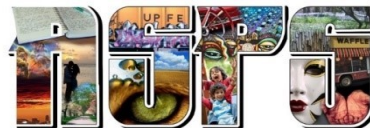


THE DESERT VOICE



Spring Edition

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Arizona State Poetry Society

March 2019

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krisp@visi.com
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And the Winner Is...

Walter Ralston submitted the winning entry for the Name the Newsletter contest. We received 59 submissions and the ASPS Leadership believes *The Desert Voice* best fits our mission and intent.
Thank you to all who submitted entries!

Congratulations!

2018 ASPS Annual Poetry Contest Winners

ASPS President Christy White announced the winners of the 2018 ASPS Annual Poetry Contests at a luncheon in Sun City on January 19. The winning poets in each of six separate contests were named and their poems were read for the luncheon's attendees. (See page 3 for list of winners)

Among the readers of the winning poems was Rosemarie Dombrowski, the Poet Laureate of Phoenix, who attended the luncheon, gave a reading of her own poetry, and updated the audience on her activities as the inaugural Phoenix Poet Laureate.

The 2018 *Sandcutters* anthology of monthly contest winners was also unveiled and later was mailed to all ASPS members who were not at the luncheon. Thanks and appreciation go to Paul Callahan for again producing a beautiful anthology that all members will be proud to own.

January Monthly Contest Winners

Rhonda Brown

Reminder
A Thank You Note to Teachers

Paul Callahan

Abandoned
A Nation Rose Free

Gail Denham

haiku - "sleeping deep..."
Resolve
Grandma Heaven

Mark Hudson

Begin with a Grin

Christy White

Joy Will Find Me



CHRISTY'S CORNER

ASPS President's Posting

Last year we saw a turnaround in our membership. We've grown and our branches are bringing together more poets! I'm looking forward to another year of poetry shared. My "home" branch is the Mustang Poets in Scottsdale. I hope you have a home branch in our Arizona tree because it's through sharing our poetry that we become better poets.

I would like to thank some people that have put a lot of effort into keeping our ASPS going, too. Stuart Watkins in Tucson helped revive the Tucson branch. He was supported by Jeannie Osgood, the current president, with enthusiasm and ideas put into action. Jim Platt in Tempe has helped keep the East Valley Poets on the map with his guidance and outreach. Paul Callahan, our former Sandcutters editor, has stepped up to help wherever and whenever he could in the Sun Cities Arizona Poetry Society. Rhonda Brown has been our monthly poetry contest chair for I don't know how long, but she does it month after month and we all are grateful as well as all those who have worked in the background. Without all members there would be no Arizona State Poetry Society!

THANK YOU!

ASPS BOARD MEETING

Saturday, March 9 - 1:15 pm
Home of Alan and Kris Perry
4488 W. Harmony Ranch Place
Marana AZ 85658

RSVP required to Alan in order to plan for space and food: alanperry@comcast.net. Lunch will be served. All are welcome to participate.

If you have agenda items you would like addressed, please send them to Christy at azpoetryorg@gmail.com.

The Desert Voice is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) by the Arizona State Poetry Society for its members. Please send articles, suggestions, comments or questions to the Newsletter Editor.

Christy White, President of ASPS: cchristyw@gmail.com
Kris Perry, Editor: krisp@visi.com

POETRY OUT LOUD

The following is a sampling of places to read and/or listen to poetry in Arizona. To learn more, sign up for the monthly Poetry Missives at:

AZPoetryorg@gmail.com

PHOENIX, First Friday Poetry on Roosevelt Row @ Local First Arizona, 407 E. Roosevelt St., 7:10 - 10 pm. 1st Friday event.

PEORIA, Sun Cities Area Poetry Society @ Casa Senior Living, 12751 N. Plaza del Rio Blvd., 9 - 11 am. All poets and poetry lovers welcome. A branch of the Arizona State Poetry Society. 1st Saturday event.

TUCSON, Community Event: Open Mic @ The Poetry Center, 1508 E. Helen St., 11:30 am. Join the community of poets and read your work, or a favorite poem. All are welcome to this round robin affair in the Poetry Center garden. 1st Saturday event.

THURSDAYS, PRESCOTT VALLEY, Open Mic & Art @ Clayote Studios, 8198 E. Spouse Dr. #2, 6:30 pm to close. Come read your poetry, sing your song, dance your dance, then make art while you listen to others in a wonderful studio setting. For more information, <https://www.clayotestudios.com/open-mic-night> or call (928) 925-3772.

MESA, Wordplay Café Open Mic @ The Nile, 105 W. Main St., 7 pm. All spoken word welcome. For more information visit The Nile (formerly Volstaad). 2nd Thursday event.

PHOENIX, Smoke It Into Existence Open Mic @ Just Blaze, 1001 E. Camelback Rd., 8 pm. Hosted by LaTosque and sponsored by Speaking Into Existence & Just Blaze Smoke Shop & Art Gallery. 2nd & 3rd Friday open mic.

PHOENIX, Caffeine Corridor @ {9} The Gallery, 1229 Grand Ave., \$1 or \$2 suggested donation for the venue. Sign up starts at 6:45, open mic at 7 pm, followed by feature poets. 2nd Friday event.

Continued on page 7

2018 ASPS Annual Contest Winners

ASPS AWARD (57 poems) - **KARA van de GRAAF, Judge**

Any subject, Any form - 60 line limit, Sponsor: Arizona State Poetry Society

- 1st: *The Boy*, Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
- 2nd: *Tia's Olfactory Field Trip*, Jean Emrick, Tucson, AZ
- 3rd: *The Burning Cross*, Susan Smith, Oracle, AZ

LEGACY AWARD (40 poems) - **CHRISTINE GELINAU, Judge**

In honor of my mother, Priscilla White, Any Subject, Any form, Maximum 2 typewritten pages, Sponsor: Christy White

- 1st: *Poetry Can't Save the World*, Troy Cunio, Titusville, FL
- 2nd: *Forgotten*, Tanya R. Whitney, Sorrento, LA
- 3rd: *Through Sarah's Eyes*, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL

FREE VERSE (65 poems) - **MELANIE DUNBAR, Judge**

Any Subject, Up to 32 lines, Sponsor: Tucson Poetry Society

- 1st: *passage*, artiste-te, Paradise Valley, AZ
- 2nd: *Here in This Trench*, Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR
- 3rd: *Until Nine*, Sara Gipson, Scott, AR
- HM: *Bushwhacker, Dream Weaver, Poet*, Jacqueline Williams, Mesa, AZ

WESTERN THEME (25 poems) - **JERROLD NARLAND, Judge**

Any form – 32 line limit, Sponsor: Scottsdale Mustang Poets

- 1st: *Ropin' Rainbows*, James Robert Platt, Mesa, AZ
- 2nd: *Beautiful Sky*, Carol Christy White, Phoenix, AZ
- 3rd: *Ode to the King of the Cowboys*, Becky Alexander, Cambridge, ON
- HM: *Vista*, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL

TRADITIONAL RHYMING POETRY (42 poems) - **ROBERTA HOWARD, Judge**

Any subject – 32 line limit, Sponsor: Sun Cities Poetry Society

- 1st: *The Panhandle*, Tanya R. Whitney, Sorrento, LA
- 2nd: *Arizona Cloudbursts*, Donna Meyer, Prescott, AZ
- 3rd: *Spring Green Boy*, John Crawford, Arkadelphia, AR
- HMs:
Music Appreciation & Summer Day at Grandpa's Farm, Betsy Huhn Clark, Sun City West, AZ
September, Becky Alexander, Cambridge, ON, Canada

POETIC SATIRE (25 poems) - **BRENDAN CONSTANTINE, Judge**

Any Form, Length: 40 Lines, Sponsor: East Valley Poetry Society

- 1st: *God's To Do List*, Troy Cunio, Titusville, FL
- 2nd: *Saving Light*, Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
- 3rd: *Latin Dancing*, Walter Ralston, Sun City West, AZ
- HMs:
Sad State of Many Poems & My Poem Protest, Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR
Poetry on the Runway, James Robert Platt, Mesa, AZ
Traveling Through the Cholla, Sally Curd, Tucson, AZ
The Maven, William Brown, Mesa, AZ
God Bless the NRA, Mac McGowan, Laveen, AZ

A Member Poem

This ongoing column features a winning poem from an ASPS member who has recently won an ASPS Monthly Contest.

A Thank You Note to Teachers

They are gone now
Many whom we would like to thank
Those who gave us gifts
When we did not even understand
A gift was being given

The lessons planned
The papers graded
The patient instruction
We did not know
A gift was being given

They are gone
Without our thanks spoken
But we know now
A gift was given
And we willingly give to others

Who also do not understand.

Rhonda Brown
January 2019

Craft Talk – About Poetry

This ongoing column provides tips and information about the craft of writing poetry. In this edition, we are serializing an article from a workshop presented by Tucson Poetry Society member, Frank Iosue, on the subject of “Revising Poetry – Poetic Creation, Criticism and Revision.”

1. Poetry is art and artifice, first and foremost --- The poem is an arena of *assembled* apprehensions and associations; a “psychic ecosystem” **bound-ed, ordered and amplified** through craft and language.

2. Poetry is exposition, not explanation.

3. The poem is its own reality / entity. A separate, elevated, intensification of feeling and expression. An autonomous “identity“ connected to, but distinct from, the artist who creates it.

Next quarter: Elements of Creation; Criticism and Evaluation.

In Memory



David L. Byrn, 84, an Arizona native and longtime Prescott resident, passed away on April 20, 2018. In 1985, David became a dedicated member of the ASPS and a regular participant in the poetry promotional, educational, conference and competition activities. He has written and published ten volumes of poetry as well as written hundreds of poems about Native Americans, nature, colors, the history of Mexican culture, travel and a very broad variety of personal experiences.

David is survived by his loving wife, Diana, and his four children. To view his entire obituary: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/azcentral/obituary.aspx?n=david-l-byrn&pid=189206938>

ASPS BRANCH CONTACTS / NEWS

EAST VALLEY POETS

Jim Platt, President
evpoets@yahoo.com
602-826-2803
<https://eastvalleypoets.webs.com/>

EVP meets the third Saturday of the month from 9:30a-noon for a short program and poetry readings.
Pyle Adult Recreation Center
Payson Room

SCOTTSDALE MUSTANG POETS

Christy White, President
cchristyw@gmail.com
480-677-0000

SMP meets the second Monday of each month from 6:00-7:45 p.m. for reading poetry with gentle critiquing
Scottsdale Mustang Library
10101 N. 90th Street
Scottsdale AZ 85258

SUN CITY AREA POETRY SOCIETY

Walter Ralston, President
freeformverse@gmail.com
612-558-4526

SCAPS meets the first Saturday of the month beginning at 9:00 a.m. for open reading
Casa Senior Living
12751 N. Plaza del Rio Blvd
Peoria AZ 85381

Schedule of the calendar year 2019 has been established. It includes member presentations, round robins and summer vacation. Last month we began with a thorough examination of internal rhyme by member Tom Lyle.

TUCSON POETRY SOCIETY

Jeanne Missey Osgood, President
jeannemissey@yahoo.com
520-440-5326

TPS meets the second Saturday of the month beginning at 10:00 a.m. for reading poetry with gentle critiquing.
Valdez Main Library
101 N. Stone Ave.
Tucson AZ 85701

Guests are welcome at any of the Branch meetings. Please call or email the host to let them know you are coming and to get additional details. If you join ASPS and wish to join one of the Branches, there will be a separate annual dues for the Branch.

TPS POETS AT TUCSON FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Tucson Festival of Books is right around the corner, March 2 & 3, 2019, with lots of poetry offerings:

- **Jeanne Osgood** is on the entertainment slate again this year, on March 2 at 10:00am in The Canyon (just east of the bookstore) with a 30-minute show, *Puppets & Poetry: Shakespeare and the Talking Skull*.
- **Elaine Powers** will present her rhyming picture books in the Children's Section, Booth 325.
- **Gene Twaronite** will be at the Indie Authors Pavilion on March 2 from 9:30a-noon followed by Young Adult Authors Rendezvous at Booth 432 from 1:30-3:30 and again on March 3 from 9:30-11:30.
- **Steve Chaffee** will be manning the Arizona Trails Association booth in the National Parks Section.

TUCSON POETRY SOCIETY NEWS

TPS is offering a free workshop series at the Joel Valdez Main Library, Tucson, as part of our regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The next one will be held on Saturday, **March 9**, 10:00 - 12:00, *Tips on Submitting Poetry* by Gene Twaronite and Alan Perry. Bring your smart phone, laptop or tablet. RSVP to Jeanne Osgood at tucsonpoetrysociety@gmail.com.

On Monday, **March 11**, Jeanne Osgood performs at 3:00pm and again at 6:00pm in the Community Performance & Art Center, *Green Valley's Got Talent*, a *Puppets & Poetry Show: Emily Dickinson Lives*, and then again that same show on Saturday, **March 16**, 12:00pm in the Children's Conference Room @ the Joel Valdez Main Library, Tucson. If you want tickets to the *Green Valley's Got Talent* performance, let Jeanne know!

On **April 13**, (same time and place as March 9) Elaine Powers will be giving a how-to workshop on "*Children's Rhyming Picture Books*". These events are free to ASPS/TPS members and their guests. RSVP Jeanne for either TPS event at TucsonPoetrySociety@gmail.com.

TUCSON POETRY SOCIETY TO PUBLISH ANTHOLOGY

Tucson Poetry Society (TPS) President Jeanne Missy Osgood reports that TPS is in the process of creating an anthology of poetry written by its members. The year-long project is under way and will include four poems and a short biography for each member's submission. The project is under the leadership of TPS member Tia Ballantine, who has been an editor for a number of anthologies over the years and owns her own imprint named Lelepono. Target date for publication is November 2019 and will be available for sale on Amazon.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

This ongoing column will highlight a few journals/literary magazines that are seeking poetry submissions. Be sure to check the website of the named journal to make sure your poetry submissions meet their requirements, aesthetic and limitations before submitting.

Poetry Quarterly: <https://poetryquarterly.com/> – free to submit; pays cash for each poem; ongoing submissions accepted.

Foliage Oak Literary Magazine: <https://www.foliageoak.com> – free to submit; ongoing submissions accepted.

Postcard Poems and Prose: <https://postcardpoemsandprose.wordpress.com> – free to submit; ongoing submissions accepted; submit up to three poems of 12-20 lines each. **Note:** You must include the sentence "I am a rock star" with your submission!

Seeking Board Members

The ASPS Board invites members to step forward and help the Society continue to grow and thrive. We need volunteers to fill the 2019 Treasurer and Secretary positions. Additionally, several volunteers are needed to fill appointed roles. You do not need to reside in the Phoenix area to fill any of these positions. Contact President Christy White for additional information. We look forward to hearing from you as you consider serving your fellow ASPS poets!

(continued from Page 2)

POETRY OUT LOUD

TUCSON, Tucson Poetry Society @ Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone, 10 am. Bring your poetry to share for comments or just come to listen. A branch of Arizona State Poetry Society. TucsonPoetrySociety@gmail.com for more information. 2nd Saturday event.

SCOTTSDALE, Mustang Poets @ Mustang Library, 10101 N. 90th St., 6 pm. Poetry discussion and bring 8 - 10 copies for gentle critique or just bring poetry to read. A branch of the Arizona State Poetry Society. For more info, cchris-tyw@gmail.com. 2nd Monday event.

TEMPE, East Valley Poets @ Pyle Center, 655 E. Southern Ave., 9:30 am - 12 pm. Bring your poetry and rub shoulders with some of the friendliest poets in Tempe! A branch of the Arizona State Poetry Society. A 3rd Saturday event.

BISBEE, The Bisbee Normalization Project @ The Letson Studios, 24 Main St., 7 pm. Open mic with feature hosted by artist/poet Ken Boe. This will be livestreamed on Bisbeens N Rice Youtube. A 3rd Thursday event.

PHOENIX, Phoenix Poetry Series @ Fillmore Coffee, 600 N. 4th St., 6:15 PM. 4th Friday event.

PHOENIX, Monthly Open Mic: Arts, Letters & Culture Event @ Dog-Eared Pages Used Books, 16428 N. 32nd St. #111, 5 pm. Perform, read, dance, sing, tell stories while enjoying the featured artist of the month. For more info, 602.283.5423. Usually a 4th Thursday event.

MONDAYS, FLAGSTAFF, Narrow Chimney Poetry Reading Series @ Uptown Pubhouse, 114 N. Leroux St., 7 PM. Featured poets and maybe an open reading.

We recommend confirming the event before you go!

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

NFSPS 2019 CONVENTION

June 23—June 26, 2019

<http://nmpoetry.com/convention-nfspd-2019.shtml>

The New Mexico State Poetry Society (NMSPS) invites you to be part of the diversity of poets the 2019 NFSPS Annual Convention will bring to our land. Former Santa Fe poet laureate, Valerie Martinez, will be the keynote speaker. There will also be workshops inside the hotels, presentations and an evening cyphering (doing street corner poetry). You need to book your hotel rooms now by going to their website.

NFSPS, Inc. is a non-profit organization, exclusively educational and literary. It is dedicated solely to the furtherance of poetry on the national level and serves to unite poets in the bonds of fellowship and understanding. NFSPS offers 50 national contests each year and conducts an annual convention hosted by one of the affiliated states. See www.nfspd.com for additional information.

ASPS Newsletter Editor
Kris Perry
4488 W. Harmony Ranch Pl
Marana AZ 85658



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Each quarter we would like to highlight the writing accomplishments of ASPS members. If you have a poem that has been accepted by a journal/literary magazine, a recently-received award for poetry (other than ASPS monthly contests), publication of a chapbook or collection of poetry, or some other writing recognition, send it to newsletter editor, Kris Perry, at krisp@visi.com for consideration for this column.

WANTED! NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

ASPS members and branches, this is YOUR newsletter. We want to hear from you! If you have an idea for the newsletter, an article you'd like to submit, or other comments and suggestions, please send them via email to the editor, Kris Perry, at krisp@visi.com. This newsletter is only as good as the content YOU provide.

The deadline for submitting information for the summer issue is **MAY 1**. I look forward to hearing from you!

