

Winter 2012 News

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and Ayodele Heath

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~ GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY Contact Information

www.georgiapoetrysociety.org
gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org

2011 Officers

Steven Shields, Interim
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

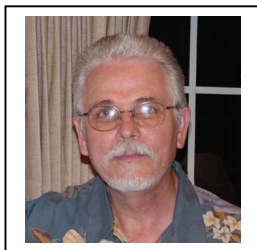
NEXT MEETING:
January 21, 2012,
9:00 a.m.

LOCATION:
Kennesaw State
University, Social
Sciences # 1019

IMPORTANT

To ensure that you receive a lunch at the meeting, please reserve
beforehand (see page 5)

Poet Robert W. Kimsey Headlines Next GPS Meeting in Kennesaw



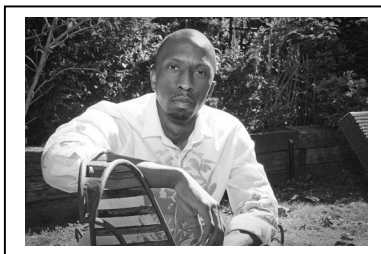
Poet Robert Kimsey is the featured reader for the upcoming January 21, 2012 meeting of the Georgia Poetry Society. The meeting will be held on the campus of Kennesaw State University in the Social Sciences building, room 1019.

Kimsey's bio states that he is "a retired Technical Writer/Illustrator and lives in McCaysville, GA. His poems have been

published in various poetry and web columns including *Kudzu*, *Pegasus the Southern Ocean Review*, *New Southerner* and various anthologies. He is the winner of the 2005 Lee Pennington Award, R. J. Lutzke Memorial Award and placed second in the President's Prize from the Kentucky State Poetry Society. Robert has taught workshops for the Kentucky Poetry Society as well as at the Blue Ridge Writer's Conference. *Paths From the Shawnee Spring* is the title of his first chapbook."

Robert will read from his latest book, *Air Swimmer*, from FutureCycle Press.

Workshop Presenter: M. Ayodele Heath



Atlanta poet M. Ayodele Heath will present a workshop on the performance of poetry at the next meeting of the Georgia Poetry Society.

Heath is a graduate of the MFA program at New England College. Heath's honors include a 2009 Dorothy Rosenberg Prize

and a McEver Visiting Chair in Writing at Georgia Tech. He has been awarded fellowships from Cave Canem, Summer Poetry at Idyllwild, and the Caversham Centre for Writers & Artists in South Africa and received a grant in Literary Arts from the Atlanta Bureau for Cultural Affairs. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in: *Crab Orchard Review*, *diode*, *Mississippi Review*, *Callaloo*, *The New York Quarterly*, *Chattahoochee Review*, and *Mythium*, as well as featured in anthologies including *Poetry Slam: the Competitive Art of Performance Poetry* (2000), *Java Monkey Speaks Anthology I* (2004), and *My South: a People, a Place, a World All Its Own* (2005).

Directions to the Kennesaw State campus

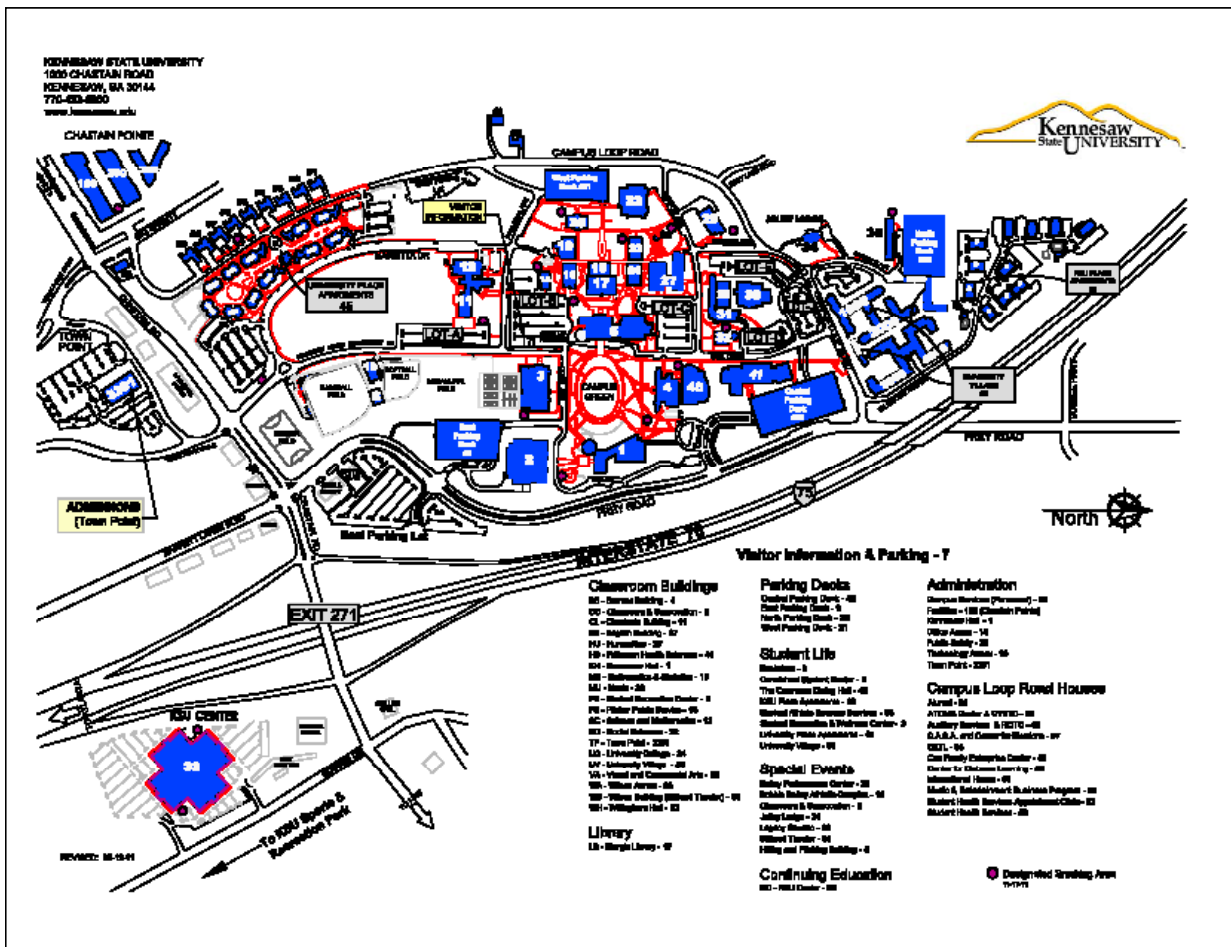
The GPS meeting will be held in Kennesaw State's Social Sciences building, room 1019. It is an auditorium-style room. Please note that this is a different location on campus than our typical meeting hall, as space is limited that weekend on the campus. Our luncheon will be held in the Atrium across from our meeting room.

Parking is available on campus in the usual location(s). See the campus map below. The Social Sciences building is #22. It is located next to the West parking deck. You may find it preferable to park there if you have mobility issues.

The street address is 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

Kennesaw State University is located in Cobb County, 20 minutes north of Atlanta on I-75 one exit north of Town Center Mall. Take the Chastain Road Exit number 271 and turn left if northbound on I-75 (turn right if southbound). Go to the third light if northbound (second if southbound) and turn right onto Kennesaw State University Drive just beyond the soccer field on your right. Continue straight for about one tenth of a mile and park in the Welcome Center lot.

For more information about the Kennesaw State campus, visit their website at www.kennesaw.edu.





Program for the January 2012 Meeting

(The time and order of program events are subject to change)

- 8:30 – 9:15 Social Hour: Coffee and Donuts
- 9:15 – 9:30 Welcome and Announcements (Steven Shields)
- 9:30 – 9:45 Annual Business Meeting and Elections (Robert L. Lynn)
- 9:45 – 10:15 Member Readings #1 (Steven Shields)
- 10:15 – 10:30 Break
- 10:30 – 10:45 Readings from *Under A Hundred*, a new GPS chapbook (Shields)
- 10:45 – 11:00 Raffle (Shields / Robert S. King)
- 11:00 – 11:30 Featured Poet Robert W. Kimsey
- 11:30 – 12:45 GPS Annual Awards Banquet in the Atrium (Lou Jones)
Installation of 2012 Officers and Board (Shields, Robert S. King)
- 12:45 – 1:00 Break
- 1:00 – 1:45 Workshop Presenter M. Ayodele Heath
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:15 – 2:45 Member readings # 2
- 2:45 – 3:00 Final Announcements, Adjournment
- 3:00 Board Meeting



The Reach of Song 2012

Reminder: submission deadlines for the Society's anthology *The Reach of Song 2012* are approaching (February 16). Here are the guidelines in brief:

For the 2012 edition of *The Reach of Song*, Editor elect, Elizabeth Garcia, will accept submissions beginning January 1, 2012, through Thursday, 16 February 2012, from members in good standing of the Georgia Poetry Society. The Society encourages all current members to submit works for *The Reach of Song 2011*, although membership does not guarantee inclusion. In addition to member poems, the collection will contain the winning poems of the 2011 youth and adult contests, as well as the recipients of The Awards for Excellence among member poems. The anthology will be available at the July 2012 quarterly GPS meeting.

Please submit **two poems** for consideration. Include two carefully typed copies of each work, one copy with your name and address. Entries

(1) must be 40 lines or fewer,

(2) must not have been previously published in *The Reach of Song*, and

(3) must not have won a cash prize in any state-wide poetry competition.

Submissions may be on any subject and may follow any form. Two nonmember judges will rank the works. Those receiving highest marks will qualify for First-, Second-, and Third-Place Awards for Excellence. The poems receiving these awards will be published in *The Reach of Song 2012* and the award recipients will receive free copies of the anthology. No more than one poem per poet will be included in the Member Section. Each poet will receive a proof of the poem chosen for publication, with a request for a prompt response.

Email submissions to lizcranford@gmail.com are encouraged, to reduce retyping, and must be received by 16 February 2012. Entries sent by the U.S. postal service must be postmarked no later than 16 February 2012. Send them to

The Reach of Song, 2012, Elizabeth Garcia, Editor elect

Georgia Poetry Society

3292 Crossfield Lane

Duluth, GA 30096

lizcranford@gmail.com

Consider Bringing a Guest to This Meeting

If you will bring a guest with you for the January 21 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.

Banquet

Our annual awards banquet will be served in the Atrium, buffet-style. We encourage everyone to reserve this special lunch well ahead of time. Although some lunches may be purchased at the meeting (\$9.00 per person) they are not guaranteed to be available. Please send your check and form to our Treasurer, Elsie Austin before January 15. Use the form on the next page.

Lunch Reservation Form

for GPS Quarterly meeting, January 21, 2012
Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA



Menu:

For this meeting it's a package deal at a very low price.

Price includes morning coffee, juice, and pastries in the atrium near our meeting room, plus lunch banquet buffet of Stuffed Chicken Breast w/ Broccoli and Cheddar Cheese, Yellow Rice w/ Broccoli Florets & Almonds, Green Beans, Garden Salad, Rolls, Chocolate Cake, Tea.

The cost is \$9.00 per person. Make *checks payable to Georgia Poetry Society*.

Mail this order form and your check to our Treasurer:

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

Please list all names for the reservation:

_____, _____
_____, _____
_____, _____

Contact:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Reservation form must be received before the meeting to ensure reservation. Limited numbers of lunches may be purchased at the meeting.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ LUNCHES x \$9.00 @ = _____

THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Member News

Emery Campbell reports that his poem "The Big Bang" has been accepted for publication in *Light-The Quarterly of Light Verse* in their edition No. 74-75 Autumn-Winter 2011.

Robert S. King was recently the featured poet at Writers' Night Out, Hiawassee, GA. He read from his new, unpublished book manuscript, *One Man's Profit*. Writers' Night Out is a monthly reading series hosted by GPS member Karen Paul Holmes. Contact Karen for more information: kpaulholmes@gmail.com.

Robert S. King has new poems accepted by *Dead Mule School of Southern Literature*, *Free Verse*, *The Penwood Review*, and *Northwind Magazine*. All of these will appear in the first quarter of 2012.

A GPS Road Show will happen in Gainesville, GA on February 1, 2012, hosted by the Northeast Georgia Writers. Poets **Robert S. King**, **Robert W. Kimsey**, **Tonette Long**, and **Steven Shields** will read and discuss their work during a three-hour, afternoon presentation. For more information, please contact Robert S. King, rsking@futurecycle.org, or 770-272-5916.

Steven Shields has a new chapbook of poems entitled *Valentines for Many People*.

Under A Hundred

The long-awaited chapbook honoring GPS co-founder Edward Davin Vickers was published in late November 2011. This chapbook, entitled *Under A Hundred*, features GPS poets Ron Self and Mildred Greear as well as a third poet from the Boston area. Those included were competitively selected in early 2011 from a contest that asked poets to submit any number of poems as long as the total line count (excluding titles and blank lines) did not exceed 100 lines. Copies of the chapbook will be offered for sale at a discounted price to the membership at the January meeting, after which copies can be obtained online at amazon.com and other places. Program time has been set aside for those selected to read from their works; interim President Steven Shields will read for those unable to attend.

A Note from Interim President Shields

Some of our membership may not be aware that the Georgia Poetry Society has been functioning since late October without our most recently elected President Robert S. King and Vice-President Jill Jennings. Both resigned due to health issues. At the last meeting of the GPS Board in October, I volunteered to step in and plan the next quarterly meeting to help ease the strain a bit. I'm also responsible for whatever shortcomings may exist with this newsletter, as we also have had no newsletter editor for some time. We are fortunate, however, to have had a Nominating Committee headed by Robert Lynn who has brought forward an excellent slate of nominees to assume their positions after the January meeting. Because of the lateness of these events in the calendar year we have not been able to follow our usual procedure of membership voting by mailed ballot; instead, we will conduct the election from the floor in January among those present. Please plan to join us then.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

GPS memberships are annual (except for Life Members) and should be renewed if you haven't already done so. See the form on the next page.



Serving Georgia's Poets
Since 1979

NEW or RENEWAL 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: <input type="checkbox"/> Publications <input type="checkbox"/> Events <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Drives <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify special interests, skills, time available, etc.):

