



# The Muse Messenger

The Newsletter of the Alabama State Poetry Society

April, 2016

Vol. 47, Nr. 04

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## Musings from the Editors

April is National Poetry Month, and "spring is in the air." Judging from the pollen, it's everywhere else as well. Now, understand that we are in no way complaining that winter barely tipped its hat to us on the way through. But I have to wonder where January, February, and March went! They seem to have flown by.

Driving home from a writers' conference in Huntsville this weekend, we couldn't help but notice the budding trees, the flowers bursting forth in colors, and the fresh breeze that promises even nicer days are on the way. If your Muse is stimulated by the beauty of nature, he or she must be doing the "happy dance" right now.

If spring has you thinking about flowers, hummingbirds, and butterflies, you should try the simple form called "Butterfly," which is the form you'll be using for the April *Muse Messenger* contest. We've even included instructions by Florence Bruce about how to create this simple form.

On the topic of contests, Rita's article, "So You Want to Contest," will give you several valid reasons why it's worth your while to enter them. Then, before you head out to enjoy this incredible weather, we hope you'll take the time to read Barry's amusing and informative article about "automatic writing" and give it a try.

While the deadline to enter the ASPS Spring Contest has passed, there's still time to register for the Spring Meeting, which will be on April 29-30 in Orange Beach this year. Besides the fellowship, the poetry, and the workshops, you'll have time to enjoy Gulf Shores in April. Who can refuse an

offer like that? The flyer for that meeting is on the back page of the *Muse Messenger*.

There are other opportunities for you this month as well. Those opportunities include everything from free workshops at the Birmingham Library to regular meetings of various writing groups. And if you haven't yet registered for the Alabama Writers' Conclave Conference in Birmingham on July 15-17, why not do it today?

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## The Joys (And Terrors) Of Automatic Writing

~ Barry Marks

(This is Part 1 of Barry's article. Part 2 will appear in the May issue of the *Muse Messenger*.)

**WARNING:** *This article will counsel poets and other writers to abandon all the things they have learned about good writing, all restraint, all sanity. The author does not represent or warrant that the exercise will result in any coherent work or that the writer will not be deeply embarrassed if he or she shares the results. This exercise is not for those under psychiatric care, who should consult their physicians before proceeding. The possibility exists that the writer will never return to civilized writing. Other personality changes are possible.*

*There. I feel better now. You have been warned.*

Do you ever feel like we spend so much time worrying over *how* to write that sometimes it feels like we are tailoring strait jackets for ourselves? Do you ever find yourself writing something that feels pretty good when you start, only to get hung up on a line break or word choice and lose steam midway through what should have been a good poem? Do you worry over where you are going

while you write? What it will look like, what your workshop group or readers will say?

Do you ever just get to the point you think your Muse has packed up and left? We call it being *blocked*, but sometimes the problem isn't a lack of inspiration but the beast of anxiety and the voices in your head that sound suspiciously like the leader of that workshop you attended, the judge of every contest you lost, every rejection notice or maybe your third grade teacher, who made you learn the difference between assonance and alliteration like it was a math problem.

There are many obstacles to enjoying writing, but the ones we create ourselves are often the most frustrating. I cannot offer a cure, but one of the things that helps me is what I call *automatic writing*.

Automatic writing is basically letting go of your internal editor. Metaphorically, it is letting go of the reins and letting the horses run wild or putting the car on cruise control and not hitting the brakes as you weave through traffic.

One form of automatic writing is starting with a line that you like. Maybe a phrase from a poem that excites you, maybe a nonsense word or two, maybe the first line of a story. Write it down or type it in. Close your eyes and take a breath. Now *write*. Do not let anything interrupt. You can write across the page as if it is prose or start breaking lines if the spirit moves you, but **YOU CANNOT THINK ABOUT IT**. You can string together ten adjectives if you feel like it or leave a blank space, **BUT NO GOING BACK AND CORRECTING**.

I generally prefer to write without any punctuation or line breaks. They distract me, and I get mired in choosing whether to use a comma or semicolon, where to break the line, precisely what I am trying to avoid. Sometimes, I put in a question mark or period and that is fine. No need to be consistent. **THERE ARE NO RULES**.

If you feel like the draft (no, it isn't a poem or a story) is going in the wrong direction, just change it or stop and start over, but try not to let your mind get ahead of your hands and slow you down. If that little voice says "Uh, oh this is getting weird" say "Yup" and keep going. No one is going

to see it. Is it becoming...naughty? Who cares? Is it sounding like someone else's work? OK, get it out of your system.

The point is to let the words themselves carry you and let your imagination run wild. When you get tired or feel like you are done, you are done. Put it aside, stand up and stretch. Now do it again or read what you have, but remember, it is yours to edit, cannibalize for parts or bury so deep no one will ever see it.

There are other ways to get around writing blocks and let the words flow. In the next installment, we will discuss a couple of other "automatic" writing techniques.

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## Ten Tips on "How to Write Good"

1. Avoid Awkward Alliteration. Always.
  2. Avoid cliches like the plague. They're old hat.
  3. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
  4. Be more or less specific.
  6. Writers should never generalize.
- Seven.** Be consistent!
8. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
  9. Who needs rhetorical questions?
  10. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
  11. Always proofread your work to find careless errors.

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## So You Want to Contest

~ Rita Aiken Moritz

(This is Part 1 of Rita's article. Parts 2 and 3 will appear in the May and June issues of the *Muse Messenger*.)

"I love contesting!" I wasn't surprised to hear those words from a poet friend. She does indeed love entering poetry contests and, given that she wins so often, it's no wonder she loves them! I enjoy entering contests as well. Of course, not everyone wins every time, and that includes my friend and

me. So why does she continue to enter? Why do I? Why would anyone?

As I was getting ready to send some entries off last month, I asked myself that very question. When I did, I realized there are several valid reasons to enter contests, and the chance that I might win is only one of them. Here are some of the others:

- Entry fees help poetry societies survive. Membership dues in a poetry society and their fees for workshops, conferences, and meetings are usually minimal. Contest entry fees help them keep those things affordable. Every time I enter a contest, I'm helping to ensure that poetry societies will not fold for lack of funds.
- Entering contests is great fun! I love the whole process of reading the categories, writing new poems, and then organizing the poems and mailing them. I even love waiting to see whether one of my poems has won. It's just a fun process.
- Although I write whether anyone sees it or not, words were meant to be shared. Entering contests is one way to make that happen.
- Preparing for a contest often causes me to look at and read poems that meet the contest criteria. Anything that gets me to read poetry is a good thing.
- Preparing for a contest encourages me to write new poems that meet their criteria. And anything that gets me to write is also a good thing.
- Contest categories serve as writing prompts to "get those juices flowing." They also challenge me to try new forms and topics.
- Contests keep me writing and result in my being a better writer and poet. The more I write, the better I write. That's just a basic truth. Writing is like a muscle; the more you exercise it, the stronger and better it becomes.
- Nothing will get me to revise a poem like having to meet contest requirements. Line requirements mean I have to cut out unnecessary words, lines, concepts and still retain the core of the poem. Not an easy thing to do.

- Judges sometimes (but not always) offer critiques and/or comments on entries. It's a new perspective on what works (or doesn't) in my poem.
- When my poems don't win or place, it causes me to take another (and more objective) look at my poems.
- Entering contests requires that I exercise discipline in meeting guidelines, formats, and deadlines. In that sense, it's preparing me for working with an editor on a submission, an article, a poem, or a book.
- Entering (and winning) contests helps to build my writing resume. It might even get me noticed by a publisher. Case in point: Some of the poems that have been submitted to our *Muse Messenger* contest resulted in the poets being invited to submit their poems to a publisher for consideration. It's not a "done deal," but it's an opportunity that came because they entered a contest.
- Seeing someone else win when I don't gives me the opportunity for a healthy dose of "get over yourself." I don't need to win every single time with every single poem. One of the things that will make a poetry group thrive is having its members be genuinely delighted to see any and all of the members win an award for their poetry.
- And then there's the occasional win. Not only is it validating to have a poem win, but it also helps to support my poetry addiction.

Those are some of the reasons I enter contests. Why do you? Or perhaps a better question would be, "Why don't you?" Because one thing I didn't put on my list is obvious: You may not win, but you certainly can't win if you don't enter.

*In the next issue: Contest scams and how to avoid them.*

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"Who wants to become a writer? And why? Because it's the answer to everything. ... It's the streaming reason for living. To note, to pin down, to build up, to create, to be astonished at nothing, to cherish the oddities, to let nothing go down the drain, to make something, to make a great flower out of life, even if it's a cactus." ~ Enid Bagnold

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## Member News for April

**Claire T. Feild** had two poems accepted for publication in the print journal, *Ghostlight: The Magazine of Horror*. She also had a poem published in *Rockland Lit*.

**Bev Gattis** is one of the authors whose story about her three-year-old son Jason will appear in Jim Bell's book, *God Spoke to me Today*, which tells personal stories of divine encounters (from a child's perspective). It will be available in July.

**Bonnie Hoffman**, writing as Zeze Hoffman, had her poem, "The body in d[ist]ress," published in the 34th issue of *Negative Capability*. In addition, six of her poems were published in *The Stray Branch* #17, Vol 14.

**Madison Jones's** book, *Reflections on the Dark Water*, was released April 1st. Besides doing some readings in Florida, she will be doing a reading/book signing at Pebble Hill in Auburn on May 20th.

**Barry Marks** reports that nominations are being accepted for Alabama Poet Laureate. For more information or to make a nomination, contact Barry at [bmarks@markslegal.com](mailto:bmarks@markslegal.com)

**Rita Aiken Moritz** reports that five of her poems have placed in the Oklahoma State Poetry Contest, and one additional poem has placed in the Virginia State Poetry Society Contest.

**Dr. Lynn Veach Sadler** will read from her Civil War poems in Burlington (NC) 4/25/16. From *The Fayetteville [NC] Observer*, "These are poems of tough love and strong conviction about our ancestors . . . and, above all, in the examples of courage they set in the context of history."

**Sue Walker** has a poem, "A Walk Through Blakeley State Park" featured on the Blakeley State Park Blog:

<http://blakeleypark.com/blog.asp>.

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"Years of love have been forgot, in the hatred of a minute." ~ Edgar Allen Poe

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## Call for Submissions

What Can I Submit to the *Muse Messenger*?

Our goal as the Editors of the *Muse Messenger* is to make it a "real" member newsletter. That means we want the content to be focused on, of interest to, and even written by you...the members of ASPS. Here are some of the features that would welcome your submissions:

- **The Monthly Contest.** It's easy to enter, has no entry fee, and is open to ASPS members only. The only requirements are that the poem be unpublished and not have won a prize in any ASPS contest. While there is no monetary prize, the winning poem will be published in the following month's *Muse Messenger*.

- **Member News.** If you've won a contest, had something accepted for publication, hosted a party or done anything else you want other members to know about, let us know. We love hearing about your success and letting others know about it.

- **What's Happening.** Do you have an event planned? A workshop? A conference? If it has value, share it so other members will know about it.

- **Tips & Tools of the Trade.** What writing prompts work for you? What are some common errors to avoid? Put together three or four tips and send them to us. If we can use them, we'll credit you.

- **Articles.** We're always looking for well-written articles about poetry and writing. Articles should be between 300-600 words and should also be crisp, clean copy. Write it, edit it carefully and send it to us.

- **Fillers.** Fillers should be 100-200 words. They can be interesting, informative, or just fun.

Submissions for the monthly contest should go in the body of an email or be attached as an MS Word document and sent to:

[contest@musemessenger.org](mailto:contest@musemessenger.org). Put the month and Contest in the subject line. All other submissions should be attached as a Word document and sent by email to: [editor@musemessenger.org](mailto:editor@musemessenger.org). Put the

feature you are submitting to in the Subject line (i.e. Article, Tips and Tools, etc).

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## ***Muse Messenger Archives***

Starting last month, the *Muse Messenger* will only be sent to active members of ASPS. Archived copies of every 2016 *Muse Messenger* will be found at: <http://musemessenger.com> However, you will need a password in order to access that archive. When you go to the website, you will be asked to submit both a User Name and a Password. They are as follows, and "Case" matters:

User Name = `aspsmember`  
Password = `1Banana2016`

This User Name and Password combination will be used by all paid ASPS members during 2016. The User Name and Password combination will change in January, 2017, and will be sent to members when that change is in place.

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"One thing that helps is to give myself permission to write badly. I tell myself that I'm going to do my five or 10 pages no matter what, and that I can always tear them up the following morning if I want. I'll have lost nothing—writing and tearing up five pages would leave me no further behind than if I took the day off." ~ Lawrence Block, WD

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## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Nominations are now being accepted for Alabama Poet Laureate. The Laureate will be selected by the Board of the Alabama Writers Conclave in accordance with state law.

Nominees must be Alabama residents. Publication of at least one book is strongly recommended, but consideration will be given to other achievements. Nominee must be prepared to promote poetry throughout the state and demonstrate skill and commitment to poetry.

For information, email Barry Marks, Nominating Committee Chair at: [bm@markslegal.com](mailto:bm@markslegal.com)

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## **What's Happening?**

**April 5: Gifts of a Wordsmith**, a poetry workshop for adults, meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the downtown Birmingham Public Library. Email Haruyo Miyagawa at: [hm@hamlib.al.us](mailto:hm@hamlib.al.us) for more information.

**April 7: Writers' Anonymous** meets the first Thursday of every month from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Pell City Recreation Hall, 411 19th Street South in Pell City. For more information, go to: <http://writersanonymous.us>.

**April 9: Pensters Writing Group**, University of South Alabama, 111 St. James Street, Room 11, Fairhope will have a workshop from 10:00-12:00 titled "Made to Be Broken: Form and Function in Poetry," featuring Carol Case. For more information go to: <http://pensterswritinggroup.com/events/>.

**April 15: Bamaslam Montevallo Poetry Slam** is on Friday, April 15. Sign up at 8:00 p.m., and the slam begins at 9:00 p.m. at Eclipse Coffee and Books, 1032 Main Street in Montevallo. Email Jerri Hardesty at: [WytRabbit1@aol.com](mailto:WytRabbit1@aol.com) for more information.

**April 23: The 2016 Alabama Book Festival** is on Saturday, April 23rd from 9:00 – 5:00 at Old Alabama Town in Montgomery, AL. Admission is Free. For more information, go to: <http://alabamabookfestival.org/welcome.html>

**April 27: Chewacla Writers' Guild** meets the fourth Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7:00 at the Fieldworks Gallery in downtown Auburn. Their next meeting will be April 27.

**April 29-30: The 2016 ASPS Spring Meeting** will take place on April 29-30 at the Orange Beach Public Library, 26267 Canal Road, Orange Beach, AL. For more information, go to: <http://alabampoets.org> and click on Special Events.

**May 3: Gifts of a Wordsmith**, a poetry workshop for adults, meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the downtown Birmingham Public Library. Email Haruyo

Miyagawa at: [hm@hamlib.al.us](mailto:hm@hamlib.al.us) for more information.

**May 5: Writers' Anonymous** meets the first Thursday of every month from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Pell City Recreation Hall, 411 19th Street South in Pell City. For more information, go to: <http://writersanonymous.us>.

**July 15-17: The 2016 Alabama Writers' Conclave Conference** will be at the Alabama School of Fine Arts, 1800 Reverend Abraham Woods Jr. Blvd, Birmingham, AL. For more information and to register, go to: <http://alabamawritersconclave.org/>.

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## Contests, Contests, Contests!

(April/May Contests with Deadlines)

4/10—Gulf Coast Writers "Let's Write"  
Literary Contest  
<http://gcwriters.org/contest.html>

4/15—Massachusetts State Poetry Society  
"Ambassador of Poetry Award"  
<http://bit.ly/1OvutOX>

4/15—Rhyme On! Poetry Writing Contest  
NO ENTRY FEE  
<http://library.loudoun.gov/Events/Rhyme-On>

4/20—Poetry Society of Tennessee  
(Submit by April 20th for May)  
<http://poetrysocietytn.org/>

4/30—California Topic by month and submitted during each month.  
<http://bit.ly/1LEi3zR>

5/1—Florida State Poets Association Contest  
(Submit from 5/1-7/15)  
<http://bit.ly/1RUtE4d>

5/1—Oregon Poetry Association  
<http://oregonpoets.org/contests/>

5/1 —Artists Embassy Int'l Poetry Contest  
<http://bit.ly/1S3Aj9t>

5/15—Poetry Society of New Hampshire  
<http://bit.ly/1qkkaqh5/20>

5/20 —Poetry Society of Tennessee  
(Submit by May 20th for June)  
<http://poetrysocietytn.org/>

5/23—Alabama Writers Conclave Writing Contest  
<http://bit.ly/1V4xhZ0>

5/23—Arkansas Writers Conference Contest  
<http://bit.ly/25GM0gg>

5/31—The John and Miriam Morris Memorial  
Chapbook Competition  
<http://bit.ly/1qq5fKW>

5/31—California Topic by month and submitted during each month.  
<http://bit.ly/1LEi3zR>

5/31—Connecticut Poetry Society Poetry Award  
<http://ctpoetry.net/contests.html>

6/1—Maria Faust Sonnet Contest  
(Must be received by 6/1)  
<http://bit.ly/1SwftuX>

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## Highlights on State Poetry Societies

In order for a State Poetry Society to be featured, it must have a web presence and allow both out-of-state membership and non-member entries in their contests. Keep in mind that contest deadlines may change. Some may also accept outside submissions to their journals.

<i>State:</i>	<i>Dues:</i>	<i>Contest Deadlines:</i>
<b>Mississippi:</b>	Individual \$25	3/15
Inet: <a href="http://misspoetry.net/">http://misspoetry.net/</a>		
<b>Missouri:</b>	Individual \$13	9/1 & 2/1
Inet: <a href="http://mstatapoetry.com/">http://mstatapoetry.com/</a>		
<b>New Hampshire:</b>	Individual \$25	5/15 & 11/15
Inet: <a href="http://poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org">http://poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org</a>		

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"The Poetry of the earth is never dead."  
~ John Keats

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April is National Poetry Month!  
What are you doing to celebrate?

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## Monthly Poetry Contest

Congratulations to **Harry Moritz** of Pell City, Alabama, who was the winner of the March *Muse Messenger* Poetry Contest. His poem "To Be Like Dad," as inspired by the visual clue of a 1910 photograph of mill workers coming off their shift at a northeast Alabama textile mill, appears below. Although there is only one contest winner, our judge awarded Honorable Mentions to Charles Firmage ("He Made It Farther") for "evoking serious thought" and to Mike Wahl ("Miss Posterity") for "humor." Thank you to all who entered.

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### To Be Like Dad

He always rose well before daybreak  
and started his day with bitter chicory and toast.  
Wearing a tipped-brim hat he labored at the mill,  
and brought home a paycheck to feed our family.

Called an engineer, he didn't drive a locomotive.  
But he made the mill's machines go and go in a  
clackin' and clatterin' never - ending weave.  
He was well paid - nearly nine weekly dollars.

Oh! How I prayed to be just like him. My Dad!  
Well paid and supporting a loving family.  
But I was just a baby doffer,  
barely four feet tall in my grimy bare feet.

Stoically, I stood there in the front row.  
Dad's right hand comforted my left shoulder  
both my hands thrust deep into my pockets,  
right hand savored my own three weekly dollars.

My left hand shrieked in blazing, fiery agony,  
swaddled in an angry bloodthirsty rag, cinching  
the stub where my proud index finger once stood  
before it was plucked off by a speeding shuttle.

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Information for the April contest is as follows:

Topic: **Poet's Choice**

Form: **Butterfly**

(See Florence Bruce's article in the  
*Muse Messenger* [Below] or go to:

<http://bit.ly/1q3RS2E>)

Line Limit: **6 Lines - According to form**

You can enter this contest by emailing your poem to: [contest@musemessenger.org](mailto:contest@musemessenger.org) by April 21st. Either attach it as a Word document or put it in the body of the email. Your poem must not have been published or have won in any ASPS contest. The winning poem will appear in the May *Muse Messenger*.

Contest judges are qualified poets, who are not a part of or associated in any way with ASPS. The contest is open to all members except the *Muse Messenger* Contest Chair (Rita), who coordinates the contest and sends entries to the judges. If you have won a 2016 *Muse Messenger* contest, you may not enter another poem in a *Muse Messenger* contest until January, 2017. The complete contest guidelines are online at: <http://bit.ly/1OFF2PE>.

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## The Butterfly

Since the *Muse Messenger* contest this month requires the form called "Butterfly," we are including a brief description on how to create that form. Special thanks to Florence Bruce, who is a member of the Poetry Society of Tennessee, for sharing her skills and knowledge with other poets.

The following is an excerpt from Florence Bruce's blog on poetry forms and is used with her permission. To see more forms and how to write them, visit Florence's blog at:

<http://poemsamples.blogspot.com/>

The Butterfly:

The Butterfly is a 6-line syllable count structure, with count 8-8-4-4-8-8 and rhyme scheme a-a-b-b-c-c. The message should be a flitting thought expressed in one sentence. Here's an example from Mary Harper Sowell's little collection called *Poetry Patterns A-Z*.

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## Too Late the Rose

When Granny Jenkins was alive,  
alone she managed to survive  
the lonely years  
with hidden tears,  
but when she died, the people came  
to bring bouquets and praise her name.

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## Tips and Tools of the Trade

- Read your poems out loud. If you automatically change a word, that's the one you should have used. Change your poem accordingly.
- One strong verb is worth 10 adverbs.
- Write a six-word poem, making every word count. Now write a longer version of the same poem. Write that poem again using a form. At some point, you'll find the "real" poem in the words.
- Keep a notebook in every room so you can write down the thought, image, line when you think of it.
- Experiment to find your most productive time and place for writing.
- Write a poem for a contest whether you enter or not.
- Start a list of "power lines." These can become writing prompts.
- Dissect one of your poems to find the soul of it. When you've found the soul, you've found the poem.
- Read some new poets like Billy Collins. There's a reason he's the most popular poet in the United States. Figure out what makes his poems "work."
- Read some old poets. There's a reason people are still reading Dickinson, Frost, and Hemingway.
- Revise, Revise, Revise.

- Take a break from writing, go for a walk and let this beautiful spring season refresh you.
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## Publishers and Journals Accepting Submissions

The following publishers and journals are now open for submissions. Be sure to read and follow the submission guidelines provided on each website. Only your very best work should be submitted.

*The Birmingham Arts Journal:*

<http://birminghamartsjournal.com>

*Kudzu House Quarterly:*

<http://kudzuhouse.org>

Negative Capability Press:

<http://negativecapabilitypress.org>

*Penny Magazine:*

<http://youfoundpenny.com>

The Poetry Foundation:

<http://poetryfoundation.org>

**Please Note:** The following has a deadline:

April 15: *Frogpond Journal:*

<http://http://bit.ly/23bJTPB>

If you know of publishers or journals that are accepting submissions, please let us know so they can be included in the May *Muse Messenger*.

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The End.



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## The Alabama State Poetry Society — Our Officers:

President:	Jerri Hardesty 1830 Marvel Rd. Brierfield, AL 35035	205-665-7904 WytRabbit1@aol.com
First Vice President:	Emily Grimes-Henderson 5815 Cheryl Dr. Pinson, AL 35126	205-587-7696 janelulu@aol.com
Second Vice President:	Kirk Hardesty 1830 Marvel Rd Brierfield, AL 35035	205-665-7904 niteglider11@gmail.com
Recording Secretary:	Kimberly Wright 203 Camellia Dr. Prattville, AL 36067	334-669-6263 wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com
Treasurer & Membership:	Jodi Adamson 361 Rives Mill Loop Deatsville, AL 36022	adamsjo75@hotmail.com
Contests:	Kirk Hardesty 1830 Marvel Rd Brierfield, AL 35035	205-665-7904 niteglider11@gmail.com
Historian:	Cleveland Brown 2535 County Rd 93 Evergreen, AL 36401	251-300-0141 ccbrown45@gmail.com
Parliamentarian:	Evelyn Hurley P.O. Box 145 Gaylesville, AL 35973	256-422-3323 hur1L@ds.net
Immediate Past President:	Barry Marks P.O. Box 11386 Birmingham, AL 35202	205-251-8303 barry@easelawyer.com
<i>The Muse Messenger</i> : ASPS Newsletter	Harry & Rita Moritz P.O. Box 763 Pell City, AL 35125	editors@musemessenger.org

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**ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY  
SPRING MEETING 2016**

**Dates:** Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2016

**Location:** Orange Beach Public Library  
26267 Canal Road  
Orange Beach, AL 36561

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Friday, April 29:**

7:00 PM -- Meet and Greet in Private Room at Shipps Harbour Grill,  
27842 Canal Road, Orange Beach, AL. Delicious beverages  
and gourmet snacks can be ordered for Round Robin reading.

**Saturday, April 30:**

9:15 AM -- Meet and Greet with Coffee and Breakfast Snacks in Orange Beach Public Library

9:45 AM -- Opening of Meeting and Announcements

10:00 AM -- 11:00 AM -- Workshop 1 TBA Soon!

11:15 AM -- 12:15 PM -- Workshop 2 TBA Soon!

12:30 PM -- Catered Lunch in adjacent scenic park with picnic pavilions

1:30 PM -- Contest Awards in the Library

**Cost:**

\$20 Meeting / Workshops

\$15 Catered Lunch

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\$35 Total

Please pre-register so we can plan properly.

**Send registration to:**

Jodi Adamson, Treasurer  
361 Rives Mill Loop  
Deatsville, AL 36022