



NEW MEXICO STATE POETRY SOCIETY

Language of Enchantment

Spring & Summer 2010

From The Desk of Bonnie K. Rucobo, President, NMSPS

I would like to report to you the events of the February meeting of the Board of the New Mexico State Poetry Society. We discussed and voted on the prospect of making a bid to host the 2012 convention of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. here in Albuquerque. We carefully reviewed all responses to the survey on this subject in the last *Language of Enchantment*, and we thank you for all of your contributions. The upshot of our discussion on this topic was that we have decided not to undertake sponsoring the national conference in 2012. This decision was reached after much contemplation and debate. It was based on multiple factors: our membership has diminished considerably, our income is reduced, and the number of members expressing an interest in taking an active organizing role was limited. We recognize that Albuquerque is a wonderful venue for poets and the arts of all kinds, and we voted to consider the prospect of hosting a NFSPS conference in 2015 once we have shored up our membership base.

The Board discussed two courses of action that would increase our visibility and involvement statewide and beyond. First, we would like to design a NMSPS website so that we can post events, poetry, and links to the NFSPS' website. We have formed a committee and are taking bids from three web designers. Also, in the next year, we would like to sponsor or co-sponsor a day-long poetry event with one or more poetry groups from Albuquerque or across the state.

Finally, I would like to mention that I along with several other NMSPS members attended "Do Remember Me," a celebration of the life of Dr. Maisha Baton on February 21st at UNM's Student Union. Baton, born in Pennsylvania, lived and worked for many years in Albuquerque. She was a poet, playwright, educator, professor, historian, and photographer. She was exceptional in each of these areas. Three years ago she addressed a NMSPS Annual Meeting, and she often held poetry workshops at senior centers throughout the city. In introducing Baton, Rita Powdrell, the organizer of the event, gazed out over the audience and marveled at "all the communities that Maisha walked in."

The following poem is taken from *Sketches*, the volume of poetry that Baton wrote during her final illness.

A Left-Handed Black Kid

She grew up in a time when schools did not tolerate
black folks nor left-handers,
in a place where orange school buses full
with cussin' and cryin' kids
passed swiftly through cornfields of shattered dreams.

She was the only black kid in the first grade,
And paid the price.
Cuz a teacher's hate looms large
in a first-grade classroom
punishing left-handed ways with a relentless ruler
and dire predictions of futures filled with no-good men
and back alleys of crying babies.

And still she writes with her left hand
and stores her anger in the right hand
pocket of her imagination.

Dr. Maisha Baton

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Member's Poetry Corner

The Crows

Ineluct, coal clichés
ritualistic harbingers
and heralds and fools
stately, seasonal ambassadors
pall bearers for confined souls

The crows, garrulous
cacaphonous,
not to them, but to us,
flap down from the Sandia and
Manzano Mountains in
the last week of October
from ten thousand feet
to five thousand
the week of our Halloween.

They seem deliberate
unhunted, not driven
like snow, out of
the mountains into my old
pecan tree, to yak and caw
about, as they beak and hammer
(philosophers) through hulls
and nut casings
into the sweet meat.

Their black coats, patched
in glossy, metallic violet by
the slanted, southern and
bitter glare, defiant
hungry messengers
deliberate and sidelong
gawkers.

They carry winter
on their backs, flite
deep, chuckled humor
by the peck
plan tricks on
dull and dying humans
ashiver, trembling their
pinon woodpecks shrunken
the ground too hard.

Gregory L. Candela
Albuquerque Chapter

Sestina—a seven stanza poem that is based on 6 words. Each of the first 6 stanzas has 6 lines that end with the same 6 words repeated in various combinations. The 7th stanza has 3 lines that each use 2 of the words.

Sylvia Ramos Cruz

Poetry Bio - 2010

Sylvia Ramos Cruz was born in Puerto Rico and lived in the Bronx, New York until she moved to New Mexico in 1990. Professionally, she is a general surgeon who specializes in the diagnosis and management of breast diseases and lymphedema. She practices parttime so she can spend time with her grandson, Santiago, garden, travel and write.

Although she has admired poetry all her life, it was not until recently that she began writing poems. She is fortunate to have joined a group of local poets, the Albuquerque Word Weavers, who inspire and challenge her. Her goal as a poet is to explore the essence of her life and translate it into the life of everyman. She knows that is a life-long journey.

Blinding Friends (Sestina)

My coffee table is piled high with books
of such variety, perhaps they cover
the gamut of interests in my life—
their contents so enthralling it's hard to choose
among Lister, Hopper and Dickinson, all friends.
Sometimes, it's easier just to let them lie.

Medical history, modern art and poetry tomes lie
side-by-side with hiking guides and picture books.
Babar and Nancy Drew, by now fast friends,
wander in Romantic Gardens covered,
as I, in woody leaves of fantasy. Should I choose
between illuminative books and chiaroscuro life?

My mother often told me you can't learn life
from books. It's true, I'd say, and lie
outside reading and thinking—if I just choose
the right ones, I will learn life from books!
So far I've learned never to judge a book by its cover
and always to read people to find friends.

Books, like the best of friends,
help balance the tenor of my life;
though I have malingered behind the cover
of a book when forced to lie—
preferring to stay home traveling in books
rather than visit places I did not choose.

Finger Memory

She sits alone on cushioned, swivel stool
caressing broken keys, connecting strings
corrupted now and rusted, out of tune.
She plays with pride some long-forgotten notes
from childhood lessons, few and long ago
when lovely hands were strong and back was straight,
long fingers curled and knew which note was theirs,
wrists rose and fell with hoped-for grace and ease.

Her eyes no longer focus on the page,
as fingers curl to match her curving back,
From deep within, some buried music place,
she still discovers finger memories.



Hilda Wales
Albuquerque Chapter

...Binding Friends Continued

I never find it difficult to choose
between lectures in books and being lectured by friends.
Whatever opinions I may hold, books
never chastise me; or condemn my life,
ill temper, love choices or occasional lies.
Instead, they always give me erudite cover.

It's my habit to read a book cover to cover,
put it down as often as I choose,
forget it, allow it to lie
unread for days. Not so with friends,
the flesh and blood kind, who, if here for life,
demand attention and affection—Not so with books.

In myriad books I find ample cover
when the course of life is not what I would choose.
Each, a firmly bound friend on whose words I can rely.

Sylvia Ramos Cruz
Albuquerque Chapter

Purple Clouds

Sometimes we walk through fields of blithe
wearing sleeves and gloves
sometimes without.
With scratched and bleeding arms,
bouquets of purple clouds in jars,
sometimes we choose the pain
of bearing beauty

Hilda Wales
Albuquerque Chapter

Laurels To Our Shining Lights

Let's hear it for Karin Bradberry, Albuquerque Chapter, for her First Place winnings in the Writer's Digest Contest for her Villanelle. She won \$500. Well done! Karin. Congratulations to Barbara DuBois of the Socorro Chapter for her Honorable Mentions from the Writer's Digest for two poems entitled "Bugs" and "Dr. Hermes". The Dr. Hermes poem is published in this issue on page 6. On another note, lets give Barbara DuBois recognition for being named as "Volunteer of the Year" for her outstanding help and assistance at Bosque del Apache.

2010 NMSPS Members

Thanks for sharing
your poetry with us

Princess Ifeama Achusim - Albuquerque
Jamie Morewood Anderson - Albuquerque
Ann H. Applegarth - High Prairie Roswell
Beth Ann Applegate - High Prairie Roswell
Jim Applegate - High Prairie Roswell
Michelle Bedard - Albuquerque
Helen Bezansky - At Large Member
Shirley Blackwell - Rio Grande Valencia
Karin Bradberry - Albuquerque
Gregory L Candelaria - Albuquerque
John J Candelaria - Albuquerque
Amanda Carson - High Prairie Roswell
Larry Castillo-Wilson - Albuquerque
Gary Stewart Chorre - Rio Grande Valencia
Suzanne Coudert - Rio Grande Valencia
Doris Jacobs Covington - Albuquerque
Donald DeNoon - Albuquerque
Barbara DuBois - Socorro
Debbie Eagan - Albuquerque
John B. Egert - Socorro
George K Egert - Socorro
Jeanne M Favret - Albuquerque
George L Forrest - Rio Grande Valencia
Teresa Gallon - Albuquerque
Gail Goodman Ed. D. - Rio Grande Valencia
Linda Kay Greene - Albuquerque
Constance Hester - Albuquerque
Pat Hittle - High Prairie Roswell
Eleanor Hoppe - Albuquerque
Rev Rebecca Guile Hudson - Rio Grande V.
Karina Jager - High Prairie Roswell

.....Laurels Continued

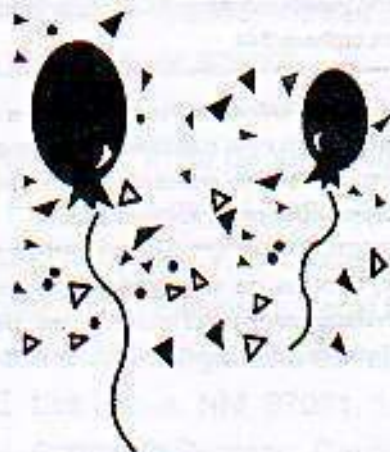
Elizabeth Lackmann - Albuquerque
Gayle Lauradunn - Albuquerque
Lillian Matteucci - Rio Grande Valencia
Doris P McBrien - High Prairie Roswell
Sue Ann Mika - Albuquerque
John Orman - Albuquerque
Kate Padilla - Albuquerque
Susan I Paquet - Rio Grande Valencia
Margery Pearse - Albuquerque
Annmarie H Pearson - Rio Grande Valencia
Margery Peck - At Large Member
Bernadette Perez - Rio Grande Valencia
Sylvia Ramos-Cruz - Albuquerque
Ray Reeder - Albuquerque
Ellen S Rippel - Socorro
Allen S Roth - Albuquerque
Bonnie K Rucobo - Albuquerque
Peggy Sandoval - Albuquerque
Georgia Santa Maria - Rio Grande Valencia
Elsaine G Schwartz - Albuquerque
Joe Shaffer LTM - At Large Member
Jeanne Shanon - Albuquerque
Karin Stangl-Howell - Albuquerque
Kuan Tikun - Rio Grande Valencia
K K (Kitty) Todorovich - Rio Grande Valencia
Loretta Tollefson - Rio Grande Valencia
Ruth M Trice - At Large Member
Alice Wagoner - High Prairie Roswell
Hilda F Wales - Albuquerque
Janice Walters - Rio Grande Valencia
Andrea L Watson - At Large Member
K M (Katherine) White - Albuquerque

New Mexico Children's Poetry Project

Message from our
Vice-President
Lary Castillo-Wilson

Bonnie Rucobo, Princess Achusim and I continue to visit schools, talk to principals and distribute the brochures that explain the purpose and goals of this effort. I recently made a history presentation to two seventh grade classes at Madison Middle School. The teacher had doubt that the kids would pay attention and ask questions. But they did - they were very interested and asked me some very good questions at the end of my presentation. From this experience, I conclude that we can read poetry to upper level students if we read imaginative and interesting poems with energy and good rapport. One goal in this project is to spark the imagination of students so they can use their imaginations to write their own poetry.

I will travel to El Paso in March to read poetry in an elementary class. We already have appointments to read poetry to classes in the poetry month of April. I anticipate that as we draw closer to poetry month, we will be asked by more schools to present our poetry services.



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS & CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wildflower Press is requesting poets to enter their best poems about a flower, any flower. Cash prizes and publication for poems in any form or in free verse. Must not have been published. Must not be under consideration for publication elsewhere nor entered in any other contest. First prize: \$50, second prize: \$25, third prize: \$15. Put each poem on a separate page. Include your name, address, and contact information including email address if you have one, at the top of each page. Postmark deadline: June 30, 2010. The top three poems will be published on the Wildflower Press website and in a poetry broadside leaflet. Must include a SASE or an email address. If you have any questions please call Jeanna Shannon at 505-295-0691, or email at jspoetry@aol.com. Contest fee is \$3 per poem or three poems for \$5. Mail your entry to: The Wildflower Press, P. O. Box 4757, Albuquerque, NM, 87196-4757.

UNM Writer's Conference will be held in Taos, New Mexico from July 12 through July 18, 2010 with registration and Evening Opening Events starting on July 11th. There are many week long and week end workshops still available. To register for any workshops call (505) 277-5572 or email at taosconf@unm.edu. You can research the site by doing a search the web for UNM Writer's Conference, Taos Summer Writer's Conference.

The Duende Poetry Series has featured Poet's at the Anasazi Fields Winery from 3:00 pm through 5:00 pm on June 13th and September 12th, 2010. Free admission with many events, wine tasting and poetry. For more information you can call (505) 867-3062 or email at anasazifieldwinery@ati.net or check out the Anasazi Fields Winery Web site.

If you like to read your poetry at an Open Mic there is the Fixed & Free Poetry held every 4th Thursday of each month at the Garden Room at the Source, 3538 Anderson Ave. SE (SW corner of Carlisle & Anderson), Albuquerque, NM. Hosted by Billy Brown. Come and sign-up to read at 6:30 pm. Readings start at 7:00 pm sharp. There is a 5-minute limit on the open mic. The featured readers scheduled for 2010 are: April 22, Elaine Schwartz (Earth Day-Celebrating National Poetry Month); May 27, Kenneth Gurney; June 24, Sal Treppiedi; July 22, Gina Marselle; August 26, Karin Berdberry; September 23, Gary Brower; October 28, Greg Candela; November 25, Zack Kluckman (Thanksgiving Day, Gratitude Poems); December 23, Gary Chorre (Christmas Eve). If you would like to be a featured reader for the 2011 year; please contact Billy Brown at (505) 401-8139 or email him at webber153@aol.com. Did you notice that there are four NMSPS members as featured readers. Let's support them on their featured night.

The Church of Beethoven is a one hour program with music and poetry held each Sunday at the Kosmos, 1715 5th Street NW, Albuquerque, NM. The 1 hour program begins promptly at 10:30 am. They usually open with a musical composition and followed by a reading from the Poet for the morning. Intermission takes the form of a two-minute "celebration of silence", and finally a substantial work of chamber music to end the performance. There is a suggested admission of \$15 per adult, @10 for students, and \$5 for children under 12 years. For more information you can check out the web site at www.churchofbeethoven.org.

Poetry contest: "A Room of Her Own", a foundation for women writers and artists by the Lighthouse Poetry Publications Prize. Award: \$1000 and publication of collection by Red Hen Press. Deadline: August 31, 2010 postmark. Page Limit: 48 to 96 pages. Fee: \$20 per entry. Announcement Date: December 15, 2010. Entry to be mailed to A Room Of Her Own, Attn.: To The Lighthouse PPP, P.O. Box 778, Placitas, NM 87043. For more information check out www.aroomofherownfoundation.org, then hit awards.

For the biggest slam night of the year, check out the 2010 ABQ Grand Slam, Outpost Performance Space, 210 Yale SE, Albuquerque, NM. Saturday, April 3rd at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for students, and Outpost Members. Hosted by HBO Def Poet Tim Stafford. For more information www.outpostspace.org/node/744.

Poetry contest: Indiana Review, \$1,000 Honorarium and Publication. Postmark Deadline: April 16, 2010. Reading Fee: \$15, includes a one-year subscription. All entries considered for publication. Send no more than three poems per entry, 15 pages maximum. Previously published works and works forthcoming elsewhere cannot be considered. Multiple entries okay, as long as separate reading fee is included with each entry. For more information www.indianareview.org/general/prizes/poetprizeguidelines10.html.

Check out the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. at www.nfpps.com and hit the Strophes On Line icon in the left-hand menu for other state contests. The January Issue is still available until the April issue is posted. The New Mexico State Poetry Society for the 2010 Annual Poetry Contest should be announced in the April addition with a deadline entry date of 15 May 2010. More information about the NMSPS 2010 Annual Poetry Contest can be seen on page 6.

May 1, 2010
Annual NMSPS Meeting
@ The Cooperage Restaurant
7220 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Time: 12:00 noon

It's that time again for our annual New Mexico State Poetry Society meeting, for all chapters to gather together to share poetry and fun. We will meet at The Cooperage Restaurant on Lomas Boulevard on the first Saturday of May. The Rio Grande Valencia Poets and the Albuquerque Chapter have moved their meeting date to coincide with the NMSPS annual meeting. Please RSVP your attendance (spouses, dates, or family members are welcomed) with Bonnie Rucobo at mechistle@gmail.com, or with Hilda Wales at hdwales@comcast.net, or with Annmarie Pearson at altbalance@msn.com. If you do not have email you may call (505) 865-5605 and leave your RSVP. Don't forget to bring one or two poems. We had so much fun last year listening to each members poetry that we wanted to try that again this year. We will do one round robbin, but if there is time, possibly two round robbins.

I hope to see you there.
Please call or email your RSVP
This is a Dutch Treat
You pay for what you eat!
Annmarie Pearson

www.NFSPS.com

NMSPS is a member
of the National
Federation of State
Poetry Societies, Inc.
an educational and
literary organization
dedicated to the
writing and
appreciation of
poetry in America.

www.NFSPS.com

2010 NMSPS Annual Poetry Contest 2010

Deadline: 15 May 2010. Categories: #1 Rhymed, #2 Free Verse, #3 Southwest (theme, reference, or setting), #4 Humor, #5 Youth (by poets 18 and under). 1st Prize: \$40, 2nd Prize: \$25, 3rd Prize: \$15. Any form, 40 line limit. Poems must be: original work of the entrant, typed on computer generated (not hand written or printed), and single-spaced, without illustrations, written in English, and titled, unless a haiku. No more than 6 poems per entrant.

Send 2 clear copies of each poem on 8 1/2" X 11" white paper in black ink. On **BOTH** copies, place category # and description at upper left. For poems over 1 page, put page number on upper left, just below category designation. On second copy **ONLY**, add poet's name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any) on upper right. Flat entry fee of \$15 for 1-6 poems. Make check or money order payable to NMSPS. Include a white legal size envelope (SASE). Mail to NMSPS Annual Poetry Contest, 454 Diana Dr. NE, Los Lunas, NM, 87031. 1st Class or Priority Mail only, no delivery requiring a signature. Thank you. Annmarie Pearson, Contest Chair, altbalance@msn.com.

MEMBER'S POETRY CORNER

My Mother's Brother

He prayed at the synagogue
Every morning, dovening in his white
Yarmulke and tallis.
He and I performed the unweaving service
At my father's gravesite,
Reading the prayers in Hebrew and English.
I took the part of the rabbi; he the cantor.
I took care not to plant
My feet directly on the frozen grave;
He stood on the gravesite without hesitation.
At the close of the service a monument in granite
Was unsheathed.

It was not his work that made him smile
But the pirouettes he played on the clarinet
That he meticulously cleaned and shined.
He produced a sound molasses-thick
As he blew on the horn that reverberated
Through his small house.
He marched in the Redskins Band,
And was a regular with a local
Dixieland combo.

He was buried at the beginning
Of the blizzard of the century,
The rabbi chanting the "El Maleh Rachamin,"
The prayer for the departed
Who are holy and pure of heart,
As the snow spilled down from above,
Blanketing the gravesite and
The family praying in chairs under a white tent
That was soon camouflaged in the whirling snow.

Bonnie Rucobo
Albuquerque Chapter

Editor's Note

In my first edition, the Winter 2009 issue, I inadvertently gave recognition to another poet for someone else's work. I shall reprint the poem in column three of this page and recognize the true author for the poem *A Most Romantic Couple* by Elaine G Schwartz.

Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience for both poets.

Sincerely, Annmarie Pearson

Love Ages

Where has the deep
love gone?
It's just not the same
We're like an old
exhausted song
Has the romance
gone away?

I've tried to rekindle your
fervor
To bring it back with a
spark
But you're lost amid a
sailor's dream
And the ship is not the Ark

Where has your deep
love gone?
It lingers every now
and then
To appear in a thoughtful
moment
But then it vanishes
once again

I will not give up hope
For I know it will return
Your love for me is strong
This certainty is how I cope

Where has the deep
love gone?
Where passion was
the norm
As two lovers physically
embraced
Creating a hot emotional
storm

Deep love has not
abandoned us
It just mellowed with
time and age
For years we've shared a
pulsating love
But now it must simmer
not rage

Annmarie Pearson
Rio Grande Valencia

Dr. Hermes

What have snakes to do with medicine?
Why does the caduceus have twin snakes?
The snakes' origin is a mystery
but wings on the caduceus stand for speed.
Both snakes and wings belong to Mercury
or Hermes as the Greeks preferred to say.
The errand-runner for the gods was fast
but not associated with physicians.
What has mercury to do with medicine?
There's mercury in the thermometer;
mercurochrome is used to dress a hurt;
No, not enough. The staff is a mistake.
The caduceus does not stand for medicine!
The staff of the physician has no wings.
Asclepius, or roman Aesculapius,
a doctor, then a hero, then a god
was often shown together with a snake
but his staff has only one snake and no wings.
If our physicians use the Hermes staff
instead of Aesculapius's club
do they give messages instead of medicine?
Are they more heralds than healers?
Do they trot more than treat?

Barbara DuBois
Socorro Chapter



A Most Romantic Couple


Between bites of lasagna
mi amor slips from her lips,
mi reina rolls off his tongue.
Two years married
and the language of love
punctuates
their every sentence.

Moving with the rhythm
of a couple long wed
they walk down my oak
fined street,
his long black braid sways,
her flowing burgundy waves
threaten to engulf them
both.

Separated by a
continent, by culture,
it was not an easy
courtship.
When they could no
longer live apart
he packed his medical
books,
sold two of his three cows
headed north, beyond
the Andes.

Now he brings red roses
on Valentine's Day,
feeds her chocolate
crepes
as their first child
somersaults in her
womb.
And, in my dreams,
a small voice calls
Abuelita, Abuelita.

Elaine G Schwartz
Albuquerque Chapter



**April
National Poetry Month
Volunteers Needed**

As you all know, April is National Poetry Month. Poets' all over the United States celebrate this poetically exciting month with poetry events throughout large cities, small villages, and townships. We are happy to announce that there are some exciting events in the works for Albuquerque as well. Earlier in this edition, Larry Castillo-Wilson had mentioned that the elementary schools are planning poetry agendas for their students. Please get with Larry to volunteer for that event at casidy@cableone.net.

Bonnie Rucobo has been working on another children's poetry event. There will be two presentations with children at the Albuquerque main library during the month of April. Again we ask for volunteers to assist in this project. Please get with Bonnie at mechistle@gmail.com if you are interested in helping at the library.

There is another poetry event in the future planning with Lee Francis and Zack Kluckman. This project will also be involved with the youth slammers of Albuquerque. Bonnie will probably need some volunteers for this event as well. Since it is still in the planning stages, the dates have not been secured, but September has been suggested.



Recruiting Members for NMSPS

If you know of any persons who would like to join our poetry organization please direct them to Hilda Wales at dhwales@comcast.net. Please inform your friends that our yearly dues is broken down by quarters. For example, our dues is only \$16 per year. This allot is stipend by \$4 per quarter. Our fiscal year starts on November first. First quarter is from November through January. Second quarter is from February through April. Third quarter covers May through July. And finally fourth quarter is from August through October. Since we are in the second quarter from February through April, your friend would pay a total of \$12 to join NMSPS as of today through October 31st. Please inform your friends that our dues helps pay for the printing of the newsletter, the mailing of the newsletter to all members. Dues also covers contests expenses and prizes as well as licenses.

Thank you for supporting NMSPS with your poetry, friendships.

Mail checks to Hilda Wales, Treasurer, 9616 Rosas Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM, 87109

New Mexico State Poetry Society
Hilda Wales, Treasurer
9616 Rosas Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

NMSPS Officers & Board Members

Bonnie K. Rucobo, President

(505) 889-4672

George L. Forrest, Past President

(505) 864-0837

Elaine Schwartz
Karin Bradberry, 1st Vice-President

(505) 323-3938

Larry Castillo-Wilson, 2nd Vice-President

(505) 892-8396

Hilda Wales, Treasurer

(505) 797-3560

Sylvia Ramos, Recording Secretary

(505) 242-0061; cell (505) 401-0601

Rev. Rebecca Guile-Hudson, Corres. Sec.

(505) 861-1667; cell (505) 883-6224

Jim Applegate, Chancellor

(575) 623-8267

Doris Jacobs-Govington, Chancellor

(505) 872-8992

Shirley Blackwell, Chancellor

(505) 585-1806

Elizabeth Lackmann, Honorary Chancellor

(505) 344-6225

If you would like to contribute articles, news, poems, segments, announcements, etc., please contact Annmarie H. Pearson at altbalance@msn.com or call (505) 865-5606 or (505) 688-9722. If you would prefer to send contributions via USPS, please mail to Annmarie H. Pearson, 454 Diana Drive NE, Los Lunas, NM, 87031.

Please limit poems to 30 lines; you are welcome to submit a short biography that will be published with your poetry, if space allows. If you want your poem returned, please include SASE with your submission.

Thank you!

Chapter Meeting Times and Locations

All members of the NMSPS are welcome to attend meetings of any chapter, whether or not it is the member's "home chapter," and are encouraged to bring guests who might consider joining the NMSPS. Members at large are especially invited to drop in on meetings whenever they get the opportunity. Let us get to know each other better, no matter where we live.

The RIO GRANDE VALENCIA (RGV) POETS meet on the first Saturday of every month at 12:15 p.m., at Joanne's Family Restaurant on Hwy 47 in the Tierra del Sol Shopping Center, (1/2 mile South of Reinken) in Belen. Contact Chair Annmarie Pearson at altbalance@msn.com or call 865-5606, or 688-9722 or Rev. Rebecca Guile Hudson at 861-1667 or 688-6224.

The ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER meets on the second Saturday of every month at 1:00 p.m., except during the summer, at Manzano del Sol Good Samaritan Village, 6201 Roma Ave. NE, (one block South of Lomas and one block West of San Mateo), in Albuquerque. Contact Chair Karin Bradberry at karinbradberry@msn.com.
Elaine Schwartz

The SOCORRO POETS CHAPTER meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m., in the library at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro. Contact Barbara DuBois at brdubois@sdm.org or call 575-835-3437.

The HIGH PRAIRIE POETS of Roswell meet on the third Saturday of every month from September through April at 2:00 p.m., at the Roswell Museum and Arts Center, (11th and N. Main). Contact Chair Ann H. Applegarth at aapple@plateautel.net.