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

This third issue for 2015 comes to you in November of 2015 with Vol. 41 No. 3 of the California Quarterly (CQ), edited by Margaret Saine.

News from the CSPS

Our website is now operational, so please go take a look at it when you get a chance: http://www.CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety.org. It makes submission of poems for our contests and for the CQ much easier! It is also true that announcements of and links to contests and publications across the country will be posted to the website in a much more timely fashion than is possible with our Newsbriefs. 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 post it on the website or include it in an upcoming Newsbriefs.

We’ve received a number of nice comments on CQ Vol. 41 No. 2, edited by Pearl Karrer. Judy Wells wrote, “Thanks for including me in CQ 41-2. I noted the cover art is by you and is quite lovely – wonderful colors and brushwork. I look forward to carefully reading the issue!” And Cherise Wyneken wrote, “I wish to thank you for the lovely copy of CQ, which includes my poem ‘California Winters’.” Claire Ortalda wrote, “I received the issue and it is beautiful. My husband, Floyd Salas, read it cover to cover yesterday as well and agreed with me that every poem was outstanding. I finally turned the issue over and saw that it was your painting on the cover. Beautiful.” Judith Offer wrote, “Congratulations on a beautiful and carefully-put-together CQ. I feel so satisfied to be included in something so classic and dignified and readable.” And finally, Joyce Snyder wrote, “This is a particularly wonderful issue of the CQ, beginning with your lovely painting, ‘Wild Orchid,’ to the thoughtful selection and ordering of poems. Thank you so much for your hard work and this gift.”

Don’t forget to renew your membership for 2016! 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.

CSPS member and CQ Contributor Barbara Blanks has done well in the NFSPS national contests, receiving a 1st, two 2nds, a 3rd, and two honorable mentions. The four placing poems will be published in Encore, the NFSPS anthology. Outstanding, Barb!
CQ Editor Margaret Saine has published several poems: “Different Blood,” translated into Arabic by Nizar Sartawi in the April 2015 issue of Saddana (Amman, Jordan) and “Astride the Fish” in Awen 89, August 2015, edited by D. J. Tyrer. She will also publish a book of poems, Das Weite suchen (Hitting the Road or Seeking What is Afar), Wiesenburg Verlag, Germany, in December 2015.

**Contests, Contest Databases and Others**

The winners of the CSPS Annual Contest this year are the following:

1st  Katharyn Howd Machan  Ithaca, New York  “SARA ELLEN FLOOD: Redwing, 1888”
2nd  David Anderson  Lincoln, California  “The Half-Breeds”
3rd  Claire Scott  Oakland, California  “Too Late”
HM  John Oliver Simon  Berkeley, California  “Dysarthria”
HM  Xan L. Roberti  San Francisco, California  “Skytalk”
HM  Claire Scott  Oakland, California  “Windows”
HM  George E. Samerjan  North Chatham, New York  “A Stray II”
HM  Marie Chambers  Los Angeles, California  “The Whiteness of Bones”

The placing poems and comments from this year’s judge, Erica Goss, the 2013-2015 Los Gatos Poet Laureate, will appear in Vol. 41 No. 4 of the California Quarterly later this year.

**The Mailing**

This CQ mailing includes the 2015 No. 3 CSPS Poetry Letter, a 2016 Membership Form, the 2016 Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the August 2015 NFSPS Strophes, the 2016 NFSPS Annual Contests brochure, a 2015 CSPS Board Ballot, and this 2015 No. 3 CSPS Newsbriefs. The information in all of these is also available on or through our website.

Extra copies of current or previous CQ issues can be purchased via the CQs tab on our website (CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety.org). Membership dues and donations can also be made on it via the Membership tab.

Wishing you all a great fall 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
JFHarrer@gmail.com