



California State Poetry Society
Post Office Box 7126, Orange, California 92863

Newsbriefs ***2015, No. 2***

Greetings and salutations from the Board of the California State Poetry Society (CSPS) to you all!

This second issue for 2015 comes to you in May/June of 2015 with Vol. 41 No. 2 of the *California Quarterly* (CQ), edited by Pearl Karrer. It is another beautiful, well-crafted issue.

News from the CSPS

At its meeting in April, the CSPS Board voted to develop what will be called *President's Member Advisory Committees*. We propose to establish three – for Northern, Central and Southern California. The purpose of the committees would be to develop ideas and draft plans for conferences, readings, student contests, or other activities to fit the needs in each area. A concomitant goal would be to increase our membership sufficient to support such expanded activities. If you're interested, please email me at the address below my signature – and *thanks!*

Our website is now operational, so please go take a look at it when you get a chance:
<http://www.CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety.org>.

When you have news you'd like to share with the members of the CSPS, please contact me at the email address below my signature and I'll try to include it in an upcoming Newsbriefs.

We've received a couple of nice comments on CQ Vol. 40 No. 4. JW Major wrote, "Congrats on putting out a great issue, Volume 40, Number 4. Happy once more to be on the pages of CQ." And Mike Faran wrote, "Thanks much for accepting two of my poems for 40:4 – always an honor."

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2015! 53 of us have paid for 2015 memberships, but 41 of us are still behind – not to mention those who were last members in 2013. Pay via our website or send it to the address on the enclosed membership form – namely, to:

CSPS Vice President – Membership
2560 Calabria Court
Dublin, CA 94568.

For questions about our Facebook page (CALIFORNIA STATE POETRY SOCIETY CSPS CQ), please contact Margaret Saine at UMSaine@gmail.com or under *Ute Margaret Saine* on Facebook.

CQ Editor Jeanne Wagner received Special Merit Recognition from *The Comstock Review's* 2014 Muriel Bailey Contest for three poems: *Ceteris Paribus*, *Eve After Eve* and *My Mother's Ataxia*. As you may recall, she edited CQ Vol. 41 No. 1.

Lucille Lang Day and her husband, Richard Michael Levine, are both continuing members of the CSPS and contributors to the CQ. They have both been busy, as well. Lucille Lang Day's manuscript, *Dreaming of Sunflowers: Museum Poems*, won the 2014 Blue Light Chapbook Contest

and will be published by Blue Light Press in 2015. Her website <http://www.LucilleLangDay.com> includes some remarkable information – about six collections of poems, a math textbook, a children’s book, fiction, essays, feature articles, a memoir, and more. Richard Michael Levine’s poetry collection, *Catch and Other Poems* (Scarlet Tanager Books), came out in January 2015, and his short story collection, *The Man Who Gave Away His Organs: Tales of Love and Obsession at Midlife* (Capra Press), will appear in July. Information about his books (nonfiction, fiction and poetry) and his remarkable life as a journalist, staff writer and editor for a variety of national magazines is at <http://www.RichardMichaelLevine.com>. Both of them are on the *Links* tab of the CSPA website (<http://www.CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety.org>).

CQ Editorial Chair Pearl Karrer has poems appearing in several venues: “Startled Awake” in *Spillway’s Everyday Epiphanies*, June 2015; “Like Silencing the Wind” in *Cal State University Stanislaus’ Penumbra, 25th Edition*, 2015; and “My Father’s Legs” in *Caesura’s Disability Issue*, delayed from 2014 to May 2015. She also edited *CQ* Vol. 41 No. 2, which you’ve just received.

CQ Editor Maura Harvey was interviewed on Radio KWMR in Point Reyes on April 12th. The two hours included her reading in both Spanish and English – *and*, of course, extending a warm invitation to her listeners to submit their poetry to the *CQ*! She last edited *CQ* Vol. 40 No. 3.

The *Valley Poets* in San Gabriel Valley recently celebrated its 31st anniversary of continuous existence with a celebration at the Glendora Library, where current members and founder Keith Van Vliet (who is also the CSPA Vice President) put on a program of poetry readings and interesting facts about poetry. The milestone was further publicized in the *Glendoran* magazine, which wrote approvingly, as it were, of the group’s 31-year journey.

Contests, Contest Databases and Others

The Springfield Writers Guild’s 22nd *Annual Prose and Poetry Contest* is underway. They’re accepting entries of short prose and one-page poems from June 15th through September 15th. The reading fee is \$5 per piece and awards in each of the five categories are \$150 for 1st, \$75 for 2nd and \$50 for 3rd. A link to the Guild site is included on the *Links* tab of our website.

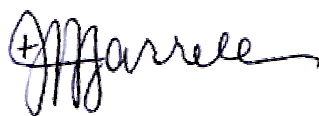
Once again, don’t forget the *Poets & Writers* website (www.PW.org).

The Mailing

This *CQ* mailing includes the 2015 No. 2 CSPA *Poetry Letter*, a 2015 CSPA Membership Form and this 2015 No. 2 CSPA *Newsbriefs*. The information in all of these is also on our website.

Wishing you *all a great summer* and *much success* with your writing, and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Editors, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Dr. John Forrest Harrell
PRESIDENT (Acting)
TREASURER
JFHarrell@gmail.com