



The Muse Messenger

The Newsletter of the Alabama State Poetry Society

September, 2016

Vol. 47, Nr. 09

Musings from the Editors

The summer has flown by, and the hummingbirds are already “tanking up” to prepare for their migration across the Gulf of Mexico. By the time these tiny but aggressive birds are ready to start that non-stop flight, they will have almost doubled their size through late August and early September.

That’s much like the literary summer we have had here. Although we had to miss the ASPS Spring Conference in April, we attended other writers’ conferences in May and June and went to the best-ever Alabama Writers’ Conclave in July. To finish off our summer, we visited the Emily Dickinson House in Amherst, Massachusetts in August. And we did all that (hopefully) without “doubling our size.”

Who said things slow down in Alabama in the summer? And now here we are revving up for an even busier autumn. This issue of the *Muse Messenger* will tell you about several opportunities available for you to get together with other poets, to hear their poetry, and to grow as a writer and poet yourself.

One person who is willing to put out the effort can create opportunities for others to grow as writers. An example of this is what Barry Marks has done with the Gifts of a Wordsmith workshops at the Birmingham Library. Another example is the workshop Rita will be doing in Gulf Shores on “If You Build It, They Will Come.” Her workshop will cover the basics of starting and maintaining a writing group. Both those things are free and open to everyone.

The Daily Workshop in this issue is called “It’s Your Baby. You Have to Spank It!” Doing these workshops . . . both the community one and the private ones will improve your writing. And how can we not be attracted to something that will make us more effective as writers?

A new feature this month is “Poets Without Borders,” which includes an article by Vincent Tomeo telling the story of a poem he wrote and how the patron of the villa honored him and his poem. If you have read your poetry or been recognized somewhere other than here in Alabama, your story is what we’re looking for with this feature. Tell us about it so we can share it with the rest of ASPS.

While we are not having a *Muse Messenger* contest anymore, we are still issuing challenges each month. The challenges for this month are the categories of the ASPS Fall Contest. Why don’t you pick one (or several) and give them a try? Once you’ve done that, enter them in the contest. You’ll be helping ASPS with your entry fees, and you may just win!

Can There Be Too Many Poets?

~ Barry Marks

Of course there can! There cannot be too many doctors, plumbers, even lawyers.

If there are too many doctors, endowments drop and medical schools close. Excess physicians go into research or early retirement, albeit in reduced circumstances: two Bentleys instead of three, only one summer home, only one Cessna Citation.

If there are too many plumbers, rates drop, and plumbers work more weekends at only seven times normal up charges (gasp) or similarly take early retirement. Under similar reduced circumstances.

In most cases, the market corrects what the market creates.

It has been noted that too many rats in one place start eating one another. Similarly, if there are too many lawyers in town, they take up legal malpractice as a specialty.

If there are too many coffin-makers, the market dictates one of two possible corrections. One also

assumes that the last coffin-maker standing makes pretty good coffins and the last doctor is pretty good at limiting the coffin-maker's business. The last lawyer may simply be the one most likely to be indicted, but we can dispense with any more discussion of what yours truly does with his time when not writing poetry.

Poets, on the other hand, defy any sort of natural selection or market conditions. A *famous poet* being an oxymoron, poets just keep going with or without recompense, monetary or otherwise. Our ranks expand without regard to talent or even readership. In fact, the more poets, the more online journals, workshops and "*Send in \$25 and you, too, can be published*" opportunities.

This leaves us with only one possible means of winnowing out the poet population. Think about the coffin-makers again and you will get the idea.

Therefore, this is an urgent plea to anyone taking the time to read this far. You obviously have some time on your hands, so please keep reading - you are just the poets I'm looking for.

Read. Read poetry. Read lots of poetry. PLEASE. We are not going to be able to discourage people from writing. As one who has spent the last 20 (no, I think it has gotten up to 40) years promoting writing and reading poetry, I cannot say that we should.

So either we need to expand the reading market...or else. And the "or else" isn't acceptable. Please read lots of poetry before the poetry vigilantes come to your door and confiscate your pencils and Chromebooks or force you to take an oath to write only prose. Or something much worse happens.

P.S. The best way to get better at writing poetry is to read good poetry, anyway. But you already know that.

The Daily Workshop

~ Rita Moritz

This column will propose "workshops" you can do all by your lonesome, in the privacy of your own home. Most will take no more than an hour and all can be done daily, weekly or whenever you can...remember that a little self-discipline goes a long way!

It's Your Baby. You Have to Spank It!

That's my usual answer when people ask me how to "fix" their poems. The idea, of course, is that if I can't know for sure what the poet is trying to express, I certainly can't say what needs to be done to "fix" it. However, some things are just glaringly obvious.

I'm not new to writing. I've written and maintained a blog for three years, building a moderately large readership. And I've written poetry for decades. Last month I completed the first draft of "*So You Love a Prodigal*." After editing it line by line and word by word, I sent it to my (favorite in the world) Beta reader. Had you asked, I would have told you I had written carefully and edited without mercy. Such naiveté! Such arrogance! Such pride!

Based on the feedback from my friend, I did a search for the word "that" in my 51,000-word manuscript. And I found it 1,067 times! A trash word, a clutter word, an unnecessary word. I needed to spank my baby, but I couldn't see it until I really looked for it.

So the workshop for this month is to "spank your baby." Do a global search of your poem, essay, article, or manuscript for some of the "clutter" you tend to use. Include favorite phrases like "What in the world," "There are," and (ahem) the word "that." You might also do a global search for "ly," which will find most (but not all) the adverbs. More clutter.

If you can't find the "clutter," ask a friend, another reader, anyone. Chances are they can see what you cannot. Get your ego out of the way and listen to them. It's somewhat like the "hidden items" puzzles. Once you begin to see it, you can't help but see it when it happens. And your writing will improve by that much.

Whatever you may feel about spanking your literal babies, your literary "babies" could almost certainly profit from a good thrashing! So go ahead . . . I dare you. It's your baby. Go ahead and spank it. My guess is the result will be a better behaved work that does a better job of communicating what you want to say. (And yes, I know "that" appears six times in this article.)

Gifts of a Wordsmith: When One Person Makes Less Become More

Haruyo Miyagawa, who was both the “mind and the muscle” behind the Birmingham Library’s monthly Gifts of a Wordsmith workshop, is retiring. Because of that, the library was planning to cancel the workshop. However, all it takes is one determined person, who is willing to invest in words and the people who write them, to make things happen.

“Enter stage left” Barry Marks on his white stallion (well, it might have been a worn-out plow horse) in perfect Don Quixote style to save the day! He emailed several people and suggested how it could continue, met with the “powers that be” at the library to schedule it, and began rounding up volunteers to make it a reality.

Barry’s efforts resulted in the Gifts of a Wordsmith now being offered twice monthly rather than once so as to accommodate more people. Those meetings will be the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 – 7:45 p.m. and the third Saturday from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Michael Cavendar will lead the first Tuesday meeting, and Barry will head up the first Saturday meeting.

These will be informal workshops and/or readings, either with or without critique. Leaders will vary each month, and the format of the meeting will be decided by the leader. Of course, Barry will need help to make that happen. (Have I mentioned he’s looking for volunteers?)

You can help by joining the growing list of poets who have offered to lead the group and by letting your friends and other poetry groups know about it. You can also support it with your presence. A free, non-stressful opportunity to hang out with other people who love words the way you do. What could be better?

Kudos to Barry Marks for polishing up his armor, saddling his steed (well, plow horse), and “gettin’ ‘er done!”

Writing Prompts - The Fifty Most Quoted Lines of Poetry

Choose one or more of these most commonly quoted lines of poetry to create your own poem. If it’s overused and trite, which most of them are,

make it fresh and new. Check back next month for the next ten.

50. The mind is its own place, and in itself/[Can make a Heav'n of Hell, a Hell of Heav'n] (403,000 Milton)

49. Full fathom five thy father lies (438,000 Shakespeare)

48. If you can keep your head when all about you (447,000 Kipling)

47. How do I love thee? Let me count the ways (467,000 Elizabeth Barrett Browning)

46. If music be the food of love, play on (507,000 Shakespeare)

45. We few, we happy few, we band of brothers (521,000 Shakespeare)

44. What is this life if, full of care,/We have no time to stand and stare (528,000 W.H. Davies)

43. The moving finger writes; and, having writ,/Moves on (571,000 Edward Fitzgerald)

42. They also serve who only stand and wait (584,000 Milton)

41. The quality of mercy is not strained 589,000 (Shakespeare)

Poets Without Borders

I love the many opportunities Alabama offers for workshops, slams, poetry readings and the like. However, some of us have been privileged to present our poetry or to have it recognized outside the boundaries of “Sweet Home Alabama,” either in the states or abroad. It might have been a book tour, a poetry reading, or a poem you wrote for a specific purpose. If any of that applies to you, you are a “Poet Without Borders,” and we want to hear about it so we can share it with our members. Vincent Tomeo is the first of our “Poets Without Borders,” and we’re delighted to share his story.

Upon the Completion, Installation and Unveiling of a Poem Sculptured in Marble in Monterosso Calabro, Calabria, Italy

~ Vincent J. Tomeo

This is an acknowledgment to Antonio Parisi, a Patron of the Arts.

In April of 2015, I visited Southern Italy and wrote a poem celebrating the beauty of Monterosso Calabro, a region of Calabria, Italy. In my wildest dreams, I never thought my poetic words would be transformed into marble in the hills of Monterosso Calabro, Italy.

I am a published poet with over 745 published poems, 66 public poetry readings and a winner of 99 awards. Yet, of all the publications and accolades I have received, I am now most proud of this unique, one of a kind publication of my poem in marble, [*A View from a Tower in Calabria, Italy*](#). I wrote this poem from a tower at the Agriturismo Villa Velia in Monterosso Calabro, Italy on April 17, 2015.

The view from the tower was so extraordinary, I just had to pen a poem. I was stunned by the bucolic beauty I witnessed all around me as the sun was setting, pouring its orchestra of colors over a charming sleepy village nestled in the hills of Monterosso, as a winding lake snaked its way through the hills to the sea.

I am privileged to have viewed such a wondrous natural site. The landscape was magical. It is seared in my soul. Now I have a deep love for this agriculturally rich region. This loveliest of places is now captured forever and etched in marble for all to enjoy, chiseled by architect Antonio Lore at the behest of Antonio Parisi.

Mr. Antonio Parisi is a patron of the arts. He loves to share the beauty of Monterosso Calabro with the world. Antonio Parisi's country villa Agriturismo Villa Velia, in the hills of Monterosso Calabro is elegant. Mr. Parisi's home is like a museum of fine art. It is complete with stately antique furnishings, a scent of flowers, fine Italian food and soft music; a perfect place for a poetry workshop and poetry readings.

Mr. Parisi is noble, gracious and kind. He is well-schooled, worldly and cultured. He studied the humanities, loves history, art and archeology. Mr. Parisi is a cofounder of the Farming and Handicraft Museum of Monterosso, which in 1984 was awarded the European Museum of the Year. Mr. Parisi is an Honorary President of the Pro Loco Association,

which strives to save the tradition and the history of Monterosso Calabro.

He is also magnanimous. He has opened up his home in Calabro to me and several fellow travelers. At Mr. Parisi's villa, Agriturismo Villa Velia, his lovely wife, Velia Parisi, taught us how to cook fine Calabrian cuisine. We listened to classical music as we dined in splendor. After eating, we were free to walk around the grounds and take in a view from a castle-like tower, which I did. It is a place to contemplate beauty, and I became enchanted, falling in love with Monterosso Calabro.

Yes, Mr. Parisi's love of art, culture and nature has made Abraham Lincoln's quote come to fruition: "Writing is the ability to communicate from the grave to the yet unborn."

Future generations will read of the majestic and magnificent beauty of Monterosso Calabor, which will forever have a place in literary history for all to appreciate. Thank you, Mr. Antonio Parisi.

A View from a Tower in Calabria, Italy

By Vincent Tomeo

A winding lake snakes through bifurcated hills
like lazy flowers wobbling in the breeze
Stucco rust roofs are necklaces on the hills
blushing in the light, pink-fog-white, dark emerald green

Parting hills are cheeks smiling
On roosters crowing, dogs barking, birds chirping
Water trickles awakening everything

As in a grand finale of an Opera
A stunning sunset is an orchestra of red-orange-gold-fuchsia
Melodious curtains of light make me feel like the god Mercury
Born from a Spring, Sprouting freely, pointing to heaven

Wings at my feet
I want to travel the world, share all that I see

If only there were peace.

Call for *Muse Messenger* 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:

- **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.
- **Monthly Challenges.** If you send your challenge to us, we will include it in a future issue and credit you.
- **Fillers.** Fillers should be 100 to 200 words. They can be interesting, informative, or just fun.

All your submissions should be attached as a Word document and sent by email to:

editor@musemessenger.org. Put the feature you are submitting to in the Subject line (i.e. Article, Tips and Tools, etc.). If you wish, you may also send your submissions for any section of the *Muse Messenger* using snail mail to:

Muse Messenger, P.O. 1651, Pell City, AL 35125.

Member News for September

Jodi Adamson will have two poems, "Pain" and "Poker Face" will be published in *Juked*, an online literary magazine, in December 2016. Also, a picture of Jodi in her Poppy costume can be seen in the 2013 DragonCon photo book by Bryan Humphrey.

Barbara Blanks reports that her new book, *Flesh of the Sun: Life Above the Ground* is now available in both paperback & eBook editions at: **amazon.com** & **bn.com**. It can also be purchased directly from Barbara at her website, **www.barbara-blanks.com**.

Angela Broyles reports the Shoals Writers Guild Renaissance City Authors Festival will take place on October 29 – 30 in Florence, AL. For more information, email your questions to Angela at: **angela.broyles@gmail.com** or to: **Shoalswritersguild@gmail.com**. Bluewater Publications is one of the sponsors for this event.

Susan Martinello's poem, "Reading Aloud" is in a *Nancy Drew Anthology* coming out this month from Silver Birch Press.

Karen Morris reports that her poem "New Blue Jeans" was accepted by *Panophyzine*, an e-publication, for its 4th issue. Karen was also one of that issue's four poets asked to do a video reading of it for their Facebook page. The video will be featured sometime this month at *panophyzine.com* and on their Facebook page.

Rita Moritz reports that four of her poems placed in the Ohio Poetry Day 2016 Contest. "I Woke Up Before the Sun" and "My Antigone" both won third place awards. Two other poems received Honorable Mention.

Glenda Slater's book, *Fooling Around with Shakespeare*, has been published by Negative Capability Press. In it Glenda has fun fooling around poetically with twenty of his plays and characters. This book is for middle school, YA and adult readers.

Sue Walker has been invited to read from her book on Carson McCullers in Rome, Italy in July 24-16, 2017. Do I foresee an article for "Poets Without Borders," Sue?

Dargan Ware's poem, "Arthur's Farewell to Guinevere" won First Place in the Literary Personas category of the Ohio Poetry Day 2016 Contest.

Jeanette Willert's poem "World gone by" was accepted for publication in *The Birmingham Arts Journal*.

Muse Messenger Monthly Challenge

Because of the feedback we have received from members and because of the few entries, we are discontinuing the *Muse Messenger* Monthly Contest. We will instead issue challenges each month that members can use as writing prompts. The only

challenge for this month comes from The Alabama State Poetry Society:

Enter a poem in the ASPS Fall Contest. Poets can choose from ten categories. Entries are to be postmarked by September 24, 2016. For more information, see: <http://bit.ly/2c4Sjmf>

If you or your group would like to issue a challenge or challenges, please send them to: editor@musemessenger.org, and we will include them in a future issue of *Muse Messenger* and credit you.

Muse Messenger Archives

The *Muse Messenger* will only be sent to active members of ASPS. Archived copies of every 2016 *Muse Messenger* can be found online at: <http://musemessenger.org>. 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.

What’s Happening?

September 1: [Please Note Change in Time and Location!](#) Writers Anonymous will meet on September 1 at the new Pell City Library, 1000 Bruce Etheredge Parkway, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, go to: <http://writersanonymous.us>.

September 9: Bamaslam Montevallo Poetry Slam is on Friday, September 9. 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 for more information.

September 10: Pensters Writing Group University of South Alabama, 111 St. James St. Room 11,

Fairhope will have a workshop from 10:00-12:00 titled “Giving Your Novel its Best Start – and its Best Shot” and featuring author, Marilyn Johnston (C.J. Petterson), For more information, go to: <http://www.pensterswritinggroup.com/events/>

September 26: Leeds Area Open Circle Poetry Group meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Arts Center in Leeds on the last Monday of every other month. Their next meeting will be September 26. For more information, contact Joan Dawson at: jdawson@uab.edu.

October 1: Robinson Jeffers Poetry Festival at the meeting house in Gorham's Bluff in Pisgah, AL from 10:00 - 3:00. It will include a workshop by Barry Marks, followed by lunch at noon, the reading of winning poems and an open mic. Registration is only \$8 and includes your lunch. For more information, contact Roger Carlisle at: wrogercarlisle@gmail.com or by snail mail at: 4312 Overlook Road, Birmingham AL 35222.

October 4: Gifts of a Wordsmith, a poetry workshop for adults, meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:45 p.m. at the downtown Birmingham Public Library. Email Barry Marks at: barry@leaselawyer.com for more information.

October 6: [Please Note Change in Time and Location!](#) Writers Anonymous will meet on October 6 at the new Pell City Library, 1000 Bruce Etheredge Parkway, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, go to: <http://writersanonymous.us>.

October 8: Pensters Writing Group University of South Alabama, 111 St. James St. Room 11, Fairhope will have a workshop from 10:00-12:00, titled “The Mobile River: A Haul Ass Tour,” by featured speaker, John Sledge. For more information, go to: <http://www.pensterswritinggroup.com/events/>

October 15: Gifts of a Wordsmith, a poetry workshop for adults, meets on the third Saturday of each month from 6:00 to 7:45 p.m. at the downtown Birmingham Public Library. Email Barry Marks at: barry@leaselawyer.com for more information.

October 17: Rita Moritz will be doing a workshop titled, “If You Build It, They Will Come” from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Thomas B. Norton Library, 221 West 19th Avenue in Gulf Shore. Come learn how to build a successful writing group. For more

information, contact Linda Ray Center at 251-228-1656 or email Linda at: lindasondancer@gmail.com.

October 27: The next quarterly meeting of the *Birmingham Arts Journal* will be Thursday, October 27, at 6:30 at the Leeds Theatre and Arts Center in Leeds, AL. It will include a free reading and reception. For more information, call 205-326-4460.

October 28 – 29: ASPS Fall Meeting will take place at the Rolling Hills Conference Center, 521 Highway 304, Calera, AL.

October 29 – 30: Shoals Writers Guild Renaissance City Authors Festival, Florence, AL. Hours are Saturday from 10:00 – 4:00 and Sunday from 2:00 – 4:00. For more information, contact Angela at: angela.broyles@gmail.com.

If you have an event you would like us to add to “What’s Happening,” please send us the details at: editor@musemessenger.com.

Contests, Contests, Contests!

(September/October Contests with Deadlines)

9/15—Brilliant Flash Fiction “Special Delivery” Writing Contest
<http://bit.ly/2cII LGH>

9/15—Chicken Soup for the Soul: Random Acts of Kindness
<http://chickensoup.com>

9/15—Concis Pith of Prose & Poem Contest
<http://concis.io/contest>

9/15—Creative Writing Institute Short Story Contest
<http://www.creativewritinginstitute.com>

9/15—Louisville Literary Arts Writer’s Block Festival Poetry Contest
<http://bit.ly/2cTC93Q>

9/17—Past Loves Day Story Contest
<http://ourpastloves.com/contest>

9/20—Poetry Society of TN (Members Only) Submit by Sept 20th for October
<http://poetrysocietytn.org>

9/24—Alabama: Fall Contest
<http://bit.ly/2c4Sjmf>

9/30—California: Topic by month and submitted

during each month.
<http://bit.ly/1LEi3zR>

9/30—Connecticut River Review Contest Sept
<http://ctpoetry.net/ct-river-review.html>

9/30—Green River Writers Annual Contest
<http://greenriverwriters.org/contest2.html>

9/30—Houston Writers Guild Press
<http://houstonwritersguild.org/contests>

9/30—Society of Southwestern Authors Writing Contest
<http://ssa-az.org/contest.html>

9/30—Tethered by Letters
<http://bit.ly/2clqrff>

9/30—Writers Unlimited/Mississippi Poetry Society Annual Contest (Received by 9/30)
<http://bit.ly/2cqIbJx>

10/1—2016 Poetry Superhighway Poetry Contest
<http://bit.ly/2cmare7>

10/1—Art Affair Writing Contests
<http://bit.ly/2cmaFCf>

10/1—Arizona State Poetry Society (Received by 10/1)
<http://azpoetry.webs.com>

10/6—San Antonio Writers’ Guild Annual Contest
<http://bit.ly/2cyxBzm>

10/15—Illinois State Poetry Society Yearly Contest
<http://bit.ly/2cmbs6g>

10/20—Poetry Society of TN (Members Only) Submit by Oct 20th for November
<http://bit.ly/2cffj8n>

10/31—California: Topic by month and submitted during each month.
<http://bit.ly/1LEi3zR>

12/1—Wyoming Poets Org Eugene V Shea Annual National Contest October 1-Dec 1
<http://bit.ly/2clsYXp>

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 accept outside submissions to their journals.

<i>State:</i>	<i>Dues</i>	<i>Contest Deadlines</i>
Alabama:	\$20	Several
Inet:	http://alabamapoets.org/	
Facebook:	http://on.fb.me/1OcQjsV	
<i>Muse Messenger:</i>	http://musemessenger.org	

Arizona:	\$25	9/30
Inet:	http://azpoetry.webs.com/	
Facebook:	http://on.fb.me/21kcQZE	

Arkansas:	\$20	8/15
	\$15 (Seniors)	
Inet:	http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org/	
Facebook:	http://on.fb.me/1OcQF2T	

Publishers and Journals That Are 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>

Haiku Journal:

<http://bit.ly/22JMYpt>

Kudzu House Quarterly:

<http://kudzuhouse.org>

Mayfly

<http://bit.ly/1Zs4e0w>

Negative Capability Press:

<http://negativecapabilitypress.org>

Penny Magazine:

<http://youfoundpenny.com>

Reader's Digest 100-word True Story:

<http://rd.com/100-word-stories-submissions>

The Poetry Foundation:

<http://poetryfoundation.org>

Please note: The following have deadlines:

9/30—Chicken Soup for the Soul: Best Mom Ever
<http://chickensoup.com>

9/30—Enchanted Conversations: Ghosts:
<http://bit.ly/2cTxlGs>

10/1—Purpose Magazine: Faith Journey
<http://bit.ly/2cR1ysk>

10/1—Stones Before the Ocean:
A Worship Poetry Anthology
<http://worshippoetryanthology.tk>

Be sure to check the website for submission guidelines before submitting to any of these.

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

The End.



**ALABAMA STATE POETRY
SOCIETY FALL MEETING 2016***

October 28-29, 2016

**Rolling Hills Conference Center
521 Highway 304, Calera, AL 35040**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 28:

Dinner on your own. There are a variety of restaurants in the local area.

6 - 9:30 PM—Meet and Greet in Dining Hall A: Round robin reading, games, snacks, beverages

Saturday, October 29:

7:30 AM—Board Meeting in Conference Center

8:30 AM—Coffee and Breakfast pastries in Conference Center

9:15 AM—Welcome and Opening of the Meeting in Conference Center – introduction to and approval of new officers.

9:45 - 10:45 AM—Workshop 1 in Conference Center - **tba.**

10:55 - 11:55 AM—Workshop 2 in Conference Center - **tba.**

12:00 - 1:00 PM—Banquet in Dining Hall

1:00 - 3:00 PM—Contests and Awards, readings, performances in Conference Center

3:00 PM—Adjourn meeting

*Cost is fifteen dollars per person for luncheon and twenty dollars per person for workshops/program. Please see Registration Form below for details.

REGISTRATION FORM:

ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY FALL MEETING 2016
October 28-29, 2016
Rolling Hills Conference Center, 521 Highway 304, Calera, AL 35040

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Rooms at the Rolling Hills Lodge include two queen size beds. Single occupancy is \$55.00 per night, and double occupancy is \$60.00 per night. All reservations must be made through ASPS using this registration form, as the venue does not deal directly with individuals. Please register as soon as possible.

Amount Hotel Room(s):

_____ Friday Night single @ \$55.00 \$_____

_____ Friday Night double @ \$60.00 \$_____

_____ Saturday Night single @ \$55.00 \$_____

_____ Saturday Night double @ 60.00 \$_____

Meeting Registration: (includes all activities Friday and Saturday, except lunch)

_____ @ \$20.00 \$_____

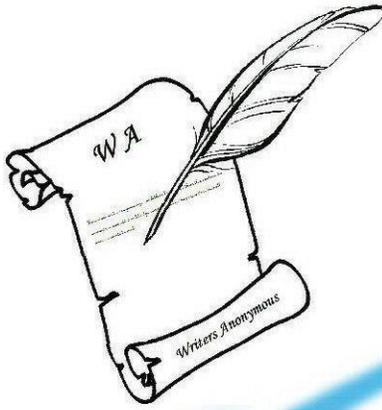
Lunch:

_____ @ \$15.00 \$_____

Total Enclosed: \$_____

Please send registration form and payment to our Treasurer:

Jodi Adamson
361 Rives Mill Loop
Deatsville, AL 36022



Writers Anonymous

P.O. Box 1651
Pell City, AL 35125

If you build it, they will come

Workshop: **How to build and maintain
an active, vibrant writing group**

Bonus Extra Mini-Workshop: **Tapping into your creativity**

Presenter: **Rita Moritz**

Day / Date: **Monday, October 17, 2016**

Time: **5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

Location: **Thomas B. Norton Library**

Address: **221 West 19th Avenue
Gulf Shores, AL 36542**

For More Information Contact:

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