

# **Gulf Coast Poets**

*Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society*



**April 11, 2015**  
**General Meeting**  
**Chris Wise**

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## **Gulf Coast Poets Proudly Presents**

### **Chris Wise**

Chris is a poet and novelist. He has been published in various poetry anthologies and small press literary magazines such as *Nerve Cowboy*, *Blue Collar Review*, and *Road Not Taken*. He has been a featured author in *Cowboys and Indians Magazine*, and has made several radio appearances on KPFT-FM's *Living Art*, KH-TV.com, and the Word Around Town Poetry Tour. *Colliding With Orion* (a collection of poetry, short stories and essays on craft) from Absey & Co. will be released in the fall of 2016. He is a veteran of the US Army, earned an English degree from Texas A&M, and currently lives in Houston, TX

## **BUCKLING LOVESEAT**

**Where my sawdust covered, sun-baked body settles  
sending cool sighs of rest over blistered hands  
muscles untying off the bone.**

**Where I relax with still empty pockets  
sometimes disappointed.**

**Where my dog crawls up, even when it's a space too small  
shedding hair like bags of sticky lawn clippings  
on my best clothes, worst clothes.**

**Here I am an oil painting, rugged and impressionistic  
that may only be viewed from beyond the velvet rope  
needing a moment of space, with a mind buzzing full of  
dreams and worry**

**A haunt of power tools still roaring in my ears.**

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## **A Small Thing**

I used to think abortion  
was an answer  
until  
one night  
over a prepackaged scampi and cocktail sauce  
my second ex-fiancée  
told me  
pain had hooped her like a crawfish  
in the blood-smearred bathtub

blood everywhere  
A secret suspected pregnancy  
confirmed  
when she produced a fetus  
no bigger than a shrimp.

Weeping  
alone and heart burst  
she cradled  
my son  
my daughter

dropped it in the water  
colored with urine and blood  
and flushed it  
like a cockroach.

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## **TOMCATS**

**She loves this cat  
this street fighter  
who only comes in for a meal  
then screams by the door until it's opened**

**this creature that prefers the hollowed log  
of the ash tree to the comforts of indoor confinement  
who never comes when called, nor leaves if he has chosen  
to stay  
who can be incredibly grouchy and then just as sweet**

**She pours the dust of catnip  
into the corrugation of a cardboard  
scratching pad, which he destroys  
in the most shameless ecstasy**

**Then she brings me a beer  
and I ask her why she loves  
this trollish little cat so much  
and she says, "He reminds me of you."**

# ***Inprint First Fridays***

**May 1, 2015–Saba Husein**

**June 5, 2015–Kenan Ince**

**July 10, 2015–First Friday's Fortieth Anniversary featuring Rich Levy**

**August 7, 2015–Chuck and Mary Wemple**

**September 4, 2015–Vanessa Zimmer-Powell**

**October 9, 10, 11–Houston Poetry Fest 2015 (UH Downtown)**

**November 9, 2015–Jane Creighton**

**Readings begin at 8:30 pm Inprint House**

**1520 West Main (two blocks south of The Menil Collection, one block east of Mandell). Admission is free**

## **Ongoing: OPEN MIC LOCATIONS**

**1st Mondays: NOKtune, 17062 Saturn Ln, Houston, TX 77058, 8:30 PM free**

**4th Tuesday: Barnes & Noble, 1029 W Bay Area Blvd, Webster, 7:30, free**

**Wednesdays: Notsuoh, 314 Main St, 77002, 9 PM, free**

**3rd Wednesday, Heights Library, 1302 Heights Blvd. 77008, 6:00 PM, free**

**4th Wednesdays: Teatro Bilingue Houston, 3333 Jensen Dr, 7:30-10 PM, Tintero/Inkwell – Bilingual Reading Series**

**Fridays: The House of Tea, 1927 Fairview, 77019, 9 PM, free**

**Saturdays: Secret Word Café, 2061 Dowling, 11 AM Write Club, workshop hosted by Marcell Murphy**

**Sundays: Bohemeo, 708 Telephone Rd., Suite E, 77023, 8 PM, free**

**Bambou, 2540 University Blvd (in Rice Village) 7 PM. Cost: \$10**

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## **Upcoming Poetry Events**

**April 17-19 — Poetry At Roundtop. Information at <http://poetryatroundtop.org/>**

**April 23 -- Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Brown Auditorium, 1001 Bissonnet Street, Houston, TX 77005 United States, @ 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM--Winning poems from Public Poetry's ARTlines2 Competition and an art talk by Dr. Anna Tahinci, Head of the Art History at the Glassell School of Art**

## **Anthologies and Calls for Submission**

**Horror Writers Association Call for Submission for Second Annual Horror Poetry Showcase will open April 1-30. Check the GCP Facebook page for more information.**

**Weasel Press Poetry Chapbook Contest: Deadline July 1, 2015. Weasel Press is hosting its first chapbook contest this year. Starting April 1, 2015 . \$250 cash prize and 20 complimentary copies of their book. We love the existential, beat poetry; poetry that thrives on showing us the current state of the human condition. We Poets are asked to submit 3-5 poems from their chapbook and an entry fee of \$15. 10 poets will be selected to move onto round two where they will be asked for the full manuscript and a video of themselves reading a few pieces from the book. Submissions are accepted through Submittable. <http://weaselpress.submittable.com>**

**Houston Poetry Fest — Submissions are now open. <http://houstonpoetryfest.info/page15.html> — Deadline is July 15, 2015**

**For other events see [www.houstonpoetrysummit.org](http://www.houstonpoetrysummit.org).**

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## **Gulf Coast Minutes-03/14/2015**

**10:52 Meeting called to order**

**Leo Waltz has redesigned the GCP website. Go to [www.gulfcoastpoets.info](http://www.gulfcoastpoets.info)**

**April 3, 2015 Inprint First Friday – Robin Davidson**

**At 2pm today Speak Poet will feature Carolyn Adams and Ken Jones at Monstrose Library**

**2:30pm Last Concert Café will feature a day of art and poetry festival**

**7pm at Nokturne Night of Poetry featuring ZM Wise, Billie Hill, Carmen Jacobson, and Dave Cowan**

**Jan Seale, Texas Poet Laureate 2012 will be the featured reader and guest at GCP Annual Holiday Luncheon 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in December. Venue TBD. There was a discussion about making her an honorary lifetime member.**

**March 21<sup>st</sup> Blue Willow Bookstore 4pm “Goodbye Mexico” by Sarah Cortez**

**March 28<sup>th</sup> March Shindig at Last Concert Café**

**April 11, 2015 – GCP featured reader will be Chris Wise**

**GCP member Jonathan Peckham has been published**

**Deadlines-Mutablis Press, March 31th**

**Valley International Poetry Festival March 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Houston Poetry Fest submissions are now open**

**Weasel Press has a chapbook contest open**



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**11:05 Featured reader Peter Hyland**

**Door Prizes- Jonathan Peckham a book by Peter Hyland**

**Bill Streeter TCU Press Texas Poet Laureates series: Karla Morton**

**Ann Fogelman a photo framed by Glynn Monroe Irby**

**Lynn Streeter “Autumn” a poem framed by Mary Margaret Carlise**

**Open Mic**

**Ann Fogelman – On the Ridge with Old Jum**

**Weasel Patterson – Alive and On Fire**

**Laura Peña – Don’t Leave Me**

**Lynne Streeter – Before Work**

**Dave Cowen – Beulah’s Eye**

**Jonathan Peckham – The Beginning of Leaving**

**Mary Margaret Carlise – Autumn and In My Native Tongue**

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## **UPCOMING GP FEATURED READERS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>May 9, 2015</b>	<b>Robin Davidson</b>
<b>June 13, 2015</b>	<b>Larry “Weasel” Patterson</b>
<b>July 11, 2015</b>	<b>Eloisa Perez-Lozano</b>
<b>August 2015</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>September 12, 2015</b>	<b>Cindy Huyser</b>
<b>October 3, 2015</b>	<b>Poetry Out of Bounds</b>
<b>November 14, 2015</b>	<b>Chuck Wemple and Mary Wemple</b>
<b>December 12, 2015</b>	<b>Jan Seale, 2012 Texas Poet Laureate; John Milkereit as second fea- ture</b>

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## Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for April 11, 2015 General Meeting  
 Report Period: Mar. 1 – Mar 31, 2015 -- with 2015 totals  
*This report covers the one month period since last report*

### Cash Flow: Mar. 1 – Mar. 31, 2015

### 2015 Totals.

Contests.....		.00	-0.00
Dues.....		.00	120.00
Speaker Expense.....		-20.00	-56.32
Honorarium	-20.00		
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-.00		
Lodging	-.00		
Donations.....		.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....		.08	.26
Officer Travel.....		-20.00	-30.00
Anthology.....		-.00	-.00
Other .....		.00	.00
<b>Net Cash flow, Mar. 1 – Mar. 31</b>		<b>-39.92</b>	<b>63.94</b>
			<i>Jan1-Mar31</i>

### Account Activity: Mar. 1 – Mar. 31, 2015 –

### 2015 YTD

Checking Ledger			
<i>Beginning</i>		2130.13	2056.27
Checks written (1)	-10.00		(1/1/2015)
Debit Card	-.00		
Deposits	.00		
Dividend	.08		
Ending		2120.21	2130.13
Outstanding checks (2) **	40.00	Bank chk bal=2160.21	
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)			
<i>Beginning</i>		70.00	40.00
Inflow	.00		
Outflow	-30.00		
Ending		40.00	70.00
Savings (seldom changes)			
<i>Beginning</i>		10.33	10.33
Ending		10.33	10.33
<b>All accounts</b>			<i>Jan1/Mar 31</i>
<i>Beginning</i>	<i>3/1/2015</i>	<b>2210.46</b>	<b>2106.60</b>
<i>Ending</i>	<i>3/31/2015</i>	<b>2170.54</b>	<b>2170.54</b>

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

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## **2015 Gulf Coast Poets Chapter Membership**

### ***Honorary lifetime members***

Ted O. Badger  
Alan Lee Birkelbach  
Robert Clark  
John Gorman  
Erica Lehrer  
Karla Morton  
Dave Parsons  
Larry D. Thomas

### ***Lifetime members***

Nancy Bertoneclj  
Diana Dettling Buckley  
Mary Margaret Carlisle –  
Member Chair  
Daniel Carrington --  
Correspondence Secretary  
Jane Chance  
David Cowen -- President  
Winston Derden  
Susan Ellis  
Ann Fogelman -- Greeter  
Fulton Fry  
Mary Ann Goodwin  
Susan Musch -- Vice President  
Bernard Patten  
Richard Peake  
Oscar Peña  
Laura Peña -- Recording  
Secretary  
Lynne Streeter  
Martha M Tamez  
Glynn Monroe Irby  
Leo Waltz – Treasurer

### ***2015 Chapter Members***

Penny Clark  
Sybil Pittman Estess  
Dede Fox  
Carmen Erna Jacobsen  
C. Lynn (“Happy Daze”) Carden  
Yong-Ae Kim  
Jean Mahavier  
John Milkereit  
Deandra Newcomb  
Jonathan Peckham  
Eloisa Perez-Lozano  
Sandi Stromberg  
William Turner  
Vanessa Zimmer-Powell  
Weasel (Larry Patterson)"  
Kay L. Cox  
Amy L. Sasser —  
Anthology Chair  
Jane Wenninger  
Dory Williams  
Charles Williams  
Billie Hill  
Terry Jude Miller  
Lauren English  
Adriana Vazquez  
Luis Vazquez  
Gary Rosin  
Taylor Lane Jones  
Peter Hyland  
Chris Wise

### ***2015 Student Chapter Member***

Katherine Sanger