

Chaparral updrafts

from the
California Federation
of Chaparral Poets, Inc.

serving California poets for over 60 years Volume 65, No. 8 • November, 2004

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Ken Peterson featured in recent article

A recent *Oakland Tribune* article began with a first-person account of Ken Peterson's poetry and his own assessment of creative writing. In "The Muses of poetry discover a good home in Alameda," Suzanne T. Storar sets a light-hearted but sympathetic tone toward poetry and poetry readings in the Bay Area.

Ken, a member of the Alameda Island Poets chapter, was one of the featured readers at the season-opening poetry reading event of the Alameda Free Library's for 2004-05. The 7 p.m. reading was held October 14.

Reserved and self-effacing, Ken says of his own poetry, "A lot of it is silly. Some of it is intentionally silly. Some is silly because I don't know any better."

But he also writes evocative haiku, another style that taps into his knack for making a poetic point with few words.

"When I write prose, I go on forever," says Ken. "Somehow the poetry allows me to say it in a few lines."

A pharmacist by training, he admits his educational background was light in the humanities. But a love of language and a creative mind prompted him to study poetry books in the library.

He quickly recognized a conflict between the poems he was reading and the rules he remembered learning in school, which thwarted his progress. But

Execs say writing poetry helps improve their form

In a *Chicago Tribune* article published November 25, Ann Therese Palmer makes the case that poet-execs fight stress, reclaim individuality, express emotions, gain stability and transform daily experiences through the "strangely restorative" exercise of writing poetry.

In the weeks following the naming of Ted Kooser to be the current US poet laureate, reporters and writers are discovering numerous examples of poet-executives. Kooser wrote poetry while spending much of his life as a Nebraska insurance company executive.

Palmer begins her article with two responses from the same individual, William R. Fuller, chief fiduciary officer at Northern Trust.

When asked to describe where he's worked for the past 21 years, he'll tell you he has an office at the bank's headquarters along LaSalle Street.

continued on page six, 'Execs'

he persisted, finally concluding that poetry rules are difficult to follow because they are wrong. Most of them were devised by others after the poets were finished, to try to explain the unexplainable.

"A good poem is a poem that meets the needs of the poet. All the other rules don't amount to much as far as I'm concerned," he says.

He suggests that a young writer's lack of formal training can make the results more interesting and fun. "Anyone can write poetry, and there is no right way to get started," Ken says. Some play with words, some outline first. Others have more unusual ways of developing their ideas.

"There are some people, like me, who start run-
continued on page two: 'Peterson'

Jane Hirshfield receives 70th Academy Fellowship

The Academy of American Poets announced on November 15 that Jane Hirshfield is the recipient of the 70th Fellowship for distinguished poetic achievement. The Fellowship, given in memory of poet James Ingram Merrill, carries a stipend of \$25,000.

Of Jane Hirshfield's work, Academy Chancellor Rosanna Warren writes:

It is an honor for the Academy to recognize Jane Hirshfield's achievement. In five books of poems, most recently *Given Sugar, Given Salt* in 2001, Hirshfield has elaborated a sensuously philosophical art that imposes a pause in our fast-forward habits of mind. Her poems appear simple, and are not. Her language, in its cleanliness and transparency, poses riddles of a quietly metaphysical nature.... Clause by clause, image by image, in language at once mysterious and commonplace, Hirshfield's poems clear a space for reflection and change. They invite ethical awareness, and establish a delicate balance.

Jane Hirshfield was born in New York City in 1953. After receiving her B.A. from Princeton University in their first graduating class to include women, she

continued on page six: 'Hirschfield'

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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.

Be sure to visit our new web site:

<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org>

Peterson article praises poetic efforts

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ning their mouth off when driving down the street when they should be paying attention," he says.

Ken has found workshops helpful by offering information, encouragement and feedback as well as the space and time to write, but he has learned the most by listening to other poets.

An Alameda resident since 1973, Ken is vice president of the Alameda Island Poets and a member of the Bay Area Poets Coalition. He has been published in two collections and a book of poems about peanut butter prepared for the Webster Street Peanut Butter Jam. He has enjoyed professional success with his firm The Cosmetic Chemist, which produces lotions, massage oils and other products.

On November 14 Ken assisted AIP president Mary Rudge in participating in the Ala-

meda Literati Book Faire 2004, a day-long series of events featuring authors, speakers, presentations, literary agents, and several kinds of poetry events. Theirs was a "Write a Poem About Alameda" contest and was acclaimed one of the three most successful events.

Ken believes people are born with a poetic nature that should be enjoyed and used. He is serving on the committee for the coming convention, where he'll be pushing for more variety, and more ways to get people involved.

The article appeared on page one of the Thursday, October 7 edition of the *Oakland Tribune*.

Improving your chances for winning contests

These suggestions are excerpted from an article that appeared online in the October issue of *Strophes Online* found at <http://www.nfsps.org/Strophes_online.htm> written by Budd Powell Mahan, president of NFSPS. Although they were directed to members of the various State Poetry Societies, the general content applies to most of us entering most contests. No doubt our "veteran contest entrants" already understand these insights, but they may help the rest of us to feel more prepared to enter a rich variety of coming contests.

1. You cannot win unless you enter. Set a goal of entering contests in 2005 that you have not previously entered. Many of our members do not enter our own monthly and annual contests, so if you are one of those, you can begin there. If you're already doing that, consider some of the out-of-state contests that are open to us. You have poems to enter; take a chance.

2. Read the list of categories and match poems you already have to designated topics or forms. Some subjects leave little room for interpretation, but others may be richly vague. And... sometimes a topic will strike an idea for a new poem.

3. Make a short list of topics/forms and eliminate all the "any subject, any form." Then work daily on attempts to write on the topic or in the form designated. Do *not* dismiss these contests; they are an opportunity to win. Some of the designated forms/subjects open to you an incredible

RedRock Writers Third Chaparral Poetry Forum

Editor's Note: Here's an out-of-state contest with our "name" as part of its title. I have no other information, but thought it might be fun for some of us to enter.

Cholla Division: First Prize \$200, second Prize \$100, third Prize \$50

Any subject, any form, 45 lines or fewer

Chaqueta Division: First Prize \$100, second Prize \$50, third Prize \$25

Southwest Theme: nature, people, history—any form, 45 lines or fewer

Chimera Division: First Prize \$100, second prize \$50, third Prize \$25

Imaginative or absurd/humorous/impossible/foolish—45 lines or fewer

Each Division will award three Honorable Mentions. Winning poems will be published in the *Chaparral Poetry Forum Chapbook*, with selected readings at the 2005 Redrock Writing Seminar, St. George, UT.

Guidelines: Each poem must

1. be original, any form, unpublished. 45 lines or fewer including title, all lines of writing, all blank lines between
2. have lines of 60 characters or less including letters, spaces, punctuation "typed" neatly on white 8 1/2 x 11 paper.
3. be in good taste.
4. You may enter a maximum of three poems each in each Division, nine poems total. (Division top three winners may not enter that division the following year.)
5. Send two copies of each poem. Place Divi-

sion entered in top right hand corner. FIRST COPY: Below Division entered, place your name, address, and e-mail address. SECOND COPY ONLY: No name or address below Division title.

6. Entry fees: \$2 per poem. Make check payable to *Redrock Writers Guild*.
7. Must be postmarked on or before Jan. 15, 2005. No Certified Mail. Please, no cash through the mail.
8. No poems will be returned. For a list of winners, include your SASE.
9. Submission indicates permission for winning poems to be published.

Chapbook of winning poems is included with Redrock Writing Seminar registration. Non-seminar attendees may purchase chapbook for \$5, plus \$1 s&h.

After publication, all rights revert to author.

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

D. Gary Christian
2110 N. Blake Drive
Santa Clara, UT 84765

Enjoy our 9th Annual RedRock Writing Seminar, March 25-26, 2005!

To contact Gary Christian:
viking@redrock.net

Monthly Contest Winners

Shedding

They say our skin is constantly being re-done
Over years it gradually sloughs away.

I'm left on dew
and the stems of ripe apples growing
along the paths we walk.
My touch leaves invisible pieces
clinging to your arms
with the fascination of magnets.
Slivers of me are imprinted on your lips
like seraphs guarding an entrance.

I want to be a snake,
and untie my skin all at one time
like a burlap bag and crawl out
wet and glistening.

Then, you would stand as lean as a tree.
I would wrap around your limbs,
tasting every fruit with a new tongue.
My skin would glow
fresh as new-found grace.

I would go before shedding again,
and leave you with
the knowledge of good
and somewhat less good,
measured on equal garden scales.

—Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
First Prize, September

Rites of Passage

A distance narrows,
leaves many mountains behind.

The lure of harbor lights
tempers changing faces of the sea,

The sea as a flat page
for the elements to write upon,

As unleashed fury shredding
clouds into gypsy rags,

As calm that ripples water
like silk brocade,

Like guitar strings
plucking the soul of night.

This is how
the return should be,

A ship
cutting the horizon,

The space between
our footsteps closing,

A pause
along the way.

—Elizabeth A. Bernstein, Paradise, CA
Second Prize, September

August Dance

Summer's dancing feet
Strew up the earth
Live with seed and harvest dust.

The night air cools
The humid heat,

Slows the chant
Of the thresher,

Mutes the night song
Of humming crickets.

She sings farewell
In scarlet,

Hair in dark tangles,
Like summer brambles
Coated with fine dust.

Bright indigo eyes laugh,
Invite Autumn to dance

In her yellow and rust.
In ending beat they swirl,

Meld sunlit gaze
And green shimmer

With slanted haze
And dry leaf crackle.

—Elizabeth G. Massaro,
Modesto, CA
Third Prize, September

challenge. The number of entries usually goes down exponentially with the difficulty of the subject.

4. Write about what you care about.

Try to make a connection between something you care deeply about and the set subject.

5. Write poems on some of the topics that have appeared unchanged for many years. Chances are they will continue to appear, and each year you will already have entries for those contests, or those categories. Remember the judges change frequently.

6. If you are unsure, but feel that a poem fits a category, put it in. It often costs nothing or very little to add an extra poem to your submissions. Do, however, think twice about every poem you enter: would you be embarrassed if it won?

7. Enter as many contests and categories as you possibly can. You have 11 categories in our annual contest, plus 10 monthly

contests you can enter, as well as contests offered by several of our local and regional areas — and you should submit a poem to every one! You can do this if you start *now*. *Do not wait until the last minute.*

And last, be sure to keep accurate records of which poems you have submitted to which contests. Some of them are fairly strict about not being submitted anywhere else until a certain date has passed.

What a judge has to say about sonnets

Dr. Loren C. Gruber of Marshall, Missouri, who judged the Iowa Poetry Association's sonnet category, offered these tips and comments to observe that not all 14-line poems are proper sonnets:

- Modern sonnets should avoid archaic words, such as "thy" and "e' en" and the equally archaic ending, "-eth."
- The best sonnets have a focused concept

— a conceit, or a controlling metaphor.

- The winning sonnets exhibited a unique, or at least fresh, view of the topic. Grace of expression and wit are also their components.
- Avoid inverted word order (often used when the poet is striving for a rhyme)

Dr. Gruber added a personal bias: "The politically correct and political/war sonnets are, to me, a bore, whether by contemporary poets or classical writers such as Milton, Wordsworth, and Arnold."

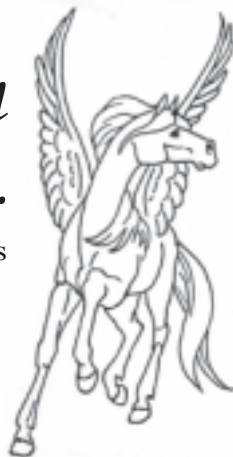
And for those of you who hesitate to attempt a sonnet, Gruber quotes artist Denny Dent: "You have to take chances and fall down and look stupid or you'll never know what you missed—You can fall asleep for a lifetime and miss the whole thing."

Reprinted from Iowa Poetry Association's August 2004 newsletter.

California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc.

Serving Poets for Over 60 Years

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• Submit entries to:

Lisabeth Shuman, 2005 Contest Chairperson
California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc.
2521 Meadow Rue Dr, Modesto, CA, 95355-3910

2005 Annual Poetry Contest OPEN TO ALL POETS

Postmarked Deadline:
January 31, 2005

PRIZES: 1st prize: \$60 ⁰⁰ 2nd prize: \$40 ⁰⁰ 3rd prize: \$25 ⁰⁰

Categories	Titles are not counted as part of line limits	Line Limit
1. THEME: <i>California Voices</i> , one first prize only		28 lines
2. Forms from Other Cultures (name form, specify culture), any subject		what form requires
3. Sonnet: specify form		what form requires
4. Short Poem		13 lines
5. Any Subject, any style		28 lines
6. Light Verse		24 lines
7. Nature: any subject, any style		24 lines
8. Science and Technology: any subject, any style		28 lines
9. Lois Jeannette Dalton Memorial Award: any aspect of <i>Humanity</i>		24 lines
10. Anona McConaghy Memorial Award: any aspect of <i>Friendship</i>		24 lines
11. Roscoe Fortson Memorial Award: <i>Looking Backward</i> (childhood memories in adult voice)		28 lines
12. Executive Board Award: <i>Jumping Ship</i> , one first prize only		40 lines

RULES

POSTMARKED DEADLINE: Midnight, January 31, 2005. Members whose dues are not paid by December 31, 2004 will not be eligible for the competition without paying the nonmember entry fees. *Please do not include dues payment with poetry submissions!*

ENTRY FEE: A three dollar (\$3.00) fee is required of nonmembers for each poem entered.

JUDGES: Entries will be judged by non-member professionals from the Western US.

ADVICE and ASSISTANCE: CFCP, Inc. has begun developing a new Education Programs section of its web site. You are encouraged to visit <<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org/education.html>> for information, ideas, examples, and answers to your questions.

SUBMISSIONS: All entries must be typewritten on standard white paper, one poem per page. Send 2 (two) copies of each entry. NO CARBONS. On BOTH copies in upper right hand corner, type: number and category name. On 1 (one) copy only, in upper left corner, type: your name, address, and member affiliation (use of mailing labels is acceptable, but designate chapter, member-at-large, etc.). This copy is needed for the printer, program readers and special awards judges. Submit ALL poems in ONE envelope. Use SASE for winners list which will be mailed AFTER the convention. Winners will be notified approximately one month before the CFCP Convention, where prizewinning and honorable mention poems will be read and awards presented, Sunday, April 24, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Oakland Airport, 500 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA 94621. Exact time and location TBA.

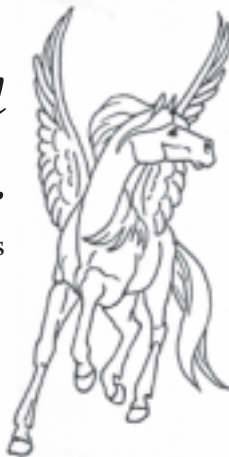
EXCLUSIONS: Entries not complying with the rules will be disqualified. Submit only original poems which have never been published, printed or produced in any form, nor awarded a prize in any contest nor submitted to an editor or other contest while being considered for the CFCP awards. Only one poem may be submitted in each category. Do not submit the same poem to more than one category. Winners and honorable mentions are not to appear in publication or be entered in another contest whose awards are announced prior to April 24, 2005.

PUBLICATION: All poems remain the property of the author. However, the California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc. reserves the right to publish poems which receive recognition in their publications. Keep a copy of your submissions. No manuscripts will be returned.

SPECIAL AWARDS: Special awards are chosen by judges other than the category judges. The **Golden Pegasus Trophy** will be chosen from Member prize winners. The **Roadrunnerup Trophy** will be chosen from poems which received honorable mention. The **Beth Martin Haas Memorial Award** for a Member distinguished by excellence of service to poets and poetry will be selected by the family of Beth Martin Haas. The **Lois Jeannette Dalton Memorial Award** will be selected by Joyce Dalton Wheeler. The **Anona McConaghy and Roscoe Fortson Memorial Awards** will be chosen by judges other than the category judges.

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• Submit entries to:

Norma King Green, 2005 Contest Chairperson
1819 Sycamore Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533-3769
Phone: 707-422-8072

PLEASE USE FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

2005 Annual Poetry Contest Junior–Senior High School

NO ENTRY FEE

1st prize: \$30 00 2nd prize: \$20 00 3rd prize: \$10 00

Categories

Titles are not counted as part of line limits

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 7, 8 AND 9

1. Junior Serious Poem
2. Junior Humorous Verse

Poems can be any subject, any style. Maximum line length = 20

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 10, 11 AND 12

3. Senior Serious Poem
4. Senior Humorous Verse

Poems can be any subject, any style. Maximum line length = 20

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 7 THROUGH 12

5. Special Theme: *California Voices* 20 lines
6. Aileen Jaffa Memorial Award: *Youth's View of Humanity* 20 lines

R U L E S

1. Poems must be UNPUBLISHED and NOT HAVE WON A PRIZE in another contest.
2. You must be a California resident.
3. Enter ONLY ONE POEM IN EACH CATEGORY for which you are eligible.
4. Submit TWO COPIES of each poem.
5. IDENTIFY THE FIRST COPY of each poem in the following manner:
 - a. On the bottom, write and sign a statement that you are the sole author of that poem.
 - b. In the upper LEFT-HAND corner:
Number and Category Name
Grade in School
Author's Name
Author's Address, City and ZIP Code
 - c. In the upper RIGHT-HAND corner:
Teacher's First and Last Name
School Name
School Address, City and ZIP Code
School Phone Number and Area Code
6. The SECOND COPY of each poem must have NO identification at all (Judge's copy).

- Teachers of winning students will receive Certificates of Recognition.
- Honorable Mention winners may receive Book awards.
- Winning poems will be published in a copyrighted booklet which will be offered for sale. However, poems remain the property of the author, to whom all rights revert.
- CFCP, Inc. has begun developing a new Education Programs section to its web site, including Teacher and Student centers. Please visit <<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org/education.html>> for information, ideas, examples, and answers to your questions. Find helpful hints, guidelines for submission, clarification on originality vs. plagiarism, and more.

LEGIBILITY, CORRECT GRAMMAR AND SPELLING ARE IMPORTANT! Proofread carefully before submitting.

KEEP ORIGINALS OF YOUR WORK! Entries will not be returned. For a list of prize winners, send a SASE.

Winners will be notified by April 1, 2005. Non-conforming entries will not be judged. Language and themes MUST be in good taste. Decisions of the judges are final.

The Awards Ceremony will be held Saturday, April 23, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Oakland Airport, 500 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA 94621. Exact time and location TBA. The public is invited to attend.

Execs across the country laud virtues of writing poetry

continued from page one

But if asked as the author of four poetry volumes, he's much less literal. His office in downtown Chicago, surrounded by the "L," is like "a folk tale circled by a train," he wrote in a poem dedicated to a retiring bank colleague.

Like Kooser, Fuller makes a regular habit of writing poems, usually on his 45-minute train commute. Although it's unknown how many national executives double as poets, it's safe to say Fuller is not the only wordsmith who views his day job as the stuff of folk tales. In fact, he follows a rich tradition, including Wallace Stevens, who was vice president of the Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company as well as a Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry; and just recently, John Barr, president of the Poetry Foundation, who as a Wall Street investment banker found time to write six books of poetry and serve on the board of directors of the Poetry Society of America.

Poets & Patrons, a Chicago-based poetry writers' support group, estimates that the metro Chicago area is home to as many as 100 poet-executives.

Fuller, who has a doctorate in English, says setting aside the stresses of his high-level post to write poetry is "strangely restorative." "My day's experiences are transformed into something else by the process," he says. "Don't ask me to explain it. I can't."

Like Fuller, Jared Smith, president of *Poets & Patrons*, was a college English major. He became a security consultant to make money but never stopped composing poems. Smith views his efforts as an antidote to the pressures of conforming to organizational norms on the job. Blending successfully into the workplace inevitably involves giving up some degree of individuality, Smith notes. "Writing poetry is my way to reclaim that."

Some find an outlet for passions best left unexpressed at the office.

"It's my way of expressing strong emotions like turmoil or joy," says Al DeGenova, Chicago-based North American advertising and new media director for Grohe, a German faucet manufacturer. DeGenova has been known to transform his transatlantic commutes to Germany into composition sessions meditating on the nature of family and relationships.

"My poetry... helps me create a certain emotional stability by helping me realize what's worth getting upset about and what isn't," he explains.

Most execs don't expect any financial return from their poetry. The more tangible benefit, several poets assert, comes in improving their performance as executives.

Smith has developed a more nuanced way of looking at mundane business activities, which helps him make better decisions on the job, he says. When he writes about offices, "I'm hunting for relationships, for how I relate to people in the business world. Business executives tend to look at things in a linear way. Poetry is non-linear."

That leads to original approaches. "I'm thinking about two or three things at once and trying to solve two or three different problems by linking them together in a creative way," Smith said.

Former retailer Susan Pritzker, now president of a local family foundation, agrees. "As a poet, I'm more of an observer," says Pritzker, who writes about relationships and occasionally politics. "I can detach more easily from a situation. When I make a business decision, I think this makes me more objective."

Kooser, who retired from the insurance business five years ago, sees poetry writing as a way of bringing order to life's daily chaos.

"In a stressful and disorderly world, with lots of phone calls and papers flying in and out, a poem is a place of order," says Kooser, author of 10 poetry books. "Writing poetry makes my world orderly. It brings me solace. It's a source of endless entertainment."

A State Poet Laureate?

Some Chaparral members have suggested that we urge the governor to appoint a state Poet Laureate. The post has been vacant for over two years. What do you think?

Poetry beamed to outer space

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - Swedish poets have broadcast their work into outer space by radio to give alien life forms — if they exist — a taste of earthling literature.

"I can't think of anything more adequate than poetry to communicate what it means to be human," said Daniel Sjolín, editor of Swedish poetry magazine *Lyrikvannen* and organizer of the live reading at a Stockholm observatory.

The transmission Tuesday night, November 16, was aimed at Vega, the brightest star of the Lyra constellation, which is 25 light-years from Earth — meaning the poets will have to wait 50 years for alien reviews.

Transitions

Pegasus Buchanan feted

Pegasus Buchanan, former President of CFCP, Inc. for several different terms, and longtime Chairman of the monthly poetry contest, was honored at a surprise pot luck luncheon on October 30, at the home of Rick Thielo in Upland, CA.

The Tumbleweed Chapter hosted the event with many members and family in attendance.

Several of Pegasus' prize winning poems were read. She was presented a vase of seasonal flowers and a beautifully decorated cake. Pegasus is the President of the Tumbleweed Chapter.

El Camino chapter active

The chapter has been meeting once a month on Sunday afternoons, under the guidance of Cleo Kocol and Pearl Selinsky, with an agenda that includes studying a famous poem, and then sharing their own poems for critiquing by the group.

The December 12 meeting will consider some poems by new U.S. Poet Laureate, Ted Kooser, work on their poems for critiquing again, and then respond to a prompt for writing.

Future meetings may include the study of work by Paul Laurence Dunbar.

Former member passes on

Word was received from Joyce McDavid Douglas of the death of a former member of the Grace Ballard Chapter of Chaparral, Marianne Lester Stafford Butera, the older daughter of the Lester family who lived on San Miguel Island from 1930 to 1942. Marianne was a CFCP member during the early 1970s, and in 1974 published a book, *San Miguel Island and Other Poems*.

Joyce Douglas composed a poem which she read at her November 4 memorial service, Trinity Episcopal in Santa Barbara. Marianne is survived by her sister Betsy.

Card of thanks

A note from one of last year's Youth Contest winners was recently forwarded for publication. It should inspire us to renew our distribution efforts of the contest flyers.

Thank you very much for my prize money. It was greatly appreciated. I thoroughly enjoy writing and submitting poetry, as well as reading others' poetry in the newsletter.

Sincerely, Sarah Clark

Check the changes to the contest

Although there is no contest in December, we are providing a "sneak peek" at the topics and rules for 2005, since the Board authorized some changes at its October meeting.

Most notable is the fee per entry, which will be \$2 per poem, or 3 poems for \$5.

Second is that several of the topics have been changed, to provide a bit more variety and challenge to your creative juices! Several people suggested other topics, as well, so we ended with more than enough for ten contests. No fixed form contests were included, since in recent years these have seen a very limited number of entries.

With a new category every month, there are 30 chances a year to win recognition. But, of course, it *is* necessary to actually send your poems in to the Contest Chair! Be sure to discard any copies of previous years' contests, and begin thinking of entries for 2005. Pin a copy of this page to your bulletin board.

Keep copies of this page handy for when people ask how to join CFCP. Also, think in terms of carrying copies to give to interested friends or acquaintances. Leave a few at your library or on the bulletin board at the local college or university.

Let's all recruit a few new members. Get the word out!

2005 CFCP, Inc. Monthly Contests

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

- JANUARY** — Changes
- FEBRUARY** — Portraits
- MARCH** — Off-the-Wall!
- APRIL** — Historical
- MAY** — Light or Humorous Verse
- JUNE** — Exploration, Nature & Science
- JULY** — *no contest*
- AUGUST** — Short Poem 12 lines or fewer
- SEPTEMBER** — Fun with Numbers
- OCTOBER** — California
- NOVEMBER** — Family
- 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 ONE COPY of each poem with author's name and address in the upper left corner of the reverse side. Address labels are acceptable. Multiple entries are welcome.

Only UNPUBLISHED POEMS and poems not previously awarded a money 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 wherein 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 a 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.**

➔ Cleo Griffith
mail contest Monthly Contest Chair, CFCP, Inc.
entries to 4409 Diamond Court
Salida, CA 95368-9632
<cleor36@yahoo.com>



YES!

I definitely want to be a member of the **California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc.** for the year 2005.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-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 \$15⁰⁰
- _____ New Member (February 1 to April 30) \$12⁰⁰
- _____ New Member (May 1 to July 31) \$7⁵⁰
- _____ Spouse (1/2 regular member) \$7⁵⁰, \$6⁰⁰, or \$3⁷⁵
- _____ Junior (under 21; show proof of age) \$3⁰⁰
- _____ Donation (specify amount)

_____ I am interested in joining a Chapter in my area (name of 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 Chairman, 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 806, Tujunga, CA 91043-0806.

*** Those who desire to continue membership with a chapter, please remit dues to your local chapter treasurer.**

End of the year is near: have you renewed your dues payment?

With the end of 2004 fast approaching, it's time to make certain each of us has individually paid our dues for the coming year, which are still just \$15 annually. If you are in doubt regarding your status, check with your chapter treasurer.

And, it's equally important that the chapter treasurers transmit those dues to Treasurer Ursula T. Gibson in a timely manner. The dues payment should be accompanied by a roster listing each member, including the *correct spelling* of the name, address, and telephone number. We'd also like to have e-mail addresses, to expedite communication throughout the year. If you feel strongly that you prefer to receive your *Updrafts* in printed form, please note that on the list. These need to be received by Ursula by December 31, so please allow time for slow mail during the holidays!

It's also important to recruit new members at this time, since dues paid now will be counted as paid through the end of December, 2005 — and they're eligible to enter the annual contest and receive all the other advantages of membership.

And... a new *Roster and By-Laws* book-

let which will be in use for the next two years will be prepared next spring based upon the membership lists as of January 1, 2005. Don't be left out!

Ursula reports that several chapters have already sent in dues renewal payments for the coming year, which is a delightful thing to hear, since it eases the burden of last-minute rushes to meet the December 31 dead-

New journal 'eye' seeks poetry submissions

A recent e-mail message announced the start of a poetry journal called 'eye' that focuses (pun very intended) on the work of the editors of other poetry journals, although the editor states he is also committed to publishing some of the underground rising stars he has found.

An online version of 12-16 poems will be published soon; the longer print version will begin publishing sometime next year.

Previously published poems will be accepted, but please include the appropriate info. Simultaneous submissions are encouraged. All rights revert to poets upon publica-

line. Even if your chapter has already sent in its dues and roster, it's not too late for you to be included, but don't delay!

As usual, chapter dues (even for new members) are paid to the chapter treasurer, and member-at-large dues are paid to the Members-at-Large Chairman, Frances Yordan. You can use the form in this issue for either payment.

tion. Poets who appear in the print journal will receive a free copy. There is no line length limit although less than 3 pages is far more likely to be accepted.

Any number of poems may be submitted, preferably in the body of the text, to: <watchtheeye@hotmail.com> or <pupil@watchtheeye.com>

If you prefer traditional mail, send to: Peter Schwartz c/o TK, P.O. Box 235, Waterville ME 04903. Include an S.A.S.E.

You may visit the website at: <http://www.watchtheeye.com/>.

Dues are due!

Changes to Monthly Contest

A new Chaparral contest

Improving your chances in contests

Ken Peterson, 'Poet-Execs'

• Inside:

Chaparral Updrafts serving California poets for over 60 years

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