



**GULF COAST POETS CHAPTER  
OF THE  
POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS  
PRESENTS**

***Mike Alexander***  
**July 8, 2017**

**Mike Alexander** started out in the Greater New York area. He put his first poetry series together in 1980, at the Greater Paterson Arts Council, & continued to lure poets into unlikely places for readings -- Eats-U-Want in Passaic, Classic Quiche Cafe in Teaneck, various libraries. After relocating to Houston, Alexander ran the Mausoleum readings for six years, at what is now Avant Garden, in the Montrose. His work has appeared in various decadent magazines, chapbooks & poetry websites. His first full-length collection, *Retrograde*, appeared in 2013. Over the years he has taken many guises, & has been a featured poet at the Houston Poetry Fest, a contributing editor for lyric poetry review, a board member for Mutabilis Press, a member of the selection for Public Poetry, & at present he is coordinating a small reading soirée called Poetry FIX, at FIX Coffeebar.

## *Cappuccino Rendezvous*

**You grab a table in the shade, what shade  
the angle of the afternoon allows,  
so we can sit outside with cigarettes,  
& eavesdrop, as the caffeine-kids espouse  
philosophy. We listen till it gets  
too hot, & our attention levels fade.**

**I head inside to get the second round,  
two double cappuccinos, extra dry,  
two shots, two sugars, just a drop of milk.  
Let the nozzle heave its heaviest sigh  
until the foam is glistening like silk.  
This rite is where our happiness is found.**

**Whatever else the day unkindly slips  
into our cups, we bring this to our lips.**

*Mike Alexander*

## *Addendum*

**Confidence grows like kudzu  
into overconfidence, to throttle  
all other vines in the garden.**

**In my impatience, I exposed  
an offshoot before it could  
begin to tap down root.**

**Forgive me. I should've said  
that the tapers barely answer  
your inquisitive glance,  
that a culinary phantasia  
was set before you in only one  
setting. Did I say there was music?**

**It was only an echo of glass,  
silver-backed, & filled up with  
Clair de Lune, & that ultimate  
question, in sad answer  
to the moon in your eyes,  
ought to have asked who it was  
who scored these subtitles  
to translate you. No wonder  
I remain invisible. You should  
better love my compound leafery,  
& appreciate my reddish purple flowers,  
without worrying whether the name  
comes from the ancient Chinese.  
I am fodder & forage for you.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Inprint First Fridays — Readings begin at 8:30 pm, Inprint House, 1520 West Main (two blocks south of The Menil Collection, one block east of Mandell):*

**August 2, 2017–2016 Pushcart Prize  
Winner Daniel Peña  
September 8, 2017–John Pluecker  
November 3, 2017–Michael Sofranko  
December 1, 2017–Jeremy Eugene  
January 5, 2018–Joshua Nguyen  
February 2, 2018–Tony Diaz  
March 2, 2018–Reyes Ramirez  
April 6, 2018–Adrienne Perry  
May 4, 2018–Marie Brown  
June 1, 2018–Saba Husain  
July 6, 2018–43rd Anniversary of First  
Friday – Deborah DEEP Mouton,  
Houston Poet Laureate  
August 3, 2018–John Gorman**

*Saturday, August 19 at 6:30pm. Friendswood Library's 2017 Ekphrastic Poetry Reading and Contest Event. Come enjoy a reading of Jury Selected ekphrastic poetry. View the artwork while you listen to the poems that each piece inspired.*

**Speak!Poet Saturday, July 22, 2 pm**, at the Clayton Library Center, 5300 Caroline Street, featuring SAVANNAH BLUE and JEREMYAH "THE FLUENT ONE" PAYNE. Parking between the buildings. Event in the carriage house.

**Saturday, August 5, 2017 | 2 PM Public Poetry.** Smith Neighborhood Library | 3624 Scott St., 77004. Featuring Chris Diaz, Haven Gomez, M Miranda Maloney and Amanda Ortiz

**Friday, July 14, 2017 - 7:00pm Anis Shivani - LITERARY WRITING IN THE 21ST CENTURY** Location: Brazos Bookstore, 2421 Bissonnet Street Houston, TX 77005. Local writer, poet, critic, and author of LITERARY WRITING IN THE 21st CENTURY: CONVERSATIONS, Anis Shivani is in conversation with Kim Davis, Director of Texas Review Press in Huntsville about a wide range of issues concerning writing and publishing.

*Slam Events* — <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/tx--houston/poetry-slam/>

*Readings and Poetry Nights* — <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/tx--houston/poetry/>

## CALLS FOR SUBMISSION

***Weasel Press — Degenerates.***

Seeking submissions for themed volumes:

Nov 20, 2017 - Homelessness

February 20, 2018 - Mental Illness

May 20, 2018 - Healthcare for All

August 20, 2018 - Gender Identity

November 20, 2018 - Civil Rights

## **Houston Poetry Fest:** Hou-

ston Poetry Fest 2017 is a three-day juried poetry reading, to be held Friday, October 13, Saturday, October 14, and Sunday, October 15, 2017. The Friday and Saturday sessions are in the evening, and the Sunday session is in the afternoon. All three sessions will be held at Willow Street Pump Station, 811 N. San Jacinto Street, on the campus of the University of Houston – Downtown. Deadline is July 15, 2017. Submission guidelines are at <http://houstonpoetryfest.info/page15.html>.

***More Calls for Submission Daily at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/156020074604805/>***

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***Seculative Poetry (Paying) Market List: <http://fiendlover.blogspot.com/p/pro-paying-speculative-fiction-poetry.html>***



**Gulf Coast Meeting  
06/10/2017**

**10:47 Meeting called to order**

**Upcoming deadlines:**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Houston Poetry Fest**

**July 1<sup>st</sup> Friendswood Public Library**

**Ekphrastic Poetry project**

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Sign up begins for August Post-card Poetry Festival**

**July 8<sup>th</sup> Gulf Coast Poets features Mike Alexander**

**10:55 Featured reader Bucky Rea**

**11:20 Open Mic**

**12:00 Meeting adjourned**

**Lunch at King Food**

# Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for Apr 8, 2017 General Meeting

Report Period: Mar 1 – Mar 31, 2017 -- with 2017 totals

This report covers the one month period since last report plus the 2017 summary

Cash Flow: June 1 – June 30, 2017

2017

Contests.....		.00	- .00
Dues.....		.00	180.00
Speaker Expense.....		-20.00	-105.00
Honorarium	-20.00		
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-.00		
Donations.....		.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....		.11	.65
Officer Travel.....		-10.00	-60.00
PST Sponsor Contest.....		-	
<b>Net Cash flow, June 1 – June 30</b>		<b>-29.89</b>	<b>45.65</b>
			Jan 1-June 30

Account Activity: June 1 – June 30, 2017 –

2017

Checking Ledger			Jan 1, 2017
<i>Beginning</i>		2448.68	2298.14
Checks written (1)	-20.00		
Debit Card	-.00		
Deposits	.00		
Dividend	.11		
<i>Ending</i>		2428.79	2428.79
Outstanding checks (5)	120.00	Bank chk bal=2548.79	
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)			
<i>Beginning</i>		10.00	85.00
Inflow	.00		
Outflow	-10.00		
<i>Ending</i>		0.00	0.00
Savings (seldom changes)			
<i>Beginning</i>		10.33	10.33
<i>Ending</i>		10.33	10.33
All accounts			Jan 1/June 30
<i>Beginning</i>	6/1/2017	2469.01	2393.47
<i>Ending</i>	6/30/2017	2439.12	2439.12

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

## UPCOMING GCP FEATURED READERS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>August 2017</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>
<b>September 9, 2017</b>	<b>Weasel Press Presents</b>
<b>October 7, 2017</b>	<b>Poetry Out of Bounds</b>
<b>November 11, 2017</b>	<b>Michelle Hartman</b>
<b>December 9, 2017</b>	<b>Annual Luncheon – Featured Poet— Robin Davidson Houston Poet Laureate</b>
<b>January 13, 2018</b>	<b>Outspoken Bean</b>
<b>February 10, 2018</b>	<b>Amir Safi</b>
<b>March 10, 2018</b>	<b>Savannah Blue</b>
<b>April 14, 2018</b>	<b>Jeremy Eugene</b>

*2017 Gulf Coast Poets Chapter Membership*

***Honorary Lifetime members***

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 Leo Waltz  
2015 Karla Morton  
2016 Jan Seale  
2017 Gwendolyn Zepeda

***Lifetime members***

Ann Fogelman  
Nancy Bertoneclj  
Diana Dettling Buckley  
Mary Margaret Carlisle  
Daniel Carrington  
Jane Chance  
David Cowen  
Kay L. Cox  
Jane Creighton  
Winston Derden  
Susan Ellis  
Lauran Perry English  
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  
Sharman Speed  
Joyce Zongrone  
Luis Vázquez  
Adriana Babiak-Vázquez  
Carmen Erna Jacobsen  
Stella Brice  
Gary Borkowski  
Weasel Patterson

***2017 Chapter Members***

Mike Alexander (July speaker)  
Bob Craig  
Anya Ezhevskaya  
Dede Fox  
Priscilla Frake  
Michael Galko  
Stephen Gros  
Carrie Kornacki  
Gabrielle Langley  
Jean D. Mahavier  
Leila Merrill  
John Milkereit  
Choonwha Moon  
Deandra Newcomb  
Stacy Nigliazzo  
Jonathan Peckham  
Matthew Riley  
Emily Seay  
William Turner  
Tria Wood  
Richard Gamez  
Lupe Mendez  
Bucky Rea

*In Memoriam*

2006 Peggy Z. Lynch - 1st Member -  
Honorary Lifetime Member  
David Hicks - 2nd Member - Lifetime  
Member