

# GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY NEWS

Winter 2010

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY: SERVING GEORGIA'S POETS SINCE 1979



**Georgia Poetry Society  
Quarterly Meeting,  
Saturday, January 23, 2010  
9 am - 3 pm  
Kennesaw State University  
Co-sponsored by the  
Department of Foreign  
Languages, KSU.**

For directions see the last page.

**Dan Veach, Editor of the *Atlanta Review*, will present his collection of Iraqi poetry at the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting.**

Dan Veach is the founder of *Poetry Atlanta* (1984) and the founding Editor of *Atlanta Review* (1994), one of the world's leading international poetry journals. Dan is co-editor and translator of *Flowers of Flame* (Michigan State University Press, 2008), the first anthology of Iraqi poetry since the beginning of the war. *Flowers of Flame* recently won a 2008 Independent Publisher Book Award in Poetry. Dan also has forthcoming collections of Iranian and Chinese poetry from Michigan State University.

His own poetry was selected for the Sotheby's International Poetry Competition Prize Anthology by Sir Stephen Spender and Gwendolyn Brooks. It has also appeared in the *Annual Survey of American Poetry*, *The Irish Times*, *California Quarterly*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Sulphur River Literary Review*, *The Chattahoochee Review*, *The Cortland Review* and Russia's *Humanities Fond*, among others. He has performed his poetry worldwide, including Oxford University and the Poetry Society in England, People's University in Beijing, the Poetry Café in Singapore, the Yeats School in Sligo, Ireland, and the Adelaide Festival of Arts in Australia.

Dan recently completed *Elephant Water*, his own full-length collection of poetry and Chinese ink paintings--after a mere 33 years! Dan also composes classical music, some of which can be heard on *Atlanta Review's* unique web site: [www.atlantareview.com](http://www.atlantareview.com).

**KSU Department of Foreign Languages will present a showcase of poetry in French, Italian, and Mandarin Chinese at the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting.**



**Dr. Federica Santini (Italian)** is Assistant Professor of Italian and coordinates the Italian Program. She teaches courses in Italian language, culture, and literature. She graduated from the University of Siena in 1996, and, after a two-year graduate Fellowship, moved to the United States in 1999. She holds a Ph.D. from UCLA. Current projects include the edition of Sanora Babb's novel *Whose Names are Unknown*, which she has translated into Italian in collaboration with Diego Brasioli and a study on experimental Italian poet Amelia Rosselli.

**Dr. Luc Guglielmi (French)** is an Assistant Professor of French in the Department of Foreign Languages. He teaches courses on Francophone/French Language and Cultures, French Linguistics, Francophone/French Popular Culture (Comic Art, Cinéma), among others. He coordinates the French Program, Lower Division. Dr. Guglielmi received his BA in Elementary Education (1996) from the Institut d'Enseignement Supérieur Pédagogique du Hainaut Occidental, Leuze (Belgium), his MA in French (2001) and his Ph.D. in Francophone Studies (2004) from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



**Dr. Luixi Meng (Mandarin Chinese)** received a BA in Chinese language and literature from Renmin University of China and an MA in English from State University of New York at Oswego. His Ph.D. in

Chinese literature was earned at the University of British Columbia. His research and scholarly interests include Chinese language pedagogy, Chinese poetry, Chinese women's literature, and Yuan to Qing vernacular fiction.

**At the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting, the Annual Awards Luncheon will feature presentations of the award-winning poems from our General Contests**

The winners of the general contests will be contacted in the next few weeks. The winner of the chapbook contest will not be announced until the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

The catered lunch—PRE-PAID RESERVATION REQUIRED--will be: Chicken Tuscany: Grilled Breast with Fresh Herbs, Garlic and Olive Oil, Angel Hair Pasta, California Vegetables, Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter, Chocolate Cake, and Sweet or Unsweet Tea.

**LUNCHEON ORDER FORM**

If you would like to attend the luncheon on Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> at KSU, please clip this form and send in your order with your check to our treasurer:

**T. Hensel**  
**PO Box 999**  
**Alpharetta, GA 30009**

\$17 per person, check made to "Georgia Poetry Society." Please include:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Postmark deadline: January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**LOOKING FOR A TAX DEDUCTION?**

Your Georgia Poetry Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and contributions to GPS are tax deductible. Please consider supporting the activities of your Georgia Poetry Society by making a gift in honor or memory of a friend. Thanks for your help. Please contact Terry Hensel for further information ([tlhensel@comcast.net](mailto:tlhensel@comcast.net)).

## Member Showcase: Dr. Robert Lynn and Clela Reed will present at the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting.



**Robert L. Lynn**, Johns Creek Poetry Group Coordinator, will read from his new poetry book, *Midnight Verse*. Dr. Lynn took up writing poetry when, as a new college president, he discerned that students of that generation disliked speeches but loved verse. 400 poems and numerous poetry awards later he recognized that his creative bursts and best poetry came in the middle of the night, thus this collection's title, *Midnight Verse*. The 54 poems herein have been inspired by people, scenes and events across a lifetime that pricked his mind and pen in the luster of his night sky.

He and his wife, Bonnie, reside in Duluth, Georgia. He has written or edited ten books, including his first book of poetry, *Service Yields Its Own Rewards*. He has edited for three years *The Reach of Song*, poetry anthology of the Georgia Poetry Society.



**Clela Reed** will read from her new poetry book, *Bloodline*, from Evening Street Press. Clela Reed holds an MA in English Literature from the University of Georgia and was a teacher of English and facilitator for the Gifted for many years. She left the classroom in 2003 to focus more seriously on her writing. Since then she has won poetry competitions sponsored by ByLine Magazine and the Georgia Poetry Society. Her poetry collection *Dancing on the Rim* was published in 2009 by Brick Road Poetry Press. She served as Vice President and Program Chair of the Georgia Poetry Society from 2006-2009. She has attended writing conferences and workshops at Bread Loaf, Sewanee, St. Petersburg (Russia) and Palm Beach and has traveled extensively in Europe, Australia and Asia. She lives and writes in a hardwood forest near Athens, Georgia, where she and her husband are active members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. She is preparing for service in the Peace Corps.

## GPS Member News

GPS member **Ron Self** is the host for the Phenix City Russell County Library Poetry Open Mic on the last Thursday of the month. Presenters are invited to share their own or their favorite poet's work. The library usually provides light refreshments, and the reading begins at 6:30 p.m. The library address is 1501 17th Avenue Phenix City, Alabama 36867.

GPS member **Emery Campbell** writes: "The Good Fairy has smiled on me to the tune of \$50 for two first prize awards in the Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs 2009 contest series for my poems 'Clancy Has a Second Helping' and 'A Week in Pharaoh's Land.' I also garnered a second honorable mention in the same series for my poem 'Mandevilla Splendens.' In the Ohio Poetry Day Association's 2009 contests, my poem 'Just For the Fun of It' was awarded an honorable mention."

Announcing *Small Waves*, a book of poems by GPS member **Linda Lee Harper** published by Finishing Line Press. Linda Lee Harper writes: "It's my ninth published collection, which includes two full-length and seven chapbooks. I've had a total now of three published in the last eighteen months and *Small Waves* makes the last. *Kiss, Kiss* which won the Cleveland State University Poetry Center's Open Competition in 2007 came out in July, 2008 and *Driving Out*, Pudding House Publications, followed in November, 2008. Three years ago, I shifted from teaching full-time at USCA-Aiken to writing full-time, and while I miss the students, I'm happy to have had the time to focus more fully on writing."

Anyone interested in joining a poetry critique group in Buckhead/Midtown Atlanta? We generally meet the third Saturday of the month. Please contact **Karen Paul Holmes** for more information, [proeditor@operamail.com](mailto:proeditor@operamail.com).

**Karen Holmes** just had a poem accepted by the *Atlanta Review* for their Fall 2010 issue.

It's membership renewal time again. Any renewals or new memberships that are received between now and the end of the year will cover your membership until December 31st 2010. I hope you value the Georgia Poetry Society and desire to see it continue going strong throughout the coming years.

If you've already joined or renewed for 2010, thank you!

If you haven't yet, please consider that your membership helps pay for all the following:

- Our annual publication *The Reach of Song*
- The fantastic locations and facilities for our quarterly meetings
- Our Poetry in the Schools program
- The newsletter you are reading right now
- Affiliation with the National Federation of State Poetry Societies
- Our Georgia Poetry Society website
- Other varieties of expenses involved in offering our members extraordinary poetry programming

As a member, you are a supporter and beneficiary of:

- Our annual GPS poetry contests
- The annual NFSPS poetry contests
- The opportunity to submit member poems to *The Reach of Song*
- Participation in our Member Readings
- Widely published and highly acclaimed feature poets
- Top notch poetry writing workshops to inspire and hone your skills
- Poetry Road Shows
- Social opportunities to meet and mutually encourage fellow poets

Instructions on how to join or renew are provided next door and on page 8.

Let's all continue supporting the Georgia Poetry Society to keep it lively, passionate, and creative.

Your president,  
Keith Badowski

### DUES RENEWAL FOR 2010

It's Time to Renew Your Membership  
Please return this form with your dues payment, checks payable to 'Georgia Poetry Society.'

Mail to:

**Georgia Poetry Society**  
**P.O. Box 2184 Columbus, GA 31902**  
(334) 448-4715  
georgiapoetrysociety@yahoo.com

Check option chosen:

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular membership \$30.00.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student or military \$15.00.

\_\_\_\_\_ Family membership \$40.

The family members included in this membership are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I'm already a Life Member or Other: Please explain.

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to support the activities of GPS.

Enclosed is my voluntary contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

GPS is a 501(c)(3) corporation and contributions are tax deductible.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address:

(Please print carefully and explain any letters, numbers, etc. that may cause confusion)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of local paper:

\_\_\_\_\_

The above information may be included in a member's-only Membership Brochure.

If you have any questions about the status of your membership or dues, please contact Keith Badowski.

Thanks for being a member of GPS, and thanks for renewing your membership now.

The **Centerville Writers' Group** meets from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on the 1st and the 3rd Thursday of each month (EXCEPT JULY).

All types of writing may be read to the group with a gentle critique from the members present. About a third of the people read poetry.

GPS member **Homer Overstreet** is the chairperson for the Centerville Writers' Group which meets at the Centerville Community Center on Bethany Church Road (an extension of Killian Hill Road). The Gwinnett County Branch of the Centerville Library is in the same building. The meeting place is a short drive from Snellville, Lawrenceville, Stone Mountain, Lilburn or any where in south Gwinnett county.

GPS member **Ira Harrison** hosts a poetry open mic every 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm at the Southwest Branch of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System.

Southwest Branch  
3665 Cascade Road SW  
Atlanta, GA 30331  
Telephone: 404.699.6364  
[www.afpls.org](http://www.afpls.org)

GPS member **Larry Hand** writes:

I'd like to restate my willingness to work with any GPS member who wants to enter the NFSPS Minute Award Contest, #33 in 2010. The poem is short, and the contest had only a relatively small number of entries, 108, in 2009.

The contest requirements are as follows: "A Minute is a 60 syllable 12 line poem written in strict iambic meter; syllable count 8, 4, 4, 4, 8, 4, 4, 4, 8, 4, 4, 4; rhymed a, a, b, b, c, c, d, d, e, e, f, f; capitalized and punctuated like prose and capturing a slice of life."

I won second place in this contest two years ago and judged it last year. If any GPS member wants to email me a minute poem, I will offer comments on its merits. I will not rewrite, only comment. My email address is: [larry@larryhand.com](mailto:larry@larryhand.com). My 2008 award-winning minute poem was "Walking Away," as follows:

Walking Away

I saw my brother walk away.  
He could not stay,  
he said, because  
afar there was  
a college he could soon attend.  
It changed a trend,  
for none the same  
as our last name  
had ever been so far before.  
It led to more,  
for déjà vu,  
I did it, too.

Larry Hand

For the 2010 edition of *The Reach of Song*, Editor Tonette T. Long will accept submissions through **Tuesday, 16 February 2010**, from members in good standing of the Georgia Poetry Society. The Society encourages all current members to submit works for *The Reach of Song* 2010, although membership does not guarantee inclusion. In addition to member poems, the collection will contain the winning poems of the 2009 youth and adult contests, as well as the recipients of The Awards for Excellence among member poems. The anthology will be available at the July 2010 quarterly GPS meeting.

Please submit two poems for consideration. Include two carefully typed copies of each work, one copy with your name and address. Entries

- (1) must be 40 lines or fewer,**
- (2) must not have been previously published in *The Reach of Song*, and**
- (3) must not have won a cash prize in any state-wide poetry competition.**

Submissions may be on any subject and may follow any form. Two nonmember judges will rank the works. Those receiving highest marks will qualify for First-, Second-, and Third-Place Awards of Excellence. The poems receiving these awards will be published in *The Reach of Song* 2010 and the award recipients will receive free copies of the anthology. No more than one poem per poet will be included in the Member Section. Each poet will receive a proof of the poem chosen for publication, with a request for a prompt response.

Email submissions to [skylark39@windstream.net](mailto:skylark39@windstream.net) are encouraged, to reduce retyping, and must be received by **16 February 2010**. Entries sent by the U.S. postal service must be postmarked no later than 16 February. Send them to

*The Reach of Song*, 2010  
Tonette T. Long, Editor  
Georgia Poetry Society  
P.O. Box 1776  
Dahlonega, GA30533

Copies of 2009, 2008, 2006-07, 2003-04, and 2001-02 editions of *The Reach of Song*, as well as advance copies of 2009, may be ordered by mail only on the accompanying form. Payment by check or money order made payable to "Georgia Poetry Society" must be included.

On the accompanying form as well, members may order prepaid copies of the 2010 anthology to donate to the library(s) or school(s) of their choice. These copies will be mailed with a donation letter to the library the donor designates (please include full address). At last count, 15 copies of the 2009 edition were given to Georgia libraries by GPS members.

Member questions may be posed by email or by telephone call to 706-864-6801.

**WORKSHOP with DANA WILDSMITH Poet and Essayist**  
**[www.danawildsmith.com](http://www.danawildsmith.com)**

"We will explore three fixed forms you may have tried. We will approach one form per session through fun, non-threatening exercises and prompts. This course is for both novice and experienced poet. Come prepared to think INSIDE the box--a box with new depths of understanding yourself as a poet."

**Workshop Dates:** Saturdays, February 6, 13, 20, 2010

**Workshop Fees:** \$150 OCAF members; \$160 non-members

**Location:** Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation 34 School St Watkinsville, GA 30677

**To Register:** OCAF office 706-769-4565 or email [info@ocaf.com](mailto:info@ocaf.com) web: [www.ocaf.com](http://www.ocaf.com)

**ORDER FORM—**

**The Reach of Song 2010—Advance Order**  
(Price \$15.00; includes s/h; delivery at July 2010 quarterly meeting or by mail in September 2010)

**I wish to extend poetry by giving my local or school library a copy of *The Reach of Song 2010***

(Price \$15.00; includes s/h; September 2010 delivery with notice of donation.)

Name, **full address** of library:

**Note:**

I prefer to deliver the copy personally to my library.

**The Reach of Song 2009** \_\_\_\_\_

(\$15.00; includes s/h)

**The Reach of Song 2008** \_\_\_\_\_

(\$13.50; includes s/h)

**The Reach of Song 2006-07** \_\_\_\_\_

(\$7.50; includes s/h)

**The Reach of Song 2003-04** \_\_\_\_\_

(\$3.50; includes s/h)

**The Reach of Song 2001-02** \_\_\_\_\_

(\$3.50; includes s/h)

**String Theory**

Chapbook by Alice Teeter, 2007

(\$5.00; includes s/h)

**To 'Talk in That Book' of Nature**

Chapbook by Lynn Veach Sadler, 2005

(\$4.00; includes s/h)

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE** \_\_\_\_\_

Complete information below, include check or money order (these constitute your receipt) made out to "Georgia Poetry Society," and mail to:

Sandy Hokanson, *The Reach of Song*  
640 Sweet Gum Forest Land,  
Alpharetta, Georgia 30005

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work)

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

**To Johns Creek Poetry Group Members & Friends**

Please place our 2010 meeting dates and times on the calendar now. All will convene at the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Regional Library. The dates and times are:

January, 2010--No meeting (join GPS meeting Jan. 23 at Kennesaw State University)

February 27, 2010--10:15 a.m. to noon, Clela Reed, Presenter

March 27, 2010--1:15 to 3 p.m.

April, 2010--No meeting (join GPS meeting)

May 22, 2010--11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

June 26, 2010--10:15 a.m. to 12 noon

July, 2010--No meeting (join GPS meeting)

August, 2010--No meeting

September 25, 2010--10:15 a.m. to 12 noon

October, 2010--No meeting (Join GPS meeting)

November 13, 2010--10:15 a.m. to 12 noon--  
Johns Creek Fall Poetry Festival

December, 2010--No meeting

Note that two of the meetings--March 27 and May 22-- are not at the usual 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon time.

Thanks so much to Jean Hughes of the library staff for securing these dates for us.

SUGGESTION FOR PROGRAMS, PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS? If you have an idea for a good program for our group, please Email me with that gem.

Also, if you have a name that you suggest be added to the Email list, please shoot to me the name and Email address.

Best for the holidays,

BOB LYNN

770-876-2904

[robertlynn@comcast.net](mailto:robertlynn@comcast.net)

**Northeast Georgia Writers Conference**

1:00–3:00 p.m. Peach State Bank, 3rd floor,  
325 Washington St. Gainesville, GA 30501

Members: Free

Non-Members: \$25 Pre-Registration is  
required

(No registration at the

door) Details: [www.negawriters.org](http://www.negawriters.org)

Contact Elouise Whitten, 770-297-0680 or

[HolmesLynda@bellsouth.net](mailto:HolmesLynda@bellsouth.net)

February 3, 2010

Cecil Murphey

“Dancing With Dialogue”

“Dialogue isn’t real,” says Cecil Murphey, “but  
it must sound real.”

To make your prose dance, he teaches the  
secrets of writing conversation  
that enlivens your writing and makes you a  
better writer. Murphey is the  
author of over 100 books, fiction and non-  
fiction: [www.themanbehindthewords.com](http://www.themanbehindthewords.com)

April 7, Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.

Julie Garmon

“Writing Real”

Fear Unmasked (Non-fiction)

Julie Garmon is a prolific writer of Guideposts  
stories: [www.juliegarmon.com](http://www.juliegarmon.com)

August 4, Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.

Amy Wallace

“Fiction Writing”

Amy Wallace has written a trilogy published  
by Multnomah Books: [www.amywallace.com](http://www.amywallace.com)

October 6, Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.

Sandra Brim, Ph.D.

“Structuring and Writing Poetry”

Sandra Brim is a professor at Brenau  
University, Gainesville,  
of Creative Writing and Poetry:  
[www.brenau.edu](http://www.brenau.edu)

GPS member **Steven Shields** had a poem  
accepted for publication sometime in 2010 at  
the *Main Street Rag* in Charlotte, NC. The  
poem is entitled "A Poem is Like A Suicide  
Vest."

GPS member **Louise Barfield “Biddy”**

**Hammett** reports, “The only news I have is  
my deep gratitude to LaGrange College for  
recognizing the importance of Carrie Fall  
Benson to southern literature by publishing the  
body of her work and making it available once  
again for readers to appreciate the wonderful  
talent by which she was awarded, until her  
writing was hidden for almost fifty years. The  
writing of Carrie Fall Benson is available  
online, at <http://bookstore.lagrange.edu/>  
On the left, click **Books by L C Authors-** The  
Benson books come up as the 3rd & 4th  
books in the list.”

**January Quarterly Meeting Schedule**

9:00 am – Coffee and mingling

9:30am – Announcements

9:45am – Member Readings I

10:15am – Break

10:30am – Department of Foreign Languages  
Showcase: Poetry in French, Italian, and  
Mandarin Chinese.

11:15am – Featured Poet: Dan Veach, Editor,  
the *Atlanta Review*. Presentation of his  
collection of Iraqi poetry.

11:45am – Q & A

12:00pm– Book signing

12:30pm – Awards Banquet (caterer TBA)

1:30pm – Member Readings II

2:00pmpm – Break

2:15pm – Member Showcase: Clela Reed and  
Dr. Robert Lynn

2:30pm– Final announcements, etc.

3:00pm– Board Meeting

## Georgia Poetry Society: New Member Application

Georgia Poetry Society dues are \$30 annually for individual members on an annual year basis running from January 1 to December 31. Persons joining after October 1st will be credited as members for the following fiscal year without any additional dues. A family membership, limited to parents and dependent children residing in the same household, is available for \$40. Student and active duty military memberships are available for \$15. Life memberships are currently \$500. NOTE: The information you provide here may be included in a directory of members circulated to members of the Georgia Poetry Society. Do not include any information you do not want included in the directory.

Name:					
Street Address or P.O. Box:					
City, State, Zip Code:					
Home Phone:					
Office or Cell Phone:					
Fax:					
Email (please print very carefully):					
Occupation:					
Name of your hometown newspaper (to be used for press release):					
If this is an application for family membership, please list the other family members who will be included in this membership:					
Please list publications in which your work has appeared, if any, and any prizes you have won or any significant activities as a poet					
How did you hear about the Georgia Poetry Society					
<b>Type of Membership:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Military \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Life \$500
If you are joining as a student, please list your age ____; the name of your school _____ and your grade _____.					
<b>Volunteer:</b> I would like to help GPS with _____.					
<b>To join:</b> Complete this form, enclose your check in the proper amount, and mail to Georgia Poetry Society, P. O. Box 2184, Columbus, GA 31902.					

**DIRECTIONS TO KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY for the Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.** Kennesaw State University, located at 1000 Chastain Road, is located in Cobb County, 20 minutes north of Atlanta on I-75 one exit north of Town Center Mall. Take the Chastain Road Exit (No. 271) and turn west across the interstate. Take the third street to your right, Kennesaw State University Drive, at the ball fields. Continue straight for about one tenth of a mile and park in the Welcome Center lot on the left. Our meeting will be in the nearby Student Center (Building 5 on the map provided - Insert). Follow the GPS signs from that point on.

