



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

Newsbriefs **2018, No. 3**

Greetings and summer salutations from the Editors and the Board of the California State Poetry Society (CSPS)!

This third *Newsbriefs* issue for 2018 comes to you in September with Vol. 44 No. 3 of the *California Quarterly* (CQ), edited by Terry Ehret.

News from the CSPS

We have some nice responses to the last issue, CQ Vol. 44 No. 2, which was edited by Pearl Karrer. Betsy Mars, a CSPS member and CQ contributor, writes, “It’s a beautiful collection and I am so proud to be in it.” Claire Ortalda, a new member of the CSPS and a CQ contributor, notes, “Lovely, lovely issue. Thanks again for including me.” Maja Trochimczek, who edited CQ Vol. 44 No. 1, writes, “Thank you for editing such a lovely issue; it flows very nicely and has lots of beautiful poems. I also noticed a great variety of genres and lengths of poems, so it is, indeed, a very diverse issue. Congratulations!” Maura Harvey, herself a CQ editor for very many years, adds, “Just have to tell you that your volume is one of the best I’ve seen ... the themes of the poems flow so well together.” Finally, a member and patron of the CSPS and a CQ contributor, Michael Fraley writes “I’ve enjoyed reading the most recent issue of CQ, especially ‘Ancient World’ by Mary Jo West, but the whole issue is a pleasure!”

Bonnie Kwong, whose poetry has appeared in CQ over several years, has written her first play. *Lirope* is the culmination of her work as an artist in residence at Stanford University. It is a retelling of the Narcissus myth in which water is at once parent, lover, friend, and murderer. On May 20, along with interactive music, it was presented outdoors in Stanford’s Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve. She has also received a new grant award from the California Arts Council for an intersectional theater project in collaboration with playwright Cleavon Smith at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center in 2019.

Pearl Karrer, our Editorial Chair, was invited to be one of the featured poets in the “Poets Corner” during the Family Day Open House at Stanford’s Jasper Ridge on May 12, an event that attracts over a thousand people. Since Pearl was traveling at the time, Bonnie Kwong read her “Foothill Trail,” published in *Room to Breathe: The Wild Heart of the San Francisco Peninsula*.

The CSPS is looking for someone with some writing and executive experience to serve as our acting president until the next Executive Board elections in the fall of 2019 (a mere twelve months away). ☺ The job involves writing the *Newsbriefs* four times a year (to be mailed with each issue of the CQ) and representing the CSPS to the outside world—the NFSPS and the organizations that contact us in re publishing and contest opportunities. The position also requires being nice to the CQ Editors and the members of the CSPS Executive Board. This isn’t really very difficult. It isn’t rocket science. ☺

We still need someone to take over the Monthly Contest Chair position from Keith Van Vliet in a few months. Please consider a job that involves interaction with a *great* group of submitting poets! ☺

Also, to repeat from the last *Newsbriefs*, certain limitations have become necessary to my involvement with the CSPS. I no longer proofread the drafts we send to the printer in Michigan. Pearl Karrer is responsible for the final appearance of each issue without any additional editing by yours truly—and she’s doing a great job. ☺ I will also be resigning from all responsibilities except those of the Treasurer and the Webmaster at the end of this year. This includes everything related to the positions of President (Acting—see above), Editor and Managing Editor.

The Managing Editor is responsible for the printer-ready drafts of the *CQ*, of course, but also for the following:

- (1) preparing address files for the Post Office,
- (2) printing labels per the requirements of the Post Office for presorted mailings,
- (3) preparing the mailing inserts for the local printer, having them printed and delivered,
- (4) stuffing the inserts and the *CQ*s in preprinted envelopes,
- (5) adding stamps and labels and putting rubber bands around the Post Office-specified groups,
- (6) taking the trays to the Bulk Mailing Center of the (reasonably) local Post Office and mailing the domestic presorted packages,
- (8) going to the (local) Post Office to buy postage for and mail the international packages,
- (9) packaging the issues and inserts for editors and shipping them, and finally
- (10) preparing and shipping the remaining issues and inserts to Richard Deets, who sends extra orders to those who order them and to those who become CSPS members later in the year.

All this should be done by a small group of poets who live near one another and get together for an afternoon or two four times a year to do it all. When it's done, they also (presumably) celebrate each time with poetry readings, wine and cheese. ☺

To help out, contact me at the email address below my signature—or talk to any of the others on the Board whom you know.

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

Contests, Contest Databases and Others

The winners of the 2018 CSPS Annual Poetry Contest are:

1 st Place	Peter Parker	Carmel, CA	Moonlight
2 nd Place	Kathleen McClung	San Francisco, CA	Two Boardwalks
3 rd Place	Clare Scott	Oakland, CA	Stitching Shadows
Honorable Mention	Claire Millikin	Charlottesville, VA	How to Build a Mirror
Honorable Mention	Ed McManis	Larkspur, CA	The Fall

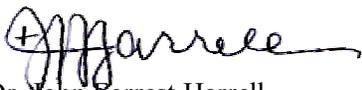
The placing poems will appear in *CQ* Vol. 44 No. 4, edited by Margaret Saine, at the end of this year.

The Mailing

This *CQ* mailing includes the 2018 No. 3 CSPS *Poetry Letter*, the 2018 Monthly Contest Topics and Rules, the 2018 CSPS Publication Guidelines, the July 2018 NFSPS *Strophes*, and this 2018 No. 3 CSPS *Newsbriefs*.

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