August 2017 Volume 43 No. 4

Of Poets and Poetry

Newsletter of Florida State Poets Association, Inc.
www.floridastatepoetsassociation.org

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Build it and they will come. And come you did. Thank you, New River and Sunshine Poets for an outstanding Spring Fling.

Three top poets in the State of Florida came to Tampa to spend Spring Fling weekend with us and what a weekend it was. We had poetry, music, games, toys, speaking exercises, writing exercises, food, books, speakers, and more poetry. If you are a poet, it was an *A* list party with *A* list guests.

If you missed Spring Fling, do not fear, Fall Convention is coming to electrify your eyes, tingle your taste-buds, palpate, peak, and peddle your poetry. You will be excitedly entertained and cheerily challenged. Orlando Area Poets have sweated, slaved, and succeeded in creating a walloping, wonderful, whale of a weekend. Join us October 13, 14, and 15 at the Hilton Hotel in Altamonte Springs. You will go home happy and exhausted. Don't forget to pick up your new anthology, *Cadence* before you leave. All details are in this newsletter.

After an extensive survey of our membership, it was decided to follow through with having our newsletter *Of Poets and Poetry* become electronic. The survey showed that a large majority of our membership is in favor of this move. OPAP has been online for the last four years and is visited often. Except for those of you who do not have computers, this is the last paper OPAP you will receive. An email will be sent to all members stating that OPAP and Strophes is now online and give you a "click here" message. The electronic version, as many of you already know, is in color and has a little more to offer such as poems, photos, etc, etc. Those members that do not have computers will receive a paper copy in the mail just as always. This will be a HUGE savings for our organization as prices for Fling, Convention, and other services have risen steeply. It is one way to keep our programs and information going to all of you at affordable levels. If you have any questions, PLEASE do not hesitate to contact any of the officers. We will help anyway we can.

Our anthology has also taken another step forward. The name that got the most votes was *Cadence*. Our anthology will now be *Cadence: Florida State Poets Association Anthology (+ issue_no.)*. This elevates our anthology to a higher level of importance and acceptance in the publishing world. It makes your poems more important and gives you higher 'bragging rights'. I am all for that. You deserve that. I am thrilled to show off our anthology and say "This is what Florida State Poet's members do." I love showing you off.

Hope to see you all in Altamonte Springs in October!!!!!

Mary-Ann Westbrook, president

2017 October Convention

"Voices Carry"

October 13, 14 & 15

Hilton Hotel—Altamonte Springs

Hosted by:

Orlando Area Poets

Good Friends, Good Food, Great Poetry!

Hilton—Altamonte Springs
350 Northlake Boulevard
Altamonte Springs, Florida

Details on pages 4 & 8.

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Don't forget to visit **On-Line OPAP** for more NEWS!

Florida State Poets Association, Inc.

An affiliate of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies
Organized October 1974
Henrietta Kroah, Founder

2016-2017 Officers

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Slam Coordinator: Kevin "Noir Jente" Campbell, 532 Hemingway CT, Deland, FL 32720; 386.717.8324; noirjente@aol.com

Youth Chair: Janet Watson, 7908 West Drive, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544; 813.973.0763; JMPWAT@aol.com

Board of Directors (chapter presidents)

Big Bend Poets—Tallahassee For information on this chapter, contact Mary-Ann Westbrook, FSPA President. Contact info in left column under Executive Board.

Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach Robert E. Blenheim, 515 Silver Beach Avenue, #10, Daytona Beach, FL 32118; 386.506.9930; rblenheim@aol.com

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North Florida Poetry Hub Steffani Fletcher, 3886 Atlantic Blvd, Jacksonville, FL; steffani@hopeathand.org

Orlando Area Poets Elaine Person, 3707 S. Lake Orlando Pky, #11, Orlando, FL 32808; 407.298.9636;

Poetry for the Love of It —Tallahassee Charles Hazelip, 3011 Barclay Court, Tallahassee, FL 32309; 850.878.0412

Sunshine Poets —Crystal River Cheri Herald, 18 SJ Kellner Blvd, Beverly Hills, FL 34465; 352.746.3394; c_herald@hotmail.com

Tomoka Poets Mary-Ann Westbrook, 6 Juniper Drive, Ormond Beach, FL 32176; 386.441.1839; 1poetry.3@gmail.com

A Chronology of FSPA Presidents:

Mary-Ann Westbrook 2016
Joseph Cavanaugh 2012-2016
Cheri Neuman Herald 2010-2012
Betty Ann Whitney 2008-2010
Robert E. Blenheim 2004-2008
Caroline Walton 2002-2004
Coleen Ward 1998-2002
Gail Teachworth 1994-1998
Carolyn Walton 1992-1994
Virginia Martin* 1989-1992
Ruth Cunliffe* 1989-1989
Gwen Thomas 1988-1989
Madelyn Eastlund 1984-1988
Agnes Homan* 1982-1984
Robert DeWitt* 1978-1982
Harvey Winters* 1978-1978
Beatrice Branch* 1976-1978
Henrietta Kroah* 1974-1976
*Deceased

Of Poets & Poetry is published four times per year: August, November, January/ February, and April/May. The **deadlines for submitting News and Reports can vary** so always check here! Send content prior to the deadline to: Patricia Stevenson-Gingrich, *OPAP* Editor (addresses below).

ALL Chapter & Member News due by October 1, 2017, for the **November** issue. **All other reports, news, & photos due by Oct. 20. MUST** submit via the Internet as an email **attachment**: Word (.doc or .docx), RTF, TXT, or PDF format files. News embedded in an email will not be accepted unless it has been okayed by me. Any photos should be high resolution in JPEG (jpg) format. If you are unable to do this, contact the Editor at 850.445.1302.

Email: patriciasg.bbp@gmail.com
or Mail: Patricia Stevenson-Gingrich
184 McGowin Road
Wilsonville, AL 35186-8033

NFSPS

2017 Stevens Manuscript Competition

Submission Period:

August 1 — midnight, Nov. 15, 2017

Complete Information in *Strophes* and on the NFSPS website: nfsps.com

Cadence picked for FSPA Journal Name

The winner of the anthology naming contest was announced at Spring Fling in Tampa. The finalist names for the anthology were: 1) *Cadence,* 2) *Causeways,* and 3) *Rafters*. From this year forward, the anthology will have the name of *Cadence,* and carry the subtitle "Anthology of the Florida State Poet's Association, No. ##." The *Cadence* name may be used as a credit by our members in cover letters for poem submissions to other journals and *Cadence* may eventually be listed in *Poet's Market* (with the proviso that submissions to our journal/anthology requires FSPA membership). This kind of effort has enhanced the standing of anthologies of other state societies, and will assist our own members in their publishing efforts long-term.
~Al Rocheleau, project coordinator

Officer & Committee Reports

2017 FSPA Poetry Contests

Another exciting submission period has come to an end. This year's Florida State Poets Association Poetry Contests offered twenty-seven categories with low entry fees and cash prizes. All winners and honorable mentions will be publically announced at the October FSPA Convention being held this year in Altamonte Springs (Greater Orlando), FL. Winners of first, second, and third places who attend the convention have the opportunity of reading their winning poems aloud.

All twenty-seven first place winning poems will be published in the 2017 FSPA anthology. You may still order your copy at the discounted price of $10 through August 31. An Order Form for the anthology is included in this issue. Our anthology has become "one of *the*" poetry anthologies to purchase each year!

Happy Writing!

~Mary Rogers-Grantham, FSPA Contest Chair

Website & Social Media Report

Keep in touch and see what's happening at FSPA's website and social media pages:

- **Website:** http://www.FloridaStatePoetsAssociation.org
- **Facebook:** http://www.facebook.com/FloridaStatePoetsAssociation
- **Twitter:** http://twitter.com/@FSPA_Poets/.

We welcome your posts to the social media pages and appreciate your comments, likes, and shares. Even if you're not on social media, those pages are available to anyone, so bookmark the pages for ongoing, up-to-date posts, opportunities, and information.

If you have news of events, post to the Facebook page or tag **FloridaStatePoetsAssociation** on Facebook or **FSPA_Poets** on Twitter.

See you online! ☺
~Linda Eve Diamond, Webmaster

Membership Report

The 2017 FSPA membership numbers currently totals at 214 members. At present, we still have ten (10) authorized chapters spread over the state from the Panhandle and down both coasts. North Florida Poetry Hub in the Jacksonville area is still our youngest chapter. Check out page 2 for all of the FSPA chapters. If you live in Florida and are interested in organizing (its very easy) a new chapter, please contact Mary Marcelle: p. 407.832.8603 or email: marymarcelle@earthlink.net

~ Mary Marcelle, Membership Chair

Youth Report

This year's Young-As-Spring-Fling focused on both invigorating our own poetry with a youthful outlook and connecting with a younger generation of poets. Scholarship students from the Twelve Chairs Poetry Course, who served on a panel at the Fling, illuminated our understanding of what poetry means to young writers. Katie O'Malley, one of those students, was the twelfth-grade winner of the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for Young People in the 2016-2017 FSPA Student Poetry Contest, and the Spring Fling gave her an opportunity to meet Mr. Hopkins in person. At the FSPA Convention in Altamonte Springs in October, the talent of more young poets will be showcased in the Grand Poetry Slam. We have so much to learn from all these gifted writers and performers of poetry.

Winning poems from the 2016-2017 Student Poetry Contest, will be published in our anthology, *Cadence*, available in October. With that contest wrapped up, we are now preparing for the 2017-2018 contest. In September the rules for this year's contest for middle and high school students will be posted on the FSPA website in addition to the information that will be sent to all of Florida's school districts. I also urge FSPA chapters and members-at-large to publicize our competition among young people, parents and educators in your local areas. Monetary donations to support postage and printing costs are always appreciated, and I thank all who have contributed in the past.

~Janet Watson, FSPA Youth Chair

On-Line OPAP & Supplement

Don't Miss It!

Brings you more color; more photos; and extended content to *Of Poets & Poetry*!

Go to the FSPA website:

www.floridastatepoetsassocoation.org

SPRING FLING Set a youthful attitude!

New River Poets and Sunshine Poets were pleased to co-host the "Young-As-Spring-Fling" at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Tampa on April 21 and 22, 2017. As the title of this year's spring event suggested, the focus was on youth, and the program offered what attendees might need to discover their own inner child, to rejuvenate their writing skills, and to share what they know with a younger generation of poets.

We were extremely fortunate to have all three of our honorary chancellors participating in the program. **Peter Meinke's** presentation "And Speaking of Kids..." included poems that reflected his own experiences with kids and grandkids. **Lola Haskins** spoke from two viewpoints in "Poems of Parent and Child," and **Lee Bennett Hopkins'** "Getting in Touch with Your Inner Child" touched all of us. His poems of choice were honest and insightful.

There was a workshop on "Waking-Up Our Senses" presented by **Janet Watson**, and another, by **John Foster**, on how to properly deliver oral readings of poetry. John challenged us with articulation exercises that included hilarious tongue-twisters. **Al Rocheleau** presented an imagination workshop, inviting us to play with toys he placed on our tables, to take a journey through our own minds, and to participate in an interactive session of writing 'blues' lyrics. In addition to these workshops and Saturday's membership meeting, there were several opportunities for open mic readings.

Twelve-Chairs Scholarship Students read their own poems on Saturday morning, amazing us with their talent. The students returned later, as members of a panel entitled "The Future Is Now", led by moderator, **Cheri Herald.** The panel also included **Diane McKee**, Florida's 2016 Teacher-of-the-Year, and **Gianna Russo**, a teacher of English at Saint Leo University. All the participants expressed themselves articulately as they answered the questions that were presented, offering their views on why young people are attracted to poetry and how poetry is being taught in today's schools, among other topics. The panel was our last program event, and it was a conversation so informative and entertaining that we were truly reluctant to have it end.

Book sales at the Fling were brisk, the food was good, and there were some interesting items to bid on at the Silent Auction table. We hope that some of the attendees took advantage of the nearby sites—Busch Gardens, Adventure Island, the Museum of Science and Industry or the University of South Florida campus, but if all they came for was the Spring Fling, we believe their two days in Tampa did not disappoint. A gathering of friends and poets is always a happy event.

Submitted by Janet Watson, New River Poets president and Cheri Herald, Sunshine Poets president

Color Photos are included in OPAP On-Line!

"Voices Carry"

Poetry, at the
FSPA Fall Convention
October 13-15 2017

Reunite with good friends, read your poems, while learning how we 'carry our voices' through books, journals, and spoken word slams. Enjoy the wisdom and fun of State Chancellors Peter Meinke, Florida Poet Laureate, and Lola Haskins. Celebrate the poetry and song of Nobel Laureate Bob Dylan; examine the talent of Emily Dickinson with Dr. Stephen Caldwell Wright and narrative poetry with Webb Harris. And as an extra treat, bring copies of a poem to share for a deep critique session on Sunday. The fun begins Friday afternoon and continues all weekend!

Friday

3:00 pm—Registration

4:00 pm—Open Reading

5:30 pm—Chancellor's Dinner

with a poetic and musical tribute

to Bob Dylan, Nobel Laureate.

Presentation by Florida Poet Laureate,

NFSPS & FSPA **Chancellor Peter Meinke.**

8:00 pm—In-house poetry slam

Saturday

Exact times of events will be in the printed program.

General Meeting & Open Readings

Dr. Stephen Caldwell Wright:
A program on Emily Dickinson

Webb Harris:
Workshop on narrative poetry

Informal Lunch
Lola Haskins:
Workshop—TBA

Al Rocheleau:
Workshop — Building a Submission Machine

Panel Discussion: Strategies for Publishing Your Book

Finale with **Kevin "Noir Jente" Campbell**:
Poetry Slam Finals

Sunday

10:00 am — Deep Critique; bring copies of a poem to be critiqued and to share with the group.

~Alice Friedman, secretary FSPA & OAP

Chapter News

Big Bend Poets

www.bigbendpoets.weebly.com

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday at 7pm
Barnes & Noble, N Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL

Big Bend Poets (BBP) is currently transitioning to a new president, but continues to meet at their regularly scheduled time at Barnes & Noble in Tallahassee, They also continue to use their Group and Community pages on Facebook to stay in contact to alert one another of upcoming poetry & literary events in the Tallahassee area. There is no other news for this issue.

~ from the Editor

The Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach

Meetings (Workshops): 3rd Wednesday, 4:00pm,Daytona Beach Regional Library, Board Rm., City Island Library in Daytona Beach, 105 E. Magnolia Ave , off Beach St., near Jackie Robinson Stadium.

The **Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach** welcomes any and all to attend its monthly workshops. Since 1993, the group has shared and critiqued hundreds of poets' work enthusiastically as it continues to encourage work that is experimental and unconventional.

The death of Live Poet **Lenny Schneir** has left members all heartbroken, but the chapter managed a beautiful celebration of his life and work at the June workshop meeting. Many others showed up including FSPA President Mary Ann Westbrook and Past President Joe Cavanaugh to share so many stories about Lenny, both moving and funny. He always had such a wonderful sense of humor and certainly would have loved this tribute to him.

Recently the Live Poets' monthly challenges have included writing poems (inspired by FSPA contest categories) on "Endangered Florida Birds", "What did you say?" and ekphrastic poems on the Andrew Wyeth painting, "Christina's World". The most interesting challenge however was for members to watch the Jim Jarmusch film, "Paterson", about a bus driver poet, his wife and his dog, after which to write a poem about it. And member **Judith Lawrence** has been keeping alive our previous challenge to write Lune poems by writing one a day! There are so many creative poets in the Live Poets Society, each with their own unique voice.

While the snowbirds have lowered attendance during the summer, members have been quite busy writing poetry and on other various projects. **Charles Knause** has been working on what he calls a 'small epic poem'; **Jesse Sam Owens** performs more thanever; **Judith Lawrence** continues to publish her *River Poets Journal* literary magazine while managing the Live Poets Society facebook page; and President **Bob Blenheim** was invited to be Spotlight Speaker at Tomoka Poets' Barnes and Noble event in July. And it was especially nice to see former FSPA and LPS member, Roger Monash return after a too-long an absence.

Anyone who attends should discover that The Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach is one of the most vibrant and entertaining chapters of FSPA!

~ Robert E. Blenheim

Miami Poets

Meetings: 1st Wednesday, Pinecrest Branch Library, 1-3 pm.

Miami Poets let their summer words sizzle during the monthly *Miami Poets Soirées,* moderated by **Tere Starr.** We gather each first Wednesday at the Pinecrest Branch Library from 1 to 3 pm to share poetry and inspiration. July was our 100th soirée. On second Mondays from 1 to 3 pm, we join *Group 10*, the critique group founded by **Jnita Wright**.

Achievements: Paul Saluk was a featured poet at the Broward Main Library in May, reading from his book, *The Inescapable Lure of the Rabbit Hole*. **Zoraida (Ziggy) Pastor** was interviewed on Dr. Billy Jones' *Every Day Folks* radio program on May 7th. Link: http://www.blogtalkradio.com/everydayfolksradio/2017/05/07/bj-speaks-a-conversation-with-zoraida-ziggy-pastor. **Connie Goodman-Milone**'s letters, "Connecting Works" and "Healthcare Vote" were published in the *Miami Herald*. "Connecting Works" can also be found on the Florida Anti-Defamation League website. **Mervyn Solomon** was initiated as SFWA's President for 2017-18. His monthly "President's Message" appears in *Author's Voice*. **Tere Starr,** featured during April's South Florida Writers Association's meeting, invited participants from the *Miami Poets Soiree* to share their poetry. **Patsy Asuncion** took part in The Bridge telethon to support diversity through the arts. Her fourth Wednesday open mics in Charlottesville, VA can be viewed on YouTube's *Patricia Asuncion Channel*. Poems by Patsy and **Ricki Dorn** were published in the *Author's Voice*. Ricki and Ziggy received first place awards in the monthly South Florida Writers Association Writing Contest for Prose Poetry: Connie for Haiku and **Shirley Seligman** was awarded second place for Free Verse Poetry. Poetry continues to be our passion.

~Tere Starr, president

New River Poets

Meetings: 3rd Saturday,* 1:00-4:30 pm, Atonement Lutheran, Wesley Chapel

Our members were pleased with the success of the Spring Fling, which we co-hosted with Sunshine Poets in April. We welcomed our statewide poets to the west coast of Florida with a program of fine presenters.

Sadly, we've lost **Verna Thornton**, a charter member of New River Poets, who passed away on April 21. Although health issues kept her from attending recent meetings, she often sent poems to be shared. Her love of poetry and skill for writing rhymed forms was fostered by the grandmother who raised her in Maine. She was always interested in everything our chapter was doing, including the planning of the Spring Fling. She was leader of a writing group in her mobile home community and very pleased that they were finally attempting poetry.

At our meetings we've been writing and critiquing poetry for submission to the FSPA contests and preparing poems for the *Cadence* anthology. Individual members continue to promote poetry in a number of ways, including the distribution of FSPA anthologies to

(more on page 6)

(continued from p.5)

local libraries with informative flyers about our own chapter. **Stephanie Andrews** and **John Foster** attended Saint Leo University's Sandhill Writers Retreat in May, at which this year's *Sandhill Review* made its debut. Both John Foster and Janet Watson had poems printed in the journal. **Ken Clanton** celebrated National Poetry Month by emailing one of his amusing and folksy poems to online friends *every single day* of the month! **Beverly Joyce** continues to write birthday poems to co-workers at the James A. Haley VA Hospital in Tampa. **Janet Watson** had two poems published in *Odet*, a journal published by Safety Harbor Poets & Writers. Her poetry was also featured in "Visions and Verse", a showing of the artwork of Mimi Botscheller at the Bailey Contemporary Gallery in Pompano Beach.

New River Poets continues to meet at Atonement Lutheran Church in Wesley Chapel on the third Saturday of every month, from 1-4:30pm.

~Janet Watson, President

North Florida Poetry Hub

FSPA's newest chapter is in Northeast Florida. For information on meeting details, contact Steffani Fletcher by post or email:
Steffani Fletcher
3886 Atlantic Blvd,
Jacksonville, FL 32207 OR
email: steffani@hopeathand.org.

~ from the Editor

Orlando Area Poets

Meetings: 3rd Thursday at 6:30pm
Maitland Public Library

Maitland Public Library recently hosted poets at its Quarterly Coffeehouse. The theme was "School days." The library continues to host writing workshops the third Sunday of each month.

Coming up on Saturday, September 30 at 1 p.m., the annual "Wednesday Night Writers Celebration" with readings and music will be held at the Winter Park Library. The writing workshops are weekly on Wednesday nights and led by OAP president **Elaine Person**.

PUBLICATIONS: Peter Gordon was among the poets who read at the Orlando Public Library in honor of Poetry Month on April 9th. **Elaine Person** was given honorable mention by the Flagler County Art League. She, **Lynn Schiffhorst**, and **Frank Masi** were accepted in *What a Character!*, the annual anthology of the Florida Writers Association. It will be published in October. **Oral Nusbaum**'s poem, "Turn the Camera Off" appeared from June 5 to 11 in Poems on Crime.blogspot.com.

PRESENTATIONS: About a half dozen musicians and spoken word poets performed for "**Pulse** Remembrance Through Music & Poetry" at the Orlando Public Library, June 11th. Among them was member **Peter Gordon**. **Elaine Person** displayed her photographs as the June artist of the month at Lakeside Inn in Mt. Dora. She also will be teaching a workshop at Crealde School of Art in Winter Park.

AWARDS: Andrew Jarvis' second poetry collection, *Landslide*, published by Homebound Publications, has been awarded a Silver Medal for Nature Poetry in the 2017 Nautilus Book Awards. *Landslide* also received high honors from the Foreword Reviews Book of the Year Awards.

Andrew will be appearing at author events in Florida, Maryland, Washington DC, Virginia, and West Virginia in the fall. Follow him on Facebook and visit his website for fun updates at www.andrewjarvispoet.com

~Alice Friedman, Secretary

Poetry for the Love of It

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Mondays, 2:45-4:45 pm, Tallahassee Senior Center, N. Monroe St, Tallahassee. Visitors are always welcome.

Developing guidelines for our first ever poetry contest has proven challenging, and a source of humor, for PLOI members. The contest deadline was extended to July 10th due to closure of the Tallahassee Senior Center (TSC) for the last week of June. The contest was open to seniors 55+ who participate in programs at TSC or who are TSC staff members aged 55+. *Let the judging begin!*

Members once again took the **30 poems in 30 days** challenge for National Poetry Month - April 2017. A black feather (Edgar Allen Poe), pen and a small notebook were given to all who completed the challenge.

In keeping with the theme of challenges, members have now challenged themselves to reading aloud the works of notable poets on a daily basis.

We continue to meet at the Tallahassee Senior Center on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 2:45 – 4:45 pm. Visitors are welcome.

~Linda Whitefeather, Secretary

Sunshine Poets

Meetings: 2nd Saturday at 10AM
Crystal River Public Library, Crystal River

Sunshine Poets continues to meet at the Crystal River Public Library and welcomes poets of all ages and levels. A new form or technique is described and offered as a homework assignment. Homework and critique are optional, followed by an open reading. Lunch and fellowship follow the meeting at one of our local restaurants. Sunshine Poets worked with New River Poets in the hosting of the FSPA 2017 Spring Fling. **Joyce Shiver** had wins in Utah and MS contests. **Joan Clark** and **Natalie Warrick** continue to have their poetry published in their church newsletter. **Natalie** also gave a poetry presentation at her Baptist Women's Group in June. President, **Cheri Herald**, moderated the 12 Chairs Panel at FSPA's Spring Fling in Tampa, FL. **Sunshine Poets** has a Facebook page. Visit sunshinepoets@gmail.com

~ Cheri Herald, President SSP

(continued on p.7)

In Remembrance

Lenny Schneir, Daytona Beach
Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach

Carol Thomas, Palm Coast
Tomoka Poets

Verna Thornton, Zephyrhills
New River Poets

Tributes will be included in *OPAP On-Line*.

(*continued from p. 6)*

Tomoka Poets

Meetings: 2nd Wed @5-6:45pm,
Ormond Beach Library, Mtg. Rm.4

Tomoka Poets excitedly polish their poetry and plan adventures at every meeting. To everyone's delight our open mic has returned. We are at Barnes and Noble Book Store on International Speedway Blvd in Daytona Beach on the Fourth Tuesday, 7pm to 9pm. In May we honored past member and President Mary Jean Bell. **Mitzi Coats** presented a 20 minute program of Mary Jean's poems. They were read by members **Daniel Blankenship**, Mitzi, **Mary-Ann Westbrook** and **Marc Davidson**. The poems were from Mary Jean's newly published book *Tangerine*. She writes under the name Tangerine Tell. Her book is available at https:www.Amazon.com/tanger. Cost is $9.95 plus tax and shipping.

To celebrate National Poetry Month we had a full window display at the Ormond Beach Library. There was something from everyone as well as a section for other poets in the area. Tomoka Poets also participated in and sponsored, along with Creative Happiness Institute and Ormond Beach Main Street, a poetry Festival at the Casements in Ormond Beach. Tomoka Poets, Live Poets, and our Young Poets entertained along with music, raffles and refreshments. Emcee was **David Axelrod**, Volusia County Poet Laureate and Tomoka Poet. Today we grieve for our friend, poet and author **Lenny Schneir** whom we shared with Live Poets. His poetry, humor and unique delivery will always be remembered.

~ Mary-Ann Westbrook

Members-at-Large News

TO ALL FSPA MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:
This column is for you. Send in your poetry achievements. We will print as many as possible. Your contest winning poems may find a spot here as well!

Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
Lyn won two awards in the 2017 Mississippi Poetry Society contest. Lyn took a 2nd place for "Grandma Muses While Watching Young Women" and a 3rd for "Cape Cod Evening" *oil on canvas 1939 by Edward Hopper* (an Ekphrastic poem). Both poems will be published in the Mississippi Poetry Society book of annual contest winners.

Congratulations to FSPA Poets!

To all the Florida winners of the NFSPS poetry contest. A big round of applause please. Fourteen (14) Florida poets won thirty-five (35) awards! Fantastic accomplishment for all of you and FSPA!

The LIBRARY of CONGRESS

Tracy K. Smith Named U.S. Poet Laureate
on June 14, 2017

~from the Library of Congress, Poetry & Literature website:
https://www.loc.gov/poetry/laureate.html

Tracy K. Smith was appointed the Library of Congress' 22nd Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry in June. Ms. Smith was born in Massachusetts in 1972, and raised in California. She has authored three books of poetry, including *Life on Mars* (2011), winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for poetry; *Duende* (2007), winner of the 2006 James Laughlin Award and the 2008 Essence Literary Award; and *The Body's Question* (2003), winner of the Cave Canem Poetry Prize. Smith is also the author of a memoir, *Ordinary Light* (2015), a finalist for the 2015 National Book Award in Nonfiction and selected as a Notable Book by *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*." For additional information on Tracy K. Smith, her life, education, awards, and writing styles, visit the website listed at the beginning of this article.

PRE-ORDER Your ANTHOLOGY by August 31, 2017!

Pre-Publishing Price – $10.00 (After convention, books can be ordered from booksellers at higher price.)
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Gary Broughman
741 S. Palmetto Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32114
(Send between: **May 15, 2017 - August 31, 2017**)

Please Block Print.
Name: _____
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City: _____ State: __ Zip: ____
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Reserve ___ copy/copies at $10.00 ea. Total $_____
Mail Anthology to me at $3.00 ea. S&H $_____
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I plan to pick up my anthologies at the October Conference.
YES ____ NO____ (please √ one)

Hilton Orlando, Altamonte Springs

350 Northlake Blvd.
Altamonte Springs, FL
32701-5297
USATEL: +1-407-830-1985
FAX: +1-407-331-2911

Hotel Features:
Handicapped accessible
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For Reservations: 407-830-1985
Code: FSPA
Group Rate: $90 per night plus tax
Cut-off date: **September 15**, 2017

DIRECTIONS
From Daytona Beach
I-4 to State Road 436, Exit 92. Make a left onto SR 436 for 0.31 miles, turn right at 2nd traffic light onto Northlake Blvd. Hotel is about 1/2 mile on right.

From Tampa, Disney area
Take I-4 East to exit 92. Make a right onto SR 436 South, to 1st traffic light, Northlake Blvd. Go right onto Northlake Blvd. The Hilton hotel is on your right.

REGISTRATION FORM
FSPA "Voices Carry"
Fall Convention—2017

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
_____
PHONE: _____ CELL: _____
E-MAIL: _____
CHAPTER: _____
MEMBER-AT-LARGE: _____ GUEST: _____

REGISTRATION FEES: $25 FSPA Member: _____
$35 Guest: _____
$45 Registration + _____
New 2018 Membership

FRIDAY CHANCELLOR'S DINNER: $35.00
(√ (check) selection for each meal)
Chicken Fettuccini in Basil-Garlic Sauce _____
Vegetarian Farfalle _____
Peppered Prawns and Penne Pasta _____

SATURDAY LUNCH: $22.00
Turkey Croissant _____
Vegetable Delight _____

TOTAL: $ _____

Please send Registration Form with check or money order for Registration Fee and Meals, made payable to FSPA, for "Convention".

SEND BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2017 TO:
Mary Marcelle
107 Magnolia Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

From the Editor

First, a little 'housekeeping'—it must be noted that the theme of the Fall Convention was changed from "A Taste of Orlando" to "Voices Carry." After reading about the convention, I hope all of you want to attend as much as I do. If you have never attended a state wide meeting, you really should try it. This would be a good one to start with. I do have to admit that I have been a Bob Dylan fan for decades and was thrilled last fall when he was named Nobel Laureate. I am ready. Are you?

When you get involved with your state poetry association, you really find so many more things to do at the local level.

I have also enjoyed learning about the new U.S. Poet Laureate, Tracy K. Smith. She is impressive.

Until next time, *"Poets Rock & Write!"*

~Patricia Stevenson Gingrich, editor