

**Gulf Coast Poets Meeting
June 13, 2009
Webster Barnes & Noble
Featured Speaker: Susan Bright**



**Looking for
POETS**

**Look inside for
GCP MAY/JUNE POETRY COMPETITIONS**

**MEMBER RUN POETRY VENUES
Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading Series
The Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Reading Club
Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series
First Friday Poetry Reading Series
Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips**

**MEMBER POETRY COMPETITION DEADLINES
Houston Poetry Fest Juried Competition
From Our Kitchen Poetry Juried Competition**

Looking for **POETS**

**SUPPORT GULF COAST POETS
MEMBER RUN VENUES**



**Donny Wankan
Poetry Reading Club
Moderator**

The Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Reading Club meets periodically from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Clear Lake City-County Freeman Library, 16602 Diana Lane (at Ramada Drive, off of Bay Area Blvd.). The first meeting was great fun. The next meeting will be on June 16.

To sign up for this event, and to be put on the distribution list, contact GCP's Anthology Editor, **Donny Wankan**: <wankands@earthlink.net> or call: 281-614-9161.

**For more event information:
<http://TexasPoetryEvents.info>**



Kate Sanger

Gulf Coast Poets Critique Group:

Meets monthly every 4th Monday but December or when a holiday interferes. Next meeting, June 22nd, from 6:45 (sign-in) until 8:30 at the Seabrook Coffee Oasis, 4650 NASA Parkway at Kirby in the Arlan Shopping Center. RSVP required.

Contact Kate Sanger.

Phone: 409-789-8008 or e-mail:
sanger@fromtheasylum.com

From the President: Unless you have no time for tv, you can write for fifteen minutes a day. Share your thoughts and your heart. Do it the write way, write now!

Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading & Open Mic Series. Next meeting: June 23rd, featuring performance poet, **The Fluent One**. This event begins at 7:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Webster Barnes & Noble at 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd. at I-45, in the business section. Open mic after the featured poet. Come audition your work! FMI, contact Oscar Pena, pena554343@aol.com



Oscar Peña



The Fluent One

Award-winning performance poet, The Fluent One, (Jeremyah Payne) has both depth and command of the language, and the skill of captivating audiences. He is a Computer Science graduate of Prairie View A&M, and mentors an under-twenty-one youth slam team.

Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series.

Next reading, July 6th, features poet, writer, and essayist, **Barbara Youngblood Carr**, from Austin, Texas. (5.2 miles east of IH-45) Directions: 281-532-1439. 4650 NASA Parkway at Kirby, 7:00 PM. Open mic after featured poet. FMI, contact Gulf Coast Poet's member Adriana Babiak-Vázquez: borimex@swbell.net

Adriana Babiak-Vázquez



Robert Clark

FIRST FRIDAY POETRY: 8:30 pm at Inprint House. This month, meets on the 2nd Friday, July 10. 34th anniversary of First Friday series, featuring Ken Jones, of the Art Institute.

FMI, contact Gulf Coast Poets' member, Robert Clark at 713-521-3519 or houstonfirstfri@aol.com

Inprint House is located at 1520 West Main, Houston, TX. (3 blocks south of the Menil, 1 block east of Mandell).

HOUSTON POETRY FEST 2009

This annual celebration of poetry has been held yearly in October since 1985. Houston Poetry Fest 2009 dates are October 8, 9, 10, & 11 at Willow Street Pump Station, on the campus of the University of Houston – Downtown. Submission guidelines for the juried competition (deadline, June 15) website: <http://HoustonPoetryFest.info>

Fmi - Robert Clark:
HPFest@aol.com or
phone: 713.654.8921



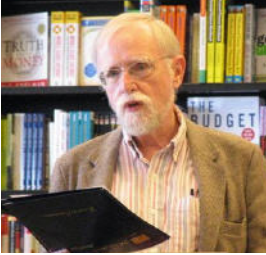
ARE YOU A MEMBER?

Gulf Coast Poets dues are \$15.00 a year; membership runs from January 1 through December 31. Poetry Society of Texas dues are \$25.00 a year; membership runs from July 1 through June 30.

If you're a Gulf Coast Poets member AND a Poetry Society of Texas member, please renew PST dues now! Send PST dues, correspondence relating thereto, change of address and/or corrections to:

Lee Carroll, Membership Chairman
3909 Gable Ln., #611
Fort Worth, TX 76155
E-Mail: leecarroll.fwps@gmail.com

A FEW GULF COAST POETS



John Gorman Penelope McFadin Kelly Ellis



**Gulf Coast Poets with prior
Texas State Poet Laureate Steven Fromholz**



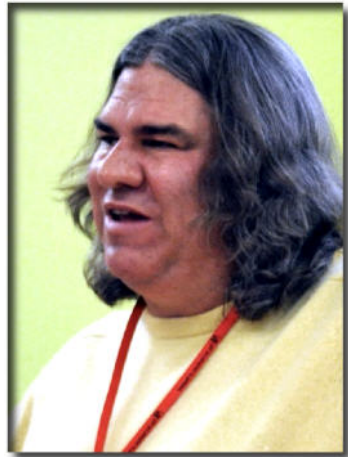
Barbara Carle



Kay Cox

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

September 12, 2009
Ken Jones



December 12, 2009
Paul Ruffin
Texas State Poet Laureate
<http://PaulDRuffin.com>

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS 2009

July 9-11: Field Trip Poetry Society of Texas Conference
Fort Worth, Texas

August - Vacation

September 12, Speaker - Ken Jones

October 10: Houston Poetry Fest, Houston, TX

November (date TBD): Poetry Workshop, Alvin, Texas

December 12 (annual Holiday Party) Speaker - Paul Ruffin,
2009-2010 Texas Poet Laureate, and guest poet Larry
Thomas, 2008-2009 Texas Poet Laureate

Plain View Press is a 34-year-old issue-based literary publishing house that has published over 275 titles and more than 300 writers from many countries. They publish contemporary literature.

Their method is collaborative, and many projects are cooperative. Plain View Press is on the cutting edge of alternative publishing in America, independent publishing, and receives no public support. Many of their writers are award winners of various sorts, but they also help new writers get a start.

They ask for a sample of your best work. They create, with the authors, individual books and anthologies. Drama, journal, creative non-fiction, poetry, short stories, novels, novellas, experimental work, etc. -- all literary forms ok. Don't e-mail submissions. Do e-mail with queries. They'll get back in touch, usually within a month, sometimes longer. They don't meet with writers until after they've seen work.

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P.O. 42255
Austin, TX 78704

512-441-2452 (phone/fax)
<http://www.plainviewpress.net/>
sb@plainviewpress.net

JUNE'S FEATURED POET

Susan Bright is author of 19 books of poetry, three of which have been recipients of Austin Book Awards. She is the editor/publisher of Plain View Press, which since 1975 has published 100 books. Her work as a poet, publisher, activist and educator has taken her all over the United States.

In England her poetry has been published in *Iron*, edited by Peter Mortimer, *Poetry Street 3* (Longram) and in a chapbook by Smith/Doorstop Books (The Poetry Business Press). Her work is feminist, grounded in the routines of daily experience and often hilarious. Her two most recent collections, *Tirades And Evidence Of Grace* and *House of the Mother* both won Austin Book Awards.



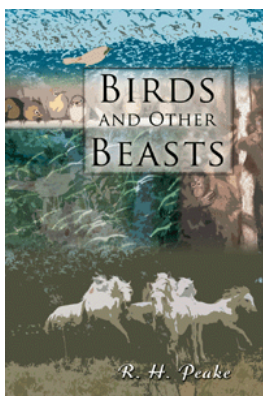
Susan Bright

In Texas, Susan received a proclamation from the Senate honoring her literary and community work, and in Austin she received the Woman of the Year Award in 1990 from the Austin Women's Political Caucus. She works in a home studio near Austin's Barton Springs where she is a year around lap swimmer. Although she has a book entitled, "Swimming the English Channel," she has no intention of doing so, in spite of various invitations which have come from an erroneous listing of the book as a sports publication. She was founding director of a small press distribution organization in the American Southwest. Her work as a creative process teacher has recently been collected along with the work of eight women writers from various parts of the United States in an anthology entitled, *Wind Eyes—A Women's Reader and Writing Source*.

Rebecca Hatcher Travis
author of *Picked Apart the Bones*



**Becky Travis, Gulf Coast Poets' Member,
won the First Book Award for Poetry
from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas.**



Gulf Coast Poets' member Dick Peake recently established a website advertising a volume of poetry—*Birds and Other Beasts*, his two novels, an academic satire (*Jack, Be Nimble*) and an environmental novel dealing with strip mining (*Moon's Black Gold*). For more information about his works, visit: eagle1author.com

Visit Debi Fairchild's website:
www.authorsden.com/debifairchild

<http://houstonpoetryfest.info/>

2008-2009 Texas Poet Laureate
<http://www.larrydthomas.com/>



Recording
Secretary

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS



Becky Travis
Membership



Jill Haugen
Publicity



Ann Fogelman
Hospitality



Donny Wankan
Poetry Reading Club



Kate Sanger
Critique Group



Leo Waltz
Webmaster
Treasurer



Mary Carlisle
Judge/Critic
President

GULF COAST POETS
Treasurer Report for June 13, 2009 General Meeting
Report Period: May 1- 31, 2009

Contests		45.00
Entry Fees	45.00	
Prizes	-65.00	
Sponsorships	65.00	
Dues		0.00
Speaker Expense		-57.61
Honorarium	-50.00	
Speaker Lunch	-7.61	
Donations		60.00
Honorarium	60.00	
Interest/Dividend		.68
Net Cash flow, May 1 - May 31		48.07

Account Balances May 1 31, 2009

Checking		
Beginning		1650.46
Transferred from Cash	100.00	
Checks written (6)	-115.00	
Debit card (1)	-7.61	
Dividend	0.68	
Ending		1628.53
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
Beginning		15.00
Received	170.00	
Transferred to Checking	-100.00	
Ending		85.00
Savings (int. posted quarterly)		
Beginning		5.29
Ending		5.29
All accounts		
Beginning (5/1/2009)		1670.75
Ending (5/31/2009)		1718.82

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

Gulf Coast Poets Meeting Minutes, May 9, 2009

President Mary Carlisle called the meeting to order at 10:46 am. Minutes taken by member Adriana Vazquez until Recording Secretary Debi Fairchild arrived. Oscar Pena moved to accept the May minutes, Edith Escalante seconded the motion. Minutes approved by members.

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance 3/1/2009 \$1694.60. Ending Balance 4/30/2009 \$1670.75.

Member Events

1. Galveston Poets Roundtable: Moderator: John Gorman Meets every second Tuesday in Galveston.
2. Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Reading Group: Moderator: Donny Wankan. No meeting in May, date in June TBA.
3. Gulf Coast Poets Critique Group: MC Katherine Sanger . No meeting in May, otherwise meets every fourth Monday
4. Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading & Open Mic: MC: Oscar Pena. Meets every fourth Tuesday in Webster at 7:30 pm. May 26th: Martha Margarita Tomaz.
5. First Friday in June in Houston: MC: Robert Clark. Barbara Youngblood Carr. Deadline for Houston Poetry Fest is June 15th.
6. Poetry Works Workshop: Moderator: Mary Margaret Carlisle. RSVP in advance to attend. First Sundays,
7. Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series: Moderator: Adriana Babiak-Vázquez. In May: Ann Fogelman. June 1st, Lois Lay Castiglioni with her granddaughter Kathryn Brooke O'Pella.
8. Poetry Society of Texas Summer Conference will be July 9-11 in Fort Worth, TX. For details on any upcoming event check your handouts or the Gulf Coast Poets website.

Other Member News

1. Rebecca Hatcher Travis won the First Book Award for Poetry from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas.
2. Dick Peake has a website advertising his poetry and his two novels. Visit eagle1author.com
3. Check out Debi Fairchild's website for her poetry and stories at www.authorsden.com/debifairchild

Featured speaker in May: Carolyn Luke Reding., from Austin, Texas.

The speaker stated, "Our journey is in our poetry." She was a teacher who taught poetry in textbook not creative writing.

Read Around

Mary Carlisle: Is that Rain on the Roof ?
Anne Fogelman: Voices of the Children
Glen Monroe Irving: Blue Ridge Basin Lodge
Luis Vazquez: Thought of her Unbandaged Perfection
Adriana Vazquez: Blend; Mothers Song
Lauren English: Resilience; Time of Beauty
Kay Cox: Foggy Down in Clear Lake
Debi Fairchild: Yes Kiss My Feet; Water Colors
Oscar Pena: Hydrocarbon Change

Some of the Door Prizes Received

Adriana Vazquez: A bracelet made by Missouri artist, Kiwi Carlisle.

Luis Vazquez: \$25 gift certificate from Barnes & Noble

Featured Gulf Coast Poets' speaker in June: Susan Bright.

Meeting ended at noon. Lunch followed at Zios with the speaker.

Call for Entries - Entry Date Extended to June 15, 2009
FROM OUR KITCHEN JURIED POETRY COMPETITION

Sponsored by Sol Magazine Projects

Project Director: GCP Member Mary Margaret Carlisle

First Place: \$75.00 Second Place: \$50.00. Third Place: \$25.00. (One cash award per poet.)

Celebrate creating homemade food by writing about any "cooking in the kitchen" food related topic. **No entry fee.** New or previously published poems. If previously published, include where, when. No name on the poems themselves. Do put the topic you chose above the title. No handwritten entries. 12 to 14 point font. No ALL CAPS. Left-justified only. Cover letter should include the name of the competition, your full name, address, phone number, e-mail address, a twenty-five words max third person biography, the title(s) of your poem(s). Use one envelope for all entries. Include a legal-sized SASE for return of a prize, if any. Enter any time between now and June 15, 2009. Limits: Original works only. No third-party entries. One to three titled poems, each on a different topic. Do not use the competition name or a topic as a title. We're looking for poetry, not recipes, but writing about the process of cooking is encouraged. No more than 30 lines in any single poem. Do not count title, or the space between the title and the poem, but do count all stanza breaks. Style: Memoir, narrative, lyric, event, light humor, etc, any are welcome. **No rhyme. No couplets. Haiku only if in a titled series at least three stanzas long.** Be prepared to send your entry by e-mail if you are a finalist. Poem must be in English. Entry into this competition implies that you are eighteen years or older, and you give permission to publish if Sol Magazine wishes to do so. Cover letter must be complete for consideration of entry. Winners notified within six weeks after close of competition. Sol Magazine reserves the right to not award any prize or publish any poem declined by the competition judges. Questions? Sol.Editor@prodigy.net

Send to:

From Our Kitchen c/o Sol Magazine
P.O. Box 580037
Houston, Texas, 77258-0037

FMI gulfcoastpoets@gmail.com
http://GulfCoastPoets.info

CURRENT GULF COAST POETS COMPETITIONS

These competitions help us fund honorariums for meeting speakers. Poets are allowed to enter all contests each month, except for those they sponsor. Winners may win more than one second or third place, but are limited to one first place win per month, except members are permitted to additionally win the Member Contest. Limit: Entry of 5 poems (5 in one category, or divided among all categories) total in May/June. **Visit our website for full competition rules before submitting work.** Not following the rules, or including a fee requested means your entry will not be considered for a prize.

CONTEST TWENTY-SIX - MAY/JUNE TOPICS

1. Eagles Aloft (Sponsor: Richard Peake).
2. Wisdom of the Heart (Sponsor: Leo Waltz).
3. My Mother's Quiet Ways (Sponsor: Richard Peake).
4. Let us Speak of Peace (Sponsor: Mary Carlisle).
5. Member Contest (no fee, no prize except publication)

If mailed, entries must be postmarked by Saturday, **June 20, 2009**, and arrive within 4 days of the due date.

Contests 1-3 have a \$10.00 first place prize.
Contest 4 has a \$25.00 first place prize.

Poets may enter all contests, but may win only one cash prize per month.

Entry by e-mail permitted only in the Member Contest.

E-mail us for membership information.