

# Georgia Poetry Society

## Oct. 14th Joint Meeting with NCWN-West at Choestoe Schoolhouse, Blairsville, GA

**Writers' Night Out** As part of the joint meeting with the Western branch of the North Carolina Writers' Network, we invite everyone to Writers' Night Out at the Union County Community Center in Blairsville the evening before the GPS meeting: **Friday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m.** The event has featured readers followed by an open-mic reading, during which participants may read up to three minutes. This month's featured readers: Natalie Grant and Mary Mike Keller. **The Community Center's address is 129 Union County Recreation Rd., Blairsville, Georgia 30512.** For more information, please contact Karen Paul Holmes: [kpaulholmes@gmail.com](mailto:kpaulholmes@gmail.com).

**Brent Martin** is the author of three poetry chapbooks: *Poems from Snow Hill Road* (New Native Press, 2007), *A Shout in the Woods* (Flutter Press, 2010), and *Staring the Red Earth Down* (Red Bird Press, 2014). He is also



author of *Hunting for Camellias at Horseshoe Bend*, a non-fiction chapbook published by Red Bird Press in 2015, and co-author of *Every Breath Sings Mountains* (Voices from the American Land, 2011). Brent's poetry and essays have been published in the *North Carolina Literary Review*, *Pisgah Review*, *Tar River Poetry*, and

elsewhere. He lives in the Cowee community in western North Carolina and recently served as the Gilbert-Chappell Distinguished Poet for the West region of the North Carolina Poetry Society.

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## GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY

### Contact Information

[www.georgiapoetrysociety.org](http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org)

[gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org](mailto:gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org)

404-323-3711

### 2017 Officers:

Michael Diebert, President

Ronald Boggs, V. President

Trish Percival, Secretary

Lyn Hopper, Treasurer

### 2017 Board:

Ira Harrison

Steven Shields

John Ottley

Wanda Reagan

Henrietta Andrews



**Tina Barr**'s volumes of poetry include *Kaleidoscope* (Iris Press), *The Gathering Eye* (Tupelo Press Editor's Prize), and three chapbooks, all winners of national chapbook competitions. Her fellowships include the National Endowment for the Arts, the Tennessee Arts Commission, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the MacDowell Colony. Tina teaches for the Great Smokies Creative Writing Program at UNC-Asheville.

**Katie Chaple** is the author of *Pretty Little Rooms* (Press 53), winner of the 2012 Devil's Kitchen Reading Award in Poetry through Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She is editor of *Terminus Magazine*, published through Georgia Tech, and is a McEver Chair in Community Outreach with Poetry @ TECH. Her work has appeared in such journals as *Antioch Review*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Greensboro Review*, *Mead*, *New South*, *Passages North*, *StorySouth*, *The Rumpus*, *Washington Square*, and others. She teaches at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton.



**Travis Denton** is the director of Poetry @ TECH, McEver Chair in Poetry at Georgia Tech, and founding editor of *Terminus*. Travis's poems have appeared in *Five Points*, *Atlanta Review*, *The Greensboro Review*, *Rattle*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, *The Cortland Review*, and elsewhere. His second collection of poems, *When Pianos Fall from the Sky*, was published by Marick Press in 2012. Along with Katie Chaple, he is editor of the anthology *Aliens, Cyborgs, Zombies and the Ongoing Apocalypse: Sci-Fi Poems for the 20th*

*Century and Beyond* (C & R Press, 2017).

**Friday, Oct. 13, 7p.m.**  
**Writers' Night Out**  
**Union County Community Center**

6:00 p.m.: Arrive early if you want to to order food from The View Grill on the property

7:00 p.m.: Featured Readers Natalie Grant and Mary Mike Keller

7:30 p.m.: Open mic (sign-ups required: 3 min. maximum!)

**Saturday, Oct. 14**  
**Georgia Poetry Society**  
**Fall Joint Meeting with NCWN-West**  
**Choestoe Schoolhouse, Blairsville, GA**

*PLEASE NOTE: Due to the full program and the later starting time, there will be only one open mic reading and no formally scheduled breaks. Please take breaks as needed.*

9:30-10:00: Coffee, pastries, mingling

10:00-10:15: Welcome and announcements

10:15-10:45: Open mic reading

10:45-12:00: Tina Barr workshop: Transcendent Poetry: Bees, Moles & a Green Garter

We will read and analyze poems by Brigit Pegeen Kelly and Tom Hennen. Kelly's poem is dense, and falls into the category of the sublime; Hennen's poems are "simple" and transparent but lift themselves off the page. We will compare and contrast their two styles, and then all participants will have a choice of four writing prompts based on the discussion and will have a chance to freewrite a first draft.

12:00-1:00: Lunch

1:00-1:25: Brent Martin reading

1:30-2:45: Katie Chaple/Travis Denton craft talk

2:45-3:00: GPS officer elections for 2017; presidential farewell; closing remarks

3:00: Board meeting

## **GPS Officer elections**

### **President: Miriam Jacobs**

Miriam is a University of Chicago alumnus and teaches writing, literature, and humanities at Gordon State College, in Barnesville. She is the founding editor of Eyedrum Periodically, the art and literature journal of Eyedrum Art and Music Gallery. Jacobs's work has won an International Publications Award from Atlanta Review, and placed in Poetica Magazine's Anna David Rosenberg Award competition, 2017. Her poems appear in Reform Jewish Quarterly, Calliope Magazine, and other publications.

### **Vice-President: Amy Pence**

Amy authored the poetry collections *Armor, Amour* (Ninebark Press) and *The Decadent Lovely* (Main Street Rag) as well as the chapbook, *Skin's Dark Night* (2River Press). Winner of the Claire Keyes Poetry Award from Soundings East, Pence has published in *The Antioch Review*, *The Oxford American*, and *Juked*, among others. She's also published short fiction, interviews, reviews, and essays in a variety of journals, including *WSQ*, *The Rumpus*, *Poets & Writers*, and *The Writer's Chronicle*. Her hybrid book on Emily Dickinson [It] *Incandescent* is forthcoming from Ninebark Press 2018. Her daughter is a senior at Georgia College, and she resides in Pine Lake, works as a tutor, and hosts writing workshops. ([www.amypence.com](http://www.amypence.com)).

### **Secretary: Trish Percival (2nd year)**

### **Treasurer: Lyn Hopper (2nd year)**

### **Members at large:**

Henrietta Andrews (2nd year)

John Ottley (2nd year)

Wanda Reagan (2nd year)

Diana Anhalt

Erica Gerald Mason: Erica is an author, poet, and speaker living in Acworth, Georgia. Erica's blog is *Erica Writes Words*, where she writes about creativity, happiness, love, feminism, pop culture, and current events. Her work appears in several publications and journals, and she was a featured poet in the 2016 and 2017 Sundance Film Festival Indie Lounge. Her book of poetry, *I Am A Telescope: Science Love Poems* is available on Kindle and paperback on Amazon. Find her blog and poetry at [www.ericageraldmason.com](http://www.ericageraldmason.com).

## Lunch Details

There will be plenty of assorted chicken, turkey, beef, and cheese sandwiches with chips, drink, and dessert available for \$7.00. Please help us plan by letting us know if you will be eating lunch. We are not taking orders or collecting money ahead of time. We just need to know an approximate number of people eating.

**Email Lyn Hopper by Oct. 10** at [gpstreas@gmail.com](mailto:gpstreas@gmail.com) if you plan on purchasing lunch:

## Directions to Union County Community Center

**129 Union County Recreation Rd.  
Blairsville, Georgia 30512**

The community center is located behind the Comfort Inn on Hwy 76/515 in Blairsville, not far from the downtown courthouse.

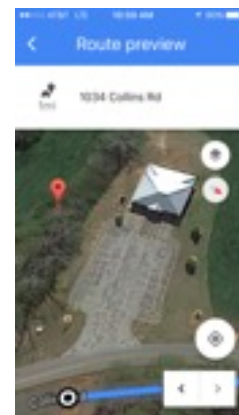
## Directions to Choestoe Schoolhouse

**1034 Collins Road  
Blairsville, GA 30512**

The schoolhouse is about 15-20 minutes southeast of Blairsville proper, close to U.S. 19/129.

From Blairsville, go South on Hwy 19. Go 6.4 miles and turn LEFT on Collins Rd. The schoolhouse is 1 mile down on the right.

From Alpharetta/Dahlonega. Go north on Hwy 19 through the mountains. Turn RIGHT on Hwy 180 and LEFT on Collins Rd. The schoolhouse will be on the left.



## Poetry News

### **WEB MANAGER VOLUNTEER POSITION STILL OPEN**

Dale and Sandy Hokanson have managed the GPS web site for the past 5 ½ years, but they are moving to MA in another year and wish to train a new manager/managers before they go. There is a technical part of the job as well as a non-technical part so it can be done by one or two different people. A full job description is available upon request to: [hokansonGA@comcast.net](mailto:hokansonGA@comcast.net).

**2017-2018 GPS FALL CONTESTS** are open for submissions. The deadline for all entries postmarked no later than November 15. Participants are allowed four entries in each of seven categories. In addition to earning cash prizes, the top three poems in each contest will be published in The Reach of Song, the annual GPS poetry anthology. Submissions by email are preferred, but if you are unable to do this, winners will still be asked to submit an electronic copy, if possible, for printing in The Reach of Song. For the full details and rules, go online to [www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/contests](http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/contests).

**In addition to our seven annual contests, the biannual Charles Dickson Chapbook Contest welcomes original manuscript submissions of up to 25 pages. This year, we are happy to announce the winner of the Dickson contest will receive a \$250 prize and 25 author copies.**

### **Freedom Mic Night**

There is a free open mic every first and third Saturday in Downtown Atlanta for spoken word poets. Find more information on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/freemicnight/>

### **Upcoming Meetings**

January 2018  
Location TBA

### **Future Newsletters**

To include content in upcoming newsletters please contact:

[gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org](mailto:gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org)

or send member news to

Liz Garcia at:

[lizcranford@gmail.com](mailto:lizcranford@gmail.com)



## Poetry News

### Poetry At Tech Events

- **Thursday, September 28, 2017**, Featuring: Billy Collins, Vijay Seshadri, Tyehimba Jess
- **Thursday, November 2, 2017**, Featuring: Victoria Chang, Anis Mojgani, Matt Hart

All events

- Begin at 7:30 PM
- are open to the public with no tickets or reservations required
- Are held in Kress Auditorium at the Robert C. Williams Museum of Paper Making (Renewable Bioproducts Institute)
- 500 Tenth Street, NW, Atlanta, GA, 30309

Plenty of free parking available just in front of the building's entrance or through the gate, which is straight ahead as you turn off 10th Street.

### Georgia Poetry Circuit

#### Georgia State Perimeter College Nov. 6-10, 2017, Ravi Shankar

- Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 6 and 7: Georgia State University Perimeter College; (contact: Dr. Jeffrey A. Portnoy, [jportnoy@gsu.edu](mailto:jportnoy@gsu.edu))
- Thursday, Nov. 9: Berry College (contact: Dr. Sandra Meek, GPC Director, [smeek@berry.edu](mailto:smeek@berry.edu))
- Friday, Nov. 10: Brenau University (contact: Dr. Sandy Brim, GPC Coordinator, [sbrim@brenau.edu](mailto:sbrim@brenau.edu))

The collage features several event announcements:

- February 22, 2018**: Incewer poetry reading with Aimee Nezhukumatathil.
- September 28, 2017**: The sixteenth annual Margaret T. and Henry C. Bourne poetry reading featuring Tyehimba Jess, Vijay Seshadri, Billy Collins, Christopher Collins, and Bruce McEver.
- November 2, 2017**: An evening of poetry featuring Victoria Chang, Anis Mojgani, and Matt Hart.
- April 12, 2018**: A spring poetry event featuring Stuart Dischell, David Bottoms, and Tarfia Faizullah.

At the bottom, there is information about the Kress Auditorium at the Renewable Bioproducts Institute of Georgia Tech, including the address (500 Tenth Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30309) and contact information for the Georgia Poetry Circuit.

**The Children's Museum of Atlanta** is working on creating a paid poet residency in kindergarten classes for five Atlanta Public Schools. The goal is to have a real poet visit each classroom at least twice, followed by visits from their outreach staff where the children create and illustrate their own poetry. They are in the process of writing a grant for this program, but are seeking poets who might be comfortable with this age range. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Karen Kelly, director of exhibits and education, [kkelly@childrensmuseumatlanta.org](mailto:kkelly@childrensmuseumatlanta.org), 404-653-8157.

**Ronald Boggs, 1942—2017**

Ron Boggs was the author of three works of prose and approximately twenty books of poetry. His avocation and passion was as a poet and writer. In his words, "It is the edge of soul's calling." He was also a student of American history, leading him to advanced degrees from two universities in American history and culture, culminating in a doctoral dissertation on the culture of liberty versus power in American History as well as its larger form in human history in the conflict between liberty and tyranny. He also studied and expounded in his prose works on Jungian psychology and the art and practice of Zen. These influences show up in his poetry. He was quite involved in the Georgia Poetry Society, leading the Johns Creek Poetry group and expanding their community involvement in recent years, as well as serving as Vice President of the GPS during 2017.



Ron also excelled in the field of finance; for many years he worked for large, major mutual fund companies and insurance companies dealing with advanced planning issues such as charitable planning, annuity and retirement planning, and established his own financial planning firm. In later years, he worked as a teacher and mentor for college students and retirees, helping them succeed in that field as well. He was a man of diverse interests, a lifelong student and teacher. We will miss his enthusiasm and spirit.

Ron's Works, available on Amazon:

Free Every Voice, 2016

Hanging By a Thread, 2015

No Stronger Than a Flower, 2014

Living in the Myth of Psyche and Eros, 2014

Hair on Fire, 2013

Songs of Existence, 2012

Life's Way, 2012

Silent Tongue Sings, 2011

Songs of the Sea, 2011

Art of Darkness: Initiation into Soul's Journey, 2013

Natural Drift, 2009

**Johns Creek Poetry Group:** The Johns Creek poetry group will have their annual poetry festival on Saturday, November 4 at the Spruill Oaks Library in Johns Creek. Address is 9560 Spruill Road in JC, 30022. The event runs from 10:15 until about 1:30 and is dedicated to the memory of the late Ron Boggs. Workshops feature noted area poets Amy Pence and Danielle Hanson. Students from at least one area school are coming to do a poetry recitation. Open mics include members of the JCPG. Lunch provided for a small donation. Public welcome.



<b>GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY ORDER FORM</b>			
		QTY	PRICE
	<i>The Reach of Song 2017</i>	_____ x	\$ 15.00 = _____
	Copy for local library/school	_____ x	\$ 15.00 = _____
ANTHOLOGIES	<i>The Reach of Song 2016</i>	_____ x	\$ 13.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2015</i>	_____ x	\$ 10.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2014</i>	_____ x	\$ 7.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2013</i>	_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2012</i>	_____ x	\$ 3.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2011</i>	_____ x	\$ 2.00 = _____
	<i>The Reach of Song 2010</i>	_____ x	\$ 2.00 = _____
	CHAPBOOKS	<i>Requiem for the Unconvinced (2016)</i> by Ron Self	_____ x
<i>South of the Ordinary (2014)</i> by Sandy Hokanson		_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
<i>The Rare, Persistent Light (2012)</i> by Lynn Farmer		_____ x	\$ 5.00 = _____
<i>Under a Hundred (2011)</i> Ron Self; Francis Alix; Mildred Greear		_____ x	\$ 3.00 = _____
<i>More Than Atoms (2010)</i> by Kandice Cook		_____ x	\$ 2.00 = _____
<b>TOTALS</b>		_____	_____
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>			
NAME _____			
ADDRESS _____			
CITY, STATE ZIP _____			
PHONE _____			
EMAIL _____			
<b>LIBRARY DONATION</b> (circle appropriate)			
Will Deliver Myself (no address needed)		OR	Please Mail to this address:
NAME OF LIBRARY _____			
ADDRESS _____			
CITY, STATE ZIP _____			
Make checks and money orders to <b>Georgia Poetry Society</b> and mail along with this form to:			
Candace Green 441 Shadow Mountain Lane Cleveland, GA 30528			
For questions about ordering, call Candy Green at 706-348-8984.			
<b>Orders will be filled in August</b>			