



Chaparral Updrafts

*from the
California Federation of
Chaparral Poets, Inc.*

serving California poets for over 65 years

Volume 70 #1

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www.ChaparralPoets.org

Presidents Message

The January meeting of the executive board was well attended but lacked South state representation. There are two concerns with the current North/South schedule. The first is distance and the second in cost. The question of how we can get there from here is important. The cost of air-fare, gas, room and board is also important. It's important enough that we need to re-think how we do business.

It's been said that all politics is local and I am almost at the point where I think the same is true of poetry. I offered to share my home with our Southern board members as a place to stay prior to the executive board meeting knowing the money saved would be significant. I learned from some of them the time had already been committed to local poetry events. That's a good thing. We all need to support local activities. I'm leaning toward a single face to face meeting each year at the annual convention. We could decide on a more or less permanent convention site (think Fresno), or not as the membership wishes. That would mean two or three electronic meetings each year and one face to face. We are required to hold three meetings each year but there's a lot of flexibility in the way we hold them. (i.e. face to face, e-mail, conference call) I am planning to hold an executive board meeting at the convention in May. So board members watch for a time and place.

Our nominating committee has done an excellent job and will bring forth a full slate of officers in May. We are, however, still lacking a person to become the Youth Contest Chair an appointed position once filled by Elaine Harper. This year the executive board has divided the several chores associated with the position and will fill it by committee.

I have a request directed mostly to those of you in the South who may have information concerning how Elaine did her job, who she used for judges and so forth. Did she leave behind records of any sort? Your help in this regard is appreciated.

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION of CHAPARRAL poets inc.

Chaparral Updrafts

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Please send news and information items to the editor one month in advance of intended publication date. For questions involving membership, either new or renewal, please contact the treasurer.

Visit our website:
<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org>.

Treasurer's Report 1/17/09

We currently have \$5,121.77 in our checking account. This includes \$1,220.00 in Memorial Funds. We also have a short-term CD with a balance of \$8,000.00 plus interest. We have 144 paid members, 7 lifetime members, 7 free members and 148 unpaid members. Some clubs have collected dues but have not sent them to me. I have notified all clubs and requested funds be sent as quickly as possible.

I will certify this years membership list effective January 31, 2009. Additions will be made as we receive new memberships.

Roberta Bearden
Treasurer

MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

on the topic of Boredoms

FIRST PLACE OCTOBER

I Walk Around the Empty Hours

At this stage, countless hours are not a prospect.
So I walk around empty hours; I connect to hours
trilling with music or smelling of garlic.

If tedium catches me, I explore old questions:
why did Mother choose that black satin wedding dress?
Did I really love those two men at the same time?

there's no boredom now. Memories rush into
the static places: balmy unrealness of an outdoor
movie on Kwajalein Atoll – wooden bench, palms;

deep freshness of sea air at Asilomar, the brown eyes
and delicacy of deer stepping over white sand...
What if...*the after this* is empty hours.

Norma Kohout

SECOND PLACE, OCTOBER

Help! Save! *

Insidious monster.
Cancer of the psyche.
Boredom.

You creep unawares;
Catch me with claws;
Fix me beneath horned hand
Fastened in foreverness.
Boredom.

Come, lover: surgeon's knife.
Cut cancer free.
Marauding knight, slayer of beast.
Lover.

Love: a by-pass
Or sweet remission.
Soon tumorous tendons
Run amuck again.
Boredom.

Come, Shaman in lab coat;
Wave incense, rattle bones;
Intone incantations;
Extort malignancy.

Long needles, bottles, beakers, blasts;
Won't someone find the cure?
Boredom.

Cherise Wynkenen

THIRD PLACE, OCTOBER

Same Old Thing

Same old people and places,
Same old weather and clime.
Same old snow as yesterday
Same old winter time.

Same old thing for breakfast,
Same old route to drive.
Same old job forever.
Same old eight to five.

Tired in a way that I can't explain.
Just crawled back into my bed.
Same old ceiling I'm looking at.
Pulled the covers up over my head.

Eugene Shea
Hanna, WY

2009 CFCP, Inc. Monthly Contests

Except where otherwise indicated, poems are limited to 28 lines of text. All forms accepted for all categories.

JANUARY	Beginnings
FEBRUARY	Love
MARCH	Nature
APRIL	Light, Humorous
MAY	Journeys
JUNE	Vacation
JULY	NO CONTEST
AUGUST	Any subject, any style
SEPTEMBER	Harvest
OCTOBER	Portraits
NOVEMBER	Holidays
DECEMBER	NO CONTEST

RULES

Contests are open to all poets in the United States and Canada. Each submission must be typewritten on standard size paper with the contest month in the upper right-hand corner. Send TWO COPIES of each poem with author's name and address in the upper right corner on ONE copy. Put no identification on the second copy. Address labels are acceptable. Multiple entries are welcome.

Only UNPUBLISHED POEMS and poems not previously awarded a monty prize are eligible. A fee of \$2.00 must accompany each poem submitted (3 for \$5.00). Send cash or make checks to CFCP, Inc. DEADLINE is the last day of the contest month. Envelope must be postmarked no later than 12 midnight of that day. *Print contest month on outside of mailing envelope.*

NOTE: In any month where insufficient entries are received, those poems which were submitted will be held over and judged with the entries for the following month.

1st Prize: \$25.00

2nd Prize: \$15.00

3rd Prize: \$10.00

Poems will be returned only if stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Allow one month after closing date of contest before sending poems elsewhere. Winning poems will be printed in the Chaparral Updrafts newsletter

**CALIFORNIA
FEDERATION
of CHAPARRAL
POETS, INC.**

Mail contest
entries to

Cleo Griffith
Monthly Contest Chair, CFCP, Inc.
4409 Diamond Court
Salida, CA 95368-0632
<cleor36@yahoo.com>

YES! I definitely want to be a member of the California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc. for the year 2008.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

E-Mail _____

I prefer to receive my Updrafts Newsletter by: _____ email _____ US Mail

Please add \$5.00 to your check if you get your Updrafts by US Mail

Your membership includes all issues of the newsletter, Updrafts, free entry in the Annual Contest, Monthly Contest information and Membership Roster every 2 years during the membership period. All memberships renew between 8/1 and 12/31 yearly. Persons joining between February 1 and July 31 will use the pro-rated formula. New memberships received between August 1 and December 31 will be extended for the following full year.

How to Become a Member

Check the appropriate item:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| _____ Membership Annual/Renewal | \$20.00 |
| _____ New Member (2/1 to 4/30) | \$15.00 |
| _____ New Member (5/1-7/31) | \$10.00 |
| _____ Spouse (1/2 regular member) | \$10.00, \$7.50, or \$5.00 |
| _____ Junior (under 21 show proof of age) | \$ 3.00 |
| _____ Donation (specify amount) | |

_____ I am interested in joining a Chapter in my area (name of chapter) _____

_____ I already belong to Chapter _____

_____ I wish to join as a Member-at-large.

_____ We wish to form a chapter of our own (5 or more Regular Members are required to form a new Chapter) to be called: _____

Members-at-Large: Clip this form and mail along with a check or money order made payable to CFCP, Inc. to: Frances Yordan, Members-at-Large Chairperson, 2575 W. San Jose Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711-2733.

All others: Send this form along with a check or money order made payable to CFCP, Inc. to: CFCP Treasurer, P. O. Box 1750, Empire, CA 95319.

Membership through January 26, 2009

Club	Paid Members	Lifetime/free Members	Unpaid Members
Alameda Island	17	1	17
Arrowhead	7		1
Charles B. Garrigus	3		2
John S. McGroarty	0		12
Letter to the World	10	4(free)	1
Members at Large	29	1	19
New Helvetia	10		1
Orpheus/Apollo	12		4
Poets of the Pine Cone Ridge	0		6
Poets of the Fig Garden	6		4
Poets of the Rincon	6		4
Poets of the San Joaquin	30	1	6
Poets of the Vineyard	7	2	
Robert Frost	4	1	1
Tumbleweed	24		10
Valley Writers	4	1(free)	2
Writers of the Saratoga	0	3(free)	29
 Totals	 169	 14	 119



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