

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society



February 13, 2016
General Meeting
Tria Wood

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society

Gulf Coast Poets Proudly Presents Tria Wood

A native Texan, *Tria Wood* has worked as a college professor, an instructional designer, and an arts writer. She currently teaches creative writing to children through the Writers in the Schools program. In August 2012, she was the featured poet for the first annual Emerald Isle Writing Conference in Kodiak, Alaska.

In 2014, she was selected as a juried poet for the Houston Poetry Festival. Recently, a poem she wrote when she was twelve years old, titled "Ode to a Wiener," won the Mortified podcast's Awkward Teen Poetry Tournament. Her poetry, short fiction, and essays appear in a variety of publications such as The Texas Poetry Calendar, Bayou, The Mom Egg, Rattle, Literary Mama, and Sugar House Review.

Aubade

Let's get old in a house with stairs
so we'll have something to complain about together
hanging onto the banister, each other,
as we hoist ourselves up and down.

I don't need grandchildren, so let's hang
laundry and petunias from the swingset,
send our son packing to New York or San Francisco, hell,
to Europe if he wants, even Nepal. He's smart. He'll find
his way.

Let's get old in a house with no HOA--we'll build
a stone grotto for Aphrodite in the yard, ice its ceiling with
seashells
nurse cold longnecks in its blue light
and make out like teenagers again.

I'll roast Cornish hens if you'll scrub
the pots, like always. You'll sing tunes I won't recognize
until the chorus, tell me again and again about how you fell
off the barbed wire fence to get your scar, and I won't
mind at all.

Let's get old in a house with a coffee shop
round the corner where we'll roost at the counter
side by side and say "the usual," settle into magazines
while we sip and tip double on Sundays just because.

If I start to shout, it's only because my ears
don't always catch my voice; my laugh will be louder, too,
and I'll lean into your shoulder in the garden, under the
eaves,
to catch the kiss that always waits for me
right there, on your cheek, next to your grin.

—Tria Wood

first appeared in the *Texas Poetry Calendar 2014*

The Root

A root walks into a bar. I know
you think you've heard this one, but trust me,
you haven't. This isn't a joke.

It's not going to say "I'm beat."
But an actual root, striding
on its leafy limbs, hairs trailing,

head pointed like a duncecap at the dark
ceiling, walks in. You'll tell me
this is impossible, but that's because

you aren't really listening.
I'm telling you,
the round-headed root, balanced

on its stems, green leaves like feet
rustling, makes its way across
the floor. It bruises itself

as it goes, its feet are tender, a scent
like fresh-cut lawns rises
in the heat. It finally, finally, lifts

itself onto a stool, head wobbling
on its stalk, orders a water
on the rocks. Because that's what a root

would want in the city, to find the dark
place where sweat and dreams collide,
to rest its heavy head
and drink.

—Tria Wood

first appeared in *Sugar House Review*

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society

Inprint First Fridays

March 4 -- Robin Davidson

April 1 -- Michael Sofranko

May 6 Jasminne Mendez and Lupe Mendez

June 3 Terry Jude Miller

July 8 Inprint's 41st Anniversary – Stella Brice

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

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society

Upcoming Events

Saturday March 5 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm —
Friendswood Library 416 S. Friendswood Dr.
Friendswood, TX 77546
— Texas Poet Laureate and GCP Honorary Lifetime
Member Larry D. Thomas Reads with two time
Pushcart Prize nominee Chip Dameron.

Larry Thomas' newest poetry collection, *As if Light Actually Matters*, was recently published by Texas Review Press. Both Larry Thomas and Chip Dameron have been inducted into the prestigious Texas Institute of Letters. Come listen to these fabulous poets read from their latest work.

Calls for Submission

Rattle Magazine Ekphrastic Challenge --
Deadline Feb. 29, 2016. For information go
to <http://www.rattle.com/ekphrastic/>

Keep up with submission information nation-wide at <http://www.newpages.com/classifieds/calls-for-submissions> and <http://www.writersleague.org/103/Writing-Contests---Calls-for-Submission> and <http://blog.submittable.com/>

AND always check out Billie Duncan's Houston Poetry Summit at <http://billieduncan.com/Houston%20Poetry%20Summit/index.htm>

Apex Books:
Undead: A Poetry Anthology
of Ghouls, Ghosts, and More
Submissions open Jan 1-April 1, 2016

.Apex is accepting poetry submissions for the following anthology:

Apex Publications seeks submissions for Undead: A Poetry Anthology of Ghouls, Ghosts, and More. Editors Bianca Lynne Spriggs (Apex Magazine's poetry editor) and Katerina Stoykova-Klemer welcome your specters, apparitions, zombies, wraiths, phantoms, thought forms and anything (or anyone) animate but no longer living. Email 1-3 poems to undeadpoetryanthology@gmail.com by April 1st, 2016. Payment is \$5 per poem and one comp of the anthology.

AIPF di-vêrsé-city Anthology

SUBMISSION Date Extended Deadline:

February 15, 2016

Enter one to three poems. Each poem may be entered either by downloading a file or by entering it into the text area. Submit up to three separate poems individually. No simultaneous submissions or previously published poems. <https://aipf.submittable.com/submit>

***Boundless: The Rio Grande Valley
International Poetry Festival Anthol-
ogy 2016***

**Deadline: Mailed payment post-
marked by March 25, 2016**

**Submissions: E-mail Submissions
Only: rgvipf@gmail.com**

**Submit up to three typewritten po-
ems in a legible font. Poems may be
of any topic, any language. (We ask
for a translation if it is not in Eng-
lish, however.) Strict 35-line limit
per poem, not including title and
spaces. E-mail Submissions Only.
Mailed Submissions Will NOT Be
Accepted!**

**No previously published poems--or
translations of previously-published
poems--please, except from self-
published chapbooks with limited
distribution.**

**For more information see [http://
www.valleypoetryfest.org/](http://www.valleypoetryfest.org/)**

GCP Poetry Minutes - 1/8/2016

- Call to order
 - New officers election announced
 - DEC encouraged members to think about being officers, participating, future speakers
 - Mary encouraged attendees to become or renew their GCP membership
 - Calls for submissions -
 - Upcoming events - Friendswood Library, Imprint First Friday's, etc.
 - Featured poet - Elina Petrova - heating engineer and now is paralegal
 - Open microphone -
 - Anthony - Tis a fearful thing
 - Mary Margaret Carlisle - amen
 - Lynn Streeter - dreamscape
 - David e. COWEN - blue road home
 - Jonathan Peckham - [based on internal sunshine of the spotted mind]. infernal spit shine of The spotted brain
 - Glen Irby - L'Avatoire
 - Mary Ann Goodwin - divine expectations
 - Susan Summers - cookie jar
- Started at 10:45 & adjourned at noon

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society

UPCOMING GCP FEATURED READERS

Date	Speaker
March 12, 2016	Eloisa Perez-Lozano
April 9, 2016	Lone Star College Poetry Superstars – Students from LSC campuses will join us to celebrate National Poetry Month
May 14, 2016	Kelly Ann Ellis
June 11, 2016	Gerald Cedillo
July 9, 2016	Word About Town Poets
August 2016	No Meeting
September 10, 2016	Mutablis Press Presents <i>Untameable City</i>
October 1, 2016	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 12, 2016	Vanessa Zimmer-Powell
December 10, 2016	Holiday Luncheon featuring Gwendolyn Zepeda
January 14, 2017	Gabrielle Langley
February 11, 2017	Stephen Gros
March 11, 2017	Stacy Nigliazzo
April 8, 2017	Cedric Avery
May 14, 2017	Carrie Kornacki — confirmation pending
June 11, 2017	Bucky Rea
July 8, 2017	TBD
August 2017	NO MEETING
September 9, 2017	TBD
October 7, 2017	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 11, 2017	TBD
December 9, 2017	Annual Holiday Luncheon – Featured Poet to be Announced

Gulf Coast Poets Treasurer Report for Feb 13, 2016

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

Cash Flow — Jan 1—Jan 31 2016

Dues.....	190.00
Speaker Expense.....	-30.00
Honorarium	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-10.00
Lodging	-.00
Net Cash flow, Jan 1 – Jan 31	160.10

Balance All accounts

Beginning (Note 1)	1/1/2016	1963.88
Ending	1/31/2016	2123.98

.Notes:

1. Previous Checking Ending balance was \$1913.55, but check #1030 written 12/28 for \$5 dues overpayment was voided in January, resulting in a corrected previous checking balance of \$1918.55. The All Accounts Beginning balance above reflects the \$5 increase from the previous report.

For more information go to
gulfcoastpoets.info

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society

2016 Gulf Coast Poets Chapter Membership

<p><i>Honorary lifetime members</i></p> <p>2007 John Gorman 2008 Larry D. Thomas 2009 Robert Clark 2010 Alan Lee Birkelbach 2011 Ted O. Badger 2012 Erica Lehrer 2013 Dave Parsons 2014 Glynn Monroe Irby 2015 Karla Morton 2016 Jan Seale</p> <p><i>Lifetime members</i></p> <p>Nancy Bertoncej Diana Dettling Buckley Mary Margaret Carlisle Daniel Carrington Jane Chance David Cowen Kay L. Cox Jane Creighton Winston Derden Susan Ellis Lauran Perry English Ann Fogelman Jerry Dean Frick Fulton Fry Mary Ann Goodwin Susan K. Musch Bernard Patten Richard Peake Oscar Peña Laura Peña Gary Rosin Lynne Streeter Martha M Tamez Leo Waltz</p> <p><i>In Memoriam</i></p> <p>2006 Peggy Z. Lynch - 1st Member - Honorary Lifetime Member David Hicks - 2nd Member - Lifetime Member</p>	<p><i>2016 Chapter Members</i></p> <p>Adriana Babiak-Vázquez Stella Brice Penny Clark Carolyn Dahl Robin Davidson Anya Ezhevskaya Dede Fox Priscilla Frake Richard Gamez Cindy Huyser Carmen Erna Jacobsen Chris Juravich Jean D. Mahavier Leila Merrill John Milkereit Terry Miller Choonwha Moon Jonathan Peckham Eloisa Perez-Lozano Matthew Riley Katherine Sanger Emily Seay Sandi Stromberg William Turner Luis Vázquez Weasel Chuck Wemple Mary Wemple Jane Wenninger Charles Williams Dory Williams Chris Wise Vanessa Zimmer-Powell Dom Zuccone C. Lynn Carden Debi Fairchild Susan Beall Summers Carol Peña</p>
---	---