

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY PROUDLY PRESENTS THE:

MUSELETTER

December 2015

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are delighted to add the following talents to our growing ranks:

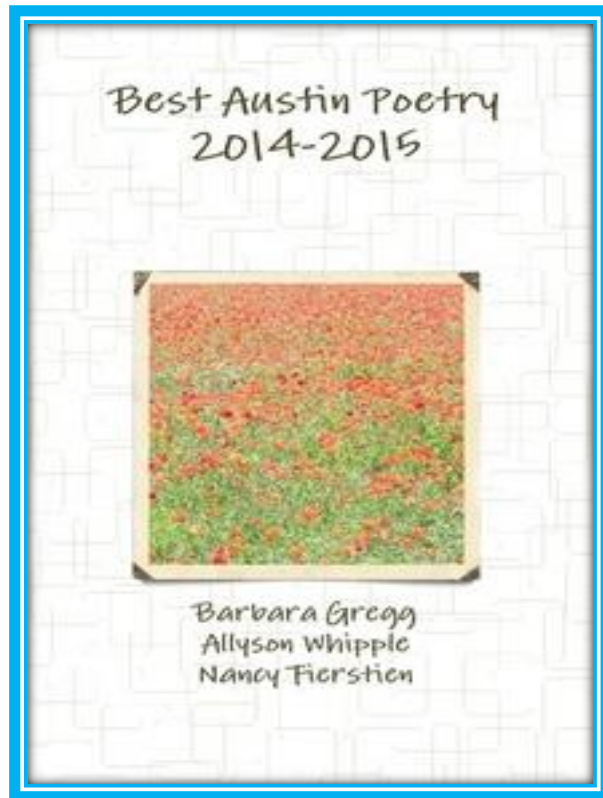
Susan Beall Summers

Diane Hinman

Thank you for joining APS- we look forward to getting to know you.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Our Christmas party is December 19th. We will have refreshments (desserts, sandwiches, etc.) and an extended open mic. Bring some poems to share! At the Twin Oaks Branch Library from 1:30-3:30pm.



Good news! Our anthology is here and just in time for the holidays! Members can pick up their free copy at the meeting on the 19th. If you're unable to attend, your book will be mailed to you later. More info [here](#).

Note: The APS Open Mic at NeWorldDeli is taking a break for December.



ANNUAL CONTESTS

It's time to start thinking about the Annual Contest! If you would like to sponsor a category (there are ideas on our site), email APS with your Title and Award Amounts. Preferred deadline is Dec 15th, but we won't say no to stragglers. The contest guidelines will be posted in January, so start brainstorming ideas!

THE NEW YEARBOOK

Is up online! Check it out [here](#) to find out what's going on next year.

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Kaye Voigt Abikhaled, on the occasion of Veteran's Day, November 1, 2015, read from her book, *Childhood in the Third Reich*, at Laura's Library dedication of the Veteran's Court in West Lake. On November 5th, Kaye read poetry by Neil Megaw, Marvin Kimbrow and Georgia Klipple at Half Price Books, at the Remembrance of Austin Poets passed. Kaye read season related poetry December 5th at Half Price Books and furnished home made cookies for customers and poets.

Gloria Amescua had two poems accepted for the new *Dos Gatos Press Anthology* of Southwestern Persona Poems.

Nona Blanchard, Past President, Lifetime Member, and Former Treasurer, moved from Austin in May. She came to Austin in 1957 to attend UT and moved to Johnson City last spring. Her newly renovated 1931 home was ready for occupancy after six months of transforming it from the dirt to the sky.

Jane Chance published eight poems in *New Crops from Old Fields: Eight Medievalist Poets*. She also had poems accepted in *Degenerates For Peace*, the *Ilanot Review: Migrations*, the *2016 Texas Poetry Calendar*, *Memoirs of the Feminine Divine: Voices for Power and Invisibility*, and *Anthology of Poems about Violence Against Women*. She was again selected as a juried poet in the Houston Poetry Fest, and organized Medievalist Poetry Readings for professional conferences: MLA (Austin), Medieval Academy of America (Boston), and New Chaucer Society (London) in 2016.

Nancy Fierstien took part in holiday poetry readings at Half Price Books on North Lamar, and at Expressions on Dec. 5th. She's looking forward to Open Mike participation at the APS meeting on Dec. 19th too.

Cindy Huyser's poem "Letter to a Fugitive" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by Mike Gullickson on behalf of *Blue Hole*. Her poem "No Accident" will appear in Mutabilis Press' Anthology *Untameable City: Poems on the Nature of Houston*, which will launch in Houston on December 11. Cindy also hosts the 2nd Thursday Poetry Reading and Open Mic at BookWoman. The December featured readers were Laura Guli and Louise Richardson.

Ken Jones was featured at the annual Emily Dickinson birthday party in Conroe, on December 10th. He also placed two poems in the *OUTRAGE Anthology*, released by Chris Carmona in November.

Catherine Lee is hosting a Jazz Poetry Workshop in 2016. Composer/musician Cecil Carter and Lee educate writers about jazz's relationships between music and words. Their workshop is optimized for writers with little prior music training, and includes learning how to: hear rhythm, understand the form of a song, and count off a comfortable tempo, while performing. Improves poetry performance skills substantially. If you are interested in taking the workshop, or supporting it in some way, please contact Cat Lee at leecatheri@gmail.com.

Jack McCabe attended the San Marcos Poets monthly reading, along with Thom World Poet, Louise Richardson, Robin Barrett and Scott Vanya. After three rounds they finally tied up before midnight for an amazing cross-generational poetry session!

Christa Pandey had a poem nominated for a Pushcart Prize by Mike Gullicksen for *The Enigmatist*.

Susan Rooke's poem "Imaging Center in the Hospital of Last Resort" appears in the anthology *Grit, Gravity & Grace: New Poems about Medicine and Healthcare*, just out from The College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The book is available from the College Store [here](#).

Bradley Strahan has a broadside of one of his Irish poems (along with a photograph) being published by Cross Cultural Communication – NYC; its translation into French will be done at the Univ. of Liege in Belgium.

Adriel Vigo published a new collection titled, *The Only Proof of Life is Death*, available for free download [here](#). This collection is abstract in its nature, dealing with varied topics including gun control, morality, philosophy, depression, death, religious hypocrisy and more!

Scott Wiggerman will be returning to Texas to teach at the 10th Alpine Writers Retreat in 2016, set for July 16-21 in Alpine, Texas. Save those dates! (Registration won't open till the end of January-more info [here](#)). He also has new poems in the *Naugatuck River Review* ("The Possibilities") and *Splash of Water* ("smooth glide"), the 2015 anthology of the Haiku Society of America.

MEET ME THERE...

Dec 12 (Saturday) 10:30am-12:30pm-APS Critique Group, hosted by Elizabeth Kropf. Bring 10 copies of a draft. Email elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com for the prompt. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Dec 12 (Saturday) 1:30-3pm- The Round Rock Library and Visions International present: A Poetry Afternoon. Featured readers include: Prof. Detrick Hughes teaches at Houston Community College. He has several books of poetry and two spoken word CDs. He is also one of the founders of the American Roots Reading Series. Dr. Vasilina Orlova was born and educated in Russia. She has three volumes of poetry in Russian and has won several Russian literary awards. Followed by an open reading. @ the Round Rock Library 216 E Main St, Round Rock, TX 78664.

Dec 13 (Sunday) 3-5pm-The Austin Writers Roulette is an adult monthly theme-inspired spoken word and storytelling event. Donations are welcomed at this free event. Find the theme for December at www.austinwritersroulette.com
@ Malvern Books, 613 W 29th St, Austin, TX 78705.

Dec 13 (every Sunday, except for the 4th Sunday of the month) 7-10pm-Spoken & Heard Open Mic.
@ Kick Butt Coffee Shop, 5775 W Airport Blvd, Austin, TX 78752.

Dec 14 (Monday) 7-9:15pm- Chicon Street Poets present Wayne Allen Brenner
@ Dozen Street, 1808 E 12th Street, Austin, TX 78702.

Dec 16 (Wednesday) 7-8pm- Albert Huffstickler Birthday Celebration. Join us for a poetry reading and birthday cake to celebrate the late, great poet laureate of Hyde Park. @ Malvern Books, 613 West 29th Street, Austin, TX 78705.

Dec 18 (3rd Fridays) 1-3pm- Share Your Stories. Hosted by Ralph Hausser.
@ the Twin Oaks Library, 1800 S. 5th Street, Austin 78704.

Dec 19 (Saturday) 1:30-3:30pm-APS Monthly Meeting. @ the Twin Oaks Library, 1800 S. 5th Street, Austin 78704.

Dec 19 (Saturday) 3:30-5:30pm- Open Mike Showcase, hosted by Louise Gail Richardson.
@ Recycled Reads, 5335 Burnet Rd, Austin, TX 78756.

Dec 27 (Sunday) 2-3pm- J. Scott Brownlee Book Launch. Join us in celebrating the launch of Brownlee's first full-length poetry collection, *Requiem for Used Ignition Cap*. Brownlee will be joined by fellow poets John Fry and Susan B.A. Somers-Willett. @ Malvern Books, 613 West 29th Street, Austin, TX 78705.

Jan 7 (Thursday) 7pm-Everything Is Bigger Reading Series, featuring J. Scott Brownlee with Erin Belieu.
@ Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River St, Austin, TX 78701.

Jan 8 (every 2nd & 4th Friday) 6:30-8:30pm-Poetry Plus Open Mic Night-all genres welcome. Sign up beforehand by emailing Mike & Joyce Gullickson poetkind@yahoo.com or Mike Jones 8direct@gmail.com
@ Cianfrani Coffee Co. 109 W 7th St, Georgetown, TX 78626.

Jan 9 (Saturday) 1-3pm-APS Critique Group-Hosted by Elizabeth Kropf. Bring 10 copies of a draft to discuss. Email elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com for the prompt. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Jan 9 (Saturday) 1:30-3pm- The Round Rock Library and Visions International present: A Poetry Afternoon. Featured readers will be APS members. @ the Round Rock Library 216 E Main St, Round Rock, TX 78664.

Jan 10 (Sunday) 4-6pm- The Austin Writers Roulette is an adult monthly theme-inspired spoken word and storytelling event. Donations are welcomed at this free event. Find the theme for January at www.austinwritersroulette.com
@ Malvern Books, 613 W 29th St, Austin, TX 78705.

Jan 11 (Mondays) 6-9pm- Cacophony of Crafts: Weekly round robin reading, hosted by Rhie Azzam Morris.
@Epoch Coffee, 2700 West Anderson #409, Austin, TX 78757.

Jan 12 (Second Tuesdays) 7pm- Pot luck. Poetry. Music. Theme word is MUSE! Hosted by Genevieve Evans. Rotating venues (email--gen.athena.evans@gmail.com).

Jan 14 (Thursday) 7:15pm- Cindy Huyser hosts the 2nd Thursday Poetry Reading and Open Mic. Debra Winegarten will be the featured reader. @ BookWoman, 5501 N Lamar Blvd A-105, Austin, TX 78751.

Jan 21 (Thursday) 7pm- Thirsty Thursday resumes: Michael Coffey, the pastor at Austin's First English Lutheran Church, will share work from his collection, *Mystery Without Rhyme or Reason*. His book was published in July of 2015 by Wipf & Stock. He also writes the blog Ocotillo Pub. The open mike theme is "Gifts". For more information, call host Nancy Fierstien at 512-858-2024. @ the ranch house at Dripping Springs Ranch Park, 1042 Event Center Drive.

Jan 23 (4th Saturday) 1:30-3:30pm- APS Monthly Meeting featuring Chuck Taylor.
@ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Jan 31 (Sunday) 6pm- TORCH Wildfire Reading Series featuring Mahogany L. Browne, author of *Redbone*, and Ebony Stewart, author of *Love Letters to Balled Fists*. Come out for an evening of poetry and bring your own work to share!
@ BookWoman, 5501 N Lamar Blvd A-105, Austin, TX 78751.

SUB THIS HERE

Submission call continues for the 2016 issues of *Visions International*. Send 3-6 unpublished poems, no simultaneous submissions, as Word attachments to vias.poetry@gmail.com.

EXPRESSIONS! 2016 Anthology-send your best poem as read@Expressions to expressionsanthology@gmail.com.

Connect with Us!

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