



# Georgia Poetry News

September 2001

Published Quarterly by the Georgia Poetry Society

## Do Send in Your Dues (to the Correct Treasurer)

Dues are due! If you have not renewed, please turn to page 11 now, complete the form, and mail it with your check. Your membership is important to us. If you haven't paid by October 15<sup>th</sup> 2001, your entry fee in the NFSPS contest series will be higher. Unpaid by November 1<sup>st</sup> 2001 and you're out.

Also please note that we have a new treasurer, **Price Fessenden**. His name and address appear on the membership form. Please don't send anymore checks to Roy Carlson.

## Items for Next Issue

The copy deadline for the Winter newsletter is November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001. Please send all submissions to

Keith Badowski, Editor  
585 Tribble Creek Drive  
Grayson, GA 30017-1646  
Fax 770 723-0033  
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thebeardedpoet@hotmail.com

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<http://pages.prodigy.net/elcampbell/>

## 91<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Membership Meeting

Shorter College

Eubanks Room, Cooper Fine Arts Building

Rome, GA

Saturday, October 13, 2001

- 8:30 a.m.** Registration, coffee, refreshments
- 9:30 a.m.** Welcome & introduction of guests, John Ottley
- 9:35 a.m.** Member readings, Katherine Ward, Ph.D.
- 10:20 a.m.** Classical poetry, Emily Barnett
- 10:25 a.m.** Artist of the Year. Rome Council for the Arts
- 10:30 a.m.** "Three Wellsprings of Poetry"  
Thelma Hall, Ph.D. English faculty, Shorter College
- 11:25 a.m.** Shorter College student reading
- 11:45 a.m.** Floyd College faculty reading
- 11:50 a.m.** Open
- Noon** Lunch.  
Luncheon speaker: Alice Taylor-Colbert, Ph.D.  
"If Rivers Could Speak"
- 1:00 p.m.** Presenting poets: Beth Gylys
- 1:30 p.m.** Panel discussion: How to Enter Poetry Contests.  
Emery Campbell, moderator  
Dorothy Worth, panelist
- 2:00 p.m.** Contest results, Carole Fessenden and Emery Campbell
- 2:15 p.m.** Book reviews
- 2:35 p.m.** Announcements
- 2:45 p.m.** Adjournment
- 3:00 p.m.** Board meeting, Room 200 Minor Fine Arts Building

## RESERVE EARLY!

Call **Milton Stephens** at 770 358-2816 by Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> to make your lunch reservation. **More details on page 2**

## President's Report

by John Ottley

Jean Copland, editor of *Scribbles 'N Bits*, the newsletter of the Georgia Council of Teachers of English, graciously included a news item about our statewide youth poetry contests in her fall issue. This will bring our contest to the attention of 800 to 1,000 English teachers throughout the state. A half-page advertisement will appear in the winter issue of *Scribbles 'N Bits* reminding teachers to look for our contest flyer which will have been mailed to all schools in October. Hopefully, these initiative will result in wider participation in the contests by young poets from "Rabun Gap to Tybee light."

\*\*\*

Our inventory of poetry books has been reduced by more than 300 volumes, which were purchased and donated to a national literacy advocacy foundation. The purchase enriched our GPS treasury. It is hoped that the books will enrich the intellectual lives of the students in schools whose libraries were devastated by spring floods in Texas.

\*\*\*

Under the indefatigable leadership of Jean Mahavier, small groups of members have responded to requests from English teachers at a handful of schools--many in the metro area--to conduct student poetry workshops. These have been exceptionally well-received and the teams



John Ottley  
Photo by Brenda Kay Ledford

are almost always re-invited. Our poetry-in-the-schools program is reaching young persons at a critical stage of their education and getting them to enjoy writing poetry, or at least appreciate it more. Would that such a team had come to my classroom!

The problem is that Georgia has 800 school systems, and we are only scratching the surface.

One of our board members has access to the Carnegie Foundation. It is inclined to consider favorably grant requests directed toward the field of education. With the right proposal, we might obtain a substantial grant and be able to extend Jean's good work throughout the state. I am appointing an ad hoc committee to study this problem and make recommendations to your board.

\*\*\*

Your board has voted a \$100 contribution to the NFSPS Scholarship fund. This fund is a poetry manuscript competition for college juniors or seniors. The two winners get \$500 scholarships and their books published. Individuals are encouraged to support this fund with tax-

deductible donations to Madelyn Eastlund at 310 S. Adams St. Beverly Hills, FL 34465.

\*\*\*

Of 12 new members who joined recently, three came to us as a direct result of our having met at Young Harris.

\*\*\*

We now have 26 college-level English faculty members on our newsletter mailing list. We need to be better known by these friends of poetry. Please keep those names coming to Margaret Langford or me.

\*\*\*

I leave you with this Joan Miro thought: "The painting rises from the brush strokes as a poem rises from the words. The meaning comes later."

### Change in Date of Winter Meeting

Morehouse College has committed to hosting our January meeting on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 2002.

This change from the previously announced date of January 19<sup>th</sup> is necessitated by the fact that Morehouse takes a long weekend in observance of Martin Luther King Day on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Luncheon Details

The cost of the catered luncheon at the October meeting will be \$12, which includes pre-meeting coffee, juice, pastries, and tax.

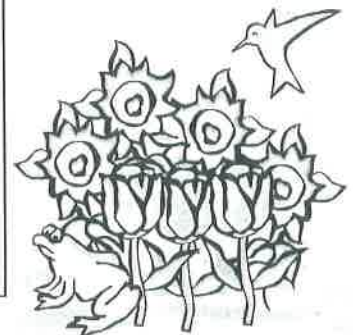
Seating capacity in the Eubanks Room is limited to 50 persons. To enjoy the catered luncheon, it will be necessary to purchase a ticket at our registration table.

Persons who make reservations with registrar Milton Stephens at 770-358-2816 not later than Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, will have first priority on the available tickets.

There is no admission charge for the meeting and no luncheon charge for those who wish to bring their own food and beverage.

The luncheon buffet will be served at noon in the room where the meeting takes place: the Eubanks Room on the second floor of the Cooper Fine Arts Building on the main college quadrangle.

Seating for the meeting will be at round tables. At lunch, persons with tickets will pass through the buffet line and return to the tables.



# News of Georgia Poetry Persons



**Elizabeth Ansley Allan**, Atlanta, has had four poems published in recent issues of *Community Journal*, a newspaper that covers DeKalb County. Along with two friends who graduated from Decatur High School in 1954, she has published a book of illustrated poetry, *On The Way To The Water Well*, (published by Prince Media Group, Atlanta). Elizabeth has 31 poems in the book.

**Keith Badowski**, Grayson, was the featured poet at "Java Monkey Speaks" on August 19<sup>th</sup>. The reading was held at Java Monkey Coffeehouse on Church Street in Decatur. For the occasion, he self-published a chapbook of his poems entitled, *Breaking the Bough*.

**Najwa Salam Brax**, Flushing, NY, has been listed in the *International Who's Who in Poetry and Poets' Encyclopaedia*, Tenth Edition. June/July 2001 and in the *Who's Who of Professional and Business Women*, Eighth Edition. Three of her poems were published by *Reflections Literary Journal*, Volume III, issued by Piedmont Community College. Also she had a poem published in the summer 2001 issue of *Northwoods Journal*.

**Emery L. Campbell**, Lawrenceville, GA won fourth place in the 2001 NFSPS Convention Contest for his poem, "Glory Gory Hallelujah."

**Herbert Denmark**, Decatur, published his poem, "The Battle of Poetry Place," in *Summer Shade: A Collection of Modern Poetry*. His poem, "Being a Man," was published in the *Community Journal*, a DeKalb County newspaper.

**Elizabeth Estes**, Lincolnton, GA, published her poem, "Grandbaby," June Cotner's first poetry anthology, *Mothers and Daughters*. The book, Ms. Cotner's ninth, is in the inspirational section at all major bookstores.

**Carole M. Madan**, Alpharetta, was a featured poet at the High Museum's Jazz Festival on August 10th. She was the only poet among a group of authors and performance artists who collectively presented work on the theme of the Renaissance, Michaelangelo, and Italy.

**Mikki Morris**, Richmond Hill, has joined the select group of GPS lifetime members. There are but four others. Life membership is available for \$300. Over and above knowing that you have done something great for GPS, the benefits include no further

dues, lifetime automatic free entry in all GPS contests, and a free copy of each volume of *The Reach of Song*.

**Jeanne Osborne Shaw**, Decatur, had three poems published in issues of *Community Journal* of DeKalb County. Her biography will appear again in *Who's Who in America* (2002). Also she has published an illustrated collection of her Christmas poems entitled *Third Millennium Christmas*.

**Dorothy Williamson Worth**, Decatur, had a poem published in *Community Journal* of DeKalb County and read a poem at a meeting of the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the D.A.R. She presented a short workshop on writing lyric poetry to a group in Marietta. She is Co-Chair of the International Women's Association of the Georgia Council for International Visitors and has been named Chair for the Education Committee of the Polaris Volunteer Guild at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, where she has served as a docent since the opening of the Museum in October of 1992.



## Directions to Shorter College

- I-75 north to Exit 290 for GA 20.
- Turn left at the bottom of the exit ramp.
- At 2.3 miles, reach intersection of US 411 south. See the large sign: "To Rome."
- At about 1 block, bear right onto the entrance ramp for US 411 south. See another "To Rome" sign.

**NOTE:** It is confusing that it is US 411 *south* in that you are going *north* to Rome. Accept it as a weird route designation.

- At 2.5 miles, exit right on US 411 south and GA 20 west. Another "To Rome" sign.
- At 18.9 miles reach a fork. Proceed straight ahead for Rome on US 27, GA 52, and GA 20.
- At less than 1/10 mile, bear right for Rome. Keep following GA 20.
- At 4.1 miles, turn left on Sherwood Rd. "Shorter College" is also on that overhead road sign.

**NOTE:** After passing Horseleg Creek Rd., get in the left lane in preparation for your left turn on Sherwood Rd.

- At 1/10 mile, turn left into the Shorter College gate.
- At 1/10 mile, bear left for the administrative offices and visitors' circle.
- At 3/10 mile, pass the main quadrangle and visitors' circle.

# Welcome Our New Members



- Turn right and park *behind* Cooper Fine Arts Building which is the last building on your right on the quadrangle.
- If your passenger has difficulty walking, turn right into the visitors' circle, go around it, and let your passenger out in front of the Cooper Building. There's an elevator to our second floor meeting room. Then exit out of the circle and park behind Cooper.

**HINT:** Bring your camera and have your photo made in the sunken garden on your left as you reach the main quadrangle.

**DRIVE TIME:** 1 hour 22 minutes from the Howell Mill exit on I-75 north.



**Glenda Beall**, Hayesville, NC, has had her poetry published in *The Journal of Kentucky Studies*, *The Georgia Journal*, *Red Owl Magazine*, *Independence Boulevard*, *Lucidity*, *Carolina Magazine*, and forthcoming in *Main Street Rag*. In 1997, she won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Clay Co. Arts poetry contest in Clay Co., NC. Our meeting at Young Harris College introduced her to GPS.

**Noah J Coates**, Forest Park, heard about GPS from Barbara Bird.

**Faye B. Dozier**, Appling, has been published in 8 anthologies. She placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a short story contest

and received several honorable mentions. Her work has appeared in *Grand Mother Earth*, *Georgia Writers, Inc. Newsletter*, and *Columbia News Times*.

**Norma V. Finney**, Marietta, is an award-winning sculptor. In 2001 she received two Poetry Citation Awards including Best in Show from the Marietta Foundation of Women's Clubs. The International Library of Poetry has also published her poems on the web. She heard about GPS from Bettie Sellers.

**Mary Frances**, Atlanta, heard about GPS from Mary Jo Winer.

**Faye Hoops**, Augusta, has renewed her membership. She has been published in the following: *Martinez Evans Times*, *Sand Hills Literary Magazine* (Augusta State University), *Bereavement Magazine*, *Feelings Poetry Journal*, *Anderie Poetry Press Anthology*, *Georgia Writers, Inc.'s* anthology, and *Reach of Song*. She also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in poetry in Georgia Writers, Inc.'s first members contest (1996) and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in fiction in the Porter Fleming Writing Competition (1997).

**Berthena Carey Lankford**, Athens, is President of Lankford & Associates, Inc., a court reporting and video production company. She is also a designer and

builder of historic restorations. Her past pursuits include music, theater, child-rearing, teaching, and research.

**Charles Primerano**, College Park, heard about GPS from Ira Harrison.

**Sue Pumphrey**, Huntsville, AL, learned about GPS from *Poet's Market*.

**Maribel Ruiz-Zuckerman**, Atlanta, heard about GPS from Mary Stripling.

**Ramona Sardina**, Chatsworth, heard about GPS from Julia Evatt.

**Karen Shelnett** is a new member from Marietta.

**Steven Shields**, Duluth, is a former editor of a scholarly journal. He is a returning "prodigal" to poetry writing after a long absence. He discovered GPS when a search on Google (Internet search engine) turned up our web site.

**Kathy A. Stilwell**, Cumming, has had work published in *Praying Magazine - Psalms from the Porch*.

**Donna B. White**, Ellijay, had her poem "Rain Fall" published in *The Age of Innocence* anthology (International Library of Poetry) in 2000. She has also posted poems on Poetry.com. She heard about GPS from Julia Evatt.

## Out Guest Speakers: Shorter College Meeting, October

### Dr. Thelma R. Hall

Dr. Thelma R. Hall is Professor of English and Chair of the Division of Humanities at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. She and her husband Dr. Wilson Hall came to Shorter College in 1964. Dr. Hall earned her B.A. and M.A. in English from Auburn University and her Ph.D. in English from the University of Alabama. Her major areas for teaching are Modern Literature, Southern Literature, and Creative Writing. Dr. Hall frequently attends professional conferences where she delivers papers in these fields and presents readings of her poetry. She is a member of the Georgia Poetry Society and has been named one of this organization's artistic directors. Her book, *Sunlight and Stones*, was nominated for the Author of the Year in poetry in 1989 by Georgia Writers, Inc.

*Sunlight and Stones* received the 1999 Benjamin Franklin Award for Poetry/Literary Criticism, given in Los Angeles by Publishers Marketing Association. Besides this volume, Dr. Hall has had seventy-five poems published in various literary journals and other sources, including the following: *The New Laurel Review*, *The Chattahoochee Review*, *Number One*, *The Reach of Song* (yearbook of the Georgia Poetry Society), and many others. She has published a chapbook of poems entitled *Among Chinese* about her experiences teaching English in China at Zhengzhou University and Yantai University, on four separate occasions from 1985-1995. Her poems have won fourteen awards, including one Editor's Choice for best poem in the issue, four first place awards, four second place awards, one Special Recognition award, and four Honorable Mentions.

She also is the faculty editor and sponsor for the college's literary magazine, *The Chimes*.

Dr. Hall loves to share her ideas and feelings about reading and writing poetry. She can be reached for readings and workshops at Shorter College, Box 2012, Rome, GA 30165 or 706-233-7252.

### Alice Taylor-Colbert

Alice Taylor-Colbert received her B.A. degree in History and English from Shorter College, and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in American Studies from Emory University. Her research interest is in the American South, particularly southern women and the Cherokee people. Her most recent publication, "Cherokee Women and Cultural Change" in *Women of the American South*, reflects that interest. In the spring of 200 she was fortunate to have a sabbatical to conduct Cherokee research in Oklahoma and in archives around the South.

At Shorter College, Dr. Taylor-Colbert is an Associate Professor of History, Chair of the History and Political Science Department, and

Director of the College Museum and Archives. In the latter position, she has assisted with the college's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration through producing exhibits, a historical slide show, and other materials. In March 1999, she sponsored a conference-- "Georgia Women Meeting Challenges"--in conjunction with the Georgia Women of Achievement.

She is actively involved in a number of museums and historical societies.

### Beth Gylys

Beth Gylys is an Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. Her collection of poems *Bodies that Hum* won the Gerald Cable First Book Award and was published by Silverfish Review Press. Her poems have appeared in the *Paris Review*, *The Southern Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The New Republic*, *Antioch Review*, and other journals. She has also had work in several anthologies: *American Poetry: The Next Generation*. Eds. Gerald Costanza and Jim Daniels and the 1996 *Anthology of Best Magazine Verse*.

## GPS Member Contest Survey

We are attempting to collect some hard data on member participation in GSP contests. To that end, we would like to receive your answers to the following questions. Please mail, fax, or email your responses to **Keith Badowski**, Newsletter Editor (his contact info appears on page one). You may submit your answers anonymously if you wish.

1. Have you ever entered a GPS contest?
2. How often have you entered GPS contests?
3. Has your entering of GPS contests increased or decreased since you became a member?
4. Do you feel that the contests are run and judged fairly?
5. Is there anything you would like to see changed about GPS contests?



## GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY CONTESTS

These rules apply to all GPS contests except where superseded by guidelines for individual competitions.

1. By submitting entries to any GPS contest, entrants affirm that the poetry is their own original, unpublished work to which they own all rights; that it is not currently entered in any other contest or submitted elsewhere for publication; and that it has not won a monetary award of over \$10 in any previous contest.
2. Anyone who has won higher than honorable mention in either of the two major GPS annual contests, i.e. the Byron Herbert Reece or the Edward Davin Vickers contests, may not enter that contest the following year. This specific restriction applies only to these two contests.
3. Each entry must be typed or neatly printed in English (except where noted) on one side of 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper, one poem per page.
4. Subject matter of poems submitted must be in good taste, contain no pornography, no sexual or racial slurs, no offensive language, and no obscenity. Winning poems may be published in *The Reach of Song*, the GPS's annual anthology. The publication goes to school and public libraries where young people may be among our reading audience. For this reason we are concerned that the anthology contain no inappropriate language.
5. Submit two copies of each poem with the name of the contest in the upper right corner of both copies. Show the name and address of the poet under the name of the contest on one copy only. This entry format is important and should be carefully observed.
6. Any poem entered in a GPS contest that 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. Each contest chairperson will secure judges who are not GPS members (except that youth contests may be judged by members). Entries are sent to the judges anonymously. The name of the judge for each contest will be mentioned on the list of winners.
11. The chairperson will announce the winners at the quarterly GPS meeting following the contest deadline. Winners not present will be notified and receive their awards by mail. Winners will also be posted on our web site.
12. A list of winners will be sent to all entrants who include a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) with their submissions. Enclose a SASE with all inquiries.
13. No contestant may receive more than one monetary award in any individual contest. If a contestant is a multi-winner, he or she will receive the highest award only. Judges will choose alternates to cover this eventuality.
14. GPS reserves the right to publish, or not to publish, prize-winning poems in *The Reach of Song*. After publication by GPS, poets retain all rights.



### Why I Enter Poetry Contests

Jeanne Osborne Shaw

Since I was a child, I have had the desire to entertain, edify, and fulfill some drive within by my writings of various kinds. I have been a newspaper reporter, a magazine book editor, and a fiction writer. In later life, my zeal filtered into poetry and a divine commission to reach some kind of audience, be it small. I became weary of primarily submitting poetry to magazines and journals which held it for months and sometimes

years before reaching a decision and publishing it or not.

Our contests and others give a date for decisions, so I began to major in sending to them, especially to those that published winning poems. Winnings are indeed spotty and scarce. There are many more disappointments than successes. If I win ten percent of the time, I feel gratified. For instance, in the past five years or so I have sent about twenty-five poems each year to the contests of NFSPS. I have won 1 prize most of the years and been published in their

anthology. However, in 2000 I received only the consolation of three honorable mentions, no publication.

It is possible to conduct poetry marketing, in one sense, as a business. So state it on tax returns and list gains and losses. One can use this status to pay entrance fees, buy books, etc. And one has to make a profit only every five years!

Perhaps in the future, I may find a better way to live and write. So what is my counsel, if you asked? Write on if you feel the divine joy of perhaps serving humanity as a

poet. Then study, work, and pray with persistence and diligence. Gasp! I'll try to do that, too.

### A Word of Thanks

A special thanks goes out to **Emery Campbell** and his new assistant **Julian Campbell** for their work on our GPS web site.

Julian, Emery's son, stepped in to help with the regular updates on the web site when Keith Badowski resigned from those duties.

Please visit our web site at <http://pages.prodigy.net/elcampbell/>

## The 2001 Mikki Griffis Morris Poetry Competition

The Georgia Poetry Society is pleased to announce that Ms. Jo Ann Yeager Adkins has agreed to continue her sponsorship of this competition honoring Mikki Griffis Morris of Brunswick, GA. Mikki is a poet and staunch supporter of the arts and has contributed in incalculable ways to Georgia Writers and to the Georgia Poetry Society.

Prizes: \$100. One prize only, not to be divided, and no honorable mentions  
Subject: The yearning heart  
Form: Any  
Length: 60 lines maximum  
Eligibility: Open to all  
Entry fee: \$5 for up to five poems, i.e. for any number of poems from one to five  
Deadline: October 15, 2001 postmark  
Notification: The contests chairman will announce the winner at the January 2002 GPS meeting  
Mail entries to: Emery L. Campbell  
General Contests Chairman  
369 Cottage Way  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044-4523  
(No e-mail entries, please)

## The Fifth (2001) Annual Shirley U. Geste Memorial Awards Poetry Contest

With the passage of years since her demise, Shirley has begun to view more in sorrow than in anger her memorial contest's failure to generate the level of 300 or more entries on which she had set her heart. In place of the seismic rages that have characterized her earlier frustrations, listening devices currently monitoring her grave have detected wracking sobs. The remedy rests with YOU to ensure that Shirl can henceforth rest in peace. How? A no-brainer: SEND IN MORE ENTRIES TO HER CONTEST!!! Is that so hard to grasp? Surely not. Shirley's bawl is in your court. And if that alone is not enough to bounce you into action, Shirl has, in near despair, authorized an increase in the prize money from the 2000 level.

Prizes: First \$70.04; Second \$44.37; Third \$22.74.  
No split prizes or honorable mentions.  
No contestant will be awarded more than one prize.  
Subject: Humor (must we keep repeating this?)  
Form: Any funny-ha ha form (not funny-peculiar, please).  
Length: 60 lines maximum  
Eligibility: Open to everyone everywhere (well, not Mars, but you know what we mean).  
Entry fee: One poem free to GPS members; all other poems \$1 each (a pittance).  
Make check or money order payable to Georgia Poetry Society. No cash please.  
Deadline: Originally 8/15/01, extended to 10/31/01.  
Notification: The winners announced at the winter quarter meeting in January 2002.  
Mail entries to: Emery L. Campbell (address above)



## The Georgia Poetry Society Twenty-second Anniversary Awards Contest (2001)

The GPS is pleased to announce a poetry contest to mark the twenty-second anniversary of the society's founding.

Category I: Formal verse (metered and rhymed poetry--sonnet, villanelle, pantoum, etc.)  
NAME THE FORM ON YOUR ENTRY.  
Category II: Free verse (any form other than rhymed and metered).  
Prizes: First \$25; Second \$15; Third \$10 in each category.  
Subject: My favorite season of the year  
Form: See above  
Length: 40 lines maximum  
Eligibility: Open only to current GPS members in good standing. Entrants may submit no more than one poem in each category  
Entry fee: No entry fee  
Deadline: November 15, 2001 postmark  
Notification: The winner will be announced at the January 2002 GPS meeting  
Mail entries to: Emery L. Campbell (address above)

## Announcement of Winners

Emery L. Campbell, General Contests Chairman

### The 2001 Margery Carlson Memorial Award Poetry Contest

This contest honors the memory of the late Margery Carlson. A distinguished past president of the Society, Ms. Carlson was instrumental in conceiving the first ever official Olympic Games poetry contest. The competition took place in conjunction with the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games held in Atlanta. She also obtained for the GPS the right to stage the 1999 convention of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, although she passed away before seeing the event come to fruition. Margery's dedication to poetry and her always accessible presence are sorely missed by her family and wide circle of friends.

The contest drew a total of 66 entries of which 44 were from GPS members and 22 from non-members. Entries came from poets in CT, FL, GA, KY, MI, MO, NC, NH, OK, VA, and WA.

Theda Bassett of Murray, Utah judged the contest. Ms. Bassett is a past president of the Utah State Poetry Society and a much published poet and frequent contest winner. Though born in Wyoming, she has lived most of her life in Utah. She teaches at the Pioneer Craft House in Salt Lake City and is the author of a book of poetry titled *Writing Between the Lines*.

Ms. Bassett chose as the winner the poem titled "Bison Dreams" by **Dorothy Williamson Worth** of Decatur, GA. Although the competition rules provide for only one prize of \$100, Ms. Bassett wishes to give special mention to the poem titled "Summer Ladder" by **Kay Putney Gantt** of Lynchburg, VA.

### The 2001 Proudly We Serve Poetry Awards

The GPS is pleased to announce the winners of this competition to honor Mr. Robert Miles, a retired soldier, Vietnam veteran, former chief of communications for the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, community activist, and writer. Mr. Herbert Denmark is the sponsor of the contest.

A total of 81 entries were received, of which 68 came from 22 non-members and 13 from 4 members. Entries arrived from 16 states and from one Canadian province.

Ms. Kathleen Thompson served as judge. Ms. Thompson is a past president of the Poetry Society of Georgia in Savannah, although she now lives in Birmingham, AL.

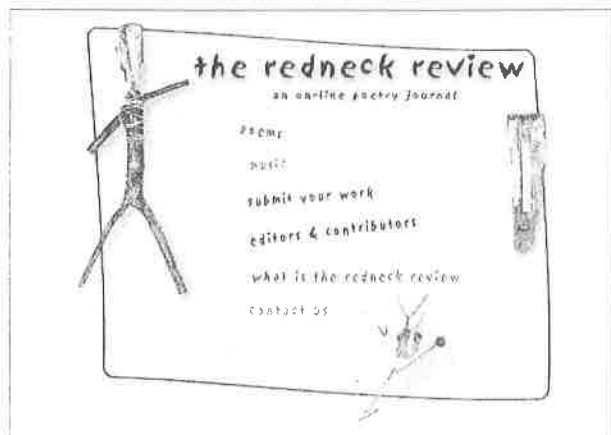
Her selections are as follows:

First prize \$50 **Ryan G. Van Cleave** of Madison, WI for the poem "Willow Herb."

Second prize \$25 **Kay Putney Gantt** of Lynchburg, VA for the poem "Eulogy for Father."

Third prize \$15 **M. L. Stuart** of Phoenix, AZ for the poem "Aftermath."

On behalf of the GPS, I want to congratulate the worthy winners and thank warmly all those who entered their work in these contests. Please check our web site at <http://pages.prodigy.net/elcampbell> for information and guidelines for future competitions.



## More Satisfying Than Moon Pies

In our last issue, we welcomed new GPS member, Penya Sandor, the editor of *The Redneck Review*. However, the web site address provided was incorrect. It's not [www.redneck.com](http://www.redneck.com), which sounds more amusing than it really is! Penya's on-line publication can be found at [www.redneckreview.com](http://www.redneckreview.com). I encourage you to logon and visit this on-line poetry journal. In addition to the high quality content, I think you'll enjoy the playful graphics and overall fresh design of this web site.



## Fine Books Available from the Georgia Poetry Society

No. of Books	Title	Price
	A Book of the Charter Year	\$6.95
	The Reach of Song, Book 1	\$6.95
	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 10 <sup>th</sup> Year 1988-89	\$6.95
	The Reach of Song, 1989-90	\$6.95
	The Reach of Song, 1990-91	\$6.95
	The Reach of Song, 1991-92	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1992-93	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1993-94	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1994-95	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1995-96	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1996-97	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1997-98	\$9.00
	The Reach of Song, 1998-99	\$10.00
	The Reach of Song, 1999-00	\$10.00
	Poetry in Motion '96 Olympics Anthology	\$7.95

### Prize-Winning Chapbooks

	1989 Shadowdrifters: Images of China by Patricia Canterbury	\$6.00
	1990 Summer at the Dreamland Motel by Lethe H. Bishop	\$6.00
	1991 A Far Garden by Jo Ann Yeager Adkins	\$6.00
	1993 A Species of Ruin by Mildred Greear	\$6.00
	1994 Blood Kin by Julia Evatt	\$6.00
	1996 Desert Places by Dorothy Worth	\$6.00
	1998 The Reign of the Girl King by Rebecca Bailey	\$6.00
	1999 Too Soon, as Always by Gary Corseri	\$6.00

### Other Books

	Message from the Blueberries and Other Poems by Marge Carlson	\$6.00
	Vala Fastel and Other Essays by Marge Carlson	\$6.00*

\*Two Carlson books are \$10.00 if ordered together.

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## Support Staff for 2001-02

<b>Book Reviews</b>	Thelma Hall
<b>Chapbook</b>	JoAnn Adkins
<b>Classic Poetry</b>	Emily Barnett
<b>Featured Poet (Newsletter)</b>	Dorothy Worth
<b>Featured Speaker</b>	Katherine Ward
<b>General Contests</b>	Emery Campbell
<b>Historian</b>	Riherd Greene
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<b>Meeting Reservations</b>	Milton Stephens
<b>Member Readings</b>	Katherine Ward
<b>Membership Co-chair</b>	Mary Stripling
<b>Newsletter</b>	Keith Badowski
<b>Poetry in the Schools</b>	Jean Mahavier
<b>Presenting Poets</b>	Memye Tucker
<b>Reach of Song</b>	Katherine Ward
<b>Reece Contest</b>	Katherine Ward
<b>Strophes Reporter</b>	Jeanne Shaw
<b>Vickers Contest</b>	Carole Fessenden
<b>Web Site Monitoring</b>	Emery L. Campbell Julian Campbell
<b>Youth Contest</b>	John Ottley

## Beginnings and Endings

Lola Haskins

- A lot of what we write is garbage at first. If you are not willing to write a lot of garbage, you'll never write well.
- The beginning is the poem coming at you. It is the only chance you get to grab your reader.
- The ending is its going away. You never have another chance to end well. Let the poem end only once.
- At first writing, don't consciously keep your words connected. Let them flow almost without thinking.
- When you finish with poems, you give them away. They no longer belong to you.
- Don't use abstractions. They have been washed too often and are worn out. You have to add a lot of words to a poem to pay for an abstraction. Instead, go for the concrete expression or image.
- Every single adjective needs to count for something. They're like spices in cooking: if you use too much, that's all you taste. They can be redundant. Example: "little girl."
- Watch out for connectives. Where you can, use a period instead of "and."

**NOTE:** These are highlights of Lola Haskins' talk at the 2001 NFSPS national convention. Her work has appeared in *Atlantic Monthly*, *London Review of Books*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Georgia Review*, and elsewhere. She has published several books and teaches computer science at the University of Florida.

## Thanks, People of Georgia



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS

This program is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. The Council is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment of the Arts. The Georgia Poetry Society welcomes as members all persons without regard to race, gender, age, religious affiliation, national origin, political orientation, or choice of lifestyle, who enjoy writing or reading poetry. The society makes every effort to ensure that all meeting sites are accessible to persons with disabilities.



## New Member Application Georgia Poetry Society

Your member benefits include:

- ✓ Four membership meetings a year, featuring presentations by notable poetry figures, networking with other poets, and, occasionally, poetry workshops.
- ✓ Opportunity to read your work to an appreciative audience at these meetings.
- ✓ Quarterly newsletter, presenting news about our poetry contests, new members, members accomplishments, reviews of books by members, and programs of upcoming meetings.
- ✓ Two of your poems will be considered for publication in *The Reach of Song*, our annual anthology.
- ✓ Membership in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies and its newsletter, *Strophes*.

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

Name:

Street (include apartment #):

City, State, and 9-digit Zip:

Home phone:

Office phone:

FAX:

Email:

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.

If this is an application for family membership, please list the other family members who will be included.

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 is limited to 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:

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

Mr. Price Fessenden, Treasurer  
3822 Clubhouse Pl.  
Gainesville, GA 30501

How did you hear about the Georgia Poetry Society? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 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



## Autumn GPS Featured Poet

*Recollections*  
*At The Blood Bank*

Listen, Red-Blood Brother, GIVE!  
for it's God manufacturing  
in flesh-covered tunnels  
in dark animal halls where  
each laboratory - operates alone.

This is the generous generation  
lying love-prone on metal tables  
fist-pumped for siphon  
thin-tube drained and plastic-  
packeted for privacy  
number-assigned as social security  
with blood types lifelong addresses.

If Man is subject to transfusion  
small claim remains  
for racial blood purity.  
Process synthesizes All.

So, especially the old donors drift  
toward proficient young leeches  
(pretty blood-men-and-maids)  
while the hot pints still throb  
in contributing veins.

Emily Blake Vail

## Chairperson's Comment

At first glance, the topic of the poem that I have selected to feature this month might seem a bit unusual.

However, on a closer reading, it becomes clear that the poet has chosen this particular subject in order to present her message of the oneness of all humankind. She describes the process of donating blood and, at the same time, she emphasizes the resulting unity that such a gift produces.

The compound adjectives used in the second stanza are especially powerful in their impact. Not only can the reader see the donor; he or she is also able to experience the events that take place by means of the descriptions presented here.

The poem is at once a plea for the gift of life, and also a memorable portrait of both the process and the results of donating blood.

Dorothy Worth  
Chairperson

**NOTE:** The GPS Featured Poet distinction is by invitation only. Dorothy Worth is not accepting submissions.

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