



**California State Poetry Society**  
Post Office Box 7126, Orange, California 92863

## ***Newsbriefs*** ***2014, No. 2***

Greetings from the Board of the California State Poetry Society (CSPS) to you all! We hope you're finding a little time to write!

This second issue for 2014 comes to you in August of 2014 with Vol. 40 No. 2 of the *California Quarterly* (CQ), edited by Nancy Cavers Dougherty.

### ***2014 Membership Drive (Repeating from the Last Newsbriefs)***

If you haven't already, please renew your membership for 2014 – and *please* give the second, bottom copy of the membership form to a relative, a friend or a neighbor who *desperately* needs more poetry in his or her life! And this should be all of us, I think. The deadline for updating the list of CSPS poets with the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (and therefore being allowed to participate in their many contests this year) is long past, but renew *anyway*! Their Strophes publication is always *full* of poetry conference and contest news!

### ***News from Members and Contributors***

When you have news you'd like to share with the members of the CSPS, please email me at the email address below my signature and I'll try to include it in an upcoming Newsbriefs.

Congratulations to one of our members, Charles Rammelkamp of Maryland, who has a chapbook, *Mixed Signals*, coming out this month from Finishing Line Press in Georgetown, KY.

CSPS Editorial Chair Peal Karrer has a feast of poems appearing in a variety of places: "Plitvička" in the online edition of *Dos Passos Review*, June 2014

(<http://thedospassosreview.com/poetry>), "The Bone Flute" in *Slant*, Vol. 28, May 2014; "Delta Dance" in *Tule Review*, Fall 2014; "The Box's Story" and "Croatia #125, Highway 42" in *The Comstock Review*, Vol. 28.1, forthcoming; and "My Father's Legs" in *Caesura Poetry and Art Magazine*, 2014, forthcoming.

CSPS editor Margaret Saine has received photos with CQ Vol. 40 No. 1 in them from poets as far away as the Philippines and Jordan. Several contributors to *Levure Litteraire*, Issue 9 (May/June 2014) have included CQ publication in their bios. Her poem "140 Keystrokes: Elegy to the Sonnet" will also be published in the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Letters of the *New York Times Book Review*.

### ***Contests, Contest Databases and Others***

The Austin International Poetry Festival takes place every year in April, which isn't a bad time of year to visit. It was founded in 1992. They are currently accepting submissions for their Diverse-city Anthology and for your amusement and edification you can take a look at their website: [www.AIPF.org](http://www.AIPF.org).

I want to direct your attention once again to the various databases and all-around good information available on the *Poets & Writers* website: [www.PW.org](http://www.PW.org). The *Tools for Writers* tab, for instance, includes grants and awards, MFA programs, literary journals and magazines, small presses, conferences and residencies, and a variety of other things to support your writing – even jobs for writers!

The Tupelo Press website is another interesting place: [www.TupeloPress.org](http://www.TupeloPress.org). They have a variety of ongoing programs for a variety of poets. I have excerpted the following from an email I received in May from Kirsten Miles, their Regional Director:

I have an exciting poetry project your members might be interested in, as individuals and as writing groups. The Tupelo Press 30/30 Project has had an amazing response from our participating poets in productivity and publication . . .

The project involves a month of accompanied writing 30 poems in 30 days, while fundraising as a marathon of poet “runners.” Poets who have participated claim that it has a deeper impact on their writing than other 30 day projects they have participated in, results in more exposure for their poems . . . I have been profoundly moved by the responses and gratitude I have received from past participants . . .

I am accepting applications for individual poets as well as writing groups, for June and beyond. For the slow summer months of July and August we are exploring “found poetry,” inviting participating poets to write using various found poetry techniques. Our blog attracts a thousand readers daily from an international readership . . .

. . . to participate, interested poets can send three poems and a short bio to [kmiles@tupelopress.org](mailto:kmiles@tupelopress.org). Please consider sharing this invitation with your membership and do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

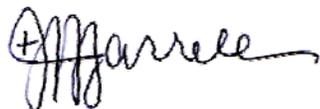
### *The Mailing*

This *CQ* mailing includes the *Newsbriefs*, a 2014 CSPS Membership Form, the 2014 CSPS Publication Guidelines, the 2014 CSPS Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the *Poetry Letter*, and one issue of *Strophes*. By the way, membership and reading fees will be the same for 2015.

With all the trouble across the land and around the world, there is still much for which we can be thankful. In the words of Russell Salamon, *please* keep looking poetry into your life! It is my prayer that the summer is going well for you and that poetry is just *bubbling up* out of you and down onto paper (oh . . . or into a computer)!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Editors, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Dr. John Forrest Harrell  
PRESIDENT (Acting)  
TREASURER  
[JFHarrell@gmail.com](mailto:JFHarrell@gmail.com)