (or not to publish) prize-winning poems in *The Reach of Song*. After publication, all other rights revert to you, including the right to publish the poem elsewhere.

Georgia Poetry Society's 19th Anniversary Contest

The Georgia Poetry Society announces its annual anniversary competition in two categories:

Category I Formal verse (metered and rhymed poetry: sonnet, villanelle, etc.) Name the form on your entry.

Category II: Free verse (any form other than metered and rhymed).

Prizes: 1st \$25; 2nd \$15; 3rd \$10 in each category.

Subject: Any.

Length: 40 lines maximum.

Eligibility: Open to members only. No more than one poem per category.

Entry fee: None.

Deadline: July 25, 1998 postmark.

Notification: Winners announced at October, 1998, GPS meeting.

Entries to: Emery L. Campbell, General Contests Chairman
369 Cottage Way
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

GPS Contest Deadlines

Laurraine Goreau

Deadline 25 May 98

Winners Jul 98

Chuck Bruehler

Deadline 25 Jun 98

Winners Oct 98

19th Anniversary

Deadline 25 Jul 98

Winners Oct 98

Ed Vickers

Deadline 31 Jul 98

Winners Oct 98

Shirley U. Geste

Deadline 25 Sep 98

Winners Jan 99

Charles J. Bruehler Contest Honors the Memory of a Co-Founder of the Georgia Poetry Society

The Georgia Poetry Society announces a poetry contest to honor the memory of Charles J. Bruehler, a co-founder, with Ed Vickers, of GPS. Formerly employed by Ace Mailing Service, Smyrna, Mr. Bruehler frequently read his poetry at the quarterly meetings. A native of Beresford, SD, he lived in Atlanta 25 years before moving to Phoenix, AZ

- Prizes: 1st \$50; 2nd \$25; 3rd \$15.
Subject: Any.
Form: Any.
Length: 40 lines maximum.
Eligibility: Open to all.
Entry fee: One entry free to GPS members; all others, \$1 each.
- Deadline:* June 25, 1998 postmark.
Notification: Winners announced at October, 1998, GPS meeting.
Entries to: Emery L. Campbell
General Contests Chairman
369 Cottage Way
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
- NOTE:* General contest rules published in this issue apply.

Laurraine Goreau Contest Honors Woman Columnist Who Wrote Poetry, Composed Music, and Acted

The Georgia Poetry Society is pleased to announce a poetry contest sponsored by Ms. Mary Anne DeVillier and Ms. M. M. (Wharton) Glazebrook in memory of their sister who was a member of the Georgia Poetry Society. Laurraine, a poet, composer, editor, columnist, actress, and author was probably best known for her biography of Ms. Mahalia Jackson, *Just Mahalia, Baby*.

- Prizes: 1st \$50; 2nd \$30; 3rd \$20.
Subject: Any.
Form: Any.
Length: 80 lines maximum.
Eligibility: Open to all.
Entry fee: One entry free to GPS members; all others, \$1 a poem.
- Deadline:* May 25, 1998 postmark.
Notification: Winners announced at July, 1998, GPS meeting.
Entries to: Emery L. Campbell
General Contests Chairman
369 Cottage Way
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
- NOTE:* General contest rules published in this issue apply.

Two Copies Means Two; One with Name; One Not

We're still having problems with contest entrants sending only one copy of their poem to the contest chair.

The point of having two copies is so that the chair can keep the one with your name on it in his or her files. When the results come back from the judge, the chair can match the winners with the file copy. The correct person gets the money.

Avoids Favoritism

The reason for sending the judge a copy *without* your name is to avoid any favoritism prejudice on the judge's part. After all, you could be someone the judge dislikes.

In the case of a poem which arrives in only one copy, a kindly and lenient contest chair will make an extra copy, at his or her own expense, black out the poet's name, and then send this to the judge.

Poem Could Be Disqualified

This is not the contest chair's responsibility, however, and, technically, the poem can be disqualified.

Why would you want to go to the trouble of writing a poem, polishing it up, and having it tossed in the contest chair's trash for the lousy 15 cents or so it costs to have a copy made?

Obviously, you wouldn't, so please pay closer attention to this rule: one copy of your poem with the name of the contest and your name and address. *Another* copy with *only* the name of the contest.

Well, you might ask, how much dang trouble is it for the contest chair to correct my mistake? In the case of the larger contests, with upwards of 400 entries, it's a *lot* of trouble.

Make Checks Payable to GPS

Also, we're still getting contest entry fee checks made out to the contest chair. On each of these, the chair must take time to write, "pay to the order of GPS" and then sign his or her name.

Please turn to page 8

Shirley U. Geste Contest Offers Whooping Bonus

Considerably less bored and more buoyed than last year in view of the success of the Shirley U. Geste Memorial Awards, that Humongous Humorous Poetry Competition of 1997, the Georgia Poetry Society announces the new, bigger, better, humongouser, and humorouser second annual, 1998 edition of this already legendary contest. Miz Shirley would have been proud of all you inspired comedic poets out there who responded to the 1997 appeal with an outpouring of nearly 150 entries.

For the 1998 competition, our aim is at least to *double* the number of entries! Yup. And, as an incentive toward this achievement, the sponsor, still steadfast in wishing to guard his/her (no, not the Lady Chardonnay) anomalousness, will add an additional 50% to the prizes (already increased by 15.783% from 1997, *ne vous déplaîse*, Mr. Greenspan) cited below 300 or more entries are received by the deadline.

Poems must be comical, absurd, blithe, droll, diverting, jocose, waggish, ridiculous, mirthful, or side-splitting. Better still, *all* of the above.

Prizes:	1st \$57.88; 2nd \$36.67; 3rd \$18.79
Subject:	Humor (why must we keep repeating this?)
Form:	Any.
Length:	60 lines maximum.
Eligibility:	Open to all, the more the merrier.
Entry fee:	One entry free to GPS members; all others, \$1 a poem.
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>September 25, 1998 postmark.</i>
Notification:	Winners announced at January, 1999, GPS meeting.
Entries to:	Emery L. Campbell General Contests Chairman 369 Cottage Way Lawrenceville, GA 30044
<i>NOTE:</i>	<i>General contest rules published in this issue apply.</i>

Seventh Annual Ed Vickers Contest Is Set for 1998

The Georgia Poetry Society announces its seventh annual poetry competition in honor of founding president, the late Edward Davin Vickers.

Prizes:	1st \$250; 2nd \$100; 3rd \$50. No split prizes or honorable mentions.
Subject:	Any.
Form:	Any.
Length:	80 lines maximum.
Eligibility:	Open to all except 1997 winners.
Entry fee:	\$5 first poem; all others \$1 each.
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>July 31, 1998 postmark.</i>
Notification:	Winners announced at October, 1998, GPS meeting.
Entries to:	Carole Fessenden, Chairperson 3822 Clubhouse Pl. Gainesville, GA 30501
<i>NOTE:</i>	<i>General contest rules published in this issue apply.</i>

Gone Are Entry Forms, Pesky Lists of Poems

The GPS Board has approved new contest rules which appear on page six. These rules apply to *all* our contests, but specific contest announcements will have rules that *also* must be followed. Example: line length, deadline, verse form, entry fee, etc.

Obviously you need to go by the general rules *and* the rules for each specific contest.

The good news: entry forms, or little 3x5 card lists of your poems, will no longer be required.

However, as the new rules state, if you enter poetry in a GPS contest, you affirm that:

- Each poem is your own, original work.
- You own the rights to each poem submitted.
- None of your entries has won more than \$10 in any other contest—be it one of ours or any other contest.
- None of your poems is currently entered in another contest (anywhere) or currently submitted for publication.

TWO COPIES Continued from page 7

The general contest rules clearly state that entry fee checks are to be made payable to GPS. The purpose is to avoid any error as to which account the check is to be deposited. Even if you could buy the contest chair, you couldn't buy the judge. (Just teasing.)

Both of these errors relate to being in a hurry or inattention.

As they told you in school, read the problem.

In this case, the message is, read the general contest rules published on page 6.

Fine Books Available Now from The Georgia Poetry Society

BOOK ORDER FORM

<u>No. of Books</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Price</u>
_____	A Book of the Charter Year	\$6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 1	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 2	Sold Out
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 3	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 4	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 5	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 6	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 7	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, Book 8	6.95
_____	A Book of the Tenth Year, 1988-1989	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, 1989-1990	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, 1990-1991	6.95
_____	The Reach of Song, 1991-1992	9.00
_____	The Reach of Song, 1992-1993	9.00
_____	The Reach of Song, 1993-1994	9.00

The above books may be ordered at a special clearance price of any three for \$18.00, plus shipping (see below for shipping information).

_____	The Reach of Song, 1994-1995	\$9.00
_____	The Reach of Song, 1995-1996	\$9.00
_____	The Reach of Song, 1996-1997 (in progress, available 6/98)	\$9.00
_____	Poetry in Motion: 1996 Olympics Poetry Anthology	\$7.95

PRIZE-WINNING CHAPBOOKS

_____	<i>Shadowdrifters: Images of China</i> by Patricia Canterbury (1989)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>Summer at the Dreamland Motel</i> by Lethe Hunter Bishop (1990)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>A Far Garden</i> by Jo Ann Yeager Adkins (1991)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>In Soft Wings</i> by John Curbow (1992)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>A Species of Ruin</i> by Mildred Greear (1993)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>Blood Kin</i> by Julia Evatt (1994)	\$6.00	_____
_____	<i>Desert Places</i> by Dorothy Williamson Worth (1996)	\$6.00	_____

How to Order

Total for books ordered \$ _____

Shipping (see below) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

How to compute shipping cost: include \$2.50 shipping for first book. Add \$1.50 for each additional book.

Clip and mail order to: Ethelene Dyer Jones, Editor, *The Reach of Song*
 Box 120
 Epworth GA 30541-0120

Membership Renewal Form

NOTE: This form is only for current members. The *new* member application appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

Your Georgia Poetry Society dues for 1997-98 were payable 01 Jul 97. Unpaid members are dropped 01 Nov 97. Dues are \$20 annually for individual members, \$35 for a family, and \$10 for students. There's a new category of life membership for \$300.

To pay your current year's dues, complete this form and mail with your check or money order, made payable to the Georgia Poetry Society, to:

Mr. Roy Carlson, Treasurer
Box 71
Snellville, GA 30078-0071

Name: _____ FAX: _____
Street (include apartment #): _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Home phone: _____ Office phone: _____

NOTE: Only board members will have access to your address and phone numbers.

Dues enclosed: \$ _____

Do you wish to make an additional contribution to GPS? \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

We need your help with the work of GPS. Please check the activities below in which you would be willing to serve:

- Book Reviews
- Hospitality
- GPS Newsletter
- General Poetry Contests
- Poetry Critique Panel
- Poetry in the Schools
- Poetry Workshop
- Publicity
- Meeting Management
- Meeting Planning
- Mailings
- Membership
- Speakers
- The Reach of Song*
- Youth Poetry Contest



Requiem for a Friend

(In Memory of Marge Carlson)

Like the sunlight
on a field of summer corn,
you sparkled and glowed,
bright laughter and warmth
wherever you traveled.
Like a gentle April rain,
your presence spilled its joy
onto all of those
around you.

Like the fertile land,
you brought to flower
every seed that came
within your touch.
You gave fully of yourself
and all that you possessed
to your fellow sojourners
on this earth.

And,
like the blueberries you grew
and shared with us,
you left A taste
so rich and sweet
that even time
can never erase
its memory.

Dorothy Williamson Worth



*The Copy Deadline
for the
Summer
Newsletter
is
29 May 98*

New Member Application

Georgia Poetry Society

Your membership benefits include:

- Opportunity to read your work to an appreciative audience at our quarterly membership meetings. These meetings also feature presentations by notable poetry figures, networking with other poets, and, occasionally, poetry workshops.
- Our quarterly newsletter, featuring news of poetry contests.
- Publication of one or more of your poems in *The Reach of Song*, our annual anthology.
- Membership in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies and its newsletter, *Strophes*.

Name: _____ FAX: _____

Street (include apartment #): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home phone: _____ Office phone: _____

NOTE: Only board members will have access to your address and phone numbers.

Occupation: _____

If you are joining as a student member, please list your age (optional) _____, the name of your school _____, and your grade _____.

Help your fellow members to know you by listing publications in which your work has appeared, significant literary or other prizes you have won, presentations you have given, etc. _____

(Continue on another sheet if you wish.)

If this is an application for family membership, please list the other family members who will be included (see below): _____

Your Georgia Poetry Society dues are \$20 annually for individual members, \$35 for a family, and \$10 for students. Life membership is \$300. NOTE: family membership may include parents and dependent children residing in the same household with the parent(s).

To join, complete this form, enclose your check or money order, made payable to the Georgia Poetry Society, and mail to:

Mr. Roy Carlson, Treasurer
Box 71
Snellville, GA 30078-0071

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Newsletter Poetry Contest

Help! Pickers Needed

The fig tree that I planted late last fall
sure took its own sweet time to wake this spring,
but then at last a bud appeared, so small
I really had to squint to see the thing.

I checked its progress as the days went by.
Before I knew it more had come in view,
then tender leaves unfurled to greet the eye,
and baby figlets, more than just a few.

The way the crop has grown has forced my hand,
I've had to order crates to hold the figs
and line up contract sales throughout the land
with supermarkets—all the Mr. Bigs.

Who knew the tree would land for me a gig
as fruitdom's foremost fancy fig bigwig?

*Emery Campbell
Lawrenceville, GA*



Georgia Poetry Society News
28 Springlake Place, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318-1646
404-350-0714
FAX 404-352-8417

Chairperson's Comment

Congratulations to Emery Campbell, Lawrenceville, for his winning entry in the newsletter poetry contest for this quarter.

In this Shakespearean sonnet, the poet has given us not only excellent examples of rhyme, but also a closing line in the couplet that carries alliteration to new heights, or should I say "quantities"?

As always, it is a difficult task to select which of the entries I receive will be the winner, since all of them are good.

Please continue to send in your poetry and be sure to indicate whether I may consider your entry for a later date.

Dorothy Worth

Contest Chairperson

Newsletter Contest Rules:
limited to members only. Must be an original, previously unpublished poem no longer than 30 lines and no more than 50 characters a line, including spaces. Put your name on the poem.

Send not later than 10 May 98 to:

Dorothy W. Worth
GPS Newsletter Contest Chairperson

1399 Vista Leaf Dr.
Decatur, GA 30033

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Address Correction Requested