



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

**Carrie Kornacki
May 13, 2017**

Carrie Kornacki is a teacher, poet and children's writer. She has a B.S. in Journalism from Ohio University and has taught English Language Arts and Reading in Ohio; English as a Second Language in Suzhou, China and British Literature at Ball High School in Galveston. Currently, Ms. Kornacki teaches English as a Second Language at Westfield High School in Spring, Texas. In addition to her experience in education, Ms. Kornacki worked over 12 years as a copywriter and executive in print and broadcast advertising where she won regional CLIO awards for freelance radio campaigns. Ms. Kornacki was selected as a juried Poet for the 2013, 2015 and 2016 Houston Poetry Festival and a juried poet for the 2014 Austin Poetry Fest. In 2015 and 2016, she was the recipient of "The Lucille Johnson Clark Memorial Award" awarded to the top Houston Poetry Fest juried poet who is a kindergarten through twelfth grade classroom teacher. She also has worked for Writers In the Schools/ Houston. Ms. Kornacki lives in Spring, Texas with her husband and four dogs.

Hunger

She sits in fake leather blue, a chair at gate C6. Her back to a window. Behind her, sun shines like an overdone egg, whites fading into slate clouds. On the tarmac, a white accordion jet bridge metal-stitched to a slick cream-shiny craft. String of gray thumbprints for windows. Tail posing like a girl in stilettos.

This ebony woman is high cheekbones, hollow eyes, skin ----- heat-waxed obsidian. She sits still and straight in her smear of inertia ----- a wood splitting rue, kinetic crackling, a warren of what is trapped inside. And in her fingers, she holds a piece of hunger, that craving.

She stands now and walks away. All of her pouring into white cotton, tendrils of orange, flecks of crimson and emerald ----- impasto flames licking at sandaled feet. Walks away like she believes I'm sketching her likeness, trying to hold her soul hostage within the edges of a page.

Josie's Flowers

Josie,
my mother's hospice roommate
left behind
African Daisies
brown-eyed peppery,
wilting hues,
vein-blue dyed
custard sun, magenta.

Left them in fists of stems
stuffed inside
broken-hipped curves
on the nightstand
next to her deserted bed.

Josie left her brown-bag murmur
her wet-lipped suffocation -----
lungs turned to seas

her skein of lingering minutes
uncoiling around
an exiled pallet
where Mother lay pleading
for morphine,
broken glass in her joints,
a coral reef of open sores
blooming
from her bones.

Naming Haiti

Port-au-Prince 2016

I can feel Haiti ----

A great pounding
in fistled trees, meridian wind.
A spit of heat from the mouth
of God, a rattle electric
from that spirit place.

We crash our carry-ons quietly
through an outdoor bus station
into crowds of dark faces
gathered in drifts, fused in hope
and despondency.

Milky-eyed old men sell bracelets
from wrists they cannot see.
Young men unroll canvases
of mountain landscapes
far away from this sprawling city
skinned deep in disease.

I stand here, bleached pale
beneath a tan,
breathe in the smell of burning rubbish,
cooked meat and sweat.
Watch swarms of men
join with shouts in sunlight.
Skythe-shaped words unspooling parables.
Pitch-shifting I cannot paraphrase.

Me, a tattered American heirloom,
climbing through my fracas of confusion
as I search for some unending truth
in this geometry of dust and what will be.

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):

June 2, 2017—Lauren Berry

July 7, 2017—42nd Anniversary of First Friday – Craig Butterworth

August 2, 2017—2016 Pushcart Prize Winner Daniel Peña

September 8, 2017—John Pluecker

November 3, 2017—Michael Sofranko

December 1, 2017—Jeremy Eugene

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

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

Call for Poetry Submissions

Weasel Press — Degenerates. Seeking submissions for themed volumes:

May 20, 2017 - Domestic Violence

Aug 20, 2017 - Bullying

Nov 20, 2017 - Homelessness

www.weaselpress.com/degenerates

100-Word Southwest Poems

Editors Scott Wiggerman and David Meischen are accepting submissions for the third book in the “Poetry of the American Southwest” series. This one has two requirements: 1) poems that demonstrate a connection to persons, places, geography, flora/fauna, and/or culture of the American Southwest, and 2) the poem must be exactly 100 words, no more, no less. Poetry is a language of precision, and the constriction of 100 words will put your mastery of language to the test. A variety of styles and topics is encouraged, including prose poems, haiku sequences, and haibun. Start counting, poets! Submissions Window: March 21–July 4, 2017.

<http://dosgatospress.org/how-to-submit>

Speculative Poetry (Paying) Market List:

<http://fiendlover.blogspot.com/p/pro-paying-speculative-fiction-poetry.html>

More Calls for Submission Daily at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/156020074604805/>

The 2017 Art of Peace - Tyler poetry anthology

The theme is Building Bridges - Making Peace. Each poet may submit one poem of 28 lines or less through Submitable. Submissions may be previously published, as long

as rights have returned to the poet. Please note the original publication with your submission.
<https://inspiritry.submittable.com/submit>

Ginosko Literary Journal

Accepting short fiction, **poetry**, creative nonfiction, social justice, literary insights for Ginosko Literary Journal. Editorial lead time 1-2 months; accept simultaneous submissions & reprints; length flexible, accept excerpts. Receives postal and email submissions—prefer email submissions as attachments in .wps, .doc, .rtf. —or by Submittable
<https://ginosko.submittable.com/submit/>
or email to: GinoskoEditor@aol.com

Sediments Literary-Arts Journal

Accepts poetry, short stories, and art. Accepted work for the quarterly issue will be published to the homepage every Sunday at 11AM EST.
<https://sedimentslit.com/submit/>

Wolf Warriors 4: Light and Shadows

Submission Deadline: June 15th
Anything 3 to 200 lines.
Format: 12pt Times New Roman
You may submit up to three poems.
Cover letter not necessary, but it certainly can't hurt either.
Email Microsoft Word file with subject "SUBMISSIONS WOLF WARRIORS" to Sherayah at
Sherayah.thurstonhowlpub@gmail.com.
Theme: WOLVES OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS
<https://www.thurstonhowlpublications.com/anthologies>

GCP Meeting Notes - 04/08/17

10:40am -- Meeting called to order. Announcements by GCP President David Cowen (Refer to the April handout).

10:49am -- 5 Minute Poem: Writing exercise led by Mary Margaret Carlisle. Writing prompt: Secrets. Attendees encouraged to read their poems. Lesson: How to avoid the pitfalls of writer's block and also tap into one's creativity.

11:00am -- Featured Poet: Lupe Mendez
Lupe's selected poems explored his youth as well as his cross-border roots and heritage. They also confirmed his reputation as a leading voice for social justice in our community.

11:33am -- Door prizes (Easter candy, poetry books, bookmarks)

11:35am -- Open Mic

Ann Fogelman -- "Reminiscing"

Weasel -- "There's Nothing Around Me Except the Road"

David Cowen -- "Fear of Waiting"

MMC -- "On the Day the World Ends"

Matt Riley -- "Remains"

Robert Craig -- "Tomorrow"

Jonathan Peckham -- "Area 51"

Choonwha Moon -- "True Creation"

11:55am -- Meeting adjourned. Lunch afterward at Café Express.

Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for May 13, 2017 General Meeting

Report Period: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2017 -- with 2017 totals

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

Cash Flow: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2017

2017

Contests.....	.00	-00
Dues.....	15.00	180.00
Speaker Expense.....	-20.00	-65.00
Honorarium	-10.00	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-10.00	
Donations.....	.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.11	.44
Officer Travel.....	-10.00	-40.00
PST Sponsor Contest.....	-	
	-14.89	105.44
Net Cash flow, Apr 1 – Apr 30		<i>Jan 1-Apr 30</i> 105.44

Account Activity: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2017 –

2017

Checking Ledger		<i>Jan 1, 2017</i>
<i>Beginning</i>		2298.14
Checks written (0)	-00	
Debit Card	-00	
Deposits	.00	
Dividend	.11	
Ending	2418.58	2418.58
<i>Outstanding checks (5)</i>	130.00	<i>Bank chk bal=2548.58</i>
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
<i>Beginning</i>		85.00
Inflow	15.00	
Outflow	-30.00	
Ending	70.00	70.00
Savings (seldom changes)		
<i>Beginning</i>		10.33
Ending	10.33	10.33
All accounts		<i>Jan 1/Apr 30</i>
Beginning	<i>4/1/2017</i>	2393.47
Ending	<i>4/30/2017</i>	2498.91

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

Date	Reader
June 11, 2017	Bucky Rea
July 8, 2017	Mike Alexander
August 2017	NO MEETING
September 9, 2017	Weasel Press Presents
October 7, 2017	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 11, 2017	Michelle Hartman
December 9, 2017	Annual Holiday Luncheon – Featured Poet to be Announced

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

Anya Ezhevskaya
Dede Fox
Priscilla Frake
Deandra Newcomb
Leila Merrill
John Milkereit
Jonathan Peckham
Emily Seay
Sandi Stromberg
William Turner
Richard Gamez
Michael Galko
Gabrielle Langley
Matthew Riley
Choonwa Moon
Jean Mahavier
Stephen Gros
Stacey Nigliazzo
Lupe Mendez
Tria Wood

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

In Memoriam

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