



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

Newsbriefs ***2018, No. 2***

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

This second *Newsbriefs* issue for 2018 comes to you in May with Vol. 44 No. 2 of the *California Quarterly* (CQ), edited by Pearl Karrer.

Errata

The penultimate line of “National Botanical Gardens,” a poem by Alun Rees of Cardiff, Wales, in the last issue of the CQ (Vol. 44 No. 1) was published as “confronted with freedom we chain and go meekly” and it should have been “confronted with freedom we chain it and go meekly.”

The poet identified in the same issue as Rodolfo Hausler is in reality the Swiss-Cuban-Spanish poet Rodolfo Häslar. His two contributions to the issue, “Vision del Vals de la Nieve” and “Visión de Orión,” are on pp. 24 and 54, respectively.

In *The CSPS Monthly Contest Winners for 2017* attachment to the last *Newsbriefs* (2018 No. 1), the first place winner for the November contest was listed as Lillian M. Fischer from Greenup, KY, and it should have been Lillian M. Fisher (no *c*) from Alpine, CA.

I could blame this stuff on the hired help, but no one’s paying me a salary—or any of the Editors or the Board of Directors, either—and so I will blame it on the computer I’m using. Ahem. It’s hard to get good help these days. ☺

In any case, the CSPS proofreading process will henceforth *always* include a full set of originals against which to measure the basic fidelity of the CQ draft being prepared for publication.

News from the CSPS

Lia Brooks, a contributor to the last CQ (Vol. 44 No. 1, edited by Maja Trochimczyk) let us know she was delighted with the issue in an email to Maja:

I just wanted to let you know that I've been busy reading through the latest issue of California Quarterly ... The moods, music, scenes and details of the issue somehow knit together exactly right ... I've come away with the feeling that, over all, the issue is a celebration of the seasons, and of life. So lovely to have been surrounded by nature in this way ... I want to thank you for accepting my work.

Keith Van Vliet will be stepping down quite soon, at least from the Monthly Contest Chair position and maybe as VP/Communications, because of health issues. In his note to me he wrote, “I have thoroughly enjoyed relating to the people who send poems in for the monthly contests, so

the decision to give it up comes with a price.” He and I joined the CSPA Board back in the 1980s and have been actively involved ever since, so it has been a long run indeed! My prayer is for my old friend’s continued recovery and many more emails between the two of us.

CSPA Secretary/Historian and longtime *CQ* Editor Margaret Saine is presently once again in Italy visiting friends, basking in the incredible art and culture, and (presumably) involved with various poetry presentations. This past February her fourth book of German poems, *Ein Lied Davon*, was published by Wiesenburg Publishers in Schweinfurt. In March, the poetry journal *Crear en Salamanca*, edited by the Peruvian-Spanish poet Alfredo Alencart, published 40 haiku in Spanish by Margaret. Have I mentioned she writes and publishes poetry in five languages? She’s been busy! ☺

Certain limitations have become necessary to my own involvement with the CSPA. As of the accompanying *CQ* Vol. 44 No. 2, I will no longer be proofreading the drafts we send to the printer in Michigan. Pearl Karrer will be responsible for the final appearance of each issue without any additional editing by yours truly.

I will also be resigning from all responsibilities except those of the Treasurer and the Webmaster at the end of this year. This includes everything related to the positions of President (Acting), Editor and Managing Editor.

The Managing Editor is responsible for the printer-ready drafts of the *CQ*, of course, but also for the following:

- (1) preparing address files for the Post Office (at least some poets in each issue don't give us proper addresses and it takes some research to get the right ones),
- (2) printing labels per the requirements of the Post Office for presorted mailings (this is done online and downloaded),
- (3) preparing the mailing inserts for the local printer, having them printed and delivered,
- (4) stuffing the inserts and the *CQs* in preprinted envelopes,
- (5) adding stamps and labels and putting rubber bands around the Post Office-specified groups,
- (6) taking the trays to the Bulk Mailing Center of the (reasonably) local Post Office,
- (7) mailing the domestic presorted packages,
- (8) going to the regular Post Office to buy postage for and mail the international packages (that you've previously prepared, of course),
- (9) packaging the issues and inserts for editors and shipping them, and finally
- (10) preparing and shipping the remaining issues and inserts to Richard Deets, our VP/Membership who also handles shipping copies to those who’ve purchased them (as well as to those who join during the year and so receive the earlier issues of the year if they’re available).

All this should actually be done by a small group of poets who live near one another and get together for an afternoon or two four times a year to do it all. When it's done, they also (presumably) celebrate each time with poetry readings, wine and cheese. ☺

For one person, it becomes too much work. I took this over, knowing it was too much, almost seven years ago when Kate Ozbirn resigned.

I won't be going anywhere, so I will be available to teach and explain things to new people. Please consider ratcheting up your involvement with the active management of the CSPS and production of the *CQ*. Contact me at the email address below my signature—or talk to any of the others on the Board whom you know.

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*.

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2018! 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 2017.

Contests, Contest Databases and Others

Our flyer for the 2018 CSPS Annual Contest this year is included again in this mailing. ***Please put copies of it up in whatever environs you frequent!*** ☺ The Bay Area poet, writer and teacher, MaryLee McNeal, is our Annual Contest judge this year.

We began accepting submissions for the CSPS 2018 Annual Poetry Contest on March 1st and will continue accepting them through June 30th. Reading fees are \$3 a poem for members and \$6 a poem for nonmembers. Winning poems will be published in the fourth issue of the *CQ* this year (Vol. 44 No. 4). Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd are \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

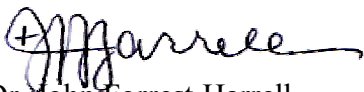
If you mail your submissions and include your email address in them, there is no need to supply a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) for a response from us.

The Mailing

This *CQ* mailing includes the 2018 No. 2 CSPS *Poetry Letter*, a 2018 Membership Form, the 2018 Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the CSPS 2018 Annual Contest announcement, the 2018 CSPS Publication Guidelines, the April 2018 NFSPS *Strophes*, and this 2018 No. 2 CSPS *Newsbriefs*.

Praying you *all* have *much* success with your writing in what remains of a lovely spring, and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Editors, I remain,

Very truly yours,



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