



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

## ***Newsbriefs*** ***2017, No. 2***

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

This second issue for 2017 comes to you in July with Vol. 43 No. 2 of the *California Quarterly* (**CQ**), edited by Maura Harvey.

### ***News from the CSPS***

Some of you may have noticed warnings in February about our website if you use Chrome or Firefox as your browser (Internet Explorer was fine with us). Our website had in fact been hacked, but the inserted links were to malware sites that had already been shut down. The links couldn't resolve in this case, which explains why those of us who use the website regularly didn't notice anything amiss. We removed the stinky, smelly code from our website templates and Google's malware team cleared it, so ... not to worry! ☺ I'm repeating this in case some of you might have missed it in the last *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*.

Editorial Chair Pearl Karrer has her poem "Kachinas" appearing in *Slant*, Volume XXXI, Summer 2017.

Monthly Contest Chair Keith Van Vliet received a nice letter from Sally Clark, who won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the March contest:

I am delighted to have won First Place in the CSPS Monthly Contest for March, 2017, for my poem "One Loose Screw."

Writing contests are a wonderful source of encouragement and confidence building for writers. Thank you so much for all your hard work.

Greg Gregory, a (very) long-time member of the CSPS and **CQ** contributor, wrote the following about the last issue of the journal (Vol. 43 No. 1, edited by Margaret Saine):

I particularly liked "The Understanding" by Joel Fry, "Reading at Midnight" by Marjorie Power, "Surrender" by Marilyn Robertson, and three translations by Margaret Saine—"Senza Titolo" ("Untitled"), "Was Dir Wirklich Gehört" ("What is Truly Yours") and especially, my favorite of the entire collection, "Ten Moons in a Hand."

Cleo Griffith, whose poem appeared in the same issue, had the following to say:

I am absolutely thrilled to be the first author in Vol. 43 No. 1! What a delight! And what a fine book of poems in which to be included. Thank you to all of you who work hard at this publication! I am honored to be presented in such fine fashion.

Editor Maura Harvey visited the Dorland Arts Colony in Temecula this past May, where Lea Aschkenas (her poem, "New Cat," is in the enclosed **CQ**) had come to write. It was a nostalgic journey for Maura, as she had visited it in the 1980s during the two weeks her father, Dr. James E. MacWhinney (a former **CQ** editor), stayed there to write. The Colony burned down in 2004, but it has been rebuilt since and is once again growing strong. The experience reminded her that, like the phoenix, the arts always rise again from the ashes of hardship and destruction.

On a personal note, *The Hand of the Midnight Moon*, a collection of my poems from 1964 through the last two years or so, was published in March. It's available on Amazon. I have repeated this announcement in case you missed it last time. ☺

***Don't forget to renew your membership for 2017!*** Pay via our website or send it to the address on the enclosed membership form. Check the mailing label on the package you've received and get in touch with us if it says 2016.

### ***Contests, Contest Databases and Others***

I've included a short history I compiled of the CSPA and the **CQ** for this year's convention of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. I hope you enjoy it and especially if you have additional relevant historical information, *please* send it to me! ☺

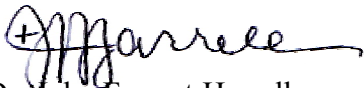
Finally, if you mail your submissions to the **CQ** and include your email address in them, there is no need to supply a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) for a response from us.

### ***The Mailing***

This **CQ** mailing includes the 2017 No. 2 CSPA *Poetry Letter*, a 2017 Membership Form, the 2017 Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the 2017 CSPA Publication Guidelines, the January 2017 NFSPS *Strophes*, the 5/17 CSPA Short History, and this 2017 No. 2 CSPA *Newsbriefs*.

Praying you *all* had a *great* spring and have *incredible* success with your writing this summer, 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](mailto:JFHarrell@gmail.com)