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**GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY
Contact Information**

www.georgiapoetrysociety.org
gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org
706-622-4454

2011 Officers

Robert S. King, President
Jill Jennings, Vice-President
JC Reilly, Secretary
Elsie Austin, Treasurer

Board Members

Keith Badowski
Terry Hensel
Berthena Lankford
Robert L. Lynn
Robert Simon
George Williams

Projects and Committees

Maria Shaheen, Poetry in
the Schools
Lou Jones, Contest Chair
Ira Harrison, Historian
Robert S. King, Webmaster
Robert L. Lynn,
Membership Chair
Ann Gillespie, Strophes
Reporter
Ron Self, Poetry Road Shows
Sandy Hokanson,
Reach of Song Editor

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**ING: July
00 a.m.**

**Kennesaw
rsity,
Student**

IMPORTANT

Your lunch reservation form (page 4) must be received by July 20

Unveiling The Reach of Song 2011

The annual anthology of the Georgia Poetry Society, *The Reach of Song*, will be unveiled at the upcoming quarterly meeting, July 23, 2011. This year's anthology was edited by Sandy Hokanson. Elizabeth Garcia served as Assistant Editor.

The anthology will be available for purchase at the meeting. Those of you who preordered can pick up your copies. If you cannot attend the meeting

but wish to purchase a copy, you may download an order form from our website by [clicking here](#).

The anthology contains poems from the winners of our annual contest, including both adult and youth competitions. Member poems also appear in the volume.

Adult contest winners have been invited to read their poems at the meeting.

Youth contest winners read at the April meeting in Macon, Georgia.

We hope you will come to the meeting not only for *The Reach of Song* but also for all the other good things going on, as you will read about below.

Featured Poet: Sandy Hokanson

At the July meeting, we are pleased to feature one of our own poets, Sandy Hokanson, who recently published her first book of poems, *Snow on Stone*.



Sandy started writing poetry in her teens; was involved in journalism in high school and college; has written children's curriculum for David C. Cook Publishing Co. and children's puppet shows and drama for a number of years. She has been in numerous writing groups, including a poetry workshop in Rockport, Massachusetts for seven years. She and her husband, Dale, lived in Topsfield, Massachusetts

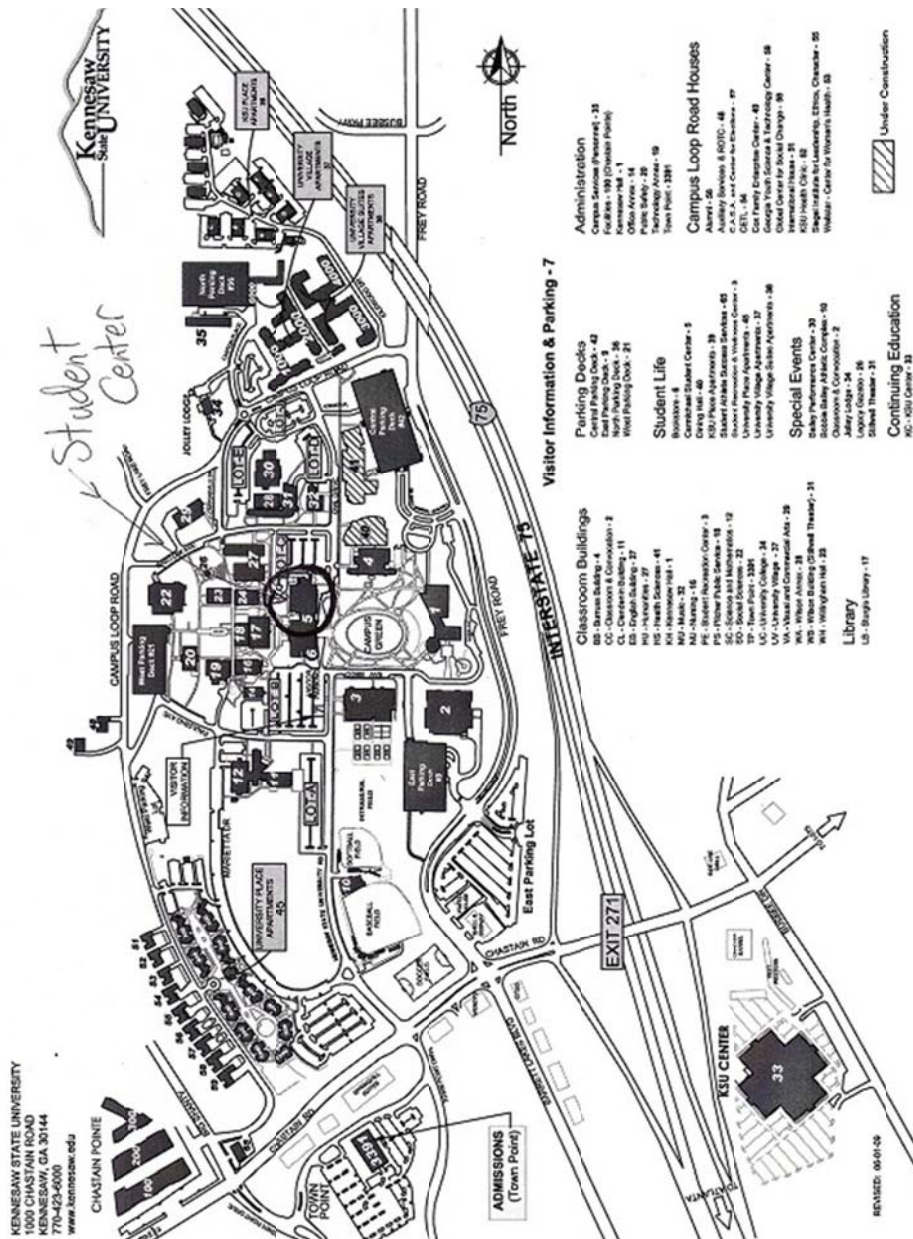
for 20 years before moving to Georgia in 2003. She has had the privilege of traveling all over the world with her husband on business trips, so her writing draws from those travels, as well as those 20 years in New England and her love of nature.

Directions to Kennesaw State University

(see also campus map below)

Kennesaw State University, located at 1000 Chastain Road, is in Cobb Co., 20 minutes north of Atlanta on I-75, one exit north of Town Center Mall.

Take the Chastain Road Exit (No. 271) and turn west across the interstate. Take the third street to your right, Kennesaw State University Drive, at the ball fields. Continue straight for about one tenth of a mile and park in the Welcome Center lot on the left. Our meeting will be in the nearby Student Center (Building 5 on the map provided, next page). Follow the GPS signs from that point on.



Program

(times and order of program segments subject to change)

9:00 – 9:30	Registration, Coffee, Fellowship
9:30 – 9:45	Welcome and Call to Order, Robert King, President
9:45 – 10:15	Member Readings, Morning Session, Jill Jennings, Emcee
10:15 – 10:30	Morning Book Raffle
10:30 – 11:30	Unveiling of 2011 Reach of Song, Sandy Hokanson, Editor, plus Member Award Winners read winning poems
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 1:30	Featured Poet: Sandy Hokanson, reads from her book, <i>Snow On Stone</i> , Q and A, Book Signing
1:30 – 1:40	Break
1:40 – 1:50	Lanier Prize, Robert King and Bob Lynn
1:50 – 2:10	NFSPS Encore 2011 GPS member poems read by winners
2:10 – 2:20	Afternoon Raffle
2:20 – 2:50	Member Readings, Afternoon Session, Robert King, Emcee
2:50 – 3:00	Announcements, Robert King
3:00	Meeting Adjourned
3:05	GPS Board Meeting



Lanier Prize Winner

For the April quarterly meeting at the Lanier Cottage in Macon, Georgia, we asked members to read an original poem on a subject related in some way to poet Sidney Lanier. Quite a few participated in this reading, and we thank you all.

We asked poet Alice Friman, our featured poet at the meeting, to judge the Lanier poems. We will reveal the winner at the July meeting and have that poet read the winning entry.

The prize was donated by Bob Lynn. It is a \$50 volume of *Poetry Speaks Expanded*, featuring recordings of 47 of the greatest poets reading their best poems, including James Joyce, Sylvia Plath, e.e. cummings, Ezra Pound, Robert Browning, Walt Whitman, and William Butler Yeats.



Consider Bringing a Guest to This Meeting

If you will bring a guest with you for the July 23 gathering of poets, that person will love the program but will also learn much about GPS, and perhaps join us. This is a special opportunity to expand our ranks. Membership information will be available at the welcome table as people arrive.

Reserve a Catered Lunch

Lunch Reservation Form for GPS Quarterly Meeting, July 23, 2011, Kennesaw State University

Menu:

Chicken Kabobs (teriyaki chicken, pineapple, red pepper and sweet onions on a skewer)

OR Vegetarian Kabobs (same, except no chicken)

AND

Fried rice, stir-fry vegetables, broccoli and cheese casserole, rolls, Éclair cake

Beverages (coffee, tea, bottled water)

\$17.00 per person. Make checks payable to Georgia Poetry Society. Mail order form and check to our Treasurer:

Elsie M. Austin, 7021 Mellwood Road, Columbus, GA 31904

Please list all names for the reservation:

Contact:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enter number of meals for Chicken Kabobs _____ or Vegetarian Kabobs _____

Reservation and Form must be received by July 20, 2011.

Member News

Roseanna Almae reports that The Albany Writers' Guild is being revitalized after many years of little to no action. The intention of the group will be to form a creative teaching and learning community of writers from all genres working together to learn about and improve their craft. Anyone in Albany or the surrounding area who is interested in participating should get in touch with GPS member Roseanna Almae at email texasrose421@hotmail.com or cell phone (229) 888-0838 for information and to be added to the notification list. We will be holding an organizational meeting in August.

Emery Campbell has had three of his writings chosen for publication in the 2011 anthology *Shout Them from the Mountain Tops II: Georgia Poems and Stories*, a book sponsored by the GCTE (Georgia Council of Teachers of English). They are "Saved by the Flare" and "Memorial Day," prose stories; and "Curses! Foiled Again," a poem. The book encompasses works by writers and artists 18 and over presently living in Georgia. Emery also was awarded a third honorable mention in category number 45 of the 2011 NFSPS contest series.

Dr. **Jim Green**, who teaches business at Georgia Southern in Statesboro, is a new member of GPS. He has an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch-Los Angeles and plans in retirement to spend more time writing poetry. This summer he and his wife are back in Ireland on the western coast at their cottage near Shannon. Dr. Green will serve on the GPS membership committee for Southeast Georgia.

Alabama's **Jerri Hardesty** impressed a band of 20 at the June 20 Johns Creek Poetry Group meeting with the quality of her performance and her writing. Jerri is a ten-time haiku champion and goes head-to-head in poetry slams across the South. She encouraged poets to hone their presentations and look audiences in the eyes to give their poetry maximum impact

Sandy Hokanson recently published her first book of poems, *Snow on Stone*. She says, "If you like rock walls and the dramatic changes of the seasons in New England, or poems about family relationships, you may be interested in my book. It spans the twenty years I lived in an 1836 Cape style farmhouse in Topsfield, Massachusetts and is now available directly from me for \$14.00. Just let me know by email, hokanson@comcast.net."

Laurence Holden's poem, "Tracks," appeared in the Spring issue of *Appalachian Heritage*. Other poems, "Old Plank road Pottery" and "The Gate," received honorable mention awards in the 1st annual Byron Herbert Reece Society Poetry contest. "On a Day, Still" will appear in the fall 2011 issue of *Chrysalis Reader*. "Breaching" will appear in the GPS anthology, *The Reach of Song 2011*. A recent public presentation was "Sing Me the Creation: Poems for the Earth, Poems for Coming Home," with musical accompaniment, April 23, at Promenade of the Arts, Mt. City, Ga.

Poet **Karen Paul Holmes** has recent acceptances by *Poetry East*, *Referential Magazine*, the *And Love* anthology by Jacar Press, and the *American Society: What Poets See* anthology by FutureCycle Press.

GPS Vice President and poet **Jill Jennings** was featured in a poetry reading and talk on June 18 at The Little Shop of Arts and Antiques, Lilburn, GA.

McCaysville Poet **Robert Kimsey** will read his mountain poetry to the Johns Creek Poetry Group on Saturday, August 27, 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon at Northeast Regional Library. Active in the Georgia Poetry Society, he guides the Blue Ridge Poets and Writers and is on the planning board of the Blue Ridge Writers Conference. He is also a long-time member of the Kentucky Poetry Society. Host Bob Lynn requests that you help promote the event by emailing to others, or downloading and posting a flyer available at <http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/downloads/RobertWKimseyReading.pdf>. This event will also include an open mic and critiquing of your poems.

Robert S. King has recent acceptances of his poems in *Indigo Rising*, *Foundling Review*, *The Reach of Song* (GPS anthology), and *Thoughtsmith*. He has also completed his third full-length collection now seeking a publisher.

Berthena Lankford may have endured a poetry experience worthy of a poem. On April 29 she and a friend drove from Blairsville to Macon for the GPS meeting, only to find their hotel rooms unavailable due to hotel overbooking. Searches for lodging proved futile because of an FFA convention that had Macon motels stuffed with teenagers. Berthena decided to drive towards Atlanta and ended up back home in Blairsville at 3 a.m. on Saturday morning, where she slept through the GPS doings at the Lanier Cottage in Downtown Macon. We missed you, Berthena.

Bob Lynn made three poetry appearances July 7-9 in South Georgia. He presented his poetry to The Rotary Clubs of Thomasville and Eastman and participated in the first Independent Authors Book Fair in downtown Thomasville. He also conferred with area poets who agreed to help GPS find more prospective members in South Georgia. These included Julie Rucker, senior high English teacher in Tifton, Georgia, and Johnny McMoy, Planning Director for Middle Georgia College. If any of you know poets living in Southwest, Southeast or Northeast Georgia, where we need more members, please give their names and email addresses to Bob Lynn.

Barry Marks, with the help of publicist Hunter Bell, gave three June readings in Birmingham and scheduled at least two for later this summer in support of his book, *Possible Crocodiles* (www.brickroadpoetrypress.com). Barry's advice: "Getting someone to make arrangements for readings is worth a little money or asking a friend for a favor. Bookstores and coffeehouses react better to a 'publicist' than the author."

Martha Phillips, local author and poet, moderated a session of poetry reading for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Georgia, July 15, 1:30 - 3:30. The reading included works of Pat Adams, Linda Moore, Martha Phillips and Gay Williford. Their poems and limericks have won awards from the Georgia Poetry Society, Southeastern Writers Association and the Georgia Federation of Women's



Clubs. Martha and Gay live in Athens. Pat and Linda reside in Oconee County. As members of the Poet Pourri group formed several years ago by Gay Williford, the poets meet regularly to read and share poetry, prose, essays and limericks.

Kit Schmeiser's poem, "Winter Trees," received 2nd place in the Joyce Kilmer 75th Anniversary Celebration poetry contest. The Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center in Robbinsville sponsored the contest, and judges included one of Joyce Kilmer's granddaughters. Over 115 Adult and Professional entries were received. Winning poems will be posted at the Center throughout July.

Thanks to **Steven Shields** for setting up the new Facebook GPS Group page. This will be a very good tool for disseminating information.

Robert Simon has a new chapbook of poetry, *Summer Poems of You and Me*, now on sale at Finishing Line Press. The website to obtain your copy is: <http://finishinglinepress.com/NewReleasesandForthcomingTitles.htm>

Mary Stripling won First Place for The Distilled Experience Award for Poetry 2011, given by Southeastern Writers Association.

Contests and Publishing Opportunities

Brick Road Poetry Press annual book competition opens August 1, 2011. Prize is \$1000 plus publication. Guidelines are available at <http://www.brickroadpoetrypress.com/poetry-book-contest.html>

GPS member **Barbara Lipe** sends this announcement on the Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference Poetry Contest. Guidelines are available at the link below. Deadline is August 1, so hurry!
<http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/downloads/CVW2011PoetryContest.pdf>

FutureCycle Press seeks poems on social and political themes for a special anthology, *American Society: What Poets See*. Editors Robert S. King and David Chorlton. Submission guidelines are available at <http://www.futurecycle.org/FutureCyclePoetry/SocialAnthology.aspx>.

GPS Road Shows and Events

Road Shows:

On April 27, 2011 **Freddie Riley, Scott Wilkerson, Melissa Blackburn** and **Ron Self** participated in a Road Show at Middle Georgia Technical College in Warner Robbins, GA. This is the second year GPS has assisted the college with its poetry month celebrations. Thanks to Dr. Dumont Bunn for making the arrangements.

Lynda Holmes and the Northeast Georgia Writers Club (Gainesville) are in the process of planning a Road Show event for Wednesday, February 1st, 2012. Watch for details later.

Anne Gillespie and **Tonette Long** in the planning process for a Road Show in the Dahlonega area.

Events:

On June 25th the Ben Hill County Library in Fitzgerald, GA sponsored a writers' workshop. **Ron Self** was one of the presenters on the topic "How to Become a Better Writer by Becoming a Better Poet."

Robert W. Kimsey and **Robert S. King** are planning a reading and open mic event to be held at the Blue Ridge Arts Alliance the third week of September. Details forthcoming.



Serving Georgia's Poets
Since 1979

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Georgia Poetry Society dues are \$30 per calendar year for individual members and \$40 for families. Discounted memberships (\$15) are offered to students and active-duty military. Anyone joining after October 1 in any year will be credited as members for the following calendar year without owing any additional dues. A lifetime membership is \$500. To join, complete this form, enclose your check in the proper amount, and mail to: Georgia Poetry Society, 313 Pan Will Road, Mineral Bluff GA 30559. If you prefer, you can submit this form online at the [GPS website](#) and pay by credit card.

NOTE: The information you provide below may be included in a membership directory circulated to all members of the Georgia Poetry Society. Do not include any information you do not want included in the directory. Please PRINT clearly.

Name:	Street Address or P.O. Box:
City, State, ZIP:	Home Phone:
Office or Cell Phone:	Email (print very carefully):
Occupation:	Hometown newspaper (to be used for press releases):
Type of Membership (check one): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual (\$30) • Family (\$40) • Life \$500 • Student (\$15) • Military (\$15) 	How did you hear about the Georgia Poetry Society?
If applying for family membership, list other family members who will be included in this membership (limited to parents and dependent children residing in the same household):	If you are joining as a student, please complete the following information: Your age: Your grade: Name of your school:
Please list any publications in which your poetry has appeared, any prizes you have won, or other significant activities as a poet:	Can you volunteer to help GPS? Check all that apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications • Events • Membership Drives • Other (specify special interests, skills, time available, etc.):



Updated July 2011