

**Gulf Coast Poets Chapter
Of The Poetry Society of Texas
July 13, 2013 – General Meeting**



**Gulf Coast Poets
Is proud to present
Jeremy Windham**



Jeremy Windham is currently earning his BFA in creative writing at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas where he also studies music performance and literature. He has served as a first violinist for the Symphony of the Pines for the past three years which has included solo and ensemble recitals, participation in annual choral masterworks, several concerts, and performing as a pit musician for opera productions including *Die Fledermaus*, *La Traviata*, and most recently, *Street Scene*. His poetry can be found in a few literary journals (print and online) including *HUMID Vol. 4*, *The Blue Route*, *Psaltery and Lyre*, *The Portland Review*, *Steam Ticket Review*, and is soon to appear in *Southern Humanities Review*. He has read his poetry a guest speaker at the *HUMID Vol. 4* release party in 2012 and the Nacogdoches Literary Reading hosted by Morning Glory Yoga Studios this past February. Jeremy enjoyed a creative writing internship as Poetry Editor of *HUMID Vol. 5* during his most previous semester at SFA. As a poetry student, Jeremy is intrigued by the symbiotic relationship between words and music. Both art forms have been of particular importance to him throughout the years. He believes music and writing develop in similar ways and hopes to discover more about this idea in his writing.

Boy Raised Gorgon

My father's lecture in the car
on my way to the second day
of sixth grade was of handshakes,

the brief transaction of budding
manhood between eleven year olds,
the voiceless, primal delivery

of one's existence summed up
between the palms of two men
who do not know how to be men.

A how-to in the parking lot:
knuckles must whiten,
forearm must tighten

and relax at the release
but eyes never leave
their counterparts.

If the calculation of masculinity
is performed by the wrist
and lasts less than three seconds

I am no more a man than the boy
whose locker was next to mine
and was also afraid to undress.

But if our strengths are measured
with a gaze, observe the statues
our beholders will become,

wide-eyed and petrified
by the hissing head
on our shoulders.

**Previously published by Psaltery and Lyre*

Seperation

I.

Dad shouts at my mother from the driveway,
his truck hiccups then sputters away from us
and I kick a rock to the grass with my bare foot.

We stand in our front lawn long after he is gone.
Mom covers her mouth with one hand and uses
the other to press my sister and I into her
heaving chest until the stars flicker out above us.

II.

Cold water doesn't bother me. I swam with Dad
last week at my grandparents' community pool
and watched him form an "O" with his mouth
when he lowered his hairy ankle below the surface,
but I did a cannonball and didn't even flinch.

III.

The doctor holds my foot to his face and presses
a Q-tip to the black lump on the tip of my big toe.
Mom says not to squirm. I squeeze Dad's hand
when the doctor lays my foot down, he says,
"That, ladies and gentlemen, is one ugly wart."

IV.

Mom scratches milk from her list and pushes the cart,
she gives me five minutes in the Halloween aisle.
Every rubber mask smells like warm salt and raisins;
I search for my father and find him in a werewolf,
I touch the snout's black fur and trace the eye-holes.

V.

I read before bed and when I sound out
a word I can't pronounce I throw my book
into the hallway's stomach and turn off
my bedside lamp. The world dissolves
like the throbbing frozen wart on my big toe.
The next morning I find baby skin where
the wart used to be, soft and new and pink.

VI.

Now when I take baths at night I fill the tub
with cold water and pretend my legs are hairy,
then I drop my foot inside and wrench it out.
I make an "O" with my lips but I never mean **it**.

**Previously published by The Portland Review*



Inprint

First Fridays

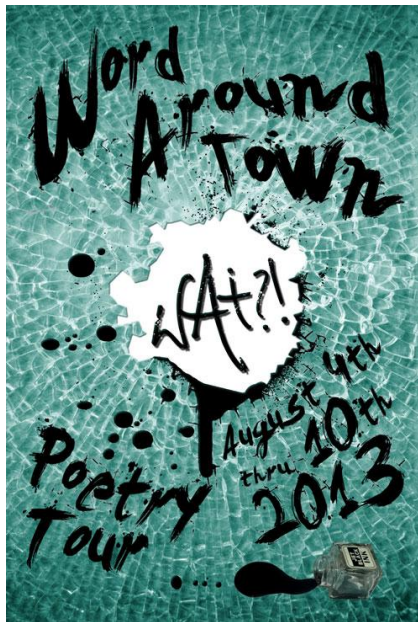
August 2 - Carolyn Adams

September 6 - Winston Derden

October 11, 12, 13 - Houston Poetry Fest

November 1 - Sean Johnson

December 6 - Joseph Campana



**Word Around Town 2013
Poetry Tour Starts August 4th**

A full week of poetry readings every night at a different venue

Featuring new poets:

Jenene Carter
Billie Hill
Darla McBryde
ZM Wise
Bishop
Digh
Sal Macias
Winston Derden
Jonathan Moody
Jeremy Peña
Diana Ventura

Returning poets:

Blanca Alanis
Carolyn Adams
Chris Wise
Fluentone
Gerald Cedillo
Oscar Peña
Rain

Veteran Feature Poets:

Dee!colonize
Katy Fay
Outspoken Bean
Marcell Murphy
Zelene Pineda
Joe B
Jasmine Mendez

For more information and the locations of each venue visit:

www.wordaroundtown.org



The following websites provide information on poetry events, contests, magazines, festivals, and much more

<http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/>

<http://www.poets.org/>

<http://www.poetrysociety.org/psa/>

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/>

<http://www.pw.org/>

<http://nfsp.com/index.htm>

<http://publicpoetry.net/>

<http://www.inprinthouston.org/>

<http://aipf.org/>

<http://festivalhill.org/>

<http://gulfcoastpoets.info/>

<http://houstonpoetryfest.info/>



The 2013 Rattle Poetry Prize

Deadline: July 15, 2013

The annual Rattle Poetry Prize offers \$5,000 for a single poem to be published in the winter issue of the magazine. Ten finalists will also receive \$100 each and publication, and be eligible for the \$1,000 Readers' Choice Award, to be selected by subscriber and entrant vote.

Additional poems from the entries are frequently offered publication as well. In 2012 we published 19 poems that had been submitted to the contest from over 1,800 entries.

With the winners judged in a blind review by the editors to ensure a fair and consistent selection, an entry fee that is simply a one-year subscription to the magazine—and now a large Readers' Choice Award to be chosen by the writers themselves—we've designed the Rattle Poetry Prize to be one of the most writer-friendly contests around.

For more information visit <http://www.rattle.com/poetry/prize/about/>

GULF COAST POETS MEMBERS

Send Venue Information to: GulfCoastPoets@gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/gulfcoastpoets>

Find a GCP membership form at our website:

<http://GulfCoastPoets.info/>

To contact the President of GCP, write to:

Laura Peña <iselapena@hotmail.com>

Gulf Coast Poets membership runs from January 1st through December 31st. Our dues are \$15.00 a year. While our chapter is part of PST, if you wish to be an individual member of PST, you must pay state dues as well.

To contact the Membership Chair of GCP, write to:

Membership <gulfcoastpoets@gmail.com>

Are you a member of PST? If so, remember to renew in June!

Poetry Society of Texas membership runs from July 1st through June 30th of each year. Membership dues for PST are \$25.00 a year for Active and Associate members and are payable in advance on an annual basis from July 1 to June 30. Members, unless specifically exempt, must have their dues current before submitting contest entries. To be listed in the current A Book of the Year, dues must be received by November 30.

The status of a member's dues is shown on the address label of The Bulletin. A brochure giving full requirements for membership may be obtained from the Membership Chairman. Send dues, correspondence relating thereto, change of address and/or corrections to:

Lynn Lewis, Membership Chairman

1704 Enderly Place

Fort Worth, TX 76104

E-Mail: elsquared59@yahoo.com

Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for July 13, 2013 General Meeting
Report Period: June 1 – June 30, 2013 -- with 2013 YTD totals
This report covers the one month period since last report

| | Cash Flow: June 1 – June 30, 2013 | 2013 Totals |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Contests..... | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Dues..... | 0.00 | 430.00 |
| Lifetime | .00 | |
| Regular | .00 | |
| Speaker Expense..... | -13.40 | -234.55 |
| Honorarium | -.00 | |
| Speaker Lunch/Dinners | -13.40 | |
| Donations..... | .00 | 325.00 |
| Interest/Dividend..... | .10 | .54 |
| Officer Travel..... | -0.00 | -70.00 |
| Other | . | 0.00 |
| Net Cash flow, June 1 – June 30 | -13.30 | 450.99 |

| | Account Balances: June 1 – June 30, 2013 – | 2013 from Jan 1 |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Checking Ledger | | |
| <i>Beginning</i> | 2226.30 | 1752.01 |
| Transfer to/from Cash | 0.00 | (1/1/2013) |
| Checks written (0) | -0.00 | |
| Debit card (1) | -13.40 | |
| Dividend | .10 | |
| Ending | 2213.00 | 2213.00 |
| <i>Outstanding checks (4)</i> | 77.64 | <i>Bank chk bal=2290.64</i> |
| Cash (undeposited checks, cash) | | |
| <i>Beginning</i> | .00 | 10.00 |
| Transactions | .00 | |
| Transfer to Checking | -.00 | |
| Ending | .00 | .00 |
| Savings (int. posted quarterly) | | |
| <i>Beginning</i> | 5.33 | 5.33 |
| Ending | 5.33 | 5.33 |
| All accounts | | (1/1/2013) |
| Beginning | 6/1/2013 | 2231.63 |
| Ending | 6/30/2013 | 2218.33 |

NOTES:

Treasurer Reports will normally end on the last day of the month preceding the meeting and cover the month(s) since the previous report.

Gulf Coast Poets (GCP) Minutes – 06/08/13
Recording Secretary: Daniel Carrington, Jr.

10:51am – Meeting called to order.

Announcements:

Laura Peña recounted announcements from the June GCP handout.

Deadline for Houston Poetry Fest: June 30TH. Visit <http://houstonpoetryfest.info> for details. (*Note: The deadline has subsequently been extended to July 15TH.*)

Robert Clark's First Friday reading series will have its 27TH anniversary next month. Visit the Community Links section of www.inprinthouston.org for details.

June is the month for Poetry Society of Texas dues renewal. Visit www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org for details.

Mary Margaret Carlisle continues to moderate the Poetry Works Workshops, and she has created a new forum, Lunch with the Poets, starting this month. It will meet each Wednesday from noon to 1:00pm. Please speak with Mary for further details.

Public Poetry's Summer Series begins in July and runs through September, typically on the first Saturday of each month. Visit <http://publicpoetry.net> for details.

11:02am – Featured Poet: David Cowen

After a brief intro and bio by GCP President Laura Peña, David began his featured reading with insight into his process. He discussed the concept of the abstract vs. the concrete in poetry. He then went on to demonstrate its impact on his work with selections that included a childhood poem, a series of haikus, and a number speculative pieces, one of which was featured recently in *Harbinger Asylum*.

11:16am – Open Mic Readings:

Mary Margaret Carlisle – “Bird Wars”, “Emergency List for the Unprepared”, “Shackled by the Sonnet”

Jean Mahavier – “Roadside Clutter”, “Sold”, “Curious Roadkill”

Allison Henderson – “Mistletoe New Year's”, “Parade”, “Big Brother”

Yong-Ae Kim – “Escapologist”, “Florida Ennui”

Laura Peña – “Fermentation”

11:48 – Additional Announcements:

Ann Fogelman, our dear friend, fellow poet, and GCP greeter, recently fell and is recuperating. Please keep her in your prayers.

11:39am – Meeting adjourned. Lunch afterwards at King Food.

Poetry Society of Texas-Gulf Coast Poets Chapter-2013 Members

Carolyn Lee Adams
Ted O. Badger (2011 Honorary Lifetime)
Kay Beggs
Alan Birkebach (2012 Honorary Lifetime)
Diana D. Bcley LIFETIME
Max Burns (Student)
Mary M. Carlisle -Membership Chair-Co-Founder (Lifetime)
Daniel Carrington Jr.—Recording Secretary (Lifetime)
Robert Clark (2009 Honorary Lifetime)
David Cowen -Vice-President (Lifetime)
Kay Cox
Winston Derden (Lifetime)
Pat Dixon (Lifetime)
Susan Ellis (Lifetime)
Lauran Perry English
Dr. Sybil Estess
Debi Fairchild
Ann Fogelman (Lifetime)
Mary Ann Goodwin
Sharon Goodwin
Dr. John Gorman (2007 Honorary Lifetime)
Glynn Monroe Irby
Carmen Erna Jacobsen
Erica Lehrer (2012 Honorary Lifetime)
Jean Mahavier
Lee Mahavier-Peterman
Darla McBryde
John Milkereit
Terry J. Miller
Deandra Newcomb (New Member)
Dave Parsons (2013 Honorary Lifetime)
Richard Peake (Lifetime)
Laura Peña-President (Lifetime)
Oscar Peña
Lynne Streeter (Lifetime)
Sandi Stromberg
Anne Taylor
Larry Thomas (2008 Honorary Lifetime)
Leo F. Waltz-Treasurer and Webmaster
Germaine Welch
Yong-Ae Kim

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS

Peggy Z. Lynch (2006)*

John Gorman (2007)

Larry Thomas (2008)

Robert Clark (2009)

Alan Birkelbach (2010)

Ted Badger (2011)

Erica Lehrer (2012)