

**April 10, 2010 - Bay Area Barnes & Noble**  
**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS**  
**Gulf Coast Poets**  
**Featured Speaker: Sandi Stromberg**



**Sandi Stromberg** is an editor and poet, and the publisher of Mutabilis Press. Her poetry has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and published in Sol Magazine, Houston Poetry Fest anthologies of 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2009, Illya's Honey, TimeSlice: Houston Poetry 2005, and The Weight of Addition: An Anthology of Texas Poetry, among others. She was a featured poet in Spring 2008 in the online Ampersand Poetry Journal, and is a member of the Gulf Coast Poets.

She invites you to take a look at the value of imitation. While art students and composers are challenged to imitate the masters as they learn their art, poets often neglect this opportunity for growth. Through the use of poetry by established poets, followed by her own responses, she will show how studying the mechanisms of good poetry and implementing them can help us explore new forms for our content.

# Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for April 10, 2010 General Meeting  
 Report Period: Mar 1\*- Mar 31, 2010 -- with 2010 YTD totals

Cash Flow: March 1* – March 31, 2010		Total for year
Contests.....	0.00	0.00
Entry Fees	0.00	
Prizes	-0.00	
Sponsorships	0.00	
Dues.....	30.00	245.00
Lifetime (0)	0.00	
Founding (0)	0.00	
Chapter (2)	30.00	
Speaker Expense.....	-85.81	-110.44
Honorarium (* \$50 from Feb)	-75.00	
Speaker Lunch	-10.81	
Donations.....	0.00	0.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.39	1.27
<b>Net Cash flow, Mar 1* – Mar 31</b>	<b>-55.42*</b>	<b>135.83</b>

Account Balances: Mar 1* – Mar 31, 2010		Total for year	
Checking Ledger			
<i>Begin (\$50 ck not posted 2/13)</i>		1990.35	1789.10
Transferred from Cash	60.00		
Checks written (3)*	-85.81*		
Debit card (0)	-0.00		
Dividend	.39		
<i>Ending</i>		1964.93	1964.93
<i>Outstanding checks (2)</i>	35.00	Bank chk bal=1999.93	
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)			
<i>Beginning</i>		30.00	40.00
Received	30.00		
Transferred to Checking	-60.00		
<i>Ending</i>		0.00	0.00
Savings (int. posted quarterly)			
<i>Beginning</i>		5.33	5.33
<i>Ending</i>		5.33	5.33
All accounts			
<i>Beginning (3/1/10*)</i>		2025.68	1834.43
<i>Ending (3/31/10)</i>		1970.26	1970.26

\* - A \$50 out of sequence check for the Feb honorarium  
 was not included last month and is included here.

Treasurer Reports will end on the last day of the month preceding the meeting.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

**Share your news by sending in a short blurb at least one week before the next meeting, and we'll try to include it here. Include contact information.**

## **UPCOMING MEMBER HOSTED READINGS**

**First Friday Poetry Reading Series**, held at Inprint House, 1520 West Main, in Houston is free and open to the public. Hosted by Lifetime GCP Member Robert Clark. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. An open reading follows the featured poet. Upcoming: May 7 Michael Sofranko, June 4 Pablo Miguel Martinez. Contact Robert Clark at [houstonfirstfri@aol.com](mailto:houstonfirstfri@aol.com) FMI.

**Bay Area Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading Series.** 7:30 PM. 2nd Tuesdays. B&N is located in Webster on Bay Area Blvd at I-45. In April - Erica Lehrer, May - Larry Thomas, June [vacation], July - Daniel Garcia, August - Julieta Corpus. Contact Oscar Peña at [pena554343@aol.com](mailto:pena554343@aol.com) FMI.

**Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series**, 1st Mondays. May 3, 2010, 7:00 PM, Seabrook Coffee Oasis, 4650 NASA Pkwy at Kirby. Open mic after feature. May - Edward Wells II; Mod Poets [Mario Cook, Dick Peake, Vanessa Zimmer-Falls]. June - Patti DiCostanzo; Michael Jansen; Sheila Killingsworth; Kelly Ellis. July - Sarah James "Lil Joka". August - Poetry Works Chapbook Group [Barbara Carle, Kay Cox, Laura Peña, Oscar Peña, Sharon Goodwin, Mary Ann Goodwin, Mary Carlisle]. Contact Adriana Babiak Vázquez and Luis Vázquez at [ababiak\\_v@swbell.net](mailto:ababiak_v@swbell.net)

## **MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED**

### **WORKSHOPS**

**Poetry Works Workshop** often meets on the 1st Sunday of each month, although it will meet on 2nd Sunday in April and July due to holiday conflicts. In April: Vassar Miller - Part One. For information about meeting times and places, contact Sol Magazine's Project Director, Mary Margaret Carlisle: Sol.Editor@prodigy.net

### **BOOKS**

**Sharon Goodwin's** thoughtful chapbook, *Time Spent*, is now available as a perfect-bound book. To purchase a signed copy, or for more information, contact: **Sharon Goodwin <sgoodwin49@yahoo.com>**

**Marie Delgado Travis asks:** *WHAT IF...* a delightful book based on a prize-winning humorous poem by Marie Delgado Travis, vibrantly illustrated by award-winning artist John Rivera. Available at [www.lulu.com/marilu](http://www.lulu.com/marilu). ISBN-13: 978-0-615-35516-0. Full color. 52 pages. \$20 (available in print or download).

**Mary Margaret Carlisle says:** The second edition of her recently released book of poetry, *Toss Me to the Waiting Sky* (recommended by Valparaiso Poetry Review) is now available, visit Poetry in the Arts: [http://www.poetryinarts.org/publishing/toss\\_me.html](http://www.poetryinarts.org/publishing/toss_me.html) To purchase signed copies, contact: Sol.Editor@prodigy.net.

Be sure to ask Kay Cox, Barbara Carle, Laura Pena, Oscar Pena, Mary Ann Goodwin about their chapbooks! And don't forget to ask Sharon Goodwin about her new book, *Time Spent*.

## UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

**PHOTO/BIO DIRECTORY:** In 2008, the Gulf Coast Poets produced a photo/bio directory. We're updating it this year. It will only contain photos and a brief biography for each poet.

If you are a new member who joined since 2008, contact Mary M. Carlisle at [GulfCoastPoets@gmail.com](mailto:GulfCoastPoets@gmail.com) with a 200-words or fewer biography in the body of your e-mail, and an attached color .jpg closeup.

If you are a current member, and would like to update your biography, and/or the photograph we used, please do the same.

**MEMBER BOOKS DIRECTORY:** If you have a book or books in which you've been included that you'd like to advertise, please send a .jpg of the cover(s), and up to 50 words description per book. Include how one might purchase the book, and/or contact information for the poet. Deadline: May 31st, with a possible publication date in June.

## FORM AND EXAMPLE

### THE DORSIMBRA

The Dorsimbra, a poetry form created by Eve Braden, Frieda Dorris and Robert Simonton, is a set form of three stanzas of four lines each. Stanza One: Four lines of iambic pentameter rhymed abab. Stanza Two: Four lines of short and snappy free verse. Stanza Three: Four lines of iambic pentameter blank verse, where the last line repeats the first line of Stanza One. The Dorsimbra requires three different sorts of form writing; enjambment can help to achieve fluidity between stanzas, while internal rhymes and near-rhymes can help tie the stanzas together.

#### **Breaking Down**

I hear their yowling all about the yard.  
Tonight, inside my dreams—tonight, the noise  
Drowns out the neighbor dogs with disregard.  
Tonight I am entrapped and without poise.

Listen. Cats! Even  
As they're caught in the glare of  
Sudden bedroom lights  
They wail.

Disturbed, I pace the floor, expecting not  
A leisure time of breakfast before work  
Tomorrow. Or the next day. Or the next.  
I hear their yowling all about the yard.

Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL, USA

Enjambment occurs when a sentence, clause, or phrase in poetry runs over the line break onto the next line or into the next stanza.

Iambic Pentameter: Poetry written with ten beats per line, in two-step rhythm (ta-DUM ta-DUM ta-DUM ta-DUM ta-DUM).

Free verse is without metrical restriction.

Blank verse is written in unrhymed (or blank) lines of iambic pentameter.

## **MEMBER POEM**



**ALAN BIRLKBELBACH**

### **BEWITCHED**

Love is like witching for water.  
You have to be sensitive enough  
to see the things underneath:

like your wife's soprano floating like pie-breeze  
through a window, the saint-white  
of snapping sheets on the line,

imagining the aroma of soil when  
it finally gets wet, the aroma of her neck  
after you surprise her at the ironing board,

a heady draught of air here, a sigh,  
sweat like sugar caught on the breeze,  
a twitch in the hawthorn or oak.

It's the liquid always journeying up,  
pushing its foamy, rowdy way,  
following the path of its own, clear voice.

## SEPTEMBER CHRONICLES

Something metallic dislodged  
and tumbled down the pathway  
until I could no longer distinguish  
the quick aluminum clatter  
from the chaos of all else around  
the slight sanctuary of my balcony.

I looked into the backwoods.  
The sound of ripping winds  
tore through twisting trees  
like a score of jets shattering  
into pieces between floors  
of cement columns.

Heavy limbs snapped apart.  
Whole hackberry trunks  
were pulled out of the ground.  
A picket fence disappeared.  
A laurel oak lost its crown  
to the gravel around my trailhead.

The peppered air of water rockets  
gave way to a deluge of rain bands —  
I could hear them coming  
from eighty yards away, drilling  
through the forest with the fury  
of rotor blades spiraling apart.

Within the wind-veins of that night  
came a cry of horrendous magnificence.

I heard its a-cappella voice.  
Further east, a chorus was released  
with a death-crest of sea surf  
and a back-thrust of Galveston Bay.

## MEMBER POEM



**GLYNN M. IRBY**

## **MEMBER PROFILE**



**KAY COX**

**From her blog~**  
**<http://gypsyssketchbook.blogspot.com/>**

### **A Gypsy's Sketch Book - Sketches, poems and doodlings of a gypsy crone. The art of staying sane and drawing.**

I have a gypsy soul that loves adventures and traveling to parts unknown. I am a wife and lover of 51 years to the same guy, mother of two, grandmother of 4, friend, full-time artist, art and family therapist (retired)and retired from teaching graduate courses in art therapy here and in Australia. I am currently fascinated with drawing the human form in all its possibilities. Occasionally I turn to words to express images, write memoirs and am a published poet. As a spiritual seeker and student of the Universe, I find myself in constant awe and gratitude for all that life offers.

In 2009, Kay Cox was part of the year-long Poetry Works Workshop Chapbook Group. She book she wrote and illustrated is *Wild Woman Found Buried in Suburbia: A Collection of Poetry*.

Would you like to be featured?

Write to: [GulfCoastPoets@gmail.com](mailto:GulfCoastPoets@gmail.com)

**Alvin Community College Writers's Workshop - April 17**  
Science Building Room S 103 - 3110 Mustang, Alvin, Texas

8:30-9:00      Registration  
9:00-9:50      Mary Dodson Wade  
10:00-10:50    Raymond Burroughs  
11:00-11:30    Lunch  
11:30-12:20    Casey Kelly  
12:30-1:30      Ron Rozelle

Mary Dodson Wade was a 1998 Western Writers of America finalist for juvenile nonfiction and was honored with a Parent Council Award in 1998; one of her books was chosen as one of the 2002 Best Books for the Sciences by the Society of School Librarians International. She served as head of the Houston Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators for 10 years and remains active in the organization.

Raymond Burroughs, a prominent architect in the Brazosport-Lake Jackson area, is the author of the memoir, *God Smiles for Me*, which he calls “a testimony of hope, promise and commitment, the power of prayer, and the healing grace of God.”

Casey Kelly is a screenwriter, director and playwright. Her movie and novel, *The Bracelet of Bordeaux*, are currently available in a book/DVD combo at Barnes & Noble and Borders. She has also written scripts for CBS, ABC/Disney, Columbia, Paramount and Warner.

Ron Rozelle is the author of numerous books, including *Sundays with Ron Rozelle*, *Into That Good Night*, *The Windows of Heaven*, *Warden: Prison Life and Death from the Inside Out*, *Touching Winter* and *Write Great Fiction: Description and Setting*. In addition to teaching creative writing, Rozelle is a regular columnist for *The Facts*. He has been honored with the Stephen F. Austin Father of Texas Award, Katherine Munson Foster Memorial Award and the *Image Magazine Creative Prize*.

## LUNCH

Bring a sack lunch and/or coins for drink and snack machines.

## FEES

\$10.00 for non-students.

\$5.00 for public school students with current I.D. cards.

NO CHARGE for persons 60 or older or for ACC staff, faculty, and students with current I.D. cards.

For additional information call or email:

Gilbert Benton (281)756-3713 [gbenton@alvincollege.edu](mailto:gbenton@alvincollege.edu)

Bea Hugetz (281)756-3711 [bhugetz@alvincollege.edu](mailto:bhugetz@alvincollege.edu)

Linda Matteson (281)756-3573 [lmatteson@alvincollege.edu](mailto:lmatteson@alvincollege.edu)

To Register, mail (or bring) a check or money order to  
ACC Writers (c/o G.Benton) 3110 Mustang, Alvin, TX 77511

As usual, there will be books available and time to talk with our  
speakers. (Arrangements by the ACC Writers)

(For campus map, see [www.alvincollege.edu](http://www.alvincollege.edu) check “about ACC”  
and Campus maps)

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS  
SUMMER CONFERENCE  
JULY 8-10, 2010**

**Hosted by Nancy Baass and Budd Powell Mahan**

**Keynote Speaker: Pat Stodghill  
Dallas, Texas**

**at the Crowne Plaza Suites**

**More information forthcoming in the May PST Bulletin**

**PST MEMBERS - Dues must be paid by June 30, 2010**

## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

### **Global Alchemy Form Journal**

Global Alchemy Forum is seeking submissions for an art installation to be on view at the 2010 Joshua Tree Music Festival.

A collection of artwork, poetry and personal stories related to the alchemical concept of transformation will be on display in the form of prayer flags inter-woven in a geometric lattice suspended from existing trees within the landscape.

**Concept:** The installation represents our interconnection with each other and the common human condition in an environmental setting meant to solicit the communal spirit of nature through its visual impact and the emotional charge of the human drama resonating through the multi-cultural language of art, poetry, and storytelling.

**Submission Guidelines:** Share your personal inspirations and feelings about our common human experience. We are accepting handwritten or typed poems (no more than 3 pages), photographs, paintings, drawings, collage – be creative. On paper no larger than 18" in either direction and weighing no more than 16 oz. (the work will be hung by clips). Handwritten poems must be accompanied with a typed document so we have a legible record.

- Typed documents can be emailed to  
[globalalchemyforum@gmail.com](mailto:globalalchemyforum@gmail.com)
- Mail art pieces or handwritten work to PO box 562, La Quinta, CA 92247
- Include name, address, phone, email, and title of the work.
- Deadline: May 1st.

All submissions will be eligible for inclusion in the published Global Alchemy Form Journal.

**Scriptwriters/Houston and The Museum of Printing History  
Present**  
**A Thousand Words: Six Short Plays About Photography**



New comedies and dramas by Houston-area playwrights that examine how photographs affect our relationships, preserve the magnificence of nature, and catalog the horrors of war.

Aaron Alon's "Family Portrait"  
Asmara Bhattacharya's "Pictures at an Exhibition"  
Fernando Dovalina's "Photographs of a Cheating Husband"  
Nicholas Garelick's "The Perfect View"  
Jere Pfister's "The Art of War"  
Roger Widmeyer's "The Devil Walks at Antietam"

The Directors: Dennis Draper, Mack Hays, Jere Pfister, James Reed, Debra Schultz, Leighza Walker

Fridays and Saturdays, April 16-17 & 23-24 at 7:30 pm  
The Museum of Printing History  
1324 W. Clay

\$12 admission at the door

Email for reservations: [scriptwriters.houston@gmail.com](mailto:scriptwriters.houston@gmail.com)

## **2010 GULF COAST POETS OFFICERS**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Mary Margaret Carlisle</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Adriana Babiak Vázquez</b>
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	<b>Laura Peña</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Leo F. Waltz</b>

### **FOUNDERS**

### **LIFETIME MEMBER**

### **HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER**

### **CHAPTER MEMBER**

<b>Ted O. Badger</b>	<b>Jill Haugen</b>
<b>Jan Bernstein</b>	<b>*David Hicks</b>
<b>Alan Birkelbach 2010</b>	<b>Glynn Monroe Irby</b>
<b>Diana Dettling Buckley</b>	<b>Mary Kimmel</b>
<b>Barbara Carle</b>	<b>Philip Kimmel</b>
<b>*Mary Margaret Carlisle</b>	<b>Leslie Kriewaldt</b>
<b>*Robert Clark 2009</b>	<b>*Peggy Z. Lynch 2006</b>
<b>Diana Cordova [new]</b>	<b>Penelope McFadin</b>
<b>David Cowen</b>	<b>Terry J. Miller</b>
<b>Kay Cox</b>	<b>Richard Peake</b>
<b>Patricia Dixon</b>	<b>Laura Peña</b>
<b>Edith Escalante</b>	<b>Oscar Peña</b>
<b>Susan Ellis</b>	<b>Katherine Sanger</b>
<b>Lauren Perry English</b>	<b>*Lulynne Streeter</b>
<b>Sybil Estess</b>	<b>Sandi Stromberg</b>
<b>Debi Fairchild</b>	<b>Larry D. Thomas 2008</b>
<b>*Ann Fogelman</b>	<b>William Turner</b>
<b>Dede Fox</b>	<b>Rebecca Hatcher Travis</b>
<b>Mary Ann Goodwin</b>	<b>Adriana Babiak Vázquez</b>
<b>Sharon Goodwin</b>	<b>Luis Vázquez</b>
<b>*John Gorman 2007</b>	<b>Leo Waltz</b>
<b>Addie (Kathy) Hall</b>	

**Founders are those who joined GCP before September 15, 2006. Some founders became Lifetime members, indicated by an \* before their name.**

## **UPCOMING GULF COAST POETS READERS**



May – Penelope McFadin



June – John Milkereit



September - Francesca Alana

July – gathering of poets  
lunch & Read Around

August – vacation

### **A NOTE FROM DONNA PERKINS**

Dear friends of the Archway Gallery Readings in Houston - Here is a note from Donna Perkins, reading host:

There is a venue change for Writing Marathon, Saturday, April 17th. Neighborhood libraries will start closing on Saturdays to save money. Diana Weeks has found us a room at Clayton Library, 5300 Caroline, 77004, 832-393-2600, in Houston. As they do not allow food, we will not be bringing food [for a buffet] to share as we usually do. However they do have a area where we can go to consume light snacks. So bring a brown bag snack. This event is free and every one is invited. Bring something to write with and come enjoy. Time: 10:30-1:30. We will be in the smaller meeting room. Happy writing, Donna E. Perkins

Also from Donna Perkins: "I invite you to visit my studio, Saturday, April 10, 12:00-5:00. I'm upstairs (no elevator) at Art Square Studios, 2711 Main @ Dennis. Lots of places to explore in Midtown as part of the 11th annual Midtown Visions Cultural Art Tours 2010."

# POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS

## Gulf Coast Poets

Upcoming - May 8, 2010

### Penelope McFadin



Gulf Coast Poet member Penelope McFadin says she has lived a rather unremarkable life while working for the City of Houston as a Project Technician for the last 19 years. That life has been occasionally punctuated by writing fantasy and neo-romantic poetry and creating live action role play and story lines for her and her friends at Science Fiction Conventions, the occasional dressing up in 19th century sailor outfits on the 1877 Barque Elissa in Galveston for the pleasure of Girl Scouts everywhere, and blogging about it on line at [chaosbutterfly.com](http://chaosbutterfly.com). She does most all of this from her sailboat home in beautiful Clear Lake Shores, Texas. She's been published in the Oak Leaves, newsletter for Árn Draíocht Féin, and on [Chaosbutterfly.com](http://chaosbutterfly.com), and has two self published chapbooks, "Chaos Cats and Magic" and "Of Comets and other Celestial Things", no longer in print. There are even times when she gets a break from all that and actually even goes sailing.

“In the picture [above right], I am sailing back from Port Lavaca on my way to Clear Lake Shores, a 24 hour trip by sail. We are around 10 miles off shore and there is no land in site. Those waves were around 10 feet and were slamming us to the point that most of the crew was sick. I managed to stay free of sea sickness by downing a lot of ginger snaps. That was a hot day and night in June and I will never forget it.” ~ Penelope McFadin