

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society



June 13, 2015
General Meeting
Weasel Patterson

Gulf Coast Poets

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Gulf Coast Poets Proudly Presents

Weasel Patterson

Weasel is a writer and poet. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Literature at the University of Houston-Clear Lake and has been a member of the Houston/Clear Lake poetry scene ever since. He has had a few appearances on 90.1 KPFT's Living Art hosted by Dr. Michael Woodson, and has had the fortunate opportunity to release a full length poetry collection titled *Ashes to Burn* through Transcendent Zero Press. In April of 2015, he released a novella titled *Cigarette Burns* through Kool Kids Press, and has released a second collection of poetry titled *The Hell Inside Us* through Earl of Plaid Press. Weasel has also appeared in an indie documentary titled *Something Out of Nothing (S.O.O.N.)* directed by Mitchell Dudley. You can find more about Weasel and his writing at his website: <http://poetweasel.weebly.com>

Farewell

izzy had to bury his dog this morning;
forced to watch his friend drip every
last breath onto the cold concrete,
wrapping him in old sewn up blankets
that barely kept winter at the door.

fingers drizzling beads of sweat,
writing together like prayer beads,
chanting internally, i love you, as if
the inevitable could be put off for one
more day. but izzy does not know how to
love, would be better off learning to
hug the ocean of people that slowly
bled him to remain still, only apologizing
for not being able to give his friend comfort,
body quivering at the dying animal.

flames pale beneath his skin as
they silently say their peace in
hopes to meet in another life.

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Waiting for Our Ears to Grow Dreams

it took years of navigating under the
moon to understand that some prayers
can only be answered by looking
inward. that's how the messiah wanted it.

i pulled a feather from my ear,
plucked its spine into a stem
and waited for the petals
to drip onto the floor.

it took miracles for me to stop
listening to the stars; to allow
myself the insecurity of getting
lost in the currents of your pulse.

its beat smoothed over the fractures
of my dreams. i had been wandering
nameless for too long. i forgot that
love was merely a wet dream; that
magic doesn't simply burst into life.

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Our Last Days

where did your mind go before
you draped your flesh over smooth linen?
the vultures peer through frosted windows,
knowing you are empty; that they can vomit
up your bones after devouring what you have
left behind. they say they eat the eyes first to ensure
you don't come back, knowing that there
are souls who make it to purgatory and fear
what they have become; ghosts are littered
around us. one wonders if they remember anything.

we can all imagine why your breath lingers
on the indentions of the mattress, but we
already know. we are our own tragedies that
haven't burst yet; little grenades tick tick
ticking beneath our hearts, waiting for it
to pile; for us to make our peace. but we
are human, we teach ourselves to
misunderstand, to confuse, to keep
the morning precious because we
cannot disturb ourselves.

mother of all things, you lay there,
curves in place because you wanted
us to remember the grace you carried
with you always. we are to never forget
how simple you were, or how the refinement
of your character fell from your tips. you
were beauty, and we were the followers
who could only remember this,
never who you were; never your name.

Inprint First Fridays

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

2015 Poetry Society of Texas Summer Conference --

July 16 18 in Beaumont, Texas. [http://](http://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/events/summer-conference/)

poetrysocietyoftexas.org/events/summer-conference/

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Upcoming Poetry Events

Anthologies and Calls for Submission

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 2015

Houston Poetry Fest 2015 will be held in Willow Street Pump Station, 811 N. San Jacinto Street, Houston 77002 on the campus of the University of Houston - Downtown, on October 9, 10, and 11, 2015.

The submission deadline is July 15, 2015. To submit, go online to "Submittable / Houston Poetry Fest", create a user account, remember your password, and submit everything including your poetry pages, cover letter with bio, and an \$18 donation, electronically.

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Gulf Coast Poets (GCP) Minutes – 05/09/15

Recorded by Daniel Carrington

10:45am – Meeting called to order.

Announcements:

Jane Chance announced a call for a poetry and short prose submissions call from Border Town Press for their forthcoming anthology, *Borders and Boundaries*. More info can be found at border-townpress.com.

Amy Sasser, the GCP Anthology Chair, will have information on the forthcoming GCP Anthology as things continue to coalesce. Stay tuned.

10:52am – Mary Carlisle introduced our Featured Poet, Associate Professor at U of H Downtown, and the *newly crowned 2ND Houston Poet Laureate Robin Davidson*. (Many congratulations to Mrs. Davidson on this distinguished honor!) She took the stage and entertained the crowd with a variety of works primarily from her most recent collection *Luminous Other*. Among the pieces were those in honor of Mother's Day, ekphrastic works, and poems from her time living abroad and teaching in Poland.

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11:18am – Mary Margaret Carlisle awarded door prizes to Billie Hill and a potential new member. Also, at this time, a run-through of announcements contained in the handout was made by Daniel Carrington.

11:28am – Open Mic Readings:

Weasel Patterson – “Falling Amongst Daughters”

Jean Mahavier – “Aground”

Amy Sasser – “Unsent”

Jane Chance – “My Western”

Mary Margaret Carlisle – “*Gurney’s Arrived Today*”

Yong-Ae Kim – “Worries”

Billie Hill – “Wildlife”

Glynn Irby – “Imagi 23”

Carmen Jacobsen – “Oceanus”

Robin Davidson – “Notes on the Bones of a Child”

11:53am – Meeting adjourned. Lunch afterward at King Food.

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UPCOMING GP FEATURED READERS

Date	Speaker
July 11, 2015	Eloisa Perez-Lozano
August 2015	No Meeting
September 12, 2015	Cindy Huyser
October 3, 2015	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 14, 2015	Chuck Wemple and Mary Wemple
December 12, 2015	Jan Seale, 2012 Texas Poet Laureate; John Milkereit as second feature
January 19, 2016	Elina Petrova
February 13, 2016	Tria Wood
March 12, 2016	TDB
April 9, 2016	TDB (Possibly Student readers from local colleges)
May 14, 2016	TDB
June 11, 2016	Gerald Cedillo
July 9, 2016	Word About Town Poets
August	No Meeting
September 10, 2016	TDB
October 8, 2016	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 12, 2016	TDB
December 10, 2016	Holiday Luncheon

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Treasurer Report for June 13, 2015 General Meeting
 Report Period: May 1 – May 31, 2015 -- with 2015 totals
 This report covers the one month period since last report

	Cash Flow: May 1 – May 31, 2015	2015 Totals.
Contests.....	.00	- .00
Dues.....	.00	120.00
Speaker Expense.....	-25.00	-111.32
Honorarium	-25.00	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-0.00	
Lodging	-0.00	
Donations.....	.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.09	.44
Officer Travel.....	-10.00	-50.00
Anthology.....	-0.00	-0.00
Other00	.00
Net Cash flow, May 1 – May 31	-34.91	Jan1-May31 -10.88

	Account Activity: May 1 – May 31, 2015 –	2015 YTD
Checking Ledger		Jan 1, 2015
<i>Beginning</i>	2100.30	2056.27
Checks written (1)	-25.00	
Debit Card	-0.00	
Deposits	.00	
Dividend	.09	
Ending	2075.39	2100.39
Outstanding checks (4)	85.00 Bank chk bal=2160.39	
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
<i>Beginning</i>	20.00	40.00
Inflow	.00	
Outflow	-10.00	
Ending	10.00	10.00
Savings (seldom changes)		
<i>Beginning</i>	10.33	10.33
Ending	10.33	10.33
All accounts		Jan1/May 31
<i>Beginning</i>	5/1/2015 2130.63	2106.60
Ending	5/31/2015 2095.72	2095.72

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

<i>Honorary lifetime members</i>	<i>2015 Chapter Members</i>
Ted O. Badger	Penny Clark
Alan Lee Birkelbach	Sybil Pittman Estess
Robert Clark	Dede Fox
John Gorman	Carmen Erna Jacobsen
Erica Lehrer	C. Lynn (“Happy Daze”) Carden
Karla Morton	Yong-Ae Kim
Dave Parsons	Jean Mahavier
Larry D. Thomas	John Milkereit
	Deandra Newcomb
<i>Lifetime members</i>	Jonathan Peckham
Nancy Bertoncelj	Eloisa Perez-Lozano
Diana Dettling Buckley	Sandi Stromberg
Mary Margaret Carlisle – Member Chair	William Turner
Daniel Carrington -- Correspondence Secretary	Vanessa Zimmer-Powell
Jane Chance	Weasel (Larry Patterson)"
David Cowen -- President	Kay L. Cox
Winston Derden	Amy L. Sasser — Anthology Chair
Susan Ellis	Jane Wenninger
Ann Fogelman -- Greeter	Dory Williams
Fulton Fry	Charles Williams
Mary Ann Goodwin	Billie Hill
Susan Musch -- Vice President	Terry Jude Miller
Bernard Patten	Lauren English
Richard Peake	Adriana Vazquez
Oscar Peña	Luis Vazquez
Laura Peña -- Recording Secretary	Gary Rosin
Lynne Streeter	Taylor Lane Jones
Martha M Tamez	Peter Hyland
Glynn Monroe Irby	Chris Wise
Leo Waltz – Treasurer	Robin Davidson
	<i>2015 Student Chapter Member</i>
	Katherine Sanger