Greetings from the Board of the California State Poetry Society (CSPS)!

This fourth issue for 2016 comes to you in November with Vol. 42 No. 4 of the *California Quarterly* (*CQ*), edited by Pearl Karrer.

**News from the CSPS**

Please note the instructions for submitting to the CSPS Annual Contest have changed to be consistent with the instructions for submitting to the CSPS monthly contests. Each entry must consist of a cover page with all poet information and a list of the submitted poems, followed by pages with the poems on them and *no* poet information.

We now have an email distribution list of members to facilitate passing on flyers we receive for various contests, poetry conferences around the country and other news. The name is **CSPS President** (CalStatePoetrySoc@gmail.com), so please check your spam filters. Our first action was to forward the NFPS announcement of a new speakers database for poets who do such things. 😊 Some of you responded back to the email address (to the CSPS) instead of going online to NFPS.com or looking up Steven Concert’s contact information (that is, at least for emails, PaperlessPoets@gmail.com) in the NFPS Strophes; so be careful, as we don’t respond to such falsch gefahren emails. 😊

If you received the announcement and don’t want to be included in the list, please advise me at the email address below my name. If you didn’t receive the email announcement and would like to be included in the list, please also advise me at the email address below my name. 😊

If 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 to our email distribution, on the website, or include it in an upcoming *Newsbriefs*.

Besides her attendance at the 3rd International Poetry Festival of Marrakesh, CSPS Secretary/Historian and *CQ* Editor Margaret Saine has a flurry of things just out. Her first book of poems in Arabic, *Searching for Bridges*, was translated by Nizar Sartawi (a *CQ* contributor, by the way) and published with English and Arabic on alternating pages. On the cover is a picture of the sphinx from the grounds of the Palace of Fontainebleau – très élégante! 😊 Her work in Italian, *Paesaggi che respirano, Parte 2* (that is, *Breathing Landscapes, Part II*), has one of her Michigan photographs on its cover. Finally, *Atem der Stille* (that is, *Breath of Silence*) has also been published in Germany. Whew! 😊

During July, an update (probably to the *Joomla!* version GoDaddy has installed for us) eliminated our ability to upload .docx files for submissions. GoDaddy still has not fixed the problem (ahem), so please save your files as 97/2003 .doc files (you’ll see the option under the *Save As* tab in MS Word) and upload them instead.
Contests, Contest Databases and Others

The monthly contest topics and rules for 2017 will be the same as they are for 2016; they are posted on the website and included in this mailing. Please use CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety.org to submit your poems! It’s easier, less expensive (no $.49 stamp, not to mention the cost of the envelope and paper) and much faster. 😊

Don’t forget to check the following websites on a regular basis for their news, especially of contests, classes and conferences:

- Poets & Writers Magazine  www.pw.org
- Poetry Foundation  www.poetryfoundation.org
- Tupelo Press  www.tupelopress.org

The Mailing

This CQ mailing includes the 2016 No. 4 CSPS Poetry Letter, a 2017 Membership Form, the 2017 Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the 2017 CSPS Publication Guidelines, the October 2016 NFSPS Strophes, and this 2016 No. 4 CSPS Newsbriefs.

Praying you all have a wonderful Christmas season and also have some time to write, and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Editors, I remain,

Very truly yours,

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