

**Gulf Coast Poets Meeting
March 14, 2009
Webster Barnes & Noble
Featured Speaker: Marie Delgado Travis**



**Looking for
POETS**

Look inside FMI about

**GCP March/April Poetry Competitions
Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading Series
Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series
The Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Reading Club
UH-Clear Lake Poetry Reading Series
The Robert Clark Appreciation Award
*Nimrod International Journal***

Scheduled Meetings

May 9, Carolyn Luke Reding

June 13, Susan Bright, Plain View Press

September 12, Ken Jones, Borders Reading Series Host

December 12 (Annual Holiday Party)

Scheduled Field Trips

April 11: Poetry Society of Texas, Dallas, Texas

April 25: ACC Writers' Workshop, Alvin, Texas

July 9-11: Poetry Society of Texas Conference

October 10: Houston Poetry Fest, Houston, TX

November (TBD): Poetry Workshop, Alvin, Texas

FMI gulfcoastpoets@gmail.com

NOTE: Poets are allowed to enter all GCP Completions each month, except for those they have sponsored. Entry in general contests by postal mail only. Winners are limited to one win per month, except members are permitted to additionally win the Member Contest which has no fee, but offers no prize except publication at our website. Entry by e-mail permitted in the Member Contest. **Visit our website for full competition rules before submitting work.**

Contest Twenty-Five) March/April Topics:

1. Sun and Shadow (sponsored by Richard Peake).
2. Broken Dreams (Sponsored by Diana D. Buckley).
3. Rivers and/or Streams (Sponsored by Mary Ann Goodwin).
4. Random Acts of Kindness (Sponsored by RJ Clarken).
5. The Love of Poetry (Sponsored by M.M. Carlisle).
6. Member Contest (no fee, no prize except publication)

If mailed, entries must be postmarked by April 25, 2009, and arrive within 4 days of the due date. Contests 1-4 have a \$10.00 first place prize. Contest 5 has a \$25.00 first place prize. Poets may enter all contests, but may win only one cash prize per month.

Call for Entries - The Robert Clark Appreciation Award

First Place: \$50.00. Second Place: \$20.00. Third Place: \$10.00. HM: \$5.00.

Sponsor: Marie Delgado Travis Host: Sol Magazine Projects

This award will be presented in honor of Robert Clark (organizer of the First Friday Poetry Reading Series and the Houston Poetry Fest), because of his promotion of poetry in the Houston area. The winner will be announced in April 2009, National Poetry Month.

REQUIRED: The competition is open to all poets residing in the US, aged eighteen or older. The judge will consider only original work written in English; if originally written in another language, only the English translation will be considered. The theme is open, with no special line requirements. Controversial subjects are welcome, though profanity and graphic language are not. One poem per poet, typed within the body of an e-mail; attachments not opened. Simultaneous submissions permitted and poems may have been previously published, so long as the author has retained the copyright, and names its previous publishers. E-mail can mangle line turns; left-justify all poems, beware of too-long lines. Poems entered will be considered as finished; no changes. Beneath the poem, include full mailing address and e-mail address. This will not be shared. A brief biography relating to your writing background would be appreciated, although first-time poets are also encouraged to submit their work.

AGE LIMIT: Eighteen or older. (Those sixteen to eighteen may enter with permission of a parent if the young person is a member of a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas.)

SEND TO: [**Sol.Magazine@prodigy.net**](mailto:Sol.Magazine@prodigy.net)

DEADLINE: **Before midnight, March 31st, 2009 CST.**

Poems not chosen may also be considered for future publication. Advice for new poets: Poems that seem to never end may bore the judge. Use spell-check before submitting your work. Ask a friend to check for grammar errors before hitting the send key. Include everything asked for in your submission.

Gulf Coast Poets Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2009

- A. President Mary Carlisle called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM and welcomed those in attendance.
- a. Minutes taken by Barbara Carle.
 - b. Oscar Pena made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2009 meeting. Motion was seconded by Dick Peake.
- B. Reports:
- a. Treasurer's Report: Jan. 1 thru Jan. 31, 2009.
Beginning Balance - \$1,680.99, Jan. 1, 2009
Ending Balance - \$1,737.15, Jan. 31, 2009
 - b. Membership Report:
Rebecca Travis reported three new members have joined bringing membership to 40.
- Poetry:
- a. Donny Wankan discussed the new Gulf Coast Poets Book Club beginning in April. Anyone interested is asked to contact Donny, Committee Chair.
 - b. Those interested in the Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Anthology were asked to contact Donny Wankan, Chair.
- C. Announcements
- a. Gulf Coast Poets fourth Monday night critique will be held at Seabrook's Coffee Oasis on Feb. 23rd at 6:45 p.m.
 - b. Scheduled Meetings and speakers:
March 14, Marie Delgado Travis.
April – no meeting.
April 25 – Alvin Community College Writers Conference
May 9, Carolyn Luke Reding, from Austin, Texas.
June 12, Susan Bright, Plain View Press, Austin.
 - c. Lynn Streeter and Becky Ellisor will be guest poets at the Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series on March 2nd.
 - d. Guest Robert Neeley introduced himself and reported his poetry can be read on line in Radiant Turnstile.
- D.
- a. Gulf Coast Poets January Contest Winners
Haunted - Von S. Bourland
Servant Hood - Debi Fairchild
Buying Dolphins -Terry Miller.
Cowboy Boots and High Heels - Debi Fairchild.

Gulf Coast Poets Meeting Minutes (continued)

b. Gulf Coast Poets Love Poetry Contest winners:

1st Place – Blink - Rebecca Hatcher Travis.

2nd Place (tie) – Love in Old Age - Richard Peake.

2nd Place (tie) – The Meal - Margaret Ellis Hill.

3rd Place (tie) – Love - Barbara Ann Carle

3rd Place (tie) – Memorial Day - Mary Ann Goodwin.

4th Place – Our Love - Lauran Perry English.

5th Place – It's Time Lover - Karen A. Gerky Calhoun

Honorable Mention – At Last (Netsuke) - Oscar C. Pena

Honorable Mention – Love's Lament - June LaVernway.

Honorable Mention – Your New Matches - Adamarie Fuller.

E. Speaker – Rebecca Hatcher Travis read from her wonderful new book “Picked Apart the Bones”, the winner of the “First Book Award for Poetry” Native Writers’ Circle of the Americas.

F. Mary Carlisle led a discussion of several poetry definitions.

G. Several Members read poems from various well known poets.

H. Read-A-Round Poems:

a. Mary Carlisle – The World is Flat.

b. Barbara Carle – The Beach

c. Adrianna Vazquez – Love Thy Self.

d. Oscar Pena – Lost Love.

The meeting ended at 12:05 PM. Lunch with our speaker, Rebecca Hatcher Travis followed at Angelo's Restaurant on Bay Area Blvd. in Webster.

Looking for POETS

<http://TexasPoetryEvents.info>

SUPPORT GULF COAST POETS MEMBER RUN VENUES

Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading & Open Mic Series.

This event begins at 7:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Webster Barnes & Noble at 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd. at I-45, in the business section. Next meeting: March 24th, featuring Glynn Monroe Irby and Tina Cardona FMI, contact Reading MC, GCP member, Oscar Peña. E-mail pena554343@aol.com

Seabrook Coffee Oasis Poetry Reading Series.

Join us every first Monday at 7:00 pm except when a holiday interferes. (5.2 miles east of IH-45) Directions: 281-532-1439. 4650 NASA Parkway at Kirby, Open mic after featured poets. FMI, contact member Adriana Babiak-Vázquez: borimex@swbell.net

The Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Reading Club will provide participants with copies of the April 2009 issue of Poetry Magazine, Tuesday, April 21, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Clear Lake City-County Freeman Library, 16602 Diana Lane (at Ramada Drive, off of Bay Area Blvd.). To sign up for this event, contact GCP's Anthology Editor, Donny Wankan: [<wankands@earthlink.net>](mailto:wankands@earthlink.net) or call: 281-337-7526.

UH-Clear Lake Poetry Reading Series is informal and open to the public. The next will be April 7, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., in the Cappuccino Bono, Student Services Building, just off Alumni Plaza, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. A reading also May 6. Those who wish to read or simply listen are welcome. For more information, call 281-283-3430. One sponsor of this group is GCP member John Gorman.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

**May 9, 2009
Carolyn Luke Reding**



**June 13, 2009
Susan Bright**

**September 12, 2009
Ken Jones**



Friendswood Public Library presents
An Evening of Poetry
Hosted by Mary Margaret Carlisle
Featuring
Rebecca Hatcher Travis
author of *Picked Apart the Bones*



**Becky's book won the First Book Award for Poetry
from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas.**

With poets
Adriana Vazquez, Mary Ann Goodwin,
Adamarie Fuller

**Wednesday, April 22ND at 7PM in the Friendswood
Library Activity Room. Refreshments provided.**

**Friendswood Public Library
416 S Friendswood Drive
Friendswood, TX 77546
281-482-7135**

Directions: From I-45, take FM 2351/Hastings Friendswood Rd.
Continue to follow FM-2351. Turn left at FM-518/N Friendswood
Dr. The Friendswood Public Library will be on the right on the
corner of Friendswood Drive and Spreading Oaks.

Nimrod International Journal presents the annual *Nimrod* Literary Awards: The Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry and the Katherine Anne Porter Prize for Fiction. These offer first prizes of \$2,000 and publication and second prizes of \$1,000 and publication, along with a trip to Tulsa to receive the Awards and take part in our annual writing conference. The postmark deadline for this year's Awards is April 30th, 2009.

The Awards are among the most distinguished literary prizes in the country. Past judges include Stanley Kunitz, Marvin Bell, Mark Doty, Olga Broumas, W. S. Merwin, Denise Levertov, William Stafford, Ron Carlson, Edward Hirsch, and John Edgar Wideman. Past winners include Sue Monk Kidd, Diane Glancy, Daniel Lusk, Felicia Ward, Ruth Schwartz, and Gina Ochsner. This year's fiction judge is Robert Olen Butler, with the poetry judge to be announced.

One of the oldest "little magazines" in the country, *Nimrod* has continually published new and extraordinary writers since 1956. We are dedicated to the discovery of new voices in literature, and the *Nimrod* Literary Awards are a special way to reward talented new poets and fiction writers.

For more about the Awards rules, contact Ellis O'Neal, or visit their website to learn more about *Nimrod*.

Postmark Deadline: APRIL 30, 2009

Ellis O'Neal
Managing Editor, *Nimrod International Journal*
The University of Tulsa, 800 S. Tucker Drive
Tulsa, OK 74104

(918) 631-3080
www.utulsa.edu/nimrod
nimrod@utulsa.edu

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB SEARCH

The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake

The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake is seeking an Executive Director to serve as the internal and external leader of the organization. This emerging multi-disciplinary arts organization with a budget of approximately \$500,000, works with other area non-profits to enrich and promote the visual, literary and performing arts landscape in Houston's Bay Area.

A successful candidate would have:

- A strong commitment to the arts and to the Bay Area community
- A background in effective fundraising
- Experience in marketing
- Experience managing people
- Communication skills (interpersonal, written, public speaking) that are clear, persuasive, compelling and articulate.
- Skill and knowledge of business practices, including budgets, processes, etc. with nonprofit experience preferred

The Executive Director would be responsible for:

- Direct fundraising
- Public Speaking engagements and community liaison
- Managing staff and facilities
- Marketing
- Board development
- Membership development and service

Please send a resume and cover letter which includes your salary expectations to:

AACCL Search Committee
c/o University of Houston- Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area Blvd.
Houston, TX 77058

Gulf Coast Poets

<http://GulfCoastPoets.info>

Treasurer Report for March 14, 2009 General Meeting

Report Period: February 1-28, 2009

Cash Flow February 1 – February 28, 2009

Contests.....		-30.00
Entry Fees	.00	
Prizes for Jan 2009	-30.00	
Sponsorships	.00	
Dues.....		0.00
Lifetime	0.00	
Founding	0.00	
Chapter	0.00	
Speaker Expense.....		-13.48
Honorarium	-0.00	
Speaker Lunch	-13.48	
Donations.....		0.00
Lifetime Poets Fund	0.00	
Interest/Dividend.....		.93
Net Cash flow, Feb 1 – Feb 28		<u>-42.55</u>

Account Balances February 1 – February 28, 2009

Checking		
Beginning		1731.89
Transferred from Cash	.00	
Checks written (3)	-30.00	
Dividend	.93	
Ending		1689.34
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
Beginning		0.00
Received	.00	
Transferred to Checking	-0.00	
Ending		0.00
Savings (int. posted quarterly)		
Beginning		5.26
Ending		5.26
All accounts		
Beginning (2/1/2009)		1737.15
Ending (2/28/2009)		1694.60

Treasurer Reports will end on the last day of the month preceding the meeting.

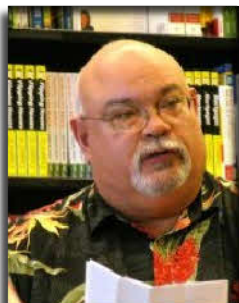
MARCH'S FEATURED POET

Gulf Coast Poet member, **Marie Delgado Travis** is an award-winning bilingual poet. She was a Juried Poet of the Houston Poetry Fest. Her work's featured in *Chicken Soup for the Latino Soul* (2005) and its recently published translation, *Sopa De Pollo Para El Alma Latina* (2008). Her poetry has also appeared in journals and anthologies including *Lucidity*, *Spiky Palm*, *Ardent!* and *across the Long Bridge: an Anthology of Award-Winning Poetry* (2006). She has been a guest author on radio and television and performed readings in Chicago, IL, San Juan, PR and San Miguel Allende, MX, and throughout Texas. She is a Poetry Editor for LanguageandCulture.net and also an editor of aLongStoryShort.net. She writes monthly columns on a variety of subjects. Marie lives with her husband Ed, a retired attorney, in Houston, TX. Her award-winning poetry collections, *La Ventana/the Window* (bilingual) and *Blossom* (English) are available through major online book stores.



Marie Delgado Travis

IN THE NEWS - GULF COAST POETS MEMBERS



Oscar Pena



Adriana Vazquez



Donny Wankan